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China will never interfere in Myanmar's internal affairs General Khin Nyunt calls on PRC President Hu Jintao

YANGON, 19 July —Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt paid a courtesy call on President of the People's Republic of China Mr Hu Jintao at Fujian Hall at the Great Hall of the People in Beijing at 3.15 pm on 13 July.

Present together with Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt were member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Maung Bo, Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation Maj-Gen Nyunt Tin, Minister for Industry-1 U Aung Thaung, Minister for Foreign Affairs U Win Aung, Minister for Hotels and Tourism and for Communications, Posts and Telegraphs Brig-Gen Thein Zaw, Minister for Energy Brig-Gen Lun Thi, Minister for Electric Power Maj-Gen Tin Htut, Myanmar Ambassador to China U Thein Lwin, Director-General of Protocol Department Thura U Aung Htet and Director-General of Political Department U Thaung Tun.

Also present were PRC Minister of Foreign Affairs Mr Li Zhaoxing, Vice-Minister Mr Wang Yi, Chinese Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Li Jinjun and senior officials. President Mr Hu Jintao thanked Myanmar for constant support to one China policy. He said the PRC would provide assistance for economic progress of Myanmar as far as possible and raise the momentum of bilateral cooperation in every sector.

The PRC president said China would never interfere in Myanmar's internal Affairs. He also expressed his pleasure for the Sino-Myanmar relations based on the Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence remains unchanged. The relations have strengthened understanding and cooperation between the two countries, he said. —MNA



Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt calls on President of the PRC Mr Hu Jintao at Fujian Hall at the Great Hall of the People in Beijing on 13 July. — MNA



Prime Minister, NPC Chairman discuss strengthening of bilateral friendship

YANGON, 19 July — Prime Minister of the Union of Myanmar General Khin Nyunt on 13 July called on Chairman of the National People's Congress of China Mr Wu Bangguo in Beijing.

At the meeting, they discussed matters relating to

Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt greets Mr Wu Bangguo, Chairman of the National People's Congress of China on 13 July. — MNA

strengthening friendship, cooperation and mutual respects between the two countries.

Also present at the call were Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Maung Bo, Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation Maj-Gen Nyunt Tin, Minister for Industry-1 U Aung Thaung, Minister for Foreign Affairs U Win Aung, Minister for Hotels and Tourism and for Communications, Posts and Telegraphs Brig-Gen Thein

Zaw, Minister for Energy Brig-Gen Lun Thi, Minister for Electric Power Maj-Gen Tin Htut, Myanmar Ambassador to China U Thein Lwin and departmental officials, Mr Jiang Enzhu, Director of Committee of Foreign Affairs of NPC, Mr Cao Weizhou, Deputy Secretary-General of NPC, Vice-Minister of Foreign Affairs of the PRC Mr Wang Yi, Chinese Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Li Jinjun and officials.

MNA

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

PERSPECTIVES

Tuesday, 20 July, 2004

Prime Minister's PRC visit — a shot in the arm for mutual friendship and cooperation

The Paukphaw friendship and cooperation between the Union of Myanmar and the People's Republic of China has been flourishing satisfactorily for a long time and reciprocal visits of the leaders of the two nations have deepened and strengthened this friendship.

At the invitation of Premier Mr Wen Jiabao of the People's Republic of China, Prime Minister of the Union of Myanmar General Khin Nyunt and wife Dr Daw Khin Win Shwe paid an official visit to the People's Republic of China from 11 to 18 July. Premier of the State Council of the People's Republic of China Mr Wen Jiabao welcomed Prime Minister of the Union of Myanmar General Khin Nyunt and wife Dr Daw Khin Win Shwe at the Great Hall of the People in Beijing on 12 July. The two Prime Ministers held discussions at the Great Hall of the People.

At the discussions, Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt said that Myanmar wanted to cooperate with China on a mutually beneficial basis in energy, mining, hydel power, agriculture, communications, industrial, trade and investment for boosting economic cooperation between the two countries, that there were many fields to invest in agriculture, industrial, oil, natural gas, mining and forestry sectors of Myanmar, that he thanked China for providing assistance for economic development, that Myanmar and China had been cooperating in international affairs and that Myanmar had pledged to adopt One-China Policy in the international arena.

In his response, Premier Mr Wen Jiabao said that the People's Republic of China would pay special attention to Myanmar in dealing with neighbouring countries, that he thanked Myanmar for her stance in support of One-China Policy, that China wanted to promote cooperation in energy, mining, communications, agriculture and forestry sectors and that China had been providing assistance for economic plans proposed by Myanmar.

Agreement on Economic and Technical Cooperation, Exchange of Notes on the Project of International Convention Centre, Exchange of Notes on the Master Plan for Hydropower Projects in Myanmar, Exchange of Notes on the Master Plan for Thanlyin-Kyauktan Industrial Zone, Exchange of Notes extending 50 million RMB Yuan interest-free loan for the provision and shipment of rails for the Myanmar Government, MoU between the Ministry of Communications, Posts & Telegraphs of Myanmar and the Ministry of Information Industry of PRC in the field of Information and Communications, Agreement on the Financing Plan for No 4 Urea Fertilizer Factory at Taikkyi between the Export-Import Bank of China and Ministry of Finance and Revenue of Myanmar, Debt Rescheduling Agreement between China Export & Credit Insurance Corporation and Ministry of Finance and Revenue of Myanmar, the Supply Contract for Myanmar National Telecommunication Network Construction Project between Myanmar Posts and Telecommunications and ZTE Corporation, Tagaung Taung Nickel Mineral Exploration and Feasibility Study Agreement between No 3 Mining Enterprise and China Non-ferrous Metal Mining & Construction Co Ltd, MoU between the Ministry of Industry-1 of Myanmar and China Metallurgical Construction (Group) Corporation for Extension of 200 Pulp Plant (Thabaung) and Proposed 500 TPD Plant (Rakhine), Supply Contract between Myanmar Posts and Telecommunication and ZTE Corporation for GSM System Expansion Project were signed.

We believe Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt's visit to China is a shot in the arm for friendship and cooperation between Myanmar and China.



Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt presents souvenirs to a staff of Myanmar Embassy in China. — MNA

Prime Minister meets staffs of Myanmar embassy, military attaché's office, and scholars in Beijing

YANGON, 19 July — Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt, wife Dr Daw Khin Win Shwe and entourage visited at the Myanmar Embassy in Beijing on 11 July, the day they arrived Beijing. On arrival at the embassy, they were welcomed there by Myanmar Ambassador U Thein Lwin and wife Daw Nwe Nwe Han, Military Attaché Col Sein George and wife Daw Kyi Kyi Oo, embassy staff, military attaché's office staff and families, and Myanmar national scholars studying in China.

First, the ambassador and wife, the military attaché and wife, embassy staff and military attaché's office staff paid respects to Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt and wife Dr Daw Khin Win Shwe in accord with the tradition of Buddhism. Next, Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt and wife Dr Daw Khin Win Shwe presented gifts to the staffs of both the embassy and the military attaché's office.

On the occasion, Myanmar scholars also paid respects to Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt and wife Dr Daw Khin Win Shwe. At the hall of the embassy, Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt met with the staffs of both the embassy

and the military attaché's office and the scholars and gave instructions on promotion of cooperation and bilateral ties between the two countries by adhering to the diplomatic ethics directed by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, studying the fast-developing trend of the host China, and exerting efforts to further strengthen the friendship cultivated between the two countries. He also explained matters related to agreements reached between the two countries for economic cooperation, the reason of his visit to China by leading a team comprising ministers and deputy ministers, and the holding of the National Convention successfully as the first phase of the seven-point future policy programme. Later, the Prime Minister urged the scholars to study hard and to take part in national development measures by employing what they will have learnt.

Next, Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt and wife Dr Daw Khin Win Shwe enjoyed the dinner together with the families of the embassy staff. Afterwards, Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt and wife Dr Daw Khin Win Shwe arrived back at Diaoyutai State Guest House. — MNA



Staff families of Myanmar Embassy welcomes Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt. — MNA



Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt greets staff families of Myanmar Embassy in China. — MNA

US airstrike in Fallujah kills 14, Iraq says it approved the attack

BAGHDAD, 18 July— A US airstrike authorized by Iraqi interim Prime Minister Iyad Allawi hit purported trenches and fighting positions in Fallujah used by al-Qaida linked foreign fighters, killing 14 people early Sunday, Iraqi officials said.

Word that Allawi approved the early morning attack was a clear attempt to show that the Iraqi government has taken full sovereignty from the Americans and has firm control, despite its deep reliance on the 160,000 foreign troops, mainly from United States.

We worked with the government, the government was fully informed about these matters, agreed with us on

the need to take the action, we conducted the action," Deputy Secretary of State Richard Armitage said during a news conference here. We didn't just strike off on our own, a sovereign nation had to agree."

Also Sunday, Philippine leaders said they would finish withdrawing their small contingent of troops from Iraq as early as Monday in keeping with the demands of kidnappers holding a Filipino truck

driver hostage.

Since the Marines pulled back from Fallujah a focal point of resistance to the US occupation after besieging the city for three weeks in April, the US military has been limited to using missiles attacks and airstrikes to hit potential targets there.

Fallujah Mayor Mahmoud Ibrahim al-Jirisi said the attack hit a site for civilians supporting the Fallujah Brigade, a militia

of local residents that took responsibility for security in the city when the Marines left.

"There are no Arabs or foreigners with them," he told the pan-Arab television station Al-Jazeera.

Explosions from the 2 am strike Sunday rocked the city.

The attack, the sixth US strike on the city in roughly a month, killed 14 people and injured three, according to Saad al-Amili, a Health Ministry official.

Internet

Blair faces fresh fire over Iraq policy

LONDON, 18 July— Britain's Tony Blair will face a fresh barrage of criticism this week over his decision to wage war on Iraq, as opinion polls warn of the threat of a voter backlash in a general election likely within a year.

The prime minister will defend his Iraq policy at a parliamentary debate on Tuesday, with his critics accusing him of misleading Britain over Iraq's alleged weapons of mass destruction — the reason given for a war most Britons opposed.

Blair remains on track to

win a third term in an election he is expected to call in the first half of next year but Iraq has crushed his public trust ratings and voter anger over the war could slash his Labour Party's massive parliamentary majority.

"What's absolutely clear now is that in order to try and win round the Labour rebels, Tony Blair actually deceived his own party and thereby deceived parliament and deceived the public," said Tim Yeo, member of parliament (MP) for the opposition Conservative Party.

Asked on Sky News if Blair had "knowingly" misled MPs over Iraq's weapons, Yeo said: "I believe so."

