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*EXCHANGING CLEAR SMILES & SHAKING TRUSTFUL HANDS: Head of State Senior General Than Shwe and Daw Aung San Suu Kyi meet cordially. (Article on pages 8 and 9) — MNA*

## Secretary-1 inspects Yangon-Thanlyin Bridge No 2 Construction Project

YANGON, 4 July — Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council General Khin Nyunt inspected progress in construction of the Yangon-Thanlyin Bridge No 2 linking Dagon Myothit Seikkan Township and Thanlyin Township this evening.

He also gave suggestions to officials on growing of paddy and other crops the whole year to green the 30-mile perimeter of Yangon City and water supply to the crops in Thanlyin, Kyauktan, Thongwa and Kayan townships.

Accompanied by officials of the State Peace and Development Council Office, the Secretary-1 arrived at the bridge project in Dagon Myothit Seikkan Township at 4 pm. He was welcomed by Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe and officials.

At the briefing hall, he heard reports on progress in building the piers of the approach structure, and the bridge on both banks and the work programme presented by Minister for Construction Maj-Gen Saw Tun and officials.

Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe and Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation Maj-Gen Nyunt Tin explained the project to green the 30-mile perimeter of Yangon, irrigation facilities to cultivate crops in open season including supplying of water from Moeyungyi Lake through canals, building of a sluice gate to prevent the flow of sea water and floods, supplying of water to regions in southern Yangon through a pipeline passing through the Yangon-Thanlyin Bridge.

Deputy Minister for Transport U Pe Than reported on building of a retaining wall to prevent erosion of river banks at Thanlyin.

The Secretary-1 attended to the needs, saying that according to the survey report of the officials concerned, over 440,000 acres of crops can be extended after completion of the project to green the 30-mile perimeter of Yangon. Before the completion of the whole project, officials will have to repair and maintain the irrigation facilities and build new links between the facilities to increase the targeted sown acreage, he added.

(See page 11)



*Secretary-1 General Khin Nyunt inspects construction of Yangon-Thanlyin Bridge No-2. — MNA*

### Four political objectives

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

### Four economic objectives

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

### Four social objectives

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

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24,078

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

## PERSPECTIVES

Saturday, 5 July, 2003

### Enhance dignity of Myanmar womenfolk

The State Peace and Development Council formed Myanmar National Committee for Women's Affairs on 3 July 1996 for progress of Myanmar women and organize them as a consolidated national force.

The day MNCWA was formed was designated as Myanmar Women's Day and starting from 3 July 1998, ceremonies to mark Myanmar Women's Day have been held yearly and therefore, this year's ceremony was the 6th one.

A ceremony to mark the Myanmar Women's Day for 2003 was held at the International Business Centre on Pyay Road on 3 July with an address by Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council General Khin Nyunt.

The General said that Myanmar Women's Day was organized in honour of the entire Myanmar women, and it glorified the honourable dignity, the brilliant efforts, and their tradition to safeguard and promote the nation and the lineage.

Throughout the long history, the true Myanmar women have the fine tradition of striving shoulder to shoulder with their male counterparts for national progress, emergence of Myanmar culture and building of a strong State based on nationalist fervour.

At present, efforts are being made with the strength of the entire nation for the nation to catch up with world nations and stand with dignity and for perpetuity of the sovereignty. Thus, the entire womenfolk will have to harmoniously take part in the task.

With the aim of creating a force of true Myanmar women that is endowed with the fine traditions, priority has been given to promotion of Myanmar women's spiritual ability including flourishing of the spirit to cherish the traditions and culture, patriotism, the spirit to love the nation, and the will to protect the race and lineage.

Apart from the women's sector, MNCWA, leading the entire Myanmar womenfolk, is taking part in nation-building tasks hand in hand with the other social organizations.

We would like to urge all the Myanmar women to promote the magnificent dignity of the entire Myanmar womenfolk while striving for successful realization of the aims of the State to develop the women's sector.

### Communication courses conclude

YANGON, 4 July — The e-Government Workshop Training Course, Introduction to Internet Course and Basic PCM Course conducted by Ministry of Communications, Posts and Telegraphs concluded at the training school of the ministry this morning.

At the concluding ceremony, CPT Minister Brig-Gen Thein Zaw made an address and presented completion certificates to the trainees and awarded prizes to first, second and third prize winners and gifts to the course instructors.

Vice-Chairman of e-National Task Force Member of Civil Service Selection and Training Board U Aung Myint, director-general, managing director and officials of the departments under the ministry, and 95 trainees also attended the ceremony. — MNA

*Don't smoke*

### Government systematically drawn ...

(from page 16)

be promoting health and development of the new generation of children but it will also lay the foundation for fulfilling our national objective of uplifting of health and fitness of the entire nation.

The State Peace and Development Council has systematically drawn up and implemented development plans covering all sectors to ensure all round development and keep the nation abreast with other countries. Priority has also been accorded to education, health and culture which are included under the development of the social sector. Only when all citizens in the country are well educated and healthy, will they be able to strive for growth and development of the nation and the people. On the other hand, only when the people are strong, healthy both physically and mentally, will they be able to actively participate in the tasks for national development.

Thus, the Government has formulated and implemented health plans to enhance the national health status. National development and health and fitness of the people will have a complimentary effect on each other.

The Government of the Union of Myanmar has drawn up the National Health Plans with the aim to achieve the social objective of uplift of health and fitness of the nation. These National Health Plans are based on enhancing primary health care services to the community and in accordance with the slogan "health for all", community participation has been widely promoted.

In implementing the National Health Plan at various levels, the Government of the Union of Myanmar has covered the whole country including the border areas and hard to reach areas. New hospitals have been built and existing hospitals have been expanded and upgraded. In order to enhance the quality of health care, modern diagnostic and therapeutic equipment and necessary medicines have been supplied to all the hospitals. Surgeons, physicians and specialists have been also assigned to the hospitals, including the rural areas to render quality services. In addition, special programmes for vulnerable groups such as women and children have been implemented. Programmes have also been implemented to prevent and control communicable diseases, which pose a threat to the health of the people.



Secretary-1 General Khin Nyunt views vaccination of Hepatitis B to a child under the programme of Hepatitis B Vaccination in the Expanded Programme of Immunization (GAVI). — MNA

In addition to the National Health Plans being implemented by the Government, the increase in health literacy, the adoption of healthy life styles and the increase in the standard of living, as a result of national growth and development, has all contributed towards a considerable increase in the health status of the people. We can be proud of our achievements. However, Myanmar like other developing nations is still faced with a double burden of diseases—communicable and non-communicable. Therefore, we need to enhance our disease prevention, control and surveillance activities. Special emphasis must be given to ensure vaccination of children so that future generations will be strong and healthy. Expanded programme of immunization against 6 childhood communicable diseases, which are the major causes of morbidity and mortality among children, is one of the priority programmes in the National Health Plan.

Expanded Programmes of Immunization have been implemented since 1990, initially covering 212 townships. It was expanded to cover 305 townships in 1995 and by 1997, the coverage as extended over the whole country. In addition, as a special programme, all children under 5 years in Myanmar, totalling nearly 6 million children were vaccinated with polio vaccine during the National Immunisation Days. These National Immunization Days were conducted for 8 successive years with the active participation of all Government Departments, all Non-Governmental Organizations and Social Organizations and the active involvement of the people. As a result, Myanmar was able to proudly declare that polio has been eradicated from the country. Presently, as part of our effort to enhance immunization services, we are introducing vaccination against hepatitis B with the support from the Global Alliance for Vaccines and

Immunization (GAVI). On behalf of the Government and the people of Myanmar, I would like to express my appreciation to GAVI for enabling us to administer hepatitis B vaccine to our children.

Hepatitis B can be easily transmitted and there is considerable number of carriers. It can also lead to chronic liver disease, cirrhosis and liver cancer. It is also learnt that transmission from the infected mother to the new born baby occurs in 25% of the cases. Therefore, it is a very serious communicable disease. Now we will be able to prevent the disease by providing hepatitis B vaccine to all our children in our country. In 2003, hepatitis B vaccine will be provided to all the townships in Yangon and Mandalay Divisions. In 2004, it will be expanded to cover all the remaining divisions and in 2005 it will cover all states, thereby covering the whole country.

Hepatitis B vaccination will be provided in our major hospitals which have at least thirty deliveries per month. Vaccination will be provided to all new-born babies within 24 hours after birth in the hospitals.

In the wards and villages, the health facilities will be providing the vaccinations together with other routine vaccinations for a total of three times. Those children who had their first vaccination at the hospital can continue their 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> doses in the ward and villages or health facilities. By implementing the hepatitis B vaccination countrywide, we will be able to prevent chronic liver diseases, cirrhosis and liver cancer and death from these liver diseases. It will also make our children more healthy and strong. As vaccination against hepatitis B programme will be very beneficial for the country in the long term, I would like to urge all responsible persons to consider it as a national task and make every effort to make the programme successful.

I would like to reiterate my thanks to the members of GAVI, the World Health Organization and UNICEF for supporting the hepatitis B vaccination programme, which will be very beneficial for the people of Myanmar. Since we have collectively undertaken to achieve our national health objectives in the past and building on this unique tradition and experience, I am sure that we will be successful in implementing the expanded programme of immunization.

In conclusion, I would like to request all stockholders to consider the hepatitis B vaccination programme as a noble endeavour which will ensure the health and well being of our children. I would like to urge all of you to make concerted efforts to achieve our national goal in vaccinating all the children against hepatitis B. After the ceremony, the Secretary-1 and guests viewed documentary photos on Hepatitis B vaccination in the expanded programme of immunization for the children under one year and programmes for expanding Hepatitis B vaccination task, the chart on reduction of occurring the disease, facts about the Hepatitis B and tasks of the immunization plan. Also present on the occasion were Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe, ministers, the mayor of Yangon City, members of National Health Committee, ambassadors and charges d'affaires of foreign missions, resident representatives of UN agencies, officials of Global Alliance for Vaccines and Immunization (GAVI), officials of the State Peace and Development Council Office, chairmen and officials of local and foreign social organizations, officials, nurses and guests.

The Secretary-1 and guests viewed tasks of Hepatitis B vaccination to the children. Later, the Secretary-1 presented toys to the children who have been vaccinated. — MNA



# US soldier killed, 21 wounded in Iraq

BAGHDAD, 4 July — A sniper killed a US soldier in Baghdad on Thursday night while a mortar attack on an American military base to the northwest wounded at least 19 others, the US military said on Friday.

Witnesses said two more soldiers were wounded in an explosion in the Iraqi capital on Friday — the US July 4 Independence Day holiday.

A US military spokesman said that in Thursday's attacks, the sniper shot and fatally wounded the American soldier in a Bradley armoured vehicle at around 8.30 pm (1630 GMT) in Baghdad.

The soldier was rushed to hospital but died shortly afterwards from his wounds, the spokesman said.

The 19 soldiers were wounded when a base for logistical support

forces to the northwest of Baghdad came under mortar attack. The spokesman said the casualty toll was only an initial one.

Witnesses said two US soldiers were wounded on Friday when an explosion targeted a Humvee vehicle on the outskirts of Baghdad.

They said the 8.30 am (0430 GMT) blast damaged the Humvee and an Iraqi civilian car. The soldiers appeared to be lightly wounded, they said.

The attacks are the latest in a spate of increasingly bold guerilla-style ambushes. In previous attacks on Thursday, 10 American soldiers

were wounded in three separate strikes that also killed two Iraqis and wounded a dozen.

US forces have come under daily attacks in recent weeks. Twenty-six American soldiers have been killed in Iraq since major combat was declared over in May after US-led forces overthrew Saddam Hussein.

Six British soldiers have died in the same period.

The attacks have continued despite a crackdown by US troops in areas to the northeast and north of the capital, once a hotbed for Saddam loyalists.

MNA/Reuters

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## Tories say Blair 'duped' MPs

LONDON, 4 July—Shadow foreign secretary Michael Ancram told MPs the prime minister had misled Parliament either deliberately or unwittingly over one of the dossiers published before the conflict.

The broadside centres on the "dodgy dossier" published in February of this year, which plagiarised parts of a student thesis. Downing Street has continued to reject charges it "sexed up" a second key dossier published in September about Iraq.

And a letter from Number 10 press chief Alastair Campbell to MPs investigating the row shows how he suggested changes to that first dossier.

Mr Ancram's attack focused on the second, "dodgy dossier", saying there was no graver charge in Parliament than misrepresenting intelligence information.

When Mr Blair put that document before Parliament, he said: "It is the intelligence that they are receiving and we are passing it on to people." Mr Ancram said: "The prime minister misled the house. Whether deliberately knowing that the document was a Downing Street concoction, or unwittingly because Mr Campbell had not seen fit to tell him, doesn't really matter. "On this the House had been ...comprehensibly duped".—Internet

## Sudan faces chronic food shortage

GENEVA, 4 July —The International Federation of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies warned of chronic food shortages in Sudan's Red Sea State as drought and a lack of pastures take their toll.

Launching a relief appeal for 860,000 US dollars, the Federation said in a statement the scale of the problem was massive. "Hundreds of thousands of people in Sudan are suffering chronic food and water shortages and are at risk of malnutrition and disease as a result of prolonged drought," the Federation said in a statement on Tuesday.

