

The NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

Volume XI, Number 198

7th Waxing of Tazaungmon 1365 ME

Friday, 31 October, 2003

Indian Vice-President to visit Myanmar

YANGON, 31 Oct — At the invitation of Vice-Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council of the Union of Myanmar, Vice-Senior General Maung Aye, His Excellency Mr Bhairon Singh Shekhawat, Vice-President of the Republic of India will pay an official visit to the Union of Myanmar in the near future.

MNA

Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt receives Auditor-General of PRC

YANGON, 30 Oct — Prime Minister of the Union of Myanmar General Khin Nyunt received Auditor-General Mr Li Jinhua and party of the People's Republic of China at Zeyathiri

Beikman on Konmyintha at 4.30 pm today.

Also present together with the Prime Minister were Minister for Foreign Affairs U Win Aung, Auditor-General Maj-Gen Lun Maung,

Director-General Thura U Aung Htet of the Protocol Department, and together with the auditor-general of the PRC was Ambassador of PRC to Myanmar Mr Li Jinjun. — MNA



Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt greets Auditor-General Mr Li Jinhua of PRC at Zeyathiri Beikman on Konmyintha. — MNA



Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt receives Auditor-General Mr Li Jinhua and party at Zeyathiri Beikman on Konmyintha. — MNA

General Thura Shwe Mann inspects development tasks for Cocokyun

YANGON, 30 Oct — Member of the State Peace and Development Council General Thura Shwe Mann, together with Yangon Division PDC Chairman Yangon Command Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe, Chief of Staff (Navy) Rear Admiral Soe Thein, senior military officers, departmental heads, left here for Cocokyun at 6.40

am today and arrived there at 8 am.

General Thura Shwe Mann and party visited Jinamarazein Padoga there and made cash donations. Afterwards, they arrived at Sasana Mandaing monastery and paid obeisance and presented provisions to Sayadaw U Kovidacara. They made cash donations

towards the funds for construction of Sasana Pala Dhamma Rakkhita Dhammayon in the compound of the monastery.

General Thura Shwe Mann presented cash for the Wut Association reciting religious verses in the monastery. After giving necessary instructions to the officials, General Thura Shwe Mann, the commander and party cordially greeted local people at their houses.

At the township People's Hospital, they viewed mass vaccinating children against measles and inspected surgical rooms, dental clinic and wards.

(See page 8)

Report on Myanmar once again issued by US Department of State intrinsically flawed Ministry of Foreign Affairs issues press release

YANGON, 30 Oct — The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Union of Myanmar issued a press release concerning the biannual report on the situation in Myanmar dated 30 October 2003 issued by the United States Department of State. Full text of the press release is as follows:

On 27 October 2003, the United States Department of State issued a biannual report on the situation in Myanmar.

It is most regrettable that the US State Department has once again issued a report that not only does not reflect the true situation in the country but is also intrinsically flawed.

The report is less than objectives and is nothing but a politically motivated attempt to exert pressure on Myanmar. The report fails to note the vast transformation taking place in the country, particularly the strides taken by the Government towards the emergence of a democratic state.

It is an undeniable fact that the Government is taking systematic steps to bring about the emergence of a democratic state. The seven-step political programme that would ensure a smooth transition to democracy has been welcomed and endorsed by the entire people in all parts of the country. Myanmar is determined and committed to build a democratic society in keeping with the objective conditions of the nation as well as the aspirations of the people. Already systematic steps are being initiated for the convening of the National Convention that would eventually lead to a new constitution and a

(See page 8)

INSIDE

Perspectives

Grow more coffee for long-term interests
Page 2

Article

Border Area development (Kayah region)
Page 7

Foreign News
Pages

3,4,5,6,12,13,14

Circulation

24,180

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

PERSPECTIVES

Friday, 31 October, 2003

Grow more coffee for long-term interests

The Union of Myanmar is climatically and topographically suitable for agriculture. Therefore, it is no wonder that agriculture is the main pillar of its economy.

At present, farmers are giving first priority to the cultivation of 10 major crops, including paddy, groundnut, sesamum, sunflower, sugarcane and maize, that can improve returns. In some hill regions, coffee, tea and pepper are being grown, especially coffee as it has a good demand in overseas markets.

Among the hill regions, Pyin-Oo-Lwin township is well-known for its beautiful natural environment as well as for its produces such as various kinds of flowers and vegetables. Moreover, it is very suitable for the cultivation of coffee. Therefore, efforts are being made to put 100,000 acres of land in Pyin-Oo-Lwin and Nawnghkio townships under coffee as both townships are very suitable for the cultivation of coffee. Up to now, coffee plants have been grown on 7,000 acres in these two townships. As more and more people have now become interested in the cultivation of coffee, Myanma Agriculture Service is giving encouragement and necessary help to them.

Those who started coffee plantations on 270 acres of land in 1999 are now enjoying good returns from their coffee plants. They exported 40,000 viss of coffee in 2001 and 70,000 in 2002.

It is also heartening to learn that coffee plants are being grown on 23,000 acres of land in states and divisions. MAS is also helping those who are interested in growing coffee by providing quality strains and saplings as well as agricultural methods and subsidies to them.

Therefore, we would like to urge farmers to grow more and more coffee plants to boost the national income as well as theirs.



Thai Commerce Minister Dr Adisai Bodharamik arrives to attend the opening ceremony of Myanma Fishery and Livestock Fair 2003. — MNA

Thai Commerce Minister arrives

YANGON, 30 Oct — Thai delegation led by Minister of Commerce Dr Adisai Bodharamik arrived here by air this evening to attend the opening ceremony of Myanma Fishery and Livestock Fair 2003.

The delegation was welcomed at Yangon International Airport by Minister for Commerce Brig-Gen Pyi Sone, Deputy Minister Brig-Gen Aung Tun, Director-

General U Nyunt Aye of the Directorate of Trade, Director-General U Nay Win of the Border Trade Department, Managing Director of Myanma Agricultural Produce Trading U Min Hla Aung, and officials of the Thai Embassy in Myanmar.

Minister Brig-Gen Pyi Sone hosted a dinner in honour of the delegation at the Karaweik Palace in the evening. — MNA

Commander inspects development tasks of Cocokyun Township

YANGON, 30 Oct — Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Chairman Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Myint Swe, accompanied by Managing Director of the Myanma Posts and Telecommunications U Maung Maung Tin, Secretary of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Lt-Col Kyaw Tint and departmental officials, this morning inspected regional development tasks in Cocokyun Township in Yangon South District.

At 10 am, the commander cordially met with police force members and their families at the township police station and attended to their needs.

Next, he inspected the police station and urged the officials to grow vegetables and crops and to extend the livestock breeding.

The commander also met with township level departmental officials and members of the social organizations at the township Peace and Development Council Office. At the meeting, the commander urged the officials to make efforts for the development of the region, to

extend cultivation of paddy, vegetables and livestock breeding, to boost production and to improve the education, health, social and economy of



Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe inspects multimedia teaching room in Cocokyun Township in Yangon District (South). — YANGON COMMAND

the local people.

Afterwards, the commander and party arrived at the Cocokyun Basic Education High School and presented the books for the school library through the headmaster. The commander also attended a ceremony to honour the teachers who taught to achieve good results at the school and presented gifts to the teachers.

MNA

Winners of photo competition announced

YANGON, 30 Oct — A total of 72 photographers took part in the 14th colour photo competition organized by the committee for national slogans, literature and photo competition.

In the competition, Sit Thwe Kyaw, Kyaw Tha and Aye Lwin Oo won first, second and third prizes respectively.

Rural housing project and water supply project discussed

YANGON, 30 Oct — A coordination meeting on rural housing project, construction of district-to-district linking road in west Yoma and rural water supply project in arid region took place at the Development Affairs Department on Thanlyetson Road in Botahtaung Township yesterday morning. At the meeting, Deputy Minister for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs Col Tin Ngwe attended

to the needs for the projects and urged the officials to make efforts for the timely completion of the projects.

Development Affairs Department Director-General Col Myo Myint reported to the deputy minister on tasks being undertaken. Next, responsible officials and senior engineers also reported on progress of work, future tasks and required funds for the projects and condition of machinery. — MNA



PBANRDA Deputy Minister Col Tin Ngwe makes an address at the coordination meeting of the Development Affairs Department. — MNA

Myanmar Gazette

YANGON, 30 Oct — The State Peace and Development Council has appointed Deputy Principal U Thein Win of Bago Degree College of the Higher Education Department (Lower Myanmar) under the Ministry of Education as the principal of the same college on probation from the date he assumes charge of his duties. — MNA

Myanmar signs Convention on Tobacco Control

YANGON, 30 Oct — Myanmar, a member country of WHO, signed the Framework Convention on Tobacco Control on 23 October at UN Headquarters in New York.

After four years of discussions, WHO member countries unanimously

adopted the convention on 26 May 2003.

Myanmar hosted the fourth coordination meeting of ASEAN regional countries in August 2002 and announced the Yangon Declaration. Altogether 75 countries have so far signed the convention. — MNA

Min Naing leads Kanbawza Open Golf Championship

YANGON, 30 Oct — The Kanbawza Open Golf Championship, jointly organized by Myanmar Golf Federation and Myanmar PGA, continued at Defence Services Golf Course No 2 (Ayethaya Golf Course) in Taunggyi this morning.

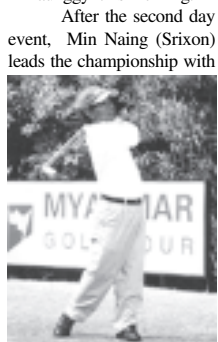
After the second day event, Min Naing (Srixon) leads the championship with

144 strokes (72+72), followed by Aung Win (YCDC) with 146 (76+70) and Zaw Zaw Latt (Pan-West) with 146 (70+76). Nanda Kyaw (YCDC) with 147 (73+74) at the professional level contest.

At the amateur level contest, Yin Aung Latt secures the first position with 146 strokes (74+72). The runners-up are Aung Aung Kyaw with 148 (75+73), Zaw Zin Win with 150 (78+72) and Thein Zaw Myint with 151 (78+73).

Rothmans of Pall Mall Myanmar Pte Ltd, KBZ bank, Air Mandalay, Grand Slam (Munsing Wear), Loi-Hein (Alpine), K M golf Centre, Maruman and Wilson, Canon, UPG Paint and Eden Group Co Ltd also sponsored the championship.

Han Event Management took responsibilities of the championship which continues at the same venue tomorrow. — MNA



Min Naing (Srixon) participates at Myanmar Golf Tour. — MGF

Archery delegates from foreign countries arrive

YANGON, 30 Oct — Vice-Chairman of Asian Archery Federation Mr Sanguan Kosavinta and Honorary President of World Archery Federation Mr Donald M Lovo arrived here this afternoon to attend the 13th Asian Archery Championship and 2004 Athens Olympic Archery Qualifier. Moreover, a

total of 33 athletes—seven from Thailand, five from Hong Kong, 19 from the Republic of Korea and two from the Philippines—also arrived here this afternoon to participate in the archery championship. They were welcomed by officials at the Yangon International Airport.

MNA

US military reports escalation of attacks in Iraq; two Americans killed, seven Ukrainians wounded

BAGHDAD, 30 Oct — Insurgents destroyed an American tank north of Baghdad, killing two US soldiers, and wounded seven Ukrainians in the first ambush against the multinational force patrolling central Iraq, officials said Wednesday. The attacks were part of a dramatic upsurge in recent days.

US policy in Iraq suffered another setback when the international Red Cross announced it was reducing its international staff in the country, two days after a deadly suicide car bombing at its Baghdad headquarters. The humanitarian group Medecins Sans Frontieres, or Doctors Without Borders, also announced it had pulled out workers.

Secretary of State Colin Powell had urged the Red Cross and other non-government organizations to stay in Iraq because "if they are driven out, then the terrorists win."

The latest attacks 233 over the last seven days according to the US military have driven the combat death toll during the occupation above the number killed before President Bush declared an end to active combat on May 1.

Two American soldiers from the 4th Infantry Division were killed and

one was wounded late Tuesday when their Abrams battle tank apparently hit a land mine near Balad, 45 miles north of Baghdad, division spokeswoman Maj Josslyn Aberle said.

Their deaths brought to 117 the number of American soldiers killed by hostile fire since May 1. A total of 114 US soldiers were killed between the start of the war March 20 and the end of April.

