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Tatmadaw— replete with good traditions

Our Tatmadaw was born of the nation's historic demand. It was not formed just for the sake of having one. I want to tell you, Comrades, that the Tatmadaw which took history's heritage is replete with good traditions. From the period of freedom struggle to date, the young men who joined the Tatmadaw did not look to any privileges for personal gain and joined only with the spirit of service to our nation and our race. That is why our Tatmadaw stands out on the good tradition of a patriotic Tatmadaw.



Senior General Than Shwe
Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council
Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services

(From address delivered at the parade of the 53rd Anniversary Armed Forces Day)

State giving priority to establishment of mills and factories which need great deal of capital and high technology PM inaugurates Textile Factory (Pwintbyu)



Prime Minister Lt-Gen Soe Win unveils the signboard of Textile Factory (Pwintbyu).— MNA

YANGON, 19 March — Chairman of Industrial Development Committee Prime Minister Lt-Gen Soe Win attended the ceremony to inaugurate Textile Factory (Pwintbyu) of Myanma Textile Industries under the Ministry of Industry-1, near Kanthagyi Village, two miles from Pyintbyu near Lekaing-Pyintbyu Road, yesterday morning.

Also present on the occasion were members of

the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Ye Myint and Lt-Gen Aung Htwe, Chairman of Mandalay Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Central Command Maj-Gen Ye Myint, the ministers, the deputy ministers and Chairman of Magway Division Peace and Development Council Col Phone Maw Shwe and departmental officials, officials of Committee of Commerce Tianjin and

Tianjin Machinery Import and Export Corporation of China, members of social organizations and local people. Col Phone Maw Shwe, Managing Director U Oo Thein Maung of Myanma Textile Industries and Factory Manager Lt-Col Ko Ko Zaw formally opened the factory.

Prime Minister Lt-Gen Soe Win unveiled the signboard of the factory.

Next, the Prime Minister and party viewed round the machines of the factory and inspected poplin produced at the factory with the use of modern machinery. The ceremony to mark the opening of the factory followed at the main building. Managing Director U Oo Thein Maung briefed the Prime Minister and party on the purpose of building the factory, machinery, production capacity, arrangements for manufacturing thread and textile, requirements of main raw materials, arrangements for supply of raw materials, investment, requirements of inputs and plans for arrangement for supply of inputs and strength of employees.

(See page 10)



Newly-inaugurated Textile Factory (Pwintbyu) of Myanma Textile Industries in Pwintbyu.— MNA

INSIDE

A study of history shows that the main force behind the national solidarity, peace, tranquillity, strength, prosperity is the powerful Tamadaw.

(Page 8) TEKKATHO MAUNG THU HLAING

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

PERSPECTIVES

Sunday, 20 March, 2005

Introduce new lines of products to ensure quantum leap in industrial sector

With the aim of turning the Union of Myanmar into an industrial nation, efforts are being made with added momentum on both the government's part and the private part to promote the industrial sector.

For the development of socio-economic life based on modern industries, measures are being taken to enhance the efficiency of State-run industries, while industrial zones are being set up to encourage private industries to produce different kinds of machines.

Head of State Senior General Than Shwe went on an inspection tour of the Indagaw Industrial Zone in June 2003, and gave guidance on the tasks to be implemented for industrial development. The zone has now contained different kinds of factories and foundries.

On 18 March this year, Head of State Senior General Than Shwe visited the Indagaw Industrial Zone of the Ministry of Industry-2 in Bago Township, Bago Division.

In his inspection tour, Senior General Than Shwe gave guidance, saying that "in manufacturing goods, industrial officials will have to draw detailed projects on how to extend the new lines of machines, and which parts of manufactured machines should be substituted with better ones and what kind of new parts should be added to them to further improve their quality, after studying both the actual requirement of the industries and the entire nation in a practical way. Only then will the industries be able to produce standard machines including new brands according to the demand".

With the aim of raising the ratio of GDP including the industrial sector, the government is investing heavily in the establishment of modern factories and workshops in industrial zones across the country.

It is necessary to do research work for sustainable development of commodities produced by factories and workshops. Research work should focus on ensuring consumer satisfaction. Suggestions and criticism should be sought from consumers to address the weaknesses for gross production.

Important is the harmonious cooperation and coordination among factories and workshops installed with modern equipment. The same thing can be said of private industries. Only then will both the government and private sectors be able to help each other in manufacturing machines.

All in all, cooperation and coordination should be made among departments and enterprises to speed up the industrial sector of the State in line with the guidance of the Head of State.

Sanitation activities carried out at Pazundaung Market

YANGON, 19 March — The Working Group on Environment of the Myanmar Women's Affairs Federation carried out sanitation activities at the Pazundaung Market in Pazundaung Township this morning.

The Working Group on Environment led by leader Daw Nilar Thaw, wife of the Minister for Health, second leader Daw Yin Yin Lay and employees of Yangon City Development Committee participated in carrying out the sanitation tasks at the market and drains.

MNA

People's Desire

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

Barlar No 2 Bridge, City Circular Road in Hlegu Township opened

YANGON, 19 March — Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Chairman Yangon Command Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe and Yangon City Development Committee Chairman Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin together with officials arrived at No 2 Barlar Bridge and City Circular Road this morning.

Yangon North District PDC Chairman Lt-Col Myat Min and Deputy Chief Engineer (Project) U Nyunt Maung San of Public Works formally opened No 1/2 bridge which is 20 feet long and 36 feet wide on the city circular road.

Next, a ceremony to open Barlar No 2 bridge and the City circular road followed.



Opening ceremony of No 2 bridge and town circular road in progress. (YANGON COMMAND)

Afterwards, the commander, the mayor and the deputy minister opened Barlar No 2 bridge and the road.

The circular road is 12 miles long and 18 feet wide linking Nos 1, 2, 3 and 4

Highways. Barlar No 2 bridge is of reinforced concrete type with 65 feet in length and 36 feet in width and it can withstand 60 ton-load.

They proceeded to the summer paddy plantations

of Yangon Command in Hlegu Township.

They also inspected Yangon City Water Supply Project (Ngamoeyeik) in Ahtayu Village, Hmawby Township.

MNA

Yangon, Bago emerge champions in team scratch, handicap



YANGON, 19 March — Chairman of Myanmar Olympic Committee Minister for Sports Brig-Gen Thura Aye Myint awarded championship trophies to Bago Division team which stood first in the team handicap event after firing 842 strokes in total nett and Yangon Division team with 904 on an aggregate in the team scratch event in the 27th Inter-State/Division Golf Team Championship 2005 at Danyingon Golf Club, here, yesterday evening.

