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Thursday, 17 July, 2003



Secretary-1 General Khin Nyunt presents exercise books and stationery for student members of the Sangha and nuns to Sayadaw Bhaddanta Ariyavamsa. — MNA

Secretary-1 General Khin Nyunt attends opening of Dhammacariya Course

YANGON, 16 July — The opening ceremony of the three-month Dhammacariya Course during the Lent was held at Alodawpyi monastery of Aungmye Bodhidhamma Yeiktha in Tamwaylay Ward, Tamway Township, here this afternoon.

Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council General Khin Nyunt attended the ceremony and donated exercise books and stationery to trainee monks, novices and nuns.

Also present on the occasion were Agga Maha Saddhammajotikadhaja Alodawpyi Sayadaw Bhaddanta Ariyavamsa, member Sayadaws of the Sangha, Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Chairman Yangon Command Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe, the ministers, the deputy ministers, responsible personnel of the State Peace and Development Council Office, departmental heads, and guests.

The ceremony started with the three-time recitation of *Namo Tassa*.

The Secretary-1 General Khin Nyunt and the congregation received the Five Precepts from Sayadaw Bhaddanta Ariyavamsa.

Next, member Sayadaws of the Sangha recited the *metta sutta*.

Secretary-1 General Khin Nyunt offered 1,200 dozens of exercise books and 400 dozens of pencils for trainee monks, novices and nuns to the Sayadaw and Dhammacariya course instructor Sayadaw Agga Maha Ganthavacaka Pandita Bhaddanta Suttatbhivamsa, who later delivered a sermon.

After the sermon, Secretary-1 General Khin Nyunt and the congregation shared the merits gained from the good deeds.

A total of 900 monks, 150 novices, and 150 nuns are attending the three-month Dhammacariya Course. — MNA

Four political objectives

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

Four economic objectives

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

Four social objectives

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

Daw Suu Kyi, the NLD Party and Our Ray of Hope —9

We left for Myitkyina before 6 am, the next day. When we arrived at Nan Kwe Bridge at the entrance to Myitkyina at about 8 o'clock in the morning a spectacle of a group of local people who had gathered to protest and denounce our party gave me a shock. A look at the strength of the people lining the curbside deterred members of our convoy from exchanging insults and alighting from the cars to confront the demonstrators as we did earlier on the trip. So we were subdued as we entered the town.

(Article on pages 8 and 9)



Secretary-1 General Khin Nyunt addresses the coordination meeting on Myanmar Maritime University and Myanmar Aerospace Engineering University. MNA

Secretary-1 attends coordination meeting on Myanmar Maritime University and Myanmar Aerospace Engineering University

YANGON, 16 July — The coordination meeting on Myanmar Maritime University and Myanmar Aerospace Engineering University took place at Zeyathiri Beikman on Konmyinthar here at 4 pm today, with an address by Chairman of Myanmar Edu-

cation Committee Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council General Khin Nyunt. Also present on the occasion were Commander-in-Chief (Air) Maj-Gen Myat Hein, the ministers, the Chief of Staff (Navy), the deputy ministers, senior

military officers, officials of the State Peace and Development Council Office, departmental heads, rectors and pro-rectors of the universities and officials.

In his address, the Secretary-1 said that the government has been making stren-

uous endeavours for enabling the nation to keep abreast with the development of the world's nations. With a view to producing highly-qualified persons in maritime and engineering sector, the universities were established the previous year, he added.

Myanmar Maritime University is temporarily opened at the Institute of Marine Technology in Yangon. And Myanmar Maritime University is under construction for ensuring a splendid facility.

Similarly, Myanmar (See page 9)

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

PERSPECTIVES

Thursday, 17 July, 2003

Towards successful realization of educational objectives

Human resources being the key to the progress of a nation, the State Peace and Development Council has been endeavouring for the emergence of highly-qualified human resources. Therefore, it has been spending a large sum of money on the construction of universities, degree colleges, computer colleges and technological colleges to turn out intellectuals and intelligentsia.

General Khin Nyunt, Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council and Chairman of Myanmar Education Committee, on 14 July visited Bago Degree College and, hearing the reports by responsible personnel, fulfilled the requirements.

In his meeting with the local authorities and the teaching staff of the degree college, the Secretary-1 said that the Government of Myanmar has been systematically implementing the national education promotion plans so that the educational standard of the nation will be on a par with that of the countries in south-east Asia as well as in other parts of the world. He added that it has also been taking necessary measures in order that there is no educational gap between states and divisions and that information technologies are being taught even at the basic educational level.

In the higher education sector, there were only 32 universities and colleges in 1988 and now the total number of universities and colleges has reached 154.

Thus, the youths in each and every region of the states and divisions in the Union can easily pursue higher education. Previously, only Taunggyi, Lashio and Kentung had universities and colleges, but now, as Panglong University, Panglong Technological College and Panglong Computer College have been opened, higher education is within the reach of the youths in 11 townships of Loilem District.

Similarly, there was only a university in Kachin State, but a degree college has now been opened in Bhamo and another degree college is under construction in Mohnyin. Taninthayi Division has now two universities — one in Dawei and another in Myeik.

As the Government has opened new colleges, degree colleges and universities to turn out well-qualified human resources for the development of the nation, it is up to the teaching staff to throw themselves heart and soul into the national education promotion plans. Only then will the educational objectives of the nation be successfully realized.

Second quarter monthly meeting of MOGE held

YANGON, 16 July — Minister for Energy Brig-Gen Lun Thi on 14 July attended the second quarter monthly work coordination meeting of Myanmar Oil and Gas Enterprise at Mann oil field and laid down the future tasks on boosting of oil and natural gas production

at the oil fields. The minister also attended the coordination meeting for extended production of oil and gas held at the same venue yesterday. Afterwards, he went to the liquefied natural gas factory in Minbu and inspected production process.

MNA



Minister Brig-Gen Lun Thi inspects No 1 Fertilizer Factory (Sale). — ENERGY



Chief of Armed Forces Training Lt-Gen Kyaw Win receives Colonel Chusak Meksuwan and party. — MNA

Thai delegation calls on Armed Forces Training Chief

YANGON, 16 July — The visiting delegation led by Colonel Chusak Meksuwan of Thai Command and General Staff College called on Member of the State Peace and Development Council Chief of Armed Forces Training Lt-Gen Kyaw Win at the Yeiktha of the Ministry of Defence on Shwedagon Pagoda Road in Dagon Town-

ship at 8 am today. Also present at the call were Vice-Chiefs of Armed Forces Training Maj-Gen Win Myint and Maj-Gen Aung Kyi and senior military officers.

The guests were accompanied by Thai Military Attaché Col Kasam Nakpun.

MNA



Minister Maj-Gen Hla Myint Swe addresses coordination meeting for successful holding of ASEAN meetings in Yangon. — MNA

Measures for successful holding ASEAN meetings coordinated

YANGON, 16 July — The coordination meeting for successful holding of the 9th ASEAN Transport Ministers' Meeting and the 16th ASEAN Senior Transport Officials Meeting to be hosted in Yangon took place at the Ministry of Transport on Merchant Street here this morning.

Present on the occasion were Chairman of the Leading Committee for Holding the ASEAN Meetings Minister for Transport Maj-Gen Hla Myint Swe, Vice-Chairman Minister for Rail Transportation Maj-Gen Aung Min, member Minister for the State Peace and Development Council Chairman's Office Brig-Gen Abel and members deputy ministers, the deputy attorney-general and secretary Director-General of the Transport Department Col Nyan Tun Aung, members of the work committee and subcommittees.

The chairman made an opening address. Next, Col Nyan Tun reported on formation of the Leading Committee and ten subcommittees; Deputy Director-General of the Transport Department Lt-Col Win Pe, on expenditure for the meetings; and Minister Brig-Gen Abel, on holding of the meetings.

The chairman made concluding remarks. — MNA

Dental treatment given at youth training schools

YANGON, 16 July — The opening ceremony of the Training of Trainers Workshop on ART, organized by GC Asia Dental Pte Ltd in cooperation with the Health Department (Dental Section) and the World Health Organization of the Netherlands, took place at the Health Department here this morning, with an address by Director (Public Health) of the Health Department Dr San Shwe Win.

Consultant Professor Dr Joe E Frencken of the Netherlands WHO explained the purposes of holding the workshop. The workshop was held for five days — from 10 to 14 July — and altogether 10 trainees attended it.

Led by Deputy Director of the Health Department Dr Kyaw Nyunt, a team comprising Professor Joe E Frencken and 12 dentists conducted field trips to the Kyaikwaing youth training school under the Social Welfare Department, the training school for girls and the youth training school on Kaba Aye Pagoda Road during the workshop, and gave dental treatment to trainees. The team also donated 72 dozens of toothbrushes and toothpaste. — MNA

Books for IPRD libraries

YANGON, 16 July — Wellwishers donated books for the Information and Public Relations libraries of the Ministry of Information at the hall of IPRD on Pansodan Street here this afternoon.

Deputy Minister for Information Brig-Gen Aung Thein accepted the books and spoke words of thanks. Also present on the occasion were the directors-general and managing directors, deputy directors-general and directors of the ministry and officials and wellwishers.

Deputy Minister Brig-Gen Aung Thein accepted 1,000 medical magazines presented by Deputy Director-General U Aung Kyawing of

Health Department; 110 poetry books by Police Inspector Maung Than of Dawbon Police Station; 100 books by U Kyaw Kyaw Myint (temporarily in Tokyo) of Shwe Lin Yon Co; 400 books by U Tin Shein (Retd Township Education Officer); 100 books by U Moe Lay (temporarily in Tokyo) of Shwe Lin Yon Co; 100 books by U Zaw Moe Aung and wife Daw Wai Wai Kyaw (temporarily in Tokyo); 500 Naing Ngan Gon Yi magazines by U Aung Myint of Hsin Taung Gyi Publishing House; 90 dozens

of exercise books by Managing Director U Myat Thu Win of Shwe Min Tha Co; 60 books by Col Khin Maung Thauang (Retd) (Moe Moe Tarawzan) of Bo Ya Nyunt Street in Dagon Township; and 100 books by U Soe Nyunt-Daw Khin Aye Myint of Ya Pyay Publishing House.

A wellwisher explained the purposes of the donation and the ceremony ended. Altogether 10 wellwishers presented 970 books, 1500 magazines and 90 dozens of exercise books worth K 1,204,275. — MNA

**Do not be frightened
whenever appeared**

School uniforms, stationery contributed

YANGON, 16 July — Loikaw Township Supervisory Committee for Maternal and Child Welfare Association on 7 July provided school uniforms and stationery to needy children at No 2 Basic Education Middle School in Loikaw.

Next, a doctor gave talks on prevention of SARS and the diseases infected from animals. — MNA

Iraq groups warn against sending troops to Iraq

DUBAI, 16 July — Two previously unknown Iraqi groups on Tuesday warned countries against sending troops to Iraq, where US troops are facing daily attacks, Arab television channels said on Tuesday.

"We strongly reject and will resist with weapons any military intervention under the umbrella of the United Nations, the Security Council, NATO, or Islamic and Arab countries," a group calling itself the Iraq Liberation Army said in a statement shown on the Dubai-based al-Arabiya television.

Thirty-two US soldiers have been killed in guerrilla attacks in Iraq since President George W Bush declared major combat over on May 1.

Troops from Spain, Poland, Ukraine, Bulgaria, Hungary, Romania, Slovakia, the Baltic states and possibly from the Philippines, Thailand, Mongolia and Fiji are likely to be part of the peacekeeping forces in Iraq.

Bangladesh and Pakistan, both Muslim nations, have also been asked to take part in peacekeeping operations but they have not announced any decision yet and there is considerable domestic opposition to the proposals.

India said on Monday it would not send troops to Iraq without a United Nations mandate, rejecting a request from Washington for help in the war-torn nation.

Qatar-based al-Jazeera television also showed a statement from another Iraqi group—the "Iraqi National Islamic Resistance; 1920 Revolution Brigades," in reference to Iraq's history fighting British colonial rule—warning against further foreign interven-

tion.

"It implored Arab and Islamic countries about the seriousness of sending their troops to Iraq," al-Jazeera quoted the statement as saying.

It said that anti-US attacks had forced Washington to seek help from multinational forces and speed up the creation of a Government Council, which was launched on Sunday.

A group claiming to be an Iraqi branch of Osama bin Laden's al-Qaeda network claimed responsibility for attacks on US soldiers in an audio tape broadcast on al-Arabiya on Sunday but its rhetoric sounded more typical of Saddam supporters than Islamic militants. — MNA/Reuters



Rep Dennis Kucinich, D-Ohio, centre, speaks about the Bush administration's claims of Iraq seeking uranium in Africa during a Capitol Hill news conference in Washington on 15 July, 2003. At right is former CIA officer Ray McGovern; at left is former Australian intelligence analyst Andrew Wilkie. — INTERNET

Asian ministers express strong will to revitalize tourism

HONG KONG, 16 July — Asian tourism ministers and high-ranking officials Monday expressed their strong will to join hands in revitalizing Asian tourism.