It was the first M1 Abrams battle tank destroyed since May 1, military officials said. Several of the 68-ton vehicles the mainstay of the Army's armoured forces were disabled in combat before May 1.

The ambush of the Ukrainians occurred Tuesday night when two armoured personnel carriers rolled over land mines near Suwayrah, about 40 miles southeast of Baghdad.

After the vehicles were disabled,

gunmen opened fire on the disembarked soldiers, a spokesman for the multinational division at Camp Babylon said on condition of anonymity.

The spokesman said it was the first ambush against the Polish-led force that since September has been patrolling a belt of central Iraq south of the capital. About 1,650 Ukrainians are serving in the Polish-led force of some 9,500 peacekeepers.

In Geneva, the International Committee of the Red Cross said it would remain in Iraq, but would reduce the number of international staff now about 30 and increase security for those who stay. The agency has 600 Iraqi employees.

Associated Press writers Katarina Kratovac in Tikrit and Mariam Fam in Mosul contributed to this report.

Internet

မုတ်တိုက်ခတ် ခိုးဝှက်

Baghdad deputy mayor killed in drive-by shooting

BAGHDAD, 30 Oct — The deputy mayor of Baghdad was killed in a drive-by shooting on Sunday night, officials in the US-led coalition occupying Iraq said on Tuesday.

They said Faris al-Assam was near his home in the capital when the killers struck.

His death was a further setback to the coalition, which saw a rocket attack on its main compound on Sunday and four suicide bombings on Monday which killed 35 people and wounded 230.

"Faris was absolutely committed to the welfare of the citizens of Baghdad and the future of the city," said Hank Bassford, the Baghdad region coordinator for the US-led Administration.

"While we mourn the loss of an Iraqi patriot, those who committed this cowardly act should know that we will not be deterred from completing our mission."

Guerillas opposed to the US-led occupation of Iraq have frequently targeted Iraqis, such as politicians and police officers, cooperating with the occupying authorities.

MNA/Reuters



A US Army soldier searches a car while patrolling a street in Tikrit, 193 km (120 miles) north of Baghdad, Iraq, on 28 October, 2003.—INTERNET

US troops' death toll hits landmark figure

BAGHDAD, 30 Oct — The number of US troops killed by hostile forces during the occupation of Iraq exceeded those killed during the war itself when two US soldiers died in an attack north of Baghdad last night.

The two soldiers were killed and another wounded when their vehicle hit a roadside bomb about 75 miles north of Baghdad, the US military said today.

Their deaths brought to 116 the number of US troops killed in hostile action since the US President, George Bush, declared major combat operations over on May 1. The US has said 115 troops died in combat during the six-week war that began on March 20.

The point at which all deaths of US military personnel, regardless of cause, equalled deaths during the conflict was

reached on August 26. At that point, 138 people had died in Iraq through hostilities, vehicle accidents, illness and other causes in the post-May 1 occupation, the same number as died in the war. Up to 15,000 Iraqis — 4,300 of them civilians — died during just the first four weeks of the war, according to a study released yesterday by an independent US thinktank, Project on Defence Alternatives. Iraq Body Count, a volunteer group of British and US academics and researchers, has estimated that between 5,000 and 7,000 civilians died in the conflict.—Internet

Poll shows Latin America has dismal view of Bush

MIAMI, 30 Oct — Latin Americans have a dismal opinion of US President George W Bush after he ignored world opinion to wage war in Iraq, and against a backdrop of mistrust over US aims in pushing for regional free trade, a poll published on Tuesday showed.

The University of Miami School of Business/Zogby International poll of Latin American elites found that only 12 per cent of those questioned rated President Bush's performance on Latin America as positive.

In Brazil, Latin America's largest country, 98 per cent gave the US leader a negative mark.

In Mexico, President Vicente Fox has been frustrated in his quest to improve the lot of 3 million to 5 million Mexicans living illegally in the United States, just 5 per cent gave Bush positive grades.

The poor view of Bush was mirrored by unease about who stands to gain from a 34-nation Free Trade Area of the Americas (FTAA), which would bring down trade barriers from Alaska to Patagonia and create a market of nearly 800 million people.

Just over half of the 537 Latin American community leaders questioned in six countries between August 20-October 2 believed the United States would benefit the most.

In Brazil, which has been trying to establish itself as a South American counterbalance to US economic might ahead of the next FTAA summit in Miami Nov 17-21, almost three-quarters regarded the United States as the prime beneficiary.—MNA/Reuters

Mahathir swipes at US Senate decision

PUTRAJAYA (Malaysia), 30 Oct — Malaysian Prime Minister Mahathir Mohamad brushed off on Tuesday a US Senate decision to curb aid to the country on account of recent remarks he made about Jews ruling the world by proxy.

"It doesn't make any difference to us. We don't really need that money," Mahathir told reporters at his office in the administrative capital three days before he steps down from 22 years in power. The US Senate unanimously agreed on Monday to condition 1.2 million US dollars in military training aid to Malaysia. Malaysia prides itself on being a peaceful multicultural nation, with a 60 per cent Muslim majority, large non-Muslim Chinese and Indian minorities, and hardly any Jews.—MNA/Reuters



A US Army's 4th Infantry Division soldier guards a suspect with a hood on his head during a night raid in Saddam Hussein's home town of Tikrit, 193 km (120 miles) north of Baghdad, Iraq, on 30 October, 2003.—INTERNET

Suicide bomber kills four in Iraq town

FALLUJA (Iraq), 30 Oct — A suicide bomber blew up a car near a police station in the restive Iraqi town of Falluja on Tuesday killing himself and four civilians, police said.

Police officers said a small car driven by one man exploded 100 metres (yards) from the main police station in the town west of Baghdad, outside a secondary school for boys.

Witnesses in Falluja said US troops sealed off the area around the blast.

"Four civilians were killed," said Major Assad Abdul Karim. A US military spokeswoman in Baghdad said she had no immediate information on the incident.

Falluja lies 40 miles west of the Iraqi capital in the so-called "Sunni Triangle" where Saddam Hussein has strong tribal ties and resistance to the US-led occupation is strongest.

MNA/Reuters

Red Cross focuses security review on Baghdad

GENEVA, 30 Oct— The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) said on Tuesday a review of its Iraq presence after the bombing of its Baghdad offices would focus on the capital because it was safer for staff working elsewhere.

But spokeswoman Antonella Notari said no decisions had yet been taken by the Swiss-based aid agency on its response to Monday's unprecedented suicide attack which killed up to 12 Iraqis, including two ICRC guards.

"Yes, (the review) mainly concerns Baghdad. That is where the highest risks are," she told journalists.

Among measures being considered is a total or partial withdrawal of its some 30 foreign staff, who are roughly split between Baghdad, Arbil in the north and Basra in the south.

"We have to look at the operation as

a whole...but I do not see any indications today that we are going to take extraordinary measures for Arbil or Basra," Notari said.

The agency, which is finding its tradition of political neutrality no longer gives it protection in conflicts, also has some 600 Iraqi employees for its work of supplying medicines, repairing water networks and visiting prisoners.

But officials say the latter is difficult without foreign staffers, whether in Iraq or elsewhere, because local employees are vulnerable to pressure

by the powers that be.

The ICRC, which has been in Iraq since 1980, during which time the country has had three wars, has already reduced the number of its international staffers from a peak of about 100 shortly after the overthrow of former president Saddam Hussein.

The pullout speeded up following the killing of an ICRC technician in July and an August bomb attack on the United Nations' headquarters in Baghdad, which also triggered a retreat of UN personnel.

MNA/Reuters

Centenary of Deng Xiaoping's birth to be commemorated

CHENGDU, 30 Oct — Art works featuring Deng Xiaoping's early life as a middle school student, his work-cum-study experience in France and his later life are being made to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the birth of the late senior leader of China.

The works include a bronze sculpture, a bust and a white marble relief sculpture of six pictures depicting Deng at birth, studying at a middle school in his hometown and leading local residents in resisting purchase of made-in-Japan commodities, said the manager surnamed Wang, of the Shenlong Art Science and Technology Company in Chengdu, capital of southwest China's Sichuan Province.

Wang said the artistic works were all designed by Yan Yongming, a well-known sculptor from Deng's home province of Sichuan. Both the bronze sculptures and the bust were finished.

MNA/Xinhua



Pierre Kraehenbuehl, Director of Operations of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) addresses the media during a press conference in Geneva, Switzerland, on 29 October, 2003, about the decision of the Red Cross to stay in Iraq following Monday's suicide car bombings outside the organization's office in central Baghdad.—INTERNET

Chinese Defence Minister meets with US Defence Secretary

WASHINGTON, 30 Oct— Visiting Chinese Defence Minister Cao Gangchuan on Tuesday met with US Defence Secretary Donald H Rumsfeld at the Pentagon for talks on international and regional security, military-to-military ties and other issues of common concern.

Cao, also vice-chairman of China's Central Military Commission and a state councillor, and Rumsfeld agreed that their talks were positive, constructive and fruitful.

Cao said China and the United States, both as large and influential countries in the world, have broad common interest and basis for cooperation on important international and regional security issues.

He said that the development of a healthy and stable relationship serves the funda-

mental interests of the two countries.

Cao said military-to-military ties are an essential part of the Sino-US relations and a healthy and stable relationship between the two militaries is in the interest of both sides.

China is glad to see that the military relations are restoring and developing thanks to the support of the leaders of the two countries and the efforts by the defence departments of the two sides, Cao said.

MNA/Xinhua

UNICEF says many Asian nations failing their children

BANGKOK, 30 Oct— Too many Asia-Pacific countries are failing their children and undermining the region's growth by not investing in early health care, nutrition and schooling, a UNICEF official said on Wednesday.

One year after the United Nations children's agency outlined a new global strategy for early childhood development, the results in Asia were mixed, UNICEF deputy regional director Richard Bridle said.

"While great progress has been made in some places, in others the under-five mortality rate is rising," he told a three-day conference in Bangkok.

"Twenty-seven million of our children are still underweight, every year 40,000 mothers will die as a result of childbirth. Their deaths seriously undermine the prospects of their surviving infants," Bridle said.

Delegates from 30 Asia-Pacific nations were in the Thai capital to review development efforts in a region home to some 600 million children, including more than 150

million under the age of five.

UNICEF's Integrated Early Childhood Development strategy aims to strengthen a family's ability to care for its children by ensuring better access to health care, nutrition, early schooling and basic services like clean water and sanitation.

The right nutrition and stimulation are vital during the first three years of a child's life, when some parts of the brain can nearly double in size in 12 months, the agency said.

"Without it the result can be stunting — not just physically, but mentally, emotionally and socially," it said. UNICEF argues that rather than treating problems in isolation, countries can reduce sickness, mortality rates and boost overall development if their programmes are integrated.—MNA/Reuters

ဝက်ပွင့်အား ခေတ်ကျော်လွှား

Who is behind attacks unclear in Baghdad

BAGHDAD, 30 Oct— Twelve bombings and three months later, US occupation authorities appear no closer to halting the Iraq terror offensive than on the August morning when the first exploding vehicle ripped through Jordan's embassy in Baghdad.

Some American officials were quick to blame diehard Saddam Hussein loyalists for the latest Baghdad suicide bombings, 45 minutes of coordinated strikes that stunned Iraqis. Others pointed to "foreign fighters." On Tuesday, President Bush blamed both for the siege of Baghdad violence.

But in Baghdad itself, the US-led occupation made clear it's still too early to answer the urgent questions of who's behind the attacks and how to stop them.

The four bombings Monday, killing some three dozen people and wounding more than 200, were the latest in a string stretching back to Aug. 7 and the Jordanian Embassy. Since then, truck and car bombs have devastated the UN headquarters, killed an Iraqi religious leader and scores of followers, and struck Turkey's embassy, a hotel and other targets, killing more than 100 more people.

No credible claims of responsibility were made in the major attacks. Though seemingly aimed at discouraging cooperation with the US occupation, the bombings weren't accompanied by any manifesto of goals or demands. And despite physical evidence left behind, investigations seem stalled. "We do not have a case," a top Pentagon officer, Lt Gen Norton Schwartz, admitted last week. — Internet

Red Cross cuts foreign staff in Iraq

GENEVA, 30 Oct— The traditionally neutral Red Cross, reeling from a devastating car bomb attack on its Baghdad headquarters, said on Wednesday it would pull some foreign staff out of Iraq but would continue to operate there.

