

The NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

Volume XII, Number 103

12th Waxing of Second Waso 1366 ME

Wednesday, 28 July, 2004



Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt receives former Secretary-General of ASEAN Mr Rodolfo C Severino. — MNA

Prime Minister receives former-Secretary-General of ASEAN

YANGON, 27 July — Prime Minister of the Union of Myanmar General Khin Nyunt received former-Secretary-General of ASEAN Mr Rodolfo C Severino at Zeyathiri Beikman here this afternoon.

Also present at the call were Minister for Foreign Affairs U Win Aung and Deputy Minister U Khin Maung Win, Director-General of the Prime Minister's Office U Soe Tint, Director-General Thura U Aung Htet of Pro-

tolocol Department under the Foreign Affairs Ministry as well as Ambassador of the Republic of Philippines to Myanmar Mme Phoebe A Gomez.

MNA



Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt greets Bangladeshi Commerce Minister Air Vice Marshal (Retd) Altaf Hossain Choudhury. — MNA

PM receives Bangladeshi Commerce Minister

YANGON, 27 July — Prime Minister of the Union of Myanmar General Khin Nyunt received the delegation led by Minister of Commerce of the People's Republic of Bangladesh Air Vice Marshal (Retd) Altaf Hossain Choudhury at Zeyathiri Beikman here this evening. Also present at the call were Minister for Commerce Brig-Gen Pyi Sone, Minister for Foreign Affairs U Win Aung and Deputy Minister U Khin Maung Win, Director-General of the Prime Minister's Office U Soe Tint, Director-General Thura U Aung Htet of Protocol Department under the Foreign Affairs Ministry as well as Ambassador of the People's Republic of Bangladesh to Myanmar Mr AB Manjoor Rahim. — MNA

The areas located near rivers and creeks are prone to inundation in such a time when rain fell heavily. However, such kind of incident does not last long. As local administrative bodies, departments, townselders and social associations gave helping hands in harmony, the magnitude of damage and loss was small. It is necessary to speed up the major business transactions such as agriculture and livestock breeding industries, for the water level is now receding.

Secretary-2 meets departmental officials in Kachin State Flood-hit areas inspected and victims' requirements fulfilled

YANGON, 27 July — Secretary-2 of the State Peace and Development Council Adjutant-General Lt-Gen Thein Sein met officers, other ranks and their families of Myitkyina Station at Station Hall of Northern Command, Myitkyina yesterday morning.

Present at the meeting were member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Ye Myint o the Ministry of Defence, deputy ministers, senior military officers, officers and other ranks and their families of Myitkyina Station.

During the meeting, Secretary-2 of the State Peace

and Development Council Adjutant-General Lt-Gen Thein Sein made a speech, saying that for the time being, the country is being built for emergence of a modern, developed and discipline-flourishing democratic nation. He said it is necessary for Tatmadawmen and their families to join hands with departmental personnel and local people in nation building tasks.

He gave instructions on measures to be taken for agriculture and livestock breeding on a manageable scale to increase family income.

After the meeting, Secretary-2 Adjutant-General Lt-

Gen Thein Sein cordially greeted those present. He met with departmental officials at state, district and township levels, members of social organizations and officials at the town hall and explained regional developments.

Present on the occasion were member of the State Peace and Development Council member Lt-Gen Ye Myint o the Ministry of Defence, Chairman of Kachin State Peace and Development Council Commander of Northern Command Maj-Gen Maung Maung Swe, the deputy ministers, senior military officers, officials and members of social organizations.

(See page 16)

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

PERSPECTIVES

Wednesday, 28 July, 2004

Development of national economy through increased yield of paddy & other crops

Myanmar is an agricultural country and 70 per cent of its population, about 53 million, are farmers and live in rural areas. Therefore, agriculture is the main industry of the majority of people and the sector provides rice not only for domestic consumption but also for export.

This being the case, the Government is taking all the necessary measures for development and increased production of the agricultural sector. To ensure sufficient water supply for agricultural purpose, a total of 161 dams and sluice gates and 265 river water pumping stations have been built so far. As the Government has been exploring various ways and means to be able to supply sufficient water for cultivation, farmers, on their part, try their hardest to increase the yield of crops by extending the cultivation of crops on vacant and virgin land.

Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Maung Bo of the Ministry of Defence attended a ceremony held in Hlingbwe Township, Kayin State, on 23 July to demonstrate the systematic cultivation of monsoon paddy and the use of *Leyar-16* powered tillers. In his address at the ceremony, Lt-Gen Maung Bo said that efforts would have to be made to achieve the targeted yield — not only for regional consumption but also for surplus — through systematic cultivation, the use of quality strains, the combined use of chemical and natural fertilizers and extension of cultivated acreage. Then, Lt-Gen Maung Bo and party made a first-hand study of various methods of cultivation.

Myanma Agriculture Service has been organizing the farmers to use quality strains and educating them on systematic cultivational methods and at the same time trying to increase the cultivated acreage for paddy. It has been planned to put 500,000 acres of farmland under monsoon paddy in Kayin State and 64 per cent of the targeted acreage have been put under paddy in Hpa-an District alone.

We would like to call on regional authorities and local farmers to work in concert and try their best to increase the yield of paddy and other crops for sufficient domestic consumption as well as for national economic development.

Waso robes offered

YANGON, 27 July—The Waso robe offering ceremony of the Ministry of Construction was held at Shwe Thuwun monastery in Thingangyun Township here this morning.

Minister for Construction Maj-Gen Saw Tun and wife Daw Myint Myint Ko, Deputy Minister Tint Swe and wife Daw Mya Than, officials and families offered Waso robes to members of the Sangha.

The Waso robes offering ceremony of the Ministry of Health was held at the Dhammayon of the ministry on Old Yedashe Road in Bahan Township here this morning.

Minister for Health Dr Kyaw Myint and wife Daw Nilar Thaw, Deputy Minister Dr Mya Oo and wife Daw Tin Tin Mya, officials and families offered Waso robes to members of the Sangha.

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



Under the aegis of parents of both sides, wellwishers Capt Toe Naing Mann, wife Ma Zay Zin Latt and daughter Ma Zay Thitsar Mann donate K 10 million to *Kyaikhtihsaung Sayadaw Bhaddanta Panñadipa*. — MNA

Waso robes offered to member of Sangha

YANGON, 27 July—Zaygabar Co Ltd offered Waso robes and wellwishers, cash donations to Presiding Sayadaw of Kyaikhtihsaung Sandawshin Phayagyi Monastery in Zokthok Model Village, Bilin Township, Thaton District, Mon State, Abhidhaja Agga Magga Maha Saddhammajotika Bhaddanta Panñadipa at a ceremony held at the head office of the company in Mingaladon Garden City at 10.30 am today. Taikoak Sayadaw of the monastery Maha Saddhamma Jotikadhaja Bhaddanta Naginda invested the congregation with the Nine Precepts. In memory of late Lt-Gen Sein Aung, Thiri Thuddhamma Daw Khin Thein and family donated K 900,000; and Captain Toe Naing Mann-Ma Zay Zin Latt and family, K 10 million to the Kyaikhtihsaung Sayadaw. Next, Waso robes and alms were offered to the Sayadaw. The Kyaikhtihsaung Sayadaw delivered a sermon to the lay persons, followed by sharing of merits gained. — MNA



Minister Maj-Gen Thein Swe and Minister Brig-Gen Ohn Myint see off Minister for Rail Transportation Maj-Gen Aung Min at the Yangon International Airport. — MNA

Minister for Rail Transportation leaves for India

YANGON, 27 July — The delegation led by Minister for Rail Transportation Maj-Gen Aung Min left for India last night by flight to study rail services there.

The delegation was seen off at the Yangon International Airport by Minister for Mines Brig-Gen Ohn Myint, Minister at the Prime Minister's Office Maj-Gen Thein Swe, Deputy Ministers for Rail Transportation Thura U Thaung Lwin and U Pe Than, Indian Embassy Counsellor Mr Rahul Kulshreshtha, Directors-General and Managing Directors of departments and enterprises under the Ministry of Rail Transportation, officials and families.

The delegation comprised Managing Director of Myanma Foreign Trade Bank of Ministry of Finance and Revenue U Than Yi, General Manager of Myanma Railwaya (Mechanical/ Electrical) U Soe Win and General Manager (Civil) U Thi Han, Director of Political Department U Ye Myint of MOFA and Assistant General Manager (Communication) U Ba Myint of MR.

MNA

FIBA-ASIA Referee's Clinic 2004 opened

YANGON, 27 July —FIBA-ASIA Referee's Clinic 2004, jointly conducted by Ministry of Sports, FIBA-ASIA and Myanma Basketball Federation, was opened in the training hall of the Youth Training Camp (Thuwunna) this morning. Myanmar Olympic Committee Chairman Minister for Sports Brig-Gen Thura Aye Myint delivered an opening speech. The training course is being attended by 17 persons of various ministries, nine from states and divisions and seven from MBF. — MNA



Minister Brig-Gen Thura Aye Myint delivers an address at the opening ceremony. — MNA

Rubber export business clarified

YANGON, 27 July—A ceremony to meet with rubber exporters and farmers was held at the hall of the Ministry of Commerce this morning. Chairman of the Supervisory Committee for Exports and Imports and Minister at the Prime Minister's Office Maj-Gen Thein Swe attended the ceremony and delivered an address.

Also present on the occasion were SCEI Vice-Chairman and Minister for Commerce Brig-Gen Pyi Sone, Director-General of Directorate of Trade U Nyunt Aye, Director-General of the Border Trade Department U Nay Win, departmental officials and others.

In his speech, Maj-Gen Thein Swe said it would be more appropriate for rubber entrepreneurs if they themselves engaged in the business of rubber export, adding that assistance would also be provided to them in the framework of rules and regulations.

Next, rubber exporters and farmers reported on rubber export industries and their business transaction.

On the occasion, Brig-Gen Pyi Sone explained the essentials of rubber, export of surplus rubber, sales of rubber by themselves, and the establishment of a rubber growers association. The ceremony came to an end with concluding remarks given by Maj-Gen Thein Swe. — MNA

Iraq militants kill senior official, seize two Jordanians

BAGHDAD, 26 July—Guerillas killed eight people in Iraq on Monday including a senior Interior Ministry official gunned down near his home, and two Jordanian drivers became the latest foreigners seized in a spiralling hostage crisis.

But an Egyptian diplomat abducted last week said his captors had freed him and he was safe at Egypt's Embassy in Baghdad.

A surge in attacks, including two car bombings, marked a fresh security challenge to Iraq's new interim government before a major political gathering expected

this week.

The US military said a suicide car bomb exploded outside an American base near the northern city of Mosul, killing an Iraqi woman, her child and an Iraqi guard.

In Baghdad, gunmen shot Mussab al-Awadi, a top official in charge of tribal af-

fairs, as he left his house, an Interior Ministry source said. Two bodyguards were also killed.

Gunmen also opened fire on five women cleaners for US firm Bechtel in the southern city of Basra, killing two, one of the survivors said. The women were waiting for a bus to take them to work

when they were attacked.

"I pretended to be dead so they didn't shoot me. I was covered in the blood of my friends," said an emotional Montaha Khalil, who was unhurt.

Guerillas have stepped up suicide car bombings, assassinations and kidnappings since a brief lull when the interim government took over from US-led occupiers on 28 June.

Militants kidnapped two Jordanian drivers and were threatening them with execution, a source close to the company they work for said on Monday.

The source said the militants had given the company 72 hours to stop working with the US military in Iraq. The two were seized when they left a US base near Qaim, close to the Iraqi-Syrian border.

A video tape obtained by Associated Press Television News showed the two Jordanians sitting on a floor, while six armed, masked militants stood behind them. One carried a sword.—Internet



A US soldier and Iraqi civilians check a crater left by a mortar shell that landed in a street of central Baghdad on 26 July.—INTERNET

Crisis Management Group meets, KGL continues negotiations

NEW DELHI, 26 July—With the extended deadline set by the abductors for the three Indians in Iraq expiring Monday, the Indian Government's Crisis Management Group met Sunday to take stock of the developments even as the hostages' Kuwaiti employers continued negotiations with the captors.

