

The NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

Volume XII, Number 119

13th Waning of Second Waso 1366 ME

Friday, 13 August, 2004

General Khin Nyunt affirms Myanmar's commitment to work together with Cambodia for regional prosperity, progress, ASEAN solidarity, firmness Cambodia firmly supports equal participation of all ASEAN nations in Asia-Europe Meeting

YANGON, 12 Aug — Prime Minister of the Union of Myanmar General Khin Nyunt, accompanied by Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Soe Win, Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Aung Htwe and party, left Vientiane in Lao People's Democratic Republic on 10 August morning by the special flight of Myanmar Airways International and arrived at Phnom

Penh International Airport in Cambodia at 10.30 am local time at the invitation of Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Cambodia Mr Samdech Hun Sen.

Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt and Myanmar goodwill delegation members were welcomed there by Cambodian Prime Minister Mr Samdech Hun Sen.

Next, Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt and Cambodian Prime Minister



Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt cordially converses with Cambodian Prime Minister Mr Samdech Hun Sen at the luncheon at Raffles Hotel Le Royal in Phnom Penh.— MNA

During the talks, Myanmar PM General Khin Nyunt and Cambodian PM Mr Samdech Hun Sen cordially exchange views on mutually beneficial issues and international affairs.

Mr Samdech Hun Sen went to the dais and took the salute of the Guard of Honour.

At that time, the State Band played national anthems of the two countries. Then, the two Prime

Ministers inspected the Guard of Honour.

Afterwards, Cambodian Prime Minister Mr Samdech Hun Sen presented his entourage comprising Deputy Prime Ministers, ministers, deputy

ministers and high-ranking officials to Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt.

Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt greeted Ambassadors of foreign missions in Cambodia, Myanmar Ambassador to

Cambodia Dr Aung Naing and wife Daw Aye Mi and Embassy staff and families, Cambodian students and people who were waving miniature flags of the two countries.

(See page 8)



Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt and party and Cambodian Prime Minister Mr Samdech Hun Sen and officials hold discussions at Office of the Council of Ministers in Phnom Penh.— MNA

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

PERSPECTIVES

Friday, 13 August, 2004

Myanmar and Laos to promote friendship and cooperation

The Union of Myanmar, practising an independent and active foreign policy, has always cooperated with international organizations including the United Nations, non-governmental organizations, international community, ASEAN nations and neighbours.

At the invitation of Mr Bounnhang Vorachith, Prime Minister of the Lao People's Democratic Republic, General Khin Nyunt, Prime Minister of the Union of Myanmar paid a goodwill visit to Lao People's Democratic Republic on 9 August.

Bilateral talks between Laos and Myanmar were held at the meeting hall of the Laotian Prime Minister's Office in Vientiane. Present at the meeting together with Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt were members of Myanmar goodwill delegation and together with Prime Minister Mr Bounnhang Vorachith were the Deputy Prime Minister, ministers, deputy ministers and high-ranking officials.

At the meeting, Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt of the Union of Myanmar said that Myanmar and Laos are not only neighbours but also enjoying a very close fraternal relations. There is not a single problem between the two countries, and the area of their bilateral cooperation is expanding. The two nations established diplomatic ties in 1956, and the bilateral relations are flourishing at an unprecedented degree at present. It is encouraging to see the flourishing bilateral cooperation between the two countries.

The Laotian Prime Minister expressed pleasure to see the Government of Myanmar and the people striving with might and main for unity of the national races, peace and stability and development under the leadership of Senior General Than Shwe. The two countries value their bilateral friendly relations and cooperation in the same degree. Besides, as they have mutual understanding, they are ready to cooperate in the regional and international issues.

On the agenda of the meeting were promotion of border trade, construction of a friendship bridge and fight against narcotic drugs.

Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt also paid a courtesy call on President of the Lao People's Democratic Republic Mr Khamtay Siphandone. At the meeting, measures on boosting bilateral relations were discussed.

We believe that Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt's visit to the Lao People's Democratic Republic will cement the bilateral relations, contributing to further bilateral cooperation in regional and international issues.

Entrance examination to training courses for tourist guides to be held on 15 Aug

YANGON, 12 Aug —The Directorate of Hotels and Tourism will conduct basic training courses for tourist guides soon.

The courses will be in Japanese, German, French, Italian, Chinese, Thai, Korean and Russian languages. Entrance examination to these courses will be held and those wishing to attend the courses are to sit for the examination at the Hotel and Tourism Services Training Schools on 15 August.

Those wishing to sit for the examination are to get themselves enrolled not later than 13 August at the Directorate of Hotels and Tourism at No 77/91, Sule Pagoda Road here. — 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

Talks on MAAF held

YANGON, 12 Aug — Talks on Myanmar Women's Affairs Federation were held at the Institute of Nursing (Yangon) on Bogoyoke Aung San Street here at 2 pm today. MAAF Vice-President Prof Dr Daw May May Yi gave talks on the MAAF.

Present on the occasion were CEC members of the MAAF, Advisor of health working group of MAAF Health Minister's wife Daw Nilar Thaw, Health Deputy Minister's wife Daw Tin Tin Mya, officers and staff of the Ministry of Health numbering over 600. After the talks, Daw Nilar Thaw presented K 200,000 donated by the ministry for MAAF to Prof Dr Daw May May Yi. MNA

Minister inspects unloading of frames at Sule Wharf

YANGON, 12 Aug — Minister for Construction Maj-Gen Saw Tun together with Deputy Minister Brig-Gen Myint Thein, Managing Director of Public Works U Nay Soe Naing and officials arrived at No 4 Sule Wharf yesterday afternoon.

The minister inspected unloading of 2,828.205 tons of steel frames imported from China CAMC Engineering Co Ltd of the People's Republic of China for Ayeyawady Bridge (Yadanabon) construction project from MV An Tao Jiang. He gave necessary instructions on sending of the frames to the work site as soon as possible and worksite safety. — MNA



POEM:

Goodwill all along Mekong

* Left, right, up, down, along the Mekong
Friends dealing with each other
With true interest for mutual,
reciprocal benefit
Striving hard toward that end
With genuine goodwill, it's being done.
Goodwill dispense with clear mind
If one scrutinizes it carefully
One can discern the truth as it is.

* Brothers, to the left and right of Mekong
Relishing the success of unity
With equal loving-kindness and goodwill
Organizing, together in compact move
With new strength as the vital force
Doubtless, it is reaping benefits
That, you will surely see.

Po Wa (Trs)

Minister for Construction Maj-Gen Saw Tun
inspects unloading of steel frames for building
Ayeyawady River Bridge (Yadanabon)
construction project. — CONSTRUCTION

Open Golf C'ship of Myanmar Golf Tour 2004 opened

YANGON, 12 Aug — First leg of Myanmar Golf Tour 2004, Shwe Saryan Open Golf Championship organized by Myanmar PGA and Myanmar Golf Federation commenced this morning at Mandalay Shwe Saryan Golf Resort. Presi-

dent of MPGA and MGF U Win Hlaing, Managing Director of Rothmans of Pall Mall Myanmar Pte Ltd Mr Arend Ng and Director of KM Golf Centre U Thein Tan Swe opened the tour. In the first day 18-hole round of the tour of professional golfers,



Managing Director of Rothmans of Pall Mall Myanmar Pte Ltd tees off the ball to open Shwesaryan Open Golf Championship. — MGF

Soe Kyaw Naing (Pan-West) led the tour with 71 strokes followed by Aung Hla Han (Wilson) and Zaw Zaw Lat (Pan West) with 73 each. In men's amateur division, Aung Aung Kyaw led the tour with 72 strokes followed by Maung Latt with 73 and Bo Bo Lay with 74.

The tour is mainly sponsored by Rothmans of Pall Mall Myanmar Co Ltd and co-sponsored by Air Mandalay, Tiger Beer, Alpine Drinking Water, Htoo Trading, KM Golf Centre, Maruman, Tour Stage, Srixon, Wilson, Grand Slam (Munsing Wear), Accel Int'l Co Ltd (Canon), Sedona Hotel (Mandalay), Sun Far Travels & Tours. — MNA

Iraq Deputy President urges US troops to quit Najaf

NAJAF, 11 Aug — Iraq interim Deputy President has urged US troops to leave the holy Shiite city of Najaf to end a week of fierce fighting, appearing to open a split within the government over how to end the crisis.

In fresh violence elsewhere, at least six Iraqis were killed and 10 wounded when a bomb exploded in a market north of Baghdad on Wednesday, hospital sources said. They said the explosion occurred in Khan Bani Saad village, around 25 miles north of the capital. There were no further details.

Fighting between US forces and militiamen loyal to radical Shiite Muslim cleric Moqtada al-Sadr in Najaf has killed and wounded hundreds in the toughest challenge yet for the six-week-old administration of Prime Minister Iyad Allawi.

"I call for multinational forces to leave Najaf and for only Iraqi forces to remain there," Ibrahim Jaafari said in remarks broadcast on Al Jazeera television on Wednesday.

"Iraqi forces can administer Najaf to end this phenomenon of violence in this city that is holy to all Muslims."

The Shiite unrest has disrupted Iraq's vital oil exports and triggered a spike in world prices. — Internet

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Fierce clashes erupt in Najaf

NAJAF, 11 Aug — A series of explosions rocked Iraq's holy city of Najaf on Thursday as fighting between US Marines and a Shiite Muslim militia entered a second week, witnesses said.

They said the crackle of machinegun fire echoed from the southern parts of the city as smoke rose from the area. The US military have threatened an offensive to root out militiamen loyal to radical cleric Moqtada al-Sadr.

Sadr's militia has threatened to blow up oil pipelines in southern Iraq if the US and Iraqi government forces stormed the city. Hundreds of people have been killed and wounded in the fighting that began on 5 August.

Internet



An armed group of militants loyal to the radical Shiite Cleric Moqtada al-Sadr in Basra, Iraq, on Wednesday, 11 Aug, 2004. In the southern cities of Nasiriyah, Basra and Samawah, guerillas targeted coalition forces with mortars and rocket-propelled grenades as hostilities in Najaf and throughout other cities in Iraq entered their seventh day. — INTERNET

Lee Hsien Loong announces list of new Cabinet

SINGAPORE, 11 Aug — Singapore's Prime Minister-designate Lee Hsien Loong on Tuesday announced the list of his new Cabinet.

