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Friday, 23 July, 2004

*Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt, wife
Dr Daw Khin Win Shwe and party revere the
replica of Shwedagon Pagoda during their visit
to Window of the World Garden in Shenzhen
on 17-7-2004.— MNA*

Senior General Than Shwe sends felicitations to Egypt

YANGON, 23 July — Senior General Than Shwe, Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to His Excellency Mr Mohamed Hosni Mubarak, President of the Arab Republic of Egypt, on the occasion of the National Day of the Arab Republic of Egypt which falls on 23 July 2004. — MNA



PM tours Shenzhen, Hong Kong Further cooperation in hi-tech, industrial sector discussed

YANGON, 22 July— Prime Minister of the Union of Myanmar General Khin Nyunt and wife and goodwill delegation members arrived at Shanghai International Airport on 16 July morning.

They were seen off at the airport by Shanghai

Vice Mayor Mr Tang Jie and party.

The Prime Minister and wife and entourage left Shanghai by the special flight of China Air and arrived at Shenzhen International Airport at 11 am. Shenzhen Vice Mayor Mr Lu Rui Feng and party,

Consul-General of the Union of Myanmar to Hong Kong U Myo Chit and officials accompanied the Prime Minister and wife and party by car to Wushou Guest House in Shenzhen.

Together with Shenzhen Vice Mayor Mr Lu Rui Feng, the Prime

Minister and wife and party arrived at Shenzhen Hi-tech Industrial Park at 2.25 pm, where they were welcomed by Vice Director-General Mr Linbo and officials.

At the hall, the Prime Minister and party watched the documentary video featuring tasks of Shenzhen Hi-

tech Industrial Development such as strengthening of the industrial zone's objectives, registration of the products and technologies, measures for emergence of new technologies in Shenzhen Industrial Zone, measures for improvement of new technologies, famous universities in Shenzhen Industrial Zone, environmental conservation, upgrading of Shenzhen Industrial Zone to a world-class industrial zone.

Next, Vice Director-General Mr Linbo briefed the Prime Minister and party on location and area of the industrial zone, cumulative development of production capacity, the companies manufacturing products through local and foreign high-tech science and technology in southern and northern parts of the industrial zone, research centres on subjects, national and foreign universities, and industrial tasks with the use of audiovisual aids.

Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt dealt with conditions on cooperation in all possible sectors be-

tween Myanmar and Shenzhen Hi-tech Industrial Zone, and signed in the visitors' book.

The Prime Minister and party observed the lists of human resources produced by Shenzhen Industrial Zone, equipment on health care, industrial, computer and communication sectors, and documentary photos at the hall.

They proceeded to ZTE Corporation, where they were welcomed by President Mr Hou Weigui and officials. The Prime Minister and party were briefed on various models of telephones, production of various kinds of communication

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Fruitful results of PM's visit to China China firmly standing for Myanmar in international affairs, Myanmar always strictly adhering to One China Policy PM's visit to China strengthens Sino-Myanmar ties

YANGON, 22 July — The Prime Minister's goodwill visit to the People's Republic of China is a significant one in the history of Sino-Myanmar relations.

The bilateral friendly relations and cooperation established by the leaders of Myanmar and China with farsightedness is developing, and now development in the friendly relations and cooperation may be witnessed in all fields — political, economic and religious. As the People's Republic of China has taken a firm stand for Myanmar in the international affairs, so also, Myanmar has always stood by China, strictly adhering to the One China Policy. At a time when the Western countries are applying pressure on Myanmar, with the political motives, China, being a true friend of Myanmar, always stands by Myanmar. In the economic field, Myanmar and the People's Republic of China are cooperating with added momentum. As the Prime Minister had held cordial discussions with the Chinese leaders during his goodwill visit, new areas of coopera-

tion, based on common interest, have emerged. In the religious sector, the sacred Buddha's Tooth Relic, that is being kept at Ling Guang Temple in the People's Republic of China, was conveyed to Myanmar for three times for public reverence. And Myanmar, on her part donated two significant and valuable jade Buddha images to be placed at the temple in China.

Because of the flourishing bilateral relations, the leaders and the people of China welcomed the Prime Minister as a guest of honour and cordially and warmly received him.

The Prime Minister of PRC welcomed the Prime Minister of Myanmar and goodwill delegation at grand ceremony in Beijing. The Chinese leaders: President Mr Hu Jintao, Prime Minister Mr Wen Jiabao, Chairman of the National People's Congress of China Mr Wu Bangguo, and member of the Standing Committee of the Political

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

PERSPECTIVES

Friday, 23 July, 2004

Sino-Myanmar ties further strengthened

Practising the independent and active foreign policy in international relations, the Union of Myanmar is strengthening friendship especially with neighbouring countries and cooperating with them in trade, economic and cultural fields. With a view to deepening bilateral relations and boosting mutual cooperation, Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt of the Union of Myanmar went on a study tour of developing economic enterprises and industrial zones during his official visit to the People's Republic of China from 11 to 18 July.

On the morning of 15 July, the Prime Minister visited the Shanghai Science and Technology Museum in Pudong Industrial Zone. At the museum, Mr Endi Zhang of Shanghai Pudong New Area People's Government reported to the Prime Minister on the location and area of the industrial zone. The Vice Mayor said that the zone's main economy was at first based on manufacturing industry but now focused on science and technology. He also explained the GDP growth of the zone, manufacturing, research and service industries being carried out through advanced technologies, local and foreign investment, the building of infrastructures for developing the industrial zone and measures being taken for harmonious development in social and cultural sectors.

Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt said that he had met the leaders of the People's Republic of China and cordially discussed matters on cooperation in various fields and promotion of bilateral relations. The Prime Minister added that agreements had been made to boost cooperation in agriculture, industry, communications, energy and electric power. Finally, he invited all those interested, including industrialists and entrepreneurs in Shanghai and those from Pudong Industrial Zone, to come to Myanmar and make investment in industrial zones to be established near the capital. Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt and party also visited the Shanghai Urban Planning Exhibition Centre.

Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt called on Mr Han Zheng, Mayor of Shanghai, at Jin Jiang Grand Hall in Shanghai. At the meeting, Mayor Mr Han Zheng said that Shanghai is the port city and its economy and the living standard of its people have developed during the last 15 years. General Khin Nyunt said that his visit to Shanghai was to study its rapid development and to invite companies in Shanghai to come and study a special industrial zone to be established near Yangon.

We believe that Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt's visit to China is very fruitful and it will surely enhance cooperation and friendly ties of the two countries.



Wellwisher Saya U San Tin Aung (Shwebo) donated K 100,000 to Myanmar Hockey Federation. MHF President Brig-Gen Myo Myint presents certificate of honour to the wellwisher.—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

Myanmar Gazette

YANGON, 22 July — The State Peace and Development Council has appointed managing Director U Htay Aung of Myanmar Hotels & Tourism Services under the Ministry of Hotels & Tourism as Director-General of the Directorate of Hotels & Tourism of the same ministry on probation from the date he assumes charge of duties.

MNA

Continuous torrential rains cause floods in Myitkyina

YANGON, 22 July — The continuous torrential rains in the watershed areas of the extreme north of Myanmar, that started on 10 July, had led the water level of the Ayeyawady river to exceed its danger level of 1,200 centimetres in Myitkyina and reached 1,267-centimetre mark on 18 July, causing floods in the town.

The water level continued to rise till reaching the 1,406-centimetre mark, the second highest record in 38 years, on 19 July. But the water level receded to 1,191 centimetres, that is below the danger level, the next day. Today, the water level was at 1,000 centimetres. Although there were floods, there were no casualties and property damage.

The Meteorology and Hydrology Department of the Transport Ministry has been issuing weather reports covering the situation in the Bay of Bengal and Myanmar waters, and water levels of rivers and storms daily as necessary.

It is issuing flood or storm warnings in advance for the people to take preventive measures against the natural disasters. Thanks to the flood warnings announced by Myanmar Radio, TV and dailies, local authorities at different levels and the people can make necessary preparations to avoid any disaster. Moreover, they are able to take disaster preparedness measures.

Water level of the Ayeyawady remained six feet above danger level in Bhamo and 2.5 feet above the danger level in Katha. The water levels will remain above the danger levels until four days beginning noon today. The river's water level rose one foot above the danger level in Minbu and it reached the danger level in Magway. The water level will remain above the danger level until four days beginning noon today.

The authorities have warned regions where the river's water level may reach the danger level to make necessary preparations. — MNA

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မော်တော်ယာဉ်များမသုံးစွဲရနေ

လစဉ်လ၏ ဒုတိယပတ်တန်နွေနေ့နှင့်နောက်ဆုံးပတ်တန်နွေနေ့ တို့သည် ရုံးလုပ်ငန်းအတွက် မဖြစ်မနေသွားလာရန် လိုအပ်သည်ကိုစွဲရပ်များမှအပမော်တော်ယာဉ်များ မသုံးစွဲရနေ ဖြစ်သည်။

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Minister meets hoteliers

YANGON, 22 July — Minister for Hotels & Tourism Brig-Gen Thein Zaw yesterday morning went to Patheingyi in Ayeyawady Division. Ayeyawady Division Peace and Development Council Chairman South-West Command Commander Maj-Gen Soe Naing and the minister met with hoteliers and discussed matters on extension of Ngwehsaung beach (phase 2) at Patheingyi Hotel. The minister also inspected hotels and Ngwe Hsaung Beach and gave necessary instructions. — MNA



Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs U Khin Maung Win and Laotian Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs Mr Phongsavath Boupha sign the minutes of Myanmar-Lao Border Authorities at Central Level Meeting. — MNA

Myanmar-Lao border authorities meet

YANGON, 22 July — The fourth meeting of the Myanmar-Lao Border Authorities at central level, co-chaired by Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs of Myanmar U Khin Maung Win and his Laotian counterpart Mr Phongsavath Boupha took place at Traders Hotel here at 10 am today. Matters on further promoting bilateral co-operation between the two countries were discussed. The meetings at the working group level was held on 21 July. — MNA

High tide Warning

YANGON, 22 July — The public are hereby informed that exceptionally high spring of from 20.11 feet to 20.87 feet high above the datum are expected to occur in Yangon River during the period from 31-7-2004 to 4-8-2004. — MNA

Waterways for vessels in Chindwin River Bridge (Monywa) changed

YANGON, 22 July — Downstream and upstream waterways were designated for vessels for their waterways between No 2 and No 3 piers of Chindwin River Bridge (Monywa). Now, as water is rising in Chindwin River at danger level, the downstream and waterway will be changed between No 3 and No 4 piers and the upstream at No 2 and No 3 piers as of 26-7-2004. Its clearance is 300 feet wide and 40 feet high.

At night, the green triangle signal will be lighted at the entrance where vessels can pass through and the red cross signal at the route where vessels do not pass through.

Directorate of Water Resources and Improvement of River Systems reminded not to compete running of vessels and tug-boats in the designated waterways and priority is to be given to downstream vessels. — MNA

National Basketball C'ship continues

YANGON, 22 July — National Basketball Championship for 2004 jointly organized by the Myanmar Basketball Federation and Mikko Coffee Mix continued today at Aung San Gymnasium. In men's junior semi-final, Industry-1 (A) team beat Industry-1 (B) team 73-54 points and LSK team beat ILBC team 61-54 points. In the men's senior semi-final, Gar Gar (A) team beat Yangon Command team 90-59 points and the Industry-1 (A) team beat Central Command team 80-64 points. In the women's event, Home Affairs team beat Industry-1 (B) team 75-38 points. The tournament continues on 23 July. — MNA

Three US troops killed in action in Iraq

BAGHDAD, 21 July— Two US Army soldiers and one Marine have been killed in action in Iraq's Anbar Province west of Baghdad in the past two days, a US military spokesman said Wednesday.

The spokesman said the Marine was killed Tuesday, while one of the soldiers died of battle wounds on the same day. Another soldier died Monday in action, the spokesman said without giving any more details.

The casualties are in addition to an-

other US Marine who was already reported killed Tuesday in Anbar Province.

The deaths bring to at least 659 the number of US troops killed in action in Iraq since the invasion last March to oust Saddam Hussein.