President of MGF and MGPA Maj-Gen Win Hlaing (Retd) presented second prizes to Rakhine State team that scored 847 strokes in total nett and Mandalay Division team with 952 in total gross in the team scratch event.



Minister for Sports Brig-Gen Thura Aye Myint presents championship trophy to Yangon Division team, in team scratch event.— MGF

In the individual handicap, Tun Tun Oo of Rakhine State secured first with 270 strokes, Thant Zaw Oo of Kachin State second with 278 and Maung Maung Than of Rakhine State third with 278. Similarly, Naing Naing Lin of Yangon Division secured first with 295 in total gross, Nay Bala Win Myint of

Yangon Division second with 303 and Derek Htet Doe of Yangon Division third with 307.

In the team captain event, U Tun Tun of Kayin State won first prize with 70 total nett and U Thein Tun of Kachin State second with 71.

General Manager of the Isuzu Motors Ltd Mr Kenji Lida presented US\$

500 each to the MOC and the MGF through Acting Director-General U Kyaw Soe Myint of Sports and Physical Education Department and MGF Executive U Ko Ko Lay and US\$ 1,000 through U Khaing Soe Tha of Yangon Golf Club. Then, the Isuzu Motors Ltd hosted a dinner to the guests.— MNA

Construction of district-to-district road in Hmawby inspected

YANGON, 18 March — Director-General U Myo Myint of the Development Affairs Department under the Ministry for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs together with departmental officials inspected the construction of district-to-district road in Hmawby Township today.

Afterwards, the director-general looked into the construction of the road linking Kyar-in (West) Village and Nyaungnapin Village with the use of heavy machinery. Next, the director-general gave instructions on worksite safety, minimizing the loss and wastage, timely completion of the tasks meeting the set standard. On completion, people can travel in a short time between Yangon and the villages in Hmawby Township.— MNA



Director-General U Myo Myint inspects progress of district-to-district road in Hmawby.— DAD

60th Anniversary Armed Forces Day Objectives

- To work in concert with the people to achieve success in implementation of the seven-point Road Map for emergence of a peaceful, modern, developed and discipline-flourishing democratic nation
- To exert energetic efforts in carrying out the five rural development tasks
- To strive hand in hand with the people for successful realization of the twelve State Objectives while upholding Our Three Main National Causes
- To build a strong, efficient and modern Tatmadaw



Sales clerks prepare packs of beef at a Tokyo supermarket on 18 March, 2005.—INTERNET

Chinese FM hopes EU would lift “irrational” ban on arms sales to China

BRUSSELS, 18 March — Chinese Foreign Minister Li Zhaoxing said on Thursday he hoped the European Union would lift what he called its “irrational” ban on arms sales to China.

He insisted Beijing posed no threat to Taiwan — the basis on which the US Administration has vigorously tried to stop the EU from lifting the ban.

“I think the European Union, as a very important group of countries, will have enough political wisdom

and courage to lift as quickly as possible this measure which is irrational and constitutes political discrimination towards China,” he told reporters in Brussels, headquarters of the 25-nation EU.

MNA/Reuters

Indonesia completes blueprint on Aceh, allocates \$5b

JAKARTA, 18 March — Indonesian Government has completed a blueprint for the reconstruction of tsunami-hit Aceh and allocated around five billion US dollars for rebuilding the province within the next five years, a minister said here on Wednesday.

“Fifty per cent of the fund will be allocated for infrastructure projects in the province,” State Minister of National Development Planning Sri Mulyani Indrawati was quoted by the Jakarta Post online news as saying.

She said the government will build

sea walls and repainted mangrove forests along Aceh’s coast to reduce the impact of possible tsunami in the future.

However, she said, the government is still considering to relocate thousands of people who used to live near the beaches in the province. — MNA/Xinhua

Vietnam plans big subsidies for sugar refineries

HANOI, 18 March — The Vietnamese Government will provide state-run sugar refineries with at least 126 million US dollars this year to help them reorganize and pay debt, including to foreign lenders, Vietnam newspaper Saigon Times reported on Thursday.

Together with this subsidy, the government also decided to reorganize 32 sugar factories and relocate or close three more among the 39 that are operating now.

Last year was the only profit-making year of the country’s sugar industry since 1995, with some 340 million US dollars revenue, according to the report.

In 1995, the government launched a programme in which state-run sugar refineries were expected to supply one million tons of sugar per year by 2000.

To meet the target, Vietnam borrowed some 864 million US dollars from

international lenders to build new sugar factories, buy equipment and grow more cane. The factories

are still paying back debts to the lenders, said the report.

MNA/Xinhua

CSC approves layouts of track commuters in three developed regions

BEIJING, 18 March — Chinese State Council Wednesday approved the transportation layouts of track commuters in the country’s three most developed regions, including the region around Bohai including Beijing and Tianjin, the Yangtze River Delta, and the Zhujiang (Pearl) River Delta.

The State Council’s executive meeting, presided over by Premier Wen Jiabao on Wednesday, decided to build a modern transportation system with track commuters between scattered cities in the three regions, aiming to save land resources and improve environmental protection.

MNA/Xinhua

At least 16,000 Iraqis have died since start of war

BAGHDAD, 18 March — Violence and insecurity hold sway over much of Iraq two years after the US-led invasion, despite burgeoning Iraqi security forces and the continued presence of 150,000 foreign troops, mostly Americans.

The two main roads heading south from the capital are so dangerous that one of them is nicknamed the “highway of death,” while the other passes through an area with the dubious moniker of the “triangle of death.”

The road north, which passes through the country’s Sunni Arab heartland, is the scene of repeated kidnappings and murders.

The cities of Ramadi, west of the capital, and Samarra and Mosul, to the north, see daily clashes between guerillas and government forces while bomb attacks in Shiite districts have cost the lives of at least 700 people.

Widespread looting followed by the disband-

ing of the army and intelligence services of the former regime as ordered by former US administrator Paul Bremer in May 2003, have contributed to the insecurity.

The guerilla itself, made up of members of the former ruling Baath Party and militant Islamists, initially targeted US forces, then Iraq’s own nascent security personnel and Shiites, considered collaborators of the “occupation.”

