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Friday, 7 May, 2004

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

People's militia means entire people collectively building, safeguarding nation, with Tatmadaw as main pillar

Vice-Senior General Maung Aye addresses graduation parade of 107th Intake of DSAOTS

YANGON, 6 May — The graduation parade of the 107th Intake of the Defence Services (Army) Officers Training School was held in the parade grounds of the school in Bahtoo Tatmyo this morning. Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) Vice-Senior General Maung Aye, on behalf of the Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services, delivered an address on the occasion.

In his address, Vice-Senior General Maung Aye said that although they all had joined the Tatmadaw and served in other ranks, they were later admitted to the officers training school as they kept good discipline, worked hard and met the required qualifications; and that therefore they would be commissioned.

He recalled that the Tatmadaw is endowed with the 12 fine traditions as it was born during the independence struggle, and the

members of the Tatmadaw make sacrifices on the virtue of patriotism. It is through which that the Tatmadaw can survive till now as one capable of overcoming the obstacles and taking great pains. He added that such attributes as valour, good discipline, unity, selflessness, perseverance, diligence and capability spring from patriotism.

He also said that these characters enable the Tatmadaw to win public love and reliance, and the

members of the Tatmadaw, offspring of the people, are also greatly loyal to the State and its citizens. Keeping in the fore Our Three Main National Causes, the Tatmadaw, which always puts in the first place nationalism, stands before the people whenever crucial time arises. He urged the graduating cadets to maintain the fine traditions of the Tatmadaw and to acquire the leadership skill as they are young leaders.

He also pointed out that the basic phenomenon of the leadership is to accomplish the responsibilities by directing the spirit and attitude of the subordinates, and urged to be in consistence with the 16 characteristics of leadership.

Likewise, a leader needs to win the trust and respect of his comrades, especially in military service because not only his own life but also numerous lives of his comrades depends on the decision he makes. Therefore, a leader must be capable of anticipating the possible dangers, whether it is in battle ground, and making a right decision after considering it in proper order. Such is called military

strategy.

He said that the military strategy is practised in the Tatmadaw when it comes to carrying out minor to major tasks. In doing so, limitations should be considered first to calculate the possible risks in case previous experiences and lessons proved wrong. Ways and means must be sought amidst such limitations so as to reach the goal. Moreover, facts valuable enough for the successful realization of the goal should also be collected and analysed systematically to work out a solution. When the results are revised repeatedly.

The repeated analysis of the findings will make clear both the way the enemy might adopt and the way the Tatmadaw can counter. Only then will the best way be chosen through consideration.

Whatever a member of the Tatmadaw does, he has to take into consideration the information, goal, method, administration and communication and estimates its good and bad effects. Only then the goal will be reached with the minimum loss even if there surfaced unexpected com-

plex situation. In addition to military operations, military analysis can also be practised in national politics, economy and administration. Therefore, it is incumbent on them to get themselves accustomed to it.

Likewise, the Tatmadaw officers should always see things from the military point of view and have a vision as they should be equipped with the national defence outlook, political outlook, economic outlook and military outlook.

A leader of an organization should have fairness in enforcing discipline, especially, the persons who are commanding an armed institution must give serious attention to it. A Tatmadawman will have to strictly observe the civil laws in addition to military laws and doing so is his dignity.

The 60 soldier's codes of conduct will help raise the moral ethics of a Tatmadawman. Because of the codes of conduct, the Tatmadaw has been designated as a school producing noble persons. If they
(See page 9)



Vice-Senior General Maung Aye addresses graduation parade of 107th Intake of Defence Services (Army) Officers Training School.— MNA



PERSPECTIVES

Friday, 7 May, 2004

Fulfil the requirements of rural people for regional development

The Tatmadaw Government, since its assumption of the State responsibilities, has given top priority to prevalence of peace and stability and speedy development of border areas. Moreover, it has been implementing the drug elimination plans. Owing to these measures, border areas are developing rapidly. For harmonious growth of the entire nation, development tasks are being carried out in 24 regions designated as development regions.

In addition to the border area development plan and the 24-region development plan, the five rural development tasks are also being carried out. Here, it should be borne in mind that township-level departmental personnel are mainly responsible for development of rural areas in their respective townships.

Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt met with members of Momeik Township Peace and Development Council, departmental personnel, members of social organizations and townelders in Momeik, Kyaukse District, Shan State (North) on 4 May. The Prime Minister heard reports by township-level officials on agriculture, education, health and construction of roads, bridges and irrigation facilities. Then he fulfilled whatever was necessary for the regional development and delivered an address.

In his address, the Prime Minister stressed that those who are responsible for successful implementation of plans set by the State are township-level departmental personnel and that they should try to win the trust of local people by making field trips to villages in their townships and meeting the needs and wishes of rural people. In carrying out development tasks in their respective townships, the strength of Union Solidarity and Development Association, Myanmar Red Cross Society, Auxiliary Fire Brigade, War Veterans Organization, Myanmar Women's Affairs Federation, Myanmar Maternal Child Welfare Association and other social organizations should be enlisted.

As the Union of Myanmar is home to more than 100 national races, national unity is of utmost importance and only with the strong national unity can the perpetual existence of the Union be ensured. Therefore, we would like to urge all the state/division, district- and township-level responsible personnel to strive for development of their respective regions, improvement of the living standard of local people and consolidation of national unity.



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World Red Cross Day — ကမ္ဘာ့ကြက်ခြေနီနေ့
ခွဲခြားဆက်ဆံမှုပြုရန် ကြက်ခြေနီ၏စိတ်ထားမှန်
Stop Discrimination

8 May 2004

Myanmar Red Cross Society

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



Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan receives the Indian Ambassador. — MNA

Minister receives Ambassador

YANGON, 6 May — Indian Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Rajiv Kumar Bhatia called on Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan at the latter's office on Theinbyu Road here at 11.30 am today.

Present on the occasion were Deputy Minister for Information Brig-Gen Aung Thein, directors-general and managing directors of the departments and enterprises under the ministry and officials. They discussed matters on bilateral cooperation in the information sector. — MNA

Central Body members to report on 10 May

YANGON, 6 May — The Third Central Body Meeting of the MWJA will be held from 11 to 13 May 2004 at Kyaikkasan Ground here. The Central Body members and observers are to report at the management work committee office at Kyaikkasan grounds not later than 4 pm on 10 May. — MNA

Donation for Laymyethna Pagoda

YANGON, 6 May — A ceremony to donate cash for renovation of Laymyethna Pagoda in Tagaung, Mandalay Division, was held at the Ministry of Culture on Kaba Aye Pagoda Road here at 12.30 pm today. Reverend Sayadaw the 6th Jamseng Rinpoche Losang Choekye Pelden of Gelugpa Buddhist Centre, Singapore, handed over the cash donation of US\$ 10,000 to Minister Maj-Gen Kyi Aung. The minister spoke words of thanks and presented a certificate of honour to the donor.

Also present on the occasion were Deputy Minister for Culture Brig-Gen Soe Win Maung, Director-General of Fine Arts Department U Kyaw Win, Deputy Director-General (Lower Myanmar) of the Archaeology Department U Tun Zaw, Deputy Director-General of the Department of Cultural Institute U Myint Kyaing and others. — MNA

Rural tubewells opened

YANGON, 6 May — Director-General of the Development Affairs Department under the Ministry for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs Col Myo Myint attended the opening of a tubewell at Yone village in Kyaukpadaung Township, Mandalay Division on 3 May morning. The 4-inch tube-well was sunk at a cost of K 10.5 million. For it, wellwishers U Tin Htut, Daw Thin Myat Myat Win and family donated K 2 million and the State contributed K 9.5 million. It is 1,080 feet deep and can supply 2,000 gallons per hour. The 778 villagers of 160 households residing at the village are now having sufficient clean water. The director-general also inspected the supply of water from 5 artisan wells in Yenangyoung. About 600,000 gallons per day are being supplied by the water supply station there. The director-general also inspected the nursery and stone garden in Magway. — MNA

Myanmar Academy of Agriculture, Forestry, Livestock and Fishery Sciences meets

YANGON, 6 May — The Myanmar Academy of Agriculture, Forestry, Livestock and Fishery Sciences held the fourth annual meeting at International Business Centre on Pyay Road this morning.

Present were President of the Academy U Tin Hlaing, vice-presidents and executives and experts. First, Vice-President Dr Myint Thein read out the future tasks laid down at the preliminary meeting. President U Tin Hlaing gave instructions on extension of conducting research works, compilation and publication of technological books and presentation of prizes of honour to the writers. In the preliminary meeting held yesterday, President U Tin Hlaing explained present conditions of the academy to become more consolidated organization, future strategies and others. Vice-Presidents Dr Myint Thein, Dr Nyan Tun and Dr Maung Maung Sa reported on their group works.

Next, papers were read out by resource persons. Afterwards, the meeting laid down the decisions: to extend organizing of the training, academic and research institutions for ensuring human resource development of agriculture, forestry, livestock and fishery sectors, encouragement to be given for gaining progress and enhancing of cooperation with local and foreign organizations step by step; to lay down research policy on technologies so as to develop production of agriculture, forestry and livestock and fishery sectors of the State, to extend organizational set-up of research centres and supply equipment, cooperate with local and foreign organizations, implement research projects after seeking approval of ministries concerned; to render assistance of the State to development of human resource and technological development and receive assistance and cooperation of other production organizations; to discuss policies, rules and laws related to agriculture, forestry and livestock and fishery if necessary; to set up the Steering Committee, Human Resource, Research and Technology Development Sub-committee, Planning, Economics and Policy Affairs Sub-committee, and Publication, Information and Prize Selection Sub-committee. — MNA

နိုင်ငံတော်အစိုးရဌာနပိုင်

မော်တော်ယာဉ်များမသုံးစွဲရနေ

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Iraqi families take UK to court

LONDON, 6 May—A dozen Iraqi families have launched a legal bid in London for an independent inquiry and compensation over the deaths of relatives killed by British soldiers in Iraq.

The legal battle, launched at the High Court in London, comes amid a separate political furor over photographs published in a tabloid newspaper which allegedly show an Iraqi prisoner being abused by British troops.

The Ministry of Defence (MOD) refuses to accept responsibility for the deaths, but the families' lawyers are demanding a judicial review to examine whether the kill-

ings were a violation of the victims' right to life under the European law.

"We do not accept liability for the deaths they have brought to our attention, and have written to them informing them of our reasons," an MOD spokesman said.

Lawyers argue that because the Iraq war had officially ended when the victims died, and because Britain was an occupying power,

the European Convention on Human Rights should apply.

"The important thing to remember about these cases is firstly the war was over and we were occupying the country. And secondly, these people were going about their lawful business in their homes or on their farms" when they died, said human rights lawyer Phil Shiner, who is representing the Iraqi families.

Britain joined the US-led war on Iraq in March last year. President George W Bush declared the war over on 1 May 2003.

The high court case comes as the both British and American soldiers stand accused of abusing Iraqi prisoners after media organizations published photographs of alleged torture.

Furthermore, the families' lawyers said in a press release sent to Aljazeera.net, they will argue that the UK Government must now establish a fair and rational compensation scheme in Iraq that does not discriminate on the grounds of race or nationality.

At present the MOD are refusing to pay any compensation, even when it is clear that tragic mistakes leading to these deaths have been made. Instead small "charitable donations" of no more than £500 are being made.

Critics in Britain have slammed the United States for what they see as its heavy-handed approach in Iraq, contrasting it with the efforts of British troops occupying the oil-rich southern part of the country to win the hearts and minds of local people.

But the reputation of the British forces came under fire when the mass-circulation Daily Mirror newspaper last Saturday ran a series of pictures apparently showing British troops abusing an Iraqi captive.

One appeared to show a soldier whose face was not visible urinating on a hooded man.

Internet

758 US service members killed since beginning of military operations in Iraq

BAGHDAD, 6 May—As of Wednesday, 5 May, 758 US service members have died since the beginning of military operations in Iraq last year, according to the Department of Defence. Of those, 551 died as a result of hostile action and 207 died of non-hostile causes.

The British military has reported 58 deaths; Italy, 17; Spain, eight; Bulgaria, six; Ukraine, four; Thailand, two; Denmark, El Salvador, Estonia and Poland have reported one each. Since May 1, 2003, when President Bush declared that major combat operations in Iraq had ended, 618 US soldiers have died — 440 as a result of hostile action and 178 of non-hostile causes, according to the military's numbers.

Since the start of military operations, 4,133 US service members have been wounded in hostile action, according to the Defence Department's weekly tally.—Internet

US soldier, 15 Iraqis killed in southern Iraq

NAJAF, 6 May—US-led forces launched their biggest assault yet against militiamen loyal to a radical Shiite cleric, raiding hideouts in several cities Wednesday and clashing with gunmen in the world's biggest cemetery. At least 15 Iraqis and a US soldier were killed.

Moderate Shiites tried to persuade anti-American cleric Muqtada al-Sadr to back away from his confrontation with the United States as a reflection of their growing concern.

