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Senior General Than Shwe felicitates Bangladeshi President

YANGON, 26 March— On the occasion of the anniversary of the National and Independence Day of the People's Republic of Bangladesh, which falls on 26 March 2006, Senior General Than Shwe, Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to His Excellency Prof. Dr Iajuddin Ahmed, President of the People's Republic of Bangladesh.—MNA

Prime Minister sends felicitations to Bangladeshi counterpart

YANGON, 26 March— On the occasion of the anniversary of the National and Independence Day of the People's Republic of Bangladesh, which falls on 26 March 2006, General Soe Win, Prime Minister of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to Her Excellency Begum Khaleda Zia, Prime Minister of the People's Republic of Bangladesh.

MNA

Paddy, rubber, pepper, physic nut to be extended in Shwethaungyan, Ngwe Hsaung of Ayeyawady Division

YANGON, 25 March — As the Government is taking better transport measures, local people are also to join hands with the Government in all tasks for development of the region, Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than of the Ministry of Defence said at the meeting with departmental personnel, social organization members and local people at the office of General Administration Department in Shwethaungyan Town of Pathein

Township on 22 March.

He noted that fallow and virgin lands are to be reclaimed in the region for extension of monsoon paddy cultivation so as to ensure local food sufficiency. After harvesting monsoon paddy, land is to be put under pulses and beans, edible oil crops, rubber and physic nut.

Before attending the meeting in Shwethaungyan, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than and Commander Maj-Gen Thura Myint Aung, Chairman of Ayeyawady Division PDC and Commander of South-West Command, inspected the beach of Ngayokkaung and thriving rubber plantations of private companies along Seintaung-Jekkar Road between Pathein and Chaungtha.

While in Shwethaungyan, they oversaw the town hospital, the police station, progress in construction of Pathein-Ngwe Hsaung Road (Seintaung) and bridges along it.

(See page 8)

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Tatmadaw with fine traditions



Since its birth, our Tatmadaw has not been a mercenary force, but a patriotic Tatmadaw that has been upholding the four oaths. We, Tatmadaw members are the ones who do not regard any entitlements as privileges and do not care much whether we get salaries and rations or not. But inspired by our patriotic fervour, we will never hesitate to sacrifice our lives whenever necessary. Being equipped with esprit de corps, we Tatmadaw members are sacrificing lives for each other in the Tatmadaw that exists with patriotic spirit. So, our Tatmadaw has possessed fine traditions.

**Senior General Than Shwe
Chairman of the State Peace and
Development Council
Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services
(From address delivered at the graduation
parade of 8th Intake of Defence Services
Technological Academy)**



Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than inspects rubber plantation of private companies.—MNA

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

PERSPECTIVES

Sunday, 26 March, 2006

Actively take part in TB control tasks

Health is indispensable for everyone. This being so, it is a must for everyone to be healthy, fit and to enjoy longevity. Only then, will the people who are healthy and fit be able to fully participate in nation-building endeavours.

The government is implementing the four social objectives one of which is uplift of health, fitness and education standards of the entire nation. Health care services are being carried out with added momentum the length and breadth of the nation including border areas.

In carrying out public health care services, prevention of disease is of utmost importance. In case of outbreak of disease, systematic treatment and regular taking of medicines are required. Under the National TB Combating Strategic Plan, remarkable progress has been made in control of TB in Myanmar.

Treatment of TB is being given priority in the national health plans.

Nowadays, there are about 9 million TB patients throughout the world and about 2 million have died. Altogether 95 per cent of TB patients and 98 per cent of those who died of TB are from developing countries.

TB infection has increased again in the world and become a health problem for every nation. The problem is that TB patients do not know about being infected with the disease, that in some cases, they do not undergo medical treatment systematically although they know that they are being infected with the disease, and that there has increased in the number of TB patients for whom the drugs become ineffective.

In Myanmar, free medical treatment is given to TB patients with the use of potent TB pills under the National TB Combating Strategic Plan. As part of the plan, a total of six TB control zones were set up in 1972, and the number of State and Division TB control units extended up to 13 in 2003.

TB is not a hereditary disease but an infectious one. It spreads through coming into contact with one another.

As systematic steps are being taken for control of TB in the nation, those being suspected of TB are to contact nearby health care centres and undergo medical treatment under DOT Strategy.

At a time when efforts are being made to eliminate TB from Myanmar under the National TB Combating Strategic Plan, it is incumbent upon health staff, members of social organizations, departmental officials and the people to actively participate in the drive.

**နိုင်ငံတော်အစိုးရဌာနပိုင်
မော်တော်ယာဉ် မသုံးစွဲရနေ့**

လစဉ် လ၏ဒုတိယပတ်(တနင်္ဂနွေနေ့)နှင့် နောက်ဆုံးပတ် (တနင်္ဂနွေနေ့) တို့သည် ရုံးလုပ်ငန်းအတွက် မပြုစီမံခန့်ခွဲသော လာရန်လိုအပ်သည်ကိုစွဲရပ်များမှအပ မော်တော်ယာဉ်များ မသုံးစွဲရန်ဖြစ်သည်။

၂၀၀၆ ခုနှစ်၊ မတ်လအတွက်
(၂၆-၃-၂၀၀၆) ရက်နေ့

၂၀၀၆ ခုနှစ်၊ ဧပြီလအတွက်
(၉-၄-၂၀၀၆) ရက်နေ့

နှင့်
(၂၃-၄-၂၀၀၆) ရက်နေ့

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

Health care services supervised

YANGON, 25 March—Secretary of the National Health Committee Chairman of the Work Committee for Prevention and Control of Avian Flu Deputy Minister for Health Dr Mya Oo visited Theinzayat Station Hospital in Mon State on 20 March.

He also inspected Thaton District Hospital and gave instructions on functions for upgrading of health care services.

In the afternoon, he addressed the meeting to coordinate measures for prevention of bird flu in Thaton and underscored the importance of collaborative efforts to be made by service personnel, social organizations, national entrepreneurs and local people in taking preventive measures.

Head of Mon State Health Department Dr Tin Win Kyaw reported on preventive measures against the disease and Director (Disease Control) of the Health Department Dr Kyaw Nyunt Sein on conditions on outbreak of the disease in some townships in Sagaing and Mandalay divisions.

Next, Deputy Minister Dr Mya Oo gave concluding remarks. — MNA

Malaysian NDC delegation concludes visit

YANGON, 25 March — Deputy Commandant of National Defence College of Malaysian Army Captain Abdul Aziz Mohd Dom and party left here by air this evening.

They were seen off at Yangon International Airport by Captain Maung Maung Thit (Navy) of the Office of the Chief of Armed Forces Training, Col Win Naing of National Defence College, and senior military officers, Malaysian Defence Attaché Col Hj Abbas Bin Hj Mat and officials of the Malaysian Embassy. — MNA



Captain Maung Maung Thit (Navy) bids farewell to Deputy Commandant of National Defence College of Malaysian Army Captain Abdul Aziz Mohd Dom. — MNA

Foreign Minister sends felicitations to Bangladeshi counterpart

YANGON, 26 March — On the occasion of the anniversary of the National and Independence Day of the People's Republic of Bangladesh, which falls on 26 March 2006, U Nyan Win, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to His Excellency Mr M Morshed Khan, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of Bangladesh.

MNA

Prizes awarded to winners in 28th ISD Golf Championship



YANGON, 25 March — The fourth and final round of the 28th Inter-State/Division Golf Championship concluded at Yangon Golf Club in Insein Township yesterday evening.

After the golf round, Country Agent of Isuzu Motors Ltd U Aye Cho presented prizes to winners in the team captain contest.

General Manager Mr Tadao Matsumoto of Isuzu Motors Ltd of Japan presented first, second and third prizes to Thein Naing (Taninthayi Division) who shot 270 strokes, Soe Yazar Aung 272 and Gun Jar (Kachin State) 275 in the individual handicap event.

General Secretary of Myanmar Golf Federation U Aung Kyi also gave the first prize to Phyo Kyaw Kyaw (Yangon Division) who fired 299 strokes total gross, Yan Myo Aye (Yangon Division) 302

and Htay Aung Htay (Shan State-East) 304 in the individual scratch event.

Director-General U Thaug Htaik of the Sports and Physical Education Department awarded second prizes to Shan State (South) in the team handicap event and Mandalay Division in the team scratch event.

President of MPGA and MGF Maj-Gen Win Hlaing (Retd) presented championship trophy each to Taninthayi Division that stood first in the team handicap event and Yangon Division that stood first in team scratch event. Mr Tadao Matsumoto donated US\$ 500 each to Myanmar Olympic Committee through Director-General U Thaug Htaik and Myanmar Golf Federation through General Secretary U Aung Kyi.

Yangon Division Team captain U Khin Maung Latt expressed gratitude. Later, Isuzu Motors Ltd hosted a dinner to those present.

MNA



Director-General U Thaug Htaik presents the silverware to Yangon Division team. — MGF

**မူးယစ်ဆေးဝါး ရှောင်လေဝေး
သင့်အနာဂတ် လှပရေး**

Chinese FM spokesman says Putin's China tour fruitful

BEIJING, 24 March — Russian President Putin's China visit was "fruitful", and can further strengthen the Sino-Russian strategic partnership of cooperation, said a Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman on Tuesday.

"During Putin's two-day state visit, China and Russia signed 22 agreements covering politics, diplomacy, energy, investment, finance and communications," Qin Gang told a regular Press conference.

Qin noted that the two sides also put forward some new ideas on bilateral cooperation, such as pledging to coordinate economic strategies and actively guiding and supporting local companies of the two countries to seek new opportunities for cooperation in each

other's economic and regional development strategies.

Qin said that Putin's visit to China was significant as this year marked the 10th anniversary of the establishment

of the China-Russia strategic partnership of cooperation and the fifth anniversary of the Sino-Russian treaty of friendship and cooperation.

MNA/Xinhua

Russian Air Force to get new fighter bombers

Moscow, 24 March — Russia will acquire the new Sukhoi-34 fighter bombers to upgrade its Air Force, Defence Minister Sergei Ivanov said on Thursday.

"We should have 24 Sukhoi-34s by 2010 to

equip an Air Force regiment," Ivanov said, adding two Sukhoi-34s will be acquired in 2006, another seven in 2007, and a further 10 in 2008, the RIA Novosti news agency reported.

A Defence Ministry official said earlier the Air Force's 10 regiments of Sukhoi-24s would be gradually replaced with Sukhoi-34s.

The Sukhoi-34 fighter-bomber, being tested at the Chkalov research centre in Siberia, is designed to deliver high-precision strikes at heavily guarded targets in any weather conditions.

MNA/Xinhua

Survey shows many US workers job-hunt on company time

NEW YORK, 24 March — A quarter of US workers who use a computer admit using it to hunt for a new job on company time, according to a survey released on Wednesday.

Among workers who believe their Internet use

is monitored by their bosses, one-quarter use their work computer for job-hunting, according to research conducted for professional staffing company Hudson Highland Group Inc.

"It's one of the ways employees deal with work-life balance issues," said Robert Morgan, chief operating officer at Hudson Talent Management, one of the company's divisions. "Because we're spending so much time at work, that's the only time we have to schedule some of those appointments."

