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Vice-Senior General Maung Aye inspects the power station of the Paunglaung Hydel-power Project. — MNA

Government effectively tapping land resources to raise agriculture production

Vice-Senior General Maung Aye inspects Paunglaung Multi-purpose Dam Project, Bagan Palace Reconstruction Project

YANGON, 11 May — Vice-Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) Vice-Senior General Maung Aye met with national entrepreneurs and inspected Paunglaung Multi-purpose Dam Project and Bagan Palace Reconstruction Project on 9 and 10 May.

Accompanied by Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Soe Win, members of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Ye Myint and Lt-Gen Thiha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo, Commander-in-Chief (Navy) Rear-Admiral Soe Thein, Commander-in-Chief (Air) Lt-Gen Myat Hein,

Chairman of Mandalay Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Central Command Maj-Gen Ye Myint, ministers, deputy ministers, Chairman of Magway Division Peace and Development Council Col Zaw Min, officials of the State Peace and Development Council Office, departmental heads and national entrepreneurs, Vice-Senior General Maung Aye left Bagan-NyaungU by helicopter for Tebokan Land Reclamation Project of Asia World Co Ltd in Salin Township, Minbu District, Magway Division, at 7.30 am on 9 May.

At the briefing hall of the project, Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and party heard a report on the

soil condition of Tebokan region, land reclamation work, efforts to irrigate crops, cultivation of seasonal and perennial crops, and plans to extend cultivation, presented by Managing Director of the company U Tun Myint Naing.

In his address, Vice-Senior General Maung Aye said that the Government has been issuing permits for national entrepreneurs, who have capital, to reclaim land for agriculture. Thus, there emerge large stretches of cultivation land in Ayeyawady, Yangon, and Magway divisions and major oil palm plots in Taninthayi Division.

The Government has been effectively tapping land resources to raise ag-

riculture production, and to give encouragement to national entrepreneurs to become successful businessmen. Only if the national entrepreneurs can actually produce quality crops from their farms run with advanced machinery, will the nation's agricultural produce be able to penetrate foreign markets. Entrepreneurs should have the aim of exporting their crops abroad. As the soil of Magway Division is suitable for cotton, they should strive to set up large cotton farms. Cultivation of rice and cotton should be in accord with the soil condition of a particular area. The Government will provide irrigation facilities and all other assistance.

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

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The nation's agricultural production will develop in quality as well as in quantity only when there exist successful farms. All should always pay serious attention to the objective — The initiative to shape the national economy must be kept in the hands of the State and the national people.

Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation Maj-Gen Nyunt Tin explained plans to supply water through Linzin canal, Lt-Gen Ye Myint means to increase the volume of water for irrigation, Col Zaw Min growing of multi crops in the division.

(See page 8)



Vice-Senior General Maung Aye hears a report by Vice-Quartermaster-General Maj-Gen Htin Aung Kyaw on Tatmadaw cotton farm (Pwintbyu). — MNA

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

PERSPECTIVES

Wednesday, 12 May, 2004

Strive for Bago Division to become second granary of the State

Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt met with members of Toungoo District and Toungoo Township Peace and Development Councils, departmental personnel and members of social organizations at the meeting hall of the Central Command in Toungoo on 9 April. After hearing the reports on tasks being carried out on education, health, agriculture, forest reservation and reforestation, construction of roads and bridges and township development and fulfilling whatever was necessary, the Prime Minister said that, in accordance with the guidance of Head of State Senior General Than Shwe, all the necessary measures are being taken for Bago Division to become the second rice bowl after Ayeyawady Division and therefore efforts are being made for the development of agriculture in the division. It is obvious that the Government is striving for the development of all regions of the Union. A large sum of money was spent on the construction of dams, sluice gates and river water pumping stations in Bago Division (East) and Bago Division (West). Now there is a total of 28 dams, one regulating, four diversion weirs, four sluice gates and 57 river water pumping stations in the entire division. Moreover, four weirs and one sluice gate are under construction and it is being planned to build another eight dams and 42 river water pumping stations.

It is necessary for Myanmar Agriculture Service, Settlements and Land Records Department and Irrigation Department to keep systematic records of land and agricultural statistics not only for the extension of sown acreage and boosting the yield of crops but also for the success of national economic plans in Bago Division.

To protect the environment of the Bago Ranges, Myanmar Agriculture Service and Forest Department are to carry out afforestation work. Moreover, to improve the transportation in the division, roads linking town and town, village and village and, town and village are to be built after drawing systematic plans.

At a time when all the requirements are being fulfilled by the government, we would like to urge all those responsible in Bago Division to try their best for their region to become the second granary of the State.

Officials leave for Malaysia

YANGON, 11 May —To attend the Third ASEAN Forest Products Council meeting and the First Conference of the ASEAN Forest Products Industry Club (AFPIC) in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, Myanmar Timber Entrepreneurs Federation General Secretary U Aye Lwin and Executive U Zaw Win left here by air this morning. MTEF President U Aung Lwin and officials saw them off at the Yangon International Airport. — MNA



U Aye Lwin and Executive U Zaw Win being seen off at the airport. — UMFCFI

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

Ambassador U Khin Maung Aye presents credentials to President of the Hellenic Republic

YANGON, 12 May — U Khin Maung Aye, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Union of Myanmar to the Hellenic Republic, presented his Credentials to Mr Constantinos Stephanopoulos, President of the Hellenic Republic, on 30 April 2004, in Athens. — MNA

Plan of Action Workshop on National Surveillance System held

YANGON, 11 May — Plan of Action Workshop Development for Implementing the Recommendation of the Comprehensive Assessment of National Surveillance System, jointly organized by the Ministry of Health and WHO, was opened at Traders Hotel here this morning with an address by Minister for Health Dr Kyaw Myint.

It was also attended by Deputy Minister for Health Dr Mya Oo, the directors-general of the departments under the Ministry of Health and responsible officials, Dr Agostino Borra, Resident Representative of WHO, and officials. In his opening address, Dr Kyaw Myint said that surveillance is imperative in prevention and control of the spread of infectious diseases. The surveillance tasks were conducted previously in Myanmar. As a result, Myanmar has been able to prevent and control such infectious diseases as small pox, plague and diarrhoea. Moreover, there had been cooperation among health department, local authorities and social organizations when infectious diseases broke out, he added. Next, Dr Agostino Borra made an address. A total of 122 officials including the directors-general of departments under the Ministry of Health, medical superintendents and officials of WHO and social organizations participated in the workshop. — MNA

MRTV-4 to be aired soon

YANGON, 11 May — Myanmar Radio and Television will broadcast a new channel named MRTV-4 beginning from 15 May 2004. In this channel, entertainment and news programmes will be included besides the ones that give knowledge to the public. MMBox through which the MRTV-4 will be aired caters for daily news, three foreign video films, foreign TV series, music programmes, Karaoke songs, Myanmar TV and Myawady TV excerpts, daily newspapers, weekly journals and monthly magazines. Public can tune in to these programmes on the screen at any time. In addition, the programmes of Myanmar Radio, national races and Yangon City FM can be enjoyed through the MMBox. — MNA

Scholarships presented at MMU

YANGON, 11 May — A ceremony to present scholarships was held at the Myanmar Maritime University here this morning. Minister for Transport Maj-Gen Hla Myint Swe, Deputy Minister Col Nyan Tun Aung, Officer on Special Duty Brig-Gen Myo Tin, the MMU rector and guests were present on the occasion.

The minister and the deputy minister gave away prizes to outstanding students and the rector presented scholarships to the winners. — MNA



U Sein Win Hlaing delivers an address. — UMFCFI

Course on international trade opens

YANGON, 11 May — The International Trade Course (programme-1) No 3 was opened with ceremony at the UMFCFI training centre on Bo Sun Pet Street here this morning. UMFCFI Education Work Committee Chairman U Sein Win Hlaing delivered an address at the ceremony. The nine-day course is being attended by 60 trainees. — MNA

POEM:

Let's show the innate goodwill

****Writing and journalism
Headed toward same goodwill
Pride of race, pride of lineage
And pride of literature to be uplifted
We're looking forward to that.**

****With goodwill clearly shown
To make Myanmar pleasant
Hands joined in solidarity
To participate
With warmth and congeniality
Holding pen, each with specific thought
Let's push ahead writing.**

May Ru (Trns)

(In honour of the Myanmar Writers and Journalists Association Central Body Meeting currently in progress.)

Fire engines, machine parts donated

YANGON, 11 May — Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Maj-Gen Sein Htwa inspected four fire engines and spare parts donated by President of Korea Green Tech Co, Ltd Mr Lim Taek Soo, Mr Hur Eul Burm of Jico Int'l and Daw Tin Tin Khine of Sandian & Group Co Ltd to Fire Services Department at Fire Services Department (Headquarters) this morning.

Next, the minister attended the donation ceremony which was held at the meeting hall of the Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement and made a speech on the occasion. On behalf of the wellwishers, Daw Thanda Han explained the purpose of the donation and presented related documents to the director-general of the FSD. After accepting the related documents, the latter presented certificates of honour to the donors. — MNA



U Kyaw Nyunt (Kyaw Nyunt Yi) hands over cash donation of K 250,000 to Deputy Minister for Information Brig-Gen Aung Thein. — MNA

MWJA conference hailed

YANGON, 11 May — To hail the Third Conference of the Central Body of the Myanmar Writers and Journalists Association, Mingala Taungnyunt Township WJA Patron U Kyaw Nyunt (Kyaw Nyunt Yi), wife Daw Wah Wah Kyaw donated K 250,000 for use in welfare services of Mingala Taungnyunt WJA. The ceremony to donate cash was held at Kyaikkasan grounds, the venue of the Central Body meeting at 1 pm today. Likewise, Daw Yin Yin (Saw Mon Nyin) donated K 50,000; Mandalay Maha Aungmyay WJA K 20,000; Chaungzon Township Peace and Development Council of Mon State K 20,000; and Phakant Township WJA K 20,000. — MNA

မိုးရွာစဉ် ယာဉ်မောင်းလျှင် အောက်ပါတို့ကိုသတိပြုပါ

၁။ လမ်းပေါ်တွင် စက်ဆီချောဆီများ မိတ်စင်လျှင် လမ်းချော်နိုင်သည်။

၂။ မော်တော်ယာဉ်ဘီးများ ပန်မရှိလျှင် လမ်းချော်နိုင်သည်။

၃။ မော်တော်ယာဉ်များ လေပေါင်ချိန်များလွန်လျှင် လမ်းချော်နိုင်သည်။

၄။ လမ်းပေါ်တွင် ရွှံ့နွဲ့များရှိလျှင် လမ်းချော်နိုင်သည်။

၅။ အရှိန်ပြင်းစွာ မမောင်းပါနှင့်။

၆။ ဘရိတ်ကို ရုတ်တရက် မနှိပ်ပါနှင့်။

၇။ ကုန်တင်ယာဉ်များ ဟန်ချက်ညီမျှရန် ဂရုပြုပါ။

၈။ ရေသုတ်တံပါရှိရမည်။ ကောင်းမွန်ရမည်။

၉။ မိုးသည်းထန်စွာ ရွာသွန်း၍ မြင်ကွင်းမကောင်းလျှင် ရှေ့မီးကြီးကို ဖွင့်မောင်းပါ။

၁၀။ မြေသယံဇာတ၊ အုတ်၊ သဲ၊ ကျောက် သယံဇာတများ မိတ်စင်မှု မရှိစေရန် လုံခြုံစွာ တင်ဆောင်ပါ။

ယာဉ်စည်းကမ်းထိန်းသိမ်းရေးကြီးကြပ်မှုကော်မတီ

Three more American soldiers killed in Iraq

BAGHDAD, 11 May — Three more American soldiers have died in Iraq, two from hostile fire and one in a traffic accident, the US command said Monday.

One soldier from Task Force Olympia, based in northern Iraq, died Monday of wounds suffered in an attack on his patrol, the command said. It did not say when the attack occurred. A 1st Infantry Division was killed Saturday when a roadside bomb exploded in Samarra. Another soldier was wounded in the blast. A soldier from the 16th Military Police Brigade died Sunday night when his Humvee collided with an American tank, the statement added.

More than 750 US service members have died since President Bush launched the Iraq war in March 2003.

Internet

Poll says Britons want troops out of Iraq

LONDON, 11 May — A majority of Britons surveyed in an opinion poll published Monday want British troops to leave Iraq by the end of June.

Fifty-five percent of the 1,001 adults surveyed said troops should be withdrawn once sovereignty is handed over to the interim Iraqi government June 30, according to the poll, which was done for *The Independent* newspaper.

Twenty-eight percent were opposed, and 17 percent expressed no opinion.

The survey by the polling company NOP was based on telephone interviews with 1,001 adults between April 30 and May 2. It had a margin of error of about 3 percentage points. — *Internet*

ထုတ်တုန့်နှစ်သိန်းမြင့်မြင့်



An Iraqi man, outside the Abu Ghraib prison, near the Iraqi capital Baghdad, on 8 May, 2004, displays a newspaper with pictures of abused Iraqi prisoners.

INTERNET

Red Cross says Iraq abuse widespread, routine

Up to 90 percent of Iraqi detainees arrested "by mistake"

GENEVA, 11 May — Up to 90 percent of Iraqi detainees were arrested "by mistake," according to coalition intelligence officers cited in a Red Cross report disclosed Monday. It also says US officers mistreated inmates at the notorious Abu Ghraib Prison by keeping them naked in dark, empty cells.

Abuse of Iraqi prisoners by American soldiers was widespread and routine, the report finds contrary to President Bush's contention that the mistreatment "was the wrongdoing of a few."

Red Cross delegates saw US military intelligence officers mistreating prisoners under interrogation at Abu Ghraib and collected allegations of abuse at more than 10 other detention fa-

cilities, including the military intelligence section at Camp Cropper at Baghdad International Airport and the Tikrit holding area, according to the report. The 24-page document cites abuses some "tantamount to torture" including brutality, hooding, humiliation and threats of "imminent execution. These methods of physical and psychological coercion were used by the

military intelligence in a systematic way to gain confessions and extract information and other forms of co-operation from persons who had been arrested in connection with suspected security offenses or deemed to have an 'intelligence value.' "

"Since June 2003 over a hundred 'high value detainees' have been held for nearly 23 hours a day in strict soli-

tary confinement in small concrete cells devoid of daylight," says the report. "Their continued internment several months after their arrest in strict solitary confinement constituted a serious violation of the third and fourth Geneva Conventions."

Internet

Senator says "many, many" abuse investigations ongoing

WASHINGTON, 11 May — A leading Republican senator said on Sunday there are "many, many" criminal investigations going on of deaths in Afghanistan and Iraq "at the hands of United States officials".

Speaking as new photographs were published apparently showing abuse of US-held prisoners in Iraq, US Senator Chuck Hagel, a Nebraska Republican, told CBS' "Face the Nation" programme the number of investigations could be as many as 30 or more.

Hagel said he could not discuss details of matters presented to him as a member of the Senate Intelligence Committee but that they extended beyond the ongoing controversy over Iraqi prisoners of war at the Abu Ghraib Prison.

"There are many, many investigations ongoing now as a result of deaths in Afghanistan and Iraq, deaths that came at the hands of United States officials," Hagel said. He said he did not know precisely how many probes were continuing, some which have been referred to the US Justice Department. "My understanding is that its probably in the range of 30, maybe more than that, of investigations, not all are homicide," he said.

"We are trying to get the facts... The American people must have a clear honest assessment here if we are to retain confidence in our government," Hagel added.

"This is deeper and wider than I think most in this administration understand."

On Friday, after daylong congressional hearings on the abuse controversy, Defence Secretary Donald Rumsfeld said a group of four former government and military officials would conduct a review of the Pentagon's investigation into abuse of Iraqi prisoners by US troops.