United Nations agencies predict a food deficit of 60 per cent for 2003, and malnutrition rates in some parts of the state are as high as 35 per cent. "The livestock population has been depleted due to a lack of pastures, and agricultural activities have been seriously limited due to the lack of rain," said Mahmoud Omer Osman, secretary general of the Sudanese Red Crescent Society. "Communities are being torn apart as fathers leave to seek alternative employment and children are forced to abandon their education," he added. —MNA/Reuters



A US soldier keeps Iraqis away from the scene along Haifa street in Baghdad, Iraq after unknown men fired an RPG (Rocket Propelled Grenade) at a passing Humvee, military vehicle on 3 July, 2003. One Iraqi was killed and a US female soldier was injured in the attack.—INTERNET

## WHO says Toronto no longer SARS infected

GENEVA, 4 July —The World Health Organization said on Wednesday Toronto was no longer SARS infected, leaving Taiwan as the only place in the world where the disease was not yet fully under control.

The announcement came after the Canadian city had gone the mandatory 20 days — twice the normal incubation period — without reporting a new case of the potentially fatal respiratory sickness.

According to the United Nations health agency, the flu-like virus has infected 246 people and killed 35 in Toronto — the only place outside Southeast Asia where people have died of SARS.

Fear of the disease and efforts to prevent its spread have hurt tourism and economic growth.

SARS, for which there is no simple treatment, originated in southern China last

November and has spread to 30 countries, killing about 800 people worldwide.

If there are no new cases, Taiwan should be declared SARS-free on Saturday.

MNA/Reuters

have landed using a system involving a parachute and an airbag, but instead it came crashing down onto the testing centre in Kiruna, some 1,300 kilometres north of Stockholm, breaking up.

"The recovery system did not work properly to give it a soft landing. It has to be refurbished before it can fly again," said project leader Mikael Viertotak at the Swedish Space Corporation.

"Of course it causes a delay in their experiment... and a delay usually means extra costs," Viertotak told Reuters. "But I would not consider this a major drawback."—MNA/Reuters

## Japanese test space shuttle crashes in Sweden

STOCKHOLM, 4 July—An unmanned Japanese space shuttle prototype crash landed during testing in northern Sweden on Wednesday, Swedish space authorities said.

A stratospheric balloon hoisted the test shuttle, part of Japan's programme to develop its first reusable shuttle, to an altitude of 21.5 kilometres and released it into free-fall. Everything went as planned until the shuttle reached 1,200 metres.

The prototype should

## UN approves final extension of Iraq-Kuwait border mission

UNITED NATIONS, 4 July —The United Nations Security Council on Thursday approved a final three-month extension of the United Nations peacekeeping operation along the Iraq-Kuwait border.

In a unanimous vote, the 15-nation Council adopted a resolution to phase out the United Nations Iraq-Kuwait Observation Mission (UNIKOM) in the next three months.

UNIKOM, which has patrolled the Iraq-Kuwait border for more than 12 years, will

end its mandate by 6 October of this year.

The move was taken on the recommendations of United Nations Secretary-General Kofi Annan who cited the end of the Iraq war and the UN involvement in the rebuilding of Iraq.

UNIKOM was created in April 1991 to deter violations and report on hostile action along the border between Iraq and Kuwait following the Gulf war, which ended Iraq's brief occupation of Kuwait. —MNA/Xinhua



A former Iraqi soldier counts his money after receiving an interim relief of US\$ 60 in Baqubah, Iraq on 3 July, 2003. The relief was granted after former soldiers demonstrated for days in different parts of Iraq for their back wages.—INTERNET

## A day after Bush assurances, 10 US soldiers hurt in Iraq

BAGHDAD, 4 July — A day after President Bush asserted that coalition forces in Iraq were prepared to deal with any security threat, American troops came under attack again yesterday, with 10 soldiers wounded in three separate incidents.

"We're still at war," Lt Gen Ricardo S Sanchez of the Army, the commander of coalition forces in Iraq, said in a news conference today. While saying that the attacks did not appear to be centrally or even regionally coordinated, he asserted that there had been an "increase in sophistication of the explosive devices used" against American forces.

In a strategy apparently designed to undermine the resistance, the American administrator of Iraq, L Paul Bremer III, announced this afternoon that the State Department was offering a reward of up to \$25 million for either the capture of Saddam Hussein or information confirming his death. The reward for similar information about Mr Hussein's sons, Uday and Qusay, is \$15 million apiece.

This morning's attacks occurred in diverse locations: a Sunni area west of Baghdad that staunchly supported the former regime, a Shia neighbourhood in Baghdad and the center of the city.

In the Baghdad neighbourhood of Kadhimiya, a soldier from the First Armored Division on foot patrol at 2.30 am local time was wounded after a gunman opened fire. The soldiers returned fire, killing the gunman and wounding a 6-year-old boy with him, according to an American military spokesman.

In the city of Ramadi, about 65 miles west of Baghdad,

six soldiers were wounded when their two-vehicle convoy drove over an improvised explosive device at 6.30 am. The city's Sunni Muslim residents were among the core of Saddam Hussein's base of support, serving as army officers and officials in his government.

Ramadi has become a center of resistance to the American-led occupation. It is only about 30 miles west of Falluja, where an explosion at a Sunni mosque killed at least six people on Monday night.

A coalition investigation blamed the explosion on a bombmaking class being held in a building adjacent to the mosque, but many residents accused the Americans of firing a missile into the mosque and promised revenge against American troops.

In Baghdad, just before 10 am local time, a man on foot fired a rocket-propelled grenade at a three-vehicle military convoy moving down Haifa Street, a busy thoroughfare in central Baghdad. One Humvee was struck, wounding three soldiers, witnesses and a military spokesman said.

Witnesses also said that in response, soldiers in one of the other vehicles opened fire indiscriminately, seriously wounding, and possibly killing, at least one Iraqi driver nearby. Blood pooled next to the slain driver's blue Volkswagen Passat soon after the attack. — Internet

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## Attacks in Iraq injure eight US troops

BAGHDAD, 4 July—An Army truck hit an explosive west of Baghdad on Thursday injuring six US soldiers, and assailants in the capital wounded two other American soldiers in separate attacks, US military officials and witnesses said.

The violence comes a day after President Bush vowed that anti-US attacks would not keep the United States from fulfilling its mission in Iraq.

An explosion during a demonstration in Baqouba, 35 miles northeast of Baghdad, killed one person and injured at least five. The demonstrators were protesting the US Army's alleged detention of the city's top Shiite cleric. During the hostilities, US soldiers also injured a six-year-old boy and killed

another bystander, as well as an Iraqi gunman, military officials and civilian witnesses said.

In Ramadi, 60 miles west of Baghdad, a two-Humvee convoy struck an explosive early Thursday, wounding six soldiers, said Sgt Patrick Compton, a US military spokesman in Baghdad. And an ambusher fired a grenade at a US Army convoy in downtown Baghdad Thursday morning, wounding one soldier, witnesses said.

Internet

### Zambian baby born with four legs, three hands

LUSAKA, 4 July—A Zambian woman has given birth to a baby girl with four legs and three hands, a senior doctor said on Wednesday.

University Teaching Hospital (UTH) pediatric consultant surgeon Lupando Munkonge said the as-yet unnamed baby also had three kidneys and an abnormal liver, but the baby's condition was stable and her mother was in good health. "We have a baby that was born with abnormal features... doctors will first remove the extra external features before removing the extra kidney," Munkonge told reporters.

MNA/Reuters

## UN keen to help achieve Mideast peace

CAIRO, 4 July—The United Nations is keen to help achieve peace in the Middle East, UN Mideast envoy Terje Larsen said here on Wednesday.

Speaking to reporters after his meeting with Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak, Larsen said he agreed with Mubarak on maintaining close contacts between Egypt and the United Nations to work for peace in the region.

The UN envoy termed as fragile a truce announced by Palestinian militant groups with Israel, warning against any steps which could lead to the failure of the ceasefire and the collapse of the faltering Mideast peace process.

It is imperative for the Palestinians and Israel not to take any measures which are detrimental to

restoring mutual trust between them, he stressed.

He also called for incorporating the Syrian-Israeli peace track and the Lebanese-Israeli peace track into the Mideast peace process.

Larsen arrived here Tuesday night as part of his Mideast tour, which has taken him to Lebanon, Syria and Jordan.

On Wednesday, the Israeli Army completed the transfer of security control in the West Bank town of Bethlehem to the Palestinian National Authority (PNA). The Israeli Army had also withdrew from the northern Gaza Strip

town of Beit Hanoun on Sunday. The radical Palestinian groups Hamas and Islamic Jihad agreed on a three-month ceasefire with Israel on the same day.

The moves by the two sides were believed to help pave the way for starting to implement a roadmap peace plan envisioning a full Palestinian statehood by 2005.

Under the plan, worked out by the United Nations, the United States, the European Union and Russia, the Palestinians are supposed to curb anti-Israel attacks and cooperate with Israel in security affairs.

MNA/Xinhua



A US Army soldier from the 3rd Infantry Division 2nd Brigade is treated for heat exhaustion in Fallujah, Iraq on 3 July, 2003. With temperatures soaring in Iraq, more and more soldiers are suffering the effects of summer. The unidentified soldier was not in serious condition. —INTERNET



US soldiers walk at the site of explosion of a plastic bag filled with explosives during a demonstration against the US Army's detention of Shiite religious leader Ali Abdul-Kareem Al-Madney in Baqubah, Iraq on 3 July, 2003. One person was killed and at least five injured in the explosion. The slippers and bloodstain mark the site of the explosion. — INTERNET

## Bremer seeks more US troops for Iraq

PHILADELPHIA, 4 July— The US administrator in Iraq is asking for more American troops and civilians to speed restoration of order and public services, the Philadelphia Inquirer reported on Wednesday, but a Pentagon official denied the report.

The newspaper, quoting unnamed US officials, said US Secretary of Defence Donald Rumsfeld was reviewing a request submitted by Paul Bremer amid escalating anti-American sentiment and attacks on US forces.

A senior Pentagon official, who asked not to be identified, denied that Bremer had asked for more troops to restore order and stem attacks. But he also told Reuters in Washington that Army General John Abizaid, who will take charge of the US Central Command next week, was studying whether to add forces, reposition them or use different types of troops.

"There has been no such request," the official said. "There are still remnants that

are going to try to do harm to our forces. And there are still going to be casualties. The other side is if you put more troops in, you put more targets in there."

There are currently about 146,000 US troops in Iraq and about 12,000 British and other allied soldiers. The official noted that more than 30 other countries had either already committed or promised additional forces to help stabilize Iraq. He did not specify the numbers promised.

On Wednesday, an American soldier died of wounds suffered in an attack in Baghdad while Iraqis vowed to wage holy war against US occupying forces after a deadly blast near a mosque west of the capital.

MNA/Reuters



## Per-capita income rises in Vietnam

HANOI, 4 July — Monthly per-capita income of Vietnamese people stood at 357,000 Vietnamese dong (VND) (23.2 US dollars) in the 2001-2002 period, rising 21.1 per cent over 1999, according to a report of the General Statistic Office (GSO) on Thursday.

The income of urban dwellers reached 626,000 VND (40.7 US dollars), 2.3 times the rural level of 276,000 VND (17.9 dollars). But, per-capita income in the Central Highlands of the country decreased 30.4 per cent due to the sharp fall in prices of coffee and some other farm products, and effects of floods and droughts.

However, the rise in the per-capita income and the living standard of local people in the 2001-2002 period was not as much as in the 1993-1998 period. And the living standard differences between urban and rural people, and between the rich and the poor were still considerable, said the GSO.

The GSO also reported that the monthly per-capita income of rich households was 8.1 times that of poor ones. The gap expanded annually, but at a low level.

MNA/Xinhua

## Vietnam's tea export up

HANOI, 4 July — Vietnam exported 18,281 tons of tea in the first five months of this year, increasing 11 per cent over the same period of last year, according to a report of local newspaper *Nhan Dan* (People) on Thursday.

However, the tea sector is being faced with many difficulties, namely fewer export markets, low tea quality, high cost production, standstill in export to Iraq — a big tea export market of Vietnam.

To help the tea sector overcome the difficulties, the Vietnamese Government has worked out plans to produce and process tea under the national standard, and created favourable conditions for tea producers to lend capital with preferential rates.

The tea sector is forecast to reach a production output of 94,500 tons, an export volume of 76,220 tons, and domestic sales of 18,280 tons this year, representing year-on-year rises of 5 per cent, 3 per cent, and 14 per cent respectively.

MNA/Xinhua

## Democrats criticize Bush's comments on Iraq

CONCORD, 4 July. —Democratic presidential hopefuls stepped up their criticism of President Bush Thursday, saying the commander in chief's "bring them on" comment regarding Iraqi forces amounted to taunting the enemy.

During a campaign appearance in New Hampshire, Dick Gephardt said Bush's comments were hardly presidential, and he complained that the president has not leveled with the American people about how tough the war's aftermath would be. The lawmaker argued that the Bush administration has mishandled postwar Iraq by failing to enlist the help of the United Nations and NATO two organizations that could provide manpower and financial aid.

"We're losing soldiers every day, and he is not putting together the international help and the international coalition to deal with this problem," the Missouri congressman said. "He doesn't deal with other countries well, and there's an arrogance, there's a state of mind in thinking that drives people away rather than bringing them in to help us."

Gephardt has been critical of Bush since major combat ended, and took issue with the comments the president made Wednesday.

"He's president — you don't taunt the enemy," Gephardt told a group of about 35 at the state library. "You try to keep our troops safe, you try to help them in what they're doing .... This phony, macho business is not getting us where we need to be."

