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Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than inspects 100-acre model plot of monsoon paddy in Sangalay Village-tract, Nyaunglaybin Township.—MNA

Regional development tasks inspected in Bago Division and Kayin State

YANGON, 17 July — Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than of the Ministry of Defence, accompanied by responsible personnel of the State Peace and Development Council Office and departmental officials of Bago Division, inspected shady trees grown on both sides of Bago-Nyaunglaybin road for greening purpose and the plantations of monsoon paddy on 14 July evening.

On arrival at the 100-acre model plantations of monsoon paddy for the year 2003-2004 at the milepost 102/2 in Sangalay village-

tract, Nyaunglaybin Township, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than and party were welcomed by local authorities, departmental personnel, members of the district/township agricultural supervisory committees, and officials.

At the briefing hall, Bago Division Myanma Agriculture Service Manager U Win Maung reported on the cultivation of monsoon paddy, technologies rendered to local farmers, and arrangements for cultivation of monsoon paddy in the township.

After hearing the reports, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than gave instructions on using correct agricultural methods and quality strains for high yield of crops, combined use

of organic and inorganic fertilizers, and extended cultivation of paddy species peculiar to the township.

Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than and party inspected round the designated model paddy plantations in the township and attended to the requirements.

A total of 16 farmers will conduct a survey of paddy output by growing Kyawzeya paddy species on 90 acres of land and Hmawby-2 paddy species on 10 acres of land in the model paddy fields in Sangalay village-tract, using organic and inorganic fertilizers.

It is targeted to grow monsoon paddy on 121,300 acres of land in 2003-2004 in Nyaunglaybin Township,

Bago Division. And 87,843 acres of land, 72.42 percent, were put under paddy up to 14 July.

Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than and party, accompanied by Deputy Commander of Southern Command Brig-Gen Thura Maung Ni, inspected road construction works being carried out on Nyaunglaybin-Zeyawady road section by Hi-Star Public Co Ltd under the Yangon-Mandalay Road Project.

At the briefing hall, Hi-Star Public Co Ltd Project Manager U Aung Khin reported on progress of the construction of road, bridges, supply of rocks, tar and fuel oil and repair of road sections between

(See page 7)

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

Three key elements that must be realized without fail for emergence of a democratic State

The recent fateful event at Dabayin occurred due to some of the elements who could not relinquish outright the attitudes such as no negotiations with the Tatmadaw (no negotiations with the Tatmadaw government) and the immediate transfer of the State power.

Ignoring changes in the Tatmadaw in accord with the time and condition, some would like to insist that the military takeovers are the same. However, the military takeover in 1962 and the one in 1988 are quite different; they are different from each other, like the east and the west.

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Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than hears reports on construction works of Yangon-Mandalay Union Highway by Project Manager U Aung Khin of Hi Star Public Co Ltd.—MNA

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

PERSPECTIVES

Friday, 18 July, 2003

Act in concert for regional and national development

The State Peace and Development Council has been essaying to bring peace, prosperity and development to each and every region of the Union of Myanmar through the implementation of border area development plan, 24-region development plan and five rural development tasks.

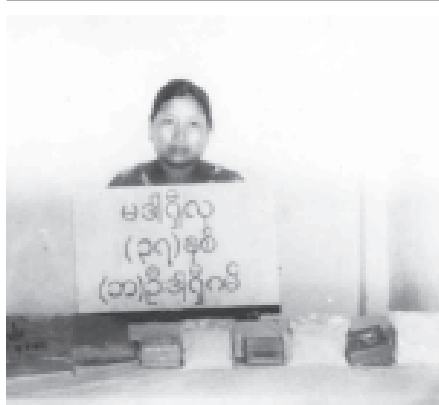
Secretary-2 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Soe Win on 12 July met with the departmental personnel in Myeik, Thaninthayi Division. In his address on the occasion, the Secretary-2 said, according to the report by the officials concerned and his first-hand study, it was clear that Thaninthayi Division was experiencing speedy development in the agriculture, meat and fish, transport, education and health sectors.

If we look at the transport sector of the division, we can see that the 101-mile Ye-Myeik railroad was opened in 1998, the runway of Myeik airfield has been extended and a modern airport built in Kawthoung. Moreover, the Myeik-Dawei, Dawei-Mawlamyine and Taninthayi-Myeik sections on the Kawthoung-Mawlamyine Highway have been tarred. Not only that, five major bridges have also been opened and auto phones installed in Dawei, Myeik and Kawthoung.

It has been planned to put 500,000 acres under oil palm. Up to now oil palms have been grown on 100,000 acres and palm oil mills are also under construction. Moreover, 100,000 acres have been put under rubber and it is targeted to extend the rubber plantations to another 100,000 acres. These perennial crop plantations will surely create jobs for the local people, increase their income and spell regional development. The meat and fish sector of the division has excellent potential for development.

In the education sector, Myeik University, Government Technological College and Government Computer College have been opened. In the health sector, the 100-bed hospital in Myeik has been extended to a 200-bed facility and hospitals in Palaw, Taninthayi and Bokpyin Townships to 50-bed facilities.

All these measures taken by the Government are for the sake of regional development and higher living standard of all people. Therefore, departmental personnel and local people should cooperate with the Government and lend themselves to regional development tasks being carried out by the Government in the interests of the nation and the entire national people.



Ma Darshilu seized with heroin.— MNA



Secretary-2 Lt-Gen Soe Win offers donations to a Sayadaw of Zeyawady Monastery in Dawei. (News reported)

MNA

Sugar mills inspected in Bago Division (West)

YANGON, 17 July — Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation Maj-Gen Nyunt Tin, accompanied by departmental heads, inspected No 13 Sugar Mill (Okkan) in Taikkyi Township on 15 July morning.

There, the minister met with farmers. The managing director of Myanmar Sugarcane Enterprise reported on matters related to boosting production, cultivation of high-yield strain and purchase of sugarcane; and farmers, on cultivation, purchase and transport of sugarcane. The minister gave instructions on extended cultivation, boosting per acre yield and arrangements for purchase of sugarcane.

The minister and party inspected No 12 Sugar

Mill (Nawaday) in Pyay Township and fulfilled the requirements. In the evening, they held talks about cultivation and purchase of sugarcane at No 9 Sugar Mill (Yonseik) in Aunglan Township, Magway Division.

The minister proceeded to Duingabo River Water Pumping Station on Ayeyawady River bank in the township and inspected repairing of pumps for supply of water for cultivation of paddy on some 4,000 acres and sugar mills. — MNA

Myanmar Gazettee

YANGON, 17 July — The State Peace and Development Council has appointed Dr Khin Maung Myint, Pro-rector of the Institute of Pharmacy (Mandalay), Medical Science Department of the Ministry of Health, as Rector of the same institute on probation from the date he assumes charge of his duties.

MNA

Deputy Minister receives guests

YANGON, 17 July — Deputy Minister for Finance and Revenue Brig-Gen Than Tun received Assistant General Manager Mr E Ishii and party of Mitsui & Co Ltd, Yangon Office, at his office at 10 am today.

Also present at the call were Vice-Governor U Than Lwin of Central Bank of Myanmar and officials.

MNA



Deputy Minister for Finance and Revenue Brig-Gen Than Tun receives Assistant General Manager Mr E Ishii and party of Mitsui & Co Ltd, Yangon Office.— F&R

Thai delegation visits Kanbawzathadi Palace, famous pagodas

YANGON, 17 July — The 68-member delegation led by Col Chusak Meksuwan of the Command and General Staff College of Thailand, accompanied by senior military officers of the Ministry of Defence and Military Attaché Col Kasam

Nakpun, visited cultural edifices and famous pagodas in Bago and Yangon today. The visiting delegation left here in the morning and arrived at Kanbawzathadi Palace of King Bayintnaung in Bago at 10 am. Assistant Director U Sein Htaw of the Archaeological Department explained facts about the palace and conducted them around there.

Then, the delegation paid homage to the Shwe Mawdaw Pagoda and made cash donations. Member of the Pagoda Board of Trustees U Tun Nyunt accepted the donations and presented the books on the history of

the pagoda. They also visited Shwe Thahlyang Reclining Buddha Image and made cash donations towards the pagoda funds.

At 2.30 pm, the group arrived at Mindhamma Hill-ock in Insein Township where Chairman of Pagoda Board of Trustees Maha Saddhamma Jotikadhaja U Shein Aung Bo and officials welcomed them. The guests paid obeisance to the Buddha Image. In the prayer hall there, member of Pagoda Board of Trustees U Kyaw Myint briefed them on history of the pagoda and members of the delegation made cash donations.—MNA

35.01 grams of heroin seized in Bhamo

YANGON, 17 July — A combined team comprising members of local intelligence units and Bhamo special anti-drug squad, acting on a tip-off, on 19 June searched Ma Darshilu at Shanwai street in Paukkon Ward, Bhamo, and discovered 35.01 grams of heroin concealed in soap box in her bag.

Action has been taken against Ma Darshilu, daughter of U Da Shigan of Mongkaung Village, Mansi Township, under Section 19 (A) of Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law by Bhamo Police Station.— MNA

Blix says Denmark ignored his advice on Iraq

COPENHAGEN, 17 July—The former head of UN weapons inspectors Hans Blix accused Denmark of ignoring his advice on banned weapons in the process of taking the decision to support the US-led war on Iraq.

Blix told the daily *Politiken* he had specifically warned the UN Security Council against concluding former Iraqi President Saddam Hussein had weapons of mass destruction despite the fact that many proscribed weapons and items were not accounted for.

"Your Foreign Minister jumped, like they did in the US and Britain, (to the conclusion that) since they are not accounted for, they exist," Blix was quoted as saying in Tuesday's paper. "But that's not how it is. Maybe they (weapons of mass destruction) exist, maybe not."

Denmark contributed a submarine and a warship to the invasion to disarm Saddam, but no evidence of weapons of mass destruction has been found since he was toppled in April.

Around 400 Danish security forces are now operating in southern Iraq as part of a US-led occupation force.

Danish Foreign Minister Per Stig Moeller on Monday cited Blix in defending his government's decision to join the attack on Iraq amid opposition calls for an inquiry into whether it was based on false claims.

"The decision to disarm Iraq was not based on CIA intelligence but on reports from former UN weapons inspector Hans Blix," Moeller said. "All information has openly been presented to Parliament."

The Danish Government is facing increased criticism over its role in the war as leaders in Washington and London are accused of having manipulated intelligence about such weapons to justify military action.

The United States last week admitted that its claim that Saddam's Iraq tried to buy uranium from Niger was based on forged documents. British Foreign Minister Jack Straw said on Monday its evidence was not linked to the forged documents but came from a third country and had not been seen by the Americans.—MNA/Reuters

Vietnam to earn more from exporting cashew nuts

HANOI, 17 July —Vietnam will gain cashew nut export turnovers of 230 million US dollars this year, up 7.5 per cent over last year, said Ho Ngoc Cam, chairman of the Vietnam Cashew Association (Vinacas).

