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Sunday, 1 August, 2004



Senior General Than Shwe and party welcome back Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt on his arrival from Thailand at the airport.—MNA

Senior General Than Shwe welcomes back Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt on his return from Thailand

YANGON, 31 July—Prime Minister of the Union of Myanmar General Khin Nyunt arrived back here by air at 4.40 pm today after attending the first BIMST-EC Summit held in Bangkok, Thailand, at the invitation of Prime Minister of Thailand Mr Thaksin Shinawatra.

The Myanmar delegation led by Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt was welcomed back at Yangon International Airport by Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Than Shwe, Vice-Chairman of

the State Peace and Development Council Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) Vice-Senior General Maung Aye, member of the State Peace and Development Council General Thura Shwe Mann, Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Soe Win, Secretary-2 Lt-Gen Thein Sein, members of the State Peace and Development Council, the Commander-in-Chief (Navy), the Commander-in-Chief (Air), Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe, minis-

ters, senior military officers, Dean of Diplomatic Corps Ambassador of the Republic of Singapore Mr Simon Tensing de Cruz, heads of foreign missions in Yangon, the UN Resident Co-ordinator, the Chargé de Affaires of the Embassy of Thailand and officials and heads of department.

Minister for Foreign Affairs U Win Aung, Deputy Minister U Khin Maung Win and heads of department, who accompanied Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt also arrived back on the same flight.—MNA

Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt attends dinner hosted by Thai Prime Minister and wife

YANGON, 31 July — Prime Minister of the Union of Myanmar General Khin Nyunt attended the dinner hosted in honour of Heads of Government of BIMST-EC by Prime Minister of Thailand Mr Thaksin Shinawatra and wife Khunying Potjaman Shinawatra at the Blue Room of Santi

Maitri Building of the Government House in Bangkok, Thailand, at 9 pm yesterday.

Present at the dinner were Prime Minister of Bangladesh Begum Khaleda Zia, Prime Minister of Bhutan Lyonpo Jigmi Yoeser Thinlay, Prime Minister of India Dr

Manmohan Singh, Myanmar Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt, Prime Minister of Nepal Mr Sher Bahadur Deuba, President of Sri Lanka Madame Chandrika Bandaranaike Kumaratunga, Minister for Foreign Affairs U Win Aung,

(See page 8)



Thai Prime Minister Mr Thaksin Shinawatra delivers an address at dinner hosted in honour of heads of government of BIMST-EC countries.—MNA

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

PERSPECTIVES

Sunday, 1 August, 2004

Dutiful citizens — the strength and power of the nation

Patron of the Union Solidarity and Development Association Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Than Shwe attended concluding ceremony of Myanmar and International Studies Course No 6 and Special Refresher Course No 7 of USDA held at the Union Hall of USDA training school in Hmawby Township on 30 July and gave guidance.

In his guidance Senior General Than Shwe said that now, the nation is picking up speed in moving along the correct path of development, and there are also prospects for the nation; that the more united the citizens are, the more the nation will develop, and it needs to restore peace and stability and ensure prevalence of law and order for the nation to be more prosperous; that what is more important is that the people should not entertain narrow outlook; that if peace and tranquillity cannot be restored and law and order is encroached upon, it will adversely affect the endeavours, causing a great hindrance to the nation's progress; and that it is required to protect and prevent everything which will undermine peace and progress of the nation.

As the national solidarity and peace and stability are the foundation of all the developments, the Government tried to end the armed conflicts which is its initial step towards the national reconsolidation.

Thanks to the understanding built between the Government and the 17 armed groups, peace prevails in the respective border regions. As a result, people have been able to participate in nation-building tasks and now fruitful results have been achieved in all sectors.

For instance, 162 dams and 265 water pumping stations have been built in the agriculture sector and they now benefit land countable in acres in the million. In the education sector also, over 40,500 basic education schools have emerged and thus there is now equal opportunity for national races of all regions to pursue education. With the emergence of 156 universities and colleges throughout the nation, greater opportunities to learn arts and science, technology and medical science have been created. Better health care services are being provided for the people by upgrading hospitals in the concerned townships to 200-bed specialist facilities.

A citizen's participation in person in the task of fulfilling the requirements of the nation amounts to enthusiastic performance of a national task. Dutiful citizens, with high conviction, are the strength and power of the State.

Therefore, the State has been training and nurturing new generation youths to enhance their national conviction, while enabling them to perform the national duties.

We would therefore like to urge all the new generation youths to participate in nation-building tasks with firm determination.

CORRIGENDUM

Please read Chinese Military Attaché Senior Col Ma Shoudong instead of Senior Col Xu Shulai in the caption of the photo depicting Secretary-2 Adjutant-General Lt-Gen Thein Sein and wife Daw Khin Khin Win being welcomed at the reception to mark the 77th Anniversary of People's Liberation Army of China on page 16 of the NLM yesterday. — 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

Waso robes offered to Shwephonepint Pagoda

YANGON, 31 July—Members of the Shwephonepint Pagoda Board of Trustees organized the 47th offering of Waso robes to the pagoda in Pazundaung Township this afternoon. The ceremony was graced by the presence of Ovadacariya Sayadaws of the pagoda board of trustees.

Also present on the occasion were Chairman of the Central Leading Committee for Third All-round Renovation of the Shwephonepint Pagoda Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan, Deputy Minister Brig-Gen Aung Thein, heads of departments and enterprises under the ministry, officials, members of the Central Leading Committee, members of the pagoda board of trustees, social organizations and religious associations, wellwishers and visitors.

The chairman of the pagoda board of trustees supplicated on the purpose of the donation. Ovadacariya Sayadaw Sasana Dhaja Siri Pavara Dhammacariya Bhaddanta Vayama administered the Nine Precepts to the congregation. Members of the Sangha recited the parittas.

Next, the minister, the deputy ministers, officials and wellwishers of-



Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan presents Waso robes to a Sayadaw at the Waso-robe offering ceremony. — MNA

ferred Waso robes to the Sayadaws. Sayadaw Bhaddanta Vayama delivered a sermon. The congregation shared merits gained.

The minister attended the meeting of the Central Leading Committee at the platform of the pagoda. The minister in his address said that the pagoda has been renovated three times for ensuring more sublime appearance of the religious edifice and for enabling the people to visit it with pleasure and in convenience. As a result, he said, the pagoda and the religious buildings in the pagoda precinct can draw greater admiration of the

pilgrims.

Now, facilities for the ease of the visitors have been built and continued endeavours will be made for future tasks, he said. Members of the pagoda board of trustees and those responsible are to constantly maintain such fine conditions of the pagoda, to take measures for cleanliness and security and to systematize financial matters, he said. Vice-Chairman of the Supervisory Committee for Design and Construction Adviser to the Information and Public Relations Department U Aung Hsan reported on progress of all-round renovation. Those

present also dealt with respective sectors.

The minister fulfilled the requirements and delivered concluding remarks. He looked into work progress. Members of the pagoda board of trustees and officials concerned conducted him round the precinct. The minister paid reverence to the Buddha image in Phayagyi Koesu Prayer Hall and inspected progress in renovating the prayer hall and the Buddha images. He said that it is needed to maintain the pagoda and buildings for their duration. He gave instructions on inscribing the list of wellwishers. — MNA

Minister inspects maintenance of Nyaungdon Bridge

YANGON, 31 July—Minister for Transport Maj-Gen Hla Myint Swe, accompanied by officials of the Directorate of Water Resources and Improvement of River Systems, arrived at Nyaungdon yesterday morning.

Director-General of the department U Chit Khin reported on preventive measures for Nyaungdon Bridge from erosion. The minister gave instructions on ensuring proper flow of the river in the rainy season, thorough efforts to prevent bank erosion, preventive measures for the large bridges from erosion, systematic installation of waterway signals for safety of the vessels, occasionally issuing of directives, and supervisory measures to be able to notice whether the vessels follow the directives or not. The minister and party inspected preventive measures against erosion of Bo Myat Tun Bridge and waterway signals. — MNA



Minister Maj-Gen Hla Myint Swe inspects Bo Myat Htun Bridge. — TRANSPORT

Warning for vessels

YANGON, 31 July—The Directorate of Water Resources and Improvement of River Systems today announced that currents of Ayeyawady, Chindwin and Thanlwin rivers are now turbulent as continuous downpours have swollen these rivers. Thus, vessels are warned against sailing under the major bridges crossing those rivers from 6 pm to 6 am in order to avert the possible danger. — MNA

World Breastfeeding Week
(1st to 7th August 2004)

*Exclusive Breastfeeding:
the Gold Standard
Safe, Sound, Sustainable*

Ministry of Health

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

BAGHDAD, 30 July—As of Thursday, July 29, 909 US service members have died since the beginning of military operations in Iraq in March 2003, according to the Defence Department. Of those, 674 died as a result of hostile action and 235 died of non-hostile causes.

The British military has reported 60 deaths; Italy, 18; Spain, eight; Poland, seven; Bulgaria, six; Ukraine, four; Slovakia, three; Thailand, two; Denmark, El Salvador, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia and the Netherlands have reported one death each.

Since May 1, 2003, when President Bush declared that major combat operations in Iraq had ended, 771 US

soldiers have died, 565 as a result of hostile action and 206 of non-hostile causes.

The latest deaths reported by US Central Command: A soldier was killed Thursday when his patrol was attacked near Hawija, Iraq. Two Marines assigned to the 1st Expeditionary Force were killed Wednesday in separate incidents in Anbar province. — *Internet*



Families of the two Jordanian hostages in Iraq shout anti-US slogans during a protest in Irbid, 90 kilometres (55 miles) north of the Jordanian capital, Amman, on 30 July, 2004. — *INTERNET*

Two Syrians abducted along with Jordanian truckers in Iraq

BAGHDAD, 30 July—Two Syrian truck drivers were abducted from the same convoy from which four Jordanians were already reported captured this week, one of their colleagues told Jordanian Press on Friday.

"Our convoy was made up of 17 trucks driven by Syrians and Jordanians. It was transporting household appliances from Dubai west of Baghdad", a Jordanian trucker told a newspaper in Amman.

In addition to the four Jordanians, "the group also abducted two Syrian truck drivers," he said, without elaborating.

In a videotape aired by Dubai Television, an Islamist group on Thursday said that it was holding four Jordanians and called on the

people of the kingdom to pressure their government to end its support for the US-led forces in the country.

Ayed, 39, who managed to escape the attack because he was at the head of the convoy, identified two of the Jordanians as Mohammad Khleifat and Mohammad Abu Jaafar. He said the convoy was not carrying any goods destined for the US army.

Two other Jordanian drivers were kidnapped on Monday and reportedly threat-

ened with death unless their employer stopped work in the country within 72 hours.

Their employer, Daoud and Partners, which provides food supplies to US troops in Iraq, announced on Tuesday that it would cease operations in Iraq to obtain its drivers' release, which has yet to occur. — *Internet*

Two Americans suspected of selling pirate DVDs arrested in China

SHANGHAI, 30 July — Two American nationals were arrested on 1 July in China as leading suspects of a ring for selling pirate DVDs, the Ministry of Public Security (MPS) of China said here Friday.

"The successful cracking of the case is the result of close cooperation between Chinese and American law enforcement departments," said Gao Feng, deputy director of the Economic Crime Investigation Department of MPS, at a Press conference.

Four other suspects of the ring were also arrested with the approval of the Shanghai Municipal People's Procuratorate, he said. The two American suspects are Randolph Hobson Guthrie and Cody Abram Thrush.

More than 210,000 pieces of pirate DVDs, seven computers, three telephones and a large number of mail bags had been confiscated, with 220,000 yuan (26,634 US

Polish soldier killed, four wounded in Iraq

WARSAW, 30 July — A Polish soldier was killed and four others wounded in southern Iraq overnight when a remotely detonated mine hit their convoy, Defence Minister Jerzy Szmajdzinski said on Thursday.