Administration officials said Bush's tone was not meant to invite attacks on US troops, but rather to express confidence in the strength of the US military. One of Gephardt's rivals for the nomination, Bob Graham, criticized Bush's remark during a campaign stop in New Hampshire. The Senator said the phrase "may be appropriate for a referee in a Las Vegas boxing match, but not for the man we trust to lead our men and women who are in harm's way." —Internet

## More EC humanitarian aid for Iraq

BRUSSEL, 4 July — The European Commission (EC), the executive arm of the European Union (EU), approved a new humanitarian aid package worth 37 million euros (42.5 million US dollars) here on Thursday to help victims of the ongoing crisis in Iraq.

The aid is focused on supporting health, nutrition, water, sanitation and food programmes, an EC Press release said. The funds are channelled through the Humanitarian Aid Office (ECHO) and the programmes will be implemented by the United Nations and non-governmental organization partners.

"This represents another important stage in the Com-

mission's rolling programme of humanitarian support to victims of the crisis in Iraq. It is the fifth humanitarian aid decision we have taken since 21 March and underlines our ongoing commitment to deliver the assistance that is so urgently needed," European Commissioner for Humanitarian Aid Poul Nielson was quoted as saying.

MNA/Xinhua



Iraqis walk on the rubble of the destroyed section of the al-Hassan mosque in the town of Fallujah, some 50km west of Baghdad, where an imam and six theology students were killed in an explosion on 30 June. —INTERNET

## Indonesia to speed up payment of debts to IMF

JAKARTA, 4 July — Indonesia may speed up the settlement of its debt with the International Monetary Fund (IMF) prior to 2007 if the country's economy grows 6-7 per cent annually, a senior minister has said.

"We may speed up the settlement. But it also depends on the global economy," Indonesian Coordinating Minister for Economy Dorodjatun Kuntjoro-Jakti was quoted Thursday by the daily *Kompas* as saying.

Dorodjatun said Indonesia has been able to strengthen its foreign exchange reserves to 35 billion dollars in 2003 from 26 billion dollars in 2001. That amount, Dorodjatun added, may be used to fund import for eight months.

Indonesia, however, does not necessarily hurry to settle the debt. "The decision to speed up the debt settlement may be taken if the Indonesian economy is better," he said.

MNA/Xinhua



US Army soldiers look at one of their vehicles which was hit by a rocket-propelled grenade in Baghdad on 3 July, 2003. At least one US soldier and two Iraqi passers-by were wounded and in a separate incident other six US soldiers were wounded in western in the latest of a spate of increasingly bold guerrilla-style attacks. —INTERNET

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## Oregon Marine killed in Iraq

PORTLAND, 4 July — A Marine who apparently rejected a chance to come home last month became the first Oregonian killed in Iraq since President Bush declared victory.

Cpl Travis J Bradach-Nall, 21, of Portland was killed Wednesday while clearing mines, the Department of Defence said. Bradach-Nall, a member of the 7th Engineer Support Battalion, was to return to Camp Pendleton in Southern California shortly after the war was won, but volunteered to stay an extra three months, said Robert Joki of Portland, whose son Tyler entered the Marines with Bradach-Nall roughly 2 1/2 years ago.

Bradach-Nall is the first Oregonian to be killed in Iraq since major combat was officially declared over on 1 May. Six soldiers with strong Oregon ties were killed during the war Bradach-Nall's body is expected to be returned to Oregon next week. No funeral arrangements have been made, Joki said. —Internet

## Laos to keep diplomatic channel to resolve journalists case

BANGKOK, 4 July — Laos had left open political and diplomatic channels to foreign concerns over its jailing of two European journalists and their Hmong-American translator, the *Nation* newspaper reported Thursday.

The report quoted a Laotian official as saying that French, Belgian and American ambassadors met with Laotian Deputy Foreign Minister Phongsavath Boupha on July 2 to discuss political and diplomatic avenues after earlier suggesting legal appeals and presidential pardons for the three foreign prisoners.

This Monday, French photographer Vincent Reynaud, Belgian freelance reporter Thierry Falise and American pastor Naw Karl Mua along with three ethnic Hmong men were convicted by a local court of being involved in an incident that caused the death of a local militiaman, possessing war weapons and illicit narcotics and obstructing security officers. France, Belgium and the United States then said the 15-year sentences given to their citizens were too excessive. However, as to the three local Hmong received 12-to-20-year jail terms, no foreign agency has stepped forward to question their sentences.

The Laotian Government official, who declined to be identified but was present at the meeting, revealed that Phongsavath told the three representatives that his government had handled the case carefully in order to avoid harming international relations, and the punishments were fair. — MNA/Xinhua

## US condemned over Iraq rights

WASHINGTON, 4 July—A leading human rights group has criticized US treatment of detainees in Iraq, as the UN opened a workshop focusing on abuses committed by the regime of Saddam Hussein.

Amnesty International has warned that the "conditions of detention Iraqis are held under... may amount to cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, banned by international law".

The organisation says hundreds of people have been held without shelter or basic sanitation and denied access to lawyers.

But the Pentagon rejects the Amnesty allegations. Amnesty International expressed particular concern about the conditions in which detainees are held.

The group said prisoners were bound so tightly with plastic handcuffs that many still showed scars on their wrists a month after their arrest.

We spent our first night in custody lying on the ground in a school. We had no access to a toilet and were given no food or water.

Former prisoner quoted by Amnesty

International.

The group warned that a two-tier system was evolving, with prisoners in the Iraqi legal system being afforded proper protection while those in military detention were not.

"Some detainees fall into a 'black hole' detention centre at the [Baghdad International] airport; their family has no news of them and they are only entitled to a review of their detention within three weeks by a US military lawyer," the group said in a statement.

"Others arrested for similar offences are taken to Iraqi police stations and receive the protection of the procedures in the... Criminal Procedure Code... They are entitled to release if there is insufficient evidence against them," it added.

The group collected testimony from former detainees for its statement.

Internet

## Seven US soldiers wounded, in Iraq attacks

BAGHDAD, 4 July — At least seven US soldiers were injured and an Iraqi civilian was killed in two separate attacks on US forces in Iraq on Thursday, US military officials and witnesses said.

Unidentified assailants fired a rocket-propelled grenade at a US Army's Humvee vehicle on the Haifa Street in downtown Baghdad at around 10 am (0600 GMT), injuring at least one US soldier, witnesses said.

An Iraqi civilian nearby was also killed, according to US soldiers at the scene. But

some witnesses claimed US soldiers opened fire as the attackers sped away, killing a driver of another car.

Earlier in Ramadi, some 100 kilometres west of Baghdad, six US soldiers were injured when their two-vehicle convoy struck an explosive device, the US military said in a statement. — MNA/Xinhua

## Schwarzenegger takes "T3" act to troops in Gulf

LOS ANGELES, 4 July — Action movie hero Arnold "Terminator" Schwarzenegger is taking his act to US troops in the Gulf for the US Independence Day holiday, the military service organization, USO, said on Wednesday.

The Hollywood star will be screening his new movie, "Terminator 3: Rise of the Machines", for the soldiers and touring stations at several locations in the region.

The USO did not say exactly where Schwarzenegger would be visiting, and a spokeswoman was not immediately available to comment Wednesday afternoon.

MNA/Reuters

## Pa soldier killed in Iraq

WASHINGTON, 4 July—A Pennsylvania soldier was killed in Iraq. The Pentagon said US Army 1st Sgt. Christopher Coffin, of Bethlehem, was killed Tuesday when his vehicle ran into a ditch while trying to avoid a civilian vehicle. Coffin was assigned to the 352nd Civil Affairs Battalion at Riverdale, Md. — Internet

## Finn cuts wife's body in half

HELSINKI, 4 July—A Finnish man killed his wife on Saturday and cut the corpse in half so it would fit into a single plastic bag. He turned up for work on Monday but left early to confess to police.

Police spokesman Jorma Jantunen told Reuters the man, in his mid-30s, arrived at the police station and said his wife's body was in the boot of their car.

Jantunen said there was no clear motive for the crime, which the man committed after the couple had been drinking at home in Vaasa, 250 miles northwest of the capital Helsinki. — MNA/Reuters



US soldiers take aim after an explosion during a demonstration against the US Army's detention of Shiite religious leader Ali Abdul-Kareem Al-Madney in Baqubah, Iraq on 3 July, 2003. One person was killed and at least five injured as a plastic bag filled with explosives blew up in the middle of a crowd of a few hundred Iraqi demonstrators. —INTERNET

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Iraqi men look at a damaged car which was near a US Army vehicle which was hit by a rocket-propelled grenade in Baghdad on 3 July, 2003. At least one US soldier and two Iraqi passers-by were wounded in the attack on Thursday and in a separate incident six US soldiers were wounded in western Iraq in the latest of a spate of increasingly bold guerrilla-style attacks. —INTERNET

## Latam countries oppose US pressure over ICC

BOGOTA, 4 July—Latin American countries reacted with anger or indifference to a US decision to suspend military aid to countries which refused to grant immunity to Americans from the International Criminal Court (ICC).

In Colombia, lawmakers saw the possibility of the US freezing its assistance to combat drug trafficking and terrorism as an act of aggression.

Senate Vice-President Dario Martinez on Wednesday expressed his discontent with the US attempt to exempt its service-men from the ICC.

Colombia's Lower House Representative Armando Benedetti saw the decision of the United States severe damage to the morale of the troops combating terrorist groups in Colombia.

Colombian President Alvaro Uribe, on the other hand, was confident that Washington would not ultimately cut off military aid to his war-torn country.

He said on Wednesday that the Colom-

bian Government "has to remain in dialogue with the United States."

The United States Tuesday announced to suspend more than 47 million US dollars in military assistance to 35 countries for not signing agreements to give immunity to US troops from the International Criminal Court.

Colombia, as the third largest recipient of US military assistance after Israel and Egypt, insists that a 1962 agreement, renewed in 2000, already protects US citizens from the ICC. Over the past three years, Colombia has received more than two billion US dollars in aid through Plan Colombia.

Besides Colombia, Latin American countries affected by Washington's decision Venezuela.

MNA/Xinhua

## Moscow shivers in coldest June in 62 years

Moscow, 4 July—Moscow residents could eventually shake off their thick coats and enjoy the long-awaited sunshine from Wednesday on, bidding farewell to the rare showery and shivery June.

This capital city of Russia had suffered its coldest June in 62 years this year as it was shuddering in the av-

erage temperature of 13 degrees Celsius, the *Moscow Times* newspaper quoted a top meteorologist as saying.

The past month's weather was the coldest since the Nazi Germany invaded the former Soviet Union in June 1941, said Roman Vilfand, director of the country's leading meteorological research centre. He said the usual average temperature for June in Moscow is 17.5 degrees.

This year's cold spell was due to the relatively rare atmospheric occurrences of gusts of cold air from the

Arctic and low pressure in the upper parts of the troposphere, the layer of the atmosphere that starts at the ground and stretches up to 16 kilometres, Vilfand said.

The meteorologist predicted that starting from Thursday, Moscow should see at least three weeks of warm weather, with daylight temperatures from 23 to 27 degrees. The Moscow residents have been suffering the coldness for weeks and even saw a brief snowfall at the beginning of June. The last June snowfall was about 30 years ago. —MNA/Xeuters

## Cold snap kills 66 children in Peruvian Andes

LIMA, 4 July—Sixty-six children under five years old have died of pneumonia and other respiratory diseases after a cold snap hit the Peruvian Andes, the Health Ministry said on Wednesday.

Eleven of the deaths were reported in hospital centres while the rest died at home. —MNA/Xinhua



## Letter shows Blair's top aide's role over dossier on Iraq

LONDON, 4 July — A leaked letter has revealed that British Prime Minister Tony Blair's Press chief, Alastair Campbell, suggested 11 changes to a key dossier on Iraq that was published by the British Government last September, the British *Guardian* newspaper reported Thursday.

Campbell's letter, which has been sent to the Commons Foreign Affairs Committee and obtained by the paper, showed that six of his proposed changes were acted on, four others were not and one was already under way.

The letter, which bears the full approval of John Scarlett, chairman of the Joint Intelligence Committee (JIC), reveals the level of discussions about points of detail between Campbell and Scarlett over the dossier which claims that Iraq could launch biological and chemical attacks within 45 minutes.

The paper indicated that Campbell's letter made it clear that the 45-minute claim came from JIC intelligence and was not inserted to the dossier by Blair's office.

The paper also said that some Labour lawmakers on the Foreign Affairs Committee viewed the letter as a key evidence for exonerating Campbell from the ongoing row over the use of intelligence material.

The BBC, on the basis of information from senior British source, claimed that Campbell transformed the dossier and inserted changes against the wishes of the intelligence

agencies.

The Foreign Affairs Committee is investigating whether Blair's office had exaggerated threat from Iraq's alleged weapons of mass destruction and thus misled the public and the Parliament in the run-up to the US-led war against Iraq.

Campbell, who was also said to spell out in the letter the timeline of his involvement in the production of the dossier, has already appeared before the committee and denied "sexing up" the document.

Blair, who has been under great pressure over the failure of coalition forces in finding any alleged banned weapons in Iraq months since the US announced that major military campaign in the country was over, also repeatedly insisted allegations that his office had exaggerated the danger from Iraq's illegal weapons were untrue.

The Foreign Affairs Committee was reportedly to publish its report on the government's reasons for war on Iraq and its claims regarding Iraq's weapons of mass destruction on 7 July. — MNA/Xinhua

## Russia ends analysis of nuclear fuel protocol with Iran

Moscow, 4 July — Russia has finished analysis of the additional protocol on the return of spent nuclear fuel from Iran to Russia, paving the way for nuclear fuel shipments to Iran, officials said Thursday.

Russian Nature Resources Ministry will present the conclusions of the experts' analysis to the Atomic Energy Ministry as early as next week, *ITAR-TASS* quoted sources with the Nature Resources Ministry as saying.