During the plenary session of the ongoing International Cooperation for Tourism Development Under A New Paradigm conference, nine speakers voiced their will for multi-layered effective cooperation among countries and regions in the Asian Pacific Region.

Thai Tourism Minister Sontaya Kunplome said tourism is a sensitive industry and the severe acute respiratory syndrome (SARS) epidemic has reduced the number of arrivals to Thailand by 20-25 per cent in the first half of this year.

He said, in the past, each country had to encounter with the crisis, either a terrorist attack, an epidemic, or natural disasters by itself. The effective control of SARS indicated the necessity for regional or global cooperation in fight against the crisis.

Toshihiro Nikai, chairman of All Nippon Travel Agents, said the tourism industry has shown a remarkable development in various areas in the globe since the latter half of the 20th Century and has also become one of the pillar industries for Japan.

He said four million Japanese are serv-

ing for tourism industry so far. Japan is ready to cooperate with Asian countries in promoting domestic and regional tourism.

The speakers not only urged closer regional tourism cooperation, but also gave publicity of their countries' tourism industry.

Verdinejad Fereydoun, Iranian Ambassador to China, said his country has drafted short, medium and long term tourism development plans and welcomed the participation of foreign public or private sectors.

Richard Gordon, Secretary of Tourism of the Philippines, said facing the possible crisis in the future, Asian countries should make early possible strategy to coordinate their efforts and push ahead with tourism industry.

He said the convening of the conference is not only of great importance for the revitalizing of the Asian tourism, but also of importance to the poverty relief in the developing countries.

The speakers also expressed their will to strengthen communication in crisis, marketing, security and market analysis, in an effort to maintain a steady and sustainable development of the regional tourism industry.

MNA/Xinhua

Uganda secures \$25m for mining sector

KAMPALA, 16 July — The Ugandan Government has secured a total of 25 million US dollars for developing its mining sector.

Ugandan Minister of Energy and Mineral Development Syda Bumba was quoted by Tuesday's *New Vision* newspaper as saying that the World Bank will provide 50 per cent of the money while the African Development Bank and Nordic Development Fund will contribute the rest.

"Although Uganda has been recognized as one of the countries with the highest concentrations of minerals on the African continent, we have not even managed to exploit one quarter of it," the minister said.

She said the high risk involved with investing considerable money to find key indicators for mineral presence, has turned away many prospective investors.

MNA/Xinhua

Bush defends CIA intelligence as "darn good"

WASHINGTON, 16 July — President George W Bush on Monday defended the quality of CIA intelligence as "darn good" as he tried to put out a firestorm over his disputed allegation that Iraq sought uranium from Africa for nuclear weapons.

Having just returned from Africa, Bush and his White House team found themselves facing tough questions about whether he misled the country to justify the Iraq war, as US troops there die on average of one a day under attack by Saddam Hussein loyalists.

Democrats and even some Republicans were raising questions about the President's use of faulty intelligence when he said in his State of the Union speech last winter that Iraq was seeking uranium from Africa in its pursuit of weapons of mass destruction. "I think the intelligence I get is darn good intelligence. And the speeches I have given were backed by good intelligence," Bush said.

Bush said the administration believed the claim was true when he made it and only afterwards learned there were doubts about it. "When I gave the speech, the line (about African uranium) was relevant... Subsequent to the speech, the CIA had some doubts," he said.

As Bush again blamed the CIA for giving him the information, Pennsylvania Republican Senator Arlen Specter suggested Bush bears ultimate responsibility.

"As President Harry S Truman said 'The buck stops with the President of the United States.' It's just a matter of finding out what went wrong and making sure that it doesn't happen again," Specter said in Philadelphia. — MNA/Reuters

Uranium may be missing from Iraqi plant

UNITED NATIONS, 16 July — At least 22 pounds of uranium compounds could be missing from a looted Iraqi plant, UN nuclear inspectors said in a report obtained Tuesday. But they said the material couldn't be used to make nuclear weapons.

The report from the International Atomic Energy Agency confirmed that the vast majority of uranium feared stolen from Iraq's largest nuclear research facility at Tuwaitha after Iraqi troops fled on the eve of the US-led war had been recovered, though it gave no figure.

The Tuwaitha facility was thought to contain hundreds of tons of natural uranium and nearly two tons of low-enriched uranium, which could be further processed for arms use.

Internet



Shiite Muslims hold anti Governing Council slogans during a meeting at Al Kadhimiya holy mosque in Baghdad, Iraq on 15 July, 2003. The Governing Council, selected with major input by L Paul Bremer, the American administrator of Iraq, was announced on Sunday as a first step in returning political power to the Iraqis. — INTERNET

Emboldened Democrats step up attacks on Bush over Iraq intelligence

WASHINGTON, 16 July — Democrats sharpened their attacks on the George W Bush administration, emboldened by persistent questions over prewar intelligence on Iraq's pursuit of nuclear, biological and chemical arms.

US Central Intelligence Agency director George Tenet has taken the blame for President George W Bush's January claim that Iraq had tried to buy nuclear material from Africa.

In a surprise statement last week, Tenet said the reference — based on information from Britain — should not have been included in the president's January 28 State of the Union address because it had not been corroborated by US intelligence.

The White House has said that as far as they are concerned, the issue is over and done with, but Democrats refused to let the matter die, with the party's biggest guns taking to the floor of the Senate, holding news conferences, and taking to the airwaves to keep the controversy alive.

One leading Democrat accused the White House of a broad pattern of dissemblance in making its case for waging war on Iraq.

"The misleading statement about African uranium is not an isolated incident. There is a significant amount of trou-

bling evidence that it was part of a pattern of exaggerations and misleading statements," Senator Carl Levin of Michigan said on the floor of the US Senate.

"It was not inadvertent. It was not a slip ... It was calculated. It was misleading," Massachusetts senator Ted Kennedy, one of the most senior Democrats in Congress, decried what he called a "bankrupt" US policy toward Iraq.

"The great tragedy would be that American service men are risking and losing their lives in Iraq based upon flawed, distorted and failed intelligence," Kennedy told NBC television.

"But there's a broader issue, and that is the failed policy toward Iraq. It's a bankrupt policy, it's a policy that adrift. And the individuals that are paying the price for it are the American service men and women.

"Some of those in the White House are trying to pin it on George Tenet. I think the buck stops in the White House." — *Internet*

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France denies it gave Britain, Iraq nuclear intelligence

PARIS, 16 July — France denied on Monday it had supplied Britain with the intelligence behind London's assertion that Saddam Hussein's Iraq had attempted to import uranium from Africa.

"Contrary to the insinuations that have appeared in the British Press, France is not the origin of intelligence published in the British report dated September 24, 2002 and relating to Iraq's nuclear programme," the Foreign Ministry said in a terse statement.

The *Financial Times* reported on Monday that two foreign governments it said were "thought to be France and Italy" had supplied Britain with information which added to now-discredited domestic intelligence documents.

A diplomat in Vienna told *Reuters* he also believed Britain's evidence came from French intelligence services. — *MNA/Reuters*



A British soldier, watches Iraqis as they gather at the British headquarters in Basra, 600 kilometres, 373 miles south of Baghdad, Iraq on 15 July, 2003 to protest against the newly inaugurated Iraqi Government Council. The 25-member governing council, which comprised of prominent Iraqis from all walks of political and religious life, is tasked to rebuild the Iraqi political system. — *INTERNET*

Chirac calls for easing of EU deficit limit

PARIS, 16 July — French President Jacques Chirac on Monday called for a temporary easing of European Union (EU) rules on deficit and debt to help boost European economies in difficulty.

Finance ministers of the 12 euro-zone nations are expected to "together examine provisional ways of easing" the euro-zone Pact of Stability and Growth, said Chirac in his traditional live televised interview on the occasion of France's national day.

"The ministers should discuss and find a solution that is coherent with the imperative of stability, and ensuring that the growth is not diminished," said Chirac.

EU finance ministers were due to have a two-day meeting in Brussels this week.

MNA/Xinhua

Thailand to oversee ASEAN tourism and aviation plans

BANGKOK, 16 July — Thailand is to oversee regional tourism and aviation issues under a new Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) directive to boost intra-regional trade to no less than 30 per cent of the region's total global trade within the next two years.

Speaking on return from a special meeting of ASEAN economic ministers (AEM) in Bali, held on July 12-13, Commerce Minister Adisai Bodharamik said that the ministers gathering for the meeting had agreed to increasingly work within a cooperative trade framework, according to a report of *Thai News Agency* on Tuesday.

ASEAN member countries voted for closer cooperation within the grouping in solving trade-related issues on the road toward an ASEAN free trade area (AFTA).

The meeting also discussed initiatives on promoting intra-ASEAN trade and investment and service liberalization in Asia, said the minister on Monday. Noting that last year intra-ASEAN trade was valued at only 22 per cent of the region's total world trade, Adisai said that the ministers also discussed what could be done to rectify this situation.

The meeting agreed to draw up a product-by-product operational plan, divided by type of product and service.

The Philippines was asked to oversee products concerning computers and equipment, while Indonesia was asked to supervise automobiles and furniture.

Adisai expressed belief that the new plans would not only serve to increase the value of intra-regional trade, but also encourage ASEAN members to produce their own brand name goods which could be exported across the world. — *MNA/Xinhua*

Pentagon says Iraq war costs \$48b so far

WASHINGTON, 16 July — The military campaign in Iraq has cost the Pentagon about \$48 billion so far, a number expected to rise by \$10 billion by the end of September, the military's budget chief said Tuesday.

Dov Zakheim, the Defence Department's comptroller, said in an Associated Press interview the estimated cost so far includes the combat phase, which started 20 March, postwar stabilization efforts and \$30 billion in prewar expenses such as moving troops to the region and building facilities there.

Although officials have receipts and actual costs only through April, they believe the cost of the military's part of the campaign beginning in January is averaging \$3.9 billion a month.

The cost was some \$350,000 for January, peaked at over \$5 billion during the heavy combat phase and has fallen back below \$4 billion a month now that some troops have been sent home and major combat is ended, officials said.

Some 2 1/2 months into stabilization efforts, Zakheim said he cannot yet estimate reconstruction costs for next year because the size of the future US military presence needed there remains unclear. The picture will be clearer once international troops arrive to help with peacekeeping, he said.

"By the end of September, we will see additional forces, ... will see the state of the country," he said. "Then we'll be in a better position to estimate."

General Tommy Franks said last week that US forces in the area will stay about the

same size for the "foreseeable future."

In April, Congress approved an extra \$62.6 billion for the Pentagon, which already had a budget of \$364 billion for the current fiscal year. The new money was for the war in Iraq and the global war on terror.

Zakheim said he expects all but \$4 billion of that will be needed this fiscal year, which ends 30 September. The estimated monthly average of \$3.9 billion includes \$1.1 billion in salaries for reservists called to active duty; \$2.6 billion for such requirements as logistics and transportation; and \$200 million for food, health costs and other support.

Over the nine months, that \$3.9 billion average comes out to \$35 billion. It doesn't include replacement of damaged equipment and replenishing munitions and other materiel consumed in the war.

Those expenses amount to a further \$23 billion, for the total \$58 billion expected by year's end, Pentagon calculations show. It also doesn't include salaries of active duty soldiers, sailors and airmen, who would be paid with or without war. None of the figures include what has been spent on several hundred American civilians working since the end of the war as part of the occupation authority. They are from the State Department, Treasury, FBI and other agencies, which pay their salaries. — *Internet*



Children walk through piles of disabled anti-aircraft guns on 15 July, 2003, inside a military base which were destroyed during coalition bombing of Iraq's military facilities including this one in the Dila neighbourhood north of Baghdad, Iraq. — *INTERNET*

US won't make promises on troop return from Iraq

WASHINGTON, 16 July — The Defence Department said on Tuesday it can offer no firm timeline for the return of thousands of US troops from Iraq, as officials expressed hope, but made no promises, that an entire long-serving Army division would come home by September.

With weary soldiers of the 3rd Infantry Division (Mechanized) publicly expressing disappointment over the uncertainty, the Pentagon sought to make firm

Plans for their return and determine which US or foreign military forces would replace them.

"This is going to be a moving target in terms of timing until the full redeployment plan is established," Lawrence Di Rita, special assistant to Defence Secretary Donald Rumsfeld, told reporters at the Pentagon.

Di Rita said US commanders want to keep the troop level at its current total. About 146,000 US troops are serving amid mounting security threats in postwar Iraq, along with roughly 13,000 from Britain and other countries.

