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Four political objectives

- * Stability of the State, community peace and tranquillity, prevalence of law and order
- * National reconsolidation
- * Emergence of a new enduring State Constitution
- * Building of a new modern developed nation in accord with the new State Constitution

Four economic objectives

- * Development of agriculture as the base and all-round development of other sectors of the economy as well
- * Proper evolution of the market-oriented economic system
- * Development of the economy inviting participation in terms of technical know-how and investments from sources inside the country and abroad
- * The initiative to shape the national economy must be kept in the hands of the State and the national peoples

Four social objectives

- * Uplift of the morale and morality of the entire nation
- * Uplift of national prestige and integrity and preservation and safeguarding of cultural heritage and national character
- * Uplift of dynamism of patriotic spirit
- * Uplift of health, fitness and education standards of the entire nation



Defence Services Commander-in-Chief Senior General Than Shwe addresses the 59th Anniversary Armed Forces Day Parade. — MNA

Patriotic leaders and experts dutifully contribute to strengthening and modernization of the Armed Forces

Only when a nation possesses a modern defence capability, will it be possible to ensure the full protection of its sovereignty. Thus, it can be seen that in every nation of the world, patriotic leaders and experts who hold sovereignty dear have the sense of responsibility to contribute to the strengthening and modernization of the Armed Forces.

Senior General Than Shwe
Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council
Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services
(From address delivered at the 59th Anniversary Armed Forces Day Parade)

Only when a nation possesses a modern defence capability, will it be possible to ensure the full protection of its sovereignty

YANGON, 27 March — Commander-in-Chief of the Defence Services Senior General Than Shwe delivered an address at the 59th Anniversary Armed Forces Day Parade in the Resistance Park on U Wisara Road here today. The following is a translation of the address.

Comrades,

Today is the 59th Anniversary Armed Forces Day, a day of great significance in Myanmar history. It was on 27 March 1945 that our Tatmadaw was able to transform itself from an organization under the influence of others into the National Tatmadaw. It is also the day when our national sense of honour, shared by the Tatmadaw and the entire people, was first displayed so decisively at our own initiative. On such a

significant and auspicious day for the State, for the Tatmadaw and for the entire people, I would like to solemnly inform you of matters of importance.

Comrades,

We lost our independence because there was no modern Tatmadaw in the country. With the realization that the cause of independence could only be won through armed resistance, our efforts to form the Tatmadaw began in earnest.

Looking back at the his-

tory of the Tatmadaw, you will see that the fascists and imperialists used every means at their disposal to break up the Tatmadaw whenever it gained strength. Their obvious concern was that a strong Tatmadaw would make it impossible for them to influence and exploit the country at will.

Even the armed Tatmadaw was compelled to exercise patience and forbearance as the nation was under colonial rule. Our Tatmadawmen, being the good sons of the people, could barely restrain themselves when the Myanmar people were subjected to all manner of aggression and

bullying by outsiders. This being so, the Tatmadaw and the people joined hands in the resoundingly victorious anti-fascist resistance utilizing the people's war strategy. These glorious triumphs of the people and the Tatmadaw restored our independence and sovereignty.

History has taught us that, in order to protect and safeguard our independence and sovereignty, which was regained at a great cost paid in blood, sweat and lives, it is imperative for the country to possess a modern Tatmadaw and for the Tatmadaw to be at one with the people.

Comrades,

We have to build up and maintain a national defence capability adequate for the total defence of the nation. Factors contributing to the national defence capability include not only economic strength and geographical characteristics but also the country's demographic features. Therefore, it is necessary for each and every citizen to participate in the defence of the nation with a heightened sense of patriotism. Defending the nation is an inborn duty of every citizen.

Only when a nation possesses a modern defence capability, will it be possible

to ensure the full protection of its sovereignty. Thus, it can be seen that in every nation of the world, patriotic leaders and experts who hold sovereignty dear have the sense of responsibility to contribute to the strengthening and modernization of the Armed Forces.

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22,684



Parade columns seen at the 59th Anniversary Armed Forces Day Parade held in the Resistance Park in Yangon. — MNA

Emergence of the State Constitution is the duty of all citizens of Myanmar Naing-Ngan.

PERSPECTIVES

Sunday, 28 March, 2004

Build up State defence capability

As regards the State defence duties, Defence Services Commander-in-Chief Senior General Than Shwe in his address at the 59th Anniversary Armed Forces Day Parade said: "We have to build up and maintain a national defence capability adequate for the total defence of the nation. Factors contributing to the national defence capability include not only economic strength and geographical characteristics but also the country's demographic features. Therefore, it is necessary for each and every citizen to participate in the defence of the nation with a heightened sense of patriotism. Defending the nation is an inborn duty of every citizen."

The Tatmadaw waged the fascist revolution with participation of the entire people on 27 March 1945. It was successfully launched with the strategy of people's militia. It was a victory of the combined force of the Tatmadaw and the people. The combined force continued to strive for nation's independence and Myanmar regained her independence in 1948.

History has given enough evidences that to safeguard the independence and national sovereignty which was regained after the Tatmadaw had sacrificed a lot of lives, blood and sweat, a modern and efficient Tatmadaw is required and the Tatmadaw and the people must be inseparable. In other words, the people and the Tatmadaw must be in oneness. To fully safeguard the national sovereignty, a nation must have a modern defence power. Thus, the Tatmadaw is striving to turn itself into a modern and efficient one in view of discharging the State defence duty brilliantly.

The Tatmadaw today is performing three main duties namely the duty to defend the nation, the duty to undergo training and the duty to serve the interests of the people. As is known to all, the Tatmadaw with active participation of the people is making all-out efforts for the emergence of a peaceful, modern and developed nation. It exerted efforts for national reconsolidation among the national brethren in order to ensure prevalence of peace and tranquillity all over the country. At the same time, efforts are being made to bring about equitable development in all regions of the Union.

The border areas and national races development projects, the 24 special development zone projects and five rural development tasks have been laid down and are being implemented with might and main harmoniously. Meanwhile, measures for development of industrial sector have been taken for enabling the nation to stand shoulder to shoulder with the world community. Making efforts for bringing all-round development to the nation amounts to fulfilling the needs for the emergence of a discipline-flourishing democratic nation.

At a time when efforts are being made for building a modern defence power the entire national people are urged to participate in the tasks together with the Tatmadaw to be able to defend the State where there prevails peace, tranquillity and development.

Hailing the 59th Anniversary Armed Forces Day:



Book Fair

Sarpay Beikman

378,384 Upper Bo Aung Kyaw Street, Yangon
(former PPE head office)
19 to 28 March 2004 (from 9 am to 5 pm)



"အမျိုးသမီးတစ် ဖွဲ့ဖြူဖွဲ့၊ ဝိုင်းဝန်းကြိုးပမ်း ဆောင်ရွက်မိ"

Myanmar Federation of Women's Affairs

Plenary Meeting of State/Division

Organization for Women's Affairs

Yangon

28-29 March 2004

New Generation Golf Championship 30 March

YANGON, 27 March— Honouring the 59th Anniversary Armed Forces Day, the Han Golf Master's New Generation Youth Golf Championship, organized by Myanmar Golf Federation, will be held at Myanmar Golf Club, here, on 30 March morning.

There will be five classes— the 8-10 age class, the 11-12 age class, the 13-14 age class, the 15-17 age class and the under-18 women's class. Those wishing to participate in the championship may enlist at City Golf Resort (Pro-shop), Tel: 641341 and 723221, not later than 4 pm on 29 March.— MNA

Prizes presented to best companies, columns in Armed Forces Day Parade

YANGON, 27 March— The prize distribution to best companies and columns in the 59th Anniversary Armed Forces Day Parade took place at the Myoma Ground on U Wisara Street here this morning, attended by member of the State Peace and Development Council General Thura Shwe Mann, on behalf of the Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services, Secretary-2 of the State Peace and Development Council Adjutant-General Lt-Gen Thein Sein and Chairman of Leading Committee for Observance of the 59th Anniversary Armed Forces Day Chief of Armed Forces Training Lt-Gen Kyaw Win.

Also present on the occasion were Chairman of the Working Committee for

led by Parade Commander Brig-Gen Min Thein.

Next, Lt-Gen Kyaw Win presented honorary prize to the Central Military Band; honorary bagpipe prize to Bag-pipe Troupe, the third model prize for Aung San column to No 1 company representing Myanmar Red Cross Society, the second to No 2 company representing Myanmar Fire Brigade and the first prize to No 2 company representing Myanmar Police Force; the consolation prize 5 for military discipline to the company representing the No 11 LID, the consolation prize 4 to the company representing No 101 LID, the consolation prize 3 to the company representing the South-West Command, the consolation prize 2 to the company rep-



Secretary-2 Lt-Gen Thein Sein presents the second prize for military band to Hsinbyushin column.

MNA

Scrutinizing best company Vice Adjutant-General Brig-Gen Hla Shwe, Vice-Chiefs of Armed Forces Training Maj-Gen Win Myint, Maj-Gen Aung Kyi and Brig-Gen Nyan Win, senior military officers, Tatmadawmen from Anawrahta Column, Kyansittha Column, Bayintnaung Column, Nawade Column, Aungzeya Column, Hsinbyushin Column, Bandoola Column, Myawady Column and Aung San Column led by Parade Commander Brig-Gen Min Thein, members of Myanmar Police Force, Fire Brigade and Myanmar Red Cross Society.

First, General Thura Shwe Mann took the salute of Tatmadawmen and members of Myanmar Police Force, Fire Brigade and Myanmar Red Cross Society of respective columns

resenting the Eastern Command and the consolation prize 1 to the company representing the North-East Command, the third prize for military discipline to the company representing No 33 LID, the second to the company representing No 11 LID and the first to the company representing Office of the Commander-in-Chief (Navy).

Next, Secretary-2 Lt-Gen Thein Sein presented the third prize to military band of Nawade column, the second to military band of Hsinbyushin column, the first to military band of Aungzeya column; the third prize to the standard banner company of Hsinbyushin column, the second to the standard banner company of Nawade column, the first to the standard banner company of Aungzeya column, the con-

People's Desire

- * Oppose those relying on external elements, acting as stooges, holding negative views
- * Oppose those trying to jeopardize stability of the State and progress of the nation
- * Oppose foreign nations interfering in internal affairs of the State
- * Crush all internal and external destructive elements as the common enemy



General Thura Shwe Mann presents the best column prize to Nawade column.

MNA



solation prize-5 for military parade to the company representing the Eastern Command, the consolation prize-4 to company representing the Directorate of Signals, the consolation prize-3 to the company representing Northern Command, the consolation prize-2 to the company representing North-West Command, the consolation prize-1 to the company representing Office of the Commander-in-Chief (Navy), the third prize for military parade to the company representing Yangon Command, the second to the company representing the Office of the Commander-in-Chief (Air) and the first prize to the company representing Directorate of Artillery Force.

Next, General Thura Shwe Mann presented consolation prizes 5,4,3,2 and 1 for marching song to the company

mand and the company representing the Directorate of Electric and Mechanical Engineers. General Thura Shwe Mann presented the third, second and first prizes for marching song to the company representing No 77 LID, the company representing the Directorate of Ordnance Services and the company representing the Directorate of Supply & Transport. General Thura Shwe Mann presented the third, second and first model prizes to the company representing the Directorate of Medical Services, the company representing the Directorate of Armour Force and the company representing the Directorate of Artillery Force. General Thura Shwe Mann presented the best column prize to the Nawade column. Then, General Thura Shwe Mann took the salute of columns



Lt-Gen Kyaw Win presents the second model prize for Aung San column to No 2 company representing Fire Brigade.

MNA



representing Western Command, the company representing Southern Command, the company representing Office of the Commander-in-Chief (Air), the company representing the Central Com-

of Tatmadawmen, members of Myanmar Police Force, Fire Brigade, Myanmar Red Cross Society of respective columns led by Parade Commander Brig-Gen Min Thein.

MNA

Soldiers in Iraq buy their own body armour

BAGHDAD, 27 March—Soldiers headed for Iraq are still buying their own body armour—and in many cases, their families are buying it for them—despite assurances from the military that the gear will be in hand before they're in harm's way.

Body armour distributors have received steady inquiries from soldiers and families about purchasing the gear, which can cost several thousand dollars. Though the military has advised them not to rely on third-party suppliers, many soldiers say they want it before they deploy.

Last October, it was reported that nearly one-quarter of American troops serving in Iraq did not have ceramic plated body armor, which can stop bullets fired from assault rifles and shrapnel.

The military says the shortfall is over and soldiers who do not yet have the armor

soon will. But many want to avoid the risk.

"What we hear from soldiers is that they are told that they are going to get body armor just before they leave or just after they get there. But they don't want to take a chance," said Nick Taylor, owner of Bullet-

proofme.com, an online distributor of body armor in Austin, Texas.

Inquiries rise and fall with the rate of deployments, fueled by stories of units falling under attack as little as a day after being issued body armor. Whether they are true, the stories are prompting families to think about buying the equipment, Taylor said.

Dan Britt paid about \$1,400 for body armor for his son, a medic stationed in Kuwait who had orders to move into Baghdad. He recently heard his son received it. "In war, as we've learned through all our history, who gets killed and who doesn't is just happenstance," said the father from Hamilton, Ohio. "But if I can raise the odds, then I'll feel better." — *Internet*



Don Budke holds up an armoured vest, on Wednesday, 17 March, 2004, at Reliance Armour Systems, Inc, in Cincinnati where the vest is made. Some soldiers and their families are buying the vests on their own before leaving for deployment in Iraq.—INTERNET

China striving to launch satellite to orbit moon in late 2006

BEIJING, 27 March—China will strive to launch a satellite to orbit the moon by December of 2006 from Xichang Satellite Launch Centre in Sichuan Province, southwest China, the country's top space official said Thursday.