The sources said the ministry's experts had no questions to ask. Russia is helping Iran build a nuclear power plant in Bushehr. It has vowed to continue cooperating with Iran on peaceful nuclear projects despite the US allegations that Iran may use the plant for developing nuclear arms.

The Natural Resources Ministry's approval eliminates the last obstacle to the conclusion of the additional protocol between Russia and Iran, crucial to the beginning of nuclear fuel supplies to Bushehr. Besides, it will allow the Atomic Energy Ministry to begin concluding contracts with Russian nuclear fuel providers for launching the first reactor at Bushehr. The ministry's approval was made one day after Iranian Vice-President Gholamreza Aghazadeh, who is also the head of the country's atomic energy organization, ended his three-day visit to Russia, during which the two sides have confirmed their determination to continue nuclear cooperation. — MNA/Xinhua

## Malaysia to host ASEAN gas centre

KUALA LUMPUR, 4 July — ASEAN Energy Ministers had endorsed the establishment of the ASEAN Gas Centre, Malaysian Energy, Communications and Multimedia Minister Leo Moggie said on Thursday.

"The 21st ASEAN Ministers Energy Meeting (AMEM) endorsed the establishment of ASEAN Gas Centre and Malaysia is very happy to accept the decision to host the gas centre," Leo said at the close of the one-day meeting held in Langkawi, north Malaysia.

He said that the centre would serve as a strategic technical and information resource and capacity building centre. It would help in the facilitation and implementation of the Trans-ASEAN Gas Pipeline (TAGP) and gas development programmes in ASEAN, he said.

"This is the milestone achievement during the meeting, recommended by ASEAN Council on Petroleum (Ascope), Senior Officials Meeting on Energy (SOME) and the ministers who attended the meeting," he

said. AMEM, the highest authority on energy matters in the region, is an annual forum of ASEAN Energy Ministers to promote cooperation in the energy sectors among the 10 members of the Association of South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN) countries. The meeting also felt that there was a need to review and update the ASEAN Petroleum Security Agreement (APSA), which was signed in 1986, in order to ensure the region was better prepared for ensuring the security of the energy supply, he said.

"The ministers have also agreed to enhance the ASEAN Energy Business Forum (AEBF) as an important platform for facilitating business interaction, technology exchange and project financing opportunities between ASEAN energy authorities and the private sector," he said. — MNA/Xinhua



An Iraqi woman points to a bullet hole in the glass door of her home after US soldiers chased unknown assailants who fired an RPG (Rocket Propelled Grenade) at a passing Humvee vehicle on 3 July, 2003, in Baghdad, Iraq. According to witnesses, one soldier was wounded and an Iraqi bystander was killed. — INTERNET

## 56 American service personnel killed in Iraq in 33 days

WASHINGTON, 4 July — US Central Command has reported the deaths of 56 American service personnel in Iraq since 1 May when President Bush declared that major combat was over.

Of the dead, at least 18 were killed in combat, typically in ambushes involving rocket-propelled grenades (RPG) and sniper attacks.

In the same period, UK forces lost six servicemen - all members of the Military Police who were attacked in a village about 160 kilometres (100 miles) north of Basra.

The following entries are based on day-to-day Central Command news releases and do not cover war-related casualties outside Iraq or the possible deaths of soldiers succumbing to their wounds at a later stage.

**3 July:** A soldier (1st Armoured Division) dies of gunshot wounds in a 'non-combat' related incident.

**2 July:** A Marine (1st Expeditionary Force) dies and three are injured while conducting mine clearing operations in Karbala.

**2 July:** A US soldier dies from wounds received when his convoy was hit by an improvised explosive device in Baghdad the previous day.

**28 June:** The remains of two soldiers missing since 25th June are recovered 20 miles outside Baghdad.

**27 June:** One soldier (1st Armoured Division) killed and four injured in a grenade attack in the Thawra area of Baghdad.

**26 June:** One soldier (1st Marine Expeditionary Force) killed in ambush while investigating a car theft in An Najaf.

**26 June:** One special forces soldier killed and eight injured in a 'hostile fire' incident in south-west Baghdad.

**25 June:** One soldier (1st Marine Expeditionary Force) killed and two are injured when their armoured vehicle overturns as they rush to help colleagues under fire.

**24 June:** Soldier (1st Armoured Division) dies in a "non-combat incident". No details given.

**22 June:** One soldier (1st Armoured Division) killed and one injured in a grenade attack on a military convoy south of Baghdad, in Khan Azad.

**19 June:** One soldier (804th Medical Brigade) killed and two injured in an RPG attack on a military ambulance in an area north of Camp Dogwood in the town of Iskandariya.

**18 June:** One soldier killed (1st Armoured Division) and one wounded in a gun attack at a petrol distribution plant in Baghdad.

**17 June:** Soldier (First Ar-

moured Division) mortally wounded by sniper in north-west Baghdad.

**16 June:** Soldier (1st Marine Expeditionary Force) dies of "non-hostile gunshot wound" in An Najaf.

**15 June:** Soldier mortally wounded in "an apparent non-hostile incident" in the Taji area. No further details given.

**13 June:** One soldier (V Corps) dies and eight are injured in an armoured vehicle rollover accident 20 kilometres south of Asad Air Base.

**13 June:** Soldier drowns while swimming in lake near Falluja.

**10 June:** One paratrooper (82nd Airborne Division) killed and one injured in RPG attack in south-west Baghdad.

**8 June:** Soldier shot dead while manning a traffic control point in Qaim.

**7 June:** One soldier killed and four wounded in RPG and gun attack near Tikrit.

**6 June:** One soldier killed and two injured in a vehicle accident about 35 kilometres north of Baghdad.

**6 June:** Navy Seabee (serving with the First Marine Expeditionary Force) killed handling unexploded ordnance in Kut.

**5 June:** One soldier (101st

Airborne Division) killed and five wounded in Falluja in an RPG attack.

**2 June:** Soldier (Fourth Infantry Division) mortally wounded in RPG and gun attack near Balad.

**30 May:** Three soldiers die as result of vehicle accident between Mosul and Tikrit.

**29 May:** Soldier "killed by hostile fire" while travelling on a main supply route. No further details.

**27 May:** Two soldiers killed and nine wounded in RPG and gun attack in Falluja.

**26 May:** Soldier drowns "after diving into an aqueduct" south of Kirkuk.

**26 May:** One soldier killed and three injured when their vehicles runs over mine or unexploded ordnance. No further details.

**26 May:** One soldier killed and two injured in a collision with a tractor.

**26 May:** One soldier (3rd Armoured Cavalry Regiment) killed and one wounded in ambush on their convoy near Hadithah, about 193 km north-west of Baghdad.

**25 May:** One soldier killed and one injured in an apparent accidental blast at a former Iraqi munitions dump.

**21 May:** Soldier killed in vehi-

cle accident near Baqubah.

**19 May:** All four crew members killed when Sea Knight helicopter crashes in the Shat Hilla Canal. One marine drowns while trying to rescue the crew.

**19 May:** One soldier killed in traffic accident near Safwan.

**18 May:** One soldier killed and one wounded in traffic accident near Samawa.

**18 May:** Soldier (Fourth Infantry Division) dies of "non-hostile gunshot wound".

**17 May:** One soldier killed and three injured while detonating unexploded ordnance in Baghdad.

**14 May:** One soldier killed and two injured in traffic accident near Irbil.

**13 May:** One soldier killed in accidental munitions explosion near Hilla.

**12 May:** Two soldiers killed in accidental munitions explosion.

**9 May:** Three soldiers killed and one injured in helicopter crash near Samarra.

**8 May:** Soldier killed by lone gunman in Baghdad.

**4 May:** Soldier dies in apparent suicide.

**3 May:** Soldier dies in apparent accidental shooting.

**1 May:** Soldier killed in traffic accident near Habbaniya. — Internet

# *Daw Suu Kyi, the NLD Party and Our Ray of Hope*

*Maung Yin Hmaing*



*State Peace and Development Council Members headed by Chairman Senior General Than Shwe and NLD Party leadership seen at a family dinner.*

## **Is it a shadowy dream?**

This question is just an attempt to convey my own personal feelings for I believe that a person may "Express his feelings without putting the blame on anyone". I do not intend to hold anyone guilty.

Recently foreign broadcasting stations and other media, have between them, been distorting and exaggerating their news reports concerning the disturbances that occurred at Dabayin and its after-effects. To listen to them one would think the world was on the brink of destruction. And what if they should further imply that this was a deliberate and direct confrontation between the present Government and the NLD party ... ..?

The question as to who were involved in hatching such a plot to create conditions that would unavoidably lead to a direct confrontation is indeed a mystery! In other words it is the key to the whole problem.

To put it frankly, from the time our NLD party leader Auntie Suu who as an ordinary housewife ventured into the Myanmar political arena, every circumstance has been in her favour. The way to her entry into politics was smooth with no obstacles whatsoever.

However, if someone should ask whether Auntie Suu's political stance, and her judgments which

overshadow our entire NLD Party, have the power to unerringly steer our party on a national political course that would help rebuild our country as a modern and developed nation. ... ..?

In reply to such question, I have to honestly admit, that I (or we) have no such proof or evidence that would unconditionally satisfy the Myanmar voting public. If this is pointed out as the weakness of our party members, then we have no reasonable grounds to refute it.

As far as I understand during the lifetime of our party the relations between Auntie Suu and responsible leaders of the Government in power have not been rigid and inflexible. So we believe that the present Government has not entertained any ulterior motives to deny Auntie Suu's political career a chance to survive and flourish.

Due to this conviction, people like myself, and a few others have, to this day remained faithful party members. For myself, in spite of my personal opinions, I do not wish to be presumptuous enough to criticize the party's policies, its short-term and long-term plans and projects and the means of implementation.

But .....I have quite a lot to say as a member of the NLD party with regard to my hopes that were dashed and destroyed at times or at some point or other.

I do not wish to comment on the standpoint on which Auntie Suu has functioned as a party leader since the founding of the NLD party as a legitimate political organization.

The way she considers the NLD as if she owns it, and acts as sole proprietor of the organization is certainly not in tune with the desires of the rest of NLD party members.

Auntie Suu is a willful and hard-headed person liable to rash judgments followed by blind action, in her relations with the present Government. Nevertheless, whatever the provocation, responsible leaders of the present government, preferring to act with forbearance, and on the basis of give and take, have always chosen to take action in moderation.

The problem is -----

I, myself, am not a person in the habit of carrying tales about this and that to Auntie Suu like others who wish to curry favour and also benefit from handouts, by going in the front door or sneaking in through the back - door. So I am not on close terms with her.

What I wish to say is that for us it is more important for the entire NLD party to be active on a higher political  
(See page 9)



*The construction of Yangon-Thanlyin Bridge No 2 in progress. (News on page 1) — MNA*



## Daw Suu Kyi...

(from page 8)

standing than for the fame of Auntie Suu's name.

This however rests entirely on Auntie Suu's political standpoint and moves. So the situation is that, for us, our only hope is for good relations and better understanding between Auntie Suu and responsible leaders of the nation. Maybe I can say that there was at one time a ray of hope. On 6 May 2002, the authorities granted Auntie Suu permission to travel throughout the country without restraint. As soon as these restraints were removed, the deserted and drab NLD Divisional party Headquarters on West Shwegondine road began to come alive and bustle with activity.

Auntie Suu's speech and manners and attitudes also underwent a great change. She no longer staged gatherings on one pretext or another - gatherings where party members were mere onlookers, like the audience gazing at mediums dancing in a spirit show (Nat pwe).

As the party office began to hum with activity, all kinds of reports and news arrived. There was news that even before UN Special Envoy Razali came to Myanmar and met with Auntie Suu, she was said to have met many times with top-ranking leaders of government; that the Head of State and Auntie Suu had met three or four times and that the NLD party leadership, including Auntie Suu, had had dinner with the leaders of government headed by the Head of State. It was also reported that an official group led by a minister of government had met several times with Auntie Suu. There was much news and all seemed to be positive and encouraging.

Party members were also very interested in who represented the government side at these meetings. So, those of us who belonged to the inner circle with access to Auntie Suu's compound were kept busy answering their questions one after another. But my difficulty was that the only visitor I remembered was Brig-Gen Than Tun. I think, maybe he came in and out of the compound over a hundred times. What was significant was that Auntie Suu who usually spoke sarcastically and with some wit and irony, began to refrain from provocative remarks that could lead to direct confrontation with the government in her public speeches. It could be said that she was being more restrained.

When going on her travels, she no longer turned left after saying she was going to the right, nor did she act impulsively to just get up and go wherever her mood took her. She instead contacted Brig-Gen Than Tun to consult him and ask for his suggestions before travelling. We, who knew this situation, were glad to see the frequent meetings and consultations between the NLD and the authorities and the good and friendly relations that prevailed between them. But we also hoped that this would progress further and lead to a more frank and closer exchange of views and better understanding.

However, one day Brig-Gen Than Tun arrived and there was a conversation. But when he had departed Auntie Suu flew into a rage. We of course as usual had to make ourselves scarce to cower in corners here and there to escape her wrath. Otherwise we would bear the brunt of her anger.

When I made some discreet inquiries I found out the reason why:

Yes! -We had a plan to travel to Shan State (South) and Shan State (East). The original plan was to travel from Taunggyi to Kengtung by car. One of the granduncles who belonged to the party leadership had even given instructions to take along pick-axes and shovels on this journey. Another granduncle, who always spoke with



*Frank and cordial exchange of views can lead to consolidated national political future of the nation.*

sarcasm said - "If you want to be such heroes, why don't you go and climb Mt. Everest?"

