

Virati papa, to refrain from sin; this is the way to auspiciousness.

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Saturday, 18 September, 2004

Senior General Than Shwe and wife Daw Kyaing Kyaing welcome back Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt and wife Dr Daw Khin Win Shwe on their return from Singapore

YANGON, 17 Sept — Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt and wife Dr Daw Khin Win Shwe and goodwill delegation arrived back here by special flight of Myanmar Airways International at 3 pm today after paying a goodwill visit to Singapore at the invitation of Prime Minister Mr Lee Hsien Loong of the Republic of Singapore.

Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt and wife Dr Daw Khin Win Shwe were welcomed back at Yangon International Airport by Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Sen-

ior General Than Shwe and wife Daw Kyaing Kyaing, 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, Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Soe Win and wife Daw Than Than Nwe, Secretary-2 Lt-Gen Thein Sein and wife Daw Khin Khin Win, members of the



Senior General Than Shwe, wife Daw Kyaing Kyaing and party welcome back Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt at Yangon International Airport.— MNA

State Peace and Development Council and their wives, the Commander-in-Chief (Navy), the Commander-in-Chief (Air), the Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command, ministers, senior military of-

ficers, departmental heads, Acting Dean of the Diplomatic Corps Ambassador of the Republic of the Philippines Mme Phoebe A Gomez and heads of foreign missions in Yangon, the UN Resident Coordinator, the Charge d'Affaires of the Singaporean Embassy

and officials.

Also arrived back here on the same flight together with Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt and wife Dr Daw Khin Win Shwe were ministers, the deputy minister for Foreign Affairs and heads of departments.

MNA



Daw Kyaing Kyaing and Daw Mya Mya San welcome back Dr Daw Khin Win Shwe at Yangon International Airport.— MNA

Singaporean President expressed his love and sympathy for the Myanmar people and appreciation of Myanmar's democracy transition efforts and developments. Mutual cooperation between the two countries is in progress and in excellent shape.

Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt and wife Dr Daw Khin Win Shwe arrive Singapore on goodwill visit

YANGON, 17 Sept — Prime Minister of the Union of Myanmar General Khin Nyunt and wife Dr Daw Khin Win Shwe, accompanied by ministers, the deputy minister for Foreign Affairs and departmental heads, left here by special flight of Myanmar Airways at 10 am on 12 September to pay a good-

will visit to the Republic of Singapore, at the invitation of Singaporean Prime Minister Mr Lee Hsien Loong.

The Prime Minister and wife and party arrived at Changi International Airport in Singapore at 2.30 pm local time.

The Prime Minister and wife were accompanied by Minister for Industry-1 U Aung Thaung, Minister for Commerce Brig-Gen Pyi Sone, Minister for Finance and Revenue Maj-Gen Hla Tun, Minister for Foreign Affairs U Win Aung (See page 8)

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

PERSPECTIVES

Saturday, 18 September, 2004

Grow oil palm for long-term national interests

Rich in terrestrial and aquatic resources, the Union of Myanmar is engaged mainly in agriculture and livestock breeding. The Government has also given permission to national entrepreneurs to run these businesses.

The coordination meeting 7/2004 for development of seasonal and perennial crops farming was held on 16 September and it was attended by Member of the State Peace and Development Council General Thura Shwe Mann of the Ministry of Defence. In his address at the meeting, General Thura Shwe Mann said that, in accordance with the guidance of the Head of State, the Government is determined to successfully realize the market-oriented economic system, enlisting the collective force of national entrepreneurs and therefore it is encouraging them to develop their respective businesses in the agricultural, industrial and service sectors.

The Government is encouraging the private sector for the emergence of market-oriented economic system. The national entrepreneurs ought to realize the good intentions and objectives of the Government and fully cooperate with it. And they should do their respective businesses not only to meet the domestic consumption but also to be able to export the surplus.

There still remains a vast area of vacant and fallow land in addition to currently cultivated areas in the nation. As there are stretches of arable land, abundant water resources and moderate climate, agricultural work can ensure long-term interests of the nation and the people if it is carried out through systematic application of cultivation methods.

Since 1999, 500,000 acres of land in Taninthayi Division has been put under oil palm for domestic consumption and exporting the surplus. It could be done so because of the support of the Government and favourable climate. Oil palm cultivation will serve long-term interests not only of the nation but also of the people. Therefore, if the entrepreneurs work harder, Taninthayi Division will become the bowl of edible oil for the nation very soon.

We would like to call on the national entrepreneurs to put their energies into the cultivation of perennial crops for the long-term interests of the nation and their own.

F&R Ministry holds first inter-dept badminton tourney



Deputy Minister for Finance and Revenue Col Hla Thein Swe presents championship trophy to MICB team in inter-department badminton tournament of Ministry of Finance & Revenue. — F&R

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

Measures for smooth transport discussed



Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe addresses weekly coordination meeting for ensuring secure and smooth transport. — YANGON COMMAND

YANGON, 17 Sept — Yangon Division Supervisory Committee for Ensuring Secure and Smooth Transport held a coordination meeting at Yangon Command Headquarters this afternoon.

It was attended by Chairman of the committee Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Com-

mand Maj-Gen Myint Swe, military region commanders, station commanders, local authorities, rectors, pro-rectors, principals and registrars of universities and colleges in Yangon, officials and chairmen of private bus lines run in Yangon Division.

Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe dealt with tasks to be carried out by

members of the Supervisory Committee for convenience of passengers and commuters, the people, teachers and students.

The Supervisory Committee members reported on work progress; Commander of Yangon Division Wireless and Traffic Police Force Police Lt-Col Aung Naing, on traffic rules enforce-

ment measures; pro-rectors, deans and faculty members, on the requirements; and chairmen of private bus lines, on strict enforcement of rules and regulations on passenger and bus drivers and conductors.

Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe delivered closing remarks and attended to the needs.

MNA

Prizes presented for pre-primary school level drawing contest

YANGON, 17 Sept — The prize-presentation ceremony for Paloktok Children's Journal pre-primary school level drawing contest, jointly organized by Social Welfare Department and Paloktok Children's Journal was held at No 4 Pre-primary School in Ahlon Township here this morning, with an address by Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Maj-Gen Sein Htwa.

Present on the occasion were Officer on Special Duty Brig-Gen Thura Sein Thuang and directors-general of the departments under the ministry, officials, service personnel, Paloktok Children's Journal Chief Editor Dr Tha Tun Oo and staff, parents and teachers.

First, the minister addressed the occasion. Next, Today Publishing House Chief Editor Dr Tha Tun Oo explained the purpose of holding the contest.

Minister Maj-Gen Sein Htwa and wife Daw Khin Aye, Daw Khin Nwe Nwe, wife of Deputy Minister Brig-Gen Kyaw Myint, Brig-Gen Thura Sein Thuang, Fire Services Department Director-



Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Maj-Gen Sein Htwa presents prize to a winner in pre-primary level drawing contest of Paloktok journal. — MNA

General U Myint Tun, Relief and Resettlement Department Director-General U Than Oo, and Daw Kyi Kyi Mya, wife of the Director-General of the Social Welfare Department, presented awards to the prize winning students.

Dr Tha Tun Oo presented gifts to judges of the contest. The minister and party and guests then viewed the prize winning works of the students.

MNA

Iraq gunmen kidnap two Americans, one Briton

BAGHDAD, 16 Sept — About 10 assailants grabbed two Americans and a Briton on Thursday without firing a shot, police said, in a kidnapping that underlines the increasing danger that foreigners face and fuels insecurity in the embattled capital.

Guerillas have turned to kidnapping and spectacular bombings as the weapon of choice to pressure America and its allies to pull out of Iraq and to embarrass the interim government of Prime Minister Ayad Allawi. Even in the heavily guarded Green Zone - where the US Embassy is located - foreigners were warned in the last 10 days to be on guard against possible kidnapping attempts, a US official said on condition of

anonymity.

West of the capital, US forces launched raids and a precision strike against Sunni insurgent strongholds in Anbar province. At least five people were killed, hospital officials said.

Also Thursday, a US Humvee hit a roadside bomb south of the insurgent stronghold of Fallujah, the military said in a statement. There was no immediate word on casualties.

The kidnapping in Baghdad occurred in one of the city's more posh districts. Foreign embassies and prominent Iraqi politicians are based in the al-Mansour neighbourhood.

The US Embassy identified the Americans as Mr Jack Hensley and Mr Eugene Armstrong, but the identity of a third man, a Briton, was not disclosed.

The kidnappers drove to the top of the foreigners' tree-lined street at

dawn in a minivan, circumvented a concrete wall and snatched them without a gunfight, said Colonel Adnan Abdul-Rahman, an Interior Ministry official. The three worked for a company identified by him as Gulf Services, a Middle East-based construction company, but it wasn't clear whether they worked as security guards or were involved in reconstruction projects.

Internet

ထုတ်ကုန်နှစ်ဆ တိုးမြှင့်ခြင်း

Iraq says three US Marines die, body of Westerner found

BAGHDAD, 16 Sept — Three US Marines were killed in three separate incidents Thursday in Iraq's western Anbar province, the US military stated.

One Marine was killed in action and two others died of injuries sustained in action, the statement added.

Meanwhile, a dead man, possibly a Westerner or Turkish national, was located outside the western city of Samarra late Thursday, an Iraqi police officer said, according to AFP.

The body was discovered at 6 pm (1400 GMT) near Samarra at a road junction leading to Fallujah, said Colonel Nabil Kamal, adding the dead man could be a Western national or a Turk.

A doctor said the man was killed about three days before his body was found.

Internet

3,186 civilians killed in Iraq in five months

BAGHDAD, 16 Sept — No one knows how many Iraqi non-combatants died in the year after the US-led invasion.

An Iraqi man mourns the death of his son, one of 12 policeman killed this week in Baquba in a single attack. — AFP

But since April 5 this year, the Iraqi Ministry of Health has been compiling civilian death statistics.

From April 5 to September 12, 3,186 Iraqi civilians - men, women and children - died as a result of either terrorist incidents or in clashes involving United States-led multinational forces.

Baghdad has proved most bloody, with 942 deaths.

Some 674 died in Anbar province, home to Fallujah and Ramadi.

Next comes Najaf with 528, according to a file in the operations room of the

Health Ministry.

The office, manned 24 hours a day, seven days a week, is where Dr Hashim Hussain Hashim and his two colleagues compile those statistics.

He said that all Iraqi hospitals had their own operations rooms that are responsible for collating statistics.

Officials admitted that not all combat deaths were recorded.

Fighters loyal to Moqtada Al-Sadr, the rebel Shi'ite cleric, and Sunni insurgents in militant strongholds such as Fallujah often take those killed in fighting straight to burial sites, rather than have their deaths recorded centrally in hospitals. — Internet



Women wait outside Abu Ghraib Prison, for the release of family members held prisoner there, in Baghdad, Iraq, on 15 Sept, 2004. —INTERNET

Singapore, Kuwait ink MoU on e-Government cooperation

SINGAPORE, 16 Sept — Singapore and Kuwait signed here on Wednesday a memorandum of understanding (MoU) to strengthen cooperation in e-Government planning.