Iraq hit Blair in parliamentary by-elections on Thursday when the anti-war Liberal Democrats, Britain's third party, overturned a Labour majority of more than 13,000 to win one seat and almost won a second Labour stronghold.

The polls — which reflected Labour's poor performance in June local council and European elections — came one day after a damning report exposed gaping holes in the pre-war intelligence on Iraq's lethal weapons.

The report, by former civil servant Lord Butler, absolved Blair of distorting intelligence but it contradicted claims Iraq's banned weapons were ready for use and showed that vital caveats were dropped from the spies' assessments.

Internet



A US Black Hawk helicopter prepares to land in Saint Michael Camp in Mahmudiyah on 17 July, 2004.

INTERNET

Medicinal fruit festival to be held in N-W China

BEIJING, 18 July— The Fourth China Ningxia Gouqi Festival will be held from August 8 to 10 in the northwest-ern Ningxia Hui Autonomous Region, the organizing committee said here Friday.

Ningxia is the leading production base of Gouqi, the fruit of Chinese wolfberry which has long been used in traditional Chinese medicine or as a tonic element.

The festival, jointly sponsored by the State Forestry Administration and the Ningxia regional government, is aimed at expanding Ningxia's Gouqi market and promoting the growth of Gouqi-related industries, Zhang Laiwu, deputy chairman of the regional government, said at a Press conference.

More than 500 Chinese and foreign businessmen, company representatives and scholars are expected to attend the three-day

event, which consists of trade fairs, a symposium on the development of the related industries and a photo exhibition, said Han Shanning, director of the regional forestry department, who is also in charge of the festival organization.

As the original producing place, Ningxia boasts a 600-year history of planting Chinese wolfberry trees.

So far, the region has more than 21,300 hectares of land grown with the plant, producing more than 40,000 tons of dried fruit a year, accounting for 26 per cent and 42 per cent, respectively, of the country's total, said Zhang.

MNA/Xinhua

Bhutani diplomat nominated next SAARC secretary-general

KATHMANDU, 19 July — Bhutan has nominated Chenkyab Dorji, its Ambassador to Thailand, as the next secretary-general of the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC), *The Kathmandu Post* newspaper reported Sunday.

Chenkyab Dorji would be formally appointed as the eighth secretary-general of the SAARC in the near future, the independent English daily quoted a news carried on the Bhutani weekly *Kuensel* as saying.

His nomination is expected to be endorsed during the SAARC Council of Ministers' inter-summit session that starts Tuesday in Islamabad, Pakistan.

MNA/Xinhua

Arroyo inaugurates infra projects

MANILA, 18 July— Philippine President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo Saturday inaugurated the groundbreaking ceremony for several job-creating, trade and tourism promotion and information technology projects in Dumaguete City and Negros Oriental, central Philippines.

This is part of the President's pro-poor 10-point agenda she presented during her campaign for re-election and vowed to realize in her inauguration speech on June 30. Arroyo said at a sports and cultural centre in Dumaguete City that she is confident her plan for creating 10 million jobs through such infrastructure projects will be realized during her six-year presidential term.

The projects she inaugurated Saturday include the a 1,000-seat convention centre, a passenger port terminal in Dumaguete City, and a local high school.

The Philippine Govern-

Philippines speeds up pullout of troops from Iraq

MANILA, 18 July—A day before the scheduled deadline for the beheading of Filipino truck driver Angelo de la Cruz in Iraq, the government is now rushing to pull out all the remaining members of the Philippine humanitarian contingent from the strife-torn country.

The Iraqi militants who kidnapped de la Cruz have threatened to behead him on July 20, their final deadline, prompting the government to withdraw its troops out of Iraq a month ahead of the scheduled August 20 pullout.

As Acting Foreign Affairs Secretary Delia Albert announced the complete pullout of the remaining Filipino troops in Iraq, a second corpse dressed in an orange jumpsuit was found in the Tigris river.

The account posted at the website of the Al-Jazeera network sparked fears in

some quarters that the second corpse could be de la Cruz's body.

Albert said the remaining members of the humanitarian contingent will make their exit call on the new Polish commander in Camp Charlie in Babil province in Iraq on Monday morning. They will be accompanied by the head of the Iraq crisis team, Ambassador Roy Cimatu.

"After the call, the remaining members of the contingent will then proceed to Kuwait and from there return to Manila by commercial flight. Arrangements for the return flight are being made by the Philippine Embassy in Kuwait," said Albert on Sunday.

She added that the exact date and time of arrival in the Philippines of the remaining troops from Iraq will be announced as soon as details are available.

Internet



Iraqi National Guardsmen secure a checkpoint to inspect oil tanker in the oil fields of al-Zubayr, 20 kms south of Basra, southern Iraq, on 17 July, 2004.—INTERNET

Head of Philippine contingent in Iraq arrives home

MANILA, 18 July—The head of Philippine troops in Iraq returned to Manila today, the first of the 51-member contingent to come home after the Philippines said it would withdraw them to save the life of a Filipino hostage.

Brigadier-General Jovito Palparan arrived on a commercial flight ahead of the remaining soldiers and police officers, part of a non-combat contingent that was deployed in August last year as part of a multinational force supporting the US-led war in Iraq.

"I am happy to be back," Palparan told reporters at the Manila international airport. "Our troops back there are all okay. They are preparing to leave soon."

He declined to give further details about the withdrawal of the remaining troops deployed at Camp Charlie in al-Hillah, south of Baghdad.

Yesterday, the Philippines said the troops would leave today to save the life of a Filipino hostage, truck driver Angelo de la Cruz, threatened with beheading unless the

country pulls its humanitarian contingent out of Baghdad.

Foreign Affairs Secretary Delia Albert said in a statement that Philippine Ambassador Roy Cimatu would accompany them in an exit call on the new Polish commander in Iraq today. "After the call, the remaining contingent will then proceed to Kuwait and from there return to Manila by commercial flight," she said.

The government said on Saturday that 11 of its 51-member humanitarian contingent had already arrived in Kuwait from Iraq and were expected to reach Manila on Monday, a move the Philippines hopes will appease the captors of de la Cruz.

The troops were scheduled to leave on August 20, but the date was advanced to satisfy the kidnappers. —*Internet*



Iraqi policemen rescue one of the victims of an explosion at the site of an attack targeting a convoy for the Iraqi Minister of Justice, Malek Dohan al-Hassan on 17 July, 2004.

INTERNET

World's leading paint provider builds new factory in China

SHANGHAI, 18 July—Akzo Nobel, the world's leading coating provider based in the Netherlands, put into operation its third paint factory in China on Friday in the eastern province of Zhejiang, the company announced in Shanghai.

The new paint enterprise, Akzo Nobel Paint (Jiaxing) Co., Ltd. based in Jiaxing City, covers an area of 7.3 hectares and has a registered capital of five million US dollars.

The first-phase investment of the enterprise totalled 10 million US dollars and its annual output value is expected to reach 48.36 million US dollars, believed to be the largest industrial

coating enterprise in China at present.

Prior to the new factory, Akzo Nobel already has had two workshops in China, one in Guangdong and the other in Tianjin.

Rudy van der Meer, Akzo Nobel Paint president, said the new factory will mainly produce and sell woodenware paint, plastic paint and metal paint.

According to him, paint

consumption is a new and developing market in China.

Compared with the per capita paint consumption of 20 litres annually in West European countries, the figure in China only stands at one litre.

From this point of view, China's paint industry has great development potential, he said

MNA/Xinhua

Indonesia cuts number of firms operating in protected forest

JAKARTA, 18 July—The Indonesian Government promised that no more mining companies would be allowed to operate in protected forests despite the possibility of other concessionaires filing lawsuits against the government, *Jakarta Post* reported Saturday.

Environment Minister Nabel Makarim was quoted as saying that the government anticipated lawsuit by more than 100 other mining firms that wanted to operate in the protected forest.

"The risks of (being sued) have been minimized. We do not make the choices, they (the Ministry of Mineral Resources) do. The 13 companies would have most likely (won lawsuits) as they

had already invested huge amount of money there," Makarim said.

The minister said that over 150 mining companies had initially been given concessions in protected forest, but his ministry managed to cut the number of firms allowed to operate to 13.

He said that the other companies had not started explorations or had not completed their documents or had

invested very little in exploration. "The government has reduced the number of mining companies from 150 to 13. I think that is quite an achievement. It's a political decision that we must honour," Makarim stressed.

He also said that his ministry would include the requirement for an Environment Impact Analysis for mining companies.

MNA/Xinhua

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Two policemen killed in bomb blasts in Iraq's Tikrit

BAGHDAD, 18 July—Two car bombs targeted Iraqi police installations blasted in Tikrit on Sunday, killing two police officers and wounding five others, Iraqi police said.

One car bomb exploded near the Albu-Ajil police station in Tikrit, killing two police officers and wounding two others, according to an Iraqi police officer.

Another car bomb exploded near a police academy in the city Sunday morning, wounding three officers and damaging 10 cars, the officer added. Tikrit is the hometown of the ousted president Saddam Hussein and was a bastion of insurgency against the US-led occupation of Iraq.

Insurgents have targeted police and local officials, whom they consider collaborators with US forces. —*Internet*

Fallujans demand to use oil revenue to rebuild homes

FALLUJAH, 18 July—Fallujans carrying banners reading "rebuild our houses from our oil revenues" are staging sit-in protests demanding compensation for property destroyed during last April's US military offensive.

Demonstrators say they will not end their sit-in until their demands are met. They acknowledged that some aid has reached the city, but they told Aljazeera's correspondent it is "nothing in comparison to the cost of the damage already inflicted by US warplanes".

They have called on international humanitarian organizations to come up with immediate solutions to end their prolonged suffering. A Fallujanative told Aljazeera.net that his cousin's family of five has been living in his house since April.

"Their house was destroyed, my cousin -

like me and many others - is unemployed. Where will he get the funds to rebuild his house? Fifteen people are now been living in my two-bed rooms house since last April. Is that acceptable?" asked Abd Allah al-Dulaymi.

"Are they not selling oil, why they do not spend its revenues on our people?"

The people of Falluja are insisting on getting the interim Baghdad government's attention and are hoping peaceful means of airing their grievances will help them gain the initiative.

Internet

China part of int'l photo competition on environment starts

BEIJING, 18 July—The China part of the Fourth International Photographic Competition on the Environment started in Beijing on Friday.

With the theme of "celebrating diversity", this year's competition encourages professional photographers as well as amateurs to submit works on biodiversity.

Officially launched in 1991 in New York and Tokyo, the International Photographic Competition on the Environment is held every four years by the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP). It was designed to serve as a powerful voice in raising global awareness and promoting action to save the environment.