MNA/Reuters



Christie's employees hold 'L'Arlesienne, Madame Ginoux' by the late Dutch artist Vincent van Gogh at the company's premises in London, on 24 March, 2006. —INTERNET



Young men look at a luxury car in an Audi showroom in central Beijing on 25 March, 2006. China has imposed new taxes on luxury car sales in an effort to protect the environment.

INTERNET



A fishing boat makes its way through ice floes in Gulf of St. Lawrence, Canada, on 24 March, 2006. —INTERNET

Singapore completes first phase of Tsunami Early Warning System

SINGAPORE, 24 March — Singapore announced the completion of the first phase of its Tsunami Early Warning System on Thursday when celebrating this year's World Meteorological Day.

According to a Press release issued by the National Environment Agency (NEA), Phase One of the system "provides Singapore with the capability to exchange real-time earthquake data with seismic networks operated by countries in the region". It is important for an effective tsunami early warning system to have a comprehensive seismic monitoring network to

detect the location and scale of earthquakes which are believed to cause tsunamis, the NEA explained.

The second phase of the project will see the installation of three new seismic sensors in the city state in addition to the present four, as well as the upgrade of aging components of the current seismic network. The third and final phase will involve the assessment of risks and impact of any possible tsunamis on Singapore, according to the Press release.

Developed by the Meteorological Services

Division of the NEA, the system worth three million Singapore dollars (about 1.9 million US dollars) is expected to be completed by the end of 2007.

The system will not only become part of the regional Indian Ocean Tsunami Warning System led by the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), but also be part of the country's Multi Hazard Warning System, which also monitors other natural disasters.

MNA/Xinhua



Jordanian workers wearing protective gear collect dead chickens at a domestic farm in Ajloun, about 45km (28 miles) from the capital Amman, on 24 March, 2006. Jordan became the latest country in the Middle East to confirm cases of the deadly H5N1 strain of bird flu on Friday but said no humans had been infected and the outbreak was under control. —INTERNET

2,319 US soldiers killed in Iraq

WASHINGTON, 25 March — As of Friday, 24 March, 2006, at least 2,319 members of the US military have died since the beginning of the Iraq war in March 2003, according to an Associated Press count. The figure includes seven military civilians. At least 1,821 died as a result of hostile action, according to the military's numbers.

The AP count is four lower than the Defence Department's tally, last updated Friday at 10 am EST.

The British military has reported 103 deaths; Italy, 27; Ukraine, 18; Poland, 17; Bulgaria, 13; Spain, 11; Slovakia, Denmark three; El Salvador, Estonia, Netherlands, Thailand, two each; and Hungary, Kazakhstan, Latvia, one death each. —Internet

ASEAN, SEAMEO members to jointly promote role of education

SINGAPORE, 24 March— Education ministers and officials attending the inaugural ASEAN (the Association of South-East Asian Nations) Education Ministers Meeting and the 41st Southeast Asian Ministers of Education Organization (SEAMEO) Council Conference in Singapore agreed on Thursday to cooperate in promoting the role of education.

According to a joint statement from the two meetings, the ministers emphasized “the critical role that education has to play in fostering greater inter-cultural, inter-religious and inter-racial understanding within and

between societies in the region”.

It was agreed that the ASEAN member countries will strengthen their educational resources in ASEAN studies, organize more activities for ASEAN students and teachers to

engender the grouping’s consciousness and identity, and start an academic study on the role of education in addressing the challenges and opportunities of regional societies.

The ministers also agreed to enhance co-

operation in three key areas including language education, vocational and technical education, as well as the selection and training of school leaders.

Singapore offered to sponsor two school leaders from each Southeast Asian country for attending the International Leaders in Education Programme (iLEP) in the city state in September this year, according to the joint statement.

MNA/Xinhua

ဝက်မုခ်းအား ခေတ်ကျော်လွှား

Three Russian college students appreciate red lanterns at a custom-themed village in Shenzhen City of south China's Guangdong Province on 23 March, 2006. INTERNET



Researchers develop ultra-thin plastic

SAN FRANCISCO, 22 March— Researchers have developed an ultra-thin plastic that allows an electrical charge to pass through it at speeds never before seen, a discovery that could dramatically drive down the cost of flat-panel monitors and other devices.

The plastic, which resembles cellophane when applied to electronic components, could one day replace the chemicals used to manufacture monitors and so-called radio frequency identification chips, which are used to keep track of store inventories, fleets of trucks and herds of cattle.

Researchers have long searched for alternatives to the silicon-based material used in today’s devices. The plastic material, known as liquid-crystalline polymers, have been viewed as a key contender, but until now electrical charges haven’t been able to travel through it at speeds required by electronic devices.

But a team of scientists led by Ian McCulloch of Merck Chemicals in the United Kingdom, has found a way to boost electrical performance in polymers six-fold, putting the substance on par with

so-called amorphous silicon. The discovery, published online this week by the journal Nature Materials, could lead to new methods for making monitors and other types of electronic devices.

Instead of using a costly

vacuum process to coat silicon on large panes of glass, manufacturers could spray a liquid polymer on tiny plastic parts, in much the way the nozzle of an inkjet printer sprays ink on paper.

Internet

Alligator knocks on Florida woman’s door

BONITA SPRINGS, 23 Marh—So now the alligators are going door

to door. When Lori Pachelli heard someone knocking at the door of her home in a gated community in this southwest Florida community earlier this week, she looked out to see an unwelcome visitor on her front stoop: an 8-foot alligator.

The bull gator, which had wandered up from the pond behind the house, had a bloody lip from banging its head against the door.

“He was pretty big, pretty aggressive,” Pachelli said, adding that the gator may have followed her home from walking her cocker spaniel, Trooper.

Pachelli’s husband, Mike, said he sped home

after his wife called him in hysterics.

The animal remained at the Pachellis’ door for about an hour before going back into the lake, where trapper John French captured it later.

French said it’s not unusual to find male alligators in some pretty interesting places this time of year.

“You’re starting into what’s called the crawl season, the breeding season,” he said. “We get them out of front porches, out of garages, out of swimming pools.”

The Pachellis said they never dreamed an alligator would venture that close to the house.

Internet



Iraqi shout anti American and anti terrorism slogans, in Baghdad, Iraq, on 24 March, 2006. Drive-by shootings, roadside bombings and sectarian killings left some 29 people dead in Iraq on Friday.

INTERNET

Orphaned baby tigers stumble out of Siberian forest

VLADIVOSTOCK, 24 March— Two wild baby tigers, orphaned and famished, scrambled out of a Siberian forest in eastern Russia and into the hands of startled loggers, the Russian ministry of natural resources said.



A four-week-old Siberian tiger at the zoo in Berlin. INTERNET

The two female tigers— one seriously wounded — offered practically no resistance as the loggers took them into captivity about 50 kilometers from the fishing village of Ternei, north of Vladivostock.

Officials called in from the Amur nature reserve for the protection of

tigers examined the exhausted cubs, one of which succumbed to its injuries soon thereafter.

“The state of the wounded tiger got worse and it was decided to send both animals to a veterinarian clinic in the village of Razdolny near Vladivostock,” explained Vitali Starostine, a special “tiger” inspection officer in the reserve.

“But the trip of nearly 700 kilometers proved too taxing for the little animal, and she died,” he said.

“The second tiger is in

good health and she withstood the trip well. She is exhausted and will need medical care for about a month,” Starostine said. A search for the mother of the cubs proved fruitless, and officials suspected that she had been fatally wounded or killed.

There remain only 500 tigers in the wilds of the Amur region in Russia’s far east. About a dozen of them fall victim to poachers every year, according to the World Wildlife Fund.

Internet

Total eclipse to occur on Egyptian-Libyan border

CAIRO, 24 March— Al-Salloum on the Egyptian-Libyan border will witness a full eclipse of the sun at 12:40 pm (1040 GMT) on 29 March, the Egyptian Gazette reported on Thursday.

As many as 15,000 spectators who will travel to Egypt from all over the world will watch the unusual event, said the newspaper. The Egyptian Supreme Council of Antiquities (SCA) will organize a ceremony to mark the eclipse, including an exhibition of 55 ancient artifacts.

The main attraction will be a sundial that dates back to Pharaonic times, reflecting pharaohs’ interest in studying the movement of the sun and other stars.

Meanwhile, the SCA is planning to develop archaeological attractions at Mersa Matrouh, 550 kilometres northwest of Cairo, including the famous scene of Cleopatra’s Bath.

SCA Secretary-General Zahi Hawass was quoted as saying that there are many significant monuments in Matrouh Governorate, including the Mountain of the Dead, which contains tombs dating back to the 26th Dynasty, about 2,500 years ago.—MNA/Xinhua



In this photo released by the Ducati Press Office, Loris Capirossi of Italy speeds on his Moto GP Ducati during free practice in Jerez, southern Spain, on 24 March, 2006.—INTERNET

Russia digs in against UNSC action on Iran

UNITED NATIONS, 24 March — Russia's Foreign Minister on Wednesday firmly rejected a draft UN Security Council statement aimed at pressuring Iran to stop enriching uranium, despite a new offer of amendments by Western powers.

The next step is likely to be bilateral contacts among ministers of the Council's five veto-wielding permanent members, the United States, France, Britain, China and Russia, diplomats close to the talks said.

The five powers' UN ambassadors met again on Wednesday

but failed to reach agreement on a draft Council statement proposed by France and Britain, participants said. Still, US Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice, in the Bahamas to meet with Caribbean community foreign ministers, said she was confident agreement would be reached

on a plan for pressuring Iran into ending its enrichment activities that could produce fuel for a nuclear weapon.

"Sometimes diplomacy takes a little bit of time but we're working very hard on it," Rice told reporters. "We will come up with a vehicle. I am quite certain of that." — MNA/Reuters

Patience, second drug may be needed for depression

BOSTON, 24 March — When treating depression, patience and persistence may be as crucial as the right drug.

A 35-million-US-dollar study, the largest conducted under real-world conditions, found that when one antidepressant fails to work, switching to a different drug or adding a second one raises the chance of beating depression.

No single drug was more effective than another, said the study to be published in Thursday's edition of *The New England Journal of Medicine*. The key, the researchers said, was to keep patients under treatment long enough for a drug to work, which means 12 weeks of treatment before switching. Doctors often change after 4.

But the research also found that even after trying two drugs, nearly half the patients still were not cured, so other treatments were needed. Depression

affects nearly 7 per cent of US adults, and is notoriously undertreated. About half do not receive any care for the condition.

More than half of those who do seek help do not receive the most

appropriate care, said Thomas Insel, director of the National Institute of Mental Health, which sponsored the six-year study. One problem uncovered in the study was that doctors sometimes

failed to give an antidepressant enough time to work, said Insel.

MNA/Xinhua

Oily fish on the menu despite doubts about benefits

LONDON, 25 March — Heart experts urged consumers on Friday to continue eating oily fish and foods high in omega-3 fatty acids despite research showing they may have no clear health benefits.

A review of 89 studies published online by the *British Medical Journal* showed no strong evidence that omega-3 fats reduced deaths from cardiovascular disease.

But Dr Mike Knapp, of the British Heart Foundation, said more research is needed before people change their eating habits.