The tentative plan for the launch is one year earlier than was announced late last year. Sun Laiyan, vice-director of the China National Space Administration (CNSA), said last December the satellite will be launched by 2007.

Luan Enjie, CNSA director and chief commander of the lunar satellite project, said Thursday research and development of five major systems of the project are under way. They are the satellite system, the launch vehicle system, the launch site system, the survey and control system and the ground application system.

The project has government funding of 1.4 billion yuan (about 170 million US dollars).

Addressing the first work meeting on the project, Luan said the project has been named Chang'e Project, while the first lunar satellite has been named *Chang'e No.1*. Chang'e refers to a goddess who flew to the moon in an ancient Chinese fairy tale.

According to the design, the satellite system consists of a satellite platform and payload, which will be based on China's *Dongfanghong 3* satellite platform and payload and other mature satellite technology. The satellite will be 2,350 kilos in weight

with 130 kilos of payload, and will orbit the moon for one year.

A home-made *Long March III A* carrier rocket will be used to launch the satellite.

The satellite would obtain three-dimensional images of the lunar surface, analyze the content of useful elements and materials, and probe the depth of the lunar soil and the space environment between the Earth and the moon.

China's lunar probe programme is divided into three phases. The first phase of the programme for sending a satellite to orbit the moon is underway. It would be followed by a proposed landing of an unmanned vehicle on

the moon in the second stage by 2010, and collecting samples of lunar soil with an unmanned vehicle by 2020 in the third phase.

MNA/Xinhua

Indonesia sets up first virus research centre

JAKARTA, 27 March—The University of Indonesia (UI) has set up its first virus research centre, the Institute of Human Virology and Cancer Biology (IHVCB-UI), said a university rector here Thursday.

The centre is set up in cooperation with the Institute of Human Virology, University of Maryland Baltimore, the United States, the Rector of the University of Indonesia Usman Chatib said.

He said the establishment of the institute is part of the

effort to lift the university's research to international level.

The University of Maryland was led by Robert C. Gallo, the founder of AIDS/HIV virus, who has paid a great attention to and assistance on the virology cases in Asian countries.

MNA/Xinhua

Iraq fighting leaves 15 dead, including a US Marine

BAGHDAD, 27 March—A US Marine is one of 15 people killed in fighting in Iraq.

In the town of Fallujah, US troops and guerillas armed with mortars and rocket-propelled grenades fought for hours in the alleyways. One Marine and at least five Iraqis died, including a cameraman with ABC News.

Near Tikrit today, four members of the US-trained Iraqi Civil Defence Corps and three suspected rebels died during a raid by Iraqi security forces and US soldiers.

The US military also says 21 suspected guerillas were captured in the raid north of Baghdad.

US Marines took over authority in Fallujah and surrounding areas from the Army this week. The city is in the so-called Sunni triangle, where support for Saddam was strong and rebel attacks on American forces are frequent. After the fighting, Marines patrolled on foot. The city was largely deserted with shops shuttered and residents staying indoors. — *Internet*

Drug overdoses fuel jump in US poisoning deaths

ATLANTA, 27 March—Illicit use of heroin, cocaine and other drugs helped fuel a dramatic rise in the number of accidental and unexplained poisoning deaths in the United States, health researchers said on Thursday.

The fatality rate from poisoning, excluding suicides and murders, rose an average 145 per cent between 1990 and 2001, according to data collected by 11 states and published by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Narcotics and hallucinogens accounted for 51 per cent of these deaths.

Catherine Sanford, an official with the North Carolina Department of Health and

Human Services and one of the authors of the study, said the troubling data highlighted a clear and common message.

"If you use drugs for recreation, there is a good chance you will die," said Sanford, who added that misuse of sedatives, pain killers and other legitimately prescribed drugs also contributed to the poisoning fatality trends.

She stressed that this finding did not indicate a need to restrict legally prescribed drugs, especially if they were used to control chronic pain or treat patients in substance abuse clinics.

There were 22,242 poisoning deaths in 2001 in the United States, 63 per cent of which were unintentional. The overall death rate from poisonings—either intentional or unintentional—

rose 56 per cent between 1990 and 2001.

Poisonings cost the nation untold billions every year in medical costs and lost productivity. A 1997 study put the cost at about 925 US dollars per incident.

Researchers could not explain why Americans between the ages of 45 and 54 posted the biggest increase—a 359 per cent rise—in unintentional poisoning fatalities during the 1990-2001 period.

Equally puzzling was the discovery that the rate of increase among women was almost double that of men in Colorado, Delaware, Florida, Kentucky, Massachusetts, New Mexico, North Carolina, Oregon, Utah, Washington and Wisconsin.

MNA/Reuters

French FM to visit Haiti next week

PARIS, 27 March—French Foreign Minister Dominique de Villepin will go to Haiti next week on the first visit by a high-ranking foreign political leader since President Jean-Bertrand Aristide was toppled in a rebellion.

A Foreign Ministry spokesman said on Friday that Villepin would visit the Caribbean country on April 1 but gave no details of his programme.

Villepin said earlier this month that he would visit the former French colony after a government of national unity was installed.

Villepin's trip will be the first official visit by a French Government representative to Haiti since it became independent 200 years ago, the Foreign Ministry said.

Haiti was one of France's wealthiest colonies during the 17th Century before a slave rebellion led to independence in 1804. Today it is the poorest country in the Americas.

MNA/Reuters



Iraqi children play in an old Iraqi army camp, which was bombed by the US army during the war, where they live with their families near Baghdad, Iraq on 26 March, 2004. — INTERNET

US soldiers face charges of prisoner abuse

WASHINGTON, 27 March—To former military police Master Sgt Lisa Girman and two of her fellow soldiers, May 12 was just “another night in the desert” restraining unruly Iraqi war prisoners. But in January, the three Pennsylvania MPs were discharged from the military for kicking and punching Iraqis, including one allegedly linked to the ambush of the Jessica Lynch convoy.

In a similar case, a Marine guard testified in February that beating uncooperative Iraqi detainees was common. In all, eight Marines have been charged for mistreating detainees, one of whom died in custody.

Now, the US military has charged six more American soldiers with assault, indecent acts, cruelty, and maltreatment in connection with the al-

leged abuse of as many as 19 detainees at the Abu Ghraib prison west of Baghdad.

From detainee abuse to the excessive use of force and disputed killings of civilians, the Iraq conflict is producing its share of legal and ethical lapses by US service members, despite strenuous efforts by US commanders to avoid them.

The breaches involve only a tiny fraction of the more than 150,000-strong US occupation force, which military ethicists and human rights groups have given generally good marks for their comportment in Iraq. Still, such violations could cause disproportionate damage to the US military's image among Iraqis.

Internet



A truck sits next to a blazing pipe station at an oil well in the Kubazah oil field in Kirkuk, northern Iraq, on Friday 26 March, 2004. The cause of the fire was unknown. — INTERNET

Symposium held in Hangzhou to discuss UN reform

BEIJING, 27 March — The Asia High-Level Symposium on Threats, Challenge and Change will be held in China from 2 to 4 April to discuss the role and reform of the United Nations (UN).

Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman Kong Quan made the announcement here on Thursday afternoon. The conference will be held in Hangzhou, capital of east China's Zhejiang Province, at the request of a panel of eminent persons on UN reform and UN's role, according to Kong.

Former Chinese vice-premier Qian Qichen, also a

member of the eminent persons panel, will preside over the meeting, the spokesman said. The meeting is the first regional symposium held by the panel on the UN's role, Kong said.

It aims to listen to the viewpoints of Asian countries on enhancing the UN's role, and discuss UN operation, coordination and reform to cope with threats

and challenges to international peace and security and relevant collective actions amidst such threats and challenges, he added.

The majority of members of the eminent persons panel, senior officials from Asian countries and renowned scholars and experts will participate in the meeting, Kong said.

MNA/Xinhua

China's acid rain pollution worsened in 2003

BEIJING, 27 March— China's acid rain pollution worsened in 2003, according to a statement released here Thursday by the environment watchdog.

According to the annual “Statement on the Environment” issued by the State Environmental Protection Administration (SEPA), acid rain occurred in 54.4 per cent of the total 487 cities monitored. The percentage of cities with no acid rain occurrence decreased while that of cities with acid rain frequency is higher than 40 per cent, increasing 7.2 per cent over 2002.

Zhu Guangyao, vice-director of SEPA, said at a Press conference here Thursday that the statistics indicated that acid rain pollution worsened in 2003. The statement also said the pollution scope within the acid rain control zones remained stable, but pollution in already seriously polluted areas has worsened. Statistics showed acid rain occurred in 89.6 per cent of the 106 cities in the acid rain control zones in 2003. Compared to 2002, the percentage of cities with low acid rain frequency (between 20 to 40 per cent) decreased by 11.9 per cent while that of cities with high frequency (higher than 40 per cent) increased by 6.9 per cent. — MNA/Xinhua

Berlin zoo banks on sperm cocktail for panda cubs

BERLIN, 27 March— Berlin Zoo's giant panda Yan Yan moved a step closer to becoming a mother on Thursday when a delegation of Chinese experts flew in to discuss inseminating her with a cocktail of sperm from several Chinese pandas.

Six attempts to impregnate the 19-year-old with sperm from her Berlin Zoo companion Bao Bao, 26, all failed and now scientists at the zoo say they want to try a mixture of semen from several Chinese pandas.

For one week, experts from Beijing will assess the suitability of Chinese-born Yan Yan and her environment for the project. “At first glance, the outlook is good. At this early stage we are very happy,” said Peng Zhenxin, Director of the Giant Panda Research Centre in Beijing.

The method has already been used successfully in China, where the research centre has used sperm cocktails to breed 64 cubs, he added. Yan Yan's vet, Andreas Ochs, told Reuters it was extremely difficult to create the right conditions in captivity for natural insemination of the endangered species and had never happened in Yan Yan's case. — MNA/Reuters

ဝက်ကုမ်းအား ခေတ်ကျော်လွှား

Anti-war soldier charged with desertion

SAVANNAH, 27 March—A US soldier who says he would rather go to prison than back to an “oil-driven war” has been charged with desertion for leaving his unit in Iraq five months ago.

Staff Sgt Camilo Mejia of the Florida National Guard will face a special court-

martial, Fort Stewart commander Maj Gen William G Webster decided Friday.

That means Mejia could get up to year in prison and a bad conduct discharge rather than the maximum five years and dishonorable discharge allowed under military law in a general court-marshal.

“The maximum punishment is a little bit less,” said Maj Robert Resnick, chief of military justice at Fort Stewart. Even if Mejia is found guilty, “in a court-marshal, they can always adjudge no punishment.”

No date has been set for a military judge to try Mejia's case, Resnick said.

Mejia, 28, of Miami Beach, returned 17 March to Fort Stewart to face possible prosecution. He left Iraq in October on two weeks leave and did not return to his unit, the 1st Battalion, 124th Infantry Regiment.

Mejia, who has condemned the war in Iraq as “an oil-driven war,” has an application pending for conscientious objector status. That would not stop the Army from prosecuting him for his five-month absence.

Mejia has said he would rather go to prison than back to Iraq. He learned of the charge Wednesday, a week after he returned to Fort Stewart, said his attorney, Louis Font. — Internet

EU wants greater UN role in Iraq

BRUSSELS, 27 March—The European Union stressed the need for a greater UN role in Iraq amid rampant insecurity, as Australian Prime Minister John Howard said an early withdrawal from the war-torn country could help foster global terrorism. Meanwhile, the chief US allies in Asia, Japan and South Korea, shored up their support for the US-led coalition, mapping out their financial aid and sticking by plans to send more than 3,000 troops.

After a two-day summit in Brussels, EU leaders reaffirmed their support for a greater UN role in Iraq, but warned insecurity remains a major obstacle to rebuilding the country. Brussels “looks forward to the UN playing a vital and growing role endorsed by the UN Security Council in the run-up to transition and beyond,” the leaders said in a concluding statement.

“A strong UN role in this political transition process is an essential element for its success,” they said.

But they warned: “The security situation in Iraq remains a major impediment to successful political and reconstruction processes.” UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan on 18 March agreed to send his envoy, Lakhdar Brahimi, and a team of experts back to Iraq to help prepare for elections and a new government set to take power in three months. — Internet

India test-fires “Trishul” short-range missile successfully

NEW DELHI, 27 March— India on Thursday successfully test-fired its most sophisticated short-range missile *Trishul* from the Integrated Test Range (ITR) at Chandipur in central India's Orissa State.

Indigenously developed by India's Defence Research Development Organization (DRDO), the surface-to-air missile was test-fired from a mobile launcher at about 2.52 p.m., the *Press Trust of India* (PTI) quoted defence sources as saying.

MNA/Xinhua

Russia says “ISS” crew's return to earth delayed

MOSCOW, 27 March— The *International Space Station's* two-man crew will return to Earth on 30 April, a day later than planned, Russia's mission control said on Thursday.

Russian cosmonaut Alexander Kaleri and his US commander Michael Foale had not been able to complete their programme in time to return to Eon schedule.