The United States is the biggest importer of Vietnamese cashew nuts, accounting for roughly 34 per cent of the total, followed by China with 20 per cent.

Cashew nuts are now the country's fourth most important crop after rice, rubber and coffee.

The country's earnings from cashew nuts rose from 110 million dollars in 1999 to 214 million dollars in 2002.

MNA/Xinhua

MRCS mandated to promote healthcare programmes in Iraq

KUALA LUMPUR, 17 July —The Malaysian Red Crescent Society (MRCS) has been mandated by the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) to promote primary healthcare programmes in Iraq.

The principal task at hand is to rehabilitate a healthcare centre and to train Iraqi volunteers to reach out to the Iraqis in the promotion of healthcare programmes as part of the humanitarian efforts in the war-torn country, MRCS Deputy Chairman Hisham Harun Hashim said at a Press conference here on Tuesday.

Hisham said the society had estimated that the rehabilitated healthcare centre would be able to provide help to more than 135,000 people a year. "The campaign will also be a preventive measure to create awareness among Iraqis on the importance of primary healthcare," he said.

Hisham said an ad-

vanced group would be sent to Iraq in September to handle primary jobs. Currently, 24 MRCS volunteers are undergoing additional crisis management training to equip themselves before being sent to Iraq, he said.

At the same Press conference, Tony Joseph, senior MRCS official, briefed the media on the needs of Iraqis in areas such as health, education, water, sanitation, immunization, psychological support, disaster management, disaster preparedness and response. IFRC, founded in 1919, is the world's largest humanitarian organization providing assistance to the vulnerable people on the Earth.

MNA/Xinhua



A US soldier uses plastic ties to handcuff one of two Iraqi men, in central Baghdad. US Defence Secretary Donald Rumsfeld and the top civil administrator in Iraq, Paul Bremer, warned that the violence that has shown no sign of letup would carry on through what they expected to be a "rough summer."—INTERNET

Iraqis' self-governing helps achieve stability

AMMAN, 17 July—To let the Iraqis run their affairs will enhance the possibility of reaching peace and stability in the war-shattered country, Jordanian King Abdullah II said Tuesday.

Abdullah made the remarks during a meeting at his palace with visiting British Minister of State for the Middle East Baroness Symons, the official *Petra* news agency reported.

His arguments came two days after the inauguration of a US-backed transitional Iraqi governing council, the first national executive body in Iraq since the US-British forces ousted the former Iraqi leader Saddam Hussein more than three months ago.

Jordan supports all the efforts aiming at restoring normal life and peace in Iraq, King Abdullah was quoted by *Petra* as saying. He also told his guest that Britain should play "a vital role in seeking just solutions" to the Iraqi and Palestinian issues. —MNA/Xinhua

China, Mali vow to boost bilateral ties

BEIJING, 17 July—Chinese and Mali foreign ministers agreed during talks here Wednesday morning to further expand and strengthen cooperation in the future.

Chinese Foreign Minister Li Zhaoxing and Lassana Traore, Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of Mali exchanged ideas on bilateral ties and issues of common concern.

China and Mali have developed healthy and sound bilateral ties since forging diplomatic ties over 40 years ago, and their cooperation in various fields is fruitful, said Li.

MNA/Xinhua

World e-government experts share successful cases in HK

HONG KONG, 17 July —International experts in the field of e-government gathered here Tuesday to attend the "e-Government Summit Hong Kong 2003," sharing their specific insights and successful cases.

Governments across Asia Pacific region are launching ambitious e-government initiatives. They are using information technologies to transform government operations in order to achieve a more effective, responsive, and transparent government said, Gary Fung, managing director of the International Data Group (IDG) World Expo (Asia Ltd.), the organizer of the summit.

IDG report illustrates that spending on e-government initiatives will claim a growing portion of public sector's IT spending in the years ahead. E-government has become a key priority for many governments. With regards to the end-users adoption, research showed that the percentage of population who use online government services are also growing steadily in Asia Pacific, with Singapore ranking the highest online user rate, followed by Australia, New Zealand and Hong Kong according to Fung.

However, many experts suggest that governments in

Asia are still in the primary stages of e-government, where they have a narrow focus on providing electronic services and achieving agency-by-agency operational efficiency without fully considering the benefits they can achieve by approaching it as an e-business transformation.

This conference is an excellent opportunity for participants to hear from industry leaders and share their effective tools knowledge and strategies to dramatically improve public services and reduce costs in the information age, said Fung.

MNA/Xinhua

Sgt Diego Baez, right, weeps after his best friend was killed in an explosion when their truck was making its way along the main highway west of Baghdad, near the town of Abu Ghraib, Iraq on 16 July, 2003. Two other soldiers were injured in the attack. —INTERNET



US soldiers complain of low morale in Iraq

WASHINGTON, 17 July—Fed up with being in Iraq and demoralized by their role as peacekeepers in a risky place, a group of US soldiers aired their plight on US television on Wednesday and said they had lost faith in the Army.

Told several times they would be going home only to have their hopes dashed this week, a small group of soldiers from the 3rd Infantry Division in Iraq, spoke of poor morale and disillusionment with Defence Secretary Donald Rumsfeld.

"If Donald Rumsfeld were here, I'd ask him for his resignation," one disgruntled soldier told ABC's "Good Morning America" show.

Asked by a reporter what his message would be for Rumsfeld, another said: "I would ask him why we are still

here. I don't have any clue as to why we are still in Iraq."

About 146,000 US troops are serving amid mounting security threats in postwar Iraq. The US death toll of 147 combat deaths has now equaled the number killed in the 1991 Gulf War.

Sgt Filipe Vega, said they had expected to return home soon after the fall of Baghdad on April 9. "We were told the fastest way back home is through Baghdad and that's what we did. Now we are still here," he complained.

The 3rd Infantry Division was the first US unit to enter Baghdad after driving through southern Iraq from Kuwait.

Sgt Terry Gilmore described a phone call with his wife, Stacey, when he told her he would not be coming home soon.

"When I told her she started crying and I almost started crying. I just felt like my heart was broken. I could not figure out ... how they could keep us here after they told us we were coming home." — *Internet*

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Attack on airplane

BAGHDAD, 17 July—In Wednesday's missile attack, "a C-130 was flying into Baghdad. It was fired upon by a surface-to-air missile," a coalition spokesman said. He had no information on how close the missile had come to hitting the aircraft, which landed safely at Baghdad International Airport.

Another spokesman said a similar incident occurred last week. "Actually it's the second incident," he told *Reuters Television*. "We had an incident last week where two missiles were fired at a similar aircraft, and in this instance as well no missiles hit the aircraft."

He gave no other details. That incident had not been reported earlier. — *Internet*

US soldier, new mayor killed in Iraq

ABU GHRAIB, 17 July—A grenade attack killed a US soldier in Iraq Wednesday and the new mayor of a town west of Baghdad was shot to death along with his son, US military officials said.

The latest US death came as President Bush faced mounting criticism for the cost of the war and accusations the United States exaggerated intelligence on Iraq's weapons to justify the conflict. It brought the total combat deaths to 147, equaling the total in the 1991 Gulf War.

In Baghdad, attackers fired a surface-to-air missile at a C-130 transport plane as it approached the Iraqi capital's airport early Wednesday but missed their target, a US military spokesman said.

In further violence, the mayor of a town in a restive region west of Baghdad was shot dead along with his son, the spokeswoman said.

The Arab satellite network Al Jazeera identified the mayor as Ali Mohammed Nayil al-Jurayfi and said he was shot as he was driving home from his office in Haditha, about 120 miles northwest of Baghdad. — *Internet*



Dejected US soldiers stand next to their colleague after he was killed in another attack on a military convoy, on 16 July, 2003, in Baghdad, Iraq. A US soldier and an Iraqi child were killed and three others wounded in two separate attacks in the capital

Wednesday.—*INTERNET*

Document raises doubts over US pilot in Iraq

WASHINGTON, 18 July — A classified Pentagon document raises serious questions about the credibility of an Iraqi defector whose statements led US officials to believe an American pilot shot down during the 1991 Gulf War still may be alive, officials said on Wednesday.

Defence officials, speaking on condition of anonymity, also said a team from the Defence Intelligence Agency was in Iraq looking for proof of whether Navy Captain Michael Scott Speicher is dead or alive.

MNA/Reuters

Indonesian car sales increase in first semester

JAKARTA, 17 July—Indonesian car sales in the first semester of this year rose by 6.9 per cent as compared to the same period last year, the economic daily *Bisnis Indonesia* reported Wednesday.

Quoting data released by the country's largest auto firm PT Astra International, the report said car sales in the period of January to June this year reached 170,811 units against 158,910 units in the same period last year.

The figure comes from the commercial car sales of 153,962 units and the passenger car sales of 16,849 units.

In June alone, the sales reached 30,319 units, hitting the six-month high.

The sales of both commercial cars and passenger cars grew in June, the report said.

Commercial car sales reached 26,331 units in June as opposed to 24,625 units in May, while passenger car sales increased to 3,988 units in June from 3,652 in May.

Toyota leads the commercial car segment with 7,423 units, followed by Mitsubishi (6,358), Suzuki (5,612) and Isuzu (2,006). Mercedes Benz, Ssyangyong, Honda and Volvo made up the remaining.

Toyota also led the passenger car segment with 1,507 units, followed by Honda, which sells 1,209 units.

MNA/Xinhua

Registration of Bangladeshi local industries up 32%

DHAKA, 17 July—Registration of local industries with the Board of Investment (BOI) grew by 32 per cent in fiscal 2002-2003 compared with the previous fiscal, reported the *Daily Star* on Wednesday.

Local investors registered various industries involving 1.97 billion US dollars during fiscal 2002-2003 ending on June 30, while the total registration of fiscal 2001-2002 was up to only 1.49 billion dollars.

The BOI sources were quoted as saying engineering, printing and packaging, agro-based industry, as well as food and allied sector mainly contributed to the growth. The industries in engineering sector registered during fiscal 2002-2003 aimed at investing 0.66 billion dollars against only 0.07 billion dollars in fiscal 2001-

2002, marking a huge growth of 832 per cent.

The registration in printing and packaging industry, agro-based industry, as well as food and allied sector in fiscal 2002-2003 witnessed significant growths of 189 per cent, 86 per cent and 65 per cent respectively compared with that of the previous fiscal. The sources also pointed out the increased competition among the local entrepreneurs and expansion of domestic market had been the major reasons for the considerable registration growth.