Skirmishes between US troops and al-Sadr's al-Mahdi Army militia have grown deadlier recently as the military steps up pressure on the cleric while trying to avoid an offensive in the Shiite holy city of Najaf.

The militiamen also have increased attacks, apparently to push the United States into negotiations or goad it into an offensive that could rally other Shiites behind al-Sadr.

Iraqi Governing Council member Mohammed Bahr al-Ulloum delivered a mes-

sage to al-Sadr from a group of influential Shiites calling on his militia to disarm and leave Najaf, council member Raja Habib Al-Khuzaii told *The Associated Press*.

The message from the group made up of about 500 Shiites, including local council members, tribal officials and others represented the most public effort by Shiite leaders to push al-Sadr into making concessions to end the standoff, which began when his militia launched an uprising in early April.

The US soldier died when a dump truck tried to ram a checkpoint in Karbala, the military said. He was the 20th US serviceman killed in Iraq in May.—Internet



Anti-war protesters gather outside London's Royal Courts of Justice, on 5 May, 2004. Lawyers for 14 Iraqi families who allege their relatives were unlawfully killed by British troops in post-war Iraq took their case to London's High Court on Wednesday. — INTERNET

Three US soldiers killed in battle with Iraqi militia

NAJAF, 6 May—Three US soldiers were killed in fighting in the south-central Iraqi town of Diwaniyah, the US military said Wednesday.

They died Tuesday after coming under fire from militia members loyal to radical Shiite cleric Muqtada al-Sadr.

After the attack, US forces launched an offensive targeting militia buildings and other positions being used by guerillas.

"The coalition will not tolerate such attacks," said Col Bradley May, the commander of the 2nd Armoured Cavalry Regiment. "We will continue to conduct patrols and engage Muqtada's militia when they are encountered in Diwaniyah."

The US forces raided the al-Sadr office in the town and seized weapons from an adjacent girls' school, believed to have been used by his militia to launch attacks. Coalition forces confiscated three 60-mm mortar tubes, 70 60-mm mortar rounds, and 10 rocket-propelled grenade rounds.

The military said its reconnaissance indicated more than a dozen militia members, armed with AK-47s and rocket-propelled grenades, were in the al-Sadr office building shortly before the attack.

It appears the militants escaped before the building was struck, military officials said.

One US soldier at a checkpoint was shot in the abdomen when a gunman opened fire from a vehicle, officials said. The soldier's unit returned fire on the car, destroying it

and those inside.

The soldier, whose condition is not known, was airlifted to a hospital.

The town of Diwaniyah is along the Euphrates River about 40 miles east of the holy city of Najaf.

Al-Sadr, who is wanted by an Iraqi court in connection with the killing of a rival cleric, is believed to be holed up in Najaf with members of his militia, known as the Mehdi Army.

A US soldier and at least 24 Iraqi militiamen have been killed in an ongoing battle between US-led coalition forces and al-Sadr's militia in Karbala, according to coalition military officials.

The 1st Armoured Division soldier died Wednesday after an attack on a coalition checkpoint in the Iraqi city south of Baghdad, the coalition said.

Early Wednesday, members of the Mehdi Army attacked the house of the mayor, said a police official.

Coalition forces returned fire, and the exchanges lasted until dawn.

Coalition forces have taken over buildings that the militia once occupied in an effort to establish law and order in the predominantly Shiite city, the coalition said.

Internet

Vietnam boosts fishery cooperation with Laos

HANOI, 6 May—The Vietnamese Ministry of Fisheries and the Laos Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry have held a meeting here, agreeing to strengthen cooperation on fisheries.

The two sides agreed to seek more funds for Laos' Programme on Aquaculture Cooperation and Development which is conducted from 2003 to 2005, according to local newspaper Vietnam Economic Times on Wednesday.

They also reached a consensus on strengthening exchange of information about aquaculture development. On its part, Vietnam will help Laos train staff on fish reproduction techniques, fish feed production technologies, and aquaculture economics, both in short and long terms. — MNA/Xinhua

Smoke rises after an explosion in the outskirts of Najaf, Iraq, while Shiite militiamen loyal to a radical cleric ambushed a patrol of US troops on 5 May, 2004 in the holy city and shot and killed a coalition soldier in a separate battle in Karbala.

INTERNET



Bush's pledge on Iraq abuse rings hollow among Arabs

DUBAI, 6 May — Arabs were unconvinced by US President George W Bush's televised pledge on Wednesday to punish Americans who abused and killed Iraqi prisoners, saying the gesture amounted to too little, too late.

"The damage is done," said Palestinian Reem Hosari. "Iraqis lost confidence in the big ideas of American democracy and freedom. Regardless of what he said, they have seen the opposite of what they were promised."

"Under a democracy these things should not happen at all."

"This is not going to wash with the Arab audience," said Jawad al-Anani, former Jordanian Foreign Minister. "It's a good gesture but he should have publicly apologized."

Bush sought to repair America's image among

Iraqis and Arabs by making a personal pledge on Arab television that Americans behind the abuse and killings of Iraqi detainees would be punished.

"I want to tell the people of the Middle East that the practices that took place in that prison are abhorrent and they don't represent America," he told Al Arabiya television.

But his words rang hollow among many ordinary Arabs.

"Talk is cheap. What's been done has been done and Bush's talking to an Arab network does not make it go away," said Jordanian

Jumana Ahmad. "The US' aim behind ousting Saddam Hussein was for torturing his people, and the American soldiers did just the same to the Iraqis."

Jihan, a 29-year-old Lebanese woman, added: "This is a show, they're trying to cover this up. If they hadn't been exposed, Bush would not have done this."

Last week's pictures of naked and hooded detainees, first shown on the US television network CBS and later broadcast on Arab televisions and splashed across newspapers, sparked worldwide outrage and inflamed Arabs.

The US military also said it had investigated the deaths of 25 prisoners held by US forces in Iraq and Afghanistan and determined that an Army soldier and a CIA contractor each murdered a prisoner in Iraq, where most of the deaths occurred.

Middle East expert Patrick Seale said Bush's address was "totally unconvincing and ineffective" and underlined an attempt to limit the damage the abuse scandal inflicted on US policy that advocates democracy and freedom to the world. — MNA/Reuters

ဝက်စွမ်းအား ခေတ်ကျော်လွှား

Abducted Canadian freed in Iraq

BAGHDAD, 6 May — A Canadian kidnapped last week in Iraq has been freed.

Canada's Foreign Ministry says Naji al-Kuwaiti has been released by his unidentified kidnappers and is leaving the country.

Mr al-Kuwaiti had been working as an importer-exporter in Iraq, when he became the third Canadian taken hostage there.

The first was freed in mid-April after spending nine days as the captive of Shiite militias and an intense diplomatic effort to win his release.

A third Canadian—41-year-old Iraq-born Rifaat Mohammad Rifaat—has not been seen since early April, when he left the Abu Gharib prison west of Baghdad where his company was doing a refurbishing project. — Internet

Indians say they were held against their will in Iraq by US Army to do menial labour

COCHIN, 6 May — Four Indians said Wednesday they were held against their will by US troops in Iraq to do menial work in an Army camp amid insurgent attacks.

The US Embassy said it was investigating the report.

Aliyarkunji Faisal, Abdul Aziz Shahjehan, Haniffa Mansool and Hameed Abdul Hafiz told *The Associated Press* they signed up in August with a recruiting agency to work for a caterer in Kuwait.

When they reached the Kuwait airport, a US soldier ordered them to board a bus that took them to a base near the northern Iraqi city of Mosul, they said.

"There were some 20 Indians in the bus. Once we knew that we were inside Iraq, we protested," Faisal said. "But the Americans told us that they had paid a Kuwait agency \$1,000 for

each man and therefore it was a must that we work for them."

Shahjehan said the camp, which he could not name, often was the target of missile attacks by Iraqi fighters.

"Every time the camp was attacked, we took shelter in a bunker. The fear of seeing so many bomb explosions still haunts me," he said, adding that the Army also gave them training on how to remain alert and get into bunkers.

Shahjehan said the four were forced to do menial jobs, including washing clothes.

"When I refused to work and told an officer that I wanted to go back, he beat me up," Shahjehan said.

Faisal said the men were promised \$890 a month in Kuwait but instead made \$200 from the Army in Iraq.

"It was a pitiful life. We lost all our money," he said.

Faisal said 16 Indians got together and escaped April 15 by paying \$20 to an Iraqi truck driver, who took them to Baghdad. He said the Indian High Commission there helped them fly to Amman, Jordan, and then back to Bombay.

The four men returned Monday to their village of Velichakala, 90 miles south of Cochin, a major city in Kerala state.

The Indian government has demanded an explanation from Washington.

Internet



Tents housing prisoners considered 'anti-coalition forces' stand at the Abu Ghraib Prison on the outskirts of Baghdad, Iraq on 4 May, 2004. — INTERNET

Iraqis demand release of Abu Ghraib prisoners

ABU GHRAIB (Iraq), 6 May — Hundreds of Iraqis marched on Wednesday outside the walls of the military jail in Iraq where US soldiers photographed themselves abusing Iraqi prisoners, and demanded the release of jailed relatives.

Protesters carrying Iraqi flags and placards reading in English "You have given a bad impression of America and Christians", gathered at the Abu Ghraib prison.

Images released last week of US troops abusing Iraqis in the jail have inflamed sentiment against the US-led occupation of the country and left Washington scrambling to repair its image with Iraqis ahead of a formal handover of sovereignty.

Relatives of the nearly

4,000 Abu Ghraib prisoners who are among about 10,000 Iraqis held by occupying troops demanded they be set free immediately.

"They have taken five of my children. It's a crime," screamed one woman at a checkpoint outside the prison on the western outskirts of Baghdad, surrounded by blast barriers, razor wire and US machine-gun posts atop the walls. "These acts demand revenge and we hold you completely responsible,"

said a representative of the Association of Muslim Clerics, a Sunni Muslim group which has helped organize some of the protests which regularly demand the release of detainees.

The US military, which has acknowledged at least two Iraqi detainees have been murdered by soldiers or contractors, has put a general who once ran its Guantanamo Bay prison camp in charge of reforming Iraq's military jails. — MNA/Reuters

Cooler weather helps firefighting in S California

LOS ANGELES, 6 May — Cooler weather gave firefighters a hand Wednesday in their fight with three major wildfires that have forced thousands of residents to flee their homes in the past days.

With the aid of lower temperatures and diminishing wind, firefighters finally contained the fire that had charred 2,050 acres near Camp Pendleton in Marine base in San Diego County. No structures and homes were damaged. "We're getting a little cool weather, and we're making some headway with bulldozers and hand crews," California Department of Forestry spokesman Steve Rahn said.

But the situation was gloomier in Riverside County, where two biggest blaze

which had destroyed more than 30 structures including a dozen homes, continued to rage.

The largest wildfire, which had charred more than 11,000 acres between Corona and Lake Elsinore, was just 30 per cent contained Wednesday. More than 1,000 residents had been forced to flee their homes in the area as it threatened about 1,000 homes and 12 commercial buildings. Six structures were already destroyed and seven firefighters suffered minor injuries in firefighting.

MNA/Xinhua

10 dead as buses collide in Nigeria

LAGOS, 6 May — Ten persons were killed, many others injured when a Peugeot 505 station wagon and a bus collided in northwestern Nigeria, state media reported Tuesday.

The *News Agency of Nigeria* quoted an eyewitness as saying that the accident occurred at about 2pm (1300 GMT) Monday on the road from Sokoto, capital of the

Homonymous state to Gusau, capital of the neighbouring Zamfara State as the bus had a burst tyre.

Nine persons died on the spot while the tenth died at a hospital, the reports said, but

did not mention how many passengers were injured.

"Accidents have become a daily phenomenon on the Sokoto-Gusau road due to its deplorable state," the agency said. — MNA/Xinhua



Iraqis wave their flag and chant anti US slogans outside Abu Ghraib prison, on the outskirts of Baghdad, Iraq on 5 May, 2004. — INTERNET

Saudi Arabia calls for speedy transfer in Iraq

JEDDAH (Saudi Arabia), 6 May — Violence in Iraq can only be halted by a full and speedy transfer of sovereignty to Iraqis and the rebuilding of their Armed Forces, neighbouring Saudi Arabia said on Tuesday.

Foreign Minister Prince Saud al-Faisal said his country was watching with grave concern the security situation across its northern border.

"Avoiding the bloody confrontations in Iraq will not be achieved except through a speedy transfer of sovereignty to Iraqis...and handing them real and complete rather than symbolic authority," Prince Saud said.

US forces are due to hand over sovereignty to Iraqis at the end of next month, more than a year after the US-led invasion toppled Saddam Hussein. But they have said Iraqis may not be ready to assume complete control.

The minister said Iraq's Armed Forces,

disbanded last year by the United States, must be re-established to "fill the security vacuum" in the country, where US soldiers and Iraqi civilians have been killed in daily attacks.

Civil institutions need to be built up to improve the political, economic and security situation, and the United Nations must be given responsibility in the "transition period", he added.