"There is a desire to maintain the current levels. And how we would replace people—whether it were with

(international) coalition forces or various types of US forces—is still being worked out," Di Rita said.

The Pentagon deployed about 16,500 3rd Infantry Division soldiers during the war, and about 15,000 remain.

A week after Rumsfeld told Congress the entire division would be home by September, officials at the Army's Fort Stewart in Georgia announced on Monday that about 9,000 of the troops would remain in Iraq for an indefinite period.

US Central Command released a statement on Tuesday saying it "remains committed to the complete return" of the division by September "pending international or US replacement units."

"But the statement added, "As always, the security situation could affect deployments and redeployments."

Di Rita said, "The intent remains to

have that division home by the fall," hopefully by September.

A senior defence official, speaking on condition of anonymity, said, "This fall, they'll be coming home. That stands." But asked whether their return could be as late as December, the official said, "I don't want to nail it down to a month because the planning's not that finite and I don't want to be yo-yo-ing these guys around."

Di Rita said that "I don't think anybody screwed up" over the recent vacillating statements on the division's return.

The 3rd Infantry Division was the first US unit to enter Baghdad during the war after driving through southern Iraq from Kuwait. Its soldiers are playing a major role in the struggle to stabilize the country, seeking to control restive towns such as Falluja, amid regular guerrilla-style attacks.

Internet

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About-turn on US Iraq troops as casualties mount

BAGHDAD, 16 July —The US military announced thousands of key soldiers would be staying in Iraq indefinitely even as the number of American combat deaths neared the 1991 Gulf War total.

Faced with mounting security threats in Iraq and a political storm at home over the war, US President George W Bush defended the quality of CIA intelligence used to justify the decision to disarm former leader Saddam Hussein by force.

But two former UN weapons inspectors kept up the pressure, with one accusing Bush of going to war based on "a lie".

In an abrupt about-turn, the US military said on Monday thousands of troops from the 3rd Infantry Division (Mechanized) would stay in Iraq until further notice instead of returning by September in line with an announcement only last week.

The division has already had a protracted stay in Iraq since it was the first American unit to enter Baghdad during the war.

A US soldier was killed in a Baghdad ambush on Monday, bringing the death toll of US troops killed in hostile action since US-led forces invaded Iraq on 20 March to 146, one less than the 1991 war over Kuwait.

Thirty-two US soldiers have been killed in Iraq since Bush declared major combat over on 1 May.

The growing death toll has intensified pressure on the Bush administration to defend itself against charges that it misled the public by using dubious intelligence to justify the war.

Democrats and even some Republicans in the United States are raising questions about Bush's statement in his State of the Union speech last winter that Iraq was seeking uranium from Africa in its pursuit of weapons of mass destruction.

Internet

Few nations send troops to Iraq

BAGHDAD, 16 July—Although a few nations are sending peacekeeping troops to Iraq, near daily guerilla attacks—many of them deadly—and growing doubts about the basis for the war are complicating Washington's search for soldiers to replace exhausted US troops. France's president Tuesday ruled out sending French troops, following India and Germany in rejecting US calls for help without approval from the United Nations. In Paris, President Jacques Chirac, a leading opponent of the war, told the Czech President that sending French soldiers to Iraq "cannot be imagined in the current context." He cited comments last week by his foreign minister, Dominique de Villepin, who said a French role was unthinkable without approval by the UN Security Council. —Internet

CA unveils "Sonar" technology to manage on-demand computing

LAS VEGAS (United States), 16 July — Computer Associates International, a world leading software developer, unveiled a new technology Monday to utilize idle computing power in managed on-demand computing.

Using patented and patent-pending "agentless" intelligence technology, the technology, code-named "Sonar," works independently and dynamically to look for IT assets, catalogue them and assign them to business processes.

At present, the IT infrastructure of many firms are inefficient with computing capacity far exceeds their current and projected needs, because the infrastructure is built to cope with peak time needs.

On-demand computing is an idea that stresses the comprehensive use of corporate IT infrastructure as a way to eliminate excessive IT spending and increase responsiveness and efficiency. Sonar is CA's latest software for on-demand computing.

In a keynote speech Sun-

day, CA President and CEO Sanjay Kumar explained that Sonar will look for IT assets, catalogue them and then decide how they will be delivered to support a given business process.

"Sonar watches and analyzes traffic on the network, and understands more than 1,700 protocols and information sources. It builds accurate maps and keeps those maps updated as resource allocations change. Using advanced analytics, Sonar also automatically detects inappropriate network traffic and usage," CA said in a statement.

Demonstrating Sonar technology during a keynote speech Monday morning at CA World 2003 here, CA CTO Yogesh Gupta called it a "revolutionary technology"

and maintained that it puts CA several years ahead of competitors.—MNA/Xinhua



US Army soldier wipes his brow while on stopped in his Humvee in Habaniyah, Iraq on 15 July, 2003. The division, which spearheaded the invasion of Iraq during the war, received word this week that their tour of duty in Iraq has been extended indefinitely.—INTERNET

Police hunt ex-US Marine and 12-year-old British girl

LONDON, 16 July — Police launched a hunt on Monday for a 12-year-old British schoolgirl who ran off to France with a recently discharged US Marine after meeting on the Internet.

Schoolgirl Shevaun Pennington and Toby Studabaker, 31, had been corresponding for some time via e-mail and letter, police said. They flew from London to Paris on Saturday.

Studabaker's sister-in-law insisted the ex-Marine would not hurt Shevaun and said she discussed the girl before leaving for England.

"He discussed this with me and his brother. He told him (the brother) that she was 19 years old, that she was in college," sister-in-law Sherry Studabaker told BBC

Television from her home in Michigan.

"He would never hurt her. If she is actually 12 he would never hurt her. He would back away and tell her 'no'."

Studabaker, a lance corporal based at Camp Lejeune, North Carolina, was discharged on June 30 after serving for more than three years in the US Marine Corps.

He left Detroit late on Friday and flew to Manchester, near Shevaun's home. He then picked her up and flew with her to Paris via London.

MNA/Reuters



Iraqi children watch a US soldier patrolling a street in Baghdad. Security concerns mean some 9,000 troops from the US Army's 3rd Infantry Division will remain in Iraq indefinitely.—INTERNET

Team from new Iraq Council to visit UN

UNITED NATIONS, 16 July—A delegation from Iraq's new Governing Council will visit UN Headquarters next week and hopes to address the Security Council, UN officials said on Tuesday.

During its visit, tentatively slated for next Tuesday, the delegation also hopes to convince the United Nations to grant it the seat in the 191-nation UN General Assembly formerly reserved for the government of Saddam Hussein, toppled on April 9 by a US-led invasion, the officials said.

The visit would mark one of the first official acts of the 25-member council, which held its first meeting on Sunday after being appointed by the US-British coalition governing Iraq.

It is its request to address the Security Council is approved, as expected, the delegation will appear before the 15-nation body on the same day as Sergio Vleria de Mello, the UN special representative for Iraq, who is due to deliver his first progress report on UN efforts to help rebuild Iraq.

Working with Iraq's US administrator

Paul Bremer, de Mello played a key role in shaping the council, Bremer initially planned to give it a purely advisory role but de Mello pushed for it to be given real powers.

Convincing the United Nations to accept an ambassador named by the Governing Council as the representative of a new Iraqi government that does not yet exist could be a problem, but only if the General Assembly's credentials committee makes it a problem, UN diplomats said.

The Americans are hoping that no UN member will raise an objection to the unusual request, they said.

Under General Assembly rules, credentials are typically issued by a country's head of government or foreign minister.

But Iraq is still governed by the widely resented US-British military occupation.

MNA/Reuters



Members of Iraq's Governing Council after the inaugural meeting in Baghdad. Iraq's Governing Council has decided to send a delegation to the United Nations.

INTERNET

Chirac sees no prospect of French troops in Iraq

PARIS, 16 July—President Jacques Chirac, speaking on Tuesday for the first time about the possibility of France sending troops to Iraq, reiterated his country's position that this was not on the cards.

France spearheaded international opposition to the US-led war on Iraq and has called for a stronger role for the United Nations in leading reconstruction efforts and helping to form an interim Iraqi Government.

Chirac's spokeswoman said he made the comments in a meeting with Czech President Vaclav Klaus.

"As the Foreign Minister has indicated, this is inconceivable in the current framework," spokeswoman Catherine Colonna said, referring to a hypothetical French military role in Iraq.

American senators have encouraged President George W. Bush to request troops from NATO and the United Nations to back US operations in Iraq.

Thirty-two US soldiers have been killed in Iraq since Bush declared major combat over on May 1.

MNA/Reuters

Germany has problems about sending troops to Iraq

BERLIN, 16 July—With the German military grappling with peacekeeping operations in three continents at present, it has big difficulties to send troops to Iraq as US requires, officials say.

Karsten Voigt, coordinator for German-US relations in the German Government told the *Tagesspiegel* daily Tuesday that the Bush Administration was not expecting a quick German contribution in Iraq and was aware that the German military was stretched to the limit.

Voigt added Foreign Minister Joschka Fischer, currently in the United States, would not be "pressurized" by US President George W. Bush on the issue.

With about 9,000 soldiers scattered in the Balkans, Afghanistan and as far as the Horn of Africa, the German Army has its hands full.

At present there is a discussion in Germany over an Iraq deployment fol-

lowing a request last week by the US Senate to the NATO military alliance for support to reinforce the American troops serving as occupying forces in Iraq.

Continuing resistance from Iraqi groups, mounting American and British casualties and rising costs of maintaining a huge peacekeeping operation in Iraq has forced the United States to seek broader international support.

Though no concrete request has come in as yet from the United States, German Government spokesman Bela Anda said over the weekend that it was possible a request would be received at the NATO Council in Brussels after the summer break.

So far the reaction from NATO coun-

tries, prominently Germany and France, has been lukewarm. Both say there is no adequate United Nations mandate to legitimize their presence in Iraq.

France, like Germany, is also heavily involved in foreign military deployments in the Balkans, Ivory Coast, Congo and Afghanistan.

German Chancellor Gerhard Schroeder, whose anti-war and pro-UN stance when the United States invaded Iraq strained relations with Washington, said in a television interview last week that his government would not send troops to Iraq except in a NATO context and only with a specific mandate from the United Nations.

MNA/Xinhua

ADB provides \$350m aid for Pakistan's judicial reforms

ISLAMABAD, 16 July—The Asian Development Bank (ADB) has provided a technical assistance worth 350 million US dollars for judicial reforms in Pakistan, English newspaper *Dawn* reported Tuesday.

The purpose of the assistance is to initiate pilot projects that will build institutional capacity within the judiciary of Pakistan in preparation for a proposed access to justice programme.

A recent report by ADB said that the Justice Department in Pakistan was massively underfunded.

This led to an unchecked decline in the quality of judicial service in the country despite efforts of many dedicated judges, said the report titled "Strengthening of Institutional Capacity for Judicial and Legal Reforms".

MNA/Xinhua

Australian, British wartime flyers buried in Germany

BERLIN, 16 July—Six crew members of a World War II Australian bomber were buried in Berlin on Tuesday, nearly 60 years after they were shot down while on a raid near the German capital.

The men, four Australians and two Britons, were serving with 467 Squadron of the Royal Australian Air Force when their *Lancaster* bomber went down in January 1944 over the town of Oranienburg, 25 miles north of Berlin.

Ivan Durston, Phillip Gill, Robert Ludlow, Jack Sutherland, Francis Aver and Harold Fry were interred next to a seventh crew member, Sidney Griffiths, who was buried in the Berlin War Cemetery in 1947.

MNA/Reuters



Former high-ranking Iraqi army officers wait in a queue controlled by US soldiers to receive, for the first time after the war, their salaries, paid by US administration in the centre of Baghdad, on 15 July, 2003. The US military announced thousands of key soldiers would be staying in Iraq indefinitely even as the number of American combat deaths neared the 1991 Gulf War total.—INTERNET

US Embassy in Philippines worried over terrorist's escape

MANILA, 16 July—The United States Embassy in Manila on Tuesday expressed its worry over Monday's escape of a convicted Indonesian terrorist bomb expert once detained at the Philippine National Police headquarters.

"We'll obviously, we are deeply disturbed by the escape of Fathur al-Ghozi, because it raises the threat of terrorism for Filipinos, for Americans, for everybody here in the Philippines," acting US Embassy spokesman Frank Jenista told reporters.

"Of course, we look forward to full and immediate investigation. But we are confident that the Philippine Government is spending every effort on the manhunt and we expect the terrorists will be put back in their prison cell as soon as possible," he added.

"But the United States and the Philippines suffered from terrorist violence against innocent people and the United States is helping the Philippines in its fight against terrorism," he noted.

Philippine President

Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo, likewise, on Tuesday called on the people to remain calm but highly alert following the escape of al-Ghozi and two suspected Abu Sayyaf terrorists from their detention cells.