Internet



Three guerillas carrying automatic weapons stand in front of six hostages at an undisclosed location in Iraq on this picture handed to the Associated Press on 21 July, 2004. Militant group says it has taken six foreign truck drivers hostage and will behead them if their countries do not withdraw their forces. — INTERNET

Guerillas seize six foreign hostages in Iraq

BAGHDAD, 21 July— A new hostage crisis erupted in Iraq Wednesday just a day after a kidnapped Filipino was freed, with guerillas saying they had seized three Indians, two Kenyans and an Egyptian and threatening to kill them one by one.

In video footage given to Arabic satellite channel Al Arabiya, masked gunmen said they would behead the captives unless the Kuwaiti company they worked for pulled out of Iraq.

"We announce we have captured two Kenyans, three Indians and one Egyptian. We tell the company to withdraw and close its offices in Iraq," said one of the masked men, from a group calling itself the "Black Banners."

The guerillas also demanded that India, Kenya and Egypt withdraw their citizens from Iraq. None of the three countries are part of the US-led military coalition in Iraq but many of their nationals work as drivers and contractors.

An Egyptian diplomatic source confirmed that an Egyptian truck driver named Mohammed Ali had been taken

hostage.

Monday, another Egyptian hostage was freed after his Saudi employer pledged to stop doing business in Iraq.

Tuesday, Filipino truck driver Angelo de la Cruz was released from more than two weeks in captivity, after the Philippines bowed to the demands of his captors and withdrew its small military contingent from Iraq a month ahead of schedule.

Manila's move was criticized by the United States and Australia, both key allies, and by Iraq's interim government which said the Philippines was giving in to terrorism.

De la Cruz, a 46-year-old father of eight, flew to Abu Dhabi Wednesday to be reunited with his wife before heading home. He said he was well treated in captivity but often feared death.

Internet

Australia enhances maritime security

CANBERRA, 21 July— Australian Prime Minister John Howard announced on Tuesday that Australia would enhance maritime security after the country's spy agency warned that maritime targets could be attacked by terrorists.

A comprehensive threat assessment prepared by the Australian Security Intelligence Organization (ASIO) indicated that al-Qaeda, an international terrorist network, and its associated groups continue to have a capacity to carry out terrorist attacks, including against maritime interests, Howard said in a statement.

The key measure is to

increase the rate of container examination at the Customs container x-ray facilities in Sydney, Melbourne, Brisbane and Fremantle.

The number of ports covered by Customs closed circuit television network will be extended from the current 32 to 63, according to the statement.

Howard said the government will also review security arrangements for

Australia's offshore oil and gas facilities and assets through the establishment of a dedicated task force within the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet.

The task force will also consider the Australian Government's capabilities and protocols for interdicting ships and other vessels at sea.

MNA/Xinhua

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US helicopter shot down in Iraq

FALLUJAH, 21 July— Guerillas have shot down a US helicopter during fierce clashes in the western Iraqi city of Ramadi and three on board have been killed, says an Iraqi police officer in the city.

Several witnesses also said a helicopter was shot down.

The police officer said the aircraft came down near the eastern entrance of the city and burst into flames. He said the area had been sealed off by US troops.

A US military spokeswoman said on

Wednesday she did not have any information on the report. At least five Iraqis were killed in the clashes in the city, Iyad Mohammed, a doctor at Ramadi's hospital, said. He said they included three brothers who were killed in their car by a roadside bomb planted to target US patrols.—Internet

Chinese scientists leave for Arctic

BEIJING, 21 July— A team of 11 Chinese scientists left here Tuesday for the North Pole to carry out research in the Arctic region and prepare to open the country's first scientific research station there at the end of this month.

The team is heading for Svalbard Island, Norway, according to Yang Huigen, deputy head of the China Polar Research Centre based in Shanghai, and first chief of the China's Arctic station.

The first group of scientists will carry out a month of research on atmospheric physics, maritime life, meteorology, glaciers and GPS tracking.

The station is a two-storey building with a total area of 500 square metres on Svalbard Island. It has laboratories, offices, reading rooms, storerooms and dorms that can accommodate 20 to 25 staff. At the top of the

building is an observatory.

The 11 scientists, aged between 27 and 65, are from the China Polar Research Centre, the Chinese Academy of Meteorological Sciences, Wuhan University, the Chinese Academy of Sciences, the University of Science and Technology of China and the State Oceanic Administration.

Most of them have experience with scientific research in either the Antarctic or the Arctic, said Yang.

In 1999 and 2003, China launched two Arctic expeditions.

MNA/Xinhua

Japanese flower power gadget turns plants into amplifiers

TOKYO, 21 July — People who like talking to their plants can now enjoy a musical accompaniment, thanks to a Japanese invention that turns petals and leaves into amplifiers.

Called the "Flower Speaker Amplifiers", the gadget made by Let's Corp is hidden in a vase or a potted plant and sends music at just the right frequency to vibrate up the stems and then be converted into audible sound by the plant as a whole.

A device such as a CD player or radio can be connected to it.

"Anywhere where you would want music naturally integrated with a natural surrounding," said Hirohiko Okugawa, a manager at Let's, referring to locations for the device, which he expects it to be popular for hotels and hospital lobbies.

MNA/Reuters

Australia attracts more foreign investment

CANBERRA, 21 July — Foreign investment in Australia increased by 9.1 per cent to 978.1 billion Australian dollars (716.2 billion US dollars) in 2003, latest official statistics show.

The United States was the biggest investor in Australia last year, taking about 30 per cent of the total foreign investment, according to the Australian Bureau of Statistics figures released Tuesday.

It was followed by Britain, which accounted for 26 per cent of the total, and Japan, 5 per cent.

Australia's investment overseas rose by 7.8 per cent to 508.2 billion Australian dollars (371.9 billion US dollars) last year. About 42 per cent of the amount went to the United States. The figures underscored the close economic relationship between Australia and the United States before they put to effect a bilateral free trade agreement on January 1, 2005. — MNA/Xinhua



US soldiers patrol the streets near the area where the 1st Infantry Division Bradley vehicle was hit by a roadside bomb resulting in the death of an American soldier while on patrol in Duluiyah, 70 kilometres (45 miles) north of Baghdad, on 21 July, 2004. This brings to 900 the number of US soldiers killed in Iraq since the beginning of military operations in March 2003. — INTERNET

US troops fear mounting casualties

BAQOUBA, 21 July — An insurgency that just won't die is leaving American troops in the field wondering if they are going to be next.

Is it likely we will lose somebody else? Yes, it is," said Capt Thomas H Johnson Jr, who leads one of the coalition's most battle-scarred units, based in Baghdad. "But all we can do is be as ready as possible."

Johnson's 3rd Brigade soldiers, more than any others in the US 1st Infantry Division, know all about being prepared for battle; their casualty rate is above 25 percent, including six deaths since April.

The death toll of US troops killed in Iraq since the war began last year reached 900 early Wednesday when another 1st Infantry Division soldier was killed. His Bradley fighting vehicle struck a roadside bomb in Duluyah, 45 miles north of Baghdad.

His death followed those of two Marines and two soldiers, announced Tuesday by the military.

North of Baghdad, Baqouba has turned into one of the

coalition's most violent battlegrounds since the US-led invasion in March 2003.

Those battles, plus the April 10 death of Sgt Cody Eckhart, 25, killed when militants fired a rocket-propelled grenade at his Humvee, shocked many 3rd Brigade soldiers, said Sgt 1st Class Jamie Loy, who commands one of Johnson's quick reaction force platoons.

"After last month's clashes and Eckhart's death, you could see in the soldiers' eyes that everybody was physically shattered and they were starting to wonder if they were going to be next and is it all worth it," said 36-year-old Loy, of Ann Arbor, Mich.

"But you can't think about bullets or look at those who died and think, 'I'm next.'"

One of Eckhart's friends, Pvt Akio Ellis, said fear and anger ran through him after Eckhart was killed. —*Internet*

ဝက်စွမ်းအား ခေတ်ကျော်လွှား

Iraq accuses US forces of withholding art works

BAGHDAD, 21 July —The Iraqi Culture Ministry has accused the US forces of withholding 59 Iraqi art works stolen from the Iraqi museums, *Al Mashriq* newspaper reported Wednesday. The ministry received 11 rare art works of them," said the ministry sources, adding that the others were not returned yet.

The Iraqi Culture Ministry set up a committee in charge of gathering Iraqi national artistic and cultural works looted during the anarchy ensuing the American occupation of the country in March 2003. The ministry estimated there were altogether 8,000 lost artworks, among which 1500 were recovered while the rest still lost. —*Internet*



The first batch of Philippines' troops withdrawn from Iraq arrive home at Manila International airport on 21 July, 2004. —*INTERNET*

Iraq's neighbours meet to tackle security

CAIRO, 21 July —Foreign ministers from countries bordering Iraq gathered in Cairo to discuss the new Iraqi government's demands for help in restoring security to the ravaged nation.

"We expect our neighbours to stand behind the Iraqi people and give more than words to help reestablish sovereignty for a peaceful Iraq," Iraqi Foreign Minister Hoshiyar Zebari said as the meeting opened on Wednesday.

It is the first time the ministers from Iraq, its neighbours Jordan, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, Syria and Turkey, as well as host Egypt, have met since the US-led occupation transferred power to an interim Baghdad government last month.

Both the caretaker government of Prime Minister Iyad Allawi and the US-led forces still in Iraq have blamed most of the attacks on foreign fighters and those allegedly linked to Al-Qaeda such as Jordanian-born Abu Mussab al-Zarqawi.

They have repeatedly accused Syria and Iran in particular of failing to stop insurgents from entering Iraq to carry out attacks which have plagued the country since the downfall of Saddam Hussein in April last year.

The new government is

encouraging Arab and Islamic countries to contribute troops to the multinational force in Iraq, but has made it clear it would prefer Iraq's neighbours not to participate.

Allawi is scheduled to join the foreign ministers for lunch and also hold talks with EU foreign policy chief Javier Solana, who is on a tour of the Middle East.

UN chief Kofi Annan special representative for Iraq, Lakhdar Brahimi, is also sitting in on the discussions.

—*Internet*

Group warns Bulgaria, Poland of attacks over Iraq

DUBAI, 21 July —A group claiming to be the European wing of al Qaeda on Wednesday threatened Bulgaria and Poland with attacks if they did not pull troops out of Iraq.

The claim from the previously unheard-of group, posted on a Web site not normally used by militants, said both countries would face attacks similar to those in Madrid this year and the Sept 11 attacks on US cities.

"To the crusader Bulgarian government which supports the Americans, we ask you for the last time to withdraw Bulgarian forces from Iraq or we will turn Bulgaria into a bloodbath," said the statement, signed "the al Qaeda organization, Europe."

"To Poland and the despicable Prime Minister Marek Belka, withdraw your forces from Iraq or you will hear explosions ripping

through your country when we want," it added.

The authenticity of the claim, dated July 21, could not be confirmed. In recent weeks there have been a number of *Internet* threats against the foreign presence in Iraq, some of which have then been disowned by groups saying others are using their name.

The Bulgarian government said in a statement: "At the moment, there is no data indicating a direct threat to Bulgaria ... The relevant agencies are checking the origin and authenticity of the information on the threats." Poland's Belka told parliament: "We are treating the

threat extremely seriously, although I would say we have had more of these sorts of statements from various organizations."

"According to our security services, there are no new events within Polish borders which would require any particular sort of behaviour, or reaction from our citizens."

A statement on Tuesday purporting to be from a group led by Abu Musab al-Zarqawi, an Islamic militant with suspected ties to al Qaeda, threatened attacks on Japan unless it withdrew its 550 non-combat troops from Iraq, but a later *Internet* message disowned the warning.

—*Internet*

SDRC records growth of energy supply, transportation

BEIJING, 21 July —The latest statistics from China's State Development and Reform Commission (SDRC) here Tuesday showed that China's energy supply and transportation capacity grew a relatively big amount in the first half of this year.