The Group, headed by Junior Minister for External Affairs E Ahamed, discussed the latest situation in the light of stepped-up effort to secure the safe and early release of Tilak Raj, Sukhdev Singh and Antaryami.

Ahamed told PTI that he had been informed by the Indian mission in Kuwait that negotiations were underway by the transport company—Kuwait and Gulf Link Transport Company (KGL)—with the kidnappers.

"I hope the outcome (of the negotiations) will be positive," Ahamed said.

An obscure group "Holders of the Black Banner" had kidnapped the Indians along with three Egyptians and one Kenyan on Wednesday and initially demanded that KGL withdraw operations from Iraq by 8 p.m. IST on Saturday (1430 hours GMT) failing which it would start killing one hostage every 72 hours.

It later extended the deadline by another

48 hours with fresh demands which included release of Iraqi prisoners from Kuwaiti and US jails. The Indian embassies in Baghdad and Kuwait are in constant touch with KGL which has issued a fresh statement, the second in two days, saying it was willing to do whatever possible to secure safe and early release of the hostages, informed sources said.

The sources said Indian missions in Nairobi and Cairo have been advised to be in touch with governments whose nationals also been abducted.

Reports reaching here indicated that KGL has discontinued its transport operations in Iraq following a demand of the captors to pull out of that country. There was no no immediate confirmation of this.

The sources said leading Islamic clerics in Saudi Arabia and Kuwait have been approached by New Delhi to send out an appeal to the abductors to free the hostages.

MNA/PTI

British police hold five after gun found at airport

LONDON, 26 July — British police were questioning five people on Monday after a gun was found in a car during checks at a central England airport.

Police arrested the driver of the car shortly after he had dropped off the other four for a flight to Italy.

"As a result of a routine security check yesterday afternoon, a man was arrested at Coventry Airport after a firearm was found in his car," a spokesman for Warwick-

shire police said on Monday.

"He had dropped four passengers off at the airport who intended to catch a flight on to Venice," he added. "Those four passengers were detained also by the police."

The flight was postponed while passengers on the flight were disembarked and put

through security checks and baggage was removed and searched, he said. The airport is now running normally.

Britain remains in a state of heightened security, fearing terrorist retribution for its backing of the US-led "war on terror".—MNA/Reuters

ထိုက်ထိုက်နက်နက် ဆိုပြီးပြော

Clintons vow to make Kerry next President

BOSTON, 26 July—Bill and Hillary Rodham Clinton vowed Monday night to make John Kerry the next President while a parade of party elders at the Democratic National Convention accused President Bush of botching the economy and the war on terror.

"We Democrats will bring the American people a positive campaign, arguing not who's good and who's bad, but what is the best way to build the safe, prosperous world our children deserve," said the former president in remarks prepared for delivery. His wife, a first-term New York senator, drew loud cheers from the crowded convention floor when she appeared on a video screen and promised to work hard for Kerry's election.

The party's 44th national convention opened under extraordinarily tight security as Kerry campaigned in Florida. In a battleground state he has visited more than a half-dozen times this year, he urged Republicans and independents to "stop and think" before casting their votes in November.

Al Gore, who won the popular vote in 2000 but lost the White House, urged Democrats to "fully and completely" channel their anger of the bitter recount and send Kerry to the White House.

"When policies are clearly not working, we can change them. If our leaders make mistakes, we can hold them accountable—even if they never admit their mistakes," said Gore.

Former President Carter, elected to the White House in 1976, accused Bush of squandering the international goodwill that flowed to the United States in the aftermath of the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001.

"Unilateral acts and demands have isolated the United States from the very nations we need to join us in combatting terrorism," Carter said.—Internet

Italy warned to withdraw forces in Iraq

CAIRO, 26 July—A statement purportedly from Islamic militants linked to Al-Qaida terror organization has warned Italy to withdraw its forces from Iraq or it would "shake the earth" everywhere in Italy.

The statement, dated Monday and attributed to the Abu Hafs al-Masri Brigades, is the second such threat in two weeks against the government of Prime Minister Silvio Berlusconi regarding Italian forces in Iraq. It was posted on an Internet site known for carrying Islamic extremist content.

"This is a warning and a threat to the Italian government, which devoted itself to serving the criminal American crusade, to follow suit with those who preceded you and leave the land of Iraq," the state-

ment said. "Otherwise, we will change our correspondence into words of blood and shake the earth everywhere in your (lands)."

"To the despicable Italian Prime Minister: If you have not heard this threat, then we will make you hear it in Rome, in every place and under the feet of your people, with Allah's will. We give you, Berlusconi, a few days only, then you will see things that displease you," it said.

Internet



A US Army soldier extinguishes the remnants of a fire caused by an explosion from a car bomb outside an airfield near the northern Iraqi city of Mosul, on 26 July 2004. A suicide car bomber exploded a vehicle outside an American base near Mosul.—INTERNET

Spain reprimands Australia over Iraq

MADRID, 26 July—Spain summoned the Australian ambassador in Madrid to protest against her country's view that the pullout of Spanish troops from Iraq has given al-Qaida the upper hand.

Australian FM Alexander Downer had on Sunday criticised Spain for pulling its troops from Iraq, saying it encouraged "terrorists" to continue their agenda.

His comments came

soon after a group claiming to be the European wing of al-Qaida threatened attacks on Australia and Italy if they did not withdraw their soldiers from Iraq.

Spain's under-secretary for foreign affairs, Luis

Calvo Merino, delivered the "firm rejection of the Spanish government" to ambassador Susan Tanner on Monday.

The Spanish government issued a statement saying that Madrid "has established

the struggle against terrorism as a clear foreign policy priority."

It added Downer's comments were therefore unacceptable, "all the more so as they come from a friendly country such as Australia."

Spain's Socialist government, which took power in April, quickly made good on a campaign pledge to withdraw Spanish soldiers from Iraq. The last troops of a contingent that once numbered 1400 left on 21 May.

Internet

ဝက်စပီးဒီးယား: နေ့စဉ်ကျော်စွာ

Kidnappers release Egyptian diplomat

BAGHDAD, 26 July—Kidnappers released an Egyptian diplomat, in a dramatic twist to Iraq hostage crisis, as two Jordanians were snatched and two Pakistanis threatened with death, and attacks claimed 10 lives.

The envoy, Mohamed Mamdouh Kotb, the first diplomat seized in the frenzied abduction-taking that has dogged Iraq for months, was released because of his character and religious faith, the father of three was told by his captors.

"I am free and already at the Egyptian interests section in Baghdad," Kotb, the third ranking diplomat at the Egyptian mission, told AFP by telephone.

Just minutes before, the Arab news channel Al-Jazeera broadcast a video apparently showing him being freed and even hugging one of his kidnappers.

Al-Jazeera quoted one of the armed militants as saying the envoy was freed "because of the religious faith and the moral qualities he possesses." —Internet



US Army 1st Infantry Division Sgt Owen Hurley searches a car while clearing a route for a US supply convoy in Baqouba, Iraq, on 26 July, 2004. Several convoys have been struck with roadside bombs in the area in recent months.—INTERNET

Ten billionaires pledge 500m rupees to buy "Maybach"

NEW DELHI, 26 July — Ten top billionaires have pledged 500 million rupees to buy India's most expensive car 'Maybach', which sports an astronomical 50 million rupees price tag.

About 10 people have shown interest to buy the super luxury saloon, DaimlerChrysler India chief Hans-Michael Huber said.

Luring Indian customers with deep pockets, 'Maybach', made a debut in India this year. The car will be delivered to the prospective customers by September or October.

"We plan to sell 10 units of 'Maybach' this year. The car is ready for homologation," he said, declining to name those who have expressed their interest to own the car.

'Maybach', cynosure of car connoisseurs, dazzled people during the Auto Expo in January this year.

The car will be produced on orders and the delivery time would be six months, Huber

said.

With its launch in India three months back, its German-US manufacturer DaimlerChrysler has received a number of queries about the car.

Not to be outdone, Bentley has lined up 'Arnage R' and 'Continental GT' which will cost 30 million and 16 million rupees respectively.

In a move which shows the depth and maturity of the Indian auto market, BMW is also toying with the idea to charm buyers with super luxury saloon '7-Series'.

The super luxury sedan will be imported as completely built units (CBUs).

MNA/PTI

Mystery Japan lottery winner donates \$1.8m ticket

TOKYO, 26 July — Officials in western Japan were marvelling on Sunday at the generosity of a mystery philanthropist who donated a 1.8-million-dollar lottery ticket to help victims of recent torrential rainstorms.

In an extremely rare display of charity, a winning lottery ticket good for a 200-million-yen (1.82-million-US-dollar) grand prize was mailed to the governor of Fukui Prefecture on Friday with a note saying it was intended as a donation for rain victims.

"I am sending a lottery ticket that is blessed with

luck hoping that it will be of some help to the people who had the misfortune of suffering damages," the letter said.

Hiroko Imatomi, a Fukui Prefecture official who first spotted the mail, said the note convinced her the sender was sincere.

"It was a wonderful letter... It was definitely not intended as a hoax or a joke,"

she said. "It must be from a rare type of person who has a big heart and hopes it will help people who suffered a lot," Imatomi said.

The sender used a false name and local authorities have no way to find out who sent the winning ticket, which has been confirmed as being authentic, she said.

MNA/Reuters

Fed govt in favour of frequent Indo-Pakistan cricket tours

KOLKATA, 26 July—The Indian Government was in favour of frequent Indo-Pakistan bilateral cricket tours in its bid to further improve the relations between the two neighbours, Defence Minister Pranab Mukherjee said here Sunday.

"Not only cricket, there should be closer ties in areas

like culture to further promote people-to-people interaction between the two countries," he said.

"I have already discussed the matter with External Affairs Minister Natwar Singh and told him to see to it that there are more Indo-Pak bilateral cricket tours," Mukherjee said while addressing the an-

nual prize distribution ceremony of the Cricket Association of Bengal.

Referring to the Indian team's recent tour of Pakistan, Mukherjee said Ganguly and his boys had not only returned triumphant, but also won hearts of the people of the neighbouring country.—MNA/PTI

India confident of Iraq hostage release

NEW DELHI, 26 July — An Indian government minister expressed confidence Monday about the early release of three Indians taken hostage by an Iraqi group.

"Negotiations are going on and we are hopeful of a positive outcome soon," the Indo-Asian News Service quoted Minister of State for External Affairs E Ahmed as saying. Ahmed, who is heading a crisis management group set up by the government for the early release of the hostages, had Sunday issued an appeal in Arabic to the kidnappers and the people of Iraq for the early release of the hostages.

"Following Ahmed's appeal, the lead-

ers of an influential Sunni organization held a press conference in Baghdad, calling on the abductors to release the hostages immediately," official sources said.

They said the leaders underlined that India had always stood by the people of Iraq, a point made by Ahmed in the statement.

The sources said Ahmed's appeal was distributed at the press conference and also aired on all television channels in the Middle East. —Internet

China launches second space study probe

BEIJING, 26 July—China successfully launched a probe on Sunday as part of a Sino-European partnership aimed at improved monitoring of magnetic storms and other space hazards, state media said.

State television said the Probe-2 satellite — the second in the "Double Star Programme" — was launched at 3.05 pm (0705 GMT) from the centre in Taiyuan in China's northern province of Shanxi.

The probe, launched aboard a Long March 2C/SM rocket, successfully gained orbit about 30 minutes, it said.

The official Xinhua

news agency said it would coordinate with an earlier probe on a mission to improve space mission safety, and also with European Space Agency satellites on joint research.

The satellite was jointly designed by the China Aerospace Science and Technology Corporation and research bodies linked to the European Space Agency, state media have said.

The programme's first satellite blasted off at the end of December and was expected to remain in orbit for 18 months. The second probe should remain aloft for a year, state media said.

China has sent a handful of research satellites into orbit and last October became only the third nation to successfully send a man into space.