"A powerful explosive killed one soldier and wounded four," Szmajdzinski told private TVN24 television.

"This occurred during a routine patrol on a road between Hilla and Baghdad... There were several vehicles in that convoy and that has likely provoked the detonation," he said.

He said the four wounded were under US care in hospital in Baghdad.

Poland leads a multinational force of 8,000 troops in south-central Iraq, including 2,500 Polish troops.

The death brings the number of Polish soldiers killed in Iraq to five. Two Polish journalists and two former soldiers working for a private security company have also been killed in the country. — *MNA/Reuters*

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Malaysia not sending troops to Iraq

LANGKAWI, 31 July—Malaysia has no intention at present of deploying troops to Iraq despite a foreign news report which indicated that it was among several Muslim nations who were on the verge of forming a "Muslim force" to be sent into the war-torn country.

"That is not true," said Foreign Minister Datuk Seri Syed Hamid Albar when asked about the report, which indicated Pakistan had met with Saudi Arabia to discuss a possible Muslim force to be sent to Iraq.

Among the countries named in the report to be part of the proposed force were Malaysia, Algeria, Bangladesh, Indonesia, Morocco, Yemen and Bahrain.

"Malaysia is unaware of Muslim forces involved in participating in Iraq. Each Muslim nation can take part in the multi-national force. It is up to them individually. (I am) not aware of efforts by any Muslim nation to form a force for Iraq."

Syed Hamid, who described the report as mischievous, stressed that Malaysia was only committed to sending a medical team to perform humanitarian tasks. — *Internet*

India, Israel agree to enhance cooperation in science

JERUSALEM, 30 July—India and Israel have agreed to enhance cooperation in science and technology by setting up a joint fund for research and development with the aim to promote tech-based trade and collaboration in tapping the global market together.

A four-member Indian delegation, led by V S Ramamurthy, Secretary in the Department of Science and Technology, is in Israel to attend the sixth meeting of the Indo-Israeli joint committee on science and technology.

Delegation members said they had identified areas of priority for mutual cooperation between the two countries following extensive talks. Israel also increased by 50 per cent its budgetary allocation for the ongoing joint Indo-Israeli research projects.

Welcoming the move Ramamurthy said, "it sends

us a strong signal that Israel values cooperation with India". Emphasizing on the need to convert laboratory knowledge into practical applications leading to market benefits, he said, "we have a lot to learn from Israel in this regard".

"Israel has strength in quality manpower, which may not be as much as we have, but more importantly they have converted it into major economic gains. If we can achieve that we won't have to rue at the loss of scientific brains. We shall be able to provide them the right environment at home where they will be able to perform well," Ramamurthy said. — *MNA/PTI*

India presses for improvements in WTO framework draft

NEW DELHI, 30 July — India Wednesday pressed for improvements in the draft of the proposed WTO framework agreement and warned that the text would not be acceptable if its concerns in agriculture were not addressed.

In his interactions with G-20 and NG-5 in Geneva, India's Commerce and Industry Minister Kamal Nath sought flexibility in domestic policy in agriculture in order to address legitimate concerns in products of developing countries.

The NG-5 meeting was

attended by Celso Amorim, Foreign Minister of Brazil, EU Trade Commissioner Pascal Lamy and US Trade Representative Robert Zoellick.

With the revised draft on the anvil for submission at the WTO General Council on 30 July, Nath stressed on flexibilities for Special Products in matter of tariff reductions, which were of concern to the Indian farmers.

He said such products should be identified on the basis of self selection, an official release said here.

MAN/PTI

dollars) and 67,000 US dollars frozen as illicit money, he said.

Also at the Press conference, Kong Guangming, deputy director of the Shanghai Public Security Bureau, said preliminary investigation showed the two Americans had sold 100,000 pirate DVDs worldwide through the Internet, with 20,000 sold in the America.

The crackdown shows the Chinese law enforcement departments attach great importance to combating against crimes violating intellectual property rights, said Andy Yu, Customs attaché of the Department of Homeland Security of the United States.

MNA/Xinhua



American soldiers stand guard next to the remains of a vehicle that carried a car bomb at the site of Wednesday's car bombing in Baqouba, some 50 kilometres (35 miles) northeast of Baghdad, on 29 July, 2004. — *INTERNET*

Ray of hope for Kenyan hostages held in Iraq

NAIROBI, 31 July—There was hope for Kenyan truck drivers abducted by Iraqi militants yesterday after the kidnappers reportedly postponed the threatened beheading.

The militants had said they would behead a hostage yesterday evening but by the time of going to press, they had lifted the deadline, according to the government.

Government Spokesman Alfred Mutua told the East African Standard last

evening that the killings had been indefinitely suspended, just as the deadline that the abductors had set passed without any word from them.

Samira Ahmed, wife of Kenyan trucker Jalal Awadh, who is held captive in Iraq,

with their children Fatma Jalal and Zena Jalal at a press conference at Chester House, Nairobi, yesterday.

It was a reprieve for the families of the hostages who had earlier in the day sent an impassioned plea to the abductors to spare the lives

of their kin.

Yesterday, Mutua was hopeful that the matter would be solved without bloodshed. "It is encouraging and we are optimistic that there will be a breakthrough soon. This is very welcome news to us," the government spokesman said.

He said that the negotiations for the release of the hostages were being conducted directly by the Kuwait and Gulf Link Transport Company, the employers of the seven captives.

"Kenya, Egypt and India agreed to this formula where KGL would be in direct negotiation with the kidnappers," said Mutua.

A spokeswoman for KGL said the firm was sending an official to negotiate with the captors and understood that the deadline had been pushed back.

Internet



Indian children hold posters during a demonstration for the release of three Indians kidnapped in Iraq in the eastern Indian city of Kolkata on 30 July, 2004.

Iraqi kidnappers threatened to 'slaughter' one of the seven drivers they are holding if their demands were not met by Friday. — INTERNET

Iraqis oppose Arab force

BAGHDAD, 30 July—Iraqi Sunni and Shia Muslim religious leaders on Friday preached against the Saudi proposal to send an Arab or Muslim force to Iraq.

In Baghdad, Shaikh Mehdi Sumaydai, a Sunni, denounced the idea backed by the US and interim Prime Minister Iyad Allawi.

"We don't want (Arab and Muslim) forces to shield the occupier because we don't want to see Muslims killed," he said.

Moqtada al-Sadr, the Shia leader, also criticised the move at a sermon in the main mosque in Kufa, south of Baghdad.

"I advise all countries that want to help Iraq, not to send forces here... If such forces come to Iraq, they will be seen as collaborators of the occupation," he said.

In Fallujah, Shaikh Ihsan al-Duri, a Sunni, said he opposed "any Arab or Muslim force

in Iraq".

"Such forces could have served before (the occupation) but never now," he told worshippers at the Rawi mosque in the stronghold of Iraqi resistance.

Al-Sadr, in his sermon, went on to criticise Allawi's interim government for failing to restore basic services and safeguard security.

"I call on the occupation forces to release honest resistance fighters, otherwise we will unleash civil disobedience," he said.

Al-Sadr spearheaded a resistance movement against the US occupation earlier this year in central and southern Iraq.

Internet

Ukraine in talks on date of Iraq withdrawal

KIEV, 30 July — Ukraine has started talks with the United States and Poland on withdrawing its troops from Iraq, Defence Minister Evhen Marchuk said on Thursday.

The ex-Soviet state supported the US-led war on Iraq and sent about 1,600 troops last August. But leftist politicians in Ukraine want the troops to be withdrawn from Iraq after six soldiers were killed.

"With our partners, Poland and the United States, we have started talks to determine a date (for the withdrawal)," Marchuk told reporters. "We cannot be there for a long time without any deadline set."

President Leonid Kuchma has vowed to keep the troops in Iraq "until the end" but the issue is set to dominate Ukrainian politics ahead of presidential elections in October.

By sending troops, Ukraine hoped to repair ties with the United States, strained by reports of illegal arms sales to Baghdad.

Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovich, the leading pro-Kuchma contender in October's election, has said he is not happy Ukrainian soldiers are in Iraq.

MNA/Reuters

MNA/Reuters

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Kerry slams Bush on Iraq

BOSTON, 31 July — John Kerry made a determined effort to define himself as a clear alternative to President George W Bush at the Democratic National Convention on Thursday but on the key issue of Iraq, he held out only the prospect of greater international participation.

Despite considerable clamor in the Democratic Party for an accelerated US military withdrawal, Kerry insisted the United States must stay the course but suggested he would make a greater effort than Bush to win international financial and military backing. "I know what we have to do in Iraq," Kerry said in his speech formally accepting the Democratic nomination for president.

"We need a president who has the credibility to bring our allies to our side and share the burden, reduce the cost to American taxpayers, reduce the risk to American soldiers. That's the right way to get the job done and bring our troops home".

"Here is the reality... that won't happen until we have a president who restores America's respect and leadership — so we don't have to go it alone in the world".

Former Middle East peace envoy Dennis Ross said Kerry, like Bush, was not willing to see a failed state emerge in Iraq.

"The fundamental difference with Bush is Kerry's insistence that this has to be much more of a collective effort and not just an American effort," said Ross, who served both under former President George Bush, the current president's father, and former President Bill Clinton. — MNA/Reuters

Sudanese workers stranded in Iraq

BAGHDAD, 29 July — They both left home years ago in search of a better life, and they were both walking through their scrappy, scarred neighborhood one afternoon in July when a grenade, apparently aimed at a passing car, exploded at their feet.

It blew Atalmenan Abdel Fatah's legs to bits. A piece of shell punctured Osman Abdullah Dahab's midsection.

Reluctantly but with no much choice, nor the means, both men began considering the possibility of going home. Home, once, was Darfur, in western Sudan.

"We were planning to go back," Mr Fatah's friend, Abdallah Sadallah, said, standing at his hospital bedside. "Then this happened to Fatah. We're going. We're not staying."

"I have to walk first," Mr Fatah pointed out.

From the dust-poor killing fields of western Sudan, thousands of migrant workers, mostly young men, came here years ago to a relatively prosperous and welcoming country. They took the menial jobs Iraqis would not take: painting houses,

repairing cars, fixing air-conditioners. And from the bottom rungs of the social ladder they witnessed Iraq's rise and fall over two decades.

During the good times they sent money home. They went home on vacation every blue moon. They came back and worked some more.

During the bad times those who could left. There was an exodus during the 1991 Persian Gulf war and then another last year when the United States and its allies invaded. The Sudanese Embassy even arranged a bus to the Jordanian border.

Today the Sudanese who remain are those who cannot afford to flee. At the Casino Gezira tea shop in a narrow, stifling alley, they watch American sitcoms, play cards and stare off into space. They walk the streets in search of work. — Internet



Iraqis bury a victim killed by Wednesday's car bomb in Baqouba, Iraq on 30 July, 2004. — INTERNET

Audit on Iraq contracts finds fraud, other abuses

WASHINGTON, 30 July—US investigators found multiple examples of fraud and abuse in millions of dollars worth of contracts to rebuild Iraq that used US taxpayer and Iraqi funds, according to an audit released on Friday.

The report to Congress by the inspector general's office of the Coalition Provisional Authority, the US occupying force dissolved in June, said it had been involved in 69 criminal investigations, of which 42 had been closed or referred elsewhere. A further 27 are still open.

In one case, an unnamed senior adviser for the CPA bypassed the bidding process

for a \$7.2 million security contract. The deal was revoked, a \$2.3 million advance taken back from the contractor and the CPA adviser removed.

CPA Inspector General Stuart Bowen said his findings were not unexpected given that the CPA and contractors were working in a volatile, dangerous environment.

"These results are not surprising: the CPA faced a variety of daunting challenges, including extremely hazardous working conditions," the former White House lawyer said in a letter accompanying the report.

In another case, the Iraqi Ministry of Interior appointed a Defence Department civilian as a coach for an Iraqi amateur sports team.

