

The NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

Volume XII, Number 148

12th Waning of Wakhaung 1366 ME

Saturday, 11 September, 2004

Senior General Than Shwe sends message of condolences to Indonesian President

YANGON, 10 Sept — Senior General Than Shwe, Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council of the Union of Myanmar has sent a message of condolences to Her Excellency Madam Megawati Soekarnoputri, President of the Republic of Indonesia, for the loss of innocent lives and devastations in the bombing incident in Jakarta, Indonesia, on 9 September 2004.— MNA



Senior General Than Shwe cordially greets Supreme Commander General Somdhat Attanand of Royal Thai Armed Forces at Zeyathiri Beikman.— MNA

Four political objectives

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

Four economic objectives

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

Four social objectives

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

Senior General Than Shwe receives Supreme Commander of Royal Thai Armed Forces and party

YANGON, 10 Sept — Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council of the Union of Myanmar Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Than Shwe received Supreme Commander General Somdhat Attanand of Royal Thai Armed Forces of Thailand and party at Zeyathiri Beikman on Konmyinthta, here, at 11 am today.

Also present at the call were 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, Military Adviser to the Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council General Khin Nyunt, Member of the State Peace and Development Council General Thura Shwe Mann

of the Ministry of Defence, Commander-in-Chief (Navy) Rear-Admiral Soe Thein and Commander-in-Chief (Air) Lt-Gen Myat Hein.

The Thai Supreme Commander and party were accompanied by Ambassador of Thailand to the Union of Myanmar Mr Suphot Dhirakaosal and Military Attaché Col Kasam Nakpun.

MNA



Senior General Than Shwe receives Supreme Commander General Somdhat Attanand of Royal Thai Armed Forces at Zeyathiri Beikman on Konmyinthta.—MNA

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

PERSPECTIVES

Saturday, 11 September, 2004

Strive for completion of projects according to set standards

The Union of Myanmar is a country rich in terrestrial and aquatic resources. Therefore, not only dams and river water pumping stations but also hydroelectric power stations are being built the length and breadth of the nation through the effective use of water resources.

There is now a total of 162 dams and 265 river water pumping stations all over the nation. Moreover, 28 new hydroelectric power stations generate nearly 400 megawatts and gas-run power stations including six new ones produce nearly 700 megawatts. In the near future, all the hydroelectric power stations and gas-run power stations in the nation will be able to generate more than 3000 megawatts.

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 on 7 September visited the construction site of the Ye Ywa Hydroelectric Power Station Project being built across the Myitnge river (the Dokhtawady river) 31 miles southeast of Mandalay.

In his meeting with the responsible personnel of the project, Vice-Senior General Maung Aye urged them to try to build the power station in accordance with the set standard and to make systematic use of money and materials.

The Ye Ywa Hydroelectric Power Station Project is being implemented by Hydroelectric Power Department. Now the construction of No 1 and No 2 diversion tunnels has completed. The approach tunnel is also being built. The project, on completion, will be able to produce 790 megawatts. Up to now, 31 per cent of the project has been completed.

The Government of Myanmar is energetically implementing such enormous projects for the Union to be able to stand proudly in the international community and for the good of posterity. This clearly reflects the genuine goodwill of the Government.

Therefore, we would like to call on all the responsible personnel and staff of respective departments to complete the projects in accordance with the set standards in the long-term interests of the nation and the people.

UMFCCI officials leave for Thailand

YANGON, 10 Sept—The 15-member delegation led by Vice-President of the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry Chairman of Greater Mekong Subregion-Business Forum (GMS-BF) U Win Aung and Vice-President U Zaw Min Win left here by air for Thailand yesterday morning.

They are going to attend High-Level Public-Private Sector Consultation Meeting to be held at Bangkok, Thailand, from 9 to 11 September under the Greater Mekong Sub-region Economic Cooperation Programme.

They were seen off at Yangon International Airport by UMFCCI President U Win Myint, General Secretary U Sein Win Hlaing, CEC members and officials. — 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

Minister inspects workshops

YANGON, 10 Sept — Minister for Construction Brig-Gen Saw Tun, accompanied by Deputy Minister Brig-Gen Myint Thein and officials of Public Works, inspected Heavy Machinery Company (South) in Mayangon Township this morning.

The minister inspected Main Workshop (South) of Public Works in Insein (Ywama). He saw over machines and heavy machinery repaired at the workshop. Later, the minister gave necessary instructions.—MNA

U Win Aung sends message of condolences to Indonesian FM

YANGON, 10 Sept — U Win Aung, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Union of Myanmar has sent a message of condolences to His Excellency Dr N Hassan Wirajuda, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Indonesia, for the loss of innocent lives and devastations in the bombing incident in Jakarta, Indonesia, on 9 September 2004.— MNA

Coordination meeting on opening of self-reliant libraries in villages held



Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan addresses coordination meeting to establish self-reliant village libraries.— MNA

YANGON, 10 Sept —The coordination meeting on opening of self-reliant libraries in villages was held at the meeting hall of the Ministry of Information on Theinbyu Road here this afternoon with an address by Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan.

Also present on the occasion were Deputy Minister for Information Brig-Gen Aung Thein, directors-general and managing directors of departments and enterprises under the ministry, Chairman of Myanmar Writers and Journalists Association U Hla Myaing (Ko Hsaung) and members, the Township WJA members, staff officers of the Offices of the District Information and Public Relations Department and guests.

In his address, Minister Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan said that the meeting is aimed at ensuring the opening of self-reliant libraries in every village in 2005-2006; that one of the objectives of the IPRD is to complete the project in 2005-2006; that self-reliant libraries have already been

opened in 7,364 village-tracts out of 13,748 village-tracts; and that arrangements are being made for opening of self-reliant libraries in the remaining over 6,000 villages.

In addition, measures are being taken to complete the opening of self-reliant libraries in over 60,000 large, medium and small villages

in 2005-2006, he added.

The minister said the project is being implemented with the aim of enriching the rural people with knowledge and of enhancing their socio-economic life, and urged officials including well-wishers to make concerted efforts for successful realization of the project since it is important to the State and the

people.

Next, Director-General of IPRD U Chit Naing reported on measures being taken for opening of self-reliant libraries in every village.

This was followed by a general round of discussions. The meeting ended with the concluding remarks by Minister Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan.

MNA

The Objectives of the 12th Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions

- * To vitalize patriotism and nationalism in all citizens
- * To preserve and safeguard Myanmar cultural heritage
- * To perpetuate genuine Myanmar music, dance and traditional fine arts
- * To preserve Myanmar national character
- * To nurture spiritual development of the youths
- * To prevent influence of alien culture

ကမ္ဘာ့ပထမဆုံးအကူအညီနေ့
World First Aid Day

ရှေးဦးပြုစု လူမှုကရုဏာ အပေါင်းလကွဏာ

First Aid : a gesture of humanity
which makes the difference

စက်တင်ဘာလ (၁၁) ရက်

မြန်မာနိုင်ငံတော်မြန်မာနိုင်ငံတော်

US warplanes strike two Iraq cities

BAGHDAD, 9 Sept — After a week of violence that killed 19 Americans and challenged the authority of Iraq's interim government in vast areas of the country, US commanders launched airstrikes Thursday on two cities controlled by militants and sent troops into a third to reinstall a deposed local government.

The Iraqi Health Ministry said at least 43 people were killed and 111 wounded during air attacks on Fallujah, 35 miles west of Baghdad, and Tall Afar, a northern city near the Syrian border. US troops massed outside Tall Afar, in apparent preparation to move in and restore the local government there.

In Samarra, about 65 miles north of Baghdad, US soldiers accompanied deposed city council members across a bridge into the city and stood guard while they elected

an interim mayor.

The simultaneous operations in three provinces signaled an aggressive effort to reassert control after the recent spasm of violence. During the past week, a suicide car bomb killed seven US Marines outside Fallujah, heavy gunfire sounded for a day in a Baghdad slum, roadside bombs exploded and two female Italian aid workers were kidnapped in daylight in the capital.

The violence pushed the death toll for Defence Department personnel in Iraq past 1,000 since the

conflict began 18 months ago.

The Fallujah airstrikes targeted a building occupied by three associates of Abu Musab Zarqawi, a Jordanian, the US military said in a statement.

One doctor, Rafi Hayad, said four of those killed were children and two were women, according to the Reuters news agency.

US troops have stayed on the city's periphery since an April agreement was reached after three weeks of fighting.

Internet

Costa Rica seeks removal from Iraq 'coalition'

SAN JOSE, 9 Sept — Costa Rica's highest court ruled that the United States cannot name this pacifist Central American country as one of its coalition partners in Iraq, and the government was preparing a letter yesterday asking Washington to remove it from the list.

The White House Web site still had the country listed yesterday.

Tom Casey, a US State Department spokesman, said Costa Rica's membership in the coalition was an expression of the country's opposition to terrorism, but agreed that Costa Rica provided neither troops nor economic assistance for Iraq's reconstruction.

White House spokesman Scott McClellan said, "We're pleased by the strong international support for the ongoing efforts to help the Iraqi people build a free and peaceful future." But, he added, "If that's what they want, then I'm sure we will do that."

The court ruling, announced late Wednesday, was cheered by a country that widely rejected the US-led war in

Iraq.

"I think it's great," said Rosario Camacho, a 23-year-old student. "I was opposed to Costa Rica being on the list because it couldn't support the war. It is a sovereign country and supporter of peace."

The court's ruling came on a motion by Attorney General Farid Beirute, who argued the constitution bars support for military action that is not authorized by the United Nations.

President Abel Pacheco said yesterday he agreed only to join countries that were against terrorism, and he said he would comply with the court's order and ask to have Costa Rica removed from the so-called "coalition of the willing" list.

Internet



Ahmed Tarish, left, and his brother, Fadhil Tarish, cry after they lost two sisters and their mother to an US airstrike in Sadr City, Baghdad, on 9 Sept, 2004. —INTERNET

ထိုက်တုန်နှစ်သ မိုးမြင့်ကြ

Army general says Pentagon looking into illegal "ghost detainees" in Iraq

WASHINGTON, 9 Sept — The Pentagon is investigating the imprisonment of as many as 100 "ghost detainees" who were held in secret custody by US forces in Iraq, the army general leading the Abu Ghraib Prison abuse probe told a congressional committee.