MNA/Reuters



A mini bus drives past a US soldier standing guard in a street of central Baghdad as troops secure the area. A senior Iraqi police officer at the Interior Ministry, Colonel Mussab al-Awadi, his driver and a bodyguard were shot dead outside the civil servant's Baghdad home, a ministry official said on 26 July, 2004.—INTERNET

Car bomb in Iraq's Mosul kills driver

MOSUL (Iraq), 27 July — A car bomb exploded near an entrance to a US base at an airfield close to the northern Iraqi city of Mosul on Monday, probably killing the driver but causing no other casualties, the US military said.

Colonel Josef Peik, citing a preliminary report, said the car seemed to have been stopped before it exploded at about 9 a.m. (0500 GMT) as it approached the gate of the airfield south of Mosul.

In the southern Iraqi city of Basra, hospital officials said two Iraqi women were killed and two other women wounded when gunmen forced their car to stop when they

were heading to work at Basra Airport on Monday morning.

They said the gunmen then sprayed the car with bullets.

The motive for the attack was not immediately clear, but militants have often targeted Iraqi officials who they accuse of collaborating with US forces.

MNA/Reuters

Kuwait, Iraq to form panel to discuss oil operations

KUWAIT CITY, 27 July — Officials from the oil ministries of Kuwait and Iraq will form a committee to discuss oil operations between the two countries, the *Arab Times* reported Monday.

Undersecretary of Kuwaiti Energy Ministry Essa Al-Oun was quoted as saying that technicians from Kuwaiti and Iraqi companies will also be members of the committee.

"A meeting, which was scheduled to be held on July 18, 2004, to discuss the issue has been postponed to mid-September," Al-Oun

said. "Preparations for oil operations will need lengthy discussions, especially as such important issues can't be decided in one meeting," he said. According to the report, Iraqis are demanding a fair treaty on oil operations similar to the one being followed by Kuwait and Saudi Arabia.—MNA/Xinhua

China, India can surpass US, Europe as investment destination

WASHINGTON, 26 July — Asian giants India and China, which are recording growth rates higher than US and Europe, could soon surpass them as leading foreign investment destinations, according to analysts here.

David Rothkopf, who was Undersecretary of Commerce for International Trade Policy during the Clinton Administration, warned the US Government against ignoring the threat posed by the emerging economies of Asia.

Citing figures released by Organization for European Cooperation and Development (OECD) which showed that China supplanted the US as the No 1 destination for FDI worldwide during last year, he said private investors are losing confidence in the US economy.

"We have been asleep at the economic switch," he said, adding private investors are losing confidence in the US economy. Instead, foreign governments, which bought only 47 per cent of US Government securities in 2003, bought 86 per cent in the first quarter of the same period this year.

Almost all the government buyers were Asians. "America's growing dependence on such investors," he says, "is an ominous turn of events."

Stating that Asia is only beginning a long cycle of opportunity, James K Glassman, resident fellow of the American Enterprise Institute, said he was advised by

a leading European economist to invest 50 per cent of his final assets in the region.

Glassman said both China and India have an educated population willing to work very hard for modest wages.

A US-based money manager with Asian expertise, Guinness Atkinson, who runs *Asia Focus*, said "since 1978, China today is eight times as large as when reforms were introduced. India too is growing like crazy, though the results of the recent national election cast doubt about the future."

Europe's population is aging, the economy is mature. People are living the good life ahead of working hard, Glassman said in an article.

The US, he said, has grown soft. No politician can propose anything that involves sacrifice. US manufactured products are uncompetitive and the country does not provide the necessary incentives to expand the knowledge-based incentives where it can have an advantage.

The increasing cost of health care and retirement benefits will be a drag on US profitability and discourage investment, he claimed.

MNA/PTI



US Army soldiers investigate the area where a mortar landed in eastern Baghdad, on 26 July, 2004. Several mortars landed in various neighbourhoods in the Iraqi capital on Monday, witnesses said. —INTERNET

US air raid goes astray, hurts eight Afghan soldiers

KABUL, 26 July — Eight Afghan soldiers have been wounded in an erroneous aerial bombardment by US forces in central Afghanistan, a Defence Ministry spokesman said on Sunday.

Four of the soldiers, all from the newly US-trained Afghan National Army, have returned to duty, said Zahir Azimi.

The others were taken to hospital, he said, but gave no word of their condition.

The bombing occurred on Tuesday in Deh Rawud District of Uruzgan Province, scene of a joint operation by Afghan and US-led troops against guerillas from the ousted Taliban regime.

The US military had earlier said that 10 Taliban fight-

ers were killed in the attack and four Afghan soldiers wounded in the gunbattle with the Taliban. It had no immediate comment on the Defence Ministry report.

US-led forces have been involved in a series of so-called "friendly fire" incidents since they invaded Afghanistan in late 2001 in an operation that led to the Taliban's overthrow.

In the worst recent one, last December, American raids in southeastern Afghanistan killed 15 children, draw-

ing stern protests from the Afghans and the United Nations.

Separately, four Afghan police were hurt on Saturday when a bomb placed in a pressure cooker went off outside a Norwegian aid agency in Maimana, the provincial capital of Faryab Province, western sources said.

The police were injured while they were checking a first explosion that had damaged the gate of the agency.

MNA/Reuters

Democratic delegates say US should not have gone to war in Iraq

NEW YORK, 27 July — Nine out of ten Democratic delegates gathering in Boston this week for the party convention think the United States should not have gone to war in Iraq and say the gains from the war were not worth the loss of American lives, a *New York Times*/CBS News poll shows.

The delegates are much less supportive of the war than the public is or than Democratic voters are, generally and that is reflected on the more nuanced positions of Senators John Kerry and John Edwards, whom they will nominate this week for president and vice-president. Nearly 90 per cent of delegates described themselves as supporting Kerry enthusiastically, with the rest split about evenly between those who were supporting him with reservations or only because he is the likely party nominee.

The war, Iraq and terrorism are not

seen by the delegates as the most important issues in their states, the poll shows. Only one in six cited them as most important. Half of the delegates, on the other hand, said the most important issues were the economy and jobs.

The delegates think of themselves and Kerry as politically moderate. On issues like abortion, the death penalty and gay marriage, the delegates are not only much more liberal than voters in general but substantially more liberal than typical Democratic voters.

MNA/PTI

Venezuela to propose raising OPEC price range

CARACAS, 26 July — Venezuela will propose an increase in the oil price range set by the Organization of Petroleum-Exporting Countries (OPEC) at the organization's next meeting in September in Vienna, Venezuelan Oil Minister Rafael Ramirez said Sunday.

Venezuela has asked for a technical evaluation of the price range and will urge discussion on the possibility of raising the current range of between 22 and 28 US dollars per barrel, Ramirez said during a meeting between Venezuelan and Argentine business executives on the Margarita Island.

Venezuelan officials however have not suggested a new price range, Ramirez said. Venezuela, the world's fifth largest oil exporter, produces more than three million barrels of oil a day, according to the government.

OPEC decided in June to raise production by two million barrels a day in July, and by an additional 500,000 barrels a day in August to lower oil prices that have been over 40 dollars a barrel this year. —MNA/Xinhua

Dutch chemical barge explodes on canal in Germany

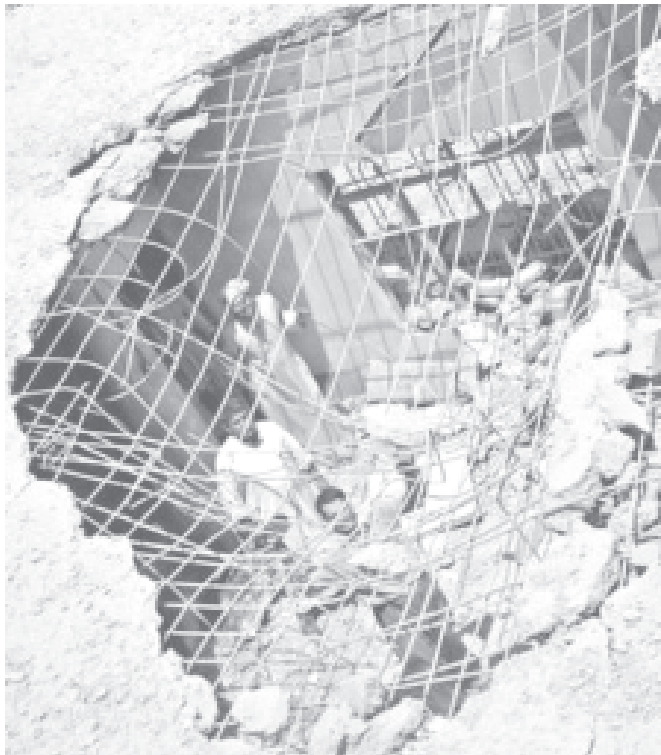
BERLIN, 26 July — A Dutch-registered chemical tanker barge exploded on a canal in Germany early on Sunday, killing one, believed to be the ship's captain, and injuring six, including his wife and two children, police said. The blast came after the barge had discharged its load of naphtha in Essen in northwestern Germany, and had moored for the night in the Rhein-Herne Canal, a spokesman for Essen police said. —MNA/Reuters



The site of a car bomb explosion outside the US military base in Mosul, 390 km north of Baghdad, on 26 July, 2004. The US military said a suicide car bomb exploded outside an American base near the northern city of Mosul, killing an Iraqi woman, her child and an Iraqi guard. —INTERNET



A view of the destruction left after a suicide car bomb exploded near a police station in southern Baghdad seen on 19 July, 2004.



Iraqi men survey the shattered ceiling of their house which was damaged in an overnight air strike in the northern city of Samarra on 21 July, 2004.

Images of Iraq



An Iraqi woman weeps as she sits on the pavement close to the site of a suicide car bomb attack near a police station in southern Baghdad on 19 July, 2004.



An Iraqi man surveys the damage to his house which was destroyed in an overnight air strike in the northern city of Samarra, on 21 July, 2004.



Iraqi men walk down the stairs of their house which was destroyed in an overnight air strike in the northern city of Samarra, on 21 July, 2004.



An Iraqi man injured during clashes between American and Iraqi forces with guerillas is taken in to a hospital ward in Baqouba, some 65 kms (40 miles) northeast of Baghdad, Iraq, on 25 July, 2004.

To uplift health and education standard of the entire nation



The main building of Panglong University in Southern Shan State. — MNA



People's Hospital built by Department of Human Settlement and Housing Development in Dagon Myothit (South) Township. — MNA



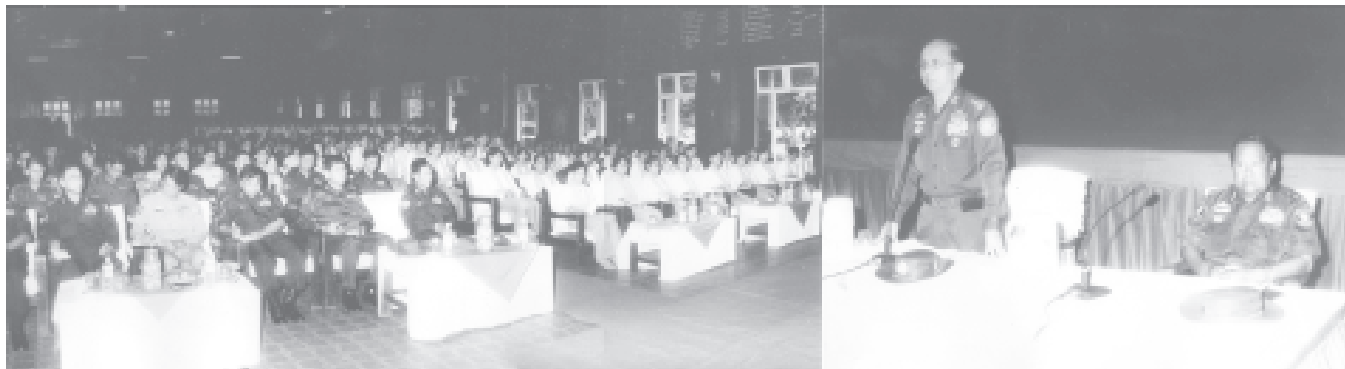
Thanks to the government's efforts, Mongkaing Basic Education High School in Shan State gets a new school building. — MNA



The 200-bed General Hospital (Myeik) in Taninthayi Division. — MNA



City Hospital in Mandalay, Mandalay Division. — MNA



Secretary-2 Adjutant-General Lt-Gen Thein Sein meets with Tatmadaw officers, other ranks and families at Station hall of Northern Command. — MNA

Secretary-2 meets departmental officials, members of ...