So far, at least seven people have been criminally charged and six military personnel have been reprimanded. The Army said on Friday it was investigating possible abuse by US soldiers of 42 Iraqi civilians in addition to the prison probe.

The scandal exploded last week with the release of photographs showing grinning uniformed personnel posing in front of naked detainees.

On Sunday, the *New Yorker* magazine said it obtained photographs of what it described as a dog threatening a naked inmate at Abu Ghraib Prison, and another picture of the same man with blood streaming from his leg after he had apparently been bitten.

MNA/Reuters

Baghdad bomb kills seven, Shiites clash with troops

BAGHDAD, 11 May — An explosion at a crowded market in Baghdad on Sunday killed at least seven Iraqis, including three policemen, and wounded 13, medical staff said.

Elsewhere, Shiite Mehdi Army militiamen clashed with US troops in the capital and in the holy city of Najaf to the south and also engaged in sporadic fighting with the British in Basra, where three soldiers were wounded in a grenade attack.

In the United States, where the administration is under fire during the presidential election campaign over abuse of Iraqi prisoners, Vice-President Dick Cheney spoke up for Defence Secretary Donald Rumsfeld. People should "get off his case".

Despite assurances from President George W Bush that the ill-treatment of prisoners by US soldiers was the "wrongdoing of a few", evidence has mounted of widespread abuses that have contributed to anger among Iraqis at continued US occupation.

A Pentagon official told *The Washington Post* that new pictures, including video made by soldiers at Baghdad's Abu Ghraib prison depicting "live-action abuse", could

be released soon.

That would deepen a global scandal unleashed by images, leaked after months of allegations of ill-treatment by US guards and interrogators, of naked Iraqi detainees being humiliated.

The apparent bomb blast in the Bayaa District of southern Baghdad left body parts strewn around the market and blood and flesh coated on walls. It was not clear whether the Iraqi police, regarded by guerillas as collaborators, had been the intended target. A US military convoy had passed by shortly before. The unassuming neighbourhood, home to both Sunni and Shiite Muslims, was not an obvious target.

Such bomb attacks, usually aimed at the security forces or foreigners, are not infrequent in Baghdad. On Thursday, a suicide car bomber killed five Iraqis and a US soldier outside the headquarters of the US-run administration. — *MNA/Reuters*



A US Army vehicle drives by a burning car after a two car convoy came under attack in Baghdad, Iraq on 8 May, 2004. — INTERNET

Maintaining defence capability priority task for Russia

Moscow, 11 May — Russia comes in favour of minimizing the significance of force, but the priority task is to maintain its defence capacity, Russian Defence Minister Sergei Ivanov said Saturday on the eve of the national Victory Day holiday.

"While we remember the lessons of the past war, we are clearly aware that, despite positive changes that have taken place in the military and political situation, the world is still not free from instability, wars, or armed conflicts," Ivanov said during commemorations marking the anniversary of the end of World War II.

"For this reason, maintaining the capability of the

country at the necessary level is unquestionably a priority task," he noted.

"Though we consistently stand for the minimization of the significance of military force in seeking solutions to international problems, we realize full well that highly professional and effective Armed Forces alone can give a complete and unquestionable guarantee for the attainment of Russia's foreign

policy goals," Ivanov said. Victory Day is one of the most important dates on Russia's calendar, as the nation mourns Soviet losses, estimated at 27 million people, that outnumbered those of any other country in World War II.

Earlier Saturday, President Vladimir Putin laid a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier near the Kremlin walls.

MNA/Xinhua

Bomb explosion damages Iraqi oil pipeline

BAGHDAD, 11 May—Guerillas bombed an oil pipeline in southern Iraq setting off a huge blaze and slashing daily Iraqi oil exports by about 25 percent, or 450,000 barrels per day, an official said Monday.

Guerillas have often attacked the much smaller northern pipeline to Turkey but attacks against Iraq's southern oil facilities, which account for almost 90 percent of the country's exports, have been rare.

Militants set off the bomb Saturday under the Faw oil pipeline, some 35 miles south of the main southern city of Basra, said an engineer at Iraq's Southern Oil Company, speaking on condition of anonymity.

Firefighters have been fighting the blaze since it began, said Jabbar Luyaibi, director general of Iraq's Southern Oil Company.

Luyaibi said the blast damaged a 18-foot section of one of two pipelines that run from Basra to the Faw peninsula on the Gulf. The pipelines have a capacity of 2 million barrels per day -

larger than Iraq's current exports.

Luyaibi said that engineers were able to move oil from the damaged pipeline to the second pipeline.

But an official for the State Oil Marketing Pipeline later told Dow Jones that the damage was still considerable and that the second pipeline's capacity was too small to carry all of the additional exports. He told Dow Jones that exports had fallen to 1.2 million barrels a day following the blast.

The official, who spoke on condition of anonymity, told Dow Jones that repairs to the pipeline should take another 48 hours.

Dan Senor, a spokesman for the coalition, confirmed that there was a bombing but gave no details, saying that to do so might help the insurgents.

"Any information we provide about success or failure of those attacks, particularly the details, can be used as a basis for information in future attacks," Senor said at a press conference.

Paul Horsnell, head of energy research at Barclays Capital in London, said the blast is likely to cause only a temporary disruption of exports.

But he said the significance of the attack is that "quite clearly, now the southern infrastructure is a target."

Iraq exports some 1.65 million barrels per day from the south and another 200,000 barrels per day from the north through Turkey.

In late April, suicide bombers in boats attacked Iraqi pumping stations in the Gulf, briefly disrupting Iraqi oil exports.—Internet

Chinese Premier calls for UN role in Iraq

LONDON, 11 May—Chinese Premier Wen Jiabao on Monday called for the United Nations to be given the leading role in Iraq and said China was very concerned about the ongoing instability there.

After talks with British Prime Minister Tony Blair, Wen said it was important to hand power back to the Iraqis as soon as possible.

He declined, however, to comment on allegations that coalition troops tortured and mistreated Iraq prisoners of war.

"The unstable situation in Iraq, we feel very concerned and even worried," said Wen, in a joint news conference with Blair. "We must hand over the government back to the Iraqi people as soon as possible."

We need to give the United Nations the leading role in the resolution of the Iraqi issue."

Internet



US Army soldiers stand guard on the highway leading from Baghdad to Fallujah, Iraq on 8 May, 2004.—INTERNET

Child killed in Iraq attack

BAGHDAD, 11 May—A four-year-old girl was killed and four men were wounded today when assailants fired rockets at a US army patrol in the centre of the northern city of Mosul, Iraqi police said.

The assailants in a car opened fire with anti-tank rockets and machine-guns in the Yarmouk district, Captain Baker Said Toufik said. The girl killed and men wounded were near the scene of the strike, after which the attackers fled. US troops have been regularly targeted by guerillas in and around the city, 370 km from Baghdad.—Internet

Coal mine gas blast leaves two miners dead, three missing

GUANGZHOU, 11 May—A coal mine gas blast killed two miners and injured another with three missing in Qujiang County, south China's Guangdong Province, Saturday evening.

The six miners were working in the shaft when the accident happened at the Laolitang Coal Mine.

Rescue work is still going on to search for the missing miners, and efforts to deal with the aftermath of the accident are proceeding smoothly.—MNA/Xinhua

ဝက်လူစွမ်းအား ခေတ်ကျော်လွှား

Over 70 percent of US respondents say Iraqi abuse unjustified

Some directly blame Bush, Rumsfeld for incidents in prison

BAGHDAD, 11 May—Nearly three-quarters of Americans say the mistreatment of Iraqi prisoners by US soldiers depicted in widely broadcast photographs was unjustified under any circumstances, according to a CNN/USA Today/Gallup poll released Monday.

Nearly two-thirds of those surveyed said they believed the abuse, which President Bush and other top US officials have condemned, to be isolated incidents.

Far more blamed the soldiers' superiors and military intelligence officers for the mistreatment than considered top officials such as Bush or Defence Secretary Donald Rumsfeld responsible.

Thirty percent of the 1,003 US adults asked about the Abu Ghraib prison scandal said they believed such abuse was a common occurrence, while 64 percent said they believed the incidents were isolated.

The poll had a margin of error of plus or minus 3 percentage points for most questions.

Internet



Iraqi girl Luban Laith 6, is comforted by her father in the hospital in the holy city of Kerbala, Iraq, 100 km south of Baghdad, on 8 May, 2004. Luban was shot in the stomach during clashes with Iraqi loyal to radical Shiite cleric Muqtada and Polish coalition forces.—INTERNET

Chinese Vice-President meets French guests

BEIJING, 11 May—China values its relationship with France from the strategic perspective, and will work with the French side to further upgrade the comprehensive and strategic partnership in accordance with the guideline of the Sino-French joint statement.

Chinese Vice-President Zeng Qinghong made the remarks when meeting here Sunday with Jean Besson, President of the France-China Amity Group of the French Senate and his party.

Zeng said that the Sino-French relations have been developing in a comprehensive way, and the mutual trust in the political field and strategic cooperation between the two sides have been further consolidated.

Chinese President Hu Jintao paid a successful state visit to France in January at

the invitation of his French counterpart Jacques Chirac, which pushed forward the comprehensive and strategic partnership between the two countries, he said.

He noted that Chirac will visit China in October and attend the opening ceremony of the year of French culture in China, which will advance the bilateral ties to a new height.

Besson said that France-China relations have maintained good momentum for development, and Chinese President Hu Jintao's France

tour early this year impressed the French people.

This year marks 40th anniversary of the establishment of the France-China diplomatic ties, and China has successfully held the year of Chinese culture in France, he added.

Besson noted that France and China have shared similar views on the international affairs, and he hopes that the two countries will further expand cooperation in the fields of energy resources and aviation.

MNA/Xinhua

US-led forces claim killing 18 in Baghdad clash

BAGHDAD, 11 May—US forces clashed with fighters loyal to Shiite cleric Muqtada al-Sadr in Baghdad's Sadr City suburb on Sunday and killed 18, a US military spokesman said.

Brigadier-General Mark Kimmitt said US-led forces had responded to reports that militiamen loyal to Sadr had set up check points and attacked police stations in the district.

"Coalition forces have stabilized the situation at two Iraqi police stations in the district and have killed

18," Kimmitt told a news conference.

Witnesses said Sadr militiamen had fired several mortar bombs at a government building and engaged in brief gunbattles with American soldiers in different parts of the neighbourhood.

Sadr, wanted by the au-

thorities for the murder of another cleric, launched a revolt against US-led forces in Iraq one month ago.

Iraq's US-led authorities have vowed to kill or capture the cleric, who is holed up in the Shiite holy city of Najaf, 100 miles south of Baghdad.

MNA/Reuters

Pressure mounts on Blair over Iraq abuse

LONDON, 11 May—Pressure mounted on Prime Minister Tony Blair on Sunday over allegations British troops abused Iraqi prisoners, with politicians demanding to know what action the government took over reports of mistreatment.

Blair said he was sorry for any mistreatment by British soldiers, but stopped short of admitting abuses had taken place.

"We've already made it absolutely clear we apologize deeply to anyone who's been mistreated by any of our soldiers. That is absolutely and totally unacceptable," Blair told France 3 television on Sunday.

"We went to Iraq to end those type of abuses, not to engage in them."

Blair made the comments after the government said the International Com-

mittee of the Red Cross (ICRC) had raised concerns with it over the treatment of British-held prisoners back in February.

Hounded by politicians of all parties, Defence Secretary Geoff Hoon agreed to make a statement to Parliament on Monday.

Blair's government has already been rocked by the suicide of Iraq weapons expert David Kelly during a row over the case for going to war. Hoon came under intense pressure during the subsequent inquiry but survived media calls for

his resignation.

The ICRC said on Friday visits to detention centres in Iraq had revealed infringements of international treaties on prisoners of war that were "tantamount to torture".

It said the abuse reports mainly involved US troops, but it had given London a report raising concerns about British-run jails.

Former foreign secretary Robin Cook of Blair's Labour Party urged the government on Sunday to publish the ICRC report.

"Until they do, really we

cannot see what independent people are saying about the problem and how severe it is," he told BBC Television.

The Ministry of Defence said the report was confidential and that it had acted on the recommendations.

Blair said on Sunday any abuse was inexcusable but called for a sense of perspective, saying thousands of soldiers in Iraq were doing good work.

"This appalling treatment of Iraqi prisoners, if it happened, is totally unacceptable, be it by British or US soldiers or anyone else in the coalition," he told French LCI television on a visit to Paris.

MNA/Reuters

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US soldier to face May 19 trial for Iraq prison abuse

BAGHDAD, 11 May—The first court martial of a US soldier charged with abusing Iraqi detainees in the Abu Ghraib prison west of Baghdad will start on 19 May and be opened to the public, a US military spokesman said on Sunday.

Specialist Jeremy Sivits was charged with maltreatment of detainees, conspiracy to maltreat subordinates and detainees and dereliction of duty for negligently failing to protect detainees from cruelty, abuse and maltreatment, he said.

"Court martials are open to the public," and it would be held in Baghdad, subject to final approval, Brigadier-General Mark Kimmit told a news conference.

"It's our desire to make the upcoming courts martial as accessible as possible," Kimmit said at the Conference Centre in the Green Zone — the former Saddam Hussein presidential complex where the US-led administration is housed.

The court martial could be held in the heavily guarded Conference Centre to give media maximum access, Kimmit said. — MNA/Reuters



A British Army vehicle patrols the centre of Basra, southern Iraq, after gunmen loyal to radical Shiite cleric Muqtada al-Sadr attacked British patrols and government buildings, on 8 May, 2004.—INTERNET

Ex-Iran envoy to IAEA suggests pulling out of NPT

TEHERAN, 11 May — Iran should consider withdrawing from the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT), which is not beneficial for the country, a former Iranian envoy to the UN's nuclear watchdog was quoted as saying on Sunday.

"The time has come for Iran to really put on its agenda pulling out of the NPT," Mohammad Kiarashi, the former Iranian representative to the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), was quoted as saying in the *Sharq* newspaper.

"Iran, through its membership (of the NPT), has gained nothing but pressure and it is not beneficial at all for Iran," he said.

Concerted international

pressure following revelations last year that Iran had hidden potentially weapons-related technology for 18 years forced Teheran to agree to snap checks of its nuclear sites and to halt the enrichment of uranium.

Some sections of Iran's clerical establishment have called for the country to follow North Korea's example and pull out of the NPT.

But the reformist government has repeatedly assured the international community that Iran will continue to co-operate with the IAEA and will not pull out of the NPT.

IAEA chief Mohamed ElBaradei warned Iran on Thursday the world would not wait forever for Teheran to divulge the full extent and nature of its nuclear programme. — MNA/Reuters

Sino-Canadian cooperation project on CDM launched in N-W China

YINCHUAN, 11 May — A cooperation project between China and Canada on the clean development mechanism (CDM) was launched in northwest China's Ningxia Hui Autonomous Region on Sunday.

This is the first Chinese region to devote to the reduction of greenhouse gas with donations from Canada, said Lu Xuedu, a research fellow of the Rural and Social Development Department under the Ministry of Science and Technology, at a ceremony held Sunday in Yinchuan, capital of Ningxia.

The CDM, defined in the Kyoto Protocol to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change signed in Japan in 1997, is a new international cooperation system, under which, the developed countries provide funds and technical assistance to help developing countries in reducing emissions of harmful greenhouse gases.

Statistics showed, 80 per cent of the carbon dioxide in the world are produced by developed countries. Consequently, the developed countries should shoulder principal responsibility for global climate changes.—MNA/Xinhua

China to launch new air flight to Tajikistan

URUMQI, 11 May—A new air route will be launched Monday, linking Urumqi, capital of Xinjiang in northwest China, with the Tajik capital Dushanbe to serve the growing number of Tajik tourists to China.