The document was signed by visiting Kuwaiti Minister of Communications, Planning and Administrative Development Sheikh Ahmad Abdullah Al-Ahmad Al-Sabah and Singapore Minister for Information, Communications and the Arts Lee Boon Yang.

Speaking at the signing ceremony, Lee Boon Yang said Singapore and Kuwait share a common vision to transform the public service into a networked government to improve the quality of life for their citizens.

The Minister believed that Singa-

pore Government agencies such as the Infocomm Development Authority of Singapore (IDA) and its local infocomm companies can work together with the Kuwaiti Government to accelerate e-Government development in Kuwait.

Under the deal, the two countries will promote dialogue on e-Government issues, form a working group from public and private sectors of both countries, and organize study visits by working groups to identify areas of cooperation and requirements on e-Government planning. —MNA/Xinhua

India, Pakistan will become friends

CAPE TOWN, 16 Sept — India's President A P J Abdul Kalam began his visit to South Africa expressing the hope that India and Pakistan "will become friends". On the first visit by an Indian Head of State to South Africa, the place where Mahatma Gandhi

launched the satyagraha movement, Kalam said European countries fought each other for over a 100 years. "But today there is European Union and there is common currency," the President said at a reception given in his honour by the Indian High Com-

missioner S S Mukherjee.

"We (India and Pakistan) too will become friends", he said in reply to a query. Terming Kalam's visit as "great and significant", Mukherjee said "it is not only ceremonial but also has a substantive aspect". —MNA/PTI

WFP says "Asia must reduce malnutrition"

NEW DELHI, 16 Sept — The Asian region must take decisive action to reduce malnutrition or face losing much of its tremendous economic potential, a top official of the United Nations World Food Programme (WFP) said here.

The poor malnutrition levels in Asia are the single greatest barrier to the

evolution of a modern, knowledge-based workforce that can manage the economic powerhouse Asia has the promise to become, Deputy Executive Director of the United Nations WFP, Shiela Sisulu said.

She was addressing the regional conference on maternal and child nutrition.

MNA/PTI



Prisoners walk out of an Iraqi military base after they were brought there from Abu Ghraib Prison to be released, in Baghdad, on 15 Sept, 2004. —INTERNET

Iraq warfare put US troops under growing stress, says study

WASHINGTON, 16 Sept— Guerilla warfare in Iraq is putting US troops under growing mental stress as the military struggles to retain and recruit soldiers, according to a study cited by the Army Reserve commander on Thursday.

"This is just very tough business," said Lt. General. James Helmly, noting that military chores from driving supply trucks to directing traffic in Iraq had become battlefield jobs because of bombings and other growing attacks by guerillas.

"Driving that truck is one of the most hazardous damned occupations we

have in Iraq," he said. "Truck drivers, frankly, and MPs (military police) are front-line troops these days."

He said the survey suggested that an unusually high percentage of US troops in support roles had been involved in the fighting in Iraq, which has killed more than 1,000 Americans and thousands of Iraqis.

"As you know, there is no more secure area," he said in an interview with reporters, adding that the study of psychological stress was conducted by the government and involved troops from all the US armed services.

"I saw the results of an effort yesterday that surveyed soldiers. And the statistics were astounding in

terms of the percentages of soldiers who have served in 'Iraqi Freedom' and say, 'I have seen a fellow soldier seriously wounded,' 'I observed a fellow soldier die,' 'I observed a civilian killed,' 'My location was subjected to mortar or rocket fire.'"

The wars in Iraq and Afghanistan have put the all-volunteer US military under strain and sparked concern over the ability to re-enlist troops, especially in part-time Reserve and National Guard units called to duty to support regular forces.—Internet



A family embraces an unidentified prisoner, left, just after his release from the Abu Ghraib Prison in Baghdad, on 15 Sept, 2004. —INTERNET

Thai Govt admits spread of GM papaya

BANGKOK, 16 Sept— Thai Agriculture Ministry admitted that it has found genetically modified (GM) papaya on a farm in northeastern Khonkaen Province and was determined to eradicate all such farm produce, local Press said here on Wednesday.

The ministry discovered one GM papaya out of 239 analyzed samples, Agriculture Minister Somsak Thepsuthin was quoted by *The Nation* newspaper as confirming.

The specimen were selected from 2,600 farmers who bought papaya strain seedlings from the Agricultural Research and Development Office, he added.

It is the country's second case of the spread of a transgenic crop after transgenic cotton was released from the horticultural research station of the agricultural department five years ago.

Somsak said he had ordered the immediate destruction of all papaya trees in the affected plantation while imposing a 450-metre quarantine zone to prevent the possible spread.

With the aim to develop a papaya resistant to the ringspot virus, Thailand and the United States started a joint research project on GM papaya in 1997.

Meanwhile, agriculture permanent-secretary Bangphot Hongtong said he would inform major importers of Thai farm produce about the situation.

"The ministry will assure them that plantation of GM crops is strictly prohibited in Thailand," he said.

Environmental activists insisted that eradication programme should be con-

ducted with compensation for the 2,600 farmers who have to destroy all papaya trees in their plantation.

Thai law forbids the public sale of GM seeds and requires products containing more than 5 per cent of a genetically modified ingredient to be labelled.

MNA/Xinhua

India test fires "Trishul" missile

NEW DELHI, 16 Sept— India on Wednesday test fired a short-range, surface-to-air missile from a range in Orissa State in east India, the *Indo-Asian News Service* quoted defence officials as saying.

The *Trishul* missile was fired from the range at Chandipur in Balasore District at 2.15 pm (0845 GMT), the officials said.

Trishul has a range of nine kilometres and carries a 15-kilo warhead.

The programme to develop the *Trishul* missile had been put on the backburner due to serious flaws in its guidance system. But several tests of the missile have been conducted since December last year.

MNA/Xinhua

ဝက်သ္မန်းအား ခေါ်ကျော်သွား

Gunmen seize three Britons in Iraq

BAGHDAD, 16 Sept— Three British nationals were abducted on Thursday in the Iraqi capital, the Interior Ministry said.

Gunmen seized the trio from their house in Baghdad's Al-Mansour neighbourhood at dawn, said ministry spokesman Colonel Adnan Abdel-Rahman.

He was unable to provide their identities. A British diplomat in Baghdad speaking on condition of anonymity was unable to immediately confirm the report but said embassy officials were looking into the matter.

A police official who also asked that his name not be used said a car was missing from the house were the Britons were allegedly taken.

Guerillas waging a 17-month insurgency in Iraq have kidnapped more than 100 foreigners in a bid to destabilise the interim authorities and drive coalition forces from the country. Many have been executed.

Internet

EU's outgoing commissioner attacks US policy in Iraq

STRASBOURG, 16 Sept— The European Union's outgoing External Relations Commissioner, Chris Patten, launched a withering attack on United States policy in Iraq on Wednesday, saying the world deserved better than American "testosterone".

Renowned for his blunt speaking, Patten used his parting speech to the European Parliament to deliver a stinging rejection of what he depicted as the Bush Administration's go-it-alone approach and contempt for allies.

The US-led invasion to overthrow Saddam Hussein, which split the Western alliance, had failed to bring peace to Iraq, Israel or the Palestinians, he said.

"Liberation rapidly turned into a brutally resisted occupation. Democracy failed to roll out like an oriental carpet across the thankless deserts of the Middle

East," Patten said.

"Above all, peace in Jerusalem and Palestine was not accomplished by victory in Baghdad," he said. Patten, a former chairman of Britain's Conservative Party and the last colonial governor of Hong Kong, leaves office at the end of next month and will be returning to private life as non-executive chancellor of Oxford University.

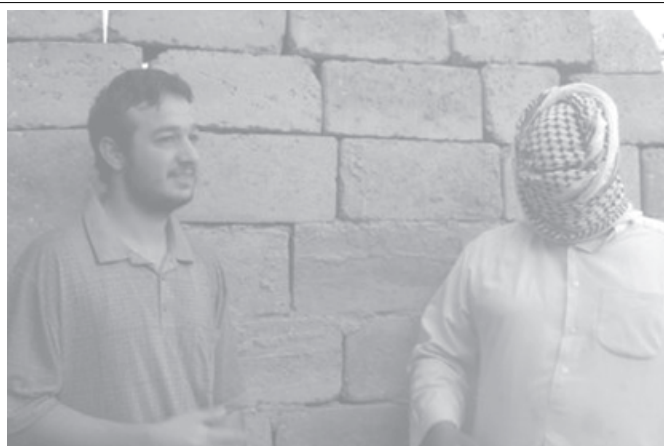
Without mentioning President George W Bush by name, he said "neo-conservative unilateralism" had clearly failed to establish peace, liberty and democracy, forcing Washington to bring al-

lies and international institutions back into fashion.

"Can we now look forward to the restoration of that old-fashioned notion that allies have to be led, not bossed, and that multilateral institutions have their important uses even for the world's only superpower?" Patten asked.

But he concluded that multilateralism was not yet accepted on either side of the political divide in Washington, saying the rhetoric of the US presidential election campaign was "pretty unsettling" — although he insisted he was not taking sides.

MNA/Reuters



Aytullah Gezmen, a Turkish citizen kidnapped in Iraq, is seen here with one of his captors shortly before his release in Iraq, on 15 Sept, 2004. —INTERNET

Jordanian driver kidnapped in Iraq, faces death threat

BAGHDAD, 16 Sept—A group of Iraqi militants has kidnapped a Jordanian truck driver and threatened to kill him unless his employer pulls out of Iraq within 48 hours, reported the Qatar-based al-Jazeera television on Tuesday.

A videotape aired by al-Jazeera showed the captive with three hooded gunmen and documents identifying him as Turki Khalifah al-Breizat.

The group calling itself "Squads of Unification Lions" said in the tape that they are giving the firm employing the Jordanian driver, which admitted sending fuel to the US military, 48 hours to announce it will stop operations in Iraq, otherwise they will kill the captive, according to al-Jazeera.

More than a dozen of Jordanians have been kidnapped in Iraq during the recent two months, but most of them were released safely after their employers pulled out of Iraq. — MNA/Xinhua

Iraq announces epidemic infections increased last month

BAGHDAD, 16 Sept — The Epidemics Control Centre of the Iraqi Health Department announced epidemic infections in Iraq reached more than 13,158 in August alone, said Baghdad newspaper on Wednesday.

"The epidemics are divided into three types according to their means of transmission," the paper quoted a source in the centre as saying.

He said the firsts type of epidemics are those that are transmitted through water, which are also the most dangerous.