Meanwhile, porous borders have allowed hundreds of self-proclaimed holy warriors to pour into the country and have a go at soldiers of the world’s only superpower.

The most famous of these belligerent foreigners is the Al-Qaeda-

linked Jordanian Abu Musab al-Zarqawi, who has claimed responsibility for the most bloody bombings and a string of kidnappings and gruesome executions.

Iraq’s national intelligence chief General Mohammed Abdullah al-Shahwani said in January that there were some 200,000 rebels, with a hard core of 40,000 fighters.

According to the Iraq Body Count database set up by British academics, at least 16,000 Iraqis have died since the start of the war, of which around 7,000 died in the first six weeks of the war, after which US President George W Bush announced the end of major combat operations.

Internet



An Airbus A300 at the China International Aviation and Aerospace Exhibition in Zhuhai on 18 March, 2005.—INTERNET

China to build nat'l database for personal credit information

BEIJING, 18 March — The People's Bank of China (PBOC), China's central bank, is soliciting public opinions on building a nationwide database for personal credit information.

According to a draft regulation on the management of the database for personal credit information, issued by the PBOC Wednesday, a database linking seven cities such as Beijing and Southwest China's Chongqing has been on trial run since last year.

A national database is expected to be built at the end of this year. The database collects personal information including identity, profession and address, history of financial credit and other relevant data capable of showing a citizen's credit, according to the PBOC.

The seven-chapter regulation

includes items on how banks will report and search personal credit information, how citizens will apply to the administration for correcting their information in the database and how the database will safeguard privacy and security of the information.

Banks will be banned from access to the database and fined 10,000 to 30,000 yuan (1,209 to 3,627 US dollars) if they are over the line or use the information for other purposes than loaning management, the draft regulation said.

MNA/Xinhua

57 Filipinos fall ill after eating spaghetti

MANILA, 18 March — A total of 57 children and adults were sick after eating spaghetti in the northern Philippines, a local TV reported on Thursday.

Tarlac provincial hospital told the ABS-CBN news channel that the 57 patients were rushed to hospital late Wednesday night, some of whom turned pale and suffered from bouts of vomiting and diarrhoea.

According to the parents, their children began showing signs of food poisoning after eating packed spaghetti.

The hospital said that the children had been given medical treatment at the emergency room to control the vomiting.

As of posting time, 21 patients were still receiving medication while the rest were under observation, it said. The regional health department has retrieved samples of the food

for testing, the report said. The investigation is still underway on the cause of the mass food poisoning in the central province of Bohol last week, leaving 27 pupils dead after eating cassava snacks.

The Department of Health announced on Tuesday that pesticide poisoning, and not cyanide as earlier suspected, was the culprit behind the deaths of children.

MNA/Xinhua

China's projects cost to be reduced by 10 to 15% through public bidding

BEIJING, 18 March — Thanks to the public bidding system, China's projects could reduce its costs by 10 to 15 per cent on average, said Ma Kai, minister in charge of the State Development and Reform Commission (SDRC) here on Wednesday.

In some sectors, investors could save as much as 20 per cent, Ma said at a symposium commemorating the fifth anniversary of the implementation on public bidding.

"In the past five years, the practice of public bidding has become more and more standardized and increasing sectors adopted the public bidding system," Ma said.

China's state legislature approved the Law on Public Bidding in mid-1999. It took effect at the beginning of 2000. — MNA/Xinhua



Shoppers walk out of the new Silk Street shopping centre after it was opened in Beijing on 19 March, 2005.— INTERNET

HK Housing Authority expects surplus in 2004-05 budget

HONG KONG, 18 March — Hong Kong Housing Authority has endorsed its revised budget for 2004-05, which shows a consolidated operating surplus of around 500 million Hong Kong dollars (64 million US dollars), according to a government Press release on Thursday.

The surplus, up 400 million Hong Kong dollars on the approved budget, is mainly due to lower personal emoluments as a result of downsizing, and lower maintenance and improvement expenditure brought on by a lower tender price index. The authority's consolidated operating surplus is expected to rise to 15 billion Hong Kong dollars in 2005-2006.

On such a basis, the authority's cash position will remain positive with an estimated cash balance of 13.2 billion Hong Kong dollars in March and 41

billion Hong Kong dollars by March, 2006.

The authority said the forecast estimated cash balances are subject to change, as external factors can have an immense impact on them.

The authority Thursday also endorsed its Corporate Plan for 2005-2006. With 67 key activities, the plan sets out a clear programme of work for the authority to achieve its strategic objectives in the coming year.

The authority will ensure the provision of adequate public rental housing units with a view to maintain the average waiting time at three years.

To tackle abuse of public

housing resources, the authority will step up legal support to the Task Force Against Abuses of Public Housing Resources. Suitable measures will also be introduced to reduce the number of rent arrears cases.

The corporate plan also highlights efforts to facilitate efficient and rational allocation of housing resources. Key activities include reviewing the domestic rent policy, maximising the recovery of public housing units, minimizing the turn-around time of housing offers and proving opportunities for relief of overcrowding.

MNA/Xinhua



An Iraqi woman carries a child into a school guarded by US soldiers during a visit by Iraqi doctors in Baghdad, on 18 March, 2005.—INTERNET

1,519 of US troops killed since beginning of Iraq war

WASHINGTON, 18 March — As of Friday, 18 March, 2005, at least 1,519 members of the US military have died since the beginning of the Iraq war in March 2003, according to an Associated Press count. At least 1,155 died as a result of hostile action, according to the Defence Department. The figures include four military civilians.

The AP count is six higher than the Defence Department's tally, last updated at 10 am EST on Friday. The British military has reported 86 deaths; Italy, 21; Ukraine, 18; Poland, 17; Spain, 11; Bulgaria, eight; Slovakia, three; Estonia, Thailand and the Netherlands, two each; and Denmark, El Salvador, Hungary, Kazakhstan and Latvia one death each.

Since 1 May, 2003, when President Bush declared that major combat operations in Iraq had ended, 1,381 US military members have died, according to AP's count. That includes at least 1,049 deaths resulting from hostile action, according to the military's numbers.—Internet

BBC to cut 1,500 jobs to save \$384.7m

LONDON, 18 March — The BBC is to cut 1,500 jobs from news and other programmes over three years to save 200 million pounds (384.7 million US dollars), media reports said on Friday.

