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Tuesday, 28 March, 2006

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

Seven-step Road Map implemented to establish genuine democratic state

Plan made for people to avoid in future dangers of facing perilous situation of country to the extent of its annihilation



Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Than Shwe delivers an address at the 61st Anniversary Armed Forces Day parade. — MNA

NAYPYIDAW, 27 March—The following is the full text of the address delivered by Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Than Shwe at the 61st Anniversary Armed Forces Day parade held at the Parade Ground of Naypyidaw City today.

Comrades, On the 61st Anniversary Armed Forces Day which is of historical significance as the entire people together with Tatmadaw annihilated the fascist menace (See page 8)

Ward off any danger befalling the country together with the people

Whatever political or economic system the country practises, prevalence of peace and tranquillity, prevalence of national sovereignty and security of life and property of the people are the requisites of a State.

In order to ward off any danger befalling the country, our Tatmadaw, together with the people, must be strong, efficient, patriotic and modern. Our Tatmadaw should be a worthy heir to the traditions of the capable Tatmdaws established by noble Kings Anawrahta, Bayint Naung and Alaung Phaya U Aung Zeya.



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

PERSPECTIVES

Tuesday, 28 March, 2006

Ward off every danger posed to the nation

Myanmar is home to more than 100 national races. The national brethren have been living in the Union through thick and thin for years countable by the thousand.

When Myanmar was under servitude, the colonialists practised the divide-and-rule policy. When Myanmar was about to regain independence, they sowed discord and dissension among the national brethren.

Therefore, the patriotic Tatmadaw that was born during the independence struggle has been constantly upholding Union Spirit—non-disintegration of the Union and non-disintegration of national solidarity—for perpetuation of sovereignty.

In the course of history, the Tatmadaw stood by the people whenever the country was confronted with crises. Moreover, whenever the country was on the verge of disintegration, the Tatmadaw safeguarded the nation at the risk of lives. It is now 61 years that the Tatmadaw has been in perpetual service of the State and the people.

The Tatmadaw formed with the offspring of the patriotic national people during the independence struggle was able to regain independence.

The Tatmadaw won every battle as it was one with the people during the time of anti-fascist movement.

At present, the Tatmadaw hand in hand with the people is trying its utmost for the emergence of a peaceful, modern, developed and discipline-flourishing democratic nation.

Whatever political or economic system the country practises, prevalence of peace and tranquillity, perpetuation of sovereignty and security of life and property of the people are essential. Therefore, priority is being given to community peace and tranquillity, national solidarity and development. Hence, peace prevails the length and breadth of the nation. And remarkable progress has been made in the economic sector.

Such being so, we firmly believe that the Tatmadaw hand in hand with the people will be able to uphold its fine traditions in safeguarding the nation as well as in building a peaceful, modern, developed and discipline-flourishing democratic nation.

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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

Appointment of Ambassador agreed on

YANGON, 8 March — The Government of the Union of Myanmar has accorded agreement to the appointment of Dr Brook Barrington as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of New Zealand to the Union of Myanmar in succession to His Excellency Mr Peter Howard Rider. Dr Brook Barrington will be concurrently accredited to the Union of Myanmar with residence in Bangkok.

Dr Brook Barrington was born on 4 March 1965. After obtaining a Bachelor of Arts and Doctor of Philosophy from Auckland University, he joined the Ministry of External Relations and Trade in 1990 and served in Disarmament Division from 1990 to

1991, in Europe Division from 1991 to 1992 and also in Australia Division from 1992 to 1993. He served as Second Secretary and First Secretary at New Zealand High Commission in Canberra from 1993 to 1997. He served as Executive Assistant to Permanent Secretary at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade from 1997 to 1999, and also served as Counsellor and Deputy Head of Mission at New Zealand Embassy and Mission to the EU, Brussels from 1999 to 2002. Since 2003, he has been serving as International Affairs Advisor to the Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet.

He is married with three children.—MNA

Minister inspects filling stations in Kyaikto, Toungoo

YANGON, 27 March — Minister for Energy Brig-Gen Lun Thi yesterday inspected filling stations under the Myanma Petroleum Products Enterprise in Kyaikto, Mon State and Toungoo, Bago Division.

On his inspection tour, the minister gave instructions on prevention of fire and sufficient supply of fuel to transport vehicles.

On 25 March, Minister Brig-Gen Lun Thi went to the filling station No 0871 in Bilin, Mon State, and also inspected sales of fuel to transport vehicles. — MNA



Minister for Energy Brig-Gen Lun Thi inspects a filling station in Kyaikto, Mon State on 26 March. — ENERGY

61st Anniversary Armed Forces Day Exhibition continues

YANGON, 27 March — The 61st Anniversary Armed Forces Day Exhibition continued at Defence Services Museum on Shwedagon Pagoda Road from 9 am to 5 pm for the second day. It was packed with visitors.

In the Navy booth—naval historic evidences, artillery, historic military watercraft, naval dock, territorial waters of Myanmar coast, arms and ammunition, naval industrial workshop, Navy-used materials, naval

drills and communication and electronic appliances, in the Air Force booth—movements records of Air Force, Air Force-used arms and ammunition, plane engines, aviation electronic, aircraft, air

force's preventive measures for drugs and air strikes and in Directorate of Ordnance Services booth—ammunition, vehicles used in successive eras, artillery history, battles and armours—are on display.

The exhibition is kept open daily from 9 am to 5 pm free of charge. — MNA



People visit the 61st Anniversary Armed Forces Day Exhibition on 27 March 2006. — MNA

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Russia denies envoy gave Iraq intelligence

Moscow, 26 March—Russia on Saturday dismissed a Pentagon report that claimed Russia's ambassador in Baghdad gave intelligence on US military movements to Iraq's government in the opening days of the 2003 US-led invasion.

"Time and again we hear these sorts of groundless accusations against Russian intelligence," the *Interfax* news agency quoted Foreign Intelligence Service (SVR) spokesman Boris Labusov as saying.

"We do not think it necessary to comment on these sorts of insinuations," he told *Interfax*.

The 210-page report by the US military's Joint Forces Command cited an

2 April, 2003, document from the Iraqi minister of foreign affairs to president Saddam Hussein as stating the Russian ambassador to Baghdad had funnelled strategic intelligence on US plans to Saddam's government.

"The intelligence services ... do not involve official diplomatic representatives," *Interfax* also

quoted an unnamed source, close to the intelligence service, as saying. Another Iraqi document, dated March 24, 2003, referred to Russian "sources" inside the US military's Central Command headquarters in Qatar.

The allegations about the actions of Russia were based on captured

documents from an Iraqi government on the verge of being toppled. The report did not present any further documentation of the allegations.

Russian President Vladimir Putin opposed the invasion of Iraq, with which Moscow had long-standing economic ties.

MNA/Reuters



Oldtimer cars drive through the Tiergarten Spreebogen Tunnel on the tunnel's official opening day, 26 March, 2006 in Berlin, Germany. The tunnel, which actually combines four separate tunnels, leads 2.4km through the city centre and cost euro 390 million to build.—INTERNET

2,322 US soldiers killed in Iraq

WASHINGTON, 26 March—As of Sunday, 26 March, 2006, at least 2,322 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 one 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*

Lions escape, people in South African town in fear

JOHANNESBURG, 26 March—Residents in a South African town near the famed Kruger National Park were living in fear after a pride of lions escaped last week, national broadcaster SABC reported on Friday.

The residents in Bushbuckridge, Limpopo Province, said the lions had already devoured cattle belonging to them and they were scared.

"The situation is very terrible. The community members are living with fear as these lions are still around," Calson Magopane, a spokesman for the Dumphries community, told the South African Broadcasting Corporation (SABC).

The provincial department of environmental affairs has so far shot dead five of the lions.

It was believed nine lions were running loose in the area, having allegedly escaped from a private game reserve last week. But officials from the nearby Sabie Sands Game Reserve denied allegations that the lions escaped from their reserve, the SABC said. They alleged the animals could have escaped from the Kruger National Park. —MNA/Xinhua

Mexican Government fines Sheraton Hotel

MEXICO CITY, 26 March —A US-owned hotel that expelled Cuban guests under pressure from the Treasury Department must pay \$112,000 in fines for violating Mexican commerce law, the Mexican government said Friday.



The Sheraton Maria Isabel Hotel, located at Mexico City's Angel of Independence monument, kicked out 16 Cuban officials

attending a 2 Feb meeting with US oil executives after receiving a warning from the Treasury Department that it was in danger of violating a four-decade trade embargo against the regime of Cuban President Fidel Castro.

Mexico's Foreign Relations Department said the hotel violated national commerce laws, which bar companies from discriminating against customers because of their nationality.

Officials at the New York-based Starwood Hotels & Resorts Inc, which owns the hotel, did not return calls

placed after hours on Friday.

The February expulsion provoked an angry response from officials in Havana and Mexican lawmakers who said the United States was interfering in other countries' domestic affairs.

In February, the National Foreign Trade Council, which represents hundreds of US businesses, wrote a letter to Treasury Secretary John Snow urging the department not to continue putting companies in such a difficult position.—*Internet*

US immigration bill sparks protests, Bush plea

LOS ANGELES, 26 March — At least 200,000 mostly Hispanic demonstrators protested in California on Saturday against moves to tighten US immigration laws, while President George W Bush urged wary Republicans to take up his guest-worker proposal.

A boisterous crowd, many wearing the red and green of the Mexican flag, packed the streets in front of Los Angeles City Hall to protest Republican bills



Demonstrators wave signs and flags to show solidarity during a march in Arizona to protest legislation that cracks down against illegal immigrants, on 25 March, 2006. —INTERNET

they say would hurt the estimated 12 million illegal immigrants in the United States.

One, which has already passed the US House of Representatives, would make it a federal crime, instead of a civil offence, for undocumented workers to live in the country and would penalize people who help illegal immigrants. The Senate will take up the immigration issue next week.

Protester Eduardo Sotelo Piolin, a disc jockey with La Nueva radio, said he opposed the tough measures.

