

THE NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR (Saturday, 20 Dec 1997)

- (1) Secretary-1 attends cash donation ceremony on 75th birthday of U Hla Tun and launching of Hospice Association**
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- (1) Secretary-1 attends cash donation ceremony on 75th birthday of U Hla Tun and launching of Hospice Association**

YANGON, 19 Dec -A donation ceremony to mark the 75th birthday of U Hla Tun, of U Hla Tun group, Certified Public Accountant and Financial Consultants, was held at Strand Hotel at 6.30 pm today, attended by Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Khin Nyunt.

Present also were Minister - for Foreign Affairs U Ohn Gyaw, Minister for National Planning and Economic Development Brig-Gen Abel, Minister at the Office of the Prime Minister Brig-Gen Lun Maung, senior Tatmadaw officers, deputy ministers, officials of the Office of the State Peace and Development Council, heads of departments, committee members for setting up of the Hospice Association, diplomats, local and foreign entrepreneurs and guests.

First, U Hla Tun extended greetings.

Then, Rector of Institute of Economics U Maw Than read the biography of U Hla Tun.

U Hla Tun explained the proposed launching of Hospice Association and its noble objectives and presented application documents to Minister Brig-Gen Abel.

Then, U Hla Tun announced commitment of initial donation of K 7.5 million to the Hospice Association.

U Hla Tun presented K 200,000 to Secretary- 1 Lt-Gen Khin Nyunt for National Health Committee and Myanmar Education Committee.

Then, U Hla Tun also presented K 50,000 for Health Department of the Ministry of Health, K 50,000 for Office of the Director of Medical Services of Ministry of Defence, K 50,000 for the disabled military personnel through Office of Director of Resettlement, K 50,000 for Social Welfare Department of the Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement, K 50,000 for Defence Services Rehabilitation Hospital for the Disabled, K 50,000 for Yenatha Leprosy Hospital, K 50,000 for Mawlamyine Leprosy Hospital, K 50,000 for Hninzigone Home for the Aged, K 50,000 for Daw Oo Zun Home for the Aged in Sagaing, K 25,000 for welfare fund of the Office of the Ministry of National Planning and Economic Development, K 25,000 for welfare fund of the Office of the Ministry of Finance and Revenue, K 50,000 for Myanmar Maternal and Child Welfare Association, K 50,000 for Defence Services General Hospital in Mingaladon, K 50,000 for No 2 Military Hospital (500Beds), K 20,000 for News and Periodicals and Enterprise, K 20,000 for Myanmar Television and Radio Department and K 20,000 Myawady TV.

Then, U Hla Tun hosted dinner to mark his 75th birthday.

(2) Coord meeting on advancement of TV production and communications services

YANGON, 19 Dee- A coordination meeting on better and advanced production of television and communications services took place at the Ministry of Communications, Posts and Telegraphs this morning.

It was attended by Secretary-2 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Tin Oo, Minister for Communications, Posts and Telegraphs U.Soe Tha, Minister at the Office of Prime Minister Brig-Gen Lun Maung, Deputy Minister for Information Brig-Gen Aung Thein, Director of Signals of Ministry of Defence Col Aung Myint, Director of Public Relations and Psychological Warfare Col Khin Aung Myint, Director of Military Engineers Brig-Gen Win Aung Tint, Director of Electrical and Mechanical Engineers Brig-Gen Aung Hlaing and heads of departments of the Ministry of Information and Ministry of Communications, Posts and Telegraphs.

Speaking on the occasion, the Secretary-2 said TV production of Myanma Radio and Television (MRTV) and Myawaddy TV and communications services of Myanma Posts and Telecommunications are interrelated in nature, and necessary tasks including construction of towers are being carried out for better improvement and advancement of TV production and communications services.

In this regard, there would be tasks to be jointly carried out by those departments, and benefits such as lesser expenditure and achievement on an extensive scale should be gained in carrying out tasks through cooperation he said.