In the new Cabinet, Goh Chok Tong will be Senior Minister and Chairman of the Monetary Authority of Singapore (MAS). Lee Kuan Yew, father of Lee Hsien Loong, now takes up a new post of Minister Mentor. The two deputy prime ministers are Tony Tan, who will continue his role as Coordinating Minister for Security and Defence, and S Jayakumar, who will retain his Law Ministry portfolio.

Lee Hsien Loong will retain his post as the finance minister. George Yeo will become Foreign Minister while Mr Lim Hng Kiang takes on the Trade and Industry Ministry. Lim Boon Heng stays on as Minister in the Prime Minister's Office, and Mr Lim Swee Say also becomes a minister in the PM's Office.

The Environment Ministry has been renamed Ministry of the Environment and Water Resources, and Dr Yaacob Ibrahim

will head it. Vivian Balakrishnan will be the new Community Development and Sports Minister.

The three acting ministers now resume full portfolios in the same ministries they headed before. They are Tharman Shanmugaratnam as the Education Minister, Khaw Boon Wan as the Health Minister and Ng Eng Hen as the Manpower Minister.

Two women became Ministers of State. Mrs Lim Hwee Hua is Minister of State for Finance and Transport while Mrs Du-Foo Yee Shoon is Minister of State for Community Development and Sports.

The rest of the Cabinet is largely unchanged. Wong Kan Seng remains the Home Affairs Minister, Teo Chee Hean the Defence Minister, Yeo Cheow Tong the Transport Minister, and Lee Boon Yang the Information, Communications and the Arts Minister. — MNA/Xinhua

1000th US death in Iraq looms for Bush

WASHINGTON, 11 Aug — The United States faces a painful moment probably next month when its military deaths in Iraq are expected to surpass 1,000. It will also be a crucial moment for President George W Bush, who faces a presidential campaign in which Iraq is a central issue.

"Unfortunately that day will likely arrive next month and it will be a fulcrum event that may change many people's views of what we're doing in Iraq," said David Birdsell, a political scientist at Baruch College in New York City.

"It's a gripping number, a large number, a tragic number and it will be a pivot to revisit Bush's reasons for fighting the war and his premature declaration last year that the mission had been accomplished," he said.

According to the most up-to-date Pentagon figure, which usually lags events on the ground by a few days, the United States

has lost 931 military personnel in Iraq since the war began in March 2003.

In July, the first month after an Iraqi interim authority took office, US deaths totalled 55, compared to 42 the previous month. So far this month, they are running at a similar or possibly slightly higher rate.

Compared to past wars, this is a relatively low figure. During the Vietnam War, the US lost 1,363 soldiers in the month of March 1968 alone and more than 58,000 for the entire war. But it is still a higher rate than for any military conflict the United States has fought since Vietnam.

Internet

Vietnam to expand fertilizer production

HANOI, 11 Aug — Vietnam will build and upgrade some fertilizer plants in the next few years to lessen its reliance on imports, according to the Ministry of Industry on Tuesday.

Under the plan on developing the local chemical industry by 2010 to serve the rural industrialization and modernization recently approved by the ministry, the country will build four major fertilizer factories with combined annual capacity of 1.79 million tons between 2005 and 2010.

The future plants include an 800,000-ton urea plant in southern Ca Mau Province, a 560,000-ton urea plant in the northern region, a plant

with capacity of 330,000 tons of diammonium phosphate (DAP) in northern Hai Phong City, and a plant with capacity of 100,000 tons of ammonium sulfate (SA) fertilizer.

Besides, Vietnam will increase capacity of existing phosphate producers by hundreds of thousands tons. It will also intensify production of organic and microorganism fertilizers from materials available in its localities. To ensure sufficient supply of materials for

chemical fertilizer production, the country is carrying out many projects to mine such ores as apatite and sepiolite. Vietnam's demand for fertilizers will be around 7.3 million tons this year, including some 2.2 million tons of urea, 500,000 tons of SA fertilizer, 700,000 tons of potassium fertilizer, 700,000 tons of DAP fertilizer, 2 million tons of NPK combined fertilizer, and 1.2 million tons of phosphate.

MNA/Xinhua

Trade could be an important tool in improving Indo-Pak ties

ISLAMABAD, 11 Aug — Allaying fears that Indian goods would flood Pakistani market if the two countries improved economic ties, India has said that trade could be an important tool in improving bilateral relations.

Fears that increase in bilateral trade and liberalization of trade regime under South Asian Free Trade Agreement could lead to Indian domination in the regional market were baseless, Indian Commerce Secretary Deepak Chatterjee said ahead of the Indo-Pak talks on Economic and Commercial Cooperation beginning here on Wednesday.

Chatterjee, who arrived

in Pakistan on Monday to attend the talks, told reporters on his arrival at Lahore that an increase in direct trade between the two neighbours would benefit both countries. At present, most of the trade was being conducted through third countries. "The signing of the Indo-Lanka Free Trade Agreement has led to a three-time increase in the Sri Lankan exports to India," he said adding that SAFTA accord would

be of benefit to all SAARC (South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation) countries. In the Indo-Pak context trade could prove to be an important tool in improving bilateral ties, Chatterjee said.

He said there were no authentic figures available regarding trade through third countries as well as smuggling between the two countries and it needed to be formalized. — MNA/PTI



Soldiers accompanied by armoured vehicles lift concrete barriers into place in al-Habibiya, a neighbourhood bordering Sadr City as US troops began to close roads into the mainly Shiite neighbourhood in Baghdad, Iraq, on Wednesday, 11 Aug, 2004. — INTERNET

Iranian journalists kidnapped in Iraq

TEHRAN, 11 Aug—A number of reporters working for Iran's official IRNA news agency have been kidnapped in Iraq, Iran's state television reported on Wednesday.

"A number of news staff of the Islamic Republic News Agency (IRNA) were kidnapped in Iraq," it said. IRNA was not immediately available to comment.

Fereidoun Jahani, an Iranian diplomat, was kidnapped last Wednesday on his way to take up his position as consul in the Shiite holy city of Kerbala. State television also reported that four Iranian businessmen on a trip to promote trade ties between Tehran and Baghdad were arrested by US troops in Iraq. —Internet

Iran protests Iraq's arrest of four Iranian news agency workers

BAGHDAD, 12 Aug—Iran protested Iraq's arrest of four people working for the Iranian news agency in the Iraqi capital, Baghdad, and demanded their immediate release, the Iranian Foreign Ministry said.

Iran's official Islamic Republic News Agency cited Hassan Kazemi Qomi, Iran's envoy in Baghdad, as saying the head of the agency's bureau in Baghdad and three local workers were arrested on Monday by Iraqi police. They are being held at the Iraqi Interior Ministry and no reason for their detention has been given, Qomi said.

The arrests are an "illegal and unacceptable move," IRNA cited the Foreign Ministry as saying yesterday in Tehran. Iran also asked Iraq for clarifications about an Iranian diplomat missing

since last week, the ministry said.

Relations between the neighbouring countries were strained this week after Iraq's defence minister accused Iran of supplying arms to the militia of Shiite Muslim cleric Moqtada al-Sadr, which is fighting US-led coalition forces in Najaf and the Baghdad district of Sadr City. Iran denied the charges.

Iraq tried to defuse the tensions with Iraqi Vice President Ibrahim Jaffari saying in an interview this week with IRNA that only the President and Prime Min-

ister express the views of the government and not other ministers.

Iraq invited Iraqi Prime Minister Ayad Allawi to visit Tehran, Iranian Foreign Minister Kamal Kharrazi said on Tuesday.

Iraqi Shiite Muslim opposition groups opposed to the rule of Saddam Hussein were based in Iran when the minority Sunni Muslim community dominated Iraq. Shiite Muslims make up 89 percent of Iran's population of 69 million people and more than 60 percent of Iraq's 25 million people. —Internet



Body of second Bulgarian kidnapped in Iraq identified

SOPIA, 11 Aug—The Bulgarian Foreign Ministry confirmed Wednesday that the headless body of a second Bulgarian hostage was that of Ivailo Kepov, a Bulgarian truck driver who was kidnapped by an Iraqi militant group last month.

The Ministry, citing DNA analysis, issued a statement saying that the decapitated body found on July 22 in the Tigris River, north of Baghdad, was that of Ivailo Kepov.

Kepov, a 32-year-old truck driver, was identified in a DNA test carried out by US experts in the US state of Delaware, the Bulgarian news agency reported Wednesday.

Kepov and Georgi Lazov, 30, were taken hostage on June 29 by a group led by Al-Qaeda's alleged chief in Iraq, Abu Mussab al-Zarqawi when they were transporting used cars to the northern Iraqi city of Mosul.

After the kidnapping, the militants said they would release the men only if the US-led coalition freed all Iraqi detainees.

Internet

Thai exports to China exceed \$200m after tariff-free deal

BANGKOK, 11 August—Thailand's exports to China have exceeded 10 billion bahts (about 238 million US dollars) after their tariff-free agreement on agricultural products came into effect in October last year, said a senior Thai official.

During the October 2003-July 2004 period, Thailand's exports to China stood at over 2.49 million tons, which worth more than 11.02 billion bahts (some 262 million US dollars), Rachane Potjanasuntorn, director-general of the Department of Foreign Trade was quoted by Thai News Agency as saying on Tuesday.

"These shipments were based on nearly 11,000 certificates of origin the Department of Foreign Trade had issued during this period," he noted.

Among the exported goods, 99.8 per cent were fruits and vegetables destined to Chinese market.

Cassavas, dried and fresh longans, durians and coconuts are the major export

goods to China, while major imports from China include fresh apples, dried mushrooms, fresh and dried nuts, carrots and frozen fish.

Thailand had a trade surplus of over 4.54 billion bahts (some 108 million US dollars) with China during the October 2003-June 2004 period, Rachane said. In June 2003, China and Thailand signed an agreement on mutual exemption of tariffs on 188 products.