General Paul Kern told members of the Senate Armed Services Committee that investigators had "found many reports ... of people that were brought into the facilities and who were moved so that they could not be identified by the International Red Cross."

"This is in violation of our policy which requires us to register people so that it can be reported that they are being held in detention," he said.

Kern said the Pentagon has commissioned two probes — by the Department of Defence Inspector General and the CIA Inspector General — into the illegal practice, which he described as "perhaps one of the more troubling pieces of our investigation."

Earlier, the team of investigators had estimated that US forces hid just eight ghost detainees from the International Committee of the Red Cross in violation of the Geneva Conventions.

The chairman of the Senate committee, Republican John Warner of Virginia, said at the hearing that more than 300 allegations of abuse of prisoners in Iraq and Afghanistan have been made to date, and that 66 allegations of abuse have been substantiated at Abu Ghraib.

Kern reaffirmed that abuse was not just aberrant behavior carried out by relatively low-ranking military police, but involved military intelligence personnel as well.

Internet



A US Army soldier patrols the highway leading to Tikrit on 9 Sept, 2004. —INTERNET

Hun Sen stresses need to escalate educational development

PHNOM PENH, 9 Sept — Cambodian Prime Minister Hun Sen on Wednesday appealed to improve the education level of the whole nation in their efforts to reduce poverty of the country.

In his written message to the gathering of the International Literacy Day, Hun Sen urged the authorities concerned and the whole nation to take action to raise the understanding of the importance of the education among the people.

More than 1,000 people from all circles, as well as the representatives of UNESCO (United Nations Educational, Scien-

tific and Culture Organization) attended the meeting.

"Eliminating the illiteracy is the key of the development of the country," the Premier stressed. He also calls on the private enterprises and factories to open more literacy classes and vocational training in an effort to escalate the development of their enterprises.

Meanwhile, Hun Sen

asked the international community to continue its assistance to his country, including material, funds and technique, to help the kingdom to catch up with other countries in the region. Though Cambodia has implemented a 12-year compulsory education system, the children's enrollment of the right age is still below the target, only at 90 per cent.

MNA/Xinhua

Jordan, Russia to sign free trade agreement

AMMAN, 9 Sept — Jordan and Russia have agreed to sign a free trade agreement (FTA) and to establish a joint business council, Jordanian Chamber of Commerce chief Haydar Murad said Tuesday.

Murad, after a visit to Russia, told reporters that his delegation has held important talks with Russian officials to improve bilateral trade relations, adding that the talks with Russian Chamber of Trade and Industry were fruitful.

MNA/Xinhua

Annan says UN forced to limit staff in Iraq due to danger

WASHINGTON, 9 Sept—The United Nations has been forced to limit its international staff in Iraq to 35 as they are “operating at the outer limit of acceptable and prudent risk,” UN Secretary General Kofi Annan said in a report released on Thursday.

The limit is necessary until there is “a qualitative improvement in the overall security environment,” Annan said in urging member nations to contribute security guards and measures in the report submitted to the U.N. Security Council earlier this month to update Iraq reconstruction activities.

While pledging to “do everything possible, as circumstances permit, to support Iraqi efforts in the political and economic reconstruction of their country,” Annan said that no country has yet committed to providing security staff for UN workers there.

The report says the UN Assistance Mission in Iraq needs four personal security details, each comprising 12 officers, to protect the secretary general’s special

representative for Iraq. Ashraf Qazi, other designated UNAMI officials and visitors as they travel around the country.

Three armed guard units, each consisting of 160 people, are required to protect UNAMI facilities, while forces are also needed to help UN staff working outside the so-called “international zone” in Baghdad.

Last year, the United Nations suffered a devastating terrorist attack which killed 22 people at its Baghdad headquarters. The report notes that the last few months have been marked by continuing violent attacks, including assassinations and kidnappings, with many targeting foreign workers.

Internet



A cradle lies on the rubble as Iraqis survey the damage from overnight raids in Fallujah recently. At least 40 people were killed when US-led forces spearheaded overnight assaults on Iraq’s northern trouble spot of Tall Afar and the notorious militant bastion of Fallujah, officials said.—INTERNET

ဝက်ဘ်ဆိုက်: သတင်းကျော်လွှား

Ellsberg urges insiders to leak Iraq information

WASHINGTON, 9 Sept—Daniel Ellsberg, the former Defence Department official who leaked the Pentagon Papers during the Vietnam war, is urging government insiders to provide similar classified documents about the invasion of Iraq.

Joined by other whistle-blowers and former government employees, Ellsberg said at a news conference Thursday that claims of government deception and lies have “lit-

tle credibility” unless supported by documentary evidence, which often is available only in classified materials. In a memo to current government employees, Ellsberg and other former government officials said federal insiders owe a “higher allegiance” to the Constitution, the public and American soldiers in Iraq than to their government bosses.

“A hundred forty-thousand Americans are risking their lives every day in Iraq for dubious purpose,” the memo said. “Our country has urgent need of comparable moral courage from its public officials. Truth-telling is a patriotic and effective way to serve the nation.

The time for speaking out is now.” The memo acknowledged that whistle-blowers risk personal setbacks, such as losing their jobs, but urged them to act nonetheless. “You may save many Americans from being lied to death,” it said.

Sibel Edmonds, who was fired by the FBI after she alleged security lapses in the agency’s translator program, said the government frequently over-classifies documents, including the investigation into her own case.

Internet

Jordan, Iran discuss help to Iraq

AMMAN, 9 Sept — Jordan’s King Abdullah II held talks with an Iranian presidential envoy on Wednesday, discussing how to help stabilize Iraq.

In the meeting, the king and Iranian envoy Mohsen Mahr Alizadeh focused on the situation in Iraq and ways by which Iraq’s neighbours can support its security and stability, the Jordanian news agency Petra said.

Jordan is expected to host a meeting with participation of Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Syria, Turkey and Iran next month, a platform to discuss mutual concerns and the problems in their relations.

Those countries have held several meetings since US-led invasion of Iraq in March 2003.

MNA/Xinhua

Tibet celebrates 50th anniversary of highways operation

LHASA, 9 Sept—Leading officials and residents of southwest China’s Tibet Autonomous Region attended a celebration here on Wednesday to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the completion of the Sichuan-Tibet and Qinghai-Tibet Highways.

The most formidable projects in Chinese history, the two lines connecting Tibet with the southwestern Sichuan Province and the northwest Qinghai Province are 4,360 kilometres long and were built at an average altitude of over 4,000 metres.

Minister of Communications Zhang Chunxian said the opening of the two highways in 1954 ended the period when no modern highways led to the world’s highest plateau.

“The completion of the two highways was unprecedented in history and brought a new epoch to Tibetan transportation,” said the official. During the past 50 years, more than 20 million tons of goods have been transported into

Tibet on the two highways, Zhang said.

The opening of the two highways has also promoted social reform in Tibet, playing an important role in maintaining China’s territorial integrity and boosting Tibetan economic development, Zhang said.

Gyaco, Director of Tibet Autonomous Regional Communications Department, said the central government has invested 22 billion yuan (about 2.66 billion US dollars) in highway construction and maintenance during the past 50 years.

Totally, 41,000 kilometres road in Tibet is open to traffic, a modern transportation network, Gyaco said.—MNA/Xinhua

China will deepen cooperation with GCC

RIYADH, 9 Sept—Visiting Chinese Foreign Minister Li Zhaoxing said here on Wednesday that China is willing to develop friendly cooperation with the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) in all aspects and to promote relations with all Arab countries.

In a meeting with GCC Secretary-General Abdul-Rahman Al-Attiyah, Li said China, as a reliable friend and cooperative partner of the Gulf countries, will strengthen bilateral coordination to benefit the people of both sides.

Li said the relationship between China and the GCC has developed to a new era and China is ready to promote friendly relations with all Arab countries.

The GCC, established in 1981, consists of six Arab countries, namely Oman, Bahrain, Kuwait, Qatar, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirate.

Al-Attiyah said the GCC and its member states attach great importance to their relations with China and the council is conscientiously imple-

menting the economic and trade agreements it has signed with China.

The general-secretary

also reaffirmed that the GCC and its members adhere to the one-China policy.—MNA/Xinhua

Internet



Iraqi soldiers cut off all access to Tal Afar, Iraq on 9 Sept, 2004. At least 26 Iraqis have been reportedly killed and more than 70 others have been wounded in armed clashes between US troops and Iraqi gunmen in Tal Afar city, in northern Iraq.—INTERNET

Annan says peace in Iraq “long difficult process”

MEXICO CITY, 9 Sept—United Nations Secretary-General Kofi Annan said on Wednesday that the peace in Iraq will be a “long and difficult process”.

“There still remains a lot to be done. This will be a long process. The stabilization is in the interest of all of us, and we cannot just wait and see how Iraq destabilizes. So we have to do something to pacify it,” Annan told a Press conference here.

Annan considered it a “difficult task to continue advancing the construction of new foundations upon which Iraq will be built”. The ultimate goal of the UN participation in the multinational force in Iraq is to help the Iraqi people “take the reins of their country and economic resources”, he added.

The attempt to pacify the Middle East has taken more than two decades and that goal remains one of the priorities of the United Nations, along with the combat against terrorism, he said.

“We need to come up with ways and means of fighting terrorism effectively but we also need to make sure that these approaches do not undermine the rule of law and basic civil rights,” Annan told reporters. He also called on all the countries to work together and share information to cut off the logistic and financial support to terrorist groups.

MNA/Xinhua

Yemen supports efforts to end foreign occupation in Iraq

SANAA, 9 Sept — Yemeni President Ali Abdullah Saleh said here Wednesday that his government supports any efforts conducive to ending the occupation of foreign troops and achieving security and stability in Iraq.

Saleh made the remarks while meeting with Iraqi interim Foreign Minister Hoshiyar Zebari, who arrived here Wednesday morning for a three-day visit.