The second type includes diseases

that are transmitted by insects like mosquitoes and the third includes diseases that are transmitted through the respiratory system, he added.

He noted that there are some new epidemics recorded in Iraq, which were not found there before.

MNA/Xinhua

Iraq forms supreme body to lay down reconstruction strategy

BAGHDAD, 17 Sept — The Iraqi Ministry of Planning has formed a supreme body to lay down reconstruction strategy for the war-torn country, said *Al Mashriq* newspaper Thursday.

Mehdi Al Hafidh, the Iraqi Minister of Planning, would head the body, added the report. The body would be responsible for laying down an international mechanism to finance the reconstruction projects and to help coordinate the efforts of the Iraqi side and the donor countries in the fields of loans and financing, the newspaper quoted a source in the ministry as saying. — MNA/Xinhua

Chinese President calls for better role of People's Congress

BEIJING, 16 Sept — Chinese President Hu Jintao called for the people's congress to play a stronger role in China at the grand rally marking the 50th anniversary of the founding of the National People's Congress (NPC), on Wednesday.

Hu, also general secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China Central Committee, delivered a speech at the rally presided over by Wu Bangguo, chairman of the NPC Standing Committee.

Hu said that history proves that blindly following Western political systems will lead to a dead end for China. China's current people's congress system has strong vitality and great superiority.

The President described the people's congress system as a great invention of integrating the basic principles of Marxism with the actual conditions of China. The setup is a natural choice of China's social development since modern times, and an important achievement in the long-term struggle of the Chinese people of

all ethnic groups under the leadership of the Communist Party of China (CPC).

The people's congress system also represents "the common interests and aspirations" of the Chi-

nese people of all ethnic groups," said Hu.

"History indicates that indiscriminately copying Western political systems is a blind alley for China," Hu stressed.

Reviewing the half-century history of the people's congress system and looking into the future, he said China must stick to and improve the system.

MNA/Xinhua



Local residents look at a destroyed ambulance belonging to the Iraqi Red Crescent, after US warplanes and artillery bombed the Sunni guerillas stronghold of Fallujah, Iraq, on 13 Sept, 2004. —INTERNET

US lawmakers blast Bush admin for handling of Iraq war

WASHINGTON, 16 Sept—US Lawmakers blasted the Bush administration on Wednesday for its handling of the war in Iraq and said they were confounded only a fraction of 18.4 billion US dollars in US rebuilding funds had been spent.

In an unusually non-partisan hearing, Republican and Democratic senators urged senior State Department officials to try harder to speed up the reconstruction programme, which lawmakers said could lead to a more stable environment in Iraq.

They also told officials to be more honest in their assessments of what was going on, with Indiana Republican Senator Dick Lugar taking aim at what he called the "dancing in

the street crowd," who painted an overly positive picture.

"The nonsense of all of that is apparent. The lack of planning (for Iraq) is apparent," said Lugar, chair of the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations.

The committee's top Democrat, Senator Joseph Biden of Delaware, said virtually every problem in Iraq was predicted by experts before the US invasion, but no plan was in

place.

"The ideologues were in control and in denial," Biden said. "There is such a disconnect between what I hear (from Bush Administration officials) and the reality of the situation on the ground."

So far, just over 1 billion US dollars of the 18.4 billion US dollars has been spent. Lawmakers said they were perplexed why it was taking so long to spend that money when the administration had

pressed Congress to rush the funds through last November.

"This is an extraordinarily ineffective administrative procedure and it is exasperating for anybody looking at this from any vantage point," Lugar said.

The State Department's Iraq Coordinator, Ronald Schlicher, conceded it had taken too long, but said there was progress.

MNA/Reuters



Blood and burned pieces of clothes lie strewn around after a massive explosion outside a police station at the end of Haifa Street in Baghdad, Iraq, on 14 Sept, 2004. At least 47 people were killed and 114 wounded as the blast ripped through scores of people gathered there with aspirations to join the police force. —INTERNET

OPEC to increase production by 1 million barrels in November

VIENNA, 17 Sept — OPEC decided Wednesday to increase its daily oil production ceiling by one million barrels beginning from November 1 to bring down oil prices in the world market to a reasonable level.

Beginning from November 1, members of the Organization of Petroleum-Exporting Countries (OPEC) will increase their oil output from 26 million barrels a day to 27 million.

At a one-day ministerial meeting, the ministers discussed the situation in the international oil market and said the growth of world oil demand, the geo-political factors and the fears of supply disruptions around the globe have resulted in high oil prices.

MNA/Xinhua

Over 1.53 tons of drugs seized in Iran

TEHERAN, 16 Sept — Iranian anti-drug police has seized 1.53 tons of drugs in the southeastern province of Kerman over the past week, the official IRNA news agency reported on Tuesday.

The haul, including opium and hashish, has been seized during several mop-up operations, during which the police arrested five drug-dealers.

Drug addiction and transportation has been a serious social problem in Iran, a country sitting in the crossroad linking drug producing Afghanistan and Pakistan and markets in the Gulf states, Central Asia, western Europe and other regions. — MNA/Xinhua



US soldiers inspect the site after a massive explosion outside a police station at the end of Haifa Street in Baghdad, on 14 Sept, 2004.

INTERNET

မြို့ပြဒုက္ခရောက် လိမ့်မလေလွန်း ထုတ်ကုန်ပြန်

Decapitated bodies of 3 men found north of Baghdad

BAGHDAD (Iraq), 16 Sept— The decapitated bodies of three men, their heads strapped to their backs were found dumped in nylon bags by a roadside north of Baghdad on Wednesday. Iraqi police and US officials said.

The bodies were discovered by a group of Iraqi National Guardsmen shortly after dawn as they patrolled near the town of Dujail, 28 miles north of the capital. The US military said initial indications were that the dead men were Arabs.

The development comes after a sharp surge in violence over the past three days, with at least 150 Iraqis killed in bomb blasts, fighting and other attacks. A car bomb in central Baghdad on Tuesday

killed 47 and wounded 114.

Iraqi police said two of the bodies had tattoos written in the Roman alphabet — one saying "Hecer", and the other a letter H. The third body had tattoos written in Arabic script but the words were not Arabic. There were no documents on the corpses.

Two were clothed in jeans and T-shirts and the third was wearing sweatpants and a T-shirt, the US military said.—MNA/Reuters

Attempt to smuggle Iraqi antiquities foiled

BAGHDAD, 16 Sept— Iraqi police in the governorate of Muthana, in the south of Iraq, announced they managed to foil an operation of smuggling Iraqi antiquities abroad, said *Al Sabah* newspaper Wednesday.

"The police confiscated tens of antiquities that dates to the third millennium BC and belong to the dynasty of Al Warkaa," the paper quoted a source in the police of Muthana as saying.

"The antiquities were hidden in the house of one of the suspects and were prepared to be smuggled abroad, but the police were able to foil the operation and arrested one of the criminals, and the search continues for the rest of the gang," added the source.

Criminals, robbed and smuggled the remains, ruins, and other antiquities of Iraq daringly.

MNA/Xinhua

UAE backs Italian efforts for two female hostages' release

ABU DHABI, 16 Sept—The United Arab Emirates (UAE) fully supports the Italian Government's efforts to free two Italian women held hostage in Iraq, the *Gulf News* daily reported here Wednesday.

The UAE authorities expressed the stance during officials' meetings with visiting Italian Minister of Foreign Affairs Franco Frattini.

Frattini arrived here from Kuwait Tuesday for a brief visit, a part of his Middle East tour in an effort to set free the two female hostages.

He met with Shaikh Khalifa Bin Zayed al-Nahyan, Crown Prince of Abu Dhabi and Deputy Supreme Commander of the UAE Armed Forces, and Shaikh Hamdan Bin Zayed al-Nahyan, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of State for Foreign Affairs.

Frattini told the daily after the meeting that the UAE would do everything possible to support the Italian Government and secure the release of the two

Italian hostages and the other two Iraqis kidnapped along with them in Iraq.

"The UAE President has expressed his solidarity and supported our demand for their prompt release," he added.

The two women belonging to Italian charity "A Bridge To Baghdad", which provides medicine and aid to Iraqis, were captured eight days ago at their office in Baghdad with two Iraqis working for the organization.

Frattini's visit coincided with an ultimatum posted on an Islamic web site demanding the withdrawal of the Italian troops from Iraq within 24 hours, which expired Tuesday afternoon.—MNA/Xinhua

Cambodian police seize large sum of drugs, arrest two

PHNOM PENH, 16 Sept— The Cambodian police have seized a record amount of amphetamine tablets in a raid and arrested two suspected drug traffickers, said a police officer on Wednesday.

About 600,000 amphetamine tablets were seized on Tuesday from a refitted speed boat on Mekong River nearly 60 kilometres from Cambodia's northeast Kracheh Province, and two Cambodian citizens were arrested, said So Nhek, police chief of Kracheh Province.

This is the largest number of amphetamine seized by the police so far in Cambodia, he said. The police suspected that the drugs were smuggled from Laos, bordering Cambodia's remote province of Stung Treng. The boat was sailing from Stung Treng to capital Phnom Penh when it was seized by police.

MNA/Xinhua

If donors do not meet commitment, population goals suffer

NEW DELHI, 16 Sept— With donor countries not meeting their commitments, lack of resources is becoming a major stumbling block in reaching global goals on population and reproductive health, a UN report said Wednesday.

"More than 80 per cent of developing countries say that available resources do not meet their reproductive health needs," the report — "The Cairo Consensus at Ten: Population, Reproductive Health and the Global Effort to End Poverty" — by United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) said.

Though progress had been made since 1994 when a global action plan was adopted in an International Conference on Population and Development

(ICPD) in Cairo, much more must be done to ensure reproductive health and rights including those of the world's 1.3 billion adolescents, to promote safe motherhood and to stem the spread of HIV/AIDS, it said.

Donor countries have given only about half of the total amount they agreed would be needed to implement the Programme of Action — 3.1 billion US dollars a year rather than 6.1 billion US dollars a year, it said.—MNA/PTI



A local resident inspects a car in a parking lot that was allegedly fired upon by US troops, in Sadr City, Iraq, on 13 Sept, 2004.—INTERNET

China will defend one-China policy at any cost

BEIJING, 16 Sept—A Chinese Government spokesman said here Wednesday that China will defend the one-China policy at any cost.

"We'll keep watch on Chen Shuibian's new moves. If he has broken the bottom line, we will pay any cost to safeguard our national sovereignty and territorial integrity," said Zhang Mingqing, spokesman for the State Council Taiwan Affairs Office at a regular Press conference.

He said Chen Shuibian has never given up his vain hope of "Taiwan Independence" and will take any chance to display his real thoughts.

"Chinese compatriots from both sides of the Taiwan Straits should keep high vigilance on this," said Zhang.