She also ordered Interior and Local Government Secretary Jose Lina to make full use of the media to generate public support for the manhunt for al-Ghozi, a self-confessed member of the militant group Jemaah Islamiyah (JI), and Filipinos Abdulmukim Edris and Omar Lasal, the presidential palace said.

Lina said Tuesday that the government offers a bounty of five million pesos (roughly 100,000 US dollars) for the recapture of al-Ghozi, two million pesos (40,000 US dollars) for Edris, and one million pesos (20,000 US dollars) for Lasal.

MNA/Xinhua

Iranian trade delegation to visit Iraq

TEHRAN, 16 July — A high-ranking Iranian trade delegation is scheduled to visit Iraq soon, the official IRNA news agency reported on Tuesday.

The upcoming visit of the Iranian delegation is aimed at studying avenues to bolster trade relations between the two countries, IRNA quoted Iran's commercial attaché to Iraq Janali Halvaie as saying.

Stressing that Iran attaches great importance to trade with neighbouring Iraq, the diplomat called for promotion of trade ties between Iraqi Kurdistan and Iran's western province of Kordestan, saying Iran is an appropriate route for transit of goods from Asia to Europe.

Meanwhile, an economic delegation from Iraqi Kurdistan is currently visiting Iran to explore the best possible way for Iran's presence in Iraqi economic affairs and its role in the development and reconstruction of the war-torn Gulf country.

Iraqi Kurds believe that Iran is the best and safest way for transit of foreign goods to Iraqi Kurdistan and then to entire Iraq. — MNA/Xinhua

US troops in Falluja shocked by move to keep them in Iraq

FALLUJA (Iraq), 16 July — Under fire and unwanted by Iraqis, soldiers in the US 3rd Infantry Division in the volatile town of Falluja were bitterly disappointed on Tuesday by a decision to keep them in Iraq indefinitely.

"It's a big shock," said Sergeant Josh Holt of Montgomery, Alabama.

Facing mounting threats in Iraq, the US military said on Monday thousands of soldiers from the 3rd Infantry Division (Mechanized) would stay in the country despite previous plans to bring them home in July and August.

The division was the first American unit to enter Baghdad during the war and has been in the Gulf since September. Thirty-seven soldiers from the division

have been killed in the war and its aftermath.

US troops have come under fire loyalists of toppled Iraqi leader Saddam Hussein, armed gangs and those hoping to avenge relatives killed by US troops.

After hearing they would head home several times, 3rd Infantry soldiers were stunned by news that the gritty streets of Falluja would continue to be home for the foreseeable future.

"We were told three times we would be going home in a couple of months. It is not a good time to announce this. We are demotivated," said Sergeant Chris Grisham, a military intelligence officer.

"It has been tough. I have had to take a seven-year-old child home whose father we killed in an exchange of fire. The family just cried. They just cried. I am sure they will try to get revenge. That

is the way it works in Iraq."

The commander of the 3rd Infantry Division, Major-General Buford Blount said US troops, including himself, were ready to go home but needed to remain committed to their task.

"These soldiers have been here about 10 months after training here in the desert for six months. They are doing hard work," he told Reuters Television.

MNA/Reuters

US lifts passport restrictions for Iraq

WASHINGTON, 16 July — The US State Department has lifted the remaining restrictions on the use of US passports to go to Iraq but it advised Americans on Tuesday to stay away from the country because of the dangers.

The United States imposed the passport restriction in 1990 after the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait. It relaxed them a little in April and May to make it possible for contractors, government employees and members of Congress to visit.

The State Department says it bans the use of US passports solely for security reasons but its practice over the years suggests that politics also plays a part. The only country now on the list is Libya, where American visitors have not faced unusual security problems for many years. State Department spokesman Richard Boucher said Iraq was safer for Americans now than it was before the US invasion because of the overthrow of president Saddam Hussein.

"There was a hostile regime which sought to sometimes use Americans as human shields and intentionally put them in harm's way,

Now there is a government structure in Iraq that seeks to protect all people," he said.

In fact, Iraqi guerrillas have killed 32 US soldiers in the weeks since President George W. Bush declared on May 1 that "major combat" in Iraq was over.

The State Department acknowledged the danger in a formal travel warning. "Travel to Iraq remains dangerous. Remnants of the former Baath regime, transnational terrorists, and criminal elements remain active," it said. "Coalition-led military operations continue and there are daily attacks against Coalition forces throughout the country... Travel at night is extremely dangerous," it added. But a senior State Department official said the government wanted to clear the ways for more Americans eventually to visit Iraq, including tourists and business people.

MNA/Reuters



An injured Iraqi man looks at a damaged car following a Rocket Propelled Grenade (RPG) attack in Baghdad. A US soldier was killed in the attack — the 32nd to be killed by hostile fire in Iraq since 1 May. — INTERNET

Roche launches test for SARS virus

ZURICH, 16 July — Roche Holding AG has launched a test to detect the virus that causes severe acute respiratory syndrome (SARS) after an eight-week dash to develop the tool, the Swiss healthcare group said on Tuesday.

The flu-like illness that emerged in southern China late last year has infected nearly 8,500 people in 30 countries and killed more than 800, but health officials say it already appears to be on the wane.

The test is available for research use only until regulators approve it for wider distribution, said Roche, a drugmaker which is the world's biggest diagnostics firm.

Roche has said the test will be available in July. It worked closely with virologists, hospitals and government agencies in SARS hot spots to develop the diagnostic device.

Roche certificates, its most widely traded form of equity, eased 0.4 per cent to 112 Swiss francs in early business, while the DJ Stoxx healthcare index fell 0.5 per cent. Analysts said the news was widely expected.

Still, the World Health Organization has said reliable, large-scale SARS tests are

essential to controlling outbreaks by identifying quickly who is infected and needs to be quarantined.

Tests can also give authorities insight into when patients are most infectious and the best time to administer drugs.

"Even if the infection rate with the SARS virus is regressive, we do not know if we will have to face another outbreak in the future," said Heino von Prondzynski, head of Roche's diagnostics division.

"In the meantime, researchers will use our product to answer questions still open about the incubation time, the point when patients are most infectious or how long the virus can survive outside the body."

Roche officials have played down the potential profits a SARS test might generate, noting its annual sales were unlikely to be much above 10 million US dollars.

MNA/Reuters

Oil prices hold as dealers eye storm

NEW YORK, 16 July — Oil prices held firm on Monday as a tropical storm in the energy-rich Gulf of Mexico posed a threat to refineries on the Texas coast at the height of the US driving season.

US crude settled down 1 cent at 31.27 US dollars a barrel while London Brent shed 23 cents to 28.97 US dollars a barrel, after gains last week on fears Tropical Storm Claudette would thrash through the Gulf's offshore rigs and hit refinery row.

"Precautionary produc-

tion shut-ins in the Gulf of Mexico over the weekend appear larger than expected, although the storm is projected to hit land well south of refinery and most production systems," said Jim Ritterbusch, market analyst and president of Ritterbusch & Associates.

Recent strength in oil

prices owing to storm worries and low supply from war-torn Iraq caused producer group OPEC's basket of seven crudes to jump to 28.14 US dollars a barrel Friday — outside the oil cartel's chosen price range of 22-28 US dollars, the OPEC news agency said Monday.

MNA/Reuters

Forest fires start blazing on Croatian coast

ZAGREB, 16 July — Forest fires flared up along Croatia's scenic Adriatic coast, just as the Balkan state's tourist season reached its peak. A clutch of blazes took hold on Sunday night, state radio reported on Monday.

Hot, dry weather makes forest fires an annual nightmare along the Croatian coast, which is a popular holiday destination for tourists from across Europe.

One fire has cut the main coast road between the holiday towns of Selce and Novi Vinodolski after engulfing more than 40 hectares of scrubland. Around 100 firefighters are tackling the blaze.

On the southern island of Brac, a blaze destroyed 50 hectares of pine trees and olive groves near the village of Milna before firefighters brought it under control.

The state emergency centre reported three smaller fires on the mainland were put out on Monday morning. No casualties were reported.

MNA/Reuters

A step toward new government

The Iraq Governing Council held its inaugural meeting July 13. The makeup of the council is an attempt to reflect the country's diverse demographics.

Breakdown of the council



Graphic shows breakdown of Iraq's new governing council. — INTERNET

Daw Suu Kyi, the NLD Party and Our Ray of Hope — 9

Maung Yin Hmaing

"How to weather the rain and storm with these people"

When our group entered Tanai, it was already 12:30 in the afternoon. Almost immediately after arrival a party signboard hoisting ceremony was held at the residence of U Kason Sinwa Naw in Ginzar Ward although the occasion was scantily attended.

By about 2:30 in the afternoon all matters that required attention in Tanai had been attended to. So, from Tanai we retraced our steps to Nama-ti.

The car carrying Granduncle U Tin Oo and another vehicle however did not stop at Tanai but carried on. Auntie Suu's car and the cars carrying the rest of her entourage parked haphazardly in front of the house of U Chit Thuang, a ward-level party member of Nama-ti, for a brief rest. We would be resuming our journey to Myitkyina before 6 O' clock the next morning.

16 May

We left for Myitkyina before 6 am the next day. When we arrived at Nan Kwe Bridge at the entrance to Myitkyina at about 8 O'clock in the morning a spectacle of a group of local people who had gathered to protest and denounce our party gave me a shock. A look at the strength of the people lining the curbside deterred members of our convoy from exchanging insults and alighting from the cars to confront the demonstrators as we did earlier on the trip. So we were subdued as we entered the town.

Auntie Suu then instructed U Hla Min, a member of the entourage, to immediately send a phone message to Granduncle U Lwin in Yangon about the demonstration that was

staged near Nan Kwe Bridge. She also gave instructions to say that in the incident at Nan Kwe Bridge, the security forces on duty had made no attempt to either control or stop the protesters who had obstructed the NLD convoy and so on and so forth.

Granduncle U Lwin who received this message then contacted the authorities concerned to demand that certain precautionary measures be provided. Apparently the officials responsible responded as necessary and Granduncle U Lwin relayed the response to Granduncle U Tin Oo. When Auntie Suu learnt of the nature of the response she was furious.

Although she went into a frenzy of rage and accused the 'security forces' of negligence, the fact was that there had been no such forces present at the scene. Just because she had seen a few people in fibre hats and wearing camouflage shirts with fading yellow trousers, she had jumped to the conclusion that they were members of a police security force.

When inquiries were made of the local NLD party members they said there were no militia forces on security duty in Myitkyina. They said people we had seen on the roads in camouflage shirts, khaki pants and wearing fibre hats whizzing by on motor-cycles, driving Trawler-Gs, on cycles or on foot were just ordinary people from various strata doing various itinerant jobs. They wore these outfits because they were cheap and durable and such clothing was therefore popular with most people in the region. I suppose there are bound to be mistakes.

At about 8:30 am our convoy reached the house

that would accommodate us.

The place where we were accommodated and the venue where the flag raising ceremony was scheduled to take place was not too far. Granduncle U Tin Oo and party who had left a little after 11 am for the busy downtown area of Myitkyina to advertise their presence and organize people on the quiet returned to Daw Ngwe Kyaing's house after 1 pm. It must be admitted that Granduncle U Tin Oo had not done a bad job of advertising and organizing.

For a crowd had begun to gather in the area around our accommodations, which had been deserted earlier.

Then as a message sounded over the P.A system requesting all to take their places as the signboard raising ceremony was about to begin, our group headed by Auntie Suu, proceeded to the venue on foot. On this occasion Auntie Suu was not dressed as usual but in full Kachin national costume.

I would like to give a description of how "Auntie Suu" was guarded on her way to the ceremony, which was being held just one house away from where we were staying. As usual, the members of the NLD Youth with hands linked surrounded her on both the left and right flanks. In the eyes of someone unaware of what was taking place it would appear as though they were playing the Myanmar version of "Here we go round the mulberry bush."

Actually proper arrangements should have been made to separate the girls from the boys to join hands as escorts, so there would be no criticism. But the guys in our group from Yangon, always quick to



The scene of the talks given by Daw Suu Kyi who was later driven out by Presiding Sayadaw of Wuntho Monastery in Myitkyina on 17-5-2003.



An NLD youth member taping the local people who peacefully stage demonstrations holding placards against the NLD convoy at the entrance to Kaunggywa Village, Tanai Township, on 15-5-2003, during the organizational tour in Kachin State of NLD members led by Daw Suu Kyi.

take advantage seized the hands of the girls from the Myitkyina Youth group as though they were only doing their duty. So voices began to be raised in criticism from youths watching from the wayside, saying in effect that: "These guys from Yangon are just too crafty and slick."