Saleh also urged all factions in Iraq to forget the past and take measures to restore security and stability in the country so as to maintain the normal process of reconstruction.

Yemeni Prime Minister Abdul Kader Bajammal, who met Zebari earlier, said he was confident that the Iraqi people have the ability to overcome all the difficulties and handle their internal affairs by themselves.

Bajammal also called for the establishment of a united action system be-

tween Yemen and Iraq to promote the work of the mixed committee of the two countries.

During the talks, Zebari briefed the Yemeni leaders on latest developments in Iraq and the Iraqi Government's quest for assistance in rebuilding Iraq and preserving its security.

Iraq needs the assistance of the international community and Arab countries to prepare the ground for conducting the upcoming general elections, Zebari said.

While meeting with his Yemeni counterpart Abu Bakr al-Kurbi, Zebari said his visit was part of the efforts by the Iraqi Government to boost bilateral ties with Arab countries.—MNA/Xinhua

Hopes for release of French hostages doubtful

PARIS, 9 Sept—Hopes for a speedy release of two French hostages in Iraq gave way to expressions of doubt and concern on Tuesday after a statement setting out new demands for their release was posted on a web site.

Officials could not con-

firm whether the statement, posted on Monday and demanding a five-million-US-dollar ransom within 48 hours to free Christian Chesnot and Georges Malbrunot, was genuine and said they were exercising “extreme discretion” and “total

caution”.

Foreign Minister Michel Barnier, on a visit to Skopje, had no fresh word on the hostages' fate but said he was ready to return to Amman if needed to continue working for their release.

MNA/Reuters



US soldiers survey the scene of a helicopter crash near the town of Fallujah, on 9 Sept, 2004. A US helicopter crashed in western Iraq on Wednesday and the four crew members were rescued from the crash scene, the US military said in a statement. —INTERNET

Second Danish soldier suspended for prisoner abuse

COPENHAGEN, 9 Sept—A second Danish soldier has been suspended over allegations of prisoner abuse during interrogations at the Danish headquarters in southern Iraq, state television reported on Wednesday.

The soldier, a military policeman, could face up to a year in prison if found guilty of breaking military law, the Army said.

The investigation into prisoner abuse, which last month prompted Defence

Minister Soren Gade to recall the top Danish command from Iraq, has rocked the Scandinavian nation.

In August, Reserve Captain Annemette Hommel was sent home to face an Army investi-

gation because a civilian interpreter had complained about the way she interrogated prisoners.

The Army then said it was investigating several other soldiers and four incidents of abuse.—MNA/Reuters

Wen Jiabao visits teachers before teachers' day

BEIJING, 9 Sept — As the 20th National Teachers' Day approaches, Chinese Premier Wen Jiabao visited teachers in Beijing and sent greetings to more than 10 million teachers and educational workers country-wide.

“Education is of fundamental importance to the fulfillment of China's long-range missions,” Wen said while visiting an 83-year-old retired primary school teacher.

He said ensuring the schooling of children is the primary task of the government.

“Only when education is available to everyone, can social equality be

achieved and quality of the citizens improved,” he said.

According to Wen, China will put an end to illiteracy and popularize compulsory education in the nation in five years. The government will make special appropriations to improve the conditions of primary and high schools. Meanwhile, it will further strive to establish a team of high-level teachers.

While visiting an 88-year-old dancer, Wen said while China has made progress in economic and social development, it should also educate students in the art and cul-

ture. He urged all levels of the government to support the development of art and art education.

He said that in addition to improving the basic education, China must also make great efforts to improve higher education to cultivate a large number of outstanding professionals.

He mentioned that in key scientific research institutions and key areas of scientific research, China will recruit outstanding talents from around the world.

China's National Teachers' Day falls on 10 September.

MNA/Xinhua



Local residents stand by a track of an US Abrams tank at Sadr City, Baghdad, on 9 Sept, 2004. US forces left the track behind after a tank damaged during fighting had to be recovered with a Hercules recovery vehicle. —INTERNET

Construction on Sino-Russian trade zone begins

HARBIN, 9 Sept—Construction on the first closed trade zone on the Chinese Russian border began on Wednesday.

The trade zone covers 4.53 square kilometres on the Sino-Russian border. Nearly a quarter, or 1.53 square kilometres, is located in Suifenhe City in China's northernmost Heilongjiang Province.

MNA/Xinhua

Spain calls for release of Italian aid workers

MADRID, 9 Sept—Spain strongly condemned the kidnapping of two Italian aid workers in Iraq and demanded the immediate release of them, the Spanish Foreign Ministry said in a statement Wednesday.

The Spanish Government expresses its “great concern” over the kidnapping, which “affects the nationals of a third country whose intention is participating in the efforts for the reconstruction of Iraq and contributes to the stability and normalization of the daily life of the Iraqi people,” the statement said.

Simona Torreta and Simona Pari, both 29 and working for an aid organization called Bridge to Baghdad, were seized Tuesday afternoon by heavily armed gunmen from their office in Baghdad.

They were taken captive along with an Iraqi man working for them and an Iraqi woman working for another Italian aid group.—MNA/Xinhua

French Govt begins talks on fate of two hostages

PARIS, 9 Sept— The French Government began crisis talks on the fate of two French hostages held in Iraq as a deadline loomed on Wednesday for paying a five-million-US-dollar ransom.

Journalists Christian Chesnot and Georges Malbrunot have been held by Islamic militants since August 20. Two Italian women working for an aid group have also been taken hostage in Iraq in abductions that have shocked the two European nations.

Prime Minister Jean-Pierre Raffarin summoned top members of his government including the foreign, defence and interior ministers following a regular Cabinet meeting.

"We remain in the same

state of hope — confident and cautious at the same time," government spokesman Jean-Francois Cope told reporters.

He said the journalists' safety was the main priority for the government and announced that Raffarin would soon consult the heads of parliamentary groups "in the spirit of national unity that has prevailed from the start".

Officials have not said whether they believe a

statement posted on a web site on Monday demanding a ransom be paid within 48 hours is genuine.

The statement purportedly by a group called the Islamic Army in Iraq did not make clear at what time the deadline expired or what the kidnappers would do if the ransom was not paid.

Hopes for the journalists' rapid release have given way to increasing doubt and concern because of the statement, which also called for a truce with

al-Qaeda leader Osama bin Laden and a promise of no military and commercial dealings with Iraq.

Government officials say they are exercising "extreme discretion" and "total caution". Ministers had sounded optimistic late last week but their comments have become more guarded since violence surged in Iraq at the weekend. A French Muslim leader who visited Iraq last week to help seek the hostages' release said on Monday a US offensive around Latifiya, where the hostages were said to be held, seemed to be a bid to thwart the release.

France was stunned by the kidnapping of the journalists because it had opposed the US-led war in Iraq and has not sent troops to the country. It is the first time French nationals have been seized since the US-led invasion of Iraq last year.

MNA/Reuters

မြန်မာ့စွေတာ၊ မိန်းပါလေလွင်၊
ထုတ်ကုန်ခြင်း

Thai troops to Iraq leaves for home

BANGKOK, 9 Sept— The first group of Thai troops to Iraq have left their camp in Kuwait and are expected to arrive in Bangkok in two hours, said the spokesman for Thailand's Defence Ministry Palangoon Glaharn.

The first batch of 130 Thai soldiers boarded on a United States Army aircraft around 2:00 am at local time, leaving Kuwait for Bangkok, the spokesman told reporters.

A grand ceremony will be held at Air Force airport in Bangkok to welcome the soldiers who have been stationed in the southern Iraqi city of Karbala for half a year.

Relatives of the soldiers and the Defence Minister Chetta Thanajaro and the Army Chief Assistant Prabith Wongsawan, who will be Army Chief in October will greet the soldiers at the airport.

The rest of the Thai troops will also arrive at home in the following days.

A total of 447 Thai troops have pulled out of Iraq in late August and waited at the Victory Camp in Kuwait to be transferred by the US Army to Thailand.

Since last September, Thailand has sent two batch of troops to the southern Iraqi city of Karbala to fulfil its one-year commitment for postwar construction.

The government has maintained its decision not to withdraw troops early, despite of increasing domestic pressure after two soldiers were killed in an attack in last December. — MNA/Xinhua



Peace activist protest President Bush's administration policies during a vigil to remember the over 1,000 US Armed Forces members killed in Iraq on Thursday, 9 Sept, 2004, in Los Angeles. The total represents troops killed in both combat and non-hostile incidents since the beginning of the conflict. —INTERNET

New session of Int'l Conf on Education begins in Geneva

GENEVA, 9 Sept — The 47th session of the International Conference on Education began here Wednesday with the theme "Quality Education for All Young People: Challenges, Trends and Priorities".

The session, organized by the International Bureau of Education (IBE) of the UN Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), will run through Saturday.

An IBE statement said the session is being held at a particularly favourable time since the UN General Assembly has proclaimed the United Nations Decade of Education for Sustainable Development from January 1, 2005 and designated UNESCO as the lead agency in charge of its promotion.

Ministers of education from 86 countries are participating in the session,

which includes two plenary debates and four panel discussions on relationship between quality education and gender equality, social inclusion, competencies for life and the key role of teachers.

Wednesday is also the International Literacy Day. A ceremony will be held here during the session to commemorate the special day.

A ceremony to reward outstanding persons and institutions in the fields of educational research and innovations will also take place during the session.

The Geneva-based IBE has been organizing the International Conference on Education since 1934, providing a worldwide forum for dialogue among ministers of education.

MNA/Xinhua

China, Japan, S Korea to hold logistics forum in Beijing

BEIJING, 9 Sept—China Logistics Development and International Cooperation Summit to be held on November 4 to 5, according to a senior official of the Ministry of Commerce (MOC) here Wednesday. Officials and enterprises from China, Japan and South Korea will attend the meeting.

Di Jiankai, director of the MOC department of commercial reform and development, said to hold the forum is to carry the consensus that the heads of the three governments reached last October in Indonesia at the "10+3" meeting. Main topics of the forum are China's logistics investment environment, cooperation on logistics among China, Japan, South Korea and northeast Asia and the informationization and standardization of China's logistics.