When asked for comments on Chen's suggestion that "Taiwan" is the best option for a shortened form of the "Republic of China", the spokesman said this very suggestion has revealed again Chen's separatist stance and his promotion of in-

dependence for Taiwan, an inseparable province of China.

"Recalling Chen's earlier words claiming that his main task in the coming four years is 'to seek a solution to the positioning of Taiwan,' we can tell that his 'constitutional reform' promise in his May 20 speech is totally hypocritical," said Zhang.

He said there is only one China, to which both Taiwan and the Chinese Mainland belong.

"Judging from his recent activities and remarks, especially his title seeking effort for Taiwan, we find that Chen's neither accepted the one China principle nor stopped his pro-independence activities."

"But his attempts to split China have run against people's wills and will never succeed," said Zhang.

MNA/Xinhua

Almost all high schools facilitated with multimedia classrooms

Secretary-1 attends opening of multimedia classrooms of BEHS No 3 in Hline Township



MEC Vice-Chairman Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Soe Win enjoys entertainment of students at opening ceremony of multimedia classrooms at Hline BEHS No 3.— MNA

YANGON, 17 Sept—The opening of the multimedia classrooms of No 3 Basic Education High School in Hline Township, Yangon West District, took place this morning, attended by Vice-Chairman of Myanmar Education Committee Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Soe Win.

Also present on the occasion were Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Chairman Yangon

on efforts for extended installation of pedagogical aids in the classrooms. It was followed by the presenting of cash donations to the school. On behalf of Thiri Thudhamma Manizawtadhara U Ne Win Tun (Ruby Dragon Co), an official presented K 6 million to the funds of the school through the principal.

U Aung Shein-Daw Khaing Khaing Maw (Confidence Company Ltd) presented K 1 million; parents

to the minister; U Kyaw Hla (Construction Materials Trading), U Khin Maung Win (Win Construction Materials Trading) and Ward 16 PDC, K 100,000 each to the Mayor; U Myint Oo-Daw Nyunt Nyunt Sein and family and air compressor entrepreneurs in Hline Township, K 100,000 each; and U Kyaw Tint-Daw Kyin Waing, U Tin Soe-Daw Theingi Oo, U Than Naing (Sawmill), K 65,000 to Deputy Minister U Myo Nyunt; U Saing Aung Gyi (Kye Industrial Services) and U Thein Han (Daylight Battery Services) K 50,000 each, and U Han Aye, pedagogical CDs and software CDs worth K 60,000 to Deputy Minister Col Aung Myo Min.

The minister expressed his thanks, saying that officials at the central level and regional level and the people are making ardent efforts in concert for promotion of the education standard of the entire people, adhering to the guidance of the Head of State.

Measures for ensuring enrolment of all school-age children and literacy campaigns for uplift of the education standard of the entire people are meeting greater success year by year.

Thanks to the combined endeavours of the State, the people and the Tatmadaw, almost of all the high schools in the nation have been facilitated with pedagogical aids and multimedia classrooms, which help the students learn their studies in a short time.

In conclusion, the minister expressed his belief that active participation of the students and their parents and teachers will make effective and significant contribution towards transformation of the nation into a peaceful, modern and developed nation through education.

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

Next, the Secretary-1 and party, together with the headmistress, teachers, members of the school board of trustees, wellwishers and students, posed for a documentary photo. — MNA



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

Command Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe, Minister for Education U Than Aung, Yangon City Development Committee Chairman Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin, Deputy Ministers for Education U Myo Nyunt and Col Aung Myo Min, officials of the State Peace and Development Council Office, departmental heads, local authorities, the principal, teachers, members of the parent-teacher association, the school board of trustees and social organizations, wellwishers and students.

Schoolgirls Ma Htet Htet Aung and Ma Saw Sandi Oo read out the agenda of the ceremony.

The commander, the minister and the chairman of the school board of trustees cut the ribbon to open the classrooms.

The MEC Vice-Chairman formally unveiled the signboard of the facility.

The Secretary-1, the commander, the minister, the mayor, the deputy ministers, departmental heads and guests viewed computer application room, electronic media (audio system), electronic media (reading corner), computer aided instruction, language lab, video platform, domestic science room, drawing room and teaching and learning aids room.

Schoolgirls Ma Hsu Mon Win and Ma Thazin Oo emceed the opening ceremony.

Schoolgirls and schoolboys presented a variety dances and songs.

Headmistress Daw Nyunt Than reported on organizational set-up of the multimedia classrooms; and Chairman of the school board of trustees U Aung Myint,

of the schoolchildren of the school, K 1,335,000; and old students of the school, K 527,800 to the commander.

Next, Chairman of the school board of trustees U Aung Myint and family presented K 300,000, sawmill owners in Hline Township, K 300,000, and Daw Than Nu (Daw Nu Family General Goods Rental), K 100,000



MEC Vice-Chairman Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Soe Win poses for documentary photo with teachers, students, officials and wellwishers at opening ceremony of multimedia classrooms at Hline BEHS No 3.— MNA

Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt and...

(from page 1)

and wife Daw San Yone, Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs U Khin Maung Win and departmental heads.

First, Ambassador of the Union of Myanmar to the Republic of Singapore U Hla Than and Acting Head of Protocol Department of Singapore Mr Lim Cheng Hoe welcomed Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt and wife and delegation members on board the flight.

Next, Singaporean Second Minister for Trade and Industry Mr Heng Chee How and wife, Myanmar Ambassador U Hla Than and wife Daw Khin Aye Myint, Singaporean Ambassador Mr Simon Tensing de Cruz and wife welcomed Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt and wife Dr Daw Khin Win Shwe and party who alighted from the aircraft.

Afterwards, a Singaporean young lady presented a bouquet to Dr Daw

Khin Win Shwe.

Then, two Myanmar ladies presented bouquets to Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt and wife Dr Daw Khin Win Shwe.

Next, the Prime Minister and wife and party were welcomed there by staff and families of the Myanmar Embassy.

At the special lounge of the airport, Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt and wife Dr Daw Khin Win Shwe cordially conversed with the Singaporean Second Minister for Trade and Industry and wife.

Accompanied by the Singaporean Second Minister for Trade and Industry and wife, Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt and wife and delegation members proceeded to Four Seasons Hotel from Changi International Airport in a motorcade.

MNA



Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt being welcomed by Second Minister for Trade and Industry Mr Heng Chee How and wife at Changi International Airport.—MNA



A Myanmar girl presents a bouquet to Dr Daw Khin Win Shwe at Changi International Airport.—MNA



Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt and wife Dr Daw Khin Win Shwe being welcomed by Singaporean Ambassador Mr Simon Tensing de Cruz and wife at Changi International Airport.—MNA

Singaporean Prime Minister and wife host banquet in honour of Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt and wife Dr Daw Khin Win Shwe

YANGON, 17 Sept— Prime Minister of the Republic of Singapore Mr

Lee Hsien Loong and wife Mrs Lee Hsien Loong hosted a banquet in hon-

our of Prime Minister of the Union of Myanmar General Khin Nyunt, wife

Dr Daw Khin Win Shwe and Myanmar goodwill delegation members at the

Presidential House, Istana in Singapore at 7.30 pm on 13 September.

Also present at the banquet were Minister for Industry-1 U Aung Thaung, Minister for Commerce Brig-Gen Pyi Sone, Minister for Finance and Revenue Maj-Gen Hla Tun, Minister for Foreign Affairs U Win Aung and wife Daw San Yone, Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs U Khin Maung Win, Myanmar Ambassador to Singapore U Hla Than and wife Daw Khin Aye Myint, Director-General U Soe Tint at the Prime Minister's Office and Director-General U Thaung Tun of the Political Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The Singaporean Prime Minister and wife were accompanied by ministers and deputy min-

isters of Singapore, the Singaporean Ambassador to Myanmar and wife and senior officers.

At the banquet, Singaporean Prime Minister Mr Lee Hsien Loong and wife cordially greeted Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt and wife Dr Daw Khin Win Shwe.

Next, the Singaporean Prime Minister and wife presented his entourage to Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt and wife Dr Daw Khin Win Shwe. Similarly, General Khin Nyunt and wife presented their entourage to the Singaporean Prime Minister and wife.

Later, Singaporean Prime Minister and wife hosted a dinner to Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt and wife Dr Daw Khin Win Shwe and party.

MNA



Singaporean Prime Minister Mr Lee Hsien Loong and wife host dinner in honour of Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt and wife Dr Daw Khin Win Shwe at Istana Presidential House.—MNA



Singaporean Prime Minister Mr Lee Hsien Loong cordially greets Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt at Istana in Singapore.—MNA

Singapore wishes to promote Singapore...

(from page 16)

He thanked the Republic of Singapore for her cooperation in many sectors with Myanmar and for her support for Myanmar in regional and internal affairs, explaining the developments of Myanmar.

Prime Minister Mr Lee Hsien Loong expressed his country's wish to promote trade with and investment in Myanmar, thanking General Khin Nyunt for explaining the developments in Myanmar. He said that Singapore appreciates and has sympathy for Myanmar, assuring to continue to support Myanmar in

regional and international affairs. Coordination will be made between the two countries to enhance mutual economic co-operation and to hold a Myanmar-Singapore Joint Ministerial Meet-

ing, he said. Singapore has wish to cooperate with Myanmar in science and technology, ICT, human resources development and tourism sectors, he expressed.

MNA

Prime Minister Mr Lee Hsien Loong expressed his country's wish to promote trade with and investment in Myanmar, thanking General Khin Nyunt for explaining the developments in Myanmar. He said that Singapore appreciates and has sympathy for Myanmar, assuring to continue to support Myanmar in regional and international affairs.

Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt and Senior Minister Goh Chok Tong discuss national development endeavours

YANGON, 17 Sept— Prime Minister of the Union of Myanmar General Khin Nyunt called on Senior Minister Goh Chok Tong of the Republic of Singapore at Istana in Singapore at 3 pm on 13 September.

Also present together with Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt were Minister for Foreign Affairs U Win Aung, Deputy Minister U Khin Maung Win, Myanmar Ambassador to Singapore U Hla Than, Director-General of Protocol Department of Ministry of Foreign Affairs Thura U Aung Htet and Director-General of the Political Department of the MOFA U Thauung Tun. Senior Minister Goh Chok Tong was accompanied by

Minister of State for Trade and Industry Mr Heng Chee How, Singaporean Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Simon Tensing de Cruz and Mr Albert Chua,

on matters of common interest, and expressed satisfaction of the bilateral relations between the two countries. They both viewed that the developing

Myanmar Prime Minister and the Singaporean Senior Minister exchanged views on matters of common interest, and expressed satisfaction of the bilateral relations of the two countries. They both viewed that the developing bilateral relations serve the interest of the peoples of both countries.

Principal Private Secretary to Senior Minister and Press Secretary, Mr Stanley Loh. During the meeting, the Myanmar Prime Minister and the Singaporean Senior Minister exchanged views

bilateral relations serve the interest of the peoples of both countries. They also discussed a wide array of sectors concerning their experiences on the national development endeavours.