"People should not stop consuming omega-3 fats or eating oily fish as a result of this study," he said in a statement issued by the foundation.

"Until now, medical research has demonstrated a benefit from omega-3 fats in protecting people from heart and circulatory disease. This systematic review of numerous studies concludes that there is no clear evidence either way," he added.—Internet



A Falcon 1 rocket built by SpaceX of El Segundo sits on the launch pad on Omelek Island, near Kwajalein Atoll in the Pacific Ocean in this 25 November, 2005 file photo. The debut flight of the Falcon 1 lasted about a minute before the rocket failed due to unknown technical reasons and was destroyed on 24 March, 2006. INTERNET

Death toll rises to six in suicide car bomb attack in Baghdad

BAGHDAD, 24 March — The death toll rose to at least six in a suicide car bomb attack near a police headquarters in central Baghdad on Thursday, an Interior Ministry source told *Xinhua*.

"A suicide bomber drove his explosive-laden vehicle into the entrance of the major crimes directorate in central Baghdad and blew himself up," the source said on condition of anonymity.— MNA/Xinhua



Workers are seen near the site of a landslide at Grasberg mine, run by a local unit of New Orleans-based Freeport-McMoRan Copper & Gold Inc, in Papua Province, Indonesia, on 23, March, 2006. —INTERNET

Three killed as landslide hits Indonesia's Freeport

JAKARTA, 24 March — A landslide killed three people and injured many more on Thursday near a mine run by US firm Freeport-McMoRan Copper & Gold in Indonesia's Papua Province, police said.

The incident, which did not disrupt mining operations, came as the mine is under fire over its environmental practices.

Four policemen and a soldier were killed last Thursday in the Papua capital of Jayapura in clashes with protesters demanding the closure of the mine. The landslide of mud came from a mountain above a service area supporting Freeport's Grasberg mine, said Siddharta Moersjid, a Freeport spokesman.

The mine lies near Papua's Timika Town, about 3,500 kilometres (2,200 miles) east of Jakarta.

The mud crashed into a dining area catering for Freeport workers in the compound, Moersjid said, adding the incident did not take place in the mine.

He said two of Freeport's sub-contracted Indonesian workers died in the incident, but Timika police chief Dedy Djunaedy put the death toll at three.

"Until now there are 27 people being treated at

Tembagapura Hospital," Djunaedy told *Elsinta* news radio.

It was unclear whether anyone was still trapped under the mud, Moersjid said, adding the company was investigating.

The mine in Grasberg has been a frequent source of controversy over its impact on the environment, the share of revenue going to Papuans and the legality of payments to Indonesian security forces who help guard the site.

MNA/Reuters

“Human rights” or sugar-coated US poison (6)

Tekkatho Myat Thu

The US State Department yearly accused 200 or so countries of human rights violations. Those countries were not the only ones who refuted the so-called US human rights report that slandered them, but the Americans, organizations and individuals from world nations are also criticizing the report. They seemed to be tired of hearing the false accusations of the US government. Because of the report, the US image and dignity in the world went down steeply. The US is trying to ostracise and isolate the countries it dislikes, but in practice, America itself is becoming isolated, because its misdeeds in reality are setting itself against the world.

Middle East FOREX.Com on 15 March this year, criticisms on the US human rights was reported. According to retired USIA official Patricia Kushlis, American policy makers themselves, and the world assumed the report to be true; that but now they all came to realize that it was just a sham; that Bush himself was breaching the US law, eavesdropping domestic phone lines; that even in that situation, the US was claiming itself to be a protector of democracy and freedom.

According to Noah S Levis, a lawyer of International Court of Justice at the Hague and Geneva International Law Commission, the report highlighted the arrogant behaviour of the Bush administration in playing a random solo show at will and its haughty manner in torturing prisoners with inhuman techniques in disregard of the international principles; that in this context, the world nations did not pay heed to the US report.

Associate professor Samer Shehata of Arab political and Arab affairs studies, Georgetown University, Washington, expressed his view, saying that he was aware of the terrible situation in which no one had trust in the US to discuss with it human rights and the rule of law; that especially, the Arab countries had no trust and interest in the words “human rights” and “the rule of law” of the US at all; that the report compiled by the country with worst human rights violations and law breaking records could not be accepted by any global country; that everyone knew the atrocities of the US soldiers inside the Abu Gharib prison, and no one could ever forget the cruelties and brutalities at Guantanamo prison.

Dr Jack N Behrman, a professor of North Carolina University, and a former senior official of the Kennedy administration (1961-63), criticised Washington as copying the feudalistic practices and atrocities of an evil empire of the past.

A human rights watchdog said that although Bush denied committing any brutal and inhuman torture, it was not clear which kind of act could be called torture by Bush, as prison tortures had surfaced; that the watchdog had received a number of reports on American atrocities at US prisons in Afghanistan, Guantanamo bay and Iraq; that the number of such prisons was increasing; that in 2002, there were over 300 cases of prisoner abuse and torture at US prisons; that at least 86 prisoners died; that the US government admitted that of the cases, 27 were related with criminal act; that the US Assistant Secretary of State Barry Lowenterton was facing criticism for sending suspected terrorists to Egyptian and Jordanian prisons, notorious for their prisoner atrocities and abuses.

Abraham of Malaysia said that the US human rights violations had become common; that the US and Europe were trying to teach others human rights, while they themselves were torturing inmates at the prisons in Iraq, Afghani-

stan and Guantanamo and CIA-run secret prisons in Europe; that the US should keep quiet; and that America should learn true human rights from China.

Chris of Thailand pointed out that those advocating the US human rights report were totally wrong. He recalled that the American CIA and British MI-6 removed Mosadek, a democratically elected prime minister of Iran, in 1953, as he had nationalized the British Petroleum with the slogan, which said “Iranian oil must be owned by Iranians”; and that they enthroned Shah, a dictator, who dissolved the parliament.

Mustafa of Bahrain said that the US was just a big hypocrite and the most dishonest nation in the world, and therefore every nation should not follow the opinions of the US. The majority of the world people assume that the US should not exploit the cause of “human rights”.

The accused nations’ rebuttals have firmly proved the double standard of the US exploiting human rights variously. Moreover, the US campaign of democratization has come under widespread criticism from the majority of the world nations. In the US, protest demonstration is accepted only on a small scale or as a token, but mass demonstrations are suppressed. Even in the UN that represents almost all the world nations, the US has exploited the name of the UN as far as it can to trouble its targeted nations. It has been so many times the US itself has been in breach of the resolutions democratically

the International Criminal Court, and President Bush persisted that the US would sign the agreement on condition that American servicemen discharging duties outside the country should not be put on trial at the court.

No doubt, the world will be more prosperous, peaceful, stable and secure with further development if US groundless accusations, unjust sanctions, hegemony and agitation are no more. In previous years, some of the accused nations reacted to and refuted accusations in the human rights report of the US State Department. This year, all the accused nations have categorically rejected the baseless accusations.

Now, world people have realized the double standard of the US in human rights and democracy. The US government and American media have created and are still creating situations to topple its targeted governments, each of which was elected by two-thirds of the population or 20 million or 30 million people, by instigating just a small number ranging from 2,000 to 20,000 people to protest against the government concerned.

In the US, such kinds of demonstrations, that last several hours, are accepted and if they persist for several days, they are suppressed under one excuse or another. In the mass demonstrations that take place in other nations, the US encourages protesters under its influence to carry on their demonstrations for many days successively and insti-

The US has been constantly opposed to the UN Human Rights Declaration. It also refused to accept the agreements UN agencies such as the ECOSOC and UNESCO drew to implement the Human Rights Declaration chapter-wise — international agreement on economic, social and cultural rights, international agreement on enforcement of racial crimes and imposing penalties, the agreement on elimination of all forms of violation of women’s rights and discrimination against women, and the agreement on children’s rights. The US accepted the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights 26 years after the UN prescribed it in 1992.

passed by the UN.

During the period from 1984 to 1987, the US objected about 150 resolutions passed by the UN.

The US has been constantly opposed to the UN Human Rights Declaration. It also refused to accept the agreements UN agencies such as the ECOSOC and UNESCO drew to implement the Human Rights Declaration chapter-wise — international agreement on economic, social and cultural rights, international agreement on enforcement of racial crimes and imposing penalties, the agreement on elimination of all forms of violation of women’s rights and discrimination against women, and the agreement on children’s rights. The US accepted the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights 26 years after the UN prescribed it in 1992.

The US failed to pay its dues to the UN for decades. So, in May 2001, the ECOSOC removed the country from the UN Human Rights Commission (HRC) consisting of 53 nations. The more was sponsored by the allies of the US. The US was also dismissed from the UN Management and Budget Advisory Committee in 1998, and later its membership was reinstated.

The US refused to sign the agreement to found

gates mob rules and anarchic acts. It calls such destructive acts as democracy campaign. Its media conceal its lackeys’ terrorist acts. It also brands such destructive acts efforts to transform the nation into democracy. However, when the US is under any forms of attacks, it brands them terrorist acts. In the third anniversary of the US invasion of Iraq, mass demonstrations were held in the US, Britain, European countries and Arab countries to denounce the US for waging war on Iraq with a lame excuse.

Despite the destructive acts perpetrated by the US and its allies and its lackeys as well as renegades to disrupt peace and development in Myanmar, the country is still peaceful with bright prospects. Human rights of Myanmar people are in fact vested right. In Myanmar where Theravada Buddhism flourishes and whose national people are cohesive and polite, all the human rights except the right to incite unrest and anarchy have been bestowed to all the citizens. It has been defined that destructive acts do not mean human rights.

(Concluded)

Translation: TMT + MS

Myanma Alin, Kyemon: 25-3-2006

Hailing the 61st Anniversary Armed Forces Day:**Tatmadaw's fight against narcotic drugs***(Reporter Soe Thein)*

In his address on the occasion of the 51st Anniversary Armed Forces Day held on 27 March 1996, Chairman of State Peace and Development Council Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Than Shwe said: "The danger of narcotic drugs threatens the entire world. In combating that danger, our Tatmadaw members have sacrificed lives. The Tatmadaw is striving for the total elimination of the drug menace. Development projects are being carried out with increasing momentum in the drug producing areas. The task of combating the drug menace is a concern of the entire people of the world and is of enormous magnitude. Sincere cooperation in the task will be gladly welcomed. Even in the absence of cooperation, we will do our best to eliminate this narcotic menace which threatens and endangers the people of the world."

The address of Head of State and the Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Than Shwe is the commitment of the State, the Tatmadaw and the people in the fight against drugs which will go down in the annals of Myanmar history. Being a national force, the Tatmadaw took part actively in the fight against drugs, a threat posed to the nation, sacrificing a lot of lives, sweat and limbs.

The changes in political, military and economic systems of the world have a great impact on social and cultural spheres. The neo-colonialists apply tactics in various forms of war in their attempts to put the small nations under their influence. In their tactics, the neo-colonialists are applying mass media in the military, political, economic, social and cultural fields. In other words, they are making attempts to install particular parties and figures in the target nations, destroying the spirit and culture of the citizens of such nations.