A recent survey of the

BOI on the projects registered between 1996 and 2002 revealed 80 per cent of the domestic investment proposals were implemented in this period, while the rate of implementation of the foreign direct investment proposals was only 27 per cent.

Registration of proposed industries with the BOI is not mandatory for the entrepreneurs. The investors, however, prefer to register their projects with the BOI to avail its prompt utility services and some other facilities regarding import duty and bank loans.

MNA/Xinhua



US Army 3rd Infantry Division Sgt Brett Ott from Plattsburgh, NY takes aim after a fellow soldier spotted a gunman near their position in Khaldiya, Iraq, on 16 July, 2003. Ott is with A Company 3rd Battalion 7th Infantry Regiment, part of the 3rd Infantry Division, which learned this week that they would be staying in Iraq indefinitely. — *INTERNET*

Remittance from overseas Vietnamese rises

HANOI, 17 July—Remittance from overseas Vietnamese stood at 1.1 billion US dollars as of the end of June this year, up 12 per cent over the same period last year, according to a report of the State Bank of Vietnam on Wednesday.

MNA/Xinhua

Vietnam's rice export to Africa sharply rises

HANOI, 17 July—Vietnam has exported 375,000 tons of rice to Africa since the beginning of this year, a year-on-year rise of 145 per cent, according to sources from the Vietnamese Ministry of Trade on Wednesday.

Africa has become the second biggest rice importer of Vietnam. The country is expected to export 675,000 tons of rice to Africa in 2003. According to the Ministry of Trade, Vietnam's rice export to African market will have favourable conditions because price of other countries' rice is higher than that of Vietnam. — *MNA/Xinhua*

Iraq reconstruction set back by continued attacks

LONDON, 17 July — Continued attacks from groups loyal to Iraqi ousted president Saddam Hussein still set back the rebuilding efforts in Iraq, British Foreign Secretary Jack Straw told British lawmakers Tuesday.

In a statement to the House of Commons, Lower House of the Parliament, Straw said, "The main problems are in the area to the north and west of Baghdad," adding that Baghdad is receiving only 70 per cent to 90 per cent of pre-war water supply.

Attacks by Saddam's supporters "do threaten coalition forces," Straw told the lawmakers, adding that nine British soldiers have been killed in Iraq since the end of the US-led large-scale combat operations in mid-April.

In his statement, Straw also emphasized the need for "a significant effort by the whole of the international

community" to ensure Iraq receives sufficient aid and assistance to give the country "the future its people so richly deserve".

Speaking on the recent establishment of the Iraqi Governing Council, Straw described it as "an important step" taken towards fulfilling of the establishment of a sovereign Iraqi government.

"The convening of the Iraqi Governing Council is a significant development," he said.

On the current debate in Britain about the legitimacy of the US-led war against Iraq war, Straw said "it is en-

tirely right that Parliament should conduct its own inquiries into the decision to go to war."

However he still insisted that evidence upon which the decision had been taken was "overwhelmingly from open sources and laid before the House".

The British Government, the staunchest US ally on Iraq, has been grappling with claims that it had exaggerated intelligence on Iraq's alleged banned weapons so as to make a stronger case for the US-led war in Iraq.

MNA/Xinhua

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Kuwait to open airspace to commercial flights for Iraq

KUWAIT CITY, 17 July — Kuwait will be the first country to open its airspace to commercial flights bound for or transiting via Iraq, Kuwait's *Arab Times* reported Tuesday.

A letter of agreement in this regard has been signed by the Kuwait Civil Aviation, the Civil Aviation of the Coalition Provisional Authority and the Iraq General Enterprise for Civil Aviation (IGECA), the English daily said.

A very small aperture terminal satellite base station will be installed at the Kuwait International Airport to provide reliable voice and data communication between air traffic controllers in Iraq and Kuwait, and will be temporarily maintained at the expense of IGECA.

MNA/Xinhua

Ambushed US soldiers kill five Iraqis

HABBIYAH (Iraq), 17 July — US forces killed five Iraqis and captured another on Tuesday after they came under ambush while driving out of an ammunition depot west of Baghdad, the commander of the unit said.

The clash, between the cities of Ramadi and Habbaniyah about 60 miles west of Baghdad, took place in particularly hostile territory for US troops. The military has blamed a spate of attacks in the predominantly Sunni Muslim area on die-hard loyalists of ousted president Saddam Hussein.

"Our unit was making its way out of the ammunitions dump when we were ambushed. Our Bradleys (fighting vehicles) fought back and we killed five attackers," Captain Mark Miller, the commander of the

company involved, told *Reuters*.

There were no US casualties.

Miller said the ambushers had probably been expecting the soldiers to be in soft-skinned Humvee vehicles but instead they were in tank-like Bradleys, which overpowered the attackers.

More than 100 Iraqis have been killed in fighting since major combat was declared over on May 1 but the US military has not provided figures.

MNA/Reuters

Commander says US faces guerilla war

BAGHDAD, 17 July — Anti-American fighters in Iraq are increasingly organized and are waging a "classical guerilla-type campaign against us," the war's US commander said Wednesday, the same day suspected pro-Saddam Hussein insurgents fired a surface-to-air missile at a US military aircraft approaching Baghdad but missed.

Terror groups are reviving, too, and some US troops may have to stay for year-long tours to meet the threat, said Gen John Abizaid, speaking at the Pentagon in Washington.

Abizaid credited attackers with improved organiza-

tion, tactics and financing as he suggested US soldiers may face deployments of a length seldom seen since the Vietnam War.

"I think describing it as guerilla tactics being employed against us is, you know, a proper thing to

describe in strictly military terms," he said.

Abizaid's assessment contrasted with one given by Defence Secretary Donald Rumsfeld on June 30 that what US forces were encountering was not "anything like a guerilla war or an organized resistance."

Internet

Russia, Iran call for restoration of UN unity

MOSCOW, 17 July — Russia and Iran favour the restoration of UN unity following the Iraq crisis, Russian Deputy Foreign Minister Yuri Fedotov said Tuesday.

He made the remarks in a Press conference after a meeting with visiting Iranian Deputy Foreign Minister Gholamali Khoshru.

"Russia and Iran take the view that it is necessary now to follow the way of settlement and restoration in Iraq with the UN's central role, so that the unity of the UN will be restored," Fedotov was quoted by *Interfax* as saying.

Khoshru, in his turn, stressed the need "to reinforce the role of the UN and other international organizations in the wake of the Iraq war".

"A more constructive UN role guided by common sense that will contribute to the organization's success in its mission before mankind," he said. —MNA/Xinhua



US Army soldiers secure the area near a destroyed transport truck after an attack west of Baghdad on Wednesday. One US soldier was killed and two were wounded.

INTERNET

UN pleads for donors to ease Palestinian poverty

GENEVA, 17 July — UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan urged donors on Tuesday to dig deep into their pockets to help head off poverty and desperation among Palestinians in the occupied territories.

The appeal, read on Annan's behalf at the start of a two-day seminar, came as the UN agency responsible for Palestinian refugees, UNRWA, said it had received nothing but promises in response to its latest appeal.

Despite a worsening humanitarian situation in Israeli-occupied areas, pledges of only three million US dollars had come in since an emergency appeal last month for 103 million US

dollars. "As of now we have received nothing," Peter Hansen, Commissioner-General of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestinian Refugees, told a news conference. Annan urged more international support to help Palestinians "climb a ladder towards restoration and development". "UNRWA's vital assistance to millions of refugees is threatened by chronic funding shortages," he said. —MNA/Reuters



A mother comforts her three-year-old daughter in a children's hospital in Baghdad in this file photo. Baghdad's dilapidated hospitals are on the mend but patchy power supplies, rampant looting and shortages of medicine are slowing their recovery.

INTERNET

Latvia's HIV cases down 30% this year

RIGA, 17 July — A total of 233 new HIV cases were registered in Latvia between January 1 and mid-July this year, 96 cases or 30 per cent less than registered in the same period last year, the AIDS Prevention Centre of Latvia announced Tuesday.

There were 21 new AIDS cases, down from 25 cases in the same period last year, the Press release said. One person had died of HIV and two from AIDS so far this year down from five deaths from HIV and two from AIDS last year, the Press release said. —MNA/Xinhua

Baghdad hospitals limp down road to recovery

BAGHDAD, 17 July — Baghdad's dilapidated hospitals are on the mend but patchy power supplies, rampant looting and shortages of medicine are slowing their recovery.

Doctors at some of the Iraqi capital's main hospitals said on Wednesday generous aid packages have boosted their stock of basic supplies and helped restore water and electricity.

But security lapses and the lack of specialized equipment and drugs were still hampering their ability to treat the thousands of patients streaming through their doors every day.

"Our problems are the problems of Iraq," said Dr Ahmed Abdull Fattah, a chief administrator at the Central Teaching Hospital for Children, one of the biggest in the country. Most of Baghdad's hospitals worked round the clock tending to the thousands of Iraqis wounded during the US-led war that toppled Saddam Hussein in April, which largely wiped out their stockpiles of bandages and basic medication.

The war and the looting that has become endemic since the fall of Saddam worsened Baghdad's infrastructure which had suffered decades of neglect and 12 years of sanctions. Like the rest of the

capital, hospitals were not spared.

The 250-bed Children's Hospital, which also treats up to 1,000 outpatients daily, was one of the lucky ones.

Last month, it struck a deal with the US-led civil administration in Iraq to obtain a special cable for a relatively stable power supply.

UN agencies and aid groups have stocked up the central pharmacy and vigilantes and a few US soldiers ward off the vandals that roam the streets of Baghdad.

Other facilities, however, have not been so fortunate. Shells damaged three wings of Baghdad's biggest hospital, the Yarmouk, during the war. A month later, looters made off with the electric cables, rendering vital machines useless.

Dr Amer Salman, Yarmouk's vice-chairman, said Iraqi gunmen had stormed the buildings several times to finish off foes.

"It was mayhem until we got the Americans in," he said, gesturing to the US tank outside his office. — MNA/Reuters

မြို့ပြဆွေတာ၊ မိန်းပါလေလွင်း ထုတ်ကုန်မြင့်

Iraqi police pass academy, now comes the hard part

BAGHDAD, 17 July — Ninety-six US-trained Iraqi police officers became the first graduates from Baghdad's new police academy on Wednesday. Now they face the task of restoring order in postwar Iraq.

While the looting frenzy that followed the fall of Saddam Hussein in April has subsided, Baghdad remains a haven for gangs and armed robbers, especially at night.

The graduates, former police officers under Saddam, are hoping a three-week course on arrest techniques and weapons searches taught by US military police will prepare them for the streets of Baghdad.

The policemen could have a hard time earning the respect of Iraqis, who say they are tainted by their work under Saddam, when many officers were associated with corruption.

"The old regime's secret police and all the thugs who worked for them scarred this country," Paul Bremer, the top US adminis-

trator in Iraq, told the graduating class.