The past three competitions have collected tens of thousands of photos from 160 countries, of which Chinese ones account for one

fifth. The gold prize of the first competition went to a photo named "Colourful Hot Springs" by Luo Jinhui, a Chinese photographer.

"We hope to encourage the Chinese public to shoot photos on environmental problems or progress around them. We believe it is an effective way to promote environmental protection awareness," said Xia Kunbao, coordinator of UNEP's China office. Pan Xulin, photographer of *China News Agency* who has registered for the 2004 competition, said there will be more quality works from China due to spreading digital cameras and increasing public awareness of the environment of the country in recent years. — MNA/Xinhua



A US Army soldier looks at facilities for detainees to meet their families at the US detention centre Camp Bucca, near Umm Qasir in southern Iraq on 16 July, 2004.

INTERNET

Dutch prepared to forgive some Iraq debt

AMSTERDAM, 18 July — The Netherlands is prepared to grant Iraq debt relief on some of the 245 million euros it is owed in export credit and interest, a Dutch minister was quoted as saying on Saturday.

Development Minister Agnes van Ardenne said in an answer to a parliamentary question it was not yet clear how much of the debt would be forgiven, saying more information was needed as to how much Iraq would be able to repay, news agency ANP reported.

The centre-right Dutch Government sup-

ported last year's US-led war in Iraq and won approval last month to extend the mandate of the some 1,300 Dutch troops serving in the country.

Iraq wants a big write-off on its estimated 120-billion-US-dollar debt to international creditors.

MNA/Reuters

Clinton warns US not to interfere in Australian politics

SYDNEY, 19 July — Former US President Bill Clinton warned that interference in Australian politics by the United States, which has sharply criticized the opposition Labour Party over withdrawing troops from Iraq, could backfire.

Senior US officials, including President George W Bush and Secretary of State Colin Powell, have been pressuring Labour to drop a promise to bring Australian troops home from Iraq by Christmas if it wins a knife-edge poll tipped for October.

"If I were in their position, the Bush position, I think it would be okay to say I hope that after this election, whoever wins, the Australians will continue to support the reconstruction of Iraq because it's been blessed by the UN," Clinton said in an Australian Broadcasting Corporation interview to be aired on Monday.

The former president told "Enough Rope" every country had a vested interest in ensuring Iraq was a stable and secure nation now the reconstruction had the backing of the United Nations, whether it had supported the US-led war or not.

"Beyond that I don't think we should say much because if you get too tough, then for one thing you are almost intervening in another country's politics," he said.

"And secondly, it's probably going to backfire because most people don't like outsiders telling them how to vote."

The row between the United States and Australia's opposition Labour Party over withdrawing troops from Iraq began to cool on last week when a US envoy praised the party for signalling a policy change ahead of an election.

Labour leader Mark Latham renewed his pledge in a foreign policy speech last week, but made a bid to mend US relations by saying he would leave diplomatic security personnel in Iraq and warships and aircraft in the Gulf to protect Iraqi interests. He also said a Labour government would allocate 55 million US dollars over two years to send Customs officers, health workers and administrative staff to Iraq. — MNA/Reuters



A slightly injured resident stands near the site of a car bomb which was detonated on the convoy of Iraqi Justice Minister Malik Dohan al-Hassan in Baghdad, Iraq, on 17 July, 2004. —INTERNET

Albanian police destroy 3.7 tons of drug

TIRANA, 18 July — The Albanian police destroyed on Saturday in Gjirokaster, southern Albania, 3.7 tons of drug, the ATA news agency reported.

The destroyed narcotic substance was captured during anti-traffic operation in the past three years, mostly at the border belt with Greece, the police said.

Meanwhile, the police also destroyed on Saturday 1,240 cannabis plants (Indian hemp) grown in Mazrek Village of Shkoder, northern Albania.

MNA/Xinhua

Nigeria bans outdoor tobacco advertising

LAGOS, 18 July — The Nigerian Government will prohibit outdoor tobacco advertising across the country from next year to reduce the attraction of cigarette smoking to young people and exposure to health hazards, a government official said here Friday.

The Advertisement Council of Nigeria has issued directives to tobacco manufacturers, merchants and the advertising agencies and the ban would become effective from December 31, said Odumpe Morenike, spokesman of the council.

The ban was necessitated by the need to balance business and social responsibility, he said, adding that many youngsters had taken to smoking necessitating "appropriate protection for others from over exposure to the aesthetics and glamour of the fantasy world of tobacco created by advertisers". The Nigerian Ministry of Health had reported that it treated many cases of tuberculosis, bronchitis, lung cancer and chest pain resulting from smoking among young people between the age of 13 and 23 in 2003. — MNA/Xinhua



An Iraqi investigator examines the site of a car bomb which was detonated on the convoy of Iraqi Justice Minister Malik Dohan al-Hassan in Baghdad, Iraq, on Saturday, 17 July, 2004. —INTERNET

India, Sri Lanka to enhance economic cooperation

NEW DELHI, 18 July — India today said it is looking at new areas for enhancing economic cooperation with Sri Lanka, including agriculture, and a line of credit for the island nation was in the pipeline.

New Delhi will also review the double taxation avoidance treaty with Colombo, Union Finance Minister P Chidambaram said after a meeting with visiting Sri Lankan Prime Minister Mahinda Rajapaksa here.

"We discussed areas of future cooperation. They are eager to learn from our experience," he said, adding India was considering a line of credit for Sri Lanka and the details will be worked out.

Future areas of cooperation included milk and dairy processing, fruits, horticulture and road infrastructure, he said, adding "substantial talks will be held when the two Prime Ministers meet" "It was a general

exchange of views as you know we have a Free Trade Agreement with Sri Lanka.

We were also discussing other agreements.

I discussed progress of agreements in other areas and FTA. There are one or two problems which we will sort out", he said.

Chidambaram gave the details of the Golden Quadrilateral Project to the Sri Lankan Premier. He said the double taxation avoidance treaty between the two countries will be reviewed.

Food and Agriculture Minister Sharad Pawar also called on the Sri Lankan Premier.

PTI

African states seek protection for rare diet plant

JOHANNESBURG, 18 July — Southern African countries are seeking to restrict trade in a rare plant hungrily sought by drug companies for its appetite-suppressing properties, a government official said on Friday.

The Hoodia cactus has been used for thousands of years by southern Africa's San Bushmen to dampen their appetites during long treks through the harsh Kalahari Desert and holds the key to potentially lucrative anti-obesity drugs.

South Africa's Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) has patented the chemical entity extracted from Hoodia and licensed British drugs-from-plants firm Phytopharm Plc to develop the plant's commercial potential.

South Africa, Botswana and Namibia have proposed giving Hoodia an Appendix II listing at October's meeting of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) in Bangkok.

Trade in species listed on Appendix II "must be controlled in order to avoid utilization incompatible with their survival", according to CITES regulations.

"By putting it on Appendix II we will have control over the amount of plants that leave South Africa," Sonja Meintjes, assistant di-

rector trade and regulation at South Africa's department of environmental affairs and tourism, told Reuters.

Inclusion in Appendix II normally means that trade can only be done with a CITES permit and would therefore make previous permits null and void.

Phytopharm said it was confident of being granted a CITES permit and welcomed moves to protect Hoodia.

"This strengthens our position substantially by making the unauthorized exportation of Hoodia illegal, rather than merely naughty," Chief Executive Richard Dixey told Reuters in a telephone interview.

"We would have a CITES permit because it is actually issued by the governments. We are the patent holder and we are working very closely with the South African Government and we are in discussions with the Namibian Government, for example," he said.

Phytopharm is in talks to license an appetite suppressant derived from Hoodia to a major food company.

San Bushmen organiza-

tions have said they hope to share in any profits derived from the drug.

"We would like to see the communities where the plants are harvested benefit," said Meintjes.

MNA/Reuters

100 injured as storm hits Bangladesh

DHAKA, 18 July — At least 100 people including women and children were injured and 200 homes damaged when a storm hit six villages of the northeastern district of Sunamganj in the early hours Saturday.

Of the injured persons, 10 were admitted to the Sunamganj General Hospital, according to the official news agency BSS.

The storm lasted for two to three minutes and rendered over 200 families homeless and uprooted innumerable trees.

Two separate teams comprising 12 members each were sent by the local government to the affected areas to assess the extent of damage.

MNA/Xinhua

Blair admits Iraq graves claim untrue

LONDON, 19 July — British Prime Minister Tony Blair's office has admitted that repeated claims that 400,000 bodies had been found in Iraqi mass graves were untrue, *The Observer* newspaper reported on Sunday.

According to the paper, only 5,000 corpses have been uncovered so far.

The claims by Blair last November and December were given widespread credence, quoted by British lawmakers and widely published, including in the introduction to a US Government pamphlet on Iraq's mass graves.

"We've already discovered, just so far, the remains of 400,000 people in mass graves," Blair was quoted as saying on November 20 in the publication Iraq's Legacy of Terror: Mass Graves produced by USAID, the US Government aid distribution agency.

On December 14 last year, Blair repeated the claim in a statement issued by Downing Street in response to the arrest of former Iraqi leader Saddam Hussein.

"The remains of 400,000 human beings (have) already (been) found in mass graves," Blair was quoted as saying.

The report came after an independent inquiry into Britain's prewar Iraq intelligence

ruled that Downing Street pushed intelligence reports "to the outer limits" over the threat posed by Saddam's regime.

Lord Butler, who led the probe into intelligence behind Blair's decision to join the US-led war against Iraq, said in his report published on Wednesday that some sources of the British intelligence on Iraq's weapons of mass destruction (WMD) were "seriously flawed".

Saddam probably had no WMD ready for use and the government's claim of Saddam being capable of deploying WMD within 45 minutes should not have been asserted without qualification, Butler said.

However, Butler claimed that no evidence of "deliberate distortion or culpable negligence" has been found during his probe.

Butler's report followed Blair's admission that Iraq's WMD, a major justification used by the United States and Britain for the Iraq war, may never be found in the country.

MNA/Xinhua

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Venezuelan President strongly criticizes Bush

CARACAS, 19 July — Venezuelan President Hugo Chavez on Sunday strongly criticized his US counterpart, George W. Bush, describing his governing team as "a Mafia".

Commenting on the film "Fahrenheit 9/11", Chavez said people could find how Bush tries to control the whole world with the people around him, "because it's a mafia, a true mafia of assassins, there's no other way I can describe it".

As for the recall referendum on his rule set on August 15 by the opposition and their "masters in Washington", Chavez said they are becoming desperate because they realized that they could not recall him.

"Be careful you don't become desperate because we will give you another demonstration of the strength and courage of the people and the Armed Forces," said Chavez on his weekly "Hello President" radio programme.