“Their programme has been extended and they need more time in orbit,” said a mission control spokesman. “They will return on 30 April, not 29 April.”

The two men have been in orbit since 18 October. — MNA/Reuters



Smoke billows from an explosion which set ablaze a main oil well that feeds exports through Turkey west of the northern Iraqi city of Kirkuk recently. — INTERNET

Iraq guerillas likely to step up attacks on police

BAGHDAD, 27 March— Some 350 US-trained Iraqi police have been killed in the past year, and rebel attacks will likely increase before the coalition hands over sovereignty on 30 June, the US military said yesterday. The latest American casualty was a soldier who died in a bomb explosion north of Baghdad.

In Fallujah, west of Baghdad, guerillas attacked a US military convoy, and TV footage showed an empty Humvee in flames. One Iraqi driver in a civilian car was killed in the crossfire.

Guerillas have struck police north and south of the capital this week. They killed two police who were twin brothers, killed a provincial police chief and ambushed a van carrying police recruits, killing nine.

"We remain concerned at what is clearly a programme of intimidation and targeting of not only the Iraqi police service, but all Iraqi government officials," said Brig Gen Mark Kimmitt, the US military's deputy director of operations. "A significant number

of Iraqi police have been killed in the past year, somewhere in the order of 350."

He said that despite the attacks "on almost a daily basis," morale in the force remained high and no significant drop in recruitment of retention rates had occurred.

Some 200,000 Iraqis are serving in the country's security forces, which include an army, police, border guards and the Iraqi Civil Defence Corps, or ICDC. Guerillas view them as collaborators with the US-led occupation, and they often make easier targets because they are less well-armed and protected than the US troops who sometimes accompany them on patrols.

Internet

Bangladesh marks 33rd Independence anniversary

DHAKA, 27 March— Bangladesh marked its 33rd Independence anniversary on Friday with an Army parade boasting pomp and splendour, but with a stagnant economy, rising crime and constant political bickering, citizens have little to celebrate.

Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia is struggling to retain support in the face of a campaign by the opposition to force her to call early elections—currently scheduled before the end of 2006—and the country has been paralyzed by a series of strikes.

In a speech ahead of Friday's anniversary, Khaleda appealed to all political parties to work together for the good of Bangladesh.

"Whichever party we belong to or whatever opinion we hold, we all are pledge-bound to work for the welfare of the country and are accountable to the people," Khaleda said. She also shook up her own Cabinet in a bid to improve efficiency.—MNA/Reuters

China contributes to global anti-poverty efforts

BEIJING, 27 March— China has made important contributions to the global cause of poverty reduction by cutting the number of desperately poor people from 250 million in 1978 to just 30 million in 2003, according to a United Nations report issued here Thursday.

The UN report on China's progress towards the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) said China had already achieved the goal of halving the number of people living in extreme poverty ahead of the international deadline of 2015.

China's success offers hope for poverty reduction efforts around the globe, World Bank Vice-President Frannie Leautier said after an on-the-spot inspection of poverty alleviation projects in southwest China earlier this month.

A total of 147 million people in the Asia Pacific region have been alleviated from extreme poverty over the past decade, UN Deputy Secretary-General Kim Hak-su told an international conference in Beijing Thursday. The "Asia miracle" should be attributed to China's exceptional economic growth and India's significant progress, he said.

However, China is facing new challenges in the progress of poverty reduction as the disparity of incomes between urban and rural residents widened. In order to solve the problem of unbalanced development, the Chinese Government has adopted a new ideology of sustainable growth. Kim said future progress in global poverty reduction requires a new line of thinking that focuses on strategies to help the poor. He said the Chinese Government had instituted tax cuts, greater rural investment and better medical care and schooling in rural areas. Chinese State Councillor Tang Jiaxuan said at a three-day international conference on the MDGs that as the new idea of sustainable development takes deeper root in the mind of the Chinese people, China will accelerate its pace in achieving the poverty reduction goals.

His comment was echoed by Rubens Ricupero, Secretary-General of United Nations Conference on Trade and Development. Ricupero said at the seminar that China has set an example for other countries in the anti-poverty drive.

MNA/Xinhua



Iraqi youths celebrate after a US Army Humvee vehicle was set ablaze following a shootout between American forces and guerillas in the restive town of Fallujah on 25 March, 2004. Guerillas killed one Marine and injured two with a combination of a roadside bomb, rocket-propelled grenades and small arms, the Army said. — INTERNET

Iraqi cameraman working for US network ABC killed in Fallujah

BAGHDAD, 27 March— An Iraqi cameraman working with US television network ABC was killed on Friday while covering clashes in the restive town of Fallujah.

"Sadly, today we learned of the death of our colleague, Burhan Mohammed Mazhour," ABC News President David Westin said in a statement.

"An Iraqi citizen,

Burhan had been working as a freelance cameraman for ABC News in Fallujah for about two months. He died of gunshot wounds while covering a firefight in Fallujah.

"We are trying to confirm all the details surrounding his death and have asked the US military for an investigation. We will miss Burhan's dedication and professionalism. Our thoughts and prayers are with his family."

Mazhour was shot in the head and taken to Fallujah hospital, where he died shortly afterwards. Witnesses said US troops fired at him. The US military said it had no information about the incident.

MNA/Reuters



A masked Iraqi man stands guard in Kirkuk, in northern Iraq on 26

March, 2004.

INTERNET

Dinosaur fossil discovered in S-W China

CHONGQING, 27 March— The Chongqing Museum of Natural History began formal excavation Wednesday of a dinosaur fossil newly discovered at the shoal of the Jialing River in southwestern China's Chongqing Municipality.

Belonging to the Mamenxi dinosaur of the sauropod family, the dinosaur lived in the late Jurassic period about 130 million years ago.

According to Zhang Yihong, a research member

with the museum, the dinosaur fossil, which is well preserved, is 18 metres long and the height of its back is 3.5 metres.

"Although the size of the dinosaur fossil is smaller than the Hechuan Mamenxi dinosaur, from the shape of the skeleton of the dinosaur we can judge that the age it lived should be earlier than the Hechuan Mamenxi dinosaur and the Jianshe Mamenxi dinosaur discovered in Zigong County, southwestern Sichuan Province," said Zhang.

"In this sense, the fossil discovered in Chongqing is of great significance to the study of the Mamenxi dinosaur and its evolution," said Zhang.

Experts evaluation shows that the 12 vertebrae, four sacral vertebrae, cervical vertebra and caudal vertebra of the dinosaur fossil are all quite intact. Possible fossil of teeth, pubic bones and fragments of the jaw bone were discovered at the nearby shoal.

MNA/Xinhua

US existing home sales up 2% in February

WASHINGTON, 27 March— Sales of existing homes in the United States rose by 2 per cent in February to a seasonally adjusted annual rate of 6.12 million units, said the National Association of Realtors on Thursday.

The sales in February were up 5.7 per cent from a year earlier and in line with economists' forecasts. The increase indicated that the US housing market, supported by the lowest interest rates in decades, remained buoyant.

In February, the median price for an existing home was 168,100 dollars, up 5.7 per cent from the prior year. Housing inventory levels rose 5.9 per cent at the end of February with 2.33 million existing homes available for sale.

According to the US mortgage finance firm Freddie Mac, the national average rate for a 30-year, fixed-rate mortgage was 5.64 per cent in February, down from 5.71 per cent in January.

MNA/Xinhua

South Africa records drop in unemployment

JOHANNESBURG, 27 March— South Africa said on Thursday that its official unemployment rate declined to 28.2 per cent in September 2003 from 31.2 per cent in March the same year.

Statistics SA said in Pretoria that the number of unemployed people fell from 5.3 million to 4.6 million over the same period, describing the development as a "statistically significant decrease".

However, the decline was accompanied by an increase of 985,000 people who have been described as not economically active people—that includes children and the elderly.—MNA/Xinhua

Daw Kyaing Kyaing and public accord rousing welcome to Tatmadawmen of 59th Anniversary Armed Forces Day parade columns

YANGON, 27 March — To attend the 59th Anniversary Armed Forces Day Parade, led by Parade Commander Brig-Gen Min Thein, Tatmadaw members of Anawrahta Column, Kyansittha Column, Bayintnaung Column, Nawade Column, Aung Zeya Column, Hsinbyushin Column, Bandoola Column, Myawady Column and Aung San Column, members of Myanmar Police Force, Fire Brigade and Myanmar Red Cross Society this morning marched into the Resistance Park from Myoma Grounds along U Wisara Road. Thousands of people along the road accorded rousing welcome to them.

Together with the public, Daw Kyaing Kyaing, wife of Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Than Shwe, Daw

Mya Mya San, wife of Vice-Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) Vice-Senior General Maung Aye, Dr Daw Khin Win Shwe, wife of Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt, Daw Khin Than Nwe, wife of Lt-Gen Tin Oo, Daw Khin Lay Thet, wife of member of the State Peace and Development Council General Thura Shwe Mann of the Ministry of Defence, Daw Than Than Nwe, wife of Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Soe Win, Daw Khin Khin Win, wife of Secretary-2 Lt-Gen Thein Sein, Dr Daw Tin Lin Myint, wife of member of SPDC Lt-Gen Ye Myint, Daw Khin Hnin Wai, wife of member of SPDC Lt-Gen Aung Htwe, Daw Marlar Tint, wife of member of

SPDC Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than, Daw Khin Lay Myint, wife of member of SPDC Lt-Gen Maung Bo, Daw Khin Saw Hnin, wife of Quartermaster-General Lt-Gen Thiha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo, Daw San San Yi, wife of Chairman of the leading committee for observance of the 59th Anniversary Armed Forces Day Chief of Armed Forces Training Lt-Gen Kyaw Win, wives of the Commander-in-Chief (Navy), the Commander-in-Chief (Air), the Chairman of the management committee for observance of the 59th Anniversary Armed Forces Day Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command offered Aung-



Daw Kyaing Kyaing, wife of Senior-General Than Shwe, garlands a Tatmadawman. MNA

them.

Moreover, thousands of people, service personnel of various



Daw Khin Than Nwe, widow of Lt-Gen Tin Oo, garlands a Tatmadawman. — NLM



Daw Khin Khin Win, wife of Secretary-2 Lt-Gen Thein Sein, garlands a Tatmadawman. — MNA



Dr Daw Khin Win Shwe, wife of General Khin Nyunt, garlands a Tatmadawman. — NLM



Daw Than Than Nwe, wife of Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Soe Win, garlands a Tatmadawman. — MNA

thabyay (eugenia sprigs) to Tatmadawmen of the military columns and members of MPF, FB and MRCS and garlanded

ministries, members of the Union Solidarity and Development Association, families of Tatmadawmen, members of NGOs, MPF,



Daw Mya Mya San, wife of Vice Senior-General Maung Aye, garlands a Tatmadawman. — MNA



Daw Khin Lay Thet, wife of General Thura Shwe Mann, garlands a Tatmadawman. — MNA

Red Cross and Auxiliary Fire Brigade, teachers and students, members of boards of directors of companies cordially welcomed the Tatmadawmen and offered Aungthabyay (eugenia sprigs) to them. MNA

The Tatmadaw and the people are inseparable.

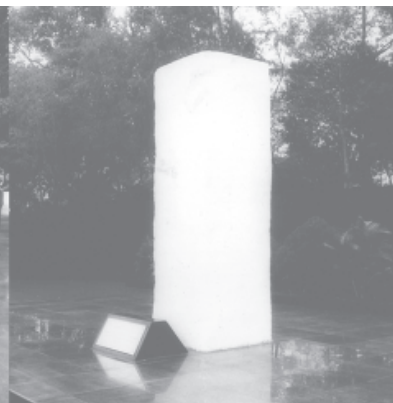
Military attaches pay tribute to fallen heroes

YANGON, 27 March — After attending the 59th Anniversary Armed Forces Day Parade held at the Resistance Park this morning, military attaches of foreign missions in Myanmar proceeded to the Memorial to Fallen Heroes on Azarni Road in Bahan Township here where they were welcomed by Chairman of Maintenance Committee for the Memorial No 2 Military Region Commander and Yangon Station Commander Brig-Gen Myo Myint and officials. Next, led by Dean of the Military Attaches Military Attaché of the People's Republic of China to Myanmar Sr Col Xu Shulai, the military attaches paid tribute to the fallen heroes and signed in the visitors' book.

MNA



Military Attaches of foreign missions in Yangon pay tribute to Fallen Heroes. — MNA



Tatmadawmen who are combating the menace of narcotic drugs

Soe Nyein San

Born of the national people, the Tatmadaw always gives priority to the aspirations of the people. Members of the Tatmadaw are ready to risk their lives to protect the life, property and security of the people. Apart from discharging national defence duties, the Tatmadaw also plays a crucial part in preventing the danger of narcotic drugs, which can cause the extinction of the entire mankind.

Major anti-narcotic movements in which the Tatmadaw took part in 1975-76 were Operation Melon, Operation Taunghteikpan, Operation Zinnu, Operation Aung Kyaw Moe, Operation Hay Man Oo, Operation Aung Moe Hein, Operation Ye Min Aung and Operation Lay Man Aung. In 1977, the Tatmadaw also launched Operation Paukpan in 24 townships of Shan State, Operation Twam Wong in three townships of Chin State, and Operation Ngayepan in two townships of Magway Division. Moreover, the Tatmadaw intensified its operations in four townships of Kachin State, in Loikaw Township of Kayah State and in Mogoke and Thazi Townships of Mandalay Division to destroy poppy fields. In that drive, a total of 8769.49 acres of poppy fields had been destroyed.