MNA/Xinhua

Study shows coal continues to be key energy source in decades

SYDNEY, 9 Sept — The world will have enough coal to support its development at least for the next two decades, according to the latest study of the World Energy Council.

"Coal will be available to meet the steeply rising demand for steam coal, while the supply of coking coal will be adapted to reduced demand," said the study released at the 19th World Energy Congress being held here.

"Despite the drain on coal reserves, these will remain significant in absolute terms and compared

to oil and gas reserves," the study report said.

Coal will be accessible, mostly in the form of electricity, to a growing number of people. And international coal prices will remain stable and competitive, according to the study.

"Thus coal could make a significant contribution to reducing the number of

people in the world who currently have no access or unreliable access to commercial energy," the study report said.

Coal will be more environmentally acceptable in that by 2030, 72 per cent of coal-based power general in the world is likely to use cost-effective clean coal technologies, said the report. —MNA/Xinhua



Water gushes from more than 20 open sluice gates on the Three Gorges dam in Yichang, Hubei Province, on 9 Sept, 2004. —INTERNET

Four new wells drilled successfully at Yedagun Oil and Gas Project 400m cubic-feet of natural gas per day to be sold to Thailand soon Lt-Gen Maung Bo inspects boosting production of crude oil, natural gas at Yedagun Oil and Gas Project in Taninthayi



Lt-Gen Maung Bo cordially converses with Myanmar and foreigner employees of Yedagun Oil and Natural Gas Project. — MNA

YANGON, 10 Sept — Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Maung Bo of the Ministry of Defence, accompanied by Minister for Energy Brig-Gen Lun Thi and officials, inspected work to boost production of crude oil and natural gas at Yedagun Oil and Gas Project in Taninthayi Offshore this morning.

At the hall of the oil rig, Lt-Gen Maung Bo and officials heard reports on production and success of the project presented by Offshore Installation Manager Mr Chris Brown and Operations Manager of Petronas Myanmar Mr Salahuddin Sulaiman.

Minister for Energy Brig-Gen Lun Thi reported on plans to increase gas export to Thailand and to transport condensate, a by-product of the project, to Thanlyin Refinery.

Next, Lt-Gen Maung Bo and Minister Brig-

Gen Lun Thi presented a fruit basket to Myanmar and foreigner employees of the project and gave encouragement to them. Then, Lt-Gen Maung Bo and party viewed machinery at the rig. Lt-Gen Maung Bo, Minister Brig-Gen Lun Thi and party arrived back here by air via Dawei in the afternoon.

Yedagun Offshore Oil and Natural Gas Block was set up at No 1 Test Well in November 1992. Next, 12 more wells were drilled. Natural gas has been sold to Thailand since April 2000, after reaching an agreement with the country. Four new wells had been drilled successfully at the end of August 2004 and plans are under way to increase daily gas export to Thailand to 400 million cubic-feet. As new wells are producing 145 million cubic-feet of gas per day, the total output of the project has reached 500 million cubic-feet.

Likewise, production of condensate will increase from today's 8,700 barrels per day to 12,000 barrels per day. The condensate will be supplied for local demand and the surplus will be exported.

The Myanmar Oil and Gas Enterprise of the Ministry Energy is earning foreign currency from the project as a shareholder and as the host. — MNA



Lt-Gen Maung Bo, Minister for Energy Brig-Gen Lun Thi and employees pose for documentary photo at the drilling rig. — MNA

First Aid: a gesture of humanity which makes the difference

Tekkatho Zaw Htoo Oo

The World First Aid Day comes into being to add one more day to the world's anniversary days commemorating significant events or movements. The Day is marked in dedication to and in honour of the first aid science of the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, with 181 member countries worldwide, to save the lives of human beings.

In was in the year 2000 that the Red Cross societies of the 16 European countries started to observe the First Aid Day, followed by their sister associations of the Central American

countries the next year. In 2003, under the auspices of the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, a resolve was made to hold the Day worldwide as an annual occasion. Every year at 11 am local standard time of the respective countries on Saturday the second week of September, the World First Aid Day will be celebrated simultaneously in the countries around the world, with the motto — First Aid: a gesture of humanity which makes the difference.

The first aid stands as the image of one of the important Red Cross activities, and its initial

aim is to provide emergency medical treatment for the wounded persons in battle fields to save their lives. But in the time of peace also, the first aid helps reduce the pain and sufferings of the persons injured in accidents or who are attacked by a certain kind or kinds of acute disease.

Nowadays, the aim of the Red Cross activities is not just for helping and treating only 'the victims', but also to help 'the vulnerables'. Thus, today's first aid has to also deal with community-based social and health affairs, in addition to original functions of treating the wounded.

The first aid policy was laid down at the 12th

General Conference of the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, held in Geneva in October 1999. Based on the policy, the Red Cross societies of the member nations drew their own first aid policies. The Myanmar Red Cross Society drew her first aid policy in 2003. The MRCS is implementing its three tasks — to promote health, to prevent diseases; and to help the disaster victims — in accord with the aim 'To reduce poverty and sufferings'.

Dissemination of the first aid techniques, covering the three tasks, among the people, and

enabling them to take part in the first aid activities will help benefit their families and their community.

The world has acknowledged an event in Myanmar, in which a person's life was saved through the first aid techniques. When Sai Aung Hlaing Myint, a Red Cross member, saw a military truck together with its driver fell into the Ayeyawady at Khatcho jetty on the opposite bank of Myitkyina, he suddenly dived into the water and rescued the driver, a Tatmadawman, from the car underneath the water. He was able to save the life of the man he had rescued from the water by using the first

aid techniques. Sai Aung Hlaing Myint was awarded the Henry Dunant Medal in 1977.

The first aid is so popular in the world at present, and has become an essential knowledge for workers whose occupations are hazardous and employees of factories, departments and schools as well as for families. At least one person of every family should know first aid.

The World First Aid Day is observed in dedication to the first aid techniques and in honour of their results. And if you know first aid, you will feel pleased every time you help save a person's life.

(Translation: TMT)

Vice-Senior General Maung Aye receives Supreme Commander of Royal Thai Armed Forces

YANGON, 10 Sept — 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 received Supreme Commander of Royal Thai Armed Forces General Somdhat Attanand and party at Zeyathiri Beikman on Konmyinthta at 6 pm today.

Present on the occasion were 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 Lt-Gen Aung Htwe, Lt-Gen Maung Bo and Quartermaster-General Lt-Gen Thiha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo, Commander-in-Chief (Navy) Rear-Admiral Soe Thein, Commander-in-Chief (Air) Lt-Gen Myat Hein, Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe, Vice-Chief of Military Intelligence Maj-Gen Kyaw Win and Thai Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Suphot Dhirakaosal and Military Attaché Colonel Kasam Nakpun.

MNA



Vice-Senior General Maung Aye greets Supreme Commander of Royal Thai Armed Forces General Somdhat Attanand at Zeyathiri Beikman.— MNA

Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and...

(from page 16)
Military Attaché Col Kasam Nakpun and officials.

When the special flight of Royal Thai Armed Forces carrying the Supreme Commander of Royal Thai Armed Forces and wife and party landed at Yangon International Airport at 9 am, Vice-Chairman of the State Peace and

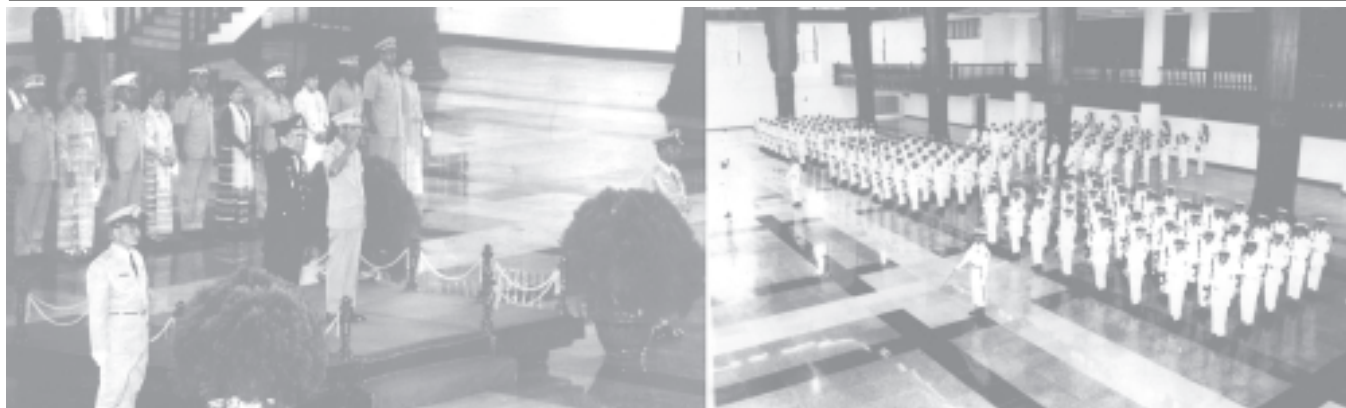
Development Council Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and wife Daw Mya Mya San and party welcomed them.

Next, Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and the Thai Supreme Commander went to the dais at the special lounge of the airport and took the

salute of the Guard of Honour. Afterwards, Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and the Thai Supreme Commander inspected the Guard of Honour. Later, Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and wife Daw Mya Mya San greeted the Thai General and party before their departure for No 1 Defence Services Guest House.— MNA



Vice-Senior General Maung Aye receives Supreme Commander of Royal Thai Armed Forces General Somdhat Attanand and party at Zeyathiri Beikman.— MNA



Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and Supreme Commander of Royal Thai Armed Forces General Somdhat Attanand take salute of Guard of Honour.— MNA

Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and wife host dinner in honour of Supreme Commander of Royal Thai Armed Forces and wife

YANGON, 10 Sept — 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 and wife Daw Mya Mya San hosted a dinner in honour of the visiting Thai goodwill delegation led by Supreme Commander of Royal Thai Armed Forces General Somdhat Attanand and wife Madame Khunying Suppanapa Attanand at Zeyathiri Beikman on Konmyinthta at 7 pm today.