At the conclusion of the ceremony, Granduncle U Tin Oo who had drawn up the programme so that he too would have a role to play got up to mutter his usual mantra for protection against all kinds of danger. He also distributed printed pamphlets of the 'victory' mantra and exhortations to pray for the fulfillment of their goals. This is what he usually does at such ceremonies, but at Myitkyina there was something extra, in addition to the traditional Buddhist mantra. The pamphlet contained this extra prayer.

"Our Father who art in heaven ..."
Bless all our undertakings.
Bestow your blessings on the plight of our people and our kinsfolk the national

racers. May your love and compassion remove our fears and give us back our courage. Watch over thy children so that all the national races of the Union may attain their goals of democracy, human rights, national unity and the peace of this great Union. I pray to thee in the name of Jesus Christ Our Lord, Amen."

While I was thinking that Granduncle U Tin Oo would most probably say an assortment of religious prayers if a multiparty democracy should come into being and put in effect a lot of new ideas, and just when the thought occurred to me that next he'll be praying to Allah when I heard a voice of discontent erupt from the crowd and it said: "What trick is this old man trying to pull? What about party members of the Hindu faith like us? Does this mean that we don't count because we are a minority of just two and a half persons? This is most irregular. I'm not pleased at all and I'm going to report it to Auntie Suu." So what now?

17 May

Auntie Suu and all of us then returned to Daw Ngwe Kyaing's house for a rest.

During our trip, I am sure many heard a report transmitted by foreign broadcasting stations concerning our visit to the Kachin State that must have caused alarm. It said that as Auntie Suu and followers entered Myitkyina a crowd of protesters wielding Kachin 'dahs' (swords) and daggers had made threatening gestures as if to cut and chop and mince us into pieces and that there were indications that violence was in the air.

These broadcasts were instigated by reports sent to Yangon by members who had come on the trip. They had been conveyed to NLD spokesperson Granduncle U Lwin who panicked and distributed the news wholesale to foreign broadcasting stations.

But when inquiries were later made to determine exactly the number of people with swords, their

(See page 9)



Local women stand to protest the NLD convoy of Daw Suu Kyi holding the signboard bearing "Oppose those relying on external elements" at Naungtalay Village, Waingmaw Township, on 18-5-2003.

Secretary-1 attends...

(from page 1)

Aerospace Engineering University is opened temporarily in Meiktila. The magnificent university is being built in the town. Arrangements are being made for development of respective technologies to ensure international standard universities.

In this process, he said that it is needed to create opportunities for the students to study technologies advancing in the world. The faculty members of the universities are being sent abroad for further studies. At the same time, plans are under way for promotion of technological cooperation.

In conclusion, the Secretary-1 invited those present to hold talks to the full satisfaction about tasks being undertaken and future tasks for the development of the universities as well as modern technologies, requirements and assistance to be rendered by the government.

Next, Minister for Transport Maj-Gen Hla Myint Swe reported on academic matters, management and staff affairs of Myanmar Maritime University, progress in construction of the university in Thanlyin, and lectures given by faculty members and local and foreign instructors; Rector of MMU U Thein Tun, on academic matters; Deputy Minister for Science and Technology U Nyi Hla Nge, on academic matters for Myanmar Aerospace Engineering University. Minister for Science and Technology U Thaung gave a supplementary report.

The Commander-in-Chief (Air), the Chief of Staff (Navy), the ministers and deputy ministers also made suggestions.

Afterwards, U Aung Htwe of Shwe Marlar Construction Co Ltd reported on progress in building Myanmar Maritime University and tasks being undertaken; and U Tint Hsan of ACE Construction Co, on construction of Myanmar Aerospace Engineering University, work progress and efforts being made for ensuring timely completion of the project.

Regarding the reports, the Secretary-1 fulfilled the requirements.

MNA



Tourism paper reading session to be held

YANGON, 16 July — With the sponsorship of the Ministry of Hotels and Tourism, the Union of Myanmar Tourism Association, in a bid to promote the tourism industry of Myanmar, will hold a paper reading session under the title "What is tourism" on 22 July at the Hotel Nikko Royal Lake.

Tourism-related departments will be invited to the paper reading session, and those wishing to attend it should contact the UMTA, dialing the telephone numbers 559672, 559673, and 545707. — MNA

Dr Daw Khin Win Shwe accepts K 100,000 from U Than Tun and wife Daw Tin Mar Yi. — MNA

Second Annual General Meeting of MAWFA held

YANGON, 16 July — The Second Annual General Meeting of Myanmar ASEAN Women's Friendship Association was held at Wunzinminyazay Hall, Shindethaparmouk Building of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs on Pyay Road here at 10 am today.

It was attended by Leader of the Panel of patrons of MAWFA Dr Daw Khin Win Shwe, wife of Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council General Khin Nyunt, members of the Panel of patrons Daw San Yon, wife of Minister for Foreign Affairs U Win Aung, and Daw Khin Swe

Soe, wife of Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs U Khin Maung Win, honorary members wives of ministers, executive committee members, Ambassador of the Philippines Mme Phoebe A Gomez, wives of ambassadors and diplomats from the ASEAN Embassies in Yangon and members of the association.

First, Dr Daw Khin Win Shwe made an address on the occasion. Chairperson of the executive committee Daw Khin Hnin Nyunt extended greetings.

Next, Secretary of the association Daw Khin Nan Myint presented report of the executive committee

for the year 2002-2003 and Treasurer Daw Aye Aye Phyu submitted financial statement for the year 2002-2003. Both were approved. New executives and internal auditors for the year 2003-2004 were also elected.

Next, Dr Daw Khin Win Shwe presented K 100,000 for MAWFA to Daw San Yon who presented certificate of honour to the wellwisher.

Dr Daw Khin Win Shwe accepted K one million donated by wife of the ambassador of Thailand Mme Viparane Maolanon, on behalf of Myanmar CP Livestock, K 100,000 by U

Than Tun and wife Daw Tin Mar Yi, member of the executive committee, K 100,000 by Dr Daw Mya Mya Win, US\$ 100 by wife of the counsellor of Malaysian Embassy member of MAWFA Dr Musrifah Bte Sapardi, and K 10,000 and a US\$ 75 worth hyacinth chair by member Daw Mya Thazin Nyunt and presented certificates of honour to the wellwishers.

The meeting ended with concluding remarks by the chairperson.

After the meeting, an anniversary luncheon was hosted for members of the association. — MNA

Daw Suu Kyi...

(from page 8)

approximate age and how they were dressed, there was nobody who could give definite answers and there was only a vague notion of the identity of the person who started the rumour.

At first it was thought that the culprit was Thein Soe who was part of the Yangon entourage and then it was said that Granduncle U Tin Oo himself had been an eyewitness, and among the rest of the group too people began pointing fingers at each other.

"You were the one who reported the 'dah' incident."

"Hey, what I said was not meant in that vein."

"Don't try to hood-wink us."

"I didn't say I saw people brandishing swords. I only said that I saw a man in a raincoat with something that looked like a dah at his waist. I saw it briefly when the wind blew his raincoat apart. So, don't try to make me out to be the culprit."

"Then what about the Kachin swords that were seen."

"What I said was very simple. I was not talking about swords held by people at the roadside. I meant the swords hung in a shop on the road."

So there was much confusion confounded. But Granduncle U Lwin had already circulated the false

report concerning the Kachin dah to the foreign media. The mischief had been done and was now beyond control and could not be undone. We were sitting together wracking our brains as to how to resolve the problem when a harsh voice erupted with the words. "Stop it all of you, words over the air waves will soon dissipate." "Why are you arguing over something so transitory?" "I can't stand the noise." I then thought to myself "Oh! Now this bit of news has no substance so, it is of no consequence."

At about 5:30 pm that day we accompanied Auntie Suu to the Wuntho Monastery to pay homage to the 77-year-old Chief Abbot, Agga Maha Pandita Bhaddanta Silavamsa.

When we left the monastery we saw that a crowd had gathered on the road. The local party members had also laid tables on Zaw Gyun Road for Auntie Suu to give a speech. These tables were writing desks used in the monastery.

Auntie Suu however did not care enough to find out what kind of tables they were; she just clambered up and with mike in hand began to talk.

Auntie Suu standing on a table in the middle of Zaw Gyun Road in front of the monastery was going full speed ahead with her speech, when suddenly the Chief Abbot appeared and said, "Look here...who

gave you permission to make a speech? I don't want the road in front of my monastery to be blocked like this." Granduncle U Tin Oo then lost his cool and trembling from head to foot, he replied. "It was in response to public demand" and knelt and paid obeisance to the monk. We heard the Chief Abbot ask distinctly. "How old are you now? And "Are you still behaving foolishly?" Auntie Suu also heard the abbot's comment. So realizing that the situation was not too conducive, she wound up her speech as quickly as possible. But the Chief Abbot still had something to say. In a severe tone he said: "The roads are being blocked, so now go!" To put it bluntly the monk had just unceremoniously driven Auntie Suu and all of us away.

When I think about this incident caused by our inconsiderate behaviour and how we had annoyed and upset the Abbot I still feel a twinge of remorse.

18 May

About 9 o'clock the next morning Auntie Suu and entourage left in a convoy of eight cars for Waingmaw where a party signboard raising ceremony was scheduled. At the entrance to the town of Waingmaw where there is a 'Nat' (Spirit) Shrine, we saw about 300 protesters holding placards and banners with the four decrees of 'The People's Desire'

written on them in bold letters. So we passed these people as quietly as possible.

Our convoy reached the house of U Htaw Shai Khaung Lun, the venue of the signboard raising ceremony, in Myoma Ward (1) of Waingmaw at just about 10 o'clock in the morning. The number of supporters gathered there was not very encouraging. But since we had to continue our journey to visit other places on our itinerary we held a hasty ceremony. But as usual Auntie Suu with mike in hand proceeded to make a speech.

When business in Waingmaw had been concluded we returned to Myitkyina, took a short rest at Daw Ngwe Kyaing's house and continued onwards to the confluence of the Maikha and Malikha rivers.

While enjoying the natural beauty of the confluence of the two rivers, which symbolizes the full essence of unity, it occurred to me that any form of unity that advances firmly in one direction with an explicit goal in view is indeed an invincible force. For instance, here at the confluence, there were large black boulders and rocks to bar the way, but the combined currents of the two rivers easily and steadily overcame them. I stopped my drifting thoughts to look across at Auntie Suu.

I don't think Auntie

Suu had the time, nor the inclination to appreciate the natural beauty of the confluence nor think any profound thoughts about it. For there she was with her back to all that was meaningful and symbolic of the two rivers, having her photographs taken one after another.

Seeing this I thought: she seems to be enjoying herself. But this was accompanied by regret - regret that a Myanmar woman born here on Myanmar soil, had only now at the age of over fifty had the opportunity to have her photographs taken against a backdrop of Myanmar's natural beauty, and that at least she had sense enough to take a photographic record.

When I looked at the majority of the members of our party, I again realized that they were not taking advantage of this brief moment of respite for rest and relaxation. Instead, they were grouped around Auntie Suu with all kinds of flattering comments. I could also see that this was enormously pleasing and gratifying to Auntie Suu. Watching the scenes unfolding before my eyes when yet another thought flashed through my mind. It was a time when political parties were first formed and Moe Thi Zun's Democracy Party for New Society had in the early part of 1989 issued "An Assessment of the Political Movement and Daw

Aung San Suu Kyi."

An excerpt from this pamphlet says:

"... The members of the National League for Democracy are unable to distinguish clearly between the National League for Democracy Party and Daw Aung San Suu Kyi. It is too much like a personality cult. This is not a good sign because when the popularity of the person in question wanes, the party will also automatically collapse. The political movements of the National League for Democracy are also not satisfactory; they have not made an impression on the people. Their movements are little more than those of voluntary social, religious, and charitable organizations. The National League for Democracy in its endeavours has not been able to give the people proper leadership, nor has it been able to shed any light on political situation. It is simply wasting its time with petty and ineffectual activities.

Those were the words of criticism at a time when the NLD was barely a year old, but they still hold true today. It could be concluded then that the tree is puny because the quality of the seed itself was poor. So, how are we to travel on the same boat and weather the rains and the storms with these people?

(To be continued)

To reach Mandalay from Yangon within 10 hours

BG



Heavy machinery of Kanbawza Pathfinder Industries Ltd seen at Zeyawady-Yedashe road section.—MNA

The Union of Myanmar is home to over one hundred national races and the national brethren have been living in the Union through thick and thin since years countable by the thousand.

The Government, with the conviction that all-round development of the national brethren will contribute to the consolidation of national forces, is taking systematic measures to promote their living standard.

Transportation plays an important role in national development and that only when there is easy transport will there be improvement of socio-economic life of national people.

Moreover, easy access to one region from another contributes much towards flourishing of

national unity and Union Spirit among national brethren as they can make more contacts with one another and exchange views and knowledge among them.