Prince Saud said the reported US abuses of Iraqi prisoners were "the result of the continued occupation" and called on the US-led occupation forces "to put an end to these practices and call to account those responsible". — MNA/Reuters

Canadian sues US military for alleged torture

OTTAWA, 6 May — A Canadian man who claims he was falsely imprisoned and tortured last year by the American military shortly after the invasion of Iraq is suing the US Army for 350,000 US dollars, it was reported here Tuesday.

Hossam Shaltout, 57, an aerospace engineer and a former resident of Toronto, filed his suit on 30 April with the US Army Claims Office.

Shaltout says he went to Iraq before the war on be-

half of a group called Rights and Freedom International, hoping to persuade Iraqi leaders to step down.

He alleges he was arrested by US troops on 9 April, 2003 and taken to

Camp Bucca, a detention site in southern Iraq. He says US authorities there accused him of being a speech writer and "right-hand-man" of deposed president Saddam Hussein.

Shaltout says he was detained three days in an armoured personnel carrier and beaten. He said he also saw Iraqis being tortured.

He says he was freed and eventually taken to Egypt. He says he now suffers from post-traumatic stress disorder and cannot work properly. — MNA/Xinhua

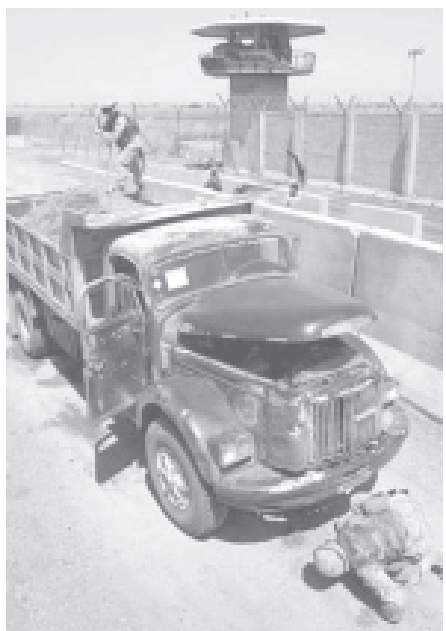
Iraqi security force moves into marines' positions in Fallujah

BAGHDAD, 6 May — An all-Iraqi security force in Fallujah on Tuesday began to move into positions of withdrawing US Marines as part of an agreement to restore order in the city, Qatar-based al-Jazeera TV channel reported.

The Iraqi force of up to 1,100 is to be led by one of Saddam Hussein's former generals, Mohammed Latif, the report said, adding that many of the fighters are former soldiers and the force includes several who are believed to have fought against the Marines.

On Sunday, the US Marines held talks with Latif in Fallujah, the US military official said, adding that Latif was a former intelligence officer under Saddam.

MNA/Xinhua



Marines from Kilo Company of the 3rd Battalion 24th Marines search a truck carrying cement-making materials to the Abu Ghraib Prison on the outskirts of Baghdad, Iraq on 4 May, 2004. —INTERNET

ဘားငါးမြို့၊ မြန်မာနိုင်ငံ



A US soldier walks past a burning car following an explosion at the entrance of the 'Green zone' in the Iraqi capital Baghdad, on 6 May, 2004. A car bomb exploded at an entrance to the central Baghdad compound housing the US-led administration of Iraq on Thursday, inflicting Iraqi and American casualties, witnesses said. —INTERNET

Five reported dead in Baghdad bomb

BAGHDAD, 6 May—Five people have been killed by a bomb that exploded at the entrance to the sprawling headquarters of the US-led coalition in Baghdad today, according to initial reports.

The suspected car bomb, which caused a loud explosion, left cars ablaze on a Baghdad bridge guarded by US soldiers.

"We saw a car on fire. We think it was a car bomb. There were two bodies covered in sheets," said Mohammed Talum, who lives close to the 14th of July Bridge.

The bridge is sealed off to the general public and used only by the military and employees of the US-led Coalition Provisional

Authority, at the edge of the Karrade district in eastern Baghdad. A loud boom shook the neighbourhood at around 7am (1pm AEST), rattling windows, and people in the area claimed it was a car bomb.

"All we know is we heard a large explosion," a military spokesman said.

Reports say at least three people have been taken to hospital. Ambulances and fire crews are at the scene.

Internet

US marine head in S'pore before security talks

SINGAPORE, 6 May—The head of the United States Marine Corps met Singapore's Security Minister on Tuesday ahead of Washington's planned talks with Asian nations on maritime security in the strategically important Malacca Straits.

General Michael Hagee's visit comes after Singapore's Defence Minister Teo Chee Hean said last week that security along the busy Strait, used by around 50,000 ships each year, was "not adequate".

His comments triggered a war of words with Malaysia, which has rejected direct foreign involvement in policing the waterway amid reports Washington planned to deploy troops on high-

speed vessels to guard the Strait. Malaysia says security issues should not be an excuse to compromise on sovereignty.

In the first trip by the US Marine Commander to Singapore, Hagee met Singapore Coordinating Minister for Defence and Security Tony Tan. Officials were tightlipped on the subject of their discussions.

MNA/Reuters

China earmarks \$1.5b to fight poverty this year

BEIJING, 6 May—China plans to pour some 1.5 billion US dollars into poverty relief programmes to help close a yawning chasm between rich and poor that it fears could compromise social stability and impressive economic growth.

The central government planned to invest 12.2 billion yuan (1.47 billion US dollars) to combat poverty this year, an increase of around 800 million yuan compared to previous years, the China Daily cited officials from the Poverty Reduction Office of the State Council, or Cabinet, as say-

ing. The paper did not elaborate on how the funds would be spent.

China, wary discontent could spark unrest and challenge one-party rule, has said it planned to boost support for poor farmers by about 30 billion yuan to 150 billion yuan in 2004.

Although the country's economy has roared ahead, rural incomes are believed to have grown about half as fast as those in cities between 1997 and 2003, posing an enormous challenge to the Communist government.

MNA/Reuters

Russia wants UN to check Iraq torture reports

MOSCOW, 6 May — The United Nations should investigate the allegations of torture against US and British forces in Iraq, a top Russian diplomat was quoted as saying on Wednesday.

Both London and Washington have launched inquiries into torture by their troops in Iraq after media published pictures purporting to show prisoners being abused.

"This torture is a clear violation of human rights. It complicates the process of bringing order to Iraq in that it causes even greater dislike of foreign occupation," Russia's Deputy Foreign Minister, Yuri Fedotov, told the

Interfax news agency.

"We think this question has to be put under the scrutiny of the UN Commission for Human Rights."

Russia is a permanent veto-holding member of the UN Security Council. It opposed the US-led attack on Iraq but has since repaired ties with Washington, although it calls for greater UN involvement in Iraq.

MNA/Reuters

Energy official says Kuwait to import gas from Iraq

KUWAIT CITY, 6 May — Kuwait will import 1000 cubic metres of gas per day from neighbouring Iraq in the first phase of a multi-staged plan for the importation of Iraqi gas, a Kuwaiti official said on Tuesday.

After a meeting of the Kuwaiti-Iraqi Committee, Kuwaiti energy undersecretary Issa Al-Oun said the commission approved the first phase of the plan for importing 1000 cubic metres of gas from Iraq every day, the Kuwait News Agency reported. The final

copy of the contract will be signed within a month.

The project will cost 8 million US dollars, with the Kuwait investing 6 million dollars and Iraq 2 million dollars for the construction of the necessary facilities and pipelines, he said.

MNA/Xinhua



An Iraqi man collects belongings from the floor of his house, which was burnt and destroyed during heavy fighting between US forces and guerillas in Fallujah on 3 May 2004.



Damaged buildings and streets are seen in Falluja, Iraq on 30 April, 2004, after a month-long siege by US.



Iraqis fled the city of Fallujah on 29 April 2004 after fighting broke out between Iraqi guerillas and US troops.



Grieving in Fallujah : An Iraqi man grieves the death of his son at a cemetery in Fallujah on 3 May 2004.

Images of Iraq



Two Iraqi girls walk past a house destroyed during battles between US forces and Iraqi guerillas in Fallujah on 5 May 2004.



Two Iraqi children sit by a crater left after US troops shelled the neighborhood in Fallujah on 3 May 2004.



Iraqis check the damage of their house in Fallujah, on 27 April 2004.

New and fast developments throughout Myanmar



Newly opened Myanmar Convention Centre on Mindhamma Road in Mayangon Township.



The Bhamo Degree College in Kachin State.



Maha Bandoola Bridge linking Pazundaung and Dawbon Townships in Yangon.

Public health implication of emerging zoonoses

Prof Dr Tin Tin Myaing (Yezin University of Veterinary Science)

Emerging zoonotic diseases are the most public health threats facing humanity. An emerging disease is defined as a new disease or an existing disease that shows up in a new geographical region.

Many of the new emerging and re-emerging diseases of human are caused by pathogens, which originate from animals or products of animal origin. The increasing proximity of human and animal populations has led to the emergence of, or increase in, bacterial zoonoses such as plague, leptospirosis, and brucellosis, etc. A wide variety of domestic and wild animal can involve as reservoirs for these pathogens, which may be viruses, bacteria or parasites. The factors, which influence the ability of each infectious agent to effectively, cross the species barrier and infect new cells and populations are poorly understood. Extensive outbreaks of zoonotic disease are not uncommon; especially disease is often not recognized as zoonotic. Professional assessment of the importance of these diseases influences public health practices and structures. The challenge to public health posed by effective surveillance, prevention and control of zoonotic diseases can be evaluated.

SARS disease, a terrible outbreak which occurred in some countries, who caused the death of over 800 peoples in 2003. The scientists suspected that the disease was transmitted from a kind of wildcat known as 'Cevex'. Avian influenza or bird flu disease is re-emerging in Vietnam on January 2004, as global alert. Some Vietnamese died by transmission of bird flu from chicken to man. Avian influenza virus was recognized as a distinct disease in chickens in 1978, and the cause was demonstrated to be a virus in 1901. Such events occurred in 1957, again in 1968, when pandemic influenza viruses which derived from one or more genes from avian influenza viruses dominant in ducks before passing to pigs, where it mutated and then migrated to humans. About 1 million people worldwide who died of this influenza source were from South China. In 1975, outbreaks of disease in chickens have been associated with influenza virus of subtypes usually associated with human infections. In 1976 another mutation of a flu virus common to pigs, killed a US soldier, and more than 40 million Americans were vaccinated but the virus did not spread. In 1981 two outbreaks were reported in turkeys kept on the same farm as pigs in Ohio, US. In 1997 to 1999 fearful global health crisis appeared in Hongkong. Direct viral transmission namely virus subtype (Influenza A), from bird to human was occurred in Hongkong, 18 human cases and six peoples died over a period of 11 months. The source was chickens and ducks, mortality rate was 100%. Local officials slaughtered 1.5 million chickens.

In Myanmar, both SARs and avian influenza diseases (Bird flu) were effectively controlled and monitored by authorities of Ministry of Health and Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries. There was none of transmission of either SARs of Avian influenza disease in Myanmar.

Emerging Zoonoses can be defined as infections that have newly appeared in a population or have existed but are rapidly increasing in incidence or geographic range. Many emerging zoonoses appear to be caused by pathogens already present in the environment, brought out of obscurity or given selective advantage by changing condition and afforded an opportunity to infect new host populations. Only on occasion, a new strain/variant may evolve and cause a new disease. Many elements can contribute to the emergence of a new zoonotic disease. Factors contributing to emergence of zoonoses are microbial determinants, individual host determinants and host population determinants. International travels such as modern society are responsible for the increase in emerging disease. Emergence of new zoonotic pathogens seems to be accelerating for several reasons: global human and livestock animal populations have continue to grow, bringing increasingly larger number of people and animals into close contact; transportation has advanced, making it possible for emerging of zoonotic diseases worldwide. HIV-1 and HIV-2 have a seemingly narrow host range which is limited to humans, these viruses are now known to present example of species cross over. Hirsch et al. (1989) isolated lentivirus (SIVsm) from West African primate sooty mangabeys (*Cercoebus atys*) and the virus was closely related to human HIV-2 virus. The virus common in sooty mangabeys was close relation between humans and primate, origin of HIV-2 cases in this geographic area. Moreover HIV-1 virus was known to infect humans by close relationship of chimpanzee subspecies *Pan troglodytes troglodytes* and now the spread of this Chimpanzee retrovirus into humans, some 35 million people worldwide. Malburg and Ebola haemorrhage fever are caused by filoviruses due to its thread-like features of the viruses. Ebola haemorrhage fever (Ebola HF) is a severe, often-fatal disease in humans and non human primates (monkeys, gorillas and chimpanzee) that has appeared sporadically since its initial recognition in 1976. The disease is caused by infection with Ebola virus, named

after a river in the Democratic Republic of Congo (formerly Zaire) in Africa, where it was first recognized. The disease is highly contagious killer got its start in monkeys along the Ebola river in the Congo before spreading to other countries, killing more than 900 people. Reemerge of Ebola virus infections has occurred several times in the past ten years in USA, the Philippines, Zaire, Congo and Kenya. In Africa, the emergence of Ebola virus could dramatically increase if its still unknown reservoir host(s) increased, the virus changed its behaviour, or ecological factors.