"I am one of thousands of people who crossed the border in the trunk of a car because I wanted a better life," he said. "Today I'm a documented worker. But we should respect the people who are not documented and we should not treat them like criminals."

Protest organizers estimated the crowd at 1 million but police spokeswoman Sara Faden put the numbers at 200,000.

Speakers took turns at a podium at the foot of the steps to City Hall, giving speeches mainly in Spanish. A live



Thousands of demonstrators march through the streets of downtown Los Angeles to protest legislation that cracks down against illegal immigrants, on 25 March, 2006. —INTERNET

band with drums, guitars and trumpets played music nearby.

Some demonstrators carried homemade paper signs. One read: "Illegal immigrants are welcome to go to war, but why can't we have a job, home or licence?"

MNA/Xinhua

Singapore's Budget Terminal comes into operation

SINGAPORE, 27 March — Singapore's Budget Terminal, a new dedicated terminal for low cost carriers (LCCs), came into operation at Changi Airport on Sunday, the Civil Aviation Authority of Singapore (CAAS) announced in a Press release.

More than 3,000 passengers arriving and leaving Singapore through the terminal were welcomed with gifts, performances and games throughout the day for the purpose of celebration.

The new terminal is designed to meet the needs and commercial considerations of budget carriers by providing low cost infrastructure and facilities.

Without travellers, escalators and

aerobridges, the one-storey terminal covers an area of 25,000 square metres and comprises two adjacent buildings for departure and arrival respectively.

Having 18 check-in counters, the terminal is able to handle 2.7 million passengers a year at the initial stage and has scope for further expansion to accommodate up to 5 million passengers per annum.

Both the passenger airport tax and the rental

of shops and office space at the Budget Terminal are lower than those at Changi's two other terminals.

However, services and facilities such as money changers, free Internet connection, duty-free and retail shops, food and beverage outlets, as well as free shuttle buses to and from Terminal 2, which is less than two kilometres away, are available.

MNA/Xinhua



A plane belonging to Gambian carrier Slok Air prepares for takeoff at Leopold Sedar Senghor Airport in Dakar, Senegal on Friday, 24 March, 2006.

INTERNET



Analysts say more bankruptcies expected among US auto suppliers

DETROIT, 26 March—More bankruptcies are expected among US auto suppliers which are being squeezed by demands for lower prices for fewer parts as General Motors Corp and Ford Motor Company implement massive restructuring plans, analysts said.

The shakeups among suppliers have placed manufacturers at an increased risk of costly production delays as unions respond to wage

and benefit cuts.

Delphi has warned it will ask a bankruptcy judge to void its contract with the United Auto Workers union if the two parties are unable to reach agreement on wage cuts by 30 March.

The UAW has responded by threatening to strike if the request is granted.

A coalition of unions have also warned Tower

Automotive, which supplies body structures, lower vehicle structures, suspension components and modules for nearly every major automotive manufacturer, that it will strike if a bankruptcy court voids their contracts.

"The next 18 months are to be very tenuous given the financial conditions and the uncertainty in the production schedules," David And-

rea, Vice President of business development for the Original Equipment Suppliers Association said Friday.

"The cost structures are still elevated and the prices pressures are still downward." Ford and GM are expected to cut production by more than two million vehicles as they shutter two dozen facilities over the next six years.—Internet

Belgian artists practise for a performance of 'Flying Angels' during the X Annual International Arts Festival in La Sabana metropolitan park in San Jose, Costa Rica, on 26 March, 2006.

INTERNET

IKEA billionaire founder proud to be frugal at 80

GENEVA, 26 March—IKEA founder Ingvar Kamprad, ranked 4th richest man in the world, drives a 15-year-old car and always flies economy class, in part to inspire his 90,000 employees worldwide to see the virtue of frugality.

The billionaire Swede, who turns 80 on 30 March, explained his legendary habits during a rare television interview in Switzerland, his adoptive home for nearly 30 years.

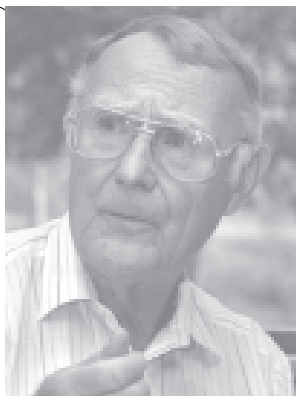
His fortune was recently estimated at \$28 billion by *Forbes* magazine — trailing only Microsoft co-founder Bill Gates, US investor Warren Buffett and Mexican industrialist Carlos Slim.

"People say I am cheap and I don't mind if they do. But I am very proud to follow the rules of our company," Kamprad told French-language Swiss Broadcasting Corporation.

Asked to confirm he drove an old Volvo, he said: "She is nearly new,

Ingvar Kamprad, founder and leader of the Swedish company IKEA, photographed at his company's head office in Almhult.

INTERNET



just 15 years old, or something like that."

Interviewer Darius Rochebin teased that Ikea employees were always told to write on both sides of the paper.

"Why not? If there is such a thing as good

leadership, it is to give a good example. I have to do so for all the Ikea employees," Kamprad retorted.

IKEA is the world's biggest furniture retailer, with 202 stores in 32 countries.—Internet

Foundation for world largest underground substation laid in Shanghai

SHANGHAI, 26 March — East China's commercial hub Shanghai started Thursday to build a multi-voltage 500-kilovolt underground single-ended substation, which is expected to be the world largest when completed.

This marks the prelude to the State Grid Corporation of China's 67.2-billion-yuan (8.4-billion-US-dollar) investment to Shanghai power grid construction in the next five

years, said Liu Zhenya, general manager of the corporation at the launching ceremony of the project.

The substation will be equipped with three 500-kilovolt main transformers

and three 220-kilovolt transformers and is planned to be up and running in 2009.

Liu said it will be the first large-scale substation seen in Shanghai's urban area and it is also going to be the world's largest and most advanced substation which is completely underground.

A sculpture park will be built above the substation. Liu said the substation is built to meet the increasing demand for power of the metropolis, especially in 2010 when the World Exposition is held here. By then the entire power consumption in Shanghai will reach 125 billion kilowatts-hour with the maximum power load of 26 million kilowatts, the corporation estimates.

MNA/Xinhua

US soldier, seven Talebans killed in Afghan battle

KANDAHAR, 26 March — US and Afghan Government troops attacked a group of Taleban on Saturday and seven of the insurgents and one American were killed, an Afghan commander said.

Afghanistan has seen a surge in attacks by Taleban and their militant allies in recent months and the Taleban have vowed to launch a spring offensive against US-led foreign forces and the Western-backed government.

Fighting erupted after US troops backed by helicopter gunships and jets launched an operation in the Sangin District of the southern province of Helmand, after being tipped-off about the presence of Taleban in a village, police said. — MNA/Reuters

Senior General Than Shwe and wife Daw Kyaing Kyaing...

(from page 16)

(Air) Lt-Gen Myat Hein cordially greeted foreign military attaches' to Myanmar and their wives and guests attending the dinner.

Afterwards, Senior General Than Shwe and wife Daw Kyaing Kyaing hosted the dinner to the attendance.

Present at the dinner were Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and wife Daw Mya Mya San, General Thura Shwe Mann and wife Daw Khin Lay Thet, Prime Minister General Soe Win and wife Daw Than Than Nwe, Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein and wife Daw Khin Khin Win, members of SPDC and wives, Commander-in-Chief (Navy) Vice-Admiral Soe Thein and wife, Commander-in-Chief (Air) Lt-Gen Myat Hein and wife, ministers, the chief justice, the attorney-general, the auditor-general, the chairman of Civil Service Selection and Training Board, senior military officers and wives, the parade commander and column commanders, foreign military attaches' to Myanmar and wives, officials of SPDC's office and the ministries, foreign and local journalists, delegates to social



organizations, artistes and guests.

Before and after the dinner, the guests were entertained with songs by artistes. — MNA

Senior General Than Shwe greets guests at the dinner.—MNA

Thousands of people accord rousing welcome to parade columns of 61st Anniversary Armed Forces Day

NAYPYIDAW, 27 March — Tatmadawmen of Anawrahta, Kyansittha, Bayintnaung, Aungzeya, Sinbyushin, Maha Bandoola and Myawady columns, members of Myanmar Police Force, Fire Bridgade and Red

State Peace and Development Council Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Than Shwe and family members, Daw Mya Mya San, wife of Vice-Chairman of the State Peace and Develop-

Prime Minister General Soe Win, Daw Khin Khin Win, wife of Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Adjutant General Lt-Gen Thein Sein, high-ranking officers of the Ministry of Defence,



Daw Kyaing Kyaing, wife of Senior General Than Shwe, garlands a Tatmadawman of a parade column.—MNA

en's Affairs Organization, Veterans Organization and social organizations, sons and policemen, Maternal and Child Welfare Association, War families of military personnel, nurses, teachers and students. — MNA



Daw Mya Mya San, wife of Vice-Senior General Maung Aye, garlands a Tatmadawman of a parade column.—MNA

Cross Society led by Parade Commander Brigadier Commander-in-Chief of senior military officers along with thousands of



Daw Khin Lay Thet, wife of General Thura Shwe Mann, garlands a Tatmadawman of a parade column. MNA

Daw Than Than Nwe, wife of Prime Minister General Soe Win, garlands a Tatmadawman of a parade column. MNA



Daw Khin Khin Win, wife of Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein, garlands a Tatmadawman of a parade column. MNA

Gen Thet Naing Win marched to the parade ground to the 61st Anniversary Armed Forces Day for 2006 this morning.

Daw Kyaing Kyaing, wife of Chairman of the

Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) Vice-Senior General Maung Aye, Daw Khin Lay Thet, wife of General Thura Shwe Mann of the Ministry of Defence, Daw Than Than Nwe, wife of

people accorded a rousing welcome to the parade columns and so did service personnel from the ministries of Naypyidaw City, members of Union Solidarity and Development Association, Wom-

Honouring the 61st Anniversary Armed Forces Day:

Development of infrastructures in the time of Tatmadaw government

Thiha Aung

Peace and stability of the State, economic development of the State and development of human resources are indispensable in building a peaceful, modern, developed and discipline-flourishing democratic nation.

