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State Peace and Development Council Chairman Senior General Than Shwe sends felicitations to Nepal

YANGON, 7 July — On the occasion of the Birthday of the King of Nepal which falls on 7 July 2003, Senior General Than Shwe, Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to His Majesty King Gyanendra Bir Bikram Shah Dev, King of Nepal. — *MNA*



Although Daw Aung San Suu Kyi had gotten a chance to have frank and open discussions with Head of State Senior General Than Shwe, she could not make a peaceful transition to the nation's future and enliven the party's role. It can be assumed that she could not utilize the opportunity. (Article on pages 8 and 9)

With stability and better transport in Ayeyawady Division, greater development can be made in a short time as the region is fertile one

Darka River Bridge inaugurated in Kangyidaunt Township

YANGON, 6 July — The inauguration of Darka River Bridge, built by Public Works of the Ministry of Construction on Yangon-Pathein Road in Kangyidaunt Township in Ayeyawady Division was held at the pandal near the bridge this morning. Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thura Shwe Mann addressed the ceremony.

Present on the occasion were Secretary-2 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Soe Win, Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than, Chairman of Ayeyawady Division Peace and Development Council Commander of South-West Command Maj-Gen Htay Oo, Minister for Construction Maj-Gen Saw Tun, Minister for Forestry U Aung Phone, Minister for Livestock and Fisheries Brig-Gen Maung Maung Thein, Minister for Electric Power

Maj-Gen Tin Htut, the deputy ministers, Chief of Staff (Navy) Rear-Admiral Soe Thein, senior military officers of the Ministry of Defence, officials of the State Peace and Development Council Office, department heads, departmental officials, local people of the townships of Pathein, Kangyidaunt and Kyaunggon, teachers and students, members of social associations, band troupe, pom pom troupe and drum troupe.

Secretary-2 Lt-Gen Soe Win made a speech. He said the new Darka River Bridge is situated on Yangon-Pathein Road. The old rail bridge was built 50 years ago and in 1983 it was used as a rail-cum bridge. In those days there was not heavy traffic in the areas. After emergence of the Yangon-Pathein Express Road, cars were waiting for long to pass the Darka River Bridge because it was narrow for them. Often there were traffic jams. The bridge was not

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

Daw Suu Kyi, the NLD Party and Our Ray of Hope — 3

Asking for permission to hoist signboards at the last minute and submitting a supplementary list that includes party offices with their signboards already put up are not proper procedures. . . .

We had already composed and compiled in advance what slogans we would shout if there were any delays in this matter on the government's side. It was an act of coercion or a stab in the back or whatever!

(Article on pages 8 and 9)

a kind of the one which was built for the car to pass and it was old.

(See page 16)

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The newly opened Darka River Bridge in Kangyidaunt Township in Ayeyawady Division.—MNA

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

PERSPECTIVES

Monday, 7 July, 2003

To safeguard lasting peace and stability

In the international sphere today, because of differences in ideologies, human rights, religions and racism, many nations are subject to various kinds of practices, namely, flattering, pressures, coercion, and sanctions. In fact, these practices are employed in the interest of the big nations.

The Special Refresher Course No 52 for basic education teachers conducted by Central Institute of Civil Service (Phaunggyi) concluded at the Nawarat Hall of CICS (Phaunggyi) in Hlegu Township here this morning, with an address by Chairman of Myanmar Education Committee Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council General Khin Nyunt. In his address, the Secretary-1 said that if global events nowadays are observed, the hopes that a country will develop in reliance on others would be a dream which can never come true. Such a nation and its people will encounter the ordeal of war, catastrophe and famine.

In Myanmar, we will never let the people who are earning their livelihood peacefully within the framework of law fall into troubles. In other words, we will never let the disintegration of national unity among the peoples who have been living together in weal and woe for years countable by the thousand. The right to exist as a country, the right to safeguard one's territorial integrity and perpetuation of sovereignty and the right to protect national interests without causing any harm to others are the most basic rights for every nation. Myanmar has been making constant efforts to become a good neighbour and dutiful one in the fields of international relations.

In the modern history of Myanmar, she was not in the habit of interfering in the internal affairs of others. Myanmar has solved its own internal problems peacefully and cautiously time and again without causing harm to the interest of the people. In the country, the government has made peace with armed groups and forged consolidation. Nowadays, earnest efforts needed to be made for national development and for cementing national economic life while safeguarding the already achieved peace and stability. At the same time, measures are to be taken to guard against the dangers of destructive elements. National development, strong national economic life and higher living standard of the people will lead to ensuring of the long-lasting peace and stability for the people.

All the national people are urged to safeguard the already achieved peace and stability to enable the nation to exist as long as the world exists while enjoying the fruits of peace and stability of the State and development.



Deputy Minister for Religious Affairs Brig-Gen Thura Aung Ko and Hindu families of Sanantana Dhammapala Organization offer Waso robes to Sayadaws of State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee and State Pariyatti Sasana University on 6-7-2003. MNA

Do not be bolstered whenever flattered.



The Eighth 47-member Plenary Meeting of the Fifth State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee in progress. — MNA

Eighth 47-member Plenary Meeting of the Fifth State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee held

YANGON, 6 July— The Eighth 47-member Plenary Meeting of the Fifth State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee was held at Wizaya Mingala Dhammathabin on Kaba Aye Hill, here, this morning.

Present were members of the State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee, Deputy Minister for Religious Affairs Brig-Gen Thura Aung Ko, Director-General Dr Myo Myint of Religious Affairs Department, Pro-Rector (Admin) Dr Hla Pe of International Theravada Buddhist Missionary University and officials.

Vice-Chairman of SSMNC Bahan Township Aungmyebonsan Monastery Sayadaw Abhidhaja Maha Rattha Guru Bhaddanta Panindabhivamsa presided over the meeting. Joint Secretary of the Committee Pyay Zawtikayon Pali Tekkatho Sayadaw Agga Maha Pandita Agga Maha Saddhammajotikadhaja Bhaddanta Kundalajoti acted as master of ceremonies. Secretary of the Committee Abhidhaja Maha Rattha Guru Abhidhaja Agga Maha Saddhamma Jotika Magway Sayadaw Bhaddanta Kumara read out the Saraniya Ovada Katha delivered by Chairman of the SSMNC Abhidhaja Maha Rattha Guru Abhidhaja Agga Maha Saddhamma Jotika Myingyan Sayadaw Bhaddanta Sobhita. The Sayadaw said he was glad to see members of the Sangha. The State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee is a Sangha organization carrying out religious matters in the country. He urged the members of the Sangha of the committee to try to be the ones whom the devotees and disciples respect.

Next, the deputy minister supplicated on religious affairs. He supplicated that organizations of the Sangha at different levels have been carrying out Sasana, Vinicchaya, education and general affairs of purification, endurance and propagation of the Sasana since 1980 under the leadership of the State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee.



Minister for Finance & Revenue Maj-Gen Hla Tun and wife Daw Khin Than Win offer Waso robes to Sayadaws at the Waso robe offering ceremony of the Ministry of Finance & Revenue on 6-7-2003. — MNA

Japan beats Myanmar 2-1 in soccer friendly

YANGON, 6 July — The soccer friendly between selected Myanmar team of Myanmar Football Federation and JFL selection team of Japan was held at Youth Training Centre in Thuwunna at 4 pm today.

Among the spectators were officials of the Ministry of Sports, members of panel of patrons of Myanmar Women's Sports Federation and guests.

First Director-General of Sports and Physical Education Department President of MFF U Thauang Htaik and leader of JFL selection team Mr Tuyoshi Seki greeted the players of both sides.

Next, team captains exchanged commemorative pennants. At the match, JFL selection team beats selected Myanmar team 2-1. — MNA

ership of the State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee.

The State Peace and Development Council Government offered religious titles, rice, free tickets to the Sayadaws and opened Abbots Training Schools. Similarly, it can be seen that religious edifices had emerged one after another.

With regard to Vinicchaya affairs, action is taken against some Adhammavadi as well as bogus monks.

In addition, religious examinations were held to produce qualified members of the Sangha. Similarly, Pariyatti Sasana Universities, ITBMU, Maha Santi Sukha Bhaddhist Missionary Centre and monastic education schools had emerged. Especially, the Union of Myanmar striving with momentum for purification, endurance and propagation of the Sasana stands tall as the most well-known country among the Buddhist nations of the world. Arrangements are being made for holding the Fourth World Buddhist Summit, to be sponsored by the Union of Myanmar together with Japanese Buddhist Association, in December 2004. Next, Joint Secretary Sayadaw Agga Maha Pandita Bhaddanta Kitti supplicated on the annual reports of Fifth State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee (First-Group). Member Sayadaws of the committee also presented their respective reports. Member Sayadaws of the SSMNC decided SasanaVinicchaya, education and general affairs.

U Than Shwe-Daw Ni and family of Bogoyoke Aung San Road in Shwepaukkan Myothit on 3 July, U Win Thin of 212, Latha on 4 July, Dr Aye Kyaw of Thirimingala Road in Sangyoung Township on 5 July and U Kyi Nyunt (Deputy Minister-Retd)-Daw Aye Myint and family of 23, Kyauing Street, Myenigon, Sangyoung Township today offered alms to the Sayadaws. The second-day session of the meeting will continue tomorrow. — MNA



Minister for PBNRDA Col Thein Nyunt and wife Daw Kyin Khaing offer Waso robes to Sayadaws at the Waso robe offering ceremony of the Ministry of PBNRDA on 6-7-2003. — MNA

Drug dealers sentenced

YANGON, 6 July — Police members of the Toungzun Police Station, Bilin Township, Mon State, acting on information, searched the house of Ko Naing in Kawtkadut village and seized him with 4.6702 kilos of marijuana contained inside the Polyethylene bag on 15 May night, 2002. Action was taken against Ko Naing (a) Naing Naing Tun, son of U Tun Tin of Kawtkadut village, Bilin Township and his accomplice Tin Myint, son of Maung Tun of the same village under Sections 15/16 (C)/ 19 (A) of Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law by Toungzun Police Station. Thaton District Court on 4 April handed down Ko Naing (a) Naing Naing Tun to five years' imprisonment under Section 15 and 25 years' imprisonment under Section 19 (A) to serve separately and Tin Myint to 25 years' under Section 19 (A). — MNA

Seven US-trained police cadets killed in Iraq explosion

RAMADI, 6 July—Seven Iraqi police recruits died today as explosives packed into a utility pole near a police station went off during the graduation ceremony for the first American-trained cadets for a new police force.

More than 70 people were injured as shrapnel from the metal pole and the bomb ripped through a large crowd around noon, said a hospital director where most of the injuries were treated in bloodstained corridors and emergency rooms.

On the street outside the police station, pools of blood blotted the pavement where the dead and injured had fallen during the ceremony that was to mark the successful transition from

the old era of police to a new era.

The blast followed by one day the release of an audio message that claimed to be from Saddam Hussein, calling on Iraqis to resist the occupation by the Americans and the British and to punish any Iraqis who cooperate with them.

Iraqis on Friday had warned reporters visiting the area west of Baghdad that they were preparing a large attack this weekend.

An Iraqi police lieutenant called the blast a terrorist attack.

"We were marching in a file as part of our training when a roadside bomb exploded," Ahmad Hammad, a wounded recruit, told a *Reuters* news agency reporter.

"There were 7 dead and 74 wounded," he said. Hospital and police authorities confirmed the death and injury toll.

Internet



People walk around the scene of an explosion in Ramadi, 95 kilometres (60 miles) west of Baghdad, Iraq, on 5 July, 2003. A powerful explosion killed at least seven Iraqi police recruits and injured scores of others as they marched in a graduation ceremony in Ramadi. —Internet

Venture capital forum to open in E China

BEIJING, 6 July— The midterm China Venture Capital Forum will be held on August 8 in Jinan, capital of east China's Shandong Province, according to the organizer.

The annual forum, first launched in 2001 by the leading venture capital consultancy firm Zero2ipo and Shandong New and Hi-tech Investment Co. Ltd., will be themed the "road of China's venture capital facing new challenges".

MNA/Xinhua

British journalist shot dead in Baghdad

BAGHDAD, 6 July — A British journalist was shot dead by unknown assailants in Baghdad in the first killing of a reporter in Iraq since the United States declared the end of its war here at the beginning of May.

"I understand he was a freelance cameraman formerly with ITN," deputy head of the British mission in Iraq, Jon Wilks, told AFP.

"We understand it happened around noon... near the college of arts in Azzamiyah," in the northwest of the capital, he said.

The victim's identity was not immediately released.

The mission said it was waiting for the man's family to be contacted and declined to give any further information.

The death was the 14th of a journalist in Iraq since the United States invaded the country on March 20.

Another two journalists are still listed as missing, although widely thought to have been killed during the war.

In London, a Foreign Office spokesman said British authorities were urgently investigating reports of the fatal shooting in Baghdad but could give no other details.

The journalist did occasional work for ITN, but was not a member of its staff, said a spokeswoman in London for ITN, which produces newscasts for Britain's three terrestrial commercial television channels.

Internet

US soldier critically wounded in Iraq

BAGHDAD, 6 July — A US soldier was shot and critically wounded at Baghdad University on Sunday, witnesses and the US military said.

Students near the scene said the soldier had been inside the university campus in the southern part of the city when he was shot. A US military helicopter evacuated the soldier and troops sealed off the campus, they said.

One student, Abdullah Saad, said he had seen the soldier lying on the ground bleeding from a head wound.

A military spokeswoman said the soldier was shot with a handgun and confirmed he had been evacuated for medical treatment. She gave no further details.

President Bush declared major combat in Iraq over on May 1 but American troops have continued to come under frequent attack. Twenty-six US and six British soldiers have been killed by hostile fire in Iraq since Bush's declaration.

Internet

Experts say consumption in China still rising despite SARS

BEIJING, 6 July— Consumption in China will be higher than last year despite the impact of severe acute respiratory syndrome (SARS) that hit parts of the country, say experts.

"The overall consumption in the first half of this year rose between 2 and 3 per cent over the same period last year despite the impact of SARS," said Huang Guoxiong, a professor with the Beijing-based Renmin University of China.

Total consumption in China is expected to increase more than 8.5 per cent in the second half of the year, he said.