The weekly flight, available every Monday, is operated by the Xinjiang company of China's Southern Airlines. This is the sixth air route the Xinjiang Company runs to Central Asian countries, following the ones to Alma-Ata of Kazakhstan and Bishkek of Kyrgyzstan.

MNA/Xinhua

France steps up call for full Iraq sovereignty

PARIS, 11 May—President Jacques Chirac pressed French demands for a genuine return of sovereignty to Iraqis on Sunday, citing what he called the wave of resentment felt by its population against the US-led occupation.

Chirac made the call at an event in Paris with British Prime Minister Tony Blair. Without referring explicitly to the scandal over abuse by US soldiers of Iraqi prisoners, he warned of the risk of a backlash by any people which had been humiliated.

"I think that today it is clear that a large majority of Iraqis resent the peacekeeping forces which they regard as an occupying force," he told an audience of British and French students at an event to mark the birth of the European Union.

"That is why it is very urgent to transfer, without any ambiguity, true sovereignty and powers to an Iraqi authority recognized as such by the Iraqi people," said Chirac, who led international opposition to the war in Iraq.

The United States will keep some 135,000 troops in Iraq after June 30, when Washington starts handing sovereignty back.

In a comment on world tensions later on, he added: "Every time you humiliate people in one way or another, you create the reflexes and behaviour of aggression."

Chirac called on the UN Security Council to agree arrangements to secure a power transfer from June 30 to an interim government and facilitate election of a new government later this year or early next.

He stressed that this government

should "have the capacity to call for the end of the international mission (in Iraq) if it deems it necessary and when it deems it necessary".

Blair, who backed the war in Iraq and whose troops there are also facing accusations of abuse, did not comment on Chirac's demands but called for international unity over the crisis.

"Whatever disagreements there have been, on the conflict, we are in the situation we are in now and it is in the interests of everybody that Iraq stabilizes and becomes a prosperous and democratic country," he said.

"What is important now... is to make sure that we try and reach an agreement inside the United Nations for the proper and full transfer of sovereignty to the Iraqi people after June 30," he told the audience at Chirac's Elysee Palace.

The UN Security Council — where Britain and France hold vetoes — has begun discussions on a new Iraqi resolution that would support a caretaker government and define its relationship to US-led forces after a handover of power on 30 June.

But some countries in the UN Security Council have questioned what the United States and its ally Britain mean by sovereignty and have asked why they see Iraqi forces remaining under US control when the occupation ends.

MNA/Reuters



Gunmen loyal to radical Shiite cleric Muqtada al-Sadr take position in the centre of Basra, southern Iraq on 8 May, 2004.—INTERNET

Red Cross faces dilemma in Iraq, prisons worldwide

GENEVA, 11 May — The International Committee of the Red Cross, which knew firsthand from Iraqi prisoners about US abuse for months, faces a daily dilemma of whether to go public with its findings.

The humanitarian agency, whose officials quietly visit 460,000 inmates in 80 countries each year, informs detaining authorities about its concerns over treatment and conditions.

The 141-year-old agency keeps a public silence about what it hears from detainees as the price for gaining access to detainees, many of whom languish in dark and dirty jails long after conflicts disappear from the front pages.

But the ICRC has come under pressure for some soul-searching since a confidential report, based on visits to some of the 10,000 Iraqis held by US and British forces, surfaced on Friday in the US *Wall Street Journal* without its consent.

The ICRC report, handed to US authorities in February following oral reports,

confirmed that US troops had subjected Iraqi prisoners to degrading treatment, sometimes "tantamount to torture", in a system of abuse widespread throughout 2003.

The leaked report — describing brutal beatings to obtain confessions and firing on unarmed prisoners from watchtowers which caused some deaths — added to the worldwide scandal which broke with the release of photographs showing brutal humiliation of Iraqi inmates in Abu Ghraib, a US-run jail near Baghdad.

Pierre Kraehenbuehl, ICRC director of operations, defended the agency's focus on confidential dialogue rather than public denunciation at a hastily-called news conference last Friday.

But he conceded the

dilemma facing the Geneva-based body.

"We have experienced it and lived it elsewhere. There are moments where of course as human beings, we would like to stand up and speak out, he said."

"It is important that we continue to have access to these people, no matter how difficult the dilemma seems... What we are looking for is impact."

The Swiss, who worked for the ICRC during the Bosnian war in Banja Luka and later in Kosovo, has made many a prison visit.

"Confidentiality is a vital element of our approach. It is needed to establish a meaningful working relationship with the authorities and build trust with the prisoners and authorities," Kraehenbuehl said.

The ICRC says it does not allow itself to be swayed by the media or political pressure to reveal violations of international humanitarian law under the Geneva Conventions. — MNA/Reuters



An Iraqi crowd walks past burning tyre barricades during clashes with British troops in Basra on 8 May, 2004. — INTERNET

Malaysia urges US to ensure no recurrence of abusing prisoners

KUALA LUMPUR, 11 May — Malaysian Prime Minister Abdullah Ahmad Badawi Sunday urged the United States to ensure that cases of abuse of Iraqi prisoners such as in the Abu Gharib prison in Baghdad would not recur.

The Prime Minister said this could be done if the United States gave a directive to this effect to its military forces.

He said this when asked

to comment on US President George W Bush's apology over the abuse of the prisoners by US soldiers.

On Saturday, Deputy Prime Minister Najib Tun

Abdul Razak said it was not enough for United States President George W Bush to apologize without taking stern action to address the abuse of Iraqi prisoners by US soldiers.

The US leader should take sterner action, including reviewing the system of treating prisoners of war by the US military forces, because these were not isolated incidents, the Deputy Prime Minister added.

"Those involved should be severely punished but the overall treatment of prisoners should also be reviewed by the US Government," he said.

Najib said the United States' credibility and image as a human rights champion had been dented and questioned by the international community.

Bush had, for the first time on Thursday, publicly apologized for the humiliation suffered by the Iraqi prisoners since the abuse of the detainees was exposed last week.

The local newspapers reported that besides apologizing, Bush had also blamed US Defence Secretary Donald Rumsfeld for not informing him earlier about the problem at the Abu Ghraib prison outside Baghdad.

Bush was however reported to have resisted pressure from various parties to sack Rumsfeld or demand his resignation.

Since last week the media has been splashed with pictures of Iraqi prisoners being tortured or humiliated, including being stripped naked, by personnel of the occupying forces.

MNA/Xinhua

Kuwait affirms help to Iraqis in power handover

KUWAIT CITY, 11 May — Kuwait on Sunday stressed the importance of consolidating efforts to help Iraqis in the transfer of authority to the people from the US-led coalition, *Kuwait News Agency* reported.

Kuwait Minister of Foreign Affairs Sheikh Mohamed Sabah Al-Salem Al-Sabahom made in remarks on sideline of his participation in the preparatory meeting of Arab foreign ministers held at the Arab League Headquarters in Cairo, Egypt.

Sheikh Mohammed was quoted as saying "everyone must realize the critical situation in Iraq, which calls for consolidating efforts, especially on the part of neighbouring countries who will have an important role to play in helping Iraqis in the smooth transfer of authority".

Everyone is aware of the impact of the adverse condi-

tions in Iraq on the Arab countries, especially those neighbouring Iraq, he said, adding that Iraqi Foreign Minister Hoshiyar Zebari reported very well on the situation in his country during the meetings.

Iraq will establish a transitional government this month, and the authority will be handed over to the government on June 30th.

An Iraqi national conference will be set up in August, which will have the role of consolidating the transitional government.

In January 2005, free elections will be held in Iraq, resulting in an internationally recognized elected government.

MNA/Xinhua

Chavez condemns "terrorist" US policy against Cuba

CARACAS (Venezuela), 11 May — Venezuelan President Hugo Chavez on Sunday condemned the United States as a "terrorist state" for toughening sanctions against Cuba and he said his government would increase its trade and cooperation with the Communist-ruled island.

In a television broadcast, the left-wing Venezuelan leader attacked US measures announced Thursday to reduce the flow of dollars to cash-strapped Cuba and to increase support for internal opponents of President Fidel Castro. "That's called state terrorism, inciting people to kill President Castro, to overthrow him, inciting violence," Chavez said.

Since he was elected in 1998, Chavez has angered

the United States by forging a close relationship with Cuba, the target of a long-running US trade embargo.

Venezuela is Cuba's biggest trade partner, sending cheap oil to Havana, while more than 10,000 Cuban doctors, sports instructors and other experts work in Venezuela. Pointing to the international scandal over the mistreatment of Iraqi prisoners by US guards, Chavez said Washington had no moral right to criticize human rights in Cuba.

"The Washington Government says it has a list of evil terrorists, of terrorist states. Well, you in the US

terrorist government should put yourselves top of the list," he said in the broadcast lasting more than five hours.

Chavez rejected US calls for Cuba's neighbours to reduce contacts and trade with Castro's government.

He said he had ordered the state oil company Petroleos de Venezuela (PDVSA) to study the possibility of investing in an idle Soviet-built refinery at Cienfuegos on Cuba's south-central coast.

Under a 2000 energy accord, Venezuela ships at least 53,000 barrels per day of oil to Cuba. — MNA/Reuters

US doctors successfully remove sick gorilla's lung

SAN FRANCISCO, 11 May — Doctors in San Francisco have removed the diseased lung of a 29-year-old male gorilla from the city zoo and said on Saturday they were cautiously optimistic the animal would make a full recovery.

The operation on Kubi, a 422-pound ape, was the first of its kind and took nearly five hours to complete on Friday. A team of surgeons and veterinarians at the University of California San Francisco donated their time to save the animal, which has spent its entire life at the San Francisco Zoo. In recent years, Kubi has suffered a chronic cough and lung infections that did not respond to drugs. Recently his condition escalated to pneumonia and doctors said he would not have lived without the surgery. When they opened the ape, they found his right lung was almost completely non-functional. The operation was considered extremely risky and doctors had cautioned there was a 30-per-cent chance the gorilla would not survive the surgery. — MNA/Reuters



A British soldier waits during clashes with militiamen loyal to Shiite Muslim radical leader Moqtada Sadr who roamed the city of Basra firing shots at troops as their battle with the US-led coalition spread to British-controlled southern Iraq, on 8 May, 2004. — INTERNET

Malaria, a fatal disease

Dr Saw Lwin (Malaria)

How do people get malaria? Wrong views about malaria still remains up to now.

When I was in Taunggyi, a bus conductor said to me, "Dr, I am a bus conductor of Taunggyi-Tachilek bus line. I did not drink raw water at all but only purified drinking water, and even I did not take a bath everywhere I was, lest I might catch malaria. But, unfortunately, I have been infected with malaria.

And when I was on the Tamu-Kabaw valley trip in Sagaing, a departmental officer asked me if it was right that people got malaria because of having a bath in spring, drinking spring water or taking banana or papaya.

I still remember a film I saw when I was young. One episode of the film featured the actor Zaw Lwin shivering with malaria after drinking stream water. A short story of a certain journal also featured suffering malaria owing to drinking raw water in malaria-prone areas.

Elder persons in the nation would warn those travelling to the countryside or rural areas against taking a bath in stream, drinking stream water and eating banana and papaya, being worried that they might caught malaria.

The above-mentioned statements are some of my true stories. These wrong ideas are rooted to many people.

As a matter of fact, the main cause of being infected with malaria is "being bitten by malaria-carrying Anopheles mosquitoes". Malaria can be transmitted through blood transfusion. Malaria can also be transmitted from a mother to her fetus. However, such cases are very rare.

It has been found out for more than 100 years that mosquitoes carry malarial parasite. Most people still stick to the wrong ideas on malaria. So, the Ministry of Health laid down three ways to accomplish its objectives, one of which is "Dissemination of health education down to the grassroots level". Only when the people have the right view about malaria, can they effectively prevent the disease. If people stick to the wrong ideas such as only drinking boiled water or purified water and avoiding eating banana and papaya instead of preventing mosquitoes from biting them, they cannot guard against malaria at all.

Even the father of the medical science Hippocrates

got a wrong view on malaria that human beings could be infected with malaria by breathing air from muddy ponds. (Mal = bad; aria = air, Malaria = bad air). So, he filled up all the ponds with earth and took measures for proper flow of all small water sources in malaria-prone areas, resulting in a decrease in breeding of mosquitoes. His idea was wrong, but his measures led to a fall in the rate of malaria outbreaks.

Among the sources that malarial parasites spread are ponds and streams and drains where water flows gently. When the mosquito larvae in such sources grow to mosquitoes, they hide near these sources. And when people come to these places to drink stream water or take a bath, surely they may be bitten by the mosquitoes, and they are infected with malaria. The symptoms of malaria show over a week after being bitten by malaria-carrying Anopheles mosquitoes. At that time, they cannot remember that they were bitten by mosquitoes over one week ago but what they remember was they drank stream water and took a bath in the stream.

We can notice that the outbreak rate of malaria is high when there is a greater number of mosquitoes. So in the rainy season when the number of mosquitoes sharply increases, there grows the occurrence of malaria.

And it is crystal clear that local people in Yangon and Mandalay eat banana, papaya and bamboo shoots but they do not get malaria. The people who live in malaria-prone regions get immune to the malarial parasites.

The malaria patients do not take drugs systematically. Although the body temperature falls, malaria has not been cured well. In the mean time, the parasites are latent and not active in the their bodies. The PABA (Para-amino-benzoic-acid) content in banana, papaya and bamboo shoot helps the number of malarial parasites increase. So, a few days after they have eaten banana, papaya and bamboo shoot, consuming the PABA, the malarial parasites breed on a large scale, and the disease resurfaces. Thus, the one who has been cured properly and systematically does not get malaria by eating banana, papaya and bamboo shoot or any meals.

However, many people are confused in this point and are influenced by wrong ideas. Some people are accustomed to hearing that malaria is caused by malarial parasites. When asked how one could get malaria, they would answer that it was because of being bitten by mosquitoes. But, asked how to prevent the disease, they would answer that they could prevent the disease by drinking boiled water.

Whenever, I visited a village or I was at a meeting, I repeatedly gave educative talks on malaria to the villagers. Only when they realize the cause of the disease, will it be easy to make further clarifications to malaria.

Therefore, I would like to urge all to effectively prevent the fatal disease by avoiding bites by parasite-carrying mosquitoes and suppressing the mosquitoes.

(Translation: MS)

(Myanma Alin: 6-5-2004)

Rural housing projects inspected

YANGON, 11 May — Director-General Col Myo Myint of the Development Affairs Department under the Ministry for PBANRDA and officials inspected the progress of rural housing projects in Sansu village, Chauk Township, Magway Division on 4 May.

The rural low-cost housing projects are being implemented in accordance with the guidance of the Head of State. There are 4 low-cost houses being built in Koesu village and 6 houses in Sansu village. Each house is built at a cost of K 700,000. So far, 52 such houses have been built in seven townships in Magway Division. — MNA



Director-General Col Myo Myint inspects the low-cost housing project in Sansu village, Chauk Township. MNA



Minister Brig-Gen Thein Aung and guests view round equipment of UTM system. — MNA

Measures for adopting UTM system coordinated

YANGON, 11 May — A meeting to coordinate measures for adopting UTM system by the Survey Department of the Ministry of Forestry was held this morning at the ministry here. Minister for Forestry Brig-Gen Thein Aung, senior Tatmadaw officers, departmental officials and guests attended it. After the meeting, the minister and officials viewed round the aerial photos and maps. — MNA



U Zaw Myint (Tekkatho Phone Maung), Daw Sein Myaing (Saw Thanda Tun) and daughter Saw Thinzar Htaik of Bahan Township, Yangon, donated 174 books, magazines and journals worth K 55,000 to Myanmar language department of Patheingyi Education College recently. Wellwishers seen handing over the books to faculty members. — MNA

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



မြန်မာနိုင်ငံ စာပေနှင့်စာသင်စာရင်းအဖွဲ့
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Myanmar Products Expo 2004 to be held in Lashio



YANGON, 8 May — The Myanmar Products Expo 2004 will be held in Nan Haewun Garden in Lashio from 15 to 19 May by the Dragon Exhibition Ltd. Local and foreign cosmetics, consumer goods, textiles, clothes, fashions, electric appliances, plastic wares, foodstuff, electronic items, household goods, stationery medicines, etc will be put on display. — MNA

Wellwishers invited for sinking tube-wells

YANGON, 11 May — The Development Affairs Committees under the Ministry for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs are making concerted efforts in sinking tube-wells in order to get sufficient fresh water in rural areas in States and Divisions where water is scarce.