(from page 16)

The third largest state in Myanmar, Kachin State is over 22 million acres in area, with just over 1.3 million of population. Taking into consideration the proportion of the area and the population, there still remains land aplenty usable for agricultural purpose. A glance at the present condition will reveal that the region has 113 percent of local food sufficiency, an amount more than enough for itself. However, it is necessary not to be content with the present status, instead efforts should be made to produce more.

It has been urged to grow another 600,000 acres of paddy as the region has plenty of cultivable land. It is therefore necessary to draw plans to be able to put the targeted sown acreage under paddy cultivation.

For agricultural undertakings and other economies, Kachin State is blessed with favourable conditions provided by Nature. It is therefore necessary to work hard for economic growth of the whole region with the effective use of production resources. National races such as Bamar, Jainphaw, Shan, Rawan, Mashu, Lashee, etc. have been living in unison in the region since time immemorial. Therefore, the region in fact is a small union with a diversity of national races. This being the case, steps are to be taken to develop the region in all sectors with the united strength of national races residing in the region.

For the same reason, harmonious and concerted efforts are needed for the perpetuation and modernization of the Union that is made up of seven states and seven divisions.

The border areas and national races development plan, the 24 development zones and the rural development plan are now being implemented to ensure equal progress throughout the Union, without leaving any regions unattended. For rural areas, home to the overwhelming majority of the country's population, rural development tasks such as education, health, safe drinking water, irrigation water, better transport and rural economic infrastructure should be top priority.

Keeping in view the bright future and the everlasting existence of the country as a sovereign state, the Govern-

The border areas and national races development plan, the 24 development zones and the rural development plan are now being implemented to ensure equitable progress throughout the Union, without leaving any regions unattended. For rural areas, home to the overwhelming majority of the country's population, rural development tasks such as education, health, safe drinking water, irrigation water, better transport and rural economic infrastructure should be top priority.



Secretary-2 Lt-Gen Thein Sein views the current of Ayeyawady River from Bala Minhtin Bridge. — MNA

ment is carrying out nation-building tasks. In this process, the National Convention is now being held so as to exercise a genuine and discipline-flourishing democratic system in consistence with the seven-point future policy programme that dovetails with the condition of our country.

However, destructive elements within and without the country are making attempts to disturb the success of the ongoing National Convention. No matter whatever it is, the Government, in the belief that 'the strength of the nation lies

within', is now holding the National Convention by relying on the strength of the national people after laying down the seven-point future policy programme. Later, Lt-Gen Thein Sein called upon the entire national people — intellectuals, technocrats, entrepreneurs, national races, including those residing in remote border areas — to do their every bit enthusiastically in the drive to successfully realize the seven-point future policy programme.

After the ceremony, the Secretary-2 cordially greeted those present on the occasion. Next, the Secretary-2 and party proceeded to the People's Hospital in Myitkyina, where he met with hospital staff and gave instructions on health education campaigns, preventive measures against the outbreak of diseases, and kind treatment to patients.

Later, the Secretary-2 and party left Myitkyina and arrived back here in the afternoon. — MNA

Talks on MWAFF held

YANGON, 27 July — Vice-President of Myanmar Women's Affairs Federation Prof Dr Daw May May Yi gave talks on salient points on the federation at the meeting hall of the Ministry of Finance and Revenue on Industry-1 road here this afternoon.

She explained how the federation came into existence, its history and formation, its seven objectives, responsibilities and tasks being carried out by its 16 work groups, and called for participation of the entire womenfolk in implementation of the federation's lofty aims. Secretariat member Daw Htoo Yaw explained matters on the submitting of application forms for membership. Next, adviser to finance and management work group of MWAFF Daw Khin Than Win, wife of the F&R minister, presented K 300,000 donated by the Ministry of F&R to Dr Daw May May Yi.

Also present on the occasion were by Prof Daw Khin Mar Tun, wife of the deputy minister for F&R, departmental heads and their wives as well as employees under the ministry of F&R. — MNA



Secretary-2 Lt-Gen Thein Sein inspects the No 1 Defence Services Hospital (300-bed) in Myitkyina. — MNA



Secretary-2 Lt-Gen Thein Sein and party take Five Precepts from Kachin State Sangha Nayaka Committee Chairman Sayadaw Bhaddanta Narada. (News page 16) — MNA



Lt-Gen Maung Bo presents offertories to a Sayadaw at the ceremony to pay homage to abbots of All Ganas in Bilin Township, Mon State. — MNA

Lt-Gen Maung Bo pays homage to abbots of all ganas in Bilin

YANGON, 27 July — A ceremony to pay homage to abbots of all ganas in Bilin Township and offer provisions to members of the Sangha was held at Hngetpyawtaw Sarthintaik in Saya San Ward in Bilin Township, Mon State on 24 July, attended by member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Maung Bo of the Ministry of Defence.

Present on the occasion were Chairman of Mon State Peace and Development Council Commander of South East Command Maj-Gen Thura Myint Aung, Brig-Gen Myint Soe of Thaton Station, officials of the State Peace and Development Council Office and departments, military officers, local authorities, wellwishers, disciples and local people.

The congregation received the Nine Precepts from Chairman of Township Sangha Nayaka Committee (Sudhamma) Sayadaw Bhaddanta Chamdoba.

Members of the Sangha recited parittas. State Ovadacariya Muthin Ywalekyanggyi Sayadaw Bhaddanta Pañinda and Chairman of Mon State Sangha Nayaka Committee Bhaddanta Visudha delivered Ovadacathas.

In his supplication, Lt-Gen Maung Bo said Kyaikhtihsaung Sayadaw renovated 45 pagodas such as Kyaikhtiyo, Zinkyaik and Kelatha Pagodas and mountain roads and presented provisions to the missionary centres.

He said he was pleased to see the efforts for propagation of the Sasana. Next, Commander Maj-Gen Myint Aung also reported on the ceremony to pay homage abbots of all ganas.

Next, Lt-Gen Maung Bo presented offertories to Painhnekyunkyaung Sayadaw Bhaddanta Sobhita, Kyaikhtihsaung Sayadaw Abhidaja Agga Maha Saddhamajotika Bhaddanta Pañadipa.

Commander Maj-Gen Myint Aung presented offertories to Sayadaws and members of the Sangha. Next, wellwishers of Station presented offertories to nuns. Kyaikhtihsaung Sayadaw Bhaddanta Pañadipa delivered a sermon, followed by sharing of merits.

Lt-Gen Maung Bo, Commander Maj-Gen Thura Myint Aung, officials and wellwishers presented offertories and provisions to the members of the Sangha and nuns. —MNA

Commander, Mayor inspect tarring of roads and pavements

YANGON, 27 July — Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Myint Swe and Chairman of Yangon City Development Committee Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin inspected tarring of road and repair of pavements this morning.

The commander, the mayor and party inspected repair of pavements and laying concrete tiles along Bogyoke Aung San road in Pabedan Township, repair of pavements, laying concrete tiles and sanitation tasks on Kaba Aye Pagoda Road in Yankin Township and repair of pavements and laying concrete tiles on Kaba Aye Pagoda Road in

Mayangon Township where the officials reported on work being carried out. Next, the commander and mayor gave instructions on meeting the set standard.

On arrival at the driving course construction site of YCDC in Dagon Myothit (North) Township, the officials reported on the sanitation tasks, conditions of sluice gates and the completion of the tasks. Next, they inspected earth work at construction site.

After inspecting tarring of roads in North Oakkalapa Township, the commander and mayor urged officials concerned to strive for timely completion.

Afterwards, they inspected sinking tube-wells

under the supervision of the Union Solidarity and Development Association for supply of potable water on Thudama Street in North Oakkala Township and fulfilled the requirements.

MNA



Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe and Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin inspect renovation of tarred roads. —YGN CMMD

Wellwishers invited for sinking tube-wells

YANGON, 27 July — The Development Affairs Committees under the Ministry for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs are making concerted efforts in sinking tube-wells in order to get sufficient fresh water in rural areas in States and Divisions where water is scarce. One 200 feet deep two-inch diameter tube-well costs K 250,000; one 400 feet deep two-inch diameter tube-well costs K 500,000; and one 200 feet deep four-inch diameter tube-well costs K 500,000. Those wishing to donate cash for the tube-well sinking projects for rural areas may contact the Director-General (Tel: 01-245420 & 253088), the Deputy Director-General (Tel: 01-240118), the Director (Engineering) (Tel: 01-291967), the Directors (Sagaing Division Development Affairs Committee) (Tel: 071-21012), the Director (Magway Division Development Affairs Committee) (Tel: 063-23164) and the Director (Mandalay Division Development Affairs Committee) (Tel: 02-54657). — MNA

Minister receives guests

YANGON, 27 July — Minister for Industry-1 U Aung Thaung received manager Ns Yang Ya Ping of China Yunnan Corporation (for International Techno-Economic Cooperation) at 1 pm and Group Chief Executive Officer Datuk David S C Yeat and delegation of INS Holdings Bhd, Malaysia, at 2.30 pm today at his office. Deputy Minister Brig-Gen Kyaw Win and officials were also present at the calls. — MNA

Delegation calls on Minister

YANGON, 27 July — A delegation led by representative of Gyeong Soo Co of the republic of Korea Mr Kim Deok Su called on Minister for Mines Brig-Gen Ohn Myint at the Ministry of Mines at 10 am today. Similarly, Executive Vice-President Mr Tojoro Tasaki and party of Myanmar Tasaki Co Ltd called on the Minister at 1 pm today at his office. Deputy Minister U Myint Thein and officials were present on the occasions. — MNA

Those who daren't show their face — 55

Pauk Sa

The VOA at 6 am on 4 July 2004, aired a news report that the Myanmar Government sentenced seven years' imprisonment to Ko Thet Lwin, a staff of Ivanhoe Company, a mining company doing business in Myanmar. In the report, the VOA quoted the AAPP, a so-called body, based in Thai-Myanmar border, to assist and protect political prisoners, as saying that on 2 July, Myanmar military authorities arrested Ko Thet Lwin, a Myanmar national, a staff of the Ivanhoe Company, in December 2003 for visiting Daw Aung San Suu Kyi; that together with Ko Thet Lwin, a foreign official of the company met with Daw Aung San Suu Kyi; that the authorities arrested the two; that although the foreigner was released later, Ko Thet Lwin was sentenced to seven years' imprisonment in February 2004; that the family of Ko Thet Lwin informed the Yangon Office of the International Committee of Red Cross about the matter; and that the family was trying to get contact with Ko Thet Lwin. In reality, the VOA is broadcasting fabrications in accord with its tradition.

The VOA made an interview with Teik Naing, the so-called secretary of the AAPP, to make the matter worse. In my belief, the VOA, a media of the US government, distributing news world-wide, would apply advanced techniques in running its business. But it is regularly broadcasting lies and slanderous news reports about Myanmar, by the use of its advanced techniques, without analyzing whether the original source of information is reliable or not. It has never failed to air fabrications slandering Myanmar. Thus, it has become a rumour mongering news agency among the international media. Do the VOA staff know this? It is food for thought.

The information about Ko Thet Lwin was sent to the radio station with wicked intention, while omitting the true part, and yet the VOA, aired it. Moreover, it aired an interview programme concerning the matter. So, I dare say that the VOA has no journalist ethics at all.

Now, I will tell the truth about the matter. Ko Thet Lwin was appointed by the company as the driver of the project manager of the company, Dr Andrew Michell, a British citizen. Dr Michell was staying at Mya Yeik Nyo Hotel. While Ko Thet Lwin was driving the car to transport Dr Michell from the hotel to the company on 17 December 2003 morning, on the way, Ko Thet Lwin asked his boss, whether he would like to visit Daw Aung San Suu Kyi, and drove the car towards her house. Dr Michell said that he had no wish nor reason to visit her, and ordered Ko Thet Lwin to stop the car and turn it back towards the office. But Ko Thet Lwin persistently drove on the car, and tried to pass through the restricted area on the University Avenue. Thus, the authorities concerned had to stop the car. The foreigner explained the true situation.