SARS severely hit the tourism and recreation sectors, but it also boosted the consumption of medicine,

medical equipment, sports facilities and cars, he said.

The SARS impact on sales of department stores in major cities began to emerge from March, said Fan Yanru, deputy head of the China Association of Department Stores.

Statistics from the association indicated that from late March to the middle of April sales in large department stores in cities including Beijing, Shanghai, Guangzhou and Wuhan dropped by up to 20 per cent.

But from late April to early May, the figures plunged by more than 40 per cent, she said.

However, the dive in sales was countered to some degree by the sales surge in the first three months of the year.

From January to March, sales in retail businesses nationwide jumped 23 per cent over the same period last year to 54.8 billion yuan (6.7 billion US dollars).

After SARS was controlled in China, sales in department stores began to recover. In the first half of June, sales

volume in 100 major department stores in the country surged 11.6 per cent, said Wang Yao, deputy secretary with the China Commerce Federation.

Meanwhile, sales in more than half of other retail businesses also rose, with most registering sales increases of up to 20 per cent. —MNA/Xinhua

Bali agency to charter plane to serve Chinese tourists

JAKARTA, 6 July— A travel agency, eyeing the potential of Chinese tourists to visit the resort island of Bali, will charter a plane for the special service, an Indonesian executive has said.

Director of Utama Sinar Tour & Travel Hie Rudiyanto was quoted Saturday by *Bisnis Indonesia* as saying that the bigger potential of Chinese tourists was shown after China got rid of severe acute respiratory syndrome (SARS).

"The SARS-free status of the country alerts us to serve

China market more seriously," Rudi said, adding that he will charter Air Paradise's Airbus 310-300 with 183 seat capacity for the special service to China.

Rudi plans to make a flight once a week in the first two months and will increase flight to twice a week in October. Rudi expects 50,000

tourists from China would make travelling to Bali in the second half of this year. The deadly SARS haunted a number of Asian countries including China from April to June and dealt a heavy blow to the regional tourism industry, including sharp decrease of foreign tourists to Bali. —MNA/Xinhua



Eighteen-year-old Mohammed Abud Khalif, a police recruit inspects a shoe left at the scene of an explosion in Ramadi, 95 kilometres (60 miles) west of Baghdad, Iraq, on 5 July, 2003. A powerful explosion killed at least seven Iraqi police recruits and wounded dozens as they marched in a graduation ceremony in Ramadi. Khalif participated in the march. —INTERNET

Blair dismisses BBC claims over Iraq as absurd

LONDON, 6 July — British Prime Minister Tony Blair has dismissed as "absurd" BBC claims that a top aide doctored a dossier on Iraq's weapons to strengthen the case for war.

"I take it as about as serious an attack on my integrity as there could possibly be," Blair said as the stakes rose sharply in the government's battle with the public broadcaster.

British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC) governors are to meet on Sunday night to examine whether an allegation by one of its journalists that Alastair Campbell, Blair's communication chief, had "sexed up" Iraqi intelligence was false.

The claim has sparked open warfare between the public broadcaster and Blair's office and the Prime Minister certainly did not mince his words in an interview published in The Observer on Sunday.

"The idea that I or anyone else in my position, frankly, would start altering

intelligence evidence — or saying to the intelligence services I am going to insert this — is absurd," he said.

"You could not make a more serious charge against a Prime Minister that I ordered our troops into conflict on the basis of intelligence information that I falsified. The charge happens to be wrong," he added.

The BBC, citing an anonymous intelligence source, had accused Campbell of inserting into the September dossier a claim that Iraq could deploy weapons in 45 minutes.

"It is untrue, that statement is untrue," Blair said. "The charge is untrue and I hope that they will accept that. I think they should accept it."

The timing of the row could not be worse for Blair. The failure to find any

weapons of mass destruction in Iraq has undermined his government's credibility and dented his popularity.

A recent poll showed that 34 per cent of the public is less likely to trust Blair on other issues due to the weapons row. But Blair was still firmly convinced of his case, telling the newspaper: "There is no doubt that Saddam had weapons of mass destruction."

"On any basis, there are unaccounted weapons of mass destruction," he added.

To critics who keep asking where are the weapons in Iraq, he retorted: "Remember for 30 years, we were trying to find weapons dumps in Northern Ireland and didn't." Parliament's Foreign Affairs Committee is to publish its report on the weapons row on Monday.

MNA/Reuters

Sixth Beijing Int'l Expo to showcase quality

BEIJING, 6 July — The sixth China Beijing International High-Tech Expo scheduled to take place in Beijing from September 12 to 15 will be an international gala of high quality, Beijing Vice-Mayor Zhang Mao promised.

Zhang, who is also vice-chairman and secretary-general of the expo organizing committee, said Thursday that it would feature eight symposiums, six rounds of trade talks and 11 exchange activities, and the organizing workers had put in a lot of preparations.

The expo will be held at three separate venues in the Chinese capital, with the combined floor space amounting to 50,000 square metres, said Zhang.

By Thursday, more than 40 delegations from nearly 20 countries and regions had expressed an intent to attend the expo, he said.

And 23 overseas companies with executives who were foreign advisers at the Beijing mayoral international entrepreneurs conference had also pledged to participate.

In the meantime, another 1,100 domestic and foreign companies, including over 300 foreign firms, have applied to attend the expo.

The expo is sponsored jointly by the Chinese Ministries of Science and Technology, Commerce, Education, and Information Industry, along with the China Council for the Promotion of International Trade (CCPIT), the State Intellectual Property Office and the Municipal People's Government of Beijing.

MNA/Xinhua



Arrested Iraqis, picked up for curfew or weapons violations, sit masked in a guarded compound as one is brought to be checked for illness at a US Army base in the Iraqi capital of Baghdad on 5 July, 2003. —INTERNET

British forces seize cash, drugs in Basra

WASHINGTON, 6 July — British forces on Friday arrested three suspected drug dealers and seized cash, forgery equipment and suspected drugs in a raid on a house in southern Iraq, the US military said.

US Central Command said soldiers from the 40th Regiment of the Royal Artillery carried out the night raid in the town of Khor Az Zubayr, in the south of Basra Province, after receiving a tip from a local source.

The British troops seized 33 million Iraqi dinars, worth 11,000 US dollars, suspected hashish and two bags of pills, which the Pentagon described as "significant quantities"

of suspected drugs. The three men, all brothers, were turned over to Iraqi police, the Pentagon said.

"This operation shows the commitment of the coalition forces to work with the Iraqi people to stamp out criminality and lawlessness," said Lieutenant Colonel Richard Nugee, the commander of the British forces who mounted the raid.

Iraqi towns are facing high

rates of crime and unemployment after US and British forces ousted Saddam Hussein nearly three months ago. —MNA/Reuters



US soldiers confront demonstrators during a protest of disabled Iraqis on Saturday in the center of Baghdad. The men, some injured during the Iraq-Iran war, are asking for better living conditions. —INTERNET

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Row with Turkey and police deaths leave US facing Iraq crisis

BAGHDAD, 6 July — The United States is facing mounting problems in Iraq as Turkey reacted with fury to the detention of its soldiers by US forces and security fears were heightened by the death of seven US-trained Iraqi police in a bomb attack on their graduation ceremony. Turkish Prime Minister Recep Tayyip Erdogan was to hold telephone talks Sunday with US Vice President Dick Cheney about the soldiers detained in northern Iraq, a Turkish government spokesman said.

The United States meanwhile blamed Saddam Hussein loyalists for the bomb attack that killed the newly recruited police in a city west of the Iraqi capital. A British journalist was also shot dead in Baghdad in a new sign of the worsening security climate.

The Turkish prime minister held a crisis meeting of military and government officials on Saturday night in Ankara amid angry protests over the detention of the soldiers.

But there was much uncertainty over how many Turkish troops were involved and why they were detained. The United States did not immediately confirm the detentions.

Erdogan said some had been released but Foreign Minister Abdullah Gul later contradicted this.

Earlier, Erdogan said that it was unclear whether the Turkish troops had been detained by US forces or local Kurdish militias.

Turkish media reports said the soldiers were detained Friday on suspicion of planning an attack on a Kurdish governor in the oil-rich northern Iraqi city of Kirkuk.

Justice Minister Cemil Cicek, the government spokesman, said Erdogan would talk with Cheney. "We hope that there will be no more unacceptable events like this," he declared, adding that Turkey had informed the US authorities of the "sensitivity" of the affair on Turkish public opinion.

The Hurriyet newspaper said three officers and eight non-commissioned officers were arrested on Friday in Sulaymaniyah, fiefdom of the Iraqi Kurdish leader Jalal Talabani of the Patriotic Union of Kurdistan (PUK).

The arrests were carried out on the grounds that "certain Turks were planning to commit an attack on the governor of Kirkuk", Hurriyet said.

About 100 US soldiers stormed the offices of Turkish special forces after cutting the telephone lines. The soldiers and six employees were taken to the nearby city of Kirkuk, the daily said.

Other news reports said Turkey was considering some form of retaliation.

The US civilian leader in Iraq, Paul Bremer, condemned the latest attack on symbols of US authority in the country after the blast in Ramadi, 100 kilometres (62 miles) west of Baghdad. —INTERNET

AT&T wireless to cut 1,000 jobs in US

LOS ANGELES, 6 July — AT&T Wireless Services Inc., the third-largest wireless telephone operator based in the United States, will reduce about 1,000 jobs this year, or about 3 per cent of the company's total, Los Angeles Times reported Thursday. Roughly 200 workers spent their last day at the company Monday and a further 300 are scheduled to be laid off this month, according to the report.

The company said the job cuts were part of a larger, continuing effort to improve efficiency and achieve "industry-leading margins". —MNA/Xinhua

US troops in Iraq try to adapt to uneasy peace

BAGHDAD, 6 July — Sergeant Jan-Michael Taylor spent the Iraq war in a team of soldiers providing artillery support for a US tank battalion. These days he is escorting truckloads of bricks to rebuild a Baghdad marketplace.

"They took all the artillery pieces and turned us into 'civil affairs' — trying to win the hearts and minds of the Iraqi people," Taylor said over the engine noise of his Humvee military vehicle on the way to the market on Friday.

The 24-year-old's role change is typical of the transition US forces are trying to make in Iraq. They want to move from waging war to helping with civilian projects — but that process is made more difficult by continuing attacks.

July 4 began like any other day in Iraq for Taylor. He and a few other soldiers brought bricks to the ramshackle market in Abu Ghraib, a rough part of western Baghdad, for an Army-financed reconstruction project.

"Keep in mind this is 1,000 per cent better than what it used to be," Taylor, a father of two from Wytheville, Virginia, said as his vehicle reached the rancid-smelling market spread across sandy wasteland strewn with rubbish.

Troops from the 2nd Battalion, 70th Armoured Regiment are trying to bring order and hygiene to the market with the

construction of small brick booths to replace the makeshift stalls scattered around the area at the moment.

Some Iraqis are friendly to the soldiers but others resent their interference. The troops no longer stay around all day while local labourers build the booths because someone threw a hand grenade at them about a week ago.

US forces are coming under an average of 13 guerilla attacks in Iraq every day, commanders say, even though major combat has officially been over since May 1.

Lieutenant-Colonel Jeff Ingram, the commander of the 2-70 battalion based at Fort Riley in Kansas, says assailants fire on his troops about once a night, often in a period the troops call "Iraqi happy hour" — before a curfew starts at 11 pm.

"It's not that bad," said Ingram, awarded a Silver Star for his role in a fierce battle against Republican Guard troops near the central city of Hilla on March 31.

MNA/Reuters



A soldier from US army inspects an Iraqi Mig 23 fighter on the Habaniyah Air Base in Habaniyah, Iraq about 55 kilometres (34 miles) west of Baghdad on 29 June, 2003. US soldiers have established a camp on Habaniyah air field, a former British Royal Air Force base that was the scene of a historic WW II battle in 1941. —INTERNET

\$1b a year needed for Iraq power sector

BAGHDAD, 6 July — Iraq's sabotage-plagued electricity grid needs investment of five billion dollars over the next five years to meet rising demand, the country's US civilian administrator said on Saturday.

"The strategic problem is there is not enough power generation in the entire country to meet the current needs, let alone the future needs," Paul Bremer told reporters here, amid rising concern the sweltering summer engulfing the country may have to be endured without basic services such as power. "Our estimate is that the electricity sector will need an investment of more than a billion dollars a year for the next five years just to provide enough power for the current demand," he added. Bremer said coalition forces aimed to bring back sufficient energy levels in the capital Baghdad, which has been plagued by a collapse of basic services such as electricity since the war to oust Iraqi president Saddam Hussein. —Internet

New Zealand law enforcement agencies' power widened

WELLINGTON, 6 July — New Zealand Parliament passed Friday legislation giving law enforcement and security agencies more power to combat computer-related crime.

E-mails, faxes and cellphone text messages will now be able to intercept by police, the Government Communications and Security Bureau, and the Security Intelligence Service.

Under the Crimes Amendment Act (No. 6), passed Friday, agencies must first apply to a High Court judge for permission.

Justice Minister Phil Goff told Parliament the legislation would replicate the ability the police always had to tap into phone calls.

Law enforcement agencies had to be able to tap into e-mails and faxes, he said.

The legislation also cracks down on hackers, by making it illegal, without proper authorization, to intercept, access, use or damage data held on computers.

It would also be illegal to sell, distribute or possess computer hacking programmes.

"The bill also strengthens privacy interests by making it illegal for unauthorized people to intercept e-mails and faxes not intended for them," Goff said. MNA/Xinhua

US provides aid for Nepal's justice, anti-graft measures

KATHMANDU, 6 July — The US Government has agreed to donate 7.5 million US dollars in assistance to support Nepal's initiatives in strengthening rule of law, enhancing access to justice and advancing anti-corruption measures, according to a Press statement of the US Embassy in Nepal.

The assistance will be extended over three years through the US Agency for International Development, said the statement available here Friday.

Of the total assistance, 3.3 million US dollars will be provided for a comprehensive programme called "Strengthened Rule of Law and Respect for Human Rights" to achieve key reforms and modernization outputs in Nepal's justice sector. MNA/Xinhua

Int'l auto industry expo opens in Shenyang

SHENYANG, 6 July — The Third China International Auto Industry Exposition opened Thursday morning in Shenyang, capital of northeast China's Liaoning Province.