The historical evidences show that the colonialists applied the narcotic drugs as an effective weapon in destroying social and human resources of a target nation. Since 16th Century, unscrupulous Dutch and Italian merchants distributed opium from

India to other countries. In 1824, British colonialists waged the first aggressive war on Myanmar and occupied part of the country. The colonialists issued licence to local people in Rakhine and Taninthayi regions to open opium dens. With the aim of destroying the ability of Myanmar nationals and of prolonging the colonialist administration, the colonialists introduced opium to Myanmar people distributing the drugs free of charge at first. It is safe to say that those who started the drug problem in Myanmar are the colonialists.

Anyhow, the successive Myanmar governments constantly fought against the danger of opium and drugs. Today, the Tatmadaw government is implementing the 15-year Drug Elimination Plan laid down in 1999-2000 in the fight against drugs.

The colonialists enticed local people in hilly regions into growing poppy with every intention of engaging extensively in drug trafficking. In some regions, they forced local people into growing poppy.

They permitted the growing of poppy on the eastern bank of Thanlwin River. The colonialists engaged in opium trafficking, opening 216 opium shops. The sale of opium had resulted in an increase in the number of drug addicts. When Myanmar regained independence, there were altogether 4,821 registered drug addicts in the nation due to evil legacy of the colonialists. It is estimated that the number of drug addicts is likely to be greater than that of registered ones. The government at the time opened one rehabilitation centre for drug addicts. The poppy dens suppression law was promulgated in 1951. An opium inquiry committee was formed and steps were taken for poppy substitute cultivation and rehabilitation of drug addicts. However, those tasks could not be carried out properly due to lack of peace and political stability in the nation.

On 2 March 1962, the Revolutionary Council came to power and amended the narcotic drug laws that had been out of date. In 1974, the government enacted the law on drugs related to narcotics and formed the drug control committees at different levels

Honouring the Tatmadaw

- * When the situation demands
Let there be stamina and tenacity
Unflinching, stalwart
Without fail, reach winning post unflinching
And gets there, that's the Tatmadaw.
- * When its urgent
Close blood get together, hands held
Let there be solidarity throughout
There's clarion call, for nation's sake
Doing its duty, that's the Tatmadaw.
- * When situation calls
Think, set it all together, repeatedly
Weigh it thoroughly, with reason
People's abode, life and link
Suffers no loss, there is serenity
Look after them, taking due care
Defend it, that's the Tatmadaw.
- * Let people's cause, be our cause
And people's thoughts, be our thoughts
Straight-forward, you kept your due
Without faltering, wavering
Summer or winter, you don't lose your poise
Unselfish, you marched on
It's been sixty and one years
On the new path, we had to tread
In weal, or woe
With the people, satisfied
With regard and love, back to back
To see cessation of challenges
Let there be temerity and zeal tenfold
Bravely, with the hands held
Marching forward, with zeal
Tatmadaw, keep marching on.
With the people doing due honour.

Tekkatho Nyo Min Maung (Trs)**Hailing the 61st Anniversary Armed Forces Day**

along with nine working committees.

Earlier in the 1950s, the drug problem in Myanmar became worse with the intrusion of KMT. The KMT abetted local people to grow poppy in the areas they controlled. Besides, they themselves engaged in the production and distribution of opium. The KMT purchased arms and ammunition and stockpiled supplies with the proceeds gained from the trafficking of drugs. Regarding this, they made contact with drug gangs in neighbouring countries. It can be said that the KMT encroached upon Myanmar politically, economically and socially.

Therefore, the Tatmadaw had to drive out the KMT by waging major battles, while launching operations against drugs. The operations against drugs included Moe Hein Operation (phase-1 to phase-12), Ngayeban Operation (phase-1 to phase-8), Taungyanshin Operation (phase-1 to phase-4) and Taungteikban Operation from December 1977 to April 1978 and Aung Moe Hein Operation from September to October 1978.

Moe Hein Operation was launched in Mongpan Township, Shan State (South) from 14 September to 6 October 1975. Tatmadaw columns engaged 12 times with 300 members of SURA insurgent and Kuomintang opium traffickers. In the incident, one Tatmadawman sacrificed his life for the nation and 19 others were wounded. Five bodies and one member of the opium trafficker together with assorted arms, eight barrels of opium liquid and 14 kinds of paraphernalia in refining the opium were seized.

During the period of Moe Hein Operation Phase-1 from 26 April to 7 May 1976, the opium refinery in Mongtwam and Narmon regions in Monghsat Township was destroyed with air-to-ground supporting fire. In the two clashes, one Tatmadawman sacrificed his life and two were wounded. After the engagements, 10 bodies of the enemy, 69 assorted arms, 30 pounds of heroin, 228 viss of opium, 440 gallons of opium liquid, estimated 2,000 pounds of burned opium and chemical precursors were seized.

*(See page 10)***Nation will be strong only when Tatmadaw is strong.**

Narcotic drugs prevention and control tasks are being carried out as one of the national tasks. The people and Tatmadaw members destroying poppy plantations in Pinlaung Township, Shan State.

Paddy, rubber, pepper, physic nut...

(from page 1)

In the evening, they arrived Ngwe Hsaung. Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than and party looked into progress in building the hospital in Ngwe Hsaung.

At the meeting attended by departmental personnel, social organization members and local people in Ngwe Hsaung, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than stressed the need for the local people to extend cultivation of paddy, vegetables, rubber, and pepper, and breeding of domestic poultry to be

able to earn more income. Especially, local people are to grow physic nut plants not only on a commercial scale but on a manageable scale to benefit themselves as well as the country. Departmental personnel and local people should strive for undertaking regional development tasks to meet success of the plan adopted by the Government.

After the meeting, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than cordially greeted those present.

MNA | Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than inspects the hospital in Shwethaungyan. — MNA



Prize presentation for the...

(from page 16)

Next, Lt-Gen Myint Swe presented prizes to winners of long and short poem contests, Vice-Chairman of the Leading Committee Chief of Staff (Navy) Rear-Admiral Nyan Tun to winners of novel, short story, article and university level essay contests, Vice Quartermaster-General Maj-Gen Htin Aung Kyaw to winners of high and middle school level essay contests and university and basic education level poem contests, Commandant of National Defence College Maj-Gen Moe Hein to winners of painting contests (primary level), Deputy Minister for Culture Brig-Gen Soe Win Maung to winners of painting contests (middle and high school levels), Deputy Minister for Information U Thein Sein to winners of sculpture and photo contests, Vice-Chairman of YCDC Vice-Mayor Col Maung Pa to winners of photo, marching song and composing contests and Yangon Station Commander Brig-Gen Myint Soe to winners of extempore talk, TV quiz, computer drawing and application skill contests.—MNA



Lt-Gen Myint Swe presents prize to a winner. — MNA



Chief of Staff (Navy) Rear-Admiral Nyan Tun presents prize to a winner. — MNA



Commandant of No 1 Military Hospital (500-bed) Brig-Gen Myint Maung gives prize to a winner. — MNA

Concrete overpasses commissioned

YANGON, 25 March—The concrete overpasses across Gyobyu water pipeline in Sangyiwa Ward and in Tatmadaw Sanpya Ward in Mingaladon Township were put into service this morning as a gesture of hailing the 61st Anniversary Armed Forces Day.

The over pass was built with the contributions of K 1.5 million by local people and K 3.5 million by Division USDA.

USDA CEC Member In Charge of Yangon Division USDA Chairman of Yangon City Development Committee Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin, Division USDA Secretary U Aye Myint and officials and wellwisher of the old bridge U Hla Shwe formally opened the 38-foot-long and 18-foot-wide overpass linking Sangyiwa Ward with Pyay Road.

The CEC member accepted 1,284 membership applications, and inspected the 2,200-foot-long and 19-foot-wide Gyobyu road linking Sangyiwa Ward with (Pyay Road).

The 28-foot and seven-foot overpass linking Sanpya Ward and Pyay Road was built with the sole contribution of 1.139 million Daw Myint Myint.

The mayor also looked into the upgrading of Thiri road as the 1,700-foot-long and 13-foot-wide one, construction of concrete street on self-reliant basis and the dredging of drains on both sides of the roads. — MNA

Energy shade F&R 2-0

YANGON, 25 March — Energy moved up into the quarterfinal with one goal each of Naing Win and Sai Than Aung in the Myanmar League Closing Cup Knockout Football Tournament at Aung San Stadium this afternoon.

With brilliant skills, former closing cup champion Energy dominated defending champion Finance & Revenue till 90 minutes. Finance & Revenue did not show off their abilities to score any equalizer.

Tomorrow's fixture:

Rail Transportation vs Commerce.

NLM



Khin Maung Tun of Finance and Revenue trying to dribble past Yan Naung Soe of Energy. — NLM

မိုးကြိုဂုဏ်လျှော်/ ချဉ်ပေါင်လျှော်စိုက်ပျိုးရေးနိုးဆော်ချက်

- ၁။ စိုက်ပျိုးရာသီချိန်အမိ စိုက်ပျိုးပါ။ မိုးကြိုဂုဏ်လျှော်ကို ဖေဖော်ဝါရီလလယ်မှ ဧပြီလကုန်အထိလည်းကောင်း၊ မိုးကြိုချဉ်ပေါင်ဂုဏ်လျှော်ကို ဧပြီလဆန်းမှ မေလလယ်အထိ အပြီးစိုက်ပျိုးပါ။
- ၂။ ထယ်ရေးနက်နက်နှင့် ထွန်ရေးညက်ညက်ရအောင် ဆောင်ရွက်ပါ။
- ၃။ မြေခဲမြေခြာကို မမြစ်မနေထည့်သွင်းသုံးစွဲပါ။ မြေခဲမြေခြာအဖြစ် တစ်ဧကလျှင် သဘာဝမြေခြာစာ လှည်း (၅) စီးမှ (၁၀) စီးအထိလည်းကောင်း၊ ယူရီယာဓာတ်မြေခြာစာ အနည်းဆုံး (၂၅) ကီလိုနှင့် ပိုတက်ရှ်မြေခြာစာ (၁၂.၅) ကီလိုထည့်သွင်းသုံးစွဲပါ။
- ၄။ စိုက်ပျိုးရေး ပြည်ပြည်ဝဝ တင်သွင်းပါ။ ရေတင်သွင်းရာတွင် အောက်ရေ ဆက်သည်အထိ ပြည်ပြည်ဝဝ တင်သွင်းပါ။
- ၅။ မျိုးကောင်းမျိုးသန့် ရွေးချယ်စိုက်ပျိုးပါ။ အပင်ပေါက် ရာခိုင်နှုန်း (၈၀) နှင့်အထက်ရှိသော မျိုးများကို ဂုဏ်လျှော်တစ်ဧကလျှင် မျိုးစေ့ (၂) ပြည်နှုန်း၊ ချဉ်ပေါင်လျှော် တစ်ဧကလျှင် မျိုးစေ့ (၄) ပြည်နှုန်း သုံးစွဲပါ။
- ၆။ အစိုဓာတ် အချိန်မီအောင် စိုက်ပျိုးပါ။ မျိုးစေ့ချ စိုက်ပျိုးရန်အတွက် မြေအစိုဓာတ် သင့်တင့်ချိန်တွင် စိုက်ထွန်ရေးဖွင့်ထွန်ယက်၍ စိုက်ပျိုးပြီး ကြမ်းဖုံးပါ။
- ၇။ ပိုးမွှားအန္တရာယ် ကာကွယ်နှိမ်နင်းပါ။ ပုရစ်အန္တရာယ်မှ ကင်းစေရန် စိုက်ခင်းအနီးရှိ အမှိုက်သရိုက်များကို မီးရှို့ဖျက်ဆီးပါ။ ပုရစ်ကျရောက်မည့် အန္တရာယ်ရှိပါက မျှားစာအဆိပ်တုံ့ပြုလုပ်၍ စိုက်ခင်းပတ်ပတ်လည်နှင့် ကွင်းအတွင်းတွင် ချထားပါ။
- ၈။ နည်းပညာနှင့်အကူအညီ ရယူလိုပါက နီးစပ်ရာ မြန်မာဂုဏ်လျှော်ပစ္စည်းလုပ်ငန်း ဒေသရုံးများနှင့် ဆက်သွယ်အကူအညီရယူပါ။