Operation Kauk Yoe and Operation Myetchauk were also launched in the east and west of Bago mountain range. Operation Hngetkyitaung in Kayin State, Operation Marana in Chin State, Operation Myetchauk-2 in Bago Division and localized operations in Rakhine State and Ayeyawady Division were also launched to destroy marijuana plantations.

In doing so, the Tatmadaw also launched Operations Moe Hein from First Phase to the Twelfth in the eradication of narcotic drugs. The Tatmadaw won victory in launching those operations. I would like to recall those famous operations, First to Twelfth Operations Moe Hein in which the Tatmadaw was involved.

Operation Moe Hein Phase One was launched in Monghsat on the east bank of Thanlwin river in Shan State near Thailand from 26 April to 3 May 1976. In that operation, the Tatmadaw had five engagements with opium traffickers. In those fights, five members of the Tatmadaw sacrificed their lives for the country. Seized together with nine bodies of opium traffickers were narcotics, paraphernalia and heaps of arms and ammunition.

Operation Moe Hein Phase Two took place in Lwehtongyi region, Monghsat Township, Shan State, from 18 to 27 January 1977. Three members of the Tatmadaw sacrificed their lives for the country and the people while 11 others got injured.

It was on 17 June 1977 that Operation Moe Hein Phase Three started around Kaung Maik Hong and Mantong regions of Mongmaw, Loikaw Township near Myanmar-Thailand border. The operation went on till 14 July that year. The seven engagements between the Tatmadaw and opium traffickers claimed the life of one Tatmadaw member and wounded nine. On the side of drug traffickers, seven were killed and one captured alive.

Operation Moe Hein Phase Four occurred in Lwelan region, Monghsat Township at Thailand-Myanmar border from 10 to 27 April 1978. The operation cost the Tatmadaw one life and one was wounded. Among the seizures made by the Tatmadaw were 27 bodies of opium traffickers, assorted arms and documents.

From 23 February to 8 March 1980, Operation Moe Hein Phase Five took place in Lawchochai and Banmaphi

regions at Myanmar-Thailand border. In that operation, the Tatmadaw fought with opium traffickers nine times and seized 10 bodies, assorted arms and rounds of ammunition, and paraphernalia. Five members of the Tatmadaw were wounded.

Operation Moe Hein Phase Six occurred in Lwelan region, Monghsat and lasted from 9 to 27 March 1981. During the operation, there broke out eight fights between the Tatmadaw and opium smugglers. In those engagements, six Tatmadaw members sacrificed their lives for the country while 13 others got injured. Seized together with 32 bodies of drug smugglers were 35 assorted arms and rounds of ammunition. Two were also caught alive.

The Seventh Phase of Operation Moe Hein was launched for 16 days from 8 April in 1983 in Mongpang, Mongton and Hsankalan regions. In the operation, the companies of Tatmadaw column destroyed insurgents' opium refineries. There were 34 fights occurred in which 31 Tatmadawmen sacrificed their lives and 65 others were wounded. But, 89 drug smugglers were shot dead, five were captured alive, and 30 surrendered.

With the launch of Operation Moe Hein Phase Eight, the Tatmadaw destroyed an opium refinery run by the strength of 300 insurgents in Hsankalan region from 7 to 28 April in 1984. During the 15 fights, two Tatmadaw members sacrificed their lives and 12 others were wounded. Ten opium smugglers were captured dead. From 3 to 13 May the same year, Eighth Phase of Operation Moe Hien (part-2) destroyed an opium refinery run by 300 smugglers in Lawlochaing region. In that battle, nine Tatmadaw members gave their all, and 27 others were wounded. On the side of the insurgents, three bodies were left. The Tatmadaw launched Operation Moe Hein Phase Nine from 27 February to 14 March 1985. Insurgents were then smuggling out opium of Mongkun region. In seven fights, three Tatmadawmen fell, and one insurgent was captured dead and another was captured alive. From 19 February to 4 March 1986, under Operation Moe Hein Phase Ten, Tatmadaw launched an operation against 400 drug smugglers who were camping in the jungle of Mongkun region. Receiving the information about the launch of Tatmadaw's operation, the insurgents destroyed their opium refineries and fled. But, the Tatmadaw was in hot pursuit and caught three dead and one alive.

Operation Moe Hein Phase Eleven was launched from 20 February to 28 March in 1987 in Naungkan and Mongkun regions. However, some 1400 drug dealer insurgents broke out between a remnant group of insurgents and the Tatmadaw. In the fights, two members of Tatmadaw sacrificed their lives and five others were wounded. The Twelfth Phase of Operation Moe Hein was launched from 17 March to 11 April 1988 that crushed remnants of KMT and over 1600 insurgents under BCP (No 6 brigade) and various forces. During the operation, there broke out 11 major fights and 39 engagements totalling 50. In the operation region, five opium refineries of insurgents were destroyed, 37 Tatmadawmen sacrificed their lives and 335 others were wounded. A total of 86 bodies of insurgents were seized and one was captured alive.

To be continued
(Translation: KTY)

Efficient use of electricity

- * Use daylight as the main source of light
- * Use the least possible amount of electricity only if there is not enough natural light
- * Use the least possible amount of electricity required in production and service enterprises
- * Preventing waste of electricity benefits the user and others

There are about 500,000 households using electricity in Yangon. Thus, saving a four-foot fluorescent lamp everyday by each household amounts to saving power that is equal to the capacity a 20-megawatt power station can supply.

Efficient use of fuel

- * Saving one gallon of fuel per car per month will save the nation one US dollar
- * Thus, a total of 455,822 cars in Myanmar can save US\$ 5.5 million in a year
- * The amount, US \$ 5.5 million, can build a major bridge across Ayeyawady River

All this needs to be known

- * Do not be frightened whenever intimidated
- * Do not be bolstered whenever flattered
- * Do not be softened whenever appeased

ကုသကာကွယ် မူးယစ်အန္တရာယ်

- ၁။ မူးယစ်ဆေးဝါးသုံးစွဲလျှင် အသည်းရောင်အသားဝါ၊ အသည်းခြောက်၊ အသည်းကင်ဆာ၊ သွေးဆိပ်တက်ခြင်းနှင့် နှလုံးရောဂါ၊ အဆုတ်ရောဂါများ၊ ခုခံအားကျဆင်းမှုရောဂါ (AIDS)နှင့် စိတ်ပိုင်းဆိုင်ရာရောဂါများစသည့်တို့ ဖြစ်ပွားနိုင်သည့်အပြင် စီးပွားရေးနှင့် လူမှုရေးများ ထိခိုက်ပျက်ပြားခြင်း၊ ဥပဒေအရ အရေးယူခံရခြင်းတို့ ဖြစ်နိုင်ပါသည်။
- ၂။ ထို့ကြောင့် အဆိုပါဒုက္ခများမှ ကင်းဝေးစေရန် မူးယစ်ဆေးဝါးကို လုံးဝ ရှောင်ကြဉ်ပါ။
- ၃။ မူးယစ်ဆေးဝါးသုံးစွဲသူများသည် သတ်မှတ်ဆေးရုံများတွင် မှတ်ပုံတင်၍ ဆေးကုသမှုခံယူပါ။

ကျန်းမာရေးဝန်ကြီးဌာန

နိုင်ငံတော်အမှီးရရွာရန် ဖော်တော်ယာဉ်များမသုံးစွဲရန်

လစဉ်လစီ ဒုတိယပတ် တနင်္ဂနွေနေ့နှင့် နောက်ဆုံးပတ် တနင်္ဂနွေနေ့တို့သည် ရုံးလုပ်ငန်းအတွက် မဖြစ်မနေသွားလာရန် လိုအပ်သည့် ကိစ္စရပ်များမှအပ ဖော်တော်ယာဉ်များ မသုံးစွဲရန် ဖြစ်သည်။

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| ၂၀၀၄ခုနှစ်၊မတ်လအတွက် | (၂၈-၃-၂၀၀၄)ရက်နေ့ |
| ၂၀၀၄ခုနှစ်၊ဧပြီလအတွက် | (၁၁-၄-၂၀၀၄)ရက်နေ့ |
| | (၂၅-၄-၂၀၀၄)ရက်နေ့ |

ကျန်းမာရေးဝန်ကြီးဌာန

အပူဒဏ်အန္တရာယ်ကာကွယ်ရေးနည်းစံချက်

ယခုအခါတွင် နေရာသီရောက်လာပြီဖြစ်သဖြင့် ရာသီဥတု ပူပြင်းလာပြီ ဖြစ်ပါသည်။ ထိုအပူဒဏ်ကြောင့် ရွေးထွက်လွန်ပြီ ခန္ဓာကိုယ်အတွင်းရှိ ရေနှင့်ဓာတ်ဆားများ ဆုံးရှုံးမှုများပြားပါသည်။ ထိုသို့ဆုံးရှုံးမှုကြောင့် မိတ်နှင့်ယားဖုများထွက်လာခြင်း၊ ပင်ပန်း နှမ်းနယ်ခြင်း၊ မူးမောခြင်း၊ ကြွက်တက်ခြင်း၊ ရွေးခြောက်ခြင်း၊ ကိုယ်အပူချိန်တက်ခြင်း၊ သတိလစ်ခြင်းတို့အပြင် အသက်အန္တရာယ် စိုးရိမ်ရသော အခြေအနေ အဓိဖြစ်တတ်ပါသည်။

သို့ဖြစ်ပါ၍ အပူဒဏ်ကြောင့် မလိုလားအပ်သော အကျိုးဆက်များ မဖြစ်ပေါ်စေရန်အောက်ပါအချက် အလက်များကို လိုက်နာကြပါရန် နှိုးဆော်အပ်ပါသည်။

- (၁) နံနက် (၁၀)နာရီမှ ညနေ (၅)နာရီအတွင်း လွင်တီးခေါင်ပြင်း၊ မြစ်ကမ်းနား၊ ရေဆိပ်စသည်တို့တွင် ရေချိုးခြင်းမှ ရှောင်ကြဉ်၍ အရိပ်ရ အမြဲသောက်နေရာများတွင် နေပါ။
- (၂) နေပူထဲမှပြန်လာပြီး ချက်ချင်းရေချိုးခြင်းမှ ရှောင်ကြဉ်ပါ။
- (၃) နေပူထဲတွင် ပြင်းထန်သောကိုယ်လက်လှုပ်ရှားမှုများ မပြုလုပ်သင့်ပါ။
- (၄) အရက်သောက်ခြင်းသည် အပူဒဏ်အန္တရာယ်ကို ဖြစ်ပေါ်လွယ်စေခြင်းနှင့် ဖြစ်ပွားပါက ပြင်းထန်စွာ ခံစားရခြင်းကြောင့် ရှောင်ကြဉ်သင့်ပါသည်။

- (၅) နေ့ခင်းဘက် အပြင်ထွက်သည်အခါတိုင်း အရိပ်လုံလောက်စွာ ရရှိနိုင်သည့် ထီး၊ ဦးထုပ်များ ဆောင်းပါ။
- (၆) အလင်းရောင်ပြန်သော အဖြူရောင် သို့မဟုတ် အရောင်ဖျော့ဖျော့ အဝတ်အထည်များကို ဝတ်ဆင်ပါ။
- (၇) ဖွပ်ချောင်ချောင် ချည်ထည်များကို ဝတ်ဆင်ပါ။
- (၈) ရွေးထွက်လွန်ပါက ကိုယ်တွင်းရှိရေနှင့်ဓာတ်ဆားဆုံးရှုံးမှုကို ပြန်လည်ဖြည့်တင်းနိုင်ရန် ဓာတ်ဆားရည် သောက်ပါ။
- (၉) ကိုယ်အပူရှိန်တက်ပါက ရေအေးဖတ် နိုင်နိုင်တိုက်ပါ။
- (၁၀) ဆီချိုရောဂါ၊ နှလုံးရောဂါ၊ သွေးတိုရောဂါ အစရှိသူများ၊ ကလေးသူငယ်များနှင့် သက်ကြီးရွယ်အိုများ အနေဖြင့် နေ့လည်နေ့ခင်းတွင် အရိပ်ရ၍ လေဝင်လေထွက်ကောင်းသော နေရာမျိုး၌ နားနေပါ။
- (၁၁) မိတ်ဖုယားနားများထွက်ပါက ရေအေးဝတ်ကပ်ခြင်း၊ သနပ်ခါး လိမ်းခြင်းတို့ကို ပြုလုပ်ပါ။
- (၁၂) အပူဒဏ်ကြောင့် ပင်ပန်းနွမ်းနယ်ခြင်း၊ ကိုယ်အပူရှိန်တက်ခြင်း၊ သတိလစ်ခြင်းနှင့် အတက်ရောဂါဖြစ်ပါက နီးစပ်ရာ ကျန်းမာရေးဌာနတွင် ပြသပါ။

ကျန်းမာရေးဝန်ကြီးဌာန



Parade companies marching past Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Than Shwe.—MNA



Twelve Nobel Traditions of the Tatmadaw

1. A patriotic Tatmadaw
2. A disciplined Tatmadaw
3. A loyal Tatmadaw
4. A united Tatmadaw
5. An efficient Tatmadaw
6. A Tatmadaw which makes heroic sacrifices
7. A Tatmadaw which does not seek personal gain
8. A Tatmadaw of noble spirit and high moral
9. A Tatmadaw which possesses true quality of overcoming obstacles
10. A Tatmadaw which can endure hardship
11. A tenacious and persevering Tatmadaw
12. A Tatmadaw which always upholds Our Three Main National Causes



Only when a nation ...