"Here, we don't endure or take pressure, not from you or any devil Mr. Bush," Chavez stressed.

Chavez has been restating recently his long-time contention that Washington was backing the Venezuelan opposition to remove him from power through a recall referendum.

In the run-up to the August 15 recall referendum in early July, Chavez increased his attacks on Washington, saying Bush, not the Venezuelan opposition, was his true political foe.

"Evidence that has come to me that Bush is financing this plan... shows once again what I have said all along, that the fight is not between us and the opposition... it is Chavez against Bush." — MNA/Xinhua

UFJ, Mitsubishi Tokyo announce merger plan

TOKYO, 19 July — UFJ Holdings Inc. and Mitsubishi Tokyo Financial Group Inc. announced Friday they will start negotiations to realize a combination in the first half of fiscal 2005.

The envisioned merger would create the world's largest banking group with total assets of 190 trillion Japanese yen (1.76 trillion US dollars), replacing the Mizuho Financial Group Inc. which has 135 trillion yen (1.25 trillion US dollars) in assets.

However, Sumitomo Trust & Banking Co filed with the Tokyo District Court on the same day to seek an injunction to halt merger talks between Mitsubishi Tokyo and UFJ Holdings on the grounds the UFJ group's decision to cancel its plan to sell UFJ Trust Bank to Sumitomo is a serious breach of the contract.

The integration of operations will create "one of the best comprehensive financial groups in the world that can win global competition and will offer products and services of the world's highest level to customers", Mitsubishi Tokyo and UFJ said in a joint statement.

If realized, the merger would help the financial giant get out of operational trouble. UFJ Holdings Inc. incurred a group net loss of 402.81 billion yen (3.73 billion dollars) in fiscal 2003, compared with the previous year's loss of 608.92 billion yen (5.64 billion US dollars).

UFJ Holdings and UFJ Bank also were ordered last month by the Financial Services Agency to improve their business.

MNA/Xinhua



An Iraqi policeman stands next to an unexploded artillery shell set to explode with a remote control device on the convoy of Iraqi Justice Minister Malik Dohan al-Hassan, on Saturday, 17 July, 2004. — INTERNET

Philips turns strategic focus to China's auto sector

SHANGHAI, 19 July — Royal Philips Electronics in the Netherlands, one of Europe's largest electronics companies, is turning its focus to the auto sector, a fast growing industry of China.

Philips recently launched a series of highly integrated one-chip wireless devices to be used on automobiles in China. Fit for front lighting, security, entertainment and comfort, the devices will be a great impetus for the development of auto electronics, said Drue Freeman, vice-marketing president of Philips' semiconductors global auto market.

With the rapid development of China's auto industry, auto electronic products have gained a giant market in China.

According to statistics of the CCID Consulting Company Ltd., in 2003, the auto electronic products market of China is over 60 billion yuan (7.2 billion US dollars).

Philips has ascended to the top three producers of auto electronic semi-

conductor products in the world, said Freeman.

Philips has invested a total of 3.4 billion US dollars in China.

"But the investment is mainly in consuming electronic products or communications. The development of auto electronic products is still comparatively lagging," said Freeman.

China is the third largest auto market and the fourth largest auto manufacture in the world. Because of this, Philips hopes that China will become the largest market of Philips' auto electronics in the next three to five years, said Freeman.

In the future, Philips will bring its products and technology to China and cooperate with world auto giants Viseton and Delphi. It also plans to establish research and development

centres in East China's Shanghai Municipality or south China, said Freeman.

MNA/Xinhua

Australia sets sights on S Korea, Japan trade pacts

SYDNEY, 19 July — Australia has set its sights on Free Trade Agreements with Japan and South Korea after it hammers out trade pacts with China and the United States, Australian Trade Minister Mark Vaile said on Sunday.

"Korea and Japan are both countries that we have been actively engaged in, they are very, very important markets," Vaile told the Nine Network's Business Sunday programme.

Work was under way on economic framework agreements with the two countries, but agricultural trade could prove a sticking point to any deal, Vaile said.

Australia's Conservative government is urging the opposition Labour Party to back a free trade deal with the United States, which has won final congressional approval by the US Senate.

A study of an Australia-China free trade agreement, which would speed up the establishment of a pact between the two countries, is scheduled to be completed in mid-2005.

A trade deal with South Korea might be reached ahead of a pact with Japan, the largest market for Australia's exports, but a number of stumbling blocks remained, Vaile said.

"Korea could be (next), but Korea has gone through a lot of its market opening and its growth phase, but certainly we are open to negotiating these types of agreements with any of our major trading partners," said Vaile.

"But they must be compliant with WTO rules."

MNA/Reuters



An Iraqi National Guard (ING) soldier Abdul Sattar Ahmed comforts a friend Adil Hashim after a car bomb exploded in Mahmudiyyah, 20 miles south of Baghdad, Iraq, on Saturday, 17 July, 2004. — INTERNET

Members of families pay tribute to fallen Arzanis



On behalf of U Aung San Oo, son of Bogyoke Aung San, U Nan Nwe pays tribute at the tomb of Bogyoke Aung San. — MNA



A family member of U Ba Win pays tribute at the tomb of U Ba Win. — MNA



Family of U Ba Cho pays tribute at the tomb of U Ba Cho. — MNA



Family of Mongpaw Sawbwa pays tribute at the tomb of Mongpaw Sawbwa. — MNA



Family of Mahn Ba Khaing pays tribute at the tomb of Mahn Ba Khaing. — MNA



Family of Mahn Ba Khaing pays tribute at the tomb of Mahn Ba Khaing. — MNA



Family of Thakhin Mya pays tribute at the tomb of Thakhin Mya. — MNA



Family of U Razak pays tribute at the tomb of U Razak. — MNA



Family of U Ohn Maung lays a wreath at the tomb of U Ohn Maung. — MNA



Family of Yebaw Ko Htwe pays tribute at the tomb of Yebaw Ko Htwe. — MNA

Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt and wife Dr Daw Khin Win Shwe present two Jade Buddha Images conveyed from Myanmar, pay homage to Tooth Relic

YANGON, 19 July—Prime Minister of the Union of Myanmar General Khin Nyunt and wife Dr Daw Khin Win Shwe and party on 12 July morning arrived at the Ling Guang Temple in Beijing where the Tooth Relic is kept. They were welcomed there by members of Chinese Buddhist Association and officials.

Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt and wife Dr Daw Khin Win Shwe and party paid homage to Vice-Presiding Sayadaw of CBA the Most Ven Sheng Hui of Ling Guang Temple and monks. In his supplication, Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt said that he had conveyed two Jade Buddha images donated by the Government of the Union of Myanmar on his visit to the People's Republic of China at the request of the Sayadaw of the Temple where the Tooth Relic is kept; that one of the Buddha images was donated by Chairman of State Peace and Development Council Senior General Than Shwe and wife Daw Kyaing Kyaing and family and the other by the Government of the Union of Myanmar; that because of the existing friendship between the two

countries, there have been frequent contacts not only between the leaders of the two countries but also between the Buddhists of both countries; and that the Myanmar people were pleased as the Tooth Relic had been to Myanmar three

times for public obeisance. The Prime Minister added that he had conveyed the two Jade Buddha images to enable the Chinese people can pay homage alongside the Tooth Relic; that he was pleased with having the op-

portunity to pay homage to all monks; and wished the long-lasting and flourishing of Buddha Sasana in both countries so long as the world exists. Next, Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt and wife Dr Daw Khin Win Shwe offered robes to the Most Ven

Next, Chinese monks, the Prime Minister and wife and party, and members of CBA paid obeisance to the Tooth Relic and the jade Buddha image. Next, Chinese monks, the Prime Minister and wife and party, and members of CBA proceeded to the Myanmar



Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt and Wife Dr Daw Khin Win Shwe pay homage to the Jade Buddha Image. — MNA



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Vice Presiding Sayadaw of Ling Guang Temple Most Ven Sheng Hui presents a Buddha Image to Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt on 12 July. — MNA



Most Ven Sheng Hui and Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt convey Jade Buddha Image to the reliquary. — MNA

Tazaung in the compound of the reliquary where they paid homage to the Jade Buddha image and Buddha images donated by Myanmar. After that, the Prime Minister and wife

and party had a documentary photo taken together with Chinese monks and members of Chinese Buddhist Association.

Next, Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt extended

greetings to the Most Ven Sheng Hui. Next, members of the Myanmar delegation arrived back at the State Guest House where they were putting up.—MNA



Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt greets Member of the Standing Committee of the Political Bureau Mr Luo Gan on 13 July. (News on Page 16)—MNA

a ceremony to donate the two Jade Buddha images was held at the prayer hall. Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt presented the two jade Buddha images donated by Chairman of State Peace and Development Council Senior General Than Shwe and wife Daw Kyaing Kyaing and the Government of the Union of Myanmar to the Most Ven Sheng Hui.

Next, Chinese monks, the Prime Minister and wife and party, members of CBA and others paid homage to the jade Buddha images while Chinese monks were reciting Buddha's Attributes.

Afterwards, one of the Jade Buddha images was conveyed to the reliquary where it is to be kept for obeisance.



Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt and Wife Dr Daw Khin Win Shwe offers robes to Most Ven Sheng Hui. — MNA



Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt greets President of PRC Mr Hu Jintao on 13 July. — MNA

Prime Minister observes functions of Zhongguancun Science Park

YANGON, 19 July — Prime Minister of the Union of Myanmar General Khin Nyunt and his entourage arrived at the administration office of Zhongguancun Science Park in Beijing, where they were welcomed by Zhongguancun Science Park Administrative Committee Vice-Chairman Dr Xia Yingqi and officials.

At the hall of the administration office, Dr Xia Yingqi explained with the aid of chart the formation of Haidian Zone, Fengtai Zone, Changping Zone, Electronic City Zone and Yizhuang Science & Technology Zone in the Park. He also went on explaining the background history of the Park, the birth of the industrial zone and its phase-by-phase development, conditions of over 12,000 high-tech companies and research centers operating there, the increased productivity of the zone, the securing of top position by the zone in the line of productivity across the mainland, the production of computers and accessories in addition to other items which have ready foreign market, research works for development of foreign investment and the working functions at the zone, the conducting of training to turn out technocrats, and protection provided to the interest of investors.

On the occasion, Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt said bilateral cooperation is to

be made through the acquisition of technologies after the study of manufacturing enterprises and research works. He also invited Chinese companies to come and invest in an industrial zone now being established near Yangon in Myanmar. Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt, wife Dr Daw Khin Win Shwe and party arrived at Beijing Airport at 5.30 am local standard time to leave for Yichang, Hubei Province. They were seen off at the airport by Chinese Vice Foreign Minister Mr Wang Yi and officials, staffs of the Myanmar Embassy and the Military Attaché's Office and families.