MNA



Singaporean Senior Minister Mr Goh Chok Tong cordially greets Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt at Istana in Singapore.—MNA

Myanmar, Korean entrepreneurs hold trade talks

YANGON, 17 Sept — The trade delegation from Iksan of the Republic of Korea and Myanmar entrepreneurs held trade talks at the Traders Hotel on Sule Pagoda Road, here, from 9 am to 5 pm today.

Present at the meeting were Myanmar entrepreneurs, Ambassador of the Republic of Korea Mr Lee Kyung Woo, Economic Counsellor Mr Choi Yoon Tae, members of the trade delegation from Iksan of the ROK, officials of companies which produce garbage van, fuel bowser and other vehicles, agriculture and fisheries, cold storage and icy materials, photograph and developing chemicals, machinery, chemical liquid used in boiler for prevention of air pollution, LED colour light boxes, multi-coloured crayon sticks, water and oil colour paints, granites, marble and others. They discussed trade matters.— MNA



Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt meets with Senior Minister Mr Goh Chok Tong at Istana in Singapore.— MNA

General Khin Nyunt, wife Dr Daw Khin Win Shwe back from Singapore

YANGON, 17 Sept — Prime Minister of the Union of Myanmar General Khin Nyunt and wife Dr Daw Khin Win Shwe arrived back from Singapore today after paying a goodwill visit to the Republic of Singapore at the invitation of Singaporean Prime Minister Mr Lee Hsien Loong.

Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt and wife Dr Daw Khin Win Shwe arrived at Changi International Airport from Four Seasons Hotel in a motorcade at 1.20 pm to go back to Yangon.

At the airport, the Prime Minister and wife greeted staff and families of the Myanmar Embassy in Singapore. Second Minister for Trade and Industry Mr Heng Chee How and wife, Myanmar Ambassador U Hla Than and wife, Singaporean Ambassador Mr Simon Tensing de Cruz and wife bade farewell to Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt and wife Dr Daw Khin Win Shwe.

The Prime Minister and wife left there by flight of Myanmar Airways International and arrived back here in the evening.

At 3 pm on 13 September, Minister for Commerce Brig-Gen Pyi Sone who accompanied the Prime Minister received Chairman & MD Mr George Abraham of the GA Group Pte Ltd comprising business consultative companies of Singapore at Four Seasons Hotel in Singapore. They discussed matters related to trade and export promotion of Myanmar.

Likewise, Minister for Finance and Revenue Maj-Gen Hla Tun who accompanied the Prime Minister, together with Director-General U Soe Tint at the Prime



Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt and wife Dr Daw Khin Win Shwe being welcomed back by diplomats, the UN resident coordinator and officials.—MNA

Minister's Office and Minister-Counsellor U Ohn Kyaw of the Myanmar Embassy in Singapore, went to United Overseas Bank Group Headquarters in Singapore at 3 pm on 13 September. Minister Maj-Gen Hla Tun met with Senior Vice President & Division Head, Financial Institutions Group-Banks, Global

Treasury Mr Frank Choo Chin Kok of the United Overseas Bank Group, CFA, Executive Vice President International Mr Michael Lau and Vice President International Branches Mr Goh Ngun Leng. They discussed banking services.

MNA

MWAF President Dr Daw Khin Win Shwe visits Singapore Council of Women's Affairs

YANGON, 17 Sept— wife of Minister for Foreign Affairs Daw San Yon, wife of the Myanmar General Khin Nyunt

Industry of Singapore Mrs Heng Chee How and wife of the Singaporean

where they were putting up and arrived the at-sunrice Training School in Fort Canning where they were welcomed by Director of the at-sunrice Training School Ms Kuan Lui and officials.

Next, Dr Daw Khin Win Shwe and party heard

Later, wife of the Second Minister of Trade and Industry of Singapore Mrs Heng Chee How hosted a luncheon in honour of the Myanmar delegation at the school.

After the luncheon, Dr Daw Khin Win Shwe and party had

reported to Dr Daw Khin Win Shwe and party on the noteworthy points of the association. Next, Dr Daw Khin Win Shwe clarified the salient points of the Myanmar Women's Affairs Federation, followed by exchanging of views on development of



MWAF President Dr Daw Khin Win Shwe visits Singapore Council of Women's Organization (SCWO) Office.—MNA

President of Myanmar Women's Affairs Federation Dr Daw Khin Win Shwe together with

Ambassador to Singapore Daw Khin Aye Myint, wife of the Second Minister of Trade and

Ambassador to Myanmar Mrs Poh Choo de Cruz on 13 September left the Four Seasons Hotel, Singapore



President of Myanmar Women's Affairs Federation Dr Daw Khin Win Shwe signs in the visitors' book of Singapore Council of Women's Organization (SCWO).—MNA



Director Ms Kuan Lui briefs President of Myanmar Women's Affairs Federation Dr Daw Khin Win Shwe at at-sunrice foodstuff training school.—MNA

a report presented by Executive Chef Mr Pathmanathan Velayathan on the salient points of the school. Afterwards, Dr Daw Khin Win Shwe and party viewed kitchen crops and vegetables grown in the compound of the school.

After that, Executive Chef Mr Pathmanathan Velayathan demonstrated the preparation of meals to Dr Daw Khin Win Shwe and party.

a documentary photo taken together with officials of the school. Next, Dr Daw Khin Win Shwe and party proceeded to the Singapore Council of Women's Organizations (SCWO) Headquarters where they were welcomed by Vice-Presidents of SCWO Mrs Wee Wan Joo and Ms Susie Kong and officials. At the briefing hall, the Vice-Presidents of SCWO and officials

women sectors between the two sides.

Next, Officials of the organization conducted Dr Daw Khin Win Shwe and party round the SCWO building.

After signing in the visitors' book of the organization, Dr Daw Khin Win Shwe and party had a group photo taken.

Next, Dr Daw Khin Win Shwe and party left the SCWO for the Four Seasons Hotel where they were putting up.—MNA



Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt signs in the visitors' book of Presidential House of Singapore.
(News on page 16)—MNA

Fossils handed over to Ministry of Culture

YANGON, 17 Sept—Fossils were handed over to the Ministry of Culture at a ceremony held at National Museum on Pyay Road here this morning. Under the arrangement of the Pontaung Fossil Search Team, U Myint Aung and Daw Win of Panbe Ward, Michaungye, Magway Division, handed over the fossils which they had collected near Taipinkan village, Magway Township, to the ministry.

The ceremony was attended by Deputy Minister for Culture Brig-Gen Soe Win Maung, Leader of the Pontaung Fossil Search Team and also Head of the Department of Office of Chief of the Military Intelligence Brig-Gen Thein Swe, Director-General of the Department of Cultural Institute U Myint Thein Swe and officials, members of the PFST, and others.

Next, Brig-Gen Than Tun and the donors handed over the fossils to Brig-Gen Soe Win Maung, who later presented a certificate of honour and expressed his thanks.

The fossils handed over today are of some twenty items—maxilla, mandible, molars, skulls of capricornis, carnivores, sus scofa, stegodon, conohyrus, rhinoceros, giraffes and crocodiles; tusks; horns of capricornis; and bony plates of turtles.

MNA

Basic Organization Course No 9 of Seikkan Township USDA concludes

YANGON, 17 Sept—Basic Organization Course No 9 of the Seikkan Township Union Solidarity and Development Association concluded at the office of the association on Strand Road here this afternoon, attended by USDA CEC member Minister for Commerce Brig-Gen Pyi Sone, the Director-General of Directorate of Trade, officials of the General Administration Department and the Township Peace and Development Council, officials of social organizations and others.

USDA CEC member Minister for Commerce Brig-Gen Pyi Sone made a speech on the occasion. Next, the minister and officials presented prizes to outstanding trainees and completion certificates to trainees, after which the ceremony came to an end.—MNA

Construction of Kandawgyi Fresh Water Fish Garden inspected

YANGON, 17 Sept — Minister for Livestock and Fisheries Brig-Gen Maung Maung Thein and Minister for Cooperatives Maj-Gen Htay Oo arrived at the briefing hall of Fresh Water Fish Garden in Education Zone of all-round construction of Yangon Kandawgyi Gardens and Zoo (Yangon) this morning and gave necessary instructions to officials.

Fisheries Department Director-General U Than Tun and officials reported on progress in construction of 23 booths of fish. Later, Minister Brig-Gen Maung Maung Thein left necessary instructions.

MNA

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 life.
- * 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.



Prof Dr Daw May May Yi speaking at the coordination meeting to hold 3rd Meeting of the ASEAN Committee on Women.—MNA

Coord meeting on 3rd Meeting of the ASEAN Committee on Women held

YANGON, 17 Sept — The Work Committee for Organizing the 3rd Meeting of the ASEAN Committee on Women to be hosted by Myanmar in November and December 2004 held the coordination meeting at the hall of the Myanmar Women's Affairs Federation at 132, Thanlwin Road, Bahan Township, this morning. Present were Chairperson of the Work Committee Prof Dr Daw May May Yi, the vice-chairperson and work committee members and leaders of the sub-committees.

First, Chairperson of the Work Committee Prof Dr Daw May May Yi spoke on the occasion.

Next, Secretary Daw Khin Htar May reported on the plan to hold the meeting and Vice-Chairperson Prof Dr Daw Khin Aye Win explained the agenda for the meeting. Those present took part in the discussions to add entertainment sector under the arrangement of cultural exchange.

Later, Prof Dr Daw May May Yi gave the concluding remarks. —MNA

Korean information delegation tours downtown Yangon

YANGON, 17 Sept —A 12-member information delegation led by Journalist Mr Kim Jin Ho of The Kyung Hyang Daily News of the Republic of Korea arrived here by air this morning under the exchange programme of information delegations between ASEAN countries and ROK.

They were welcomed at Yangon International Airport by Director (News) U Win Tin of News and Periodicals Enterprise under the Ministry of Information, Director U Myint Soe of ASEAN Affairs Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Counsellor Mr Park Joon-yong of

the ROK Embassy and officials. Accompanied by the Counsellor of the Korean Embassy and officials, the Korean delegation this morning visited the National Museum. Assistant Director U Htay Myint of the National Museum explained to them about the booths displayed. They proceeded to

Myanma Radio and Television in the afternoon and studied functions of MRTV. Director-General U Khin Maung Htay of MRTV explained history of MRTV, transmitting and broadcasting of the department and functions of MRTV-3.

The Korean guests viewed round studios of Radio Myanmar and TV Myanmar. On arrival at MICT Park in Hline Township, General Manager U Thauung Nyunt and Deputy Director Daw Nilar Aye of Myanmar Computer Federation explained to them the salient points on MICT Park. Next, the Korean delegation viewed around the MICT Park.