"We are going to make an announcement to staff on Monday about savings in output and content," said a spokesman for the world's biggest public broadcaster, which has already cut other jobs.

This would cover all the BBC's programme-making divisions, including news, drama, entertainment, children's and radio, the spokesman said. Monday's announcement is due at 1430 GMT.

Details of the cuts were leaked to the BBC's labour affairs correspondent by a senior well-placed source, the BBC's news web site reported.

Last week, BBC Director General Mark Thompson said 1,730 jobs would be going from the broadcaster's Professional Services division, which includes finance, personnel and marketing. — MNA/Reuters



A royal Bengal tiger yawns inside its enclosure in a zoo in New Delhi, on 17 March, 2005.—INTERNET

Eight HK scientists awarded croucher foundation fellowships

HONG KONG, 18 March — Eight top research academics from four local universities were presented Senior Research Fellowship of the Croucher Foundation here on Wednesday.

Awards were presented by chief Justice of the Court of Final Appeal of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region Andrew KN Li to the eight distinguished individuals in recognition of their outstanding research.

Of the eight recipients of the fellowship awarded this year, three academics are from the Chinese University of Hong Kong (CUHK) two from the University of Hong Kong (HKU), two from the Hong Kong University of Science and Technology (HKUST) and one from the City University of Hong Kong (CityU).

The Croucher Senior Research Fellowship scheme was first introduced in 1997/98 academic year. It is awarded to local academics who have excelled in scientific research work. In recognition of their success and

to encourage their further achievement in their given fields, funds will be awarded to the respective institutions for recruiting an academic to take over the fellow's duties for the period of the fellowship.—MNA/Xinhua

Ancient village ruins found in N-W China

XI'AN, 18 March — Chinese archaeologists found ruins of a 2,700-year-old village in northwest China's Shanxi Province.

The ruins date from the Western Zhou Dynasty (11th Century BC to 771 BC) sections of a row of houses in the ruins are well preserved, said Yang Yachang, a researcher with the provincial archaeology research institute.

MNA/Xinhua

A haircut in Iraq can be the death of the barber

BAGHDAD, 17 March — It was almost closing time in Sadiq Abdul Hussein's barbershop when a man in a black mask walked in, pulled out a pistol, and began spinning it on his finger, cowboy style.

The gunman was not after government officials or American collaborators. He had come because of the way Mr Hussein cut hair.

Within seconds, the masked man opened fire, fatally wounding Mr Hussein, 23, who lived long enough to describe the attack. The gunman also killed his partner and a customer.

In southern Baghdad, the hazards of life have come to this: gangs of militant Islamists are warning barbers that it is haram — forbidden — to shave men's beards or do Western-style haircuts. As many as 12 barbers

have been killed, Iraqi officials say, including five in one day in late January. With little hope of police protection, most now refuse to offer the offending cuts, and have placed prominent signs in their front windows saying so.

On a recent afternoon, a barber who gave his name only as Ahmad stood over a customer, scissors in hand, glancing nervously out the front window of his shop. One of the two leather barber's chairs sat empty, and on the walls were mirrors and photographs of handsome young men with glistening newly cut hair, as in any

Western salon.

"One morning about three months ago I came to the shop and found a handwritten note with a bullet," he said.

The note warned him that it was forbidden to shave men's beards, or to do facial massages or the French-style haircuts known as the "carré" and the "spiky." The note also warned him not to offer hiffafa, the Iraqi practice in which barbers use a length of thread to pull out the small hairs on the face and give a closer shave. If he ignored the warning, he would be killed, the note said.

Internet

China's first private airlines facing competition on its route

CHANGSHA, 18 March — Hainan Airlines is re-opening a flight route of which Okay Airways, China's brand-new first private airway, currently has the monopoly.

Hainan Airlines' flights will begin from 27 March on the route from north China's Tianjin Municipality to Changsha, capital city of central China's Hunan Province, according to resources from Hainan Airlines.

Okay made its maiden flight on 11 March following the same route. The launch rocked the long-term monopoly of the civil aviation sector by mainly state capital and helped to optimize the allocation of

airline services in China.

Okay has begun running small routes off main hubs, including Tianjin-Changsha route which was once held by Hainan Airlines but was suspended two years ago for inadequate passengers.

"We resume the flight mainly to meet increasing demand along the route, not for competition with Okay," said Wang Xinyu, a senior manager with Hainan Airlines' mar-

keting department. he said there will be no price battle between the two sides.

Hainan Airlines, a joint-stock aviation operator based in Haikou, Hainan Province, gave a warm welcome to Okay, saying "introduction of private capital can help open up the civil aviation market more effectively," while many other state-owned airlines fight to maintain their dominance.

Okay also welcomed Hainan's return to the route. "More than one company operating on the same route will help develop a more mature market," said Han Jing, a higher executive manager of Okay.

China's aviation industry has grown faster than the economy as a whole, but the civil aviation industry was virtually closed to private investment. The liberalization of the sector is part of China's effort to promote private economy's development.

MAN/Xinhua

Two transnational transits to link Guangxi, Vietnam next month

NANNING, 18 March — Two transnational routes linking south China's Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region and Vietnam will open next month, local authorities said Wednesday.

According to communication bureau of the autonomous region, the routes run from Beihai, a southern Chinese port city, to Southeast Asia, and from Nanning, capital of the autonomous region, to Ha Long of Vietnam. They will open at end of April.

The two transnational routes all pass through Guangxi' Dongxing one of the most convenient ports from China to Vietnam and Southeast Asia. The port saw 3.09 million people, including about 700,000 tourists, leaving or entering the country last year.

The transit's opening should alleviate transportation pressure between the autonomous region and Vietnam, noted the resources. — MNA/Xinhua

Tianjin port posts \$10.93b of foreign trade in January, February

TIANJIN, 18 March — Foreign trade through the northern port of Tianjin reached 10.93 billion US dollars in January and February, up 30.6 per cent over the same two months last year, according to Customs statistics.

During the first two months of 2005, imports rose 15.2 per cent to 4.46 billion US dollars and exports grew 44 per cent to 6.47 billion US dollars.

Foreign-funded businesses contributed to 46.2 per cent of the total foreign trade, with trade volume standing at 5.05 billion US dollars and rising 28.2 per cent over the same period last year.

Foreign trade of state-owned companies were valued at 4.19 billion US dollars, an increase of 25.3 per cent.