Also present at the dinner were member of the State Peace and Development Council General Thura Shwe Mann and wife Daw Khin Lay Thet, Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Soe Win and Secretary-2 Lt-Gen Thein Sein and their wives, 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 and their wives, Commander-in-Chief (Navy) Rear-Admiral Soe Thein and Commander-in-Chief (Air) Lt-Gen Myat Hein and their wives, Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe and wife, Vice-Chief of Military Intelligence Maj-Gen Kyaw Win, Myanmar Military Attaché to Thailand Col Ko Ko Maung, senior military officers, Thai



Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and wife Daw Mya Mya San welcome Supreme Commander of Royal Thai Armed Forces General Somdhat Attanand and Madame Khunying Suppanapa Attanand at the dinner.—MNA

Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Suphot Dhirakaosal, Military Attaché Colonel Kasam Nakpun and officials.

Before and during the dinner, artistes of the Fine Arts Department of the Ministry of Culture sang songs. After the dinner, they also entertained the guests with Myanmar traditional songs and dances at Thabin Hall.

After the entertainment programmes, General Somdhat Attanand and wife presented a bouquet to the artistes and posed for a documentary photo.

MNA



Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and wife Daw Mya Mya San host dinner in honour of Supreme Commander of Royal Thai Armed Forces General Somdhat Attanand and Madame Khunying Suppanapa Attanand.—MNA

**Dinner hosted in honour
of Supreme Commander
of Royal Thai Armed
Forces General Somdhat
Attanand and wife
Madame Khunying
Suppanapa Attanand**

Wife of visiting Thai Supreme Commander and party visit Myanma Gems Emporium

YANGON, 10 Sept — Madame Khunying Suppanapa Attanand, wife of visiting Supreme Commander General Somdhat Attanand of Royal Thai Armed Forces, accompanied by Daw Yin Yin Nwe, wife of Brig-Gen Kyaw Han of the Ministry of Defence, Daw Khin Win Kyaw, wife of Myanmar Military Attaché to Thailand Col Ko Ko Maung, and Mrs Venus Nakpun, wife of Thai Military Attaché Col Kasam Nakpun and officials, went to Myanma Gems Emporium on Kaba Aye Pagoda Road, here, at 10.45 am today.

They were welcomed by in-charge of the emporium Assistant Director U Thit Lwin of Myanma Gems Enterprise and officials.

The wife of the visiting Supreme Commander of Royal Thai Armed Forces and party viewed round the booths of the emporium. Adviser to the MGE U Ohn Myint and Deputy Assistant Director Daw Aye Myo Naing conducted them round the emporium.—MNA



Daw Mya Mya San seen with wife of the Supreme Commander of Royal Thai Armed Forces at the dinner.—MNA

How to influence Myanmar:

Sanctions may be satisfying, but they do no good

David I. Steinberg

The following are excerpts from the article "Sanctions may be satisfying, but they do no good" by David I. Steinberg from the International Herald Tribune published on 22-6-2004.—Ed

When the military leaders of Myanmar, formerly Burma, convened a constitutional convention last month without the country's main opposition party, they lost an opportunity for progress. Although the ruling junta called the convention the first step on a "road to democracy," their refusal to release democracy leader Aung San Suu Kyi led her party to boycott the convention.

Yet President George W. Bush also lost a chance to influence developments in Myanmar when he extended political and economic sanctions against the country for another year in response to what he called "large-scale repression of the democratic opposition."

By isolating Myanmar, the United States has neglected internal humanitarian concerns and has driven Myanmar closer to China.

Consider the wider context. Myanmar flanks the two greatest regional powers in Asia, China and India. It links India to the rest of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations, and it provides China with access to the Bay of Bengal and potentially to the Malacca Straits, the most important natural waterway in the world.

So if the United States hopes to balance Chinese influence in the region, it should reconsider its policies.

David I. Steinberg

David I. Steinberg is Distinguished Professor and Director of Asian Studies, Georgetown University, School of Foreign Service. He was previously a Representative of the Asia Foundation in Korea; Distinguished Professor of Korea Studies, Georgetown University; and formerly President of the Mansfield Center for Pacific Affairs. Earlier, he was a member of the Senior Foreign Service, Agency for International Development (AID), Department of State, and was Director for Technical Assistance in Asia and the Middle East, and Director for Philippines, Thailand, and Burma Affairs. He spent three years in Thailand with the USAID Regional Development Office. Steinberg was educated at Dartmouth College, Lingnan University (Canton, China), Harvard University, and the School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London. He is the author of twelve books and monographs including, *Stone Mirror*, *Reflections on Contemporary Korea* (2003), *Burma: The State of Myanmar* (2001), *The Republic of Korea. Economic Transformation and Social Change* (1989), and editor of *Anti-American Sentiment on Korea* (2004). He is also the author of over 80 chapters/articles, and is an op-ed columnist for the *International Press* and *The Korean Times*.

China, for its part, has been engaged in a most effective diplomatic and economic initiative in Southeast Asia.

In 2003, China provided Myanmar with \$200 million in economic assistance. It has helped with the construction of roads, railroads, airfields, ports, and dams throughout the country. Chinese investment is probably the largest of any foreign country. India has worried more than any regional power about the China-Myanmar connection.

A Burmese state dominated by China would place India at a distinct disadvantage: China to the north, China's ally Pakistan on the western flank, and a Chinese-influenced Myanmar to the east. Yet rather than seeking to isolate Myanmar, India has offered economic and strategic support to counter China's influence.

Japan has also been anxious to provide assistance; ASEAN, also concerned with the extent of Chinese penetration, admitted Myanmar in July 1997.

In contrast, immediately after the 1988 coup the United States cut off military and economic assistance. Washington has since demanded that the military leave power and honor the results of the May 1990 election, which was swept by the opposition National League for Democracy, or NLD, led by Aung San Suu Kyi, who has been under house arrest three times since 1989 and is currently in confinement.

In 1997, the U.S. Congress passed legislation banning all new U.S. investment.

Congress banned all imports from Myanmar and Bush issued an executive order freezing all Burmese assets. Bush's recent announcement extends these policies.

No other country has an isolation policy as strict as that of the United States.

The American stance also neglects growing humanitarian concerns. Congress has passed legislation allowing for some humanitarian assistance to be provided in Myanmar, although not directly to the government.

What possibility is there for reform on the Burmese side? A truncated National Convention opened on May 17 with the goal of drafting a new constitution. All political parties and major minority groups with which the regime has cease-fire agreements were invited. But the NLD's refusal to participate has stripped the convention of international legitimacy.

In 2006, Myanmar will host an ASEAN summit meeting. The Burmese leaders realize that by 2006, there needs to be a new constitution.

Yet instead of promoting change in Myanmar, U.S. policies have strengthened the regime's resolve to stand up to U.S. pressure and have thrown Myanmar closer to China.

The United States needs to rethink its policy. Informal, private discussions between U.S. and Burmese officials, with a carefully calibrated set of benchmarks, might move the regime and allow the United States to resume its interest and influence in that society.

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

Bush's economic policy has resulted in loss of jobs

WASHINGTON, 8 Sept— US Democratic presidential nominee John Kerry on Tuesday stepped up his attacks on President George W Bush's economic record, saying that Bush's economic policy has resulted in the loss of US jobs.

"Because of George Bush's wrong choices, this country is continuing to ship good jobs overseas — jobs with good wages and good benefits," Kerry said at a rally in Greensboro, North Carolina.

"All across America, companies have shut their doors, putting hardworking people out of a job, leaving entire communities without help or hope," he said.

He also criticized Bush's tax policy which give tax breaks to US companies that ship jobs overseas and said that he would close the tax loophole.

The United States has lost about one million jobs since Bush became the President in 2001 although US job market has been improving this year.

And the US jobs market was seen by many analysts as one of the weak spot for President Bush.

The US major newspapers have reported that former president Bill Clinton had advised Kerry last week that he must sharpen his criticism of President Bush's record and offer voters a more compelling case in his own behalf if he hopes to win presidential election in November.

MNA/Xinhua

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Secretary-1 attends inauguration of multimedia classrooms of No 3 BEHS in Dagon Township

YANGON, 10 Sept—The Basic Education High School No 3 in Dagon Township, Yangon West District, Yangon Division, held the opening of its multimedia classrooms this morning at the school, attended by Vice-Chairman of the Myanmar Education Committee Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Soe Win.

Also present on the occasion were Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Myint Swe, Chairman of Yangon City Development Committee Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin, Deputy Ministers U Myo Nyunt and Col Aung Myo Min, officials of the State Peace and Development Council Office, departmental heads, service personnel, the headmistress, teachers, members of the parent-teacher association, the school board of trustees and social organizations, wellwishers and students.

The students presented an entertainment programme singing a song titled "Myanma Kyaung" (Myanmar School) and a Wushu skill demonstration.

Schoolgirls Ma Lu Lu Myint Htay and Ma Han Thwe Phyto read the agendas of the ceremony.



MEC Vice-Chairman Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Soe Win inspects multimedia classrooms at Dagon BEHS No 3.—MNA

Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe, Deputy Minister Col Aung Myo Min and Chairman of the school board of trustees Maj Kyaw Win formally opened the multimedia classrooms.

The MEC Vice-Chairman pressed the button to unveil the signboard of the classrooms. The Secretary-1, departmental heads and guests inspected computer application room, language lab (1), language lab (2) (audio system), drawing room, computer aided instruction room, electronic media (audio system), printed media (reading corner), electronic media (video system), and domestic science room.

Schoolgirls Ma Nant Soe Sandar Win and Ma Han Ni Tun acted as masters of ceremonies. Schoolboys and schoolgirls entertained the Secretary-1 and party and those present with a variety of dances and songs.

The principal reported on the organizational set-up of the multimedia teaching centre; member of the school board of trustees U Tha Tun, endeavours made for the opening of the multimedia classrooms.

The Secretary-1 presented cash donations for the multimedia classrooms. Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe presented a computer and the mayor, a computer to the school through the headmistress.