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

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE**MV SEA MERCHANT VOY NO (-)**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV SEA MERCHANT VOY NO (-) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 19.9.2004 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 ADVANCE CONTAINER
Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

**ARRIVAL/CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV "MANDALAY" VOY NO 135/N**

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V "MANDALAY" Voy No. 135/N are hereby notified that the vessel has arrived at Yangon port on 18-9-2004 and will be berthing on about 19-9-2004 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 and 12 noon to 4 pm into Claims Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from vessel.

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

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**Russia calls on world
to unite against terrorism**

HARARE, 16 Sept — Russian Ambassador to Zimbabwe Oleg Scherbak here on Wednesday called on the world to unite in the fight against terrorism which has the potential to spread to all parts of the globe.

"No one country alone can withstand terrorism attacks. We cannot fight that battle single-handedly. It is a global problem and should be dealt with globally," he said.

Scherbak said negotiations with terrorists would not yield any positive change, as the perpetrators were inhuman.

The ambassador appealed to the world to desist from promoting terrorism through funding or offering terrorists asylum, saying the same terrorists

would turn against them.

He called for better coordination between security services, particularly with regard to blocking channels of terrorist funding and logistics.

Russia has recently been subjected to terrorist attacks with the last three weeks having witnessed the downing of two passenger airliners, a suicide bombing at a Moscow metro station and hostage taking early this month at a school in the town of Beslan, in North Ossetia region, which borders the rebellious republic of Chechnya.

In the hostage crisis, more than 330 people were massacred, among them 160 children, while more than 900 sustained injuries.

MNA/Xinhua

Japanese Language Proficiency Test

Host Institutions: Yangon University of Foreign Languages (YUFL), Embassy of Japan Sponsors: The Japan Foundation, Association of International Education, Japan.

Date: December 5, 2004 (Sun)

Place: Yangon University of Foreign Languages (YUFL), Mandalay University of Foreign Languages (MUFL)

Application period: from July 28 (Wednesday) 2004 to September 24 (Friday) 2004

The TEST has four different levels; the examinee can choose the level that best matches his or her ability and training.

Each TEST is made up of three sections:

- (1) Writing - vocabulary;
- (2) listening;
- (3) reading - grammar

Further information and TEST GUIDE are available at Host Institutions as follows.

YUFL Tel: 514371 (Ext -123)
MUFL Tel: 02 - 32330

နိကာယကံတလင်ကုန်ကြမ်းအထိတ်တင်ခါ

၁။ လယ်ယာပစ္စည်း - နိကာယကံတလင်ကုန်ကြမ်း
၂။ တင်ခါပိတ်ရက် - (၂၃-၉-၂၀၀၄)ရက်နေ့
၃။ အချိန် - (၁၄:၀၀)နာရီ
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**Four CIS leaders meet on
single economic zone**

Moscow, 16 Sept — The presidents of Russia, Ukraine, Belarus and Kazakhstan gathered in the Kazakh capital of Astana on Wednesday for a summit of the Common Economic Space (CES).

The presidents are due to endorse a list of 29 documents for the creation of a four-nation single economic zone, which was approved at a summit in Minsk, Belarus, on August 20, according to the ITAR-TASS news agency.

In order to form a full-fledged CES, the four states have to sign 60 documents within the next few years to secure the formation of a common Customs space and a common market, said the report.

Leaders of the four Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) countries have also reached an understanding

on coordinating their efforts in accession negotiations of the World Trade Organization (WTO).

They are expected to issue a joint statement at the end of the Astana summit, the ITAR-TASS said.

Meanwhile, the CIS summit scheduled to open on Thursday in Astana will highlight anti-terrorism and will adopt a statement in connection with the latest terror attacks in Russia.

Russia has suffered a string of tragedies over the past three weeks. The explosions of two airliners and a suicide bombing near a metro station in Moscow late last month left some 100 people dead. More than 330 people, half of them children, were killed in the hostage-taking crisis early this month in a southern Russian school.

MNA/Xinhua

Kerry says US needs to make the "right choices" on economy

NEW YORK, 16 Sept — Senator John Kerry said on Wednesday the United States needs to make the "right choices" on the economy, and faulted US President George W. Bush for blaming others and offering excuses for the White House's own

failed economic policies.

In an opinion published in the *Wall Street Journal*, titled "My Economic Policy", the Democratic presidential candidate said his economic plan would create good jobs, cut middle-class taxes and health-care costs, halve the US budget

deficit, and restore the US competitive edge and economic confidence.

Kerry said Bush, a Republican seeking reelection on November 2, has since taking office in 2001 presided over a loss of 1.6 million private-sector jobs, a 1,500-US-dollar drop in the typical

family's income and 3,500-US-dollar increase in its health care costs, falling US corporate investment and exports, a soaring trade deficit, and tax cuts that failed to stimulate growth and caused the budget deficit to balloon.

MNA/Reuters

ပြည်တွင်းပြန်ကုန်အားပေးပါ

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**Cuba to present
several resolution
protects in UNGA**

HAVANA, 16 Sept — Cuba will introduce several draft resolutions during the recently opened 59th session of the United Nations General Assembly, a Cuban official said here on Wednesday.

Among the texts to be introduced by the Cuban delegation is the one dubbed "The Need to Put an End to the Economic, Commercial and Financial Blockade Imposed by the United States Against Cuba," the official told local Press on condition of anonymity.

The Cuban Foreign Ministry will also introduce other draft resolutions concerning human rights and respect for the principles and purpose of the United Nations Charter, the official said.

MNA/Xinhua

**World oil prices rise as "Ivan"
attacked Mexico Gulf**

NEW YORK, 16 Sept — World oil prices rose on Tuesday as Hurricane Ivan charged toward the oil-rich Gulf of Mexico, where energy companies shut down refineries and offshore oil rigs and evacuated thousands of workers. US light crude ended up 52 cents at 44.39 US dollars a barrel in early afternoon trade, while London's Brent crude ended 62 cents higher at 41.68 US dollars a barrel.

Ahead of OPEC's meeting in Vienna Wednesday, a senior delegate said the

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U Than Maung, Advocate For PENTAX Corporation, C/o Kewin Chia Yangon Ltd, Unit 223 Summit Parkview 350 Athlon Road, Dagon Tap, Yangon, Union of Myanmar. kavin.chia.yangon@netnet.net Dated 18 September 2004

**Caricom meets to
discuss assistance
for Grenada,
Jamaica**

HAVANA, 16 Sept — Leaders of the Caribbean Community (Caricom) discussed an emergency plan to help Grenada and Jamaica, devastated by Hurricane Ivan, which left nearly 70 people dead in the region.

The meeting held on Wednesday in Trinidad and Tobago set the amount of financial relief aid, which would focus on the recovery of Grenada, said the reports reaching here.

The Caricom assistance will come in addition to the supply of relief aid arriving since last week by vessels into Grenada's capital, where 90 per cent of buildings were damaged. Guyana, a member of Caricom, has announced it will hand over 50,000 US dollars to Grenada, where 37 people were killed by Ivan, according to the Pan-American Health Organization.

MNA/Xinhua

Gulf OPEC oil ministers will propose raising the group's formal output ceiling by one million barrels per day. The Gulf OPEC countries are Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, the United Arab Emirates and Qatar. Asked whether Riyadh would be content to see prices at 40 US dollars a barrel, Saudi Oil Minister Ali al-Naimi said: "No, 40 US dollars is not low enough. The fundamentals do not support this price and OPEC does not support this price."

MNA/Reuters

မညာရေးဖြင့် ခေတ်မီပို့ပြီးတိုးတက်လာ နိုင်ငံတော်ကြီး တည်ဆောက်အံ့

“90% of world's people to live in developing nations by 2050”

UNITED NATIONS, 16 Sept—Almost 90 per cent of the world population would live in developing nations by the middle of the century, sharing their resources, according to the United Nations projections.

The rapidly increasing populations are shrinking the area of available cropland person to a stage “where countries can no longer produce enough to feed themselves,” a top UN official has said.

Under these circumstances policy makers need to pay more attention to sustainable devel-

opment and protecting environmental degradation, Under-Secretary-General Anwarul K. Chowdhury said.

The combined population of the 50 countries classified as the least developed in the world is forecast to jump to 1.8 billion in 2050 from 658 million in 2000, he told the High Level Policy-

Makers Symposium on South to South Collaboration.

Many of the world's poorest countries are particularly at risk because they depend on agricultural industries, which require large amounts of fertile land to succeed, for much of their national income, Chowdhury said.

These nations are so

impoverished that they struggle to absorb rapid increases in population without harming their citizens' quality of life, he added.

He said world leaders need to place population and environment at the centre of their sustainable development policies and programmes.

MNA/PTI



Katie St Ours of Microsoft (L) gives a free copy of Microsoft Office One Note 2003 software to a student at Columbia University, in New York, on 15 Sept, 2004. The One Note team was on Segway scooters handing out free software and demonstrating Microsoft's OneNote digital note taking software on Toshiba notebook tablets. —INTERNET

Wreckage of WWII plane found in Tibet

BEIJING, 16 Sept — A joint US-Chinese Himalayan search group has found the eerie wreckage of a World War II plane, including a lock of the pilot's red hair, but otherwise no human remains.

The plane was found near a cliff along the wartime “Hump” supply route in Danniang, Tibet, after days of tough reconnaissance, the official Xinhua news agency said in an overnight report.

“Items including a necklace, a parachute, an oxygen mask, an earplug, a safety belt, torch fragments and a lock of the pilot's red hair, were found,” it said, quoting Ju Jianhua of the joint search group.

The Danniang wreckage was originally reported by two local hunters in 1999. During a trip in 2000 to pinpoint its location, a Chinese group found another wreck.

In a joint search in 2002 with China, the United States brought back the second plane wreck but abandoned the Danniang search.

MNA/Reuters

WB to lend \$5m for preservation of Peru cultural sites

WASHINGTON, 16 Sept—The World Bank said on Wednesday it will lend Peru \$5 million to help preserve the country's best-known cultural sites, including Machu Picchu and the Sacred Valley of the Incas.

Every day up to 2,000 people visit Machu Picchu, the ruins of an Inca citadel perched in the Peruvian Andes, and visitor numbers are growing at 6 per cent a year.

Some planners have said unrestricted tourism and landslides have irrevocably damaged the world-famous archeological site

and its surrounding attractions. UNESCO last year warned it could place Machu Picchu on its list of endangered sites but has yet to carry through on the threat.

The Washington-based global lender said its loan would help Peru “improve management of tourism in the Historic Sanctu-

ary of Machu Picchu and preserve Machu Picchu's status as a World Heritage Site”. The total cost of the Vilcanota Valley Rehabilitation and Management Project — named after the area where Machu Picchu is located — is 8.2 million US dollars, including expected financing from the Peruvian Government of \$3.2 million.