One 200 feet deep two-inch diameter tube-well costs K 250,000; one 400 feet deep two-inch diameter tube-well costs K 500,000; and one 200 feet deep four-inch diameter tube-well costs K 500,000.

Those wishing to donate cash for the tube-well sinking projects for rural areas may contact the Director-General (Tel: 01-245420 & 253088), the Deputy Director-General (Tel: 01-240118), the Director (Engineering) (Tel: 01-291967), the Directors (Sagaing Division Development Affairs Committee) (Tel: 071-21012), the Director (Magway Division Development Affairs Committee) (Tel: 063-23164) and the Director (Mandalay Division Development Affairs Committee) (Tel: 02-54657). MNA

Government effectively tapping land resources...

(from page 1)

Vice-Senior General Maung Aye gave instructions.

On arrival at a cotton farm of the Tatmadaw in Pwintbyu Township, Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and party were welcomed by Vice-Quartermaster-General Maj-Gen Htin Aung Kyaw, Commander of No 88 LID Col Aung Than Htut and officials.

Maj-Gen Htin Aung Kyaw reported to Vice-Senior General Maung Aye on salient points of

Township, cultivation of beans and pulses and arrangements for extended cultivation of cotton.

Vice-Senior General Maung Aye gave necessary instructions and signed in the visitors' book there.

They arrived back at Tatmadaw cotton farm (Pwintbyu).

In the afternoon, they proceeded to Paunglaung Hydel-power Project (upper Paunglaung) in Pinyinana Township, Mandalay Division. Officials of Hydel-power Depart-

Maung Aye and party inspected the chosen site for the projects and its environs.

On completion of the projects, the three hydropower stations will be able to generate 413 megawatts.

Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and party proceeded to Paunglaung Multi-purpose Dam Project. On the occasion, Minister Maj-Gen Nyunt Tin reported on progress in constructing the dam and spillway; Deputy Minister U Myo Myint, on



Vice-Senior General Maung Aye inspects the scale model of Arimaddanapura Bagan golden palace.— MNA



Vice-Senior General Maung Aye inspects Tatmadaw cotton farm (Pwintbyu).— MNA

the farm, its aim, and plans to put 10,000 acres of land under cotton.

Quartermaster-General Lt-Gen Thiha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo explained plans to extend cotton sown acreage up to 15,000 acres and to use pest-resistant and quality strains. Entrepreneurs also explained the condition of their cotton cultivation work. Col Zaw Min gave a supplementary report.

Vice-Senior General Maung Aye spoke of the need to strive for it to become a model farm producing quality crops at low cost.

Next, Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and party inspected land preparations for growing cotton and water supply tasks. They also inspected the plantations of long staple cotton.

Afterwards, they looked into Pyi Lone Kyaw agricultural project of Htoo Trading Co Ltd in Pwintbyu Township. Officials reported on permission granted by the government for land reclamation for agricultural purpose, cultivation of sesame, pigeon pea, cotton, thitseint (belleric myrobalan), mango, plum and thanakkha (limonia acidissima), and arrangements for irrigation of the plantations. Officials of Dagon International Ltd reported on conditions of land reclaimed in Chaungzon region, Yappokgyi, Pwintbyu



Vice-Senior General Maung Aye meets with officials at the briefing hall of Asia World Co Ltd in Salin Township, Magway Division. — MNA

ment reported on feasibility study for the project, current of Paunglaung River and potential capacity of generating 85 megawatts.

Minister for Electric Power Maj-Gen Tin Htut reported on implementation of the project, and preparatory measures for implementation of upper Paunglaung and Nanchu hydel-power projects.

In response to the reports, Vice-Senior General Maung Aye said that Paunglaung Hydel-power Project is being implemented on Paunglaung River.

As part of the project, upper Paunglaung and Nanchu Hydel-power projects will be implemented soon. On completion, the projects will contribute towards requirement of electricity to an extent, he said.

Vice-Senior General

conditions in generating electricity and work progress. Minister Maj-Gen Nyunt Tin gave a supplementary report.

Vice-Senior General Maung Aye gave instructions on systematization in implementing the project by the Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation and the Ministry of Electric Power.

Afterwards, Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and party inspected construction of the embankment. Officials of the Irrigation Department conducted them round the project site. They also inspected construction tasks.

Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and party inspected installation of generators at the underground power station.

Vice-Senior General Maung Aye cordially greeted experts of YMEC Co of the People's Repub-

lic of China participating in construction of power station.

Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and party arrived back in Bagan NyaungU in the evening.

Paunglaung Multi-purpose Dam Project is being implemented on Paunglaung River near Kyitaung-Khawma Village, ten miles east of Pinyinana.

Four 70-megawatt turbines will be assembled in the underground power station.

The project is being undertaken with the aim of generating power, preventing floods and irrigating 35,000 acres of farmlands.

Yesterday, Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and party went to the site of Arimaddanapura Bagan golden palace of Maharaza Thiri Aniroda Deva King Anawrahta.

Minister for Culture

Maj-Gen Kyi Aung said Bagan golden palace construction works of King Anawrahta who built the first kingdom of Myanmar are being carried out in the compound of the ancient Bagan city under the guidance of the Head of State.

He said excavation in the compound of the wall of Bagan ancient city started in May 2003. Foundations, pillars and wide basement which historians accepted as the palace of King Anawrahta, urns of Pyu period and pieces of broken pots were excavated and construction works of Bagan golden palace are to be implemented.

Myanmar architect Tanpawady U Win Maung reported on historical facts about the palace and architect U Myint Thaw on architectural design of the palace and tasks to be undertaken.

Vice-Senior General

Maung Aye gave instructions on construction of the magnificent golden palace of the King Anawrahta which the entire people are to be proud of in accord with the historical evidences.

Next, Vice-Senior General Maung Aye inspected the scale model of Arimaddanapura Bagan golden palace.

Htoo Trading Co Ltd will construct the palace which includes 12 royal chambers and ten staircases.

Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and party visited Bagan Archaeological Museum and inspected Bagan Nanmyo booth and the scale model of the palace. He then gave necessary instructions.

Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and party arrived back here in the evening.

MNA

All delegates are believed ...

(from page 16)

and to enhance their vision, and to develop human resources including the nation-building intellectuals and intelligentsia, who are the basic requirements for social development of the nation. Furthermore, literature plays a vital role in enhancing the knowledge and vision of the people, their happiness and mental prowess. Hence, the Government honours the invaluable strength and vitality of literature, and is supporting and protecting it in all aspects for the emergence of a literary structure serving the national interest to raise the standard of the people. In addition to rendering all-round assistance for flourishing and raising the standard of Myanmar literature, the Government is also laying a firm foundation ensuring a secure and high-standard social life for men of letters. The Government's assistance includes presenting literary awards, holding literary competitions and developing the literary profession for the progress of the publishing business, boosting the number of readers and further promoting art and style of writing.

Regarding the literary awards and manuscript awards, incentive is being given to private literary awards in addition to the National Literary Awards, Sarpay Beikman Manuscript Awards and National Slogan Awards. Moreover, measures are being taken for the emergence of novice writers by organizing literary contests.

As for libraries and reading rooms, the Information and Public Relations Department has opened a total of 368 libraries in 324 townships. Besides, a total

of 1,619 self-reliant libraries have also been set up in villages and wards.

The departmental publishing enterprises also print and distribute newspapers and journals as well as books that mirror and highlight the State's policies and books on cultural and social affairs. The newspapers are being published at subprinting houses in major cities of states and divisions the same day so that they can be distributed easily to remote regions of the Union. To speak of private publishing industries, there were a total of 5,037 printing houses and 759 publishers up to the dawn of the year 2004, according to the statistics of the Central Registration Board of Printers and Publishers. Altogether 9,759 titles of books on various topics were published in 2003 while 102 sorts of weekly journals and 150 sorts of monthly magazines are in regular circulation. At such an opportune time when the world of Myanmar literature is booming due to the encouragement given by the Government, it is incumbent upon the literati, publishers, printers and readers to work together in harmony to keep Myanmar literature on the right track of nationalism and to see that it serves the interest of own race according to its fine tradition.

Owing to the fast development of the information and communication technologies, every nation of the world is in the process of globalization. At such a time like this, some big nations with the superiority in technology and wealth have come to misuse the mass media with the intention of overwhelming the developing countries including

Myanmar ideologically. It is necessary for the literati to be well aware of it. Also apparent are the attempts to infiltrate their western character from cultural, economic and social fronts to the decorum of dress into the eastern countries with the use of effective mass media.

At such a time, the literati therefore should motivate with the literary might the people, especially the young, to enable them to cherish and uplift the high and lofty culture and polite traits, the decorum of dress, manner and behaviour consistent with ethics.

In particular, the literati should strive with the literary might to arm the youths of the new generation with a broader scope of knowledge, deep consideration, correct outlook on international affairs with historical background, and constructive attitude to see the truth. At such a time when some big powers are applying the mass media in an improper way and attempting to instil their ideology on the cultural and social fronts covertly, all the literati are to work hard in unity, using the strength of literature to instil in the entire mass of Myanmar people nationalistic sense, national outlook, and nationalistic fervour.

I would like to urge all the central body members to unitedly strive for flourishing of MWJA which is taking a leading role in organizing the literati as a consolidated national force.

Nowadays, the government, based on the national strength and force, is step by step implementing the seven-point policy programme that will raise the prestige of the nation and enable it to stand tall among the nations of the world as an independent



Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt cordially greets doyen literati. — MNA



Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt views photos of activities of MWJA. — MNA

and sovereign Union.

Therefore, all the literati are to preserve the fine traditions of Myanmar literature which has safeguarded and promoted the national interests at every turning-point in the long history of Myanmar. **The National Convention that will lead the Union to a stable and a certain future will be held soon and we believe that all are going to participate in it. In the broader interest of the State, I would like to urge those from the world of literature to actively participate in efforts for suc-**

cessful implementation of the seven-point policy programme of the State.

In conclusion, I would like to urge all the literati to strive for the Union of Myanmar to stand tall among nations of the world with high prestige, to uplift the morale and morality of the entire citizens and to promote the nationalistic fervour of the citizens through literature; to strive to uplift the strength of national literature to be able to guard against the infiltration of alien culture and their acts of sabotage using information and communication

technology and to make efforts for successful implementation of the seven-point policy programme that will take shape a peaceful, modern, developed and discipline-flourishing democratic nation, the national goal.

Next, Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt cordially greeted the literati, members of Central Body of MWJA and observed documentary photos of MWJA. Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt and party had photo taken with the Chairman of MWJA and CEC members. — MNA

Third Central Body Meeting of Myanmar Writers and Journalists Association begins

YANGON, 11 May — The Third Central Body Meeting of Myanmar Writers and Journalists Association was opened at Pyidaungsu Hall on Kyaikkasan Ground here at noon today.

It was attended by Deputy Ministers for Information U Thein Sein and Brig-Gen Aung Thein, MWJA Chairman U Hla Myaing (Ko Hsaung), CEC members, Central Body members, observers and guests.

MWJA Chairman U Hla Myaing (Ko Hsaung) chaired the meeting, and Joint-Secretary U Myint Kywe (Maung Myint Kywe) acted as master of ceremonies. The master of ceremonies announced the start of the meeting.

Next, Chairman U Hla Myaing (Ko Hsaung) gave an opening speech. Myanmar Women's Affairs Federation, Myanma Motion Pictures Asiayon, Myanmar Music Asiayon, Myanmar Traditional Artists and Artisans Asiayon, Myanmar Sports Writers Federation and Myanmar Printing Entrepreneurs Association sent baskets of flower to honour the meeting.

The master of ceremonies read out the messages sent by Myanma Motion Pictures Asiayon, Myanma Thabin Asiayon, Myanmar Music Asiayon, Myanmar Traditional Artists and Ar-

tisans Asiayon, Myanmar Sports Writers Federation and Myanmar Printing Entrepreneurs Association.

Secretary of the central executive committee of the MWJA U Hla Tun (Hla Tun -Twantay) and Central Executive Committee member U Myo Thant (Maung Hsu Shin) submitted the report of the committee and the meeting adjourned.

At the second session of the meeting, MWJA Vice Chairman-2 treasurer U

Than Maung (Than Maung) and CEC member U Khin Maung Tun (Khin Maung Tun-Lanmadaw) also submitted the financial report 2002-2003 and audit report respectively.

CEC Member U Than Hlaing (Takkatho Thinkha), U Ohn Maung (Myinmu Maung Naing Moe), CEC Members U Tin Hlaing (Le Dwin Thar Saw Chit) and Daw Cho Cho Tin (Ma Sanda) also tabled the motions 1, 2, 3 and 4 respectively.

Next, U Mann Thint Naung (Mann Thint Naung) of Hpa-an Township, Kayin State, Daw Nu Nu Yin (May Shi Shar) of Maha Aungmyay Township, Mandalay Division, U Kyaing Myint (Mg Yan Shin) of Botahtaung Township and Daw Cho Cho Than (Cho Mya Nwe) of Ahlon Township seconded the motion-1, 2, 3 and 4 respectively. The meeting continues till 13 May.

MNA



MWJA Chairman U Hla Myaing (Ko Hsaung) speaks at the opening of the third meeting of the Central Body of Myanmar Writers and Journalists Association. — MNA

Chairman of National Health Committee Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt attends dinner hosted to outstanding Red Cross members

YANGON, 11 May — A ceremony to host dinner to the outstanding Red Cross members selected from the states and divisions attending the Get-Together of Outstanding Red Cross Members of Myanmar Red Cross Society 2004 was held at Institute of Nursing (Yangon) this evening. Chairman of National Health Committee Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt attended the ceremony.

Present at the dinner were Vice-Chairmen of National Health Committee Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Soe Win and Secretary-2 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thein Sein, Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe, Ministers, the Yangon Mayor, Deputy Ministers, officials of State Peace and Development Council Office, departmental heads, social organizations and officials of the ICRC and the IFRC, members of the Central Council of Myanmar Red Cross Society, the Chairman and CEC members of the Myanmar Red Cross Society, members of Supervisory Committee for Red Cross in states and divisions, outstanding members of Red Cross and guests.

Under the programme, Chairman of National Health Committee Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt and party enjoyed the dinner together with the outstanding Red Cross members. Next, Chairman of the Myanmar Red Cross Society Dr Kyaw Win and resident representative of the IFRC Ms Joanna Macleen presented the First Aid Kids to the Minister for Health Dr Kyaw Myint.