The Swiss-based International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) stressed it would keep up its work in Iraq, where it has some 30 foreign and 600 local staff.

But it said it would review its operating methods to afford better protection to employees after Monday's suicide bombing killed 12 people, including two Red Cross guards — one of four near simultaneous suicide attacks around the city in which 35 people died.

"We are reducing the number of international staffers and implementing additional measures to increase security for our remaining staff," ICRC operations director Pierre Krahenbuhl told a news conference.

"The ICRC is not withdrawing from Iraq," he added. Details of how many staff would leave and what new steps would be taken were still being worked on.

Monday's bloodbath left aid agencies agonizing over their future as violence continues unabated despite the US-led occupation in postwar Iraq.—MNA/Reuters



Commander of US Army 4th Infantry Division 1-22 Infantry regiment (centre), checks ID of suspect with a hood on his head as other soldiers guard during a night raid in Saddam Hussein's home town of Tikrit, 193 km (120 miles) north of Baghdad, Iraq, on 30 October, 2003.—INTERNET

IRAQ UNDER US OCCUPATION



A US Army foot patrol passes barbed wire surrounding two city center hotels in the Iraqi capital of Baghdad, on 29 October, 2003. The US postwar combat death toll in Iraq climbed past the number of soldiers killed during the invasion when the US military said Wednesday it had lost two more dead in a roadside bomb north of Baghdad. Their deaths brought to 116 the number of US troops killed in hostilities since President Bush declared major combat over on 1 May, surpassing the 115 killed in the war launched on 20 March.—INTERNET



US Army 4th Infantry Division soldiers gather outside a first aid station in Tikrit, 193 km (120 miles) north of Baghdad, Iraq, on Tuesday, 28 October, 2003. One US soldier was wounded when guerillas opened fire late Tuesday on the southern gate of the main US military base in Saddam Hussein's hometown.—INTERNET



Employees of the International Red Cross collect electronic equipment left in the destroyed headquarters in Baghdad, on Tuesday, 28 October, 2003. The International Red Cross says it has yet to make a decision on whether to pull staff out of Iraq following Monday's suicide car bombings outside the organization's office in central Baghdad.—INTERNET



Iraqi children pass by the destroyed headquarters of the International Red Cross in Baghdad, on 28 October, 2003.—INTERNET



US Army's 4th Infantry Division soldiers hold a suspect with a hood on his head, as his mother looks on, during a night raid in Saddam Hussein's home town of Tikrit, 193 km (120 miles) north of Baghdad, Iraq, on Thursday, 30 October, 2003.

INTERNET



US Army soldiers walk through the debris of the Bayaa police station in Baghdad, in the western part of the city, on Monday, 27 October, 2003. A car bomb exploded outside this police station, leaving at least three Iraqis dead and several injured. Car bombers struck the International Red Cross headquarters and four police stations across Baghdad on Monday, killing almost 40 people, police and US military reported.—INTERNET

UN envoy says oil-for-food programme difficult to phase out

UNITED NATIONS, 30 Oct — Amid worsening security in Iraq, the course of phasing out the UN "oil-for-food" programme is facing increasing difficulties, Benon Sevan, the head of the UN humanitarian programme said Tuesday.

In a closed briefing to the UN Security Council, he said that due to the reduction of UN personnel and the late deployment of a hand-over team by the Coalition Provisional Authority (CPA), the intended joint physical review "has not been possible".

The 15-member Council in May passed Resolution 1483 to phase out the aid programme on November 21, after which Iraqi oil revenues are to be placed in a fund controlled by the United States and Britain that is to be used to help rebuild Iraq.

Sevan said that the number of UN international staff and consultants has been reduced from the total of 769 countrywide to a "small core group of international staff in Baghdad and Erbil".

He noted that a minimum of 115 international staff was needed in the north alone, to maintain "an orderly transfer" of over 3.5-billion-dollar worth of completed and

ongoing projects, including 1.5-billion-dollar worth of assets to the authority as required.

"Handing over a multi-billion-dollar programme of such complexity and magnitude during the six-month period... would have been extremely difficult even under the best of circumstances," he said.

He added that the remaining much reduced UN staff members are working mostly at locations far removed from their normal environment and, at times, "without having access to all the necessary documentation".

In the absence of the needed staff, he reiterated his "as is" plan to meet the deadline. "I see no alternative... to the transfer of assets, ongoing operations and responsibility for the administration of any remaining activity under the programme to the CPA, as is, together with relevant documentation," he said. —MNA/Xinhua

မြို့ပြဒုက္ခသည်များ အခက်အခဲများ ရင်ဆိုင်နေကြရခြင်း



An Iraqi woman and girls cry at their home as their relatives are being detained (unseen) while a US Army 4th Infantry Division soldier guards them during a night raid in Saddam Hussein's home town of Tikrit, 193 km (120 miles) north of Baghdad, Iraq, on 30 October, 2003. —INTERNET

Iraq to resume oil exports to Jordan

AMMAN, 30 Oct — Iraq will resume its crude oil supplies to Jordan, local *Jordan Times* newspaper quoted Foreign Minister Marwan Moasher as reporting on Wednesday.

"Iraq's oil remains cheaper to Jordan due to the relatively short distance between the two neighbours," the minister said, adding that the Iraqi oil meets the Jordanian petroleum standards.

He said the two countries have reached an agreement, under which Iraq will export 2.6 million tons of oil annually, or 50,000 barrels every day, to Jordan according to international market prices.

Currently, Jordan has to import almost all of its oil needs from the Gulf countries, such as Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and the United Arab Emirates.

Iraq's oil, which will be carried by ship from Iraq's southern port of Al Bakr to Jordanian Red Sea harbour of Aqaba, is expected to arrive in Jordan within 10 to 15 days, Moasher revealed.

The 50,000 barrels account for nearly 50 per cent of Jordan's daily consumption of oil at 95,000 barrels.

After the 1991 Gulf War, Iraq became Jordan's sole oil provider. Among the annual inflow of 5.5 million tons of oil and oil products, half were at preferential prices and half for granted.

MNA/Xinhua



A US soldier guards two men detained during a pre-dawn raid in downtown Tikrit. The House-Senate reconciliation committee approved an 18.4 billion dollar reconstruction aid package for Iraq, complying with the White House demand that no part of the money should be in the form of a loan. —INTERNET

Aid group Medecins Sans Frontieres pulls staff from Baghdad

BAGHDAD, 30 Oct — The aid group Medecins Sans Frontieres on Wednesday pulled out part of its staff from Iraq for security reasons, the organization said.

The group, known in English as Doctors Without Borders, said it decided to reduce its expatriate team in Baghdad and move them to Amman, Jordan due to safety concerns.

The decision came two days after a suicide bomber struck the Iraq headquarters of the International Red Cross, killing two Iraqi Red Cross employees and at least 10 civilians outside the compound.

The Red Cross also announced Wednesday that it would cut back on its international staff in Iraq, but remain in the country for the sake of the Iraqi people.

MSF said its medical personnel had been scheduled to leave Baghdad, but their departure was hastened by the Red Cross attack.

"The reduction was foreseen," she said. "It was sped up because of events. It's a balance between the security of the staff and the needs of the population on the ground," said Linda Van Weyenberg, MSF spokeswoman.

Internet

China passes new law on road transportation safety

BEIJING, 30 Oct — China's top legislature Tuesday passed two laws on road transportation safety and on security investment funds, and removed Tian Fengshan from his post of Minister of Land and Resources and appointed Sun Wensheng as the new minister.

The fifth meeting of the 10th National People's Congress (NPC) Standing Committee, which was held from October 23 to October 28, also approved the decision to turn government loans, which the central government borrowed from the People's Bank of China before 1995, into tradable treasury bonds.

The Law on Road Transportation Safety, which has been deliberated by the NPC Standing Committee four times, will take effect as of May 1, 2004.

The Law on Security Investment Funds, which has been submitted to the NPC Standing Committee for

deliberation three times, will go into effect on June 1, 2004.

The meeting approved four reports presented by the Internal and Judicial Affairs Committee, Financial and Economic Committee, Education, Science and Technology Committee, Agricultural and Rural Committee respectively on the deliberation results of the bills proposed by representatives in the first meeting of the 10th NPC.

During the meeting, the NPC Standing Committee also deliberated the draft laws on the People's Bank of China, commercial banks and banking supervision. —MNA/Xinhua

Two US agents killed in east Afghanistan

KABUL, 30 Oct — Two US veterans working for the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) were killed in ambush in east Afghanistan while helping US-led coalition forces root out Taliban and al-Qaeda remnants, reports reaching here said on Wednesday.

The ambush happened on Saturday in the eastern province of Paktika, where US

Special Operations forces and Afghan Government troops, with air support, battled against a group of Taliban guerilla fighters for about six hours.

A CIA statement issued overnight in Washington said that the two CIA agents were tracking terrorists operating in the Shkin region of Paktika

Province, close to the Pakistan border, when they were killed.

Some 18 Taliban and al-Qaeda fighters were killed in Saturday's operation, during which US helicopters and jet fighters fired at the enemy forces, US military authorities in Afghanistan announced on Tuesday.

MNA/Xinhua

Malaysia to open embassy in Nepal

KATHMANDU, 30 Oct — Malaysia will establish its resident embassy in Nepal within the next month, a spokesman of the Nepali Foreign Ministry said here Tuesday.

"Malaysia has expressed its intention of opening an embassy in Nepal by the coming November 30," state-run English daily *The Rising Nepal* Wednesday quoted Foreign Ministry spokesman

Madan Kumar Bhattarai as saying. "A formal proposal to this end has been received from the Malaysian Government and the task of giving it final shape has reached the last stages.

The Malaysian Charge d'Affaires to Nepal will be appointed to the Malaysian Embassy to be established in Kathmandu," Bhattarai said.

He expressed belief that

the embassy will provide adequate assistance to Nepali labourers going abroad for employment. According to statistics, some 40,000 Nepali workers go to Malaysia for employment annually, and remittances of 2.5 million to three million US dollars come from Malaysia every month, which play an important role in Nepal's economy.

MNA/Xinhua

Border area development (Kayah region)

Myint Soe (Na-ta-la)

Tracking

In my view, the process of peace and the stand and form of the armed groups in Kayah State is more significant than other regions. Many of the places in northern and eastern Shan State and Kachin State achieved peace in 1989. But the situation in Kayah State remained unchanged.

Peace was restored in Pa-O region in southern Shan State, and Palaung region in 1991. But the armed groups in Kayah State upheld different ideologies, beliefs and stand points. The BCP under its scheme to restore its influence in the Bago Yoma region, penetrated the regions frequented by the Kayan Pyithit Party and tried to organize it in 1975, 1976, 1977 and 1978. There were also other groups existing independently in Kayah State.

The armed groups battled with the Tatmadaw and fought against each other too. The Tatmadaw columns therefore had been tracking the armed groups.

The sound of peace

In 1992, the KNG made peace, but the Ka-la-ta-la, Kayan Pyithit Party and the KNPP remained underground. They too wanted peace, but they kept watching the situation. They needed time to remove all the suspicion.

They would be weighing and studying the national policy of the State, its goodwill towards the border areas and results of the peace. On 17 November 1993, the armed groups began to clearly hear the sound of peace that would bring progress to their region in accord with their wish.

On that day, Chairman of the Working Committee for Progress of Border Areas and National Races Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council (now Prime Minister) General Khin Nyunt held a special meeting with Kayah State level officials, departmental personnel of Loikaw, Pruhso and Dimawho townships, local elders, and local people at the town hall in Loikaw. In his address at the meeting, he underscored following factors:

- * Because of the lack of peace in the regions resulting from the internal insurgency that broke out soon after the regaining of independence, the country did not achieve development. The advanced and developed nations have no internal insurgency at all.
- * The armed groups in the jungles had opposed the successive governments for over 40 years in Myanmar. I would like to urge them to reconsider whether their armed opposition, although exceeding a period of more than 40 years, brought any benefit to them and development to their region.
- * The border areas and national races development endeavours are being launched with the aim of enabling the national brethren to live in weal or woe and enjoy equal benefits and narrowing the social and economic gap between one region and another without discrimination between states and divisions.
- * I would like to urge the national races to work for all the armed groups in the jungles to return

to the legal fold soonest for the State to be able to make utmost efforts to develop the entire Kayah State. In this regard, I would like to invite the armed groups to hold negotiations with the government and return to the legal fold, and I am officially inviting them, on behalf of the State.