The Tatmadaw had to assume the State's responsibilities on 18 September 1988 according to the demand of history. It then strove for prevalence of law and order and ensuring peace and stability in the nation, upholding Our Three Main National Causes. It concentrated on national development projects.

It was the period of economic slump in the nation when the Tatmadaw assumed the State's responsibilities. It is known to all that nearly all the development infrastructures including factories and mills were destroyed by unscrupulous destructive elements. The network of transport was cut and all the machinery of the State were brought to a halt. As there had been annual economic slowdown since 1986, the GDP in 1988-1989 fiscal year hit the lowest record.

To overcome such a crisis, efforts were made day in, day out by the Tatmadaw. As a result, progress has been made to such an extent that an average of economic development was achieved up to 10.7 per cent yearly in the present five-year short-term plan (2001-2002 to 2005-2006).

The objectives of the third five-year short-term plan are:

- to set up more industries based on agriculture
- to ensure development of electric power and energy sectors in conformity with extended establishment of industries
- to exert greater efforts for self-sufficiency in agricultural sector and fish & meat sector and to strive for export
- to strive for all-round development of other sectors
- to put more energy in education and health sectors for development of human resources
- to ensure rural development

Despite the hindrances and difficulties created by internal and external destructive elements, unprecedented progress has been made in all spheres owing to integrated and well-coordinated efforts of the State, the people and the Tatmadaw during the period of more than 17 years.

Education sector

All-out efforts are being made for development of the education sector. Regarding this, altogether 4,630 primary schools, 908 middle schools and 1240 high schools were opened in the education sector in which more than 70,000 basic education teachers were appointed. So, there are additional 2.5 million students. Likewise, the number of universities and colleges has increased to 156, up from 26 in 1988. The number of students at higher learning institutions has increased several times that in 1988.

In 1988, higher learning institutions were able to conduct Master's degree courses only but now, they are able to conduct Master's degree and doctorate degree courses. The literacy rate in Myanmar has now increased to 94.1 per cent, up from 79.7 percent.

Science and Technology Sector

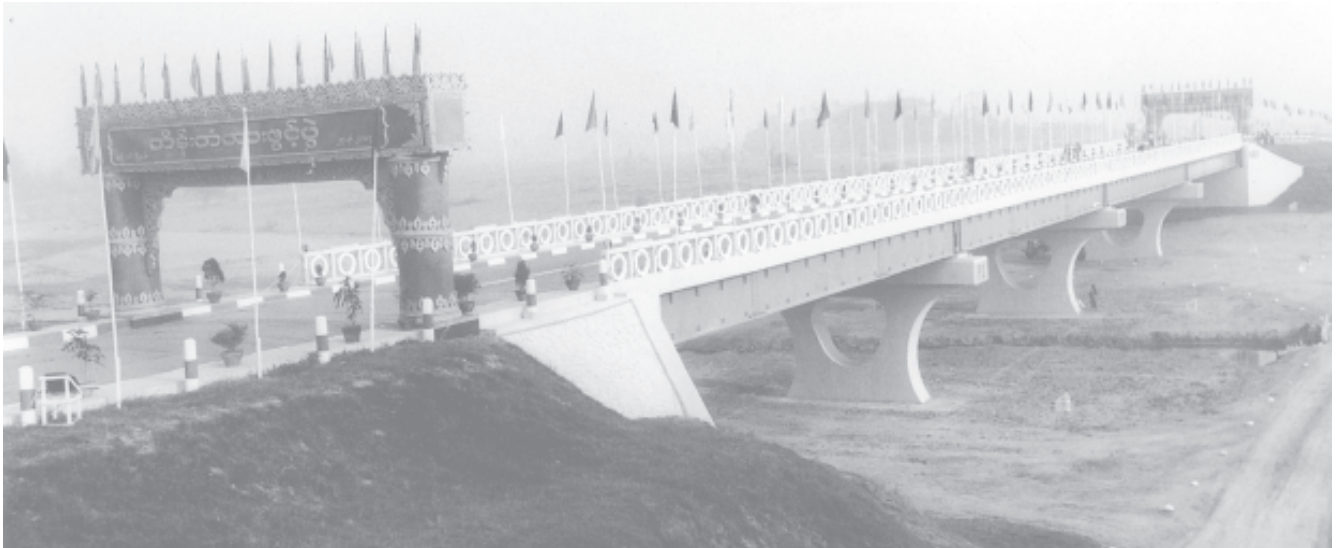
With a view to enabling the youth to pursue subject-wise knowledge on science and technology, 24 special development regions were designated in all parts of the nation. In doing so, each of the regions has one Government Technological College and one Government Computer College. There were only one technological university and one computer university the whole country in 1988. At present, six technological universities, two computer universities, one Myanmar Aerospace Engineering University, 27 Government Technological Colleges and 24 Government Computer Colleges have been opened, and over 140,000 graduates were produced from these universities and colleges.

Health Sector

In the time of the Tatmadaw Government, 'Uplift of health, fitness and education standards of the entire nation', one of the four social objectives, has been laid down and is being implemented. The Government is providing health care services for the people throughout the nation. So far, over 40,000 health staff have been appointed at 824 hospitals

(See page 7)

Nation will be strong only when Tatmadaw is strong.



Tein Bridge built by Tatmadawmen seen on Monywa-Yagyi-Kalaywa Road in Mingin Township Sagaing Division.— MNA

Honouring the 61st Anniversary Armed Forces Day:**Development of infrastructures in the time of Tatmadaw government***Thiha Aung**(from page 6)*

and 3,808 health care centres. Regarding the medical education facility, though there were only four institutes of medicine in the past, now there are 17 institutes. Due to promotion of health, life expectancy of the people has risen. Concerning the achievement in the health sector, smallpox, polio and leprosy have been eliminated in Myanmar.

Communications Sector

To be able to upgrade communication and relations among the national people, Myanmar has established its communication facilities through cellular telephone system, CDMA telephone system, and GSM telephone system with the international communication network by applying the information and communication technologies. Furthermore, Data Communication, e-mail, Internet and Intranet have been facilitated in all sectors for ensuring development of information and communication technology. Therefore, there are 155 microwave stations and 15 satellite communication stations extra compared with those in 1988 the length and breadth of the nation.

Industrial Sector

The Government is building the nation to become an agro-based industrialized country. Moreover, it is enhancing capabilities of the State-owned industries so as to strengthen the economy based on modern industries. To promote region-wise industries and to create more jobs, the Government had permitted to set up and 8,463 factories and workshops at 18 industrial zones in private sector in all parts of the nation. Hence, 202

In 1988, people consumed over 1,500 million units of electricity. At present, the power consumption rises to about 4,000 million units.

State-owned factories and workshops and 15,835 private-run ones had been extended to date compared with those in 1988. With the aim of disseminating industrial technology, creating more job opportunities, and developing the respective regions, these production facilities are set up in the areas where raw materials are available.

Electric Power Sector

Zealous efforts are being made not only to meet the local power consumption but also to ensure the surplus. In 1988, people consumed over 1,500 million units of electricity. At present, the power consumption rises to about 4,000 million units. As part of the plan for supplying more electricity, 30 hydel power plants and eight power

stations were built. A total of 12 hydel power projects are being implemented and eight more projects are in the planning stage for ensuring local power sufficiency of the nation. Upon completion of the 12 projects including a 790-megawatt-capacity project being implemented in Mandalay Division, more than 2,000 megawatts will be added to the present power supply.

Energy Sector

To fulfil the need of energy sector in building modern and developed nation, the exploration and production of oil and natural gas were carried out on self-reliance in the past 10 years and cooperation with overseas oil companies was also made. In cooperation with foreign companies in the inland and offshore blocks, the success has been achieved and production of natural gas has been now up to 325,226 million cubic feet.

Transport Sector

Motor roads, bridges, railroads and jetty development measures including the extension and renovation of airports have been taken with momentum. Spending enormous amount of money, the network of roads was constructed for smooth transport in the State. In the past, the transport link between lower and upper Myanmar mainly existed on the east bank of Ayeyawady River running north and south. At present, extension of motor and rail roads was carried out to link up all regions in the nation. Wherever necessary, large bridges across rivers were built. Thus, the motor roads with the length of 13,635 miles in 1988 have increased to 1,8,640 miles to date.

There were 189 bridges which are over 180 feet and above and now 213 major bridges have been built in 17 years. Moreover, 1,100 miles of new railroads were built and there are 3,069.96 miles of railroads nationwide. Before 1988 there were four bridges on the Ayeyawady, Chindwin, Sittaung and Thanlwin Rivers, the major rivers in Myanmar. Seventeen more bridges were built and two are under construction. There were only six airfields where jets could land before 1988 and now there are 20. In water transport, jetties and container yards were constructed and 26 vessels are in operation for coastal and overseas transport.

Rural and urban development sector

With the development of transport sector in the country, urban and rural development tasks were implemented. There were 2,971 miles of urban roads in 1988 and now there are 5,386 miles. The rural roads increased from 3,939 miles to nearly 20,000 miles with the implementation of the rural development project. Altogether 20,000 tasks were undertaken for supplying pure drinking water in cooperation with the wellwishers.

Agriculture sector

For the progress of national economic life with greater momentum, the government laid down the

national economic policy to contribute to the development of agriculture as the base and all-round development of other sectors of the economy as well.

The government implemented the tasks on increasing the cultivation acreage of paddy, the staple crop of the country, use of modern cultivation methods and quality strains and availability of water for agricultural purpose. In 1988 the country produced 654 million baskets of paddy a year. Besides monsoon paddy, the government made efforts to introduce summer paddy in order to reach the production of 1,200 million baskets a year.

Dams, reservoirs, sluice gates and river water pumping stations were built for availability of water and underground water tapping projects plus hydro-electric power projects were implemented. Altogether 184 dam projects and 293 river water pumping stations have been implemented since 1988. As a result, cultivation acreage increased up to nearly three million. Efforts were made for inauguration of one bridge every month and 12 dams a year. The 4.5 mile long Thaphanseik Dam is the longest earth dam in South East Asia. The net cultivation acreage was only 19.51 million in the past and now it has increased to 26.89 million. The government is also endeavouring for emergence of large plantations of paddy, industrial crops, beans and pulses, oil and perennial crops and kitchen crops in every possible region. It is the State's agricultural policy for food sufficiency for the forthcoming 100 million people.