The expo, co-hosted by the Chinese National Automotive Industry Corp and the Shenyang City government, has drawn more than 200 domestic and foreign auto makers. The exhibition floor space has reached 60,000 square metres.

MNA/Xinhua

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US soldier shot dead, 19 wounded in two separate attacks in Iraq

BAGHDAD, 6 July — One US soldier was shot and killed in Baghdad, while 19 others were wounded in a mortar attack near the town of Balad, north of the Iraqi capital, US army spokesmen said.

"There was a mortar attack inside or near the US base," near Balad, around 75 kilometres (45 miles) north of Baghdad, Specialist Giovanni Lorente said. "Initial reports suggest that 19 US soldiers were wounded."

Their condition was not known.

A separate shooting

claimed the life of one soldier, believed to have been on patrol in a Bradley armoured vehicle.

"There was a shooting in Baghdad yesterday evening. A 1st Armoured Division soldier was shot. He was initially evacuated to an aid station where he died," Major Sean Gibson told AFP. —Internet

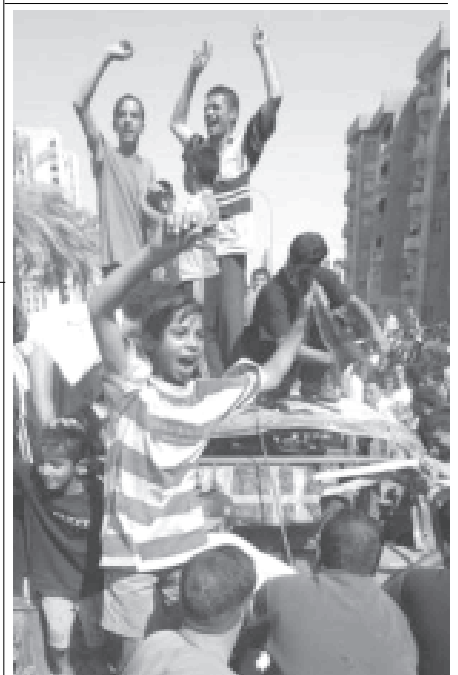
China's first exhibition on Internet culture to be held in Beijing

BEIJING, 6 July — China's first exhibition on Internet culture is expected to be held from October 23 to 26 at the China Centenary Altar in Beijing, sources with the Chinese Ministry of Culture (MOC) said here Thursday.

The exhibition will be co-sponsored by the MOC, the Beijing municipal government and the Ministry of Information Industry to boost strategic cooperation between the information and the culture industries to ensure sound development.

Chinese Minister of Culture Sun Jiazheng will chair the organizing committee of the exhibition. The four-day event will consist of an exhibi-

tion and a forum, with five major themes relating to Internet culture, including games, music, cartoons, caricatures, videos, intellectual property and content supervision, organizers said. A total of 150 booths covering almost 30,000 square metres will be prepared for well-known companies worldwide, and another 300 booths will be set up for virtual exhibition. —MNA/Xinhua



Iraqi men and children celebrate as they tear apart a US Army vehicle after it 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 another six US soldiers were wounded in western Iraq in the latest of spate of increasingly bold guerrilla-style attacks. —INTERNET

US envoy says Bush 'twisted' Iraq intelligence

NEW YORK, 6 July—A former US ambassador who investigated a report about Iraq buying uranium from Niger for the CIA accused the Bush administration on Sunday of twisting intelligence to exaggerate the threat posed by Saddam Hussein.

Joseph Wilson, Washington's envoy to Gabon from 1992 to 1995, detailed in his role in investigating the report — which turned out to be a forgery — in an article in the *New York Times* on Sunday.

The report was cited by President Bush and Britain to support their charges that Saddam was trying to obtain nuclear weapons and to justify their invasion of Iraq in March.

"Based on my experience with the administration in the months leading up to the war, I have little choice but to conclude that some of the intelligence related to Iraq's nuclear weapons programme was twisted to exaggerate the Iraqi threat," Wilson wrote.

Controversy is raging in both Britain and the United States over charges that the governments of the two countries manipulated intelligence about weapons of mass destruction to justify the war. No evidence of such weapons has been found by the occupying forces in Iraq.

Wilson, who helped to direct Africa policy for the National Security Council under former President Bill Clinton, said he was the "unnamed former envoy" who news media have said travelled to Niger in February 2002 to check the report of a uranium deal between the west African country and Iraq. At the request of the CIA, which was to report his findings to Vice President Dick Cheney, Wilson said he spent more than a week meeting current and former Niger government officials and people associated with the uranium business. "It did not take long to conclude that it was highly doubtful that any such transaction had ever taken place," he said.

Wilson said he reported his findings in detail to the CIA and the State Department. But in January 2003 Bush "repeated the charges about Iraqi efforts to buy uranium from Africa," Wilson said. "If the president had been referring to Niger, then his conclusion was not borne out by the facts as I understood them," he said.—*Internet*



A Chinese girl looks at a work titled 'Rhythm' at a sculpture exhibition on environmental protection in Beijing on 5 July, 2003. The exhibition, 'Be in nature, Share space, Sculpture life', aims to use sculptures as a medium to express human optimism and positive attitude.—INTERNET

ASEAN navies face greater challenges

KUALA LUMPUR, 6 July—Malaysian Defence Minister Najib Tun Razak said on Saturday the navies of the ASEAN countries were facing greater challenges in managing the region's maritime security.

While it is still true that the traditional role of the Navy is to provide protection against hostile forces at sea, their duties have now broadened to include other threats such as terrorism and drug trafficking, Najib said in his keynote address at the end of the two-day ASEAN Navy Interaction in Kota Kinabalu, east Malaysia.

They also had a role in the management of assets at sea apart from protecting the fisheries sector and the marine environment and ensuring safety of life, he said.

In the speech read by Navy Chief Mohamad Ramly Abu Bakar at the function, the Malaysian Defence Minister said, "Indeed maritime security is becoming the most vital part of

national security and it must encompass the protection of all national interests at sea".

Najib said that it is of paramount importance to maintain continuous and unobstructed movement of goods and energy throughout the region as it was necessary for its economic vitality.

"Terrorist attacks on vulnerable maritime targets, shipping, offshore oil and gas installations will almost certainly increase the risks of environmental damage apart from the risk to life and property," he said.

"In addition, control and management of various trans-boundary crimes in the maritime world is also necessary to create an overall effective deterrence," he said.—*MNA/Xinhua*

Vietnam sends 40,000 workers abroad

HANOI, 6 July—Vietnam has so far this year sent 40,000 workers overseas, realizing 80 per cent of the yearly target, according to a report of *Vietnam News* on Saturday.

"Each month, we send over 7,000 workers abroad. But the figure fell to 2,000 in May because of severe acute respiratory syndrome in Asia," said Nguyen Gia Liem, director of the Centre for Export Workers Information and Consultancy under the Ministry of Labour, Invalids and Social Affairs (MoLISA).

In addition to traditional markets such as Eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union, MoLISA is seeking new labour export markets in Asia and the Middle East, Malaysia and Taiwan Province are proving to be key and valuable markets, Liem said.

Working conditions in Malaysia are suitable for Vietnamese rural workers whereas Japan and South

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Iraq's national football side to play in Australia

BAGHDAD, 6 July—Iraq's national football side, attempting to rebuild after the disruptions of war, will play two games in Australia in November, officials confirmed here.

The matches will come only a few months after the United States-led invasion of Iraq in which Australia played a role.

Sporting promoter Tom Hoad said one match would be against the Australian under-23 team, known as the Olyroos, and the other with a

Western Australian State League side or a composite National Soccer League team.

Both games had been approved by Soccer Australia and would be played in Perth, the Western Australian capital, Hoad said Saturday.

They would be at Perth's Subiaco Oval, a 42,000-capacity venue, or the Western Australia Cricket Association Ground—known as the WACA—which accommodates about 28,000, on dates in late November yet to be determined.

Hoad said the two-match package had been put together by Sport International Western Australia, with which he is senior

project officer.

Sport International is an arm of the State Government's Department of Sport and Recreation.

Hoad said he expected soon to sign a major sponsorship which would pay for the cash-starved Iraqis to make the trip. "We have two interested parties vying for the sponsorship," he said.

Western Australia-based Soccer Australia board member Paul Afkoss said the Iraq players were expected to have a two-week camp in Perth to prepare for the games. "Soccer Australia sees this as a tremendous goodwill gesture towards a country that has been battered for many years," he said.—*Internet*

Anhui province declares state of emergency in wake of floods

HEFEL, 6 July — East China's Anhui Provincial Flood Control and Drought Relief Headquarters announced that beginning midnight Friday, the province has entered into a state of emergency to cope with the flooding of the Huaihe River, one of China's major rivers.

The sluice gates on the Huaihe River had been opened Wednesday to divert floodwater generated by heavy rainfall in the river valleys.

The situation has continued to deteriorate and the water level at the river's middle reaches passed the warning level at 6 a.m. Friday, and the trunk stream of the river was hit by its largest flood since 1991.

The weather forecast shows that in the coming two days, torrential rainfall will continue to pelt the upper reaches of the river and the central and northern parts of east China's Anhui Province.—*MNA/Xinhua*



A US Army soldier uses his binocular atop his APC vehicle while guarding the main entrance of the US administration office in Baghdad, on 5 July, 2003.—INTERNET

List of journalists who died in Iraq

BAGHDAD, 6 July—News organization employees killed by violence since the war on Iraq began on March 20.

-Richard Wilde, British freelance cameraman, July 5, outside Iraq's Natural History Museum in Baghdad.

-Tareq Ayyoub, Jordanian journalist for Al-Jazeera, Qatar, April 8, at the Al-Jazeera office in Baghdad.

-Jose Couso, cameraman for Spanish television network Telecinco. April 8, at the Palestine hotel in Baghdad.

-Taras Protsyuk, a Ukrainian television cameraman for Reuters, April 8, at the Palestine hotel in Baghdad.

-Christian Liebig, journalist for Focus weekly, Germany, April 7, south of Baghdad.

-Julio Anguita Parrado, reporter for El Mundo, Spain, April 7, south of Baghdad.

-Kamran Abdurazaq Muhamed, a Kurdish translator working with the BBC, April 6, northern Iraq.

-Michael Kelly, editor-at-large, The Atlantic Monthly, April 3, near Baghdad.

-Kaveh Golestan, Iranian freelance cameraman for the BBC, northern Iraq, April 2.

-Terry Lloyd, correspondent for Independent Television News, Britain, March 22, southern Iraq.

-Paul Moran, freelance cameraman for

the Australian Broadcasting Corporation, March 22, northern Iraq.

In other deaths, disappearances:

-Two other Independent Television News journalists, cameraman Fred Nerac of France and translator Hussein Osman of Lebanon, have been missing since the shooting incident March 22 in southern Iraq in which Terry Lloyd was killed.

-Elizabeth Neuffer, a reporter for The Boston Globe, died May 8 after the car in which she was a passenger apparently struck a guardrail near the town of Samarra, about halfway between Baghdad and Tikrit. Neuffer's translator, Waleed Khalifa Hassan Al-Dulami, also died in the accident.

-Veronica Cabrera, an Argentine freelance camerawoman, died April 15 of injuries from a car crash outside the Iraqi capital, which instantly killed Mario Podesta, an Argentine TV reporter, on April 14.

-Reporter David Bloom of NBC News died April 6 from an apparent blood clot while covering the war south of Baghdad.

-Gaby Rado, a correspondent for Channel 4 News, Britain, died March 30 after apparently falling from a hotel roof in northern Iraq.—Internet



A file picture of June 18, 2003 shows foreign journalists covering an event in Baghdad, Iraq. It is reported that a British journalist was shot dead outside the Iraqi National Museum in Baghdad on Saturday, July 5.

Blueprint for government in Iraq laid out

BAGHDAD, 6 July—Shiite Muslims, long oppressed by Saddam Hussein's Sunni-dominated government, will hold a commanding majority on a political council U.S. authorities will set up this month as a forerunner to a new Iraqi government, The Associated Press has learned.

The governing council of 25-30 leading Iraqis will be the first step in a 12-to-15 month process that will likely involve a constitutional referendum followed by the first free elections in Iraq in decades, according to a senior Western diplomat who laid out the blueprint of Iraq's path to democracy.

The panel will return some control back

to Iraqis, though its composition is a sensitive matter. While Shiites are clamoring for a prominent role, Sunnis worry that an Iran-style Shiite theocracy could take hold and push them to the fringes of power.

The U.S.-led provisional government is anxious to get an Iraqi council in place in order to dispel a common perception here that America's mission amounts to colonization rather than liberation.—Internet

'Saddam' tape urges guerrillas to fight on

BAGHDAD, 6 July—A tape recording purportedly of Saddam Hussein which was broadcast yesterday urged guerrilla fighters in Iraq to continue their resistance to the US-led occupation of the country.

As if to taunt the Americans on their Independence Day, an unidentified caller rang the al-Jazeera television station and played a tape, allegedly from the ousted dictator, which claimed credit for defending Iraq's independence against outsiders.

Saying he was inside Iraq, the voice added: "Brothers and sisters, I relay to you good news: jihad cells and brigades have been formed... We have sacrificed the government but we will not sacrifice our principles or surrender."

It urged Iraqis to assist the groups resisting "the infidel occupiers".

The tape surfaced hours after US troops killed 11 Iraqis who had attempted to ambush a convoy north of

Baghdad.

On Thursday Washington put up a \$25m reward for the former Iraqi leader, and a \$15m bounty for information leading to the capture of his two sons, Qusay and Uday.

The CIA said yesterday it was reviewing the tape, and it was too early to judge whether it was Saddam.

"There have been several Saddam tapes since the war started," said an intelligence official.

"It was known prior to the war that the Iraqis were making tapes. This could have been taped months ago."

However, the official conceded that the tape added to the body of evidence that Saddam had survived the war, and the two bombing

raids which had been intended to take out the Iraqi leadership.

The last credible sighting of the Iraqi leader was on August 9 when he toured the Adhamiya neighbourhood of Baghdad, a stronghold of the regime, even as US forces were at the capital's gates.

"Because of the lack of evidence that he was killed during the war, these tapes could be authentic," the official said.