"You must show your fellow citizens you have broken from this terrible past," Bremer said extremists, criminals and Saddam loyalists were targeting the occupation forces and Iraqi infrastructure. Thirty-three US soldiers have been killed since major combat was declared over on May 1.

A handful of Iraqi police already at work in Baghdad are rarely seen, leaving most of the job to US soldiers trained in warfare, not police work.

The academy, freshly painted blue and stocked with brand-new desks in the classrooms, will accept a new class of 200 former Iraqi police officers on July 26, a spokeswoman said. — MNA/Reuters

Sky TV suspends journalists over Iraq war report

LONDON, 17 July — Two journalists from Sky News have been suspended over allegations that they "faked" a television report from a British Royal Navy submarine during the Iraq war, Sky News said on Thursday.

The report purported to show the preparation and firing of a cruise missile from HMS *Splendid*.

But a BBC documentary crew filming on board at the same time said it had been specially staged for the benefit of Sky's camera and no missile was fired.

Nick Pollard, head of news at Sky, said: "We are fiercely proud of our reputation for accuracy and integrity."

This allegation has come as a complete surprise and will be fully investigated."

Those involved in the story have been suspended while the investigation takes place, said Sky.

The pair could not be contacted for comment. Both the BBC and Sky, which is controlled by Rupert Murdoch's News Corp, declined to name them.

A Ministry of Defence spokesman said Sky had been offered on a pool basis for all broadcasters "a facility to illustrate the preparations for and the procedures involved in the firing of a Tomahawk missile filmed in an exercise context".

MNA/Reuters



Mayor Mohammed Nayil al-Jurayfi's of Haditha, inspects a pile of confiscated empty shells outside the Haditha town hall, 300 kilometers, 186 miles northwest of Baghdad, Iraq on 1 July, 2003. The pro-American Haditha mayor and his son were killed in an ambush on 16 July, 2003, the US military reported. —INTERNET

EU grants wheat food aid for Eritrea

PARIS, 17 July — The European Commission has awarded a soft wheat food aid tender covering 31,250 tons for Eritrea, an official said on Tuesday.

The EU granted the first tranche of 10,000 tons at a price of 177.60 euros per ton, while a second tranche of 21,250 tons was granted at 172.60 euros per ton, the official said. Both lots were awarded on a delivery to final destination basis to French-

based company Ballouhey, he said.

The United Nations estimates that some 70 percent of Eritreans have to rely on foreign aid for food, with nearly 22 per cent of the country's children suffering from malnutrition. —MNA/Reuters

London police raid Jamaican "Yardie" gangs

LONDON, 17 July — As many as 13 suspected members of Jamaican "Yardie" gangs were arrested early Wednesday in a series of raids in London.

The raids, code-named Nightlight, came after months of probing into the activities of Jamaican gang members for suspected links to recent shootings as they competed for control of the cocaine market in the British capital, London police said.

More than 400 police, including sharpshooters, took part in the operation, a local report quoted the police as saying. "We are committed to making London the safest major city in the world," Assistant Commissioner Tarique Ghaffur said.

MNA/Xinhua

Germany only considers humanitarian aid in Iraq

WASHINGTON, 17 July — Visiting German Foreign Minister Joschka Fischer said Wednesday that his country only considers humanitarian mission in Iraq and will not send troops to the country.

"The relevant (UN) Security Council Resolution 1483 made quite clear that the responsibility on the ground (in Iraq) is in the hands of the coalition. We are not part of the coalition," Fischer said after a meeting with US Secretary of State Colin Powell. "We are ready to improve the humanitarian situation. Our business community is ready to play its role in the reconstruction, if it is wanted," the minister said, whose country has strongly opposed the US-led war against Iraq.

"If we know more details about the reconstruction, we are open to discuss what could be our role in the reconstruction. But our position linked to the question of sending military troops is unchanged," he stressed.

Appearing together with Fischer, Powell said he and Fischer did discuss Iraq but he did not raise any request asking Germany to provide anything for Iraqi reconstruction. — MNA/Xinhua

Chirac urges rich nations to aid fight against "AIDS"

PARIS, 17 July — French President Jacques Chirac on Wednesday called on rich nations to be more generous to the fight against AIDS at a major international conference held here.

Speaking at the closing ceremony of the conference, Chirac launched a "solemn call" for rich nations to be more generous to the

international anti-AIDS fund despite their current budgetary difficulties.

"We must seek other sources of funding, such as voluntary levies on certain private-sector commercial transactions, in the medium term, recourse to forms of international taxation," said Chirac. He did not give further details. —MNA/Xinhua



A US Army truck tows away the wreckage of a Humvee after insurgents attacked a patrol injuring three soldiers in southern Baghdad, Iraq on 16 July, 2003. —INTERNET

Regional...

(from page 1)

Penwagon and Tawkywe-in.

After hearing the reports, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than gave instructions on repairs of roads and bridges as their damage causes delay in the flow of commodities, and maintenance of roads and bridges in the rainy season.

Then, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than and party arrived at Taungoo and spent the night there.

On 15 July morning, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than and party met departmental officials at the hall of Taungoo Station (Headquarters) and gave necessary instructions on agriculture and livestock breeding works for regional development and enforcement of law and order.

Present were Joint-Quartermaster-General Maj-Gen Htin Aung Kyaw, the deputy commander, local authorities and departmental officials.

Speaking on the occasion, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than said that the State is now undergoing development as regional administrative bodies, departments, social organizations and townsenders are harmoniously taking part in the effort to establish a peaceful, modern, developed nation under the leadership of the Government. Ours is an agro-based country rich in land and water resources. These resources should be put into effective use to boost agriculture and livestock breeding industries on a commercial scale.

Bago Division plays an important role in national economy. Therefore, employees in Bago Division are to make strenuous efforts for regional development.

It is found that of 439,500 acres of monsoon paddy targeted to be grown in Taungoo District, Bago Division, in 2003-2004, a total of 174,145 acres had been put under cultivation up to 14 July. Therefore, efforts are to be made to meet the target. Moreover, steps are also to be taken to obtain the targeted yield of the ten major crops of State — paddy, long staple cotton,



Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than and party inspect coffee farm of regiments and units in Thandaung Station.— MNA

sugarcane, pigeon pea, gram, pidgeon, groundnut, sesame, sunflower, and maize.

Additional three crops — tea, coffee and pepper plants — suitable for the climate of the region should also be cultivated. It is also necessary to make arrangements for the extended cultivation of Thitsaint trees.

To ensure harmonious development between the livestock breeding industry and the agricultural sector, fish breeding work should be undertaken on virgin and vacant lands.

As there are only over 10,000 acres of fish ponds in the whole Bago Division, arrangements are to be made to extend the acreage to 20,000 by adding 5,000 acres each in eastern Bago and western Bago.

Next, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than cordially met with departmental officials.

Afterwards, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than and party inspected the forest preservation activities being carried out on both sides of Taungoo-Thandaunggyi road. At 10 am, they arrived at Taungsakhan in Kayin State and looked into the construction of stone garden, offices, hotels and estates.

Then, they proceeded to local battalion and met with officers and other ranks and their families and gave instructions on undertakings of agriculture and livestock works on a manageable scale. They also inspected the development conditions of Thandaunggyi.

On arrival at the coffee plantations of the battalion, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than

and party heard reports on arrangements for the cultivation of coffee plants on 340 acres of land and attended to requirements.

At 2 pm, they arrived at Thandaung in Kayin State, where they met with departmental officials and gave instructions on regional development tasks.

In his speech, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than said being a hilly region, Thandaung Township is not favourable for paddy cultivation. Therefore, tea coffee and pepper plants should be grown more.

The development in agriculture and livestock breeding industries will raise the living standard of local people. Collective efforts are to be exerted on keeping the township pleasant and clean and the enforcement of law and order. Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than and party went to Kyauktaing coffee farm of Myanmar Farms Enterprise in Kyauktaing Village. Farm officials conducted them round the farm. Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than gave necessary instructions.

Of 500 acres of coffee plants targeted to be grown in Taungoo, a total of 220 acres had been put under cultivation. Altogether 500,000 coffee saplings are nursed at the farm and can be bought at a reasonable price.

Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than and party also inspected the coffee plantations of U Saw Ti Tee at Ngwetauntlay Village in Taungoo Township. They arrived at Taungoo in the evening and stopped over there. —MNA



Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than inspects Kyauktaing Coffee Farm in Taungoo.— MNA

Commander inspects agricultural tasks in Hinthada District

YANGON, 17 July — Ayeyawady Division Peace and Development Council Chairman South-West Command Commander Maj-Gen Htay Oo, accompanied by divisional officials, arrived at Yaykyi on 15 July and met with Yaykyi Township Peace and Development Council Chairman U Soe Lwin and members of Township Agriculture Production Boosting Committee at Yaykyi Oo hall.

They discussed matters related to extended agricul-

tural tasks and livestock breeding tasks and production of urea-substitute natural fertilizer.

Afterwards, the commander was briefed by Division Agriculture Service Manager U Hla Myo and officials on measures to be taken for boosting of crop production and by Chairman U Soe Lwin on extended agricultural tasks.

After attending to the needs, the commander visited Tilawka Okshaung

Shwe Tha Hlyaug Buddha Image in Nathmaw Village in Hinthada Township and attended to the needs for all-round renovation there.

At Myanadi Hall of Hsemyaung Yeiktha, the commander met with Hinthada District Peace and Development Council Lt-Col Maung Pyone and members of District Agriculture Production Boosting Committee. He gave necessary instructions and attended to the needs.

MNA

Coordination meeting on Teenager Reproductive Health Plan held

YANGON, 17 July — The coordination meeting on Teenager Reproductive Health Plan, co-organized by Myanmar Maternal and Child Welfare Association and UNFPA, was held at the

building of MMCWA at the corner of Thanthwa and Parami roads in South Okkalapa Township this morning.

President of MMCWA Dr Daw Khin Win Shwe extended greetings.

UNFPA Resident Representative Mr Nagib M Assifi gave a speech.

The meeting decided future tasks to be carried out in respective States and

Divisions.

Also present were Vice-President Dr Kyi Soe, executives, Director-General Dr Wan Maung of Health Department, Patron of Yangon Division Supervisory Committee for MCWA Daw Khin Thet Htay, instructors and representatives of Yangon, Bago, Ayeyawady and Taninthayi Divisions, Mon, Kayah, Rakhine States.— MNA



MMCWA President Dr Daw Khin Win Shwe addresses opening of Meeting on Teenager Reproductive Health Plan.— MNA

**Do not be frightened
whenever intimidated**

အိမ်ထောင်ရေးမှာ သာမန်ပင် ရွာစဉ်မှာ တောတန်း
တစ်တောဝင် တစ်တောဝင် ကန်
မြို့တက်မယ့်လမ်း

Three key elements that must be realized without fail for emergence of a democratic State

Aung Moe San

If we are to build Myanmar into a democratic state, with the collective efforts of the entire people, we will have to realize the three key elements: (1) to build national reconciliation without fail taking lessons of the past; (2) for the Tatmadaw to play a role in national politics; and (3) to modernize and develop the nation's productive forces. The people will be far from the desired goal if one of the elements is lacking.