လယ်ယာစိုက်ပျိုးရေးနှင့် ဆည်မြောင်းဝန်ကြီးဌာန

MWAF President tours Mandalay, Amarapura

YANGON, 25 March — President of Myanmar Women's Affairs Federation Daw Than Than Nwe met with members of Mandalay Division Women's Affairs Organization at the office of Mandalay Division Maternal and Child Welfare Supervisory Committee

on 20 March. It was also attended by member of the panel of patrons of the federation Daw San San Yi, the chairperson, the secretary, officials and members, totalling over 250. Patron of Mandalay Division WAO Daw Khin Pyone Win reported on tasks of the di-

vision organization and future tasks. The President of MWAF gave instructions on participation of Mandalay Division WAO members in development tasks by upholding Our Three Main National Causes. She urged WAO members to join hands

with other social organizations in the task of prevention against trafficking in person, that of rehabilitation and reintegration, that of controlling HIV/AIDS, that of national health plan, that of drug elimination, that of environmental conservation, and that of rural de-

velopment. Furthermore, she said that all are to coordinate with departments concerned, wellwishers and entrepreneurs for preservation of culture and enhancement of living standard. The MWAF President and party viewed trainees at the women's

management efficiency enhancement course and other training courses. In Amarapura, they met with 11 persons who are carrying out weaving works with the assistance of K 1 million of MWAF. A woman of Ngetoe Village expressed gratitude. — MNA



MWAF President Daw Than Than Nwe inspects practical works of trainees at embroidery course of Mandalay Division WAO. — MNA



MWAF President Daw Than Than Nwe views works of trainees at tailoring course conducted by Mandalay Division WAO. — MNA

Indian Army delegation leaves

YANGON, 25 March — The delegation led by Brig-Gen HH Mahajam, YSM of Army Higher Command Course of Indian Army of India returned home by air yesterday evening.

The Indian delegation was seen off at Yangon International Airport by Deputy Commandant Brig-Gen Than Maung of National Defence College, Captain Maung Maung Thit

(Navy) of the Office of the Chief of Armed Forces Training and senior military officers, Indian Military Attaché Col JS Chopra and embassy officials.

MNA



Brig-Gen HH Mahajam, YSM of Army Higher Command Course of Indian Army and party being seen off at the airport. — MNA



The annual general meeting of Jivatana Sangha Hospital 2005 was held at the hospital Saturday with a speech by Hospital Administrative Board Chairman U Ko Ko Gyi (retired ambassador). — NLM

43rd Myanmar Gems Emporium (2006) successfully concludes

YANGON, 25 March — The 43rd Myanmar Gems Emporium (2006) successfully concluded this evening.

A total of 1877 lots of pearl, gems and jade were sold at the emporium. 142 pearl lots were sold on 18 March, 51 gems lots on 19 March, a total of 1684 jade lots from 21 to 24 March. A total of 2,380 gem merchants — 1,484 from 423 companies of foreign countries and 896 from 356 local companies — attended the 43rd Myanmar Gems Emporium.

Due to a huge amount of sale of quality pearls, gems and jades at the emporium, it made a record in sales and attendance this year. — MNA

Presentation on Champion brand CNG spark plugs made



Product Director of Federal Mogul Corporation, Australia Mr Tony Doyle explains matters concerning CNG spark plugs. — MNA

YANGON, 25 March — Champion Brand CNG Spark Plugs Products Training Presentation organized by M.Y Associates Co Ltd (Myanmar) and Federal Mogul Corporation took place at Summit Parkview this morning.

Chief Executive Officer of M.Y Associates Co Ltd U Ye Htut and Sale Manager Mr Th

Choh Ching extended greetings.

Afterwards, the presentation was made and Product Director of Federal Mogul Corporation, Australia Mr Tony Doyle answered the queries raised by those present.

M.Y Associate Co Ltd will put on sale spark plugs, sprocket, bulb, beral clutch plate, payen

oil seal, FP diesel engine components, SKF bearing and Maintenance products, Petronas lubricants and Opti Bele TRW-LUCAS and the detailed information can be inquired through No 216, Bogyoke Street, Botahtaung Township, Tel: 392502, 392503, 392823 and 392588.

MNA

Tatmadaw's fight against narcotic drugs...

(from page 7)

In launching Operation Moe Hein Phase-2 from 18 to 24 January 1977, four opium refineries in Lwelan region of Monghsat Township were destroyed with air-to-ground supporting fire. One insurgent was captured, and four opium refineries and refining equipment were seized.

From 18 to 25 June 1977, Operation Moe Hein Phase-3 was launched to occupy and destroy opium refineries in Mongmao, Mangtung, Wamnahein, Kaungmaikhon and Wammatlan regions with air-to-ground supporting fire. During the nine engagements with remnant Kuomintang troops including 700 members of SURA insurgent, two Tatmadawmen died in action and 11 were wounded. Eight members of opium traffickers were wiped out and two injured. One enemy was captured by the Tatmadaw and 30 assorted arms, opium speciosa, 70 packets of opium and chemical precursors were seized.

Measures of Operation Moe Hein Phase-4 were taken at Lwelan region of Monghsat Township near Myanmar-Thai border area from 12 to 27 April 1978. Tatmadaw occupied opium refineries with air-to-ground supporting fire. In 17 battles, five opium refineries were destroyed. In the clashes, 26 opium traffickers were killed and two injured. In addition, 13 assorted guns, 157 kilos of opium, 194 gallons of opium liquid, refinery equipment and chemical precursors were seized.

Opium refineries in Lawlochaing region near Myanmar-Thai border area were destroyed in Operation Moe Hein Phase-5 from 19 February to 8 March 1980. In nine clashes, 10 opium trafficking insurgents were killed and one injured. After the battles, Tatmadaw seized 10 assorted arms and chemical precursors.

Tatmadaw launched Operation Moe Hein Phase-6 to destroy opium refineries with air-to-ground supporting fire near Lwelan region of Myanmar-Thai border from 16 to 21 March 1981. After exchanging fire with 120 insurgents and 150 BCP lackey insurgents at Lwehsansaw mountain range, Tatmadaw wiped out 32 enemies, captured two and seized 19 assorted arms, heroin, opium and chemical precursors.

Seven refineries were destroyed in Hsankalan region near Myanmar-Thai border during the period of Operation Moe Hein Phase-7 from 8 to 16 April 1983. A total of 36 enemies were killed and two insurgents captured. Furthermore, Tatmadaw seized 47 assorted arms, heroin, morphine powder, opium and 549 gallons of opium liquid.

From 6 April to 14 May 1984, nine opium refineries of Shan insurgent Moe Hein group and 13 refineries of Lwemaw insurgents were destroyed under Operation Moe Hein Phase-8 in Mongpan and Tachilek Townships. A total of 18 enemies were killed and one captured. Four insurgents surrendered. Tatmadaw seized 32 assorted arms, 606.65 viss of opium, 50 gallons of opium liquid, 23 gallons of opium oil, chemical precursors and refinery equipment.

Operation Moe Hein Phase-9 was launched in Monghsat, Mongkwam, Mongyun and Lwelan regions in Shan State from 24 February to 25 March 1985. In destroying opium refineries, 20 opium trafficking insurgents were wiped out. Tatmadaw seized opium liquid and chemical precursors.

In launching Operation Moe Hein Phase-10 from 19 February to 4 March 1986, Tatmadaw destroyed opium refineries of Lwemaw insurgents in Mongkwam, Nathan and Lawlochaing regions in Shan State. Tatmadaw killed three enemies and seized assorted arms, chemical precursors and refinery equipment.

In Monghtalan and Mongkwam regions of Monghsat Township, Operation Moe Hein Phase-11 was launched from 20 to 28 February 1987. Eight opium refineries, one ether and alcohol factory and

one opium warehouse were destroyed. After the operation, six arms, 10 viss of opium and chemicals and equipment used in making heroin were seized and 10 drug traffickers were killed.

Operation Moe Hein Phase-12 launched on 19 March 1988 and ended on 20 April 1988 against drug traffickers in Shan State. In the operation, the Tatmadaw destroyed seven opium refinery camps of the Burma Communist Party, Kuomintang and SURA. A total of 37 members of the Tatmadaw sacrificed their lives and 335 were injured during the operation while 86 drug traffickers were killed. The Tatmadaw seized 82 assorted arms and chemicals and equipment used in refining heroin.

Moreover, the Tatmadaw launched the Operation Ngayepan and the Operation Taungyanshin and destroyed poppy plantations.

During the Operation Ngayepan Phase 1 to Phase 8 launched on 25 October 1980 and ended in 22 February 1988, 103,375.92 acres of poppy plantations in 199 townships were destroyed sacrificing the lives of 11 members of the Tatmadaw. 20 members of the Tatmadaw were injured while 27 drug traffickers were killed and eight were captured.

In the Operation Taungyanshin launched from 26 December, 1985 to 22 February, 1988, a total of 90124.17 acres of poppy plantations were destroyed. Three members of Tatmadaw sacrificed their lives and two were wounded. Seven insurgents were killed and two captured.

It is the Tatmadaw that has sacrificed lives and blood for elimination of narcotic drugs in the country. However, as there was insurgency in the country, the narcotic drugs were not eliminated in the country.

The Tatmadaw assumed the responsibilities of the State on 18 September 1988 and made peace with 17 national race armed groups.

As part of an effort for elimination of narcotic drugs, from 11 May to 24 June, 1994, the Tatmadaw launched the Operation Monkyut against Lwemaw insurgent drug trafficking group and seized 115 viss of marijuana. In the operation, 287 members of the Tatmadaw including seven officers sacrificed their lives for the country while 252 drug traffickers were killed.

The Tatmadaw launched an attack on Lwemaw insurgent drug trafficking group in Bakyan area in Shan State from 11 March to 4 May 1995. In the military operations, 75 Tatmadawmen including one officer sacrificed their lives and 175 were wounded. A total of 218 dead bodies of the insurgent were captured. Assorted arms and ammunition were also seized in the operations.

The Tatmadaw has been discharging military and organizational duties for elimination of narcotic drugs to date. During the period from 5 January 1996 to 13 December 1998, 13,947 MTA troops and 784 family members led by U Khun Sa unconditionally surrendered to the Government bringing together with them 9,879 assorted arms and ammunition.