I don't know whether it was a stroke of luck? But when Brig-Gen Than Tun came back, he brought the news that the higher authorities prohibited Auntie Suu from making the journey from Taunggyi to Kengtung by car. I have a reason for saying it was a stroke of luck. I have never once been on that road. So, I asked those who had been there. I was told that if the car should break down anywhere between Nantsang-Kunhein and Kengtung, one would be given up as lost. Silently I thanked the authorities concerned for forbidding the car journey.

Actually, the authorities had not forbidden her to go on this tour, but had only prohibited her from making the journey by car. Finally, arrangements were made for her to go by air from Heho, so we all arrived in Kengtung within a few hours. On the airplane, one could not have imagined that Auntie Suu had flown into a rage over this matter. Whatever any one may say, in my view, during this countrywide trip of NLD party members headed by Auntie Suu, undertaken after systematic planning and co-ordination with the authorities, went smoothly without a hitch with no cause for anxiety except for minor mishaps such as a car break-down and weariness from travel.

When we toured new dams and irrigation sites responsible officials on their part extended every courtesy and hospitality to Auntie Suu and party and treating us as V.I.P. visitors, they gave us detailed briefings on the construction concerned. In Mandalay also, on our visits to Pagodas to pay homage we were given full V.I.P. treatment with flowers, candles and water for offerings at the Buddha shrine. With such privileges at our disposal on these trips, we also began to understand what status and responsibility really meant. We began self-consciously to button up the front and straighten our "Pinnee" cotton jackets. When standing still we also tried all sorts of postures with hands clasped in front, or behind to appear dignified. In fact most of us were carried away, trying to imagine ourselves as high-ranking officials on inspection tour without paying heed to reminders from some of our companions. In short,

the arrangements the authorities had made for our tour made us feel warm and welcome. It also contributed greatly to opening our eyes and bringing about a change in our views.

But ...

In between these tours, I began to sense and feel a decline in the attitudes of some members of the NLD leadership and in Auntie Suu. They had started to furtively plot mischief and make plans to hit below the belt. Seeing this development I was heavy-hearted and filled with foreboding for future developments, but there was nothing I could do. Nor did I want to think of what consequences could follow in the future.

At this point, no one can foretell for certain, what circumstances or what tragic fate awaits our organization.

Or shall I point the finger at fate - a fate that is of our own making.

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## ဒါတွေကို သိဖို့လိုတယ်

- \* မြောက်တိုင်းလည်း မမြောက်နဲ့။
- \* မြောက်တိုင်းလည်း မကြောက်နဲ့။
- \* ချောတိုင်းလည်း မပျောနဲ့။

## Nursery Market Festival continues

YANGON, 12 June — The Nursery Market Festival continued at Myaypadetha Park in Bahan Township here today with the aim of providing necessary assistance to growers and attracting the public to take interest in agriculture, horticulture, livestock breeding and vegetable farming. Kitchen crops, fruits and saplings of herbal plants are being shown at the festival. — MNA



*The construction of Yangon-Thanlyin Bridge No 2 in progress. (News on page 1) — MNA*



Aerial view of Mone Creek Multi-purpose Dam Project being built in Magway Division.

## Mone Creek Dam Hydel Power Project ...

(from page 16)

The overflow tank, with 87 feet in diameter and 187 feet in depth, that includes in the project is the first and biggest one in Myanmar built by Myanmar engineers.

Mone Creek Multi-purpose Dam Project is being jointly implemented by the Irrigation Department and the Hydro-electric Power Department. The Hydro-electric Power Department is undertaking the tasks for installing steel frame at sluice gate, diversion tunnel and high-pressure tunnel. Moreover, it is also undertaking the tasks for building power generation plant, installation of turbines and generators, construction of outlet tunnel, installation of power lines and building of sub-power stations.

Twenty-one Chinese experts of CTIC Technology Co.Ltd of the People's Republic of China are also participating in the project.

Under the project, 532 pieces of steel pipes with 4.3 metres in diameter are ready to use in the three high-pressure tunnels and 165 steel pipes have been welded

together by using Auto Welding. Moreover, 46 pipes with 83 metres in length and 54 pipes with 97 metres in length have been installed at No 1 high-pressure tunnel and No 3 high-pressure tunnel respectively.

On completion of Mone Creek Hydel Power Plant, three 25 megawatt generators will supply 330 kilowatt hours of electricity yearly. Plans are being made to supply electricity from the project to Chauk Main Power Station and then to the respective regions through power grid. Under the plan, 132 KV electricity will be supplied to Chauk Power Station by installing 260 grid towers.

As grid towers have been built and power lines installed, electricity is being supplied to Mone Creek Dam Project from Chauk.

Moreover, electricity is also supplied to Sedoktara, two miles from the project and thus people in the town have now enjoyed the 24-hour power supply.

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(Translation:BG)

(Kyemon: 31-5-2003)

## CD-ROMs, publications, stamps and postcards donated to IPRD

YANGON, 4 July—

The Indian Embassy to the Union of Myanmar presented CD-ROMs, publications in English, 850 stamps and 850 postcards to Information and Public Relations Department under the Ministry of Information at the ministry on Bo Aung Kyaw Street here this morning, attended by Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan. Also present on the occasion were Deputy Minister Brig-Gen Aung Thein, Indian Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Rajiv Kumar Bhatia and the embassy staff, Director-General of IPRD U Chit Naing, Managing Director of Printing and Publishing Enterprise U Myint Thein, Managing Director of News and Periodicals Enterprise U Tin Kha, Managing Director of Myanmar Motion Pictures Enterprise U Bo Kyi and officials.

First, Mr Rajiv Kumar Bhatia presented CD-ROMs, publications in Eng-



Minister Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan accepts the CD-ROMs, publications, stamps and postcards from the Indian Ambassador. — MNA

lish, stamps and postcards to the minister who presented a certificate of honour to the wellwisher.

Next, Mr Rajiv Kumar Bhatia explained the purpose of the donation. Afterwards, the minister spoke words of thanks, which brought the ceremony to a close.

MNA

## International Cooperative Day hailed

YANGON, 4 July — As a gesture of hailing the 2003 International Co-operative Day, cooperative societies in Pabedan Township on 27 June collectively paid K 652,446 and five pyas in income tax for 2002-2003 fiscal year at the township cooperative syndicate. — MNA

## People's Desire

- \* Oppose those relying on external elements, acting as stooges, holding negative views
- \* Oppose those trying to jeopardize stability of the State and progress of the nation
- \* Oppose foreign nations interfering in internal affairs of the State
- \* Crush all internal and external destructive elements as the common enemy

## Efficient use of electricity

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

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

## Efficient use of fuel

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

## SARS PREVENTION

- \* There is no outbreak of SARS in Myanmar.
- \* Preventive measures are being taken against the spread of SARS from other countries.
- \* The people are urged to participate in the project.



## More fish in rice field



စပါးကရွှေ ငါးကရွှေ လယ်ယာသားငါး ပြည့်စီးပွား။  
ကျေးလက်ဒေသဖွံ့ဖြိုးဖို့ စပါးငါးမှာ ငါးမွေးဖို့။

## အမျိုးသားအဆင့် ငှက်ဖျားရောဂါ ကာကွယ်နှိမ်နင်းရေး လှုပ်ရှားမှု ရက်သတ္တပတ်

(၇-၇-၂၀၀၃ မှ ၁၁-၇-၂၀၀၃ ထိ)

ငှက်ဖျားရောဂါသည် ပုံမှန်အားဖြင့် တောတောင် ထူထပ်သော ဒေသနှင့် ကမ်းရိုးတန်းဒေသများတွင် မိမိဖြစ်ပွားလေ့ ရှိပါသည်။ သို့ရာတွင် ငှက်ဖျားရောဂါ ဖြစ်ပွားမှုနည်းပါးသော မြေပြန့် ဒေသများတွင် ငှက်ဖျားပိုးသယ်ဆောင်သည့် ခြင်္သေ့ငှက်များပါက ယင်းဒေသတွင် ကပ်ရောဂါအသွင် ကူးစက်ပြန့်ပွား၍ ပြင်းထန် ဖြစ်ပွားကာ အသက်ဆုံးရှုံးနိုင်ပါသည်။ ထို့ကြောင့် ငှက်ဖျားရောဂါ ဖြစ်ပွားသည်ဟု သံသယရှိပါက နီးစပ်ရာ ကျွန်ုပ်တို့အဖွဲ့များသို့ အမြန်ဆုံးသွားရောက် ကုသမှုခံယူပါ။

ကျန်းမာရေးဝန်ကြီးဌာန

MNA





Secretary-1 General Khin Nyunt hears reports on construction of Yangon-Thanlyin Bridge-2 by Minister for Construction Maj-Gen Saw Tun.— MNA

## Secretary-1 inspects Yangon-Thanlyin...

(from page 1)

Afterwards, the Secretary-1 observed the progress in implementing the project and facilities under construction from the observation tower.

The Yangon-Thanlyin Bridge-2 is being built on Bago River. It will be 4,540 feet long. The motorway on it will be 72 feet wide flanked by six-foot pedestrian lanes. The clearance is 130 feet wide and 18 feet high. Its maximum loading capacity is 75 tons. —MNA

## Moebye Reservoir, agriculture and construction works inspected in Pekhon and Pinlaung

YANGON, 4 July — Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Aung Htwe of the Ministry of Defence, accompanied by Shan State Peace and Development Council Chairman Eastern Command Commander Maj-Gen Khin Maung Myint and officials, inspected the Moebye Reservoir on 29 June afternoon.

U Maung Maung Gyi, in-charge of the reservoir, reported to Lt-Gen Aung Htwe on water supply from the reservoir and storage of water at the reservoir. Lt-Gen Aung Htwe gave instructions on storage of the desired amount of water and arrangements for supply of the required amount of water to the Belu Creek Hydel Power Station.

Lt-Gen Aung Htwe and party inspected the thriving plantations of summer

paddy cultivated with the use of water from the Moebye Reservoir.

Lt-Gen Aung Htwe and party next went to the construction site of Pekhon Township Hall in Pekhon, where he heard reports on the construction of the hall and tasks to be undertaken, and gave instructions on timely completion of the hall meeting the set standards. He also attended to the requirements.

In the evening, Lt-Gen Aung Htwe arrived at the construction site of an office in Naungtaya town, where he looked into the progress in the construction of the office building and six-unit staff quarters, and gave instructions.

At the briefing hall of the construction site of Naungtaya police station, Lt-Gen Aung Htwe heard reports on successful culti-

vation of coffee, tea, potato, chilli, and onion, arrangements for the extension of sown acreage, and agricultural work of local farmers. The station commander of the township police station also reported on the construction of staff quarters in the station.

After hearing reports, Lt-Gen Aung Htwe gave instructions on the use of quality strains for high yield of crops, the extension of sown acreage, and maintenance of staff quarters. He also fulfilled the requirements of local farmers.

Later, Lt-Gen Aung Htwe inspected thriving potato plantations of local farmers in Nantaing Village, Pinlaung Township. He also cordially met with local farmers and left instructions on the extension of sown acreage by making use of high quality strains. —MNA

## Sports gear provided to U-13, U-17, U-21 players of Yangon Division

YANGON, 4 July — Under the programme for improvement of football standard of youths, the Ministry of Sports provided sports gear to youth football teams of Yangon Division for the second time at Pyidaungsu Hall at Kyaikkasan Grounds, here, at 7 am today, attended by Chairman of Yangon Divi-

sion Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Myint Swe and Chairman of Myanmar Olympic Committee Minister for Sports Brig-Gen Thura Aye Myint.

Also present were President of Myanmar Football Federation Director-General of Sports and Physical Edu-

cation Department U Thaung Htaik, No 4 Military Region Commander Col Yan Naing Oo, local authorities, officials of the Ministry of Sports, the chairman of Yangon Division Soccer Sub-committee and coaches and players of the under-13, the under-17 and the under-21 teams.

The minister gave a speech. Next, the minister presented sports gear for the youth football teams and cash assistance for the coaches to Chairman of the Yangon Division Soccer Sub-committee Brig-Gen Myint Swe (Retd). The Ministry of Sports provided sports gear worth K 667,750 to the players. —MNA

## Myanmar, Japan friendly soccer match on 6 July

YANGON, 4 July — Selected Myanmar football team and selected Japan football team of Japanese Football Federation will play a friendly football match at Youth Training Centre (Thuwunna) at 4 pm on 6 July.

The grand stand fee is K 500 per head and stall K 200. — MNA



The map showing water supply system to Kayan and Thongwa townships from Moeyungyi Lake through canals.— MNA

## "Today Myanmar" comes out

YANGON, 4 July — "Today Myanmar", volume 6 No 1, compiled by the Information and Public Relations Department and published by the Ministry of Information, is now on sale beginning today.

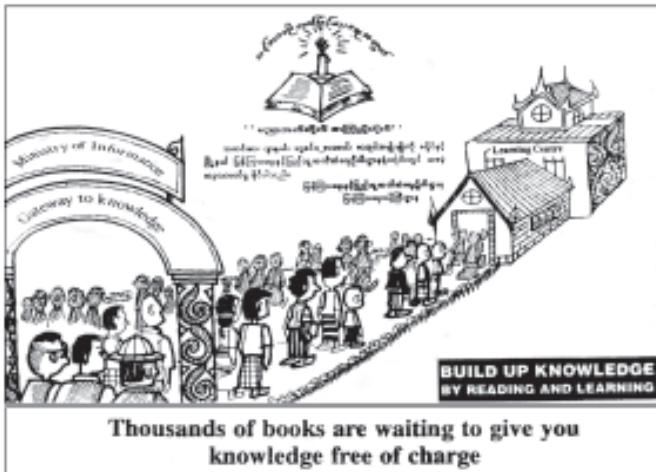
With numerous colour photos, the book features Head of State Senior General Than Shwe's trips within and without the country, the goodwill visit of the royal princess of Thailand to Myanmar, the signing of two agreements between Myanmar and Bangladesh, the Myanmar-Vietnam perpetual friendship, the New Destiny Project, the Rice Bowl offered to the Lawka Chantha Abhaya Labha Muni Buddha Image, the third royal elephant Yatimala, and noteworthy facts about Myanmar.