(from page 1)

Comrades,

Our Tatmadaw has three main duties. The first duty is to defend the nation. We must train constantly for the successful defence of the nation. It follows from the nature of our defence duty that continuous training enhances capability. This makes training our second duty. In addition to the duties of national defence and continuous training, we have to vigorously discharge our third duty of serving the interests of the people.

We Tatmadawmen are the offspring of the people. Therefore, I would like to remind you to participate wholeheartedly in the activities that promote the welfare of the public wherever you are assigned and to join hands with the people to repulse courageously whatever dangers that threaten the nation and its people, even at the risk of your own lives.

Comrades,

The Tatmadaw was compelled to assume the responsibilities of the State as the people were faced with a generally deteriorating and extremely critical situation. In assuming those responsibilities, the Tatmadaw has also become responsible for the nation's future. Therefore, the Tatmadaw, upholding the Three National Causes, has laid down the Twelve National Objectives and has been striving day and night for the emergence of a new peaceful modern developed nation.

As the Tatmadaw has given priority to achieving national reconsolidation, peace and tranquility now prevail throughout the country, including the border areas. With

efforts to achieve peace and stability bearing fruit, endeavours to achieve all-round progress in all parts of the country simultaneously have begun. A trio of major projects - the border areas and national races development project, the 24 special development zones project and the rural areas development project - are being implemented in a coordinated network covering the whole country.

Comrades,

Major clusters of agriculture and other economic infrastructures are being built wherever necessary. Roads and bridges crisscrossing the length and breadth of the country have been built, resulting in reciprocal beneficial relationships among regions leading to greater development. Moreover, in order that highly qualified human resources develop simultaneously in all regions, the requirements in the health and the education sectors are being fulfilled effectively. We are therefore witnessing social and economic developments gathering momentum in all parts of the nation. However, continued efforts are necessary to ensure that our country shortly becomes a modern industrialized nation that keeps abreast of the world.

Vigorous efforts are being made toward increased electric power supply and exploitation of oil, natural gas and other resources, necessary in building an industrialized nation. Furthermore, major state-owned industries and private industrial zones have been established to promote the development of the industrial sector.

It should be noted that nation-building efforts that consolidate peace, modernization and development represent the fulfillment of the fundamental requirements for the emergence of a discipline-flourishing democracy in the nation.

Comrades,

Finally, in accordance with the objectives of the 59th Anniversary Armed Forces Day, I exhort you:

- to strive hand in hand with the people for the successful realization of the State's seven-point policy programme;
- to crush through the people's militia strategy the internal and external destructive elements hindering the stability and progress of the State;
- to participate in implementing border areas development tasks and the five rural areas development tasks together with the entire people; and
- to work strenuously toward building up a strong efficient modern Tatmadaw capable of safeguarding Our Three Main National Causes.—MNA

Tatmadaw's Ten Strengths

1. Loyalty
2. Obedience
3. Strong morale & perseverance
4. Good discipline
5. Being well-trained
6. Possessing brilliant combat skill
7. Healthiness & fitness
8. Having esprit de corps
9. Making sacrifices
10. Endeavouring to meet the aim with strong determination



Parade columns seen at the 59th Anniversary Armed Forces Day Parade held in the Resistance Park in Yangon. — MNA



Defence Services Commander-in-Chief Senior General Than Shwe and wife Daw Kyaing Kyaing cordially greet diplomats and officials of UN agencies at the dinner to mark the 59th Anniversary Armed Forces Day. — MNA



Defence Services Commander-in-Chief Senior General Than Shwe and wife Daw Kyaing Kyaing greet diplomats and officials of UN agencies at the dinner to mark the 59th Anniversary Armed Forces Day. — MNA

Only when a nation possesses a modern defence capability, will it be possible to ensure the full protection of its sovereignty. Thus, it can be seen that in every nation of the world, patriotic leaders and experts who hold sovereignty dear have the sense of responsibility to contribute to the strengthening and modernization of the Armed Forces.



Mawgun Award winners, members of social organizations and USDA and guests seen at 59th Anniversary Armed Forces Day Parade. — MNA



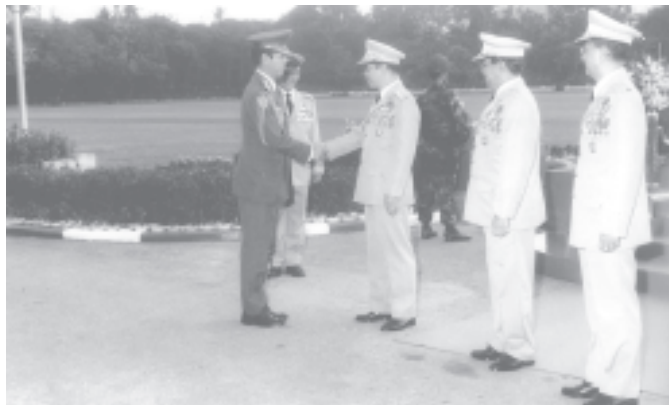
59th Anniversary Armed Forces Day Parade columns. — MNA



Military Attachés of foreign embassies in Yangon seen at the 59th Anniversary Armed Forces Day Parade. — MNA



Parade columns seen at the 59th Anniversary Armed Forces Day Parade held in the Resistance Park in Yangon. — MNA



Prime Minister Chief of Military Intelligence General Khin Nyunt greets a foreign military attache at the 59th Anniversary Armed Forces Day Parade. — MNA



Prime Minister Chief of Military Intelligence General Khin Nyunt greets a foreign military attache at the 59th Anniversary Armed Forces Day Parade. — MNA

Defence Services Commander-in-Chief ...

(from page 16)

Myanmar War Veterans Organization Headquarters, senior military officers of Yangon Command, local and foreign journalists, divisional authorities, senior police officers of MPF, Fire Services Department, NGOs, Mawgun Award winners, Union Solidarity and Development Association, Minami Kikan members, members of Japan-Myanmar History and Culture Association and winners in the contests to mark the Armed Forces Day.

Members of the parade columns assembled at the Myoma Grounds at 5 am to march towards the Resistance Park. At 6 am, Parade Adjutant Cmdr Min Naing (Navy) presented the nine parade columns to Parade Commander Brig-Gen Min Thein. The bag-pipe platoon led by Sgt Kyaw Naing and the Central Military Band led by Sgt Myat Kyaw Thu of the Guard of Honour and Military Band Company marched to the Resistance Park in advance and took the designated places.

Parade Commander Brig-Gen Min Thein led the military columns, followed by Parade Adjutant Cmdr Min Naing (Navy), the standard bearers of Union Flag and flags of Tatmadaw (Army, Navy and Air) led by Maj Moe Zaw and the military band led by WO1 Aung Than Oo.

Column Commander Col Aung Kyaw Oo ushered

Anawrahta Column which was made up of Guard of Honour of Directorate of Artillery Force led by Maj Han Min Hlaing, Commanding Officer Lt-Col Ko Ko Thant, parade company of South-West Command led by Maj Aung Zaw Oo, parade company of No 101 LID led by Maj Than Hlaing, parade company-3 of Western Command led by Maj Khin Maung Hlaing, parade company-4 of Coastal Region Command led by Maj Win Zaw Soe, parade company-2 of Eastern Command led by Maj Zaw Zaw Naing and parade company-2 of South-East Command led by Maj Kyaw Kyaw Oo.

Column Commander Col Thein Tan ushered Kyansitha Column which was made up of the standard bearers with the flags of Tatmadaw (Army, Navy and Air) led by Maj Aung Tun Naing, the military band led by Sgt Aung Zaw Latt of No 33 LID, Guard of Honour of No 33 LID led by Maj Thein Tan, Commanding Officer Lt-Col Khin Myint, parade company of North-West Command led by Maj Tin Aung Tun, parade company-2 of Northern Command led by Maj Tin Ko Ko, parade company-3 of North-East Command led by Maj Yan Naung, parade company of Southern Command led by Maj Khin Maung Lay, parade company of No 44 LID led by

Maj Zin Aung Aye and parade company-2 of Coastal Region Command led by Maj Tin Maung Htut.

Column Commander Col Than Win ushered Bayintnaung Column which was made up of the standard bearers with the flags of Tatmadaw (Army, Navy and Air) led by Maj Ye Win Aung, the military band led by Cpl Tin Hsan of No 101 LID, Guard of Honour of Armoured Force led by Maj Htoo Myat Toe, Commanding Officer Lt-Col Lu Zaw, parade company of Northern Command led by Maj Aung Ko Oo, parade company of No 55 LID led by Maj Aye Lwin, parade company of Directorate of Signals led by Maj Soe Htaik, parade company of South-East Command led by Maj Way Zin Tun, parade company-2 of Central Command led by Maj Naing Din Latt and parade company-2 of Yangon Command led by Maj Tin Zaw Latt.

Column Commander Captain Aung Thaw (Navy) ushered Nawade Column which was made up of the standard bearers with the flags of Tatmadaw (Army, Navy and Air) led by Lt-Cmdr Saw Khun Cho, the military band led by PO Kyaw Kyaw of Naval Band, Guard of Honour of the Commander-in-Chief (Navy)'s Office led by Lt-Cmdr Kyaw Htwe, Commanding Officer Cmdr Aung Than, parade company of the Commander-in-



Prime Minister Chief of Military Intelligence General Khin Nyunt greets personnel of Japan-Myanmar History and Culture Association. — MNA

Chief (Navy)'s Office led by Lt-Cmdr Moe Thura, parade company of North-East Command led by Maj Kyaw Tun, parade company-3 of Eastern Command led by Maj Sai Kyaw Thu, parade company-3 of Coastal Region Command led by Maj Tha Htay Kyaw, parade company of Directorate of Electric and Mechanical Engineers led by Maj Zaw Win and parade company of No 66 LID led by Maj Zaw Zaw Naing.

Column Commander Col Tint Way ushered Aungzeya Column which was made up of the standard bearers with the flags of Tatmadaw (Army, Navy and Air) led by Maj Kyaw Tint Maung, the military band led by Sgt Win Moe of No 11 LID Band, Guard of Honour of Directorate of Medical Services led by Maj Nay Myo Oo, Commanding Officer Lt-Col Maung Maung Zaw, parade company of the Directorate of Ordnance Services led by Maj Kyaw Kyaw Win, parade company of Central Command led by Maj Win Myat, parade company of Triangle Region Command led by Maj Ko Ko Aung, parade company of No 99 LID led by Maj Sein Lwin Win and parade company-2 of Western Command led by Maj Win Naing.

Column Commander Col Tin Naing Tun (Air) ushered Hsinbushin Column which was made up of the standard bearers with the flags of Tatmadaw (Army, Navy and Air) led

by Maj Tun Tun Win (Air), the military band led by Sgt Myint Soe of Air Force Band, Guard of Honour of the Commander-in-Chief (Air)'s Office led by Maj Maung Maung Soe (Air), Commanding Officer Lt-Col Aye Min (Air), parade company of the Commander-in-Chief (Air)'s Office led by Maj Kyaw Htin, the military band led by Sgt Aung Naing Soe of No 66 LID Band, Guard of Honour of No 77 LID led by Maj Ni Htwe, Commanding Officer Lt-Col Thant Zin Ko, parade company of Directorate of Artillery Force led by Maj Paing Soe, parade company-2 of North-East Command led by Maj Aung Hsan Oo, parade company of the Office of Chief of Defence Industries led by Maj Kyaw Than, parade company-2 of Triangle Region Command led by Maj Tin Maung Than, parade company-4 of Eastern Command led by Maj Aye Tun and parade company of Western Command led by Maj Kyaw Kyaw Lwin.

Column Commander Col Myint Ko Ko ushered Bandoola Column which was made up of the standard bearers with the flags of Tatmadaw (Army, Navy and Air) led by Maj Myint Naing, the military band led by Sgt Aung Min Naing of Yangon Command Band, Guard of Honour of Yangon Command led by Maj Nanda Aung, Commanding Officer Lt-Col Myint Soe, parade company of Directorate of Supply & Transport led by Maj Hla Myint, parade company of Coastal Region Command led by Maj Aung Kyaw Hoe, parade company of No 22 LID led by Maj Htay Aung, parade company-3 of Northern Command led by Maj Thant Zin, parade company-3 of Triangle Region Com-

mand led by Maj Ye Htut and parade company-4 of Western Command led by Maj Kyaw Zeya.

Column Commander Col Kan Nyunt ushered Myawady Column which was made up of the standard bearers with the flags of Tatmadaw (Army, Navy and Air) led by Maj Kyaw Htin, the military band led by Sgt Aung Naing Soe of No 66 LID Band, Guard of Honour of No 77 LID led by Maj Ni Htwe, Commanding Officer Lt-Col Thant Zin Ko, parade company of Directorate of Artillery Force led by Maj Paing Soe, parade company-2 of North-East Command led by Maj Aung Hsan Oo, parade company of the Office of Chief of Defence Industries led by Maj Kyaw Than, parade company-2 of Triangle Region Command led by Maj Tin Maung Than, parade company-4 of Eastern Command led by Maj Aye Tun and parade company of Western Command led by Maj Kyaw Kyaw Lwin.