Under the deal, the two countries will eliminate tariffs on imported fruits and vegetables beginning from October 1, 2003 in advance of the agenda for the exemption of tariffs under the framework agreement of the Sino-ASEAN (Association of South-East Asian Nations) free trade zone.

MNA/Xinhua

Two more Californians die of West Nile virus

LOS ANGELES, 11 Aug — Two elderly US women have died of the West Nile virus in the Los Angeles area, bringing to four the death toll in California from the mosquito-borne virus, officials said Tuesday.

An 88-year-old woman from Long Beach in southern Los Angeles died Monday of the virus after spend-

ing nearly two weeks in hospital, said Darryl Sexton, Los Angeles city's health officer.

Another woman, 91 years old and identified as Hester Martin of Northridge, died of the virus last week. Los Angeles County health department officials announced the cause of her death early Tuesday.

Earlier, two Californian residents had died of the disease: a Fullerton man in June and a Grand Terrace man in July.

West Nile, which first hit the United States in 1999 in New York, has killed more than 560 people with 15,000 human cases reported in 46 states.

In California where the virus was first discovered last year, the number of West Nile infections has risen rapidly this year, nearly doubling from 53 cases reported as of July 29 to 103 cases by August 5.

MNA/Xinhua



Iraqi police officers investigate the scene of a roadside bomb explosion in central Baghdad on 10 Aug. 2004. A roadside bomb apparently aimed at a US military convoy exploded near hotels used by foreigners in central Baghdad. — INTERNET



Iraqi men try to evacuate an injured patient from the al-Hakim hospital looking for a safer place for him, as they wheel him through the streets during clashes between al-Mahdi Army and US and Iraqi forces in Najaf, southern Iraq, on 10 Aug. 2004. —INTERNET

MERCOSUR, EU resume free trade talks

BRASILIA, 11 Aug — Negotiators of South America's MERCOSUR trade bloc and the European Union (EU) resumed talks on a free trade deal Tuesday in order to break a deadlock in their efforts to create a free-trade zone between the two blocs.

The two blocs began their discussions in Brasilia at the Foreign Ministry on Tuesday. Talks are to continue through the week.

MERCOSUR representatives warned that if Europe does not offer improved market access for farm products a deal was unlikely.

"MERCOSUR is expecting a significant improvement in market access for agricultural products. ... If not it will have to find alternative paths," Argentine Trade Secretary Martin Redrado said Tuesday.

The two groups had hoped to conclude negotiations by October, before changes in the European Commission. If there is no improved agricultural offer from the EU, the best option may be to suspend the talks

until November and deal with a new European Commission, said Redrado.

The talks between MERCOSUR, which groups Brazil, Argentina Uruguay and Paraguay, and the EU were suspended in Brussels three weeks ago.

In Brussels, MERCOSUR demanded more opportunities to sell their farm products in Europe. MERCOSUR negotiators were disappointed by an EU offer to phase in market access for farm products over 10 years.

MERCOSUR has long complained that rich countries break trade rules and subsidize their farm products, causing distortions in markets.

Two World Trade Organization's rulings, against US cotton and European

sugar subsidies, have bolstered the group's demand for greater access for farm goods.

In 2003, 70 per cent of MERCOSUR exports to the EU were primary goods, mostly agricultural.

However, of EU exports to MERCOSUR, 89 per cent were secondary, or manufactured, goods, while only 7 per cent were primary goods with little value added.

Europe is seeking further concessions, allowing it access to MERCOSUR's services sector, investments and government procurements.

An EU-MERCOSUR agreement would eliminate tariffs between the two blocs and raise importation quotas for a limited number of agricultural products sold in Europe.

MNA/Xinhua

Thai troops start planned Iraq pull-out

BANGKOK, 11 Aug — Thailand's 451 medical and engineering personnel in Iraq have started their planned pull-out to Kuwait and will all arrive in Bangkok by September 20, the military said on Tuesday.

The troops have completed their year-long deployment, which has been marred by the deaths of two soldiers in a truck bomb attack in Karbala in December.

That attack shocked many Thais and sparked criticism that the government had failed to explain to the public the risks of deploying troops to Iraq, even on a humanitarian mission.

Lieutenant-General Pitsanu Uraileet of

the Armed Forces Supreme Command told reporters some of engineering troops were already at the Virginia Camp in Kuwait waiting for their colleagues, who are due to arrive there by bus between August 26 and 31.

Most of the Thai troops would be flown home by either US military aircraft or chartered commercial planes from September 14 to 19, he said. — *MNA/Reuters*

Iraq oil exports reduced by sabotage

BAGHDAD, 11 Aug — A sabotage attack against one of two southern export pipelines has reduced Iraqi oil output but not halted it, a senior oil official told *Reuters* on Tuesday.

The Monday attack on the 48-inch pipeline from southern oil fields to two offshore Gulf terminals came as oil prices hover at record highs, partly driven by concern that instability in Iraq would keep interrupting the

country's exports.

The attack cut export flows to 1.1 million barrels per day from 1.9 million, the official said.

Other oil officials on Monday had said output was halted in response to threats

from militiamen loyal to radical Shiite Muslim cleric Moqtada al-Sadr. An aide to Sadr has denied such threats were made.

Clashes between Sadr's supporters and US-led forces have spread to the deep south — a centre of Iraq's oil industry.

Iraq's South Oil Company asked its Basra headquarters employees not to come to work for the second day on Tuesday, but officials said there were enough staff at stations and oil platforms to keep exports flowing.

The two offshore terminals south of the city of Basra account for all of Iraq's exports. Sabotage has kept another pipeline running to Turkey from the north mostly shut since the US-led invasion last year.

— *MNA/Reuters*

Roadside bomb explodes near Baghdad hotels used by foreigners

BAGHDAD, 11 Aug — A roadside bomb apparently aimed at a US military convoy exploded near hotels used by foreigners in central Baghdad early on Tuesday, but Iraqi police said there were no casualties.

A plume of smoke rose from the area just after the blast, which occurred in a street not far from the Palestine and Sheraton hotels, a common target for guerillas in the Iraqi capital.

During the night, guerillas fired a dozen mortars or rockets in central Baghdad, most of them aimed at the Green Zone compound housing the interim Iraqi government and the US and British embassies. It was unclear if those blasts caused any casualties.

In the past week, guerillas have stepped up mortar and rocket attacks in Baghdad. — *MNA/Reuters*

Indonesia to protect strategic commodities

JAKARTA, 11 Aug — The Indonesian Government would protect the country's strategic commodities in the international trade, said the Minister of Agriculture here on Tuesday.

Bungaran Saragih said that the government would protect at least four commodities, including rice, sugar, soybean and corn, so as to enable them to compete with commodities from other countries.

"Those are strategic commodities for us, which have potential of competitiveness to

be developed in the future," he told reporters at the State Palace.

Saragih said that the government would consider the proper protection to be implemented on each commodity.

"The protection would be determined based on the situation, such as tariff," he said. However, the minister said that the government would issue protective policies which would be in line with the rules of the World Trade Organization (WTO).

— *MNA/Xinhua*



Mahdi Army attackers carry weapons in the streets of Amarah, Iraq, on 10 Aug, 2004. Clashes in Amarah, Najaf and Baghdad's Sadr City neighbourhood have shattered a series of delicate truces worked out two months ago that ended the Mahdi Army's first uprising, which broke out in April. — INTERNET

India makes number of trade proposals to Pakistan

ISLAMABAD, 12 Aug — India Wednesday made a number of proposals to Pakistan on areas like Telecom, Agriculture and Information Technology, to improve bilateral trade ties as the two countries held "good discussion" on economic and commercial cooperation.

Commerce Secretary Deepak Chatterjee, who led the Indian delegation at the talks, formally submitted the proposals to his Pakistani counterpart Tasnim Noorani during the first round of the two-day parleys here.

The Indian proposals numbering around 50 covered lucrative trade areas like Telecom, Agriculture, Civil Aviation, Health and Information Technology, official sources here said.

Sounding optimistic

about moving forward on trade issues, the officials said the two sides had "good discussion" on the first day and hope to come out with some kind of formulation to break the impasse in trade relations.

Ahead of the talks, Chatterjee said all the issues presently hampering the Indo-Pakistani trade ties will be discussed. Briefing reporters on Pakistan's point of view, Noorani said both sides at present had "a lot of misunderstandings" over the existing trade regimes in each other's country. — *MNA/PTI*

S Korea has more than 30 million Internet users

SEOUL, 11 Aug — The number of Internet users in South Korea exceeded 30 million as of June, continuing a decade-long surge, according to the Ministry of Information and Communication on Tuesday.

About 30.67 million people, or 68.2 per cent of the total population, accessed the Internet during the January-June period, up 4.1 percentage points from a year earlier, said the ministry.

The figure counted people aged six or older who went online more than once a month on average in the first half of this year and was based on a door-to-door survey of 7,030 households nationwide.

The jump reflects a continued upward trend since 1994 when the Internet first came commercially accessible in South Korea. In 1997, the number of users stood at 1 million. It skyrocketed to 10 million in 1999 and 20 million in 2001.

Of the respondents under 20, 95.5 per cent surfed the Internet at least twice a month from January to June. Among 20-somethings, 95 per cent did, according to the ministry.

The per centages were lower among those in their 30s and 40s, at 86.4 per cent and 58.3 per cent, respectively.

By gender, 74.4 per cent of men went online more than

once monthly during the six-month period, while 62 per cent of women did.

On average, people logged onto the Internet 11.5 hours per week, according to the ministry's survey.

— *MNA/Xinhua*

WTO describes G-20 as counterweight to US, EU

BRASILIA, 11 Aug — The creation of the Group of 20 (G-20), formed by developing countries, represents a counterweight to the United States and the European Union (EU) in the multilateral trade negotiations, a WTO official said in an exclusive interview released Monday by Brazilian daily *Folha de Sao Paulo*.