Fish and meat sector

The government laid emphasis on development of fish and meat sector, the most promising one, according to the geographical conditions. Fish and meat production and fisheries increase in the State-owned and private-owned sectors. Fish and prawn breeding acreage has also increased to 164,000.

Forestry sector

Over 52 per cent of the area of Myanmar are covered with forests and valuable hardwood including teak and bamboo of different kinds grow in Myanma forests. There are more than 20,000 square miles of protected public forests and protected areas and 10,000 square miles of natural forest areas due to forest conservation, cultivation of plantations and arid zone greening project. There are 1.15 million acres of forest plantations. Wood-based industries were established and increased production of value-added forest products began.

After taking up the State duties as required by the Myanma historical events, the Tatmadaw is making endeavours for all-round development in every sector. Hence, everyone can see better foundations being created in every region and every sector throughout the country.

Translation: TS+TTA+NTL+NY*Kyemon: 27-3-2006*



Senior General Than Shwe inspects the parade columns during 61st Anniversary Armed Forces Day ceremony at the Parade Ground of Naypyidaw City on 27 March, 2006. — MNA

Seven-step Road Map implemented to establish...

(from page 1)

on that day, I would like to solemnly inform you of matters of importance.

Comrades,

Our Tatmadaw is an indispensable patriotic Tatmadaw which was ini-

ruled the mountainous border areas with existing administrative system as they realized that there existed less economic opportunity in these areas. They only collected tax from the ar-

out that all the national races must always preserve the spirit of national unity as patriotic spirit.

Comrades,

All the national races which descended from our ancestors coming to live in this nation since millions of years ago are analogous to a hundred fruits bearing from a twig.

Nowadays, the leaders of ASEAN, which consists of ten nations, have laid down farsightedly the principle of one vision, one character and one society. Likewise, our national races who live in the same land sharing the same water would wholeheartedly love the Union and stay together harmoniously.

Comrades,

Now the entire people are striving energetically hand-in-hand with the Tatmadaw for the

emergence of a peaceful, modern, developed and discipline-flourishing democratic nation.

The stability of State, community peace and tranquility, prevalence of law and order, uplifting of education standard and standard of living of people are essential for the multi-party democratic system.

The Tatmadaw, for these reasons, strive consistently for the prevalence of peace and stability and for the prevalence of law and order in the country. Likewise, the Tatmadaw has made speedy and strenuous efforts to build infrastructure for agriculture, industrial and services sectors in order to uplift the annual income and standard of living of the entire people.

(See page 9)

Excerpts from address of Senior General Than Shwe

- * to strive hand in hand with the people for the emergence of a peaceful, modern, developed and discipline-flourishing democratic nation.
- * to fulfil any duty for the successful implementation of the seven-point Road Map.
- * to fight every danger of the country together with the entire people.
- * to work energetically toward building a strong efficient modern Tatmadaw capable of safeguarding Our Three Main National Causes.



Military parade columns marching on the 61st Anniversary Armed Forces Day in Naypyidaw City on 27 March, 2006. — MNA

tially formed during the period of struggle for independence. As the Tatmadaw conquered the fascists of its own decision, our patriotism had to be recognized by the colonialists.

Comrades,

Since the time of colonialists occupation of Myanmar, they had practised the method of divide and rule among the national races. Upon re-entering the country, they sowed seeds of discord among national races of mountainous border areas as they had to consider granting of independence to the country.

as. The colonialists as well as the feudalists preferred to rule the areas by proxy administration. When Myanmar was about to regain the independence, colonialists openly sowed discord among the national races. That is why the 1947 Constitution had many loopholes and weaknesses. Therefore, the Patriotic Tatmadaw had upheld the spirit of national unity and laid down the national policy of non-disintegration of the Union, non-disintegration of national unity in order to perpetuate the sovereignty.

I would like to point



Parade columns enter Parade Ground at Naypyidaw City during 61st Anniversary Armed Forces Day on 27 March, 2006. — MNA

Seven-step Road Map implemented to establish...

(from page 8)

Firstly, for the development of border areas and national races which lagged behind in development, large amount of funds have been allocated. Secondly, the 24 special development zones have been designated. Thirdly, the five rural development tasks have been carried out. These endeavours aimed not only for the development of entire national races but also for the future generations.

Comrades,

In a multi-party system, only when there is prevalence of law and order the dangers of violence can be averted; only when the national races can enjoy food, clothing and shelter, fraudulent bribery by money can be overcome and only through attainment of higher



General Thura Shwe Mann, Prime Minister General Soe Win, Secretary-1 Adjutant General Lt-Gen Thein Sein and senior military officers attend 61st Anniversary Armed Forces Day Parade.—MNA

ment as the infrastructure needed for development has been built almost to the fullest capacity every where and in every region of the nation. We are now implementing the 7-step road map to estab-

economic system the country practices, prevalence of peace and tranquility, prevalence of national sovereignty and security of life and property of the people are the requisites of a State.

Bayint Naung and Alaung Phaya U Aung Zeya.

Comrades,

Among the three capabilities required of a country such as political capability, economic capabil-

ties are, duty to defend the nation, duty to undergo training and the duty to serve the interests of the people. In order to perform well these duties, we need to constantly fulfil the Ten Strengths of the Tatmadaw such as loyalty, obedience, strong morale and perseverance, good discipline, being well-trained, possessing brilliant skill, healthiness and fitness, having esprit de corps, making sacrifices and endeavouring to meet the aim with strong determination.

In addition, in order to be a good member of the Tatmadaw one has to practise the codes of conduct of soldiers comprising 60 in number which are like the law. The first of the 60 tenets places emphasis on the loyalty that the Tatmadaw places on the State. Moreover, by looking at the ten principles for dealing with the people, such as, loyalty to the people, protection of life, property and wealth of people, having courteous relations with people, behaving like "water and moon", keeping foremost in mind the interests of people, giving priority to people, not taking more opportunity for oneself, keeping people feel happy and satisfied in what-

ever is done for them or whatever is being asked to be done, respect for religion, belief, culture and traditions of people, it is clear and evident that the sentiments of the Tatmadaw towards the people are noble. I would like to ask comrades who belong to the patriotic Tatmadaw to firmly safeguard these noble principles as one would keep the *pasoe* firmly to one's waist.

Comrades,

In conclusion I would like to urge you to spare no efforts to fully implement the following objectives of the 61st Anniversary Armed Forces Day:

- to strive hand in hand with the people for the emergence of a peaceful, modern, developed and discipline-flourishing democratic nation,
- to fulfil any duty for the successful implementation of the seven-point Road Map,
- to fight every danger of the country together with the entire people,
- to work energetically toward building a strong efficient modern Tatmadaw capable of safeguarding Our Three Main National Causes.—MNA



Prime Minister General Soe Win and Secretary-1 Adjutant General Lt-Gen Thein Sein greet military attachés at the 61st Anniversary Armed Forces Day Parade.—MNA

standard of education can trickery be avoided. Today, the Tatmadaw and the people are striving together for the emergence of a democratic state and these are tasks which need time for implementation.

Today, the nation is well on its way to develop-

lish a genuine democratic state. We have also conceived of a plan so that our people can avoid in the future the dangers of facing a perilous situation of the country to the extent of its annihilation.

I would like to state that whatever political or

In order to ward off any danger befalling the country, our Tatmadaw, together with the people, must be strong, efficient, patriotic and modern. Our Tatmadaw should be a worthy heir to the traditions of the capable Tatmadaws established by noble Kings Anawarahta,

ity and defence capability, the main of the Tatmadaw, as well as, that of the citizens is the high defence capability. In order to enjoy higher political and economic capabilities, the patriotic Tatmadaw must render its assistance through its participation. Our three main du-

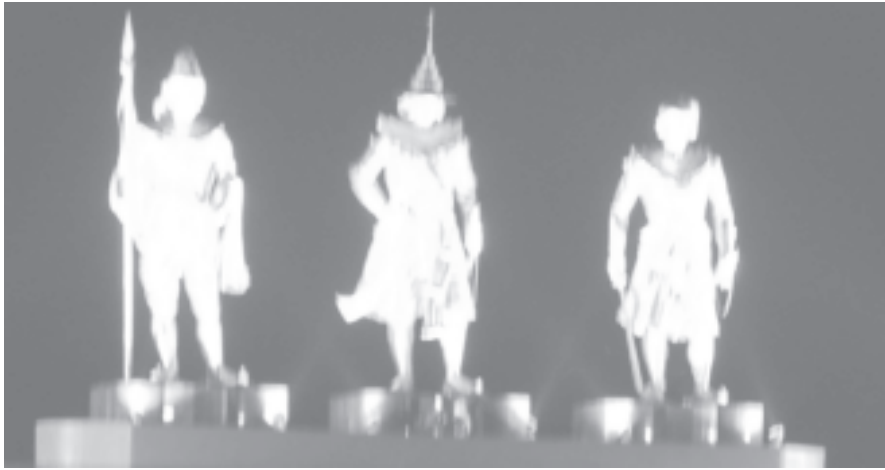


Local and foreign journalists attend the 61st Anniversary Armed Forces Day Parade.—MNA



Military attachés attend the 61st Anniversary Armed Forces Day Parade.

MNA



Colourful lights seen at Military Parade Ground of Naypyidaw City, where the 61st Anniversary Armed Forces Day Parade was held.—MNA

Senior General Than Shwe addresses...

(from page 16)

Organization, Maternal and Child Welfare Association, Myanmar War Veterans Organization and social organizations, nurses, members of Fire Brigade, Red Cross Society, winners of respective competitions to mark the 61st Anniversary Armed Forces Day, local and foreign journalists and invited guests.

Members of the parade columns took their

Anawrahta Column led by Maj Thet Win and the military band led by Sgt Kyaw Zeyar Win of the Central Command.