When the authorities questioned Ko Thet Lwin, he was incoherently shouting like an insane person. Thus, the authorities doubted that he might have some mental problems or be suffering from a certain kind of disease, and temporarily kept him at a police station. When the doctors came to check him, they found out that he was disturbed by an overdose of narcotic drugs, and just a drug addict.

Dr Michell told the authorities that his driver had

done against his will; that he had heard the lady's name, but not known her in person; that he had no reason or wish to meet her; that it was a result of the reckless act of his driver; that although he insisted the driver to turn back, the driver disobeyed him and thoughtlessly tried to enter the restricted area. Thus, the authorities became convinced that Dr Michell had nothing to do with the matter.

The matter is quite clear. Action was taken against Ko Thet Lwin not for trying to meet with anyone, as said by the AAPP, but for abusing narcotic drugs. I pity the AAPP for trying to cover the case of a drug addict with a set-up political story, while trying to use the ICRC, with wicked motive.

The VOA continued to make the matter worse. In the interview, broadcast by the radio station, the interviewee, the so-called secretary Teik Naing of AAPP, was talking with the voice, as if he was giving directions to the ICRC. Thus, the VOA was like a bully, relying on his father, the village head, to commit rowdy acts in the village.

Besides, the ICRC was not that stupid, as it is an organization carrying out its activities world-wide. The ICRC was not moved by the perpetration as it knew the VOA's intention. It is a pity that VOA did not realize it.

After trying to make gains from the fabrications slandering Myanmar, the VOA put all the blame on AAPP, saying that the information was received from the so-called AAPP secretary Teik Naing. The VOA said that when it contacted the Ivanhoe Company offices in Yangon, Singapore and Canada, they could not give any response concerning the matter.

I have one question for the radio station. Is VOA sincere in broadcasting and trying to exaggerate it by airing an interview about an information that was not confirmed by the organization concerned? The journalist ethics have no tradition of reporting an unconfirmed news.

With true and sincere goodwill, the Myanmar people wish the government concerned to realize that VOA's fabrications will make it lose international trust. And the AAPP will know best where it received such lies that it had sent to the VOA. The VOA's acts to air lies to make political gains will not hurt Myanmar and her government, but will only tarnish the radio station's reputation to the worst.

But there is another factor. Is AAPP using the VOA, or is a political outcast or a group of political outcasts in Myanmar, opposing the Government on all fronts, using the AAPP as a tool to present lies? Only the person or organization concerned will know the truth.

The authorities took action against a drug addict for abusing narcotic drugs, and yet VOA was airing fabrication saying that he was arrested for meeting with a certain person. The AAPP was the organization that issued the fabricated announcement. And the political outcasts inside the nation had sent the fabricated information to the AAPP. In conclusion, I would like to say that from the VOA to the AAPP and the outcasts inside the nation are like the ones who daren't show their face in public.

(Translation: TMT)

Kyemon: 21.7.2004.

Trainees of Journalism Course visit MRTV

YANGON, 27 July — The trainees of Journalism Course No (1/2004), organized by News and Periodicals Enterprise of the Ministry of Information, accompanied by U Nyunt Hlaing In-Charge of the Course and responsible persons, made a study tour of Myanma Radio and Television (MRTV) on Pyay Road here this morning.

First, Deputy Director-General of MRTV U Thien Aung extended greetings at Studio-A and explained about the salient points on MRTV with audio-visual aid.

Next, the trainees studied radio drama recording at Studio-C, song recording at Studio-D and shooting and producing TV show at Studio-A. — MNA



The trainees of journalism course visit MRTV. — MNA

Efficient use of electricity

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

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

Efficient use of fuel

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

All this needs to be known

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

NGOs say Big powers bullying poor to get trade deal

GENEVA, 27 July — International aid and development groups on Monday accused the United States, the European Union and Japan of using bullying and threats to get poorer countries to agree to an unfair world trade pact.

World Trade Organization (WTO) Director-General Supachai Panitchpakdi says if there is no trade deal this week, it could be years before talks resume.

"Bullying and arm-twisting is being widely used by the major powers to try to get developing countries to accept an agreement that is against their interests," said Alexandra Strickner of the US Institute for Agriculture and Trade Policy (IATP).

British-based ActionAid International said poorer WTO members were facing "threats by the EU of losing their trade preferences, by the US of being excluded from bilateral trade agreements, and by Japan of losing aid programmes".

At the focus of this week's talks — the latest stage of the troubled Doha Round negotiations launched in 2001 — is a blueprint drafted by WTO mediators that sets outlines,

including on the central issue of farm trade, for a final accord.

But developing countries insist the draft ignores many of their basic concerns, while some richer nations — including Japan and Switzerland — say its provisions for lowering tariff barriers would hit farmers vital to their economies.

"The developing countries are sick and tired of having their interests sidelined in favour of the interests of rich countries and their corporate lobbies," ActionAid activist from Senegal Moussa Faye told a news conference.

And a new grouping, Agriculture Trade Initiative from the South (ATIS), said the trade majors were driving to split the developing countries by offering "inducements" to some to accept the general thrust of the current blueprint.

Many governments in the so-called South say the 1986-93 Uruguay Round, hailed by big powers as a boost to the global economy, has brought more poverty for their farmers and workers forced to compete with subsidized goods from the North.

MNA/Reuters



Lt-Gen Maung Bo inspects planting of monsoon paddy at Yinnyeitaung village on Paung-Thaton road in Mon State. (News on page 16) — MNA

Lt-Gen Maung Bo inspects progress ...

(from page 16)

Next, the headmistress and the chairman of school board of trustees reported on efforts made for opening the multimedia classrooms. Lt-Gen Maung Bo presented teaching aid for the school to the headmistress. Similarly, U Phone Myint handed over K 4,450,000 to the funds of the school and for water supply to the headmistress.

Lt-Gen Maung Bo delivered an address, saying that the State Peace and Development Council is fulfilling basic needs to the regions for their equitable development. In the education sector, arrangements are being made for narrowing gaps between basic and higher education levels in States and Divisions. Similarly, plans are being implemented for opening multimedia classrooms at basic education schools all over the country with a view to ensuring uplift of the national education standard and enabling the new generation students to get opportunities for learning modern technology of international level. Next, he urged educational staff, social organization members, members of the school board of trustees and parents to make efforts for their children to become qualified human resources.

Afterwards, Lt-Gen Maung Bo and party attended the Monsoon Paddy Exhibition in Yinnyeitaung Village on Paung-Thaton Road. They viewed booths on local-made agricultural equipment and fertilizers.

They inspected the booths for direct paddy seeding, competitive paddy plantation of local strains, model plot of rice intensification system (SRI), making of EM bokershi fertilizer and others. They then put fish into the paddy plots.

Next, Lt-Gen Maung Bo said that farmers are to use high yield paddy strains and fertilizers for boosting 100 baskets of paddy per acre. He added that 83 per cent of monsoon paddy has been put on the lands against the target of 1 million acres of monsoon and summer paddy in Mon State. — MNA



Lt-Gen Maung Bo presents teaching aids and books to the headmistress of Paung BEHS at the opening ceremony of the multimedia classrooms. (News on page 16) — MNA

Minister arrives back from Thailand

YANGON, 27 July — A Myanmar delegation led by Minister for Construction Maj-Gen Saw Tun made a study tour of Thailand on 21 July at the invitation of Deputy Prime Minister of Thailand Mr Chavalit Yongchai Yudth and Thai Contractors Association Under His Majesty's Patronage.

The minister and party toured downtown Bangkok on 21 July and attended a dinner hosted by Minister of Transport of Thailand Mr Suriva Jungrun Greang Kit at Imperial Queen's Park Hotel.

The minister and party on 22 July arrived at Geotextile Factory in Chonburi Province where they viewed the production process of needle punched nonwoven textile of Confelt Co Ltd. They also studied construction of Suvarnavhuni International Airport.

In the evening, the minister and party attended a dinner hosted by the Thai Deputy Prime Minister at Sorento Restaurant. On 23 July, the minister observed repaving of roads with the use of recycling method in Lamukka Province. In the afternoon, the minister attended a seminar on segment erection precast box girder covering Bangkok Expressway at CH Karnchang Co Ltd. In the evening, the minister held discussions with officials of Kanchanapuri-Tavoy Development at Sofital Plaza on work being carried out.

The minister and party arrived back here on 24 July evening. — MNA

PBANRDA Minister attends Waso robes offering ceremony

YANGON, 27 July —

The fifth Waso robes offering ceremony of township associations in Ayeyawady Division, organized by Ayeyawady Division Dhammayon Trusteeship Board, was held at Ayeyawady Division Dhammayon on Gyatawya Road in Bahan Township on 25 July.

Present on the occasion were Vice-Chairman of the State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee Bahan Aungmyebonsan Monastery Sayadaw Abhidhaja Maha Rattha Guru Bhaddanta Paññindabhivamsa plus eight Sayadaws, Vice-President of Myanmar Women's Affairs Federation Daw

Khin Lay Thet, wife of General Thura Shwe Mann of the Ministry of Defence, Daw Tin Tin Lat, wife of Patron of Dhammayon Trustees Board the commander of South-West Command Commander, and party, members of the board Minister for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs Col Thein Nyunt, Maj-Gen Hsan Hsint, Maj-Gen Tin Soe and Maj-Gen Mya Win of the Ministry of Defence, Deputy Commander of Yangon Command Col Wai Lwin and wellwishers.

The Vice-Chairman Sayadaw administered the

Nine Precepts. Next, members of the Sangha recited Parittas. Afterwards, Daw Khin Lay Thet and those present donated Waso robes and provisions to the Sayadaws.

Joint-Secretary Sayadaw Nyaungdon Ponnamayama Zay-kyauingtaik Sayadaw Abhidhaja Maha Rattha Guru Bhaddanta Osadabhivamsa delivered a sermon, followed by sharing of merits. After the ceremony, Vice-President Daw Khin Lay Thet, the wife of the commander, the minister and wife and the congregation offered 'soon' to the Sayadaws. — MNA

Malaysian Health Minister visits Traditional Medicine Hospital

YANGON, 27 July — A delegation led by Malaysian Minister of Health Datuk Dr Chua Soi Lek, visited Traditional Medicine Hospital here today. The delegation arrived here to promote health cooperation between Myanmar and Malaysia.

Director-General of Traditional Medicine Department Dr Thein Swe briefed the Malaysian guests on the history of the department and traditional medicine health care services; Rector of Mandalay University of Traditional Medicine Dr Myat Moe, on academic matters; and Medical Superintendent of the hospital Dr Thein Kyaw, on health care services and educational activities. They also replied to questions raised by the guests.

The Malaysia minister and party visited the wards, the herbal garden, and studied health care services. The delegation also visited the Medical Research Department (Lower Myanmar) in the evening, and heard reports on salient points of the body presented by officials concerned. — MNA

Mid-year Gem Emporium to be held

YANGON, 27 July — The Mid-year Gem Emporium will be held in 2004 October and those wishing to participate in it are to contact Myanma Gems Enterprise to have their gems tested and their gems prices fixed between 1 August and 30 September.

Myanma Gems Enterprise is making arrangements in cooperation with other enterprises and departments in selling and exporting gems of national entrepreneurs in accordance with GTC system in the interest of the nation and the entrepreneurs.

MNA

Energy staff families offer 'soon' to monks

YANGON, 27 July — Staff families of the Ministry of Energy offered 'soon' to the rector of State Pariyatti Sasana University and members of the Sangha at Mogok Refectory on Kaba Aye Hill at 10 am today.