Tim Groser, Chairman of the Agriculture Committee of

the World Trade Organization (WTO), pointed out that the constitution of the group was a "masterpiece" of diplomacy, as it brought together the most important developing countries to create an important counterweight to the US and the EU.

"The role of the G-20 leaders — Brazil and India — was of utmost importance for the success now reached," he highlighted. — *MNA/Xinhua*

HK, Iceland sign Air Services Agreement

HONG KONG, 11 Aug — Hong Kong Secretary for Economic Development and Labour Stephen Ip Monday signed an Air Services Agreement on behalf of the government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) with the Government of the Republic of Iceland in Reykjavik, according to government sources here.

Ip said the Air Service Agreement is the first formal bilateral agreement between the HKSAR and Iceland. It provided a legal framework for the establishment of air links between Hong Kong and Iceland. "It opens a new chapter in the development of aviation relations between the two places," he said at the signing ceremony.

"To further develop Hong Kong as a preferred transportation and logistics hub, we will continue to liberalize our air services regime and negotiate more new air services agreements with our aviation partners," he added. — *MNA/Xinhua*



A militiaman loyal to Moqtada al-Sadr holds the helmet of a US soldier during clashes in Najaf on 10 Aug, 2004. — INTERNET

Musharraf says no Pakistan troops for Iraq

ISLAMABAD, 11 Aug — President Pervez Musharraf has ruled out sending Pakistani troops to Iraq for now, despite repeated requests from the interim government there, but he said the option had not been ruled out forever.

"Our forces will never go to Iraq under the present environment," Musharraf, a key ally in the US-led war on terror, told *The News* daily in an interview published on Tuesday.

"We, however, are not shutting our doors, as the situation might change," he added.

The issue of sending troops to Iraq is an explosive one in the world's second largest Muslim nation, where many people are wary of

Musharraf's role in the war on terror waged after the September 11 attacks on the United States in 2001.

The issue has become more sensitive since the execution of two Pakistani migrant workers in Iraq last month, which critics say could have been avoided if the government had made a public undertaking not to send troops.

Musharraf reiterated three conditions Pakistan has made before sending its sol-

diers. He said it required an invitation from the Iraqi Government, a commitment of troops from other Muslim nations and domestic support.

"Policy is never constant, only national interest remains constant. Policy will change with the change in environment."

Musharraf said he had made Pakistan's position known to US President George W. Bush, Secretary of State Colin Powell and

UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan.

He said Iraqi Prime Minister Iyad Allawi had phoned him twice requesting troops for Iraq.

"I told him the same, though he is my friend and we have good rapport."

Pakistani Prime Minister Chaudhry Shujaat Hussain discussed sending troops to Iraq as part of an Islamic force with Saudi leaders last month.

Saudi Arabia suggested a joint Muslim protection force for Iraq during a visit by Powell in July, but Annan said last week that the proposal had failed to take off.

MNA/Reuters

မြန်မာ့စွေတာ၊ မိန်းပါလေလွင်၊
ထုတ်ကုန်ခြင်း

Britain names soldier killed in Iraq

LONDON, 11 Aug — The latest British soldier killed by armed Iraqi guerrillas in the southern city of Basra was named on Tuesday as Private Lee Martin O'Callaghan. According to the Ministry of Defence, the 20-year-old was from London. He was serving with the 1st Battalion, the Princess of Wales' Royal Regiment, based in Tidworth on the Wiltshire-Hampshire border.

O'Callaghan died when a gun battle broke out on Monday afternoon between British forces and militiamen believed to be loyal to Moqtada al-Sadr. Four other British soldiers were injured when militiamen fired rocket-propelled grenades at a British patrol, earlier reports said.

O'Callaghan's death was the second to hit the unit in Iraq in less than a week. Private Christopher Rayment, 22, was killed in an accident in Al Amarah on August 4.

O'Callaghan became the 62nd British servicemen killed in Iraq since the beginning of the US-led war against Iraq. — MNA/Xinhua



An armed Iraqi Shiite militiaman flashes the victory sign as he patrols a street in Najaf, on 10 Aug, 2004. US forces pounded Shiite militia from the air and ground in Najaf and used loudspeakers to urge the defiant fighters to surrender and civilians to leave the battle zone. — INTERNET

BP, Shell consider Iraq research opportunities

LONDON, 11 Aug — Oil giants Royal Dutch/Shell and BP are considering opportunities to conduct research on two of Iraq's biggest oilfields, both companies said on Tuesday.

The Iraq Government earlier put out tenders for studies on the Kirkuk and Rumaila fields. A deadline on those tenders is due on August 15.

"We have obtained the tender documents and are currently evaluating both opportunities," said a Shell spokesman in London.

A BP spokesman also said that BP was considering a bid for a technical reservoir management analysis project in Iraq.

Ongoing violence in Iraq has left many

oil majors wary of doing business there.

A BP spokesman said that BP's study would not require any of its staff to be present in Iraq. Shell would also be able to carry out its research on the Iraq fields without having to send someone there, added an industry source.

Last month, Shell turned down the chance to win the first foreign upstream oil production contract in Iraq, as it felt the terms on offer were not good enough. — MNA/Reuters

China expands higher education to back economic development

BEIJING, 11 August — Chinese Minister of Education, Zhou Ji, said Tuesday that China will continue to expand higher education to meet the demand of the people and economic development.

Zhou told the closing ceremony of the 2nd Chinese-Foreign University Presi-

dents' Forum that China has built the largest higher educational system in the world,

with a number of more than 20 million university students this year.

Funds for scientific research in the higher education institutes have increased by about 400 per cent compared with that in 1998. At some universities funds surged by about 1,000 per cent.

"The quality of scientific research has been improving and gained worldwide recognition," Zhou said.

But the demand for higher education exceeds the supply.

MNA/Xinhua

Polish UFO town seeks aid for earthly visitors

WARSAW, 11 August — A Polish town plans to ask the European Union for the equivalent of 126 million US dollars to help it build facilities for hundreds of visitors lured by its mysterious crop circles, a local official said on Tuesday.

Crop circles — areas in farmers' fields where grain has been flattened, often in complex interlocking patterns — have been appearing in Wylatowo, western Poland, for four years.

The circles have drawn interest from UFO enthusiasts who believe they are made by alien spacecraft, while others dismiss them as hoaxes. — MNA/Reuters

Mortars fired at Japanese base in Iraq

SAMAWA (Iraq), 11 Aug — Four mortar bombs hit the Japanese base in the southern Iraqi town of Samawa on Tuesday, but there were no casualties, security sources said.

But in Tokyo, defence officials said the base was not hit and that they were still checking details of the incident.

"One thing that we are sure of is that the mortars have not hit the Japanese base," a Defence Ministry spokesman said. The ministry believes the bombs landed "several hundred metres" from the base, he said.

It was not immediately clear who launched the attack but militiamen loyal to

firebrand Shiite Muslim cleric Moqtada al-Sadr have revolted against US-led foreign occupation troops and the country's interim government in many cities in southern Iraq and Baghdad suburbs.

The sources said Iraq police had begun rounding up suspected Shiite militiamen in Samawa.

Attacks on the Japanese contingent have been rare.

Last month, Japan said it would keep its troops in Iraq

despite threats, purportedly from a group led by Abu Musab al-Zarqawi, of attacks if Japan does not withdraw its forces.

The purported statement from Zarqawi, an Islamic militant with suspected ties to al-Qaeda, was posted on an Islamist web site and demanded Japan follow the Philippines and pull its troops out. A later Internet message disowned the warning.

MNA/Reuters

British Airways flies 7,000 leftover baggage to owners

LONDON, 11 Aug — Thousands of travellers to the United States should be reunited with their bags in the next 24 hours after storms and technical failures left their luggage on the runway at Heathrow last week.

British Airways said on Tuesday it had laid on a special flight packed full of leftover baggage to rush it to long-

suffering owners across America.

"There are no passengers on the flight. They are putting bags in the cabin where they would normally sit. They are just cramming it full," a spokeswoman said.

She said that early on Tuesday around 4,000 of the original 7,000 bags remained at London's Heathrow Air-

port, but promised they would all be cleared by Wednesday morning.

The spokeswoman said problems began with storms a week ago and were compounded by problems with the ensuing failure of baggage belts.

"It was a combination of the two," she explained.

MNA/Reuters



Militiamen loyal to Moqtada al-Sadr cheer during clashes with US-backed Iraqi forces in Najaf recently. — INTERNET

Those who daren't show their face — 57

PaukSa

As they are making wicked lies and slanders one after another, the BBC and the VOA have become skilled in creating fabrication. At 6 am on 26 July 2004, the BBC aired an interview with Ko Teik Naing of the AAPP concerning the demise of poet U Kyi Tin Oo. The VOA also broadcast an interview with his daughter at 9 pm on the same day.

The brief account of the fabrication was that the BBC interviewed the so-called secretary of the AAPP about U Kyi Tin Oo, who was released from jail on 26 March 2004 and who died on 24 July. Teik Naing told the BBC that U Kyi Tin Oo died of hypertension, cardiac disorder and diabetes, which he was suffering from, while serving his jail term. Teik Naing also said that his toe was already decomposed; and that bits of bamboo were found inside his body as he was stabbed and hit with pointed bamboo sticks during the interrogation.

But during the VOA interview, her daughter said that his father was suffering from hypertension since before he was sentenced. She even said that her father underwent medical treatment at Insein Hospital before he was released from prison.

So, it has become quite clear. What the so-called secretary of the AAPP, an organization that is located at a far corner in a remote border area, said about U Kyi Tin Oo was nothing but lies to make the matter worse. Such a person who is skilled in creating lies and fabricated sad stories will be very rare.

The acts of the expatriates and fugitives of the AAPP and the corrupt politicians from inside the country attacking Myanmar and her Government on all fronts to the degree beyond imagination to make political gains

The brief account of the fabrication was that the BBC interviewed the so-called secretary of the AAPP about U Kyi Tin Oo, who was released from jail on 26 March 2004 and who died on 24 July. Teik Naing told the BBC that U Kyi Tin Oo died of hypertension, cardiac disorder and diabetes, which he was suffering from, while serving his jail term. Teik Naing also said that his toe was already decomposed; and that bits of bamboo were found inside his body as he was stabbed and hit with pointed bamboo sticks during the interrogation.

were so mean.