On behalf of the outstanding Red Cross members, outstanding Red Cross member Ma Htwe Htwe Hlaing of Kayin State spoke words of thanks. And then, Chairman of the Myanmar Red Cross Society Dr Kyaw Win extended greetings. After the members of the MRCS and school Red Cross Association had entertained with songs and educative drama, the ceremony ended. After the ceremony, Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt cordially greeted the outstanding Red Cross members. — MNA

Regional development tasks inspected in Mongkai

YANGON, 11 May—Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Aung Htwe of the Ministry of Defence held a meeting with officers and other ranks and their family members at local battalion in Mongkai Township on 9 May morning. On the occasion, Lt-Gen Aung Htwe dealt with regional development and extension of agriculture and livestock breeding and attended to the needs. Accompanied by Shan State Peace and Development Council Chairman Eastern Command Commander Maj-Gen Khin Maung Myint and departmental officials, Lt-Gen Aung Htwe inspected Mongkai People's Station Hospital and presented cash assistance to the patients. Officials reported on tasks for upgrading of the hospital to a 25-bed one. Lt-Gen Aung Htwe gave instructions and presented K 100,000 for construction tasks. Lt-Gen Aung Htwe also inspected construction of a people's hospital in Mongkai Township and left necessary instructions.

Afterwards, Lt-Gen Aung Htwe met with departmental personnel and locals at the city hall of Mongkai. The commander reported on regional development tasks. With respect to the report, Lt-Gen Aung Htwe stressed the importance of nation-building tasks. Lt-Gen Aung Htwe looked into construction of a new building of Mongkai BEHS and fulfilled the requirements. He visited Shwe Myin Tin Pagoda and Mwaydaw Monastery and presented offertories to Sayadaw U Ravata. Next, Lt-Gen Aung Htwe inspected construction of Gantakutitak of Pawdawmu Lonehsaitein Buddha Image. — MNA

C-in-C (Air)'s shield table tennis tourney concludes

YANGON, 10 May — The final event of the Commander-in-Chief (Air's) shield for table tennis tourney in conjunction with prize presentation ceremony took place at Thura Ohn Khine hall of Meiktila Air Base yesterday morning, attended by Commander of No 99 LID Col Tin Oo Lwin, Meiktila Station Commander Brig-Gen Khin Maung Aye, Base Commander Brig-Gen Khin Maung Tin of Flying Training Base, Base Commander Col Thura Khin Maung Win of Ground Training Base and other ranks and spectators. After the final events, officials concerned presented the first prize, the second and the third to the winners in the single and double events. On behalf of Commander-in-Chief (Air's), Base Commander Brig-Gen Khin Maung Tin presented the championship shield to officials concerned of Flying Training Base team.

MNA



Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt addresses the dinner hosted in honour of outstanding Red Cross members. — MNA

Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than attends consecration of historic Myatsaw Nyinaung Pagoda in Toungoo

YANGON, 11 May—The consecration ceremony of historic Myatsaw Nyinaung Pagoda in Toungoo, Bago Division was held at the platform of the pagoda yesterday morning, attended by members of the Sangha led by Presiding Sayadaw of the Pagoda Bhaddanta Silavamsa of Yangon Kyaungtaik, member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than of the Ministry of Defence, Chairman of Bago Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Southern Command Maj-Gen Ko Ko and senior military officers, Bago Division PDC Secretary Lt-Col Thein Lwin, Bago Division level departmental officials, local authorities and wellwishers.

The ceremony was opened with the three time recitation of Namō Tassa. Ovadacariya Sayadaw of the Pagoda Bhaddanta Candima invested the congregation with the Nine Precepts.

Next, members of the Sangha recited parittas.

Afterwards, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than, Commander Maj-Gen Ko Ko and wellwishers presented offertories to members of the Sangha.

Next, Sayadaws consecrated the pagoda and the ceremony ended with the three-time recitation of Buddha Sasanam Ciram Titthatu.

Later, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than, Commander Maj-Gen Ko Ko and party inspected the tarred Toungoo-Htantabin-Zayatgyi road. After that, they proceeded to Zayatgyi Station Hospital in Htantabin Township where Station Medical Officer Dr Nay Win Thwin reported on the salient points of the hospital to Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than who gave necessary instructions.

Next, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than and party met with Senior Engineer of Bago Division Public Works U Tin Tun and officials who are engaged in construction of Toungoo-Kyaukkya-Sittoung-Moppalin road at the local battalion in Zayatgyi Village and gave instructions. Next, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than and party inspected the 18-mile gravel road between Zayatgyi and Mone by car.

In the afternoon, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than, the commander and party arrived at Mone Village in Kyaukkya Township and met with officers and other ranks of the local battalion and their families and gave instructions.

In the evening, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than, the commander and party Mone Station Hospital and met with Station Medical Officer Dr Mya Khine and hospital staff and gave necessary instructions.

After inspecting the hospital, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than enquired after the warded patients. — MNA

Lt-Gen Maung Bo inspects construction of Thanlwin Bridge (Mawlamyine)

YANGON, 10 May —Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Maung Bo of the Ministry of Defence, Chairman of Mon State Peace and Development Council Commander of South East Command Maj-Gen Thura Myint Aung and officials inspected construction of four-star five-storey Mawlamyine Strand Hotel in Mawlamyine on 9 May. Assistant General Manager of Htoo Trading Co Ltd U Aung Naing Oo reported on work.

Lt-Gen Maung Bo, the commander and party inspected paving of Strand Road. They went to the site of construction of Thanlwin Bridge (Mawlamyine). Managing Director of Public Works U Han Zaw and senior engineer reported on progress of work.

Lt-Gen Maung Bo gave instructions on completion of the bridge in time. He inspected paving of road of approach structure and laying of slabs on Mawlamyine side.

Delegation leaves for ASEAN Labour Ministers' meeting

YANGON, 11 May— The Myanmar delegation led by Labour Minister U Tin Winn left here by air this morning to attend 18th ASEAN Labour Ministers' meeting to be held in Brunei Darussalam.

The Myanmar delegation was seen off at the Yangon International Airport by Minister for Cooperatives Maj-Gen Htay Oo, Minister at Prime Minister's Office U Than Shwe, Deputy Minister for Labour Brig-Gen Win Sein, officials concerned under the ministry and families.

Other delegation members are Director-General for Labour Department U Soe Nyunt and Assistant Director U Kyaw Kyaw. — MNA

Yangon City upgrading tasks inspected

YANGON, 11 May—Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Myint Swe and Chairman of Yangon City Development Committee Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin inspected tasks being carried out by the YCDC for upgrading of the roads in Yangon City this morning.

The commander and the mayor looked into laying of concrete piles on the platforms at the corner of Kaba Aye Pagoda Road and University Avenue Road in Bahan Township. Officials reported on work progress and future tasks.

Next, they inspected tarring of Yadana Street in South Okkalapa Township, Yangon East District. During the inspection tour, they gave instructions on emphasis to be placed on meeting the set standard and timely completion of the projects in upgrading Yangon City. — MNA

UAE's company wins Best Cargo Airline award

ABU DHABI, 11 May — Emirates SkyCargo of the United Arab Emirates (UAE) won the award for Best Cargo Airline to the Middle East, for the 16th time in a row, the official WAM news agency reported Sunday.

The Emirates also won the award for Best Cargo Airline to the subcontinent, for the sixth consecutive time, at the Cargo Airline of the Year Awards held in London.

The Dubai Cargo Village, which plays such a vital role in Emirates SkyCargo's global growth, was also honoured as Best Middle East Cargo Airport.

The awards are organized by the trade magazine *Air Cargo News* in Britain and attract votes from readers across the world.

The awards come as

Emirates SkyCargo, UAE's Dubai-based cargo division of the international carrier, continues its rapid expansion to all corners of the world.

It already has launched five new routes in 2004, with more to come in the next few months, and increased the size of its Boeing-747 freighter fleet to five.

Emirates SkyCargo now serves a truly global network of 76 destinations in 54 countries, including 21 destinations with its freighter aircraft. It is rolling out an eight-route expansion across five continents in 2004.

MNA/Xinhua

GCC to publish anti-terror pact

KUWAIT CITY, 11 May — Abdulrahman Al-Attia, secretary-general of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC), denied any secret involved in the GCC anti-terror pact, which was signed recently by ministers of interior of the six member states.

The agreement will be published and handed out to international organizations soon as the United Nations (UN) does not recognize any secret pact or agreement, *Kuwait News Agency* quoted Al-Attia as saying.

Al-Attia emphasized that the GCC pact is similar to other international agreements that address the growing danger of terror threats around the world.

Signed on May 4, the GCC agreement includes explanations of terror organizations or cells, as well as lists of funding and activities that help provide

assistance to such terror operations, he explained. Protection issues, particularly focused on inter-GCC cooperation, are also addressed in the pact, as well as legal and judicial aspects of the matter, Al-Attia added.

In regards to political crimes, the GCC chief said that this is an issue that is also covered by the agreement, including extradition policies that are built on international law.

The GCC pact, inked in the fifth GCC Interior Ministers consultative meeting held in Kuwait last week, will be active 30 days after it is officially ratified by a two-thirds majority of the six member nations, then the UN and other regional organizations will be informed of the agreement.

MNA/Xinhua

သွေးလွန်တုပ်ကွေးရောဂါကာကွယ်ပါ

၁။ သွေးလွန်တုပ်ကွေးရောဂါသည် အသက် (၃) နှစ်မှ (၁၄) နှစ်အထိ ကလေးငယ်များတွင် ဖြစ်ပွားတတ်ပါသည်။ သွေးလွန်တုပ်ကွေးရောဂါ ဖြစ်လျှင် ရင်သွေးငယ်များ အသက်ဆုံးပါးရသည်အထိ ဖြစ်နိုင်သဖြင့် မိမိတို့၏ ရင်သွေးများ သွေးလွန်တုပ်ကွေးရောဂါ ကြိုတင်ကာကွယ်ကြပါရန် နှိုးဆော်အပ်ပါသည်။

၂။ သွေးလွန်တုပ်ကွေးရောဂါသည် ရေကြည်ရောင်နီရောင်ဆီပါကွေးသော ခြင်္သေ့ပုန်း၊ ခြင်္သေ့၊ အတိုက်ခံရခြင်းကြောင့် ကူးစက်ပါသည်။ သို့ပါ၍ ခြင်္သေ့ပုန်း၊ ခြင်္သေ့၊ မပေါက်ပွားစေရန်နှင့် မိမိတို့ရင်သွေးများ ခြင်္သေ့တိုက်ခံရစေရန် အောက်ပါအတိုင်း ဆောင်ရွက်ကြပါရန် နှိုးဆော်အပ်ပါသည်။

သွေးလွန်တုပ်ကွေးရောဂါမှ ကာကွယ်ရန်

- (က) ရေစည်ရေအိုးများကို လုံခြုံစွာဖုံးအုပ်ထားပါ။
- (ခ) ရေအိုး၊ ညောင်ရေအိုးတို့မှရေကို နေစဉ်လဲလှယ်ပေးပါ။
- (ဂ) ရေစည်၊ ရေအိုးများရှိ ပိုးလောက်လန်များအား ရေစစ်ဖြင့် ခပ်ထုတ်ဖမ်းပါ။
- (ဃ) မိုးရေကန်ခံသော ဘူး၊ ပုံး၊ ဘူး၊ တာယာစုတ်၊ အိုးခြမ်း၊ ပဲ စသည်တို့ကို ဖယ်ရှားရှင်းလင်းပါ။
- (င) အလင်းရောင်ရရှိရန် တံခါးများကို နေ့စဉ်ဖွင့်ထားပါ။
- (စ) အိမ်တွင်း၊ အိမ်အပြင်သန့်ရှင်းစွာထားပါ။
- (ဆ) ကလေးများ အိပ်ခန်းတွင် ခြင်္သေ့ခြင်သိပ်ပါ။
- (ဇ) အိပ်ခန်းဝန်းကျင်ရှိ ရေခဲခန်းသော ခြေခံများကို ခြေဖို့ပါ။
- (ဈ) မိမိတို့အိမ်ရှေ့၊ အိမ်နောက်တို့မှ ရေမြောင်းများကို ရေစစ်ရေလာကောင်းအောင် ရှင်းလင်းပါ။

လုံခြုံစေပါက စည်ပင်သာယာရေးအဖွဲ့၏ အကူအညီကိုယူပါ။

၃။ ကျန်းမာရေးဝန်ကြီးဌာနနှင့် ပူးပေါင်း၍ ခြင်္သေ့များပေါက်ပွားစေရန် ဆောင်ရွက်ခြင်း၊ အသိပညာပေးခြင်း၊ ကာကွယ်တားဆီးခြင်းလုပ်ငန်းများကို ဆောင်ရွက်ကြပါရန်နှင့် သွေးလွန်တုပ်ကွေးဖြစ်ပွားသည့်ကုသသယံရှိသော ကလေးများကို ဆေးပေးစနစ်၊ ဆေးရုံများသို့ အချိန်မီ ပို့ဆောင်ကြပါရန် တိုက်တွန်းနှိုးဆော်အပ်ပါသည်။

ကျန်းမာရေးဝန်ကြီးဌာန

Kerry raps Bush on health costs

EDINBORO, (Pennsylvania), 11 May — Democratic presidential candidate John Kerry will launch a week-long assault against President George W. Bush over skyrocketing health care costs, as part of a new push in battleground states to counter Republican inroads with seniors.

Bush had hoped enactment of legislation adding a prescription drug benefit to Medicare would shore up his standing with seniors, a critical voting bloc in November's presidential election.

But since signing the legislation into law last year, the centerpiece of Bush's health care agenda has been embroiled in controversy, from bribery allegations to revelations it will cost one-third more than the 400-billion-US-dollar anticipated.

Kerry will turn his focus to the health care issue, which consistently ranks with the economy as a top concern of voters and particularly seniors.

In an address to nursing students at Pennsylvania's Edinboro University, Kerry will warn that health care costs are rising to crisis proportions — four times as fast as wages in the last year.

"And it's not acceptable to do nothing while families lose their savings, workers lose their jobs, and businesses close their doors because of the high cost of health care," Kerry said in a statement previewing his speech.

A report by the Kerry

campaign estimated that total family premiums have increased by 2,777 US dollars in the last four years, and that Americans now pay more for health insurance than people in any other country.

As these costs have risen, US employers have found themselves at a competitive disadvantage and have responded by slowing hiring and shifting to more part-time and temporary workers, the campaign said.

Kerry has called for repeal of the Bush tax cuts for Americans earning more than 200,000 US dollars a year in order to pay for his 10-year, 650-billion-US-dollar health care plan.

Kerry's campaign said his plan will save employees up to 1,000 US dollars in premiums a year.

But it could be an uphill fight for Kerry.

Last week, the Bush Administration rolled out its discount drug card programme, promising savings to 41 million elderly and disabled Medicare recipients.

Kerry has blasted the programme and called for cheaper drugs to be imported from Canada.

MNA/Reuters

Rafsanjani slams US soldiers' abuses of Iraqi captives

TEHERAN, 11 May — Former Iranian president Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani Sunday condemned US troops' abuses of Iraqi prisoners, describing them as "abominable", the official IRNA news agency reported.

"Humanity feels ashamed by all the corruption, chaos and bloodshed, even though the US boasts of freedom there," said Rafsanjani, now chairman of Iran's Expediency Council.

He also criticized the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) for failing to take "appropriate measures against these sinister incidents".

An ICRC spokesperson has admitted that the committee knew about the widespread prisoner abuses by US soldiers at the notorious Abu Ghraib jail in Baghdad several months before they were made public.

MNA/Xinhua

Iraq southern oil exports cut by pipeline sabotage

BAGHDAD, 11 May — A sabotage attack against a southern pipeline has reduced Iraq's oil exports sharply, the South Oil Company president said on Monday.

"The situation is not good," Jabar al-Leaby told Reuters, but declined to say how much oil was still being exported.

Leaby said the attack affected flows to the Basra terminal, the export point for most of Iraq's 1.8 million barrels per day of

overseas sales — and the country's only means of earning foreign currency.

The attack came around two weeks after Western forces occupying southern Iraq foiled suicide boat attacks on oil tankers at the Basra terminal.