The book can be bought at the Sarpay Beikman Book Shop on Merchant Street, the book shop of the News and Periodicals Enterprise on Theinbyu Road, the IPRD (Head Office), and district and township offices. — MNA

## CPT Minister receives foreign guests

YANGON, 4 July — Minister for Communications, Posts and Telegraphs Brig-Gen Thein Zaw received Indian Ambassador Mr Rajiv Kumar Bhatia at 3 pm and General Manager Mr Lin Pencheng and party of Alcatel Shanghai Bell Company of the People's Republic of China at 3.30 pm at his office today.

They discussed communications works. — MNA



## ADVERTISEMENTS

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Win Mu Tin,  
M.A., H.G.P., D.B.L.  
for MUDD, LLC  
P.O. Box 60, Yangon  
Dated: 5 July 2003

*Cambodia  
to  
conserve  
fishery  
resources*

## Conjoined Iranian twins risk life in Singapore surgery

SINGAPORE, 4 July — Two conjoined, adult Iranian sisters will undergo an unprecedented operation in Singapore on Sunday to separate them at the head, raising the ethical question of high-risk surgery when a life is not at risk.

Law graduates Ladan and Laleh Bijani, 29, will be seated for an operation expected to last at least 48 hours, Raffles Hospital said on Tuesday. Both have said they are willing to take the slim chance of success for the opportunity to lead separate lives.

"We've been praying

every day for our operation. We are excited about it as we've waited 29 years for it," they said in a statement released by the hospital.

"Both of us have started

on this journey together and we hope that the operation will finally bring us to the end of this difficult path, and we may begin our new and wonderful lives as two sepa-

rate persons."

Twins joined at the head occur only once in every two million live births, and successful separation is even rarer. —MNA/Reuters

## IEA says high oil prices hurting world economy

VIENNA, 4 July — The head of the West's energy watchdog, the International Energy Agency, said on Wednesday that current high oil prices were partly to blame for sluggish world economic growth.

Claude Mandil said the recovery of Iraq's oil industry after the US invasion had been much slower than anyone expected and the country was still pumping about a third of its prewar levels.

"The prices are too high for everybody, too high for the world economy, and that is one of the reasons the economy is sluggish and not recovering very well," Mandil told reporters after a news conference in Vienna.

Benchmark Brent crude oil has averaged 26.45 US dollars per barrel since the beginning of 2000, when OPEC set a 25-US-dollar target for its own oil. This is a 44-per-cent increase on the previous decade, when Brent averaged 18.37 US dollars.

Mandil said high oil prices also paradoxically damaged the long-term interests of OPEC, because the 11-member group would lose market share to rival exporters in its attempt to keep prices up.

"It is not good for consuming countries and in the long term it is not good for OPEC countries either because with such a price they are losing market share."

"The level of prices allows for a lot of production coming from non-OPEC countries, even if it is oil that is more costly," Mandil said.

"I think OPEC should be cautious to try to maintain its market share and find the market price that corresponds

to that," he added.

Western economists estimate the marginal cost of world oil production is around 15 US dollars per barrel, almost half current prices. OPEC countries need the extra 10 US dollars per barrel to fund their government finances. The International Energy Agency, an arm of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, was set up in the 1970s to defend the interests of Western oil importing countries against the cartel power of the Organization of the Petroleum-Exporting Countries, dominated by Middle Eastern states.

OPEC is set to hold a policy meeting on July 31. —MNA/Reuters

မြန်မာ့စွယ်စုံကျမ်း

## S-E Asia's first robotic surgical system installed in Singapore

SINGAPORE, 4 July — The Singapore General Hospital (SGH) has installed the first robotic surgical system in Southeast Asia, the Channel NewsAsia reported on Wednesday.

The robotic surgical system at the SGH's Urology Centre, called Da Vinci, means for patients the shorter hospital stays and faster recovery.

The more than 1.12 million US dollars system also means the possible use of key-hole surgery in heart operations.

The system's three-dimension view can

easily find delicate tissues during surgery and cuts operating time by up to half, reducing the risk of "fatigue trauma" following a long surgery.

The two robotic arms are reportedly controlled by the surgeon using a console next to the operating table.

MNA/Xinhua

## Zimbabwe expands "AIDS" programme

HARARE, 4 July — The Zimbabwean Ministry of Health and Child Welfare has expanded the Prevention of Mother to Child Transmission (PMTCT) of HIV/AIDS programme to 41 district hospitals, local newspaper the Herald reported Wednesday.

The programme, initiated by the AIDS and Tuberculosis Unit in the ministry in 1999, equips women with information on how they can reduce the transmission of HIV/AIDS from a pregnant mother to the child during birth through the use of an anti-retroviral drug called Nevirapine.

AIDS and tuberculosis national coordinator Agnes Mahomva said the PMTCT centres would be operational at public and private hospitals around the country.

She said Zimbabwe has 41 district hospitals that have registered as PMTCT centres and the ministry hopes to cover all hospitals in the country before the end of the year. —MNA/Xinhua

## NATO's military command not to move to Warsaw

SOFIA, 4 July — The military command of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) will not move to Warsaw, the Bulgarian daily Work quoted NATO Secretary-General George Robertson as saying on Tuesday.

One should not believe rumours that the United States will block the construction on the new Headquarters of NATO in Brussels or that NATO is falling apart, or that a similar alliance will be formed, Robertson said in an interview.

Robertson also said the forthcoming NATO enlargement now is more difficult than the previous one, not just because there are more countries, but because greater changes must be made.

NATO sets strict political and military requirements, Robertson said, adding that Bulgaria has much to do about its Army's mobility and rearmament.

MNA/Xinhua



# မညာရေးဖြင့် ခေတ်မီပို့ပြီးတိုးတက်သော နိုင်ငံတော်ကြီး တည်ဆောက်အံ့



Japan's space shuttle, an unmanned swallow-tailed craft only 3.8-meters (12.5-feet) long, is seen with its left wing seen broken, after the 5-minute flight, at an international test site in Kiruna, northern Sweden on 1 July, 2003. The shuttle took the flight, lifted by a stratospheric balloon to the frigid height of 21 kilometers (13 miles) above the test site. The shuttle was then released and hit speeds up to mach 0.8 during the plunge. But as the shuttle barreled toward earth, two of the craft's three parachutes failed to open properly and the shuttle crashed into a field, breaking its left wing and nose cone.—INTERNET

## Chinese shoppers buy more on healthcare

**BELING, 4 July**—Chinese consumers have spent more time and money on their health and outdoor activities in response to the severe acute respiratory syndrome (SARS) outbreak, reports the *China Daily* on Thursday.

A survey launched by Horizon Research Group found that most consumers in Beijing, Shanghai and Guangzhou now consider health a top priority when they buy goods.

The poll involved telephone interviews with 847 respondents in the country's three major cities.

More than 87 per cent of respondents said they would buy goods that were good for their health.

"Products with extra health-related features will sell well in the post-SARS period. They include air-con-

ditioners that produce oxygen and washing machines with disinfection functions," said Ling Chao, a researcher from the company.

More than 23.4 per cent of respondents in Beijing said they now spend more money on healthcare products such as tonics. The figures in Shanghai and Guangzhou are 18.6 per cent and 17.8 per cent respectively.

Outdoor activities also

grew in popularity in Beijing during and after the epidemic. Every public park was filled with people seeking fresh air, playing badminton or exercising on weekends.

Nearly 57 per cent of respondents said they will continue regular outdoor activities. Only 49 per cent said they did outdoor activities before the disease emerged, according to the *China Daily* report.—MNA/Xinhua

## Blue kerosene introduced in Bangladesh to curb adulteration

**DHAKA, 4 July**—The Bangladesh Petroleum Corporation (BPC) on Tuesday introduced blue-coloured kerosene throughout the country to curb adulteration of the widely used fuel, reported the *Daily Star* on Wednesday.

A section of businessmen in this country have long cheated customers by mixing kerosene with costlier fuels like octane petrol and diesel in order to push up the profit margin as a litre of kerosene costs 0.29 US dollars while diesel, petrol and octane are sold at about 0.34 US dollars, 0.56 US dollars and 0.59 US dollars per litre respectively.

The newly introduction of blue kerosene is expected to check this unlawful practice by making adulteration difficult. Octane, diesel and petrol will be readily identifiable as impure because they will turn bluish when mixed with the blue kerosene, as the normal colour of octane is light red, petrol light orange and diesel straw.

The retailers, however, might have to wait for a few days until the previous stock of white kerosene at depots is

sold out, said BPC General Manager Mizanur Rahman.

The BPC source called upon petrol pump owners to cooperate with the customers in examining the colour of the fuel.

The government also plans to introduce transparent pipes at the pumps to enable customers to know the colour of the fuels.

Source of the Energy and Mineral Resources Division was quoted as saying fuels adulterated by mixing kerosene cause damage to engines to motor vehicles of this country, accounting for an annual cost of 84.7 million to 101 million US dollars in repairs. But it will cost only 0.17 million to 0.34 million US dollars to make the white kerosene blue, he added.—MNA/Xinhua

## British warships to visit Indian Port

**NEW DELHI, 4 July**—Two warships from British Royal Navy would pay a three-day goodwill visit to India's Port Blair in the Andaman and Nicobar Island from Wednesday next week, British High Commission announced here on Wednesday.

The visit of British warships would mark the largest Royal Navy visit to an India port for over 10 years and the first to Port Blair since 1955, said a Press release issued by the commission.

The visit was intended to renew historical and goodwill ties between the two navies, the Press released said, adding that personnel of India's Andaman and Nicobar Command and the Royal Navy would discuss areas of professional and mutual interest, engage in friendly clashes on the sports field and meet socially. The two British ships left the United Kingdom last January and had visited Shanghai and Sydney.—MNA/Xinhua

## Japanese Girl Scouts give "peace packs" to Afghan children

**ISLAMABAD, 4 July**—The UN Refugee Agency is helping distribute more than 16,000 "peace packs" filled with items from pens to toothpaste that were donated by the Girls Scouts of Japan to young students in Afghan Refugee Camps in Pakistan's western Balochistan Province.

According to a Press release faxed here Wednesday by the UN agency in Islamabad, the 16,136 "peace packs" as well as more than 14,000 pairs of used children's shoes and 1,430 playing balls are the latest in what has become an annual gift from the Japanese girls to Afghan refugee children.

Distribution of the 17 tons of items began in the second half of June and some schools will receive their gifts when school

resumes after a summer break.

The UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) is carrying out the distribution with the assistance of Pakistani non-governmental organizations.

The Japanese Girl Scouts have given more than 100,000 "peace packs" to Afghan refugees in Pakistan since 1995.

MNA/Xinhua

## India, Pakistan plan bus links to ease tension

**PORT LOUIS, 4 July**—Bus services between India and Pakistan are expected to resume on 11 July as part of measures to ease tensions between the two nuclear rivals, India's Foreign Minister said on Wednesday.

"We wanted to start it from the first of July, but then some formalities took time. So we have now suggested to the Pakistani authorities that the bus service could begin from the 11th July and we have called for people to come and reserve their seats," Yashwant Sinha told a news conference on a visit to Mauritius.

"If everything goes according to our plan and there are no further difficulties, then the

bus service should begin from the 11th of July," he said.

The bus service between New Delhi and Lahore was discontinued, along with direct rail and air links.

The bi-weekly service, a 350-mile journey, operated on Tuesdays and Fridays and was a cheap, popular mode of transport between the two countries.—MNA/Reuters

## Thai PM orders English to be studied as second language

**BANGKOK, 4 July**—Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra has ordered his deputy prime ministers to help promote the use of English as a second language among Thai young people, according to a report of the *Thai News Agency* Thursday.

Government Spokesman Sita Divari said that during Tuesday's Cabinet meeting the Prime Minister had asked deputy prime ministers Somkid Jatusripitak and Purachai Piumsubun to give support for the promotion of English as a second language.

Noting that over 90 per cent of educational materials were written in English, Thaksin said that greater English proficiency would boost access to knowledge.

In addition, he said, several countries in Europe were in need of around 30,000 Thai workers, whether traders, nurses, masseurs, or caddies, but stipulations that the workers must be proficient in English currently posed an obstacle for Thai labourers.—MNA/Xinhua



A Chinese scientist watches a newly developed robot that will be used to help in the fight against SARS in hospitals in Beijing on 3 July, 2003. The Chinese Academy of Sciences has developed the robot to assist doctors and nurses in certain aspects of their daily jobs. The remote-controlled robot can also be used to carry information in locations that are not easily accessible, or even dangerous, for humans.

INTERNET

S  
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S**PSG turn down  
Manchester United  
offer for Ronaldinho**

PARIS, 3 July — Paris St Germain president Francis Graille said on Wednesday he had turned down an offer by Manchester United for Brazilian striker Ronaldinho.

"They have confirmed their interest in Ronaldinho and have made an offer which we turned down," Graille told *Reuters* after a meeting with Manchester United chief executive Peter Kenyon.