Column Commander Col Htin Zaw Win ushered Anawrahta Column, together with Commanding Officer Lt-Col Thein Tun Aung, which was made up of Guard of Honour of Directorate of Artillery and Armour led by Maj Zaw Tun Oo, the company led by Maj

manding Officer of Kyansittha Column Lt-Col Khin Maung Hsan, the company led by Maj Aung Myo Myint representing Directorate of Defence Industries, company led by Maj Htay Lwin representing Triangle Region Command, company led by Maj Soe Nyunt representing Western Command, Company-3 led by Maj Myint Wai representing Northern Command and com-

(Army, Navy and Air) of Bayintnaung Column led by Maj Ye Naing Tun and the military band led by WO II Han Tun of Tatmadaw (Navy) ushered the column comprising Column Commander Captain Aung Zaw Win (Navy), Guard of Honour of Bayintnaung Column led by Lt-Cdr Win Htin Aung representing Office of the Commander-in-Chief (Navy), Commanding Officer of Bayintnaung Column Cdr Kyaw Thu, the company led by Maj San Dun Phyu representing North East Command, company led by Maj Htein Lin representing North West Command, company led by Maj Han Win Aung representing No-77 Light Infantry Division, Company-2 led by Maj Nay Lin Tun representing Northern Command and company-2 led by Maj Myo Thant Zin representing Western Command.

The standard bearers of flags of Tatmadaw

Soldier son of the people

* With the land waxing gold
And the gold plant baring the truth
Golden blooms have blossomed.

* With the wild winds
Wrapping all the anger they can
How much havoc can the rains play
Stalwaty the mind can withstand.
“ If there's an impediment, will kick it
If there's a tiger, let it bite
In crushing the wicked enemy
Won't give up if only the hull is left"
Zeal and tenacity will outshine
When summer and the next season blend
In time to display the blooms.

* Soldier son of the people
Emerald hue mixed with gold.
Martial songs sung in harmony
Crimson victory flags red as red can be.

* O, with the eugenia sprigs
In hand with the fragrant mixture
Blooms like the sabei and gamone
The prettiest and daintiest damsels
With affection they greet the soldiers
They hand these and welcome them
Who can stake claim to this land
Who will be able to match their prettiness
Because glory had taken the golden hue
This world, under this sky
Myanmar is the prettiest nation
Wrote this verse to anoint it
While summer's dawn is
Sprinkled with gold dust
Well, the noble flower
Gets its due place.

Khun Ye Thuai (Ayethayar) (Trs)
Honouring the 61st Anniversary Armed Forces Day



Tatmadawmen seen marching at the 61st Anniversary Armed Forces Day.—MNA

designated places at the assembly area at 5 am to march towards the Parade Ground. At 5.30 am, Parade Adjutant Lt-Col Thant Zin presented the seven parade columns to Parade Commander Brig-Gen Thet Naing Win. The bag-pipe platoon led by Sgt Kyaw Naing Oo marched to the Parade Ground in advance and took the designated places.

Next, the Guard of Honour and the Central Military Band led by Sgt Myat Kyaw Thu took the designated places.

Parade Commander Brig-Gen Thet Naing Win led the military columns, followed by Parade Adjutant Lt-Col Thant Zin, the standard bearers of Union Flag and flags of Tatmadaw (Army, Navy and Air) of

Maung Kyi representing Directorate of Supply and Transport, the company led by Maj Soe Naing Tun representing Northern Command, the company led by Maj Aung Myat Oo representing Southern Command and Company-2 led by Maj Zaw Zaw Aung representing Triangle Region Command.

The standard bearers of flags of Tatmadaw (Army, Navy and Air) of Kyansittha Column led by Maj Myo Htut and the military band led by Cpl Min Naing of the South East Command ushered the column comprising Column Commander Col Khin Maung Oo, Guard of Honour of Kyansittha Column led by Maj Hla Myo representing Directorate of Artillery, Com-

pany-2 led by Maj Nay Tun representing South East Command.

The standard bearers of flags of Tatmadaw

(Army, Navy and Air) of Aungzeya Column led by Maj Myint Naing and the military band led by Sgt Tun Aung of No-77 LID ushered the column comprising Column Commander Col Khin Maung Win, Guard of Honour of Aungzeya Column led by Maj Min Kyain Hsan representing Directorate of Medical Services, Commanding Officer of Aungzeya Column Lt-Col Tun Tun Nyi, the company led by Maj Ba Oo representing Directorate of Signals, company led by Maj Naing Naing Oo rep-

resenting Eastern Command, company-3 led by Maj Ye Kyaw Kyaw representing Western Command and Company led by Maj Ye Lwin Oo representing N0-99 LID.

The standard bearers of flags of Tatmadaw (Army, Navy and Air) of Hsinbyushin Column led by Maj Zaw Win Tun and the military band led by Sgt Ko Ko Aung of Tatmadaw (Air) ushered the column comprising Column Commander Col Oo Kyaw, Guard of Honour of Hsinbyushin

(See page 11)



Tatmadawmen seen marching at the 61st Anniversary Armed Forces Day.—MNA



Dignitaries seen at the 61st Anniversary Armed Forces Day Parade. — MNA

Senior General Than Shwe addresses 61st Anniversary ...

(from page 10)

Column led by Maj Zaw Myo representing Office of the Commander-in-Chief (Air), Commanding Officer of Hsinbyushin Column Lt-Col

by Maj Soe Min Tun representing Yangon Command, Commanding Officer of Bandoola Column Lt-Col Thant Zaw, the company led by Maj Zaw Naing Oo represent-

Thant representing MPF, Commanding Officer of Myawady Column Lt-Col Than Lwin Myint, the company led by Assistant Director Ye Bala Thaug Hteik represent-

Tatmadawmen, MPF members, Fire Brigade and Red Cross Brigade members, family members of Naypyidaw Station, members of USDA, WAO, MCWA, MWVO,

of the State Peace and Development Council Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Than Shwe, accompanied by Member of the State Peace and Development Council General Thura Shwe Mann, arrived at the Parade Ground in Naypyidaw City where he was welcomed and ushered to the dais by Chairman of the Leading Committee for Observance of the 61st Anniversary Armed Forces Day Chief of Armed Forces Training Lt-Gen Aung Htwe.

After Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Than Shwe had taken position on the dais, the columns saluted him. Next, Parade Commander Brig-Gen Thet Naing Win presented the columns to Senior General Than Shwe.

Afterwards, Chairman

After paying tribute to the fallen leaders and members of the Tatmadaw, the columns members took the four oaths.

Next, Senior General Than Shwe delivered an address. (The address is reported separately.)

Afterwards, the parade commander sought the permission of the Senior General to march past him.

Next, the columns led by Parade Commander Brig-Gen Thet Naing Win marched past the Senior General and left the Parade Ground for the assembly area.

Afterwards, Senior General Than Shwe left there and the 61st Anniversary Armed Forces Day parade ended at 8.10 am.

The entrance to the parade ground was decorated with archway of resistance star and batch of Tatmadaw (Army, Navy and Air). To the east of



Tatmadawmen seen marching at the 61st Anniversary Armed Forces Day Parade. — MNA



Tatmadawmen seen marching at the 61st Anniversary Armed Forces Day Parade. — MNA

Than Naing Oo, the company led by Maj Htin Latt Oo representing Triangle Region Command, company led by Maj Myo Naing representing South East Command, company led by Maj Zaw Myo Htut representing No-11 Light Infantry Division, company-2 led by Maj Khaing Min representing Eastern Command and company-2 led by Maj Kyaw Swa Maung representing North East Command.

The standard bearers of flags of Tatmadaw (Army, Navy and Air) of Bandoola Column led by Maj Thet Naing and the military band led by WO Htay Win of No-4 Basic Military Training Depot ushered the columns comprising Column Commander Col Myo Myint, Guard of Honour of Bandoola Column led

ing Directorate of Military Engineers, company led by Maj Ye Htut representing Central Command, company led by Maj Tin Maung Cho representing Office of the Chief of Military Industries, company-2 led by Maj Han Thu representing Coastal Region Command and company-3 led by Maj Myo Zaw representing Triangle Region Command.

The standard bearers of flags of Myanmar Police Force, Fire Brigade and Red Cross Society of Myawady Column led by Police Major Soe Aung and the band led by Police Cpl Zar Ni Oo of Myanmar Police Force ushered the columns comprising Column Commander Col Nay Win, Guard of Honour of Myawady Column led by Police Major Zaw Min

ing Fire Brigade, company led by Deputy Commanding Officer Thein Zaw representing Red Cross Society, company led by Maj Kyaw Tun Lin representing South West Command and company led by Maj Ye Naing representing Directorate of Electrical and Mechanical Engineers.

Singing military songs, the parade columns comprising 11705 members of Tatmadaw, MPF, Fire Brigade and Red Cross marched toward the Parade Ground.

Along the route, the marching columns were accorded a rousing welcome by the families of the Camp Commandant's Office and Directorates of the Ministry of Defence, service personnel of the respective ministries of Naypyidaw City,

Red Cross, Fire Brigade, nurses, teachers, students and local people who waved the miniature flags, presented flowers and garlands to the parade members.

The columns took their designated places at 6.50 am.

At 7.10 am, Chairman

of the State Peace and Development Council Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Than Shwe inspected the columns by car.

The Central Military Band played the National Anthem while those present saluted the Flag of the Union of Myanmar.

the ground were the statues of King Anawrahta, King Bayintnaung and King Alaung Phaya.

Various billboards with mottoes of the Tatmadaw and flags of the Tatmadaw were erected and the parade ground was illuminated.

MNA



Parade Ground of the 61st Anniversary Armed Forces Day illuminated.— MNA

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Egyptian investigators blame technical failure for 2004 air crash

CAIRO, 26 March—Egyptian investigators on Saturday issued a final report on a 2004 air crash in the Red Sea resort of Sharm el-Sheikh, saying that technical failures were the main cause for the disaster.

The report also concluded that the pilot suffered from "spatial disorientation" before the air crash, which killed all 148 people on board, most of them were French tourists.