(1) To build national reconciliation without fail taking lessons of the past

Soon after independence was regained, national unity broke down in Myanmar, and the nation was confronted with internal armed conflicts. The use of force and violence were used in trying to solve disagreements resulting from political, ideological, racial and personal differences, followed by blood baths. It can be called the internal strife that lasted about the age of a generation. When independence was regained, the role of the Tatmadaw had become more important, since the strength of the multi-coloured insurgents was so strong; Myanmar then was called the Yangon Government. And during the resistance against the Fascists, when the nation had not yet regained independence, the Tatmadaw led by Bogoyoke Aung San played the leadership role in the national political cause. In the political history of Myanmar, the Tatmadaw had to take over power three times — the first in 1958; the second in 1962; and the third in 1988. But in reality, in one incident, the civilian government transferred the State duties to the Tatmadaw; and in the other two, the Tatmadaw had to take over the duties of the State in an unavoidable situation due to the deterioration of the unity among the political forces.

During the 1988 unrest, there was no unity among the groups that were demanding democracy, and they were launching activities individually under their own leaders. There was no unity among U Nu, U Aung Gyi and Daw Suu Kyi, who should be described as prominent political leaders at the time. Thus, the unrest was out of control. Instead of solving the problems through democratic means, and by showing patience and tolerance, among themselves, the individual groups resorted to violence and coercion, in which the stronger or the majority group always emerged as the winner.

The nation then was like the boat without the helmsman, floating in the water without any aim or direction, and with the attitude that any person with different views meant the enemy, and out of the disagreements, there occurred murders and beheadings of the opponents accusing them of being government agents. This resulted in violence, looting and destruction. As the nation has reached a delicate stage, there emerged the Tatmadaw government (the State Law and Order Restoration Council) to restore law and order in the nation.

The national reconciliation task would face a lot of difficulties if one-sided accusations and critical remarks are being directed at the Tatmadaw's take-over of the State duties under unavoidable situations, while the political forces and political parties fail to review their weakness. There is a teaching, which says that one cannot become a good and clever person only with the ability to point a finger at and put blame on others. Becoming a good and clever person depends only on the degree of his ability to see his own weaknesses and faults and to amend them. Man cannot be free from faults. In accord with the teaching, man will have to accept and practise the law of the social science, which says that the road to knowledge is following the way on which one takes lessons from the mistakes and bitter experiences.

One will have to avoid the practice of roughly criticizing others like hitting others with an axe, while criticizing oneself lightly like poking with a feather. Self-criticism is the practice of politicians. Only if he can strictly adhere to the practice, will he be able to serve the majority's interest without making any mistakes. The cooperative efforts of the people's representatives and the Armed Forces in Poland which is in the early stages to transform the nation from a socialist state to a democratic one is a good example.

Thus, one should give priority to self-criticism, while taking the lessons of the past mistakes, and should strive to realize this element of national reconciliation without fail.

(2) For the Tatmadaw to play a role in national politics

In 1988, the democracy struggle could be seen in two different methods. The first method is the smooth or gentle one, and the other, the rough one. The two groups had one thing in common—there should be no negotiations with the Tatmadaw (no negotiations with the Tatmadaw government) and there should be immediate transfer of the State power. After the elections, the National League for Democracy continued to stick to the concept. And because of its demands with pressures, the national reconciliation could not be realized, and instead, there occurred confrontations and oppositions. Once, there emerged the concept of revenge among some NLD leaders, who cited the Nuremberg trial. Later, the NLD left the National Convention which was in progress then. Although the Tatmadaw government had to face the course of confrontation taken by the NLD, it managed to secure the return to legal fold of the 17 armed groups in an effort to build national reconciliation.

However, Daw Aung San Suu Kyi after the last release from restrictions, the attitude of the NLD became flexible. Daw Aung San Suu Kyi said that she was ready to cooperate with the Tatmadaw and the Tatmadaw government at any time. The NLD Secretary U Lwin also told foreign news agencies that unlike the Tatmadaw government that staged a coup in 1962, the present Tatmadaw government was significant as it permitted the existence of opposition parties. The Tatmadaw government allowed Daw Aung San Suu Kyi to freely travel, organize, reorganize the party, reopen the NLD party offices and put up party signboards. These were the developments for national reconciliation. The developments were welcomed and supported by the international community. The UN Secretary-General's Special Envoy to Myanmar Mr Razali also had played a role in the developments.

The recent fateful event at Dabayin occurred due to some of the elements who could not relinquish outright the attitudes such as no negotiations with the Tatmadaw (no negotiations with the Tatmadaw government) and the immediate transfer of the State power. I have already stated some of the significant and important characteristics of the Tatmadaw in the nation's political history. Ignoring changes in the Tatmadaw in accord with the time and condition, some would like to insist that the military takeovers are the same. However, the military takeover in 1962 and the one in 1988 are quite different; they are different from each other, like the east and the west.

In the 1962 takeover of the Tatmadaw, the democratic system was dissolved, the one-party socialist system was introduced, the market-oriented economic system abolished, the central-controlled close-door socialist economic system practised, the freedom of the private economic sector nullified and the nationalization and cooperative systems adopted. But in the 1988 military takeover of the Tatmadaw, the single party system was dissolved, the multi-party democracy system introduced, the central-controlled close-door socialist economic system abolished, the market-oriented economic system practised, the role of the State-owned and cooperative enterprises was reduced, and the freedom of the private sector extended. When we make an assessment of the situation to know the difference, we can see that the 1962 military takeover was based on the decline in the economy and productivity resulting from World War II, and the destruction of the living and material productive forces due to the burning internal strife. When the economy of a human society declines, the man naturally becomes violent and deteriorated. In that situation, there comes the dictatorial rule and military coups. In this regard, the Tatmadaw government of 1962 entertained the wrong idea of setting up a socialist paradise at once.

Nowadays, the governments as well as the peoples of certain countries that had pursued the leapfrog policy for decades, mistakenly believing the burning fire to be the gold mountain, have now changed their way and followed the path of development of human history after taking lessons from the bitter experiences of the past. They have turned to the free market economy and the democratic system. In this process, some countries (Romania for example) face a lot of sufferings as the die-hards of the old ruling class oppose the change, and there are also

countries whose successive leaders play the key role in steering their nations towards the right course of change. They are: China, Russia, Myanmar and some East European countries. In these countries the ruling body and the people willingly make changes. Thus, the 1988 military takeover was the result of the development and modernization of the global economic productive forces. Another factor is that because of the electronic revolution of the industrialized capitalist nations, many backward and developing countries make changes towards building the democratic system. Mostly, the Armed Forces of those backward and developing countries played a vital role during the period of change in these countries.

The Armed Forces of the respective nations played an important role in the problem involving the President, the Vice-President and Parliament of Indonesia, a member of the ASEAN, and the row between the Philippine President and the Vice-President. The Armed Forces also took the leadership role during the transformation period of the Republic of Korea and Thailand. Hence, political parties and political forces, and the people (the people's representatives) are required to constantly strive in harmony and in cooperation with the Tatmadaw that has been discharging duties in building the market-oriented economic system and establishment of democracy. Today's situation needs the Tatmadaw, which is the most consolidated national institution, to participate without fail in the national political cause. Only when everything has been settled in building the democratic system, will the Tatmadaw be able to discharge the national defence duties.

(3) To modernize and develop the nation's productive forces

This element is the most basic factor in setting up democracy. The development of the productive forces is the highest criterion of the social progress. The social revolutions usually start with an economic revolution. According to the modern scientific political economy, society changes its superstructure, including the politics, administration, legal affairs, knowledge, culture, democracy and human rights together with the developments in the basic economic productive forces which constitute the infrastructure. It is true that democracy takes root and flourishes in a nation where economic productive forces are developing and being modernized. Thus, it can be seen whether the West's attempts to impose economic sanctions on Myanmar to make her poor and face deterioration are constructive or destructive approach towards the building of democracy. Economic bankruptcy and decline of a nation, which is formed with many families, will lead to a deterioration in the political, administrative, legal, knowledge, cultural sectors and democracy cause and human rights which are the superstructure.

The 2003 report of the global development indicators of the World Bank said that the economic powerhouses of the world had agreed to implement the development projects till 2015, to reduce global poverty by half, to enable all persons have access to the basic education, and to reduce the child mortality rate by two-thirds. The report also stated that if those projects could not be implemented it would be like building the castle of sand.

In addition, Executive Director Ohil Tynrford made a critical remark, saying that although the decision to spend US \$ 80 billion in waging the Iraq War could be made within a short time, the prospects of the US \$ 50 billion for the new century development scheme were nowhere; and that while money for war was easily available, the expenditure for the poor was difficult to get. It is the act of some big industrialized powers that look only for their self-interest.

In accord with the saying "Blood is thicker than water in times of emergency", it is required for the political parties and political forces, the Tatmadaw and the people (the people's representatives) to exert their utmost efforts to develop and modernize the economic productive forces, which are the most basic need of the nation in building democracy, to prevent the nation from facing an economic disaster and the people from experiencing sufferings.

(Translation: TMT)

55th birthday ...

(from page 16)

Kayin State Peace and Development Council Col Cho Tun Aung presented prizes for Saw Htet Shine who won the first prize in the basic education level (aged 5-10) music contest and Saw Kyaw Lin the third prize in the (aged 10-15) dancing contest in the 10th Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions to the headmaster; and the prize to Naw Chit Than Thuza of the basic education level (aged 10-15) the consolation prize in dancing contest and Sein Maung Ba in the (aged 10-15) the consolation prize in orchestra contest.

Next, U Tha Htoo Kyaw presented K 600,000 to the social funds of the Myainggying Special Region. On behalf of the



Commander Maj-Gen Thura Myint Aung offers provisions to Myainggying Sayadaw Bhaddanta Sujana.— MNA

Sayadaw, Director-General Lt-Col Pe Nyein presented K 600,000 to 127 service personnel who are discharging respective duties in the special region. Later, the

Sayadaw delivered a sermon, followed by sharing of merits. After the ceremony, 'soon' was offered to the Sayadaw. Next, the commander and party donated

provisions to members of the Sangha. Also present were 1,000 members of the Sangha, departmental personnel, disciples and local people.— MNA



Patron of Shwe Thanlwin Co Daw Ni presents documents related to the operation theatre to Medical Superintendent Dr Khin Than Sein of Thaton District People's Hospital.— MNA

New operation theatre handed over to Thaton District People's Hospital

YANGON, 17 July — The new operation theatre, constructed with the donations of Shwe Thanlwin Co, was handed over to Thaton District People's Hospital in Mon State in conjunction with the setting up of a trust fund for medical purpose at a ceremony held at the hospital yesterday afternoon.