Whenever a person dies after he was released from prison for a period of a month or a year or ten years, the AAPP and the corrupt politicians always create a sad story, with fabrications, saying that the said person died of the effects of tortures in the prison or during interrogation or died of a certain illness or diseases due to lack of prison health care services. And if he died in prison, they slander the Government for not releasing him sooner for enabling him to undergo medical treatment in time. In reality, those persons are very pitiful for they are constantly under the influence of the greed to grab power.

Man is not free from death, sufferings and illness. Death may come at any time. So, a prisoner or an ordinary person can die at any time. Moreover, a person can be contracted by some kind of disease while he is in prison or at his house. But a prisoner like U Kyi Tin Oo is sentenced to imprisonment without hard labour. U Kyi Tin Oo was so comfortable in the prison, enjoying sound sleep every night and daily meals served at the right time. The prison doctors provide regular medical check-ups for inmates, and give them medical treatment. If necessary, specialist surgeons make medical check-up on and gave medical treatment to them. The prisoners are even treated

So, it has become quite clear. What the so-called secretary of the AAPP, an organization that is located at a far corner in a remote border area, said about U Kyi Tin Oo were nothing but lies to make the matter worse. Such a person who is skilled in creating lies and fabricated sad stories will be very rare.

at public hospitals outside the prison. So, the accusations that a prisoner is stricken with a certain kind of illness or disease while serving his jail term are just lies. And the liars create the slanderous accusations not because of their goodwill for the prisoners, but just because of their greed to earn dollars.

A prisoner like U Kyi Tin Oo enjoys a comfortable life in jail. But when he is released from prison, he has to make much physical and mental efforts to earn his living and solve his family, social and economic problems. He may lose appetite or suffer from insomnia for his worries. Such social problems may make him suffer from a certain kind of illness or worsen his chronic disease.

U Kyi Tin Oo was not a bed-ridden person after he was released from prison on 26 March 2004. He was seen in a normal condition and active within his community in Yangon. He could be seen sitting at tea shops in Yangon chatting with his companions.

But a person like U Kyi Tin Oo should take care of his health to recover from his chronic disease he had been suffering from since before he was sentenced to jail. Carelessness would worsen his health condition and invite other related diseases.

In short, the Government has no concern at all with the death of U Kyi Tin Oo. He died not because of the disease he was stricken while serving jail term as said by the BBC, the VOA and the AAPP, but because of the chronic disease he had already been suffering from. During the four months after he was released on 26 March, he was in normal condition.

He suffered from a stroke only on 18 July and was sent to hospital. When physicians made a medical check up on him, they found out that in addition to the chronic disease he was suffering from for a long time, he was also stricken with diabetes and coronary artery disease. He died of coronary artery disease on 24 July.

As I believe that the matter has become crystal clear now, I am going to conclude my article. The expatriates and fugitives of the AAPP are committing sins with wickedness and the BBC and VOA are attacking Myanmar and her Government with all kinds of fabrications. And now, they are even trying to make political gains out of the death of U Kyi Tin Oo. Thus, I would like to say that they are like the persons who daren't show their face in public because of their sins.

(Myanma Alin+Kyemon: 12-8-2004)

(Translation: TMT)

Man is not free from death, sufferings and illness. Death may come at any time. So, a prisoner or an ordinary person can die at any time. Moreover, a person can be contracted by some kind of disease while he is in prison or at his house. But a prisoner like U Kyi Tin Oo is sentenced to imprisonment without hard labour. U Kyi Tin Oo was so comfortable in the prison, enjoying sound sleep every night and daily meals served at the right time.

Efficient use of electricity

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

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

All this needs to be known

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

Efficient use of fuel

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

ASEAN to play pivotal role in Asia's economic future

KUALA LUMPUR, 12 Aug — If ASEAN

members are prepared to move forward together, the regional grouping could stand a real chance of playing a pivotal role in the economic future of Asia, Malaysian Deputy Prime Minister Najib Tun Razak said here Wednesday.

More could and should be done to make integration of the Association of South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN) on the ground although countries had clearly recognized the benefits of greater trade integration driven by the forces of globalization, Najib said in his closing address at the Second Asia Economic Summit.

The three-day summit was attended by hundreds of corporate leaders and economists from various countries and regions in Asia.

"We need to seriously address the issues of non-tariff barriers, inconsistent Customs procedures and divergent product standards

that throw sand into the wheels of AFTA (ASEAN Free Trade Area)," he said. ASEAN groups Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam.

In January 1992, ASEAN leaders signed an agreement to create AFTA by 2008.

Najib said the member countries needed to overcome the differential economic growth between the region and the rest of the world.

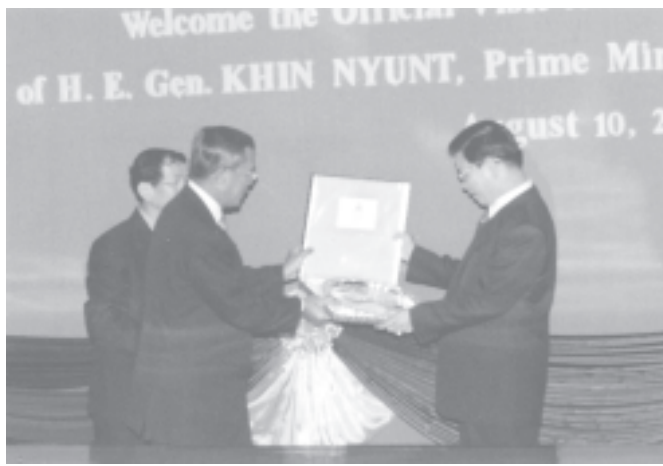
"Trade among ASEAN members has roughly doubled in the last 10 years, but this growth has been no faster than our trade with the rest of the world," he said.

On Asia's developments, Najib said he was optimistic that Asian countries would continue to maintain stable political environments, pursue pro-business economic policies and participate in the global economy.

MNA/Xinhua



Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt and Cambodian Prime Minister Mr Samdech Hun Sen exchange souvenirs.— MNA



General Khin Nyunt affirms...

(from page 1)

After the welcoming ceremony, Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt and party, together with Cambodian Prime Minister Mr Samdech Hun Sen,

proceeded to the Office of the Council of Ministers in Phnom Penh.

First, the two Prime Ministers met in the hall of the Office of the Council of Ministers. Also present on

the occasion were Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Soe Win, Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Aung Htwe, Minister for Foreign Affairs U Win Aung,

Deputy Minister U Khin Maung Win and Myanmar Ambassador to Cambodia Dr Aung Naing. Next, the bilateral talks between Myanmar and Cambodian delegations were held at the meeting hall of the Office of the Council of Ministers at 12 noon. It was attended by Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Soe Win, Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Aung Htwe, Minister for Commerce Brig-Gen Pyi Sone, Minister for Foreign Affairs U Win Aung, Minister for Home Affairs Col Tin Hlaing, Minister for Information Brig-Gen

Kyaw Hsan, Minister for Communications, Posts and Telegraphs and for Hotels and Tourism Brig-Gen Thein Zaw, Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs U Khin Maung Win, Myanmar Ambassador Dr Aung Naing and departmental heads.

The Cambodian Prime Minister was accompanied by Deputy Prime Minister and Minister at the Prime Minister's Office Mr Sok An, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs Mr Hor Nanthong, the Minister of Information, the Minister of Commerce, the Minister of Tourism Industry, deputy ministers, the Cambodian Ambassador to Myanmar and high-ranking officials.

During the talks, the Prime Ministers of the two countries cordially exchanged views on mutually beneficial issues, and international affairs. The Cambodian Prime Minister said that both Myanmar and Cambodia will collectively exert efforts in the area of

ASEAN integration. Cambodia committed to equal participation of all the Association members in the Asia-Europe Meeting, without making any discrimination against member countries. He also said that the two countries will pay serious attention to the cooperation for regional peace and stability and progress, while enhancing the bilateral friendly ties, understanding and cooperation between the two countries, that have a tradition of enjoying friendly relations.

Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt expressed satisfaction with the flourishing of bilateral close relations and cooperation between the two countries. The meeting is cordial and beneficial for both, he noted. He said that he valued the support given by Cambodia, with understanding, for Myanmar's developments, and thanked the country.

(See page 9)



Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt and party being welcomed by students and local people waving miniature flags at Phnom Penh International Airport.— MNA

Myanmar and Cambodia will continue their commitment to the regional prosperity and progress, and the ASEAN solidarity and firmness, hand in hand with other member nations.

PM General Khin Nyunt



Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt and Cambodian Prime Minister Mr Samdech Hun Sen taking salute of the Guard of Honour at the welcoming ceremony. MNA



Cambodian PM Mr Samdech Hun Sen sees off PM General Khin Nyunt. MNA

Bilateral close relations and cooperation between Myanmar and Cambodia is satisfactory. Myanmar values the support provided by Cambodia.

Myanmar PM General Khin Nyunt

Both Myanmar and Cambodia will cooperate to exert efforts in the area of ASEAN integration.

Cambodian PM Mr Samdech Hun Sen

General Khin Nyunt affirms Myanmar's commitment ...

(from page 8)

The Myanmar Prime Minister affirmed the two nations' continued commitment to the regional prosperity and progress, and the ASEAN solidarity and firmness, hand in hand with other member nations.

After the talks, the two Prime Ministers exchanged souvenirs.

In the afternoon, Cambodian Prime Minister Mr Samdech Hun Sen hosted a luncheon in honour of Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt and Myanmar delegation members at Raffles Hotel Le Royal in Phnom Penh.

Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt, Cambodian Prime Minister Mr Samdech Hun Sen, Myanmar goodwill delegation members, the Cambodian Deputy Prime Ministers, the deputy ministers, the Cambodian Ambassador to Myanmar and high-ranking officials together with Ambassadors of ASEAN countries attended the luncheon.