Recent experiences in Australia with a new *morbillivirus* disease add still more lessons in zoonotic disease prevention and control. In 1994, horses on a property in Queensland developed acute respiratory distress with haemorrhagic manifestations—14 of 21 infected horses died. A horse trainer and a stable-hand became ill after nursing a sick horse—the trainer died. The cause of the disease was due to (previously unknown) *morbillivirus*. Remarkably, in 1996 fruit bats (flying foxes) were found to be the natural host of the virus. Studies are under way to unravel these findings. Nipah virus was initially isolated in 1999 upon examining samples from an outbreak of encephalitis and respiratory illness among adult men in Malaysia and Singapore. An epidemic of severe febrile encephalitis with up to 40% fatality occurred in Malaysia in people who had close contact with pigs. Overall, more than 100 people died in Malaysia and one death was reported among thirteen cases that occurred in Singapore. The reservoirs of natural infection for both viruses appear to be fruit bats *Pteropus* species. Bovine Spongiform encephalopathy (BSE) was first diagnosed in the United Kingdom in 1986; as of 1997, more than 170,000 cattle had been reported as infected, but modern statistical methods have indicated that about one million cattle had been infected, roughly half of which entered the human food chain in the United Kingdom. Assuming that BSE was transmitted to humans through the consumption of food of bovine origin containing brain tissue.

As the trade of animal products and the movements of people become more intense, the risks of introduction/reintroduction of certain diseases in a country increase. It is very likely, in view of the foreseeable global changes over the next few decades (e.g., population growth, urbanization and climatic changes) that this trend will continue and even increase. Infectious disease, including zoonoses, will remain the major health problem in most developing countries, together with opportunistic infections, including zoonotic diseases as a very important component. As zoonoses and animal diseases with the potential to affect human health likely will continue to emerge and re-emerge, zoonoses surveillance will need to be reinforced and maintained at the national and international level. (Recently, four cases of suspected SARS disease have been re-emerge in China). Comprehensive plans will need to be developed to reduce the rural-urban migration flow to reverse the current and anticipated trend. Major components of these plans should include improving rural employment and food availability by promoting animal production projects and improving health through zoonoses control and reduction of environmental pollution related to animal rearing.

Cash donated to MWJA Conf

YANGON, 6 May — As a gesture of hailing the Third Myanmar Writers and Journalists Conference, a ceremony to donate cash was held at the Ministry of Culture at 10 am today. First, Minister for Culture Maj-Gen Kyi Aung explained the purpose of the donation. Next, the minister donated K 100,000 to Vice-Chairman-1 of the MWJA, Chairman of Work Committee for Fund Raising U Thin Kha and Lt-Col Ohn Maung (Retd) (Myinmu Maung Naing Soe), Chief Editor of the Naing-ngant Gonyi Publishing House. MNA

ပျားရည်နှင့် အစွမ်းသတ္တိ

- ပျားရည်သည် အင်အားဖြည့်တင်းပေးရာတွင် အသုံးဝင်ဆုံးအဟာရတစ်မျိုး ဖြစ်ပါသည်။
- ပျားရည်တွင် သတ္တုဓာတ်၊ အင်ဒိုင်းနှင့် အဟာရဓာတ် အများအပြားပါဝင်ပါသည်။
- ပျားရည်သည် သစ်သီး၊ သကြားဓာတ် အဓိကပါဝင်သော သကြားဓာတ်ပေါင်း တစ်မျိုးဖြစ်ပါသည်။
- ပျားရည်တွင် ဘက်တီးရီးယား၊ သန့်စင်ပါသည်။
- ပျားရည်တွင် ပရိုဘီယိုတစ်ရပ်ဖြစ်သည့် အနာဒါဏ်ရာများ အနာကျက် ဖြန့်ဖြူး လျှင်မြန်စွာပျောက်ကင်းစေပါသည်။
- ပျားရည်စားသုံးပြီး မိနစ်ပိုင်းအတွင်း စွမ်းအားတိုးတက်လာ စေနိုင်ပါသည်။

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



မီးသုံးစွဲလျှင်
အသိယှဉ်
အစဉ်သတိ
အမြဲရှိ

အခွင့်အလမ်းပွင့်၊ အရည်အသွေးမြင့်၊ ပညာဓာတ်ဖြာ
အချိုးသားပညာရည်ဖြင့် မားရေး
အသုံးစီမံကိန်းပြည့်
စိန်ရတနာမ၊ ၂၀၀၄ ခုနှစ် မေလ (၄-၇)ရက်

Minister inspects construction of new Pakokku airport, river water pumps

YANGON, 6 May — Minister for Transport Maj-Gen HLa Myint Swe, accompanied by Deputy Director-General U Soe Myint of Directorate of Water Resources and Improvement of River Systems, went to Latpanchepaw river water pumping project in NyaungU District yesterday morning.

Accompanied by Director-General U Win Maung of Department of Civil Aviation, the minister arrived at the construction site of new Pakokku Airport and hears reports on completion of the runway, the apron, airport building and control tower, power and water supply. The

minister inspected Myanmar handicraft to be decorated at the airport building.

New Pakokku Airport will be 8,500 feet long and 100 feet wide.

At Pakokku Shwetantint river water pumping project, the minister inspected the conditions of pumps. He also saw over pumps at Kyawzi, Ngathayauk, Auknyaint and Kyaukkoo river water pumping stations.— MNA

**Don't
smoke**



Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) Vice-Senior General Maung Aye inspects the graduation company at the passing-out parade. — MNA

People's militia means entire people ...

(from page 1)

strictly observe the codes of conduct, they will see the loving kindness, attachment and loyalty prevailing in the Armed Forces itself and its environment.

nation, to undergo training and to serve the public interest.

Concerning the national defence duty, the Tatmadawmen dare even to sacrifice their lives to

qualified skills.

The result of a battle depends on training. Priority should be given to training to enhance their combat skills. A leader must train himself, and also give training to his soldiers. Tatmadawmen will have to undergo individual as well as group training. Waging a battle is a collective work. But every person of a unit must be skillful in his individual duties. From an individual to the whole unit, there must be harmony and

The Tatmadawmen born of the people must always keep in the fore the public interest. At the opportune time, the Tatmadaw is striving together with the people not only for the benefit of the present 53 million, but for the future generation also. The Tatmadaw, the Government and the people are collectively implementing the border areas and national races development project and the 24-development-region project, and the success of the projects have been marked as a milestone in history of Myanmar.

Similarly, the five rural development tasks have been implemented for progress of all the regions of the nation. The socio-economy of the nation will firmly develop only if the rural areas where the majority live can be developed. The junior leaders will be assigned duty at various places of the nation. They will have to see the areas they are assigned to as their native place and to serve the public interest by striving to ensure regional as well as rural development. The Tatmadawmen will have to live with the people in harmony and oneness for the



Vice-Senior General Maung Aye presents a silver sword award to Best Cadet Tun Tun Oo. — MNA

And they must always combat ready.

In conclusion, Vice-Senior General Maung Aye urged them to strive for becoming qualified junior leaders who are reliable for the Tatmadaw and who can skillfully command a unit in a battle field.

Present on the occasion were State Peace and Development Council Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Soe Win,

Electric Power Maj-Gen Tin Htut, Military Appointment-General Maj-Gen Hsan Hsint, Judge Advocate-General Maj-Gen Soe Maung, Defence Services Inspector-General Brig-Gen Thein Hteik, Vice-Chief of Armed Forces Training Maj-Gen Aung Kyi, Directors of the Ministry of Defence Maj-Gen Mya Win, Maj-Gen Tin Soe, Maj-Gen Thein Tun, Maj-Gen Khin Aung Myint,



Vice-Senior General Maung Aye takes salute of the graduation columns. — MNA

Any person violating the laws must be dismissed as he may tarnish the image of the whole institution. Thus, they should understand the gratitude they owe to the Tatmadaw and strictly abide by its principles.

Every organization will be consolidated and will serve its duties well only if it be controlled by laws and discipline. The three principal duties of the Tatmadaw are to defend the

safeguard the nation's territory and sovereignty. They must have the courage and combative spirit as well as the combat skill. Only then will they be able to become real junior military leader. They will be able to discharge the national duties at higher levels step by step if they can enhance their military, administrative and organization skills. Thus, a junior military leader will have to strive to show their

unison in performing duties. They should have acknowledged the fact that repeated training is required.

Due to the advancement in science and technology, types of a battle become sophisticated one after another. They will be able to catch up with the advancing times only if they continuously study the trend. Thus, junior leaders must undergo intense training without fail.

proper laying of the people's militia strategy.

The people's militia means the entire mass of people collectively building and safeguarding the nation, with the Tatmadaw as the main pillar. The strength of the nation lies within, and with the strength all the internal and external destructive elements must be warded off. Myanmar is a UN member nation, and is extending friendly relations with all the nations around the world. But all must have the awareness for ensuring perpetual peace and stability in the nation. Thus, the Tatmadawmen must continuously undergo military training and must have military awareness.

members of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Aung Htwe of the Ministry of Defence, Quartermaster-General Lt-Gen Thiha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo and Chief of Armed Forces Training Lt-Gen Kyaw Win, Commander-in-Chief (Navy) Rear-Admiral Soe Thein, Commander-in-Chief (Air) Lt-Gen Myat Hein, Commander of Eastern Command Maj-Gen Khin Maung Myint, Minister for National Planning and Economic Development U Soe Tha, Minister for Construction Maj-Gen Saw Tun, Minister for Forestry Brig-Gen Thein Aung, Minister for Mines Brig-Gen Ohn Myint, Minister for

Maj-Gen Tin Tun, Maj-Gen Than Htay, Maj-Gen Sein Lin and Brig-Gen Aye Myint, deputy ministers, Commandant of Bahtoo Station and Principal of the Combat Training School (Bahtoo) of Defence Services (Army) Brig-Gen Zaw Win, senior military officers, guests, and relatives of graduating cadets.

After inspecting the graduating cadet companies, Vice-Senior General Maung Aye took their salute. Next, Vice-Senior General Maung Aye presented a silver sword to Cadet Tun Tun Oo, who won the best cadet award.

Afterwards, Vice-Senior General Maung Aye left the parade grounds.

MNA



Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Soe Win and dignitaries seen at the passing-out parade. — MNA

Tatmadawmen, local people dredge Meiktila Lake

YANGON, 6 May— Tatmadawmen of regiments under control command of No 99 LID and Meiktila Station, service personnel and local people participated in dredging historic Meiktila Lake from 29 April to 4 May.

No 99 LID Commander Col Tin Oo Lwin, Meiktila Station Commander Brig-Gen Khin Maung Aye, Commander of Flying Training Base Brig-Gen Khin Maung Tin, Commander of Ground Training Base Col Thura Khin Maung Win, local authorities and departmental officials viewed the dredging tasks and fulfilled the requirements.— MNA

National development mainly...

(from page 16)

In the world today, the harnessing of the natural resources is conducted not only from the economic point of view, but also from social and environmental conservation point of view. In addition, as value has been added to the natural resources, they become more valuable and the qualifications of the technicians adding value to the resources have become higher.

Agricultural, forestry and livestock breeding sectors are the most basic and reliable resources of the nation, and are connected with the majority in earning their living. Accepting the sectors as the main driving force behind the national economic progress and the rising of the living standard, the Government has been giving priority to their development.

The efforts of the academy for development of various branches of science, research programmes, human resources, knowledge, technology and human qualification have benefited the nation. It is publishing books on various branches of sciences and subjects, holding research paper reading sessions, publishing the papers and compiling the papers on the new finds to be published in periodicals. The endeavours of the executives and members of the academy to give lectures at universities, work as supervisors at post-graduate courses, act as external examiners, and disseminate knowledge at courses for the government departments are indeed honourable. Moreover, their work of organizing various governments to hold seminars and workshops, inviting prominent scientists from abroad

to host talks in the nation and conducting research tours jointly with their foreign counterparts to impart knowledge to new generation is also beneficial to the nation.

The Myanmar Academy of Agriculture, Forestry, Livestock and Fishery Sciences is holding paper reading sessions yearly and it submitted 195 papers from

2000 until 2003. And it has shared its all papers with the readers through Internet, he said.

National experts who are still in service can carry out research just for their departments concerned and they still need to carry out research on a variety of subjects on a wider scale in the interest of the nation, he remarked.

He called on all national experts to collectively participate in implementing the State's policies, national projects and national education plans through the most effective use of science and technologies in the interest of the nation and the people, he urged.

At the same time, officials concerned are to create opportunities for the experts to nurture and teach their students and to do research. And the minister and departmental officials are also to render necessary assistance to the experts for enabling them to thoroughly implement advice and sug-

gestions and findings on research, he said.

The Prime Minister called on the experts to make continued endeavours for greater development of human resources which can contribute towards the State's progress, advancement of science and technology, and effective application of science and technology in the interest of the nation, he said.