The Secretary-2 also said the meeting was held to coordinate tasks which should be jointly carried out for advancement of TV production and communications services, telling those present to submit reports on conditions

of respective departmental work and things which should be carried out.

Afterwards, Minister U Soe Tha explained tasks being implemented for better improvement and advancement of communications services.

Deputy Minister Brig-Gen Aung Thein presented a report on production and transmission of TV programmes of MRTV and Myawaddy TV, and it was followed by sector-wise complementary reports by Director-General U Kyi Lwin of MRTV and Staff Officer (Grade I) of Directorate of Public Relations and Psychological Warfare Lt-Col Maung Maung Oo.

The Secretary-2 supervised formation of respective committees and then gave necessary instructions.

(3) Chairman of Tokio Marine and Fire Insurance calls on Deputy Prime Minister

YANGON, 19 Dec Chairman of Tokio Marine and Fire Insurance Co Ltd Mr Shunji Kono and party called on Deputy Prime Minister Chairman of Myanmar Investment Commission Vice-Admiral Maung Maung Khin at his office this morning.

Minister at the Office the Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Secretary of Myanmar Investment Commission Brig-Gen Maung Maung and officials of the Myanma Insurance were present.

(4) State of the World's Children Report 1998

YANGON, 19 Dec UNICEF Myanmar today launched "The State of the World's Children 1998" Report at the Pan Sea Hotel, Yangon. The launching ceremony was attended by Myanmar department officials, members of the diplomatic corps, local and foreign media personnel in Myanmar, representatives of international and Myanmar non-government organization, and personnel of the UN agencies in Myanmar.

The Report was launched globally at a press conference by the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) Executive Director Ms Carol Bellamy in Paris at 10:00 GMT on 16 December 1997. This year's Report focuses on the issue of Malnutrition. Malnutrition is a vast and persistent peril, UNICEF warns.

Malnutrition contributes to nearly seven million child deaths every year-more than any infectious disease, war or natural disaster, according to the 1998 State of the World's Children Report. Where it does not kill, malnutrition can leave victims physically maimed, intellectually impaired and suffering from the consequences of a weakened immune system.

"The persistence of malnutrition has profound and frightening implications for children, society, and the future of humankind," said UNICEF Executive

Director, Carol Bellamy. "Yet this worldwide crisis has stirred little public alarm, despite substantial and growing scientific evidence of the danger."

While there have been dramatic reductions in malnutrition in some parts of the world, the overall number of malnourished children is on the rise. No less than half of all children under the age of five in South Asia and one-third of those in sub-Saharan Africa, as well as millions of children in industrialized countries, are malnourished.

Malnutrition is not only a "silent emergency" but a largely invisible one, the UNICEF Report found. Three-quarters of the children who die worldwide of causes related to malnutrition are what nutritionists describe as "mildly to moderately malnourished" and show no outward signs of problems.

"While malnutrition has long been recognized as a consequence of poverty, it is increasingly clear that it also a cause," Bellamy said.

But UNICEF says that recent breakthroughs in nutritional science could have yet undreamed of benefits, not only for the general healthy development of children, but also in helping to limit and even prevent some major killer diseases.

The Report also offer many examples of dramatic improvements in overall malnutrition through community action. In Tanzania, severe malnutrition virtually disappeared and the lives of thousands of children were saved as the result of a community-based growth monitoring initiative which enabled parents to assess the nutritional well-being of their children and to take action for better child health. Common elements in all such success stories include committed political leadership and the involvement of communities them-selves, especially women, in tackling their own problems.

But UNICEF is concerned that much more needs to be done to reduce the global toll of severe and moderate malnutrition.

Governments in poor and rich countries must show leadership and commitment and must provide funding to mount and support actions to combat malnutrition that can be implemented by communities themselves. The price of inaction is high, the Report warns: countless millions of children who are intellectually disabled, physically stunted and especially vulnerable to illness.