From January to June, China produced 743 million tons of coal, 14.9 per cent more than that of the same

time of last year. The electricity supply grew 15.8 per cent on a year-on-year basis to 990.9 billion kilo watt hours.

China also increased its crude oil production to 85.71 million tons and imported 56.34 million tons in the first half of the year, up 1.9 per cent and 40.3 per cent respectively, according to SDRC statistics. The coun-

try's refined crude oil jumped to 133.9 million tons, growing 17.9 per cent when compared with the same time of last year.

The transportation capacity of Chinese railway grew to 1.056 billion tons, an increase of 8.7 per cent. According to the statistics, transportation for coal reached 481 million tons during the time.

—*MNA/Xinhua*

Liquor sales a risky trade in new Iraq

BAGHDAD, 21 July —Abu Luay Hikmat has held the title of Iraq biggest alcohol distributor for a little over a week, but he already has decided to call it quits.

Last week, three carloads of masked gunmen showed up at his warehouse, riddled the place with bullets and kidnapped one of his guards.

Iraqi police later captured five of the assailants and identified them as members of Shiite cleric Moqtada Sadr's al-Mahdi Army. Hikmat, 50, said police told him the men attacked his warehouse because alcohol is haram, or forbidden by Islamic law.

Though alcohol is legal in the new Iraq, some militant Muslims newly empowered by Saddam Hussein's ouster appear determined to drive liquor out of the country in a reflection of their insistence that Iraq have a strong Islamic identity.

While liquor stores and wholesalers have

been sporadically attacked by Islamic militants since last year's US-led invasion, a recent spate of assaults in Baghdad and Baqouba has chased away several sellers and distributors and forced others to shut down, at least temporarily.

On Tuesday, as Hikmat showed visitors dozens of large bullet holes pocking his warehouse, he said there is only one responsible decision he can make: "Quit this job and leave Iraq." "I am so scared that I cannot sleep," he said. "I fear for the safety of my family, and I fear for my own life."

No one has claimed responsibility for most of the attacks, but many liquor store owners and wholesale vendors blame al-Mahdi Army members. —*Internet*



Iraqi civilians look at the remains of victims killed after a car bomb went off in the eastern part of Baghdad, on 21 July, 2004. At least three people were killed when the car blew up in a narrow alley in the Baghdad al-Jadida District of the capital. —*INTERNET*

Venezuelan President calls Bush "Emperor of Evil"

CARACAS, 22 July — Venezuelan President Hugo Chavez again criticized US President George W Bush for interfering in Venezuela's internal affairs, calling the latter "Emperor of Evil".

He made the remarks at an election rally less than one month before the referendum scheduled for August 15 on whether he could keep his presidency, saying "you see now how the Emperor of Evil has spoken from Washington giving orders".

"Tell me what right does the President of the United States have to call for transparency in any electoral process in the world," Chavez said. Bush on Monday urged transparency in the upcoming Venezuelan referendum and called for international observers' free access to the voting process.

Chavez has repeatedly accused Bush's Government of plotting with the opposition to invade Venezuela and overthrow him.

MNA/Xinhua

Zarqawi demands Japan withdraw from Iraq

DUBAI, 21 July — Abu Musab al-Zarqawi, an Islamic militant with suspected ties to al-Qaeda, has demanded that Japan pull its troops out of Iraq or face attacks, according to a statement posted on Tuesday on an Islamist web site.

"This message is directed to the Japanese Government. Do what the Philippines has done because no one else can help you... Your fate will be like that of the Americans and others," read the statement, posted on a web site that has carried previous messages from Zarqawi.

Zarqawi also warned Muslim and Arab states against sending troops to Iraq or supporting the US-led coalition and Iraqi Prime Minister Iyad Allawi's government. He issued the same warning to Arab and Muslim companies operating in Iraq. "This message is especially directed to Pakistan, Jordan, Turkey, Iran, Gulf Arab states and Middle East, to Indonesia, Malaysia and all Muslim countries... We warn you for the last time that we will strike with an iron fist anyone who backs the Americans and Allawi and his gang," it said. — MNA/Reuters



A woman pulls a child away from a charred vehicle after a car bomb went off in the eastern part of Baghdad on 21 July, 2004. —INTERNET

More Filipinos favour pullout decision

MANILA, 22 July — More Filipinos agreed with the Government's decision to pull out its troops from Iraq for the release of Filipino hostage Angelo de la Cruz, said a survey released Thursday.

Citing the survey conducted by HB&A Research International Inc from July 17 to 19, the *Philippine Star* said that 72 per cent of Metro Manila residents approved of President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo's decision to pull out the 51-strong contingent from Iraq in exchange for de la Cruz's life.

The kidnapped truck driver, who has been released on Tuesday, is set to arrive at Manila International Airport Thursday.

An earlier HB&A survey on the issue taken from July 10 to 12, during the height period of the hostage crisis, showed a split

over whether to stay or pull out the troops from Iraq when the respondents were asked to choose from among three possible decisions by President Arroyo.

Fifty-four per cent said that Arroyo should "immediately" pull out Filipino troops from Iraq to save the hostage while 34 per cent favoured an initial incomplete pullout.

The survey also revealed that 75 per cent of the respondents believed that the United States was not justified in being angry at the Philippine Government for the pullout decision. — MNA/Xinhua

Airbus signs deal worth \$7b with Etihad

FARNBOROUGH (England), 21 July — European aircraft maker Airbus announced Tuesday that it had signed a memorandum worth more than 7 billion US dollars with Etihad Airways, the national airline of the United Arab Emirates to supply 24 airplanes to the Abu Dhabi-based Middle East company.

Etihad Airways ordered Airbus' widebody long-range aircraft and the new generation double-deck Airbus A380 for its future growth.

Airbus said the deal, the biggest announced so far at this week's Farnborough air show, includes options for Etihad to purchase four A380s and another 20 airplanes including four ultra-long range A340-500s, four A340-600s and 12 A330-200s.

Airbus is developing the A380 with some 550 seats, to fill the demand it sees for super-size planes carrying large numbers of passengers.

Airbus has now pre-sold 133 of the A380s and chief executive Noel Forgeard said the jumbo aircraft is on track to make its test flight during the first three months of next year. The deal dwarfs a sale announcement made by Airbus's rival, American aircraft-maker Boeing Co., at the airshow Monday.

Boeing's deal with Emirates Airline consists of four 777-300ERs with options on nine more, for a total contract value of 2.96 billion US dollars. The four planes are to be delivered in 2006, with the optional sales to be completed by 2012.

The two largest global aircraft makers Airbus and Boeing have been competing fiercely in the world market. The Airbus A380 is the only modern aircraft design in the valuable 400-plus seat market, in which Airbus said it had already established a strong market leadership.

Boeing Commercial Airplanes chief executive Alan Mulally argued here that airlines need aircraft to make longer and more frequent flights and prefer flying point-to-point between final destinations rather than via congested hubs. Boeing, headquartered in Chicago, is developing its new medium-sized 7E7 aircraft to meet this hoped-for demand.

The air show already has given executives of the two titans of the industry a platform for their intense competition as they defend their respective strategies for future growth and trade accusations about government subsidies.

MNA/Xinhua

Philippines busts foreign phone-hacking syndicate

MANILA, 21 July — The Philippines arrested eight members of an international hacking syndicate who had broken into the country's largest telephone company for more than six years, officials said on Tuesday.

Lieutenant-General Jose Reyes, the Air Force chief, said two Indian nationals, a Bangladeshi and five Filipino accomplices were believed to have been illegally tapping into the Philippine Long Distant Telephone (PLDT) company's system since 1998.

They were arrested in raids last week in Manila.

PLDT, the Philippines' largest phone service provider, had reported losses amounting to 200 million pesos (3.5 million US dollars) since 1998 due to syndicates hacking into its subscribers'

PABX system and used it for illegal call-selling activities, he said.

"They have deprived the government of nearly 20 million pesos (357,000 US dollars) in expected revenues," Reyes told reporters, adding that the illegal activities of the syndicate could be tantamount to economic sabotage.

David Narvasa, a lawyer for PLDT, said the company had been investigating hacking syndicates since it received complaints from corporate subscribers about long distance calls charged

to their lines when such calls were never made.

PLDT sought help from the military, police and immigration officials after tracing illegal calls made through the hackers' system. Most of the illegal calls were made to the Middle East.

"It is not farfetched to believe that this scheme is being utilized by criminal syndicates involved in kidnapping and other serious crimes," Narvasa told reporters.

"Worse, it may be used by terrorists both here and abroad." — MNA/Reuters

Survey says singles dominate China's netizen population

BEIJING, 21 July — Of China's 87 million Internet users, 60.1 per cent are single, says a survey on the development of the Internet in China published here Tuesday.

The survey, the 14th of its kind conducted by the China Internet Network Information Centre (CNNIC), also shows 59.3 per cent of China's web surfers are male and 54.1 per cent are under age 24.

It shows 21.9 per cent of the netizens earn more than 2,000 yuan (240 US dollars) per month; students account for the biggest percentage, 31.9 per cent.

MNA/Xinhua

Sino-US fund management company on the way

BEIJING, 21 July — AIG Global Investment Corp (AIGGIC), the investment arm of the American International Group Inc (AIG), has received the Chinese Government's approval to establish a joint venture fund management company in Shanghai.

The China Securities Regulatory Commission has given the go-ahead for AIGGIC, China's Huatai Securities and several other Chinese companies to establish the joint company.

AIGGIC and Huatai Securities will each hold 33 per cent of the company's stock, while the remaining stock will be shared by three other Chinese companies.

The company will be registered in Shanghai and with a registered capital of 100 million yuan (about 12.05 million US dollars).

Joel Epstein, president of AIG China, said the company is glad to expand its business in China's booming fund market. The

joint venture company will provide a series of quality investment products for both individual and institutional investors in China.

AIG is the biggest property insurance company and the second biggest financial group in the world. It established a wholly owned life insurance company in China in 1992.

AIGGIC was the 6th biggest fund management company in the world in 2003, with 400 billion dollars of assets under its management.

Assets of Huatai Securities totalled 8.72 billion yuan (about 1.05 billion US dollars) at the close of 2003.

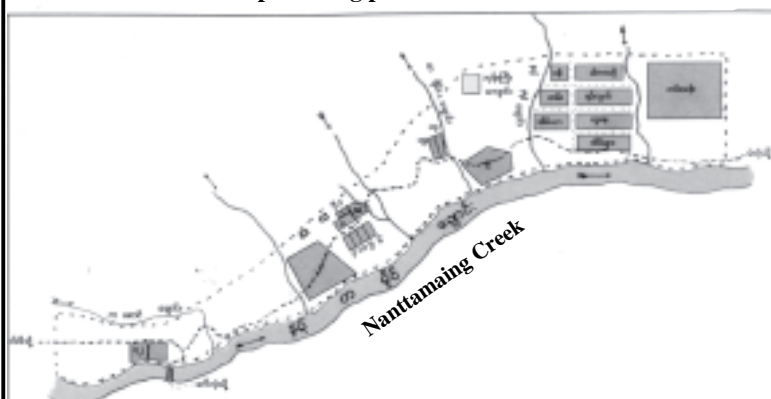
MNA/Xinhua



An Iraqi police inspects the intensive care unit after it took a hit when rockets struck a Baghdad hospital, which sits amid a large health complex, in Baghdad, Iraq, on Wednesday, 21 July, 2004. — INTERNET

“Pannandin”, an emerging town in far north

Map showing plots of Pannandin



North

In the northernmost region of the Union of Myanmar is Rasadan camp, which can also be called the northernmost camp. To the south of the camp is such small villages as Tahundan, Talahtu, Tazahtu, Ngawa, Tazundan and Guba. Pannandin, a small village located in the south-east of Ngawa, is no longer a village. It has developed into a town and therefore can be called the northernmost town in Myanmar.

With the goodwill of the State, development programmes are being carried out in Pannandin to which such programmes had not reached throughout the successive eras.



Maykha river originates in Pannandin region and the region is teeming with many creeks which can be used to generate electricity. Photo shows efforts being made to supply electricity to Myoma ward of Pannandin town.