Emphasis is to be placed on development of science and technology which are suitable to the nation, the people, culture and traditions, he said.

Myanmar is an agro-based nation and so the government is providing encouragement to agricultural development and food security of all townships, basic regions of the nation, he said.

He urged the experts to take part in the task for extended cultivation of hybrid paddy strains in the townships especially in border areas to ensure greater de-

velopment of the nation, he said.

In conclusion, the Prime Minister called on the experts to exploit the natural resources in the most effective way in the interest of the nation and the people; to make attempt for upgrading the nation's science and technology sector and constantly producing more and more intellectuals and intelligentsia; and to disseminate the knowledge and experience to the new generation youths as well as to participate in the development tasks in the interest of the nation and the people.

After the meeting, the Prime Minister and party posed for a documentary photo together with the chairman, the vice-chairman, executives and members of Myanmar Academy of Agriculture, Forestry, Livestock and Fishery Sciences.

Next, the Prime Minister viewed the booth on the research works and activities of the academy. MNA



Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt poses for documentary photo with members of Myanmar Academy of Agriculture, Forestry, Livestock and Fishery Sciences.—MNA



Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt inspects research works and documentary photos exhibition of Myanmar Academy of Agriculture, Forestry, Livestock and Fishery Sciences.—MNA

Prime Minister meets authorities, departmental ...

(from page 16)

developing food sufficiency. In addition, cultivation of coffee and tea must exceed the target.

Moreover, township level officials are to make earnest efforts for achieving success in implementation of the plans laid down by the State. In undertaking the township development tasks, all the departments are to cooperate among themselves as well as with township social organizations in order to make acceleration of progress. Departments concerned are to render assistance to social organizations to rapidly carrying out of their tasks and to take part in development tasks of the township.

Various kinds of national races are residing in States and Divisions, Districts and Townships unitedly, thus emphasis is to be placed on realizing national unity. As the Government has been implementing the border areas and national races development projects with the aims of ensuring unity of nationalities, national unity and Union Spirit are flourishing.

Therefore, departmental officials, townsenders and entire national people are to make harmonious efforts to strengthen Our Three Main National Causes, national policy of the Government — non-disintegration of the Union, non-disintegration of national unity and perpetuation of sovereignty.

On 5 May morning, the 1,000 boys novitiation ceremony was held at Nyaungthonbin Pariyatti Monastery in Mogok, attended by Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt.

Also present on the occasion were Vice-Chairman of State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee Abhidhaja Maha Raththa Guru Abhidhaja Agga Maha Saddhammajotika Aungmyebonsan Monastery Sayadaw Bhaddanta Paññindabhivamsa and member Sayadaws, Masoeysin

Taikhit Presiding Nayaka Sayadaw Agga Maha Pandita Agga Maha Saddhamma Jotikadhaja Bhaddanta Rajadhammabhivamsa and members of the Sangha, member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Ye Myint, Chairman of Mandalay Division Peace and Development Council Commander Maj-Gen Ye Myint, Chairman of Shan State (North) Peace and Development Council Commander Maj-Gen Myint Hlaing, ministers, deputy ministers, the Chief of Staff (Navy), officials of the State Peace and Development Council Office, departmental heads, local authorities, social organizations, wellwisher Shwe Nagamin Trading Co Ltd Chairman U Win Myint-Daw Myint Myint Than and family, disciples and local people.

First, the Prime Minister and party received the Five Precepts from the Masoeysin Taikhit Sayadaw. Next, the Vice-Chairman Sayadaw delivered Sammodaniya Ovadakkatha. Members of the Sangha recited Parittas.

Afterwards, the Prime Minister and party and wellwishers offered provisions to the Sayadaws.

At the ceremony, wellwishers donated K 12.6 million. U Win Myint-Daw Myint Myint Than donated K 6 million for Nyaungthonbin Pariyatti Monastery, Daw Kyin Chein and family of Taunggyi K 1 million, U Tin Hsint-Daw Htwe and family K 550,000, U Than Hla-Daw Aye Myint K 500,000, U Aung Thein-Daw Lon Tin and family K 500,000, U Tun Tun-Daw Mya Mya Thein K 500,000, Daw Aye Mya Nwe of Bagan Hotel K 500,000, U Tin Ngwe-Daw Khin Tint Swe K 300,000, U Aung Zaw-Daw Tin Shwe K 200,000, U Hla Maung-Daw Aye Shwe K 200,000, U San Cho-Ma Nan Nwe K 100,000, Ma Than Than Soe, Ma Ae Mon, Ma Hnin K 100,000, Deputy Chief Justice U Khin Maung Latt-Daw Phyu K 100,000, Daw Khin Ngwe K 100,000,

Beware of computer worm Sasser

YANGON, 6 May — Sasser, a computer worm, is spreading in computers through the Internet beginning early May, and affecting over a million computers worldwide.

Although any of the four types, A, B, C and D, of the worm does not destroy files or application programmes, it can hamper the functioning power of a computer. Computer virus cannot spread without the involvement of a human action such as switching on an e-mail, but worms can automatically spread by searching the weakness of an operation system of a computer.

The worm could be removed from a computer by downloading the software of McAfee and Norton Website, announced the Myanmar Computer Federation. — MNA

Daw Htay K 10,000, U Aung Kyaw-Daw Kyi Kyi Than K 300,000, Daw Pyon Kyi K 200,000, U Tun Tun-Daw Mya Mya Thein (Bawbadan Village) K 500,000.

Later, the Vice-Chairman Sayadaw delivered a sermon, and the Prime Minister and party shared merits gained.

After the ceremony, the Prime Minister performed the rituals of golden and silver showers to mark successful completion of the ceremony.

Afterwards, the Prime Minister offered 'soon' to 1,000 novices and Sayadaws.

President of Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry U Win Myint-Daw Myint Myint Than novitiated 1,000 needy boys in Mogok.

MNA



Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt pours libation water at the ceremony to mark novitiation of 1,000 novices in Mogok Nyaung thonbin monastery (News on page 16). — MNA

Myanmar Red Cross Society, with due support from the State, is carrying out other national tasks along with its humanitarian tasks

Noble spirit, high capacity and active performance of Red Cross volunteers key to success of MRCS

Prime Minister addresses opening of 2004 Outstanding Red Cross volunteers camp

YANGON, 6 May— The ceremony to open the 2004 Outstanding Red Cross volunteers camp of Myanmar Red Cross Society was held at the Institute of Nursing (Yangon) on Bogoyoke Aung San Street this morning, with an address by Chairman of the National Health Committee Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt.

Also present on the occasion were Vice-Chairman of the National Health Committee Secretary-2 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thein Sein, ministers, the mayor, deputy ministers, officials of the State Peace and Development Council Office, departmental heads, chairmen and officials of social organizations, resident representatives of UN agencies, district and township authorities, school heads and outstanding Red Cross youths from States and Divisions. First, Chairman of National Health Committee Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt delivered an address. He said: The government is making all-round endeavours to bring about outstanding youths from all sectors so that they will become reliable human resources in bringing about development of our nation. encouraging to see the development of Myanmar Red Cross Society, which carries out humanitarian and social welfare activities, and the continuing emergence of outstanding Red Cross volunteers. MRCS organizes an outstanding Red Cross volunteers camp every year in which distinctive Red Cross members and volunteers selected from across the country gather here to discuss among themselves and undergo orientation programmes. This arrangement is useful for not only MRCS but also the State.

I would like to remind you to realize that you have been chosen to be here in recognition of your participation



Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt delivers an address at the ceremony to open the 2004 Outstanding Red Cross volunteers camp of MRCS. — MNA

in humanitarian work and for you to undergo capacity building. And I would like to urge all of you to help realize the objectives of the national society which has high expectations on all of you. Myanmar Red Cross Society, with due support from the State, is carrying out other national tasks along with its humanitarian tasks.

Furthermore, Myanmar Red Cross Society now undertakes its activities with the cooperation of other members of the International Red Cross and Red Cross Movement — International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) and sister National Societies — beyond the national scale. Looking at the activities of Myanmar Red Cross Society, we will find that it is doing its work not only according to international standards but also in line with Myanmar's culture, history, mores and characteristics. It is engaged in promoting health and in making the people less vulnerable. The MRCS's ability to organize youths possessing high humanitarian spirit under its banner as a national force amounts to laying a valuable foundation for future nation. The noble spirit, high capacity and active performance of Red Cross volunteers are the key to the success of MRCS that works across the country where it reaches the remotest areas.

The holding of courses, workshops and seminars by the national society as well as its opening of this kind of camp for the Red Cross volunteers are aimed at the national society's endeavours to produce capable Red Cross volunteers, which in turn helps the society perform its tasks more effectively. I would like to urge all of you to cooperate with members of Union Solidarity Development Association, Myanmar Women's Affairs Federation, Myanmar Maternal and Child Welfare Association, War Veterans Organization and Auxiliary Fire Brigades in their community welfare activities. I recommend all of you to take all the lessons and presentations seriously and apply the knowledge and skills acquired during the camp usefully. I would advise you to work, throughout your life, closely with members of the community, treat them warmly and behave in such a way that befits outstanding Red Cross volunteers so as to earn the trust of the people.

In conclusion, I would like to urge you to make endeavours to be able to carry out community welfare activities more effectively and to perform tasks as citizens in addition to your humanitarian work. Next, the cash donation ceremony followed. President of MRCS Dr Kyaw Win accepted K 100,000 donated by Yangon Mayor Brig-

Gen Aung Thein Lin-wife Dr Daw Khin Hsan Nwe; K 1 million by Agga Maha Thiri Thudhamma Theingi Daw Khin Nwe Yi and family (Shwe Puzun Family); 1,000 FECs by Daw Nanda Tun Win (Country Manager of UNOCAL Myanmar Offshore Co Ltd); K 150,000 by U Moe Htet Kyaw; K 100,000 each by U Myint Zaw Lwin of M Collin Engineering Co Ltd; U Myo Aung of KN Engineering Group; U Zaw Lwin; Daw Ohnma Maw (Yadana Myinmo Co Ltd); U Khin Kyi (Eagle Auto Workshop); staff of the training course of MRCS; U Win Thurein Win (GM of Seven Star Co Ltd)-Daw Aye Thida Win; U Aung Myat Moe (Attraction Construction Co Ltd); and U Hla Tin-Daw May Lay and family. After the ceremony, the Prime Minister cordially conversed with outstanding red cross youths.

MNA

Myitkyina Open Golf Tourney opens



YANGON, 6 May — Organized by the Northern Command, the Myanmar Golf Federation and the Myanmar PGA, Myitkyina Open Golf Tour which is the second leg of Myanmar Open Golf Tour 2004, mainly sponsored by Jade Land Myanmar Co Ltd opened at Northern Star Golf Club in Myitkyina this morning.

First, Chairman of Kachin State Peace and Development Council Commander of Northern Command Maj-Gen Maung Maung Swe, Brig-Gen Bo Kyi (Retd) and Myitkyina Air Base Commander Col Zaw Tun formally opened the golf tournament. After the first round, Zaw Zaw

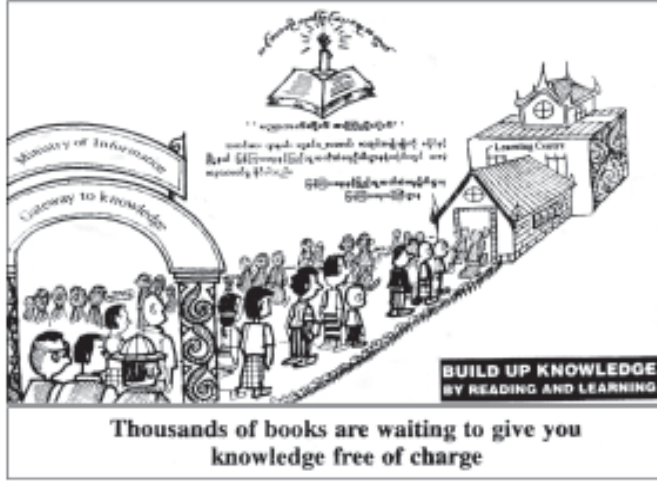
Latt (Pan West) stood in the first place with 65 strokes in professional level, followed by Myint Swe (Wilson) with 72 in second place, Aung Zaw Moe (Wilson) with 73 in the third place and Nanda Kyaw (YCDC) and Min Naing (Srixon) with 74 each in the fourth. In amateur level (Men), Thein Zaw Myint reached at the first place with 70. Thant Zin Oo and Derek Htet Doe shared in the second place with 73 each and Aung Aung Kyaw with 74 in the third.

Main sponsor is Rothmans of Pall Mall Myanmar Pte Ltd and co-sponsors are Myanmar Sithu Co Ltd, Myint Aung Co Ltd, May and Mark Co Ltd, Kaung Myat Co Ltd and Punt Sun Hotel.

The golf tournament continues tomorrow.

MNA





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Germany helps start humanitarian programme in Zambia

LUSAKA, 6 May — The German development agency, Deutsche Gesellschaft Fur Technische Zusammenarbeit (GTZ), Tuesday launched a programme in Zambia's southern district of Kalomo to help the people classified as "the poorest of the poor".