MNA



Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt meets Chairman of the National People's Congress of China Mr Wu Bangguo on 13 July. — MNA



Staff of Myanmar Embassy in China and their families welcome Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt and wife Dr Daw Khin Win Shwe on 11 July. (News on page 2) — MNA



Vice-Chairman of Zhongguancun Science Park Administrative Committee Dr Xia Yingqi explains background history and development of the Science Park on 13 July. — MNA



Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt and party observe functions of Zhongguancun Science Park. — MNA

Myanmar delegation led by Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt's goodwill visit to PRC enhances friendly ties and cooperation in various fields between Myanmar and China



Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt and party pay homage to jade Buddha images. — MNA

National Basketball Championship continues

YANGON, 19 July — National Championship Basketball Tournament for 2004 organized by the Myanmar Basketball Federation and Mikko Coffee Mix continued today at Aung San Gymnasium.

In junior division, Industry-1 (A) Basketball Team beat ILBC Team and LSK Team defeated Future Team.

Aunglan Team was defeated by Agriculture and Irrigation Team in senior division.

In women's division, Industry-1 (A) Team beat Yangon Division Team. The tournament continues on 21 July. — MNA



Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt meets Mr Wu Bangguo, Chairman of the National People's Congress of China. — MNA



Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt holds talks with Mr Luo Gan, member of the Standing Committee of the Political Bureau, at the Hong Kong Hall of the Great Hall of the People. — MNA

Malaria, DHF prevention in Dawbon

YANGON, 19 July — Under the supervision of Dawbon Township Peace and Development Council, 240 persons including staff of the health department and members of Maternal and Child Welfare Association, Union Solidarity and Development Association, Red Cross Society, Auxiliary Fire Brigade and Ward PDCs took preventive measures against malaria and DHF and gave health talks in Nwe Aye Ward and Dockyard Ward in Dawbon Township on 17 July.

MNA



Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt giving instructions to the staff of Myanmar Embassy and scholars at Myanmar Embassy in China on 11 July. — MNA

Agricultural undertakings inspected in Lashio Township

YANGON, 19 July — Accompanied by Minister for Commerce Brig-Gen Pyi Sone, Minister for Livestock and Fisheries Brig-Gen Maung Maung Thein and departmental officials, Maj-Gen Myint Hlaing, Chairman of Shan State Peace and Development Council and Commander of North-East Command, inspected thriving plantations of honey orange, coffee, lychee and sunflower in the command on 17 July.

The commander, the ministers and party arrived at the briefing hall of the farmland reclamation project. There they heard

reports on conditions of tasks being implemented and gave instructions on successful cultivation of highland perennial crops with the strength of machinery and human labour and with the use of Hydram to ensure adequate supply of irrigation water all the year round.

They proceeded to the briefing hall at seeding zone in Lashio, where they inspected nursery plantations of Thitseint, groundnut and sunflower, and No 8 fish ponds. They, together with officials and members of social organizations, also added fingerlings into the pond.

Next, they looked into the thriving plantations of vegetables, honey orange cultivated with modern watering system. They also looked into water tanks with a capacity of two million gallons of water and gave instructions. They later oversaw the conditions of hybrid paddy plantations being carried out by the command and staff of Shan State Agricultural Service.

They also inspected poppy-substitute crop plantations, the breeding of bees and the production of honey at Bonmon agriculture and livestock farm. At the briefing hall,

the commander and party heard reports on cultivation of maize on 500 acres of land and that of plants for bees to live on.

The commander and party also inspected crop plantations on 1,000 acres of land, progress of construction of low-cost housing estates, reclamation of farmland at 2,000-acre agricultural zone, high-yield hybrid paddy plantations in Hsenwi Station. They also went to Yebu cargo inspection camp in Hsenwi and gave instructions to employees on carrying out the tasks in accord with set rules and regulations.

MNA

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



Vietnamese delegation led by Mrs Nguyen Thi Hoai being seen off at Yangon International Airport— MNA

Vietnamese delegation leaves

YANGON, 19 July — The Vietnamese delegation led by Chairperson of the Committee on Social Affairs of the National Assembly of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam Mrs Nguyen Thi Hoai and party left here for

home by air this morning. They were seen off at the Yangon International Airport by Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Maj-Gen Sein Htwa, officials of the Ministry of Social Welfare,

Relief and Resettlement, officials of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ambassador of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam to Myanmar Mr Pham Quang Khon and officials of the Vietnamese Embassy in Yangon.— MNA

Study says drug delays but does not prevent Alzheimer's

PHILADELPHIA, 19 July — A popular Alzheimer's drug appears to delay the onset of the disease among patients with memory loss although does not prevent it, researchers announced on Sunday.

Aricept reduced the risk of developing Alzheimer's among patients diagnosed with mild cognitive impairment, a memory disorder that is often a precursor to the brain disease, according to research released at the 9th International Conference on Alzheimer's Disease and Related Disorders.

But the risk reduction lasted for only 18 months of a three-year trial, said Dr. Ronald Petersen of the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minnesota, who led the study of 769 people. When patients taking Aricept developed Alzheimer's they did so about six months later than those taking a placebo. This is the first study

to demonstrate a positive treatment effect on progression to Alzheimer's disease from MCI," Petersen said. "It looks like the drug had a modest, time-limited effect. Nonetheless, we are optimistic because we have begun to make progress toward delaying the development of Alzheimer's." The study contradicts one published in the *Lancet* medical journal in June showing Aricept had no beneficial effect. Japanese drugmaker Eisai Co. Ltd. co-markets with Aricept, known generically as donepezil, with US drug maker Pfizer Inc. Alzheimer's, an incurable and usually fatal disease, impairs the ability to remember, learn, think and communicate. It affects an estimated 4.5 million Americans, a number that is expected to increase to as many as 16 million by 2050.

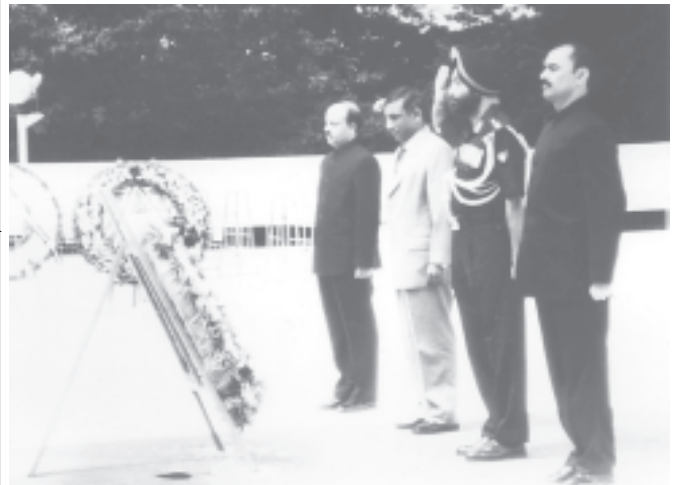
Former President Ronald Reagan died with Alzheimer's last month and

his widow Nancy has called for increased government funding for research to find ways to prevent or cure it.

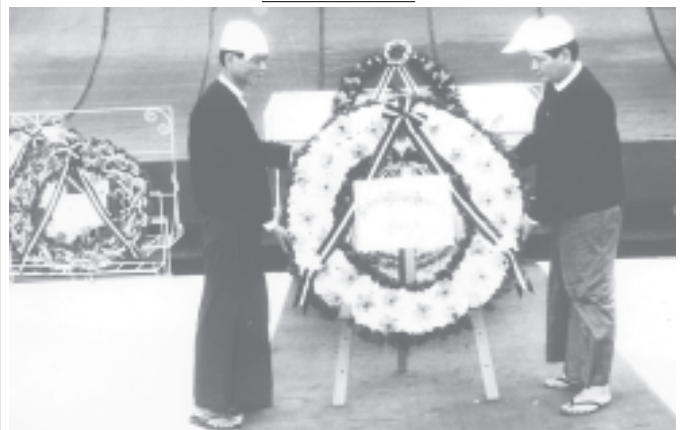
The move from normal age-related forgetfulness to mild cognitive impairment can be recognized when people start forgetting information such as appointments or social events, Petersen said. "They are forgetting information that they used to remember easily," Petersen said at a news conference. In another study, Dr Frederick Unverzagt of the Indiana University School of Medicine studied an illness similar to MCI, known as Cognitive Impairment No Dementia. The study found that some but not all the patients with this condition were at the earliest stages of Alzheimer's, and that the risk of developing CIND was higher among those with a history of head injury and those who grew up in rural areas. — MNA/Reuters



An official of Chinese Embassy pays tribute at the 57th Anniversary Arzani Day ceremony. — MNA



Officials of the Embassy of India to Myanmar pay tribute at the 57th Anniversary Arzani Day ceremony. — MNA



Representatives of the Union Solidarity and Development Association lay a wreath at the tomb of Bogyoke Aung San. — MNA

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An Ariane-5 rocket has placed the world's largest telecommunications satellite into orbit late after blasting off from the Kourou site in French Guiana. Here an aerial view of the European Launcher Ariane-5.—INTERNET

“Ariane” rocket launches Canadian satellite

KOOROU (French Guiana), 18 July—A European Ariane rocket blasted-off from French Guiana late on Saturday and launched a satellite aimed at providing high-speed Internet to northern and remote parts of Canada, space officials said.

The Ariane-5 rocket blasted-off from the European Space Agency's launch centre in Kourou, French Guiana, on the northeast coast of South America at 9.44 pm (0044 GMT Sunday).

Twenty-eight minutes after launch the rocket released into preliminary orbit the ANIK F2 satellite for Ottawa-based Telesat Canada, a wholly owned subsidiary of Bell Canada. Billed as “the world's largest commercial satellite”, ANIK F2 weighed over 5.9 metric tons (13,000 pounds) at launch and was built by Boeing Space Systems.

MNA/Reuters

Experts say side air bags can save lives in crashes

WASHINGTON, 18 July—Installing side air bags in all cars in the United States could prevent more than 2,000 deaths or cases of serious brain injury, emergency medicine experts said on Friday.

People in cars hit from the side were more than twice as likely to suffer traumatic brain injuries than people hit head-on or from behind, the team at the University of Rochester School of Medicine found.

Head trauma specialist Dr Jeffrey Bazarian and colleagues analysed data collected in 2000 by the National Highway Traffic

Safety Administration and found drivers and passengers were more likely to suffer a traumatic brain injury if the car was struck on its side.

They also calculated that vehicle modifications to increase head protection, such as adding special side air bag, could reduce the severity of such injuries by up to 61 per cent.