Rector Sayadaw Agga Maha Pandita Bhaddanta Bhivamsa invested the congregation with the Five Precepts. Minister for Energy Brig-Gen Lun Thi and wife Daw Khin Ma Aye offered provisions to the Sayadaw and presented K 200,000 for the day meal for the monks. Later, 'soon' was offered to the monks. — MNA

*The best time
to plant
a tree was
20 years ago.
The second
best time is
now.*

[illegible]

SCHOTTEL
Reg.No. 4/1041/2004
in respect of : motors and
engines as well as rudders,
propellers, twin propellers,
rudderpropellers, podded
drives, propulsors, steerable
propulsions, propulsion
and steering systems,
pumps, jets, thrusters,
steering, control and
navigation for boats, ships,
vessels and other water-
borne vehicles, as well as
nautical goods, instruments
and apparatuses; parts
and fittings for as well as
development and repair of
all the aforesaid goods.
Fraudulent imitation or
unauthorized use of the
said Trademark shall be
dealt with according to law.
Umyint Lwin, Advocate,
LL.B.,D.B.L.
Dip in Marine Affairs (UK)
No.162, 1st Fl,35th, Yangon,
Email : myint.advocate@
myint.net.mm
Ph : 371 990 28.7.2004

The US Coast Guard was making the inspection in May this year after finding waste oil coming from piping of the tanker. Nielsen will be sentenced in October and could face up to 20 years in prison and a fine of 250,000 US dollars. — *MNA/Reuters*

“Having proved they existed in higher numbers than anyone expected, the next step is to analyse if they can be forecasted,” said Wolfgang Rosenthal, a scientist at the GKSS research centre in Geesthacht, Germany. ESA said that severe weather had sunk more than 200 supertankers and container ships exceeding 200 metres in length over the past two decades and that rogue waves were believed to be a major cause of such accidents. —MNA/Reuters

ပညာရေးနှင့် ခေတ်မီဖွံ့ဖြိုးတိုးတက်သော နိုင်ငံတော်ကြီး တည်ဆောက်အံ့



Hundreds of onlookers watch from below as French climber Alain Robert, a rock climber who has become famous for climbing known buildings worldwide, climbs the 120-metre-high (394 feet) Indosat Building in Jakarta, on 25 July, 2004. — INTERNET

UN special AIDS envoy starts visit to Uganda

KAMPALA, 26 July — United Nations special envoy for HIV/AIDS in Africa Stephen Lewis arrived in Uganda on Sunday to start a week-long visit to the East African country.

During his stay in Uganda, Lewis will officiate at the introduction of anti-retroviral therapy for people living with HIV in northern Uganda's Arua District, at the invitation of Medicines Sans Frontiers (MSF or Doctors Without Borders), according to a statement issued here by the United Nations Children's Funds.

MNA/Xinhua

Heat wave causes serious forest fires in Portugal

LISBON, 26 July — A heat wave sent temperatures soaring above 40 degrees Celsius across large parts of Portugal on Sunday, causing forest fires and prompting the evacuation of the residents in some regions.

The Portuguese National Health Department warned on July 23 that the scorching weather would last a few days, and the department raised the heat alert to "yellow" on Sunday. In May, the department introduced a four-level heat alert system, namely "blue", "yellow", "orange" and "red".

While "blue" represents normal and "yellow" means that some health measures

should be taken because of the high temperature, "orange" stands for a heat wave and "red" a serious heat wave.

The National Health Department announced Sunday that the temperatures in four regions, including Portalegre in central Portugal and Evora, Beja and Faro in the south, exceeded 40 degrees Celsius, and their heat alert was raised to "orange". The temperature

in Faro even rose to 45 degrees Celsius.

Meanwhile, the alert in Lisbon and 11 other regions was raised to "yellow". Only three regions and two islands had the alert level of "blue".

The heat wave resulted in the spread of forest fires, which have destroyed 27,000 hectares of woodlands this year, 5,000 hectares more than the previous year. — MNA/Xinhua

Nigerian Customs seizes smuggled goods

LAGOS, 26 July — The Nigeria Customs Service (NCS) has made 512 seizures of contraband worth 453.7 million naira (about 3.49 million US dollars) since April, the News Agency of Nigeria reported Sunday.

NCS Controller Alhaji Umar Daura was quoted as saying that 17 suspected smugglers were arrested with the seizures.

The seized contraband included assorted textile materials, cigarettes, spaghetti, shoes, rice and petroleum products.

According to Daura,

some of the seized items were smuggled into the country to avoid the payment of import duties to the federal government, while others came in contravention of the ban prohibiting such items from being imported.

He warned that "the fact that any contraband has been successfully smuggled into

the country does not exempt it from being seized."

"I am appealing once again to transporters, including luxury bus operators, to get familiar with all items on the prohibition list, so as to avoid using their vehicles to transport them anywhere in Nigeria," he added.

MNA/Xinhua

US study says caffeine interferes with diabetes control

WASHINGTON, 26 July — Caffeine could interfere with the body's ability to handle blood sugar, thus worsening Type 2 diabetes, US researchers said on Monday.

The team at Duke University Medical Centre in North Carolina found a strong correlation between caffeine intake at mealtime and increased glucose and insulin levels among people with Type 2 diabetes.

The American Diabetes Association says that at least 90 per cent of the 17 million Americans diagnosed with diabetes have Type 2, in which the body either does not produce enough insulin or cells ignore the insulin, which the body needs to convert food into energy.

The findings are significant enough that the re-

searchers recommend people with diabetes consider reducing or eliminating caffeine from their diets.

"In a healthy person, glucose is metabolized within an hour or so after eating. Diabetics, however, do not metabolize glucose as efficiently," said James Lane, a psychiatry professor who led the study.

"It appears that diabetics who consume caffeine are likely to have a harder time regulating their insulin and glucose levels than those who don't take caffeine."

Writing in the journal *Diabetes Care*, Lane and

colleagues said they studied 14 habitual coffee drinkers with Type 2 diabetes.

The researchers put the volunteers on a controlled diet. They took their medications, had their blood tested and then were given caffeine capsules. More blood was taken then and after giving the volunteers a liquid meal supplement.

Caffeine had little effect on glucose and insulin levels when the volunteers fasted, the researchers found.

But after the liquid meal, those who were given caffeine had a 21-per-cent increase in their glucose level

and insulin rose 48 per cent.

"The goal of clinical treatment for diabetes is to keep the person's blood glucose down," Lane said in a statement.

"It seems that caffeine, by further impairing the metabolism of meals, is something diabetics ought to consider avoiding. Some people already watch their diet and exercise regularly. Avoiding caffeine might be another way to better manage their disease. In fact, it's possible that staying away from caffeine could provide bigger benefits altogether."

MNA/Reuters

Trade group lodges protest over beating of business woman in US

NEW YORK, 26 July — A Chinese-American trade group Saturday lodged a strong protest with the US authorities over the recent brutal beating by US law enforcers of a Chinese business woman, it was learned Sunday.

The group, which calls itself Preparatory Committee of the Commission for the Promotion of US-China Free Trade, said in a statement the US Government bears unshirkable responsibility for the serious human right violation on the soil of the United States, a country that claims to be the model of the free world.

The incident occurred late Wednesday near the Niagara Falls at the US-Canadian border, when Zhao Yan, a Chinese business woman from Tianjin on her first US business trip, was attacked by officers of US Customs and Border Protection in disregard of normal checking procedures. Zhao obtained her visa, the statement noted, after being sub-

jected to the strictest security checks when US authorities imposed the most rigid regulation on non-immigration visa since the September 11, 2001, terror attack.

So why should Zhao still encounter such a disaster in the US territory, the statement asked. On Friday, Zhao told a Press conference that she and two friends were passing a row of rooms when a uniformed officer waved to them to come in. But she barely had time to react in the room when one of the officers pounced at her and sprayed her with pepper spray. The officer then struck her head on the ground while holding her hair and kicked her on the head when she was forced to kneel on the ground. — MNA/Xinhua

Study shows rising risk of dementia in Canadian drivers

OTTAWA, 27 July — A new study by the Canadian Psychiatric Association shows that the risk of dementia in drivers are rising with Canada's aged population increases rapidly, it is reported here Sunday.

The study estimates that there will be nearly 100,000 drivers with dementia in the province of Ontario alone by 2028, and the Ministry of Transportation driving tests do not effectively screen for dementia.

The study cites crash reports that suggest drivers with dementia are two to five times more likely to be involved in a collision.

The most common deficits seen in dementia are impairments in memory, concentration and judgment. The impact of such deficits on everyday activities can be devastating.

The study calls for improvements to the screening procedure for drivers, with "efficient" evaluations to examine people's ability to drive. — MNA/Xinhua

Study says Great Lakes too cold for Asian grass carp

OTTAWA, 27 July — A new scientific study suggests Canada may be just too cold for Asian grass carp to invade the Great Lakes, according to a report published on Sunday.

"Historical patterns of invasion suggest this species is at the northern limit of its ability to invade and is unlikely to become very abundant," says a draft version of a report prepared for Canada's Fisheries Department.

"From this analysis it appears that it is unlikely for grass carp to set up self-sustaining populations based on the environment of the Great Lakes and Saint Lawrence River," the report said.

Fish ecologists have been warning for years that four related species of Asian grass carp, bighead, silver and black — all threaten to invade Canadian waters, driving out native species by destroying or altering sensitive habitats.

Carp were imported to the United States in the 1960s from their original Eastern Asian homeland to be raised as food stock. But many escaped or were introduced into lakes and rivers, where they now flourish in at least 45 states. — MNA/Xinhua

ကျေးဇူးတိုင်း ကိုယ်အားကိုးစာကြည့်တိုက်ရှိရမည်

ကျေးဇူးတိုင်း
စာကြည့်တိုက်
သတင်းစာ
သတင်းစာ
ကျေးဇူးတိုင်း
စာကြည့်တိုက်
သတင်းစာ
ကျေးဇူးတိုင်း
စာကြည့်တိုက်
သတင်းစာ



ကျေးဇူးတိုင်း ကိုယ်အားကိုးစာကြည့်တိုက်များအတွက် သတင်းစာ စာအုပ်များလွှဲပြောင်းပို့ဆောင်ပါသည်။

မြန်မာ့ကျေးဇူးတိုင်း စာကြည့်တိုက်

SPORTS

Lisbon's Benfica draw 2-2 with Real Madrid

LISBON, 26 July— Portugal's Benfica marked the end of their centennial birthday celebrations by drawing 2-2 with Real Madrid in a pre-season friendly on Sunday.

Real coach, Jose Antonio Camacho, who guided Benfica to victory in the Portuguese Cup final last season, fielded a strong side in the opening half, including newly-signed Argentine international defender Walter Samuel.

Benfica, managed by former Italy coach Giovanni Trapattoni, went ahead in the first minute with a goal by Slovenian midfielder Zlatko Zaharovic.

Real's Ronaldo equalized in the third minute, tapping in a rebound after the Benfica defence failed to clear a corner by David Beckham. The ball ran on to Zinedine Zidane, whose header was parried by goalkeeper Yannick before Ronaldo scored.

Striker Fernando Morientes, who has returned to Real after a season on loan to AS Monaco, put the Spanish side 2-1 up in the 77th minute after a goalmouth scramble.—MNA/Reuters

Oakley wins Senior British Open by a shot

LONDON, 26 July— American qualifier Pete Oakley held off the last-day challenge of compatriot Tom Kite and Argentina's Eduardo Romero to win the Senior British Open by a stroke on Sunday.

Oakley, who began the final round one shot clear, fired a two-under-par 70 to finish on four-under 284 at Royal Portrush Golf Club in Northern Ireland.

Kite, the 1992 US Open champion, closed with a 69 to share second place with Romero who, playing in his first seniors event, birdied three of the last four holes for a 67.

Briton Mark James, European Ryder Cup captain in 1999, shot a 70 to finish a further stroke back in a tie for fourth with Ireland's Mark McNulty, after a 72.