Column Commander Col Maung Maung Than ushered Aung San Column which was made up of the standard bearers with the flags of Myanmar Police Force, Fire Brigade and Myanmar Red Cross Society led by Police Maj Naing Win, the military band led by Police WO Aung Zaw Oo of Myanmar Police Force Band, Guard of Honour of Myanmar Police Force led by Police Major Aung Thet Naing, (See page 11)



Local and foreign journalists seen at the 59th Anniversary Armed Forces Day Parade on 27-3-2004. — MNA



Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt, State Peace and Development Council member General Thura Shwe Mann, dignitaries and senior military officers seen at the 59th Anniversary Armed Forces Day Parade on 27-3-2004. — MNA

Defence Services Commander-in-Chief ...

(from page 10)

Commanding Officer Lt-Col Win Ngwe, parade company of MPF led by Police Maj Soe Lin Aung, parade company of Fire Brigade led by Assistant Director Khin Maung Yi, parade company-2 of Fire Brigade led by Assistant Director Aung Swe Win, parade company of MRCS led by Company Commander Sai Nyi Nyi Aung, parade company-2 of MRCS led by Company Commander Tin Htay Oo and parade company of No 11 LID led by Maj Pe Kyaing. Altogether 7,139 members of Tatmadaw, MPF, Fire Brigade and Red Cross Brigade participated in the marching columns.

Along the route from Myoma Grounds to the Resistance Park, the marching columns were accorded a rousing welcome by the families of the Ministry of Defence, Directorates of Medical Services, Yangon Division USDA, Tatmadawmen, MPF members, Fire Brigade and Red Cross Brigade members, officers and Tatmadawmen and

their families of Yangon Command, military stations and headquarters, students and local people who waved the miniature flags, presented flowers and garlands to the parade members. Singing military songs, the parade columns entered the No 1 Gate of the Resistance Park.

At 7.30 am, Senior General Than Shwe, accompanied by Member of the State Peace and Development Council General Thura Shwe Mann, arrived at the park where they were welcomed and ushered to the reviewing stand by Prime Minister Chief of Military Intelligence General Khin Nyunt, Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Soe Win, Secretary-2 Adjutant-General Lt-Gen Thein Sein, Chairman of the Leading Committee Chief of Armed Forces Training Lt-Gen Kyaw Win, Commander-in-Chief (Navy) Rear-Admiral Soe Thein and Commander-in-Chief (Air) Lt-Gen Myat Hein.

After Senior General Than Shwe had taken the position on the reviewing stand, the columns saluted him.

Next, Parade Commander Brig-Gen Min Thein presented the columns to the Senior General.

Afterwards, the Senior General inspected the columns. The Central Military Band played the National Anthem while those present saluted the Flag of the Union of Myanmar. After paying tribute to the fallen leaders and members of the Tatmadaw, the columns members took the four oaths. The Senior General delivered an address. (Reported separately)

The columns led by Parade Commander Brig-Gen Min Thein marched past the Senior General and exited the park through No 1 Gate of the Resistance Park and left for the Myoma Grounds.

Afterwards, the Senior General left there and the 59th Anniversary Armed Forces Day parade ended at 8.50 am.

Various signboards with mottoes of the Tatmadaw and flags of the Union of Myanmar and the Tatmadaw were erected at the road-corners, parks, gardens and roundabouts. The Resistance Park was illuminated in the evening. — MNA

Military code of conduct and extempore talks contests

YANGON, 27 March — The prize-distribution ceremony for the 59th Anniversary Armed Forces Day commemorative military code of conduct and extempore talks contests (central level) took place at Yangon Command Headquarters this morning.

Present on the occasion were Chairman of the Leading Committee for Observance of the 59th Anniversary Armed Forces Day member of the State Peace and Development Council Chief of Armed Forces Training Lt-Gen Kyaw Win, Chairman of the Management Committee for Observance the 59th Anniversary Armed Forces Day Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Myint Swe, Judge Advocate-General Maj-Gen Soe Maung, Defence Services Inspector-General Brig-Gen Thein Htaik, Vice-Chief of Armed Forces Training Brig-Gen Nyan Win, Vice-Adjutant-General Brig-Gen Hla Shwe, senior military officers, members of the committee for organizing the contests and others.

Lt-Gen Kyaw Win delivered a speech and presented first, second and third prizes for military code of conduct and extempore talks contest (officer level) and extempore talks contest (officer level); Maj-Gen Myint Swe, for military code of conduct contest (warrant officer level) and extempore talks contest (warrant officer division); Maj-Gen Soe Maung, for military code of conduct contest (cpl level) and extempore talks contest (cpl level); Brig-Gen Hla Shwe, for military code of conduct contest (private level) and extempore talks contest (private level) to the winners. — MNA

Outstanding footballers honoured

YANGON, 27 March — The Myanma Agricultural Produce Trading soccer team which was upgraded to the premier league after winning the first division soccer tournament (2003-2004) and two players of the team who represented the Myanmar team winning the BIMST-EC U-18 soccer tournament were honoured at the MAPT (Head Office) on Pansodan Street here yesterday evening.

It was attended by Minister for Commerce Brig-Gen Pyi Sone, Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan, departmental heads, officials and guests.

Minister Brig-Gen Pyi Sone delivered a speech and presented gifts to the MAPT soccer team and the two players. Wellwishers donated cash to the soccer teams of the Ministry of Commerce. Next, dinner was hosted to the victorious soccer players. — MNA



Chief of Armed Forces Training Lt-Gen Kyaw Win delivers an address at the prize presenting ceremony. — MNA

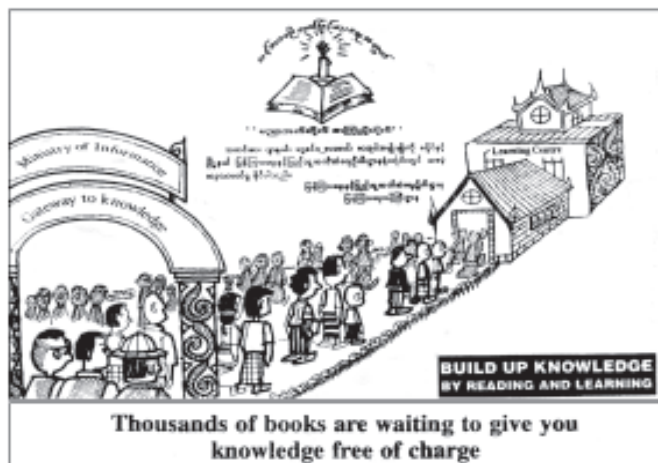
Prizes presented for 59th Anniversary Armed Forces Day commemorative literary and arts contests

YANGON, 27 March — The prize presenting ceremony for the 59th Armed Forces Day commemorative literary and arts competitions took place at the National Theatre on Myoma Kyaung Road in Dagon Township here this afternoon.

Present on the occasion were Chairman of the Leading Committee for Observance of the 59th Armed Forces Day and the committee for organizing the literary and arts competitions member of the State Peace and Development Council Chief of Armed Forces Training Lt-Gen Kyaw Win, ministers, the chairman of Yangon City Development Committee the mayor, deputy ministers, vice-chiefs of Armed Forces Training, senior military officers, members of the committee and subcommittees for the competitions, departmental heads, officials and prize winners. Maj-Gen Kyaw Win delivered an address and presented first, second and third prizes for long poem (grade I and II) and short poem (grade I and II) contests to the winners. Minister for Transport Maj-Gen Hla Myint Swe presented first, second and third prizes for short story contest (novice division) and novel contest (novice division); Minister for Communications, Posts and Telegraphs Brig-Gen Thein Zaw, for article contest (novice) and essay contest (university, college and institute level); Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin, for essay contests (high school level) and (middle school level); Minister for Livestock and Fisheries Brig-Gen Maung Maung Thein, for poem contests (BEHS level) and (BEMS level); Deputy Minister for Information U Thein Sein, for poem

contest (university, college and institute level); Deputy Minister for Information Brig-Gen Aung Thein, for painting contests (pre-primary level), (junior primary level) and (senior primary level); Deputy Minister for Education U Myo Nyunt, for painting contests (BEMS level), (BEHS level) and (open division); Deputy Minister for Education Col Aung Myo Min, for sculpture contest (wood) and sculpture contest (plaster) (open division); Chief of Staff (Navy) Capt Nyan Tun, for colour photo contest (preserve cultural heritage) (senior division); Judge Advocate-General Maj-Gen Soe Maung, for colour photo contest (progressive Myanmar) (senior division) and (junior division); Vice-Chief of Armed Forces Training Maj-Gen Aung Kyi, for marching song contest, song composing contests (grade I) and (grade II); Vice-Chief of Armed Forces Training Brig-Gen Nyan Win, for extempore talks contest organized by the Union Solidarity and Development Association and extempore talks contest (BEMS level); Vice-Adjutant-General Brig-Gen Hla Shwe, for TV quiz contests (university, college and institute level) and (basic education level); Vice-Quartermaster-General Maj-Gen Htin Aung Kyaw, for computer drawing contests (BEHS level) and (BEMS level) and computer application contest (BEHS level); Director of Public Relations and Psychological Warfare Maj-Gen Khin Aung Myint, for computer quiz contest to the winners. On behalf of the prize winners, first prize winner (short poem grade-I) Bontaungmye Nay Oo Khet spoke words of thanks.

MNA



ADVERTISEMENTS

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE MV SAGAING VOY NO (19)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV SAGAING Voy No (19) are hereby notified that the vessel arrived on 26-3-2004 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of Myanma Port Authority where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11.20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm to Claims Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the vessel.

No claims against this vessel will be admitted after the Claims Day.

AGENCY DEPARTMENT MYANMA FIVE STAR LINE

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Chinese law school graduates donate legal aid

BEIJING, 27 March—Liu Yan, a senior student at the China University of Political Science and Law, has given up seeking a job in China's capital Beijing for two years of free service in a legal aid centre in northwest China's Shaanxi Province.

She is one of the 62 graduates and eight postgraduates from law schools in Chinese universities funded by a programme called China Recent Graduates Legal Aid Fellowship run by the China Legal Aid Foundation (CLAF).

This summer the 70 young people will go to work for 46 legal aid centres in 12 Chinese provinces, including northwest China's Gansu Province, southwest China's Sichuan and Yunnan provinces.

The programme held its launch ceremony here Wednesday. In its first year, it received donations from the US-based Ford Foundation but did not release the exact amount of the donation.

Each postgraduate is required by the programme to work at least 15 legal aid cases in his two-year service while each graduate is to complete at least 10.

"The programme will

help relieve the shortage of personnel and money in legal aid centres in less developed areas and more needy people will gain help to protect their legal rights and interests," said Deng Jiaming, director of the Legal Aid Centre under the Ministry of Justice.

Last year the Chinese Government invested 150 million yuan (18.14 million US dollars) in legal aid, about one fifth of the money needed. Parties in some 500,000 cases did not get the legal aid they were entitled to, accounting for 70 per cent of the total cases in need of legal aid, according to Deng.

"In my hometown, it is expensive and troublesome to hire a lawyer and go to court. No ordinary family can afford it," said Liu Yan, who comes from poverty-stricken Dingxi in northwest China's Gansu Province. "I am very glad to have such a chance to help people."

As a developing country with 1.3 billion population, China now has 102,000 lawyers and there are still 206 counties without lawyers.

MNA/Xinhua

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for **DAVIDE CAMPARI-MILANO S.P.A.**

P.O. Box 60, Yangon.
Dated: 28 March 2004

Brazil's CVRD to invest \$1b to boost output

RIO-DE-JANEIRO (Brazil), 27 March—Brazil's Companhia Vale do Rio Doce, or CVRD, aims to invest one billion US dollars to increase production of iron ore by about 54 per cent by 2007, the head of the company said on Thursday.

The world's largest iron ore producer wants to increase output by 100 million tons, bringing total production to 286 million tons a year, said CVRD President Roger Agnelli. He said the plan requires approval by the company's board of directors.

Previously, the company had expected to invest close to 700 million US dollars to raise output by 73 million tons. Agnelli said the company would need even more production capacity to meet rising foreign demand, especially from China.

The announcement came one day after CVRD posted a bigger-than-expected drop in net profit for the fourth quarter. For the whole of 2003, however, CVRD raked in a record profit of 4.5 billion reais (1.5 billion US dollars), more than double what the company earned in 2002. — MNA/Reuters

ပြည်တွင်းပြန်လှန်အားလေးပါ

Annan congratulates China on progress toward reaching MDGs

BEIJING, 27 March—United Nations Secretary-General Kofi Annan Thursday congratulated China for "the enormous progress" it had achieved towards reaching the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs).

In a message to the High-Level International Conference on the Millennium Development Goals that opened in Beijing Thursday, Annan said that by opening the conference to other countries and inviting international speakers, China is demonstrating a readiness to share its success with others and to learn from them in return.

"This is in the true spirit of partnership called for in the Millennium Declaration," he said.

At the Millennium Summit held at the headquarters of the United Nations in September 2000, heads of state and government from 189 UN member countries adopted the Millennium Declaration, making a commitment to meet the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) by the end of 2015.

Ranging from halving extreme poverty to halting the spread of HIV/AIDS and providing universal primary education, the MDGs are now an essential yardstick for the international community to measure the progress scored by different countries in this regard.

Despite "enormous progress," Annan also reminded that "considerable challenges lie ahead" for China. Annan said the appraisals of China's progress on reaching the MDGs infers growing challenges of HIV/AIDS and other health problems, rising inequality and environmental degradation.