This could prevent as

many as 2,230 fatal or critical brain injuries each year, according to the report in an upcoming issue of the *Annals of Emergency Medicine*.

NHTSA estimates requiring side air bags would save between 700 and 1,000 lives annually and cost the car industry roughly one billion US dollars.

“Side-impact air bags that offer head protection are

rare in automobiles in the United States,” Bazarian said in a statement. “Currently, there are three types of side-impact air bags on the market, two of which offer head protection. However, federal regulations have not mandated side-impact air bags and car manufacturers have leaned away from making them standard on all cars.”

The most advanced systems are side curtain air bags, which drop from the roof and cover the windows.

Car buyers must currently pay about 400 US dollars extra for optional side air bags. In May, NHTSA proposed new requirements that would force automakers to keep promises to equip new vehicles with air bag systems that protect the head by the end of the decade.

MNA/Reuters

Ugandan President calls for developing saving culture

KAMPALA, 18 July—Ugandan President Yoweri Museveni has urged political leaders in the country to instill a saving culture among the people so that they are enabled to contribute to the national economy by generating more wealth.

Museveni made the call on Thursday at the launching of the Parliamentarians' Co-operative Saving and Credit Society (PCSCS), according to a Press release by the State House on Friday.

He said capitalist nations in Europe and America have been built on cumulative savings of their citizens that formed the capital base for industrial development.

The PCSCS, a non-governmental organization that started in December 2002 and currently has 177 members, is open to all legislators and permanent staff of Parliament.

Museveni observed that if people are guided and organized, they can raise funds themselves for credit purposes at low interest rates.—MNA/Xinhua

Uganda promises piped water, electricity

KAMPALA, 18 July—Ugandan President Yoweri Museveni on Friday promised to extend piped water and electricity to all parts of the country in a bid to improve the people's standard of living and transform society.

Museveni made the remarks while launching the Katabi sub-county piped water project near Kampala, according to a Press release from the State House.

The 500-million-shilling (270,000-US-dollar) project will benefit about 10,000 local people. Museveni said clean water and electricity extension to various parts of the country will be gradual in accordance with the plan and the capacity of the institutions concerned.

He urged local leaders to work closely with government departments to ensure that people benefit from services rendered by the government. The Ugandan Government is targeting full water coverage by 2017, which currently stands at 56 per cent. The government is seeking 1.8 billion dollars over 10 years for the power sector to increase the electrification rate which currently stands at only 5 per cent for the whole country and less than 2 per cent in rural areas.—MNA/Xinhua

S Africa seeks to defuse AIDS drug row

JOHANNESBURG, 18 July—South Africa moved to defuse a new AIDS drugs row on Friday, saying it would continue to use a key drug treatment to prevent HIV-positive mothers passing the virus to their babies.

South African regulators sparked controversy at this week's AIDS conference in Bangkok by saying they would no longer recommend single doses of nevirapine — one of the most widely used anti-AIDS drugs in the country — because of fears patients may develop resistance to the treatment. The Medicines Control Council said it would recommend nevirapine only be used in combination with other drugs, a treatment option unavailable in many South African clinics.

Amid mounting anger and confusion over the drug policy, Health Minister Manto Tshabalala-Msimang said on Friday the government would use nevirapine until the combination therapies were rolled out.

“The South African Government's policy to reduce the risk of mother to child transmission of HIV remains unchanged,” Tshabalala-Msimang said in a statement.

“The Department of Health will continue providing nevirapine as monotherapy to mothers and babies at public health facilities until new agreed upon treatment regimens are available.”

MNA/Reuters

Thailand to study vaccination to fight bird flu

BANGKOK, 18 July—Thailand plans to seek the advice of animal health experts on whether to vaccinate chickens in its effort to contain fresh outbreaks of deadly bird flu, the Agriculture Minister said on Saturday.

Somsak Thepsuthin told reporters Thailand had not changed its policy of a ban on vaccination of chickens and merely wanted opinions on whether it provided an option to fight the disease.

He said Thailand, the world's fourth biggest chicken exporter in 2003, had culled about 100,000 chickens in the past fortnight as new outbreaks spread to 15 provinces.

“We are still not convinced vaccination is an appropriate answer as it only helps keep chickens alive but does not kill the avian flu,” Somsak said.

But he said Thailand would ask Chinese health experts whether to use vaccination on an experimental basis on a few chickens.

Government officials

said the downside of vaccination was that some countries were unwilling to buy poultry from producers using the policy.

Bird flu has now spread to 15 of Thailand's 76 provinces since the first recurrence was reported on July 3.

Officials said they were awaiting laboratory tests on suspected cases of the H5N1 virus, which earlier this year killed 16 Vietnamese and eight Thais who came in close contact with infected fowl, in another eight districts of Bangkok.—MNA/Reuters

WB to give Guinea-Bissau \$7m to combat AIDS

LUANDA, 18 July—The World Bank will give Guinea-Bissau seven million US dollars to implement anti-HIV/AIDS programmes.

According to a report reaching here on Friday, the World Bank's representative for Bissau, Carmen Pereira, announced the aid package Thursday, saying the funded programmes, including prevention projects and the purchase of anti-retroviral drugs, should kick off in September.

The funds, Pereira added, would be channelled primarily through grassroots groups and non-governmental organizations. Guinea-Bissau's national anti-AIDS committee recently estimated that three in 10 adults in the West African country of 1.3 million people were HIV positive.—MNA/Xinhua



The battle for supremacy in the commercial aircraft industry is to descend on the Farnborough Air Show this week as rivals Airbus and Boeing trade blows with contrasting visions of the future of civil aviation. Here an Airbus A380 under construction.—INTERNET

SPORTS

Chelsea draw in Mourinho's first friendly

LONDON, 18 July — Jose Mourinho's first game in charge of big-spending Chelsea ended in a stuttering 1-1 draw at lower league side Oxford United on Saturday.

Mourinho fielded a strong side for the friendly including new striker Mateja Kezman, signed from PSV Eindhoven, who equalized in the second half after Chelsea fell behind to a Tommy Mooney strike keeper Carlo Cudicini should have saved.

Oxford, from the Fourth Division of English football, are managed by former Chelsea assistant coach Graham Rix and coped well with the likes of Joe Cole and Eidur Gudjohnsen.

Premier League champions Arsenal also played a strong line-up as they hammered minor league side Barnet 10-1 in their first pre-season friendly.

Jose Antonio Reyes, left out of Spain's Euro 2004 squad last month, hit a hat-trick as did forgotten striker Francis Jeffers, having returned from a year on loan at former club Everton.

MNA/Reuters



Colombia goalkeeper Juan Henao (R) tries to stop a ball headed by Costa Rica's Alvaro Saborio, in the second half of their Copa America quarterfinal match in Trujillo, on 17 July, 2004. Colombia won the game 2-0 and advance to the semifinals. —INTERNET

Liverpool's Babel poised to join Stuttgart

LONDON, 18 July — Liverpool defender Markus Babel is poised to return to his native Germany with VfB Stuttgart, the Premier League club said on their web site on Friday.

The 31-year-old international joined Liverpool from Bayern Munich in 2000 but spent last season on loan at Blackburn Rovers after fighting his way back to fitness following a debilitating illness.

Babel is undergoing a medical with Stuttgart and the transfer should be completed later on Friday.

MNA/Reuters

Kenya's Bungei sets fastest 800 time of the year

MADRID, 18 July — Kenya's Wilfred Bungei set the fastest time in the world this year when he clocked one minute 43.73 to win the 800 metres at the IAAF Super Grand Prix meeting in Madrid on Saturday.

Bungei, a silver medallist at the 2001 world championships, romped home ahead of compatriot Justus Koech to beat Wilson Kipketer's previous season best mark of 1:43.88 set in Rome earlier this month.

Cydonie Mothersill of the Cayman Islands edged out Bulgarian Iveta Lalova to win the 200 metres in her season's best of 22.47. Mothersill finished strongly to close out Lalova, who has clocked 10.77 over 100 metres for the fastest time in the world this year.

Former world championship silver medallist Debbie Ferguson of the Bahamas had to settle for third spot, while 44-year-old veteran Merlene Ottey was seventh.

World record holder Osleidys Menendez of Cuba was the comfortable winner of the women's javelin with an opening throw of 67.87 metres which smashed her meeting record by over three metres.

In the women's high jump, world champion Hestrie Cloete of South Africa cleared two metres at the third attempt to claim first place, but never looked like bettering her season's best mark of 2.03.

Mushir Salim Jahwer of Bahrain ran an impressive 7:37.49 to win the men's 3,000 metres ahead of Spain's 10,000-metre specialist Jose Manuel Martinez, who set the fastest time by a European this season in second (7:39.64).

MNA/Reuters

Ayala off as Argentina knock out hosts Peru

CHICLAYO (Peru), 18 July — Forward Carlos Tevez scored his first goal for Argentina as they beat Peru 1-0 on Saturday to dump the hosts out of the Copa America.

The 20-year-old Boca Juniors player curled an exquisite free kick into the net in the 61st minute of the quarterfinal just three minutes after replacing Andres d'Alessandro.

Argentina captain Roberto Ayala was sent off in the 82nd minute when he was booked for a foul on Jorge Soto. He had been living dangerously after picking up a yellow card in the first half.

Argentina were forced to grind out the win against a resilient Peruvian team who

were without key strikers Claudio Pizarro, who is out of the tournament with a head injury, and suspended teenager Jefferson Farfan.

Peru's two best efforts came shortly after Tevez' winner.

Midfielder Nolberto Solano crashed a free kick against the crossbar in the 65th minute and Roberto Palacios side-footed wide what seemed an unmissable chance four minutes later.

The hosts also a penalty appeal turned down in injury time when Solano appeared

to be pushed.

There were few chances in a rough first half which saw bookings for Ayala and Peru's Juan Jayo and Carlos Zegarra.

D'Alessandro was close with a free kick in the 13th minute and the visitors also created several good chances just before the break.

Javier Zanetti's shot went looping centimetres wide of the goal with keeper Oscar Ibanez stranded after taking a deflection and Gabriel Heinze headed narrowly over from the resulting corner.

Then Luis Gonzalez had a goal-bound shot blocked by a defender. Peru's best chances before the break fell to Soto who narrowly failed to connect with a Solano pass in front of goal.

Andres Mendoza had two weak efforts stopped by Argentine goalkeeper Roberto Abbondanzieri as he completed his 11th international without scoring.

MNA/Reuters

Chinese teenager signs with Olympique Marseille

BEIJING, 18 July — Chinese teenage midfielder Gai Yang signed a contract with French soccer giant Olympique Marseille here on Saturday to join its reserve team of the French Ligue 1 side.