The official said technical experts would try to match the voice on the tape released to al-Jazeera with known recordings of Saddam, while Arabic speakers would study the language for wording and phrases typical of the Iraqi leader.—Internet

Sculpture exhibition on environmental protection debuts in Beijing

BEIJING, 6 July—A sculpture exhibition on environmental protection opened Saturday on Wangfujing Street, the busiest commercial street in Beijing.

The around 100 sculptures, mostly made of waste materials such as wine bot-

tles and steel, have attracted large crowds.

The exhibition was jointly sponsored by the capital's sculpture management office and the Beijing Arts Association. Citizens are able to visit for free for the next 30 days. The sponsors said that

through the exhibition, they call for a spirit of harmonious coexistence with nature among the public.

"The sculptures not only provide us with the beauty of art, but also lead us to rethink our current lifestyle," said a visitor.—MNA/Xinhua

China's oldest cataract patient regains eyesight

HAIKOU, 6 July—A 106-year-old woman in south China's Hainan Province has regained her eyesight after a cataract operation. "It is very nice to see clearly again," said Sun Boda, after the operation.

She was the oldest patient to undergo the cataract removal operation in China. Xing Jianqiang, an ophthalmologist at Hainan Medical College, said his college had re-

ceived several centenarian patients in the past, but Sun was the oldest.

During the nationwide campaign for regaining eyesight, Sight First China Action, sponsored by the Lion's Club International (LCI), one of the world's largest charity organizations, more than 10,000 cataract patients in Hainan Province have regained their eyesight.—MNA/Xinhua



A US soldier points his bayonet-mounted rifle towards Iraqis during a demonstration on 5 July, 2003 at the former Presidential Palace which now houses the US Administration office in Baghdad, Iraq. The protesters are demanding the release of former Parliament Speaker Dr Saadon Hamadi who was arrested by the US forces on 25 June.—INTERNET

Daw Suu Kyi, the NLD Party and Our Ray of Hope—3

Maung Yin Hmaing



The cordial meeting between State Peace and Development Council Members headed by Chairman Senior General Than Shwe and NLD party leadership is opening a new chapter for national reconciliation.



The cordial meeting between State Peace and Development Council Members headed by Chairman Senior General Than Shwe and NLD party leadership is opening a new chapter for national reconciliation.

Animosity spawns more enemies

The path of our group of NLD followers led by Auntie Suu on a tour of various towns had now begun to deviate from its original programme and objectives. This tendency had become a constant source of worry for me during the trip.

Although it is true that the biased news reports on Auntie Suu's trip broadcast by foreign radio stations were meant as direct attacks to disparage and denigrate the government, they at the same time had some adverse effects on our party.

These unfair and false allegations broadcast by foreign radio stations to fan the flames of doubts and suspicion made matters worse and cracks appeared in the mutual trust and understanding which had been so painstakingly achieved over time between our party and the Government. It was indeed a regrettable loss.

I was hesitant to

accompany the group on its trip to Sagaing Division, Kachin State and Mandalay Division that would begin on 6 May, as I was filled with doubts and foreboding about it. Problems had emerged and come to the fore even while making preparations for the journey. Strident voices were heard threatening to use the hoisting of township party signboards as pretext to create problems.

As far as I knew, there was a meeting between the party spokesman Granduncle U Lwin and Brig-Gen Than Tun four or five days before the start of the trip. At the meeting Granduncle U Lwin made a request for permission to put up party signboards at the NLD offices in Pakokku, Shwebo, Mohnyin, Mogaung, Tanai, Waingmaw, Bhamo, Shwegu, Phakant and Myitkyina townships as well as the Kachin State Office during Auntie Suu's trip and the two discussed the submission of this matter to the higher echelon.

It took about only one day to get the permission. At their next meeting, Brig-Gen Than Tun informed Granduncle U Lwin that the leaders of the government had granted permission for the party to put up signboards at the Pakokku, Waingmaw, Bhamo, Shwegu, Myitkyina and Kachin State offices. During this meeting, Granduncle U Lwin presented an additional list of townships to Brig-Gen Than Tun. The list included Thabeikyin and Singu in Mandalay Division, Seikphyu in Magway Division, Kawlin, Kanbalu, Wuntho, Myinmu, Budalin, Dabayin, Ye-U, Taze, Khin-U and Ayadaw in Sagaing Division and Momeik and Mabein in Shan State.

The day after, that is the day before the start of the journey, Brig-Gen Than Tun and Auntie Suu had a meeting. I guessed that Brig-Gen Than Tun did not have the permission for the towns in the supplementary list.

Auntie Suu insisted that she would put up the signboards at the townships in the supplementary list whether the authorities concerned gave permission or not. She was most insistent about it. So, Brig-Gen Than Tun reminded her that there was already an agreement to put up party signboards only after the two sides had reached an accord; that she should not act impetuously and that it would not be proper to do so.

I heard Brig-Gen Than Tun tell Auntie Suu that the list presented by Granduncle U Lwin, included townships that had yet to be properly reorganized and submitted for recognition as township party headquarters in order that signboards could be officially raised; that she should not put up the party signboards without getting due permission but that he would nevertheless submit the case to the authorities for getting the required permission.

There was also one other matter. I am not sure whether it was a careless mistake or a deliberate act of mischief. The list presented by Granduncle U Lwin included Ayadaw and Singu townships where signboards of the offices had already been put up.

Here, I would like to say in all fairness that the preparations concerning the putting up of signboards should have been made in advance. Asking for permission

to hoist signboards at the last minute and submitting a supplementary list that includes party offices with their signboards already put up are not proper procedures. Such decisions cannot be made hastily in one stroke and at one sitting. So making such importunate demands on such important matters is like intentionally setting up a trap. We had already composed and compiled in advance what slogans we would shout if there were any delays in this matter on the government's side. It was an act of coercion or a stab in the back or whatever!

However... In addition to granting permission for all the townships stated in the first list, the Government also granted permission for raising respective signboards for Monywa, Budalin, Dabayin, Ye-U and Taze during the tour. Concerning this matter, a government spokesman gave a clarification as follows at the press conference held on 31

May.

"... We were informed on 2 May that Daw Suu Kyi and her team had plans to travel to Kachin State on 6 May and that the team wanted to put up signboards at some Township NLD offices during the trip. Thus, on 4 May an official reply was given to the NLD together with a list of certain townships where it would be permitted to put up signboards."

Later, another request was made for granting permission to put up signboards at 16 more township offices in Sagaing and Mandalay Divisions and Shan State. But it was found that some of the township NLD party offices in the list had been granted permission and had already put up their signboards. As to the rest it was impos-

sible to issue permits for the townships in time for the trip. We on our part also have difficulties such as an intervening weekend when government offices are closed or times when the senior official concerned is away on a working trip.

The list presented by the NLD also contained only the names of the townships, but not the addresses and other information concerning the premises where the signboards were to be put up. The location and premises where the signboard of a political party is going to be put up has to be free of all potential problems.

For instance if the party office is located on a religious land, or it is a State-owned building or one built on municipal-owned land; or if

(See page 9)



U Tun Ngwe's house in ward 3 of Ayadaw had already had a signboard. However, the demand to put up a signboard there was a dishonest attempt to create problems.



U Tun Ngwe's house in ward 3 of Ayadaw had already had a signboard. However, the demand to put up a signboard there was a dishonest attempt to create problems.

Lt-Gen Ye Myint inspects regional development tasks in Myingyan, Mandalay Districts

YANGON, 6 July —

Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Ye Myint of the Ministry of Defence, accompanied by Chairman of Mandalay Division Peace and Development Council Commander Maj-Gen Ye Myint, inspected the construction of Government Technical Institute (Myingyan) in Gaungkwe Village, Myingyan Township, yesterday morning.

At the briefing hall, Project Manager U Yu Tin and General Manager U Wunna Khaing of Aden

Group Construction Co Ltd reported on matters relating to the construction of the institute.

Lt-Gen Ye Myint attended to the requirements and inspected round the project site. Lt-Gen Ye Myint also inspected the paving of gravel road in front of the institute. Next, Lt-Gen Ye Myint and party went to the Myingyan river water pumping project (Thabaung) in Thabaung Village. At the briefing hall, Assistant Director U Win Hsan of Water Resources Utilization Department, in-charge of the district, reported with the use of charts on earth work and digging of the main canal and tributary canals and river water pumping tasks being carried out. Deputy Director-General U Hla Myint Maung presented a supplementary report. Next, Lt-Gen Ye Myint inspected round the project site. Officials conducted him round the site. Afterwards, Lt-Gen Ye Myint met with local farmers and fulfilled the needs for cultivating the monsoon paddy.

In this year, 500 acres of monsoon paddy, 1,000 acres of cotton and over 2,700 acres of beans and pulses will be cultivated with the use of water from the project. Next, Lt-Gen Ye Myint and party left along the Thabaung-Simeekhon motor road by car for the Simeekhon-2 extended river water pumping project in Kaing Village.

At the briefing hall of the project site, Assistant Director U Aung Win Hlaing, in-charge of the project, reported on completion of reclamation of land, construction of main canal and tributary canals and installation of power lines. Lt-Gen Ye Myint fulfilled the requirements and inspected round the project site.



Lt-Gen Ye Myint inspects the sugarcane plantation of local battalion of Myingyan Station. — MNA

Simeekhon-2 extended river water pumping project will irrigate 900 acres of monsoon paddy field this year.

Lt-Gen Ye Myint also met with local farmers and attended to their requirements.

Next, Lt-Gen Ye Myint and party inspected the broadcasting of paddy and earth work at the paddy field reclaimed under the project. Lt-Gen Ye Myint and party also inspected the cultivation of 368 acres of Manawthukha paddy field and threshing of paddy in Nganan Village.

Next, Lt-Gen Ye Myint and party arrived at Simeekhon-2 river water pumping project and inspected the pumping of water from Ayeyawady river to the main reservoir. At the briefing hall, Assistant Director U Win Hsan in-charge of the project reported on tasks being undertaken. Lt-Gen Ye Myint gave necessary instructions. About 1,000 acres of monsoon paddy will be cultivated with the irrigation of the project.

Lt-Gen Ye Myint and party arrived at Nganmyar river water pumping project in Ngazun Township, Mandalay Division, at 12.30 pm. At the briefing hall, Deputy Director U Khin Zaw in-charge of the project reported on completion of earth work, main channels and tributary channels, construction of water intake building and arrival of pumps and power supply. Nganmyar river water pumping project will irrigate 500 acres of monsoon paddy, 500 acres of cotton and 2,000 acres of beans and pulses this year. Next, Lt-Gen Ye Myint and party proceeded to 16-bed station hospital in Nganmyar Village where they inspected round the hospital. Medical Superintendent Dr

Aye Lwin and officials conducted them round the hospital. Lt-Gen Ye Myint and party arrived at Ywathit river water pumping project in Ywathit Village, Ngazun Township, at 2.15 pm. Deputy Director U Khin Zaw in-charge of the project reported on completion of construction works of the project and tasks being carried out. Lt-Gen Ye Myint gave necessary instructions and inspected the water pumping tasks. Ywathit river water pumping project will irrigate 2,000 acres of monsoon paddy and 4,000 acres of beans and pulses this year.

At 3 pm, Lt-Gen Ye Myint and party inspected the completion of construction works of Kyauktalone river water pumping project in Phayaku Village.

In the evening, Lt-Gen Ye Myint and party left for Mandalay where they spent for the night.

Lt-Gen Ye Myint met with officers and other ranks and their families of the local battalion in Myingyan Station at the hall of the battalion this morning. Lt-Gen Ye Myint gave instructions on carrying out the agriculture and livestock breeding tasks from manageable scale to commercial scale so that the families of the Tatmadawmen can get more earnings. Next, Lt-Gen Ye Myint cordially met with Tatmadawmen and their families. Lt-Gen Ye Myint inspected the 22-acre plantation of sugarcane in the compound of the battalion and pumping of water from a tube-well for drinking water and agricultural purposes. Lt-Gen Ye Myint also inspected patches of kitchen crops, breeding of goats and plantations of Eugenia tree in front of staff quarters of the battalion. —MNA

Daw Suu Kyi...

(from page 8)

it is built on an agricultural site or on land under legal dispute, or maybe it is a building rented out without the consent of family members who jointly own it. It is necessary to take all these factors into consideration. It so happens that should Government officials ask the NLD to wait for some time before putting up the signboards on such reasonable grounds, it usually accuses the Government of trying to ban its right to raise a party signboard. We have however given full cooperation to enable the NLD to put up its signboards at township offices in Sagaing Division in time."

I have not a single doubt with regard to the clarification given at the press conference. It was quite a clear and

straightforward explanation.

Whatever the case maybe ...

The NLD, which exists in name but lacks essence, has been able to erect its signboards at 68 township offices in the whole nation during the period 2001 to date thanks to the military government.

True to its declared aim that it would create problems on the flimsy grounds of the matter of the party signboards our group actually did contrive such situations throughout the trip. If one should assess the events that took place objectively it could surely be said that "Auntie Suu" knows best whether or not they had hatched plots in advance with ulterior motives of ringing alarm both at home and abroad; of creating misapprehensions among the international community that the Government was employing oppressive and unjust measures against

the NLD, and destabilizing the nation which is at peace to bring about an adverse situation of direct confrontation with the government.

Here, I would like to reveal the truth about a certain matter. It is not a confession made under duress. It is because I am convinced the people should be told the truth.

We were making preparations for the trip to Sagaing Division and Kachin State under the leadership of Auntie Suu. There were three cars for the journey. One was a white Dyna light truck, another, a black 4x4 double cab pick-up for Auntie Suu and the last was a Crown Town Ace van for Granduncle U Tin Oo. The youths of the party, who would be on security duty, shoot documentary video films and photos and take recordings of the talks and discussions throughout the journey, were summoned to be at the compound on the evening of 5 May. When all the sum-

moned youths had arrived at the compound in the evening, each was presented with one yellow raincoat and one warm cotton jacket both as a souvenir and as uniform for the trip.