(See page 15)



MEC Vice-Chairman Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Soe Win presents cash for multimedia equipment to the Headmistress of Dagon BEHS No 3.—MNA

Chief of Armed Forces Training arrives back from Indonesia

YANGON, 10 Sept — Member of the State Peace and Development Council Chief of Armed Forces Training Lt-Gen Kyaw Win, accompanied by Director of Ordnance Maj-Gen Sein Lin of the Ministry of Defence and officials, arrived back here by air yesterday evening after attending the 14th Armed Forces (Army) Shooting Competition of ASEAN Countries in Indonesia.

Also together with the Chief of Armed Forces Training were the Myanmar Tatmadaw shooting team led by Lt-Col Thurein Zin of Bahtoo Station which took part in the 14th Armed Forces (Army) Shooting Competition of ASEAN Countries in Indonesia.

The Chief of Armed Forces Training and party were welcomed back at Yangon International Airport by Chairman of Defence Services Sports and Physical Education Administrative Board Secretary-2 of the State Peace and Development Council Adjutant-General Lt-Gen Thein Sein, member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Tin Aye of the Ministry of Defence, Indonesian Military Attaché Col Yayat Hidayat and senior military officers of the Ministry of Defence.



Secretary-2 Adjutant-General Lt-Gen Thein Sein welcomes back members of Myanmar Tatmadaw shooting team.—MNA

MNA

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**Primary schools across
England to stay open
for 10 hrs a day**

LONDON, 9 Sept — Primary schools across England will stay open for 10 hours a day, offering childcare and extra activities such as art and sports, to give parents more flexibility, the government said on Wednesday.

Many children already take part in study support, breakfast clubs and holiday play schemes but the services vary from school to school and the government said it wanted similar options on offer to parents throughout the country. — MNA/Reuters

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Dated : 11 September 2004

**China sends two
satellites into
preset orbits**

TAIYUAN, 9 Sept — China launched two scientific experiment satellites into space from a north China space centre atop a Long March 4-B rocket carrier earlier on Thursday.

The rocket lifted off at 7:14 (Beijing Time) from the Taiyuan Satellite Launch Centre in Shanxi Province, north China.

Sources from the Xi'an Satellite Tracking Centre said one of the satellites, SJ-6A scientific experiment satellite, separated from the rocket 11 minutes after flight, and the other one, SJ-6B scientific experiment satellite, disengaged from the carrier one minute later.

With a designed life of at least two years, the two satellites would be used to probe space environment, radiation, its effects and space physical environment parameters, and conduct other related space experiments, sources said.

Thursday's launch is the 79th flight of China's Long March rocket carriers and the 37th consecutive successful one of the vehicle since October of 1996.

MNA/Xinhua

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ARRIVAL/CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV "BAGO" VOY NO BG778/N

Consignees of cargo carried on MV "BAGO" Voy No BG778/N are hereby notified that the vessel will arrive at Yangon port on 12-9-2004 and will be berthing on about 13-9-2004 and cargoes will be discharged into the premises of Myanmar Port Authority where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the bye-laws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily between 8 am to 11.30 am and 12 noon to 4 pm into 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.

CONTAINER FEEDER SERVICE
MYANMA FIVE STAR LINE

Phone : 293147, 296507, 295754

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV SAIPAN SKIPPER VOY NO (040)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV SAIPAN SKIPPER Voy No (040) are hereby notified that the vessel will arrive on 12-9-2004 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

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV QING CHUN MEN VOY NO (091)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV QING CHUN MEN Voy No (091) are hereby notified that the vessel will arrive on 12-9-2004 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.W.P.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 INTERASIA LINES

Phone : 256908/378316/376797

**Genetically modified fish may
one day be used to treat illnesses**

LONDON, 9 Sept — Genetically modified fish may one day be used to produce human proteins to treat illnesses such as lung disease, liver problems and even some cancers.

Scientists in Britain and Florida have already produced from fish a human blood-clotting factor that is used to treat accident victims and people suffering from haemophilia. They have a list of 20 other human proteins that might also be produced in fish.

"There is still a long way to go before any product reaches the market, but if the fish project is a commercial success, many other proteins might be made this way," *New Scientist* magazine said on Wednesday.

MNA/Reuters

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Brunei rolls out red carpet for royal wedding

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN (Brunei), 9 Sept— Dozens of princes and heads of state or government and other distinguished guests arrived here on Wednesday to attend a grand wedding ceremony the following day of Crown Prince Haji Al-Muhtadee Billah of Brunei Darussalam.

Ceremonies for the royal union between the 30-year-old heir to the throne and his bride Dayangku Sarah binti Pengiran Salleh Ab Rahaman, which started on August 26, will reach the climax on Thursday with the holding of the "Bersanding" ceremony.

The ceremony is to be held at the Istana Nurul Iman, or the royal palace, which is a sight to marvel as the capital continues to be bathed in the limelight of colourful lighting and decorations in anticipation of the Royal Wedding.

Among the first to arrive on Wednesday were

the Duke of Gloucester, representing Queen Elizabeth II and Prince Charles of the United Kingdom, Indonesian President Megawati Soekarnoputri and Japan's Crown Prince Naruhito.

The Malay wedding ceremony, which has also gathered here more than 100 journalists and photographers from both home and abroad, will be followed by a procession around the city centre during which the royal couple will board a royal carriage and receive the greetings and best-wishes from Brunei citizens and

visitors.

The second and last rehearsal for the royal wedding procession was held on Tuesday night with streets around the royal palace and along the motorcade's path sealed off, causing a traffic jam, rarely seen in the capital city.

Singapore's Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong, Senior Ministers Goh Chok Tong and Minister Mentor Lee Kuan Yew and former Malaysian Prime Minister Dr. Mahathir Mohammed also flew to Brunei on Wednesday.

Also expected at Thursday morning's ceremony were Philippine

President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo, Malaysian Prime Minister Abdullah Ahmad Badawi along with the leaders and representatives of other ASEAN countries. Brunei is a member country of the Association of South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN).

The royal families from Middle East countries will also be present at the ceremony, including Prince Saud and Prince Bandar of Saudi Arabia, King of Bahrain Sheikh Hamad bin al-Khalifa, among others.

The royal wedding



Newlywed royal couple, Brunei's Crown Prince Al-Muhtadee Billah and Sarah Pengiran Salleh recite a prayer during their wedding ceremony at Nurul Iman Palace in Bandar Seri Begawan on 9 Sept, 2004. — INTERNET

banquet, scheduled for Friday, will be attended by the Royal family and those distinguished guests and it will be followed by a fire-

works display.

The wedding festivities will last until Sunday.

MNA/Xinhua

Increased night light raises risk of cancer

LONDON, 9 Sept— A growing body of evidence linking increased night light to certain types of cancer has led researchers to suspect it could be connected to the steady increase in cases of childhood leukaemia.

Scientists presenting research at the First International Scientific Conference on Childhood Leukaemia on Wednesday said that light at night (LAN) and working shifts, which disrupts the body's internal clock, have been associated with an increased risk of breast and colorectal cancer. "We don't know whether abnormal light exposure is generating this higher incidence of childhood leukaemia or not, but in view of what we know of other forms of cancer this is not unreasonable," Russe 11 Foster, a molecular neuroscientist at Imperial College London, said in an interview. "It is something we should look at and pay attention to," Leukaemia, the commonest cancer in young children, is thought to result from a mixture of genetic predisposition and environmental factors. Ionising radiation, electromagnetic fields, chemicals and viruses and infections have been implicated in the incidence of the illness, which has increased by about 50 per cent in children under five years old since the 1950s. — MNA/Reuters

Diabetics who got transplants able to live without insulin

WASHINGTON, 9 Sept— Just under 60 per cent of diabetes patients who have received an experimental transplant of pancreatic cells are able to live without insulin injections a year later, Canadian and US doctors reported on Tuesday.

Researchers at 12 medical centres in the United States and Canada reported on 86 patients with Type 1 diabetes in the first annual report of the Collaborative Islet Transplant Registry.

The report, found on the Internet at shows that

61 per cent of patients who got the transplants no longer had to inject insulin six months later. This fell to 58 per cent after a year. "We now have much-needed information on the short-term results of islet transplantation," said Dr. Thomas Eggerman of the

National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases, one of the US National Institutes of Health, which funded the project. "Our goal is to collect data on both short- and long-term outcomes for all patients who receive islet transplants so

we can better define the overall risks and benefits of this exciting but still experimental procedure," Eggerman added in a statement.

Type 1 diabetes affects an estimated one million people in the United States alone. — MNA/Reuters

Study finds coxsackievirus can cause polio in humans

WASHINGTON, 9 Sept— A common cold virus closely related to the virus that causes polio can produce polio symptoms in mice, US researchers reported on Tuesday.

Their findings suggest that wiping out polio — a real possibility with the global vaccination campaign underway — may

not rid the world of the paralyzing symptoms of the virus. The team of virologists at Duke University Medical Centre stum-

bled onto their finding when working with a virus called coxsackievirus A21. Instead of developing a cold, mice injected with the virus unexpectedly developed the paralysis characteristic of polio. "In principle, coxsackieviruses could cause polio in humans," said Dr Matthias Gromeier, who

led the study.

"We are in the process of eradicating polio worldwide, but if we eliminate the poliovirus and cease polio vaccinations, our immune systems wouldn't produce antibodies against polio, and coxsackievirus could theoretically fill the niche of eradicated polio." — MNA/Reuters

Dinosaurs may not all have been terrifying creatures

LONDON, 9 Sept— Dinosaurs may not all have been the terrifying creatures portrayed in blockbuster films but could have had a more caring, loving nature.

A fossil found in China of a Psittacosaurus, a small dinosaur that lived about 110 million years ago, shows it may have been a doting parent, scientists said on Wednesday.

"This is a nice, straightforward example of parental care in dinosaurs," said David Varricchio of Montana State University in Bozeman.

Psittacosaurus, which means parrot lizard, was a plant-eating dinosaur that weighed about 50-175 pounds and was roughly 4 feet tall.