Violence has intensified in southern Iraq in recent weeks after occupying forces cracked down on followers of Shiite leader Moqtada al-Sadr. — MNA/Reuters

သတိပေးနှိုးဆော်ချက်

ခရီးသည်တင်စက်တော်ယာဉ်များအား မြို့တွင်းသို့ နေ့/ည ခရီးသည်ပို့ဆောင်နိုင်ရေးအတွက် သတိပေးချက်အရ ခရီးသည်တင်စက်ယာဉ်များ ထားပြီး ဖြစ်ပါသည်။ ယာဉ်စီးခများအားလည်း သတိပေးနှုန်းထားများအတိုင်းတောင်းခံရန် ညွှန်ကြားထားရှိပါသည်။ သို့ရာတွင် အချို့ယာဉ်လိုင်းများမှ ယာဉ်မောင်းနှင်ယာဉ်နောက်လိုက်တို့သည် ယာဉ်စီးခများကို ညပိုင်းတွင် ပိုမိုတောင်းယူနေကြောင်း သိရပါသည်။ ထိုသို့ပိုမိုတောင်းခံပါက ထိရောက်စွာ အရေးယူနိုင်ရန် အောက်ပါနည်းလမ်းများကို တိုင်ကြားနိုင်ပါသည်။

(၁) မြန်မာနိုင်ငံရဲတပ်ဖွဲ့၊ ရန်ကုန်တိုင်း (ဖုန်း ၁၉၉)

(၂) ကြီးမကြီးနှင့်ယာဉ်ထိန်းတပ်ဖွဲ့ (ဖုန်း ၂၅၁၅၀/၂၅၁၅၁)

(၃) မော်တော်ယာဉ်လုပ်ငန်းပေါင်းစုံဦးစီးဌာန (ဖုန်း ၅၄၁၉၀၅/၅၄၁၉၀၄)

ယာဉ်စည်းကမ်းထိန်းသိမ်းရေးကြီးကြပ်မှုကော်မတီ

အရက်ကြောင့်ဖြစ်သည့်ရောဂါများ

အရက်ကိုလွန်ကျွံစားရုံနှင့် စွဲလမ်းစွာသောက်သုံးခြင်းကြောင့် ဖြစ်ပွားတတ်သောရောဂါများမှာ အသည့်ရောင်ခြင်း၊ အသည့်ခြောက်ခြင်း၊ သွေးအနံ့ခြင်း၊ အစာအိမ်ရောဂါဖြစ်ခြင်း၊ နှလုံးရောဂါဖြစ်ခြင်း၊ ဦးနှောက်နှင့်အာရုံကြောထိခိုက်ခြင်း၊ စိတ်ရောဂါများဖြစ်ခြင်း စသည်တို့ဖြစ်ပါသည်။

အရက်ကြောင့်ဖြစ်တတ်သော စိတ်ရောဂါများမှာ —

၁။ ကယောင့်ကတမ်းဖြစ်ခြင်း (Delirium Tremors)၊ ကြောက်လန့်ခြင်း၊ အချိန်၊ နာရီ၊ နေရာ၊ လူ ခန့်မှန်းနိုင်စွမ်း မရှိခြင်း၊ ကြောက်စရာလန့်စရာများမြင်ရခြင်း၊ အသံဗလများ ကြားရခြင်း၊ ပိုမိုများစွာကိုယ်ပေါ် ရုစိမ့်သွားသလိုခံစားရခြင်း၊ လက်တွန်ရောဂါဖြစ်တတ်ခြင်း။

၂။ အရက်အလွန်အကျွံသောက်သည့်အခါတွင် လူမရှိဘဲ နားထဲတွင် ခေါ်သံများ၊ ခြိမ်းခြောက်သံများ၊ စော်ကားမော်ကားသံများ ကြားနေရတတ်ခြင်း (Alcoholic Hallucinations)။

၃။ အတက်ကြီးရောဂါဖြစ်တတ်ခြင်း (Rum Fits)

(ဝက်ရုပ်ဖြစ်ရောဂါကဲ့သို့တတ်ခြင်း)။

၄။ စိတ်ဓာတ်ကျရောဂါဖြစ်တတ်ခြင်း (Depressive Illness)။

၅။ စိတ်ဖောက်ပြန်ခြင်း (Alcoholic Psychosis)။

၆။ ဦးနှောက်ချို့ယွင်းခြင်း။

၇။ အရက်နှင့်မတည့်သောသူများသည် အရက်အနည်းငယ်သောက်ရုံဖြင့် ရုတ်တရက် စိတ်ဖောက်ပြန်တတ်ခြင်း (Pathological Drunkenness)။

၈။ မိမိ၏ဇနီးကို အထင်အမြင်လွဲမှားခြင်းများ ဖြစ်တတ်ခြင်း (Morbid Jealousy)။

၉။ အရက်ကြောင့် ရာဇဝတ်မှုကျူးလွန်သည့်အထိ ဖြစ်နိုင်ခြင်း။

အထက်ပါဆိုကျိုးများကို မခံစားရစေရန် အရက်သောက်သုံးခြင်း၊ အလွယ်တကူ အလွန်အကျွံသောက်သုံးခြင်း၊ အရက်ကို စွဲလမ်းစွာသောက်သုံးခြင်းတို့မှ ရှောင်ကြဉ်ရန် တိုက်တွန်းအပ်ပါသည်။ အရက်စွဲရောဂါဖြစ်ပွားပါက စိတ်ကျန်းမာရေးဆေးရုံနှင့် ကုသရေးဌာနများတွင် စနစ်တကျကုသမှုယူရန် အသိပေးနှိုးဆော်အပ်ပါသည်။

ကျန်းမာရေးဝန်ကြီးဌာန

Arab resolution urges UN to help end US-led occupation

CAIRO, 11 May — Arab foreign ministers have finalized a draft resolution on the Iraq issue that urged the UN Security Council to take measures to end US-led occupation as soon as possible, Egypt's official MENA news agency reported Sunday.

The draft resolution, prepared by the ministers at their current meetings at the Arab League headquarters in Cairo, will be referred to a summit of their leaders later this month, MENA said, quoting Arab diplomatic sources. The draft welcomes all relevant UN Security Council resolutions, particularly those calling for a timetable to transfer power to the Iraqi people, the report said. The document also stresses the "importance of preserving Iraq's territorial integrity, respect for Iraq's sovereignty and unity and commitment not to interfere in its internal affairs".

Meanwhile, the draft

resolution urges the Iraqi people to renounce all attempts to foment sedition between the factions and to cling to national unity to build the future of Iraq, according to the report.

The Arab foreign ministers on Sunday continued their meetings for the second consecutive day to prepare for the coming Arab summit tentatively scheduled for May 22-23 in Tunisia. The summit of the 22-member Arab League, which had been scheduled on March 29-30, was postponed by the host Tunisia due to differences among Arab countries over regional situation and political reforms. — MNA/Xinhua

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CLAIMS DAY NOTICE MV GEE HONG VOY NO (409)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV GEE HONG Voy No (409) are hereby notified that the vessel arrives on 12-5-2004 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.T.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S EAGLE CORPORATION**
Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE MV HIBISCUS VOY NO (078)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV HIBISCUS Voy No (078) are hereby notified that the vessel will arrive on 12-5-2004 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.P where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S PREMIER SPECTRUM**
Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

NZ sets up ministerial task force to focus on Asia relations

WELLINGTON, 11 May — New Zealand has established a ministerial task force to build on recent breakthroughs in economic links with Asia, Foreign Minister Phil Goff announced Monday.

"There have been some positive developments in recent months, such as the agreed framework opening the way for free trade negotiations with China in early 2005; talks on a closer Economic Partnership with Thailand, and ASEAN Economic Ministers calling for a free trade agreement with New Zealand and Australia," Goff said in a statement.

"We also have a study underway on how to achieve closer relations with India, and New Zealand is gearing up for the 2005 World Expo in Aichi, Japan," said Goff, who is now in Japan on a three-day visit.

He said it was important that New Zealand took full advantage of these developments. "It will be the Task Force's job to coordinate work being done across government on relations with Asia, and to develop a suitable policy framework that takes the private sector's interests into account as well."

The Task Force will also follow up the seriously Asia

initiative, which was organized by the Asia 2000 Foundation and launched by Prime Minister Helen Clark last August with the aim of identifying priority goals and practical actions to energize New Zealand's links with Asia.

"Asia's importance to our future continues to grow. We need to go on the front foot and develop our skills and networks in Asia, and we need to make sure we are adequately informed and organized to take advantage of the rapid changes occurring in this dynamic region," Goff said.

MNA/Xinhua

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(31 February 2001)

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U Thant Maung, Advocate For Diadora S.p.A.
C/o Kohlin Chit Yangon Ltd., Yangon, Union of Myanmar.
Fax (95) 237599; Tel 211688
Dated 12 May 2004

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Thwin Aung B.Sc. LL.B. Advocate
MYANMAR TRADEMARK AND PATENT LAW FIRM
E-mail: mtpip@mpipmail.net.mm
Tel. 254037 G.P.O. Box 666
Yangon. 12 May 2004

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P.O. Box 60, Yangon.
Dated: 12 May, 2004.

S Korea develops mid-air missile firing technology

SEOUL, 11 May — South Korea developed a technology that fires a guided missile in mid-air after vertically ejecting it from a launching pad, a local state-run defence agency said Monday.

Thus, South Korea became the world's second nation to develop the "cold launch" technology after Russia, Shim Woo-jeon, a principal researcher at the Agency for Defence Development, was quoted by South Korean *Yonhap* news agency.

The technology is mainly aimed at reducing flames at the time of blast-off to keep enemy forces from detecting the launching site, Shim said in a Press briefing.

MNA/Xinhua

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ကိုယ်စားလှယ်များထံတွင် လက်လီယူယူနိုင်ပါသည်။

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Read Junior Leader to improve your English.

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE MV SEA BRIGHT VOY NO (619)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV SEA BRIGHT Voy No (619) are hereby notified that the vessel arrives on 12-5-04 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.W.P.T. where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S ADVANCE CONTAINER LINES**
Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

Vietnam to export more coffee in second quarter

HANOI, 11 May — Vietnam is expected to export 315,000 tons of coffee worth 140 million US dollars in the second quarter of this year, year-on-year rises of 30 per cent and 20 per cent, respectively.

The expected rise is based on the increasing demand for coffee in many countries, including Vietnam's key coffee importers such as the European Union (EU), the United States and Japan, said the country's Ministry of Trade on Monday.

This year, 500,000 hectares of coffee trees, mainly

Robusta, in Vietnam are forecast to yield more than 700,000 tons of coffee beans which has been exported to 59 countries and territories. The country shipped 329,000 tons of coffee worth 220 million dollars in the first four months of this year, up 35.4 per cent in volume and 28.6 per cent in value.

Vietnam exported 352,000 tons of coffee to the EU, accounting for 47 per cent of its export volume, and 109,000 tons of the product to the United States, or 14.6 per cent of its total, last year.

MNA/Xinhua

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China becomes world's second largest radio broadcasting market

SHANGHAI, 11 May — China has become the world's second largest radio broadcasting market with more than 1,000 broadcasters for the 1.3 billion people in 340 million families, next only to the United States, according to a recent rating by Nielsen Media Research.

The rating reveals half of China's population aged above 15 listen to radio broadcasts every week. In the nation's capital Beijing, nearly 50 per cent of the residents listen to the radio for 14.5 hours a week on average.

In its biggest city Shanghai, 93 per cent of the citizens tune in radio programmes for an average 14 hours a week. The figure is close to that of other international metropolises such as Sydney and Singapore, according to Mark Neely, executive director for the company's Asia-Pacific affairs.

Radio broadcasting has remained an important means of communication and advertising in China despite the strong impact of the Internet and television, according to the company's rating.

This is a result of diverse and colourful programmes provided by local radio stations, as well as the growing number of private car owners in China who often tune in for broadcast news, music and other entertainment programmes during their car rides.

News broadcasting is the most popular radio programmes in Beijing and Shanghai, and the Nielsen Media Research rating shows the road traffic news of Beijing Communications Radio and the morning

news of Shanghai People's Broadcasting Station draw the largest number of listeners in the two cities respectively.

As China opens wider its media sector in line with its World Trade Organization commitment, more international broadcasters will seek to enter the Chinese market, Neely predicts.

Nielsen Media Research's listener rating is a new service in China and is conducted once a quarter. The rating, which aims to study and analyse listeners' preferences and demands, has become available in several large cities in the northern, eastern and central regions and will extend to 35 cities by the end of this year.

In another development, Nielsen Media Research's audience rating, a service that was launched in China's interior regions in 1994, is now available to televisions in 56 cities.

In an ambitious plan to enhance its presence in the Chinese market, the company will extend its audience rating service to more than 100 cities and to cover 75 per cent of the domestic TV advertising market by the end of 2004, says Mark Grunert, executive director of the company's China arm.

MNA/Xinhua

Putin urges international efforts to rebuff terrorism

Moscow, 11 May — Russian President Vladimir Putin on Sunday called on the international community to jointly rebuff international terrorism, *Interfax* reported.

Putin made the call when addressing participants of a grand military parade at the Red Square celebrating the 59th Anniversary of the Soviet Union's victory over the Nazi Germany in the World War II.

The world community's task is to "give a worthy rebuff to the terrorists and rid the world of this plague", Putin said.

"We have no right to turn a blind eye on the Nazi swastika and the fascism that is still spreading in the world, or to the fact that no less a terrible evil — international terrorism — is added to them and is causing death and destruction," Putin was quoted as saying.

While Putin spoke to soldiers, veterans and senior officials, a bomb planted under the VIP seats in a stadium in the Chechen capital of Grozny exploded during a Victory Day celebration.

During his speech, Putin also congratulated World War II veterans for their glorious victory over Nazi Germany 59 years ago, saying their heroic feats brought peace,

tranquillity and freedom to the world and proved that Russia will always has an enormous potential of strength to overcome any enemy.

After his brief speech, some 5,000 soldiers, wearing span-new uniforms and carrying polished rifles and military banners, marched past him and other Russian senior officials amid the beat of a military orchestra.

At the beginning of the march, Defence Minister Sergei Ivanov was driven around Red Square in a Zil limousine to review the troops.

Nationwide parades and celebrations were held in Russia on Sunday to mark the festival, while the parade on the Red Square is the most eye-catching one.

Victory Day is one of the most important dates on Russia's calendar as the nation mourns Soviet losses of an estimated 27 million people, which outnumbered those of any other country in World War II.

MNA/Xinhua

Libyans protest US criticism of HIV trial verdict

BENGHAZI, 11 May — Libyan protesters burnt the US flag in the coastal city of Benghazi on Sunday after Washington criticized a death sentence imposed on six foreign medics for infecting children with HIV.

The five Bulgarian nurses and a Palestinian doctor were condemned to death after they were convicted of deliberately infecting 426 children with the virus that causes AIDS. Washington called Thursday's verdict "unacceptable".

Hundreds of protesters marched through Benghazi on Sunday, most of them parents of children who had been infected at the city's hospital where the medics worked.

They waved photographs of Libyan infants with AIDS and of Iraqi prisoners abused by US soldiers at a Baghdad jail.

"America rejected the Libyan court verdict because the case involved Libyan children. America backs White Western people with blue eyes against Libyan children because

they are Arabs," said one protesting parent who gave his name only as Jamel.

"We are angry at the US contempt for our court verdict. It hurts us as bias against the rights of Arabs here in Libya as well as in Iraq with the scandalous abuses of prisoners in Abu Ghraib Jail," said another parent, Mohamed Shalouh.

"America is humiliating us everywhere as Arabs and Muslims."