The civilian received a \$40,000 cash advance but gave the funds to his military assistant who went gambling and lost some of it. The money frittered away was then written off as a

legitimate loss. That case is still pending.

The CPA-IG's office also found weaknesses in the monitoring process for oil pipeline repair and found employees were not doing work in the field specified by the contract, the report said.

In yet another instance of abuse, a Defense Department official in the CPA's contracting office committed "time card fraud" and charged for work he had not done. He also had an unauthorized weapon. The employee was removed from his position and sent back to the United States, the report said.

Internet



A US Army soldier looks at an overturned Bradley armoured vehicle, which lost a track on Baghdad's airport highway and veered off the road on 29 July, 2004. — INTERNET

Two US Marines killed in clashes in western Iraq

BAGHDAD, 30 July—Two US Marines were killed in clashes with guerillas in the western Iraqi province of Anbar, the military said in a statement Thursday.

The two Marines died in separate heavy clashes Wednesday in the city of Ramadi, Anbar, the statement said.

On Wednesday, a US military statement said multiple US military camps in Ramadi came under mortar attack and two US helicopters made emergency landings after being attacked by small arms from the ground.

MNA/Xinhua

Bulgaria offers to become India's "door" to European Union

NEW DELHI, 30 July — Bulgaria Wednesday backed India's candidature for permanent membership of an enlarged UN Security Council and offered to become its "door" to the European Union as the two countries agreed to upgrade bilateral economic ties.

During wide-ranging talks visiting Bulgarian Foreign Minister Solomon Passy had with his Indian counterpart K. Natwar Singh here, the two sides agreed on the need for joint efforts to combat the menace of terrorism.

"We do support India for the permanent membership of the UN Security Council because this reflects the proper situation of the weight of India in international relations, not just in the region, but worldwide," Passy, who is on a three-day visit, said during a joint Press in-

teraction with Singh.

Observing that Bulgaria has just become a member of NATO and has completed negotiations for EU membership as a leading candidate in the Balkan Peninsula, Passy said the "Indian friends" were told that "we shall be happy to become the door for India to the EU".

Describing India-Bulgaria relations as "excellent" and based on age-old cultural and historical ties, Singh said there was unanimity of views on major issues, including on combating terrorism. — MNA/PTI

Iraq mediator positive on talks to free seven drivers

BAGHDAD, 31 July — An Iraqi tribal Sheikh trying to win the release of seven foreign drivers held hostage in Iraq said he would meet a representative from their employer on Saturday and expected a "positive outcome" on reaching a deal.

Hisham al-Dulaymi told Reuters the kidnappers were not aware of the planned meeting when they set a deadline of 7.00 p.m. (1500 GMT) on Friday to kill one of the hostages if they received no response to their demands.

Chinese President holds talks with Jordanian King

BELING, 31 July — Chinese President Hu Jintao and visiting King Abdullah II Bin Hussein of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan agreed here Friday to strengthen multi-faceted exchange and cooperation.

In his talks with Abdullah, Hu said that bilateral relationship has continued to develop since China and Jordan forged their diplomatic ties 27 years ago.

In recent years, Hu added, the two countries have seen a frequent exchange of visits by each other's leaders, rapid growth of trade volume and cooperation in other fields such as culture, education and tourism.

The two countries have also established sound and close contact and cooperation on international affairs, Hu acknowledged.

Hu noted that China appreciates Jordan's long-standing adherence to the one-China policy and support for China's just cause for reunification.

Abdullah II said that bilateral relations were founded by older generations of the two nations' leaders, and have developed fairly well in the latest decades.

He said Jordan highly values the relationship with China and places it as a priority in Jordan's foreign policy.

He said Jordan is willing to cultivate a still closer relationship with China. He also reiterated that his country will continue to support the one-China policy and China's reunification cause.

On developing a long-term and mutually beneficial friendship between China and Jordan, Hu suggested the two sides continue carrying out high-profile exchange of visits, enhance political and diplomatic consultation and promote cooperation in the United Nations and other international organizations.

MNA/Xinhua

Dulaymi, speaking on Friday, said he did not know if the deadline had been extended.

"I expect a positive outcome and that we will reach an agreement," Dulaymi said, adding one issue to be discussed would be compensation for families in Fallujah who had lost relatives in US airstrikes on the city.

"The negotiations are going on and tomorrow we will meet the company regarding the issue of releasing the seven hostages, so I call on them (the kidnappers) to be patient and to give me a chance to reach an outcome that will serve both sides."

In a videotape obtained on Thursday, the kidnappers threatened to kill one of the seven hostages, and showed an Indian driver with a gun at his head to make their point. They did not say which one of the three Indians, three Kenyans and one Egyptian they were threatening to kill.

Dulaymi said the main demand of the kidnappers was compensation for people in Fallujah. They have previously said they wanted the Kuwaiti employer of the seven drivers to pull out from the country. — MNA/Reuters

Malaysia supports dialogue among south countries

KUALA LUMPUR, 30 July — Malaysian Prime Minister Abdullah Ahmad Badawi Thursday pledged continued commitment of the Malaysian Government to international dialogue among the south countries.

"The Malaysian Government remains committed to having this dialogue whenever it is our turn to do so," Abdullah said at the Heads of State/Government Meeting the Media Session on the first day of the 7th Langkawi International Dialogue (LID), also known as Global 2004.

The three-day LID will be officially launched on Langkawi Island, northern part of the country, Thursday evening by Abdullah.

Chairing LID for the first time, he said, "When we had the last dialogue in Langkawi (in 2002), I was asked by some people at the closing session what is going to happen after (former prime minister) Dr Mahathir Mohamad retires."

"At that time, I gave my promise that we'll have LID and today, I am happy that it has become a reality," he said, taking over as host

patron of this year's partnership talks from King Mswati III of Swaziland.

He congratulated King Mswati III for having hosted the Global 2003 partnership talks in Swaziland and with whom he had met two months ago in preparation for the seventh edition of LID.

In thanking leaders and representatives from developing countries for their presence in Langkawi, Abdullah said he sought the advice and cooperation of LID participants in ensuring the success of the event held at the sea-front Pelangi Beach Resort on the island.

Since LID has been in existence for about 10 years, Abdullah said he expected dialogue participants to offer some suggestions as to what needed to be done for the next 10 years towards enhancing the lot of developing countries of the South.

MNA/Xinhua



A security guard keeps watch outside of the Pakistani Embassy in Baghdad, on 29 July, 2004. — INTERNET

Indian PM says BIMST-EC important bridge for cooperation

BANGKOK, 31 July — The BIMST-EC group serves as an important bridge for cooperation among South and Southeast Asian countries, said Indian Prime Minister Manmohan Singh.

"BIMST-EC is an important bridge between the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) and the Association of South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN)," local newspaper *The Nation* quoted the Prime Minister as saying on Friday.

BIMST-EC can evolve into a dynamic, exemplary, economic grouping with its member countries realizing

the imperative of regional cooperation, Singh said before departing for the BIMST-EC summit meeting in Bangkok.

Formed in 1997, BIMST-EC (Bangladesh-India-Myanmar-Sri Lanka-Thailand Economic Cooperation) brings together two South-east Asian countries of Thailand and Myanmar and five South Asian countries of India, Bangladesh, Nepal, Bhutan and Sri Lanka. The aim of the group is to foster socio-economic cooperation among its members and to serve as a means to link South and Southeast Asia.

Describing Thai-Indian relations as a "vibrant partnership", Singh said the signing of the framework for the free trade agreement between Thailand and India was a landmark development in their relations.

At the BIMST-EC ministerial meeting in Phuket, Thailand, last February, the group signed a framework agreement on establishing a free trade zone in the region in a bid to stimulate trade and investment among BIMST-EC members. The goal of the agreement is to realize free trade in goods in phases by the end of the year 2017.

To realize the shared vision for regional development, the BIMST-EC summit is being held in Bangkok on July 30-31. At the summit, Bangkok Declaration will be endorsed to provide the political impetus and direction for concrete actions in projects in the major areas of cooperation.

India, as part of Asia, would seek active cooperation with Southeast Asian countries and beyond, said the Prime Minister.

MNA/Xinhua

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ထုတ်ကုန်မြင့်



American soldiers inspect the site of a mortar attack in an Iraqi home located near an American base in the Al Utaiyah neighbourhood, central Baghdad, on 30 July, 2004. — INTERNET

Frenchmen say US Guantanamo detention was like hell

PARIS, 31 July — Two Frenchmen described as hell on Friday their more than two years of detention in the US military prison at Guantanamo Bay, their lawyer said after meeting them for the first time.

Mourad Benchellali and Nizar Sassi had concerns "about the interrogation techniques and medical experiments" at Guantanamo, Jacques Debray said outside the headquarters of the DST domestic intelligence service where the two men were being questioned.

A letter from Sassi said "bizarre" medicines had been given to inmates at night and that one caused some prisoners to break out in spots, Debray told reporters. He gave no other details.

"Each of (the two men) used the same expression, 'We have emerged from hell,'" Debray said.

"This is great for them because it's the first time in two-and-a-half years that they have been able to talk to someone other than a soldier or a police officer, apart from their fellow detainees."

Debray said he would

request a full medical examination for his clients when they were brought before anti-terrorism judges on Saturday.

Under French law, defence attorneys have access to clients only after 72 hours of detention. Lawyers can see case notes once suspects are brought before an examining magistrate.

Two other former Guantanamo detainees, Imad Kanouni and Brahim Yadel, are being questioned alongside Benchellali and Sassi at DST headquarters.

All four were detained by French authorities on their return to France from the US base in Cuba on Tuesday aboard a military plane.

The four were captured during the US-led war in Afghanistan and held by American forces on suspicion of having fought for the ousted Taliban government.

President Jacques Chirac said this week the four had been returned to France after lengthy talks with US authorities and pledged they would face French justice. — MNA/Reuters

Beijing to build int'l food street

BEIJING, 31 July — Beijing is planning to build an international food street before the 2008 Olympic Games with restaurants offering dishes from all over the world, according to *The Beijing News* daily.

"It will serve as both a supporting facility for the Olympics and a tourist attraction," Jiang Huabo, director of the executive committee of the ongoing Second Beijing Western-style Food Cultural Festival being held from July 25 to August 24, was cited as saying.

The plan to build a 50,000-square-metre international food street beside the Olympics Park has won the support from relevant Beijing municipal authorities, Jiang said.

Though it is an international metropolis home to many foreign embassies, Beijing does not have enough Western-style food restaurants to meet the demand, said Hu Ping, director of the Market Department of the Beijing Municipal Bureau of Commerce.

"The development of Western food restaurants in Beijing lags behind some major cities in other parts of China," said Chen Liqun, president of the Beijing Western-Style Food Association.

Statistics from the association show that there are 3,600 Western-style food restaurants in Guangzhou, capital of south China's Guangdong Province, and more than 1,600 in east China's Shanghai Municipality,

while Beijing has only 600.

Part of the reason is Beijingers' traditional habit of eating Chinese food, and another reason is the high cost of eating Western food, Jiang said.

The international food street is expected to introduce Western food to more Chinese people and meet growing foreigner's demand, Jiang said. — MNA/Xinhua

Romania floods kill eight, damage homes, roads

BUCHAREST, 31 July — Eight people died and two were missing in floods that have swept across Romania over the past three days, damaging homes and disrupting rail and road traffic, authorities and media said on Friday.

Three people in the northeastern county of Bacau and a man in the southwestern county of Gorj drowned after being caught by swollen rivers, Romanian media reports said. Officials said four people also died in the southern county of Dambovit.

Over 1,300 homes and 1,500 gardens were damaged and 1,600 people were isolated in villages across the country, with around 213 bridges damaged by the water, authorities said. The gardens are used for small-scale farming and rearing livestock.

TV images showed water as high as half a metre in gardens and fields in the Balkan country after heavy rain in the past three days.