It was attended by Director-General of the State Peace and Development

Council Office Lt-Col Pe Nyein, departmental heads, local authorities, well-wishers, the medical superintendent and physicians.

Managing Director of Shwe Thanlwin Highway Co U Zaw Win Tun gave an account of the operation theatre constructed at a cost of over K 9.4 million. Patron of Shwe Thanlwin Co Thiri Thudhamma Theingi Thiha Thudhamma Theingi

Daw Ni presented the documents related to the operation theatre to Medical Superintendent Dr Khin Than Sein, who next presented a certificate of honour to her. The patron of Shwe Thanlwin Co donated K 500,000 for setting up a medical fund of the hospital to the medical superintendent. Director-General Lt-Col Pe Nyein, Director-General (Retd) U Khin

Kywe of the President's Office, and Director-General of the Department for Promotion and Propagation of the Sasana U Sann Lwin also donated K 50,000 each to the trust fund. The medical superintendent spoke words of thanks.

After the ceremony, the guests and well-wishers viewed the operation theatre.

MNA



Yadanabon University in Mandalay, one of the new institutions of higher learning the government has built in upper Myanmar to develop human resources.— MNA

People's Desire

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

Efficient use of electricity

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

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

Efficient use of fuel

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

Do not be bolstered whenever flattered

Cooperation for greening schools and their environs

YANGON, 17 July — The Ministry of Education has been implementing tasks with added momentum for promotion of education standard in basic education sector after drawing an edu-

cational calendar that covers all basic education schools.

According to the calendar for 2003-2004 academic year, 27 July has been designated as "Greening of School and Its Environs Day".

So, authorities concerned today reminded teachers and students to participation in the greening tasks on the day under the supervision of respective principals in entire nation.

MNA

MA spreads wings

YANGON, 17 July — The Myanma Airways under the Ministry of Transport is running more flights in 2003.

Now, Yangon-Magway-Yangon flight is being run by F-27 on Mondays, and Yangon-Magway-Mandalay-Kale-Mandalay-Magway-Yangon flight by F-28 on Thursdays.

Starting from 3 August, Sunday, it will launch Mandalay-Homalin-Mandalay flight by F-27 on Sundays and Thursdays.

MNA

Myingyan Industrial Zone

Kunbalai

Out of the 18 industrial zones, Monywa, Mandalay, Pakokku, Meiktila and Taunggyi industrial zones are able to assemble automobiles. Like these zones, Myingyan Industrial Zone has the capacity to manufacture automobiles. Therefore, facts about Myingyan Industrial Zones are compiled and presented for the enthusiasts.

Myingyan Industrial Zone is located in the southern part of Myingyan municipal area east of Myingyan-Meiktila motor road, south of Thazi-Myingyan railroad and west of Sunlun Creek.

Firstly, measures were taken for ensuring water and electricity supply that was essential for the zone.

There are 1134 workers in 275 workshops and factories of the zone. The workshops are one textile and garment factory, 16 engineering workshops, 10 tin workshops, 87

foodstuff factories such as purified drinking water factory, ice factory, oil mill, flour mill and rice mill, one printing house, one timber and ceramic ware factory and four weaving machines and the rest 145 are lathe, welding, crushing, dynamo, battery, pump, wiring, plastic, thanaka, and automobile workshops.

One telephone was installed for the industrialists in the zone for the time being. Shops and restaurants were built and sold on instalment, at a price of K 350,000.

Production

In edible oil production, four entrepreneurs are engaged in large-scale production, ten in medium and 58 in small-scale production. An oil mill in heavy production has a capacity to produce 3.59 tons of edible oil (10 barrels) a day and the small ones a capacity to produce 0.716 tons (four

barrels) a day. They produce groundnut, sesame and cotton oil daily and thereby contributing to edible oil sufficiency.

In the sector of farm implements production, entrepreneurs of lathe and welding workshops manufacture four-inch pipes, two-inch pumps and two-inch compressors and sell them at a price of K 30,000, K 17,000 and K 20,000 respectively. The workshops also manufacture grinders for rice and

maize. The entrepreneurs are also manufacturing oil-press in various sizes ordered by customers.

The glory of Myingyan Industrial Zone is the assembling of Myay Latt jeeps. Design for the left-hand drive jeep with Truro engine/4WD and flat bonnet is transformed from the type of Mazda jeep. The front part of the jeep is four feet, the body, 8 feet with 5.5 feet in width. The assembling line is built on plot Nos 9, 10 and 11 with 300 feet in length and 100 feet in width. Myay Latt jeeps will be on the run throughout the country in the near future.

For the development of Myingyan Industrial Zone, two experts from the zone attended the Second UNIDOTQM meeting on industrial development.

Moreover, 70 students from technological college made their field study tour of Myingyan Industrial Zone from 4 December 2000 to 3 March 2001 and another 28 students from 1 April to 30 June 2001.

To catch up with the development of other industrial zones, industrialists of Myingyan Industrial Zones are needed to follow the guidance given by Head of State Senior General Than Shwe at the Myanmar Industrial Exhibition-2003 held at Hsinpyukan Grounds in Mandalay. The Senior General said that measures are to be taken for ensuring upgrading of the factories to modern equipment-installed level from forge level, then to highly mechanized factories and to factories that are computerized. In so doing, Myingyan Industrial Zone will become the one which can realize the aims of Myanmar Industrial Development Committee.

(Translation: BG)

(Kyemon: 15-7-2003)



Myay Latt Jeep, a product of Myingyan Industrial Zone.

Remarkable success of rural drinking water supply project

(Article by *Thaung Win Bo*)

Photos - *Ko Ko Soe Nyunt*

Parallel development of rural and urban areas is essential for the realization of our national goal — the emergence of a peaceful, modern and developed nation. Fully aware of this, Head of State Senior General Than Shwe gave guidance on the adoption of five rural development tasks and successful implementation

of them. Two out of these tasks, namely, ensuring smooth and easy transport and sufficient supply of safe drinking water in rural areas, are being implemented by the Ministry of Progress for Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs.

In April, 1999, Head of State Senior General Than

Shwe exhorted all those responsible to implement a 10-year plan so that all the water-scarce villages, especially in Sagaing, Magway and Mandalay Divisions in the dry zone of Myanmar, would have adequate supply of safe drinking water. Therefore, concerted efforts are being made to translate the guidance into action.

According to the statistics of respective development committees, there were 8,042 villages in Sagaing, Magway and Mandalay Divisions and 15,813 in other states and divisions, where water was scarce.

During the fiscal year 2000-2001, the very first year of the 10-year plan, 50 per cent of the plan was completed. It was due to the co-operation of international organizations and social organizations at home.

Now the plan is three years old but remarkable success has been achieved in so short a time. Well-wishers within and without the nation have been contributing to the funds for rural water supply since the start of the plan.

Up to now, all the 2" x 200' and 4" x 200' tube-wells have been sunk and only the tube-wells 400 feet and above deep are left to be sunk.



A tube-well drilling truck in action in the Dry Zone.

As a result, most of the people in rural areas have been spared the trouble of having to struggle for water. With sufficient supply of water for drinking and agricultural purposes, the rural areas will become more and more de-

veloped day by day. The burning desire of rural people for water has now been fulfilled. The well-wishers will surely enjoy the fruits of their meritorious deed in their future existences.

(Translation: Ko Nyi)



A tube-well at Kaungpinsi Village in NyaungU Township, source of clean water for the local people.

Modern facilities for better health and fitness of all national brethren in the Union



The Ministry of Health is trying to upgrade the health sector quantitatively and qualitatively. New hospitals have been opened across the country. The photo shows the 200-bed hospital being built in Myeik, Taninthayi Division.—MNA



Health is the most desirable thing a man can wish for in his life. Health is important not only to a person or a family but also to a nation as a whole. The photo shows the 300-bed teaching hospital in Myothit, Mandalay Division.— MNA



The Government is making concerted efforts for the emergence of more hospitals equipped with modern facilities and specialists. In the process, the new hospitals have been built and old ones renovated or upgraded. The photo shows Shan State General Hospital (200-bed) in Kengtung, Shan State (East). — MNA



Today, the Government is giving priority to development of rural areas, home to the vast majority of people. Thus, the five rural development tasks are being implemented. Of them, emphasis is being placed on uplift of health care services, which play the most important role in rural development. The 16-bed Kaungkha Station Hospital seen in Kutkai Township, Shan State (North).—MNA



Health and fitness of every citizen is essential in building a nation to become modern and developed one. With this end in view, the State Peace and Development Council is fully committed to ensuring the highest possible standard of health as one of the fundamental rights of every citizen. The Hepatitis (B) Vaccine Factory in Sitpin Myauk village-tract in Hlegu Township, Yangon Division.— MNA

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Germany, Incorporated, a wholly owned subsidiary of the parent company, is the manufacturer of the product. The product is sold in the United States through a distributor. The distributor is a subsidiary of the parent company. The product is sold in the United States through a distributor. The distributor is a subsidiary of the parent company.

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Consignees of cargo carried on MV SEA BRIGHT Voy No (531) which will be arrived on 17-7-03 are hereby notified that their cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.W.P.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm up to claims day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the vessel.

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

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: A.C.L**

Phone : 256914/256908/256924

LUSAKA, 17 July — Zambia's internal and external debt has reached an unsustainable point, Minister of Commerce, Trade and Industry Dipak Patel said here Tuesday.

He was quoted by the official *Zambia News Agency* as saying the government

must immediately formulate and implement remedial measures to reverse the trend so that the country could attain sustainable economic development.

According to the minister, the government now has about one billion US dollars in local debt and 7.2 billion

Patel said the previous government had ignored the debt issue but it would be unwise for the current government to ignore the issue because it would create a problem for the country.

ပြည်တွင်းဖြစ်ကိုအားပေးပါ

Kingston Audio Sany Computer Entertainment 1260
listing as SANY COMPUTER ENTERTAINMENT INC.;
1. Address: 10000 Wilshire Blvd., Suite 1000, Beverly Hills, CA 90210
2. Phone: (310) 206-1260
3. Fax: (310) 206-1260
4. E-mail: sany@comcast.net

[illegible]

ဒေါ်ခင်အေးမူ၏ ညွှန်ကြားချက်အရ အောက်ပါ အတိုင်းကြေညာ
အပ်ပါသည်။

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လိုသူများ (၇)ရက်အတွင်း အထောက်အထားခံရမည့် ခိုင်လုံစွာဖြင့် ကန်ကွက်
တန်းမြို့နယ်စြေစာရင်းဆုံးတွင် (၇)ရက်အတွင်း ကန်ကွက်ခိုင်ငံ ကြောင်း-

ညွှန်ကြားချက်အရ
ဒေါ်နွဲ့နွဲ့ဝင်း (B.A, R.L)
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ALGIERS, 17 July — A heat wave in southern Algeria with temperatures soaring to 57 degrees Celsius (135 Fahrenheit) has killed at least 12 people in the past six weeks, local health authorities said on Tuesday.