Nowadays, Yangon-Mandalay Union Highway is being upgraded into a modern one with a view to contributing towards the economic, trade and social development of the State. In doing so, the State has allotted sections of the highway to national entrepreneurs and the latter are now actively engaged for upgrading and extension of the highway section-wise.

Dagon International Ltd is undertaking the upgrading and extension of the Union Highway at 48 miles long Yedashe-Pyinmana road section between mile posts 194/0

and 242/0 in Bago Division.

They are carrying out the upgrading tasks using heavy machinery.

The Kanbawza Pathfinder Industries Ltd is responsible for upgrading and extension of another road section at Zeyawady-Yedashe road section between mile posts 146/0 and 194/0.

Olympic Highway Public Co Ltd is also taking part in the tasks. It carries out the upgrading tasks at the 48-mile long Nyaunglebin-Zeyawady road section.

Upgrading and extension tasks for Bago-Nyaunglebin road section from mile posts 50/0 to 98/0 is being undertaken by Shwe Thanlwin Highway Co Ltd.

Yamethin-Pyinmana road section upgrading

tasks are being undertaken by Asia World Co, Meiktila-Yamethin section by Yuzana Co and Mandalay-Meiktila section by Hong Pang Co.

They are undertaking tasks related to earth work, construction of bypass, bridges and conduits.

Apart from these tasks, upgrading of the old highway sections, extension of a new road, building of big and small bridges on the respective road sections are also being undertaken.

With the support of the State, the private entrepreneurs are now engaged in nation-building endeavours and due to their efforts, a modern Union Highway between Yangon and Mandalay will emerge in the near future and the trip will take only ten hours.

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

Do not be bolstered whenever flattered.

Development facilities in Taninthayi Division

Education Sector	Past	Present
1. Basic Education Schools	964	1,214
2. Dawei University and Myeik University	-	2
3. Colleges	1	5
Health Sector	Past	Present
1. 200-bed Hospital	1	2
2. 100-bed Hospital	1	1
3. 50-bed Hospital	1	3
4. 16-bed Station Hospital	8	13

"Soon" offered to members of the Sangha

YANGON, 16 July — The Ministry of Finance and Revenue offered "soon" and presented offertories to Sayadaws (Academic) and 450 student members of the Sangha of the State Pariyatti Sasana University (Yangon) at Mogok Refectory on Kaba Aye Hill here this morning.

It was attended by Daw Khin Than Win, wife of Minister for Finance and Revenue Maj-Gen Hla Tun, Deputy Minister Brig-Gen Than Tun and wife, Governor of the Central Bank of Myanmar U Kyaw Kyaw Maung, departmental heads and their wives.

Rector of the

University Sayadaw Agga Maha Pandita Bhaddanta Panditabhivamsa adm-inistered the Five Precepts.

Offertories were presented to members of the Sangha.

Deputy Minister Brig-Gen Than Tun presented K 267,000 for a day's meal for members of the Sangha, offertories and the donation of K 40,000 to the University through Deputy Minister for Religious Affairs Brig-Gen Thura Aung Ko.

Next, "soon" was offered to members of the Sangha.

MNA



Work being carried out by Shwe Thanlwin Highway Co Ltd at Bago-Nyaunglebin road section. — MNA

Development made in ...

(from page 16)

He said further development will be made in the region with the combination of better economic conditions of boosting production of paddy, extended cultivation of rubber and mineral extraction and improved water, air, rail and road transport linking Myeik, Dawei, Mawlamyine and Ye.

In his address, Lt-Gen Thura Shwe Mann said Dawei region is a developing one on which both the State and Taninthayi Division relies. Development has been made in the region due to active cooperation of local people and efforts of district, township, ward and village officials and service personnel.

Local administrative bodies are grassroots level organizations linking the State and the people and serving the interest of the State. Taking significant characteristics of the regions into consideration, emphasis must be placed on further progress, prevalence of law and order and perpetuation of national solidarity, he said.

He said the most basic level Ward and Village Peace and Development Councils are formed with those who wish to serve the interest of the region. It is important for them to discharge noble duties. As they serve the interest of the people in unity based on patriotism, greater development will also be made in the region, he added.

He said national economic life will be strong through the development of township, district, state and division and building of strong national economic life must be based on own internal strength. He urged all to work hard in unity.

Vice-Chairman of Myanmar Education Committee Secretary-2 Lt-Gen Soe Win presented exercise books for basic education schools in Dawei District to Assistant Division Education Officer U Htain Win.

Lt-Gen Thura Shwe Mann, the Secretary-2 and party greeted those present. They went to the government technological college in Dawei, where Principal Daw Kye Yi reported on strength of faculty members, students and courses. They gave instructions and inspected machine shop and auto-tech shop. Dawei government technological college was opened on 2 December 1999.

They proceeded to Dawei Education College, where they were welcomed by Acting Principal Daw Htwe Htwe Tin and faculty members. She reported on the strength of the faculty members, courses being conducted, teachership course, teaching aids and lecture halls. Deputy Minister for Education Brig-Gen Soe Win Maung gave a supplementary report.

Commander Maj-Gen Tha Aye reported on assistance provided for the education



Lt-Gen Thura Shwe Mann and Secretary-2 Lt-Gen Soe Win inspect Dawei Computer College. — MNA

college. Next, Secretary-2 Lt-Gen Soe Win gave necessary instructions.

Lt-Gen Thura Shwe Mann gave instructions on outstanding students to be nurtured.

The Secretary-2 presented cash assistance for Dawei Education College to Acting principal Daw Htwe Tin. Next, they inspected the computer room and teaching aids. They also cordially conversed with the trainees who are attending the Pre-on-job training Course No 7.

Lt-Gen Thura Shwe Mann, Secretary-2 Lt-Gen Soe Win and party went to the Government Computer College in Dawei. Principal In-charge Daw Myint Myint Maw and teachers conducted them round the computer room and lecture halls. The



Lt-Gen Thura Shwe Mann and Secretary-2 Lt-Gen Soe Win meet local authorities, departmental officials and members of social organizations. — MNA

college was opened on 7 January 2002. On arrival at the Dawei General Hospital (200-bed), they were welcomed by Director-General Dr Wan

Maung of the Health Department, officials and staff. Lt-Gen Thura Shwe Mann, the Secretary-2 and party inspected the paediatric ward,

and the orthopaedic ward and the operation theatre and gave words of encouragement to the patients and staff.

(See page 15)

Another bridge soon to emerge

Tin Maung Than

From Putao near the snow-capped mountains in the far north to Kawthoung, a town in the equatorial zone, at the southern end, and from Mongyawng, a border town, in the eastern tip to Maungdaw, a sea port, in the western corner of the nation, a network of motorways including Union Highways and strategic highways have been built to ensure smooth, speedy and secure transport in the whole nation.

A large number of new motor roads and bridges large and small are being built all around the nation, and the existing ones upgraded, for the nation to enjoy a modern road network system that helps facilitate the national development drive.

States and Divisions such as Ayeyawady Division, Rakhine State and Taninthayi Division which had only few miles of roads in the past now have more miles of motorways and are also linked with other states and divi-

sions through modern highways and motorways.

And also in Taninthayi Division, a thin stretch of land lying between the Taninthayi Mountain ranges bordering Myanmar and Thailand in the east and the Andaman Sea in the west, a coastal Union Highway linking Kawthoung and Mawlamyine through Dawei, Myeik and Bokpyin is under construction. The Union Highway links another highway connecting Yangon and Mawlamyine at the latter city.

Especially, the government or the State Peace and Development Council has been giving priority to building roads and bridges in the regions where the sector of road transport was weak.

In the past, the coastal sea lane was the only major means of transport in Taninthayi Division.

But now, a number of large bridges including Winwa Bridge, Palaw Bridge, Palauk Bridge, Pathoung

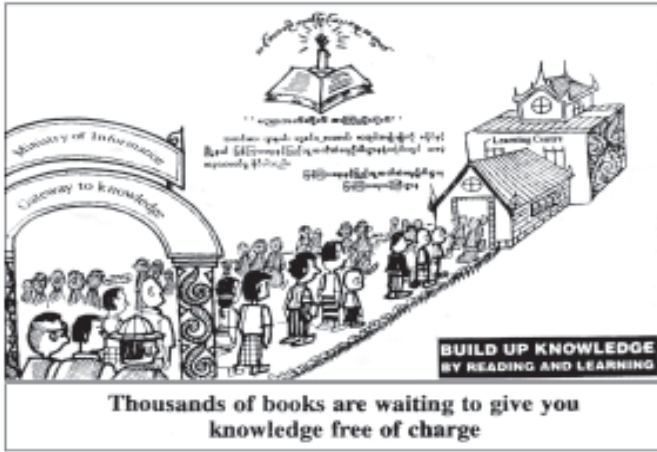
Bridge and Taninthayi Bridge were opened on the coastal Union Highway. In addition, the gigantic Thanlwin Bridge (Mawlamyine) on Yangon-Mawlamyine Highway and the Kyweku-Kyaukphya Bridge on the coastal Union Highway are under construction at present.

Located in Myeik Township on the Myeik-Dawei section of the coastal highway, the final touches are under way at the Kyweku-Kyaukphya Bridge that is 3,612 feet long. Cars are now travelling of the tarred Myeik-Dawei section, Dawei-Mawlamyine section and Taninthayi-Myeik section of the highway.

Construction of the Kyweku-Kyaukphya Bridge began in 2000 and will be completed in the near future. So, we are looking forward to the emergence of another important facility to serve the national interest.



Kyweku-Kyaukphya Bridge in Myeik Township.



ADVERTISEMENT

The Government of the Union of Myanmar Ministry of Forestry Myanma Timber Enterprise

Date : 11-7-2003

Tender Notice

Myanma Timber Enterprise will sell teak logs by competitive bidding. Particulars of the Tender Sale are as follows:

Tender No. : 04/2003-2004
Date : 28th July 2003 (Monday)
Time : (08:00) am
Place : Tender Hall, Myanma Timber Enterprise
: Ahlone Yangon

Sale basis : FOB Yangon in US dollars.
Payment : By PAA L/C
Earnest Money : US\$ 15,000

Please contact the office of the General Manager (Export) for further details.

**Secretary
Export Committee (MTE)**

ချိတ်ပိတ်တင်ဒါခေါ်ယူခြင်း

၁။ အမှတ်(၁) စက်မှုဝန်ကြီးဌာန မြန်မာစက္ကန့်နှင့်တကွဗေဒလုပ်ငန်း၊ ကြိုတင်မှုအောက်ရှိ စက်ရုံများအတွက် အောက်ပါပစ္စည်းများကို မြန်မာကျပ်ငွေဖြင့် ဝယ်ယူလိုကြောင်း ကြေညာအပ်ပါသည်။

စဉ်	ပစ္စည်းအမျိုးအမည်	အရေအတွက်	တင်ဒါပိတ်သည့် ရက်/အချိန်
(က)	Refiner Disc Plates	4 Items (180 Nos)	(၂၃-၇-၂၀၀၃) နံနက် ၁၂:၀၀နာရီ
(ခ)	Machinery & Equipments	1 Lot (8 Items)	(၂၈-၇-၂၀၀၃) နံနက် ၁၂:၀၀နာရီ

၂။ သိရှိလိုသည့်အချက်များရှိပါက ရောင်းဝယ်ရေးဌာန ဖုန်းနံပါတ်-(၇၄၃၄၆၆)သို့ ဆက်သွယ်စုံစမ်းမေးမြန်းနိုင်ပါသည်။
မြန်မာစက္ကန့်နှင့်တကွဗေဒလုပ်ငန်း

Chinese Vice-Premier meets German banker

BEIJING, 16 July — Chinese Vice-Premier Zeng Peiyan met here Monday with Michael Cohrs, global CEO of the investment bank under the Deutsche Bank.

Zeng said that in the first half of this year, the Chinese economy had acute the test of the severe acute respiratory syndrome (SARS) epidemic although some industries were affected.

Overall, the foundation of the Chinese economy remained strong, reforms in various fields progressed smoothly and the national

economy maintained fairly rapid growth, Zeng said.

He expressed hope that Deutsche Bank and other international financial groups will actively participate in China's construction and reforms.

Cohrs said that China's economy recovered rapidly from the impact of SARS, indicating that it has benefited from an innate dynamic momentum. China, which enjoys political stability and good prospects for rapid economic development, is an important driv-

ing force for the recovery of the global capital market, he said.

He said that the Deutsche Bank is closely following China's reforms and development and is willing to contribute to its economic construction. —MNA/Xinhua

Senior Chinese CPC leader meets Nigerian delegation

BEIJING, 16 July — A senior leader of the Communist Party of China (CPC) said China will make joint efforts with Niger to promote friendly and cooperative ties between the two countries.