The project, to be implemented in partnership with UNESCO, the National Geographic Society and the World Monuments Fund, is meant to promote sustainable development and tourism in the Vilcanota Valley region.

MNA/Reuters

Jordan to launch permanent space project

AMMAN, 16 Sept—Jordan will launch a permanent space project, which includes a scientific entertainment complex and a space training centre to train future astronauts for Jordan and the region, local English newspaper *Jordan Times* reported on Wednesday.

The 150-million-US-dollar project, the first of its kind in the Middle East region, is funded entirely by Russian Gagarin Cosmonaut Training Centre and other space-related establishments in a bid to promote the cooperation between Russia and Jordan.

According to the report, the first stage of the project, scheduled to be completed within 14 months, will feature a space museum displaying a model of the *Soyuz* station, the longest serving manned spacecraft in the world, as well as space equipment.

The second stage will take two years, overlapping with the first phase, which will include a space adventure park.

MNA/Xinhua

Western Union sets up flagship store in Beijing

BEIJING, 16 Sept—Western Union, the world's largest money transfer service, set up a flagship store with China Post in Beijing on Tuesday.

Officials with China Postsaid at the opening ceremony that the market demand for international money transfer in Beijing is expanding with the development of the capital's opening-up, and the establishment of the store will further satisfy Beijing consumers' demand on the service.

Western Union Financial Services, Inc. a subsidiary of First Data Corp. is a global leader in money transfer and message services. It set up its first flagship store in China in Wenzhou City in east China's Zhejiang Province in 2003. Now it has more than 70 flagship stores throughout China. —MNA/Xinhua

Streamside forests protect world's fresh water

WASHINGTON, 16 Sept—A team of researchers has discovered that streamside or riparian forests play a critical and previously unacknowledged role in protecting the world's fresh water, the US National Science Foundation has said.

The study, funded by NSF and the US Environmental Protection Agency and published online this week in the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences, has significant implications for a world that

is facing a huge and growing fresh water crisis.

Scientists and policymakers have long recognized the role of riparian forests in filtering pollutants before they enter streams. But the new research shows that such

forests also help protect a stream's health by enhancing the ability of its ecosystem to process organic matter and pollutants like nitrogen, the Foundation said in a statement.

MNA/PTI

Greek budget deficit increases greatly in first seven months

ATHENS, 16 Sept—Greek budget deficit jumped by 23.1 per cent in the first seven months of 2004 to 9.054 billion euros, compared with the same period last year, exceeding sharply the annual budget's provision for a shortfall of 6.260 billion euros, Greek Government announced on Tuesday.

The State's General Accounting Office on Tuesday said that budget revenues significantly lagged behind schedule, while budget spending exceeded initial targets. Revenues rose

4.7 per cent in the January-July period, sharply down compared with a projected growth rate of 9.4 per cent, while spending rose 11.2 per cent, sharply up from a projected growth rate of 4.5 per

cent. Primary spending rose 14 per cent (from a 4.8-per cent forecast), while interest spending rose 4.1 per cent (from a budget target of 3.5 per cent).

MNA/Xinhua

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SPORTS

Makaay earns Bayern Munich 1-0 win over Maccabi Tel Aviv

TEL AVIV, 16 Sept — Former European champions Bayern Munich spoiled Maccabi Tel Aviv's Champions League debut with a penalty from Dutch striker Roy Makaay earning the visitors a 1-0 win in Group C.

Maccabi matched their illustrious opponents throughout but were sunk by Makaay's 64th minute spot-kick, awarded for a foul by John Pantsil on Ze Roberto.

The first ever Champions League match to be played on Israeli soil at the National Stadium in Tel Aviv was watched by some 25,000 fans who gave up their festive Jewish New Year's Eve meal to witness the occasion.

Both Maccabi and Bayern had asked to reschedule the match to take into consideration religious sensitivities, but UEFA refused to move it to a different date.

MNA/Reuters

Nistelrooy to salvage 2-2 draw for Man Utd against Olympique Lyon

LYON, 16 Sept — Ruud van Nistelrooy struck twice in six minutes to salvage a 2-2 draw for Manchester United against Olympique Lyon in the Champions League on Wednesday and set a 30-goal European scoring record for his club.

The Red Devils were 2-0 down at the interval in the Group D game after Lyon, who dominated for most of the first half, went 2-0 up with goals in by Brazilian defender Cris in the 35th minute and striker Pierre-Alain Frau just before halftime.

The French champions looked poised for a comfortable victory but van Nistelrooy, who came back from injury at the weekend, had other ideas with goals in the 56th and 61st.

The Dutchman, who began the match equal with Dennis Law on 28 European goals for United, rose superbly above Cris to head Cristiano Ronaldo's cross for his first goal of the season.

Van Nistelrooy struck again when he latched on to a deflected shot from Ronaldo to steer the ball past goalkeeper Gregory Coupet from close range.

Manager Alex Ferguson told Sky Sports: "Goals change games and van Nistelrooy changed the game for us."

Lyon coach Paul Le Guen opted for a strong attacking side with four strikers to start the match and his strategy proved right from the opening minutes.

Goalkeeper Tim Howard, who Ferguson had considered dropping because of his poor domestic form but then selected, made two good clearances from Florent Malouda and Claudio Cacapa before his blunder in the 35th let in Lyon.

Howard spilt a low free kick by Bra-

zilian midfielder Juninho from 30 metres and Cris pounced to stab it home.

Lyon made it 2-0 one minute from halftime when former Arsenal winger Sylvain Wiltord split the defence and striker Pierre-Alain Frau raced through on the right to shoot with the outside of his right foot into the far top corner.

The French champions never really recovered from van Nistelrooy's double blow even though former England striker Paul Scholes saved United when he blocked a late shot on the line to follow his headed clearance in the first half.

MNA/Reuters

Deportivo held to 0-0 draw by Olympiakos

LA CORUNA (Spain), 16 Sept — Deportivo Coruna continued their disappointing start to the season, held to a 0-0 draw by a streetwise Olympiakos in their opening Champions League Group A match on Wednesday. Last season's semifinalists, who were dealt a shock 3-1 defeat by Osasuna in the Spanish league on Sunday, turned in a nerve-riddled performance and were fortunate not to have gone into the break at least a goal down.

For Greece's Olympiakos, who do not begin their domestic season until this weekend, the draw broke a run of eight successive away defeats and enabled them to start their campaign with a valuable point.

There was little in the way of flowing football at the Riazor as both sides concentrated on winning control of the midfield and rarely ventured into attack.

Olympiakos were first to settle and came within a whisker of taking the lead when former Deportivo player Rivaldo



Olympique Lyon's Pierre Alain Frau (R) challenges Manchester United's Ryan Giggs (L) during their Champions League Group D soccer match at Gerland Stadium in Lyon, on 15 Sept, 2004. The match finished 2-2. — INTERNET

Bayer Leverkusen stun Real Madrid 3-0

LONDON, 16 Sept — A night of drama in the Champions League ended with AS Roma's abandoned match against Dynamo Kiev overshadowing Bayer Leverkusen's stunning 3-0 upset of tournament favourites Real Madrid.

The Group B match between Roma and Kiev at the Olympic Stadium was called off 40 minutes after Swedish referee Anders Frisk was felled by an object thrown from the crowd as the first half ended.

Moments earlier Frisk had sent off Roma's French defender Philippe Mexes after he had kicked out at Kiev striker Maris Verpakovskis.

Frisk judged the action to be interna-

tional and showed him a red card on the stroke of half-time with Kiev leading 1-0.

As players and officials remonstrated, Frisk was hit as he left the pitch. A gash opened in his opened in his forehead and he left the field with blood pouring from the wound.

UEFA spokesman William Gaillard, speaking from Sofia where the UEFA Executive Committee meets on Thursday, told Reuters by telephone: "We deplore what has happened and will wait for the match delegate's report as well as the referee's own report of the incident."

"This is the first time in many years that a European match has been stopped for such an incident — sometimes there have been electrical failures with floodlights of course. But this is something far worse."

Rome's Olympic Stadium already held unpleasant memories for the Swede.

In March 2002 he refereed Roma's Champions League match against Galatasaray, which degenerated into a brawl involving players and officials from both sides shortly after the final whistle. — MNA/Reuters

MNA/Reuters

Juventus beat Ajax Amsterdam 1-0 in opening Group C

AMSTERDAM, 16 Sept — Juventus playmaker Pavel Nedved conjured up a moment of brilliance to score the only goal as his hard-working side beat Ajax Amsterdam 1-0 in their opening Champions League Group C match on Wednesday.

Nedved got what proved to be the winner three minutes before halftime with a delightful chip into the top corner with the outside of his right foot. He was set up by Mauro Camoranesi who was fed by a delicately chipped Alessandro del Piero pass.

The home side started with young Romania forward Nicolae Mitea instead of new signing Mauro Rosales, who has a groin injury, while Juventus coach Fabio

Capello preferred former Ajax ace Zlatan Ibrahimovic up front to David Trezeguet.

But it was Ajax striker Wesley Sonck, who has taken over from Ibrahimovic since his departure, who almost opened the scoring in the first few minutes as he crashed a swerving 25-metre drive against the bar with Gianluigi Buffon beaten.

From that moment on Juve took control although they rarely threatened the

Ajax defence, in which central defender Zdenek Grygera and Nigel de Jong on the right stood out, and after half-an-hour Buffon was tested again as he saved from Mitea.

Ajax battled gamely following the break and eight minutes into the second half they wasted their best chance to level the match as Mitea's cross reached Steven Pienaar only for Buffon, with help from his defenders, to clear the danger.

MNA/Reuters



Russia's Marat Safin returns the ball during his match against Alex Bogomolov of the United States at the China Open tennis tournament in Beijing on Thursday, 16 Sept, 2004. Safin won 6-4, 7-5. — INTERNET

Korean information delegation calls on Information Deputy Minister

YANGON, 17 Sept—The visiting information delegation led by Journalist Mr Kim Jin Ho of The Kyung Hyang Daily News of the Republic of Korea who were here under the exchange programme of

information delegations between ASEAN countries and ROK called on Deputy Minister for Information Brig-Gen Aung Thein at the Ministry of Information on Theinbyu Street, here, at 5 pm to-

day. Also present at the call were departmental heads of the Ministry of Information, the adviser to News and Periodicals Enterprise and the Head of Office of the Ministry of Information.—MNA



Deputy Minister for Information Brig-Gen Aung Thein receives Korean information delegation led by Journalist Mr Kim Jin Ho of the Kyung Hyang Daily News.—MNA

Mobile course on management of catchment area opened

YANGON, 17 Sept—Funded by Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA) and jointly conducted by the Forest Department of the Ministry of Forestry, GIS Application Centre (GAC) and Suntac Technologies Co Ltd, a mobile course on 'management of catchment area and remote sensing system' was opened at Tawtin Hall of the For-

estry Department (Head Office) on Bayintnaung Road in Insein Township this morning.