Media reports said two people had to be rescued by helicopter on Wednesday night in Bacau County after a swollen river overturned their truck. — MNA/Reuters



US soldiers on a tank preparing for a routine security check at a bridge in central Baghdad recently. — INTERNET

Parliament agree.

"The government has only one chance to get it right. Whether public support continues will depend on how the scheme works in practice, and its impact on everyday life," said John Denham, the committee's chairman.

The report itself said: "Key elements in the proposal are poorly thought out and the draft bill goes far wider than is necessary to introduce a simple system to establish and demonstrate identity."

The committee queried how the national register would be used in practice and said the plans needed to be more widely scrutinized by technical experts and the public.

"Too many major IT projects have failed in the past and the government must adopt an open procurement process," Denham said.

Home Secretary David Blunkett said the plans were at "an early stage" but insisted ID cards would bring "enormous benefits".

"We need to have the freedom to live without being exploited, to prove quickly and decisively who we are and to travel freely. And we need to ensure the security of our country and make sure that our public services are only used by those who are entitled to them," he said.

MNA/Reuters



Myingyan Government Technical Institute in Mandalay Division. — MNA



The Nurses and Midwifery Training School in Bhamo, Kachin State. — MNA

For
Human
Resource
Development
Nationwide



Government Technological College (Panglong) in Loilem, Shan State. — PHOTO: MNA

Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt, heads of government of BIMST-EC member countries call on King of Thailand

YANGON, 31 July — Prime Minister of the Union of Myanmar General Khin Nyunt and heads of government of BIMST-EC member countries, who were in Thailand to attend the First BIMST-EC Summit, called on King of Thailand His Majesty Bhumibol Adulyadej at Klai Kangwon Palace in Hua Hin at 5.30 pm yesterday.

Present on the occasion were Prime Minister of the People's Republic of Bangladesh Begum Khaleda Zia, Prime Minister of Bhutan Lyonpo Jigmi Y Thinley, Prime Minister of the Republic of India Dr Manmohan Singh, Prime Minister of the Union of Myanmar General Khin Nyunt, Prime Minister of Nepal Mr Sher Bahadur Deuba, Prime Minister of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka Madame Chandrika Bandaranaike and Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Thailand Dr Thaksin Shinawatra.



MNA

Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt greets King of Thailand His Majesty Bhumibol Adulyadej. — MNA

PM General Khin Nyunt attends...

(from page 1)

Deputy Minister U Khin Maung Win, ministers, deputy ministers, ambassadors and high-ranking officials of BIMST-EC countries.

First, the Thai Prime Minister and wife cordially greeted heads of government of BIMST-EC member countries at

the dinner. Next, Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt and other heads of governments of BIMST-EC countries signed in the visitors' book. Afterwards, they posed for documentary photos together with the Thai Prime Minister and wife. Then, they were served with dinner hosted by the Thai Prime Minister and wife.

After delivering an address, the Thai Prime Minister proposed a toast to the heads of government of BIMST-EC countries. During the dinner, Thai traditional dance

troupes performed songs and dances to entertain the guests. Next, General Khin Nyunt and other heads of BIMST-EC countries presented bouquets to the dance troupes.

Next, they posed for documentary photos. Afterwards, they cordially greeted among them.

After the dinner, General Khin Nyunt and his counterparts were seen of by the Thai Prime Minister and wife prior to their departure for the hotels. — MNA



Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt, Thai PM and wife and heads of Government of BIMST-EC countries pose for a group photo at the dinner. — MNA



Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt and heads of Government of BIMST-EC countries being entertained with Thai traditional dances at the dinner. — MNA

PM arrives Bangkok ...

(from page 16)

party were welcomed by Thai Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Suphot Dhirakaosal. Next, Thai Deputy Prime Minister Gen Thammarak Issarangura and party cordially greeted Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt and Myanmar delegation members. Next, a Myanmar young lady presented the banquet to the Prime Minister. Afterwards, Myanmar Ambassador U Myo Myint and wife, Military Attaché Col Ko Ko Maung and wife, staff of the Military Attaché's Office and families welcomed the Prime Minister and party.

At the special lounge, General Khin Nyunt cordially met with Thai Deputy Prime Minister General Thammarak Issarangura. Next, the Prime Minister and party proceeded to Peninsula Hotel in a motorcade. MNA



Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt being welcomed back by Dean of Diplomatic Corps Singaporean Ambassador Mr Simon Tensing de Cruz at the Yangon International Airport.— MNA



Myanmar Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt calls on Thai Prime Minister Mr Thaksin Shinawatra at the latter's office on 30-7-2004.— MNA

Thailand wishes to cooperate with Myanmar in generating electricity, transportation and constructing deep sea port. Both nations continue to collaborate in ensuring further cementing relations and boosting economy of the two countries.

Thai Prime Minister Mr Thaksin Shinawatra

Progress of relationship between Myanmar and Thailand is encouraging and the two countries are cooperating in all sectors, especially cooperation in narcotic drugs control and elimination is most satisfactory.

Myanmar would like to express thanks for assistance provided by Thailand in the development projects of Myanmar.

Myanmar Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt



Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt and Thai Prime Minister Mr Thaksin Shinawatra exchange souvenirs at the latter's office on 30 July. MNA



Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt presents a bouquet to Thai traditional cultural troupe at the dinner.— MNA



Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt signs in the visitors' book at the dinner hosted by Thai Prime Minister Mr Thaksin Shinawatra and wife.— MNA

Devotees throng pagodas on Waso Fullmoon Day

YANGON, 31 July—As today is Second Waso Full Moon Day (Dhammacakka Day), the pagodas, stupas and religious buildings in Yangon were teeming with devout Buddhists the whole day, offering Waso robes and Waso flowers to the pagodas, taking precepts, practising meditation or reciting Dhammacakka Pavattana Sutta.

The Shwedagon Pagoda Board of Trustees organized observance of Dhammacakka Day and offering of Waso robes and alms to members of the Sangha at the prayer hall near the southern stairways of the pagoda starting at 9.30 am. Ovadacariya Nyaungdon Monastery Sayadaw Agga Maha Pandita Bhaddanta Sobhana invested the congregation with the Nine Precepts. Members of the pagoda board of trustees and wellwishers offered Waso robes and alms to members of the Sangha. The Sayadaws delivered sermons, followed by sharing of merits gained. In the afternoon, the reciting of Dhammacakka followed at the same venue. Pagoda board of trustees and devotees offered Waso flowers, lights, water and joss sticks to the pagoda. The offering of Waso Shwekya Thingan to the Buddha images was held at the platform of the Shwedagon Pagoda at 7 am today. Religious associations and members of the pagoda board of trustees offered Waso robes to the Buddha images of respective prayer halls.

Members of the Sule Pagoda Board of Trustees held a similar ceremony at the northern stairways at 8 am. In the afternoon, Wut associations recited religious verses at respective prayer halls of the pagoda.

The Botahtaung Pagoda Board of Trustees conducted the delivering of sermons at Seikkan Lokthapaungson Dhammayon of the pagoda. Tipitakadhara Dhamma Bhandagarika Bhaddanta Vayaminda delivered a sermon in the afternoon and Joint-Secretary of the State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee Sayadaw Agga Maha Pandita Bhaddanta Kitti in the evening. "Soon" was offered to members of the Sangha, and students of Botahtaung BEHS-6 recited Dhammacakka Sutta at the pagoda.

Similarly, Waso Shwekya Thingans (robes) were offered to the Lawka Chantha Abhaya Labha Muni Buddha Image on Mindhamma Hill in Insein Township at the Gandakutitaik of the image at 7 am. It was attended by members of the Sangha, Deputy Minister for Religious Affairs Brig-Gen Thura Aung Ko, officials, members of the pagoda board of trustees and Wut associations.

The seventh Dhammacakka Day ceremony took place in conjunction with offering of Waso robes to the Tooth Relic Pagoda (Yangon) at 8 am. Deputy Minister Brig-Gen Thura Aung Ko and pagoda board trustees offered "soon" to members of the Sangha.

Similar ceremonies were held at Mahasi Sasana Yeiktha on Sasana Yeiktha Street in Bahan Township, at the Maha Wizaya Pagoda and at the All Myanmar Buddhists Association in Bahan Township today. — MNA



Pilgrims throng Shwedagon pagoda on Fullmoon Day of Waso, Saturday. — MNA

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

YANGON, 31 July — Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Maung Bo of the Ministry of Defence met Mon State level departmental officials at the meeting hall of South-East Command in Mawlamyine on 28 July morning and gave instructions on agriculture, livestock breeding and production matters.

Also present were Chairman of Mon State Peace and Development Council Commander of South-East Command Maj-Gen Thura Myint Aung, senior military officers, officials of the State Peace and Development Council Office and departmental officials.

Mon State Manager of Myanma Agriculture Service U Sein Win reported on cultivation of 583,896 acres of monsoon paddy against the target of 701,505 acres, planting of pepper and rubber and land reclamation, Director U Khin Maung Tint of Irrigation Department on irrigation facilities and Head of Mon State Fisheries Department U Sai Kyaw Myint on meat, egg, fish and prawn production. The commander gave a supplementary report. After hearing the reports, Lt-Gen Maung Bo called for greater efforts to meet the targets and compile the correct data in the respective fields. He then recalled that national races regained the independence through united struggle. So, he said, the entire national races cannot accept disintegration of the Union. For ensuring development of

the country, efforts are to be made for proportionate improvement of political, economic, social and administration pillars. The government saved the country which faced disintegration in the past and now the government is building good foundations for establishing the discipline-flourishing democratic system which the entire people desire. And then, arrangements are being made to introduce correct democratic practices to the people. Therefore, people are to cooperate with the government in striving for emergence of a developed and discipline-flourishing democratic country. Similarly, he said, service personnel are to discharge their respective duties with might and main. The personnel should always pay attention to political awareness and security alert and organize the people to gain success in their tasks. Winning the trust of the people, the personnel are to strive with goodwill for carrying out public welfare tasks.

Now, the five rural development tasks are being undertaken. So, employees should go down to grassroots level to achieve success in their tasks. As the personnel represent the government, they are to secure participation of the people in building a modern and developed nation.

Next, they went to Kyaikthanlan Pagoda and paid homage to the pagoda. They made donations at the pagoda. At the view point near the eastern corner of the pagoda, they viewed developing Mawlamyine. Afterwards, they attended the ceremony to donate blankets, mosquito nets and clothes to older persons, co-organized by Mon State Organization for Women's Affairs and Mon State Supervisory Committee for Maternal and Child Welfare Association, at Sasana Beikman in Mawlamyine.

First, they paid respects to 300 older persons. Next, Lt-Gen Maung Bo donated blankets and mosquito nets to six older persons. Similarly, the commander and wife, the deputy commander and officials presented offertories to the older persons.

At 10 am, Lt-Gen Maung Bo and party arrived at construction site of Thanlwin Bridge (Mawlamyine) in Mawlamyine. In the briefing hall, officials reported on progress in construction of the main bridge and laying of tiles on the pedestrian way which is 97 per cent complete, building of the approach road, the drain and culvert and 89 per cent completion of the construction tasks on Mawlamyine bank, 88 per cent completion of the bridge construction on Mottama bank, collection of materials for construction of railroad at Thanlwin Bridge (Mawlamyine) and the railroad to be built in December 2004. The Thanlwin River (Mawlamyine) Bridge will be the longest one in the country and the project will be completed soon.

Afterwards, they inspected extension of Mottama-Thaton section of Yangon-Mawlamyine Union Highway. At Kyapan Village in Thaton Township, they inspected completion of Kyapan-Danu-Wiyaw-Winkan rural road. Officials reported on construction of the 12 miles long Kyapan-Danu-Wiyaw section road and building of 52 miles long Wiyaw-Winkan section.

Lt-Gen Maung Bo gave necessary instructions. Next, Lt-Gen Maung Bo and party left the construction site and arrived back here in the evening.

MNA

Government is building good foundations for establishing discipline-flourishing democratic system which the entire people desire.