In line with the guidance of the Head of State, the Ministry of Home Affairs designated Pannandin village as Pannandin town by a notification dated 22-7-2002. It was on 1 October 2002 that Pannandin was upgraded into a town.



Photo shows the site for construction of Pannandin Basic Education High School.

The State has designated Pannandin region as a Special Region. World Environment Conservation Group and the Ministry of Forestry of Myanmar is carrying out environment conservation tasks in the region after designating it as National Garden and reserved forest.



For better transportation a road between Yatbaw and Gawle is gravelled.



To provide better health care services to national people residing in Pannandin region, a new hospital is built. Photo dated 30-5-2004 shows progress in building the 16-bed hospital.

Pannandin shining like the pole star in northernmost Myanmar — 1

Tekkatho Myat Thu



Scenic view of Pannandin.

In the northernmost region of the Union of Myanmar is Rasadan camp, which can also be called the northernmost camp. To the south of the camp is such small villages as Tahundan, Talahtu, Tazahtu, Ngawa, Tazundan and Guba.

traveling at night. But in day time, if the directions of sunrise and sunset is known, it can be guessed that the south part is on the left and the north on the right. At moonlit night, east and west can be identified by means of the directions of moonrise

Pannandin was formerly a village. It was designated and upgraded as a town by the Ministry of Home Affairs on 22-7-2002.

Pannandin, a small village located in the south-east of Ngawa, is no longer a village. It has developed into a town and therefore can be called the northernmost town in Myanmar.

In line with the guidance of the Head of State, the Ministry of Home Affairs designated Pannandin village as Pannandin town by a notification dated 22-7-2002. It was on 1 October 2002 that Pannandin was upgraded into a town.

One might get lost and find difficulty in deciding which way was to east or west or south and north, when

and moonset.

At moonless night, the pole star is to be searched. Then, the direction to which the pole star is found can be defined as north. If the direction of north is known, other remaining three directions can also be known.

Speaking of the pole star, it comes to our minds that the pole star is located in the north. Pannandin being located in the northernmost part of Myanmar, the development of Pannandin can be compared to that of the shining pole star.

To the north-east of Putao lies Nagmon, whose

such village-tracts as Aliaung, Maswamkan, Ngawa, Dazundam and Tazuhtu in the area of the township, which has a total of 252 houses by 258 households with a population of 1,777.

To the north, the

Nantamaing creek and is over 31 miles from Nagmon. In the past, Pannandin was a dead-end village.

Pannandin is 100 miles away by car or on foot from Putao, which is 76 miles away from Nagmon. The ranges and valleys between

gather in the northernmost part of Myanmar.

Matched with the beauty of snow-capped mountains, the beauty of Pannandin is significant. There were times when we all envied Switzerland the splendor of the Alps we saw in movies.

Pannandin being located in the northernmost part of Myanmar, the development of Pannandin can be compared to that of the shining pole star.

northeast and the northwest lies Yunnan Province and Tibet region of the People's Republic of China, and India. Rawan and Htayanrawan are principal tribes residing in Pannandin. The word Rawan means the national people in white dress. Pannandin is located on the bank of

Gawlehtu and Pannandin are those at the foot of Mt Khakaborazi, whose height is over 19,000 feet. The mountain ranges in the vicinity of Mt Khakaborazi are snow-capped in the winter. Scenic beauties mentioned in all famous poems of celebrated persons

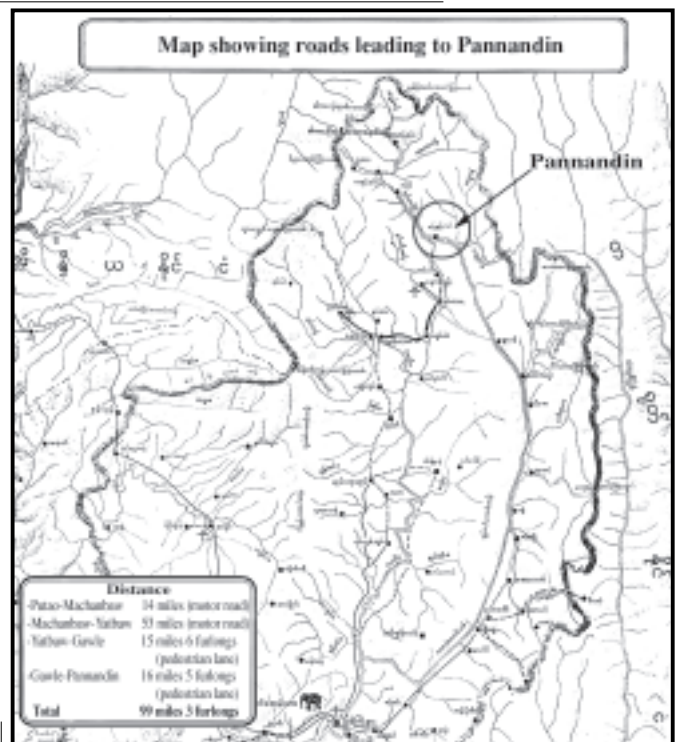
Seeing the snow-capped mountains in the northernmost part of our country, a thought struck me that the splendor of the Swiss mountain ranges are no longer worth missing.

(Translation: KTY)
(Myamma Alin, Kyemon: 18-7-2004)



Departmental personnel seen in front of the office of General Administration Department.

status is that of township level. Pannandin is under Nagmon Township, Putao District, Kachin State. Pannandin is situated at longitude 98 degree 53 minutes in the east and 53 minutes of 27 degree 43 minutes in the north. Pannandin is 153.52 miles in area. In the past, Myoma ward in Pannandin had just eight dwellings. But now it has 21 households. There are



Construction of Pannandin Basic Education High School.

PM tours Shenzhen, Hong Kong

(from page 1)
equipment, and distribution of the products to local and foreign markets, with the use of audiovisual aids.

The Prime Minister and party observed production process of communication

Shenzhen Wuzhou Guest House. Shenzhen Mayor Mr Li Hongzhong called on Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt at Shenzhen Room of the guest house at 6.30 pm. Also present on the occasion were member

There are many sectors in which Myanmar and Shenzhen can cooperate, and companies and entrepreneurs are invited to Myanmar.

Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt

Special emphasis will be placed on cooperation between Myanmar and Shenzhen in various spheres.

Shenzhen Mayor Mr Li Hongzhong



Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt, wife Dr Daw Khin Win Shwe and party pose for documentary photo together with Chinese monks in front of Lantau Buddha Image on 18-7-2004.— MNA



Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt accepts souvenirs presented by Shenzhen Mayor Mr Li Hongzhong at Shenzhen Room at Shenzhen Wuzhou Guest House on 16-7-2004. — MNA

apparatus and accessories at the ZTE Corporation.

The contract-signing ceremony followed at the hall of the corporation. Mr Hou Weigui extended greetings and presented functions of the corporation. General Manager of the Myanmar Posts and Telecommunications under the Ministry of Communications, Posts and Telegraphs U Tha Oo and Mr Hou Weigui signed the Supply Contract between Myanmar Posts and Telecommunications and ZTE Corporation for GSM System Expansion Project and exchanged the documents.

The Myanmar delegation arrived back at

of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Maung Bo, ministers, deputy ministers, the Myanmar Ambassador to China, departmental heads, the Chinese Ambassador to Myanmar, the Shenzhen Vice Mayor and party.

The Shenzhen Mayor extended greetings and said that special emphasis will be placed on cooperation between Myanmar and Shenzhen in various spheres.

Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt said that the

purpose of his tour of China is to further cement the friendship between the two nations, to speed up bilateral economic cooperation, and to coordinate through discussions about the prospects of cooperation after the visits to the economic zones and industrial zones in the People's Republic of China. He added that he had met leaders of the PRC in Beijing. The meetings have yielded fine prospects. There are many sectors in which Myanmar and Shenzhen can cooperate, and companies and entrepreneurs are invited to Myanmar.

After the meeting, the Prime Minister and wife and party posed for a documentary photo together with the Shenzhen Mayor and party in front of the hall. In the evening, the Shenzhen Mayor hosted a dinner in honour of the Prime Minister and wife and party at Yangtze Room of Shenzhen Wuzhou Guest House.

Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt and party arrived at Huawei Technologies Co at 9.30 am on 17 July. They were welcomed there by Executive Vice President Mr Wang Cheng and officials. The officials of the company explained the Prime Minister and party about GSM and CDMA

Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt and wife Dr Daw Khin Win Shwe and party arrived at the Window of the World Garden in Shenzhen set up for the public and tourists relaxation. They went round the park in a motorcade to view scale models of popular religious and social edifices and environmental scenes from various countries of the world.

mobile phone system on IT applied by the company, optical transmission network system, new generation switching system, broadband and integrated access system, data communications system, intelligent network system, Huawei telecom network system, conducting them round the production site. Executive Vice President Mr Wang Cheng briefed the Prime Minister and party on electronic products on IT manufactured by Huawei Technologies Co, sale of the products at home and abroad, and conditions on penetrating world markets. He said that he took interest in cooperation in Myanmar's communication area.

Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt invited the company to take part in the tasks for further development of Myanmar's com-

munication sector. Afterwards, the Myanmar goodwill delegation arrived back at Shenzhen Wuzhou Guest House.

Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt and wife Dr Daw Khin Win Shwe and party arrived at the Window of the World Garden in Shenzhen set up for the public and tourists relaxation. They went round the park in a motorcade to view scale models of popular religious and social edifices and environmental scenes from various countries of the world.

On arrival at China Folk Culture Village, the Prime Minister and wife and party planted pomelo trees to mark the goodwill visit. Next, they had documentary photos taken together with national races. Next, the Prime Minister signed in the visitors' book.

(See page 9)

Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt said that the purpose of his tour of China is to further cement the friendship between the two nations, to speed up bilateral economic cooperation, and to coordinate through discussions about the prospects of cooperation after the visits to the economic zones and industrial zones in the People's Republic of China.



Shenzhen Mayor Mr Li Hongzhong hosts dinner in honour of Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt, wife Dr Daw Khin Win Shwe and party at Shenzhen Wuzhou Guest House on 16-7-2004.— MNA

General Manager of the Myanmar Posts and Telecommunications under the Ministry of Communications, Posts and Telegraphs U Tha Oo and Mr Hou Weigui signed the Supply Contract between Myanmar Posts and Telecommunications and ZTE Corporation for GSM System Expansion Project and exchanged the documents.

PM tours Shenzhen, HK...

(from page 8)

Afterwards, Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt and wife Dr Daw Khin Win Shwe and party arrived back at Shenzhen Wuzhou Guest House after visiting famous buildings from provinces of

welcomed there by Adviser to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs Ms Louis Tan and officials of Hong Kong.

At 7.15 pm, the Prime Minister and wife and party arrived at Harbour Plaza Hotel in Kowloon Island.



Myanmar Posts and Telecommunications General Manager U Tha Oo and ZTE Corporation President Mr Hou Weigui sign the Supply Contract between Myanmar Posts and Telecommunications and ZTE Corporation for GSM System Expansion Project.— MNA



Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt, wife Dr Daw Khin Win Shwe and party pose for group photo at Shenzhen Wuzhou Guest House on 16-7-2004.— MNA

the People's Republic of China, national races of the provinces, their traditional houses and souvenir shops by car.

The Prime Minister and party left Shenzhen Wuzhou Guest House by car at 5.45 pm on 17 July to proceed to Hong Kong Special Autonomous Region and arrived at Lok Ma Chau Check Point at the border of Hong Kong. They were

Accompanied by Daw Khin Lay Myint, wife of Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Maung Bo, Daw San Yone, wife of Minister for Foreign Affairs U Win Aung, Daw Nwe Nwe Han, wife of Myanmar Ambassador to China U Thein Lwin, Mrs Wang Jian, wife of Chinese Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Li Jinjun, Daw Kyi Kyi Oo, wife of

Myanmar Military Attaché Col Sein George and the wife of Union of Myanmar Consul-General U Myo Chit of the Consulate-General in Hong Kong, President of Myanmar Women's Affairs Federation Dr Daw Khin Win Shwe, wife of Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt, went to China Women's Association, Shenzhen Branch, at 3.15 pm on 16 July.