The Government established the Ministry for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs with the aim of undertaking the development tasks in rural areas. Besides, the Central Committee for Drug Abuse Control was reconstituted on 9 October 1989, and duties were assigned to it. CCDAC set up 11 working groups.

As such, the Tatmadaw Government has been performing drug elimination tasks. In doing so, the seized narcotic drugs were incinerated a number of times in the presence of the diplomats and media persons. Furthermore, Mongla region has been declared a drug free zone. Being a national political force, the Tatmadaw has sacrificed lives and blood of its members for the elimination of narcotic drugs in successive eras, and put all its energy into the anti-drug drive from political, military and organizational aspects.

Translation: TS+TTA+AMS



Deputy Minister U Kyaw Thu and Mr Aly Houssam El-Din El Hefny, Assistant Minister for Asian Affairs of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs sign the MoU on establishing the Bilateral Meeting between the Ministries of the two nations.—MNA

Deputy Foreign Minister back from Egypt

YANGON, 25 March — A Myanmar Delegation led by U Kyaw Thu, Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs, arrived back here from his trip to Cairo this morning.

Deputy Minister U Kyaw Thu attended the First Bilateral Consultation Meeting between the two Ministries of Foreign Affairs of the Union of Myanmar and the Arab Republic of Egypt and the Signing Ceremony of the MoU between the two Ministries of Foreign Affairs, at the invitation of His Excellency Mr Aly Houssam El-Din El-Hefny, Assistant Minister for Asian Affairs of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Arab Republic of Egypt.

Deputy Minister U Kyaw Thu was welcomed back at the Yangon International Airport by officials from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Mr Mohamed Mohamed Minessy, Ambassador of the Arab Republic of Egypt.

On 22 March 2006, Myanmar Delegation attended the First Bilateral Consultation Meeting between the two Ministries of Foreign Affairs of the Union of Myanmar and the Arab Republic of Egypt in Cairo and discussed enhancing the already existing friendly relations and to promote economic cooperation and commercial exchanges between the two countries in agriculture, education, energy and tourism sectors. Later on that day, the MoU on establishing the Bilateral Meeting between the Ministries of Foreign Affairs of the two countries was signed by Deputy Minister U Kyaw Thu and His Excellency Mr Aly Houssam El-Din El Hefny, Assistant Minister for Asian Affairs of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Arab Republic of Egypt.

The Second Bilateral Consultation Meeting between the two Ministries of Foreign Affairs will be held in Yangon in 2008.

Deputy Minister U Kyaw Thu was accompanied by Director U Win Myint and Assistant Director U Kyaw Soe from the Political Department, Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

MNA

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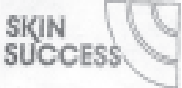
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၂။ သင်တန်းစတင်ဖွင့်လှစ်မည်ရက်မှာ (၂၄-၄-၂၀၀၆)ရက်နေ့ ဖြစ်ပြီး သင်တန်းဝင်ခွင့်လျှောက်လွှာများကို (၃-၄-၂၀၀၆) ရက်နေ့မှစတင်လက်ခံပါမည်။ သင်တန်းဝင်ခွင့်နှင့်ပတ်သက်၍ အသေးစိတ်သိလိုပါက ရုံးချိန်အတွင်း ရန်ကုန်နိုင်ငံခြားဘာသာတက္ကသိုလ်တွင် လာရောက်စုံစမ်းမေးမြန်းနိုင်ပါသည်။

ဖုန်း-၅၁၄၄၇၃ (ရိုင်းခွဲ-၁၂၃)

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P.O. Box 60, Yangon
Dated: 24 March 2006

China donates equipment to Serbia-Montenegro

BELGRADE, 24 March — China handed over on Wednesday equipment worth five million yuan (some 625,000 US dollars) as a military aid to Serbia-Montenegro.

In a ceremony at the Club of the Serbia-Montenegro Army in Belgrade, Chinese Ambassador Li Guobang said that there are traditional friendship and close cooperation between China and Serbia-Montenegro, including exchange and cooperation between the two countries' defence ministries and Armies.

Li said that he hoped the donation would help the Serbia-Montenegro Army during its reform and transition period.

Zoran Stankovic, Defence Minister of Serbia-Montenegro, expressed his appreciation to China's donation and hoped for further development of bilateral friendly cooperation.

In a sign of gratitude, Stankovic handed over a plaque and certificate to Ambassador Li.

MNA/Xinhua

Turkish security forces seize 142.6 kilos of heroin

ANKARA, 24 March — Turkish security forces seized 142.6 kilogrammes of heroin in southeastern Turkey on Thursday, semi-official *Anatolia* news agency reported.

Acting on a tip-off, the security forces raided an international transportation company's garage in Kilis City, said the report, adding they confiscated 142.6 kilogrammes of heroin stashed in 259 packages, according to the report. — MNA/Xinhua

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EU lawmaker says Macedonia obstructs CIA probe

BRUSSELS, 24 March — Macedonian Interior Minister Ljubomir Mihailovski has refused to meet EU lawmakers investigating allegations of a CIA abduction in his country, a senior EU lawmaker said on Thursday.

Khaled el-Masri, a German citizen of Lebanese origin, alleges he was arrested by CIA agents in Macedonia on

31 December, 2003, flown to Afghanistan, held there for months in 2004 as a terrorist suspect, and tortured. A group of EU

lawmakers plan to visit Macedonia on 27-29 April, to gather more information on this case, as part of their probe into the allegations

made last year by rights groups and newspapers that the CIA abducted prisoners in Europe, flew them to other countries and ran secret prisons in the bloc.

"I have just learnt, to my regret, that the Macedonian Minister of the Interior, Ljubomir Mihailovski, does not want to meet the delegation of the European Parliament's temporary committee," said Claudio Fava, the Italian socialist who is rapporteur to the investigation committee.

MNA/Xinhua

MNA/Reuters

China, Russia to use large containers to carry goods

BEIJING, 24 March — The railway departments of China and Russia agreed to use large containers to carry goods, according to the Ministry of Railways here.

The ministry said its minister Liu Zhijun and president of Russia Railways Cop Ltd Yakunin reached the agreement before the opening ceremony of the Year of Russia.

The two sides agreed to expand transportation capacities in 2006 and 2007 to meet the increasing trade exchanges.

Transporting crude oil by direct trains from Zabaikalye, Russia, to Manzhouli, China's largest land port in north China's Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region, has gained a success, and the two countries decided to explore the possibilities of transporting ore and fertilizer.

According to the Ministry

of Railways, railways of the two countries transported 30.85 million tons of cargo via the ports along the borders in 2005, up 26.5 per cent year on year.

Iraqi policeman killed in guerilla ambush in Baghdad

BAGHDAD, 24 March — Gunmen ambushed a police patrol in a southern Baghdad neighbourhood on Wednesday, killing a policeman and wounding two others, an Interior Ministry source told *Xinhua*.

"Unknown armed men ambushed a police patrol at around 1:00 pm (1000 GMT) in the Hai al-Amil neighbourhood and opened fire with rocket-propelled grenades and machineguns," the source said on condition of anonymity. A police vehicle was destroyed in the attack, which also killed a policeman and wounded two others, he said.

received information that a minibus carrying Shiite pilgrims was attacked in the area.

But when they headed to the scene, there was an ambush waiting for them, he added.

It was not clear immediately whether the information about the minibus attack was real or it was aimed at dragging the police force to the ambush, he said.

The police had

MNA/Xinhua



Models present creation of Chanel's Spring-Summer Haute Couture 2006 collection created by German fashion designer Karl Lagerfeld during a fashion show in Hong Kong, on 24 March, 2006. —INTERNET

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Study says younger breast cancer patients more at risk

LONDON, 24 March – Young women under 45 years old diagnosed with early breast cancer have a higher risk of dying from the disease than older patients, scientists said on Thursday.

“The younger the woman, the poorer the chance of survival,” is the most common cancer in women, with more than a million new cases detected worldwide each year.

Most are in women over 50—the disease is rare in young women. But Vinh-Hung told Reuters that although only a small fraction of early breast cancers occur in young women, they account for a disproportionate percentage of deaths. In a study of 45,000 breast cancer patients presented at the 5th European Breast Cancer Conference in Nice, France, Vinh-Hung and his colleagues found that the odds of dying from breast cancer rose by 5 per cent for every year that a woman was under 45 when diagnosed.

They focused on women with early breast cancer which had not spread beyond the breast and whose tumours were less than 0.8 inches in size.

Doctors had previously suspected that the poorer

prognosis in young women was due to being diagnosed later with a more advanced cancer. Breast tissue in younger women is usually denser which can make detecting a tumour more difficult.—MNA/Reuters



This view shows a full-resolution portion of the first image of Mars taken by the High Resolution Imaging Science Experiment camera (HiRISE) on NASA's Mars Reconnaissance Orbiter, released by NASA on 24 March, 2006. —INTERNET

Hong Kong, best platform in Asia for marketing films

HONG KONG, 24 March — A survey announced Thursday that Hong Kong's twin events for the entertainment industry, the Hong Kong International Film & TV Market (FILMART) and Hong Kong-Asia Film Financing Forum (HAF), provides the best platform in Asia to market the latest products and to get financing for film productions.

About 70 per cent of industry respondents described Hong Kong's FILMART and HAF platform as the most significant film event in Asia, followed by similar

events in South Korea and Japan.

The survey was carried out by independent survey consultant Oracle Added Value and included interviews with 340 international exhibitors and trade visitors at FILMART, which is held from Monday to Thursday in Hong Kong. Buyers said they planned to source more than half of their films and digital and TV entertainment products from Hong Kong. They revealed that South Korea and Japan were second and third sourcing choices.

The survey described the Chinese Mainland as

Hong Kong's “promised land” for market growth. The majority of respondents said Hong Kong was the best place for overseas film companies and entrepreneurs to meet their Chinese Mainland counterparts to discuss co-productions and marketing matters.

The Trade Development Council's Assistant Executive Director Raymond Yip said Hong Kong as a film centre has no equal in Asia in terms of international exposure, creative talent, distribution network and state-of-the-art technology.

MNA/Xinhua

Cultural change needed to solve world's water problem

MEXICO CITY, 24 March — The head of the United Nations Education, Science and Culture Organization (UNESCO) said here Wednesday that cultural change, not just high technology, is needed to solve the world's water problem.

“Water management is a task that is as much about culture and technology, reflecting the relationship that individuals and communities establish

with nature,” UNESCO Director General Koichiro Matsuura told the Press here. Without this cultural change, the world would not be able to meet the

Millennium Development Goals of providing water to 1.1 billion more people by 2015, said Koichiro Matsuura.

The director general

said that water management has to take into account the cultural and biological diversity seen on the planet, and that achieving sustainable solutions would contribute to peace, security and development.

UNESCO holds that the cultural dimension of water deserves deeper study to allow policy-makers to understand its many ramifications, because water is not just one more commodity, Koichiro said.

MNA/Xinhua



Two African lions (Panthera Leo) roar while mating in Kenya's Maasai Mara game reserve, on 23 March, 2006. Picture taken on 23 March, 2006.