Images of peace

Wonderful, the armed groups in Kayah State were all silent and moved towards peace simultaneously. Ka-la-ta-la, Kayan Pyithit Party and KNPP returned to legal fold almost at the same time. But it was sure that they still would have doubts and worries as they were building trust from the positions of opposing each other.

On 9 February 1994, officials of the Military Intelligence met with the Ka-la-ta-la group in Mese. The Tatmadaw columns and the Ka-la-ta-la members arrived in Mese in advance. The manpower of hundreds on both sides were equal. The helicopter carrying the MI officials and peace negotiators from Loikaw had not arrived at the town yet. Both sides were watching each other with high military alert.

The MI officials and peace negotiators saw a large crowd of people wearing uniforms on the ground while the helicopter was hovering above the town. They were not able to differentiate between their men and the members of the Ka-la-ta-la. So they flew over the town in a lower altitude. But in the end, they made the decision to land as they were on a mission. Later, the Ka-la-ta-la leaders said that their trust in the Government had become firmer when the helicopter had landed in the town. When the negotiations had completed, the Tatmadaw members and the Ka-la-ta-la members hugged each other happily. All the locals were also happy. Mese was so beautiful at that moment. The pilots that brought peace to Mese were Maj Aung Kywe and Maj Htay Win. The former was no more.

After the meeting between both sides on 21, 23 and 26 February and 23, 28 and 29 April 1994, the ceremony marking the Ka-la-ta-la's return to the legal fold was held at Kanda Hewon Park in Loikaw on 9 May the same year. Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council (now Prime Minister) General Khin Nyunt attended the ceremony.

The Kayan Pyithit Party also held meetings with MI officials on 16 and 28 February, 5 May and 22 June 1994. Vice-Chairman of Kayan Pyithit Party U Than Soe Naing presented a letter to General Khin Nyunt on 25 June 1994, saying that the peace negotiations were in progress; that they had full confidence in the State's goodwill; and that he would like to invite General Khin Nyunt to attend the ceremony marking the restoration of peace. General Khin Nyunt attended the peace ceremony held at the town hall in Loikaw on 26 July 1994.

(To be continued)

Translation: TMT

Myamma Alin, Kyemon: 28-10-2003

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

All this needs to be known

- * Do not be frightened whenever intimidated
- * Do not be bolstered whenever flattered
- * Do not be softened whenever appeased

US lawmakers push to end Cuba travel ban

WASHINGTON, 30 Oct — US lawmakers who want to lift a longstanding ban on travel to Cuba launched efforts on Wednesday to ensure congressional leaders do not kill the measure in a back room deal with the Bush Administration.

The US Senate and the House of Representatives have voted overwhelmingly to lift the ban by eliminating any funding to enforce it. However, President George W. Bush has threatened to veto any bill easing the four-decade-old US embargo on Cuba.

Senator Max Baucus, a Montana Democrat, and other supporters said they hoped to prevent the measure from being killed during House-Senate deliberations as it has been in the past.

"I fully expect the con-

ference to observe the will of Congress," Baucus said, referring to negotiators from both chambers responsible for crafting final legislation.

The Senate voted 59-36 last week to lift the travel ban as part of an annual bill to fund the US Transportation Department, the Treasury and other independent agencies.

The House voted 227-188 in September to approve an identical provision for the fourth year in a row in its version of the appropriations bill. The Bush Administration has worked with Re-

publican congressional leaders in previous years to kill the provision during negotiations on a final spending bill.

But the fact that the Senate and House passed identical versions of the measure means it should be included in the final spending bill, if normal rules are observed.

Baucus said he doubted Bush would veto the appropriations bill if the Cuba travel measure was included.

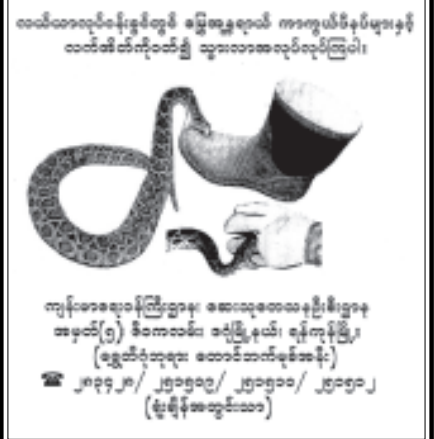
"I expect the administration is having second

thoughts about that" because of the surprisingly large Senate vote in favour of removing the travel restriction, he said.

A Senate Democratic aide said supporters were confident they would be able to beat back any effort to kill the provision in the House-Senate conference.

The 91-3 Senate vote and the 381-39 House vote on the final Transportation Department and Treasury spending bill also indicates Congress could overturn a Bush veto, he said.

MNA/Reuters



General Thura Shwe Mann...

(from page 1)

After greeting the patients there, General Thura Shwe Mann met officers and other ranks and their families at the hall of local battalion. He gave instructions on extended agricultural and livestock breeding tasks and regional development tasks and inspected agricultural and livestock breeding tasks. General Thura Shwe Mann met with departmental officials, social organization members and heard reports on tasks being carried out in respective sectors. After attending to the needs, he made a speech. He expressed his delight to see the town progressing. This is the result of the cooperative efforts of departmental officials and local people. At a time when the State is making efforts for equitable development in the country, departmental officials are dutifully carrying out the assigned tasks. It is needed to extend tasks for agriculture, livestock breeding, education and health in the region with added momentum. Departmental officials concerned are to unitedly strive for successful implementation of the five rural area development tasks.

He then presented cash and sport equipment to officials for departmental staff and social organizations in the town. Afterwards, General Thura Shwe Mann and party left there and arrived back here in the afternoon.

MNA



General Thura Shwe Mann presents offertories to members of the Sangha in Sasana Mandaing Monastery in Cocogyun Township. — MNA



Minister U Soe Tha and wife present offertories to members of Sangha at 11th Communal Kathina Robes offering ceremony of the Ministry of NPED. — MNA

NPED Ministry holds Kathina robes offering ceremony

YANGON, 30 Oct — Under the patronage of Minister for National Planning and Economic Development U Soe Tha and wife, the families of the ministry held the 11th communal Kathina robes offering ceremony at Leti Vipassana Monastery in Thingangyun Township this morning.

Sayadaw of the monas-

tery Bhaddanta Asabha administered the Five Precepts to the congregation.

The minister and wife and departmental heads presented Kathina robes and offertories to members of the Sangha. The minister and wife offered robes and provisions to the nuns, followed by sharing of merits gained.

MNA

Report on Myanmar once again issued

(from page 1)

democratic society in the country. For Myanmar, the interests of the 52 million people takes precedence over everything and we will not be deviated from our path by threats and challenges. Democracy must be homegrown and cannot be imposed from outside.

With regard to the economic situation, any disinterested observer will find that the unilateral sanctions imposed by the United States on Myanmar are not having the intended effect. Even the report acknowledges that "We are not in a position to judge whether they have served to increase the pressure on the government to change its basic policies". The Government, relying on its own resources and with the support of friends and neighbours, has been able to improve the quality of life of its citizens. Never before in its history has the country seen so much improvement in its basic infrastructure as well as health and education standards of the people in such a brief time.

There also exists indisputable evidence that Myanmar is committed to the war against drugs. Nevertheless, the US report claims that Myanmar "has failed to fully meet its obligations" in the drug war, without explaining what it means. Myanmar is using all available resources, to fight drugs. It is also cooperating with regional and international partners as well as with international organizations. Moreover, it appears that report fails to take into account the statistics provided by its own Drug Enforcement Agency or by the International Narcotic Control Board (INCB). Myanmar has already conducted together with the United States Opium Yield Survey 9 times and the US agency concerned clearly acknowledged that opium production has fallen 77 per cent since the programme began in 1993. If one is to quote from INCB report, it is clearly stated that opium production fell by 50 per cent in the last six years.

Therefore, it is time for the United States to adopt a more positive approach towards Myanmar. It is time that it begins with a fair and objective assessment on the situation in Myanmar. It is also time to review policies that are neither in the interest of Myanmar nor the United States.

Winners of Sarpay Beikman Manuscript Award announced

YANGON, 30 Oct — The list of award-winning writers at the Competition for Sarpay Beikman Manuscript Award 2002, organized by the Printing and Publishing Enterprise under the Ministry of Information, was announced today.

In the novel category, Nan Moe Saw Aung and Kay (Taungdanpya) stood second and third respectively. In the collective short stories category, Aung Thu Yein (Pale), Hta Myat Ma (Dagon University) and Thaug Myint Oo (Kungyangon) came first,

second and third respectively. In the collective poems category, Shwe Myaing Maung Phu Wa, Maung Thet Hnin (North Okkalapa) and Zani gained the first, second and third prizes respectively.

In the knowledge (art) category, first prize went to U Thaug Ngwe, second to Dr Aye Kyaw and third to Maung Nwe Than (IPRD). In the knowledge (science and applied science) category, Naing Shwe Moe fetched the first prize; Htin Lin Aung (Civil), second; and Shwenaga Tin Win, third. In the belles-lettres category, respective first, second and third prizes were taken by Maung Sein Htwe, Yawnaka Pho Htaung and Maung Chit Htwe (MA).

In the Myanmar culture and arts category, Bagyi Hla Tin Tun, Aung Nyein Chan (Mandalay University) and Zin Min (Thameintaw) took away first, second and third prizes respectively. In the children's literature category, first prize went to Hsu Lat Tun, second to Yebaw Mya Thein (Hopong), and third to Maung Mon Myat (Kyelat—Magway).

In the youth literature category, Maubin Lwin Kyaw and Tint Tun stood first and second respectively. In the

play literature category, second prize went to Zin Min (Thameintaw) and third to Tin Tun Oo (Culture). In the translation literature category, Zaw Tun Aung won first.

Although 12 genres in Sarpay Beikman Manuscript Awards are offered, no manuscripts fetched awards in the political literature category.

The winners are requested to contact Sarpay Beikman Awards on Merchant Street in Yangon via the telephone number 252560, before 7 November. The prize presentation ceremony is at National Theatre here on 23 November.

MNA

National Literary Translation Award Winner (Non-fiction) Hein Latt

Article & Photo by Thaug Win Bo

Saya Hein Latt won the National Literary Translation Award (Non-fiction) for 2003 with his "From the Third World to the First World", Myanmar Version of the Autobiography of former Singapore Prime Minister Lee Kwan Yew.

Urged by his friend U Hla Thet Maung, who bought the book on his return from a foreign trip, and writer Mar Jay, Saya Hein Latt tasted the book and acquired an incentive to translate the book which, he thought, was full of endeavours worthy of emulating. Believing the book must have a proper place in Myanmar literature, he translated it into Myanmar, which has brought him the national literary award.

Nation building endeavours of former Singapore

Prime Minister Lee Kwan Yew is the beauties of the book that has won popularity and success so much that the publisher of the book, Business Information Group was not able to provide enough copies to the readers.

Saya Hein Latt has published 55 books, and the 50th book has brought him his first National Literary award.

He has written books mainly on biography and religion. He was a librarian at the Institute of Agriculture in 1972 before he served as an assistant research officer at the Myanmar Education Research Society from 1976 to 1996. He got a diploma in library science and gave lectures in librarian courses Nos 1 to 10 of the Information and Public Relations Department.

Saya Hein Latt, the eldest son of U Maung Maung Tun and Daw Myint Myint, was born in Yangon and married to Daw Thiri Khin with one daughter. He said he welcomed the publication of fine literature in Myanmar and saw reading of books by Myanmar

enthusiasts despite the high prices of books as a positive sign. He also expressed his conviction that only when there are more libraries, will the world of literature develop and new generation youths enjoy benefits.

Translation: MWT



Winner of National Literary Award for translation in non-fiction category writer Hein Latt. — PHOTO BY THAUN WIN BO

Stimulant tablets seized in Tachilek

YANGON, 30 Oct — Local police in Tachilek on 22 September seized 59,050 stimulant tablets bearing WY letters packed in 44 plastic bags from a house in Nanhkam Village, Monglin Village-tract, in Tachilek Township.

In connection with the case, action was being taken against the house owner Daw Ar Ei, daughter of U Kyalaw, under Section 15/19 (A) of Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law.

MNA

Pivot fixed atop Pyathad...

(from page 16)

Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than and party presented offerings to members of the Sangha.

The Sayadaw delivered a sermon, followed by sharing of merits.

Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than and party offered lights and incense sticks to the Buddha Image in the prayer hall. The Sayadaw and Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than and party sprinkled scented water on the pivot atop the prayer hall. Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than fixed the pivot atop the prayer hall. Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than and the commander performed rituals of golden and silver showers to mark the successful completion of the ceremony.

Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than and party proceeded to Yathedaung Township, where they were welcomed by Col Aye Thaik of Yathedaung Station, Col Win Swe, departmental officials, members of the Union Solidarity and Development Association and social organizations and local people. They inspected the paddy fields of local regiment, wind-breaking trees, shady trees, perennial trees, tasks carried out for cleanliness of the regiment, vegetable patches and fish breeding ponds.

In the afternoon, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than met with officers and other ranks and their families at the hall of the regiment.

Lt-Gen Khin Maung

Than and party inspected progress of the township, thriving paddy fields and sanitation for beautifying the township.

Afterwards, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than and party arrived at the Yathedaung Township Basic Education High School where they viewed learning of students with the use of teaching/learning aids and gave necessary instructions. They also visited Alodawpyay monastery of Aungmyay Bodhi Dhamma Yeiktha to pay homage to Township Sangha Nayaka Chairman Sayadaw Bhaddanta Arcarayanthi and members Sayadaws, Presiding Sayadaw of the monastery Sayadaw Bhaddanta Sobhana and members of the Sangha.

After supplicating matters related to religious affairs, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than and party offered provisions to the Sayadaws. They then arrived at Township People's Hospital to inspect wards and surgical rooms. Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than gave instructions to warmly welcome and give treatments to the patients with goodwill, to stock necessary medicine and to do sanitary tasks.

At the hall of township PDC office, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than and party met with township PDC members, departmental officials, ward PDC members, members of USDA, social organizations, war veterans organization, townsellers and local people.



Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than fixes pivot to the Pyathad of the prayer hall of Buddha's Footprint Pagoda in Chedawya Village, Musay Island in Yathedaung Township. —MNA

Township PDC Chairman U Thein Than Maung reported on the area and location of the township, population, rainfall, land reclamation, growing of summer and monsoon paddy and new items, local rice sufficiency, livestock breeding and regional development tasks.

Commander Maj-Gen Maung Oo presented a supplementary report.

Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than made a speech. He said in making efforts for development of the State's economy region-wise plans have to be laid down. It is needed to extend sown acre-

age in the township and priority is to be given to produce 100 baskets of rice per acre. For boosting per acre yield, it is needed for officials concerned to educate the farmers to systematically choose quality strain paddy, organic and inorganic fertilizers and necessary assistance is to be given to them. Systematic extended growing of Matpe and Pedisein for boosting production is needed. In growing Matpe, it is needed to educate local farmers for systematic cultivation of the crop. As regards growing of perennial crops, the region needs growing of Thitseint trees. Of the

three new items, pepper is to be grown on a commercial scale and necessary assistance will be given. In livestock breeding sector, it is needed to raise poultry of domestic strain on a manageable scale. As regards prawn breeding, it is needed to take care not to decrease sown acreage in the region. All are to strive for stability of the region and prevalence of law. Necessary

measures are to be taken for safe drinking water. In conclusion, he urged all to make efforts for the town to have the standard of a town and to be clean.

After greeting departmental officials, social organization members, townsellers and local people, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than and party arrived back in Buthidaung.

MNA

Competition programmes of 11th MTCAPAC go on

YANGON, 30 Oct — The 11th Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions continued competition programmes at designated places for the 17th day here today.

The venues where competition programmes took place were visited by member of the Panel of Patrons of the Committee for the MTCAPAC and Minister for Culture Maj-Gen Kyi Aung, Director-General of the State Peace and Development Council Office Lt-Gen Pe Nyein, Managing Director of the News and Periodicals Enterprise U Tin Kha, officials from committees and subcommittees, enthusiasts, tourists and students.

In the song contest held at the National Museum on Pyay Road in Dagon Township at 9 am, eight contestants at women's professional level and 11 contestants at basic education level (boys, aged 15-20) participated in the classical song event.

The song contest for girls

and boys, aged 5-10, at basic education level will be held tomorrow for the last day at the same venue. In the mandolin contest held at the National Theatre in Dagon Township at 9 am, seven contestants joined the competition at basic education level (boys, aged 10-15), and two contestants at basic education level (girls, aged 10-15).

The xylophone contest took place at the Kambawza Theatre on Kaba Aye Pagoda Road here at 9 am today. A total of six contestants competed in the contest at women's amateur level, and nine contestants at basic education level (boys, aged 15-20).

In the harp contest which was held at the Padonma Theatre in Sangyoung Township, four contestants competed at basic education level (boys, aged 5-10), and six contestants at basic education level (girls, aged 5-10). Seven harpists at men's amateur level and four harpists at women's amateur level joined the competition. —MNA



Minister for Culture Maj-Gen Kyi Aung enjoys the professional song contest (women). —MNA



A contestant participates at amateur level harp contest (women). —MNA

Task Force on Tourism Manpower Development meets

YANGON, 30 Oct — The Ninth Meeting of the Task Force on Tourism Manpower Development took place at

Bagan Hotel in Nyaung U Township this morning.

It was attended by representatives from Brunei, Cam-

bodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam and ASEAN Secretariat, and delegates of Myanmar Tourism Entrepreneurs Association and Myanmar Hoteliers Association of the Ministry of Hotels and Tourism.

The meeting focused on the plan on the task force on

tourism manpower development, research on tourism manpower development, conducting of courses for tour guides and collection of results of the research works, terms of reference, suggestion papers, drawing of tables of manpower and requirements of courses for tour guides conducted in ASEAN member nations. —MNA

Mountaineering team in action

YANGON 30 Oct — A 35-member new generation mountaineering team of all universities led by Secretary of Myanmar Hiking and Mountaineering Federation U Myo Thant successfully scaled Mt Myinmahti (5862-foot) in Kalaw Township on 16 October, Mt Hsintaung

(6020-foot) in the same township on 17 October and Mt Ashemyin Anaukmyint (7752-foot) in Pindaya Township on 21 October, and hoisted the State Flags on the summits. The teams practised mountaineering on Mt Taungchon in Taunggyi Township on 24 October. —MNA



Contract for purchase of electronic levers was signed between Myanmar FISCA Enterprise and China Telecom Co at the Consulate of the Union of Myanmar in Kunming, China, on 15 October at the presence of Yangon City Development Committee Joint-Secretary U Kyi Win and Consul-General U Thein Zaw.

Bagan Archaeological Zone gaining development momentum

Article by *Kayan Soe Myint* and

Photos by *Thwin Aye (Kyemon) & Kayan Soe Myint*

According to the Maha Yazawindawgyi and Hmannan Yazawindawgyi treatises, 55 Myanmar kings successively ruled Bagan Royal City (from 108 AD to 1369 AD) for more than 1,200 years in conformity with ten precepts of a good king. It was first founded by King Thamoddarit. It also

forts for promotion and propagation of the Buddha Sasana.

Bagan Archaeological Zone is the cultural heart of Myanmar, the Land of Golden Pagodas. The region is teeming with pagodas, most of them have been renovated without damaging their original designs. In

palace now.

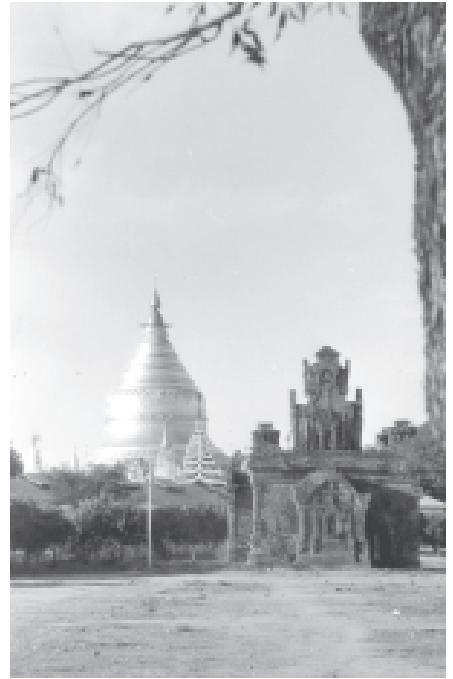
The State Peace and Development Council has been preserving and renovating the cultural heritage in Bagan, and at the same time fulfilling the requirements of the people — construction of roads, bridges, railroads, modern buildings, hotels, motels, sports

grounds, irrigation facilities, education facilities and hospitals, and implementation of potable water supply projects.

Now, the government has upgraded Bagan-NyaungU Township into NyaungU District. Thanks to the stability and prevalence of law and order, development projects have been accomplished cent per cent in the region.

A total of 56,147 tourists from over 50 nations visited Bagan Archaeological Zone in 2001, 70,223 in 2002 and up to September 2003 altogether 42,913 tourists visited the region. Most of them were from Germany, France, USA, Italy, Australia, Japan, UK, Switzerland, the Republic of Korea, Canada and the People's Republic of China.

Bagan is an archaeological region that is endowed with priceless and



The Shwezigon Pagoda and an ancient stupa in Bagan Archaeological Zone. — THWIN AYE (KYEMON)



The splendid Bagan Archaeological Museum constructed by the Ministry of Culture. — KAYAN SOE MYINT

said that during the period, Bagan Royal City was the most splendid nation as well as an unrivalled one in the world.

The religious edifices, the city wall, the moat and the old palace, stone inscriptions on donations, and wall paintings created throughout Bagan period indicated that Aniruddadewa (a) King Anawrahta founded the first Myanmar Empire and made enormous and relentless ef-

orts in the past, they were only damaged ones or mounds for a long time.

Senior General Than Shwe in his tour of Bagan-NyaungU on 19 April 2003 gave guidance on rebuilding the ancient Bagan Palace of King Anawrahta, the founder of the First Myanmar Empire. Following the guidance, the Archaeology Department under the Ministry of Culture is excavating the ancient



The rapidly developing Bagan Archaeological Zone is a tourist attraction. The Myanma Airways and private-owned airlines are operating for the convenience of travellers. — KAYAN SOE MYINT

Clinton says US must work harder at making friends

LITTLE ROCK (Arkansas), 30 Oct — Former President Bill Clinton said on Wednesday the US needs to work harder at making friends so it will have fewer enemies. "In a world where we can't possibly occupy or jail or defeat every person that might wish us ill, we need to work harder to make a world with more partners and fewer terrorists," said Clinton, speaking at the groundbreaking of a new world headquarters for aid group Heifer Project International.

His successor, President George W

Bush has launched a global "war on terrorism" since the September 11, 2001 attacks on New York and Washington that have included invasions of Afghanistan and Iraq.

Clinton said greater humanitarian co-operation would make the world safer because the use of force could not curb all anti-US sentiment. The Heifer Project, founded 60 years ago in Iowa but now located in the Arkansas capital, distributes farm animals, fish and poultry to the poor in the United States and 47 other countries.

MNA/Reuters

Ugandan minister promises cheaper "AIDS" drugs

KAMPALA, 30 Oct — Ugandan Minister of Health Jim Muhwezi has said that AIDS patients in the country may soon access anti-retrovirals (ARVs) at less than half a US dollar a day.

Muhwezi was quoted Wednesday by local daily *The New Vision* as saying that bidders for supply of ARVs quoted very low prices, with one quoting less than half a dollar per daily dose.

The minister did not name the companies, but said the bids were opened on Monday last week. He said President Yoweri Museveni had negotiated with pharmaceuticals to lower the cost of anti-retrovirals.

He also said Museveni and former South African President Nelson Mandela had lobbied former US President Bill Clinton to have the cost lowered by 100 per cent.