Luo Gan, member of the Standing Committee of the Political Bureau of the CPC Central Committee, made the remarks here Monday during a meeting with a delegation from Niger's ruling party, the National Movement for Social Development (MNSD in French)—Nassara.

China has enhanced co-operation with Niger in the political, economic and cul-

ပြည်တွင်းပြင်ပတို့အားပေးပါ

TRADE MARK CAUTION
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in respect of "Biscuits, bread, cakes, pies, tarts, pastry, wafer, sugardrops, toffees, chocolates, chewing-gums, candies, sweets, confectionery, buns, snacks (Cl. 30)"

Fraudulent imitation or unauthorised use of the said Trade Mark will be dealt with according to law.

Win Mu Tin,
M.A., H.G.P., D.B.L
for **A. LOACKER**
AG. S.P.A

P.O. Box 60, Yangon:
Dated: 17 July, 2003

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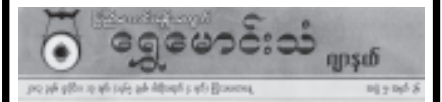
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Fraudulent imitation or unauthorised use or other infringement whatsoever of this trademark will be dealt with according to Law.

Thain Aung B.S. & R.L.D. & Co. Advocates
MYANMAR TRADEMARK AND PATENT LAW FIRM
E-mail: mtlp@netmail.net.mm
Tel: 254037 G.P.O. Box 666
Yangon, July 17, 2003



အတွဲ (၅) အမှတ် (၃၆) ထွက်ပြီ



ARRIVAL/CLAIMS DAY NOTICE MV "MANDALAY" VOY NO 102/N

Consignees of cargo carried on MV "MANDALAY" Voy No 102/N are hereby notified that the vessel has arrived at Yangon port on 17-7-2003 and will be berthing on about 18-7-2003 and cargoes will be discharged into the premises of Myanma Port Authority where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the bye-laws and conditions of the port of Yangon.

Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily between 8 am to 11:30 and 12 noon to 4 pm into Claims Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from vessel.

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

**CONTAINER FEEDER SERVICE
MYANMA FIVE STAR LINE**

Phone: 293147, 296507, 295754

INVITATION OF TENDER BIDS

UNDP, Yangon wishes to construct a one-storeyed fitness centre at No. 6 Natmauk Road, Tamwe Township. Construction will be awarded through sealed bids to the lowest bidder. Detailed layout and floor plan of the building are available at the above address. Interested parties/individuals are invited to view the Plan during office hours from 9:00 am to 2:00 pm from 21 to 23 July 2003.

Sealed bids can be deposited in the Bid Box at the Reception Counter of UNDP office at the above address up to 2:00 pm of 31 July 2003.

Successful bidder/bidders will be informed by 6 August 2003. UNDP reserves the right to reject any or all bids. Construction of the building should be completed **within a maximum of two months from the date of commencement.**

UNDP can be contacted at telephone No. 542910-11 during 8:30 am to 4:30 pm (attention : Mr. Walter Kaing).

FAO to help Angola in agricultural development

LUANDA, 16 July — Jacques Diouf, Director-General of the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) of the United Nations, said here Monday that the FAO will help Angola with its agricultural development. After meeting with Angolan President Jose Eduardo dos Santos, Diouf told local Press that he discussed with the President mainly agricultural

development in the country.

Dos Santos underlined the need of the preparation of plans of action toward fisheries, water supply, agriculture and some other areas.

Upon his arrival in Angola on Sunday, Diouf said the African country has potential to develop agriculture, what did not happen due to the conflicts that lasted two decades. —MNA/Xinhua

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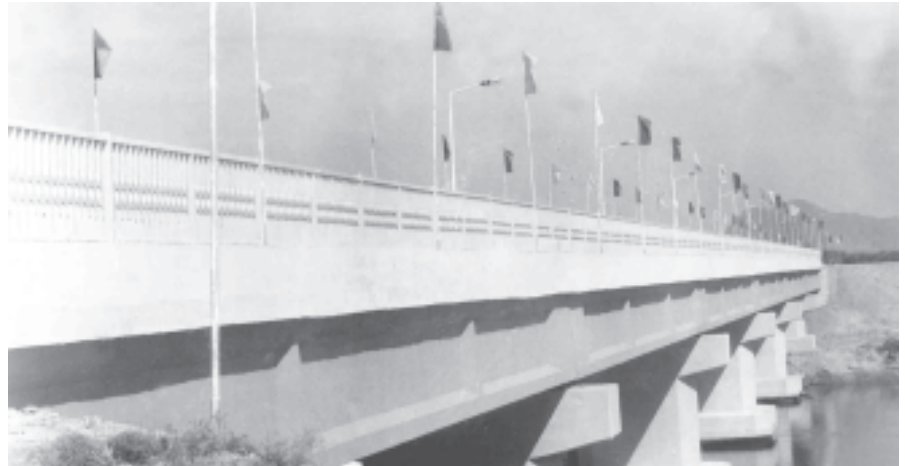
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MNA/Xinhua

Tangible results of constructive endeavours in the states

The Government is striving for development of the transport infrastructure which is the main requirement for socio-economic progress of the citizens. Transport development has contributed not only to further improvement of trade and production, but also to development of the socio-economy and strengthened relations among the national brethren. A network of motor roads and rail roads were built throughout the country. The 600-foot long rail-cum-road Donthami Bridge linking Kayin and Mon States was opened on 19 January 2002 near Duiyinseik village in Thaton Township, Mon State. Located on Yangon-Hpa-an Road, it has a 13-foot wide motor way flanked by 4-foot pedestrian lanes on both sides. Construction of the bridge started on 1 April 2000 and completed on 20 December 2001.—MNA



The Government has been laying down and implementing plans for bringing about all-round development in the whole country. For extension of agricultural tasks, dams and reservoirs are being built spending a large sum of money. By opening the Loinanpha Dam, agricultural works can now be extended further in Kayah State. Loinanpha Dam will irrigate 2,150 acres of land. The dam was built on Tikellya Creek near Loinanpha village, Dimawhso Township, Kayah State. The earthen dam, 60 feet high and 1,690 feet long has 1,300 acre-feet of water storage capacity. The dam has one main canal, 10 feeder canals and 172 small canals. The construction tasks of the dam began in 1999-2000 and it was constructed at a cost of K 209.875 million. The dam was opened on 6 March 2002. — MNA



Tatmadaw men are engaging in nation-building endeavours. The photo shows Tatmadaw men building railroad at Namsam-Punchaung railroad section, part of Namsam-Saikkaung railroad in Shan State. The section is 55 miles long between Namsam and Punchaung. (PHOTO BY YAY CHAN MYINT)



Due to the natural barriers, transport was difficult in Kachin State. In accord with the guidance of Head of State Senior General Than Shwe, roads linking the states and divisions have been upgraded and extended stage by stage to become Union Highways. Bridges large and small have been constructed on the highways. The aim of building highways is to ensure an easy link between the southernmost regions and the areas between the eastern end and western tip in all weather conditions. Improved communication links among the regions including border areas will lead to development of the manufacturing, social, education and health sectors. Moreover, it will also contribute to strengthening love and understanding among the national people. Tanai Bridge spanning the Tanai River on Tanai-Nanyun Road in Kachin State was opened on 12 February 2002. The bridge is 942 feet long and 12 feet wide and can withstand 30-ton loads. — MNA

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S**US keeper Howard joins Manchester United**

LONDON, 16 July—English Premier League champions Manchester United have signed US goalkeeper Tim Howard on a four-year contract, the club said on Tuesday.

Howard, 24, signed from the New York/New Jersey MetroStars for a fee of 2.3 million pounds (3.71 million US dollars), United said in a statement to the London Stock Exchange. He has won nine caps and was twice voted US Goalkeeper of the Year.

"We have wanted Tim Howard for a while and Tony Coton (United's goalkeeping coach) has followed him for some time through his contacts in the US," said United manager Alex Ferguson.

"Tim's emergence alongside America's number one goalkeepers Brad Friedel and Kasey Keller tells you how highly regarded he is in the States, and we are delighted to bring such a promising young keeper to the club."

MNA/Reuters



Brazil's soccer players celebrate after scoring a goal against Honduras' team at the Aztec Stadium in Mexico City, on 15 July, 2003 during a game for the Gold Cup tournament.—INTERNET

Five players, referee banned after Brazilian brawl

RIO DE JANEIRO, 16 July — Five players and a referee were banned on Tuesday following a brawl in last week's Brazilian championship derby between Corinthians and Santos which ended with one player going to a police station.

The most severe punishment was handed out to Corinthians defender Fabio Luciano, who was suspended for 60 days. Referee Salvio Spindola was banned for 20 days.

Corinthians said that Fabio Luciano had been sold to Turkish club Fenerbahce and it was not immediately clear whether the ban would apply outside Brazil.

Spindola was found guilty of "omission" by Brazilian football's disciplinary tribunal after failing to send off any of the players and then describing the incident as "a bit of pushing and shoving" in his report.

Spindola and several of the players were present at the three-hour hearing in Rio de Janeiro, during which members of the panel

watched several replays of an incident which shocked the public.

The trouble in last Wednesday's match began when Santos goalkeeper Fabio Costa crashed into rival striker Liedson.

This triggered a pitch battle in which Corinthians goalkeeper Doni charged into Santos midfielder Fabiano's back with a two-footed lunge while Fabio Luciano thumped an opponent with a scissors kick.

Fabiano later went to the nearest police station to make a formal complaint against Doni.

Doni was banned for 40 days, Santos pair Fabio Costa and Fabiano four matches apiece and Corinthians defender Cesar three games.

MNA/Reuters

France's Moreira says in talks to join Arsenal

LONDON, 16 July—France striker Daniel Moreira says he could move to Premier League side Arsenal if manager Arsene Wenger can offload forward Nwankwo Kanu.

"Wenger got in touch with my agent last week and they are going to have lunch together on Tuesday," Moreira said on Tuesday. "I know that Wenger likes me a lot and I think I could end up at Arsenal."

"The problem is that Wenger has too

many strikers right now. He needs to sell one of them and he is hoping that Kanu will leave soon," added the RC Lens forward, who has also been linked with French champions Olympique Lyon.

Nigerian striker Kanu, who joined Arsenal for 4.5 million pounds (7.25 million US dollars) in 1999, saw little action last season and scored only six goals.

Arsenal declined to comment on any player movements. — MNA/Reuters

United close in on Ronaldinho

MANCHESTER (England), 16 July — Manchester United are close to completing a deal for Brazil midfielder Ronaldinho, manager Alex Ferguson said on Tuesday.

United have been involved in lengthy negotiations with Paris St Germain and are reported to have offered the French First Division club up to 20 million pounds (32.24 million US dollars) for the 23-year-old World Cup winner.

"We are pursuing the Ronaldinho thing very intensely now. It's getting to that stage where it's maybe just about there," Ferguson told a news conference.

"We don't want to say it's certain until it actually is certain, but we're very close."

Ronaldinho's agent and brother Roberto Assis said he hoped the deal would be concluded this week.

"We are very optimistic for this week," he told Reuters by telephone. "Ronnie is still in Brazil and we'll wait until it's over to bring him back. I don't think we'll have to wait for a long time," he said.

"Things are moving quickly. I don't think Ronnie will sign anything this week because he has a lot of things to do in Brazil but he is happy and so am I."

Ferguson said joining the Premier League champions would be the right move for Ronaldinho. "I think we have plenty to offer

here. This is one stadium where there is a full capacity every week. There's not (another) stadium in Europe can do that."

"I don't want to be counting my chickens. I don't think it's a healthy thing. You never know. Disappointment can come very quickly in football. People can change their mind."

"But the signs are okay, I'm very positive about that. We just want to get that seal on it and then we can talk about it more openly."

Ferguson also said the club were "pursuing an interest" in Ronaldinho's Brazil team mate Kleberson, the 23-year-old Atletico Paranaense midfielder.

A successful move for Kleberson could determine whether Juan Sebastian Veron stays at Old Trafford. Media reports have linked the Argentina midfielder with a move to Chelsea.

"There has been an enquiry but that's as far as it's gone. The player may not want to go. He's happy here," said Ferguson.

"He's enjoying his football here so I'm happy with that. The circumstances may change simply because we don't know what the offer is." — MNA/Reuters

CONCACAF Gold Cup wins for US, Cuba

FOXBORO (Massachusetts), 16 July—Brian McBride struck twice before halftime to lead the United States to a 2-0 CONCACAF Gold Cup Group C victory over Martinique on Monday.

In an earlier game, Cuba scored a shock 2-0 win over Canada in Group D. The US powered through to the quarterfinals by securing their second successive win in the tournament. In the first-ever meeting between the two sides, Martinique posed little threat in attack but the Americans were also below their best.