The MWAF President and party were welcomed there by Shenzhen Women's Federation Chairperson Shenzhen Women & Children Committee, Vice Director Mrs Hu Ligon, the vice chairman of the Shenzhen Women's Federation and advisers. Next, Dr Daw Khin Win Shwe and party and the chairman of Shenzhen Women's Federation and party cordially met in the hall of China Women's Association, Shenzhen Branch. They discussed women's affairs of the two countries. Dr Daw Khin Win Shwe invited Shenzhen Women's Federation, Chairperson Mrs Hu Ligon to observe Myanmar Women's Affairs Federation and Myanmar Maternal and Child Welfare Association. (See page 10)

PM General Khin Nyunt, wife Dr Daw Khin Win Shwe and party visited famous buildings from provinces of the PRC, national races of the provinces, their traditional houses and souvenir shops by car.



Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt receives Shenzhen Mayor Mr Li Hongzhong at Shenzhen Wuzhou Guest House on 16-7-2004.— MNA



Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt, wife Dr Daw Khin Win Shwe and party visit China Folk Culture Village in Shenzhen on 17-7-2004.— MNA

PM tours Shenzhen, HK...

(from page 9)

Shenzhen Women's Federation Chairman, Shenzhen Women & Children Committee, Vice Director Mrs Hu Ligun and President Dr Daw Khin Win Shwe exchanged souvenirs and documents of respective Women's Federations.

Dr Daw Khin Win Shwe and party visited the sports training hall, the recreation hall, the beauty parlour and healthcare centre of the federation. Mrs Hu Ligun and officials conducted Dr Daw Khin Win Shwe and party round there.

photos together with the Chinese monks and visited the Buddhological Museum of Lantau Buddha Image.

At Polungchi Monastery, they paid homage to Buddha images and visited the monastery. The Chinese monk presented the picture of the Buddha image to Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt and wife Dr Daw Khin Win Shwe. Next, they donated cash towards the funds of the image to the Chinese monk. Afterwards, the Prime Minister and wife and party arrived back at Harbour Plaza Hotel.

the Consulate-General in Hong Kong bade farewell to the Prime Minister and wife and party.

Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt, wife Dr Daw Khin Win Shwe and party arrived back here by special flight of Myanmar Airways International in the evening.

Members of the goodwill delegation, Minister for Industry-I U Aung Thuang, Minister for Hotels and Tourism and for Communications, Posts and Telegraphs Brig-Gen Thein Zaw, Minister for Transport Maj-Gen Hla Myint Swe



Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt and wife Dr Daw Khin Win Shwe being welcomed by Myanmar Consul-General U Myo Chit and officials at Shenzhen International Airport on 16-7-2004.— MNA



Executive Vice President Mr Wang Cheng explains electronic equipment concerning IT produced by Huawei Technologies Co to Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt and party on 17-7-2004.— MNA

On 18 July morning, Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt, wife Dr Daw Khin Win Shwe and party left Harbour Plaza Hotel in Hong Kong by car for Lantau Buddha Image on Lantau Island to pay homage to it.

First, they paid homage to the Buddha Image and paid obeisance to the Chinese monks of Polungchi Monastery.

Next, Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt, wife Dr Daw Khin Win Shwe and party posed for documentary

At 2 pm on 18 July, Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt, wife Dr Daw Khin Win Shwe and party arrived at Chek Lap Kok International Airport from Harbour Plaza Hotel for their departure for Yangon from Hong Kong. Adviser to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Hong Kong Ms Louis Tan and officials, Myanmar Ambassador U Thein Lwin and wife, Military Attaché Col Sein George and wife, Consul-General U Myo Chit and wife, staff and families of



Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt and wife Dr Daw Khin Win Shwe plant pomelo tree at China Folk Culture Village on 17-7-2004.— MNA

General Manager of the Myanmar Posts and Telecommunications U Tha Oo and ZTE Corporation President Mr Hou Weigui signed the Supply Contract for GSM System Expansion Project.



Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt and party view various kinds of telephones produced by ZTE Corporation on 16-7-2004.— MNA

Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt invited Huawei Technologies Co to take part in the tasks for further development of Myanmar's communication sector.

and Minister for Electric Power Maj-Gen Tin Htut received Executive Director Mr Ting Y Chen of Hutchison Telecom Co of Hong Kong at 8 am on 18 July, President of Wai Hung Machineries Trading Co Mr Wong King Wah and President of Indian Chamber of Commerce Mr Arurachalan of Hong Kong at 10 am at Harbour Plaza Hotel in Hong Kong.

They discussed investment at industry, transport, electric power, communications and hotel & tourism

sectors in Myanmar.

Similarly, member of the delegation Minister for Mines Brig-Gen Ohn Myint received Presidents of Hong Kong Jade Merchants Association Mr Chan Kwok Man and Ms Jam Yee Lin and member merchants, Hong Kong Ornament Production Association Mr Charles Chan and member merchants at Harbour Plaza Hotel at 10 am on 18 July.

They discussed promotion of mutual interest in jade and jewellery works.

MNA

Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt receives Laotian Deputy FM

YANGON, 22 July — Prime Minister of the Union of Myanmar General Khin Nyunt received Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs Mr Phongsavath Boupcha and party of Lao People's Democratic Republic who arrived here to attend the Fourth Myanmar-Laos Central Level Border Authorities' Meeting, at Zeyathiri Beikman on Konmyintha at 5 pm today.

Also present at the call were Minister for Foreign Affairs U Win Aung, Deputy Minister U Khin Maung Win, Myanmar Ambassador to LPDR U Tin Oo, Director-General U Soe Tint at the Prime Minister's Office and Director-General Thura U Aung Htet of the Protocol Department. The Laotian Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs and party were accompanied by LPDR Ambassador Mr Chanthavy Bodhisane. — MNA



General Khin Nyunt receives Deputy Minister of Foreign Minister of LPDR at Zeyathiri Beikman. — MNA



MNAF President Dr Daw Khin Win Shwe cordially meets Shenzhen Women's Federation, Chairman, Shenzhen Women & Children Committee, Vice Director Mrs Hu Ligon on 16-7-2004. — MNA

Myanmar Women's Affairs Federation President Dr Daw Khin Win Shwe meets Shenzhen Women's Federation Chairman Shenzhen Women & Children Committee Vice Director Mrs Hu Ligon, the vice chairman of the Shenzhen Women's Federation and advisers. Dr Daw Khin Win Shwe invited Mrs Hu Ligon to Myanmar to observe the activities of Myanmar Women's Affairs Federation (MNAF) and Myanmar Maternal and Child Welfare Association (MMCWA).

Minister for Industry-1 U Aung Thaung, Minister for Hotels & Tourism and for Communications, Posts and Telegraphs Brig-Gen Thein Zaw, Minister for Transport Maj-Gen Hla Myint Swe and Minister for Electric Power Maj-Gen Tin Htut receive Executive Director Mr Ting Y Chen of Hutchison Telecom Co on 18 July.

Minister for Mines Brig-Gen Ohn Myint receives Presidents of Hong Kong Jade Merchants Association Mr Chan Kwok Man and Ms Jam Yee Lin and member merchants, Hong Kong Ornament Production Association Mr Charles Chan and member merchants. They discussed promotion of mutual interest in jade and jewellery works.

PM sends congratulations to Cambodian PM

YANGON, 22 July — His Excellency General Khin Nyunt, Prime Minister of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of congratulations to His Excellency Samdech Hun Sen, who has been re-elected Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Cambodia. MNA

PM sends felicitations to Egypt

YANGON, 23 July — General Khin Nyunt, Prime Minister of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to His Excellency Dr Ahmed Nazif, Prime Minister of the Arab Republic of Egypt, on the occasion of the National Day of the Arab Republic of Egypt which falls on 23 July 2004. MNA

FM sends congratulations to Cambodian counterpart

YANGON, 22 July — His Excellency U Win Aung, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Union of Myanmar has sent a message of congratulations to His Excellency Mr HOR Namhong who has been appointed Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of the Kingdom of Cambodia. — MNA

FM sends felicitations to Egypt

YANGON, 23 July — On the occasion of the National Day of the Arab Republic of Egypt, which falls on 23 July 2004, U Win Aung, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to His Excellency Mr Ahmed Abul Algehit, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Arab Republic of Egypt. — MNA



Minister for Industry-1 U Aung Thaung, Minister for Hotels & Tourism and for Communications, Posts and Telegraphs Brig-Gen Thein Zaw, Minister for Transport Maj-Gen Hla Myint Swe and Minister for Electric Power Maj-Gen Tin Htut receive Executive Director Mr Ting Y Chen of Hutchison Telecom Co at Harbour Plaza Hotel in Hong Kong on 18-7-2004. — MNA



Minister for Mines Brig-Gen Ohn Myint receives Hong Kong Jade Merchants Association Chairmen and jewellery merchants at the Harbour Plaza Hotel in Hong Kong on 18-7-2004. — MNA

ပြန်ကြားရေးဝန်ကြီးဌာန

သတင်းနှင့်စာနယ်ဇင်းလုပ်ငန်း၏ အစီအစဉ်

MIN KYAW MIN'S
SPOKEN ENGLISH CLASS

သင်တန်းကို ၂-၈-၂၀၀၄ ရက်တွင်မည်။

တနင်္လာ၊ ဗုဒ္ဓဟူး၊ သောကြာ 9.00 am to 11.30

လူဦးရေအကန့်အသတ်ဖြင့်သာလက်ခံမည်။

Multi-media style audio-visual aid ခေတ်မီအထောက်အကူများသုံးမည်။

၁၀ တန်း၊ ဘွဲ့ရသူ လွန်များအတွက် အကျိုးဝင်၊ အသုံးဝင်မည်။

THE NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR သတင်းစာတိုက်

ကမ်းနားလမ်းနှင့် ၄၃ လမ်းထောင့်၊ ဗိုလ်တထောင်မြို့နယ်၊ ရန်ကုန်မြို့

စုံစမ်းရန် ဖုန်း-၂၉၆၁၆၁

20th Anniversary of 1984 batch Institute of Medicine I
Doctors Get-togetherDate : 26th December 2004 (Sunday)
Time : 6:00 pm
Place : Golden Duck (Junction 8), Yangon
Contacts:1. Dr. Khin Maung Htwe
Phone/Fax: 951 571171/Mobile : 09 80 31845
e-mails: drhtwe@mptmail.net.mm
T.M.C@mptmail.net.mm
imhle@mptmail.net.mm2. Lt Col Soe Win
Phone : 951 371548/Mobile : 09 80 25205
e-mails: soekay@myanmar.com.mm3. Dr. Thet Oo (ABC Clinic)
Phone : 951 534871 (Clinic) /951 376143(R)4. Dr. Kyi Kyi San
Phone : 951 370870 / Mobile: 09 50 11541
e-mails: drkyikyisan@myanmar.com.mmAll the friends both inside Myanmar and abroad can attend with the families.
Web Site will be soon opened for the gathering.Democrats demand
vote on bill
to improve US grid

WASHINGTON, 21 July — Nearly one year after the power blackout that left 50 million people in the dark, frustrated Democrats began a push on Tuesday to get the Republican-controlled House to schedule a vote on legislation that would improve the US electricity grid.

With time running out for Congress to pass a comprehensive energy bill, Democrats are demanding a vote on stand-alone legislation that would impose and enforce electric transmission reliability standards on US utilities.

The Bush Administration and Republican lawmakers insist that electricity issues can be addressed only in a larger energy legislation package that also includes billions of dollars in tax breaks for oil, natural gas and coal firms.

“We need to acknowledge the reality that we’re not going to pass an energy bill this year, and take real action to prevent another blackout,” said Representative Tim Bishop, Democrat from New York.

Bishop is circulating a so-called discharge petition to force the House Republican leadership to bring the electric grid bill to the House floor for a vote. The parliamentary move requires 218

signatures of House members.

The joint US-Canadian task force that investigated the cause of the massive August 2003 blackout urged Congress to pass electric reliability legislation to prevent another short circuit of the grid. Pat Wood, chairman of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, has said he would support stand-alone legislation to upgrade the electric grid if Congress could not move a broader energy bill.