MNA/Xinhua



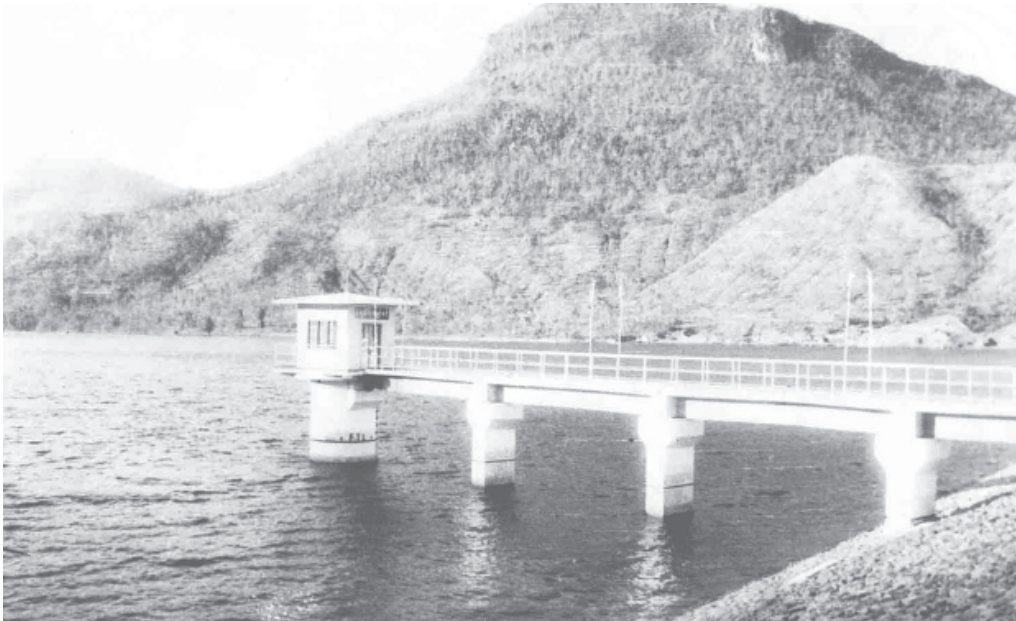
First ASEAN - INDIA Tourism Consultation

Bagan, Union of Myanmar

October 31, 2003



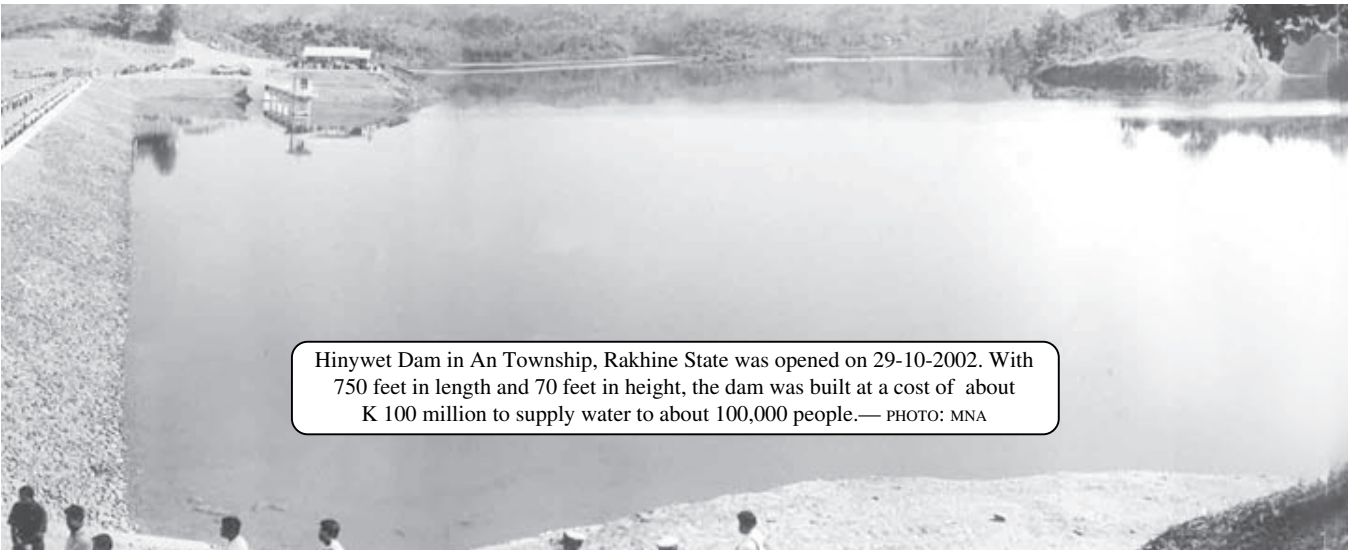
Implementation of projects for socio-economic development of all regions in the country



For extension of agricultural tasks, dams and reservoirs are being built across the country spending a large sum of money. Loinanpha Dam was built on Tikellya Creek near Loinanpha village, Dimawhso Township, Kayah State. The dam was opened on 6 March 2002. — PHOTO: MNA

Thaphanseik dam is located near Thaphanseik village in Kyunhla Township, Shwebo District, Sagaing Division. It was opened on 17 April 2001. It is the largest one in Myanmar and also included in the longest dams in Southeast Asia.

PHOTO: MNA



Hinywet Dam in An Township, Rakhine State was opened on 29-10-2002. With 750 feet in length and 70 feet in height, the dam was built at a cost of about K 100 million to supply water to about 100,000 people.— PHOTO: MNA

Fifty six new couples of China's all ethnic groups visit Tiananmen Square at a collective wedding ceremony sponsored by the Central Committee of the Communist Youth League of China on 27 October. —XINHUA

မြန်မာ့ငါး: မြန်မာ့သားငါး



MYANMAR'S FISH AND MEAT FOR ALL

The Official Opening of

Myanmar Fishery and Livestock Fair - 2003

Myanmar, a member of ASEAN has a long coastline, 2832 kilometers. The total area of swamps along the coast is about 0.5 million hectares which provides a very good base for the development of agriculture including shrimp and prawn culture. According to surveys in marine fisheries, the Maximum Sustainable Yield of Myanmar is estimated at about 1.05 million tons per year, out of which one million ton was exploited last year. Inland water bodies such as natural lakes, reservoirs, river systems etc; cover an area of about 8.2 million hectares. At present, flood fisheries produce about seventy thousand tons of fish and prawn annually. To satisfy increasing demands, agriculture, and to a lesser extent, inland fisheries will provide better opportunities for increasing Myanmar's fish production.

Livestock breeding of pedigree stock cattle, buffalo, sheep, goat, pig and poultry etc., form an integral part of the rural economy. Ownership of livestock is characterized by small individual herds and flocks. For the environmentally-friendly sustainable development of the livestock breeding industry, vast pasturelands with suitable climate and animal feed are available in different unpolluted regions.

To increase production of meat and fish products for domestic consumption and share the surplus with other countries is one of the sectoral policies and principle objectives of the livestock and fishery sector. This Fair is aimed to expand market share of Myanmar's surplus fishery and livestock products within the region and to visualize the investment potentials of the sector.

It is hoped that Myanmar Fishery and Livestock Fair - 2003 will bring about more business contacts and promote intra-regional trade in the sector.

Congratulations and Best Wishes to

The Ministry of Commerce and The Ministry of Livestock & Fisheries of The Union of Myanmar
on the successful hosting of
MYANMAR FISHERY AND LIVESTOCK FAIR 2003

AQUA SHOP

C.P Brand Shrimp Feed Agent
Accessories Equipment,
Medicine & Lab
Providing Planning and Excavating
Services for Shrimp farm.

Block A Room-01 (18-19-20) Mylar Telle Mee Housing,
Thamale Bayan Road, Thimay Township,
Yangon, Myanmar.
Tel: 95-1-541 937, 965 641, 716 121
E-mail: aquashop@myanmar.net.mm



ANNAW FISHERIES HOLDINGS LIMITED
ကျွန်းဆိပ်ရပ်ကမ်း နှင့် ချိတ်
Myawngton Housing Development Project Complex,
Lower Pansongong Road,
Pansongong Township, Yangon, Myanmar.
Tel: 81-298034, 298037
Telex: 21331 BOM (2388)
Fax: 81-298034



Fortune International Limited

No. 18(15/1), Sakol Complex,
Rongye Aung San Road, Lannadaw Township,
Yangon, Myanmar.
Tel: 95-1-211931-4, 218910, 218912
Fax: 95-1-215955, 215 974
E-mail: mh.f@myanmar.net.mm; f@myanmar.net.mm



MIN ZAR NI CO., LTD.
Cold Storage and Processing Plant
No. 4 - Khe / 1, Hlaing River Bank,
Huang Gyi Thang Quarter, Industrial Zone (I),
Hlaing Thar Yar Township, Yangon, Myanmar.
E-mail: minzar@myanmar.net.mm
Tel: 95-1-684 180-3 Fax: 95-1-684 185



Anawar Hlwam Co., Ltd.

No. 584, Hlaing River Street, Ward No. 116L,
Industrial Zone, Hlaing Tharyar Township 11401
Yangon, Myanmar.
Tel: 951-706167, 72434, 684254, 684215
Fax: 951-684215, 719511
E-mail: anawarhlwam@myanmar.net.mm
anawarhlwam@myanmar.net.mm



SHWE YAMONE MANUFACTURING COMPANY LIMITED.

No. 5, Pyay Road, Hlaing Township,
Yangon, Myanmar.
Tel: 951-506344, 506355, 506327, 504418
Fax: 951-503692
E-mail: sygm@myanmar.com.mm
Website: www.shweyamone.com



GREAT INTERNATIONAL CO., LTD.

No. 98, Mahabandoola St., (Corner of 82nd St.),
Pansongong Township,
Yangon, Myanmar.
Tel: 951-202742, 206754
Fax: 951-206022
E-mail: GREAT_INTL@myanmar.net.mm



RUBY CONSULTING & TRADING LIMITED

No. 39, 11th Street, Lannadaw Township,
Yangon, Myanmar.
Tel: 951-224328, 224379
Tel: 951-212212/21236 288 961
Fax: 951-228289
E-mail: bae@rubyconsulting.com.mm
RCTC@myanmar.net.mm



FISHERIES AND MARINE PRODUCTS 2000 LIMITED

မြန်မာ့ငါးနှင့် မြန်မာ့သားငါးများ ကုမ္ပဏီ လီမိတက်
No. 147, 2nd Floor,
Corner of 47th Street & Anawrahta Road,
Botataung Township, Yangon, Myanmar.
Tel: 951-299353, 299354, 298864
Fax: 951-299347
E-mail: msaaml.com@myanmar.net.mm



UNITED K.M.K CO., LTD.

Head Office
No. 33, 137th Street, Tanaw Township,
Yangon, Myanmar.
Tel: 951-296330 Fax: 951-298551
E-mail: unitedkmk@myanmar.net.mm
Internet: www.unitedkmk.com



Fame Pharmaceuticals Co., Ltd

No. 29, Corner of Mingyi Maha Min Gung Rd.,
Newayay St., Industrial Zone (I),
Hlaing Thar Yar City of Industry,
Yangon, Myanmar.
Tel: 951-681908, 682199, 577143
Fax: 951-579408, 680122
E-mail: drkm@famepharm.com.mm
Internet: www.famepharm.com.mm



YUZANA COMPANY LIMITED

15, Dhamazedi Road, Sanchaung Township,
Yangon, Myanmar.
Tel: 951-220826, 222912 Fax: 951-228526
E-mail: yuzanacentre@myanmar.net.mm
Internet: www.yuzanagroup.com

SPORTS

10-man Rosenborg scrape 0-0 draw against Red Star

TRONDHEIM (Norway), 30 Oct—Rosenborg Trondheim scraped a 0-0 home draw against Red Star Belgrade on Wednesday despite being reduced to 10 men for most of the second half in the first leg of their UEFA Cup second round game.

Orjan Berg was sent off in the 57th minute following two bookings when British referee Steve Bennett ruled that the Norwegian had dived after a challenge in Red Star's penalty area.

"The return match won't be impossible but it'll be harder than we thought," said Rosenborg striker Harald Brattbakk.

Serbia and Montenegro First Division leaders Red Star asked for the game to be played a week earlier than other second round UEFA Cup ties because they face a key league game against FK Partizan on November 8.

MNA/Reuters



Barcelona's Luis Garcia, right, fights for the ball against Murcia's captain Juanma Valero during a Spanish League match at Camp Nou Stadium, Barcelona, Spain, on 29 October, 2003.—INTERNET

Heskey fires Liverpool, Newcastle shocked in Cup

LONDON, 30 Oct—England striker Emile Heskey struck twice as League Cup holders Liverpool overcame 10-man Blackburn Rovers 4-3 in a see-saw match at Ewood Park on Wednesday to move into the fourth round.

Heskey, who also missed a late penalty, netted with headers after 49 and 61 minutes, both from crosses by Senegal's El Hadji Diouf.

Rovers paid for having defender Lucas Neill sent off against Liverpool for the second time this season.

Newcastle suffered the shock of the night when they lost 2-1 at home to First Division leaders West Bromwich Albion, for whom Lee Hughes scored an extra-time winner.