Construction of Thanlwin River (Mawlamyine) Bridge has been completed 89% on Mawlamyine bank and 88% on Mottama bank.



Lt-Gen Maung Bo inspects construction of Thanlwin River (Mawlamyine) Bridge. — MNA

Secretary-2 Adjutant-General Lt-Gen Thein Sein attends Waso robes offering ceremony of Camp Commandant's Office

YANGON, 31 July — The Camp Commandant's Office of the Ministry of Defence held the Waso robes offering ceremony at Sangyoung Monastery in Mayangon Township this morning.

Present were Secretary-2 of the State Peace and Development Council Adjutant-General Lt-Gen Thein Sein, members of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Ye Myint, Lt-Gen Aung Htwe, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than, Lt-Gen Maung Bo and Quartermaster-General Lt-Gen Thiha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo of the Ministry of Defence, Camp Commandant Maj-Gen Hla Aung Thein and wife Daw Amy Khaing, senior military officers of the Ministry of Defence and families.

First, the Secretary-2 and the congregation received the Five Precepts from Joint-Secretary of the State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee Agga Maha Pandita Tipitakadhara Tipitaka Kovida Bhaddanta Jagarabhivamsa.

Next, Adjutant-General Lt-Gen Thein Sein, Lt-Gen Ye Myint, Lt-Gen Aung Htwe, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than, Lt-Gen Maung Bo and Quartermaster-General Lt-Gen Thiha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo, Camp Commandant Maj-Gen Hla Aung Thein and families donated Waso robes and provisions to the Sayadaws. Later, the Joint-Secretary Sayadaw delivered a sermon, followed by sharing of merits.— MNA



State Peace and Development Council Secretary-2 Adjutant-General Lt-Gen Thein Sein, State Peace and Development Council members Lt-Gen Ye Myint, Lt-Gen Aung Htwe, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than, Lt-Gen Maung Bo and Quartermaster-General Lt-Gen Thiha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo offer Waso robes to Sayadaws at the ceremony. — MNA

Lt-Gen Kyaw Win attends first Waso robes offering ceremony of Pathadikayon Sarthintaik

YANGON, 31 July — The first Waso robes offering ceremony of the families of Office of the Chief of Armed Forces Training was held in conjunction with the ceremony to donate a throne to Pathadikayon Sarthintaik and the consecration ceremony at the Sarthintaik on Yangon-Insein Road in Hline Township this morning.

Present on the occasion were Sarthintaik Sayadaw Sasana Dhaja Siri Pawara Dhammacariya

Visidha Dika Banaka Pali Pahtamakyaw Bhaddanta Sirinda and members of the Sangha, member of the State Peace and Development Council Chief of Armed Forces Training Lt-Gen Kyaw Win and wife Daw San San Yi, Yangon Division PDC Chairman Yangon Command Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe, Vice-Chiefs of Armed Forces Training Maj-Gen Win Myint, Maj-Gen Aung Kyi and Brig-Gen Nyan Win and their wives, Prin-



Member of State Peace and Development Council Chief of Armed Forces Training Lt-Gen Kyaw Win presents waso robes and offertories to a Sayadaw. — MNA

cipal of National Defence College Maj-Gen Moe Hein and wife, officials and wellwishers.

First, Lt-Gen Kyaw Win and wife donated the throne on which a Buddha Statuette will be kept at Maha Zeya Mingala Theinkyaung of Pathadikayon Sarthintaik. Next, the

Sayadaws and members of the Sangha consecrated the Buddha Statuette.

Next, the Waso robes offering ceremony was held. Lt-Gen Kyaw Win and the congregation took the Nine Precepts from the Sayadaw of the Sarthintaik. The Sayadaws and the monks recited

parittas. Lt-Gen Kyaw Win and wife, Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe, senior military officers and wellwishers offered Waso robes to the monks and heard the sermon delivered by the Sayadaws and members of the Sangha. Later, 'soon' was offered to the monks. — MNA



Minister Maj-Gen Thein Swe, Managing Director U Thein Htwe of Kengzen Kenko Int'l (Myanmar) and Chairman Mr Komsak Ampanyuth of Kengzen Kenko Int'l (Bangkok) cut a ribbon to mark the opening of the office of the company. — MNA

Kengzen Kenko products introduced

YANGON, 31 July — A ceremony to open Kengzen Kenko International (Myanmar) Office in conjunction with the launching ceremony of cosmetics, nutritious foodstuff and personal goods organized by Hein Si Trading Co Ltd and Kengzen Kenko International (Myanmar) was held

at Traders Hotel on Sule Pagoda Road this morning.

Present were Minister for Cooperatives Maj-Gen Htay Oo, Minister at the Prime Minister's Office Maj-Gen Thein Swe, Brig-Gen Than Tun of the Ministry of Defence, entrepreneurs and guests. Minister Maj-Gen Thein Swe, Managing Di-

rector U Thein Htwe of Kengzen Kenko International (Myanmar) and Chairman Mr Komsak Ampanyuth of Kengzen Kenko International (Bangkok) formally opened the company.

Next, Mr Liao Liang Chu explained facts about Refreshing Cream and demonstrated its use.— MNA

Commander, Mayor inspect sanitation tasks in Yangon City

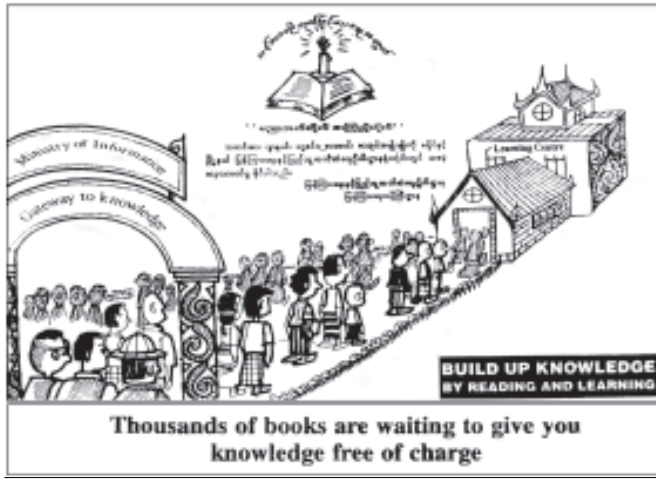
YANGON, 31 July — Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Myint Swe, Chairman of Yangon City Development Committee Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin this morning inspected sanitation tasks and proper flow of water at drains being carried out by Tatmadawmen, members of Myanmar Police Force, workers of Yangon City Development Committee, non-governmental organizations and residential people and fulfilled the requirements after giving instructions to responsible persons.

Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe and Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin also inspected the similar tasks in Tamway, Thingangyun, Dagon Myothit (South), Dagon Myothit (North) and North Okkalapa townships. Officials reported on carrying out of sanitation tasks and dredging of drains.

The commander and the mayor gave necessary instructions.

Similar tasks were also undertaken in all districts, cities and wards of Yangon City Development Committee Area.

MNA



ADVERTISEMENTS

Doctor says French hospitals not ready for heatwave

PARIS, 30 July— French hospitals could not cope with a repeat of the heatwave which killed almost 15,000 people last summer, a prominent doctor said on Thursday.

Patrick Pelloux, an emergency doctor who led attacks on the government over its handling of the 2003 heatwave, said there were not enough hospital beds or staff available.

A "heatwave alert plan" unveiled by the government in May would not be enough to cope, he said.

"The only thing that has incontestably changed compared to last year are prevention measures for a heatwave and the alert system," Pelloux, head of the AMUHF association of emergency doctors, told reporters.

"But the problem is: Who to alert? As we are understaffed and as there have been too many closures of beds, we would not be able

to cope if there was a massive influx (of patients)."

The death toll during last year's heatwave far exceeded those of neighbouring countries hit by similar temperatures. Most victims were elderly and suffered dehydration as temperatures passed 40 Celsius (104 Fahrenheit).

An official report blamed the heat-related deaths on poor organization, a lack of communication and key staff being away on holiday.

The government's plan, to be active from June 1 to October 1 each year, includes a new weather and health alert service, a database of people at risk from heat-related illness and a response plan for hospitals and voluntary aid workers.

Health Minister Philippe Douste-Blazy said in May a special committee had been set up to ensure emergency units received an extra 500 million euros (600 million US dollars) set aside over five years. But Pelloux said funding was still insufficient.

"If there is no real willingness to make the public hospitals more dynamic in all sectors, we will again see disasters and important bottlenecks in emergency services," Pelloux said.

Prime Minister Jean-Pierre Raffarin's conservative government is trying to reform France's expensive health care system, long hailed as one of the world's best.

MNA/Reuters

Manila mulls recall of envoy to Australia

MANILA, 30 July—The Philippine Government is planning to recall for consultations its ambassador to Australia after making a diplomatic protest against Australia because of its harsh statements on the Philippine pullout from Iraq.

"We are assessing if it's necessary," Philippine Foreign Affairs Secretary Delia Albert said when asked if the Philippine envoy to Canberra Christine Ortega will be asked to come home.

But Albert said the move is not meant to downgrade diplomatic relations with Australia.

On Wednesday, the Philippine Department of Foreign Affairs summoned Australia's Ambassador Ruth Pearce because of harsh statements made by Australian Foreign Minister Alexander Downer on the Philippine pullout from Iraq, which was later backed by Prime Minister John Howard.

MNA/Xinhua

Cambodia hosts POW/MIA talks among four countries

PHNOM PENH, 30 July — The second consultations on Prisoner of War (POW)/Missing in Action (MIA) was held Thursday among senior representatives of Cambodia, Vietnam, Laos and the United States in Siem Reap Province, home of world famous Angkor Wat temples.

Cambodian Prime Minister Hun Sen and US Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defence for Prisoner of War/Missing Personnel Affairs Jerry Jennings attended the meeting.

The two-day talks were held to examine broad policy issues which may assist in the overall mission of accounting for Americans missing in action from the Vietnam War. The first such meeting was held last year in Bangkok, Thailand.

Addressing at the opening of "2004 Four-Party Dialogue on the Search for US Missing Citizens during the Vietnam War," Hun Sen said that "this event reflects our strong efforts in humanitarian activities and integration of our country into the international community".

In 1991, a US delegation

came here for consultation in search for the remains of 81 Americans missing in Cambodia. The Premier said that since then the bilateral mission between Cambodia and the United States has progressed step by step, achieving satisfactory results.

So far, 25 remains of the American citizens have been found in the past 13 years.

Hun Sen said that Vietnam have agreed in principle to grant American officials the rights to search for information about the remaining missing American citizens in the Vietnamese Documentation Centre that seems as necessary. Another good news is that senior Lao officials have accepted the United States' proposal, helping search for the missing Americans in Laos as well. — MNA/Xinhua

မြည်တွင်းမြည်ကိုအားပေးပါ

China's space hero meets overseas youngsters

BEIJING, 30 July—Yang Liwei, China's first man in orbit, had a get-together with almost 4,000 overseas Chinese and students from Hong Kong and Macao special administrative regions at the Olympic Central Gymnasium in central Beijing Thursday evening.

Yang, now 39, was the only pilot of the *Shenzhou-5* spacecraft that orbited the Earth for almost one day last October. Since then, Yang has become an icon for many young students in China.

The astronaut told the young audience that the success of China's first manned space launch is a source of pride for all Chinese.

The 4,000 youngsters are participating in a "roots-seeking" summer camp at the sponsorship of the State Council Overseas Chinese Affairs Office and the China Association for Overseas Exchanges.

At the gathering, the young campers staged a series of art and martial art performances.

MNA/Xinhua

INVITATION FOR TENDER No. 004/POL/2004-2005

Sealed Tenders from eligible suppliers are invited for the supply of Engine Oil SAE 50, API (CB/SB) (OR) (CC/SC), (For Diesel Engine). Prices are to be Quoted in Myanmar Kyats Yangon.