Most victims were elderly or people with breathing ailments living in the Adrar area, about 800 miles southwest of Algiers in the

Frequent power cuts have made matters worse with workers and residents unable to use air conditioning.

Legislators from the region are to table a draft law in Parliament to change the working hours in the south, from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. currently to 7:00 am until noon.

PZ Cussons (International) Limited, of PZ Cussons House, Bird Hall Lane, Stockport Cheshire, SK3 0XN, England, is the Owner of the following Trade Marks:-

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**IMPERIAL
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for **PZ Cussons (International) Limited**
P.O. Box 60, Yangon.
Dated: 18 July, 2003

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ပညာရေးနှင့် ခေတ်မီဖွံ့ဖြိုးတိုးတက်သော နိုင်ငံတော်ကြီး တည်ဆောက်အံ့

China to build first museum on anthropology

URUMQI, 17 July — The building of an anthropological museum, the first of its kind in China, will get underway this month in Urumqi, the capital of northwest China's Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region.

The museum will serve as a base for anthropological research and for the display of specialized exhibits, said a local cultural official.

The ancient Silk Road passed through this part of present-day Xinjiang, where people of different nationalities lived and Oriental and Western civilizations converged, the official said.

A great number of historical sites in this region have remained intact, protected, in a sense, by the arid climate and other geographic features. These sites will serve as a precious reference for research in anthropology, the official added. — MNA/Xinhua

Study asks whether vitamins can prevent pre-eclampsia

LONDON, 17 July — British scientists have launched a study to determine whether vitamin supplements can prevent women from developing the serious complication of pre-eclampsia during pregnancy.

More than 2,000 pregnant women at risk of pre-eclampsia, which is marked by dangerously high blood pressure, will be given supplements of vitamins C and E.

Women with pre-eclampsia have a deficiency in certain vitamins and researchers believe this could be the cause

of the problem.

"Until now we have been unable to treat this condition effectively but this study gives us the opportunity to make a huge difference," Professor Lucilla Poston, who will carry out the study, said on Tuesday.

Pre-eclampsia occurs in about one in 10 pregnancies and is more common in first and twin pregnancies and in women with a history of the condition.

It causes damage to the blood vessels and can lead to fits, stroke or

damage to the lungs, liver or kidney in the mother and slow growth or the death of the baby. About eight million cases of pre-eclampsia occur globally each year. "Finding a way of preventing pre-eclampsia could save many lives, both of babies and mothers, as well as dramatically reducing health costs," Poston added.

The two-year project follows an earlier pilot study which suggested that taking the supplement could halve the risk of pre-eclampsia in high risk women. — MNA/Reuters

Indonesia to host Asian-African sub-regional organizations conf

JAKARTA, 17 July — The Indonesian and South African governments will co-host the Asian-African sub-regional organizations conference in Bandung, capital of Indonesia's West Java Province, on July 29-30.

The conference is inspired by the "Spirit of Bandung," the organizers said in a statement obtained by Xinhua on Wednesday.

Indonesian President Megawati Soekarnoputri will officially open the conference at "Gedung Merdeka" (Independence Building), the historical building where the Asian-African Conference took place in 1955, it said.

The conference will be attended by 33 ministers representing Governing Bodies, executive directors/secretaries-generals from 16 sub-regional organizations in Asia and Africa, and 19 observers from relevant international organizations, multilateral and regional institutions as well as key donor countries.

The conference is designed as the first preparatory meeting of the Asian-African Summit to commemorate the Golden Jubilee of the Asian-African Conference, which will be held in Bandung, Indonesia, in the year 2005. — MNA/Xinhua



ASEAN Foreign Ministers pose with their counterparts from Japan, China and South Korea before the start of the Fourth ASEAN + 3 Foreign Ministers meeting in Phnom Penh, Cambodia on 17 June, 2003. — INTERNET

Poll shows most in US would shun labelled biotech foods

WASHINGTON, 17 July — More than half of American adults surveyed said they would be less likely to buy a food product at the grocery store if it carried a label saying it contained gene-altered ingredients, according to an ABC News poll released on Tuesday.

The survey of 1,024 adults also found that 92 per cent said the federal government should require labels on biotech foods.

US food makers and the Bush Administration oppose special labels on genetically modified foods, contending they meet the same safety and nutrition standards as conventional foods. However, the European Parliament earlier this month passed laws to require labels on biotech foods, reflecting the concerns of

many Europeans about long-term health and environmental impacts.

The ABC News poll said that 55 per cent of Americans surveyed said they would avoid foods carrying a biotech label. However, that survey response rose to 62 per cent among women, who do most of the food shopping for US families. The survey, however, also found a gain in the number of Americans who believe biotech foods are safe to eat.

Some 46 per cent said they considered bioengineered food safe, up from 35 per cent in a similar poll conducted in June 2001, ABC News said. About 80 per cent of the US soyabean crop and 40 per cent of the corn crop are genetically modified varieties.

MNA/Reuters

Pakistani girl undergoes successful open heart surgery in India

NEW DELHI, 17 July — A two-and-half-year-old Pakistani girl, Noor Fatima, Tuesday underwent a successful open heart surgery at a private hospital in Bangalore, south India, hospital sources said. A three-member team, headed by Dr Rajesh Sharma, paediatric cardiac surgeon who knew the girl's condition since she was a six-month-old baby, successfully performed the operation, the sources told the Press Trust of India (PTI).

MNA/Xinhua

Vietnam to apply tariff quotas to tobacco, salt, cotton

HANOI, 17 July — Vietnam will apply tariff quotas on a trial basis to the first three imports, namely tobacco, salt and cotton as of August 1, 2003.

The quotas will be defined to keep the balance of local businesses' demand for raw materials and their production capacity, according to a report of the Vietnamese Ministry of Trade on Wednesday. Another four staples will be subject to tariff quota application as of 2004, including condensed and uncondensed milk, livestock eggs, and maize grains.

MNA/Xinhua

Encephalitis kills almost 150 children in India

MUMBAI, 17 July — An outbreak of encephalitis — an inflammation of the brain caused by a mosquito-borne virus — has killed at least 146 children in India in the past two weeks, many because they were not treated in time, officials said on Tuesday. Hundreds of children are in hospitals and more suffering convulsions and high fever are being admitted every day in southern Andhra Pradesh State and neighbouring Maharashtra.

The outbreak has been severe because of the onset of the annual monsoon, which creates ample breeding ground for mosquitoes.

"The children are dying because they are not treated when they show the first signs of the symptoms," Dr VR Bhutada, Dean of the Government Medical College in Nagpur, 540 miles east of Mumbai, told Reuters by phone. "Early medication would have helped many children survive." At least 102 children aged between two and 12 have died in Andhra Pradesh and another 44 in Maharashtra.

MNA/Reuters



Swiss synchronized swimming team performs during the final of the free combination at the World Swimming Championships in Barcelona, on 16 July, 2003. Japan won the gold medal, and USA and Spain won the silver. — INTERNET

"Thumb culture" causes new health problem in China

LANZHOU, 17 July — The mobile phone has brought a communications revolution to China, but doctors point out it is also causing a health problem — with the thumb.

In particular, the popularity of text messaging — known as "thumb culture" — is being blamed for the new phenomenon of the problem.

Because of instant delivery and low charge, text messages have rapidly become one of the most popular

means of communication among young people.

Figures show that in 2002, 90 billion text messages were sent through China Mobile and China Unicom, about 246 million per day on average, rising to 300 million a day during the outbreak of severe acute respiratory syndrome (SARS).

Besides now young people are paying for their messaging mania. Tang Xiaoyan describes herself as a text

message addict. Working in the Beijing branch of a Chengdu-based cultural communications firm, she has no relatives in Beijing and lives far from her friends, so text messages are her major entertainment. Tang says her monthly expenditure on text messages ranges from 150 to 200 yuan (18.3 to 24.4 US dollars). During the SARS crisis, the firm suspended business so she stayed at home and spent more time on her phone. — MNA/Xinhua

SPORTS

Juve striker Salas looking for peace

SANTIAGO, 17 July — Chilean striker Marcelo Salas is still hoping to leave Italy's Juventus, where a string of injuries has prevented him from winning a regular place in the team. "As I've said before, if I have to go somewhere else, it's going to be a club that offers me tranquility," Salas said on Tuesday.

Salas, who is Chile's joint record scorer alongside Ivan Zamorano with 34 goals added: "If there's no change within the next week, I'm going to rejoin Juventus."

Salas has been the subject of speculation over a possible move to Monaco or a return to Argentina's River Plate, where he made his name before moving to Italy to join Lazio. "I don't want to talk about River or Monaco or other things which have been reported. I'd rather wait for a few days," he said.

Salas is training with his former club Universidad de Chile to get into shape for the new season. —MNA/Reuters

Dortmund beat Bochum in Bundesliga warm-up

WATTENSCHIED (Germany), 17 July — Borussia Dortmund warmed up for the upcoming Bundesliga campaign with a 2-1 win over Ruhr rivals VfL Bochum in the opening match of the pre-season German League Cup on Wednesday.

A goal and fine display from Czech playmaker Tomas Rosicky inspired the 1997 European champions to victory for a spot in the semifinals of the six-team competition.

Dortmund, who lost their

German title to Bayern Munich last season and finished third, will play VfB Stuttgart next week for a place in the final.

Rosicky showed Dortmund the way by opening the scoring 30 minutes into the game, which was played on a neutral ground in Wattenscheid.

Brazilian striker Marcio Amoroso doubled the advantage three minutes later, but in the 38th minute Iran striker Vahid Hashemian pulled one back for Bochum.

Six-times German champions Dortmund have never managed to make the League Cup final since the event was

launched seven years ago.

Bochum were making their first appearance in a tournament normally featuring the top five teams of the previous season as well as the German Cup winners.

The modest side from Germany's depressed industrial heartland finished ninth in the Bundesliga and won a spot only after Schalke 04, Werder Bremen and VfL Wolfsburg pulled out to concentrate on the Intertoto Cup.

Hamburg SV and Hertha Berlin, fourth and fifth last season, meet on Thursday in the second first-round match in Dessau.