Democrats said none of their Republican colleagues have agreed yet to sign the discharge petition, and they do not expect to get much support.

However, they said it would be difficult for Republican lawmakers from those states that were hit hardest by last summer’s blackout — New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Illinois and Michigan — to oppose the bill.

MNA/Reuters

မော်တော်ယာဉ်မှတ်ပုံတင်စာအုပ်
(ကမ-၃)မိတ္တူပြုလုပ်ထားခြင်းယာဉ်အမှတ် ကက/၁၄၇၂
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adviser target of
Justice Dept
probe

WASHINGTON, 21 July — Samuel “Sandy” Berger, national security adviser under former president Bill Clinton, is under investigation after removing classified documents from the National Archives while preparing to appear before the September 11 commission, a US official said on Monday.

The official, who asked not to be named, said the Justice Department investigation was pending and could provide no other information. Another official confirmed an investigation was taking place.

Berger and one of his lawyers said he inadvertently removed copies of a classified memo and his handwritten notes on the material he reviewed, but immediately returned them when he was told by the Archives the documents were missing.

MNA/Reuters



Turkish divers pass over the underwater art exhibition called “Shark” which is situated near the southern Turkish town of Kas in the Mediterranean coast.—INTERNET

ခြည်တွင်းပြန်ကြိုအားပေးပါ

Swiss authorities propose measures
on tobacco prevention

GENEVA, 21 July — The Swiss health authorities drafted proposals to tighten advertising rules for tobacco products, raise cigarette prices and ban tobacco sponsors from sporting events, Swiss Radio International (SRI) reported Monday.

Thomas Zeltner, head of the Swiss Federal Health Office, said in an interview that the current regulations were not sufficient to protect teenagers, according to SRI.

“It is clear that the state should not impose an outright ban on trade in tobacco. But campaigns which are not specifically targeted at smokers ought to be made illegal,” Zeltner was cited as saying.

He said his office has drafted proposals for Parliament aimed at outlawing tobacco advertisements on bill-

boards, cinema screens and in the media. Zeltner also suggested a ban on tobacco sponsors at sporting events and concerts.

The Federal Health Office also wants to make it harder for teenagers to buy cigarettes. The office is also recommending that cigarette packets carry bigger warnings or even pictures of damaged organs as a way of deterring smokers.

Zeltner said he welcomed the 0.50 Swiss franc (0.40 US dollar) tax increase on a

packet of cigarettes due to come into force in the next few weeks, but he called for a further hike next year.

The proposals came only weeks after Switzerland signed an international accord aimed at tobacco prevention.

The Swiss Government is due to decide on whether to introduce more prominent health warnings after the summer break. In 1993 Swiss voters came out against an advertising ban on tobacco and alcohol.—MNA/Xinhua

35 years on, NASA seeks return to moon

WASHINGTON, 21 July — On the 35th anniversary of the first lunar landing, NASA struggled with money problems as it aimed to return to human space flight after the Columbia disaster and ultimately put people back on the moon.

Even as astronaut Neil Armstrong and his Apollo 11 crew members, Buzz Aldrin and Michael Collins, gathered on Tuesday in Washington for a gala celebration of their July 20, 1969, landing on the lunar surface, NASA’s proposed 2005 budget took a beating on Capitol Hill.

The space agency would get 229 million US dollars less than it did in 2004 and 1.1 billion US dollars less than President George W. Bush requested if a spending bill approved by a US House of Representatives subcommittee becomes law.

The panel kept the requested 4.3 billion US dollars for the space shuttle programme and 691 million US dollars for Mars programmes that Bush asked for. NASA’s total budget request for the next fiscal year is 16.2 billion US dollars.

NASA’s human space flight programme has been grounded since shuttle Columbia disintegrated over Texas on February 1, 2003, killing all seven astronauts aboard. Investigators found a “broken safety culture” at NASA and recommended upgrades that the space agency has said will cost 750

million US dollars more than first estimated. Getting the three remaining shuttles flying again is only the beginning of the “vision for space exploration” that Bush unveiled on January 14.

“We will build new ships to carry man forward into the universe, to gain a new foothold on the moon and prepare for new journeys to the worlds beyond our own,” Bush said then.

Under Bush’s plan, a robotic space probe could go to the moon as early as 2008, but no Americans are expected to travel there before 2020.—MNA/Reuters

Ex-world chess champion Fischer
in custody in Japan

TOKYO, 21 July — Former world chess champion Bobby Fischer is in custody in Japan after being detained last week over a possible immigration law violation and could be deported, a Japanese official said on Tuesday.

Fischer, 61, was the only US citizen ever to become world chess champion, taking the title in 1972 after beating Boris Spassky of the Soviet Union in a match considered something of a Cold War

propaganda victory for the United States.

He was taken into custody last Wednesday when he tried to leave Tokyo’s Narita Airport, an official for the Justice Ministry’s immigration

bureau said. Kyodo News agency, quoting Japanese chess officials, said last week that Fischer was detained on suspicion of holding an invalid passport when he tried to leave for the Philippines. Immigration authorities are still checking to see if he has broken any law, the Justice Ministry official said.

“Generally speaking, if it turns out there are no suspicions, he would probably leave the country since that is his intent, and if he is found to have violated immigration laws he will be forcibly deported,” he said. A US Embassy spokeswoman confirmed that Fischer had been detained but would give no other details, citing privacy concerns.

Fischer’s victory over Spassky in what was billed as the “Match of the Century” in Reykjavik, Iceland, in 1972 brought chess tremendous publicity in the United States and made him an instant celebrity.—MNA/Reuters

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မညာရက်ဖြင့် ခေတ်မီပွဲပြီးတိုးတက်သော နိုင်ငံတော်ကြီး တည်ဆောက်အံ့

Eating fish can cut risk of heart rhythm disorder

WASHINGTON, 21 July — Chalk up another benefit of eating fish — it can reduce the risk of deadly irregular heartbeats, researchers reported on Monday.

Baked or broiled but not fried, fish helped reduce the risk of atrial fibrillation, Dr. Dariush Mozaffarian of Brigham and Women's Hospital and Harvard Medical School in Boston and colleagues found.

"The results suggest that regular intake of tuna or other broiled or baked fish may be a simple and important deterrent to atrial fibrillation among older men and women," Mozaffarian said in a statement issued by the

American Heart Association.

More than two million Americans are affected by atrial fibrillation, a chronic condition that causes fatigue, shortness of breath and an inability to exercise.

The heart's two upper chambers, called the atria, quiver instead of beating effectively. Blood is not pumped out properly and may pool and clot.

These clots cause about 15 to 20 per cent of strokes.

Writing in the journal

Circulation, Mozaffarian and colleagues said they studied 4,815 people over the age of 65.

They asked them to describe what they ate, beginning in 1989, and then watched them for 12 years.

Doctors discovered 980 cases of atrial fibrillation in the volunteers. Those who reported eating more baked or broiled fish were the least likely to have atrial fibrillation.

Those who said they ate

fish one to four times per week had a 28-per-cent lower risk, compared to those who ate fish less than once a month.

The researchers credit the omega-3 fatty acids found in many types of fish as well as in walnuts, flaxseed and many green leafy vegetables. Omega-3's are also believed to reduce the risk of a range of heart disorders, and are important to brain development and function. — MNA/Reuters



A boy leaps over artificial waves as he cools off at Tokyo's Toshimaen pool during a record heat wave in the capital on 20 July, 2004. The temperature in Tokyo soared to a record high of 39.5 Celsius (103 F) on Tuesday, the Japan Meteorological Agency said. —INTERNET

California pelican deaths puzzle wildlife officials

LOS ANGELES, 21 July — California's endangered brown pelicans are mysteriously starving to death during a bumper year for anchovies, their preferred prey, wildlife officials said.

Hundreds of the ungainly sea birds appear to have flown off course in search of food during their annual migration from the Baja California Peninsula to British Columbia, with young pelicans turning up in Arizona deserts, biologists said.

Wildlife sanctuaries in California and Arizona have taken in scores of young birds found emaciated and injured over the past month, but veterinarians have been unable to link their plight to disease or pollution.

"They are starving but we do think there are plenty of anchovies," said Judy St. Leger, a veterinarian at San Diego's SeaWorld aquatic animal park. "It is an unusual and very extraordinary event."

The large, grayish-brown sea bird with the pouched bill was threatened with extinction in the 1970s because of the introduction of the pesticide DDT. It is still listed as endangered, according to the California Department of Fish and Game.

Naturalist Sandy Cate of the Arizona

Game and Fish Department said the phenomenon appears linked to an explosion in pelican numbers combined with changes in Pacific Ocean temperatures.

"Anchovy can be going down deeper or out farther away than they might be normally," Cate said. "By nature, animals do whatever it takes to find food, water and shelter. There is no food to sustain the numbers that were born this year."

Cate said the young birds may be mistaking interstate highways for waterways, which would explain why numbers of them have been found along roadways with broken wings or legs.

SeaWorld has released about 10 of the 60 young pelicans it took in earlier in the month, but the facility is still trying to pin down the source of their distress, SeaWorld's St Leger said.

"Right now we are trying to help the birds that are coming to us... and trying to give them a second chance," she said.

MNA/Reuters

Hungarian birth rate at lowest since World War II

BUDAPEST, 21 July — Hungary's birth rate has fallen to its lowest level since World War II, according to official figures released late on Monday.

Hungary's population has shrunk dramatically since the end of Communism. It has the lowest life expectancy in Europe outside the former Soviet Union.

The State Statistics Office (KSH) said 30,290 babies were born in the first four months of this year, 361 fewer than in the same period in 2003 and 461 less than in 1999.

Hungary's population has declined by almost 600,000 people since 1980 to 10,106,000 million in April 2004.

The number of live births is now 9.2 per 1,000.

Apart from a low birth rate, Hungary also has the highest rate of cancer and alcohol related deaths in the world, according to United Nations data.

UN forecasts indicate the population could have shrunk by as much as 20 per cent by the middle of this century.

MNA/Reuters

BT child porn filter stopping 23,000 per day

LONDON, 21 July — BT Group is blocking over 23,000 attempts each day to access child pornography web sites, the company said on Tuesday, offering a rare glimpse of the extent of demand for such sites.

"We've been taken aback by the number of attempts," said spokesman Giles Deards, adding the rate at which the telecommunications company is stopping access has increased steadily as it continues to fine-tune its filtering software.

The availability of child pornography on the Internet has become one of the biggest areas of cybercrime, but until now the extent of the problem has been the subject of guesswork. Tuesday's statistics come a month after BT first announced its intention to install an elaborate filter to block entry to child porn sites.

The sites to be barred are compiled by global watchdog The Internet Watch Foundation and vetted by the Home Office.

The company said it was not logging users' details. "It is not within our technological capabilities, nor is it our desire to... take on the job of policeman," Deards said.

BT said it would make the filtering software available to other Internet service providers (ISPs) at no charge. The offer had attracted interest from rival providers, but no takers so far. BT's move has been widely endorsed by British parliamentarians, but there has been no movement to make such filters mandatory.

Indeed the introduction of the filter, known as "Cleanfeed", has attracted controversy. Free speech advocates say such blocking measures should not be enacted by the private sector without the backing of law. — MNA/Reuters



A peacock wanders at the Los Angeles Arboretum and Botanical Garden on 20 July, 2004, in Arcadia, California. Health officials doused the Arboretum and garden, located about 15 miles east of downtown Los Angeles, on Tuesday, in an effort to prevent a human outbreak of the West Nile virus. —INTERNET

Flash flood causes 26 deaths in Vietnam

HANOI, 21 July — Flash flood caused by torrential rain has resulted in 26 deaths of local people in Vietnam's northern Ha Giang Province.

The flood, lasting for 22 hours on July 18-19 in the province's Yen Minh District, also wounded seven people and swept away 13 houses, a local official said on Tuesday.

As of Tuesday noon, only two bodies of the victims were found, one of whom was a schoolteacher. Local authorities are searching for people listed as missing and giving assistance to households badly affected by the flood.