At the luncheon, the two Prime Ministers proposed toasts. During the luncheon, Cambodian traditional songs



PM General Khin Nyunt being welcomed by the Myanmar Ambassador to Cambodia, embassy staff and families at the airport. —MNA

and music were presented to the audience.

At 4.15 pm, Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt and party arrived at Phnom Penh International Airport where students on both sides of the entrance road to the airport were waving miniature flags of the two countries.

Next, the two Prime Ministers took the Salute of the Guard of Honour. The State Band played national anthems of the two countries.

Afterwards, Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt cordially greeted the Cambodian Deputy Prime Ministers, the ministers, the deputy ministers and high-ranking officials, the Ambassadors, the Myanmar Ambassador and wife, embassy staff and families, students and local people who bade farewell to him and Myanmar delegation at the airport. Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt cordially greeted Prime Minister Mr Samdech Hun Sen of Cambodia. Later, Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt and party left Phnom Penh International Airport by the special flight of Myanmar Airways International and arrived back here in the evening. — MNA



PM General Khin Nyunt and Cambodian PM Mr Samdech Hun Sen inspect the Guard of Honour. MNA



Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt and Cambodian Prime Minister Mr Samdech Hun Sen take the salute of the Guard of Honour at the airport. — MNA



Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt cordially meets Acting Head of State of Cambodia and Chairman of the Senate Mr Samdech Chea Sim at Senate House in Phnom Penh on 10-8-2004.— MNA



Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt cordially greets Acting Head of State of Cambodia and Chairman of the Senate Mr Samdech Chea Sim at Senate House in Phnom Penh on 10-8-2004.— MNA

essence in the effort to overcome the challenges.

In his response, Cambodian Acting Head of State Mr Samdech Chea Sim said the government of Cambodia and its people welcomed the goodwill visit of Myanmar Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt.

He recalled that Myanmar and Cambodia were the two countries that pulled themselves out of servitude. In the drive to keep the momentum of development, steps should be taken hand in hand to bring forth mutual interests in the region and bring prosperity to our respective countries.

After the ceremony, Mr Samdech Chea Sim presented a souvenir to Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt. Together, they posed for a group photo.

MNA

In the drive to keep momentum of development, steps should be taken hand in hand to bring forth mutual interests in the region and bring prosperity to our respective countries.

Mr Samdech Chea Sim

Myanmar, Cambodia share...

(from page 16)

Mr Nhik Chhay Eng, Advisor of Samdech Chea Sim Mr Pich Kim Sreang, and Cambodian Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Hul Phany.

On the occasion, Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt said Myanmar and Cambodia had shared cultural and religious identity throughout the course of history. To promote bilateral cooperation between the two countries and to further strengthen friendly relations among ASEAN countries, he had been on goodwill visits to regional countries.

He continued that his current trip covered Vietnam, Laos and Cambodia.

He went on that he and the Cambodian prime minister had frank discussions on mutual benefits and also exchanged views on regional and global issues. He also said that the meetings were very productive not only for both countries but also for ASEAN itself.

As Cambodia, Laos, Vietnam and Myanmar were the last to join ASEAN, strenuous efforts were to be made to keep pace with senior members of ASEAN in terms of development. Later, he pointed out close and effective cooperation and coordination among them were of the



Acting Head of State of Cambodia and Chairman of the Senate Mr Samdech Chea Sim presents a souvenir to Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt at Senate House in Phnom Penh.— MNA

Cementing ties of friendship, cooperation



Vietnam will maintain traditional friendship between the two nations and continue cooperation with Myanmar for mutual benefit.

*National Assembly Chairman
Mr Nguyen Van An*

Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt being greeted by Chairman Mr Nguyen Van An of the National Assembly of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam at Ba Dinh Hall in Hanoi on 9-8-2004. — MNA

Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt being greeted by his Vietnamese counterpart Mr Phan Van Khai in front of the meeting hall on 9-8-2004. — MNA

Vietnam understands and supports Myanmar's endeavours for success of the policy programmes for restoring national consolidation and transition to democracy.

*Vietnamese Prime Minister
Mr Phan Van Khai*

Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt pays courtesy call on Laotian President Mr Khamtay Siphandone at Presidential House in Vientiane on 10-8-2004.— MNA



Myanmar and Laos maintain fraternal relations with mutual respects. Friendship has been set up and mutual understanding built.

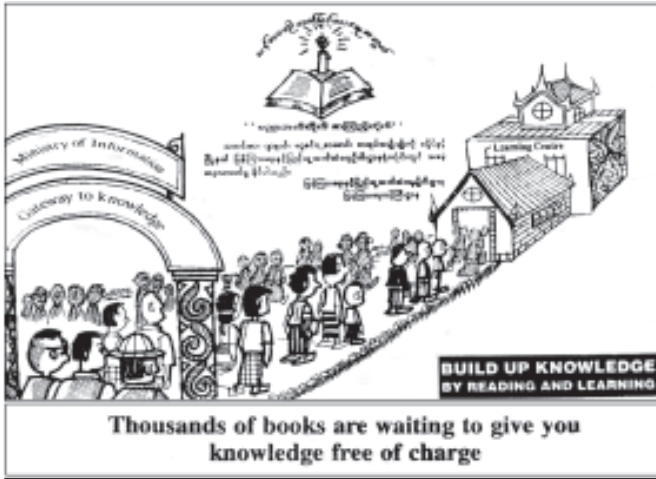
*Lao PDR President
Mr Khamtay Siphandone*

As Myanmar and Laos have mutual understanding, they are ready to cooperate in the regional and international issues.

*Lao PDR Prime Minister
Mr Bounnhang Vorachith*



Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt cordially greets Prime Minister of Lao PDR Mr Bounnhang Vorachith on 9-8-2004.— MNA



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UNION OF MYANMAR MINISTRY OF RAIL TRANSPORTATION MYANMA RAILWAYS INVITATION TO SEALED TENDER

1. Sealed Tender is invited by Myanma Railways, for supply of the following Spare Parts for Carriages and Wagons which will be purchased in Myanmar Kyats:-

Sr.No.	Tender No.	Description	Quantity
1.	12(T)17/MR(ML)	Spare Parts for Diesel Electric	1 - Lot
	2004-2005	Locomotives & Diesel Hydraulic Locomotives	
	Closing Date.	- 13.9.2004 (Monday)	(12:00) Hours

2. Tender documents are available at the office of the Deputy General Manager (Supply), Myanma Railways, Corner of 51st Street and Merchant Street, Botataung, Yangon starting from 13.8.2004 during the office hours.

3. For further details please call: 291982, 201555 Ext-602, 605, 612

Deputy General Manager
Supply Department, Myanma Railways, Botataung, Yangon

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE MV YANGON STAR VOY NO (358)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV YANGON STAR Voy No (358) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 13-8-2004 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.T.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S EAGLE CORPORATION
Phone : 256908/378316/376797

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE MV HIBISCUS VOY NO (083)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV HIBISCUS Voy No (083) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 13-8-2004 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.P where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S PREMIER SPECTRUM
Phone : 256908/378316/376797

Scientist founder of China's "Silicon Valley" passes away

BEIJING, 11 Aug — Chen Chunxian, who set up China's first non-governmental technology development company and laid foundation for the "Silicon Valley" in Beijing's Zhongguancun area, died Monday at the age of 70.

Chen was China's prestigious plasma physical scientist. He entered Sichuan University at the age of 17 and, two years later, studied at Moscow University.

Chen worked at the Chinese Academy of Sciences (CAS) for more than 20 years and helped set up the nuclear fusion base in the academy.

After China's reform and opening-up in the late 1970s, Chen, nearly in his 50s, was inspired by America's Silicon Valley and proposed to set up China's "Silicon Valley" at Zhongguancun area in Beijing in 1980.

Against various reproach and pressure, Chen left the CAS and set up China's first non-governmental technology development company focusing on plasma technology.

MNA/Xinhua

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(For. LLOYD WISE & CO., Hong Kong)
Dated: 13 August 2004

MPAA settles lawsuit with DVD-copying software maker

LOS ANGELES, 11 Aug — The Motion Picture Association of America (MPAA), the trade group for the US movie industry, said Tuesday it has settled lawsuits with a company which made DVD-copying software.

The MPAA said that the founders of 321 studios would make "a substantial financial payment" to the studios in addition to an agreement to stop selling its software, which the MPAA said infringes on the films' copyright.

The payment will be used to help Hollywood's ongoing aggressive anti-piracy programme, the MPAA said.

Two weeks ago, a federal judge granted a preliminary injunction, sought by three major video game publishers, to block the sale of 321's "Games X Copy" programme.

Initially, 321 studios sued the studios in early 2002, seeking a determination that its DVD-copying software was legal. — MNA/Xinhua

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P.O. Box 109, Ph: 248108/723043

(For. Lloyd Wise & Co., Hong Kong)
Dated: 13 August 2004

China's HNA may expected to participate in Malev's reconstruction

BEIJING, 11 Aug — Malev Hungarian Airlines (MAL) and China's Hainan Airlines (HNA) are discussing the possibility of deepening cooperation, said Sandor Laszlo, President of MAL, here Monday. Hainan Airlines may participate in MAL's reconstruction, said Laszlo. But he would not disclose more details on reconstruction plan or the exact date.

HNA officials also said two sides were negotiating on related issues. MAL will select satisfied partner among interested candidates.

HNA launched three weekly flights from Beijing to Budapest last Monday. With code-sharing agreement, MAL rented a certain number of seats on board. This is the first continental regular flight for HNA as well as the first direct route linking China and East Europe.

HNA President Chen Feng and MAL signed aviation agreement in June, in order to carry out wide cooperation in international route development and other area. Hungarian Government also hoped China to reconstruct MAL that is currently in huge losses.

Zimbabwe to construct 8th state university

HARARE, 11 Aug — Zimbabwean President Robert Mugabe said here on Monday that the Parliament has passed the bill to establish Lupane State University, which will bring the total number of state universities in Zimbabwe to eight.

"In its initial phase, the university's thrust will mainly revolve around the areas of agricultural sciences, in line with the country's focus on agriculture as the lifeblood of our economy," said the President, who spoke at the heroes commemoration at the Heroes Acre in Harare.