However, "these challenges are by no

means unique to China. They are regional and global, and countries must work together to resolve them," Annan said. So far, overall progress on the MDGs has been uneven, Annan acknowledged. "While a number of countries have prospered at an unprecedented pace, others have regressed and need urgent action."

He went on to say that the UN system is moving forward in four key areas to provide new knowledge and ideas to drive nationally owned development strategies. First, the United Nations is providing support for comprehensive reporting, both through an annual, global update on overall progress, and through country-by-country MDG reports to measures and benchmark progress, Annan said.

Secondly, he said the United Nations has set up a Millennium Project, drawing on a broad range of intellectual power from the North and the South, to identify new solutions and ideas on how to accelerate progress toward the MDGs.

In addition, said Annan, the United Nations has launched a Millennium Campaign to build and sustain a real popular movement to support the MDGs in developed and developing countries.

Fourthly, the United Nations is making a major effort to ensure that UN assistance is clearly aligned behind the MDGs, Annan said. —MNA/Xinhua

Studies say gene findings could help fight malaria

WASHINGTON, 27 March—The discovery of four genes that help or hinder the malaria parasite as it infects mosquitoes could lead to new ways to battle one of the world's biggest killers, researchers in Germany said on Thursday.

Two of the mosquito genes kill the Plasmodium parasite in the insect's gut and two others actually promote the parasite's development, the researchers report in Friday's issue of the journal *Science*.

Studying their effects could lead to novel ways to fight malaria, which is transmitted by mosquitoes and kills a million people every year around the world, most of them children.

"Many researchers focus on the direct effects of Plasmodium on the human body but the mosquito is an equally important battleground in fighting the disease," said Fotis Kafatos, Director-General of the European Molecular Biology Laboratory in Heidelberg, Germany.

"We now see a way to potentially stop the parasite in its tracks," Kafatos, who led the study, added in a statement.

"These studies are the first to show the power of the mosquito's immune system, and give us some very real options for fighting the disease in the insect before it even has a chance to be passed to a human."

When female mosquitoes feed on an

infected animal, they suck in Plasmodium parasites with the blood.

There they grow and develop, moving from the gut into the insect's salivary glands, where the parasites are injected into another animal as the mosquito feeds. In humans, malaria causes fever, an enlarged spleen and kidney damage.

But some mosquitoes do not transmit the parasites. Colleagues of Kafatos identified two genes that control proteins made by the mosquitoes, called TEPI and LRIM1, which kill the parasite in the gut.

"By enhancing these natural defenders, we may be able to block the parasite-mosquito cycle," Stephanie Blandin, a researcher who worked on the study, said in a statement.

This part of the research was published this month in the journal *Cell*. Kafatos and colleagues found two other proteins, each controlled by a gene, called CTL4 and CTLMA2, that protect the parasite as it develops in the mosquito gut. If these proteins were eliminated, the parasites died.

MNA/Reuters

Australia arrests suspected people smuggler

CANBERRA, 27 March—Australian police arrested a suspected people smuggling ringleader on Thursday when he arrived at Sydney Airport and charged him in relation to the discovery of a boatload of illegal immigrants four years ago.

Mehmet Seriban, a Turkish national, was charged with 11 counts under Australia's Immigration Act, Justice Minister Chris Ellison said in a statement.

"The Australian Federal Police will allege that he was the principal organizer behind a people smuggling

operation which included the

discovery of a fishing vessel at Ashmore Reef in February 2000 with 14 Turkish nationals on board," he said.

Seriban appeared in a Sydney court on Thursday afternoon where authorities applied to extradite him to the Northern Territory in far

north Australia.

People smuggling carries a maximum penalty of 20 years jail under tough Australian laws introduced in 1999. People smugglers also face fines up to 20,000 Australian dollars (15,000 US dollars).

MNA/Reuters

**DON'T
SMOKE**

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UN envoy says HIV "AIDS" could undermine MDG achievements

BEIJING, 27 March—A senior official of the United Nations said here Friday that HIV/AIDS could undermine the achievements that all nations have made toward the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) if not successfully prevented.

During a three-day international conference on the MDGs, Nafis Sadik, special envoy of the UN Secretary-General for HIV/AIDS in Asia and the Pacific, said HIV/AIDS prevention is a huge task, but there is a beacon of hope in the success of some national efforts. The campaign to improve blood safety and efforts to promote condom use are also showing results in China, Sadik said.

"If HIV/AIDS takes hold in China, it will spell the end of efforts to end poverty," said Sadik. "And there is nothing inherent in China's culture or society, ancient and unique though it is, that will protect you against HIV/AIDS."

Only action, prompt and committed action under determined leadership, will prevent an AIDS catastrophe in this country and China has a huge advantage, Sadik said.

"It has the health and administrative infrastructure that can allow it to implement a successful campaign, once a strong political commitment is made and sustained at every level — national, provincial, prefecture, county, township and community."

She said a large number of prevention programmes have been carried out in the different parts of China, but coverage is very limited due

to funding gaps as well as technical and programmatic constraints.

HIV/AIDS accompanies poverty, is spread by poverty and produces poverty in turn. For example, Sadik said, the poor have lower general levels of health and their immune systems are weaker, health care is less available in poor communities, the poor are less likely to have proper information, the poor have less political influence, poverty drives high-risk behaviours such as trafficking of young girls.

Inequality sharpens the impact of poverty and a mixture of poverty and inequality may be driving the epidemic.

For a successful prevention, she urged policy makers to devise ways of providing people at risk with information and services, including condoms, and voluntary counselling and testing for HIV/AIDS. She also urged open discussions among young people about risks and how to minimize them.

MNA/Xinhua

Asian economies need not adopt more flexible exchange rates

KUALA LUMPUR, 27 March—Asian economies did not need to adopt more flexible exchange rates as adjustments in exchange rates were unlikely to correct structural imbalances, said Zeti Aziz, governor of Malaysia Central Bank.

The comparative advantage which Asia possessed was not due to exchange rates but included other factors that had resulted in lower costs, the governor said in her annual statement contained in Malaysia Central Bank's 2003 annual report released on Friday.

Several Western countries have recently exerted pressures on Asian economies to adopt more flexible exchange rates to correct structural imbalances in their economy.

The question whether exchange rate appreciation could address any signs of overheating also needed to take into account the nature of price pressures, she said.

In situations where the pressures were sectorial or localized, other measures, including prudential measures, might be more effective in addressing these developments, she stressed.

"Indeed, the exchange rate should not be used for the purpose for which it might not be able to yield the desired results," Zeti said.

A financial analyst here said while it was important that the Malaysia currency ringgit, now pegged to the US dollar at 3.8 ringgit, was not misaligned, it was also crucial for the economy to be supported by strong fundamentals such as increased revenue and low inflation.

The analyst said the current fixed exchange rate regime was an efficient functioning system whereby trade had flourished and the cost of business was relatively low and so there was no need for change the ringgit's peg against the dollar.

The governor said that it was an "illusion to think that the exchange rate is going to protect us against external shocks but it is the strength of the economy and that of the financial system which is going to insulate us". — MNA/Xinhua



Bethany Ehlmann, Science Team Collaborator Washington University, St. Louis, and Goestar Klingelhoefer, Lead Scientist for Moessbauer Spectrometer, University of Mainz, Germany, describe a microscopic imager picture of Punaluu Moessbauer Target taken by Opportunity in the Eagle crater, during a Mars Exploration Rover mission briefing on 26 March, 2004, at the Jet Propulsion Laboratory in Pasadena, Calif. —INTERNET

Study finds abortion does not raise breast cancer risk

LONDON, 27 March— Having an abortion or miscarriage does not increase a women's risk of suffering from breast cancer later in life, scientists said on Friday.

In a finding that contradicts earlier research, a re-analysis of data from 53 studies in 16 countries involving women with breast cancer showed there was no link between the most common cancer in women and a terminated pregnancy.

"We can be really definitive that neither induced

abortion nor miscarriages increase breast cancer risk," Professor Valerie Beral, an author of the study from the University of Oxford, told Reuters.

She said results from previous studies that concluded there was a link were based on unreliable data and poorly conducted research.

"They mixed together studies that gave reliable and unreliable results," Beral said.

The international collaboration, led by the Oxford team, analysed virtually all the worldwide data that looked at risk factors for breast cancer and concluded abortion and miscarriage was not associated with the disease.

"No one has ever done this before. We had the original data and could check it and analyse it in a similar way. No one had the ability to do that before," Beral added.

The research included 44,000 breast cancer patients who took part in studies where a history of abortion had been recorded before the cancer was diagnosed.

The odds of developing the disease were compared in women with and without any record of abortion.

MNA/Reuters

Chinese Defence Minister visits India

NEW DELHI, 27 March — Cao Gangchuan, Chinese Defence Minister, arrived here on Friday afternoon and began his five-day official good-will visit to India.

Cao, also Vice Chairman of the Central Military Commission and State Councillor, said at the airport upon arrival that developing long-term, stable and sound state-to-state relations between China and India conforms to the fundamental interests of the two peoples and conduces to the peace, stability and development of the region and the world at large.

He noted that the state leaders of the two countries have made positive efforts to advance the long-term stable and sound development of the bilateral relations by proceeding from the overall interests and bearing a long-term perspective. —MNA/Xinhua

Poisonous snakes homeless after Thai owner's death

BANGKOK, 27 March—Some 30 poisonous snakes faced the fate of being homeless since their owner was bitten by one of them to death a week ago in northern Thailand, local Press reported on Friday.

The snakes were now contained in a box at the home of their deceased owner's elder brother's home in the province of Si Sak Ket, which was located some 560 kilometres northeast of Bangkok.

The families did not want to keep the snakes since the demise of their owner dubbed Snake Man, who got the title for staying world-record seven-days with 100

poisonous snakes in a glass room in downtown Bangkok in 1998.

Neither were the families willing to give the pet snakes to anyone for trade. They wished zoos to take care of the snakes.

However, two zoos in Si Sak Ket had declined to receive the snakes for short of fund to house and tend the animals, according to Bangkok Post. —MNA/Xinhua



The International Space Station's two-man crew will return to Earth on 30 April, 2004, a day later than planned, US and Russian space officials said on 25 March. Astronaut Michael Foale (L) and cosmonaut Alexander Y. Kaleri are shown in the Zvezda Service Module on the International Space Station, on 28 Dec, 2003. —INTERNET

SPORTS

Marseille reach UEFA Cup quarters

MARSEILLE (France), March 27 — Olympique Marseille, helped by their Ivory Coast striking force and the dismissal of Croatian defender Igor Biscan, beat Liverpool 2-1 to qualify for the UEFA Cup quarterfinals on Thursday.

Didier Drogba and Abdoulaye Meite, both Ivory Coast internationals, scored Marseille goals in the 38th and 58th minutes while Liverpool, who opened the scoring thanks to Emile Heskey in the 15th minute, were one man down.

Liverpool's manager Gerard Houllier complained about celebrations in Marseille's dressing rooms after the first leg's 1-1 draw and the former European champions had little to celebrate at first.

Their international goalkeeper Fabien Barthez was injured in the eighth minute in a collision with teammate Habib Beye and sported a plaster on his nose for the rest of the game.

Seven minutes later, with Liverpool dominant, Heskey took advantage of a gross collective defensive mistake to open the scoring from just outside the box.

MNA/Reuters

Roma sunk by Anderson sucker punch

ROME, 27 March — A second-half goal by striker Sonny Anderson sent Villarreal into the UEFA Cup quarterfinals at the expense of AS Roma on Thursday as the Spaniards lost 2-1 at the Olympic Stadium but went through 3-2 on aggregate.

The Spanish side will face runaway Scottish Premier League leaders Celtic in the last eight after they held Barcelona to a 0-0 draw at the Nou Camp to go through 1-0 on aggregate.

Roma began their match trailing 2-0 from the first leg but roared back into contention with goals by midfielder Emerson and striker Antonio Cassano.

When Brazilian Anderson turned a cross past Roma keeper Ivan Pelizzoli in the 66th minute, however, the contest was effectively over.

After fielding a second-string team in the first leg Capello opted for a full-strength line-up, including Italy forward Francesco Totti in his first European match since a Champions League draw with Arsenal last March.

Villarreal started brightly but fell behind after 10 minutes to Emerson's superb left-

footed strike from outside the area. From that moment, the first period became increasingly one-way traffic as the visitors were forced back into their half.

In the 33rd minute defender Vincent Candela wasted a great chance to double Roma's lead when Emerson's through-ball put him one-on-one with keeper Jose Reina but he fired wide.

Roma were frequently guilty of over-elaboration, as a series of flicks and backheels by Totti and strike partner Cassano dropped harmlessly into empty space, but they finally bagged their second goal five minutes after the break.

Emerson slid a pass wide to Totti, who crossed low into the box and Cassano hustled in front of defender Enrique Alvarez to jab the ball home from close range.

It all seemed to be going Roma's way but a Villarreal

counter-attack in the 66th minute left them stretched at the back and Anderson, who scored in the first leg, glided in front of defender Cristian Chivu to turn a Jose Mari cross into the net.

The away goal left Roma needing to score twice to stand any chance of going through but despite a spell of late pressure in which they threw all their players forward the home side could not break down Villarreal's defence.

Their misery was compounded by the last-minute sending-off of defender Jonathan Zebina.

MNA/Reuters

Greek PM issues global invitation to Olympics

ATHENS, 27 March — Greek Prime Minister Costas Karamanlis on Thursday issued an invitation to people all over the world to attend "the best and safest Olympic Games" that will take place in Athens on August.