Natural disasters claimed 7,760 human lives and caused total losses of 40 trillion Vietnamese dong (2.5 billion US dollars) in Vietnam between 1996 and 2002.

MNA/Xinhua

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SPORTS



Qatar's Saoud Fath (R) jumps up for the ball as Bahrain's Aala Hubail looks on during their Group A match at the Asian Cup Soccer in Beijing on 21 July, 2004. The match ended 1-1. — INTERNET

Bahrain salvage 1-1 draw with Qatar at Asian Cup

BEIJING, 22 July — Striker Mohamed Hubail snatched an injury-time equalizer as Bahrain salvaged a 1-1 draw with Qatar at the Asian Cup on Wednesday.

Qatar, who fired coach Philippe Troussier on Tuesday, looked to be heading for a controversial victory in rain-swept Beijing following Wesam Rizik's 59th-minute penalty.

But Hubail struck in stoppage time, scoring with a looping header to give Gulf Cup runners-up Bahrain their second successive draw after holding hosts China 2-2 on Saturday.

A dour game suddenly came to life after two controversial penalty decisions by Japanese referee Toru Kamikawa.

The official pointed to the spot after Seyd Bechir went

tumbling under a challenge from Hassan Al Mosawi, although replays showed Al Mosawi had made a clean tackle.

At the other end, Kamikawa waved off furious appeals for a penalty when Saoud Fath clattered Bahrain substitute Duaij Naser in the 65th minute. A furious Naser was booked for protesting.

Qatar sacked Frenchman Troussier following their 2-1 defeat by Indonesia at the weekend.

"We tried to work on the psychological side before the game," said new Qatar coach Saeed Al Mesned.

"I told the players they must believe they can do something for their country and to play with heart and discipline. They did that and we were very near to winning."

Bahrain's Croatian coach Srecko Juricic put a positive spin on the result, despite having been expected to win the match.

"We dominated most of the time but unfortunately they scored on the counter-attack," he said. "After that, we attacked more and played very well. In the end, I think we deserved this point."

MNA/Reuters

South Korea's coach Bonfrere surveys damage after Cup draw

JINAN (China), 21 July — South Korea coach Jo Bonfrere was left picking up the pieces on Tuesday, a day after his side were held to a 0-0 draw by Jordan at the Asian Cup.

Striker Ahn Jung-hwan and defender Kim Tae-young clutched ice packs to their knees during training while Europe-based playmaker Park Ji-sung was nursing a toe injury.

"If you look around, you will see a lot of players with ice wraps on," said Bonfrere, who took over as South Korea coach last month.

"I really don't know how badly any of them are injured — maybe they are just putting them on as a precaution."

Bonfrere expects Ahn and Kim to be fit for South Korea's second Group B match against the United Arab Emirates on Friday. "I think if they are motivated enough, they should be alright for our next match," said the Dutchman. "You have to be mentally strong to win this tournament."

Park, who plays for Dutch club PSV Eindhoven, remains doubtful for the UAE

clash, however.

Bonfrere said South Korea could take some positives from Monday's goalless draw against a negative Jordan side. "If there is one thing I will ask them to change it is to get an early goal," he said. "We had a lot of chances against Jordan and hopefully we can create as many against UAE."

"We did everything we could. We attacked down the left, the right, through the middle and still couldn't score. They had nine men blocking their goal."

MNA/Reuters

Everton admit sadness at possible Rooney sale

LONDON, 21 July — Everton director Paul Gregg said on Tuesday it was "incredibly sad" that the club are having to contemplate selling 18-year-old striker Wayne Rooney.

Gregg told BBC's Radio Five Live that Everton have offered the young England international a five-year, 50,000 pounds-a-week contract in

a bid to keep him at Goodison Park but is worried that other clubs will prise him away.

Gregg said: "I think it's incredibly sad at the moment that we are actually contemplating selling Wayne Rooney. I wish we could persuade Wayne to stay, we'd like to see him stay. He's a big ambassador for Everton Foot-

ball Club and it's sad that other forces make decisions for us."

"From Everton's point of view this is a home-bred talent who has not had the chance to mature with Everton Football Club. I think we all feel that we've not had the full benefit of his talent to date."

"I sincerely hope he will still be here when the

Iran thrash Thailand 3-0 in Asian Cup

CHONGQING (Southwest China), 21 July — Despite humid weather here, three-time Asian Cup champions Iran thrashed Thailand 3-0 in their first group match of Asian Cup 2004 tournament on Tuesday.

The win moved Branko Ivankovic's team to the top of the group ahead of Japan, who beat Oman 1-0 in the evening's earlier game.

Iran, who warmed up for the tournament by winning the West Asian Football Federation championship, dominated from the first whistle but they ran into stiff resistance from a Thai side which made light of the absence of several key players.

The 1968, 1972 and 1976

Asian Cup winners had the first opportunity of the game after just three minutes, when Yahya Golmohammadi's downward header from a corner bounced just over the bar.

Three minutes later, Javad Nekounam was inches away from getting his head to a floated free-kick from Medhi Mahdavia, the reigning AFC Player of the Year.

Thailand keeper Kosin Hathairatanakul came to his

team's rescue on 17 minutes when he acrobatically turned away a stinging shot from Mahdavia from 25 yards out.

Having weathered the storm, Chatchai Paholpat's side gained in confidence with Sarayoot Chaikamdee on the right causing panic in the Iran ranks with his direct running. However, too often the Port Authority player found himself without support in the final third of the pitch.

Thailand's best chance of the half came in the 37th minute when Choketawee Promut, the Thailand skipper, drove narrowly wide from 20 yards out.

Ali Daei, the 1999 AFC Player of the Year, was denied by the Thai keeper's outstretched legs on 53 minutes. Moments later, Arash Borhani rose well to but could not control his header.

Iran continued to pile forward but stout defending by the Thais ensured the scores stay level until a fine piece of individual skill from Ali Karimi saw the Al Ahli weave his way to the by-line before cutting the ball into the path of substitute Gholamreza Enyati, who side-footed home from six yards out.

Iran doubled their lead on 80 minutes when Nekounam nipped in front of the Thai keeper to nod home Mahdavia's free-kick.

MNA/Reuters

Japan edge past Oman 1-0 at Asian Cup

CHONGQING (Southwest China), 21 July — Holders Japan survived a late onslaught to beat Oman 1-0 in their opening match of the Asian Cup on Tuesday.

Midfielder Shunsuke Nakamura scored a superb winner in the 34th minute, curling a left-foot shot past Oman goalkeeper Ali Al Habsi from 15 metres after slipping past two defenders.

But Japan, who have brought a depleted squad to China, were fortunate to escape with all three points as Oman went on the attack in the second half as the Gulf side searched for an equalizer.

Japan goalkeeper Yoshikatsu Kawaguchi made a sharp block to deny striker Imad Ali, who had slipped past Brazilian-born Alex in the 81st minute.

Moments later, Yousuf Shaaban completely missed his kick when through on goal and Imad Ali shaved the post with a glancing header deep into stoppage time.

Japan needed an injury-time goal to beat Oman by the same score in an Asian World Cup qualifier in February. This time, Japan were missing a number of key players through injury.

Captain Hidetoshi Nakata, still suffering from a groin strain, and Fulham midfielder Junichi Inamoto, who broke his leg in a friendly against England last month, are among those unavailable to Brazilian coach Zico in Chongqing.

Three-times champions Iran play Thailand in the second Group D match later on Tuesday. — MNA/Reuters

Hosts China crush Indonesia 5-0 in Asian Cup

BEIJING, 22 July — China overpowered 10-man Indonesia with a crushing 5-0 win at the Asian Cup on Wednesday, lifting the hosts to the top of their group.

German-based midfielder Shao Jiayi capped a superb performance with two goals to give China four points from two games in Group A.

China, who were held to a 2-2 draw by Bahrain in their opening Group A match, went ahead in the 25th minute, Shao firing home a left-foot volley after a teasing cross from Li Jinyu.

After Indonesia midfielder Alexander Pulalo was sent off for a wild lunge on Zhao Junzhe, talisman Hao Haidong doubled China's lead five minutes before halftime in rain-drenched Beijing.

Shao, who plays for Bundesliga club 1860 Munich, turned provider for the second goal, whipping in a left-foot cross for Hao to score with a brave diving header.

Li Ming added a third direct from a corner six minutes into the second half and the outstanding Shao volleyed home from the edge of the box in the 66th minute.

Substitute Li Yi com-

pleted the rout with a glancing header 10 minutes from time as China dominated the 200th match in Asian Cup finals history in front of 48,000 at Beijing Workers Stadium.

China, who are coached by Dutchman Arie Haan, have never won the Asian Cup. They only need a point against Qatar on Sunday to be assured of a quarterfinal spot. — MNA/Reuters



China's Li Weifeng (L) fights the ball with Indonesia's Budi during the first half of their first round Asian Cup Soccer in Beijing on 21 July, 2004. China won 5-0. — INTERNET

MNA/Reuters

MRTV-3
**23-7-2004 (Friday)
(Programme Schedule)
Morning Transmission
(9:00 - 10:00)**

- 9:00 Signature Tune Greeting
9:02 Song of Myanmar Beauty & Scenic Sights "Mingalabar"
9:06 Blue Sea
9:10 **Headline News**
9:12 Adept Sons of Inlay Lake
9:15 **National News**
9:20 Hot Springs in Lashio and Nam-Kham
9:25 Sagaing Hill
9:30 **National News**
9:35 Hsinbyushin Temples, Stone Carving and Monasteries
9:40 Myanmar Modern Song "Greetings From Chin Hills"
9:45 **National News**
9:50 Expedition of Rare Crocodile Species Inhabiting in Fresh And Seawaters (II)
9:58 Song of Myanmar Beauty & Scenic Sights "Come and See Myanmar"

**23-7-2004 (Friday)
Evening Transmission
(15:30 - 17:30)**

- 15:30 Signature Tune Greeting
15:32 Song of Myanmar Beauty & Scenic Sights "Myanmar Panorama & Myanmar Sentiment"
15:36 Blue Sea
15:40 **Headline News**
15:42 Adept Sons of Inlay

- Lake
15:45 **National News**
15:50 Hot Springs in Lashio and Nam-Kham
15:55 Sagaing Hill
16:00 **National News**
16:05 Hsinbyushin Temples, Stone Carving and Monasteries
16:10 Myanmar Modern Song "Greetings From Chin Hills"
16:15 **National News**
16:20 Expedition of Rare Crocodile Species Inhabiting in Fresh And Seawaters (II)
16:25 Song of Myanmar Beauty & Scenic Sights "Mingalabar"
16:30 **National News**
16:35 Golden Plum Job of Central Myanmar
16:40 Myanmar Traditional Bronze Casting
16:45 **National News**
16:50 Safari In Style
16:55 Performance of King Brahminy Bird Dance
17:00 **National News**
17:05 Myanmar Modern Song "Flowers in Profusion"
17:10 Tour in Myanmar "Bago, Thanlyin"
17:15 **National News**
17:20 A Glimpse at the Mighty Loggers
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 "Mingalabar"
19:36 A Section of Taninthayi's Economy Marine Products
19:40 **Headline News**

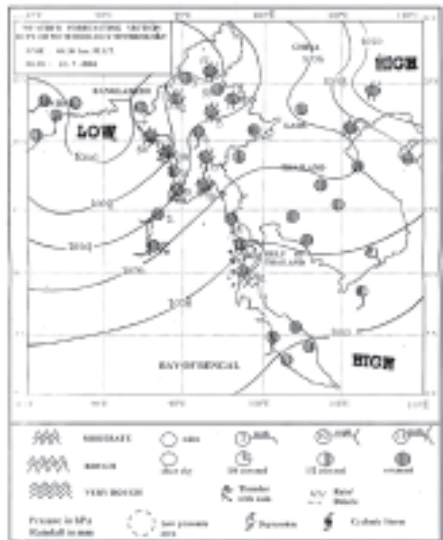
- 19:42 A Visit to Lwe National
19:45 **National News**
19:50 Grand Festival of Playing Cane-Ball
19:55 The Project of Greening around Kandawgyi Garden
20:00 **National News**
20:05 Ecstasy of Life
20:10 Song "Lovely Dusk"
20:15 **National News**
20:20 Expedition of Rare Crocodile Species Inhabiting in Fresh And Seawaters (I)
20:25 Myanmar Modern Song "Come, Visit My Home"
20:30 **National News**
20:35 Native of Pa-O Nationals (Kyauktalone)
20:40 Myanmar Tapestry Artist
20:45 **National News**
20:50 Conservation of Forest Resources in Myanmar
20:55 Dawei Water Fetching Dance
21:00 **National News**
21:05 Inlay Wild Bird Sanctuary
21:10 Myanmar Modern Song "Cherry Present"
21:12 Myanmar Traditional Food "Pone Ye Gyi"
21:15 **National News**
21:20 Lacquerware Museum
21:25 Song of Myanmar Beauty & Scenic Sights "Myanmar Panorama & Myanmar Sentiment"
21:35 Blue Sea
21:40 **Headline News**