MNA/Reuters

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SPORTS

Asian Tennis C'ships

NEW DELHI, 9 Sept—India's Ankita Bhambri went down guns blazing while Sai Jayalakshmy advanced to the pre-quarterfinals of the women's singles in the 100,000 US dollars Asian Tennis Championships in Tashkent, Uzbekistan, on Wednesday.

Sai, finalist in last week's 10,000 US dollars ITF women's event in New Delhi, defeated home challenge Kokurina 6-4, 6-4 to advance to the Round of 16, according to information received here.

Sai will be up against Taiwan's third seed Chia Jung Chuang who ousted the big serving Uzbek Akgul Amanmuradova 6-1 6-4.

The most impressive Indian performance of the day though came from the 17-year old Ankita Bhambri who lost to Taibei's Su-Wei Hsieh 6-7 (10-12), 6-4, 6-4.

Sunil Kumar Sipaya and Vishal Uppal made up for their first round exit in the singles by advancing to the doubles second round.

The second seeded Indian pair knocked out Eduard Khan and Vaja Uzakov 6-4, 6-2.

MNA/PTI



El Salvador's Alfredo Pacheco (L) fights for the ball with Jamaica's Ricardo Fuller during their World Cup qualifier soccer match at Cuscatlan Stadium in San Salvador, on 8 Sept, 2004. Jamaica beat El Salvador 3-0. —INTERNET

Roddick, Fish, Bryans to play Davis Cup

NEW YORK, 8 Sept—Olympic silver medalist Mardy Fish was picked Wednesday to join Andy Roddick and the doubles pair of twins Bob and Mike Bryan for the US Davis Cup team's Sept 24-26 semifinal against Belarus. The matches will be played on hard courts in Charleston, SC.

While reigning US Open champion Roddick and the Bryans were locks to make the team, captain Patrick McEnroe had to choose from among the Fish, Olympic semifinalist Taylor Dent and Vince Spadea for the second singles slot. Fish, at No 28, actually is ranked the lowest of that trio. Dent is

22nd, and Spadea is 24th.

"All didn't play too well here," McEnroe said at Flushing Meadows, where Fish, Dent and Spadea lost in the second round. Roddick is in the Open quarterfinals, slated to play No 28 Joachim Johansson on Thursday.

"I believe in Mardy. He still has a tremendous upside. I feel he's just scratched the surface of what he's capable of doing," McEnroe said. "He's got a lot of game. I legitimately think he's a top 10 player. We need to keep pushing him and believing in him."

It helped Fish's cause that he beat Max Mirnyi at the Olympics. Mirnyi and

Vladimir Voltchkov are expected to play singles and doubles for Belarus; they teamed up to upset Argentina 4-1 in the Davis Cup quarterfinals in April.

Internet

Vietnam loses 2-1 to South Korea in World Cup qualifier

HO CHI MINH CITY (Vietnam), 9 Sept — Vietnam was beaten 2-1 by South Korea in a 2006 World Cup Asian Zone qualifying match at the Thong Nhat Stadium in Vietnam's Ho Chi Minh City on Wednesday.

In first half, South Korea applied a rapid-attack tactic, but missed some scoring chances, while Vietnam played actively in a defence-attack playing way.

The South Korean footballers were really surprised by the active performance of the host team, especially the good coordination between strikers of Pham Van Quyen and Nguyen Cong Vinh. By the end of first half, striker Cha Du-ri received red card for hitting Phan Van Tai Em by his elbow.

Six minutes into the second half of the second-leg match, Vietnamese striker Nguyen Cong Vinh passed the ball from left wing to half-backer Phan Van Tai

Scotland draw 0-0 with Slovenia

GLASGOW, 9 Sept — Scotland and Slovenia served up plenty of chances but failed to convert any of them in a Group Five World Cup qualifier that ended 0-0 at Hampden Park on Wednesday.

Scotland went into the game buoyed by a recent competitive record under German coach Berri Vogts of five wins, two draws and three defeats in their Euro 2004 campaign while Slovenia arrived buoyed by their 3-0 win over Moldova in the opening qualifier on Saturday.

The home side exuded energy in a breathless first-half and should have carved out a lead with Jamie McFadden's probing runs a constant danger.

The Everton player's header allowed Paul Dickov to test visiting goalkeeper Borut Mavric after four minutes as he athletically tipped his effort onto his bar.

McFadden was then denied a penalty when Andrej Komac pulled his shirt before Danish referee Claus Bo Larsen waved away a similar appeal after a tug by Simon Seslar on Gary Caldwell.

Slovenia appeared rattled by Scotland's desire and an array of misplaced

passes characterised their first half play.

Darren Fletcher and Gary Naysmith both had half chances while McEadden narrowly shot wide after 29 minutes with Scotland on top.

Slovenia's contentment to play on the counter-attack brought few chances and goalkeeper Craig Gordon's punch from Ermin Siljak was their solitary shot at goal in the first period.

But they emerged a stronger side after half-time and Scotland were fortunate to survive.

Siljak almost benefited from a mistake after 54 minutes when Gordon collided with Malcolm Mackay only for his defender to retrieve the situation by blocking the Slovenian striker's weak shot. Acimovic, who scored a hat-trick on Saturday, then smashed narrowly over after 56 minutes before Gordon almost let a tame Nastja Ceh effort slip past him.

The play spilled from end to end in the closing stages as players began to tire and only a superb maveric stop denied Scotland's Nigel Quashie the winning goal 19 minutes from time. —MNA/Reuters

Greece, Turkey drew 0-0 in first competitive encounter

ATHENS, 9 Sept — European champions Greece and Turkey drew 0-0 in a lacklustre first ever competitive encounter between the two arch-rivals for World Cup European zone qualifying Group Two on Wednesday.

The two teams shared the points and failed to make any impression in front of a loud 33,000 capacity crowd in the renovated Karaiskaki Stadium.

The Greeks could have scored in the 17th minute when Stelios Giannakopoulos raced through the defence and connected with a cross from Theodoros Zagorakis only to see the ball cleared off the line by Okan Buruk. Turkey came close to a goal eight minutes later but Nihat Kahveci's powerful shot from outside the box was punched away by Antonis Nikopolidis.

A bad clearance with the head by Angelos Basinas, unfamiliar in his defensive role, hit the crossbar in the 37th minute.

The Greeks pushed forward in the second half, cornering the striker, Dimitris Papadopoulos, came on.

They did put the ball in the net but Angelos Haristeas's header in the 77th minute was disallowed because of a foul on goalkeeper Rustu Recber. —MNA/Reuters

Vietnam loses 2-1 to South Korea in World Cup qualifier

Em who drove it towards South Korean goalie Lee Woon-jae from 20 metres, forcing a South Korean defender to self-score with a heading. From about the 60th minute on, South Korean players kept the ball most of the time because their rivals' physical strength were going

down.

Lee Dong-gook equalized the score in the 64th minute with a header after striker Lee Chun-soo shot the ball from right wing right to the center of the goal box. The ball touched a hand of goalie Tran Minh Quang before going into the goal.

Some 10 minutes after South Korea's first goal, Lee Chun-soo helped his team take a 2-1 lead with a free kick after defender Nguyen Manh Dung committed a foul outside the penalty area. The score was kept unchanged until the match finished.

MNA/Xinhua

Croatia stuns Sweden 1-0

GOTHENBURG (Sweden), 9 Sept — Shakhtar Donetsk midfielder Darijo Srna netted a second-half winner as Croatia stunned Sweden with a 1-0 away win in World Cup qualifying Group Eight on Wednesday.

Srna crashed home a free kick on 63 minutes in an ill-tempered match to hand Croatia their second win in as many games after cruising to a 3-0 success over Hungary on Saturday.

Sweden, who routed Malta 7-0 in their opening game, were denied an equalizer when striker Zlatan Ibrahimovic had a goal ruled out for a push on Croatian goalkeeper Tomislav Butina.

Tempers flared towards the end with Josip Simunic and Sweden substitute Mattias Jonson booked.

Sweden defender Marcus Allback went close to an equalizer in stoppage time but was denied by a save from Butina. —MNA/Reuters



Martina Navratilova, from the United States, gets some help from her mixed doubles partner Leander Paes during her match with Alicia Molik, from Australia, and Todd Woodbridge, from Australia, at the US Open in New York, on Thursday, 9 Sept, 2004. —INTERNET

Secretary-1 attends inauguration ...

(from page 11)

Next, Captain Myo Nyunt-Daw Su Su Lwin, Dr Kyi Maung Aye-Dr May Thu Myo Nyunt and family donated K 1,343,100; old student actress Daw Khin Thida Tun, K 300,000; U Zaw Win-Daw Khin Myat Soe and family, K 150,000, and old student Daw Khin Chan Tha (Iron Cross Music Studio), K 100,000 to the school.

U Htay Aung-Daw Htay Htay Nyunt, U Ngwe Tun-Daw Khin Ohn Myint, U Aye Thwe-Daw Mar Mar Khaing, U Win Naing-Daw Khin Nwe, U Thein Tun-Daw Khin Htay Myint of Pyay Road West Ward, U Lun Sein-Daw Li Li Myint and U Kyi Khin of Pyay Road West Ward, U Sit Swe-Daw Khin Than of Manawhayi Street, U Thein Tun (MGS Co) of Pyidaungsu Yeiktha Road, Daw Than Nu (a) Daw Nu

of Hline Township donated K 100,000 each to the school through Deputy Minister U Myo Nyunt and Director-General of the Education Planning and Training Department U Bo Win.

Deputy Minister Col Aung Myo Min reported on conditions on assistance provided by the Ministry of Education and respective organizations for opening of multimedia teaching centres, ensuring effective use of modern teaching and learning methods and producing outstanding human resources.

After the ceremony, the Secretary-1 cordially greeted those present.

Next, the Secretary-1 and party posed for a documentary photo together with the principal, teachers, wellwishers and students.

MNA

Commander inspects industrial zones in Yangon East District

YANGON, 10 Sept—Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Myint Swe, inspected industrial zones in Yangon

commander said that the government has established industrial zones across the nation and allotted plots of land to national entrepreneurs for development of the industrial sector at home.