"If they want Ronaldinho, they must do better than this. Now they know what to expect from us," he added.

Graille refused to reveal the amount of the offer but denied figures, which had circulated recently in media reports, of 20 million euros (23.09 million US dollars).

"It is not the amount mentioned in the papers," he said.

Graille said he was still in talks with Real Madrid about a possible transfer of the Brazilian international, who has expressed his wish to leave Paris. — *MNA/Reuters*



Players of the Costa Rican National soccer team from left: Steven Bryce, Rolando Fonseca, Daniel Vallejos, Tray Bennett and Gilberto Martinez practice in a secluded field of a private electrical supply company in Belen, Costa Rica on 3 July, 2003. The team is gearing up for the Gold Cup which will be played in Boston, Mass from July 12 to 27. — *INTERNET*

**Young Brazilian player dies after training**

RIO DE JANEIRO, 3 July — A 20-year-old Brazilian player died on Wednesday after feeling unwell during a training session, his club Botafogo-Ribeirao Preto said.

The incident occurred less than one week after Cameroon's Marc-Vivien Foe collapsed and died during a match against Colombia at the Confederations Cup in France.

Botafogo-Ribeirao Preto, who play in the Third Division of the Brazilian championship, said on their official web site that Maximiliano Patrick

Ferreira, known as "Max", had died in hospital.

"The athlete felt bad, was immediately given help and taken to hospital but the efforts of the medical team were not enough to revive him," the club said.

The club, based in the provincial city of Ribeirao Preto around 400 kilometres from Sao Paulo, said "Max" joined them as a boy and

spent his career with them apart from brief spells on loan to Internacional Limeira and Sertaozinho.

Media reports said the player collapsed to the ground shortly after complaining to a teammate that he was feeling dizzy. Team doctor Alexandre Vega was quoted as saying that the player had no history of medical problems. — *MNA/Reuters*

**Leeds eye Nakata, Li Tie**

LONDON, 3 July — English Premier League side Leeds United are targeting Japan midfielder Hidetoshi Nakata and Chinese international Li Tie for recruitment, local media reported on Wednesday.

Elland Road chairman Professor John McKenzie, who is on business in Japan, is believed to have held preliminary talks with representatives for Parma's Nakata, according to the BBC web site.

The Japanese international, who was watched by Leeds boss Peter Reid during the Confederations Cup in France, has made his name in Italy with Roma and Parma.

However, the midfielder has struggled to earn a regular place in the Parma side, making just 13 appearances last season.

Li Tie, who spent last season on loan at Everton from China's Liaoning Bodao, is also said to be high on Reid's shopping list.

Everton have been unable to finalize a permanent move for the 25-year-old midfielder, who made 31 appearances for the Goodison Park club. His registration reverted back to his Chinese club at midnight on Monday when his loan deal to the Toffeemen expired.

According to the official Everton web site, although the club did not exercise its option to sign Li Tie, talks between the Premiership club and the Liaoning Bodao will continue.

"We still believe Li Tie still remains keen to come to Everton," said the club's chief executive. — *MNA/Reuters*

**After Jordan, Beckham becomes  
sport's latest number 23**

LONDON, 3 July — David Beckham will wear 23 on the back of his Real Madrid shirt, assuming the number made famous in sport by American basketball legend Michael Jordan.

The number 23 made the headlines for the second time in a week on Wednesday — Beckham's unveiling at Real came days after English club Manchester City retired their number 23 shirt following the death of Cameroon midfielder Marc-Vivien Foe.

Jordan wore the 23 shirt for the Chicago Bulls.

Beckham will be very familiar with at least one other number 23 in the Spanish First Division, Aldo Duschier of Deportivo Coruna.

The Argentine midfielder broke Beckham's foot in a tackle during a Champions League match last year, jeopardizing the England captain's participation in the World Cup.

Other 23's in the Primera Liga include Spanish international strikers Raul Tamudo and Jose Mari of Espanyol and Atletico

Madrid respectively, and Mexico midfielder Gerardo Torrado of Sevilla.

The English Premier League's highest profile 23 is England defender Sol Campbell, who took the number when he joined Arsenal from their arch-rivals Tottenham Hotspur two years ago.

Others include Tottenham's German international Christian Ziege, Liverpool's England defender Jamie Carragher and Chelsea's Italian goalkeeper Carlo Cudicini.

Beckham wore the number seven shirt for his former club Manchester United, taking it over from Eric Cantona after the French striker retired in 1997. He always wears seven for England.

Foe collapsed on the field and died of an apparent heart attack shortly after the Confederations Cup semifinal against Colombia last Thursday. — *MNA/Reuters*

**Vancouver wins right to host  
2010 winter olympics**

PRAGUE, 3 July — Canada's Vancouver lived up to their expectations to win the right to host the 2010 Winter Olympics on Wednesday after edging out Austria's Salzburg and South Korea's Pyeongchang in a vote at the 115th International Olympic Committee session.

The Canadians finished just three votes ahead of Pyeongchang, widely seen as outsiders, in a tight second round of voting after their main opponents Salzburg had been eliminated in the first round.

"It is a great day for Canada," Canadian Prime Minister Jean Chretien said after Olympic president Jacques Rogge had announced the 56-53 result for Vancouver. "Vancouver is a fantastic city and I promise you a fantastic Games."

Canada's victory left Pyeongchang brokenhearted. Some delegates left

the conference hall in tears, stunned by the defeat after having run Vancouver so close.

Pyeongchang had been expected to trail in third in the opening ballot but actually led the first round, polling 51 votes to 40 for Vancouver and 16 for Salzburg.

"Just three votes... we lost by just three. It is very hard to take," said Toh Young-shim, a member of South Korea's Culture Institute and a leading figure in their bid.

"It is very disappointing. It will take a while to sink in," she added as she

left the scene of the announcement.

Vancouver's victory brings the Winter Games to Canada for only the second time and the first since 1988 when Calgary staged the event.

"It was July 1st yesterday, the birthday of Canada. Thank you for this wonderful birthday present," Chretien told members of the IOC.

"I promise you, you will not be disappointed by Canada."

"I think (South) Korea and Austria did their very best and worked very hard. But the Canadian delegation made a huge effort."

*MNA/Xinhua*



Serena Williams of the US celebrates her win against Belgium's Justine Henin-Hardenne in their semi-final match on center court at the Wimbledon Tennis Championships in London, on 3 July, 2003. Williams won the match 6-1. — *INTERNET*

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**MRTV-3**
**5-7-2003 (Saturday)  
(Programme Schedule)  
Morning Transmission  
(9:00 - 10:00)**

- 9:00 Signature Tune  
Greetings  
9:02 Song of Myanmar  
Beauty & Scenic  
Sights "Mingalabar"  
9:06 Bagan Our Pride and  
Glory of the Past  
**9:10** **Headline News**  
9:12 Easily Cooked Tasty  
Dishes "Pork Curry  
mixed with Vegetable  
Sour Soup"  
**9:15** **National News**  
9:20 Myanmar Profile "An-  
tique ? ? ... may be"  
9:25 Traditional Pao Dance  
**9:30** **National News**  
9:35 Rakhine State Cultural  
Museum  
9:40 Myanmar Modern Song  
"Greetings From Chin  
Hills"  
**9:45** **National News**  
9:50 Biological Expedition  
to Hponkan Razi  
Region (V)  
(Wang Mung Camps 2  
to 4)  
9:58 Song of Myanmar  
Beauty & Scenic  
Sights "Come and See  
Myanmar"

**5-7-2003 (Saturday)  
Regular Programmes for  
Viewers from Abroad  
Evening Transmission  
(15:30 - 17:30)**

- 15:30 Signature Tune  
Greetings  
15:32 Song of Myanmar  
Beauty & Scenic  
Sights "Mingalabar"  
15:36 Bagan Our Pride and  
Glory of the Past  
**15:40** **Headline News**  
15:42 Easily Cooked Tasty  
Dishes "Pork Curry  
mixed with Vegetable  
Sour Soup"  
**15:45** **National News**  
15:50 Myanmar Profile "An-  
tique ? ? ... may be"  
15:55 Traditional Pao Dance  
**16:00** **National News**  
16:05 Rakhine State Cultural  
Museum  
16:10 Myanmar Modern Song  
"Greetings From Chin  
Hills"  
**6:15** **National News**  
16:20 Biological Expedition  
to Hponkan Razi  
Region (V)  
(Wang Mung Camps 2 to  
4)  
16:28 Song of Myanmar  
Beauty & Scenic Sights  
"Myanma Panorama &  
Myanma Sentiment"  
**16:30** **National News**  
16:35 Tour In Myanmar  
"Pindaya"  
16:40 Myanmar Cuisine  
"Steamed Prawn  
Curry"

- 16:45** **National News**  
16:50 Myanmar Movies Im-  
pact  
**17:00** **Weekly News High-  
lights**  
17:05 Phokyar Ecotourism  
Resort  
17:10 Myanmar Modern Song  
"Myanmar"  
**17:15** **Weekly News High-  
lights**  
17:20 16th Destruction of  
Seized Narcotic Drugs  
17:25 Song of Myanmar  
Beauty & Scenic Sights  
"Come and See  
Myanmar"

**Evening Transmission  
(19:30 - 23:30)**

- 19:30 Signature Tune  
Greetings  
19:32 Song of Myanmar  
Beauty & Scenic  
Sights "Myanma Pano-  
rama & Myanma Senti-  
ment"  
19:36 Myanmar Precious  
Pearls  
**19:40** **Headline News**  
19:42 Easily Cooked Tasty  
Dishes "Featherback  
clean soup with tender  
gourd"  
**19:45** **National News**  
19:50 Prospective Ostrich  
Farming  
19:55 Dance of the Oil Lamps  
**20:00** **National News**  
20:05 Greening of the Hills  
and Ranges, in order to  
achieve Climate  
Change  
(Taung Thar Hill)  
(Magway Division)  
20:10 Myanmar Modern Song  
"Hill Steps Town"  
20:12 Art of Carving On Fruits  
**20:15** **National News**  
20:20 Biological Expedition  
to Hponkan Razi  
Region (IV) (Ziadam  
Village-Wang Mung  
Camps)  
20:28 Song "Sagawa Flower  
Land"  
**20:30** **National News**  
20:35 Traditional Rakhine  
Wrestling  
20:40 Easily Cooked Tasty  
Dishes "Fried Fer-  
mented Prawn"  
**20:45** **National News**  
20:50 The Beauty of Myeik  
Archipelago and The  
Life of Salon  
**21:00** **National News**  
21:05 Thanakha, a Myanmar  
Cosmetic  
21:10 Song On Screen "Mes-  
merize Your Longing  
Wish"  
**21:15** **Weekly News High-  
lights**  
21:20 Highland Farmland  
Reclamation in Kaung  
Kha region  
21:25 Song of Myanmar  
Beauty & Scenic Sights  
"Myanma Panorama &  
Myanma Sentiment"  
21:35 Bagan Our Pride and  
Glory of the Past  
**21:40** **Headline News**  
21:42 Easily Cooked Tasty  
Dishes "Pork Curry  
mixed with Vegetable  
Sour Soup"

- 21:45** **National News**  
21:50 Myanmar Profile "An-  
tique ? ? ... may be"  
21:55 Traditional Pao Dance  
**22:00** **National News**  
22:05 Rakhine State Cultural  
Museum  
22:10 Myanmar Modern Song  
"Greetings From Chin  
Hills"  
**22:15** **National News**  
22:20 Biological Expedition  
to Hponkan Razi  
Region (V) (Wang Mung  
Camps 2 to 4)  
22:28 Song of Myanmar  
Beauty & Scenic Sights  
"Myanma Panorama &  
Myanma Sentiment"  
**22:30** **National News**  
22:35 Tour In Myanmar  
"Pindaya"  
22:40 Myanmar Cuisine  
"Steamed Prawn  
Curry"  
**22:45** **National News**  
22:50 Myanmar Movie  
Impact  
**23:00** **Weekly News High-  
lights**  
23:05 Phokyar Ecotourism  
Resort  
23:10 Myanmar Modern Song  
"Myanmar"  
**23:15** **Weekly News High-  
lights**  
23:20 16th Destruction of Seized  
Narcotic Drugs  
23:25 Song of Myanmar  
Beauty & Scenic Sights  
"Come and See  
Myanmar"

**5-7-2003 (Saturday) &  
6-7-2003 (Sunday)  
Evening Transmission  
(23:30 - 01:30)**

- 23:30 Signature Tune  
Greetings  
23:32 Song of Myanmar  
Beauty & Scenic  
Sights "Myanma Pano-  
rama & Myanma  
Sentiment"  
23:36 Bagan Our Pride and  
Glory of the Past  
**23:40** **Headline News**  
23:42 Easily Cooked Tasty  
Dishes "Pork Curry  
mixed with Vegetable  
Sour Soup"  
**23:45** **National News**  
23:50 Myanmar Profile "An-  
tique ? ? ... may be"  
23:55 Traditional Pao Dance  
**24:00** **National News**  
00:05 Rakhine State Cultural  
Museum  
00:10 Myanmar Modern Song  
"Greetings From Chin  
Hills"  
**00:15** **National News**  
00:20 Biological Expedition  
to Hponkan Razi  
Region (V) (Wang  
Mung Camps 2 to 4)  
00:28 Song of Myanmar  
Beauty & Scenic Sights  
"Myanma Panorama &  
Myanma Sentiment"  
**00:30** **National News**  
00:35 Tour In Myanmar  
"Pindaya"  
00:40 Myanmar Cuisine  
"Steamed Prawn  
Curry"  
**00:45** **National News**  
00:50 Myanmar Movie