MNA/Reuters



Saudi Arabia's Abdulrahman Al Bishi (C) and Iraq's goalkeeper Ahmed Jabr reach for the ball as Saudi's Marzouk Al Otaibi (R) looks on, during the second-half of their Asian Cup Finals Group C match in Chengdu, capital of China's southwestern Sichuan Province, on 26 July, 2004. Iraq beat Saudi Arabia 2-1 and will advance to the quarter-finals.—INTERNET

Serena, Davenport advance to California final

CARSON (California), 26 July— Top seed Serena Williams overcame an erratic Elena Dementieva 6-3, 7-6 in their semifinal at the JP Morgan Chase Open on Saturday to set up a title showdown against the in-form Lindsay Davenport.

Earlier in the day, Davenport advanced to her eighth final at this event when Venus Williams was forced to retire from their match with a wrist injury early in the second set.

Davenport was leading 7-5, 2-0 before she was handed a passage into her second straight final. Last week, she won the Stanford title with a three-set victory over Venus. Playing in front of a record crowd of 7,963 fans at the Home Depot Center, Serena raised her game when it mattered to see off the fourth-seeded Russian.

Despite spending a fair amount of the evening retrieving in the one-hour, 39-minute contest, Serena benefitted from a more aggressive approach during the big points.

However, the six-time Grand Slam champion was less than impressed with her performance.

"I'm really rough around the edges but hopefully by the time the US Open comes, I'll be better," said Williams, who registered 36 winners to her opponent's 18.

"I'm playing to around 30 per cent of my potential. You'd be shocked at what I could do."

French Open finalist Dementieva, who has been plagued by serving problems through most of her career, double faulted the entire third game away to give Serena the break and a 2-1 first set lead.

Cracking her first serve and sending her

groundstrokes deep, Serena was able to fight off spirited charges from the Russian, who frequently attacked the net and won 14 of her 19 approaches.

But Dementieva's serve let her down again when she coughed up another one of her 15 double faults to hand the Williams the first set. "She's weird to play," Serena said. "She strikes winners when you don't expect them and makes errors also unexpectedly, but she never gives up."

Dementieva continued to take risks with her returns and groundstrokes and broke to lead 2-1 in the second set when Serena missed a backhand pass, but the American broke back immediately thanks to another double fault.

In the tiebreak, the top seed cracked one of her seven aces to take a 3-2 lead and never looked back, as Dementieva committed four straight errors.

With only one tournament victory this season, Wimbledon finalist Serena admitted to being prepared to work much harder to improve her game.

"Before I wasn't ready. But now I am. I get away with a lot because of my athleticism. I need to do more."

Venus believes she hurt her right wrist before practice on Saturday morning when she bent down to tie her shoe. "When I got up I pushed off on it and I tweaked," she said.

"Maybe I'm too heavy." —MNA/Reuters

Blatter says jammed schedule could trigger doping

LIMA, 26 July — In his campaign against fixture congestion, FIFA president Sepp Blatter claimed on Saturday that the problem could tempt players into doping.

Aimed at pushing for the international calendar to be fully implemented, Blatter reiterated that he wanted less club football and said teams were wrong to withhold players or protest if they were picked for next month's Olympic Games soccer tournament.

"The international calendar is something which can be solved, for good, if there is less club football in the domestic leagues and national cups," Blatter told a news conference on the eve of the Copa America final between Brazil and Argentina.

Blatter said he wanted 45 dates set aside per year for domestic football, 15 for international club competitions and 10 to 12 for international matches.

"But how can we do this if there are professional leagues which have 20 teams, which use 38 dates and which then use other dates for the cups."

"For example, there's the Copa del Rey (Spain) and Italian Cup, where they play home and away, and in France they also play a League Cup, so they use from 50 to 55 dates."

"We should continue to respect national teams and this will be possible if everyone respects the number of dates."

He added: "If there is too much football, it affects the players and we shouldn't forget that ... it's the players who put on the show and we should protect their health."

"If they have to play five games in two weeks, when can they recover or when will they have time to train?"

"The result is they get tired, the perform worse and there is a possibility of temptation for the devil which is doping."

Several teams have rested their top play-

ers for the Copa America while the Olympic Soccer tournament in Athens next month—featuring Under-23 teams with three over-age players permitted per team—is promising to be the latest round in the club-versus-country battle.

"The Olympic Games are played outside FIFA's international calendar... but there's a moral principle at issue," Blatter said.

"It's a great honour to play at the Olympic Games for each player, man or woman, and it's a question of solidarity on the part of the clubs to allow selected players to go and play."

"The players want to go to the Olympic Games. This is a special event and, for a young player who can take part once and possibly win a medal, it's one of the best," he added. —MNA/Xinhua

Chile's Massu wins Generali Open

KITZBUEHEL (Austria), 26 July— Chile's Nicolas Massu overpowered French Open champion Gaston Gaudio of Argentina 7-6, 6-4 to win the Generali Open ATP tournament on Sunday.

Third-seeded Massu, who had beaten top seed Rainer Schuettler of Germany hours earlier in the rain-delayed semifinal, was more consistent than his Argentine opponent, the tournament's second seed.

"I played well today," said Massu, the world number 13. "But it was important that I won the semifinal in two sets so that I wasn't playing for too long (in the final)."

Massu, 24, swept aside Schuettler 6-3, 6-3 in the morning to set up the first title by a Chilean player in the 799,750-euro (980,600-US-dollar) event.—MNA/Reuters

China cruise into Asian Cup quarterfinals

BEIJING, 26 July— Hosts China cruised into the Asian Cup quarterfinals with a comfortable 1-0 victory over Qatar on Sunday. Defender Xu Yunlong headed home from close range in the 78th minute to deservedly seal the points for China in front of 62,000 spectators in Beijing.

China, who have never won the Asian Cup, finished top of Group A with seven points, two more than Bahrain, who also advanced after beating Indonesia 3-1.

"We made it a little bit difficult for ourselves today but we go forwards," said China coach Arie Haan. "But I am happy for China because we are on the right road."

The Chinese dominated from the start but failed to convert a string of chances in the first half.

Defender Zheng Zhi was guilty of a glaring point-blank miss in the sixth minute after latching on to a teasing cross from Yan Song. Li Ming then blazed wide from a good position after 18 minutes and playmaker Shao Jiayi, two-goal hero of China's 5-0 thrashing of Indonesia in midweek, shaved the post with a 28th-minute free kick.

But Xu struck in the 78th minute, bravely diving in to nod the ball over the line after captain Li Weifeng had knocked down a corner from Li Ming.

Substitute Sun Jihai, who plays for English Premier League club Manchester City, squandered a golden

opportunity to double China's lead four minutes from time, heading a Li Ming cross against the bar from six metres. "After we won 5-0 in our last match, the players left a little bit — maybe five or 10 per cent — of their concentration in the dressing

room," said Dutchman Haan.

"But we won and whoever we play next of course it is possible for China to beat everyone."

China will play the Group C runners-up in the quarterfinals on Friday.

MNA/Reuters



Lance Armstrong of Austin, Texas, rides in the pack on Concorde Square on his way to a sixth straight Tour de France cycling race victory, after the final stage between Montereau and Paris on Sunday, 25 July, 2004.—INTERNET

MRTV -3

28-7-2004 (Wednesday)
(Programme Schedule)
Morning Transmission
(9:00 - 10:00)

- 9:00 Signature Tune
Greeting
- 9:02 Song of Myanmar
Beauty & Scenic
Sights "Myanma
Panorama & Myanma
Sentiment"
- 9:06 Myanmar Footwear
and Bags
- 9:10** **Headline News**
- 9:12 How to Cook "The
Nga-paine Fish Curry"
- 9:15** **National News**
- 9:20 Kachin Traditional
Wedding Ceremony
- 9:25 A Dance to the Har-
vest
- 9:28 Paper Toys
- 9:30** **National News**
- 9:35 KENGTAUNG WA-
TERFALL
- 9:40 Song "Blessed Myan-
mar"
- 9:42 Tour In Myanmar
"Pindaya"
- 9:45** **National News**
- 9:50 The Incredible Edifice
(The Ananda Temple)
- 9:58 Song of Myanmar
Beauty & Scenic
Sights "Come and See
Myanmar"

28-7-2004 (Wednesday)
Evening Transmission
(15:30 - 17:30)

- 15:30 Signature Tune
Greeting

- 15:32 Song of Myanmar
Beauty & Scenic Sights
"Mingalabar"
- 15:36 Myanmar Footwear
and Bags
- 15:40** **Headline News**
- 15:42 How to Cook "The
Nga-paine Fish Curry"
- 15:45** **National News**
- 15:50 Kachin Traditional
Wedding Ceremony
- 15:55 A Dance to the Harvest
- 15:58 Paper Toys
- 16:00** **National News**
- 16:05 KENGTAUNG WA-
TERFALL
- 16:10 Song "Blessed Myan-
mar"
- 16:12 Tour In Myanmar
"Pindaya"
- 16:15** **National News**
- 16:20 The Incredible Edifice
(The Ananda Temple)
- 16:25 Song of Myanmar
Beauty & Scenic Sights
"Myanma Panorama &
Myanma Sentiment"
- 16:30** **National News**
- 16:35 Oboe; Myanma Musi-
cal Instrument
- 16:40 Bamboo Parquet
- 16:45** **National News**
- 16:50 Parahita Tiger School
- 16:55 Myanmar Marionette
- 17:00** **National News**
- 17:05 Rattan Wares and Bam-
boo Strip Hat
- 17:10 Myanmar Modern
Songs "Missing you so
much"
- 17:12 The National Museum
(II)
- 17:15** **National News**
- 17:20 Fisheries work in
Pyapon
- 17:25 Song of Myanmar
Beauty & Scenic Sights
"Come and See
Myanmar"

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

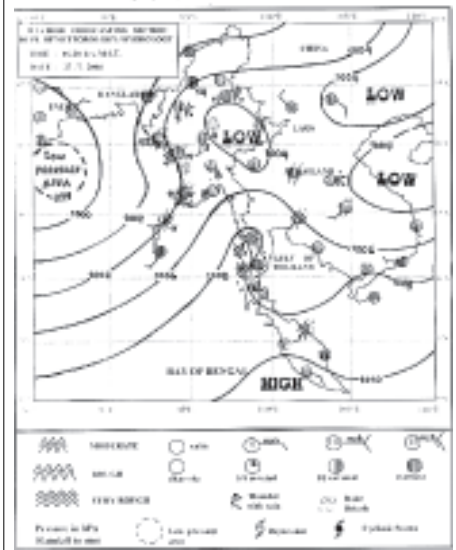
- 19:30 Signature Tune
Greeting
- 19:32 Song of Myanmar
Beauty & Scenic Sights
"Myanma Panorama &
Myanma Sentiment"
- 19:36 Let us take part in the
Chinlone Festival
- 19:40** **Headline News**
- 19:42 Myanmar Traditional
Snack "Dawei Ngam-
moun" (Fish Crispies)
- 19:45** **National News**
- 19:50 Myanma Lacquerware
- 19:55 Nay Yar Daw Khin
- 19:58 Welcome to Bagan
- 20:00** **National News**
- 20:05 Kachin hand-woven
material
- 20:10 Song "Love Boat"
- 20:15** **National News**
- 20:20 Fantastic Scenic Sun-
sets of Myanmar
- 20:25 Song "Across The
Ayeayawady"
- 20:30** **National News**
- 20:35 Music for Your Ears (A
Melodic Musical Piece)
(Guitar Aung Shein,
Gold Medalist)
- 20:40 Taninthayi, Land of Oil
Palm
- 20:45** **National News**
- 20:50 Clothes decorated with
Sequin-like Colourful
Plastics
- 20:55 Traditional PaO Dance
- 20:58 The Role of Myanmar
Rice
- 21:00** **National News**
- 21:05 Palm Leaf Inscription
- 21:10 Myanmar Modern
Songs "Fetch me in a
horse-cart"
- 21:12 Blacksmith of Kayin
State
- 21:15** **National News**
- 21:20 The National Museum (I)

- 21:25 Song of Myanmar
Beauty & Scenic
Sights "Mingalabar"
- 21:35 Myanmar Footwear
and Bags
- 21:40** **Headline New**
- 21:42 How to Cook "The
Nga-paine Fish
Curry"
- 21:45** **National News**
- 21:50 Kachin Traditional
Wedding Ceremony
- 21:55 A Dance to the Har-
vest
- 21:58 Paper Toys
- 22:00** **National News**
- 22:05 KENGTAUNG WA-
TERFALL
- 22:10 Song "Blessed Myan-
mar"
- 22:12 Tour In Myanmar
"Pindaya"
- 22:15** **National News**
- 22:20 The Incredible Edifice
(The Ananda Temple)
- 22:25 Songs On Screen
"Flowers Lover"
- 22:30** **National News**
- 22:35 Oboe; Myanma Musi-
cal Instrument
- 22:40 Bamboo Parquet
- 22:45** **National News**
- 22:50 Parahita Tiger School
- 22:55 Myanmar Marionette
- 23:00** **National News**
- 23:05 Rattan Wares and
Bamboo Strip Hat
- 23:10 Myanmar Modern
Song "Missing you so
much"
- 23:12 The National Mu-
seum (II)
- 23:15** **National News**
- 23:20 Fisheries work in
Pyapon
- 23:25 Song of Myanmar
Beauty & Scenic
Sights "Come and See
Myanmar"

Rainfall on 27-7-2004

– (0.20 inch) at Yangon Airport,
– (0.31 inch) at Kaba-Aye and
– (0.83 inch) at central Yangon. Total rainfall
since 1-1-2004 was 1640mm (64.57 inches) at
Yangon Airport and 1586 mm (62.44 inches) at
Kaba-Aye and 1602 mm (63.07 inches) at cen-
tral Yangon.