MNA/Reuters



Uruguay's Mario Regueiro, right, battles for the ball with Argentina's Clemente Rodriguez, during their friendly soccer game, on 16 July, 2003, in La Plata, some 50 kilometers south of Buenos Aires. —INTERNET

CSKA beat champions Lokomotiv to go nine points clear

MOSCOW, 17 July — Last year's runners-up CSKA Moscow beat champions Lokomotiv 3-1 in a tense derby on Tuesday to extend their lead at the top of the Russian league table.

The army side, playing without injured captain Sergei Semak, raced to a 2-0 lead through fellow Russian internationals Igor Yanovsky and Denis Popov after 25 minutes.

Rolan Gusev added a third with a 63rd-minute penalty before Georgian striker Micheil Ashvetia, playing his first game for Lokomotiv, pulled one back 15 minutes from time.

The defeat also spoiled the Lokomotiv debut of former Russian international Dmitry Khokhlov, who signed a 2-1/2-year deal with the railway side from Spain's Real Sociedad last week.

The win gave CSKA, chasing their first league title since 1991, 37 points from 17 matches as they built a nine-point lead over city neighbours Dynamo,

who have a game in hand.

Lokomotiv, who have struggled for much of the season after a slow start, remained in ninth place with 22 points.

CSKA and Russia coach Valery Gazzayev remained cautious about his team's championship chances.

"We only won a battle and we have yet to win the war," Gazzayev told Russian television after the match.

The game was moved forward two months to ease a heavy schedule, involving domestic and Champions League matches, for both clubs.

MNA/Reuters

Defender Glen Johnson signs for Chelsea

LONDON, 17 July — Chelsea completed their first signing under new owner Roman Abramovich on Tuesday, buying West Ham United defender Glen Johnson for six million pounds (9.67 million US dollars).

Chelsea said on their web site the fee for the England under-21 international was the highest the club had paid for a teenager, surpassing Nigerian Celestine Babayaro's 2.25-million-pound move in 1997.

The 18-year-old right back, who signed for five years, is due to fly out to Italy to join the rest of the Premier League squad in their pre-season preparations, the club said.

British newspapers have linked Chelsea with several high-profile players — including Arsenal's Patrick Vieira and Thierry Henry, Edgar Davids of Juventus and Inter Milan's Christian Vieri — since Russian billionaire Abramovich took over the London club two weeks ago.

Last week they agreed a deal with Real Madrid to sign Cameroon international midfielder Geremi for 10 million euros (11.31 million US dollars) and are discussing personal terms with the player. —MNA/Reuters

Jones to defend world heavyweight title in Nairobi

NAIROBI, 17 July — World Boxing Association heavyweight champion Roy Jones Junior will defend his title in a stadium near Nairobi on November 8, promoters said.

Akbar Muhammad, senior vice-president for Roy Jones Enterprises, said negotiations were at an advanced stage with former undisputed world champion Mike Tyson the most probable challenger.

Jones defeated John Ruiz last March to become only the second light-heavyweight champion in history to win a world heavyweight title. —MNA/Reuters

Female referee appointed for UEFA Cup match

NYON (Switzerland), 17 July — A female referee will take charge of a UEFA Cup match for the first time next month, European soccer's governing body said on Tuesday. Nicole Petignat of Switzerland has been chosen to referee the UEFA Cup first qualifying round first-leg game between AIK Solna of Sweden and Iceland's Fylkir on August 14.

The 36-year-old Petignat joined the FIFA International List in 1996 and has been refereeing top-flight matches in Switzerland for the past four years. She also took charge of the 1999 Women's World Cup final. —MNA/Reuters

Costa Rica beat Cuba to reach Gold Cup quarterfinals

FOXBORO (Massachusetts), 17 July — Costa Rica, needing a win to stay in the competition, powered through to the quarterfinals of the CONCACAF Gold Cup with a 3-0 victory over Cuba on Wednesday.

A brilliant strike from Walter Centeno in first-half stoppage time gave Costa Rica the lead before substitutes Steven Bryce and Erick Scott put the Group D encounter beyond Cuba. The "Ticos" now face El Salvador or Martinique in the quarterfinals. Cuba meet the US, the defending champions, in the last eight.

Despite dominating from the start, the Costa Ricans took a long time to make their superiority tell.

Winston Parks struck the post in the third minute while Centeno headed a cross from Rolando Fonseca against the bar 12 minutes later.

Cuba's best chance came on 33 minutes when Jeniel Marquez unleashed a shot from 22 metres that goalkeeper Ricardo Gonzalez did well to fist away.

Costa Rica finally broke through when Carlos Castro's corner was volleyed in by Centeno from 18 metres.

Bryce, who replaced Wilmer Lopez in the 72nd minute, doubled the lead almost immediately by slamming in a shot from 14 metres.

Five minutes later, Costa Rica made it 3-0 when Scott pounced on a loose ball in the penalty area. —MNA/Reuters



Costa Rica's Winston Parks leaps over Cuba's diving goalkeeper Odelin Molina as he rushes the goal in the first half of their 2003 CONCACAF Gold Cup soccer match, on 16 July, 2003 in Foxboro, Massachusetts. —INTERNET

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55th birthday of Myainggyingu Sayadaw Bhaddanta Sujana held in Sonnatha Myaingswe City

YANGON, 17 July — The 55th birthday of Myainggyingu Sayadaw Bhaddanta Sujana was held in conjunction with the offering of "soon" to 1,000 members of the Sangha to mark the fifth anniversary of restoration of peace in Sonnatha Myaingswe City (Myainggyingu Special Region) of Kayin State, at Aung Mingala Pariyatti Monastery in Sonnatha Myaingswe City of Myainggyingu Special Region, Hlaingbwe Township, on 16 July morning.

Vocalist Hinthada Tun Yin and Pianist Khun Tin Kywe performed music entertainment to pay homage to the Sayadaw.

Myainggyingu Sayadaw administered the Nine Precepts. Members of the Sangha recited *Parittas*. Chairman of Mon State Peace and Development Council Commander Maj-Gen Thura Myint Aung supplemented on religious matters.



Commander Maj-Gen Thura Myint Aung and party receive Nine Precepts from Myainggyingu Sayadaw Bhaddanta Sujana.— MNA

The commander offered provisions donated by Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council General Khin Nyunt and South-East Command to the Sayadaw.

Senior military officers, the Chairman of Kayin State Peace and Development Council, the Director-Gen-

eral of the State Peace and Development Council Office, departmental heads, wellwisher Shwe Thanlwin Co Family and local people presented offertories to members of the Sangha.

Director-General Col Than Swe of Progress of Border Areas and National Races Department donated

K 2 million. Next, the commander accepted K 45.55 million for Shwegoon Shwelinta Sasana Beikman and K 26,888,720 for 1.5 viss of gold to be gilded at the pagoda on Zwegabin Hill, donated by U Thein Win-Daw Ni of Shwe Thanlwin Co Family.

U Tha Htoo Kyaw ac-

cepted K 19,820,000 for the birthday of the Sayadaw and K 5 million for development tasks of the special region donated by Shwe Thanlwin Co Family.

Myainggyingu Basic Education High School Headmaster U Saw Thein Aung accepted 100 dozens of exercise books and 50

school uniforms donated by Director-General Col Than Swe; and one set of TV for the school by Saya Nyein and sons of Yangon. Next, the Commander presented prizes for 45 monks of region who passed religious examinations to Sayadaw Bhaddanta Kusala.

The Commander presented prizes to Ma Nway Nway Aye and Nan Sein Mya Tin for 2002 Visuddhi Magga Examination (Kayin State level), first prize winner Ma Khin Htay for five persons in the Abhidhamma honorary examination and Ma Nu Nu for 25 Abhidhamma examination.

Director-General U Sann Lwin of Department for Promotion and Propagation of the Sasana presented certificates for the trainees to instructor Daw Htay Htay Oo. Head of Department Brig-Gen Myint Zaw of the Office of the Military Intelligence presented prizes to three one-distinction winners and 18 students who passed in the 2003 matriculation examination.

(See page 9)



Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe addresses meeting of Yangon Division Vegetables Cultivation and Livestock Breeding Zone.— YANGON COMMAND

Agriculture and livestock breeding entrepreneurs encouraged

YANGON, 17 July — Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Myint Swe met with members of Yangon Division Supervisory Committee for Vegetable Cultivation and Poultry and Fish Breeding Special Zone and national entrepreneurs engaging in agriculture and livestock

breeding near Nyaunhnapi Village in Hmawby Township, Yangon North District, at the office of Division Peace and Development Council this afternoon.

At the meeting, the commander delivered an address, saying that upholding the guidance of the Head of State, with a view to providing fresh and adequate vegetables, fish, meat and eggs

for Yangonites, the agriculture and livestock breeding special zones have been established to implement the guidance. In the process, such tasks are being undertaken as upgrading of the entrance road to the zone, installation of telephone lines, and supply of electricity and water for the convenience of the national entrepreneurs. He urged them, in response to

the all-round assistance, to make enthusiastic efforts in order to meet the objective. Next, the entrepreneurs and officials reported on their requirements. After fulfilling the requirements, the commander gave instructions on agriculture and livestock breeding to be run without sparing vacant lands through conventional as well as modern methods. — MNA

National C'ship Basketball Tourney continues

YANGON, 17 July — The National Championship Basketball Tournament (2003) organized by Myanmar Basketball Federation continued at Aung San Gymnasium here this morning.

In men's division, Industry-1 Ministry team beat Central Command team 67-57, and Shadaw team beat KKS team 54-47. In women's round robin division, Myanmar Ceramics Industries (A) team beat Home Affairs Ministry team 62-50. In men's under-18 division, Central Youth team beat Bahan (2) 82-16.

Tomorrow, North-East Command team will meet with Agriculture and Irrigation Ministry team, and Home Affairs Ministry team with Swan Swan team in men's division. In women's round robin division, Home Affairs Ministry team will play against Agriculture and Irrigation Ministry team. And in men's under-18 division, LSK team will be in action against ILBC team. — MNA

Course in Diplomacy for Officers concludes

YANGON, 17 July — The Course in Diplomacy for Officers No 5/2003 conducted by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, concluded at Wunzin Minyaza Hall of the Ministry this morning. Minister for Foreign Affairs U Win Aung delivered the graduation address and presented the certificates to the trainees.

A total of 39 trainees from the Ministry of Defence, the Ministry of Home Affairs, the Ministry of National Planning and Economic Development, the Ministry of Energy, the Ministry of Rail Transportation, the Ministry for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs, Office of the Attorney-General and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs attended the 23-week course from 11 February to 14 July.

Also present were Myanmar Ambassadors, directors-general, rectors, professors, deputy directors-general and departmental officials. — MNA



Minister for Foreign Affairs U Win Aung presents completion certificate to a trainee in Course in Diplomacy for Officers.— MNA