A significant directive was then issued for the trip because of the incident, which occurred in Hsaw during the Chin State trip. It was that we would be required to carry clubs or any other kind of suitable weapon for use, as and when necessary. Thein Soe and Khin Oo, who are members of the NLD Youth, loaded six or seven 2-inch by 1-inch rods, one catapult, and a number of stones on the cars. The sticks were packed in a polyethylene bag and put under Khin Oo's seat. And Khin Oo was the guy, riding shotgun in Auntie Suu's car!

When we arrived at Kawlin on our way to Kachin State, Mi Mi Gyi of Sagaing Division NLD, put some more 2-inch by 1-inch sticks on the car as instructed by Thein

Soe of our group. The sticks brought from Yangon and those supplied at Kawlin were all loaded onto Auntie Suu's car. The NLD youths preferred to hit and strike with sticks and thump with fists, or attack with stones if problems should arise rather than to solving them peacefully through coordination in accordance with the laws and rules or through negotiation. But if anyone should ask me whether Auntie Suu made any attempt to reproach or stop the

NLD youths from such belligerence, the best answer I can give is that "I have never heard her do so."

We were travelling with animosity close to our hearts, armed with sticks, catapults pebbles and stones in our cars ready to attack others. So, even though our group's expressed aim was apparently to launch a political campaign or to start on a trail of democracy talks, that is not the essence; it is just a charade.

That is what it really is ...

The real aim and plan behind the trip was to confuse the political situation all along the way, and to further inflame and confound it to cause chaos. And then should the authorities try to curb and control the unrest that would follow, to try to exploit it and gain political profit by calling it "oppression." Is it any wonder then that problems did really break out?

(To be continued)
(Translation: TMT)



Singu Township NLD Vice-Chairman U Sein Tun's mother's house in ward 2 of Singu had already a township signboard splendidly. However, the demand made just before the trip to put up a new signboard was an attempt to cause problems for the Government.

Do not be frightened whenever intimidated.

Lt-Gen Maung Bo inspects regional development tasks in Kayin State

YANGON, 6 July—Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Maung Bo, accompanied by officials from the State Peace and Development Council Office and departmental officials, left here by car and arrived at Sittoung Bridge at 7 am on 4 July.

Lt-Gen Maung Bo and party were welcomed there by Mon State Peace and Development Council Chairman South-East Command Commander Maj-Gen Thura Myint Aung, senior military officers from local battalion, the Thaton District Peace and Development Council Chairman and members and departmental



Lt-Gen Maung Bo plants Thitsein saplings at Myaingale Reserve Forest in Hpa-an Township.—MNA

officials. Then, they visited the fresh water fish and prawn production of Winner Land Production Co Ltd on Yangon-Hpa-an road near Donthami creek in Hpa-an Township in Kayin State, where they were welcomed by Kayin State Peace and Development Council Chairman Col Cho Tun Aung and members and officials.

Lt-Gen Maung Bo and party were briefed by Head of Kayin State Fisheries Department U Paw Lwin on matters related to yearly production of fish and prawn in Kayin State. Managing Director Dr Aung Myint of the company then reported on measures for fresh water fish and prawn production on the 60-acre land near Donthami Creek in the township, digging of ponds on 8-acre land for fish nursery and on 28-acre land for meat production and arrangements for releasing 7,000 fresh water prawn per acre and 500 carp per acre. Deputy Director-General of the fisheries department U Hla Win presented a supplementary report on extended breeding of fish and availability of fingerlings at the fisheries department.

Then, Chairman Col Cho Tun Aung reported on fish breeding in Kayin State, extended fish breeding using natural water as fish pond, application for land for fish breeding ponds by private entrepreneurs and digging of ponds, and assistance being rendered by Kayin State.

Lt-Gen Maung Bo then made a speech. He said fish and prawn breeding plays a vital role for development of fish and meat sector of the state and efforts are to be made for success of the enterprise. He urged those present to organize the private entrepreneurs who are interested in fish and prawn breeding. Then, Lt-Gen Maung Bo inspected fish ponds and reclaimed land of Winner Land Co.

Afterwards, Lt-Gen Maung Bo and party attended the ceremony to plant Thitsein trees in Myaingalay forest reserve near Kawyin (Upper) Village in Hpa-an Township. Also present on the occasion were members of social organizations, local people, band and dance troupes totalling over 4,000. Lt-Gen Maung Bo, Commander Maj-Gen Thura Myint Aung and Chairman Col Cho Tun Aung took position at designated places and planted Thitsein trees. Members of social organizations and local people collectively planted over 1,000 Thitsein trees at the designated places on the 10-acre land.

At the briefing hall there, Director-General U Kyaw Soe Naing of Kayin State Forest Department reported on nursing of valuable saplings, Thitsein saplings and arrangements and tasks implemented.

Lt-Gen Maung Bo then made a speech. He said in accordance with the guidance of Head of State Senior General Than Shwe, efforts have been made by laying down plans for development of all regions in the country. Kayin State, which is close to the border area, is covered in the project. One of the development tasks for Kayin State is today's ceremony to plant Thitsein trees. Growing of trees is important for environmental conversation and greening. Growing trees leads to changes in weather. For the Anya region to be lush and green, the Nine District Greening Project was implemented. Now forests and firewood plantations can be seen thriving there and the

Any region is no longer an arid zone. The government has been making efforts for conserving the scenic beauty of the country and growing of Thitsein trees will not only make the region green but contribute to local oil sufficiency. In conclusion he urged local people, social organization members and departmental officials to make efforts for thriving of the trees planted that day.

Lt-Gen Maung Bo cordially greeted those present and presented cash award to the Kayin Donyein dance troupe. He also greeted families of local battalion and gave instructions on growing of various kinds of kitchen crops in the manageable plantation.

In the afternoon, Lt-Gen Maung Bo met state/township level departmental officials and members of social organizations at Zweekabin Hall in Hpa-an and gave necessary instructions. Also present on the occasion were Mon State Peace and Development Council Chairman South-East Command Commander Maj-Gen Thura Myint Aung, Kayin State Peace and Development Council Chairman Col Cho Tun Aung, state/district/township level departmental officials and members of social organizations. Kayin State Peace and Development Council Chairman Col Cho Tun Aung reported on location and area of Kayin State and matters relating to growing of monsoon paddy and crops, land utilization, land reclamation and implementation of education and health sector for 2003-2004. Lt-Gen Maung Bo made a speech. He said in line with the guidance of Head of State Senior General Than Shwe, the border area development project, the 24-development region project and five tasks rural area development and long-term and short-term projects have been laid down and implemented for development all regions in the country. In so doing, systematic efforts are made with objectives and aims. Plans have also been laid down and implemented for development of Kayin State. According to the reports, it is targeted to grow over 336,000 acres of monsoon paddy and 139,000 acres of land has been put under paddy to date. Efforts are to be made for exceeding the target.

In Kayin State, fish breeding is carried out on over 269 acres of land and prawn on 80 acres of land. So it is needed to extend the fish and prawn breeding sector of the state and make strenuous efforts for development of regional agriculture sector. In addition, crops suitable to the region are to be grown to produce 100 bags of rice, 50 bags of groundnut, 20 bags of sesame, 50 bags of oil-sunflower, 20 bags of matpe, 20 bags of pedsin, 20 bags of pesingon, 400 viss of cotton, 30 tons of sugarcane and 80 bags of corn per acre which are ten major crops of the State.

At a time when efforts are made for development of the region with the favourable conditions of land and water and the assistance of the State, officials concerned are to discharge duties of the State with goodwill, faithfully and dutifully in the interest of the public. At the same time, local people are to actively participate in the tasks for development of the region and the State. Then the ceremony came to a close. After that, Lt-Gen Maung Bo and party arrived back in the Yeiktha of Hpa-an Station. —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

သတိပေးချက်

ရန်ကုန်မြို့တော်အတွင်း အချို့မော်တော်ယာဉ်များမှာ ယာဉ်စည်းကမ်း လမ်းစည်းကမ်း ချိုးဖောက်မှုများကြောင့် ယာဉ်တိုက်မှုများ ဖြစ်ပွားခဲ့သဖြင့် ဒဏ်ရာရသူသေဆုံးသူများ များပြားလာသည်ကို တွေ့ရှိရပါသည်။ ထိုသို့ယာဉ်တိုက်မှုများ ဖြစ်ပွားပါက ကျေးအေးသည်ဖြစ်စေ မကျေအေးသည်ဖြစ်စေ ယာဉ်စည်းကမ်း လမ်းစည်းကမ်းမှားယွင်းသော ယာဉ်မောင်းသူများအား တည်ဆဲပဒေအရ ထိခိုက်ရောက်ရောက် အရေးယူ ဆောင်ရွက် သွားမည်ဖြစ်ကြောင်း သတိပေးချက် အပ်ပါသည်။

ယာဉ်စည်းကမ်းထိန်းသိမ်းရေး ကြီးကြပ်မှုကော်မတီ

Ministry of Immigration
& Population

UNFPA

World Population Day

(11 July 2003)

သန်းတစ်ထောင် ငယ်ရွယ်ကျန်းမာရဲ့

ပညာရေးလို့ စောင့်ရှောက်ရဲ့။

1 billion adolescents: the right to health, information and service

More fish in rice field



စပါးကရွေ့ ငါးကငွေ လယ်ယာသားငါး ပြည့်စီးပွား။

ကျေးလက်ဒေသဖွံ့ဖြိုးဖို့ စပါးငါးမှာ ငါးမွေးဖို့။

အမျိုးသားအဆင့် ငှက်ဖျားရောဂါ ကာကွယ်နှိမ်နင်းရေး လှုပ်ရှားမှု ရက်သတ္တပတ်

(၅-၇-၂၀၀၃ မှ ၁၁-၇-၂၀၀၃ ထိ)

ငှက်ဖျားရောဂါသည် ပျံ့နှံ့အားဖြင့် တောတောင် ထူထပ်သော ဒေသနှင့် ကမ်းရိုးတန်းဒေသများတွင် ပိုမိုဖြစ်ပွားလေ့ ရှိပါသည်။ သို့ရာတွင် ငှက်ဖျားရောဂါ ဖြစ်ပွားမှုနည်းပါးသော မြေပြန့် ဒေသများတွင် ငှက်ဖျားပိုးသယ်ဆောင်သည့် ခြင်္သေ့ကပ်ပွားပါက ယင်းဒေသတွင် ကပ်ရောဂါအသွင် ကူးစက်ပြန့်ပွား၍ ပြင်းထန် ဖြစ်ပွားကာ အသက်ဆုံးရှုံးနိုင်ပါသည်။ ထို့ကြောင့် ငှက်ဖျားရောဂါ ဖြစ်ပွားသည်ဟု သဘောရှိပါက နီးစပ်ရာ ကျန်းမာရေးဌာနများသို့ အမြန်ဆုံးသွားရောက် ကုသမှုခံယူပါ။

ကျန်းမာရေးဝန်ကြီးဌာန

With stability and better transport...

Do not be softened whenever appeased.



Lt-Gen Thura Shwe Mann formally unveils the stone inscription of the Darka River Bridge at the opening ceremony. — MNA



State Peace and Development Council Secretary-2 Lt-Gen Soe Win delivers an address at the opening ceremony of Darka River Bridge. —MNA

(from page 16)

The government has laid down plans and is implementing them after making thorough study on development conditions in all parts of the Union including Ayeyawady Division. So progress has been made with added momentum in the areas that lagged behind in development and in the areas that development was slow in the past.

Development and peace and stability could be recorded in the country in terms of figures and materials.

This is due to the unity of the entire national races living in states and divisions in weal and woe. Mutual understanding among the national races, consideration and cooperation in regional development result in peace, security, development and friendship.

Suspensions on each other, conflict and confrontation are the dangers to peace and development. Each and every person wants peace and development for its own as well as for the nation and the people. Accordingly, stability and development have been achieved all over the Union by the Government and the people.

Success of development, peace and tranquillity which do not rely on the help of foreign countries are the fruits created by own strength, thought and conviction without domination of the foreign countries.

Clearly viewing the destructive motive and the constructive motive, the goodness and the bad, the increase and the decrease, flourishing developments are to be safeguarded. Collective efforts are to be made for implementing the national aims such as perpetual existence of the State among the countries of the world and uplift of living standard of the entire people.

In conclusion, the Secretary-2 thanked officials and workers as well as local people for their participation in construction of Darka River Bridge and urged those present to safeguard the bridges in Ayeyawady Division including Darka River Bridge for their long-term use.

Next, Minister for Construction Maj-Gen Saw Tun spoke on the occasion. He said that smooth transportation can reflect development of a country and forge national unity. Nowadays, the State has spent K 79,394 million plus US\$ 147.907 million dollars on construction of roads and bridges throughout the country. In the road sector, there were 13,635 miles of road before 1988 and alto-

gether 4,477 miles of road have been increased from 1988 to date. There were 440 miles of earth and tarred roads in Ayeyawady Division in the past. But there are 1,328 miles of road with an increase of 887 miles. In the bridge sector, 157 bridges which are 180 feet long and above have been built in the entire nation.

A total of 39 bridges in Ayeyawady Division were built at a cost of K 19,420 million and US\$ 20 million. The minister called on those present to safeguard Darka River Bridge for its long-term use.

Commander Maj-Gen Htay Oo delivered an address. He said that the Government is building roads and bridges for gaining social and economic development in the respective regions. At present, Ayeyawady Division also gain the benefits of the construction tasks.

Darka River Bridge is the 39th one among the bridges which are 180 feet long and above in the division. Arrangements are being made for opening Pyapon River Bridge within two years. Likewise, Kyungon Bridge in Einme Township, Myinkaseik Bridge in Kangyidaunt Township, Myokwin Bridge across Ngawun River and Patheingyi Bridge across Ngawun River will be built one after another.

Before construction of Darka River Bridge, local people of Kangyidaunt and Kyaunggon townships relied on railway and waterway. Today, they can go to Kangyidaunt and Kyaunggon townships easily. They can travel from their native areas to Yangon through Patheingyi-Yangon Highway within three and a half hours. Similarly, they can visit Patheingyi, Maubin and Pyapon in a short time. As travellers can make a day trip to Patheingyi, Ngwe Hsaung and Chaungtha resorts from Yangon, the resorts will develop. Better transportation can reflect all-round development of the local people including economic, social and management matters.

Ayeyawady Division is among six divisions undertaking the State economy. Though Ayeyawady Division was called the granary of the State in the past, now the division can be called the curry bowl as a result of developing the livestock breeding tasks.