Exports of mechanical and electrical products via the port rose 40.4 per cent to 2.49 billion US dollars.

Tianjin port more than doubled its exports of steel to 736,000 tons during the first two months, valuing at 460 million US dollars.— MNA/Xinhua



Birds fly past al-Rasheed hotel in the heavily guarded Green Zone after three explosions echoed in the area around central Baghdad on 16 March, 2005. — INTERNET

Industry-1 Minister inspects factory projects in Magway, Mandalay Divisions

YANGON, 19 March — Minister for Industry-1 U Aung Thaung yesterday morning inspected the Textile Factory Project (Pakokku) in Pakokku.

Managing Director U Thein Maung of Myanmar Textile Industries reported on completion of installing machines. He inspected machines and instructed officials to operate the machines skillfully, to produce new generation technicians and to send staff abroad for further studies. He also inspected construction of the cold storage of the Virginia

Factory of Myanmar Foodstuff Industries, and the Disposal Syringe and Intravenous Fluids Production Project (Inyaung) in

Kyaukse Township. He visited the LawkaManAung Shwegu-gyi Pagoda in Inyaung. He proceeded to Enamel and Steel Ware

Factory Project (Kyaukse) and heard reports on construction of the factory and production plans by officials. — MNA



New roads opened in Taungdwingyi, Aunglan

YANGON, 19 March — As a gesture of hailing the 60th Anniversary Armed Forces Day, a tar road was opened in Taungdwingyi Township, Magway Division, on 12 March, attended by Deputy Director-General U Ohn Nyunt of the Development Affairs Department of the Ministry for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs.

It is 1,095 feet long and 12 feet wide spending K 2,479,990 on construction works. Similarly, the deputy director-general attended the opening ceremony of Moeakaung-Kwekone gravel road in Aunglan Township. It is 2,375 feet long and 12 feet wide costing K 4.5 million on the construction works. — MNA

Minister for Industry-1 U Aung Thaung inspects Disposable Syringe and Intravenous Fluids Production Project (Inyaung). — INDUSTRY-1

Bomb explosions occur in some regions due to subversive acts of terrorists

Public exhorted to keep security awareness, cooperate with authorities

YANGON, 19 March — The government has received information since early January this year that absconder saboteurs that are active on the border between Myanmar and the

platives in the last week of January.

In addition, fugitive destructive groups such as NCUB, FTUB, BCP and Vigorous Burmese Student Warriors are recruiting

nation.

In connection with the case, related departments and personnel tightened the security. Releasing the news, the authorities took measures to gain public

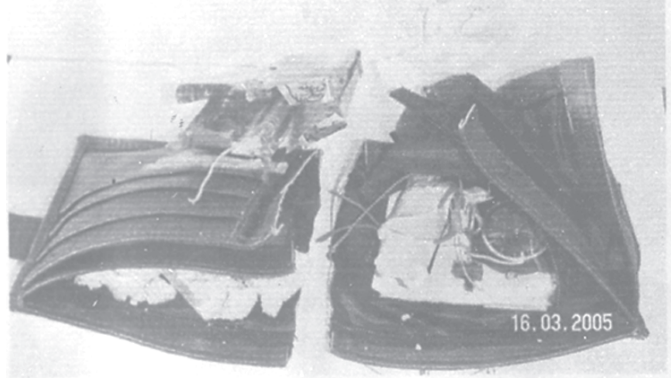
was sent by the ABSDF to destroy the Taninthayi Bridge.

According to the information of a duty-conscious person, a leather bag was seized on a bus of Magway-Yangon-Pathein line near Shwemanthu bus terminal in South Okkalapa Township on 16 March 2005. Security personnel examined the bag and found that it was a time bomb with a clock, two small dry cells, a detonator, wire and explosives. There was no explosion as they cleared the mine in advance. Though the security personnel and the people tried to prevent against destructive acts, an explosion occurred at 9.40 pm on the bus No (6 Kha/6424) of Magway-Yangon-Pathein line in the compound of Parami bus terminal in South Okkalapa Township on 17 March. The right side of the body of the bus, some seats and some windows were destroyed but no one was injured in the explosion.

Moreover, an explosion broke out at room No 309 on the third floor of PANORAMA Hotel on Pansodan

Street in Ward 4 Kyauktada Township at 1.15 am on 19 March. The water basin, bathtub, ceiling and door of the bathroom were destroyed and no one was in-

tionists who undermine peace and stability of the State, create public panic and do harm the business, people are urged to keep security awareness and to



A time bomb embedded in a purse found on a bus plying Magway-Yangon-Pathein route in at Shwemanthu Bus Terminal in South Okkalapa Township on 16 March. — MNA

neighbouring country are hatching plots to step up their destructive acts in Myanmar.

According to the information, the NLD (LA) armed a destructionist with detonators and 8,000 bahts and sent him in early January 2005 to Myanmar, and the ABSDF, its three well-trained members with ex-

new members and training them, stockpiling explosives, and sending groups of newly-completed trainees into the nation through various routes. And the trainees had been enticed with attractive offer that they would be awarded US dollars and other currencies if they could manage to detonate bombs in the

information and participation. The people informed the authorities of suspicious events and persons they had seen and noticed and contributed towards the drive. Acting on information given by duty-conscious citizens, the authorities managed to capture destructionist Win Aung, 32, on 5 February this year, who



Damages caused by a bomb that went off in the bathroom of PANORAMA Hotel in Kyauktada Township on 19 March. — MNA.

jured. Efforts are being made to capture destructionists who committed the act. In order to seize destruc-

inform authorities concerned and to cooperate with them if they find something suspicious. — MNA



Damages from explosion which occurred on the bus with number of plates 6Kha/6424 plying Magway-Yangon-Pathein route at Parami Bus Terminal on 17 March night. MNA



Damages from explosion which occurred on the bus with number of plates 6Kha/6424 plying Magway-Yangon-Pathein route at Parami Bus Terminal on 17 March night. MNA

Soe Myat Min, Swe Swe Thant awarded best players of the year

YANGON, 19 March— Chairman of Myanmar Olympic Committee Minister for Sports Brig-Gen Thura Aye Myint presented best player of the year 2004 to selected footballer Soe Myat Min, and selected Wushu player Swe Swe Thant, and best sports team of the year to selected Myanmar women's football team which emerged champion in 1st ASEAN Women's Football Tournament, at Traders Hotel yesterday evening.