The opening ceremony was attended by officials of the Ministry of Forestry and other relevant ministries, experts from GAC and trainees from ministries.

Director-General of the Planning and Statistics Department U Than Swe delivered an

opening address on the occasion. Next, Director of GIS Application Centre Dr Lal Samarakoon briefed on matters related to the course, which will be conducted at Myanmar Information and Communication Technology (MICT) Park here for one week from 16 to 20 September. A total of 26 trainees are attending the course.

MNA

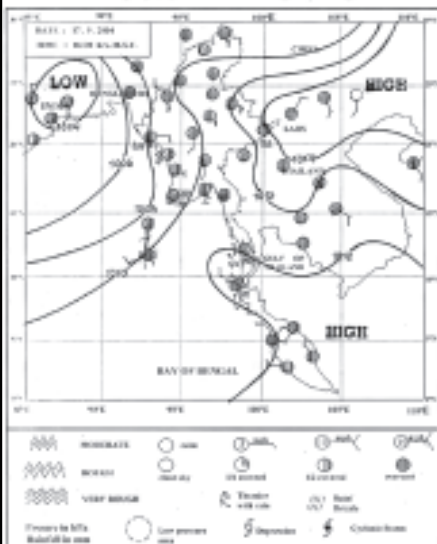


Opening of mobile course on management of catchment area in progress.—H

Rainfall on 17-9-2004

- 0.04 inch at Yangon Airport,
- 0.08 inch at Kaba-Aye and
- 0.04 inch at central Yangon.
- Total rainfall since 1-1-2004 was
- 108.70 inches at Yangon Airport,
- 103.19 inches at Kaba-Aye and
- 104.69 inches at central Yangon.

Weather Map of Myanmar and Neighbouring Areas



WEATHER

Friday, 17 September 2004

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST: During the past 24 hours, weather has been partly cloudy in Magway Division, rain or thundershowers have been isolated in Kachin State, lower Sagaing Division and scattered to widespread in the remaining areas with isolated heavyfalls in Mandalay Division. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Namsam (2.36) inches, Pyin Oo Lwin (1.77) inches and Sittway (1.73) inches.

Maximum temperature on 16-9-2004 was 86°F. Minimum temperature on 17-9-2004 was 67°F. Relative humidity at 9:30 hrs MST on 17-9-2004 was 96%. Total sunshine hours on 16-9-2004 was (3.9) hours approx. Rainfall on 17-9-2004 was (0.04 inch) at Yangon Airport, (0.08 inch) at Kaba-Aye and (0.04 inch) at central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2004 was 108.70 inches at Yangon Airport, 103.19 inches at Kaba-Aye and 104.69 inches at central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was 12 mph from South at 12:30 hours MST on 16-9-2004. **Bay inference:** Monsoon is weak to moderate in the Bay of Bengal. **Forecast valid until evening of 18-9-2004:** Weather will be partly cloudy in lower Sagaing and Magway Divisions, rain or thundershowers will be isolated in Kayah State and Mandalay Division, scattered in Shan, Chin, Kachin, Kayin, Mon States and Bago Division and widespread in the remaining areas. Degree of certainty is (80%).

State of the sea: Seas will be moderate in Myanmar waters. **Outlook for subsequent two days:** Thundery conditions are likely in Central Myanmar areas. **Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 18-9-2004:** One or two rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (80%). **Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 18-9-2004:** Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (60%).

Weather outlook for third weekend of September 2004: During the coming weekend, rain or thundershowers will be widespread in Yangon Division and isolated in Mandalay Division.

Flood Bulletin

(Issued at 13:00 hrs MST on 17-9-2004)

According to the (06:30) hrs MST observation today, the water levels of Ayeyawady River are (40)cm at Sagaing, (56)cm at Nyaung Oo, (60)cm at Minbu and (24)cm at Magway above the danger levels. The water levels may fall below the danger levels during the next (3) to (6) days.

EARTHQUAKE REPORT

YANGON, 17 Sept—An earthquake of slight intensity (4.7) Richter Scale its epicentre in Myanmar water about (136) miles Southwest of Kaba-Aye Seismological observatory was recorded at (17) hrs(55) min (59) sec M.S.T on 17th September, 2004.—MNA



Saturday, September 18
View on today:

- 7:00 am
 1. Recitation of Parittas by Missionary Sayadaw U Ottamathara
- 7:25 am
 2. To be healthy exercise
- 7:30 am
 3. Morning news
- 7:40 am
 4. မင်းကုန်းဆရာတော်ဘုရားကြီး ထာရုဉှစ်ဆရာတော် "သုမာယနဓမ္မ" (အပိုင်း-၃)
- 7:50 am
 5. Nice and sweet song
- 8:05 am
 6. အစိုးမြင့်ပွဲ
- 8:15 am
 7. မိမိတို့ရဲ့ရတနာတော်
- 8:30 am
 8. International news
- 8:45 am
 9. Grammar Made Easy
- 11:00 am
 1. Martial song
- 11:10 am
 2. Musical programme
- 11:30 am
 3. News
- 11:40 am
 4. Game for children
- 12:05 pm
 5. Round-up of the week's TV local news
- 1:15 pm
 6. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ "သစ္စာရင်ပန်း" (အပိုင်း-၂၇)
- 1:50 pm
 7. ဆင်ဖြူရှင်တော်
- 2:00 pm
 8. "တန်ခိုးမဲကလွန်" ဓမ္မဉာဏ်တော်မြတ်နိုးစွာဖြင့် မြသည့်လူ (ခါရံတော်-ဆုတောင်း)
- 2:35 pm
 9. Dance of national races

- 2:45 pm
 10. International news
- 4:00 pm
 1. Martial song
- 4:15 pm
 2. Songs to uphold National Spirit
- 4:30 pm
 3. English for Everyday Use
- 4:45 pm
 4. Musical programme
- 5:00 pm
 5. အဝေးသင်တန်းသို့လဲ ပညာရေး ရပ်ကြိုသင်ကြားသင်ခန်းစာ - တတိယအဆင့် (ခေါ်ဝေါ်စာအုပ်ဖြင့်) (ခေါ်ဝေါ်စာ)
- 5:15 pm
 6. နားလည်သံသယလက်ခံ
- 5:25 pm
 7. ၂၀၀၄ ခု ခုနှစ် ၃၁၅ သာမဏကြီးမိ (၁၂ကြိမ်) မြန်မာ့နိဗ္ဗာန်နေ့ကျမှ အဆို၊ အတီး၊ အရုပ်၊ အတီး၊ ငြိမ်းပိုင်များလေ့လာနိုင် ကြရန် ဓမ္မဉာဏ်တော် (ပညာရှင်အဆင့်) (အမျိုးသား၊ အမျိုးသမီး)
- 5:45 pm
 8. မြန်မာစာမြန်မာစာတေး
- 5:55 pm
 9. Musical programme
- 6:05 pm
 10. Games for children
- 6:30 pm
 11. Evening news
- 7:00 pm
 12. Weather report
- 7:05 pm
 13. Discovery
- 7:15 pm
 14. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ "ရင်ကြိုသွယ်တိုလင်းပိုင်လယ်" (အပိုင်း-၁၅)
- 7:35 pm
 15. Musical programme
- 7:45 pm
 16. တေးဂီတသံသယတစ်စုံအလှဆင်
- 8:00 pm
 17. News
- 18. International news
- 19. Weather report
- 20. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ "ရင်ကြိုသွယ်တိုလင်းပိုင်လယ်" (အပိုင်း-၁၅)
- 21. The next day's programme

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

General Khin Nyunt calls on Singaporean President

YANGON, 17 Sept — Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt called on President of the Republic of Singapore Mr SR Nathan at the Istana, at 2.15 pm on 13 September.

Also present at the call were Minister for Industry-1 U Aung Thaung, Minister for Commerce Brig-Gen Pyi Sone, Minister for Foreign Affairs U Win Aung, Deputy Minister U Khin Maung Win, Myanmar Ambassador to Singapore U Hla Than and Director-General of Political Department U Thaung Tun. Singaporean President Mr SR Nathan was accompanied by Acting Second Minister for Finance Mr Raymond Lim, Minister of State for Trade and Industry Mr Heng Chee How, Singaporean Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Simon Tensing de Cruz, Principal Private Secretary to the President Mr Pek Beng Choon and Acting Chief of Protocol Mr Lim Cheng Hoe of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs were also present.

During the cordial talks, they exchanged views on nation-building experiences and bilateral friendly ties and mutual cooperation. Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt, on his part, explained the nation's endeavours in various sectors including political, economic and social fields and for unity of all the national races. The Singaporean President expressed his love and



Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt calls on Singaporean President Mr SR Nathan at Istana in Singapore.—MNA

sympathy for the Myanmar people and appreciation of Myanmar's democracy transition efforts and developments. Mutual cooperation

between the two countries is in progress and in excellent shape, he said.

MNA

Singapore wishes to promote trade with, investment in Myanmar

Myanmar and Singaporean Prime Ministers hold talks

YANGON, 17 Sept — Prime Minister of the Union of Myanmar General Khin Nyunt called on Prime Minister of the Republic of Singapore Mr Lee Hsien Loong at the Istana in Singapore at 11 am on 13 September.

Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt arrived at the Istana by car from Four Seasons Hotel, where

he was staying, and was warmly welcomed there by his Singaporean counterpart Mr Lee Hsien Loong.

General Khin Nyunt signed in the visitor's book of the Istana. The two Prime Ministers cordially met at the parlour of the Istana. The Myanmar Prime Minister was accompanied by Minister for Industry-1 U Aung

Thaung, Minister for Commerce Brig-Gen Pyi Sone, Minister for Finance and Revenue Maj-Gen Hla Tun, Minister for Foreign Affairs U Win Aung, Deputy Minister U Khin Maung Win, Myanmar Ambassador to Singapore U Hla Than and Director-General of the Political Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs U Thaung Tun. Also present on the Singaporean side were Minister for Foreign Affairs Brig-Gen George Yeo, Minister for Trade and Industry Mr Lim Hng Kiang, Minister of State for Trade and Industry Mr Heng Chee How, Second Permanent Secretary of



Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt meets Singaporean Prime Minister Mr Lee Hsien Loong at Istana in Singapore.—MNA

Bilateral relations and mutual cooperation between Myanmar and Singapore are excellent. The Myanmar delegation visited Singapore to further strengthen cordial relations between the two countries.

MOFA Mr Bilanari Kausikan, Singaporean Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Simon Tensing de Cruz and Principal Private Secretary to Prime Minister Mr Ong Ye Kung. During the talks, Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt said that the bilateral relations and mutual cooperation between Myanmar and Singapore are excellent. The Myanmar delegation visited Singapore to further strengthen cordial relations between the two countries.

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