In conclusion, the commander, on behalf of the local people, thanked the State Peace and Development Council Government for its leadership in building the peaceful, modern and developed nation.

Next, U Nyan Lin, on behalf of the local people, spoke words of thanks.

Afterwards, Lt-Gen Thura Shwe Mann made a speech. He said that everyone who loves and cherishes the country and everyone who is in favour of national development would feel honoured and pleased together with them on the nation-building endeavours covering the auspicious opening ceremony of the bridge and the emergence of the major bridges one after another. At a time when the government is striving for all-round development of the nation, there are facts that are to be taken seriously.

In an effort to enhance the living standard of the national people, sharp leadership, their far-sightedness, strenuous efforts and full state-leading role as well as the active participation of the people are required.

As far as the government and the people are making collective and concerted efforts with understanding, the national objective of the emergence of a new modern and developed nation will surely be achieved rapidly.

Regretably, there are destructive elements who are jeopardizing Our Three Main National Causes—non-disintegration of the Union, non-disintegration of the na-

tional unity and perpetuation of sovereignty at a time when the government is striving for enhancing economic, transport, education and health sectors.

In comparison with the interests of the State and the people, the acts of the destructive elements are the dangers to the State and the people.

Contemplating loyalist and non-loyalist, friend and enemy, advantage and disadvantage, continued efforts are to be made for the nation to stand tall with pride among the world community and for national development.

Under the leadership of Head of State Senior General Than Shwe, the government is to strive together with the people for national and regional development while guarding against the dangers of destructive elements.

Furthermore, it is to be well aware that some western powers putting their interests in the fore is attempting to dominate the small nations. They did so through media as if they want others to be prosperous or as if they would provide assistance to others.

Realizing the tricks of the big nations the national people are to safeguard the national interest and own national stand of the State.



Commander Maj-Gen Htay Oo speaks at the opening ceremony of Darka River Bridge. —MNA



Minister Maj-Gen Saw Tun speaks at the opening ceremony of Darka River Bridge. —MNA

Next, Lt-Gen Thura Shwe Mann and party took their positions at the archway of the bridge.

At the auspicious time, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than, Commander Maj-Gen Htay Oo and Minister Maj-Gen Saw Tun opened Darka River Bridge by cutting a ribbon. Then, Lt-Gen Thura Shwe Mann and party had a documentary photo together with officials of the bridge construction project and townspeople at the archway of the bridge.

Lt-Gen Thura Shwe Mann formally unveiled the stone inscription of the bridge. Lt-Gen Thura Shwe Mann and party viewed round the bridge and cordially greeted local people. Darka River Bridge was built by engineering staff headed by Deputy Superintending Engineer U Onzapa of the special group (4) of the bridge construction project, Public Works, and experts. The construction of the bridge started on 24-2-2001 and it completed on 15-5-2003.

The bridge is 1400 feet long and 28 feet wide and has five-foot pedestrian lanes on both sides. Its clearance is 78 feet wide and 16 feet high. The bridge is of reinforced concrete type and it can bear 60-ton loads. —MNA

Drive safely

THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNION OF MYANMAR
MINISTRY OF ENERGY
MYANMA OIL AND GAS ENTERPRISE

IFB NO: 1(T) MCY-MOGE (2003-2004)CAP P.OBOX 1049
DATE : 16th JULY, 2003 FAX NO.095-01-222964/222965

INVITATION FOR BIDS

1. Sealed Bids are invited by the Myanma Oil and Gas Enterprise for supply of the following:
NATURAL GAS PIPE LINE BOOSTER COMPRESSOR - 6UNITS.
2. Commencing from (16th JULY 2003) a complete set of bidding document will be available at the office of Finance Department, Myanma Oil and Gas Enterprise, No. 604, Merchant Street, Yangon, Myanmar, during Office Hours by payment to the order of Myanmar Foreign Trade Bank attesting remittance of US\$ 100 in favour of Myanma Oil and Gas Enterprise (OR) FEC 100 to be paid to the above office for each set of document.
3. Bids shall be accepted only from Bidders who officially purchased the Bidding Document.(Those purchased through Embassy must declare for whom it is purchased).
4. The Bids received will be opened in the presence of Bidders and bidders' Representatives who choose to attend at 13:00 Hours on (28th AUGUST, 2003) at the office of Myanma Oil and Gas Enterprise, No. 604, Merchant Street, Yangon, Myanmar.

MANAGING DIRECTOR
MYANMA OIL AND GAS ENTERPRISE

Don't smoke

မညာရူးပြန် ခေတ်မီပွဲပြီးတိုးတက်သော နိုင်ငံတော်ကြီး တည်ဆောက်အံ့

Djemba Djemba says Foe urged him to sign English Champions

PARIS, 6 July — Cameroon midfielder Eric Djemba Djemba, who joined Manchester United on Thursday, says the late Marc-Vivien Foe urged him to sign for the English champions.

"When I signed my contract I thought of him and started to weep," said Djemba Djemba, who joined United in a five-year deal for about 3.5 million pounds (5.82 million US dollars) from Nantes.

"You can't imagine how much we're going to miss him," he added referring to his former international teammate.

The 28-year-old Foe collapsed during Cameroon's 1-0 semifinal victory over Colombia in the Confederations Cup on June 26 and died shortly afterwards.

"I asked to wear the number 17, which was his. But it was already taken, so I'll play with the 19," added Djemba Djemba.

"He (Foe) often called me to say: 'If you can sign for Manchester United, do it. It is a club for you. You're going to have fun there'."

In an interview with *L'Equipe* on Friday, Djemba Djemba said United manager Alex Ferguson had expressed his confidence in the 22-year-old's abilities.

"He (Ferguson) told me: 'In Manchester, we're never wrong about a player.'" Djemba Djemba said. "Now it is up to me not to deceive them, because he says my potential is huge."

"I will try to make my little space, to play some games and gradually become a starter."

After completing the signing, Ferguson said: "Eric is a young player we've watched throughout the season and he's impressed us each time with his understanding of the game."

MNA/Reuters

Woodbridge equals men's doubles record

LONDON, 6 July — Australian Todd Woodbridge clinched a record-equalling eighth men's doubles title at Wimbledon on Saturday when he and Sweden's Jonas Bjorkman beat Mahesh Bhupathi and Max Mirnyi 3-6, 6-3, 7-6, 6-3.

Woodbridge, who won six of those titles with former partner Mark Woodforde and one with Bjorkman last year, matched the record set by brothers Hugh and Reggie Doherty between 1897 and 1905.

After losing the first set against Indian Bhupathi and his tall Belarusian partner Mirnyi, the top seeds, Woodbridge and Bjorkman won a pivotal third set tiebreak 7-4 and the fourth seeds went on to retain the title they won last year.

Woodbridge is third on the all-time list of men's doubles titles in the open era with 76, just one behind American John McEnroe and two behind Dutchman Tom Okker.

McEnroe, who won four Wimbledon men's doubles titles with Peter Fleming and one with Michael Stich, has even suggested that if Woodbridge matches his mark of 77, the two should pair up to equal Okker's record.

MNA/Reuters

Woods takes six-shot lead in Western Open

LEMONT (Illinois), 6 July — Tiger Woods broke away from the field on Saturday after shooting a seven-under-par 65 to build a six-shot lead after three rounds of the Western Open.

The world number one had eight birdies, one eagle and three bogeys to finish on 18-under 198.

Australia's Robert Allenby birdied the 18th hole to join Cliff Kresge on 12-under 204. Rich Beem, the 2002 PGA champion, fired a 65 to move into solo fourth place on 205.

Masters winner Mike Weir of Canada, defending Western champion Jerry Kelly and Glen Day share fifth place on 206. Tom Byrum, world number nine Phil Mickelson and Robert Damron are tied for eighth, nine shots off the lead.

Woods had begun the day with a one-stroke lead over world number seven David Toms, who stumbled to a two-over 74 and dropped 10 shots behind. —MNA/Reuters

Real Madrid sign up for Asian expansion

MADRID, 6 July — Real Madrid's expansion into Asian markets could bring in 40 million euros (45.84 million US dollars) in extra income in the first three years of a new partnership with a sports marketing company, the club said.

Real said they were guaranteed a minimum of 22 million euros (25.21 million US dollars) over the first half of a six-year agreement signed with Asia Sports Development (ASD) to manage the Real Madrid brand in Asia and Oceania.

The Real squad, including newly-signed England captain David Beckham, will embark on a four-match pre-season tour of Asia later this month to strengthen their presence in what they see as the key emerging market.

Beckham enjoys immense personal popularity in Asia, as demonstrated on his recent promotional tour of the region, but the club said their plans for expansion had been in place long before the England captain was signed up.

"The tour was organized in February, when the Beckham signing was not on the horizon," Real's marketing chief Jose Angel Sanchez said at a news conference on Friday.

He added: "This agreement is unprecedented in sports marketing. We hope it will bring in 40 million euros over the first three years."

MNA/Reuters

Boycott threat damaging tennis, say grand slam organizers

LONDON, 6 July — Organizers of tennis' four major events have accused the ATP of damaging the image of the sport by threatening to arrange alternative events to the Grand Slams.

The possibility of players shunning the four top tournaments to play charity events emerged after a meeting between around 120 players at the All England Club on the eve of the Wimbledon championships.

According to the ATP, who run the men's tour, players are upset about the distribution of profits from the Australian, French and US Opens and Wimbledon.

"The publicity surrounding these activities has caused damage to the image of the sport and its players," the Grand Slam Committee (GSC) said in a statement released on Friday.

The GSC said it was disappointed that the ATP was unwilling to back down on the threat of a boycott during talks which took place between themselves, the ATP and women's tour organizers. The WTA this week, saying it would have "a negative impact on further discussions".

The statement added that the GSC was "determined to have constructive and inclusive dialogue with all constituents on important issues within the sport" and that further meetings were planned for this weekend.

MNA/Reuters



Todd Woodbridge (R) of Australia and Jonas Bjorkman (L) of Sweden hold aloft their trophies after beating India's Mahesh Bhupathi and Max Mirnyi of Belarus in the men's doubles final at the Wimbledon Tennis Championships in London, July 5, 2003. Bjorkman and Woodbridge won the match 3-6, 6-3, 7-6, 6-3. —INTERNET

Tribute paid to Foe by thousands in Cameroon

YAOUNDE, 6 July — Thousands of mournful fans lined the streets of Cameroon's capital on Saturday, waving palm fronds and branches as the body of Cameroonian international Marc-Vivien Foe was brought home for burial.

Some fans wore black and others were dressed in the number 17 national team jersey worn by Foe, who collapsed during his team's Confederations Cup semifinal win over Colombia nine days ago and died shortly later.

On occasions, mourners thronged into the road, blocking the cavalcade of 300 vehicles as they tried to pay last respects to the midfielder who died at the age of 28.

Fans waved placards reading "Marco, go in peace," or "Marco, a lion never dies, he is resting" — the latter a reference to the national team's nickname, the Indomitable Lions. Grieving women fell to the ground as the coffin passed.

Foe's body arrived at the airport on a special Cameroon Airlines flight, accompanied by his family and the national team.

After a brief religious ceremony and military honours, his body was taken on the 14-mile memorial drive through the city.

Thousands had gathered at the airport to pay tribute. Mourners wailed as Foe's wife, Marie Louise, stepped off the plane with her children and other family members.

"Marc, so it is true that you are dead," said his father Martin Amougou Foe, tears rolling down his cheeks. "It is God's will. He gave me two sons, now he has taken away one."

Foe, who had 65 caps, featured at two World Cups, 1994 and 2002, and twice won the African Nations Cup, in 2000 and 2002.

"He was a sportsman full of talent, generosity and humanity. We all miss him very dearly," said Kalkaba Malboum, head of the Cameroon's National Olympic Committee and the African Athletics Federation.

Foe will be buried with full official honours on Monday, following a mass at Yaounde's cathedral. The burial will take place at the player's home.

The exact cause of his death is not yet known. The results of the autopsy are due next week and toxicology tests have been sent for analysis in Geneva.

FIFA president Sepp Blatter, thousands of soccer fans and a host of players paid tribute to Foe at a memorial service in Lyons, France on Thursday.

Foe had played for French clubs RC Lens and Olympique Lyon, as well as West Ham United and Manchester City in England. —MNA/Reuters

Serena triumphs over stricken Venus in Wimbledon final

LONDON, 6 July — A subdued Serena Williams retained her Wimbledon title on Saturday when she beat her injury-hampered older sister Venus 4-6, 6-4, 6-2 on Centre Court.

Venus, the 2000 and 2001 champion who also lost last year's final to Serena, struggled with a stomach strain throughout and finished the match in considerable pain.

Serena's victory was her fifth in succession over Venus in a Grand Slam final. It was her sixth Grand Slam singles triumph in total and re-established her dominance of the women's game after a bitter French Open semifinal loss last month. Venus finally conceded defeat when she sent a forehand long and Serena trotted to the net to embrace her stricken sister. "It was a little more difficult seeing as Venus was injured, but I just had to tell myself to look at the ball and nothing else," said Serena after receiving the famous Rosewater Dish and a cheque for 535,000 pounds (892,400 US dollars).

She also paid tribute to her sister. "It showed what a great champion Venus is and she's really inspiring for me." Venus said: "I came out because I just thought the people the fans deserved a final. That's why I was out here."

Serena, the 21-year-old world number one, now holds the Australian Open, US Open and Wimbledon singles titles. She is only the fifth woman since the game turned professional in 1968 to retain the Wimbledon crown after Billie Jean King, Martina Navratilova, Steffi Graf and Venus. —MNA/Reuters

SPORTS

Bergkamp frustrated over Arsenal contract talks

LONDON, 6 July— Dutch striker Dennis Bergkamp wants to sort out his future with Arsenal and says he is ready to take a pay cut in order to secure a contract for one more year in the Premier League.

"I've declared that I would be willing to accept a lower salary such as my desire to stay at Arsenal," Bergkamp was quoted as saying on the icons.com web site.

"But the offers I've received from the board of directors have been constantly changing and I have found this very frustrating. It is important to me that my future is decided quickly," said the 34-year-old, whose contract expired on June 30. "I made the decision that I wanted to stay at Arsenal some months back when it was made clear to me by my manager, Arsene Wenger, that he also wanted me to stay on at the club for another year."