He said the government had not only increased access to education and training at primary, secondary and tertiary levels, but had made remarkable strides in improving the quality of such tuition, making the Zimbabwean education system the envy of the sub-region and the world.

Mugabe said the government would continue to review the teaching syllabi in order to ensure that the graduates were patriotic and loyal Zimbabweans.

MNA/Xinhua

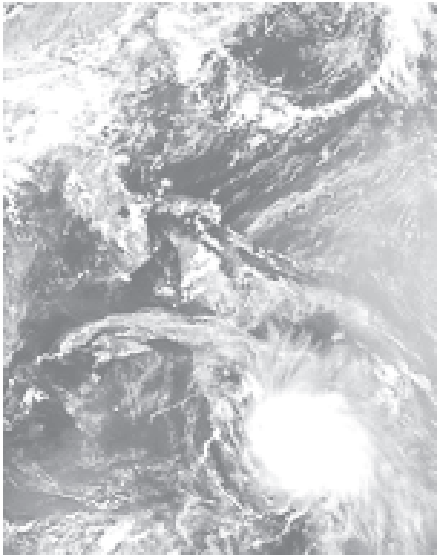
HNA Vice-President Wang Jian said HNA is considering about the plan, but there is no real progress so far. Hungary will have prospective aviation market in the future. However, it is not operating well. So far, Europe has aviation hub cities such as Frankfurt, Paris, London and Amsterdam, but none of them are in East Europe.

He said as Hungary joined the European Union and developed its national economy, Budapest is expected to become a new hub connecting Europe and Asia. HNA can try to lower the cost of MAL and give full play to HNA's passenger volume advantage in bilateral cooperation, in order to establish a low-cost airline in Europe. This will help build a hub for Chinese airlines and weave Chinese aviation web across Europe.

Experts said it is important for China's top four HNA to have a foothold in Europe. HNA planned to use MAL flights to reach other European cities via Budapest. If HNA participated in MAL reconstruction and even buy MAL, it can fly more easily within Europe.

MNA/Xinhua

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This NASA satellite image shows Tropical Storm Bonnie (L), over the Gulf of Mexico, and Hurricane Charley (R), over the Caribbean Sea on 11 Aug, 2004.—INTERNET

NASA to try to save "Hubble" telescope

WASHINGTON, 12 Aug—NASA has decided to try to save the orbiting Hubble Space Telescope by sending a Canadian-made robot to fix it, agency officials said on Tuesday.

NASA Administrator Sean O'Keefe told researchers at the agency's Goddard Space Flight Centre in Maryland about the plan on Monday, instructing the engineers there to begin serious work to put the robotic mission in to space in 2007.

"Everybody says, 'We want to save the Hubble' — well, let's go save the Hubble," O'Keefe was quoted as saying by the *Orlando Sentinel*. "Rather than just sitting there and talking about how we think we're going to do it, we've got an option we're ready to go with." It will cost at least one billion US dollars and possibly 1.6 billion US dollars to save the telescope, which has peered back to the very beginnings of the universe, found planets outside our solar system and taken dramatic pictures of stars being born.

Scientists who have used the telescope to explore the origins of the cosmos and look for places that extraterrestrial life might exist are delighted by the decision.

Al Diaz, associate administrator for NASA's Science Mission Directorate, told reporters it might be possible to add another five years to the life of the aging telescope.

Diaz described the next nine months as "a design and testing phase" in which engineers will work out details of the mission to prove that a robotic servicing mission can be done, the *Washington Post* reported.

NASA has been thinking about letting Hubble slowly die and drift out of orbit, because it otherwise must be maintained by space shuttle astronauts or some kind of robotic mission.

But a shuttle mission was ruled out by NASA after the shuttle *Columbia* fell apart as it headed toward a landing in 2003, killing all seven astronauts aboard.

NASA later cancelled a shuttle mission set for next year that would have replaced batteries and repaired broken gyroscopes used to aim the telescope.—MNA/Reuters

India to release postage stamps on Olympics

NEW DELHI, 12 Aug—India will release a set of four postage stamps on the Olympics Friday to coincide with the opening ceremony of its 28th edition at Athens, the *Indo-Asian News Service* (IANS) reported Tuesday.

Delhi Chief Minister Sheila Dikshit will release the stamps at a function to be organized by the Indian Olympic Association.

Since no picture of any sportsperson can be printed on these Olympic-specific stamps, they would have generic illustrations on them.

According to the guidelines (of the International Olympic Council), no sportsperson can be depicted on these stamps, the IANS quoted Kavery Banerjee, deputy director-general (philately) in the Department of Post, as saying.

MNA/Xinhua

Global warming causes shrinkage of highland glaciers in Asia

LHASA, 12 Aug — Shrinkage of highland glaciers in Asia has intensified over the past decade due to global warming, said Yao Tandong, head of the Qinghai-Tibet Plateau Research Institute under the Chinese Academy of Sciences (CAS).

There are a total of 46,298 highland glaciers in Asia. With a combined area of 59,406 square kilometres, these glaciers are located mainly around major mountain ranges on the Qinghai-Tibet Plateau, such as the Himalayas, Nyainqentanglha Range, Kunlun

Mountains, Karakorum Mountains and Tianshan Mountains.

The Dadongkemadi Glacier near the Nyainqentanglha Range, for example, advanced 15.7 metres from 1989 to early 1994, but it began to recede in the summer of 1994. By

2001, the glacier had shrunk by 4.56 metres, Yao said.

While two-thirds of the total glaciers began shrinking in the 1950s to 1960s, still about 10 per cent of the glaciers in the area advanced, and others remained unchanged, Yao acknowledged.—MNA/Xinhua

Zanzibar wins tourism destination award

DAR-ES-SALAAM, 11 Aug—Zanzibar, an Indian Ocean archipelago of Tanzania, has won the Best Tourism Destination in Africa Award in a worldwide poll conducted by the magazine *Tourism Travel Leisure*.

The win was announced by the US-based magazine and the award is planned to be presented to the Tanzanian Ambassador to the United States.

The number of tourists to Zanzibar has been on steady rise in the wake of terror alerts in Europe and the United States. Between January and June this year, 34,165 tourists visited the island, a sharp increase from 19,963 tourists during January to November last year.

The Zanzibar Commission for Tourism estimated that as many as 115,000 tourists could be expected to visit the isle, where 76,571 tourists spent about 5.4 million US dollars last year.

MNA/Xinhua

Pneumonia spreads at flood shelters in Bangladesh

DHAKA, 12 Aug—Pneumonia has turned into a major cause of illness mostly among infants with nearly 6,000 cases reported in the last 10 days in flood shelters across Bangladesh.

Doctors treating the infants in medical camps described the outbreak of the disease as alarming, *The Daily Star* reported Wednesday.

In the last week, 35 infants died of pneumonia.

In the last 10 days, people suffering from pneumonia numbered 5,744. In different flood shelters 1,168 infants contracted the disease Tuesday.

It is the leading cause of illness after diarrhoea in the flood shelters with children under five years of age increasingly getting sick, doctors said.—MNA/Xinhua

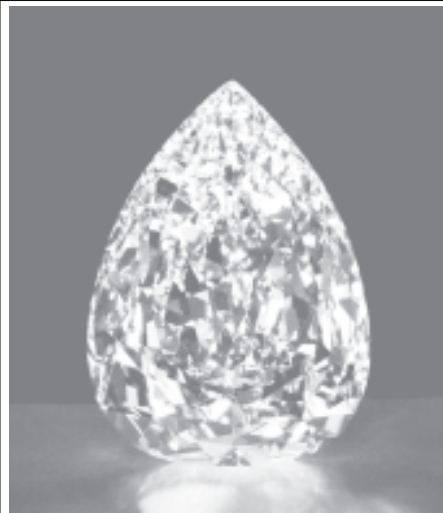
HKPC launches new division to support IT industry

HONG KONG, 11 Aug—The Hong Kong Productivity Council (HKPC) Tuesday announced the setup of a new division to provide strategic support and enhance the further development of the local information technology (IT) industry.

The new division - the Information Technology Industry Development Division (ITID) provides one-stop services covering software industry support, software engineering, information security, IT business partnership, emerging information and communications technologies (ICT), and management information system, according to HKPC.

Introducing the service scope of the division to the IT community, K K Yeung, executive director of HKPC said the setup of the ITID Division was in line with the Council's commitment to support the growth of industries to meet the needs of changing times.

He said HKPC has recently embarked on a five-year strategic plan with renewed strategies and focus to help industry capture the emerging opportunities brought about by Hong Kong's economic integration with the Chinese Mainland, and the Closer Economic Partnership Arrangement (CEPA). —MNA/Xinhua



A 203-carat diamond. Armed officers have raided a Scottish suburban house on 15-7-2004 as part of a worldwide probe into a multi-million dollar jewellery theft in Japan. — INTERNET

AIDS infects 14 million in southern Africa

PORT LOUIS, 11 Aug—Southern Africa continues to be the most affected region by HIV/AIDS in the world with 14 million people being infected, a senior official said here Tuesday.

Prega Ramsamy, executive secretary of Southern African Development Community, said at a media briefing here that SADC estimated that close to four million children in the region aged 0-14 years are orphans due to HIV/AIDS.

"We continue to underscore the importance of a regional response to HIV/AIDS to complement national initiatives given that the pan-

demic is trans-boundary," he said. He said that SADC has developed a five-year regional business plan for HIV/AIDS which is an instrument for the operation of the Maseru Declaration on HIV/AIDS and the SADC HIV/AIDS Framework.

Major intervention areas of the business plan include harmonizing policies for prevention, care and support, and treatment, capacity building

and mainstreaming HIV/AIDS into all SADC policies and programmes, said the official.

SADC will also enhance the sharing of technical information and resources on HIV/AIDS among member states and facilitate resource mobilization for the regional multi-sectoral response and effective monitoring of the epidemic in the region.

MNA/Xinhua

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SPORTS

Ten-man Monaco beat Slovenia's Nova Gorica 3-0

NOVA GORICA (Slovenia), 12 Aug — A goal in each half from striker Mohamed Kallon gave 10-man Monaco a 3-0 win in the first leg of their Champions League third qualifying round at Slovenian champions Nova Gorica on Wednesday.