MNA/Xinhua

Strong quake jolts south Iran, no damage reported

TEHERAN, 26 March—An earthquake measuring 6.0 hit Iran's southern province of Hormuzgan on Saturday but there were no reports of casualties or damage, the official IRNA news agency reported.

IRNA said the quake shook areas near the Gulf island of Qeshm off Iran's south coast at 10.58 a.m. (0728 GMT). Qeshm is the biggest island in the Gulf and is a free-trade zone with a population of about 120,000.

MNA/Reuters

Safe water in Dhaka to cost \$8b in 20 years

DHAKA, 26 March — The estimated cost of solving the problems of safe water delivery and sewerage system in the Bangladesh capital will range up to 8 billion US dollars over the next 20 years, according to the World Bank.

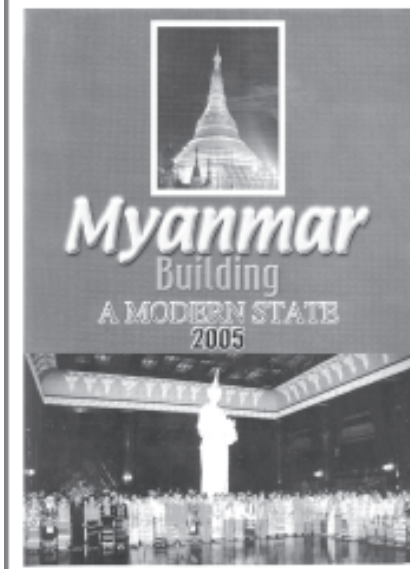
"Delivering safe water and a sewerage system to Dhaka alone poses a major challenge as the population of the city is expected to grow from 9 million in 2000 to 30 million in 2025 and 50 million by 2050 to become one of the world's mega cities," the World Bank has said in a recent report.

The report, an official with the Bank told Xinhua Saturday, noted that about 70 per cent of the population is served by the main public water supply system, while the rest of the population, mainly the poor and disadvantaged,

are dependent on local sources, many of which are unreliable and increasingly polluted.

Besides, the city's sewerage system covers only 27 per cent of the population, and pollution further exacerbates water shortages and results in disease, malnutrition, higher medical costs and lost income, according to the report.

MNA/Xinhua



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El Salvador turtles die-off linked to "Red Tide"

JOHANNESBURG, 26 March—A lethal algal bloom dubbed "Red Tide" by scientists caused a mysterious mass die-off of sea turtles on the Pacific shores of El Salvador, a US conservation group said on Friday. "A 'Red Tide' event that occurred off the coast of El Salvador late last year directly caused the deaths of some 200 sea turtles," the New York-based Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS) said in a statement.

WCS said the cause of death was revealed by tests on tissue samples from the dead reptiles, which were mostly olive ridley turtles but also included green and hawksbill turtles. All are considered to be endangered.

It said the tests showed traces of "saxitoxin, which is produced by the species of algae and sea plankton that cause the phenomenon known as 'Red Tide'".

The deaths were reported in January but had initially baffled scientists.

"Red Tide events have become increasingly common around the world, causing significant impacts on wild marine animal populations, massive economic losses to shellfish producers, and occasionally human deaths," WCS said.

"While the algal blooms are a natural occurrence, human wastes such as run-off containing fertilizers and sewage from urban areas have been postulated as triggers for these events." —MNA/Reuters

14 fishermen missing in southern Pakistan

ISLAMABAD, 26 March —A group of 14 fishermen were missing after a boat capsized in the sea off southern Pakistan, officials said Saturday.

The boat was ferrying 14 fishermen when it was believed to have sunk at the Charna Bay off the

southern Pakistani port of Karachi on Friday night, according to Nasir Buner, a senior official of the Security Fisheries.

"Two fishermen have been recovered while the others are still missing," he said, adding "we have sought the help of Pakistan

Navy divers for the search of the missing men". "The missing people are feared to have drowned," he said.

The accident happened in a remote area and information is being collected from those recovered, he said, adding that investigation was underway about the causes.

Besides fishermen, the people living on the Indus

River Delta in southern Pakistan rely on boats for travel between isolated villages and towns, sailing out from the coast and into the Arabian Sea.

Many of the poorly maintained vessels are often overcrowded due to a shortage of boats, particularly on religious holidays and weekends.

MNA/Xinhua



Men in hazardous materials suits search a train during a terror attack simulation in New York, on 26 March, 2006. The exercise, which included approximately 1,500 first responders and more than 20 city, state and federal agencies, simulated an explosion on a freight train that affected a nearby passenger train. A hazardous materials element was also part of the drill.—INTERNET

Four killed in residential area attack in Iraq

BAGHDAD, 26 March—Four civilians were killed and 13 others wounded when guerillas shelled a town near Baghdad on Saturday, an Interior Ministry source told Xinhua. "A number of mortar rounds landed on a residential area in Mahmoudiya Town, killing four civilians and wounding 13 others," the source said on condition of anonymity. Several houses were damaged in the attack, the source added.—MNA/Xinhua

ပညာရေးနှင့် ခေတ်ပီပွဲပြိုင်တိုးတက်သော နိုင်ငံတော်ကြီး တည်ဆောက်ဖို့

NASA lifts spacewalk ban for space station crew

CAPE CANAVERAL, (Florida), 26 March — NASA lifted its ban on spacewalks from the International Space Station following ground tests of suspect safety equipment, a spokeswoman said on Friday.

Engineers were concerned that metal handrails on the outside of the station's US components may fail due to a possible manufacturing flaw.

Spacewalking astro-

nauts use the handrails to attach the safety tethers that keep them from inadvertently floating off into space.

NASA found some corrosion in metal handrails on the ground and discovered the aluminum alloy had been overheated during manufacturing. Engineers could not determine if the rails aboard the station were similarly flawed, so NASA ordered tests to determine how the flaw

would affect the rails' strength. Managers have decided spacewalking crews can use the rails as long as they use a smaller attachment hook and attach to a metal stanchion rather than a bar rail, said Johnson Space Center spokeswoman Kylie Clem. The next spacewalk outside the station is scheduled for July.

An unrelated ban on spacewalks using Russian equipment remained in effect. —MNA/Reuters



Hip Hop artists (L-R) Doug E Fresh, Three 6 Mafia members Darnell Carlton (Crunchy Black) and Paul Beauregard (DJ Paul) pose with Russell Simmons, Kimora Lee Simmons and MC Lyte (front R) before taking part in the Hip Hop Summit "Get your money Right" in Detroit, Michigan on 25 March, 2006.—INTERNET

HK, Guangdong to further strengthen ties of health departments

HONG KONG, 26 March — Hong Kong and its bordering Guangdong Province will further strengthen exchange and ties of public health authorities, officials from the two places announced here Friday. Hong Kong Secretary for Health, Welfare and Food, York Chow met Friday with a visiting delegation led by Yao Zhibin, director-general of the Health Department of Guangdong Province.

Chow said the close ties and heavy visitor flow between the two places heightened the risk of the spread of infectious diseases. Since the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao infectious disease notification mechanism had been put in place, the Guangdong Provincial Department of Health had been maintaining close cooperation relation with Hong Kong Centre for Health Protection.

MNA/Xinhua



Magicians Siegfried Fischbacher (L) and Roy Horn (R) pose with Wendy Aldag, wife of the late German artist Jurgen Aldag, at an arts festival at the Hofbrauhaus in Las Vegas, Nevada, 26 March, 2006. —INTERNET

Head injury may be major risk in sport fighting

NEW YORK, 26 March — Blows to the head often leading to concussion may be the single most common ending to "no-holds-barred" sport fighting, according to a new study.

The sport — known variously as mixed martial arts fighting, cage fighting and ultimate fighting — is basically a blend of martial arts, wrestling and street

fighting. Competitions are banned in some US states, but others allow them, and pay-per-view TV has brought matches to a wide audience.

Critics call the sport barbaric, as fighters try to knock each other out with punches, elbow strikes, choke holds and body throws, to name a few manoeuvres. Defenders say no-holds-barred fighting is as legitimate as other combat sports, with one argument being that boxing is more likely to cause serious head trauma. But the new study, published in the *British Journal of Sports Medicine*, suggests that mixed martial arts actually poses a greater risk of concussion. In a review of 642 televised matches, Dr George J Buse of the Cannon Air Force Base in Clovis, New Mexico, found that 28 per cent were stopped because a fighter suffered a head impact that left him disoriented or unresponsive.

MNA/Reuters

China's CAS to undergo reform

BEIJING, 26 March — The Chinese Academy of Sciences, China's top research organization, will improve its academicians system in the next 15 years, according to its medium- and long-term development plan.

Academicians in China are defined as members of the Chinese Academy of Sciences (CAS) and the Chinese Academy of Engineering (CAE). China established the CAS in 1949 and the CAE in 1994. The academicians are top honorary titles for scientists and technology experts who have made outstanding contributions to the nation.

The plan said the CAS will improve its method of recommending and selecting new members and standardize the process of dealing with complaints about

academics.

Supervision over the selection of members by the academic circle and the public will be strengthened. Both the research ability and morals of the candidates will be taken into consideration to ensure that China's top scientists are selected as academicians, said the plan. China's existing academicians system is still "very young" and improvement is needed in selection procedures, financial rewards and age limits, Shen Guofang, CAE vice-president, said recently.—MNA/Xinhua

Mars orbiter returns first images

LOS ANGELES, 26 March — The Mars Reconnaissance Orbiter on Friday returned the first test images from its super high-resolution cameras, the most powerful photographic equipment to be trained on the Red Planet in NASA's search for water and life.

The black-and-white photos, taken by three cameras, show deep channels and layered surface debris around the planet's midsection, features that probably were formed by water, said Alfred McEwen, a mission scientist and University of Arizona professor of planetary science. The images were taken from an altitude of 1,547 miles (2,489 kilometres) above the surface, about three times higher than the orbiter will be when it formally

begins its science mission in November.

The spacecraft, which reached orbit on March 10, is to map about 1 per cent of the Martian surface for future landings by robotic probes and human astronauts.