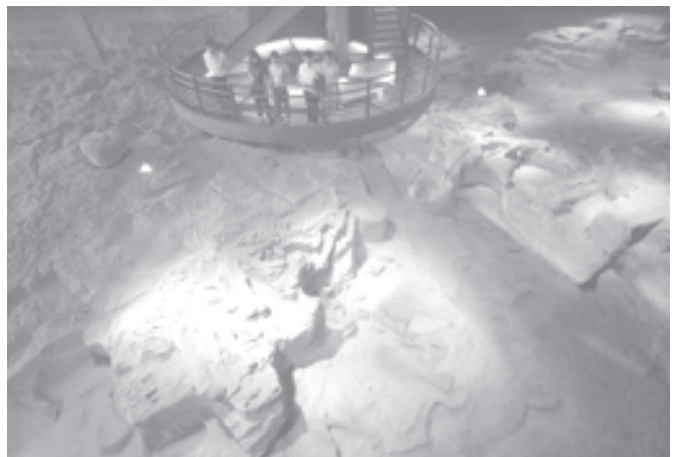
The six foreign medics plan to appeal. They say Tripoli used them as scapegoats rather than admit the virus was caused by unhygienic standards and that their convictions were based on two confessions given under torture.

More than 40 of the infected children have died since the nurses were detained in 1999. The Euro-

pean Union has also condemned the verdicts, fueling speculation in Bulgaria that the medics might be pardoned by Libyan leader Moammar Kadaffi, who is keen to mend ties with the West. The Libyan Government said on Friday that America had "no moral authority anymore to talk about human rights" after the Iraqi prisoner abuse scandal.

Police kept a low profile as the protesters burnt the US flag in front of the Italian consulate. Local officials say Italy is in charge of US consulate interests in Benghazi.

Washington is due to upgrade diplomatic ties with Libya by opening a liaison office in Tripoli. It relaxed its trade embargo last month after Kadaffi pledged to give up weapons of mass destruction. — MNA/Reuters



Visitors admire the preserved site, where dinosaurs once lived and died in the middle Jurassic, some 160 million years ago, in the Zigong Dinosaur Museum, China's southwestern Sichuan province. Here, dinosaurs of the Jurassic age lay down to die, forming a cemetery of an estimated 30,000 square meters (330,000 square feet), of which only one tenth has been investigated so far, as the extraordinarily plentiful fossils were first discovered by a team of geologists in 1972, but ignored as China was caught in the middle of the politically charged ravages of the 1966-76 Cultural Revolution.—INTERNET

Pakistan welcomes Vajpayee statement on peace process

ISLAMABAD, 11 May — Pakistan on Sunday welcomed Indian Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee's commitment to pursuing the peace process with Islamabad to its logical end.

"We do welcome Prime Minister Vajpayee's reiteration of his commitment to the dialogue process as well as his expression of the hope that the comprehensive dialogue process at the official and ministerial levels could culminate to a summit," Pakistan Foreign Office spokesman Masood Khan was quoted as saying by the official media.

At a rally in the north Indian town of Ludhiana in Punjab on Saturday, Vajpayee had vowed to take the Indo-Pakistani peace initiative to its logical end.

He had also said that

India was keen to resolve all problems with Pakistan through talks provided it stopped sponsoring terrorism.

Khan, however, termed "incorrect" reports attributed to some quarters in India that Pakistan sponsored terrorism to prevent voters from casting their ballots in the elections to the Lower House of Parliament in Jammu and Kashmir.

The "low turnout" cannot be attributed to "terrorists" as leading Kashmiri leaders have "opposed" these polls, he said adding that there has been no interference from Pakistan. —MNA/PTI

Cambodian official values work of Chinese archaeologists

PHNOM PENH, 11 May — A Cambodian cultural official praised Saturday the good masterpiece of Chinese archaeologists in renovating and conserving temples in Cambodia, saying that it is a model in reconstructing Cambodia's old temples.

Michel Tranet, Under-secretary of State of the Ministry of Culture and Fine Arts, told *Xinhua* "I would like to admire for their care and disciplines in repairing the temple".

MNA/Xinhua

Kenyan President calls for people to plant more trees

NAIROBI, 11 May — Kenyan President Mwai Kibaki has called for his fellow people to plant more trees in the country, the *Presidential Press Service (PPS)* said here Saturday.

Speaking when officially launching the Presidential Tree Planting Day, which falls on 8 May, Kibaki said Kenya needs to increase its forest coverage to prevent desertification and protect the water catchment areas for increased productivity on the farms, the *PPS* said in a Press release.

He told the Ministry of Environment to ensure availability of tree seedlings to Kenyans at reasonable price.

The President also encouraged farmers

to practise agro-forestry, saying the practice would go a long way in improving the environment. Meanwhile, Kibaki advised Kenyans who have access to land to take afforestation as a commercial venture, saying that tree planting is a profitable venture with good returns.

"Let us begin looking at tree farming as a business one can benefit from and not just the preserve of the government," he said.

MNA/Xinhua

SPORTS

Newcastle's Champions League hopes fade

LONDON, 11 May— Newcastle United's hopes of grabbing fourth place and a Champions League qualifying slot were severely dented when they were held to a 1-1 home draw by relegated Wolverhampton Wanderers on Sunday.

Newcastle, knocked out of the UEFA Cup semifinals by Olympique Marseille, need to win their final two Premier League games — at Southampton on Wednesday and at Liverpool next Saturday — to finish fourth.

They trail Liverpool by five points and could even miss out on fifth and a UEFA Cup place as they are also two behind Aston Villa, who host Manchester United in their final game.

The result also made mathematically certain that Wolves would be relegated after one season in the top flight.

Newcastle led after 38 minutes when Lee Bowyer converted a Shola Ameobi cross but Wolves claimed a deserved equalizer in the 70th minute when Romanian substitute Viorel Ganea pounced on a loose ball to shoot low into the corner from the edge of the box.

MNA/Reuters



Weder Bremen players, from left, Fabian Ernst, Ailton from Brazil, Markus Daun and Tim Borowski celebrate after the beat Bayern Munich 3-1 in a German first division soccer match in Munich, southern Germany, on 8 May, 2004. Bremen clinched the league championship with the win.—INTERNET

Ajax clinch 29th title with victory over NAC Breda

AMSTERDAM, 11 May— Ajax Amsterdam clinched their 29th Dutch title after beating NAC Breda 2-0 on Sunday to leave last season's champions PSV Eindhoven six points adrift with only one match remaining.

Ajax have 77 points and PSV 71 following their 3-2 victory over ADO Den Haag. Feyenoord, 4-1 winners at RBC Roosendaal are third on 65 points.

Ajax's success this season can be traced back to December when they were eliminated from the Champions League, leaving them with only the domestic title to play for.

The final league match before the winter break at Twente Enschede gave coach Ronald Koeman a lot to think about after his side lost 2-0.

Long-term injuries to Steven Pienaar and Zlatan Ibrahimovic forced Ajax to enter the transfer market, espe-

cially as Sonck was unconvincing during his first six months in Amsterdam.

Greek forward Yannis Anastasiou, bought from Roda JC Kerkrade, had a run of good form after the winter break to help Ajax put together a string of six victories, including a 2-1 home win over PSV.

Koeman's young side had a serious setback at the end of February with defeats at Heerenveen (4-1) and Utrecht (1-0) before embarking on another unbeaten run that guided them without further hiccups to the title.

Koeman found it hard to field his ideal line-up because his preference for conventional wingers was thwarted by the poor performances of Tom Soetaers and Victor Sikora. Romanian youngster Nicoleta Mitea also struggled after the winter break.

In defence, new signings Zdenek Grygera and Julien Escudé had difficulty adapting to the Ajax style although the comeback of 20-year-old Johnny Heitinga, after a year out with a knee ligament injury, brought stability to the backline.

Czech international Tomas Galasek gave balance to the midfield in between the more attacking Wesley Sneijder and Rafael van der Vaart, both Dutch internationals.

MNA/Reuters

Neftchi clinch Azeri league, cup double again

BAKU, 11 May— Neftchi Baku beat Samkir 1-0 after extra time in the Azerbaijan Cup final on Sunday to clinch their second league and cup double.

Samir Abbasov scored the 104th-minute winner from close range to give Neftchi their second trophy in four days.

Neftchi edged Samkir to win their third league title on Wednesday. Samkir, who won back-to-back league titles in 2000 and 2001, finished second.

It was the second successive cup final between the two teams. Neftchi were declared the winners in 2002 after Samkir walked off the pitch in protest at a controversial penalty call.

Soccer in Azerbaijan was suspended the following season. Neftchi also beat Samkir in the 1999 final in a penalty shoot-out after a scoreless 120 minutes. —MNA/Reuters

Late Giuly strike keeps Monaco's title hopes alive

MONACO, 11 May— Monaco captain Ludovic Giuly scored a last-gasp goal to hand Olympique Marseille a 1-0 defeat and keep the principality team's Ligue 1 title hopes alive on Sunday.

Giuly, his team's saviour countless times this season, pushed the ball home three minutes into injury time after Marseille goalkeeper Fabien Barthez failed to stop a powerful shot by Argentine Lucas Bernardi.

The somewhat fortuitous victory allowed the Champions League finalists to stay in second place on 71 points, two points behind champions and leaders Olympique Lyon with three games left.

The other two Ligue 1 title contenders won on Saturday, Lyon 2-1 at Metz and Paris St. Germain, now third one point behind Monaco, beating Stade Rennes 1-0 at the Parc des Princes.

UEFA Cup finalists Marseille had been

one-man down since the 86th minute after striker Didier Drogba was taken off the pitch on a stretcher with a groin injury.

Despite the tight scoring, the game was a lively, hardfought contest between two talented teams boosted by their fine showings at European level.

Monaco qualified for the Champions League final on Wednesday when they drew 2-2 at Chelsea while Marseille beat Newcastle United 2-0 on Thursday to ease into the UEFA Cup final.

Monaco's main chances came from Giuly, but the French international striker was denied by the impeccable Barthez until his very last opportunity.

MNA/Reuters

Emerson hat-trick puts Reds second in J-League

TOKYO, 11 May— Brazilian striker Emerson netted his second hat-trick in three weeks on Sunday to give Urawa Reds a 3-0 win at Albirex Niigata and second place in the J-League. The 2003 J-League Player of the Year took advantage of poor defending from promoted Albirex, completing his hat-trick with a breakaway goal nine minutes from time in front of 41,000 in rain-drenched Niigata.

Urawa, managed by former German World Cup winner Guido Buchwald, improved to 17 points from nine first-stage matches but still trail leaders Jubilo Iwata by seven points.

Albirex, J-2 champions last year, dropped to the bottom of the table on six points.

Jubilo beat Gamba Osaka 2-0 at Expo Stadium thanks to second-half goals from forward Ryoichi Maeda and Brazilian Rodrigo Gral on his return from suspension.

Champions Yokohama F-Marinors won 3-1 at home to erratic Tokyo Verdy to go third behind Urawa on goal difference.

But Yokohama, who have a game in hand on the clubs above them, needed injury-time goals from substitute Yukihiro Sato and South Korea striker Ahn Jung-hwan at International Stadium.

Elsewhere, Cerezo Osaka climbed off the foot of the First Division with a 2-1 victory at Shimizu S-Pulse in a bad-tempered match which included 13 yellow and two red cards — both for Cerezo players. JEF United Ichihara slipped to fourth on 15 points after being held 1-1 by visiting Nagoya Grampus Eight.—MNA/Reuters

Belgian top scorer Pieroni to join Auxerre

BRUSSELS, 11 May— Excelsior Mouscron have agreed to transfer their Belgium striker Luigi Pieroni to AJ Auxerre of France, the Belgian First Division club said.

The two clubs reached agreement on Friday on a fee of 1.5 million euros for Pieroni, top scorer in the Belgian First Division with 26 goals, and he is due to sign a four-year contract with Auxerre next week.

"It was that money or nothing," Mouscron's president Jean-Pierre Detremmerie told Belgian media. "Pieroni arrived for free at our club last year and had just one season left on his contract after this one."

The 23-year-old Pieroni's agent Eric Depireux said: "We also had contacts with Southampton and Sampdoria but their offers were even less interesting."—MNA/Reuters

Inter close on Champions League qualifiers

MILAN, 11 May— Inter Milan's hopes of Champions League football next season were given a major boost with a 1-0 win over Parma in Serie A's penultimate round of matches on Sunday.

Brazilian Adriano's 62nd-minute goal against his former club secured a vital win for Inter who are now in fourth place, a point ahead of Parma who had Emanuele Blasi sent off in the 78th minute.

Lazio's chances of making the Champions League qualifying round now look slim after they fell to a 2-1 defeat at Brescia.

Former European Player of the Year Roberto Baggio scored for Brescia in his final home game before retirement, leaving Lazio three points behind Inter in sixth place.

Newly crowned champions AC Milan suffered only their second defeat of the season with a 2-1 reverse at lowly Reggina that secured Serie A survival for the Calabrians.

Second-placed Roma were also beaten, relegation threatened Perugia winning 3-1 at a neutral venue in Palermo.

Juventus, who have secured third position and a place in the Champions League qualifying round, beat Sampdoria 2-0 in coach Marcello Lippi's final game in charge at the Delle Alpi stadium.

In the relegation battles, Empoli lost to doomed Ancona 2-1 while Siena enjoyed a 3-1 victory at fellow strugglers Modena to ensure top flight football next season.

MNA/Reuters



Venus Williams returns a ball to Karoline Sprem from Croatia in the half-final of the German Open WTA tennis tournament in Berlin on 8 May, 2004.—INTERNET

MRTV-3


**12-5-2004 (Wednesday)
(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 Peaceful & Developed
Dawei
9:10 **Headline News**
9:12 Myanmar Profile "Fast
Food"
9:15 **National News**
9:20 Moyoingyi Wildlife
Sanctuary
9:25 Wararya' Dance
9:28 New Vogue Flower
Arrangement
9:30 **National News**
9:35 Travelogue (PyinOo
Lwin)
9:40 Songs "Love Slave"
9:45 **National News**
9:50 Production of A
Delicious Seafood
Song of Myanmar
Beauty & Scenic
Sights "Come and See
Myanmar"

**12-5-2004 (Wednesday)
Evening Transmission
(15:30 - 17:30)**

- 15:30 Signature Tune
Greeting
15:32 Song of Myanmar
Beauty & Scenic
Sights "Mingalabar"
15:36 Peaceful & Developed
Dawei
15:40 **Headline News**
15:42 Myanmar Profile "Fast
Food"
15:45 **National News**
15:50 Moyoingyi Wildlife
Sanctuary
15:55 Wararya' Dance
15:58 New Vogue Flower
Arrangement
16:00 **National News**
16:05 Travelogue (PyinOo
Lwin)
16:10 Songs "Love Slave"
16:15 **National News**
16:20 Production of A Deli-
cious Seafood
16:25 Song of Myanmar
Beauty & Scenic
Sights "Myanmar"

- Panorama & Myanmar
Sentiment"
16:30 **National News**
16:35 Fabulous Bagan (II)
16:40 Poppy Substitute Crop
Cultivation in Border
Areas
16:45 **National News**
16:50 Myanmar Arts &
Handicraft Centre
16:55 Ah-Hla-Kabya-Pan-
Pawah
17:00 **National News**
17:05 PaO 'Nationals'
Traditoinal Long
Drum
17:10 Myanmar Modern
Songs "Come, Visit
My Home"
17:12 Hta Pwe (or) Mogok
Gems Market
17:15 **National News**
17:20 Naga Traditional Cos-
tumes and Dances
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 Livistona Speciosa
(Taung Htan)
19:40 **Headline News**
19:42 Ancient Pakhangyi
Monastery
19:45 **National News**
19:50 Myaing Hay Wun El-
ephant Camp
19:55 Auspicious Glory
20:00 **National News**
20:05 Beautiful Pleasant
Beach Village
20:10 Myanmar Modern
Songs "Wonderful
Country"
20:15 **National News**
20:20 Costumes for Myan-
mar Ladies
20:25 Song "Mawlamyaing,
The Jewel of the
Crown"
20:30 **National News**
20:35 Fabulous Bagan (I)
20:40 Kan-Peik-Ti Border
Town in Kachin State
20:45 **National News**
20:50 Rope Painting
20:55 Kachin Dance
20:58 Nan Pan Market Day
21:00 **National News**
21:05 Towards Pondaung
Ponnya Yaw Region
(Part-I)
21:10 Songs "Love Boat"
21:15 **National News**
21:20 Adept Sons of Inlay