Officials gave K 1 million each awarded by MOC to two best players and the Myanmar women's football team. Similarly, President of Myanmar Sports Writers Federation Dr Tin Tun Oo presented K 1 million each to the two best players and the Myanmar women's football team.

Managing Director U Zaw Win Naing of Kanbawza Bank Ltd presented K 1 millions each to Soe Myat Min and



Minister for Sports Brig-Gen Thura Aye Myint presents best player of the year award to Swe Swe Thant.— NLM

the Myanmar women's team.

Next, the President of MSWF accepted cash donations to the funds of the federation amounting to 7.2 million by wellwishers.

Soe Myat Min, Swe Swe Thant and Myanmar women's football team captain San San Maw expressed thanks. Later, those present were served with dinner.

MNA

List of World Meteorology Day commemorative article, poem contests announced

YANGON, 19 March— The World Meteorology Day commemorative poem contest (high school level) and article contest (open division) have been held recently.

In the former, the first prize went to Ma Khaing Tin Zar Myint of

Kyimyindine Basic Education High School (1), second prize to Ma Khin Myat Noe Han of Yankin BEHS (2) and third prize to Ma Yadana Lin of Lanmadaw BEHS (2), and in the latter, the first prize went to U Soe Aung (Soe Aung - Institute of Traditional Medicine), the second to U Khin Oo (Pyay) and the third to Daw San Htay (Htay Nge).

The winners are to report to the committee for holding the contests of the Meteorology and Hydrology Department in person by 4 pm on 22 March, and also to attend the prize-presentation ceremony to mark the 44th Anniversary World Meteorology Day in person to be held at the MICT Park at 5 pm on 23 March.

MNA



Managing Director U Zaw Win Naing of Kanbawza Bank Ltd presents best player of the year award to Soe Myat Min.— NLM



The meeting of Central Committee for Offering Gold Plates and Inspecting Durability of Shwehtidaw at Shwedagon Pagoda in progress. MNA

Plan to check Htidaw, offer gold plates to Shwedagon Pagoda

YANGON, 19 March — The Central Committee for Offering Gold Plates and Foils and Inspecting Durability of Shwehtidaw of Shwedagon Pagoda held the meeting at the pagoda this morning.

Present were Chairman of the Central Committee Deputy Minister for Mines U Myint Thein, Deputy Minister for Science and Technology Dr Chan Nyein, departmental heads, officials and wellwishers.

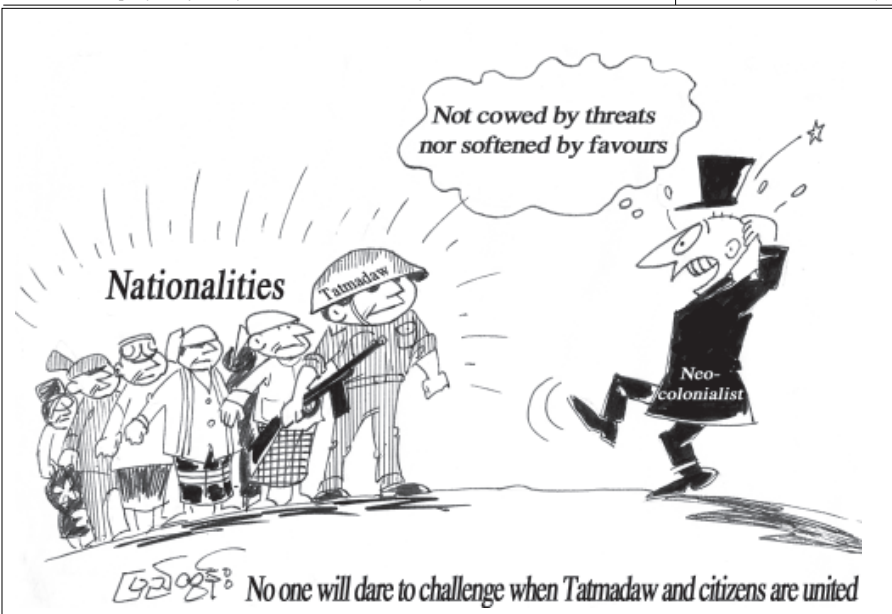
They discussed durability of the Htidaw, arrangements being made for offering of three-tical and six-tical gold plates and gold foils for wellwishers, drawing architectural design of the main building of the pagoda, resistance against natural disasters. They planned to check durability of the Shwehtidaw and offer gold plates and foils to the pagoda not later than 30 April.— MNA

POEM

Chronicle of March, Chronicle of Summer

- * Green are the buds of emerald "payit" And as they bloom and are stirred by the wind The golden cuckoo recalls Chronicle of March, chronicle of Summer.
- * Having deprived of our sovereignty, subjugated We fell under them, this land of ours Tears in our eyes, not properly attired Suffered in privation, in that forlorn period.
- * Suffering in privation, and Treading the dark in that station of life Passage would not be possible Our ancestors, born of Myanmar Were awakened with the right thought.
- * In hills and plains, abode of civilization Got together in solidarity, bravely Those who intruded our land, insulting The colonialists, Awakened, alert, with fighting spirit We waged the war of resistance.
- * That with fighting spirit, our martyrs We marched and confronted them, cannot be forgotten From this sovereign land of ours The power-crazed, mad colonialists To flee, we waged the resistance And this to be told to future generations Our ancestors came to be chronicled as true martyrs.
- * O, green buds, emerald hued When new blooms are stirred by the wind, The golden cuckoo recalls Chronicle of March, Chronicle of Summer.

Khun Ye Thway (Ayethayar) (Trs)



Tatmadaw for the people



the empire, but also the religious edifices existing till today stand as the living proof. Why is Bagan included in the early developed states of global history? Why was Bagan secure and free from enemy disturbances and intrusions? The only answer is the existence of a strong Tatmadaw together with the national unity during the period.

A firm evidence of Bagan's powerful Tatmadaw is the army of 400,000 soldiers King

would certainly march on to Bagan to carry on their acts of aggression. What I mean here is that if there was not powerful Tatmadaw in Bagan or in other words in Myanmar, the country would face the danger of alien intrusion since then.

We have firm historical records about the national development resulting from the national solidarity during the Hanthawady period, the long-lasting sovereignty, Myanmar being renowned

Myanmar step by step, giving trade as an excuse, during the time of King Alaungphaya, who founded the Third Myanmar Empire. The British set up East India Company and built an economic and military base on Hainggyi Island. The French also opened commercial centre in Thanlyin, with the excuse to compete with the British traders.