Monaco defender Patrice Evra was sent off for his second bookable offence on 53 minutes after he brought down Andrej Komac.

Last year's Champions League finalists, Monaco dominated the early exchanges and Kallon put them ahead in the ninth minute with a powerful shot from just inside the penalty area after Nova Gorica's defence failed to clear the ball.

The principality side could have added to their tally before the end of the half but Ernesto Chevanton and Kallon wasted good chances.

Aleksander Rodic fired the first shot on Monaco's goal for the Slovenian club on 52 minutes and striker Jani Sturm wasted their best scoring opportunity midway through the second half.

MNA/Reuters

Own goal gives Manchester Utd win in Bucharest

BUCHAREST, 12 Aug — Manchester United came from behind to beat Dinamo Bucharest 2-1 in a Champions League third qualifying round tie marked by two own goals on Wednesday.

United, missing seven first-team players through injury, suspension and Olympic duty, made a nightmare start when Dinamo striker Ionel Danciulescu's angled shot was turned into the net by South African defender Quinton Fortune after 10 minutes.

Ryan Giggs settled the FA Cup holders' nerves in the 38th minute of the first leg tie, collecting a superb defence-splitting pass from Paul Scholes, rounding the keeper and coolly slotting home.

"Giggs' goal coming from Manchester's single clear opportunity at the end of the first half destroyed my players' morale," Dinamo Bucharest coach Ioan Andone said.

"But this is the mark of a great team — converting few opportunities into goals. Manchester deserved the victory because of their excellent organization."

United's new striker Alan Smith hit the post just after the break but the pressure finally paid off when United substitute Liam Miller crossed from the right and Dinamo defender Angelo Alistar knocked the ball into his own net.

Though Smith later had a header disallowed, the win still leaves United needing only a draw in the second leg at Old Trafford in two weeks' time to reach the group phase of the competition. — MNA/Reuters

Morientes double gives Real victory in Poland

KRAKOW (Poland), 12 Aug — Fernando Morientes grabbed a late double to give Real Madrid a workmanlike 2-0 win over Wisla Krakow in the first leg of their third round Champions League qualifier on Wednesday.

Morientes, returning to competitive action for the club after last season's loan spell at Monaco, struck when David Beckham sent in a well-weighted cross in the 72nd minute. He added a second on the stroke of full-time, converting a cross from Roberto Carlos to take Real into the home leg of the tie with a comfortable advantage.

Morientes started on the bench but his introduction after 68 minutes for playmaker Zinedine Zidane seemed to pour cold water on media speculation that Real were ready to let him go in part exchange for Liverpool striker Michael Owen.

New Real coach Jose Antonio Camacho confirmed as much after the match, saying: "There are no plans relating to Morientes leaving the club". Regarding a move for Owen, he added cryptically: "I've heard that the decisions have been made."

Until Morientes came on Real had looked sluggish and only threatened in spells against a Krakow team desperate to be the first Poles to reach the group stage since Widzew Lodz in 1998. Real's best chances came in the first five minutes when Brazil's Roberto Carlos hit a close-range shot straight at Krakow goalkeeper Radoslaw Majdan and Raul was inches from reaching a Luis Figo cross at the far post.

Zidane and Ronaldo also fluffed chances in the box later in the first half, with Wisla's response limited to a scrambled half-chance for Nigerian international Kalu Uche.

The Poles did better in the second half with a stinging 20-metre drive from Argentine Mauro Cantoro and a mazy run and shot from Poland striker Maciej Zurawski the closest they came to scoring from a series of openings. — MNA/Reuters



Greece's goalkeeper Georgios Amparis, left, safely blocks the ball as (from left to right) Korea's Cho Jae Jin, Greece's Loukas Vyntra, Korea's Cho Byung Kuk and Greece's Ieroklis Stolidis look on during a men's Group A preliminaries soccer match between Greece and Korea at the Karaiskaki Stadium during the 2004 Olympic Games in the north port city of Thessaloniki, Greece, on Wednesday, 11 Aug, 2004. — INTERNET

Ref decision saves Greek red faces

ATHENS, 12 Aug — Hosts Greece salvaged their pride after a bad start to their Olympics with a controversial 2-2 draw against 10-man South Korea in the men's soccer tournament on Wednesday.

Greece's determined fightback from two goals down brought relief to the nation after the women's side were humbled 3-0 by a Mia Hamm-inspired United States hours earlier.

The soccer matches kicked off the Games' official events in Athens although the official Opening Ceremony does not start until Friday.

Striker Dimitris Papadopoulos, one of the heroes of Greece's shock Euro 2004 triumph, drilled home the equalizer from the spot after Choi Won-kwon was harshly adjudged to have fouled Nikolaos Mitrou. Greece's hopes of emulating their shock European Championship success looked to have suffered a killer blow when a freak own goal from defender Loukas Vyntra gave South Korea a 2-0 lead in the 65th minute.

But Greece hit back in the 78th minute through substitute Ioannis Tsalikidis, who finished with a clinical left-foot volley from 16 metres.

South Korea have brought four players from the squad that reached the semifinals of the 2002 World Cup to Greece.

Their experience showed after defender Kim Chi-gon was harshly sent off in the

31st minute for a challenge on Papadopoulos — the only member of the Greek Euro 2004 side playing in the Olympics.

Kim Dong-jin stunned a capacity crowd of 28,000 in Thessaloniki two minutes before halftime, drilling home a fierce left-foot shot after Greece failed to clear a corner from the right.

Meanwhile, Mexico were held to a goalless draw by Mali in the other Group A match.

The men's tournament is an Under-23 competition with three over-age players allowed per team.

In Patras, playmaker Carlos Tevez scored twice and new Manchester United signing Gabriel Heinze was also on target as favourites Argentina thrashed Serbia and Montenegro 6-0.

Also in Group C, Australia drew 1-1 with Tunisia in Heraklio, Crete.

In the women's tournament, Hamm scored her 152nd goal in 261 games for the US in a comfortable 3-0 victory over Greece in Crete.

Meanwhile, captain Birgit Prinz scored four goals as world champions Germany underlined their credentials by crushing China 8-0 in Patras.

MNA/Reuters

Ireland's Shelbourne hold Deportivo 0-0

DUBLIN, 12 Aug — Ireland's Shelbourne pulled off the biggest result in their history on Wednesday when they held Spain's Deportivo Coruna to a 0-0 draw in the first leg of their Champions League, third qualifying round tie.

The little club from Dublin, the first Irish team to reach the third round of the tournament, was unruffled by last year's finalists and dominated the game for long periods.

Shelbourne's fans erupted in a sea of red and white when the tight match ended in deadlock at a packed Lansdowne Road.

"I am very proud of them," Shelbourne manager Pat Fenlon told reporters. "It is going to be difficult but the fact we haven't conceded a goal gives us a chance."

It was a rare night of European glory for the Irish side, who reached the third round with their first Champions League home win since 1993 against Croatia's Hajduk Split last week.

They continued their run of form against the Spanish giants.

Shelbourne could have taken the lead with 15 minutes left when Alan Moore's glancing header was pushed wide by Deportivo's substitute goalkeeper Gustavo Munua.

Deportivo's Pedro Munitis drove a low shot wide with five minutes left as the Spanish club struggled to break down the hosts. Deportivo started the game sluggishly

and found themselves chasing the ball for long periods.

But as the first half wore on, the Spanish side gained confidence and enjoyed more possession. — MNA/Reuters

Inter draw 1-1 with Basel

BASEL (Switzerland), 12 Aug — Inter Milan drew 1-1 with Basel in the Champions League third qualifying round first leg at St. Jakob Park on Wednesday.

Basel, who made it through to the group phase in 2002/03, made a strong start but were caught out after 19 minutes when Brazilian striker Adriano fired Inter ahead.

The Swiss side continued to attack, however and levelled the match six minutes later when central midfielder Benjamin Huggel headed Julio Rossi's left wing cross past Francesco Toldo from close range.

Inter twice hit the woodwork in the opening half, Dejan Stankovic's long-range shot coming off the left-hand post and Ze Maria striking the crossbar from eight metres. Basel had the better chances in the second half and Huggel struck the post after breaking into the Inter penalty area. The second leg will be played at San Siro in two weeks. — MNA/Reuters



Mia Hamm (L) of the US is tackled by Anastasia Papadopoulou of Greece during a group G Athens 2004 Olympic Games soccer match at Heraklio's Pankritio Stadium on 11 Aug, 2004. The US women defeated Greece 3-0. — INTERNET



Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt pays a courtesy call on Acting Head of State of Cambodia and Chairman of the Senate Mr Samdech Chea Sim at Senate House on 10-8-2004. — MNA

Myanmar, Cambodia share cultural, religious identity throughout history

Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt calls on Acting Head of State of Cambodia Mr Samdech Chea Sim

YANGON, 12 Aug — Union of Myanmar Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt called on Mr Samdech Chea Sim, Acting

Head of State of Cambodia and Chairman of the Senate, at Senate House in Phnom Penh, the Kingdom of Cambodia, at 3.15 pm on 10

August.

Present at the call together with Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt were State Peace and Development Council Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Soe Win, member of SPDC Lt-Gen Aung Htwe, ministers, the deputy minister for Foreign Affairs, Myanmar Ambassador to Cambodia Dr Aung Naing

and departmental heads.

Acting Head of State of Cambodia Mr Samdech Chea Sim was accompanied by Secretary-General of Senate and Chief of Cabinet Mr Oum Sarith, Secretary of Senate and Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation Mr Long Visalo, Under-Secretary-General of Senate

(See page 10)

Four political objectives

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

Four economic objectives

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

Four social objectives

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

As Cambodia, Laos, Vietnam and Myanmar were the last to join ASEAN, strenuous efforts were to be made to keep pace with senior members of ASEAN in terms of development.

**Prime Minister
General Khin Nyunt**

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Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt and party pose for a group photograph with Acting Head of State of Cambodia Mr Samdech Chea Sim and party. — MNA