The contract has been a two-year training convention, and the 17-year-old Dalian midfielder, who had been trained with former Chinese champion Dalian Shide, would play in the French Under-18 soccer league and with the second team of the Marseille club during the 2004/2005 season, said Gai's agent Ma

Mingkun after the ceremony. No fees were mentioned.

Gai, son of Dalian Shide's second team coach Gai Zengchen, thus became the first ever Asian and Chinese young player to train in a European club, a member of the G14 association of Europe's biggest clubs.

MNA/Xinhua

Hosts China held by Bahrain in Asian Cup opener

BEIJING, 18 July — Hosts China were held to a 2-2 draw by tiny Bahrain in the opening game of the 2004 Asian Cup on Saturday after a late strike from substitute Husain Ali.

Just as China thought they had escaped after battling back from a goal down, Ali equalized for Bahrain in the 89th minute with a thumping drive from the edge of the box.

Midfielder Mohamed Hubail had put Bahrain ahead with a wonderful goal four minutes before halftime, flicking the ball over China goalkeeper Liu Yunfei from 25 metres.

Booted off the pitch at the interval, China hit back within six minutes of the restart.

Zheng Zhi calmly converted a retaken penalty following a handball from Bahrain defender Sayed Mohamed.

China, who have never won the Asian Cup, then took the lead in the 67th as striker Li Jinyu beat goalkeeper Ali Saeed with a low left-foot shot that went in off the post. But Husain Ali, who had been on the pitch for less than 10 minutes, pounced to give Bahrain a share of the points.

Qatar take on Indonesia in the second Group A match at the same venue on Sunday. — MNA/Reuters



China's Zhou Haibin (L) attacks Mohamed Salmeen of Bahrain (R) in their opening game in the 2004 Asian Cup Soccer Tournament at the Workers Stadium in Beijing on 17 July, 2004. China and Bahrain drew 2-2 in their group A match. —INTERNET

Four ASEAN countries bid to co-host 2007 Asian Cup

BEIJING, 18 July — Four ASEAN countries have submitted a joint bid to co-host the 2007 Asian Cup, the Asian Football Confederation (AFC) said on Saturday.

Southeast Asian countries Thailand, Malaysia, Indonesia and Vietnam could stage the next finals together if their bid is approved by the AFC Executive Committee.

"It is true that they have made a joint bid," AFC president Mohamed Bin Hammam told Reuters on the opening day of the 2004 Asian Cup in China.

"I think it is perfectly acceptable and I hope that the executive committee approves it. I will support it."

The 2007 Asian Cup has been brought forward by a year to avoid clashing with the European Championship and Olympic Games.

Following the 2007 finals, the next Asian Cup — in 2011 — will take place in South Asia.

The AFC announced in May it had adopted a rotation policy for hosting the Asian Cup. Lebanon staged the last finals in 2000.

Hosts China take on Bahrain in the opening match of the 2004 finals in Beijing later on Saturday.

MNA/Reuters

Milosevic agrees three-year deal with Osasuna

MADRID, 18 July — Serbia and Montenegro striker Savo Milosevic has agreed to sign a three-year deal with Osasuna, the Primera Liga side said on Saturday.

Osasuna, who finished 13th in the league last season, said the deal was dependent on Parma agreeing to let the player leave on a free transfer.

The 30-year-old centre-forward, who has a year left on his contract with the Italian side, played on loan at Celta Vigo last season but his 14 league goals were not enough to stop the club from being relegated.

Celta are trying to offload several of their most highly paid players following their relegation from the top flight.

Brazilian left back Silvinho signed for Barcelona at the start of the week and French midfielder Peter Luccini is reported to be close to joining Atletico Madrid.

MNA/Reuters

MRTV-3
**20-7-2004 (Tuesday)
(Programme Schedule)
Morning Transmission
(9:00 - 10:00)**

- 9:00 Signature Tune Greeting
- 9:02 Song of Myanmar Beauty & Scenic Sights "Myanmar Panorama & Myanma Sentiment"
- 9:06 Prawn Breeding Industry in Sea Water
- 9:10** **Headline News**
- 9:12 Mandalay and its popular Snack
- 9:15** **National News**
- 9:20 Simple and Beautiful Rural Life
- 9:25 Kayan Dance
- 9:30** **National News**
- 9:35 Myanmar Modern Song "Rain, Please Tell My Lover"
- 9:40 The Greening Project of the environs of Kandawgyi Garden
- 9:45** **National News**
- 9:50 Rakhine Traditional Festival
- 9:58 Song of Myanmar Beauty & Scenic Sights "Come and See Myanmar"

**20-7-2004 (Tuesday)
Evening Transmission
(15:30 - 17:30)**

- 15:30 Signature Tune Greeting
- 15:32 Song of Myanmar Beauty & Scenic Sights "Mingalabar"
- 15:36 Prawn Breeding Industry in Sea Water
- 15:40** **Headline News**
- 15:42 Mandalay and its popular Snack
- 15:45** **National News**
- 15:50 Simple and Beautiful Rural Life
- 15:55 Kayan Dance

- 16:00** **National News**
- 16:05 Myanmar Modern Song "Rain, Please Tell My Lover"
- 16:10 The Greening Project of the environs of Kandawgyi Garden

- 16:15** **National News**
- 16:20 Rakhine Traditional Festival
- 16:25 Song of Myanmar Beauty & Scenic Sights "Myanmar Panorama & Myanma Sentiment"

- 16:30** **National News**
- 16:35 Unique Biodiversity of Indawgyi Lake (Part-V)

- 16:40 The Gok Hteik Viaduct

- 16:45** **National News**

- 16:50 Tour In Myanmar "Bagan, Pops"

- 16:55 Song of the harp attracting Love

- 16:58 Myanmar's Pride: The Art of Carving

- 17:00** **National News**

- 17:05 Artistic Touch

- 17:08 Myanmar Modern Song "Towards Mandalay Golden City"

- 17:15** **National News**

- 17:20 The Fascinating Oceanography of Myanmar

- 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 Panorama & Myanma Sentiment"
- 19:36 Ancient Buddha Images Carved On Stone Walls (Akaung Mountain)
- 19:40** **Headline News**
- 19:42 A Trip to Naga Land
- 19:45** **National News**
- 19:50 Production of Dry-Prawn in Myeik
- 19:55 Auspicious Glory
- 20:00** **National News**

ရေစိုက်သည့်အိပ်ပျော်ခြင်း
ဦးထွန်းလွင် (၉၃) နှစ်
(MR. GEORGE-HSTILES)
ကုန်သွယ်ရေး (ဆောင်ရွက်/လျှော့) (ဇွန်)

ရန်ကုန်မြို့၊ ရန်ကုန်မြို့နယ်၊ အမှတ် (၂) ရပ်ကွက်တိုက် (၂၇၅)၊ အခန်း (၁၂)၊ အထူးရန်ကုန်-နေ့ ခေါ်ခံခံကုန် (ဆရာမ-ဇွန်) အထက် (၆) မိုင်တံဆိပ် (မိန့်ခေါ်)၏ ခင်ပွန်း၊ ဦးထွန်းလွင် (၃-အင်/ချုပ်) ဝိသုကာ (၁-အင်/ချုပ်)၏ အိမ်၊ မောင်မောင်၊ ဦးမျိုးလွင်+ဒေါ်ခင်မျိုးဆင် (အထက်-၂)၊ မောင်မောင်တို့၏ အိမ်၊ မောင်မောင်သန်းခင်၊ မောင်မောင်ယုဗျာမျိုးလွင်၊ မောင်မောင်မြို့နယ်ရပ်ကွက်တိုက် အမှတ် (၂)၊ ဦးထွန်းလွင် (GEORGE)သည် (၁၉-၇-၂၀၀၄) နေ့ နံနက် (၉:၃၅) နာရီတွင် ရေစိုက်သည့် အိပ်ပျော်သွားပါသဖြင့် (၂၀-၇-၂၀၀၄) မွန်လွင် (၁) နာရီတွင် (STJUDE)'s ဘုရားကျောင်း (ရန်ကုန်) နှိပ်စက်ခြင်း ရောသုံးသည့်သို့မဟုတ် ဂူသွင်း သဖြင့်ပါမည်။

ရန်ကုန်-နေ့အိပ်ပျော်မှုကားများ (၁၂:၃၀) နာရီတွင်စတင်ထွက်ခွာပါမည်။

ကုန်သွယ်ရေးသားစု

- 20:05 Myanmar Ancient Ornaments Showroom

- 20:10 Myanmar Modern Song "This Rain"

- 20:12 The Pindaya Natural Cave

- 20:15** **National News**

- 20:20 Lacquerware in Bagan

- 20:25 Myanmar Modern Song "The Art Winning Post"

- 20:30** **National News**

- 20:35 Unique Biodiversity of Indawgyi Lake (Part-V)

- 20:40 National Races Village (Chin, Mon, Rakhine)

- 20:45** **National News**

- 20:50 Butterfly Garden In Yangon

- 20:55 Lon Yuu Festival Dance

- 21:00** **National News**

- 21:05 Music for Your Ears (A Sweet Sounding Musical Piece)

- 21:10 Song "A Country like that of a golden painting"

- 21:15** **National News**

- 21:20 Quality Rice Production in Myanmar

- 21:25 Song of Myanmar Beauty & Scenic Sights "Mingalabar"

- 21:35 Prawn Breeding Industry in Sea Water

- 21:40** **Headline News**

- 21:42 Mandalay and its popular Snack

- 21:45** **National News**

- 21:50 Simple and Beautiful Rural Life

- 21:55 Kayan Dance

- 22:00** **National News**

- 22:05 Myanmar Modern Song "Rain, Please Tell My Lover"

- 22:10 The Greening Project of the environs of Kandawgyi Garden

- 22:15** **National News**

- 22:20 Rakhine Traditional Festival

- 22:25 Songs On Screen "Creating of a love-like song"

- 22:30** **National News**

- 22:35 Unique Biodiversity of Indawgyi Lake (Part-V)

- 22:40 The Gok Hteik Viaduct

- 22:45** **National News**

- 22:50 Tour In Myanmar "Bagan, Pops"

- 22:55 Song of the harp attracting Love

- 22:58 Myanmar's Pride: The Art of Carving

- 23:00** **National News**

- 23:05 Artistic Touch

- 23:10 Song "Towards Mandalay Golden City"

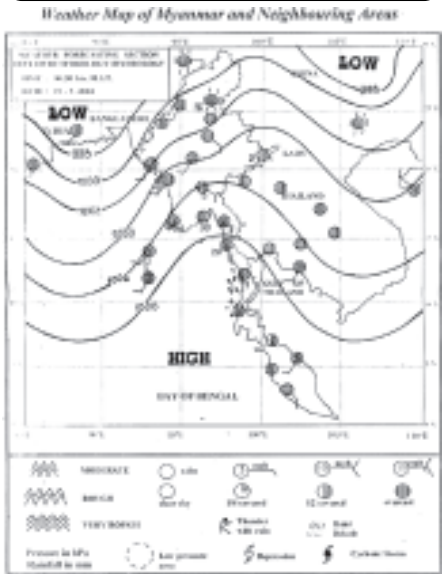
- 23:15** **National News**

- 23:20 The Fascinating Oceanography of Myanmar

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

Rainfall on 19-7-2004

- (1.02 inches) at Yangon Airport,
- (1.18 inches) at Kaba-Aye and
- (0.75 inch) at central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2004 was 1475 mm (58.07 inches) at Yangon Airport and 1430 mm (56.30 inches) at Kaba-Aye and 1425 mm (56.10 inches) at central Yangon.