Electric and Electronics Factory. Managing Director Dr Aung Thein reported on production of UPS, step-up transformers and TV antennas.

Next, the commander inspected production

cars, the use of CNG can save expenses.

Afterwards, the commander headed for No 2 Industrial Zone Management Committee office in Dagon Myothit (South) Township and met members of respective township industrial zone management committees. Col Maung Maung Shein reported on areas of the industrial zones in the township, conditions of the factories and production processes.

Dagon Myothit (South) Township No 1 Industrial Zone Management Committee Chairman U Aung Myint and No 3 Management Committee Chairman U Aung Kyi reported on steps being taken for boosting production and requirements.

The commander said that more assistance will be rendered for enabling the factories to boost production and to operate at full capacity for production of value-added items. The commander also looked into Metronic Factory, Sun Light Fibre Glass Factory and U Thauing Industrial Workshop in No 2 Industrial Zone in Dagon Myothit (South) Township and attended to the requirements.

MNA



Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe inspects production process of Nibban Electric and Electronics Factory in Thakayta Industrial Zone.—YANGON COMMAND

East District this morning.

The commander looked into Thakayta Industrial Zone Management Committee office on Mya Marlar Street, Thakayta Township, Yangon East District. Chairman of Yangon East District Industrial Zone Supervisory Committee Chairman of Yangon East District Peace and Development Council Lt-Col Maung Maung Shein gave an account of production lines of the factories in the industrial zone. In his speech, the

And it has fulfilled their basic requirements. Through effective use of the government's assistance, national entrepreneurs are to make efforts for contributing towards industrial development. Now, it has fulfilled the requirement of electricity to the factories and workshops. So, national entrepreneurs are to boost production and to ensure effective use of electricity.

The commander proceeded to NIBBAN

processes at NIBBAN Electric and Electronics Factory, Jewoo Garment Factory on Mya Nandar Street and Century Rattan Furniture Factory. He also inspected installation of compressed natural gas tanks to light trucks at NIBBAN-UD Group Industries and innovated engines which can be used both CNG and petrol. Officials concerned conducted the commander round the factories. The commander called for boosting production and attended to the needs. In

Office for Organizing 4th World Buddhist Summit opened

YANGON, 10 Sept—A ceremony to open the Office for Organizing the 4th World Buddhist Summit was held at the International Theravada Buddhist Missionary University this morning.

It was attended by Pro-rector of the ITBMU Agga Maha Pandita Sayadaw Dr Bhaddanta Kumarabhivamsa and members of Sangha, Minister for Religious Affairs

Brig-Gen Thura Myint Maung, Adviser U Aung Maung, Director-General of Religious Affairs Department Dr Myo Myint, officials of RAD, guests and others.

The ceremony was opened with the three time recitation of Namō Tassa.

Next, the minister and the congregation received the Five Precepts from Pro-rector of the ITBMU Agga Maha

Pandita Sayadaw Dr Bhaddanta Kumarabhivamsa. Afterwards, members of the Sangha recited parittas. Next, the minister, the director-general and the congregation presented offertories to members of the Sangha, followed by sharing merits gained.

The ceremony ended with the three time recitation of Buddha Sasanam Ciram Titthatu.

Next, the ceremony to open the Office was held at 8.30 am, and Minister Brig-Gen Thura Myint Maung formally opened the office. The minister and those present viewed round the office and the ceremony ended.

Contact can be made to the office through Fax 652629 or Tel 652623, 652627, 652628 or e-mail: Fwbs@mpt.mail.net.mm.—MNA

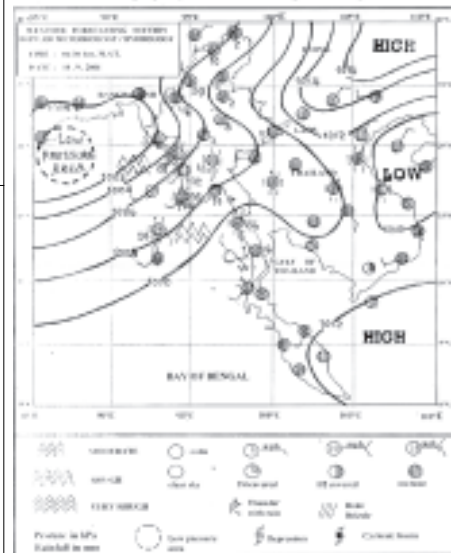
Rainfall on 11-9-2004 was

- 1.34 inches at Yangon Airport,
- 0.75 inch at Kaba-Aye and
- 0.83 inch at central Yangon.

Total rainfall since 1-1-2004 was

- 102.99 inches at Yangon Airport,
- 96.89 inches at Kaba-Aye and
- 97.01 inches at central Yangon.

Weather Map of Myanmar and Neighbouring Areas



WEATHER

Friday, 10 September 2004

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST: During the past 24 hours, rain or thundershowers has been scattered in Kayah State and Taninthayi Division and widespread in the remaining areas with locally heavyfalls in Mon State, isolated heavyfalls in Rakhine and Kayin States and lower Sagaing Division. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Hpa-an (7.80) inches, Thandwe (7.76) inches, Ye (6.38) inches, Thaton (5.98) inches, Mudon (4.53) inches, Mawlamyine (4.13) inches and Monywa (1.97) inches.

Maximum temperature on 9-9-2004 was 90°F. Minimum temperature on 10-9-2004 was 68°F. Relative humidity at 9:30 hrs MST on 10-9-2004 was 92%. Total sunshine hours on 9-9-2004 was (4.4) hour approx. Rainfall on 10-9-2004 was (1.34 inches) at Yangon Airport, (0.75 inch) at Kaba-Aye and (0.83 inch) at central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2004 was 102.99 inches at Yangon Airport, 96.89 inches at Kaba-Aye and 97.01 inches at central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was 15 mph from Southwest at 02:50 hours MST on 10-9-2004.

Bay inference: According to the observations at (09:30) hrs MST today, a low pressure area has formed in the North Bay and adjoining West Central Bay. Monsoon is generally strong in the Bay of Bengal. **Forecast valid until evening of 11-9-2004:** Rain or thundershowers will be isolated in upper Sagaing Division, Kachin and Shan States, scattered in Kayah State, Mandalay, Magway and lower Sagaing Divisions and widespread in the remaining areas with likelihood of isolated heavyfalls in Rakhine and Mon States. Degree of certainty is (100%).

State of the sea: Temporary squalls with moderate to rough seas will be experienced off and along Myanmar Coast. Surface wind speed in squalls may reach (35) to (40) mph. **Outlook for subsequent two days:** Strong monsoon.

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 11-9-2004: One or two rain. Degree of certainty is (80%). **Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 11-9-2004:** One or two rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (80%). **Weather outlook for second weekend of September 2004:** During the coming weekend, rain or thundershowers in Yangon Division and scattered in Mandalay Division.

Flood Warning

(Issued at 13:00 hrs MST on 10.9.2004)

The water level of Shwegyin River at Shwegyin may rise (30)cm (about 1-foot) and reach the danger level (700) cm during the next (24) hours commencing noon today.

Flood Bulletin

(Issued at 13:00 hrs MST on 10.9.2004)

The water level of the Thanlwin River at Hpa-an is (6) cm above the danger level at (06:30) hrs MST today. The water level may rise 30 cm (about 1-foot) during the next (3) days.

Vice-Senior General Maung Aye sends message of condolences to Indonesian Vice-President

YANGON, 10 Sept — Vice-Senior General Maung Aye, Vice-Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council of the Union of Myanmar has sent a message of condolences to His Excellency Dr Hamzah Haz, Vice-President of the Republic of Indonesia, for the loss of innocent lives and devastations in the bombing incident in Jakarta, Indonesia, on 9 September 2004. — MNA

Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt sends message of condolences to Indonesian President

YANGON, 10 Sept — General Khin Nyunt, Prime Minister of the Union of Myanmar has sent a message of condolences to Her Excellency Madam Megawati Soekarnoputri, President of the Republic of Indonesia, for the loss of innocent lives and devastations in the bombing incident in Jakarta, Indonesia, on 9 September 2004. — MNA



Vice-Senior General Maung Aye greets Supreme Commander of Royal Thai Armed Forces General Somdhat Attanand at the airport. — MNA

Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and wife Daw Mya Mya San welcome Supreme Commander of Royal Thai Armed Forces and wife

YANGON, 10 Sept — Supreme Commander General Somdhat Attanand of Royal Thai Armed Forces and

Madame Khunying Suppanapa Attanand and party arrived here by special flight of Royal Thai Armed Forces this

morning to pay a goodwill visit to the Union of Myanmar at the invitation of 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.

The Supreme Commander of Royal Thai Armed Forces and wife and party were welcomed at Yangon International Airport by 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 and wife Daw Mya Mya San, Member of the State Peace and Development Council General Thura Shwe Mann of the Ministry of Defence and wife Daw Khin Lay Thet, Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Aung Htwe of the Ministry of Defence and wife, Commander-in-Chief (Navy) Rear-Admiral Soe Thein, Commander-in-Chief

(Air) Lt-Gen Myat Hein and their wives, Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Myint Swe and wife, Vice-Chief of Military Intelligence Maj-Gen Kyaw Win, senior military officers of the Ministry of Defence, Thai Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Suphot Dhirakaosal, (See page 8)



Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and Supreme Commander of Royal Thai Armed Forces General Somdhat Attanand inspect the Guard of Honour. — MNA

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Use Natural Gas Vehicles and save fuel oil

- * In automobiles, natural gas can be used in place of petrol and diesel.
- * The use of natural gas can not only save fuel oil but also extend engine duration.
- * Natural gas exploited at home can be used effectively and safely.
- * Natural gas burns cent per cent and is environment-friendly.
- * Adequate supply of natural gas helps facilitate passenger and cargo transport.



YEDAGUN OFFSHORE OIL AND GAS FIELD, FE EARNER: Sales of natural gas to Thailand started in April 2000. Four new wells were successfully drilled by the end of August 2004. In response to the demand of Thailand, 400 million cubic-feet of natural gas per day will be sold to Thailand soon. (News on page 7) — MNA