- Tender Documents are available at the office of Procurement & Stores Department, Head Office, Road Transport, No. 375, Bogyoke Aung San Street, Yangon, Myanmar, Commencing on the 2nd August 2004.
- Tender will be closed on 16th August 2004 at (16.00) hours.
- The Road Transport Reserves the right to reject any or all Tenders without furnishing reasons.
- Detailed information will be available at the office of the Procurement & Stores, Department or Contact Phone Nos. (01-252574) (or) (01-376549)

MANAGING DIRECTOR
ROAD TRANSPORT

ARRIVAL/CLAIMS DAY NOTICE MV "BAGO" VOY NO BG775/N

Consignees of cargo carried on MV "BAGO" Voy No BG775/N are hereby notified that the vessel will arrive at Yangon port on 02-08-2004 and will be berthing on about 03-08-2004 and cargoes will be discharged into the premises of Myanma Port Authority where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the port of Yangon.

Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11.30 am and 12 noon to 4 pm upto Claims Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from vessel.

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

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Phone : 293147, 296507, 295754

Female Long Marcher dies at age 96

BEIJING, 30 July — Jian Xianren, one of a few outstanding women fighters who survived the historic 25,000-kilometre 1935 Long March of the Red Army led by the Communist Party of China (CPC), died in Beijing on July 25. She was 96.

Chinese leaders including Hu Jintao, Jiang Zemin, Wen Jiabao, Zeng Qinghong and Wu Guanzheng, offered their condolences to her family members. Jian was born in Cili, in central-south China's Hunan Province, on April 5, 1909. She joined the CPC in 1927 and the Red Army in 1929.

In November 1935, Jian began the Long March, carrying her 19-day-old daughter. In October 1936, she arrived in the northern part of Shaanxi Province, northwest

China. The Long March is known internationally as the largest military manoeuvre in Chinese history. She studied at Communist Party schools in Yan'an, Shaanxi and Moscow, then the capital of the Soviet Union. Since the founding of the People's Republic, she has worked in the city of Wuhan and the Ministry of Light Industry. During the "Cultural Revolution" (1966-1976), Jian was persecuted by a handful of radicals.

MNA/Xinhua

Russia Fund donates books, teaching materials to China

BEIJING, 31 July — Boris Yeltsin's Russia Fund donated a batch of Russian books and computers to the China Association of Russian Language Teaching here Friday.

The 1.5 tons' worth of gifts include Russian literary works, teaching materials, maps and computers, and is intended to celebrate the 55th anniversary of forging diplomatic ties between China and Russia, said Vladimir Mantusov, chairman of the fund.

MNA/Xinhua

ကျေးဇူးတိုင်း ကိုယ်အားကိုးစာကြည့်တိုက်ရှိရမည်



ကျေးဇူးတိုင်း ကိုယ်အားကိုးစာကြည့်တိုက်များအတွက် သုတ/ရသ စာအုပ်များလှူဒါန်းနိုင်ပါသည်။

မြန်မာ့ကျေးဇူးတိုင်းမြည်သူအားပေးရန်အတွက်

ဝဠာရေဖြင့် ခေတ်မီပွဲပြီးတိုးတက်သော နိုင်ငံတော်ကြီး တည်ဆောက်အံ့

Report says osteoarthritis cream has short-term effect

LONDON, 30 July — Painkiller creams and gels can relieve the suffering of osteoarthritis, but their effect only lasts about two weeks, researchers said on Friday.

In an analysis of 13 trials of painkillers known as non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAIDs), scientists at the University of Nottingham in England found that topical solutions were no better than a placebo after 14 days.

Aspirin and Ibuprofen are common examples of NSAIDs.

"No evidence supports the long-term use of topical NSAIDs in osteoarthritis," Weiya Zhang, an epidemiologist and expert on muscle diseases, said in a report published online by the *British Medical Journal*.

Guidelines in the United States and Europe recommend topical NSAIDs as an

effective treatment for the degenerative joint disease, but Zhang and his colleagues said the recommendations needed to be revised.

Osteoarthritis is the most common form of arthritis and a major cause of disability in elderly people.

Worldwide nearly 10 per cent of men and 18 per cent of women over 60 years old have symptoms of the illness that can affect the knees, hips, fingers and lower spine region, according to the World Health Organization.

Oral NSAIDs were more effective than the topical creams or gels in head-to-head studies, but they can cause ulcers and dangerous stomach bleeding. — *MNA/Reuters*

Report says ultra-small nanotechnology needs regulation

LONDON, 30 July — Nanotechnology — which operates on an almost unimaginably small scale — offers tremendous potential, but regulation is needed to minimize any future risks, scientists said on Thursday.

The atom-sized technology could lead to more powerful computers, very light but strong materials and advanced medical techniques.

But a report by the Britain's Royal Society, an academy of leading scientists, and the Royal Academy of Engineering, said more research is needed to discover any negative, as well as positive effects, it may have.

Prophets of doom have painted a nightmare scenario of self-replicating robots turning the Earth into a "grey goo".

Fears have also been raised of a risk in breathing

in designer materials so small that they can slip through membranes inside the body.

"Most nanotechnologies pose no new risks to health safety or the environment, but we believe research and regulation is required immediately to address uncertainties about the effects of manufactured nanoparticles and nanotubes," Professor Ann Dowling, of the University of Cambridge, told a news conference.

Nanoparticles and nanotubes are ultra small pieces of material. The technology is already being used in cosmetics, computer

chips, sunscreens, self-cleaning windows and stain-resistant clothing.

But Dowling, head of the working group that produced the report, said there are gaps in regulation and that researchers are concerned about the potential impact of manufactured nanoparticles.

Nanotechnology has fascinated scientists with its possibilities and also inspired fears about its dangers. Britain's Prince Charles recently voiced his concerns about the new technology and called for a greater openness on the part of its proponents.

Dowling said some of the benefits and the risks have been "over-hyped" which does a disservice to the technology. — *MNA/Reuters*

MGM mum on whether Brosnan will return as Bond

LOS ANGELES, 30 July — Mum's the word, 007. Film studio Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer Inc on Thursday kept its lips pursed as tight as any secret agent with a license to kill on whether Pierce Brosnan would play James Bond in the next superspy movie set for release in November 2005.

The Irish-born actor has portrayed the fictional hero of the multi-billion dollar film franchise four times since 1995's "GoldenEye", but this week he said he has holstered his gun for good.

"That's it," he told *Entertainment Weekly* magazine in a story published on Tuesday on its web site. "I've said all I've got to say on the world of James Bond."

"Bond is another lifetime," the 51 year-old actor said, adding: "Behind me."

But in the world of covert espionage (i.e.: Bond movies and Hollywood deals), things are rarely what they appear. MGM, which along with EON Productions owns the Bond movie rights and distributes the films, has not yet counted Brosnan out.

MGM President Chris McGurk told reporters and Wall Street analysts the company and EON are still developing the 21st Bond film in the 42 year-old series. A script was complete, a director was being hired and then they would see about Bond. — *MNA/Reuters*

China produces robot to operate 3,500 metres underwater

SHANGHAI, 30 July — China has succeeded in producing an underwater robot which can operate 3,500 metres under the water surface, as its first robot began to work on a ship in Shanghai on Thursday.

The robot, developed by a team of Shanghai Jiaotong University headed by Professor Zhu Jimao, weighs 3.25 tons and measures three metres long and 1.8 metres tall.

— *MNA/Reuters*

Estimates of Amazon's greenhouse gas "too low"

BRASILIA (Brazil), 30 July — Many estimates of the amount of greenhouse gas given off by burning and deforestation in the Amazon are far too low because they fail to take account of gas released by rotting vegetation, a deforestation conference was told on Thursday.

Scientists from Brazil's National Institute of Amazon Research said about 400 million tons of carbon dioxide-equivalent were emitted in 2003 — 60 per cent more than one estimate by other scientists at the conference.

"It's emitting much more than it is absorbing," said

Philip Fearnside, a researcher at the institute, challenging a view presented to the conference on Wednesday that the jungle is a small net producer of oxygen.

The conference is discussing the findings of the Large Scale Biosphere-Atmosphere Experiment in

Amazonia, the world's biggest study of jungle deforestation. It started in 1998 and is being conducted by Brazilian and foreign organizations, including the US space agency NASA.

The Amazon, a continuous forest covering an area larger than the continental United States and home to up to 30 per cent of the world's animal and plant species, lost 5.9 million acres to logging and burning in 2003.

Fearnside said that hydroelectric dams in the Amazon, for instance, should be included because rotting trees in flooded areas release methane gas. The Amazon's four dams produced more emissions between them than Brazil's largest city, Sao Paulo, he said.

But Carlos Nobre of Brazil's National Institute of Space Research disputed Fearnside's theory.

"His number is not believable," said Nobre, who estimated Amazon burning produced 250 million tons of carbon dioxide-equivalent last year. — *MNA/Reuters*

Italy to finally celebrate its own Columbus Day

ROME, 30 July — For the first time Italy is to honour one of its most famous sons, the Genoa-born explorer Christopher Columbus, like the United States has for centuries.

Born in the Italian port in 1451, the navigator who lived in both Portugal and Spain, will be honoured on 12 October with "National Cristoforo Colombo Day", his Italian name.

The first recorded celebration of Columbus Day in the US was on 12 October, 1792, commemorating the 300th anniversary of Columbus landing in the Bahamas, which began a new era of European exploration and expansion.

But it was the 400th anniversary of the event which inspired the first official Columbus Day holiday in the United States.

Claudio Scajola, Minister for Implementation of Government Programmes, said on Thursday Italy had decided to "make the most of the name of the great genius of the sea Columbus and the discovery of America which marked the birth of the modern era". — *MNA/Reuters*



Its famously tepid and wet weather has been the butt of jokes for generations, yet even Britain is now taking global warming seriously, with the publication of emergency plans to deal with heatwaves. — INTERNET

UN delivers aid to 17,000 snowstruck in Peru

LIMA (Peru), 30 July — The UN food aid agency has begun delivering 180,000 US dollars in supplies to 17,000 people in Peru's high southern Andes after the worst frost and snowstorms in 30 years killed livestock and wiped out crops.

The World Food Programme said on Thursday cereals, oil and sugar were being distributed in Puno, near the border with Bolivia, where temperatures have plunged as low as — 31 degrees Fahrenheit (-35 degrees Centigrade) and 80 per cent of land is covered by snow.

"This severe weather has had a devastating effect on the lives of many people in this region. The gravity of the situation demanded swift WFP intervention," Dorte Ellehammer, the programme's country director for Peru, said in a statement.

Floods and drought at the start of the year destroyed many crops in Puno. Peruvians living high in the Andes are dirt-poor subsistence farmers and a WFP study in December found up to 91 per cent of children under five were malnourished. — *MNA/Reuters*

SPORTS

Butt seals Newcastle switch

NEWCASTLE (England), 30 July—Newcastle United have completed the signing of England midfielder Nicky Butt on a four-year deal from Manchester United, the Premier League club said on Thursday.

The transfer ends the 29-year-old's long association with Manchester United, where he started as a trainee in 1991 and went on to win six English league titles, two FA Cups and the 1999 European Cup.

The fee has not been disclosed but media reports suggest it is in the region of 2.5 million pounds (4.54 million US dollars).

"Nicky Butt has officially completed his transfer from Manchester United this morning," a Newcastle spokesman said.

"The player has signed a four-year contract and has been given squad number four for the 2004/05 season."

Butt slipped down the midfield pecking order at Old Trafford last season and the last of his 387 appearances for United came as a late substitute in the FA Cup final victory against Millwall at the Millennium Stadium in May. A holding midfielder, Butt nevertheless found the net 26 times for United.

Butt, whose hopes of representing England at Euro 2004 were scuppered by injury, has played 35 times for his country and Pele described him as the best player of the 2002 World Cup finals in South Korea and Japan. — MNA/Reuters

Beckham offers support to Eriksson

Tokyo, 30 July—David Beckham has given his support to under-pressure England manager Sven-Goran Eriksson.