GTZ technical adviser Jorg Goldberg said in Kalomo that, all together, the German Government has committed 400,000 US dollars to finance the programme known as the Social Cash Transfer Scheme that will be administered by the Zambian Government.

The new programme aims to reduce hunger and starvation to at least 10 per cent

of the most destitute households in 200 villages in Kalomo District through distribution of cash amounting to 30,000 kwacha to each beneficiary household.

Zambia's Minister of Community Development and Social Services, Marina Nsingo, attended the launching ceremony of the scheme which is the first of its kind in Zambia. —MNA/Xinhua

AIDS is a national concern.

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(For: Domnarn Somgiat & Boonma Attorneys at Law, Thailand)

Dated: 7 May, 2004.

Nigeria launches biotechnology project to improve agriculture

LAGOS, 6 May — Nigeria launched a three-year biotechnology project on agriculture Monday in a bid to achieve food security and boost yield, the *Guardian* newspaper reported Tuesday.

Turner Isoun, Nigerian Minister of Science and Technology, was quoted as saying that the project will lay the foundation for Nigeria to take advantage of biotechnology to improve agriculture.

Isoun said the goals of the project included the improvement of research and development of crops and livestock; improved implementation of biosafety guidelines, field testing of genetically modified crops and improved public acceptance of biotechnology.

Agriculture is the major employer of Nigerian labour but accounts for less than 20 per cent of the gross domestic product (GDP) in the most populous country in Africa, which has called for greater attention given to agricultural development to diversify its oil-rich economy in recent years.

MNA/Xinhua

Births in New Zealand last year hit three-year peak

WELLINGTON, 6 May — The number of births in New Zealand last year was the highest for three years, according to the latest figures released by Statistics New Zealand.

The number of live births in the year to March was 56,874, up 4.1 per cent on the previous year, and the highest figure since the March 2000 year. However, it was down 5.7 per cent on the peak of 60,330 recorded in the March 1992 year.

During the same period the trend toward later marriages, smaller families and delayed motherhood resulted in more babies being born to women over the age of 30.

In the March 2004 year 52 per cent of all newborn babies had a mother aged 30 years or older, compared with 39 per cent in 1994. In contrast, the number of newborn babies with a mother under 25 dropped from 29 per cent in 1994 to 24 per cent in

2004.

According to the complete life tables for 2000-2002, issued recently by Statistics New Zealand, a newborn girl can expect to live on average 81.1 years, and a newborn boy 76.3 years.

The figures also show that non-Maori have a significant longevity advantage over Maori. Life expectancy at birth for Maori females in 2000-2002 was 73.2 years, compared with 81.9 years for non-Maori females. For males the equivalent figures were 69 years for Maori and 77.2 years for non-Maori.

During the March 2004 year, New Zealand's population increased by 56,700 or 1.4 per cent. Natural increase contributed 51 per cent to this population growth and net migration 49 per cent.

MNA/Xinhua

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Tullow Oil seals \$500m Energy Africa takeover

LONDON/JOHANNESBURG, 6 May— Ireland's Tullow Oil Plc has sealed a 500-million-US-dollar takeover of Johannesburg-listed Energy Africa, forming one of the biggest oil firms focused on West Africa.

The companies said on Tuesday more than 90 percent of Energy Africa shareholders had accepted Tullow's offer of 4.8346 US dollars a share, payable in rand.

Tullow added it would raise around 120 million pounds (212.5 million US dollars) in a share placing to help fund the takeover.

The deal will combine two businesses of similar size focused on West Africa and the North Sea. Tullow added that the enlarged group would also have a production capacity of over 50,000 barrels of oil equivalent per day (boepd).

"The proposed acquisition of Energy Africa by Tullow will create a formidable independent oil and gas company

with core areas in West Africa and Britain," Tullow Chief Executive Aidan Heavey said in a statement.

Tullow operates in the southern North Sea and South Asia but its main producing asset is the Espoir field in Ivory Coast, West Africa.

Energy Africa had proven and probable oil and gas reserves of 57.9 million barrels of oil equivalent (boe) at the end of 2003 and produced 8.1 million that year. Its African operations include Equatorial Guinea, Gabon and Congo.

Energy Africa is 56.5 percent-owned by Engen, a South African firm that is 80 percent-held by Malaysia's Petronas. — MNA/Reuters

Ministry points out major problems in Chinese market

BEIJING, 6 May— The Ministry of Commerce released five major problems on China's market development in a report: slower growth of consumption than of investment, the expanding gap between consumption in urban and rural areas, the supply shortage of power and transportation service, the unsatisfied quality of some commodities and the prominent inflation pressure.

In the first three months of this year, the total retail volume for social consumption grew 10.7 per cent year on year, while the fixed assets investment rose 43 per cent, which led to shortage of energy and raw material supply and meant potential risks for commodity oversupply, the report says.

During the same period, the retail volume for rural consumers stood at 430.54 billion yuan (51.9 billion US dollars), accounting for 23.6 per cent of total retailing, while that for urban consumers reached 852.52 billion yuan, accounting for 76.4 per cent.

The shortage problem of power, transportation service as well as raw materials has not been fundamentally solved, the report says.

Only 70 to 80 per cent of most Chinese commodities reach the governmental quality standards, according to the latest sample investigation of the State Administration of Quality Supervision, Inspection and Quarantine, the report says.

Grain prices have been rising since last September, which possibly would lead to price growth of many other commodities, according to the report.

MNA/Xinhua

Sasser worm strikes PCs, spurs hoax "fix"

HELSINKI/SAN FRANCISCO, 6 May— A fast-spreading computer worm called "Sasser" hit personal computers around the world on Monday, causing infected systems to reboot without warning and disrupting banking and other business in one of the biggest virus-like attacks on the Internet since last summer.

The worm, which first struck over the weekend and is already on its fourth variant, exploits a flaw in Microsoft Corp's Windows operating system identified in mid-April, computer security experts said.

Unlike previous Internet worms, Sasser enters and infects vulnerable PCs without any action on the part of the user, allowing it to spread quickly, they said.

By Monday afternoon, computer security companies were also warning of a new twist on the virus an email, claiming to be from an antivirus company with an attachment purporting to fix Sasser infections, that was actually a new form of the

widespread, email-clogging Netsky virus.

Investment bank Goldman Sachs said its Asian and US trading operations were back "at close to normal" by early afternoon on Monday after the worm disrupted some of its systems by forcing computers to automatically reboot.

Lucas van Praag, a Goldman Sachs spokesman, declined to elaborate on the extent of the disruptions.

In Australia, Westpac Bank said it was hit by the worm, and branches had to use pen and paper to allow them to keep trading, *The Australian* newspaper reported.

MNA/Reuters



Competitive eater 'Crazy Legs Conti' tries to eat his weight in popcorn as a stunt to promote a documentary film about himself in New York, on 3 May, 2004. 'Entombed in a popcorn sarcophagus,' the size of a phone-booth, Conti planned on eating for eight or more hours, prior to the opening showing of the film, on display at the Tribeca Film Festival. —INTERNET

Nigerian govt grants \$65m to auto firms

LAGOS, 6 May— The Nigerian Government has approved a loan of about 65 million US dollars to automobile firms in an effort to boost the country's auto industry, local newspaper *The Guardian* reported Monday.

The Peugeot Automobile Nigeria Ltd, the Anambra Motor Manufacturing Company and 49 other automobile firms would benefit from the National Automotive Council (NAC) fund to be disbursed next month, the report said.

The 65-million-US-dollar loan is the amount raised since 1993 from the 2 per cent tax on imported vehicles, it said.

In an effort to diversify the oil economy, Nigeria, Africa's most populous country and top oil producer, has been devoted to developing its burgeoning industries and seeking more foreign investments. The west African country has banned importation of over 100 items including textiles, garments and footwear since 2002, but not autos, to protect local infant industries.

MNA/Xinhua

Yunnan's agro, industrial sectors post stable in 1st quarter

KUNMING, 6 May— Southwest China's Yunnan Province realized 20.416 billion yuan (2.46 billion US dollars) in industrial valued-added output and 14.315 billion yuan (1.72 billion US dollars) in agricultural output in the first quarter of this year, a year-on-year growth of 8.7 per cent and 3.2 per cent respectively.

According to the provincial bureau of statistics, the performance index of major industrial enterprises in Yunnan stood at 222.15 for the three-month period, 29.15 percentage points higher than the year-earlier level.

The enterprises registered 41.262 billion yuan (4.97 billion US dollars) in sales income, up 21.8 per cent year-on-year; and 14.291 billion yuan (1.72 billion US dollars) in pre-tax profits, including 4.528 billion yuan (545.54 million US dollars) in net profits, up 25.9 per

cent and 60 per cent respectively, the bureau says.

The growth in the agricultural sector was partly attributable to financial support from banks.

The statistical bureau says that at the end of March, loans outstanding for the province's agricultural sector amounted to 22.636 billion yuan (2.73 billion US dollars), up 2.374 billion yuan (286.02 million US dollars), or 11.7 per cent, from the beginning of the year.

MNA/Xinhua

Auto crash kills two Nigerian policemen

LAGOS, 6 May— Two mobile policemen were crushed to death by a lorry Monday in Jos, capital of Plateau State in central Nigeria, police said.

The incident occurred on the road bound for neighbouring Bauchi State as the driver lost control of his vehicle, Michael David, a state police officer was quoted by the *News Agency of Nigeria* as saying.

The two deceased were identified as Simon Kuyep and Emas Ishaya while a third policeman, Makama Ishaya, was said to have been severely injured and rushed to a hospital. —MNA/Xinhua

China's railways difficult in meeting surging freight demand

BEIJING, 6 May— Despite steady growth in freight capacity, China's railway system finds it difficult to meet around 35 per cent increase of the freight demand at present, said a Chinese railway official.

"The railway freight system is under increasing pressure. Quite a number of trunk lines have been operating at full or above capacity," Wu Qiang, director of the freight bureau of China's Ministry of Railways, said here Tuesday.

According to statistics from railway departments, daily requests for freight cars increased 50 per cent in the first quarter on average. There were requests for nearly 300,000 cars in April, yet the railway system could only meet around 35 per cent

of them.

The gap between capacity and demand would further increase in the future, said a forecast of the railway departments.

Wu Qiang said most sections of the Beijing-Guangzhou and Lanzhou-Lianyungang railways have been used at above 90 per cent of their capacity, or 100 per cent in a number of sections. The demand on the Beijing-Shanghai railway has exceeded capacity by 50 per cent.

MNA/Xinhua



Even traditional fishing methods can disturb the delicate balance of fragile ecosystems and are destroying some of the world's finest coral reefs, according to a study published on 5 May, 2004. Although more intensive fishing was thought to pose a greater danger to reefs, a British team of scientists said that subsistence fishing also has an impact on reefs near the Fijian islands in the Pacific. A tourist swims on the Great Barrier Reef in this undated file picture. —INTERNET

SPORTS

Norwich lift title, Sunderland in playoffs

LONDON, 6 May—Norwich City lifted the English First Division championship on Tuesday despite a 1-0 defeat at Sunderland, who clinched a playoff spot, after second-placed West Bromwich Albion lost 4-1 away to Stoke City.

Norwich City, who lost courtesy of a Carl Robinson goal just before halftime, have 91 points while West Brom have 86 and will finish as runners-up with one game remaining.

"I'm absolutely delighted," said Norwich manager Nigel Worthington. "The players will get a medal they deserve and everybody at the football club, the directors, Delia (Smith, majority shareholder) have got what they deserve."

Sunderland are in third place with 76 points and will take their place in the end-of-season playoffs with three other teams from the six who are still battling for the remaining spots.

West Brom fell behind on the stroke of halftime to a Darel Russell goal but Scott Dobie equalised five minutes after the break. Kris Commons put Stoke 2-1 up on the hour before adding his second in the 73rd minute to end West Brom's title hopes.

MNA/Reuters

Maradona returns to hospital intensive care ward

BUENOS AIRES, 6 May—Argentine soccer legend Diego Maradona has returned to an intensive care ward less than a week after discharging himself following 12 days in hospital with heart and lung problems, clinic officials said on Wednesday. Local media reported the 43-year-old Maradona was taken back to hospital with breathing problems and was on a drip with an oxygen mask.

However, local TN television quoted Maradona's family doctor Alfredo Cahe as saying he had returned to hospital for a check-up.

Officials at the Suizo-Argentina clinic, where he had previously been treated, said Maradona was in the intensive care ward but gave no further details.—MNA/Xinhua



Tennis star Anna Kournikova lathers the head of Melvin Calloway at Times Square Studios in New York, on 5 May, 2004. Kournikova was promoting a new line of skincare products designed specifically for men. —INTERNET

Leaked FIFA report puts S Africa ahead

JOHANNESBURG, 6 May—A leaked FIFA technical report on bids to host Africa's first World Cup in 2010 puts South Africa ahead and its main rival Morocco in third place, South African newspapers said on Tuesday.