(5) Minister for Transport receives Ambassadors of Thailand, Sri Lanka

YANGON, 19 Dec - Minister for Transport Lt-Gen Tin Ngwe received Ambassador of Thailand Mr Poksak Nilubol at his office at 9.30 am today. The minister also received Ambassador of Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka Mr K B Fernando at 11 am.

Present also were Deputy Minister for Transport Brig-Gen Kyaw Myint and Director-General U Khin Maung Myint of Transport Department.

(6) Minister for Home Affairs to attend Home Affairs Ministerial Meeting of ASEAN countries

YANGON, 19 Dec - Minister for Home Affairs Col Tin Hlaing left here by air this morning for the Philippines to attend the Home Affairs Ministerial Meeting of ASEAN countries to be held on 20 and 21 December in Manila.

He was seen off at Yangon International Airport by Minister for Industry-1 U Aung Thaung, Minister for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs Col Thein Nyunt, Deputy Minister for Home Affairs Brig-Gen Thura Myint Maung, heads of departments under the ministry and officials.

Director-General of Myanmar Police Force Police Maj-Gen Soe Win, Deputy Director-General of Prisons Department U Saw Ngwe, Police Commander of Mandalay Division Myanmar Police Force Police Col Kyee Shwe and Police Lt-Col Kham Aung of Central Committee for Drug Abuse Control left here by air on 16 December to attend the High-ranking Officials Meeting held on 17 and 18 December.

(7) Two more exchange arms for peace

YANGON, 19 Dec - In a bid to build a peaceful, modern and developed nation, the Government, reconstructing national solidarity and upholding Our Three Main National Causes, laid down and is implementing the 12 National Objectives.

The remaining armed groups, realizing genuine goodwill and endeavours of the Government, abandon destructive acts which do not benefit the country and exchange arms for peace.

At 8.30 am on 3 December, Nyan Pe and Tun Kyi, members of Kasedo Township Organization Committee under Brigade-4 of KNU Armed Group exchanged arms for peace at the regional battalion in Thayetchaung, bringing along with them one pistol, five cartridges, one magazine, one AK 47 automatic rifle, 15 cartridges and one magazine.

They were welcomed by officials, who attended to their needs.

(8) Deputy Minister for Health receives Director of Sam San Corporation

YANGON, 19 Dec- Deputy Minister for Health Dr Mya Oo received Director of Sam San Corporation of Republic of Korea Mr Leigh Chong Joo at his office at 2 pm today.

Likewise, the Deputy Minister received Resident Representative of AMDA of Japan Ms Micki Miyamoto at his office at 3 pm today.

Present were officials of the ministry.

(9) Cash donation for National Convention

YANGON, 19 Dec---Hailing the National Convention, the w-ash donation ceremony was held in Pyidaungsu Hall of Kyaikkasan Grounds at 1 pm today attended by Chairman of National Convention Management Committee Brig-Gen Tin Aye and members, sub-committee members and donors.

Rector of Central Institute of Civil Service U Tin Tun, on behalf of Special Refresher Courses for Myanmar Police Force, Special Refresher Courses for Development Affairs Department Staff Officers, Special Refresher Courses for Basic Education Teachers, Special Refresher Courses for Myanmar Red Cross Society Executive Officers and Special Refresher Courses for Immigration and Manpower Officers, presented K 79,900 to Brig-Gen Tin Aye who presented certificate and thanked the donors.

(10) \$ 90,000 for MMCWA

YANGON, 19 Dec - An agreement was signed between the Japanese Government and the Myanmar Maternal and Child Welfare Association to provide US \$90,000 for MMCWA under grass Roots Grant Assistance Scheme at Mya Yeik Nyo Royal Hotel this morning.

Present were Ambassador of Japan Mr Yoichi Yamaguchi and officials, Chairperson of MMCWA Professor Daw Kyu Kyu Swe, Vice-ChairPerson Dr Khin Win Shwe, Dr Kyi Soe and executives.

The Ambassador and the chairperson signed the agreement.

The cash assistance will be used for maternity clinics opened by MMCWA with a view to reducing mortality rate of mother and child.