The Swede's future is in doubt after an affair with a Football Association secretary but England captain Beckham said on Thursday: "As far as I'm concerned he's been a great man to me and a great man to the rest of the (England) players."

"Every one of the players respects him as a manager and what he's done for the team and what he's done for the country."

Speaking after his club Real Madrid beat J-League team JEF United Ichihara 3-1 in Tokyo on Thursday, Beckham was asked for his opinion of his manager's current problems.

"That's for other people to decide, but as far as I'm concerned, he's a great England manager. I've enjoyed working with him and hopefully I can carry on working with him."

Beckham is no stranger to media intrusion himself, though, and he added a note of realism to his comments, saying: "At the end of the day we love playing under him and if people decide otherwise then so be it." But my comments and I know the rest of the players' comments will be that he's a great manager and we love working with him.

"But we'll have to see."

There's always going to be criticism and sometimes you have to take the rough with the smooth, and when you come through it you're a stronger person.

"But that's how our country is. I've said it before, you come through some tough stages in your life and career, it makes you a stronger person."

Beckham said he had not

spoken to Eriksson since his vacation.

"I spoke to him when I was on holiday, but that was it." After the game with JEF in hot and humid conditions, Beckham deflected criticism of Real Madrid's tough schedule on their tour to Japan by saying it was good preparation for the upcoming season.

MNA/Reuters

Van Basten named Netherlands coach

AMSTERDAM, 30 July—Marco van Basten has agreed to become the new Netherlands coach, the Dutch Football Association (KNVB) announced on Thursday.

The 39-year-old former international striker will replace Dick Advocaat, who resigned days after the Netherlands lost 2-1 in the Euro 2004 semifinal to hosts Portugal.

The KNVB said on Thursday they had finalized a deal with van Basten and his assistant John Van't Schip and the pair would be presented officially at a news conference on Monday.

The statement included no details of the contract but media reports suggest van Basten would be given a four-year contract.

After Advocaat's resignation KNVB director Henk Kesler approached Johan Cruyff for advice and the Dutch soccer great recommended he recruit van Basten and Van't Schip.

Cruyff, who has never been in charge of the Dutch national side, has promised his support to the new coach in a backroom role.

Two more former Ajax and Dutch internationals, Rob Witschge and Stanley Menzo, have been approached to complete the technical staff.

If they accept the offer, the new Dutch coaching team will be made up entirely of players who won the 1987 European Cup Winners Cup in an Ajax side coached by Cruyff.

It will be van Basten's first head coaching role since persistent injury put an end to his playing career in 1995.

After seven years out of football, he joined the technical staff at Ajax in 2002, assisting Van't Schip in coaching the reserve team. Van't Schip, also a former Dutch international, had one year as a head coach with Twente Enschede in 2002 before resigning to return to Ajax.

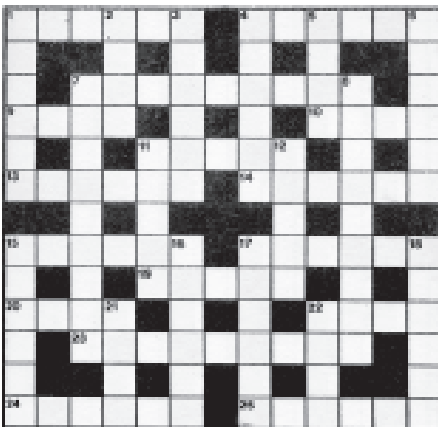
Van Basten, who also played club football for AC Milan, was a member of the Dutch team that won the 1988 European Championship, scoring with. — MNA/Reuters



China's Li Jinyu (front) drives the ball past Iraq's Qusay Munir during a quarterfinal match at Asian Cup soccer in Beijing on 30 July, 2004. China won the match 3-0.

INTERNET

CROSSWORD PUZZLE



ACROSS

- 1 Lingerie (coll)
- 4 Fit for ploughing
- 7 Retrousse (4-5)
- 9 US State
- 10 Eng architect
- 11 Hindu musical instrument
- 13 Roving
- 14 Running with long strides
- 15 Place much frequented
- 17 Head (sl.)
- 19 Shakespearian Athenian
- 20 East European
- 22 Public
- 23 Bad dream
- 24 Blockhead
- 25 Whipped

DOWN

- 1 Arbitrator
- 2 Island of Inner Hebrides
- 3 Yield
- 4 Declaration
- 5 Afresh
- 6 Warming alcoholic drink (3-3)
- 7 Fencer
- 8 Waste-water duct
- 11 Quick drink (sl.)
- 12 Mountain ash
- 15 Social reformer
- 16 Military helmet (3-3)
- 17 Ordinary
- 18 Foul-tasting
- 21 Field of sight
- 22 Spheres

Josemi joins Liverpool after long week of talks

MADRID, 30 July—Spanish defender Josemi's move to Liverpool from Malaga was finally completed on Thursday.

"After a long week of negotiations... Josemi has signed with Liverpool for four years," Malaga said on their web site.

Liverpool will pay a fee of around two million pounds (3.63 million US dollars), according to media reports.

The 24-year-old is the first signing of Liverpool's new Spanish coach Rafa Benitez. — MNA/Reuters

Klinsmann takes charge of Germany team

BERLIN, 30 July—Juergen Klinsmann officially took charge of Germany's national team on Thursday with a mission to prepare the troubled heavyweights for the 2006 World Cup on home soil.

The former Germany captain, who was presented as team coach by the German Football Association (DFB) at a news conference in Frankfurt, has a contract until after the 2006 finals.

Fellow former Germany striker Oliver Bierhoff will assist Klinsmann as team manager and also agreed a two-year deal.

The 36-year-old Bierhoff, who played alongside Klinsmann and was also a Germany captain, will notably deal with sponsors and the media.

The DFB had struggled for weeks to find a successor to Rudi Voeller, who stepped down last month after his team failed to survive the group stage at Euro 2004.

Klinsmann, who turns 40 on Friday, scored 47 goals in 108 games for his country and was a member of West Germany's 1990 World Cup-winning team.

The former Bayern Munich and Tottenham Hotspur striker, who ended his playing career after the 1998 World Cup finals in France, has a training licence but no coaching experience. An assistant coach will be named in the next few days, said DFB president Gerhard Mayer-Vorfelder.

The ruling body had wanted Holger Osieck, who was head coach Franz Beckenbauer's assistant during the 1990 World Cup campaign, to take that job but the 55-year-old former Canada coach turned it down.

Osieck and Klinsmann decided they could not work together after talks on Tuesday in the latest twist in a saga to find a new leadership that has seriously damaged the DFB's image.

Neither man would immediately say why they had fallen out but it is believed Osieck did not share Klinsmann's views on how the team should be run.

Ralf Rangnick and Joachim Loew, both former VfB Stuttgart coaches, have expressed interest in working with Klinsmann and are the favourites to step in for Osieck.

Klinsmann has called for new structures and methods, saying not only the team but also the DFB as a whole needs an entirely different approach. — MNA/Reuters



FC Porto's Jorge Costa leaps above Liverpool's Stephane Henchoz (L) and a unidentified teammate during the second half of the Championship World Soccer Series match at Toronto's Skydome, on 30 July, 2004. Porto prevailed with a 1-0 victory in the preseason friendly. —INTERNET



Sunday, August 1

View today:

7:00 am

1. Recitation of Parittas by
Missionary Sayadaw U
Ottamathara

7:15 am

2. တိပိဋကဓရ၊ ဓမ္မဘဏ္ဍာဂီတ၊
အဂ္ဂမဟာပဏ္ဍိတ၊ ဘဒ္ဒန္တသိရိန္ဒာဘိဝံသ
(ဇောဆရာတော်) ဟောကြားတော်မူ
အပ်သောဥပုသ်သန့်ပါဠိတော်

7:25 am

3. To be healthy Exercise

7:30 am

4. Morning news

7:40 am

5. Nice and sweet song

7:50 am

6. ယဉ်ကျေးလိမ္မာ (၃၈) ပြာမင်္ဂလာ

8:05 am

7. အကုဏ္ဍိမ္ပ

8:20 am

8. သမုဒ္ဒါးဆီရေလှောင်တံ

8:30 am

9. International news

8:45 am

10. Say it in English

11:00 pm

1. Martial song

11:10 pm

2. Musical programme

11:20 pm

3. ဝါဆိုပန်းကဏ္ဍာ (အထက-၁-၁၃)

11:25 pm

4. Round-up of the Week's

International News

11:40 pm

5. နိုင်ငံခြားစာတမ်းသွဲ

"သစ္စာရခံပန်း"

(အပိုင်း-၁၄)

12:15 pm

6. ဝါဆိုမြင်းပွဲတော်

12:30 pm

7. Myanmar Video Feature:

"ဘဝမြန်မာ သူ့ကိုအချစ်ဆုံး"

ကျော်သူ၊ မင်းသူ၊ နီဒါ၊ ရတနာစင်

ခါရိုက်တာ-သန်းမေလေး

2:45 pm

8. International news

4:00 pm

1. Martial song

4:15 pm

2. Songs to uphold

National Spirit

4:30 pm

3. အဝေးသံတက္ကသိုလ် ပညာရေး

ရုပ်မြင်သံကြားသံစဉ်စာ တတိယနှစ်

(သတ္တဝါအထူးပြုများ) (သတ္တဝါ)

4:45 pm

4. Dance of national races

5:00 pm

5. Musical programme

5:15 pm

6. Agricultural Source

Country's Development

5:25 pm

7. မြန်မာ့စာပေမြှင့်တင်ရေး

5:40 pm

8. လုံခြုံမှုညှိစိတ်ချရမ်းစင်နီတစ်မျိုး

တည်းသတ်တိုက်ကျွေးပေး

5:55 pm

9. Sing and Enjoy

6:30 pm

10. Evening news

7:00 pm

11. Weather report

7:05 pm

12. နိုင်ငံခြားစာတမ်းသွဲ

"နမ့်ကြီးသွယ်တံလင်းပိုင်ငယ်"

(အပိုင်း-၂)

7:35 pm

13. သာယာပြီမီးရောင်၊ စိမ်းလန်းစိုပြေ

ရန်ကုန်မြေ (အပိုင်း-၂)

7:45 pm

14. ဖုန်းဆွဲဆင်နွှဲ ဝါဆိုပန်းမုန့်

8:00 pm

15. News

16. International news

17. Weather report

18. နိုင်ငံခြားစာတမ်းသွဲ

"နုလင်းသားထဲကတစ်ခုတည်း"

သောအချစ်"

(အပိုင်း-၁၂)

19. The next day's

programme



Sunday, August 1

Tune in today:

8:30 am Brief news

8:35 am Music: Love

rende zvw

(M People)

8:40 am Perspectives

8:45 am Music: Once in a

while (Vince Girl)

8:55 am National news/

Slogan

9:05 am Music: Smile

(Vitamin C)

9:10 am International news

9:15 am Music: I reclaim I

will

(Lila Meeann)

1:30 pm News/Slogan

1:40 pm Lunch time music

-Let this love

began (Caught in

the act)

-For you I will

(Maruua)

9:00 pm Spotlight on the

star

9:15 pm Article

9:20 pm Radio Magazine/

Drugs Elimination

Women's affairs

-Invaluable Force

in which the

women Folle can

rely)

9:30 pm Vocal Gems/

Golden Land's

Melody

-Dear Myanmar

(Saw Yuri)

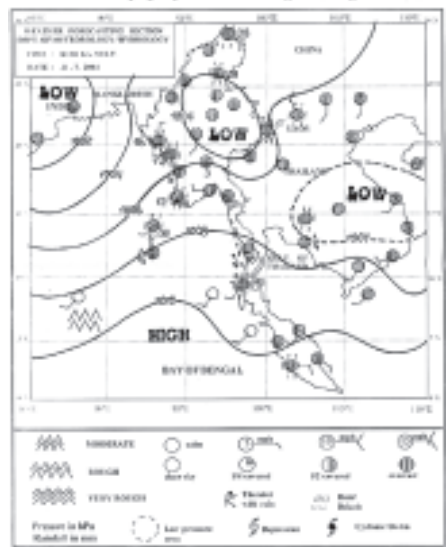
9:45 pm News/Slogan

10:00 pm PEL

Rainfall on 31-7-2004

- Nil at Yangon Airport,
- (0.04 inch) at Kaba-Aye and
- nil at central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2004 was 1684 mm (66.30 inches) at Yangon Airport and 1663 mm (65.47 inches) at Kaba-Aye and 1657 mm (65.24 inches) at central Yangon.