"I have enjoyed eight very happy years at Highbury and it is now my wish to finish my career at the place which is so special to me. 'I feel I have shown loyalty to the club over the years and I would like to think that the club would be loyal to me also.'"

Bergkamp joined Arsenal from Inter Milan for a transfer fee of 7.5 million pounds (12.51 million US dollars) in 1995 and played an important role in the London club's league and FA Cup double successes of 1998 and 2002. —MNA/Reuters



Tiger Woods (news) hits out of a bunker on the eighth hole during the third round of the Western Open on 5 July, 2003, at Cog Hills Golf Club in Lemont, Ill. Woods shot a seven-under 65 and leads the tournament by six strokes. Woods shot a 65 Saturday, setting a 54-hole tournament record with 18-under 198.

Turkey fined after trouble at Euro 2004 qualifier

NYON (Switzerland), 6 July— Turkey's Football Association has been fined 50,000 Swiss francs (36,950 US dollars) after trouble during last month's Euro 2004 qualifier against Macedonia, European soccer's governing body said on Friday.

UEFA said the fine was imposed for "lack of order and security in the stadium" at the June 11 match in Istanbul. Macedonia's FA was fined 10,000 Swiss francs "for the disturbances involving its team during the same match, notably on the occasion of the celebration of the goals scored,

contributing to the provocation of the local crowd".

Trouble has occurred at several matches in Group Seven during the qualifying campaign. England were fined a record 150,000 Swiss francs for racist abuse and crowd trouble at their home qualifier against Turkey in April. UEFA launched their most recent investigation after the crowd threw bottles and coins at the Macedonia players when Artim Sakiri scored to give his side a 2-1 lead. Turkey came from behind twice before winning the Group Seven match 3-2. UEFA's Control and Disciplinary Body, chaired by Spaniard Josep Lluís Vilaseca Guasch, "expressed their concern over the improper conduct of the local supporters and the potential risk that occurred to the (players and officials).

MNA/Reuters

Answers for yesterday's Crossword Puzzle**Federer faces Philippoussis in final**

LONDON, 6 July— Switzerland's Roger Federer and Mark Philippoussis of Australia will meet in Sunday's Wimbledon men's final after producing spectacular victories in the last four on Friday.

Federer became the first Swiss man to reach a Grand Slam final by destroying the bookmakers' favourite, American fifth seed Andy Roddick, 7-6, 6-3, 6-3 in a bewitching performance of pure class on Centre Court.

Earlier unseeded Philippoussis, whose career was in doubt two years ago as he recovered from a series of knee operations, blasted French 13th seed Sebastien Grosjean off the same court by the same score.

"It's incredible," said Federer, whose best previous effort at a Grand Slam even was reaching the Wimbledon and French Open quarterfinals in 2001. "Right now it's tough to understand what has been happening. I just played an incredible match today."

"This is my favourite tournament. It's a dream."

The 21-year-old fourth seed showed why he is hailed as the brightest young talent in the game with a some outstanding all-court tennis that left Roddick smiling in disbelief and earned the Swiss a standing ovation.

The 20-year-old American earned a set point in the first-set tiebreak but squandered it and Federer made him pay the maximum

price.

Playing better tennis even than the memorable display he produced two years ago to end Pete Sampras' 31-game unbeaten streak at Wimbledon, the elegant Swiss completely neutralized Roddick's power game with craft and touch of the highest order.

The last Swiss player to win a Grand Slam event was the now-retired Martina Hingis, the 1999 Australian Open women's singles champion. Hingis won five Grand Slams in all, including Wimbledon in 1997.

Philippoussis' victory was all about power as he destroyed Grosjean in the first match on Centre Court.

The 1998 US Open finalist crashed down 11 aces to take his tournament's tally to 164 and unleashed a series of destructive forehand groundstrokes to sweep aside the 13th seed.

Victory was a sweet moment for Philippoussis, who was confined to a wheelchair after he underwent three operations on his left knee in the space of 14 months between January 2000 and March 2001.

MNA/Reuters

Injured Venus "feeling better" on eve of final

LONDON, 6 July— Venus Williams, who suffered a recurrence of an abdominal injury during her Wimbledon semifinal win over Kim Clijsters, said she was feeling better after treatment on Friday.

Despite the injury, Venus came from a set down to beat Clijsters in Thursday's semifinal and afterwards vowed to play in the final against her sister Serena on Saturday.

"I've had treatment with my trainer at home and I'm feeling better," Venus said on Friday. "I didn't practise today as I'm trying to get as much rest as possible for tomorrow's final."

The 2000 and 2001 champion lost her title to Serena in the final last year and she will be gunning for revenge when play starts on Centre Court at 1400 (1300 GMT). "It would be a very special feeling to hold that trophy again because Wimbledon is very dear to me," said the world number four. "It's a special place."

"It's where I won my first Grand Slam and I admire the history and the tradition of the championships." The siblings have so far contested five Grand Slam finals and although Venus won their first showdown at the US Open in 2001, she has been upstaged by Serena in the last four.

"She's definitely a tough opponent and she's playing very well," said Venus, who became the first woman to lose four consecutive Grand Slam finals following her defeat by Serena at the Australian Open in January. —MNA/Reuters

Serena eyes place in history against Venus

LONDON, 6 July— Serena Williams will have her eye on a place in Wimbledon history when she attempts to defend her women's singles title against sister Venus on Saturday.

"It will be great to defend a Grand Slam title for the first time," said Serena, who also holds the US Open and Australian titles.

"I've always loved to make history and I want to be among the few people who have achieved this feat," added the 20-year-old American, who won a grudge semifinal against Belgium's Justine Henin-Hardenne on Thursday.

Only Venus, Steffi Graf, Martina Navratilova and Billie Jean King have successfully defended the women's Wimbledon title since the game turned professional in 1968.

"I am really happy that I've made it to the final of Wimbledon again and to have this opportunity. I really needed to stay focused throughout the match," added Serena.

The match will be the sixth Grand Slam final in which she has faced older sister Venus: Venus won the first, at the 2001 US Open, but Serena has won the last four, including last year's Wimbledon final.

"It's not easy for me to play someone I care so much about," Serena said. "Venus is playing really well. She's played extremely well throughout the two weeks."

MNA/Reuters

Cash hails Philippoussis

LONDON, July 5 — Former Wimbledon champion Pat Cash hailed the raw animal power of Mark Philippoussis on Friday after his fellow Australian steamed through to his first final at the All England Club.

Philippoussis swept aside Frenchman Sebastien Grosjean 7-6, 6-3, 6-3 in the semifinals with a breath-taking display of power on Centre Court.

Cash, Wimbledon champion in 1987 and a former coach of Philippoussis, said on BBC television: "I've always said he's one of, if not the most, talented players I've ever seen on a tennis court. — MNA/Reuters

MRTV-3



7-7-2003(Monday) (Programme Schedule) Morning Transmission (9:00 - 10:00)

- 9:00 Signature Tune Greetings
- 9:02 Song of Myanmar Beauty & Scenic Sights "Mingalabar"
- 9:06 Weaving School in Falam
- 9:10 **Headline News**
- 9:12 Myanmar Cuisine "Potato Pudding"
- 9:15 **National News**
- 9:20 A Royal Visit of the Princess Sirindhorn
- 9:25 Kayah Dance
- 9:30 **National News**
- 9:35 Myanmar Modern Song "Moonlight"
- 9:40 ShweNanDaw Cultural Museum
- 9:45 **National News**
- 9:50 Lifestyles along The Ayeyawady (Mandalay to Pyay)
- 9:58 Song of Myanmar Beauty & Scenic Sights "Come and See Myanmar"

7-7-2003(Monday) 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 Weaving School in Falam
- 15:40 **Headline News**
- 15:42 Myanmar Cuisine "Potato Pudding"
- 15:45 **National News**
- 15:50 A Royal Visit of the Princess Sirindhorn
- 15:55 Kayah Dance
- 16:00 **National News**
- 16:05 Myanmar Modern Song "Moonlight"
- 16:10 ShweNanDaw Cultural Museum
- 6:15 **National News**
- 16:20 Lifestyles along The Ayeyawady (Mandalay to Pyay)
- 16:28 Song of Myanmar Beauty & Scenic Sights "Myanma Panorama & Myanma Sentiment"
- 16:30 **National News**
- 16:35 Community based drug control programme
- 16:40 Myanmar Cuisine "Steamed Fish"
- 16:45 **National News**

- 16:50 A Trip to Naga Land
- 16:55 A romantic duet
- 17:00 **National News**
- 17:05 Usefulness of the Whole Toddy Plam
- 17:10 Myanmar Modern Song "The towering flowers"
- 17:12 Dat Taw Gyaik Waterfall
- 17:15 **National News**
- 17:20 Let us preserve the Watershed Areas
- 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 "Myanmar Panorama & Myanmar Sentiment"
- 19:35 The interesting places of Kachin State
- 19:40 **Headline News**
- 19:42 Easily Cooked Tasty Dishes "Hot and sour fresh water Prawn Soup"
- 19:45 **National News**
- 19:50 Livistona Speciosa (Taung Htan)
- 19:55 Auspicious Glory
- 20:00 **National News**
- 20:05 Blassed Myanmar
- 20:10 Illustrious handiwork in Kyeethe
- 20:15 **National News**
- 20:20 Lifestyles along the Ayeyarweddy (Mandalay to Pyay)
- 20:28 Song of Myanmar Beauty & Scenic Sights "Mingalabar"
- 20:30 **National News**
- 20:35 Heart to Heart talks on Women Affairs
- 20:40 Myanmar Cuisine "Traditional Moun Bine daunt"
- 20:45 **National News**
- 20:50 Thameehla Island Home to Fascinating Turtles
- 20:55 Scenic Beauty of H-Kha and Cultural Dance
- 21:00 **National News**
- 21:05 Sittway with Magnificent Sight
- 21:10 Myanmar Modern Song "Blue Moon"
- 21:15 **National News**
- 21:20 Only Water, Not Gold
- 21:28 Song of Myanmar Beauty & Scenic Sights "Myanma Panorama & Myanma Sentiment"
- 21:30 Weaving School in Falam
- 21:35 **Headline News**
- 21:40 Myanmar Cuisine "Potato Pudding"

- 21:45 **National News**
- 21:50 A Royal Visit of the Princess Sirindhorn
- 21:55 Kayah Dance
- 22:00 **National News**
- 22:05 Myanmar Modern Song "Moonlight"
- 22:10 ShweNanDaw Cultural Museum
- 22:15 **National News**
- 22:20 Lifestyles along The Ayeyawady (Mandalay to Pyay)
- 22:28 Song of Myanmar Beauty & Scenic Sights "Mingalabar"
- 22:30 **National News**
- 22:35 Community Based Drug Control Programme
- 22:40 Myanmar Cuisine "Steamed Fish"
- 22:45 **National News**
- 22:50 A Trip to Naga Land
- 22:55 A romantic duet
- 23:00 **National News**
- 23:05 Usefulness of the Whole Toddy Plam
- 23:10 Myanmar Modern Song "The towering flowers"
- 23:12 Dat Taw Gyaik Waterfall
- 23:15 **National News**
- 23:20 Let us preserve the Watershed Areas
- 23:25 Song of Myanmar Beauty & Scenic Sights "Come and See Myanmar"

7-7-2003(Monday) & 8-7-2003 (Tuesday) Evening Transmission (23:30 - 01:30)

- 23:30 Signature Tune Greetings
- 23:32 Song of Myanmar Beauty & Scenic Sights "Myanma Panorama & Myanma Sentiment"
- 23:36 Weaving School in Falam
- 23:40 **Headline News**
- 23:42 Myanmar Cuisine "Potato Pudding"
- 23:45 **National News**
- 23:50 A Royal Visit of the Princess Sirindhorn
- 23:55 Kayah Dance
- 24:00 **National News**
- 00:05 Myanmar Modern Song "Moonlight"
- 00:10 ShweNanDaw Cultural Museum
- 00:15 **National News**
- 00:20 Lifestyles along The Ayeyawady (Mandalay to Pyay)
- 00:28 Song of Myanmar Beauty & Scenic Sights "Mingalabar"
- 00:30 **National News**
- 00:35 Community Based Drug Control Programme

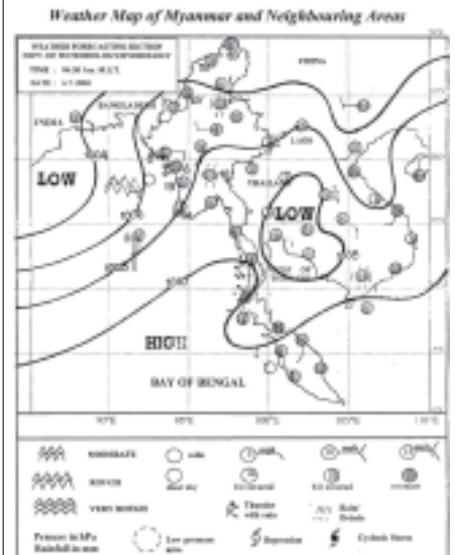
- 00:40 Myanmar Cuisine "Steamed Fish"
- 00:45 **National News**
- 00:50 A Trip to Naga Land
- 00:55 A romantic duet
- 01:00 **National News**
- 01:05 Usefulness of the Whole Toddy Plam
- 01:10 Myanmar Modern Song "The towering flowers"
- 01:15 **National News**
- 01:20 Let us preserve the Watershed Areas
- 01:25 Song of Myanmar Beauty & Scenic Sights "Come and See Myanmar"

8-7-2003(Tuesday) Morning Transmission (03:30 - 07:30)