Morocco denounced the reports as "an attempt to mislead the world's opinion", and said the game was not over.

Soccer's governing body FIFA is due to put the report, of which at least three local papers say they have details, on its web site at 1600 GMT on Tuesday. The vote on which country will host the 2010 World Cup takes place on May 15. FIFA's five-man technical team has visited Egypt, Libya, Morocco, Tunisia and South Africa to assess each country's technical ability to host the event.

"The report rates what the FIFA inspection team had seen of SA's ability to host the World Cup as 'excellent', followed by Egypt as 'very good', Morocco as 'good' and Libya and Tunisia's bid as a non-starter," South Africa's mass-market Sowetan daily said on Tuesday. Tunisia and Libya are widely regarded as out of the race after going ahead with plans to host the event jointly despite FIFA President Sepp Blatter's assertion that joint bids would not be accepted after Japan and South Korea teamed up in 2002.

Blatter has said joint hosting raises costs without increasing income, thus limiting the event's profitability. Placing Morocco behind Egypt appears to make South Africa a clear favourite to host the tournament. The Daily Sun described the leaking of the report as "a political move to sideline Morocco" ahead of the FIFA executive vote.—MNA/Reuters

Mourinho says Brazilian brilliance, planning the key

LA CORUNA (Spain), 6 May—Porto's Champions League semifinal victory over Deportivo Coruna was down to meticulous planning and the character of match-winner Derlei Silva, coach Jose Mourinho said on Tuesday.

"We had a week to prepare for this match after winning the league and we knew what we were going to do in all stages," Mourinho said after Derlei's penalty earned his side a place in the final.

"We knew we had to dominate and to control at all times and we managed that."

"We knew what we were going to do at the start of the match after 0-0, and what to do if we were leading 1-0 or losing 1-0."

"It was all worked out but of course you never know what's going to happen."

Derlei was back in Porto's starting lineup for a Champions League game after four months out with a knee injury and Mourinho singled out the Brazilian for praise.

"Derlei is a special player," said the coach. "I knew he could bring back a certain quality we've missed during his injury. That was one of our secrets. 'My only doubt was about how long he could last in such a high-pressure game. I was thinking maybe about 70 or 75 minutes but he played the whole game."

"Before the match he'd told me we'd have to win it in 90 minutes because by extra-time he'd be dead." Porto's reward for victory over Depor is a place in the final in Gelsenkirchen, Germany on May 26, when they will face Monaco or Chelsea. The French side will be favourites after winning their home leg 3-1.—MNA/Reuters

Draw keeps Arsenal on course for unbeaten season

LONDON, 6 May—Arsenal remained on course for a remarkable unbeaten premier league season when they drew 1-1 at in-form Portsmouth on Tuesday.

The champions have two games remaining — away to Fulham and at home to relegated Leicester City — to achieve the milestone.

It has been achieved only once before, by Preston North End in the inaugural season of the Football League in 1888-89, but that was a campaign of just 22 matches.

Should Arsenal make it 38 — they lost one of 38 matches en route to the 1991 title — their next target will be Nottingham Forest's 42-game unbeaten run over two seasons which began in 1977-78.

The champions did not have things all their own way at Fratton Park, a ground where they gave one of their best performances of the season in a 5-1 FA Cup win in March.

Portsmouth, coming into the match on a high after taking 17 points from the last 21 to charge from the relegation zone to mid-table safety, took the lead after half-an-hour.

A long ball bounced off the back of defender Kolo Toure's head as he turned his

back and Yakubu Aiyegbeni produced a deft finish to lift it over the advancing Jens Lehmann.

Arsenal's young Spanish forward Jose Antonio Reyes hit the bar and Portsmouth keeper Shaka Hislop saved well from Thierry Henry as the visitors took charge after the break.

Hislop brilliantly touched another Henry effort on to the bar in the 49th minute but was powerless seconds later as Reyes steered a low volley into the corner for his first league goal since arriving from Sevilla in January.

The Spaniard should have got his second in the 53rd minute but fired over the bar while Yakubu shot tamely at Lehmann when clean through 12 minutes from time.

The draw was a result that suited both sides.

Arsenal remain unbeaten and stretch their lead over Chelsea to nine points while Portsmouth, enjoying a dream finale to their first top-flight season since 1987-88, stay 14th on 42 points.—MNA/Reuters

Derlei sends Porto into Champions League final

LA CORUNA (Spain), 6 May—Brazilian forward Derlei Silva scored a second-half penalty to send Porto into the Champions League final with a 1-0 aggregate victory over Deportivo Coruna at a rain-swept Riazor on Tuesday.

Porto, the 1987 European champions and last season's UEFA Cup winners, will take on Monaco or Chelsea in the May 26 final in Gelsenkirchen, Germany after Derlei's spot kick proved to be the only goal over the two legs.

The two sides were locked in a nervy battle when Deco Souza's sublime control took him into the penalty area and provoked a rash challenge from defender Cesar on the hour.

Derlei, recently returned from a four-month absence with a knee injury, beat Jose Molina with a low shot to the keeper's right to break the deadlock.

Deportivo, who could find none of the attacking inspiration that enabled them to recover from 4-1 down to beat European champions AC Milan and reach the semifinals, had only a couple of good chances to get back into the game.

Striker Walter Pandiani was fractionally wide with a flick header five minutes after the Porto goal and Cesar butted the ball over the bar from a corner with 20 minutes to go.

Porto's superior control on the slippery pitch kept them in command, though, and their task was helped when Deportivo defender Nouredine Naybet was sent off for a second yellow card 20 minutes from time.

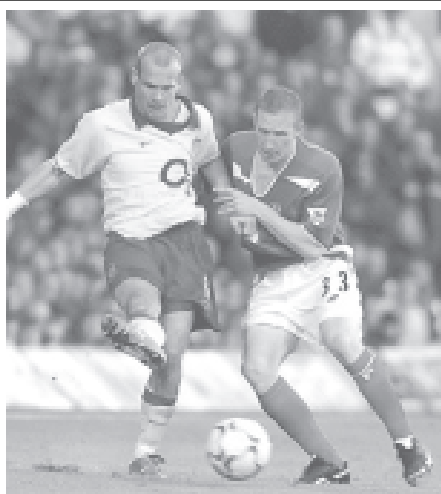
Porto's place in the final was a reward for a more attacking approach in both legs of the semifinal.

Leicester, Manchester City charged over brawl

LONDON, 6 May—English Premier League clubs Leicester City and Manchester City have been charged with "failing to ensure that their players conduct themselves in an orderly fashion" after a brawl during a Premier League match last month.

In addition to the charges laid against the clubs, Leicester midfielder Steffen Freund has been charged with improper conduct for his part in the incident, the Football Association said in a statement on Wednesday.

MNA/Reuters



Arsenal's Freddie Ljungberg clears from Portsmouth's John Curtis during their league match in Portsmouth.

INTERNET

MRTV-3
**7-5-2004 (Friday)
(Programme Schedule)
Morning Transmission
(9:00 - 10:00)**

- 9:00 Signature Tune
Greeting
- 9:02 Song of Myanmar
Beauty & Scenic
Sights "Myanmar Pano-
rama & Myanmar Sen-
timent"
- 9:06 Novitiation Ceremony
(Northern Shan State)
- 9:10** **Headline News**
- 9:12 Myanmar Art of Mak-
ing items in gold
- 9:15** **National News**
- 9:20 National Races Village
(Muse)
- 9:25 Lively Dancer,
Myanmar Mintha
- 9:27 Dat Taw Gyaik Water-
fall
- 9:30** **National News**
- 9:35 Song "Loving Smile"
- 9:40 The World of Mro
Nationals
- 9:45** **National News**
- 9:50 Myanmar Mat
- 9:58 Song of Myanmar
Beauty & Scenic
Sights "Come and See
Myanmar"

**7-5-2004 (Friday)
Evening Transmission
(15:30 - 17:30)**

- 15:30 Signature Tune
Greeting
- 15:32 Song of Myanmar
Beauty & Scenic
Sights "Mingalabar"
- 15:36 Novitiation Ceremony
(Northern Shan State)
- 15:40** **Headline News**
- 15:42 Myanmar Art of Mak-
ing items in gold
- 15:45** **National News**
- 15:50 National Races Village
(Muse)
- 15:55 Lively Dancer,
Myanmar Mintha
- 15:57 Dat Taw Gyaik Water-
fall
- 16:00** **National News**
- 16:10 Song "Loving Smile"

- 16:12 The World of Mro
Nationals"
- 16:15** **National News**
- 16:20 Myanmar Mat
- 16:25 Song of Myanmar
Beauty & Scenic
Sights "Myanmar Pano-
rama & Myanmar Sen-
timent"

- 16:30** **National News**
- 16:35 Bamboo Parquet
- 16:40 Photo by Artist Photo
Show (Mg Mg Hla
Myint)
- 16:45** **National News**
- 16:50 Wall Painting Art (I)
- 16:55 Kayin Dance (We
Bu(or) Paddy Win-
nowing Dance)
- 16:58 Wall Painting Art (II)
- 17:00** **National News**
- 17:05 Thihathana Throne
- 17:10 Song on Screen
"Flourishing"
- 17:12 Traditional Weaving
Art
- 17:15** **National News**
- 17:20 Unique Biodiversity of
Indawgyi Lake (Part-
V)
- 17:25 Song of Myanmar
Beauty & Scenic
Sights "Come and See
Myanmar"

**Evening Transmission
(19:30 - 23:30)**

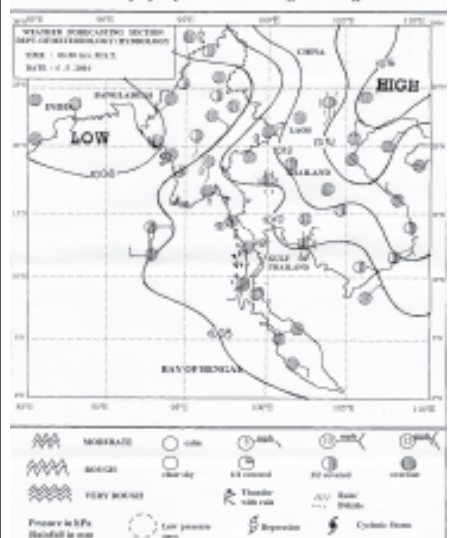
- 19:30 Signature Tune
Greeting
- 19:32 Song of Myanmar
Beauty & Scenic
Sights "Myanmar Pano-
rama & Myanmar Sen-
timent"
- 19:36 Bagan Our Pride and
Glory of the Past
- 19:40** **Headline News**
- 19:42 The greening Project
of the environs of
Kandawgyi Garden
- 19:45** **National News**
- 19:50 Shwezawar
Lacquerware
- 19:55 Myanmar National
Races Cultural Dances
(U Shwe Yoe & Daw
Moe)
- 20:00** **National News**
- 20:05 Artist Mg Kyaw Nyunt
(Oil Painting)
- 20:10 Myanmar Modern
Song "Let go of me"
- 20:15** **National News**
- 20:20 Clothes decorated with
Sequin-like Colourful
Plastics

- 20:25 Song "Magnificent
Darka Bridge"
- 20:30** **National News**
- 20:35 Cruise on Min Kyan
Sit
- 20:40 Good Prospects for
Myanmar Coffee
- 20:45** **National News**
- 20:50 Fossilized Wood Garden
- 20:55 Myanmar-ah-hla-Yat-
taung-Ahka
- 21:00** **National News**
- 21:05 Myanmar Rubber
- 21:10 Song "Missing you so
much"
- 21:12 Dawei Water Fetching
Dance
- 21:15** **National News**
- 21:20 Unique Biodiversity of
Indawgyi Lake (Part-
IV)
- 21:25 Song of Myanmar
Beauty & Scenic
Sights "Mingalabar"
- 21:35 Novitiation Ceremony
(Northern Shan State)
- 21:40** **Headline News**
- 21:42 Myanmar Art of Mak-
ing items in gold
- 21:45** **National News**
- 21:50 National Races Village
(Muse)
- 21:55 Lively Dancer,
Myanmar Mintha
- 21:57 Dat Taw Gyaik Water-
fall
- 22:00** **National News**
- 22:10 Song "Loving Smile"
- 22:12 The World of Mro
Nationals
- 22:15** **National News**
- 22:20 Myanmar Mat
- 22:25 Song "Ma Ma Moe"
- 22:30** **National News**
- 22:35 Bamboo Parquet
- 22:40 Photo by Artist Photo
Show (Mg Mg Hla
Myint)
- 22:45** **National News**
- 22:50 Wall Painting Art (I)
- 22:55 Kayin Dance (We Bu
(or) Paddy Winnowing
Dance)
- 22:58 Wall Painting Art (II)
- 23:00** **National News**
- 23:05 Thihathana Throne
- 23:10 Songs on Screen
"Flourishing"
- 23:12 Traditional Weaving
Art
- 23:15** **National News**
- 23:20 Unique Biodiversity of
Indawgyi Lake (Part-
V)