WEATHER
Monday, 19 July, 2004

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST: During the past 24 hours, weather has been partly cloudy in Kayah State and Magway Division and rain or thundershowers have been isolated in Shan and Chin States, lower Sagaing, Mandalay and Ayeyawady Divisions and scattered to widespread in the remaining areas with isolated heavyfall in upper Sagaing Division. The noteworthy amount of rainfall recorded was Hkamti (6.06) inches.

Maximum temperature on 18-7-2004 was 32.5°C (91°F). Minimum temperature on 19-7-2004 was 20.5°C (69°F). Relative humidity at 9:30 hrs MST on 19-7-2004 was 93%. Total sunshine hours on 18-7-2004 was (5.6) hours approx. Rainfall on 19-7-2004 was (1.02 inches) at Yangon Airport, (1.18 inches) at Kaba-Aye and (0.75 inch) at central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2004 was 1475mm (58.07 inches) at Yangon Airport and 1430 mm (56.30 inches) at Kaba-Aye and 1425 mm (56.10 inches) at central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was 10 mph from Southwest at 15:30 hours MST on 18-7-2004. **Bay inference:** Monsoon is generally moderate in the Bay of Bengal. **Forecast valid until evening of 20-7-2004:** Rain or thundershowers will be widespread in Kachin, Chin, Rakhine and Mon States, upper Sagaing, Yangon and Taninthayi Divisions, scattered in Kachin and Shan States, Bago and Ayeyawady Divisions and isolated in the remaining areas with likelihood of isolated heavyfalls in Rakhine and Kachin States and upper Sagaing Division. Degree of certainty is (80%).

State of the sea: Seas will be moderate in Myanmar waters. **Outlook for subsequent two days:** Moderate monsoon. **Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 20-7-2004:** One or two rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (100%).

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 20-7-2004: Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (60%).

Flood Warning

(Issued at 11:00 hrs MST on 19-7-2004)

The Ayeyawady River water levels at Chauk may reach its danger levels of (1450) cm during the next (24) hrs commencing noon today and at Minbu, Magway and Hinthada may rise (100) cm (about 3-ft) and reach their respective danger levels of (1700) cm, (1700) cm and (1342) cm during the next 3 to 5 days commencing noon today.

Flood Bulletin

(Issued at 11:00 hrs MST on 19-7-2004)

The Ayeyawady River water levels at Myitkyina and Katha may remain above their respective danger levels of (1200) cm and (1040) cm during the next (3) days commencing noon today.

The Chindwin River water level at Hkamti may remain above its danger level of 1360 cm during the next (4) days commencing noon today.

The Dokahtawady River water level at Myitnge may remain above its danger level of 870 cm during the next (3) days commencing noon today.


Tuesday, July 20
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

7:50 am

5. ကရာပန်းဥယျာဉ်

8:00 am

6. အကပြိုင်ပွဲ

8:15 am

7. ဓမ္မာရ်းစာတော်တော်ပဒေသနာ

8:30 am

8. International news

8:45 am

9. Grammar Made Easy

4:00 pm

1. Martial song

4:15 pm

2. Songs to uphold

National Spirit

4:30 pm

3. Musical programme

4:40 pm

4. အစောသင်တန်းသို့လှည့်လည်

ရုပ်မြင်သံကြားသင်ခန်းစာ တတ်ယူနီ

(မာတုဗေဒအခြေပြု) (မာတုဗေဒ)

4:50 pm

5. Dance of national races

5:00 pm

6. မြန်မာစာ မြန်မာစကား

5:15 pm

7. ခံစားရသောစာတော်တော်

5:25 pm

8. Sing and Enjoy

6:05 pm

9. နိုင်ငံခြားတက္ကသိုလ်တော်

"ဓမ္မာရ်းစာတော်" (အပိုင်း-၈)

6:30 pm

10. Evening news

7:00 pm

11. Weather report

7:05 pm

12. Musical programme

7:20 pm

13. သားပန်းမြို့ပြည့်အတိုး

7:35 pm

14. The mirror images of

musical oldies

8:00 pm

15. News

16. International news

17. Weather report

18. နိုင်ငံခြားတက္ကသိုလ်တော်

"ခံစားရသောစာ"

(အပိုင်း-၆)

19. The next day's

programme


Tuesday, July 20
Tune in today:

- 8.30 am** Brief news
- 8.35 am** Music: Can I see you tonight
- 8.40 am** Perspectives
- 8.45 am** Music: Barbie girl
- 8.55 am** National news/Slogan
- 9.05 am** Music: The day we find love
- 9.10 am** International news
- 9.15 am** Music: Put your arms around me
- 1.30 pm** News/Slogan
- 1.40 pm** Lunch time music
- Love
- You light up my like
- Sealed with a kiss
- Cassablanca
- 9.00 pm** English Speaking Course Level-1 Unit (22)
- 9.15 pm** Article/Music
- 9.25 pm** Weekly sports reel
- 9.35 pm** Music for your listening pleasure
- Breathless
- My baby you
- 9.45 pm** News/Slogan
- 10.00 pm** PEL



Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt meets member of the Standing Committee of the Political Bureau Mr Luo Gan at the hall of the Great Hall of the People in Beijing on 13 July. — MNA

Prime Minister holds talks with Mr Luo Gan on drug elimination

YANGON, 19 July— Prime Minister of the Union of Myanmar General Khin Nyunt called on member of the Standing Committee of the Political Bureau Mr Luo Gan at the Hong Kong hall of the Great Hall of the People at 11 am on 13 July.

Present on the occasion together with Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt were member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Maung Bo, Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation Maj-Gen Nyunt Tin, Minister for Industry-1 U Aung Thau, Minister for Foreign Affairs U Win Aung, Minister for Hotels and Tourism and for Communications, Posts and Telegraphs Brig-

Gen Thein Zaw, Minister for Energy Brig-Gen Lun Thi, Minister for Electric Power Maj-Gen Tin Htut, Myanmar Ambassador U Thein Lwin and officials. Member of the Standing Committee of the Political Bureau Mr Luo Gan was accompanied by Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs Mr Wang Yi, Chinese Ambassador Mr Li Jinjun and senior officials.

They discussed matters relating to further strengthening of friendship and cooperation between the two countries, narcotic drugs elimination and development of border region management system of both countries.

MNA

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

57th Anniversary Arzani Day observed

YANGON, 19 July —The 57th Anniversary Arzani Day, 2004, was observed at the Arzani Mausoleum this morning. On behalf of the Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council, Chairman of the 57th Anniversary Arzani Day Observance Committee Minister for Culture Maj-Gen Kyi Aung attended the ceremony, saluting the State flag; laying wreaths at the tombs of National Leader Bogyoke Aung San and his fallen comrades; paying tribute to them and dispensing metta.

Also present on the occasion were Chief Justice U Aung Toe, Attorney-General U Aye Maung, Auditor-General Maj-Gen Lun Maung, Chairman of the 57th Anniversary Arzani Day Observance Executive Committee Deputy Minister for Culture Brig-Gen Soe Win Maung and members of the executive committee, the secretaries of sub-committees, senior military officers, members of the Guard of Honour and senior officials of Myanmar Police Force and Fire Brigade.

On arrival at the Arzani Mausoleum at 7.55 am, Chairman of the 57th Anniversary Arzani Day Observance Committee Minister for Culture Maj-Gen Kyi Aung was welcomed by the Chairman of the 57th Anniversary Arzani Day Observance Executive Committee Deputy Minister for Culture Brig-Gen Soe Win Maung.

Together with Minister for Culture Maj-Gen Kyi Aung, Chief Justice U Aung Toe, Attorney-General U Aye Maung, Auditor-General Maj-Gen Lun Maung took respective places before the tombs of Arzanis.

Next, those present saluted the flag of the Union of Myanmar. After that, on behalf of the Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council, Chairman of the 57th Anniversary Arzani Day Observance Committee Minister for Culture Maj-Gen Kyi Aung, together with Chief Justice U Aung Toe, Attorney-General U Aye Maung and Auditor-General Maj-Gen Lun Maung laid wreaths at the tombs of Arzanis.

At that time, the Union flag was flown at half mast and the Guard of Honour of Tatmadaw (Army, Navy and Air Force) as well as the Band Troupe saluted the fallen heroes. Afterwards, the dispensing of metta and two-minute silence in memory of Arzanis followed.

Chairman of the 57th Anniversary Arzani Day Ob-

servance Committee Minister for Culture Maj-Gen Kyi Aung, Chief Justice U Aung Toe, Attorney-General U Aye Maung, Auditor-General Maj-Gen Lun Maung and Deputy Minister for Culture Brig-Gen Soe Win Maung left the Arzani Mausoleum.

Later, families of the Arzanis laid wreaths at the respective tombs. First, U Nan Nwe laid wreath at Bogyoke Aung San's tomb and paid tribute to him while metta was being dispensed on behalf of the eldest son of Bogyoke Aung San, U Aung San Oo.

Next, families of other Arzanis laid wreaths at the respective tombs and dispensed metta. The representatives of Union Solidarity and Development Association, Myanmar War Veterans Organization, Myanmar Fire Brigade, MRCS, MWJA, Myanmar Motion Picture Asiayon, Myanmar Music Asiayon, Myanmar Thabin Asiayon, Myanmar Traditional Artists and Artisans Asiayon also laid wreaths and paid tribute to the martyrs.

Diplomats of foreign missions and resident representatives of UN agencies in Yangon also laid wreaths at the tombs of Arzanis and paid tribute to them.

Likewise, people laid wreaths at the Arzani Mausoleum in memory of the fallen heroes and paid tribute to them. — MNA



The 57th Anniversary Arzani Day ceremony in progress. — MNA