At Ewood Park, Neill was red-carded for a professional foul after he clipped the heel of Liverpool striker Florent Sinama-Pongolle to concede the 41st-minute penalty from which Danny Murphy made the score 1-1.

The Australian was sent off in Blackburn's 3-1 home league defeat by

Liverpool in September after he broke Liverpool defender Jamie Carragher's leg with an ugly tackle.

After creating Heskey's two goals, Diouf also made Liverpool's fourth for Harry Kewell 11 minutes from the end. Late strikes by Barry Ferguson and Dwight Yorke, who also scored the game's opening goal, flattered Rovers.

West Brom went in front through a Shola Ameobi own goal at St. James' Park before Newcastle's Laurent Robert forced extra time. But Hughes pounced in the 101st-minute to eliminate the Premier League side.

Chelsea overcame a gutsy challenge from Second Division strugglers Notts County 4-2 in an entertaining clash of the prince and the pauper at Stamford Bridge.

Icelandic Eidur Gudjohnsen scored twice but County, who are in administration, fought well and Tony Barras briefly made the score 1-1 in the first half. Spaniard Gaizka Mendietia grabbed his first goal for Middlesbrough in a 2-1 win at First Division Wigan Athletic.

MNA/Reuters



Argentina's Diego Placente, left, from Bayer 04 Leverkusen, fights for the ball against Steffen Baumgart of 1. FC Union Berlin during their German Cup match in Berlin on 29 October, 2003.—INTERNET

Depleted Dortmund exit German Cup in second round

BERLIN, 30 Oct—A depleted Borussia Dortmund made an early exit from the German Cup when they lost 2-1 at Bundesliga rivals Borussia Moenchengladbach in the second round on Wednesday.

Dortmund, who have 11 players sidelined by injuries, paid the price for a sluggish first half.

The home side took the lead on 11 minutes courtesy of a superb free kick from Slovakia midfielder Igor Demo and doubled the advantage through Finland striker Joonas Kolkka 13 minutes later.

The visitors stepped up a gear after the break but failed to score until Czech striker Jan Koller pulled one back from a penalty with two minutes remaining.

Four-times Cup winners Schalke 04 failed to reach the third round for the first time in four years when SC Freiburg scored four goals in extra time to beat them 7-3 in Wednesday's other all-Bundesliga clash.

Mali midfielder Soumaila Coulibaly was the inspiration behind Freiburg's spectacular win with three goals including two in extra time.

Schalke, whose coach Jupp Heynckes was already under pressure after a disappointing run in the Bundesliga, were reduced to 10 men when Uruguay midfielder Gustavo Harela was sent off for a second bookable offence 15 minutes into extra time.

Two goals from Bulgaria striker Dimitar Berbatov helped Bundesliga leaders Bayer Leverkusen to a 5-0 demolition of Second Division strugglers Union Berlin.

Hanover 96 slumped to a 2-0 defeat to regional side Eintracht Braunschweig in a northern German derby.

Two other Bundesliga sides, TSV 1860 Munich and Eintracht Frankfurt, went out to Second Division opponents.

TSV 1860 were beaten on penalties by Alemannia Aachen while Eintracht Frankfurt lost 2-1 to MSV Duisburg after extra time.

Holders Bayern Munich needed penalties to move past Second Division Nuremberg on Tuesday.—MNA/Reuters

Monaco, PSG knocked out of League Cup in first round

PARIS, 30 Oct—A full-strength Olympique Marseille dismissed Monaco's reserve team 2-0 to ease into the second round of the French League Cup on Wednesday.

The League Cup holders, were not the only favourites to stumble at the first hurdle as Paris St. Germain lost 3-2 on penalties against Ligue 2 Gueugnon. The clash between joint Ligue 1 leaders Marseille and Monaco had looked exciting on paper but proved far less so on the pitch.

The team fielded by Monaco coach Didier Deschamps also lead their league—the French Fifth Division—and as a result, the game was a one-sided affair allowing Fernandez and Didier Droghato score for Marseille within 31 minutes.

Play almost ceased afterwards as Marseille coach Alain Perrin replaced his key players, like Drogba or Belgian Daniel van Buyten, with younger men. Deschamps' decision to field his B team had sparked a row with the competition's broadcaster France Television. PSG lost out again to Gueugnon, who as a Third Division team beat them in the 2000 final.

After Gueugnon's Mansour Boutabout opened the scoring in the 13th minute, PSG dominated but could only equalize through Brazilian Reinaldo on the hour.

Reinaldo was one of three players whose penalty was saved by Gueugnon goalkeeper Jean-Marc Branger, by far the best man on the pitch.—MNA/Reuters

Deportivo stay top despite 2-0 loss to Mallorca

MADRID, 30 Oct—Deportivo Coruna slipped to a 2-0 defeat at home to Real Mallorca but still managed to retain the leadership of the Primera Liga after Valencia were held to a 2-2 draw by Celta Vigo on Wednesday.

Cameroon international Samuel Eto'o put Mallorca ahead from the penalty spot 15 minutes from time and fellow striker Arnold

Bruggink made sure of a first ever league win at the Riazor when he hooked in over Depor keeper Jose Molina just before the final whistle.

But leadership rivals Valencia were unable to take advantage of Deportivo's slip-up, managing only a draw against an improving Celta.

Deportivo lead the table on 21 points, just one ahead of Real Madrid, who were held to a 0-0 draw by Real Zaragoza on Tuesday, and third-placed Valencia.

Osasuna retained their surprise fourth place, three

points further back, after a determined 2-0 win at home to Real Betis, while Barcelona moved up to fifth following a convincing 3-0 victory over Murcia, their first home win of the season.

Argentine striker Javier Saviola completed a slick passing move with a fine left-foot finish late in the first half, midfielder Xavi added a second after the break and Ronaldinho wrapped up an important win 11 minutes later.

The Catalans are now five points behind leaders Deportivo.

MNA/Reuters



Tim Henman, of Britain, returns the ball to Sebastian Grosjean, of France, during the second round of the Paris Masters indoor tennis tournament, on 29 October, 2003. Internet

MRTV-3



31-10-2003 (Friday) (Programme Schedule) Morning Transmission (9:00 - 10:00)

9:00	Signature Tune
9:02	Greetings
9:06	Song of Myanmar Beauty & Scenic Sights "Myanma Panorama & Myanma Sentiment"
9:10	Fabulous Shwe Gu Dage Daw Gyi
9:12	Headline News
9:15	Easily Cooked Tasty Dishes (Tenderized Eggplant)
9:20	National News
9:25	Toddy Palm Arts
9:30	Chin Dance
9:35	National news
9:40	Popa Mountain Park Songs on Screen
9:45	"With a Weak Point"
9:50	National News
9:58	2003 World Food Day Programme (Telefood)
	"International Alliance Against Hunger"
	Song of Myanmar Beauty & Scenic Sights "Come and See Myanmar"
	31-10-2003 (Friday)
	Regular Programmes for Viewers from Abroad
	Evening Transmission (15:30 - 17:30)
15:30	Signature Tune
15:32	Greetings
15:32	Song of Myanmar Beauty & Scenic Sights "Mingalabar (K. Ja Nu)"

15:36	Fabulous Shwe Gu Dage Daw Gyi
15:40	Headline News
15:42	Easily Cooked Tasty Dishes (Tenderized Eggplant)
15:45	National News
15:50	Toddy Palm Arts
15:55	Chin Dance
16:00	National news
16:05	Popa Mountain Park Songs on Screen
16:10	"With a Weak Point"
16:15	National News
16:20	2003 World Food Day Programme (Telefood)
	"International Alliance Against Hunger"
16:25	Song of Myanmar Beauty & Scenic Sights "Myanma Panorama & Myanma Sentiment"
16:30	National News
16:35	Naga Traditional Costumes and Dances
16:40	Myanmar Cuisine "Roasted-Rice Powder with Fish"
16:45	National News
16:50	Myanmar Seafood
16:55	Lively Dancer, Myanmar Mintha Chindwin Bridge (Monywa)
16:58	National News
17:00	2003 World Food Day Programme (Telefood)
17:05	"International Alliance Against Hunger"
17:10	Song "The Land of Shan Beauties"
17:15	National News
17:20	Paintings decorated by art of goldsmith
17:25	Song of Myanmar Beauty & Scenic Sights "Come and See Myanmar"
	Evening Transmission (19:30 - 23:30)
19:30	Signature Tune
19:32	Greetings
19:32	Song of Myanmar Beauty & Scenic Sights "Myanma Panorama & Myanma Sentiment"

19:36	Breeding of River Cat-fish by using floating cage in Nga-Wun River
19:40	Headline News
19:42	Easily Cooked Tasty Dishes (Curry of Hilsa)
19:45	National News
19:50	Sagaing Pagoda - studded Hills
19:55	Myuu-kywa Thanzin Kago Sin
20:00	National News
20:05	Red Panda
20:10	Myanmar Modern Song "Lodestar"
20:12	The Patheon Umbrella
20:15	National News
20:20	The Ramayana in Myanmar (Part-7) (INDRA'S BOW CONTEST FOR THE HAND OF SEETA)
20:25	Songs on Screen "Hmoneshweyee"
20:30	National News
20:35	Travelogue (PyinOo-Lwin)
20:40	Myanmar Cuisine "Prawn Curry"
20:45	National News
20:50	Village of Palaung
20:55	Kayan Dance
20:58	Myanmar As Told By History
21:00	National News
21:05	Thabotseik Village on Seaside
21:10	Myanmar Modern Song "Dream of Ngwe Hsaung"
21:15	National News
21:20	The King of Musical Instruments
21:25	Song of Myanmar Beauty & Scenic Sights "Mingalabar"
21:35	Fabulous Shwe Gu Dage Daw Gyi
21:40	Headline News
21:42	Easily Cooked Tasty Dishes (Tenderized Eggplant)
21:45	National News
21:50	Toddy Palm Arts
21:55	National Races Dance "Chin Dance"
22:00	National News
22:05	Popa Mountain Park Songs on Screen
22:10	"With a Weak Point"
22:15	National News
22:20	2003 World Food Day Programme (Telefood)
	"International Alliance Against Hunger"
22:25	Songs on Screen "Have Sweet Dreams"
22:30	National News
22:35	Naga Traditional Costumes and Dances
22:40	Myanmar Cuisine "Roasted-Rice Powder with Fish"
22:45	National News
22:50	Myanmar Seafood

22:55	Lively Dancer, Myanmar Mintha Chindwin Bridge (Monywa)
22:58	National News
23:00	National News
23:05	Mandalay, The Golden City
23:10	Song "The Land of Shan Beauties"
23:15	National News
23:20	Paintings decorated by art of goldsmith
23:25	Song of Myanmar Beauty & Scenic Sights "Come and See Myanmar"
	31-10-2003 (Friday) & 1-11-2003 (Saturday)
	Evening & Morning Transmission (23:30 - 01:30)
23:30	Signature Tune
23:32	Greetings
23:32	Song of Myanmar Beauty & Scenic Sights "Myanma Panorama & Myanma Sentiment"
23:35	Fabulous Shwe Gu Dage Daw Gyi
23:40	Headline News
23:42	Easily Cooked Tasty Dishes (Tenderized Eggplant)
23:45	National News
23:50	Toddy Palm Arts
23:55	"Chin Dance"
24:00	National News
00:05	Popa Mountain Park Songs on Screen
00:10	"With a Weak Point"
00:15	National News
00:20	2003 World Food Day Programme (Telefood)
	"International Alliance Against Hunger"
00:25	Song of Myanmar Beauty & Scenic Sights "Myanma Panorama & Myanma Sentiment"
00:30	National News
00:35	Naga Traditional Costumes and Dances
00:40	Myanmar Cuisine "Roasted-Rice Powder with Fish"
00:45	National News
00:50	Myanmar Seafood
00:55	Lively Dancer, Myanmar Mintha Chindwin Bridge (Monywa)
01:00	National News
01:05	Mandalay, The Golden City
01:10	Song "The Land of Shan Beauties"
01:15	National News
01:20	Paintings decorated by art of goldsmith
01:25	Song of Myanmar Beauty & Scenic Sights "Come and See Myanmar"
	1-11-2003 (Saturday)
	Morning Transmission