The defending champions dominated the match but rarely tested Martinique goalkeeper Eddy Heurleir.

The US, who defeated El Salvador 2-0 on Saturday, went in front after 39 minutes when Steve Ralston crossed for McBride to head in. Four minutes later, McBride grabbed his 23rd international goal with another header from a centre by Ralston.

"We're happy with the win and we have four or five days to patch our team up after two games in three days," US coach Bruce Arena told reporters.

"We were very sloppy in the second half, we lacked sharpness and had a bit of fatigue." "Martinique came in here, obviously, to get a point," said Arena, "so that first goal was big. The second one made it easier for us and we took our foot off the gas in the second half."

Martinique were reduced to 10 men in the 90th minute when Yann Girier-Dufournier was sent off for a second yellow card after a tackle on Landon Donovan.

Earlier, Lester More scored twice in Cuba's 2-0 victory over Canada.

The Group D win was the first-ever for the Cubans in the regional championship, and also their first against the Canadians. Canada, who beat Costa Rica 1-0 on Saturday, are now level on points with Cuba, who play Costa Rica on Wednesday in the final match of the group.

Cuba, who lost two warm-up matches against Panama last month, attacked from the start against Canada and went ahead in the 15th minute.

Jaime Colome crossed

from the right and More stole in behind defender Paul Fenwick to give goalkeeper Lars Hirschfeld no chance.

At the other end, Odell Molina made several fine saves to deny Canada an equaliser. Richard Hastings gifted the Cubans a second goal 20 seconds into the second half when he gave the ball away to Pedro Faife, who set up the unmarked More 12 metres out.

Canada poured forward in a bid to get back into the game but Paul Stalteri, who hit the winning goal against Costa Rica, missed two late chances. — MNA/Reuters



Spain's Rafael Nadal returns a ball to Germany's Philipp Petzschner during a first round match of the Mercedes cup ATP tennis tournament at the Weissenhof in Stuttgart, southern Germany, on 15 July, 2003.—INTERNET

Development made in ...

(from page 11)

At 3.30 pm, they arrived at Dawei University. At the hall, Pro-Rector U Kyaw Kyaw Htay reported on completion of the lecture halls, strength of staff, number of student and academic matters.

Assistant Engineer U Khin Maung Than of Public Works reported on progress in building Dawei University and future tasks. The commander gave a supplementary report.

Deputy Minister for Education Brig-Gen Myint Thein reported on construction of the buildings in time and Deputy Minister for Education Brig-Gen Soe Win Maung on the academic matters. Vice-Chairman of Myanmar Education Committee Secretary-2 Lt-Gen Soe Win explained the aims of their inspection tour and cooperation of teachers of universities, staff and people for building a peaceful, modern and developed nation.

Lt-Gen Thura Shwe Mann urged those present to nurture the students to become intellectual and intelligentia on whom the State can rely.

Dawei University was opened on 22 February 2000.

Next, they went to Zeyawady Monastery in Dawei and paid homage to Presiding Nayaka Sayadaw Agga Maha Kammathanagara Bhaddanta Arindama and members of the Sangha.

They donated provisions to the Sayadaws.

On 15 July morning, they proceeded to Yebyu Township by helicopter and inspected agricultural matters in Kanbauk and Kaleinaung regions in Yebyu Township.

At Hsandaushin Hsutaungpyay Pagoda in Kaleinaung region, they were welcomed by military officers and local authorities. Lt-Gen Thura Shwe Mann, Secretary-2 Lt-Gen Soe Win and party paid obeisance to Hsandaushin Hsutaungpyay Pagoda. Chief of Staff (Navy) Rear-Admiral Soe Thein presented cash donations to the chairman of the pagoda board of trustees.

Lt-Gen Thura Shwe Mann, Secretary-2 Lt-Gen Soe Win and party went round the pagoda.

Officials reported on agriculture, education, health, transport matters of Kaleinaung region, construction of offices and staff quarters and regional development tasks.

Deputy Minister Brig-Gen Soe Win Maung gave a supplementary report on education matters. Lt-Gen Thura Shwe Mann gave necessary instructions. Next, they signed in the visitors' book.

The commander presented pictures of the pagoda to Lt-Gen Thura Shwe Mann and Secretary-2 Lt-Gen Soe Win. The Secretary-2 presented cash assistance for Kaleinaung BEHS to the Headmistress.

Afterwards, they left for

Thanbyuzayat by helicopter. They were welcomed there by the commander and officials.

At the hall of Thanbyuzayat Township Peace and Development Council, they met with local authorities. Lt-Gen Thura Shwe Mann explained arrival of Thanbyuzayat from Dawei in their inspection tour, building of a peaceful, modern and developed nation and necessity of local authorities and departmental personnel to work in unity for regional development, and cordially conversed with those present.

At 12.30 pm, they left Thanbyuzayat and flew over Mudon, Kyaikmaraw and Chaungson townships to inspect development of rural and urban areas and cultivation of monsoon paddy. They arrived back here in the afternoon. Deputy Minister Brig-Gen Soe Win Maung, who accompanied the inspection team, met with educational officials and staff at Dawei BEHS No 2 on 14 July evening. He discussed education, academic and administration matters and fulfilled their needs. — MNA



The City Hall of Dawei. — MNA



Dawei University in Dawei. — MNA

Thai delegation visits National Defence College, National Museum, Drug Elimination Museum

YANGON, 16 July — The visiting delegation of Thai Command and General Staff College led by Col Chusak Meksuwan, accompanied by senior military officers of the Ministry of Defence and Thai Military Attaché Col Kasam Nakpun and officials, visited National Defence College on Shwedagon Pagoda Road in Dagon Township this morning. At the meeting hall, Commandant Maj-Gen Moe Hein of NDC extended greetings and explained the history of the college with

video tape. Director Police Col Sit Aye of International Relations Department of Central Committee for Drug Abuse Control, Deputy Director-General U Nyan Linn of Political Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Director-General Daw Khine Than Nwe of Planning Department of the Ministry of National Planning and Economic Development also explained tasks of the respective departments. Commandant Maj-Gen Moe Hein and Leader of the delegation Col Chusak

Meksuwan exchanged souvenirs. A member of the delegation spoke words of thanks. Next, they visited the college.

At 1 pm, they arrived at the National Museum on Pyay Road in Dagon Township. Assistant Director U Htay Myint and officials of the museum welcomed and conducted them round

the museum.

At 2.30 pm, they went to Drug Elimination Museum at the corner of Hanthawady and Kyundaw streets in Kamayut Township. Deputy Director Police Lt-Col Hse Maung of CCDAC and officials explained facts about the museum. Later, they left the museum. — MNA

LG Digital Plaza opens

YANGON, 16 July — The opening of LG Digital Plaza of TMW Enterprise was held at building No 123, Sule Pagoda Road, Kyauktada Township, this morning.

It was attended by Director-General of Human Settlement and Housing Development Department U Arnt Kyaw, Managing Director of the News and Periodicals Enterprise U Tin Kha, Managing Director of Myanmar Hotels and Tourism U Htay Aung, departmental heads, officials, guests, and sales agents. Managing Director of TMW Enterprise U Wai Lwin and General Manager of LG Electronic Ltd of the Republic of Korea Mr M H Kim formally opened the plaza. There, latest LG Flatron TV, refrigerator, washing machine, air cooler and household items are available from 10 am to 6 pm daily. — MNA



Colonel Chusak Meksuwan and party at the National Museum. — MNA

Indian delegation leaves

YANGON, 16 July — Indian delegation led by Indian Minister of Commerce and Industry Mr Arun Jaitley left here this morning. They were seen off by Minister for Commerce Brig-Gen Pyi

Sone, the directors-general and the Indian Ambassador to Myanmar. The delegation arrived here at the invitation of the Commerce Minister. — MNA

National C'ship Basketball tournament opened

YANGON, 16 July — The opening of the year 2003 National Championship Basketball Tournament, organized by Myanmar Basketball Federation, was held at Aung San Gymnasium here this morning.

On the opening day, two matches (men's), two matches (men's under 18) and one match (women's) were held. The tournament continues tomorrow. — MNA



DAY NURSERY OPENED: The Social Welfare Department opened new day nursery in Yenangyaung on 8 July. Director-General U Sit Myaing of SWD and the Patron of Nursery Board of Trustees formally open the nursery. — SWD



Lt-Gen Thura Shwe Mann meets with officials at Dawei University. — MNA

Development made in Taninthayi Division region due to active cooperation of local people and efforts of service personnel

YANGON, 16 July—Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thura Shwe Mann, Secretary-2 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Soe Win and member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Maung Bo, accompanied by Taninthayi Division Peace and Development Council Chairman Commander Maj-Gen Tha Aye, the ministers, the Chief of Staff (Navy), the deputy ministers, officials of the State Peace and Development Council Office and heads of department, arrived at Dawei by helicopter on 14 July morning.

They were welcomed by Brig-Gen Htein Win of Dawei Station, heads of department and officials of Dawei District and Township. They met chairmen and members of Dawei District and Dawei, Yebyu, Longlon and Thayetchaung Township Peace and Development Councils, departmental officials, service personnel, social organizations and chairmen and members of Ward/Village Peace and Development Councils at the city hall in Dawei.

Chairman of Dawei District Peace and Development Council Lt-Col Khin Maung Kywe reported on cultivation acreage and cultivatable land in Dawei District, extension of monsoon paddy cultivation acreage, use of high quality strains, efforts for rice sufficiency in the region, cultivation of oil palm, rubber and pepper, measures undertaken for meat and fish sector, breeding of domestic fowls, mineral exploration and extraction and education and health conditions.

Secretary-2 delivered a speech. He said he toured Kawthoung, Myeik and Dawei regions and witnessed peace and stability and development in the regions and local people working hard.

He said Taninthayi Division would continue to develop.

Peace and stability and unity as well as coordination and cooperation among departments are needed for development of a region. Therefore duties were assigned to regional administrative bodies to encourage coordination and cooperation and provide necessary assistance to them.

He said the State Peace

and Development Council is a revolutionary government transforming one system to another while governing the country in accord with the law, rules and regulations. As the government is repaying historical debt of lagging behind in development of the past in a short time, there are a great deal of tasks to be undertaken.

A lot of work has to be done in unity as most of the tasks are implemented simultaneously, he said.

He spoke of the need to implement the regionwise and sectorwise tasks in harmony through cooperation. He also spoke of the need for local authorities and service personnel to undertake the tasks properly and systematically after realizing the situations. Regional development and solidarity should in no way be hampered by personal weakness in morale and discipline, he said.

He said the government removed restrictions on rice trading that hinders the market-oriented economic system and practised free trading of rice.

Farmers are now cultivating more and more paddy. He spoke of the need

for any government department and local organization not to purchase paddy at a set price for any reason.

Administrative bodies such as Ward, Village, Township and District

Peace and Development Councils are organizations that directly deal with the people and they are responsible for safeguarding economic, education and health opportunities of the people

including rice trading.

As they have to deal direct with the people, they should not distance themselves from the people, he pointed out.

(See page 11)



Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe presents cash donations to Medical Superintendent Dr Maung Maung Gyi. — MNA

Cash donated to surgical operations of cleft lip and palate patients

YANGON, 16 July—The ceremony to donate cash to spend on surgical operations of cleft lip and palate, organized by Yangon Division Maternal and Child Welfare Association Supervisory Committee, was held in conjunction with the set-

ting up of the funds of Thingangyun Sanpya Hospital at the Hospital this morning.

Present were Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Myint Swe, Minister for Health Dr Kyaw Myint, Deputy Minister Dr Mya Oo, No 2 Military Region Commander Brig-Gen Myo Myint, officials, Medical Superintendent Dr Maung Maung Gyi and MCWA members. The commander and the minister presented cash assistance to the patients individually.

The commander explained the purpose of the donations and presented sanitation equipment worth K 257,000 to the Medical Superintendent.

Next, the commander, the minister and the deputy minister accepted K 4,013,000 for the funds donated by wellwishers including K 1 million by Hein Construction; K 500,000

each by Shwe Thanlwin Construction; Olympic Construction; and Asia World Co Ltd; K 300,000 by Brother Fish Powder Factory; K 200,000 by Mya Yamon Construction; K 150,000 by Lwin Kyaw Automobile Assembling Industry; K 100,000 by Top Star Construction; and K 100,000 by Shwe Gabar Maung Maung Construction.

Patron Daw Khin Thet Htay of Yangon Division MWCA Supervisory Committee presented gifts to surgeons who will participate in the surgical operations.

Patron Daw Khin Thet Htay and Head of Yangon Division Health Department Dr Hla Myint accepted K 3.718 million for the patients donated by wellwishers. Certificates of honour were presented to the wellwishers.

Medical Superintendent Dr Maung Maung Gyi spoke words of thanks.

MNA



Dawei University in Dawei. — MNA