Karamanlis issued his planet-wide invitation immediately after a ceremony for the lighting of the Olympic Torch in ancient Olympia, where the original Games of antiquity were held.

"Today, here in Olympia, the birthplace of the Olympic Games, begins the first part of the flame's journey throughout the world. The Greek light, the values and ideals of Olympism create from today and on five continents on the planet, a chain of people who adhere to the values of peaceful co-existence, noble competition and good sportsmanship."

"In 141 days, the flame will light the skies of Attica, at the opening ceremony of the Olympic Games. Greeks join together to send out this message to all the world: We invite you and expect you at this great celebration of sports and culture. We invite you to the best and safest Olympic Games there have ever been," Karamanlis said.

MNA/Xinhua

Inter win seven-goal thriller with Benfica

MILAN, 27 March — Inter Milan reached the quarterfinals of the UEFA Cup after a thrilling 4-3 win over Benfica in their fourth-round, second-leg match at the San Siro stadium on Thursday.

Five goals in 17 minutes in the second half provided drama and excitement right until the end of a pulsating game but while Benfica produced some exciting football it was Alberto Zaccheroni's side who went into the draw for the last eight after the first leg ended goalless.

Former Fiorentina striker Nuno Gomes put Benfica in front but Inter drew level on the stroke of halftime through Nigerian forward Obafemi Martins.

Goals from Alvaro Recoba and Christian Vieri appeared to have given Inter a comfortable lead at 3-1.

But then Nuno Gomes pulled one back for Benfica and although Martins struck again to restore Inter's two-goal cushion a brilliant 78th-minute strike from Mendes Tiago kept the game alive right until the end.

The Portuguese side could even have snatched an away goals win with the last kick of the game when Tomislav Sokota shot just wide at the back post.

Benfica looked full of confidence and attacked from the outset with Slovenian Zlatko Zahovic and Teixeira Armando both going close as Jose Antonio Camacho's side established their dominance.

Once again Inter's defence was opened

up with ease when Sabrosa Simao dashed down the left and picked out Joao Pereira but the striker's shot was just wide of Francesco Toldo's goal.

It was no surprise when the visitors went ahead in the 36th minute through a crisply struck shot from the edge of the area from Nuno Gomes.

He almost made it 2-0 moments later, hitting the post with a similar shot from closer in.

Inter responded with Vieri's scrambled effort hitting the side netting and then Martins having an effort ruled out before, right on the stroke of halftime, they levelled.

Greek midfielder Georgios Karagounis jinked past three defenders as he cut in from the left flank and slid a pass across the face of goal for Martins to tap in.

The introduction of Recoba just before the hour transformed the game. With his first touch he powered Inter into the lead with a sweet shot from the edge of the area and then he helped create the third Inter goal for Vieri, slipping the ball into the path of the burly striker who blasted home.

But Nuno Gomes struck back, sliding in at the back post to convert a low cross from Sokota.—MNA/Reuters

Marshall the hero as Celtic weather Barca storm

BARCELONA, 27 March — Some outstanding goalkeeping from stand-in David Marshall and a gritty defensive display from his teammates helped Celtic book their place in the last eight of the UEFA Cup after a 0-0 draw at Barcelona on Thursday.

Leading 1-0 after a bad-tempered first leg in Glasgow, Celtic were put under severe pressure from the start, but 19-year-old Marshall produced a string of top-class saves to keep the Catalans at bay and ensure last season's runners-up moved into the quarterfinals.

Barca, who have powered their way up to third place in the Primera Liga on the back of a nine-match winning streak, created a host of excellent scoring chances throughout the match as they ran the midfield.

But in the absence of the suspended Javier Saviola and the injured Patrick Kluivert they lacked the finishing touch up front and could not break down the well-organized Celtic defence, who grew in confidence as the game wore on.

The runaway leaders of the Scottish Premier League, accompanied by 5,000 fans

at the Nou Camp, will now meet another Spanish side, Villarreal.

Barca wasted no time in pushing forward in search of an early goal and looked certain to take the lead in the opening minute after midfielder Gerard had been put through on goal by Ronaldinho.

But Marshall timed his intervention to perfection and tipped the ball away from his feet just as the Barca player lined up his shot.

The keeper, deputizing for Robert Douglas who was sent off in the first leg, was pressed into action on three more occasions in the opening minutes and responded brilliantly each time.

He reacted sharply to save a Luis Enrique header, palmed a Luis Garcia shot over the bar and then blocked another close-range effort as two Barca players bore down on him.

Celtic hardly had a touch of the ball and only threatened once when Henrik Larsson broke free in the seventh minute, but the Swedish striker was run down by Barca defender Carles Puyol.

Barca, with Ronaldinho at the helm, dominated for the rest of the half and should have broken the deadlock just before the break when Luis Garcia set up the unmarked Michael Reiziger but the Dutchman sliced wide of the post. It was more of the same after the break, Barca launching wave after wave of attacks only to see them repelled by the dogged Celtic defence.

MNA/Reuters

Arsenal's Cole ruled out of Manchester United match

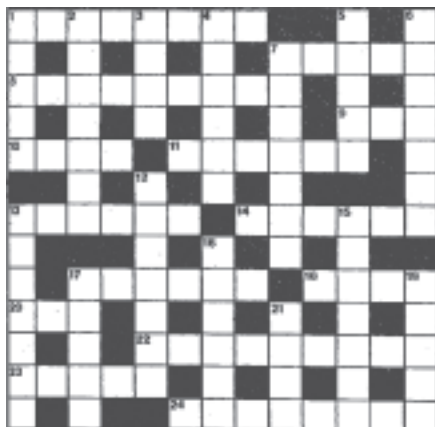
LONDON, 27 March — Arsenal defender Ashley Cole has been ruled out of the Premier League match against champions Manchester United at Highbury on Sunday with a knee injury, the London club's web site reported on Thursday.

Cole suffered a knee injury in Wednesday's 1-1 Champions League quarter-final draw at Chelsea and is also likely to miss England's friendly international against Sweden next week.

Gael Clichy will probably deputize for Cole against United as league leaders Arsenal try to set a new record of 30 matches unbeaten in the top flight since the start of the season.

MNA/Reuters

Crossword Puzzle



ACROSS

- 1 Solitary
- 7 Wealth
- 8 Dumb show
- 9 Decline
- 10 Dregs
- 11 Sitting
- 13 Prairic-wolf
- 14 Pursue
- 17 Brainy
- 18 Bargain
- 20 By way of
- 22 Soapless cleanser
- 23 Board game
- 24 Captive

DOWN

- 1 Fold of coat
- 2 Convent
- 3 Shortly
- 4 Girl
- 5 Finished
- 6 Supercilious feature
- 7 Brief notice
- 12 Waits on
- 13 Time-serving 24
- 15 Lamp
- 16 Annoy persistently
- 17 Frisk
- 19 Boy's name
- 21 Flag



Guillermo Coria, of Argentina, slams the ball back to Wayne Ferreira during their match on 26 March, 2004 at the NASDAQ-100 tennis tournament in Key Biscayne, Fla. Coria won 7-6, 6-0.—INTERNET

TV
Myanmar

1. Mar

21:15 National News
21:20 Promoting Tourism

24:00 National News

04:50 Myanmar Movie Impact "New Goal"

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Senior General Than Shwe and wife Daw Kyaing Kyaing host 59th Anniversary Armed Forces Day reception and dinner

YANGON, 27 March — Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Than Shwe and wife Daw Kyaing Kyaing hosted reception and dinner in commemoration of the 59th Anniversary Armed Forces Day at Zeyathiri Beikman on Konmyinthar this evening.

Senior General Than Shwe and wife Daw Kyaing Kyaing arrived at the venue of the reception and dinner at 6.45 pm.

Senior General Than Shwe and wife Daw Kyaing Kyaing, accompanied by Vice-Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) Vice-Senior General Maung Aye, Prime Minister Chief of Military Intelligence General Khin Nyunt, member of the State Peace and Development Council General Thura Shwe Mann of the Ministry of Defence, Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Soe Win, Secretary-2 Adjutant-General Lt-Gen Thien Sein, members of the State Peace and Development Council, and Chairman of the leading committee for observance of the 59th Anniversary Armed Forces Day Chief of Armed Forces Training Lt-Gen Kyaw Win, cordially greeted Ambassadors and Charge d'Affaires of the embassies in Yangon, heads and resident representatives of UN agencies, military attaches and their wives and guests who attended the reception and dinner.

Next, Senior General Than Shwe and wife Daw Kyaing Kyaing hosted a dinner to the guests.

Also present at the reception and dinner were Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and wife Daw Mya Mya San, Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt and wife Dr Daw Khin Win Shwe, General Thura Shwe Mann and wife Daw Khin Lay The, Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Soe Win and wife, Secretary-2 Adjutant-General Lt-Gen Thien Sein and wife, members of the SPDC and wives, the Commander-in-Chief



Senior General Than Shwe and wife Daw Kyaing Kyaing cordially greet diplomats and officials of UN agencies at the dinner to mark 59th Anniversary Armed Forces Day.— MNA

(Navy) and the Commander-in-Chief (Air) and their wives, ministers, senior officers of Tatmadaw (Army, Navy and Air) of the Ministry of Defence, deputy ministers, the deputy chief justice, the deputy attorneys-general, the deputy auditor-general, members of Civil Service Selection and Training Board, the vice-mayor, senior military officers of Yangon Command, the 59th Anniversary Armed Forces Day Parade Commander and column commanders, departmental heads of the SPDC office and ministries, members of the leading committee and work committee for observ-

ance of the 59th Anniversary Armed Forces Day, local and foreign journalists, representatives of the Union Solidarity and Development Association, national business entrepreneurs, former Minami Kikan members, officials of Japan-Myanmar Society for History and Culture and guests. Before and during the dinner, variety songs were presented to the guests by vocalists and Myanmar Athan Modern Music Troupe. After the dinner, artists of the Fine Arts Department of the Ministry of Culture entertained the guests with Myanmar traditional cultural dances at Thabin hall. — MNA

Defence Services Commander-in-Chief Senior General Than Shwe attends 59th Anniversary Armed Forces Day Parade

YANGON, 27 March— Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Than Shwe delivered an address at the 59th Anniversary Armed Forces Day Parade at the Resistance Park at 7.30 am today.

The 59th Anniversary Armed Forces Day was held in accord with the objectives —to strive hand in hand with the people for successful realization of the State's seven-point policy programme; to crush internal and external destructive elements hindering the stability and progress of the State through people's militia strategy; to implement border area development tasks and the five rural development tasks hand in hand with the entire people; and to build up a strong and efficient Tatmadaw to uphold 'Our Three Main National Causes'.

Also present at the parade were Prime Minister Chief of Military Intelligence Gen Khin Nyunt, Member of the State Peace and Development Council General Thura Shwe Mann of the Ministry of Defence, Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Soe Win, Secretary-2 Adjutant-General Lt-Gen Thien Sein, Members of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Ye

Myint, Lt-Gen Aung Htwe, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than, Lt-Gen Maung Bo, Quartermaster-General Lt-Gen Thiha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo, Chairman of the Leading Committee for Observance of the 59th Anniversary Armed Forces Day Chief of Armed Forces Training Lt-Gen Kyaw Win and Lt-Gen Tin Aye of the Ministry of Defence, Commander-in-Chief (Navy) Rear-Admiral Soe Thein, Commander-in-Chief (Air) Lt-Gen Myat Hein, Chief of Staff (Navy) Captain Nyan Tun, Military Appointment-General Maj-Gen Hsan Hsint, Judge Advocate-General Maj-Gen Soe Maung, Defence Services Inspector-General Brig-Gen Thein Htaik, ministers, the Chief Justice, the Attorney-General, the Chairman of Civil Service Selection and Training Board, the Yangon Mayor, members of the National Convention Convening Work Committee, senior military officers, deputy ministers, supreme court justices, military attaches of foreign missions, advisers to the State Peace and Development Council Office, departmental heads and the head of SPDC Office, members of the Public Relations and Information Committee of the State Peace and Development Council, representatives of

(See page 10)



Senior General Than Shwe inspects parade companies at 59th Anniversary Armed Forces Day Parade.— MNA

Excerpts from address of Senior General Than Shwe

- * As the Tatmadaw has given priority to achieving national reconsolidation, peace and tranquillity now prevail throughout out the country, including the border areas.
- * With efforts to achieve peace and stability bearing fruit, endeavours to achieve all-round progress in all parts of the country simultaneously have begun.
- * The trio of major projects— the border areas and national races development project, the 24 special development zones project and the rural races development project— are being implemented in a coordinated network covering the whole country.
- * Major clusters of agriculture and other economic infrastructures are being built wherever necessary.
- * Roads and bridges crisscrossing all over the country have been built, resulting in reciprocal beneficial relationships among regions leading to greater development.
- * In order that highly qualified human resources develop simultaneously in all regions, the requirements in the health and the education sectors are being fulfilled effectively.
- * Continued efforts are necessary to ensure that our country shortly becomes a modern industrialized nation that keeps abreast with the world.
- * Vigorous efforts are being made toward increased electric power supply and exploitation of oil, natural gas and other resources, necessary in building an industrialized nation.
- * Major state-owned industries and private industrial zones have been established to promote the industrial development.
- * It should be noted that nation-building efforts that consolidate peace, modernization and development represent the fulfilment of the fundamental requirements for the emergence of a discipline-flourishing democracy in the nation.