INTERNET

Indian tortoise, Clive's pet, dies at 250 years

KOLKATA, 24 March — A giant aldabra tortoise thought to be around 250 years old has died in the Kolkata zoo of liver failure, Indian authorities said on Thursday.

The tortoise had been the pet of Robert Clive, the famous British military officer in colonial India around the middle of the 18th Century, a local minister in West Bengal state said. Local authorities say the tortoise, named “Addwaitya” meaning the “The One and Only” in Bengali, was the

oldest tortoise in the world but they have not presented scientific proof to back up their claim.

“Historical records show he was a pet of British general Robert Clive of the East India Company and had spent several years in his sprawling estate before he was brought to the zoo

about 130 years ago,” West Bengal Forest Minister Jogesh Barman said. “We have documents to prove that he was more than 150 years old, but we have pieced together other evidence like statements from authentic sources and it seems that he is more than 250 years old,” he said.—MNA/Reuters

7,000-year-old pottery offers clues to origin of Chinese characters

HEFEI, 24 March — Chinese archaeologists claim that pottery utensils dating back 7,000 years ago which bear inscriptions of various symbols are probably one of the origins of Chinese characters.

They made the conclusion on the basis of several years' study into the symbols carved on over 600 pottery ware items unearthed from the New

Stone Age site in Shuangdun Village, Xiaobengbu Town of Bengbu, a city in East China's Anhui Province.

The symbols include rivers, animals and plants, and activities such as hunting, fishing and arable farming, as well as symbols recording events, said Han Xuhan, a research fellow with the Anhui Provincial Archaeological Research

Institute.

The pottery mainly includes bowls and cups, with all the symbols carved on the bottom or on hidden parts of the pottery. “It is obvious that these symbols were not used to decorate the pottery utensils but had a special meaning and purpose,” said Xu Dali, an associate research fellow with the Bengbu City Museum.—MNA/Xinhua



Claude Monet's: 'The Mula Palace,' 1908, left and Gerhard Richter's: 'Candle,' 1982, both part of Double Take from Monet to Lichtenstein from the collection of Microsoft co-founder Paul Allen is seen at the Experience Music Project in Seattle, on 24 March, 2006.—INTERNET

SPORTS

Benitez says Tottenham want to sell Defoe

LIVERPOOL (England), 25 March— Liverpool manager Rafael Benitez says Premier League rivals Tottenham Hotspur are "desperate" to sell England striker Jermaine Defoe.

Newspaper reports have linked Liverpool's French forward Djibril Cisse with a move to Spurs, although that has been denied by the London club's manager Martin Jol.

When asked about the rumours linking Cisse with a transfer to Tottenham, Benitez told reporters on Friday: "They are desperate to sell Defoe. They are trying to sell the player.

"They try to use Cisse in the middle. I don't know why, it is not our problem. They always talk about him (Cisse) and Defoe.—MNA/Reuters

Owen has minor surgery on injured foot

LONDON, 25 March— Newcastle striker Michael Owen has received minor surgery on his injured foot, according to the club's website on Friday.

The England striker, 26, has been sidelined since breaking his metatarsal bone in December against Spurs.

"The specialists say everything is fine, but to speed the process, they need to tighten the screw they inserted when I had the operation.

"It is a simple process and should ensure that I'm back playing for Newcastle before the end of the season," Owen told the

club's website. Owen broke the bone in his foot in a collision with England team-mate Paul Robinson at Tottenham on 31 December.

Newcastle had previously dismissed reports that the record 17-million-pound signing Owen had suffered a setback in his recovery from a broken foot. Owen reportedly missed training early in March to consult the surgeon who operated on the metatarsal injury in January.—MNA/Xinhua

Liverpool, Chelsea to meet in FA Cup semifinals

LONDON, 25 March— Chelsea and Liverpool will meet for the 10th time in two seasons after being paired in the FA Cup semifinal draw on Friday.

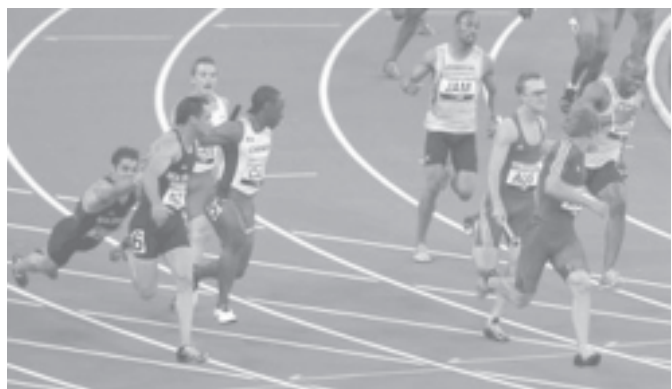
West Ham United will play Middlesbrough or Charlton Athletic in the other semi.

Champions Chelsea, bidding for a league and cup double, have played Liverpool nine times in the last two seasons with Liverpool winning just one, last season's Champions League semifinal second leg.

This season Chelsea won 4-1 at Anfield and 2-0 at home in their two league games while their two Champions League meetings were goalless draws.

If Charlton win their replay against Middlesbrough following Thursday's goalless draw at The Valley they will be in the semis for the first time since they won the Cup in 1947. They have played West Ham five times in the Cup, losing every time.

The ties will be played on April 22/23 at neutral venues, yet to be decided. The final will be at Cardiff's Millennium Stadium on May 13 after the rebuilding of Wembley fell behind schedule.—MNA/Reuters



Jamaica's Asafa Powell, right, starts the anchor leg on his way to winning the gold in the Men's 4x100 metres relay at the Melbourne Cricket Ground at the Commonwealth Games in Melbourne, Australia, on 25 March, 2006. At left New Zealand's James Dolphin dives in vain to exchange with teammate Christopher Donaldson and at 2nd right Australia's Matthew Shirvington looks back as he fails to collect the baton from teammate Adam Miller.—INTERNET

Rooney looks to success in World Cup

LONDON, 25 March— England striker Wayne Rooney has claimed that the squad will accept nothing less than victory at the German 2006 World Cup.

Sven-Goran Eriksson's side goes to the finals in Germany this summer as one of the favourites for the title.

And Rooney was quoted by the *Guardian* as saying: "We have a lot of good players in the squad and we will be disappointed if we don't come back with the World Cup. "We have a good chance. We have a lot of experienced players and a lot of young players as well."

He added: "Over the last year we have been playing well and hopefully we can take that into the World Cup finals and come back as winners."

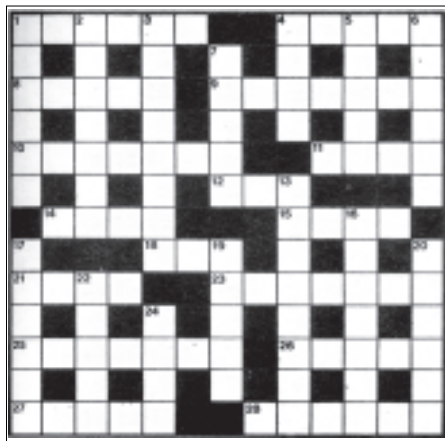
Rooney got his first glimpse of the coveted trophy on Thursday in London as it made its first appearance in England as part of a tour that takes in 31 cities in 28 countries. The Manchester United forward said: "Some of the greatest footballers ever have lifted this trophy so it was an awesome feeling to get up close to it.

"The boys will do everything they can to make sure we see it back here."

The tour began in Accra, Ghana and lasts for three months before reaching its final destination in Rome on 10 April.

MNA/Xinhua

CROSSWORD PUZZLE



ACROSS

- 1 A happening
- 4 Give medical attention
- 8 Correct
- 9 Remainder
- 10 Model of excellence
- 11 Study hard
- 12 Extremity
- 14 Polish river
- 15 Hot-headed
- 18 Droop
- 21 Vermin
- 23 Accomplish
- 25 Excessive
- 26 Police weapon
- 27 Nervous
- 28 Emphasise

DOWN

- 1 Sudden
- 2 Calculated
- 3 Whole numbers
- 4 Large tooth
- 5 Bequeath
- 6 Pact
- 7 Line of battle
- 13 Ban
- 16 Phantom
- 17 Monetary gain
- 19 Confined to college
- 20 Ball game
- 22 Claw
- 24 Deep affection



Nadia Petrova of Russia returns a shot during her match against Maria Sanchez Lorenzo of Spain at the Nasdaq-100 Open tennis in Key Biscayne, Florida, on 24 March, 2006.—INTERNET

Henin-Hardenne suffers exit at Nasdaq-100 Open

WASHINGTON, 25 March— Third-seeded Justine Henin-Hardenne was defeated 5-7, 4-6 by American Meghann Shaughnessy in the second round, becoming the highest-seeded casualty at the Nasdaq-100 Open on Friday in Miami.

The Belgian had won all three of her previous meetings against Shaughnessy but she suffered only her third defeat of the season after 18 victories including titles in Sydney and Dubai.

The 2006 Australian Open runner-up was broken seven times and committed 27 unforced errors in a match lasting just over two hours.

"She played really well and I wasn't at my best," Henin-Hardenne said. "I missed a little bit of confidence, I played more neutral rather than going for the winners."

Shaughnessy next plays Sofia Arvidsson after the Swede defeated Stephanie Foretz of France 6-4, 7-5.

Top-seeded Amelie Mauresmo from France, however, took 44 minutes to beat Australian Samantha Stosur 6-0, 6-0.—MNA/Xinhua

Kirkland loan at West Brom ends with broken finger

LONDON, 25 March— West Bromwich Albion's on-loan goalkeeper Chris Kirkland is making a premature return to Liverpool after breaking a finger in training.

Kirkland, whose injuries have spoilt his chances of playing for England, broke the index finger on his left hand on Thursday and is out for the rest of the season, West Brom said on Friday.

"It's a new break and I've been unlucky again," the 24-year-old Kirkland, who will be out of action for six weeks, told the Premier League club's official website.