The resolution of the test images is comparable to those captured by the less powerful cameras of three other orbiters circling Mars, but the tests show that cameras survived the seven-month space trip that began in August.—MNA/Reuters



A Japanese money trader walks past an electronic board displaying major foreign currency rates at a dealing room in Tokyo, on 27 March, 2006. The dollar extended losses on Monday, falling more than a yen from the day's peaks as some traders cited talk of Japanese investors repatriating funds before Japan's fiscal year ends this week. —INTERNET

SPORTS



Real Madrid English player David Beckham, right, duels for the ball against Deportivo Canadian player Julian de Guzman during their Spanish League soccer match at Bernabeu Stadium in Madrid, Spain, on 26 March, 2006. Real Madrid won 4-0.—INTERNET

Real thump Deportivo 4-0 to go second

MADRID, 27 March— Real Madrid moved up to second place in the Primera Liga behind leaders Barcelona on Sunday as they thrashed Deportivo Coruna 4-0 at the Bernabeu.

Real are now 11 points adrift of Barca, whose under-strength team were held to a 0-0 draw at bottom club Malaga on Saturday as they prepare to face Benfica in the Champions League.

Osasuna are two points further back on 55 after losing 1-0 at Athletic Bilbao on Saturday while Valencia remain on 53 points following their 1-0 defeat away to Sevilla.

Depor defender Hector scored an own goal after just nine minutes at the Bernabeu and Brazilian striker Ronaldo returned to form by scoring Real Madrid's second before the break.

Sergio Ramos and Julio Baptista rounded off the scoring in the second half to add extra spice to next week's trip to face arch-rivals Barcelona at the Nou Camp.

Jordi Lopez put Sevilla in the hunt for a Champions League place by scoring an injury-time header to sink Valencia.

The midfielder had scooped a penalty against the bar in the 76th minute after Roberto Ayala had brought down Argentine compatriot Javier Saviola and was sent off for the challenge.—MNA/Reuters

England draw with France 0-0 in women's World Cup qualifier

BLACKBURN (England), 27 March— England were held to a goalless draw at home to France in a women's football World Cup qualifier on Sunday.

In a slow start to the game England enjoyed more possession but failed to turn it clear openings.

England now remained top of the Group five with ten points from four games, followed by the Netherlands in nine points. France lies in the third place with seven points. The group winner will qualify for the 2007 World Cup finals.

After a cautious start to the match England began to create openings. Fara Williams stung the hands of goalkeeper Sarah Bouhaddi on 16 minutes, before Karen Carney failed to direct a near-post header from a Rachel Yankey free-kick on target. Eniola Aluko carved out England's best chance of the half, controlling a bouncing clearance from goalkeeper Rachel Brown and beating two players before firing a powerful shot straight at Bouhaddi.

In added time Hoda Lattaf sounded a warning of things to come from the

visitors as she latched on to a through-ball and sent an instant left-foot shot narrowly wide. England head coach Hope Powell was positive about the strides being made by England.

She said: "I am happy that we have come away with something from the game, I would have been happier with three points but we are still top of the group and we can be very positive about what we have done."

"The players were all nervous this week, the team we were facing, the pressure of the qualifiers. But as they got into the game they realized they could more than match them."

"They are fifth in the world and we are catching them. They are pleased to get a point here and that says something about us." "Rachel was outstanding again for us, we come to expect that. But I don't think that we were really under the cosh, more that she stepped up and delivered when called upon.—MNA/Xinhua

Boro leave it late to win 7-goal thriller

LONDON, 27 March— Stuart Parnaby steered home a stoppage-time winner to give Middlesbrough a thrilling 4-3 win over Bolton Wanderers in the Premier League on Sunday.

Victory for Steve McClaren's side lifted them well clear of the relegation zone, while Bolton's Champions League hopes were dented by a game which had started so well for them.

Newcastle United slumped to their third defeat in eight days under caretaker manager Glenn Roeder, going down 3-1 at Charlton Athletic in a game between two mid-table sides.

The real goal bonanza was at the Riverside, where Bolton took a third-minute lead through Greek forward Stelios Giannakopoulos before Dutch striker Jimmy Floyd Hasselbaink

scored twice and made another for Boro.

Nigerian Jay-Jay Okocha pulled one back for Bolton in the 57th minute, following up the loose ball after his penalty was parried, and Tunisian defender Radhi Jaïdi looked to have won Sam Allardyce's men a point by heading an 81st-minute equalizer. But the battle between two candidates for the England manager's job ultimately went Boro's way when Nigerian forward Yakubu Aiyegbeni crossed from the left and defender Parnaby guided the ball home.

MNA/Reuters



Manchester United's Ji-sung Park, right, gets to grips with Birmingham's Jermaine Pennant during their English Premier League soccer match at Old Trafford Stadium, Manchester, England, on 26 March, 2006.—INTERNET



AS Monaco player Olivier Kapo, centre, challenges for the ball between Modeste M'Bami, left, and Edouard Cisse of Paris St Germain during their French Ligue One soccer match in Monaco Stadium.—INTERNET

Oddo double lifts Lazio's hopes of European spot

ROME, 27 March— Lazio closed in on a UEFA Cup place when two goals by Massimo Oddo handed them a 2-0 win over Sampdoria on Sunday.

A second-half strike by

the Italy international and a late penalty gave the Rome-based side 45 points from 31 matches and moved them up to seventh in Serie A.

They are level on points with sixth-placed Chievo Verona, who clung on to Serie A's second UEFA Cup berth after a stoppage-time goal by Amauri salvaged a 2-2 draw with Ascoli.

Livorno slipped back to eighth on 44 points after they suffered their fourth defeat in a row, going down 2-1 at relegation-threatened Empoli.

Ninth-placed Palermo (43 points) also remained in contention for European football next season after Stephen Makinwa's header gave them a 1-0 win over Treviso.

Italy's top five all played on Saturday.

Leaders Juventus (78 points) drew 1-1 with AS Roma but still lead second-placed AC Milan, who beat Fiorentina 3-1, by eight points.

MNA/Reuters

Robert double gives Betis 2-1 win at Villarreal

MADRID, 27 March— Two early goals from Brazilian striker Robert gave Real Betis a surprise 2-1 win at Villarreal in the Primera Liga on Saturday.

Robert bagged his first after 11 minutes with a superb diving header, and pounced on an error in the home defence to break clear and ram home the second in the 23rd.

Villarreal, who face Inter Milan in a Champions League quarterfinal on Wednesday, improved after the break and laid siege to the visitors' goal.

Argentine midfielder Juan Pablo Sorin pulled a goal back for Villarreal with a low angled header 11 minutes from time, and they were denied a penalty in the last move of the game.

MNA/Reuters

Denilson keeps Bordeaux in Champions League race

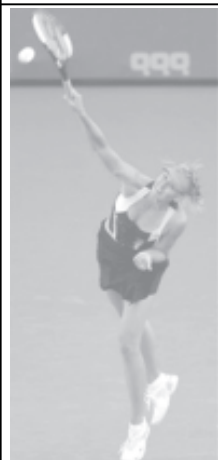
PARIS, 7 March— A goal after just 11 seconds from midfielder Denilson gave second-placed Girondins Bordeaux a 1-0 win over mid-table Nice in Ligue 1 on Sunday.

The Brazilian scored after collecting a pass from

kickoff by defender David Jemali but he did not beat the French record of eight seconds set in the 1991-92 season by Caen's Michel Rio. Bordeaux, who bounced back four days after being knocked out of the French Cup by Second Division Montpellier, closed the gap on leaders Olympique Lyon to nine points. The 28-year-old Denilson made history in 1998 when he joined Real Betis for a then-world record fee of 35 million US dollars but the gifted player has failed to meet huge expectations.

Little else happened in a dull game with few highlights in which Bordeaux's defence, the tightest in Ligue 1 with 16 goals conceded from 31 matches, lived up to its reputation. Lyon, chasing a record fifth successive title, had to be content with a 1-1 draw at home to lowly Toulouse on Saturday in their last game before Wednesday's first leg of their Champions League quarterfinal tie against AC Milan.

MNA/Reuters



Maria Sharapova, of Russia, serves to Maria Elena Camerin, of Italy, at the Nasdaq-100 Open tennis tournament on 26 March, 2006, in Key Biscayne, Fla. Sharapova defeated Camerin, 6-2, 7-6 (2).—INTERNET



On behalf of Ko Khin Maung Gyi in USA, his family donated K 100,000 to Hninzigone Home for the Aged recently. Secretary of the Administration Board of the Home Maj Aung Than (Retd) accepted the cash donation.—H

Gunman kills 6 including himself at Seattle party

SEATTLE, 27 March—A man shot and killed six people he was partying with in a Seattle home on Saturday before taking his own life with a sawed-off shotgun after being confronted by police, authorities said.

The seven killed included males and females in their teens or their 20s, Seattle police Sergeant Deanna Nollette said.

Two more people were wounded in the shooting, which took place about 7 am in a residential neighbourhood, Nollette said. One of the wounded was hospitalized in life-threatening condition.

“The scene was chaotic,” she said.

Police went to the scene after reports of gunshots and found the suspected shooter chasing one of the victims who staggered from the home. When confronted, the suspect turned the gun on himself, police said.

William Lowe, who lives across the street, said, “The officer yelled ‘Drop your gun,’ then the guy put the gun in his mouth and pulled the trigger.”

MNA/Reuters

Chavez says to greet “gringo” invaders with arrows

CARACAS (Venezuela), 27 March — Venezuela’s President Hugo Chavez on Sunday said he would have a nasty welcome waiting for US forces he insists are preparing to invade his country — arrows laced with Indian poison.

The left-wing former soldier, who has ordered his military to train civilian reserves for a guerilla war, including the use of bows and arrows, often accuses Washington of planning to invade to control Venezuela’s vast oil reserves.

US officials dismiss his assassination and invasion charges as populist rhetoric meant to mobilize supporters before presidential elections in December. But they say Chavez is an anti-democratic threat to the region.