Weather Map of Myanmar and Neighbouring Areas



WEATHER

Saturday, 31 July, 2004

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST: During the past 24 hours, weather has been cloudy in Kayah State and lower Sagaing Division, rain or thundershowers have been isolated in Chin State and upper Sagaing and Magway Divisions and scattered to widespread in the remaining areas with locally heavyfall in Mon State. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Mudon (6.53) inches, Mawlamyaing (4.68) inches and Thaton (2.56) inches.

Maximum temperature on 30-7-2004 was 29.0°C (84°F). Minimum temperature on 31-7-2004 was 20.2°C (68°F). Relative humidity at 9:30 hrs MST on 31-7-2004 was 92%. Total sunshine hours on 30-7-2004 was (4.6) hours approx. Rainfall on 31-7-2004 was nil at Yangon Airport, (0.04 inch) at Kaba-Aye and nil at central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2004 was 1684 mm (66.30 inches) at Yangon Airport and 1663 mm (65.47 inches) at Kaba-Aye and 1657 mm (65.24 inches) at central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was 12 mph from West at 12:30 hours MST on 30-7-2004.

Bay inference: Monsoon is moderate in Andaman Sea and weak elsewhere in the Bay of Bengal.

Forecast valid until evening of 1-8-2004: Rain or thundershowers will be isolated in Kayin, Mon States and Taninthayi Division, scattered in Kachin, Shan, Rakhine States, Yangon, Bago and Ayeyawady Divisions and isolated in the remaining areas with likelihood of isolated heavyfalls in Mon State and Taninthayi Division. Degree of certainty is (80%).

State of the sea: Sea will be moderate in Myanmar waters.

Outlook for subsequent two days: Moderate monsoon.

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 1-8-2004: One or two rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (80%).

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 1-8-2004: Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (60%).

Flood Bulletin

(Issued at 11:00 hours MST on 31-7-2004)

According to the 06:30 hrs MST observation today, the water levels of Ayeyawady River at Minbu and Magway are about (7) ft above danger levels. The water levels fall about (3) ft below the present water levels within the next (5) days.

MRTV -3



1-8-2004 (Sunday)
(Programme Schedule)
Morning Transmission

(9:00 - 10:00)

9:00 Signature Tune

Greeting

9:02 Song of Myanmar

Beauty & Scenic

Sights "Mingalabar"

9:06 Ancient Pakhangyi

Monastery

9:10 **Headline News**

9:12 Fabulous Shwe Gu

Dage Daw Gyi

9:15 **National News**

9:20 Myanmar Movies Im-

act

9:30 **National News**

9:35 Inle Land of the fabu-

lous Leg-rowers

9:40 Song "The Beautiful

Taninthyai"

9:42 Green Turtle

9:45 **National News**

9:50 Let us preserve the

Watershed Areas

9:58 Song of Myanmar

Beauty & Scenic

Sights "Come and See

Myanmar"

1-8-2004 (Sunday)
Evening Transmission
(15:30 - 17:30)

15:30 Signature Tune

Greeting

15:32 Song of Myanmar

Beauty & Scenic

Sights "Myanma

Panorama & Myanma

Sentiment"

15:36 Ancient Pakhangyi

Monastery

15:40 **Headline News**

15:42 Fabulous Shwe Gu

Dage Daw Gyi

15:45 **National News**

15:50 Myanmar Movies Im-

act

16:00 **National News**

16:05 Inle Land of the fabu-

lous Leg-rowers

16:10 Song "The Beautiful

Taninthyai"

16:12 Green Turtle

16:15 **National News**

16:20 Let us preserve the

Watershed Areas

16:25 Song of Myanmar

Beauty & Scenic

Sights "Myanma Pano-

rama & Myanma Sen-

timent"

16:30 **National News**

16:35 Vegetable and Fruit

Research and Develop-

ment Centre

16:40 Myanmar Natural

Spirulina (Part-III)

16:45 **National News**

16:50 Mosaic Painting of

Myanmar

16:55 Htan Ywet Padi

17:00 **National News**

17:05 What an Interesting

Souvenir Shop

17:10 Myanmar Modern

Song "Naughty Girl"

17:12 Myanmar Traditional

Folk Songs

17:15 **National News**

17:20 Off-shore Fishing

Boat Construction

17:25 Song of Myanmar

Beauty & Scenic

Sights "Come and See

Myanmar"

ဒေါ်ခင်စန်းကြည်

အသက် (၇၆)နှစ်

သုရောဂါဆိုး၏၊ ဓမ္မလေးမြို့။

ဓမ္မလေးမြို့၊ ၃၇ လမ်း၊ ရဟန်းကျောင်း၊ ရဟန်း ဒေါ်ခင်စန်းကြည်၊ ဦးကျော်ဝင်း [ဒု-အင်ချပ် MEPE (မြန်မာ)]+(ဒေါ်ခင်စန်းကြည်)၊ ဒေါ်လှလှ (ဈေးချို-အ)၊ ဦးရွှေဝင်း+ဒေါ်ရီရီသောင်းရွှေ၊ ဒေါ်ကြူကြူ၊ ဩဒိန္ဒ (ဘဏ္ဍာ)စက်မှု(၁)(မြန်မာ)၊ ဗိုလ်မှူးကြီးတင်စော+ဒေါ်တင်စောနီ၊ ဝင်း၊ ဦးဝင်းမြင့်(နန်းမြင့်)ဓမ္မလေးမြို့(၁)ဒေါ်ခင်စန်းကြည်၏အစ်မ၊ ဓမ္မလေးမြို့၊ ၃၇ လမ်း၊ ဒေါ်ရီရီသုရောဂါဆိုး၏နော်ရံလှသောင်း၏နော်ရံ၊ ကိုစော်မျိုး+(ဓမ္မလေးမြို့)+(မ)ကြည်ကြည်ဝင်း၊ (ကိုစော်မောင်ရွှေ)+(မ)မေမေကြီးတို့၏မိခင်၊ မြေ(၇)ယောက်တို့၏အဖွား၊ ဒေါ်ခင်စန်းကြည်သည် (၃၀-၇-၂၀၀၄)သောကြာနေ့၊ နံနက် ၈:၁၅ နာရီအချိန်တွင် ကွယ်လွန်သွားပါသဖြင့် (၁-၈-၂၀၀၄)တနင်္ဂနွေနေ့၊ နေ့လယ် (၂) နာရီအချိန်တွင် ကြာနီတန်သုသာန်သို့၊ ပို့ဆောင်မီသဖြင့် မည်သို့ဖြစ်ပါကြောင်း ရပ်ဝေးရပ်နီးအချင်းမိတ်သဟာအပေါင်းအား အကြောင်းကြားအပ်ပါသည်။

ကျန်ရစ်သူများစု

Daw Sein Sein Age (76) years

Daw Sein Sein, aged 76, wife of Dr U Hla Shwe, Head of State/Division Health Department, Medical Superintendent (Retd), of No 36, Mingalar Street (Room No 3/104, Panhlaing Housing Estate) in Sangyoung Township, Yangon Division, mother of Lt-Col Aung Naing (Officiating Tactical Operations Commander)-Daw May Than Oo, U Win Naing (Contractor)-Daw Khin Mar Cho, Aung Myo Than- Khin Mar Aye, grandmother of six grandchildren passed away at Asia Royal Cardiac and Medical Care at 2 am on 30-7-2004.

Funeral cortege will leave the Yay Way Mortuary for the Yay Way Cemetery at 11 am on 1-8-2004 (Sunday) for cremation.

Buses will leave the above residence at 9.30 am.

Bereaved Family



Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt meets Thai Prime Minister Mr Thaksin Shinawatra at his office on 30-7-2004.—MNA

PM General Khin Nyunt meets Thai counterpart

YANGON, 31 July — Prime Minister of the Union of Myanmar General Khin Nyunt, on arrival at Bangkok in Thailand, met Prime Minister of Thailand Mr Thaksin Shinawatra at the latter's office at noon yesterday.

The Prime Minister of the Union of Myanmar was accompanied by Minister for Foreign Affairs U Win Aung, Deputy Minister U Khin Maung Win, Myanmar Ambassador to Thailand U Myo Myint, Director-General at the Prime Minister's Office U Soe Tint, Director-General of Protocol Department Thura U Aung Htet, Director-Gen-

eral of Political Department U Thaung Tun and high-ranking officials. Present together with the Prime Minister of Thailand were Deputy Prime Minister of Thailand Mr Suwat Liptapanlop, Minister of Foreign Affairs Dr Surakiart Sathirathai, Minister of Commerce Mr Watana Muangsook, Thai Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Suphot Dhirakaosal and the high-ranking officials.

At the friendly meeting between the Prime Ministers of the two countries, Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt said that progress of relationship between Myanmar and

Thailand is encouraging and the two countries are cooperating in all sectors, especially cooperation in narcotic drugs control and elimination is most satisfactory. Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt expressed thanks for assistance provided by Thailand in the development projects of Myanmar.

Thai Prime Minister Mr Thaksin Shinawatra said that Thailand wishes to cooperate with Myanmar in generating electricity, transportation and constructing deep sea port and that both nations will continue to collaborate in ensuring further cementing relations and boosting economy of the two countries. At the end of meeting, the two Prime Ministers exchanged souvenirs. Next, the Prime Ministers of the two countries privately met and held discussions again.

After the discussions, Thai Prime Minister Mr Thaksin Shinawatra saw off Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt on his departure for Peninsula Hotel where he was putting up.

MNA



Thai Deputy Prime Minister General Thammarak Issarangura meets Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt at special lounge of the Bangkok International Airport.—MNA

General Khin Nyunt arrives Bangkok to attend 1st BIMSTEC Summit

YANGON, 31 July — Prime Minister of the Un-

ion of Myanmar General Khin Nyunt, accompanied by Minister for Foreign Affairs U Win Aung, Deputy Minister U Khin Maung Win and departmental heads, left here by flight of Myanmar Airways International at 8.30 am on 30 July to attend the First BIMSTEC Summit to be

held in Bangkok, Thailand, at the invitation of Prime Minister of Thailand Mr Thaksin Shinawatra.

The Prime Minister and party arrived at Bangkok International Airport at 10 am local time.

First, Myanmar Ambassador to Thailand U Myo Myint, Deputy Director-

General Mr Pasan Theparak of the Protocol Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Thailand boarded the aircraft and welcomed the Prime Minister and party.

On arrival at the special lounge of the airport, the Prime Minister and

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Four political objectives

- * Stability of the State, community peace and tranquility, prevalence of law and order
- * National reconsolidation
- * Emergence of a new enduring State Constitution
- * Building of a new modern developed nation in accord with the new State Constitution

Four economic objectives

- * Development of agriculture as the base and all-round development of other sectors of the economy as well
- * Proper evolution of the market-oriented economic system
- * Development of the economy inviting participation in terms of technical know-how and investments from sources inside the country and abroad
- * The initiative to shape the national economy must be kept in the hands of the State and the national peoples

Four social objectives

- * Uplift of the morale and morality of the entire nation
- * Uplift of national prestige and integrity and preservation and safeguarding of cultural heritage and national character
- * Uplift of dynamism of patriotic spirit
- * Uplift of health, fitness and education standards of the entire nation

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