- 03:30 Signature Tune Greetings
- 03:32 Song of Myanmar Beauty & Scenic Sights "Myanma Panorama & Myanma Sentiment"
- 03:35 The interesting place of Kachin State
- 03:40 **Headline News**
- 03:42 Easily Cooked Tasty Dishes "Hot and sour fresh water Prawn Soup"
- 03:45 **National News**
- 03:50 Livistona Speciosa (Taung Htan)
- 03:55 Auspicious Glory
- 04:00 **National News**
- 04:05 Bleessed Myanmar
- 04:10 Illustrious handiwork in Kyeethe
- 04:15 **National News**
- 04:20 Lifestyles along the Ayeyarweddy (Mandalay to Pyay)
- 04:28 Song of Myanmar Beauty & Scenic Sights "Mingalabar"
- 04:30 **National News**
- 04:35 Heart to Heart talks on Women Affairs
- 04:40 Myanmar Cuisine "Traditional Moun Bine daunt"
- 04:45 **National News**
- 04:50 Thameehla Island Home to Fascinating Turtles
- 04:55 Scenic Beauty of H-Kha and Cultural Dance
- 05:00 **National News**
- 05:05 Sittway with Magnificent Sight
- 05:10 Myanmar Modern Song "Blue Moon"
- 05:15 **National News**
- 05:20 Only Water, Not Gold
- 05:28 Song of Myanmar Beauty & Scenic Sights "Myanma Panorama & Myanma Sentiment"
- 05:30 Weaving School in Falam
- 05:35 **Headline News**
- 05:40 Myanmar Cuisine "Potato Pudding"
- 05:45 **National News**
- 05:50 A Royal Visit of the Princess Sirindhorn
- 05:55 Kayah Dance

- 06:00 **National News**
- 06:05 Myanmar Modern Song "Moonlight"
- 06:10 Shaw Nan Daw Cultural Museum
- 06:15 **National News**
- 06:20 Lifestyles along The Ayeyawady (Mandalay to Pyay)
- 6:28 Song of Myanmar Beauty & Scenic Sights "Mingalabar"
- 06:30 **National News**
- 06:35 Community Based Drug Control Programme
- 06:40 Myanmar Cuisine

- "Steamed Fish"
- 06:45 **National News**
- 06:50 A Trip to Naga Land
- 06:55 A romantic duet
- 07:00 **National News**
- 07:05 Usefulness of the Whole Toddy Plam
- 07:10 Myanmar Modern Song "The towering flowers"
- 07:15 **National News**
- 07:20 Let us preserve the Watershed Areas
- 07:25 Song of Myanmar Beauty & Scenic Sights "Come and see Myanmar"
- 07:30 Close Down



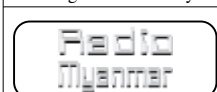
WEATHER

Sunday, 6 July, 2003

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST: During the past 24 hours, weather has been partly cloudy in Kayah State, lower Sagaing, Ayeyawady Divisions, rain or thundershowers have been isolated in Shan, Kayin States, Magaway, Mandalay, Bago and Yangon Divisions, scattered in Kachin State, upper Sagaing Division and widespread in the remaining areas with isolated heavyfalls in upper Sagaing Division. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Homalin (4.49)inches. Putao (2.76)inches and Mogok (2.05)inches.

Maximum temperature on 5-7-2003 was 32.5°C (90°F). Minimum temperature on 6-7-2003 was 22.0°C (72°F). Relative humidity at 9:30 hrs MST on 6-7-2003 was 84%. Total sunshine hours on 5-7-2003 was (9.8) hours approx. Rainfall on 6-7-2003 was nil at Yangon Airport, 1 mm at Kaba-Aye and nil at central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2003 was 1067 mm (42.01 inches) at Yangon Airport, 1153 mm (45.35 inches) at Kaba-Aye and 1188mm (46.77 inches) at central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was 11 mph from Southwest at (14:35) hours MST on 5-7-2003. **Bay inference:** Monsoons weak in the Bay of Bengal. **Forecast valid until evening of 7-7-2003:** Rain or thundershowers will be widespread in Kachin, Shan and Rakhine States, upper Sagaing, Taninthayi Divisions and isolated to scattered in the remaining areas. Likelihood of isolated heavyfall in Kachin State and upper Sagaing Division. Degree of certainty is (80%). **State of the sea:** Seas will be slight to moderate in Myanmar waters. **Outlook for subsequent two days:** Moons will be moderate. **Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 7-7-2003 :** One or two rain or thundershowers with sunny period. Degree of certainty is (80%). **Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 7-7-2003:** Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (60%).

	1.35 pm Music
	1.45 pm National News
	1.55 pm Music
	2.05 pm International news
	2.15 pm Music
	2.20 pm Music/Article
	2.35 pm Drug news
	2.45 pm Variations on a tune
	3.00 pm Close Down
	9.00 pm Spotlight on the star:
	9.15 pm Article/ Music
	9.25 pm Weekly international news review
	9.35 pm Vocal gems/ golden land's melody
	9.45 pm News/ Slogan
	10.00 pm PEL
	10.30 pm Close down



Tune in today: Monday, July 7

- 8.30 am Brief news
- 8.35 am Music
- 8.40 am Perspectives
- 8.45 am Music
- 8.50 am National news/Slogan
- 9.00 am Music
- 9.05 am International news
- 9.15 am Close Down
- 1.30 pm Brief news



View today: Monday, July 7

7:00 am

- ကျေးဇူးတင်ဆုတောင်းချီးမြှင့်ခြင်း နိုင်ငံတော်သံဃာတော်များက အဖွဲ့အစည်းတော်ဆောင်ရွက်ပါ။ အဘိဓမ္မာမဟာဗျူဟာ၊ အဘိဓမ္မာမဟာသမ္ဘုမ္မာစာတော်တို့ကို ရေရှည်တော်မူပါ။
2. To be healthy exercise
3. Morning news
- 7:40 am

4. Nice and sweet song
- 7:55 am
5. Cute little dancers
- 8:10 am
6. Dance of National Races
- 8:20 am
7. နေ့စဉ်အသုံးပြုသောစာအုပ်
- 8:30 am
8. International news
- 8:45 am
10. English for everyday use
- 4:00 pm
1. Martial song
- 4:15 pm
2. Songs to uphold national spirit
- 4:30 pm
3. Demonstration exercise for correct pronunciation
- 4:40 pm
4. Musical Programme

- 4:50 pm
- 5. အထွေထွေအသုံးပြုသောစာအုပ်
- 5:05 pm
- 6. Dance Variety
- 5:20 pm
- 7. အသံမြှင့်ခြင်း
- 5:30 pm
- 8. မြန်မာ့အသံတော်လှူရေးအဖွဲ့အစည်း
- 5:40 pm
- 9. Musical Programme (The Radio Myanmar Modern Music Troupe)
- 5:55 pm
- 10. လက်ဆွဲတေးဂီတ
- 6:05 pm
- 11. Strong and Healthy Myanmar

- 6:15 pm
- 12. Discovery
- 6:30 pm
- 13. Evening News
- 7:00 pm
- 14. Weather Report
- 7:05 pm
- 15. သတင်းမြန်မာ
- 7:20 pm
- 16. Musical Programme
- 7:35 pm
- 17. ဗုဒ္ဓမဟာသမ္ဘုမ္မာစာတော်တို့ကို ရေရှည်တော်မူပါ။
- 8:00 pm
- 18. News
- 19. International news
- 20. Weather report
- 21. နိုင်ငံခြားစာတော်လှူရေးအဖွဲ့အစည်း
- 22. The next day's programme

Secretary-1 attends ceremony to honour title recipient Sayadaws of Shwekyin Nikaya

YANGON, 6 July — A ceremony to honour two Joint-Sasanabaing Sayadaws of Shwekyin Nikaya and two Dhammacariya degree recipient Sayadaws was held in conjunction with the Waso robes offering ceremony at Thiri Yadana four-storey building of Thiri Mingala Mahasi Yeiktha on 1st Myawady Mingyi lane in Ward 51, Dagon Myothit (North) Township, this morning, attended by Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council General Khin Nyunt.

Also present on the occasion were State Ovadaçariya Shwekyin Nikaya Joint-Sasanabaing Abhidhaja Maha Rattha Guru Sirimanta Sankyaung Sayadaw Bhaddanta Rajindabhivamsa, State Ovadaçariya Shwekyin Nikaya Joint-Sasanabaing Abhidhaja Maha Rattha Guru Abhidhaja Agga Maha Saddhammajotika Bago Kyakhatwaing Sayadaw Bhaddanta Jotipala and State Ovadaçariya Sayadaws, member of the State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee Maha Nayaka Tipitakadhara Dhammabhandagarika Agga Maha Pandita Tipitaka Maha Gandayon Sayadaw Dr Bhaddanta Sumangalalankara, Sirimingala Mahasi Yeiktha Presiding Nayaka Sayadaw Twantay Ashin Indaka and members of the Sangha, Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Myint Swe, ministers, the mayor of Yangon City, officials of the State Peace and Development Council Office, departmental heads, local authorities, departmental officials, social organizations and disciples.

The ceremony was opened with three-time recitation of Namo Tassa.

Next, Sayadaw Bhaddanta Rajindabhivamsa administered the Five Precepts. Members of the Sangha recited Metta Sutta.

The Secretary-1 offered Waso robes and provisions to two Joint-Sasanabaing Sayadaws of Shwekyin Nikaya. The commander, the ministers and the mayor also offered Waso robes and provisions to the Sayadaws.



Secretary-1 General Khin Nyunt donates Waso robes and provisions to Joint-Sasanabaing Sayadaws of Shwekyin Nikaya.— MNA

Thiri Thudhamma Manijotadhara U Sein Hla Win supplicated on the purpose of the ceremony.

Head of Yangon Division Religious Affairs Department U San Thin Hlaing supplicated on list of the donations. Next, Sayadaw Bhaddanta Dr Sumangalalankara delivered a sermon and the Secretary-1 and party shared merits gained with three-time recitation of Buddha Sasanam Çiram Titthatu.

After the ceremony, the Secretary-1 performed the rituals of golden and silvery showers to mark the successful completion of the ceremony. Afterwards, the Secretary-1 and party went to Dagon MyoU Monastery on 1st Myawady Mingyi lane. He paid homage and donated provisions to the Presiding Nayaka Sayadaw of the monastery. Next, the Secretary-1 donated cash to construction of No 1 Monastic Education School and students. — MNA

With stability and better...

(from page 1)

A new modern bridge was built in parallel with the old one under the guidance of the Head of State. Using the new bridge, the cars can quickly travel on Yangon-Pathein Road and Pathein-Hinthada Road without any delay.

Although the Darka River is useful for transport in Ayeyawady Division, it hinders road transport by nature. Therefore Khepaung Bridge and Kyaunggon Bridge were built along the river.

Transport in Ayeyawady Division with plenty of creeks and rivers mainly relied on waterway. People can now travel by road. Roads and bridges linking townships have emerged as a network due to the leadership of the government and active participation of the people in the division.

He said better transportation is needed for rapid transport of regional goods produced by exploiting marine and land resources in the division. The people in the division witnessed that transport difficulty delayed production and progress of trading. The people witnessed bitter experience and the division lacked progress as there was no peace and tranquillity due to the insurgents in the region.

After taking up the State duties, the Tatmadaw government built stability and peace which the people desire with the collective efforts of the people. Now Ayeyawady Division has become a region free from insurgents and peaceful region with better transport.

He said ensuring smooth and better transport is essential for nation-building and development. Roads and bridges constructed spending a large sums of money are infrastructures for development and socio-economic structures for the people who travel from one place to another. In the past, transport route of upper and lower parts of

Myanmar was on the east bank of Ayeyawady. Nowadays roads and railroads have been constructed to link different parts of the Union from the east to the west and from the south to the north. In doing so, river-crossing bridges were built where they were needed. Before 1988, there were only four bridges across Ayeyawady, Chindwin, Thanlwin and Sittaung Rivers. A total of 13 bridges have been built so far.

Public Worksof the Ministry of Construction built 157 bridges including Darka River Bridge nationwide. The Ministry of Rail Transportation built five bridges and the Ministry of Defence three totalling 165 bridges. A total of 39 major bridges were built in Ayeyawady Division. The Pyapon River Bridge is under way and Ngawon River Bridge (Pathein) will also be built. Therefore road networks in the division will emerge soon. He said Yangon-Pathein Road has emerged due to the Mezali, Bo Myat Tun, Pathwe, Kyaunggon and Darka River bridges. He also spoke on bridges that contribute towards the Pantanaw-Shwelaung-Wakema-Kyonmange road, Pathein-Yangon road, Kyaiklat-Pyapon road, Kyaiklat-Maubin road, Maubin-Hsarmalauk road, Pyapon-Dedaye-Kungyangon-Dalla road. The people can travel to upper regions of the division easily, he added.

The people use Pathein-Yekyi-Hinthada road, Yekyi-Ngathaingyaung-Gwa road, Kyangin-Myanaung-Ingapu-Hinthada-Zalun-Danubyu-Nyaungdon road as all-weather roads in lower regions of the division.

With the stability and better transport in the division, greater development can be made in a short time as the region is fertile one. There are many prospects for progress and it is a division on which the State relies on agricultural production and livestock breeding.

Head of State Senior General Than Shwe gave guidance to officials during his inspection tour of the division in last April. He said there are better prospects in the division for development of agricultural and livestock breeding sectors. Strenuous efforts are to be made for progress of the sectors.

Over one-fourth of paddy cultivation acreage in the country is in Ayeyawady Division. As the division is a fertile one, efforts are to be made for increase of the per acre yield. By doing so, it contributes towards the production of 1,200 million baskets of paddy set by the State. In livestock breeding sector, arrangements are to be made for breeding of fish and prawn in modern ponds.

The Secretary-2 spoke of the need for the division to implement the guidelines with seriousness. In order to do so, the State built necessary transport infrastructures, dams, sluice gates and canals in the division to some extent and undertook the river water pumping projects. Efforts are being made for early completion of Kunchaung dam, Ma Mya dam and Kanyin dam, he added.

Summer paddy as well as monsoon paddy are grown most in Ayeyawady Division relying on good foundations built by the State. So the division will continue to be the granary of the State. In addition, extended cultivation of pulses and beans and edible oil crops are being made year by year.

With the increase of the agriculture sector, there are over 60,000 acres of fish breeding ponds and over 35,000 acres of prawn breeding ponds. Thus, it can be assumed that the division has the special agriculture/livestock breeding zone on which the State can rely. If the efforts of the people in the division are added to the prevailing development, the development rate of the division will be higher and higher.

(See page 11)



Lt-Gen Thura Shwe Mann extends greetings at opening ceremony of Darka River Bridge in Kangyidaunt Township.— MNA