Because of the economic and military ventures of the British reaching the extreme limits, the Myanmar Tatmadaw had to

The ancient Myanmar that was powerful whenever the Tatmadaw was strong

The world has known Myanmar's existence as a sovereign nation, having her own territory and culture, since time immemorial. Historical records stand witness to the fact that Myanmar had the Tatmadaw formed with various national races since the very early periods.

The pages of history prove that whenever there was a formidable Tatmadaw, Myanmar became powerful, enjoying cent-per-cent unity and

Tekkatho Maung Thu Hlaing

peace and prosperity. And during the times, the Myanmar Tatmadaw always won the respect and attention of the surrounding states.

A study of history shows that the main force behind the national solidarity, peace, tranquillity, strength, prosperity is the powerful Tatmadaw. There are many examples.

First, I will go back to the Bagan period, in which the history of glorious Myanmar was recorded with firm evidence. But during the period, the English race of England, that would claim itself as the empire where the sun never set had not yet come into existence. The people of England were called Anglo Saxons, when King Anawrahta of Bagan dynasty ascended the throne in 1044 AD. But in Myanmar the Bagan state with its own race, culture, administration and sovereignty was flourishing.

Not only in history do we know the flourishing of the Sasana, abundant supply of food, and the donations made by the people to build pagodas in Bagan, the royal capital of

Anawrahta had promised the King of Oktha Bago to help him drive out the Juon invaders under the request of the latter. But Anawrahta sent his four great field commanders — Kyansitha, Nga Htwe Yu, Nga Lon Laphe and Nyaung Oo Phee — together with some soldiers. The King of Oktha Bago did not expect that with that strength alone, the Bagan soldiers and their commanders could defeat the invaders. But in the battle, the invaders were no match for the Bagan soldiers and their commanders. They had to flee in disarray. The Juons are the aliens trying to invade Myanmar.

There is no doubt that if the Juons were able to overrun Oktha Bago, they

as a power in Southeast Asia and her formidable army, the nation had enjoyed fame during the time of King Bayintnaung, the founder of the Second Myanmar Empire. And it was the time, when some colonial countries of the west were applying various means to enter Myanmar. Some colonialists came to Myanmar as merchants and some as diplomats to extend friendly relations. Portuguese Nga Zinga (a Philip de Britto was the first to set foot on Myanmar soil for colonization. In 1627, the Dutch, British and French entered Myanmar, when the unity of the Second Myanmar Empire broke down and the Tatmadaw's strength was in a state of decline.

The colonialists were trying to extend their colonialist ventures in

attack the British troops on the Hainggyi Island and retook it. In 1756, King Alaungphaya drove out the French smuggling timber from their base in Thanlyin. As France did not want to abandon the Thanlyin base, it sent three warships to Thanlyin as reinforcements. But the Myanmar army was able to seize and destroy all the ships.

Myanmar was a country rich in above-ground and underground natural resources, and her forests and hills have helped maintain and protect her favourable climate. As the colonialists coveted her riches, they were trying to colonize her through various ways. There would be encroachment on the independence and sovereignty during the time, if the national races had no unity among themselves and the nation lacked a strong Tatmadaw. History has proved that the strength of the Tatmadaw is also the nation's.

But in the later periods, the national unity was in a state of decline. In the absence of a Tatmadaw that

(See page 9)

Not only in history do we know the flourishing of the Sasana, abundant supply of food, and the donations made by the people to build pagodas in Bagan, the royal capital of the empire, but also the religious edifices existing till today stand as the living proof.



King Anawrahta who founded the first Myanmar empire.



Myanmar heroes bravely attacked the Thanlyin fortress of Ngazinka who encroached upon the sovereignty of Myanmar.

The ancient Myanmar that was powerful whenever the Tatmadaw was strong

(from page 8)

had the power to extend its military, administrative and organizational endeavours to reach every corner of the nation, Myanmar lost Assam, Manipur, Rakhine and Taninthayi regions to the colonialists in the First Anglo-Myanmar War that broke out in 1824 during the reign of King Bagyidaw.

With unyielding spirit and patriotism, Myanmar races from the regions fought back the colonialists. Myanmar lost the territories due to the colonialists' attempt to cause dissension

trade business in Yangon in addition to coastal towns including Mawlamyine and Sittway. Two British merchant ships, trying to avoid paying taxes, secretly moored at Yangon port in the end of 1850. Thus, Yangon Mayor U Oak took action against the two ships and fined them. The captains, Lewis and Shappard, of the two ships filed a complaint to the Governor-General Lord Dalhousie of India concerning the matter. Instead of ordering the two captains to pay the fine, the Governor-General de-

and one million silver coins the cost of sending the flotilla to Myanmar to the British Government; and that Myanmar was to accept a representative of the British Government in Yangon.

Myanmar did not respond to the ultimatum. And with that excuse, the British started the Second Anglo-Myanmar War.

For the colonialists, the Second war was easier and swifter to fight than the First war. The reason was that the British had already known the weakening situation of the Myanmar army. Since the First war, they had known the Myanmar army's lack of military, administrative and organizational skills and arms and ammunition.

Thus, if we study the First and Second Anglo-Myanmar Wars and the reasons behind them, we will find that Myanmar lacked a modern and strong Tatmadaw. And the absence of such a Tatmadaw had led to inviting alien interference in and intrusions into Myanmar.

King Mindon made plans to modernize and strengthen the Tatmadaw. The King tried to buy weapons from British merchants in accord with the agreement in 1867. But Dalhousie prohibited British merchants from selling weapons to Myanmar. Thus, Myanmar King tried to buy military hardware from Italy and France. The British minister forbade the goods from passing through the lower Myanmar that was under British occupation during the time.

The British Government did not wish Myanmar to have a powerful Tatmadaw equipped with advanced

knew of the requirement very well.

The ultimate aim of the colonialists was to annex the entire Myanmar. Because of her richness in natural resources, British and French merchants were meddling in the trade and commercial affairs of upper Myanmar since the time of King Mindon. During the reign of King Thibaw, the two colonial giants were vying each other to gain market in upper Myanmar. The New York Times newspaper issued on 24 October 1885, said that upper Myanmar was the best market in the world unopened yet; and that France was launching clandestine operations to grab the market. It also urged the British to use upper Myanmar for trade.