03:30	Signature Tune
03:32	Greetings
03:32	Song of Myanmar Beauty & Scenic Sights "Mingalabar (K. Ja Nu)"
03:36	Breeding of River Cat-fish by using floating cage in Nga-Wun River
03:42	Easily Cooked Tasty Dishes (Curry of Hilsa)
03:45	National News
03:50	Sagaing Pagoda - studded Hills
03:55	Myuu-kywa Thanzin Kago Sin
04:00	National News
04:05	Red Panda
04:10	Myanmar Modern Song "Lodestar"
04:12	The Patheon Umbrella
04:15	National News
04:20	The Ramayana in Myanmar (Part-7) (INDRA'S BOW CONTEST FOR THE HAND OF SEETA)
04:25	Songs on Screen "Hmoneshweyee"
04:30	National News
04:35	Travelogue (PyinOo-Lwin)
04:40	Myanmar Cuisine "Prawn Curry"
04:45	National News
04:50	Village of Palaung
04:55	Kayan Dance
04:58	Myanmar As Told By History
05:00	National News
05:05	Thabotseik Village on Seaside
05:10	Myanmar Modern Song "Dream of Ngwe Hsaung"
05:15	National News
05:20	The King of Musical

05:25	Instruments
05:35	Song of Myanmar Beauty & Scenic Sights "Mingalabar"
05:40	Fabulous Shwe Gu Dage Daw Gyi
05:42	Headline News
05:45	Easily Cooked Tasty Dishes "Tenderized Eggplant"
05:50	National News
05:55	Toddy Palm Arts
06:00	"Chin Dance"
06:05	National News
06:10	Popa Mountain Park Songs on Screen
06:15	"With a Weak Point"
06:20	National News
06:25	2003 World Food Day Programme (Telefood)
	"International Alliance Against Hunger"
06:30	Songs on Screen
06:35	"Have Sweet Dreams"
06:40	National News
06:45	Naga Traditional Costumes and Dances
06:50	Myanmar Cuisine "Roasted-Rice Powder with Fish"
06:55	National News
07:00	Myanmar Seafood
07:05	Lively Dancer, Myanmar Mintha Chindwin Bridge (Monywa)
07:10	National News
07:15	Mandalay, The Golden City
07:20	Songs "The Land of Shan Beauties"
07:25	National News
07:30	Paintings decorated by art of goldsmith
07:35	Song of Myanmar Beauty & Scenic Sights "Come and See Myanmar"

ကောသလဒေသ (သို့မဟုတ်) မြန်မာ့နံရံ ယဉ်ကျေးမှု အဆင့် အကော အရေ၊ အတီး၊ ပြိုင်ပွဲ၊ ပြိုင်ပွဲကျင်းပရေး ဆင်ကော်မတီ၊ ပြိုင်ပွဲ အစီအစဉ်ဇယား

စဉ်	ရက်စွဲ	အဆင့်	အတီး
၁၈၈	၃၁-၁၀-၂၀၀၃	ဓမ္မဗုဒ္ဓဆေး (နံနက်)	နံ
	သောကြာနေ့	(၁) အခြေခံ(၅-၁၀)	(၁) ပညာရှင်(နံနက်)
		(၆)	(၂) အခြေခံ(၁၀-၁၅)
		ဆက်တိုက်/ကာလပေါ်	(နေ့လယ်)
		(နေ့လယ်)	(၃) အခြေခံ(၅-၁၀)
		(၂) အခြေခံ(၅-၁၀)	(နေ့လယ်)
		(ကျား)	



View today: Friday, October 31

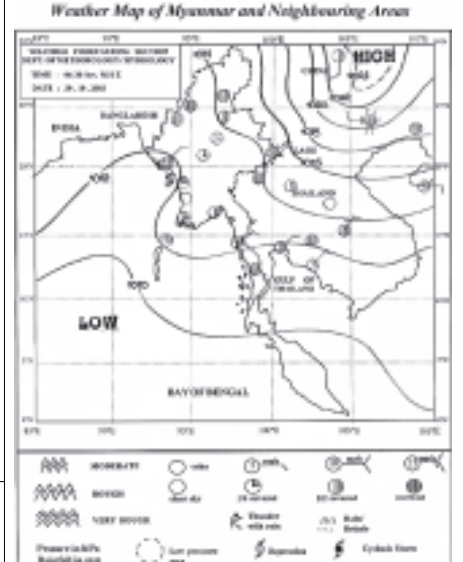
7:00 am	1. Recitation of Parittas by Missionary Sayadaw U Oattamathara
7:25 am	2. To be healthy exercise
7:30 am	3. Morning news
7:40 am	4. Nice and sweet song
7:50 am	5. ဂျပ်စုပေါင်းပြိုင်ပွဲတစ်ပတ်စွဲ
8:05 am	6. The mirror images of the musical oldies
8:15 am	7. ကတင်သီးလင်းရေလှောင်တံခွန်
8:30 am	8. International news
8:45 am	9. English For Everyday Use

4:00 pm	1. Martial song
4:15 pm	2. Songs to uphold National Spirit
4:30 pm	3. Practice in reading
4:40 pm	4. Musical programme
4:55 pm	5. အစောဆုံးသောသံသရာလေး
	ရုပ်မြင်သံကြားသင်ခန်းစာ
	- ဒုတိယနံပါတ် (မိတ်ဆက်အထူးပြု) (မိတ်ဆက်)
5:10 pm	6. Song of national races
5:25 pm	7. "နိုင်ငံသားကောင်းပျံ့သည့်"
	ဇွဲဝင်း၊ ပြိုင်ပွဲ၊ သန့်ဝင်း၊ ကော်ရိုနို၊ တင်တင်မိုး၊ တင်နီနီ၊ အေး (ဒါရိုက်တာ-ဇွဲဝင်း)
5:35 pm	8. နည်းစနစ်နံပါတ်အားကစားအခြေခံ
5:45 pm	9. လက်ဆင့်ကမ်းပေါက်တစ်ခု
5:50 pm	10. ပထမဆုံးတံတား
6:00 pm	11. Musical programme

6:15 pm	12. Discovery
6:30 pm	13. Evening news
7:00 pm	14. Weather report
7:05 pm	15. Milo success in soccer
7:10 pm	16. Musical programme
7:25 pm	17. နိုင်ငံသားသံသရာလေး
7:35 pm	18. Songs of yesteryears
8:00 pm	19. News
8:10 pm	20. International news
8:20 pm	21. Weather report
8:30 pm	22. လက်ဆင့်ကမ်းပေါက်တစ်ခု
8:40 pm	23. ဂျပ်စုပေါင်းပြိုင်ပွဲတစ်ပတ်စွဲ
8:50 pm	24. Myanmar movie; "မင်းတင်နီနီနံပါတ်အားကစား" (အပိုင်း-၁)
9:00 pm	25. The next day's programme



Friday, October 31	Tune in today:
8.30 am	Brief news
8.35 am	Music
8.40 am	Perspectives
8.45 am	Music
8.50 am	National news/Slogan
9.00 am	Music
9.05 am	International news
9.10 am	Music
1.30 pm	News/Slogan
1.40 pm	Lunch time music
	-Walk on by (Gareth Gates)
	-Stuck in my heart (C21)
9.00 pm	Special radio play to hail 11th Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competition "Blessing"
9.15 pm	Article/Music
9.25 pm	Music at your request
	-Thank you for the music (ABBA)
	-All kinds of everything (98')
9.45 pm	News/Slogan
10.00 pm	PEL



WEATHER

Thursday, 30 October, 2003

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST:
During the past 24 hours, except for the isolated light rain in Magway Division, southern Shan, Kayah and Rakhine States, weather has been generally fair in the remaining areas.
Maximum temperature on 29-10-2003 was 35.0°C (95°F). Minimum temperature on 30-10-2003 was 21.3°C (70°F). Relative humidity at 9:30 hrs MST on 30-10-2003 was 79%. Total sunshine hours on 29-10-2003 was (9.3) hours approx. Rainfall on 30-10-2003 was nil at Yangon Airport, Kaba-Aye and central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2003 was 2206 mm (86.84 inches) at Yangon Airport, 2315 mm (91.14 inches) at Kaba-Aye and 2381 mm (93.74 inches) at central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was 10 mph from east at (13:30) hours MST on 29-10-2003.
Bay inference: Weather is cloudy in the South Bay and generally fair elsewhere in the Bay of Bengal.
Forecast valid until evening of 31-10-2003: Rain or thundershowers are likely to be scattered in Tanintharyi Division, isolated in Shan State and Bago Division and weather will be generally fair in the remaining areas. Degree of certainty is (60%). **State of the sea:** Seas will be slight to moderate in Myanmar waters. **Outlook for subsequent two days:** Isolated rain or thundershowers are likely in southern Myanmar areas.
Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 31-10-2003: Partly cloudy. **Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 31-10-2003:** Partly cloudy.



General Thura Shwe Mann views vaccination of children against measles in Cocogyun Township People's Hospital. —PUPR

Pivot fixed atop Pyathad of prayer hall of Buddha's Footprint Pagoda in Yathedaung Township

YANGON, 30 Oct—Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than of the Ministry of Defence, together with Chairman of Rakhine State Peace and Development Council Commander of Western Command Maj-Gen Maung Oo and party, attended the ceremony to fix pivot to the Pyathad of the prayer hall of Buddha's Footprint Pagoda in Chedawya Village, Musay Island, Yathedaung Township, yesterday morning.

The ceremony was graced by the presence of Missionary Alodawpyi Sayadaw Agga Maha Saddhamma Jotikadhaja Maha Ganthavacaka Pandita Pariyatti Sasana Hitadhara Bhaddanta Ariyavamsa, Yathedaung Township Tingok Village Monastery

Sayadaw Bhaddanta Medhavi, Aukzigaing Village Monastery Sayadaw Bhaddanta Varasami, Kyungyi Village Monastery Sayadaw Bhaddanta

Nandobhasa and members of the Sangha. Also present on the occasion were local authorities, departmental officials, members of social organizations, members of the

pagoda board of trustees and local residents.

Alodawpyi Sayadaw invested the congregation with the Five Precepts.

(See page 9)



Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than meets with departmental personnel, members of social organizations and townselders in Yathedaung Township Peace and Development Council Office. —MNA

Ma Kyan, winner of National Literary Award for 2002

The National Literary Award for knowledge (arts) genre for the year 2002 went to Sayamagyi Daw Kyan. Her pen name is Ma Kyan. This is the second time she won the highest literary award in Myanmar. She was given the award for the first time for her book, which is

Article by Thaung Win Bo & photo by Khin Maung Win

entitled "History of Myanmar : 1885-86" and deals with the situation of Myanmar just after King Thibaw had been taken away by the British.

The award given to her

for the year 2002 was for her book "In search of Myanmar history and other articles". She said that, while she was studying Myanma history, she found weaknesses for which Myanmar lost her independence. As she wanted to inform the people of what she had found, she laboured to gather as many historical facts as she could. She succeeded in her work as she herself was very much interested in history. Her book is

a collection of 50 articles which were first appeared in the "Naing-ngan Gonyi" magazine.

Her intention in writing this book was for the Union of Myanmar not to lose independence again, to let the people know the losses their country had suffered when she lost her independence and for posterity to be able to take lessons from the past weaknesses.

(Translation: NN)



Winner of National Literary Award for Non-fiction (Arts) Writer Ma Kyan. —MNA

Work coordination meeting of 11th MTCPAC

YANGON, 30 Oct—Work coordination meeting between the chairman of the Work Committee for Holding the 11th Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions and committees, subcommittees, and managers of state/division teams was held at No 1 Transit Centre (Bayintnaung) this evening. On behalf of the chairman, Commandant Lt-Col Tin Kyaing of the centre spoke on the occasion. Chairmen of respective committees and subcommittees, managers and officials reported on matters related to the competitions. Lt-Col Tin Kyaing fulfilled the requirements. —MNA

Commerce Minister receives Chinese delegation

YANGON, 30 Oct—Minister for Commerce Brig-Gen Pyi Sone received Chinese delegation led by Mr Duan Guanhan, Deputy Secretary-General of the administrative body of Yunnan Province of the People's Republic of China at his office today.

Deputy Minister Brig-Gen Aung Tun, Director-General of Directorate of Trade U Nyunt Aye, Director-General of Border Trade Department U Nay Win, Managing-Director U Min Hla Aung of Myanma Agricultural Produce Trading and officials were also present.

MNA



A competitor taking part in the amateur level xylophone contest for women. —MNA