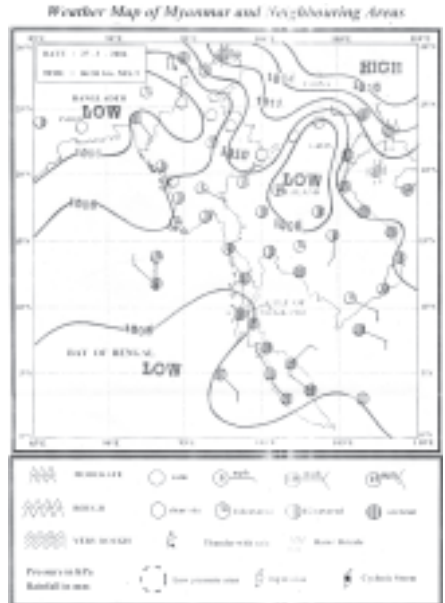
With an audience of ministers, Army officers and local officials chuckling, Chavez remarked on how he would target US soldiers with arrows covered with curare, an Amazon Indian poison made from plants.

“I am going to practise with a bow and arrow. If we have to put a few arrows into any invading gringo, then you’ll be done in 30 seconds, my dear gringo,” Chavez said pointing to his neck during his regular Sunday television broadcast.

Chavez has become a fierce critic of US President George W Bush, labelling him everything from a “terrorist” to a “donkey”, as the two governments clash over Chavez’ socialist revolution and his close ties to US foes Cuba and Iran.

Venezuelan troops have started training for an asymmetric war or conflict of resistance and Chavez has worried Washington by reaching out to Russia, Spain and Brazil to purchase military helicopters, boats, planes and new rifles.

MNA/Reuters



WEATHER

Monday, 27 March, 2006

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST: During the past 24 hours, light rain or thundershowers have been isolated in Kachin State, weather has been partly cloudy in upper Sagaing, Yangon and Taninthayi Divisions and generally fair in the remaining areas. Day temperatures were (6°C) above normal in Mandalay Division, (3°C) to (4°C) above normal in Chin, Kayin and Kachin States, upper Sagaing, Yangon and Taninthayi Divisions and about normal in the remaining areas. The significant day temperatures were Monywa, NyaungU and Minbu (41°C) each. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Putao (0.15) inch and Machanbaw (0.08) inch.

Maximum temperature on 26-3-2006 was 102°F. Minimum temperature on 27-3-2006 was 67°F. Relative humidity at 09:30 hrs MST on 27-3-2006 was (70%). Total sunshine hours on 26-3-2006 was (9.6) hours approx.

Rainfalls on 27-3-2006 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 (6) mph from West at (15:00) hours MST on 26-3-2006.

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

Forecast valid until evening of 28-3-2006: Isolated rain or thundershowers are likely in Kachin State, Yangon and Taninthayi Divisions and weather will be partly cloudy in Rakhine, Mon and Kayin States, upper Sagaing and Ayeyawady 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 rain or thundershowers in the Southern Myanmar areas.

Forecast for Naypyidaw and neighbouring area for 28-3-2006: Generally fair weather.

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 28-3-2006: Partly cloudy.

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 28-3-2006: Generally fair weather.



Tuesday, 28 March
View on today

- | | | |
|---|--|---|
| <p>7:00 am
1. Recitation of Parittas by Missionary Sayadaw U Ottamathara</p> <p>7:25 am
2. To be healthy exercise</p> <p>7:30 am
3. Morning news</p> <p>7:40 am
4. Nice and sweet song</p> <p>7:45 am
5. ကဗျာပန်းဥယျာဉ်</p> <p>8:00 am
6. အတိတ်ပြန်</p> <p>8:05 am
7. Song of yesteryears</p> <p>8:15 am
8. စစ်ကိုင်းတိုင်းပုထိုးလုံးတံတား</p> <p>8:20 am
9. အဆိုပြိုင်ပွဲ</p> | <p>8:30 am
10. International news</p> <p>8:45 am
11. Let's Go</p> <p>4:00 pm
1. Martial song</p> <p>4:15 pm
2. Song to uphold National Spirit</p> <p>4:30 pm
3. Musical programme</p> <p>4:45 pm
4. အဆေးသင်တန်းသို့ပညာရေး ရပ်ပြိုင်သင်ကြားသင်ခန်းစာ -တတိယနှစ် (ရက္ခဗေဒအထူးပြု) (ရက္ခဗေဒ)</p> <p>5:00 pm
5. Dance of national races</p> <p>5:05 pm
6. “မူးလျှင်မောင်းနဲ့ မောင်းလျှင်မမူးနဲ့.” လူမင်း၊ သူသူဟံသာ၊ အိမ်အိမ် (ဒါရိုက်တာ-သက်တင်)</p> <p>5:10 pm
7. Sing and Enjoy</p> <p>6:00 pm
8. Evening news</p> <p>6:30 pm
9. Weather report</p> | <p>6:35 pm
10. နိုင်ငံခြားကာတွန်းဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ “ရယ်ရှင်ဆော့ပြေး ပုရွက်ဆိတ်လေး” (အပိုင်း-၇၆)</p> <p>7:05 pm
11. အတိတ်ပြန်</p> <p>7:20 pm
12. The mirror images of the musical oldies</p> <p>7:35 pm
13. ပြည်သူ့အတွက် တပ်မတော် (နယ်စပ်စည်ပင်ဆက်သွယ်ရေး) ပြန်ကြားရေး၊ ယဉ်ကျေးမှု၊ လယ်/စည်)</p> <p>8:00 pm
14. News</p> <p>8:05 pm
15. International news</p> <p>8:10 pm
16. Weather report</p> <p>8:15 pm
17. (၆၁)နှစ်ပြည့်တော်တော်နေ့ ရုပ်မြင်သံကြား ဉာဏ်စမ်းပေးပွဲ ပြိုင်ပွဲ (အဆင့်မြင့်ပညာအဆင့်)</p> <p>8:20 pm
18. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ “အိပ်မက်ကမ္ဘာ” (အပိုင်း-၂)</p> <p>8:25 pm
19. မင်းကွန်းဆရာတော်ဘုရားကြီး ဦးစိန်ညွှန်ဘုရားတော်၏ အရပ်ဆယ်မျက်နှာမေတ္တာတော်မှာ ပွားများခြင်းတရားတော်</p> <p>8:30 pm
20. The next day’s programme</p> |
|---|--|---|



Tuesday, 28 March
Tune in today

- 8:30 am** Brief news
8:35 am Music: -Get Real
- 8:40 am** Perspectives
8:45 am Music: Stay the same
- 8:50 am** National news & Slogan
- 9:00 am** Music: -Love sensation
- 9:05 am** International news
- 9:10 am** Music: -Hey you
- 1:30 pm** News / Slogan
- 1:40 pm** Lunch time music: -I need love -Because of you -Love is blind
- 9:10 pm** English Speaking Course Level (III) Unit (II)
- 9:15 pm** Article/Music
- 9:25 pm** Weekly sports reel
- 9:35 pm** Music for your listening pleasure -It might be you
- 9:45 pm** News / Slogan
- 10:00 pm** PEL

Senior General Than Shwe addresses 61st Anniversary Armed Forces Day Parade



NAYPYIDAW, 27 March— Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Than Shwe delivered an address at the 61st Anniversary Armed Forces Day Parade at the Parade Ground of Naypyidaw City this morning.

The 61st Anniversary Armed Forces Day was observed in accord with the objectives — to strive hand in hand with the people for the emergence of a peaceful, modern, developed and discipline-flourishing democratic nation, to fulfill any duty for the successful implementation of the seven-point Road Map, to fight every danger of the country together with the entire people and to work energetically toward building a strong efficient modern Tatmadaw capable of safeguarding Our Three Main National Causes.

Also present at the parade were Member of the State Peace and Development Council General Thura Shwe Mann of the Ministry of Defence, Prime Minister General Soe Win, Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Adjutant-General Lt-Gen Thein Sein, Members of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Kyaw Win, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than, Lt-Gen Maung Bo, Quartermaster-General Lt-Gen Thiha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo, Chairman of

the Leading Committee for Observance of the 61st Anniversary Armed Forces Day Chief of Armed Forces Training Lt-Gen Aung Htwe and Lt-Gen Tin Aye of the Ministry of Defence, Commander-in-Chief (Navy) Vice-Admiral Soe Thein, Commander-in-Chief (Air) Lt-Gen Myat Hein, the ministers, senior military officers, the chief justice, the attorney-general, the auditor-general, the chairman of the Civil Service Selection and Training Board, the deputy ministers, military attaches of foreign missions, departmental heads, senior police officers, senior officers of Fire Services Department, members of Union Solidarity and Development Association, Women's Affairs
(See page 10)

INSIDE

After taking up the State duties as required by the Myanmar historical events, the Tatmadaw is making endeavours for all-round development in every sector. Hence, everyone can see better foundations being created in every region and every sector throughout the nation.

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THIHA AUNG



Senior General Than Shwe takes the salute of parade columns.—MNA

Senior General Than Shwe and wife Daw Kyaing Kyaing host dinner to mark 61st Anniversary Armed Forces Day

NAYPYIDAW, 27 March — Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Than Shwe and wife Daw Kyaing Kyaing hosted dinner to mark the 61st Anniversary Armed Forces Day at the Ministry of Defence in Naypyidaw City this evening.

Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Than Shwe and wife Daw Kyaing Kyaing arrived at the dinner to mark the 61st Anniversary Armed Forces Day at 7 pm today.

Next, Senior General Than Shwe and wife Daw Kyaing Kyaing together with Vice-Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) Vice-Senior General Maung Aye, General Thura Shwe Mann of the Ministry of Defence, Prime Minister General Soe Win, Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Adjutant General Lt-Gen Thein Sein, Members of SPDC, Chairman of Leading Committee for Observance the 61st Anniversary Armed Forces Day Chief of Armed Forces Training Lt-Gen Aung Htwe, Commander-in-Chief (Navy) Vice-Admiral Soe Thein, Commander-in-Chief
(See page 5)



Senior General Than Shwe greets military attaches at the dinner.—MNA