- 21:25 Lake
Song of Myanmar
Beauty & Scenic
Sights "Mingalabar"
21:35 Peaceful & Developed
Dawei
21:40 **Headline News**
21:42 Myanmar Profile "Fast
Food"
21:45 **National News**
21:50 Moyoingyi Wildlife
Sanctuary
21:55 Wararya' Dance
21:58 New Vogue Flower
Arrangement
22:00 **National News**
22:05 Travelogue (PyinOo
Lwin)
22:10 Songs "Love Slave"
22:15 **National News**
22:20 Production of A Deli-
cious Seafood
22:25 Song On Screen "Phe-
nomena of Love"
22:30 **National News**
22:35 Fabulous Bagan (II)
22:40 Poppy Substitute Crop
Cultivation in Border
Areas
22:45 **National News**
22:50 Myanmar Arts &
Handicraft Centre
22:55 Ah-Hla-Kabya-Pan-
Pawah
23:00 **National News**
23:05 PaO 'Nationals'
Traditoinal Long
Drum
23:10 Myanmar Modern
Song "Come, Visit My
Home"
23:12 Hta Pwe (or) Mogok
Gems Market
23:15 **National News**
23:20 Naga Traditional Cos-
tumes and Dances
23:28 Song of Myanmar
Beauty & Scenic
Sights "Come and See
Myanmar"

**12-5-2004 (Wednesday) &
13-5-2004 (Thursday)
Evening Transmission &
Morning Transmission
(23:30 - 1:30)**

- 23:30 Signature Tune
Greeting
23:32 Song of Myanmar
Beauty & Scenic
Sights "Mingalabar"
23:36 Peaceful & Developed
Dawei
23:40 **Headline News**
23:42 Myanmar Profile "Fast
Food"
23:45 **National News**
23:50 Moyoingyi Wildlife
Sanctuary
23:55 Wararya' Dance
23:58 New Vogue Flower
Arrangement
24:00 **National News**

- 00:05 Travelogue (PyinOo
Lwin)
00:10 Songs "Love Slave"
00:15 **National News**
00:20 Production of A Deli-
cious Seafood
00:25 Song of Myanmar
Beauty & Scenic
Sights "Myanmar Pano-
rama & Myanmar Sen-
timent"
00:30 **National News**
00:35 Fabulous Bagan (II)
00:40 Poppy Substitute Crop
Cultivation in Border
Areas
00:45 **National News**
00:50 Myanmar Arts &
Handicraft Centre
00:55 Ah-Hla-Kabya-Pan-
Pawah
01:00 **National News**
01:05 PaO 'Nationals'
Traditoinal Long
Drum
01:10 Myanmar Modern
Song "Come, Visit My
Home"
01:12 Hta Pwe (or) Mogok
Gems Market
01:15 **National News**
01:20 Naga Traditional Cos-
tumes and Dances
01:25 Song of Myanmar
Beauty & Scenic
Sights "Come and See
Myanmar"

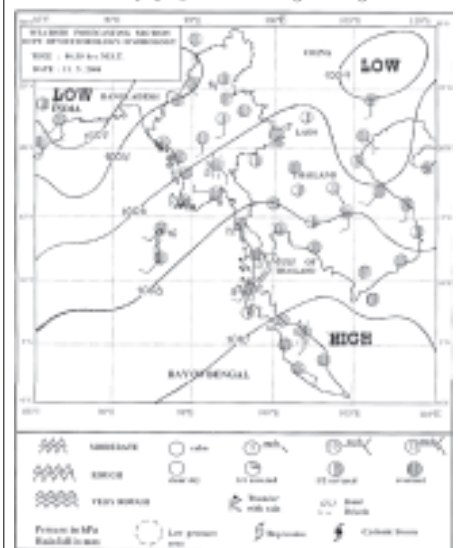
**13-5-2004 (Thursday)
Morning Transmission
(03:30 - 07:30)**

- 03:30 Signature Tune
Greeting
03:32 Song of Myanmar
Beauty & Scenic
Sights "Myanmar Pano-
rama & Myanmar Sen-
timent"
03:36 Livistona Speciosa
(Taung Htan)
03:40 **Headline News**
03:42 Ancient Pakhangyi
Monastery
03:45 **National News**
03:50 Myaing Hay Wun El-
ephant Camp
03:55 Auspicious Glory
04:00 **National News**
04:05 Beautiful Pleasant
Beach Village
04:10 Myanmar Modern
Songs "Wonderful
Country"
04:15 **National News**
04:20 Costumes for Myan-
mar Ladies
04:25 Song "Mawlamyaing,
The Jewel of the
Crown"
04:30 **National News**
04:35 Fabulous Bagan (I)
04:40 Kan-Peik-Ti Border
Town in Kachin State
04:45 **National News**

- 04:50 Rope Painting
04:55 Kachin Dance
04:58 Nan Pan Market Day
05:00 **National News**
05:05 Towards Pondaung
Ponnya Yaw Region
(Part-I)
05:10 Songs "Love Boat"
05:15 **National News**
05:20 Adept Sons of Inlay
Lake
05:32 Song of Myanmar
Beauty & Scenic
Sights "Mingalabar"
05:36 Peaceful & Developed
Dawei
05:40 **Headline News**
05:42 Myanmar Profile "Fast
Food"
05:45 **National News**
05:50 Moyoingyi Wildlife
Sanctuary
05:55 Wararya' Dance
05:58 New Vogue Flower
Arrangement
06:00 **National News**
06:05 Travelogue (PyinOo
Lwin)
06:10 Songs "Love Slave"
06:15 **National News**

- 06:20 Production of A
Delicious Seafood
06:25 Song On Screen "Phe-
nomena of Love"
06:30 **National News**
06:35 Fabulous Bagan (II)
06:40 Poppy Substitute Crop
Cultivation in Border
Areas
06:45 **National News**
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Handicraft Centre
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Pawah
07:00 **National News**
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Traditoinal Long
Drum
07:10 Myanmar Modern
Song "Come, Visit My
Home"
07:12 Hta Pwe (or) Mogok
Gems Market
07:15 **National News**
07:20 Naga Traditional Cos-
tumes and Dances
07:28 Song of Myanmar
Beauty & Scenic
Sights "Come and See
Myanmar"

Weather Map of Myanmar and Neighbouring Areas


WEATHER

Tuesday, 11 May, 2004

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST:
During the past 24 hours, weather has been partly cloudy in upper Sagaing Division and Kayah State and rain or thunder-showers have been widespread in Mon State and Taninthayi Division, scattered in Kachin State, Yangan and Ayeyawady Divisions and isolated in the remaining areas. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Thaton (1.97) inches and Putao (1.57) inches. Day temperatures were (3°C) below normal in Yangan Division, (5°C) below normal in Taninthayi Division, (3°C) to (4°C) above normal in Shan State, Sagaing, Mandalay and Bago Divisions, (5°C) to (6°C) above normal in Chin State, Magway and Ayeyawady Divisions and about normal in the remaining areas. Significant day temperature was (44°C) in Magway.

Maximum temperature on 10-5-2004 was 32.0°C (90°F). Minimum temperature on 11-5-2004 was 22.5°C (72°F). Relative humidity at 9:30 hrs MST on 11-5-2004 was 96%. Total sunshine hours on 10-5-2004 was 4.1 hours approx. Rainfall on 11-5-2004 was 3mm (0.12 inch) at Yangan Airport, 8mm (0.32 inch) at Kaba-Aye and 11mm (0.43 inch) at central Yangan. Total rainfall since 1-1-2004 was 59 mm (2.32 inches) at Yangan Airport and 87 mm (3.43 inches) at Kaba-Aye and 90 mm (3.54 inches) at central Yangan. Maximum wind speed at Yangan (Kaba-Aye) was 8 mph from Southwest at (18:30) hours MST on 10-5-2004.

Bay inference: Weather is cloudy in Andaman Sea Central and South Bay and partly cloudy elsewhere in the Bay of Bengal. **Forecast valid until evening of 12-5-2004:** Rain or thunder-showers will be widespread in Mon State, Yangan and Taninthayi Divisions, scattered in Kachin, Shan, Kayin States, upper Sagaing, Ayeyawady and Bago Divisions and isolated in the remaining areas. Degree of certainty is (80%). **State of the sea:** Seas will be slight to moderate in Myanmar waters. **Outlook for subsequent two days:** Advancement of Southwest Monsoon are likely into southern Myanmar areas. **Forecast for Yangan and neighbouring area for 12-5-2004:** Some rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (80%). **Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 12-5-2004:** Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (60%).

Earthquake Report

(Issued at 16:30 hours MST on today)

An earthquake of slight intensity (6.1 Richter Scale with its epicentre outside of Myanmar about (1167) miles Southeast of Kaba-Aye seismological observatory was recorded at (15) hrs, (02) min, (34) sec, MST on 11th May 2004.



Wednesday, May 12

View today:

- 7:00 am
1. Recitation of Parittas by
Missionary Sayadaw
U Ottamathara
7:25 am
2. To be healthy exercise
7:30 am
3. Morning news
7:40 am
4. Nice and sweet song
7:55 am
5. မြေပြေပြေ ယဉ်ကျေးမှုအက
8:10 am
6. အတိတ်ပြန်
8:20 am
7. ဆုတောင်းတေး
8:30 am
8. International news

- 8:45 am
9. Happy And Educational
English Summer Course
MRTV
4:00 am
1. Martial song
4:15 am
2. Songs to uphold
National Spirit
4:30 am
3. Practice in reading
4:45 am
4. Musical programme
5:00 pm
5. အဝေးသံတေးသီချင်း ယဉ်ကျေးမှု
ရုပ်မြင်သံကြား သင်ခန်းစာ
-တတိယနံပါတ် (သမ္မာအထူးပြု)
(သမ္မာ)
5:15 pm
6. Classical Song
5:30 pm
7. Songs of national races
5:45 pm
8. ယုဒသမ္မတတေး
5:55 pm
9. Musical programme

- 6:10 pm
10. ရွယ်ယံလင်း အသံသံအစဉ်
6:20 pm
11. Discovery
6:30 pm
12. Evening news
7:00 pm
13. Weather report
7:05 pm
14. Strong And Healthy
Myanmar
7:20 pm
15. Musical programme
7:35 pm
16. ရွယ်ယံလင်း အသံသံအစဉ်
အသံသံအစဉ်
(အသံသံ)
8:00 pm
17. News
18. International news
19. Weather report
20. နိုင်ငံခြားတေးသံအစဉ်
"အနုပညာသံ" (အသံသံ-၃၄)
21. The next day's
programme

**Wednesday, May 12
Tune in today:**

- 8:30 am Brief news
8:35 am Music: Toyboy (Babi
Lonia)
8:40 am Perspectives
8:45 am Music: Lollipop
(Aqua)
8:50 am National news/
Slogan
Music:
9:00 am -Party people Friday
night (911)
9:05 am International news
9:10 am Music:
-Book of love (Hit &
hide)
1:30 pm News/Slogan
1:40 pm Lunch Time Music:
-How could I (Max
Anthony)
-Every morning
(Sugar Ray)
-Stay the same (Joy
Meintyre)
9:00 pm Variations on a tune:
"Seasons in the Sun"
-Fortunes
-Andy Williams
Article/Music
9:15 pm
9:25 pm Music at your request
-Baby don't you hurt
me (Atomic Kitten)
-Until the end of time
(Westlife)
-Last thing on my
mind (Steps)
9:45 pm News/Slogan
10:00 pm PEL

Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and wife visit Mann Shwesettaw Pagoda

YANGON, 11 May—Vice-Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and wife Daw Mya Mya San, accompanied by Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Soe Win and wife Daw Than Than Nwe, members of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Ye Myint and Lt-Gen Thiha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo, Commander-in-Chief (Navy) Rear-Admiral Soe Thein, Commander-in-Chief (Air) Lt-Gen Myat Hein and Chairman of Mandalay Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Central Command Maj-Gen Ye Myint and their wives, the ministers and their wives and officials, paid a visit to the Mann Shwesettaw

Pagoda in Minbu (Saku) Township, Magway Division, yesterday. Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and wife and party paid homage to the Buddha's footprint (lower) and offered gold foils to it. They also visited the Buddha's footprint (upper) and paid homage to the Ahtetsettawya Pagoda. Next, they offered gold foils to the pagoda. Vice-Senior General Maung Aye inspected tasks for all-round renovation of the pagoda and gave instructions to the officials concerned. Vice-Senior General Maung Aye made cash donations to the pagoda. Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and wife and party signed in the visitors' book.

Next, Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and wife and party visited the Maha Myat Muni Buddha Image in Mann Settaw Koekhangyi Prayer Hall.—MNA



Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and wife Daw Mya Mya San pay homage to the Ahtetsettawya Pagoda in Minbu (Saku) Township, Magway Division. — MNA

All delegates are believed to attend forthcoming National Convention which will lead the Union to stable, firm future

Government supporting and protecting invaluable strength and vitality of literature for emergence of a literary structure serving national interest to raise standard of people

Central Body of MWJA holds third meeting

YANGON, 11 May —The third meeting of Central Body of Myanmar Writers and Journalists Association was held at the Pyidaungsu Hall in Kyaikkasan Grounds, this morning, with an address by Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt.

Also present were Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Soe Win, Secretary-2 Lt-Gen Thein Sein, Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Myint Swe, the ministers, the chief justice, the auditor-general, the Yangon mayor, the deputy ministers, officials of the State Peace and Development Council Office, heads of departments, Chairman of MWJA U Hla Myaing (Ko Hsaung), CEC members, literati, officials of social organizations, delegates, observers and guests.

Joint Secretary of MWJA Dr Tin Tun Oo acted as master of ceremonies. In his address, Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt said:

At present, the Government has been giving encouragement for further effectiveness and firmness of the national strength and power, while striving in all sectors for the nation and people to stand tall among the world countries with high national pride and dignity.

First, I would like to say that **the efforts of all the literati to preserve and uplift the fine traditions and effective power of literature, that can help raise the**

national strength, with national spirit, is good outcome of the expeditious endeavours to firmly build the national strength.

As now is the time all the national people are joining hands and making self-reliant efforts for progress and prosperity of the nation and the race and for protecting and raising the national interest on the international front, we will be able to realize our visions only if we can maintain and promote national vigilance and strength.

Moreover, the flourishing of good spiritual foundations such as the spirit to cherish and build the nation, the spirit to prevent the Union from collapse, and the spirit to protect and cement national unity is the essential national strength that must be built for firmness and perpetuation of the nation, the people and the Union.

In this regard, literati must accept the duty to always strive with the power of the pen for all the literary forces of the nation to unitedly stand under the banner of the MWJA and to vitalize the national spirit of the entire mass of people of the country. Men of letters must accept the fact that literature has greater influence and impact upon all the sectors encompassing the spiritual and physical build-up of the country and has the constructive power to serve the interest of the nation.

The Government has already upheld the conviction

that literature has the power to promote the entire people's education standard, uplift the moral standard, perpetuate the traditions and culture and national character, to promote the intellectual level of all the national races

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Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt addresses the third meeting of the Central Body of Myanmar Writers and Journalists Association — MNA