- 23:25 Song of Myanmar
Beauty & Scenic
Sights "Come and See
Myanmar"

**7-5-2004 (Friday) &
8-5-2004 (Saturday)
Evening Transmission &
Morning Transmission
(23:30 - 1:30)**

- 23:30 Signature Tune
Greeting
- 23:32 Song of Myanmar
Beauty & Scenic
Sights "Mingalabar"
- 23:36 Novitiation Ceremony
(Northern Shan State)
- 23:40** **Headline News**
- 23:42 Myanmar Art of Mak-
ing items in gold
- 23:45** **National News**
- 23:50 National Races Village
(Muse)
- 23:55 Lively Dancer,
Myanmar Mintha
- 23:57 Dat Taw Gyaik Water-
fall
- 24:00** **National News**
- 00:10 Song "Loving Smile"
- 00:12 The World of Mro
Nationals
- 00:15** **National News**
- 00:20 Myanmar Mat
- 00:25 Song of Myanmar
Beauty & Scenic
Sights "Myanmar Pano-
rama & Myanmar Sen-
timent"
- 00:30** **National News**
- 00:35 Bamboo Parquet
- 00:40 Photo by Artist Photo
Show (Mg Mg Hla
Myint)
- 00:45** **National News**
- 00:50 Wall Painting Art (I)
- 00:55 Kayin Dance (We Bu
(or) Paddy Winnowing
Dance)
- 00:58 Wall Painting Art (II)
- 01:00** **National News**
- 01:05 Thihathana Throne
- 01:10 Songs on Screen
"Flourishing"
- 01:12 Traditional Weaving
Art
- 01:15** **National News**
- 01:20 Unique Biodiversity of
Indawgyi Lake (Part-
V)
- 01:25 Song of Myanmar
Beauty & Scenic
Sights "Come and See
Myanmar"

Weather Map of Myanmar and Neighbouring Areas
**WEATHER**
Thursday, 6 May, 2004

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST:
During the past 24 hours, weather has been partly cloudy in Kachin, Chin, Rakhine States, Sagaing, Magway Division and rain or thundershowers have been widespread in Shan State, Tanintharyi Division, scattered in Kayah State, Mandalay and Bago Divisions and isolated in the remaining areas with isolated heavyfalls in Mandalay and Bago Divisions. Noteworthy amount of rainfall recorded were Nyaung Lay Pin (5.83) inches, Pymmana (3.03) inches, Namsan (1.81) inches and Myeik (1.65) inches. Day temperatures were (7°C) below normal in Bago Division, (5°C) to (6°C) above normal in Chin State, lower Sagaing, Yangon, Ayeyawady and Tanintharyi Divisions and (3°C) to (4°C) above normal in the remaining areas.

Maximum temperature on 5-5-2004 was 40.0°C (104°F). Minimum temperature on 6-5-2004 was 23.2°C (74°F). Relative humidity at 9:30 hrs MST on 6-5-2004 was 88%. Total sunshine hours on 5-5-2004 was (8.4) hours approx. Rainfall on 6-5-2004 was nil at Yangon Airport, Kaba-Aye and 13mm (0.51 inch) at Central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2004 was 5 mm (0.20 inch) at Yangon Airport and 12 mm (0.47 inch) at Kaba-Aye and 12 mm (0.47 inch) at Central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was 18 mph from Southwest at (15:10) hours MST on 5-5-2004.

Bay inference: Weather is partly cloudy to cloudy in the Bay of Bengal.

Forecast valid until evening of 7-5-2004: Scattered rain or thundershowers are likely in Mandalay, Ayeyawady, Yangon, Bago, Tanintharyi Divisions, Shan, Mon, Kayin States and isolated in the remaining areas. Degree of certainty is (60%).

State of the sea: Seas will be slight in Myanmar waters. **Outlook for subsequent two days:** Continuation of thundery conditions are likely in lower Myanmar areas.

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 7-5-2004: Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (60%).

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 7-5-2004: Possibility of isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (40%).


Friday, May 7
View today:

- 7:00 am**
1. Recitation of Parittas by
Missionary Sayadaw
U Ottamathara
- 7:15 am**
2. ထိပ်တန်း ဓမ္မသုတ္တန် အုပ်စု
မဟာပရိသေဝါ အဖွဲ့ ဝိသုဒ္ဓိ
သီရိဗုဒ္ဓိ (မဟာပရိသေဝါ) မဟာ
သီရိဗုဒ္ဓိ အုပ်စု ဥပသုတ္တန်
သီရိဗုဒ္ဓိ
- 7:25 am**
3. To Be Healthy Exercise
- 7:30 am**
4. Morning news
- 7:40 am**
5. Nice and sweet song
- 7:50 am**
6. ရိုးရာဇာတ်လမ်းအစဉ်
- 7:55 am**
7. အကပြိုင်ပွဲ
- 8:00 am**
8. ဓာသရုပ်ဖော်အစဉ်
- 8:10 am**
9. The mirror images of the
musical oldies
- 8:20 am**
10. ဝိုင်ကွန်ရစ်နံ့ခါး

- 8:30 am**
11. International news
- 8:45 am**
12. English For Everyday Use
- 4:00 pm**
1. Martial song
- 4:15 pm**
2. Songs to uphold
National Spirit
- 4:30 pm**
3. Demonstration Exercises
for Correct Pronunciation
- 4:45 pm**
4. Musical programme
- 5:00 pm**
5. အဆောင်တူသို့လဲ ဝတ်စုံ
ရုပ်ပြပွဲ (သီရိဗုဒ္ဓိ အုပ်စု)
(ရုပ်စာ)
- 5:15 pm**
6. Song of national races
- 5:30 pm**
7. လာအိုကန်စီးပွားကဏ္ဍ
- 5:40 pm**
8. Musical programme
- 5:50 pm**
9. ရှေးဟောင်းအမွေအနှစ်
- 6:05 pm**
10. Songs of yester years
- 6:15 pm**
11. Discovery
- 6:30 pm**
12. Evening news
- 7:00 pm**
13. Weather report
- 7:05 pm**
14. နိုင်ငံခြားစာတမ်း

"မိုးရေဇာတ်" (အပိုင်း-၂၀)

- 7:30 pm**
15. Musical programme
- 7:40 pm**
16. ရန်ကုန်တိုင်း ပေါင်းစည်း
(ငါးရပ်စု) ရေလှေကန်
- 8:00 pm**
17. News

18. International news
19. Weather report
20. Myanmar Video Feature:
"မိုးရေဇာတ်" (အပိုင်း-၂)
ကျော်ဟိန်း ရွှေသွယ်
ဒါရိုက်တာ-ကျော်ဟိန်း
21. The next day's
programme

ASLEEP IN JESUS
U Saw Vawter Loo (76)
Retired Director-General of Irrigation Department

Eldest son of U Eugene Loo-Daw Katherine Po Myat; beloved husband of (Daw Helen Loo); loving father of U Aung Kyaw Zaw-(Daw Hannah Thin), Daw Jenny Loo-U Victor Minus, Daw Cindy Loo-U Ye Htut Thein, Daw Kathy Loo-U Saw Luther, Daw Wendy Loo-Dr Saw Khin Mg Htwe, U Aung Kyaw Latt-Dr Naw Wah Sett Po, U Aung Kyaw Htwe-Dr Naw Khay Mar Chein; Grandfather of 16 grandchildren. U Saw Vawter Loo fell asleep in Jesus on Thursday 6-5-2004 at 4.45 am.

All relatives and friends are informed that a funeral worship service will be held at Judson Church, University Estate on Pyay Road on Saturday 8-5-2004 at 9.00 am after which the cortege will leave for Ye Way Christian Cemetery where his remains will be cremated. Note: Buses will be available for those who need transportation from both Insein and Shwe Pyi Thar Residences, leaving at 8.00 am.

The bereaved family
ASLEEP IN JESUS
U Saw Vawter Loo (76)
Retired Director-General of Irrigation Department

Eldest son of U Eugene Loo-Daw Katherine Po Myat; eldest brother of Dr Saw Alzora Loo-Naw Say Say Paw, (Naw Everetta Loo)-U Saw Kyaw Hla, U Saw Roscoe Loo-Naw Kyin Yee, (U Saw Silas Loo)-Daw Hla Myint, Daw Beatrice Loo-U Saw Miller, U Saw John Loo-Daw Thaung Mya, Naw Charity Loo-U Saw Enoch called to His Heavenly Home at 4.45 am on Thursday 6-5-2004, at Ma 58/B, Taungthugone Lane, Taungthugone Quarters in Insein. Funeral Service at the Judson Church, University Estate on Pyay Road on Saturday 8-5-2004 at 9.00 am after which the cortege will leave for Ye Way Christian Cemetery for cremation of the remains.

Note: For those who need transportation, buses will await them both at the Insein and Shwe Pyi Thar residences, leaving at 8.00 am.

The bereaved family



Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt addresses Fourth Annual Meeting of Myanmar Academy of Agriculture, Forestry and Livestock and Fishery Sciences.—MNA

National development mainly depends on endeavours of intellectuals and intelligentsia Prime Minister addresses Fourth Annual Meeting of Myanmar Academy of Agriculture, Forestry, Livestock and Fishery Sciences

YANGON, 6 May—The Fourth Annual Meeting of Myanmar Academy of Agriculture, Forestry, Livestock and Fishery Sciences was held at the International Business Centre on Pyay Road here this morning, with an address by Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt.

Also present on the occasion were ministers, the Yangon mayor, deputy ministers, officials of the State Peace and Development Council Office, departmental heads, rectors, officials from the academy, experts, chairmen of Myanmar Academy of Medical Science, Myanmar Academy of Technology and Myanmar Academy of Arts and Sci-

ences and guests.

In his address, the Prime Minister said that now is the time when the entire people are making combined efforts with nationalistic spirit for progress of the nation and the people and for enabling the nation to stand shoulder to shoulder with other nations.

He said that it is greatly heartening to note that the experts from the MAAFLFS which plays an important role in national development and economy are taking measures in unison, contributing towards building up a new nation and enabling the academy to stand as a strong academic force.

Nowadays, world na-

tions' development in all spheres completely depends on the changes and advances on science and technology.

Likewise, the drive to enable the Union of Myanmar, a developing country which is striving on self-reliance for its development and its people, to catch up with the development of the world nations mainly depends on the endeavours of national intellectuals and intelligentsia, he said.

In this regard, national intellectuals and intelligentsia are to take a leading role in taking measures for greater advancement of the nation's science and technology sector which can effectively accelerate imple-

mentation of tasks for national development as well as in remarkably improving national economy with the use of science and technology, he said.

The successful forming of respective technological organizations consisting of intellectuals and intelligentsia with vast experience of science and technology and strong nationalistic spirit under the guidance of the Head of State led to bring honour to the nation and contribute towards national development, he said.

Nowadays, world nations are cultivating a good habit to do research and seek better ideas after forming organizations on respective subjects under the acad-

emies of science and technology, which contributes much towards producing highly-qualified intellectuals and intelligentsia and national development, he said.

Therefore, it is a necessary to take measures to enable respective national academies to participate in the tasks for elevating the national standard, he said.

The Union of Myanmar is blessed with favourable geographical conditions and natural resources in abundance, and originally, Myanmar nationals are highly intelligent with the spirit to value and appreciate knowledge. So, the more highly-qualified human resources the nation can pro-

duce and the more effectively the nation exploit its natural resources, the greater development momentum the nation gain, he noted.

(See page 10)

INSIDE

Perspectives

Fulfil the requirements of rural people for regional development
(Page 2)

Article

Public health implication of emerging zoonoses
(Page 8)

Circulation

22,318



Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt meets local authorities, departmental officials and local people at Mani Yadana Hall in Mogok on 4-5-2004.—MNA

Prime Minister meets authorities, departmental officials, attends 1,000-boy novitiation ceremony in Mogok

YANGON, 6 May—Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt on 4 May evening met with local authorities, departmental officials and local people at Mani Yadana Hall in Mogok.

Chairman of Mogok Township Peace and Development Council U Myo Han reported on matters related to the township. Chairman of Mandalay Division Peace and Development Council Commander Maj-Gen Ye Myint reported on extension of Mogok-Phawtaw Road, upgrading of Mogok Township Hospital (100-bed) and local food sufficiency.

Next, Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt attended to the needs of local food sufficiency, establishment of coffee and tea township and education, health and roads & bridges. Afterwards, he delivered an address, saying that they were there to fulfil requirements of development of the entire township including rural areas and systematic

emergence of gem trading in Mogok. Mogok has been existing as the gems land since the monarchical era. Precious jewellery items are being extracted from hundreds of years to date.

The Government gives permissions on allotment of the blocks in the gems land.

With their honesty and good characters they can make profits in gem industry.

Therefore, all the persons who are engaged in gem industry are to carry out their businesses on the correct way observing rules, disciplines and laws designated to benefit themselves as well as the State.

Officials of Mogok Township should extend other business such as agriculture in addition to the jewellery tasks. It is required to reduce dependency of food sufficiency on other regions and to find better ways for

(See page 10)