- 01:00** **Weekly News High-  
lights**  
01:05 Phokyar Ecotourism  
Resort  
01:10 Myanmar Modern Song  
"Myanmar"  
**01:15** **Weekly News High-  
lights**  
01:20 16th Destruction of  
Seized Narcotic Drugs  
01:25 Song of Myanmar  
Beauty & Scenic Sights  
"Come and See  
Myanmar"

**6-7-2003 (Sunday)  
Morning Transmission  
(03:30 - 07:30)**

- 03:30 Signature Tune  
Greetings  
03:32 Song of Myanmar  
Beauty & Scenic  
Sights "Myanma Pano-  
rama & Myanma  
Sentiment"  
03:36 Myanmar Precious  
Pearls  
**03:40** **Headline News**  
03:42 Easily Cooked Tasty  
Dishes "Featherback  
clean soup with tender  
gourd"  
**03:45** **National News**  
03:50 Prospective Ostrich  
Farming  
03:55 Dance of the Oil Lamps  
**04:00** **National News**  
04:05 Greening of the Hills  
and Ranges, in order to  
achieve Climate  
Change  
(Taung Thar Hill)  
(Magway Division)  
04:10 Myanmar Modern Song  
"Hill Steps Town"  
04:12 Art of Carving On Fruits  
**04:15** **National News**  
04:20 Biological Expedition  
to Hponkan Razi  
Region (IV) (Ziadam  
Village-Wang Mung  
Camps)  
04:28 Song "Sagawa Flower  
Land"  
**04:30** **National News**  
04:35 Traditional Rakhine  
Wrestling  
04:40 Easily Cooked Tasty  
Dishes "Fried Fer-  
mented Prawn"  
**04:45** **National News**  
04:50 The Beauty of Myeik  
Archipelago and The  
Life of Salon  
**05:00** **National News**  
05:05 Thanakha, a Myanmar  
Cosmetic  
05:10 Song On Screen "Mes-  
merize Your Longing  
Wish"  
**05:15** **Weekly News High-  
lights**  
05:20 Highland Farmland  
Reclamation in Kaung  
Kha region  
05:25 Song of Myanmar  
Beauty & Scenic Sights  
"Myanma Panorama &  
Myanma Sentiment"  
05:35 Bagan Our Pride and  
Glory of the Past  
**05:40** **Headline News**  
05:42 Easily cooked tasty  
dishes "Pork Curry  
mixed with Vegetable  
Sour Soup"  
**05:45** **National News**

- 05:50 Myanmar Profile "An-  
tique ? ? ... may be"  
05:55 Traditional Pao Dance  
**06:00** **National News**  
06:05 Rakhine State Cultural  
Museum  
06:10 Myanmar Modern  
Song "Greetings From  
Chin Hills"  
**06:15** **National News**  
06:20 Biological Expedition  
to Hponkan Razi  
Region (V) (Wang  
Mung Camps 2 to 4)  
06:28 Song of Myanmar  
Beauty & Scenic Sights  
"Myanma Panorama &  
Myanma Sentiment"  
**06:30** **National News**  
06:35 Tour In Myanmar  
"Pindaya"

- 06:40 Myanmar Cuisine  
"Steamed Prawn  
Curry"  
**06:45** **National News**  
06:50 Myanmar Movie  
Impact  
**07:00** **Weekly News High-  
lights**  
07:05 Phokyar Ecotourism  
Resort  
07:10 Myanmar Modern Song  
"Myanmar"  
**07:15** **Weekly News High-  
lights**  
07:20 16th Destruction of  
Seized Narcotic Drugs  
07:25 Song of Myanmar  
Beauty & Scenic Sights  
"Come and see  
Myanmar"

**WEATHER**

Friday, 4 July, 2003

**Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST:** During the past 24 hours, weather has been partly cloudy in Magway Division and Kayin State, rain or thundershowers have been isolated in lower Sagaing, Mandalay Divisions, Kayah and Mon States, scattered to widespread in the remaining areas with isolated heavyfalls in upper Sagaing Division. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Hkamti (6.85) inches and Gwa (1.18) inches.

Maximum temperature on 3-7-2003 was 31.0°C (88°F). Minimum temperature on 4-7-2003 was 22.0°C (72°F). Relative humidity at 9:30 hrs MST on 4-7-2003 was 84%. Total sunshine hours on 3-7-2003 was (7.4) hours approx. Rainfall on 4-7-2003 was nil at Yangon, 1 mm at Kaba-Aye and 6 mm at central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2003 was 1062 mm (41.81 inches) at Yangon Airport, 1149 mm (45.24 inches) at Kaba-Aye and 1188 mm (46.77 inches) at central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was 10 mph from Southeast at (11:05) hours MST on 3-7-2003. **Bay inference:** Monsoon is moderate in the Bay of Bengal. **Forecast valid until evening of 5-7-2003:** Rain or thundershowers will be widespread in Kachin State, upper Sagaing, Yangon and Taninthary Divisions, scattered in Shan, Kayin and Mon States, Bago and Ayeyawady Divisions and isolated in the remaining areas. Degree of certainty is (80%). **State of the sea:** Seas will be moderate in Myanmar waters. **Outlook for subsequent two days:** Moderate monsoon. **Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 5-7-2003 :** One or two rain with sunny period. Degree of certainty is (80%). **Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 5-7-2003:** Partly cloudy. **Weather outlook for first weekend of July 2003:** During the coming weekend, rain or thundershowers will be widespread in Yangon Division and isolated in Mandalay Division.



View today:

Saturday, July 5

- 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. Delicacies  
**8:05 am**  
6. Musical programme  
**8:20 am**  
7. အိမ်သားတေး  
**8:30 am**  
8. International news

- 8:45 am**  
9. Grammar made easy  
**11:00 am**  
1. Martial song  
**11:10 am**  
2. Musical programme  
**11:30 am**  
3. News  
**11:40 am**  
4. Games For Children  
**12:05 pm**  
5. Round-up of the week's  
TV Local News  
**12:50 pm**  
6. Weekly International  
Sports  
**1:00 pm**  
7. "စောမုဆိုးညွန့်  
အသက်တစ်နှစ်သို့"  
မင်းမိုး၊ မြတ်သူစာဝင်း၊  
ပိုင်သူ၊ မြတ်သူစာဝင်း  
ဒါရိုက်တာ-လွန်း  
**1:45 pm**  
8. Musical programme  
**1:55 pm**  
9. အနီ-ပြိုင်ပွဲ  
**2:10 pm**  
10. Dance of national races

- 2:25 pm**  
11. သင်ယူရန်အတွက် (အပိုင်း-၁)  
**2:35 pm**  
12. သင်ယူရန်အတွက် (အပိုင်း-၂)  
**2:45 pm**  
13. International news  
**4:00 pm**  
1. Martial song  
**4:10 pm**  
2. Song to uphold national  
spirit  
**4:25 pm**  
3. English For Everyday Use  
**4:35 pm**  
4. Musical programme  
**4:45 pm**  
5. အသေးသင်တန်းသို့လည်းကောင်း  
ရုပ်မြင်သံကြားသင်တန်းစီ၊ စာ  
ပညာမရ (သိပ္ပံအထူးပြုအားလုံး)  
(ဂုဏ်သေ)  
**5:00 pm**  
6. အကူအညီ  
**5:10 pm**  
7. "အားလုံးအသက်တစ်နှစ်သို့"  
စောမုဆိုး၊ မြတ်သူစာဝင်း၊  
ဒါရိုက်တာ-လွန်း  
**5:35 pm**  
8. Games for children

- 6:00 pm**  
9. Musical programme  
**6:15 pm**  
10. Delicacies  
**6:30 pm**  
11. Evening news  
**7:00 pm**  
12. Weather report  
**7:05 pm**  
13. Discovery  
**7:20 pm**  
14. အပြည်ပြည်ဆိုင်ရာသမဂ္ဂယဉ်ကျေးမှု  
တေးများ  
**7:35 pm**  
15. ယဉ်ကျေးမှုအမွေအနှစ်သက်သေ  
(အခမဲ့ရတနာမင်းကြီး၏နန်းတော်ရာ  
တူးဖော်မှု)  
**8:00 pm**  
16. News  
17. International news  
18. Weather report  
19. "လေသံနှင့်ကတိတို့အိမ်အပြည့်"  
ရုပ်မြင်သံကြား၊ ပထဝီအင်္ဂါ၊ သင်သင်ယူပိုင်  
ဒါရိုက်တာ-စင်စောမင်းမောင်  
20. The next day  
programme

Tune in today:  
Saturday, July 5

- 8:30 am** Brief news  
**8:35 am** Music  
**8:40 am** Perspectives  
**8:45 am** Music  
**8:55 am** National news/Slogan  
**9:05 am** Music  
**9:10 am** International news  
**9:15 am** Music (Spotlight of

- the star  
**1:30 pm** Brief news  
**1:35 pm** Music  
**1:45 pm** National news/  
Slogan  
**1:55 pm** Music  
**2:05 pm** International news  
**2:20 pm** Music/Article  
**2:25 pm** Look Ahead/Lesson  
**2:30 pm** Music at your request  
**3:00 pm** Myanmar Culture  
**3:15 pm** Music  
**3:20 pm** Article  
**3:30 pm** Souvenirs  
**3:35 pm** News/Slogan  
**4:00 pm** Portfolio for easy  
listening

## Government systematically drawn up and implemented development plans covering all sectors to ensure all-round development and keep the nation abreast with other countries

### Special emphasis must be placed on vaccination of children

YANGON, 4 July—Chairman of the National Health Committee Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council General Khin Nyunt attended the Launching of Hepatitis B Vaccination in the Expanded Programme of Immunization of Health Department of the Ministry of Health under the arrangement of Global Alliance for Vaccines and Immunization (GAVI) for children under one year at International Business Centre on Pyay Road at 8 am today.

At the ceremony, Secretary-1 General



Secretary-1 General Khin Nyunt address Launching of Hepatitis B Vaccination in the Expanded Programme of Immunization .— MNA

Khin Nyunt delivered an address.

He said: The Government of the Union of

Myanmar has systematically implemented immunization programmes to ensure that all children, who

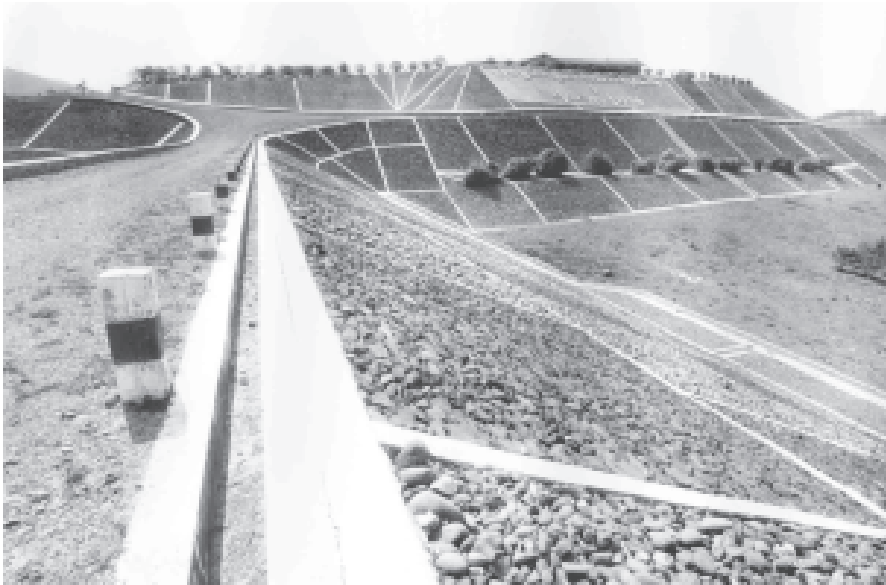
are the future of our country, are free from diseases and are strong and healthy.

Today we are introduc-

ing vaccination against hepatitis B for children, which will not only be beneficial for future generations

but also for the nation. By expanding vaccination programmes, not only will we (See page 2)

## Mone Creek Dam Hydrel Power Project that will supply 330 Kilowatt hours of electricity



Completion of earthen embankment at Mone Creek Dam Hydrel Power Project in Magway Division.

Article by Kyaw Sein;  
Photos by Thwin Aye (Kyemon)

Mone Creek Multi-purpose Dam Project is located between Outpon and Thayetkaing villages, two miles from Sedoktara. It is not an easy task to make a field trip to the project. Although there was a bus line between downtown Yangon and Sawbwagyigon bus terminal, we had to take a taxi because we had some baggage together with us. From the bus terminal we took Magway-Yangon highway bus. We reached Magway on 5 May 2003. Then, we headed to the project and arrived there in the afternoon. A man with a few baggage had to face difficulties, one can imagine how difficult to transport materials for the project. Due to the weather situation, material for the project could not be transported directly to the project site and thus there is a transit camp in Salin.

Due to difficulties in transportation, the project could not be completed within some years like the other projects implemented by Irrigation Department.

During the first visit to Mone Creek Dam Project, Director U Myint Than of Construction-8 said that Mone Creek Dam was different from the other dams. First, the separation wall had to be built without iron but using plastic. Then, the mixture of cement and sand were used in building the wall, the very first experience in building separation wall using plastic.

The second significant point of the dam is that Myanmar engineers had to draw the design for diversion tunnel and hydrel power tunnel to build the biggest tunnel with 37.4 feet in diameter and 3625 feet in length along the mountain with poor layer of rocks.

(See page 10)



Progress in construction of Mone Creek Dam Hydrel Power Project being implemented in Magway Division.