- 21:42 Adept Sons of Inlay Lake
21:45 **National News**
21:50 Hot Springs in Lashio and Nam-Kham
21:55 Sagaing Hill
22:00 **National News**
22:05 Hsinbyushin Temples, Stone Carving and Monasteries
22:10 Myanmar Modern Song "Greetings From Chin Hills"
22:15 **National News**
22:20 Expedition of Rare Crocodile Species Inhabiting in Fresh And Seawaters (II)
22:25 Myanmar Modern Song "Have Sweet Dreams"
22:30 **National News**
22:35 Golden Plum Job of Central Myanmar
22:40 Myanmar Traditional Bronze Casting
22:45 **National News**
22:50 Safari In Style
22:55 Performance of King Brahminy Bird Dance
23:00 **National News**
23:05 Myanmar Modern Song "Flowers in Profusion"
23:10 Tour in Myanmar "Bago, Thanlyin"
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23:20 A Glimpse at the Mighty Loggers
23:25 Song of Myanmar Beauty & Scenic Sights "Come and See Myanmar"

Rainfall on 22-7-2004

- (0.67 inch) at Yangon Airport,
- (0.83 inch) at Kaba-Aye and
- (0.99 inch) at central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2004 was 1553 mm (61.14 inches) at Yangon Airport and 1509 mm (59.41 inches) at Kaba-Aye and 1497 mm (58.94 inches) at central Yangon.

Weather Map of Myanmar and Neighbouring Areas

**WEATHER**

Thursday, 22 July, 2004

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST: During the past 24 hours, rain has been isolated in Kayah State, Magway and lower Sagaing Divisions, scattered in Bago and Ayeyawady Divisions, Shan and Kayin States and widespread in the remaining areas. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Sittway (2.13) inches, Kawthoung (1.65) inches, and Bhamo (1.57) inches.

Maximum temperature on 21-7-2004 was 28.5°C (83°F). Minimum temperature on 22-7-2004 was 20.0°C (68°F). Relative humidity at 9:30 hrs MST on 22-7-2004 was 100%. Total sunshine hours on 21-7-2004 was nil. Rainfall on 22-7-2004 was (0.67 inch) at Yangon Airport, (0.83 inch) at Kaba-Aye and (0.99 inch) at central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2004 was 1553 mm (61.14 inches) at Yangon Airport and 1509 mm (59.41 inches) at Kaba-Aye and 1497 mm (58.94 inches) at central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was 8 mph from Southwest at 16:30 hours MST on 21-7-2004.

Bay inference: Monsoon is strong in the Bay of Bengal. **Forecast valid until evening of 23-7-2004:** Rain will be isolated in Kayah State, Magway Division, scattered in Mandalay, lower Sagaing and Bago Divisions and widespread in the remaining areas with likelihood of isolated heavyfalls in Chin and Rakhine States. Degree of certainty is (100%). **State of the sea:** Squalls with rough seas are likely at times off and along Myanmar Coast. Surface wind speed in squalls may reach (35) to (40) mph.

Outlook for subsequent two days: Strong monsoon. **Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 23-7-2004:** Some rain. Degree of certainty is (100%).

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 23-7-2004: One or two rain. Degree of certainty is (80%).

Flood Bulletin

(Issued at 13:00 hrs MST on 22-7-2004)

The Ayeyawady River water levels at Bhamo and Katha are (6) feet and (2.5) feet above the danger levels. The water levels may remain above the danger levels during the next (4) days commencing noon today.

The Ayeyawady River water levels at Mandalay and Sagaing are (0.5) foot above the danger levels. The water levels may remain above the danger levels during the next (4) days commencing today.

The Ayeyawady River water level at Minbu is (1) foot above the danger level and the water level at Magway reaches the danger level. The water levels may remain above the danger levels during the next (4) days commencing noon today.

The Dokhtawady River water level at Myintga is (1.5) feet above the danger level. It may remain above the danger level during the next (4) days commencing noon today.

**Alijani Daw Tin Kyu @ Daw Thin Kyu
Aged (74) years**

55, Bogalayzay St, Yangon
Beloved wife of Rai U Mg Mg Gyi (youngest son of Yazir Missionary U Kan Gyi & Varasyani Daw Mya), Estate Agent to His Highness Prince Agakhan for the Union of Myanmar. Expired at 6:00 am on 22nd July 2004. Buried after Johar Prayers.


**Friday, July 23
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. လှုပ်ရှားပုံပြင် စိတ်ပျော်ရွှင်
8:00 am
6. The mirror images of musical oldies
8:10 am
7. အတိတ်ပြန်
8:20 am
8. ဆင်ဖြူရှင်တံတား

- 8:30 am
9. International news
8:45 am
10. English for Everyday Use
4:00 pm
1. Martial song
4:15 pm
2. Songs to uphold National Spirit
4:30 pm
3. Practice in Reading
4:45 pm
4. Musical programme
5:00 pm
5. အဆင်းသင်တန်းတော် ပညာရေး နှစ်မြင်သင်တန်းသင်ခန်းစာ - တတိယပန်း (စုပေးအထူးပြု) (စုပေး)
5:15 pm
6. Song of national races
5:30 pm
7. နည်းစနစ်မှန်မှန် အားကစားအခြေခံ
5:40 pm
8. ချောင်းမြစ်(မြို့လှ) ရေထဲထိုင်တစ် (ဝဲချောင်း)
5:50 pm
9. "ကုသမနော့တီဘီသော" ရာဇာချစ်လှ၊ သုတေသန၊ ညီတော်၊ မထူး၊ ဒါနိကာတာ- ပန်းချီနံရံ
6:00 pm
10. မြန်မာစာ မြန်မာစာ
6:10 pm
11. Musical programme
6:20 pm
12. Discovery
6:30 pm
13. Evening news
7:00 pm
14. Weather report
7:05 pm
15. နိုင်ငံခြားစာတတ်လမ်းဆွဲ "မိုးချစ်မယ်" (အပိုင်း-၅)
7:35 pm
16. Songs of yesteryears
7:45 pm
17. သာယာပြုံးမိုးချစ် မိမိလမ်းဆွဲပြည့် နှစ်ကျော်မြေ (အပိုင်း-၁)
8:00 pm
18. News
19. International news
20. Weather report
21. မြန်မာ့စာပေ "မေတ္တာမေတ္တာ" (အပိုင်း-၂) ချမ်း၊ လွင်စိုး၊ ထွန်းအိမ်ခြင်္သေ့၊ ထက်ထက်နီနီ၊ (ဒါနိကာတာ-တိုင်းနီနီအောင်)
22. The next day's programme


**Friday, July 23
Tune in today:**

- 8:30 am Brief news
8:35 am Music: I love rock & roll
8:40 am Perspectives
8:45 am Music: I'm Just light
8:50 am National news/Slogan
9:00 am Music: Lucky you
9:05 am International news
9:10 am Music: This one's for you
1:30 pm News/Slogan
1:40 pm Lunch time music -Cinderella -If I told you that
9:00 pm World of music Songs from France
9:15 pm Article
9:25 pm Music at your request -Happy together (Tracy Haug) -I really miss you (S club 7) -To be with you (Mr Brig)
9:45 pm News/Slogan
10:00 pm PEL



Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt and party view communication apparatus concerning IT produced by Huawei Technologies Co in Shenzhen on 17-7-2004. (News page 1)— MNA

The existing friendly relations between the two countries have been further cemented, as the Chinese leaders assured the Myanmar Prime Minister and delegation that China will never change her stand for Myanmar.

It is most encouraging to note that China has agreed to provide assistance to the most possible degree especially in energy, hydel power, mining, industrial, transport, communication and agricultural sectors, to which Myanmar had given priority during the discussions.

Fruitful results of...

(from page 1)

Bureau Mr Luo Gan cordially met with the Myanmar Prime Minister and discussed matters relating to bilateral friendly relations and cooperation. Moreover, China and Myanmar signed 12 Agreements, Memoranda of Understanding and Exchange of Notes. This reflects the pauphaw friendship between China and Myanmar.

The Prime Minister availed himself of the opportunity to explain the developments in Myanmar during the visit, saying that Myanmar is enjoying political stability, economic development to a certain degree, and friendly relations with her neighbours. Myanmar has established constructive relations with other countries. Concerning the seven-point future policy programme of the State, he said that the National Convention, that will lay down basic principles to draw a constitution, the most important step of the policy programme, was reconvened on 17 May. He continued to say that the National Convention is in progress, with the participation of a total of 1,088 delegates including over 400 national race delegates of the eight categories of delegate groups, adding, at present, the Convention had been adjourned, and the delegates had left for home. The Convention will resume in the

open season, he said.

The Chinese leaders said that Myanmar is a good neighbour of China, that Myanmar people themselves will have to shape their future. They expressed their belief that the Myanmar Government and people will be able to solve their internal problems. They said that no foreign country is to interfere in Myanmar's internal affairs. The existing friendly relations between the two countries have been further cemented, as the Chinese leaders assured the Myanmar Prime Minister and delegation that China will never change her stand regarding Myanmar. It is most encouraging to note that China has agreed to provide assistance to the most possible degree especially in energy, hydel power, mining, industrial, transport, communication and agricultural sectors, to which Myanmar had given priority during the discussions.

The goodwill visit is most beneficial to Myanmar as the Prime Minister also held cordial talks with the governors of Yunnan and Hubei provinces, and the mayors of Shanghai and Shenzhen, inviting entrepreneurs of the respective provinces to come and visit Myanmar leading to initiate more Chinese investment and businesses in Myanmar based on mutual interest. The Prime Minister had studied the generation of electricity of tens of thousands of megawatt from the Three Gorges Dam, the Shang-

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

hai Economic Zone and the Shenzhen Economic Zone, the effective running of IT- and science-based projects, and noted the areas where Myanmar can emulate. It is an achievement of the goodwill delegation to be able to pave the way for the Chinese companies to take part in a new economic zone to be set up for China near Thanlyin in Myanmar.

The Prime Minister's goodwill visit has reflected the fact that the profound relation between Myanmar and China is most significant concerning China's relations with other nations. As the bilateral relations are developing in all spheres, the pauphaw relations have further improved to fraternal relations, and cooperation between the two countries will also further flourish. — MNA

Chinese leaders said that Myanmar is a good neighbour of China, that Myanmar people themselves will have to shape their future. They expressed their belief that Myanmar Govt and people will be able to solve their internal problems.



Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt receives Hon Mr Makoto Koga and Japanese guests.— MNA

PM receives members of House of Representatives of Japan

YANGON, 22 July — Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt received member of house of representatives of Japan, Chairman of Myanmar-Japan Friendship Association Hon Mr Makoto Koga and members of house of representatives of Japan Hon Mr Toshihiro Nikai, Hon

Mr Shinya Izumi, Hon Mr Masaji Matsuyama, Hon Mr Kimitaka Fujino at Zeyarthiri Beikman on Konmyintha at 5.30 pm today.

Also present at the call were Minister for Foreign Affairs U Win Aung, Deputy Minister U Khin Maung

Win, Director-General of Prime Minister's Office U Soe Tint, Director-General of Protocol Department Thura U Aung Htet and Japanese Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Yuji Miyamoto.

MNA