MNA/Reuters



Villanova University forward Jason Fraser (C) dunks the ball over Boston College forward John Oates (L) and guard Tyrese Rice during the first half of the NCAA Men's regional semi-final in Minneapolis, Minnesota, 24 March, 2006.—INTERNET



U Hset Aung and Dr Aye Aye Mon of No 32 (M), Sheihangthutaythana Street, 6 1/2th Mile, Hline Township, recently donated K 100,000 to Hninzigon Home for the Aged. Photo shows wellwishers presenting the donation to an official.—H

Canadian forces pull out of Golan Heights

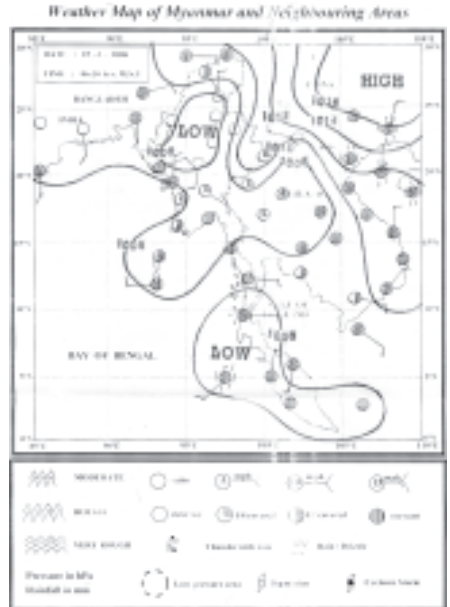
OTTAWA, 25 March — The Canadian military handed over its responsibilities in the Golan Heights to India Friday, ending its presence there for more than 30 years, local media reported. The region has been relatively stable in recent years, and the commanders said the Canadian resources can now be redirected to other operations, Canadian Television re-

ported. The Canadian deployment is being reduced from the current 191 soldiers to four, and will be dropped to two by the end of July. Canada first accepted a role in the region in 1974, joining the United Nations Disengagement Observer Force that was established after Syria and Israel agreed to a ceasefire. *MNA/Xinhua*

Study shows polar ice melting may raise sea levels faster

LOS ANGELES, 25 March — The greenhouse gas increases over the next century could warm the Arctic by 3-5 degrees Celsius in summertime, when sea levels eventually rise up to six metres higher than today, according to a new study released on Thursday. Arctic summers by 2100 may be as warm as they were nearly 130,000 years ago, between the most recent ice age and the previous one. At that time, significant portions of the Greenland and Antarctic Ice Sheets melted, said scientists at US National Centre for Atmospheric Research and the University of Arizona. The findings were published in the 24 March issue of the journal *Science*. Earlier studies have predicted that the Greenland Ice Sheet could raise

the sea level by two to three metres, just like the last warm era 130,000 years ago. But contrary to what was previously believed, the study suggested the Antarctic ice sheet also melted substantially, contributing another two to three metres of sea level rise. The ice sheets have been melting already, said the researchers. They suggested the melting could accelerate, thereby raising sea level as fast as, or faster than, about one metre of sea level rise per century. "Although the focus of our work is polar, the implications are global," said Bette Otto-Bliesner, a co-author of the study. "These ice sheets melted before and sea levels rose. The warmth needed isn't that much above present conditions." *MNA/Xinhua*



WEATHER

Saturday, 25 March, 2006

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST: During the past 24 hours, weather has been partly cloudy in the whole country. Day temperatures were (4°C) below normal in Kachin State, (3°C) to (4°C) above normal in Mandalay and Magway Divisions and about normal in the remaining areas. The significant day temperatures were Minbu (42°C) and Magway (41°C).

Maximum temperature on 24-3-2006 was 101°F. Minimum temperature on 25-3-2006 was 66°F. Relative humidity at 09:30 hrs MST on 25-3-2006 was (77%). Total sunshine hours on 24-3-2006 was (8.5) hours approx.

Rainfalls on 25-3-2006 were nil at Mingaladon, Kaba-Aye and central Yangon. Total rainfalls since 1-1-2006 were nil at Mingaladon, Kaba-Aye and central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (8) mph from Southwest at (15:30) hours MST on 24-3-2006.

Bay inference: Weather is partly cloudy in the Andaman Sea and South Bay and generally fair elsewhere in the Bay of Bengal.

Forecast valid until evening of 26-3-2006: Isolated light rain or thundershowers are likely in Taninthayi Division and weather will be partly cloudy in Rakhine, Kayin and Mon States, Magway, Ayeyawady and Bago Divisions and generally fair in the remaining areas. Degree of certainty is (60%).

State of the sea: Seas will be slight to moderate in Myanmar waters.

Outlook for subsequent two days: Likelihood of isolated light rain or thundershowers in the Southern Myanmar areas.

Forecast for Naypyidaw and neighbouring area for 26-3-2006: Partly cloudy.

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 26-3-2006: Partly cloudy.

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 26-3-2006: Generally fair weather.

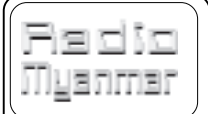


Sunday, 26 March
View on today

- 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. Nice and sweet song
- 7:55 am
5. ယဉ်ကျေးမှု (၃၈) နှစ် မှတ်တမ်း
- 8:05 am
6. အတီးပြိုင်ပွဲ
- 8:10 am
7. (၆၀)နှစ်မြောက် တစ်မတော်နေ့ ဂုဏ်ပြုအစီအစဉ်
- 8:25 am
8. ဝိပဿနာလောကီတစ်
- 8:30 am
9. International news
- 8:45 am
10. Say it in English
- 11:00 am
1. Martial song
- 11:10 am
2. (၆၀)နှစ်မြောက် တစ်မတော်နေ့ ဂုဏ်ပြုအစီအစဉ်
- 11:25 am
3. Round up of the week's international news

- 11:35 am
4. နိုင်ငံခြားကာလွန်းဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ "Doraemon"
- 12:00 noon
5. ရခိုင်ဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ
- 12:05 pm
6. Myanmar video feature: "ဆွေးနွေးသား" (ခန့်စည်သူ၊ စင်စိုင်း၊ မေသန်းနု၊ လှအောင်လှိုင်) (ဒါရိုက်တာ-ဝင်းထွန်းထွန်း)
- 2:00 pm
7. ပြည်တွင်းအိမ်ထောင်ရေးအောင်မြင်ရေးအစီအစဉ်
- 2:15 pm
8. (၆၀)နှစ်မြောက် တစ်မတော်နေ့ ဂုဏ်ပြုအစီအစဉ်
- 2:25 pm
9. အတီးပြိုင်ပွဲ
- 2:30 pm
10. "မခိုင်သော အဖူး" (ဟက်ကက်၊ စင်စိုင်း၊ နိုင်သင်းကြည်) (ဒါရိုက်တာ-အောင်မောင်လှမျိုး)
- 2:40 pm
11. အဆိုပြိုင်ပွဲ
- 2:45 pm
12. International news
- 4:00 pm
1. Martial song
- 4:15 pm
2. Song to uphold National Spirit.
- 4:30 pm
3. တစ်မတော်နေ့ ဂုဏ်ပြုအစီအစဉ် သီချင်းပြိုင်ပွဲ ဆုရပေးပွဲ (၂၀၀၆ ခုနှစ်)
- 4:45 pm
4. အဆေးသင်တန်းသို့လှည့်ပေးရေး ရုပ်မြင်သံကြားသင်ခန်းစာ - ပထမနှစ် (အထူးပြုအားလုံး) (အင်္ဂလိပ်စာ)
- 4:55 pm
5. Song of national races

- 5:05 pm
6. (၆၀)နှစ်မြောက် တစ်မတော်နေ့ ဂုဏ်ပြုအစီအစဉ်
- 5:20 pm
7. Sing and Enjoy
- 6:00 pm
8. Evening news
- 6:30 pm
9. Weather report
- 6:35 pm
10. Discovery
- 6:50 pm
11. Agricultural source of country's development
- 7:00 pm
12. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ "ကံကောင်းခြင်းအိပ်မက်" (အပိုင်း-၂)
- 7:45 pm
13. ပြည်သူ့အထွက်တစ်မတော် "သားမောင်စစ်သည်ထံမှ အမှတ်သို့ ရေးစာ"
- 8:00 pm
14. News
- 8:15 pm
15. International news
- 8:30 pm
16. Weather report
- 8:45 pm
17. Teleplay "သားကောင်းမိခင်" (အပိုင်း-၄) (လွင်စိုင်း၊ စင်စိုင်း၊ နေတိုး၊ နိုင်သင်းကြည်၊ ထွန်းထွန်း) (Examplez) မိုးမြတ်သူစာ၊ မေသားဦး၊ ပန်းဖြူ၊ သက်မွန်မြင့်၊ ဂုဏ်ဝင်း၊ (ဒါရိုက်တာ-ပန်းမျိုးမျိုး)
- 8:55 pm
18. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ "ချစ်မိပြီဆိုရင်" (အပိုင်း-၃၄)
- 9:00 pm
19. The next day's programme



Sunday, 26 March
Tune in today

- 8:30 am Brief news
- 8:35 am Music: -Strange ways
- 8:40 am Perspectives
- 8:45 am Music: -Bubbling hot
- 8:50 am National news & Slogan
- 9:00 am Music: -Cut deep inside
- 9:05 am International news
- 9:10 am Cultural images of Myanmar
- 9:20 am Music: -Human being human
- 1:30 pm News & Slogan
- 1:40pm Children's delight -Story for children -Songs for children
- 9:00 pm News review
- 9:10 pm Article
- 9:20 pm Discussion with Thu Khi Aung
- 9:30 pm Radio Play (My Soldier Son)
- 9:45 pm News / Slogan
- 10:00 pm PEL

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

Prize presentation for 61st Anniversary Armed Forces Day Commemorative Literary and Arts Competitions held



Lt-Gen Myint Swe delivers a speech at the 61st Anniversary Armed Forces Day Commemorative Literary and Arts Competition prize presentation ceremony.— MNA

YANGON, 25 March — Prize presentation for the 61st Anniversary Armed Forces Day Commemorative Literary and Arts Competitions was held at Anawrahta Hall on Konmyinthta this afternoon.

On behalf of the Chairman of Leading Committee for Organizing the 61st Anniversary Armed Forces Day Lt-Gen Myint Swe of the Ministry of Defence delivered a speech.

He said it is the Tatmadaw that helped the nation to regain independence, the people long for. Those who joined the Tatmadaw with patriotism did

not expect to get any chance and they drove out the imperialists who exploited the resources of the country. The Tatmadaw members hand in hand with the people waged anti-fascist resistance. It was on 27 March 1945 that is a day of historical significance for the Tatmadaw and the people.

He said the patriotic Tatmadaw upholding the noble traditions serves the interest of the State and the people. It is obvious that the Tatmadaw has been safeguarding independence and sovereignty.

Holding of Armed Forces Day commemorative

literary and arts competition highlights noble traditions of the Tatmadaw and produces new generation literati, he said.

(See page 8)

Armed Forces Day Parade to be telecast live

YANGON, 25 March — The Myanmar Radio & Television will broadcast the 61st Anniversary Armed Forces Day parade live from the place where the parade will be held on 27 March beginning 6 am.—MNA

World TB Day marked in Yankin Township

YANGON, 25 March —Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Brig-Gen Hla Htay Win delivered an address at the ceremony to mark Yangon Division's World TB Day, organized by Yangon Division Health Committee, at the hall of Yankin Education Practising School in Yankin Township yesterday afternoon.

Deputy Head of Yangon Division Health Department Dr Nweni Ohn read out the message sent by the Minister for Health.

The commander presented first and second prizes to Dawbon and Hlegu Townships for tasks

of TB control, and joint third prizes to Seikkyi-khanaungto and Bahan Townships.

Chairperson Daw Mar Mar Wai of Yangon Division Maternal and Child Welfare Supervi-

sory Committee and officials gave prizes to winners in the Quiz on TB Disease and Red Cross Brigade members.

An educative play on TB was presented to those present.

After the ceremony, the commander and wife and guests viewed documentary photos on TB control, and gave DOTS pills to the patients.

MNA



Commander Brig-Gen Hla Htay Win addresses the ceremony to mark World TB Day. — MNA

Weather Forecast for 26-3-2006

- Naypyidaw & neighbouring areas**
Partly cloudy.
- Yangon & neighbouring areas**
Partly cloudy.
- Mandalay & neighbouring areas**
Generally fair weather.