Weather Map of Myanmar and Neighbouring Areas

**WEATHER****Tuesday, 27 July, 2004**

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST: During the past 24 hours, weather has been partly cloudy in Kayah State and Magway Division, rain or thundershowers have been scattered in Shan State, lower Sagaing, Mandalay, Bago and Yangon Divisions and widespread in the remaining areas with locally heavyfalls in Mon State. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Mawlamyine (3.82) inches, Ye (3.11) inches, Dawei (2.36) inches and Myeik (2.32) inches.

Maximum temperature on 26-7-2004 was 29.5°C (85°F). Minimum temperature on 27-7-2004 was 20.5°C (69°F). Relative humidity at 9:30 hrs MST on 27-7-2004 was 84%. Total sunshine hours on 26-7-2004 was (1.5) hours approx. Rainfall on 27-7-2004 was (0.20 inch) at Yangon Airport, (0.31 inch) at Kaba-Aye and (0.83 inch) at central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2004 was 1640 mm (64.57 inches) at Yangon Airport and 1586 mm (62.44 inches) at Kaba-Aye and 1602 mm (63.07 inches) at central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was 6 mph from Southwest at 18:40 hours MST on 26-7-2004.

Bay inference: Yesterday's low pressure area over the North Bay and adjoining West Central Bay still persists. Monsoon is strong in the Andaman Sea and moderate elsewhere in the Bay of Bengal.

Forecast valid until evening of 28-7-2004: Rain or thundershowers will be isolated in lower Sagaing and Mandalay Divisions, Kachin, Chin, Shan and Kayah States, widespread in the remaining areas with likelihood of isolated heavyfalls in Mon State and Taninthayi Division. Degree of certainty is (80%).

State of the sea: Squalls with moderate to rough sea are likely at times off and along Mon-Taninthayi Coast. Surface wind speed in squalls may reach (35) to (40) mph. Seas will be moderate elsewhere in Myanmar waters. **Outlook for subsequent two days:** General increase of rain in Rakhine State. **Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 28-7-2004:** Some rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (80%).

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 28-7-2004: One or two rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (80%).

Flood Bulletin

(Issued at 13:00 hrs MST on 27-7-2004)

The water level of Ayeayawady River at Aunglan exceeded the danger level and the water level at Hinthada is about 1.5 ft above the danger level. The water levels may continue to rise about 1-ft and remain above the danger levels during the next (4) days commencing noon today.

The water level of Chindwin River at Homalin is about 2.5 ft above the danger level. It may continue to fall and reach below the danger level during the next (4) days commencing noon today.

The water levels of Chindwin River are above the danger levels about 7-ft at Mawlaik, 6ft at Kalewa and 2-ft at Monywa. The water levels may remain above the danger levels during the next (4) days commencing noon today.



Wednesday, July 28
View today:

7:00 am

- ကျေးဇူးရှင် မင်းကုန်းဆရာတော် ဘုရားကြီး နိုင်ငံတော်သံဃမဟာ ဓမ္မသင်္ဃာတော်အဖွဲ့အစည်းတော်၏ အဘိဓမ္မာ မဟာရဋ္ဌာရသဘိဓမ္မာအရ မဟာသဒ္ဓမ္မဓမ္မာတိက၊ တိပိဋကဓရ၊ ဓမ္မဘူတာဂါရီက ဆရာတော်တို့၏ ဖိစိတ္တသရဏာဘိဝံသ၏ ပရိတ် တရားတော်

7:25 am

- To be healthy exercise

7:30 am

- Morning news

7:40 am

- Nice and sweet song

7:55 am

- မြူးမြူးမြူးယဉ်ကျေးမှုအက

8:05 am

- အတိအလင်း

8:15 am

- လေးစားရသောတစ်

8:30 am

- International news

8:45 am

- Learning English the Easy and Happy Way for Children and Beginners

4:00 pm

- Martial song

4:15 pm

- Songs to uphold National Spirit

4:30 pm

- Practice in Reading

4:45 pm

- Musical programme

4:55 pm

- အလေးသင်တန်းတော် ပညာရေး ရုပ်မြင်သံကြားသင်တန်းတော် - ဒုတိယနှစ် (သမီး၊ ကလေး၊ လူပညာသင်တန်း) (သမီး)

5:15 pm

- Songs of national races

5:25 pm

- လက်ဆွဲကမ်းပေးကိတင်း

5:35 pm

- တစ်ဆင့်အောင်မြင် ရောဂါတိတ်တင်း (ခေးဒါ)

5:45 pm

- Classical song

5:55 pm

- Strong and healthy Myanmar

6:00 pm

- ရှုမဝလင်းအသံ အစီအစဉ်

6:10 pm

- Discovery

6:15 pm

- မုန်တိုင်းသွယ်သွယ်ကြွေကြွေ

6:30 pm

- Evening news

7:00 pm

- Weather report

7:05 pm

- မြန်မာစာ၊ မြန်မာစာရေး

7:20 pm

- Musical programme

7:35 pm

- သားယဉ်ကျေးမှု ရုပ်မြင်သံကြား (အရင်း-၁)

7:45 pm

- သမီးတစ်ယောက်မြင့်တင်စေ ဥယျာဉ်မြှုပ် (မင်းကုတ်)

8:00 pm

- News

8:05 pm

- International news

8:10 pm

- Weather report

8:15 pm

- ကောသလအကြွေ (သံ)ကြွေ မြန်မာ့ရိုးရာ ယဉ်ကျေးမှု အဆို၊ အက၊ အရိုး၊ အတီး၊ အသံ၊ အဓိပ္ပာယ် (တတိယဆင့်) (မန္တလေးတိုင်း) (ပထမပိုင်း)

8:20 pm

- The next day's programme

8:25 pm

- News/Slogan

8:30 pm

- PEL



Wednesday, July 28
Tune in today:

8:30 am

- Brief news

8:35 am

- Music: All the small things

8:40 am

- Perspectives

8:45 am

- Music: That's OK!

8:50 am

- National news/ Slogan

9:00 am

- Music: Fire Line

9:05 am

- Music: Lollipop

9:10 am

- News/Slogan

1:30 pm

- Lunch time music

1:40 pm

- That's where you take me

9:00 pm

- Variations on a tune

9:15 pm

- Article/Music

9:25 pm

- Music at your request

9:45 pm

- All I have

10:00 pm

- Picture

9:45 pm

- To love a woman

10:00 pm

- The game of love

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

Secretary-2 Lt-Gen Thein Sein inspects Bala Min Htin Bridge, prevention of erosion of river banks in Kachin State



Secretary-2 Lt-Gen Thein Sein presents offertories to Sayadaw Agga Maha Pandita Agga Maha Saddhamma Jotikadhaja Bhaddanta Silavamsa. — MNA

No 1 Military Hospital (300-bed) in Myitkyina inspected

YANGON, 27 July — Secretary-2 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thein Sein, together with Lt-Gen Ye Myint of the Ministry of Defence, Chairman of Kachin State Peace and Development Council Commander of the Northern Command Maj-Gen Maung Maung Swe, Minister for Communications, Posts and Telegraphs Brig-Gen Thein Zaw, the deputy ministers and senior military officers, on 25 July morning arrived at Wuntho Monastery in Myitkyina. They paid homage to Presiding Sayadaw Agga Maha Pandita Agga Maha Saddhamma Jotikadhaja Bhaddanta Silavamsa and presented robes and offertories.

Afterwards, they proceeded to Bala Min Htin Bridge linking Myitkyina and Waingmaw across Ayeyawady River. Next, Secretary-2 Lt-Gen Thein Sein inspected the bridge and gave instructions to officials concerned on prevention of erosion of the banks of the river near the bridge. Later, they went to the battalions and regiments of the Northern Command and inspected quarters, cultivation and welfare shops. He gave instructions on sale of goods and food stocks of the welfare shops.

In the afternoon, Secretary-2 Adjutant-General Lt-Gen Thein Sein inspected No 1 Military Hospital (300-bed). Commandant of the hospital Lt-Col Myint Win reported on organizational set up of the hospital, treatments and needs to be fulfilled.

After hearing reports, Lt-Gen Thein Sein attended to the needs. He spoke at length on implementation of the State's seven-point policy programme step by step after holding the National Convention. He also gave instructions on health education, prevention of disease and treatment. Next, Lt-Gen Thein Sein presented cash assistance for the staff to Commandant Lt-Col Myint Win. Next, Lt-Gen Thein Sein comforted the patients in the hospital. — MNA

Secretary-2 meets departmental officials, members ...

(from page 1)

First, the commander presented reports on area and location of Kachin State, its population, land utilization, cultivation of summer and monsoon paddy, requirement of paddy strains, completion of cultivating ten main crops,

National races such as Bamar, Jainphaw, Shan, Rawan, Mashu, Lashee, etc. have been living in unison in Kachin State. The region, in fact, is a small union with a diversity of national races. Hence, steps are to be taken to develop the region in all sectors with united strength of national races residing in the region.

increase of sown acreage, water supply, local rice sufficiency, implementation of production and service against the target of Kachin State, progress of hydel power tasks, education, health and regional developments.

Speaking on the occasion, Secretary-2 Lt-Gen Thein Sein said leading a team comprising ministers, deputy ministers and departmental heads, he, together with Lt-Gen Ye Myint, inspected the flood-hit areas in the vicinity of Myitkyina on 24 and 25 July and fulfilled the requirements of the victims. The areas located near rivers and creeks are prone to inundation in such a time when rain fell heavily. However, such kind of incident does not last long. As local administrative bodies, departments, townselders and social associations gave helping hands in harmony, the magnitude of damage and loss was small.

It is necessary to speed up the major business transactions such as agriculture and livestock breeding industries, for the water is now receding.

(See page 8)



Secretary-2 Lt-Gen Thein Sein meets with service personnel and members of social organizations at City Hall in Myitkyina. — MNA



Lt-Gen Maung Bo inspects progress of educational, agricultural sectors in Mon State Utilization of high-yield paddy strains & fertilizers stressed for boosting output

YANGON, 27 July — State Peace and Development Council Member Lt-Gen Maung Bo of the Ministry of Defence, accompanied by Mon State Peace and Development Council Chairman South-East Command Commander Maj-Gen Thura Myint Aung, senior military

officers, officials of the State Peace and Development Council Office and departmental officials, arrived at Basic Education High School in Paung Township from Hpa-an on 24 July morning. Headmistress Daw Tin Ohn and Chairman of School Board of Trustees Dr Yu Wai formally

opened multimedia classrooms. Lt-Gen Maung Bo unveiled the signboard and inspected classrooms. He gave instructions for turning out highly-qualified students who can keep themselves abreast of other nations.

(See page 11)