The British did not want to see Myanmar falling under the French influence. Thus, the British had already made plans to occupy upper Myanmar. In April 1885, there occurred a case, in which the British Bombay Burma Company smuggled timber from Myanmar. When the Myanmar Government caught the smuggle ring, it fined the company. But instead of paying the fine, the company filed a complaint against the case to Governor-General of India. The Governor-General sent an ultimatum which included an unconcerned matter — the demand to acknowledge the British about the Myanmar's foreign relations. All were in vain, despite Myanmar's withdrawal of the fine. In accord with their original plan, the colonialists started the Third Anglo-Myanmar War.

The colonialists were able to seize upper Myanmar easily within 15 days. In the



King Alaungmintaya who founded the third Myanmar empire.

book, Winston Churchill wrote about his grandfather, who was the Secretary of Indian Affairs, it is said that as the British Government was worried about the French domination in Myanmar, it unjustly seized the country without the approval of the parliament. The British political leader, in his book "Friends of England", said that the British unjustly seized upper Myanmar; that the seizure of Myanmar was not approved by anyone; that as Myanmar was extending relations with France, the British occupied Myanmar in time.

If we study history, we will see Myanmar rising high among nations for three times because of her power-

ful Tatmadaw; and there were also three Anglo-Myanmar Wars in which Myanmar was defeated because of the absence of a strong Tatmadaw.

Myanmar becomes a sovereign nation having the precise territorial boundary and firm administration whenever the Tatmadaw is strong. As long as the Tatmadaw is imbued with the three capabilities, the nation will enjoy peace, prosperity and unity.

History stands witness to the fact that Myanmar will remain strong as long as there is the powerful Tatmadaw or in other words, if the Tatmadaw is imbued with the three capabilities.

(Translation: TMT)



King Bayintnaung who founded the second Myanmar empire.

among the national races through economic and political means, and lack of linkage and harmony among the patriotic fighters. Thus, a decisive victory can be achieved only if the national people know the wicked schemes of the colonialists to divide Myanmar, and join

manded fine from Myanmar and the transfer of the Mayor for his act to embarrass Lewis and Shappara. Lord Dalhousie did not make the demand through proper diplomatic channel, but sent a naval flotilla under the command of Commodore Lambert. King Bagan transferred

History stands witness to the fact that Myanmar will remain strong as long as there is the powerful Tatmadaw or in other words, the Tatmadaw imbued with the three capabilities.

hands with the Tatmadaw in warding off the enemies.

After the First Anglo-Myanmar War, the colonialists came to know well the weakness in Myanmar's military, administrative and organizational machinery. So, they tried to occupy the remaining territories in accord with their original scheme. They tried to find fault with Myanmar with baseless excuses.

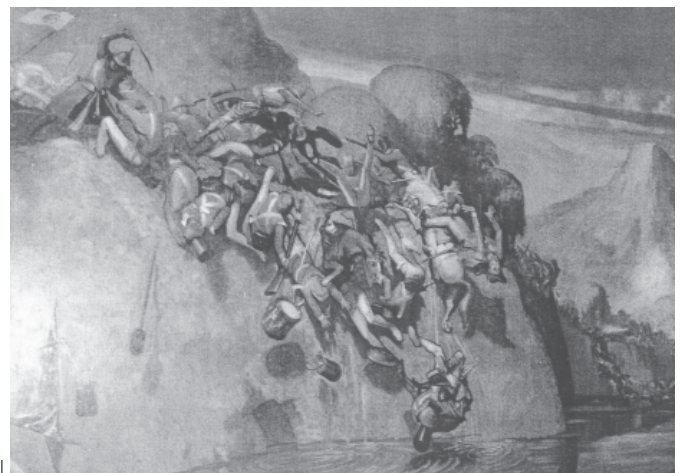
It was in the era of King Bagan that the colonialists set up their timber and rice

the Mayor in accord with the demand. The British trying to find an excuse to make war with Myanmar seized and took together with them Yen-an Yintha ship of Myanmar.

On 8 February 1852, Dalhousie sent a grim ultimatum to the Myanmar King. The ultimatum stated that the Mayor himself was to make a personal apology to the officer, who came to him to deliver a letter, was to; that Myanmar was to pay compensation to the two captains

weapons. Because it wanted to seize the upper Myanmar easily.

Prince Kanoung made plans to build factories to manufacture advanced weapons to overcome the difficulty the nation was facing in buying arms and ammunition. But the plans failed because of the court crises and those who were against making war with the British. Thus, setting up of a modern and strong Tatmadaw was away from Myanmar although she



Sayagyi U Ba Kyi's painting "The battle of Panwa" depicting the battle in which Myanmar Tatmadaw bravely fought against the colonialists.



Prime Minister Lt-Gen Soe Win addresses opening ceremony of Textile Factory (Pwintbyu) of Myanmar Textile Industries.— MNA

State giving priority to establishment of mills...

(from page 1)

Minister for Industry-1 U Aung Thauang reported on production of high quality fabric products from the factory.

Prime Minister Lt-Gen Soe Win delivered an address. He said as the factory is equipped with 600 weaving machines, it can produce substantial amount of textiles and clothing. There have been job opportunities in Pwintbyu region, and the factory has been

result, double cropping could be carried out and incomes of local farmers are now improving. At the same time, Mone Multi-purpose Dam is generating 75 megawatts of electricity for regional power supply, he added.

Buywa dam project and Kyeonkyeewa dam project are being implemented to expand irrigation acreage and generate more electricity. In a matter of three years, the Prime Minister remarked, cultivation

will emerge based on agriculture sector, noted the Prime Minister. Now, the arid regions of Minbu (Sagu) and Salin including Pwintbyu on the western bank of the Ayeyawady River that had difficulty in transport in the past are seeing progress in all aspects as the State has been building bridges, dams, river-water pumping stations and factories there. The State is building such facilities to ensure the greening and development of Magway Division, almost the whole region of which is hot and dry, he noted. This is why the government built irrigation networks, roads, railroads, bridges, universities, colleges and new airports in various parts of the division and implemented river water pumping projects and greening programme by spending a large sum of money. Now everyone can witness the all-round development of the division.

During his inspection tour in Magway in December, the Head of State gave guidance that Magway Division would develop with greater momentum in four or five years based on better foundations created by the State.

Despite difficulties, the government is making efforts for development of not only Magway Division but also all parts of the country. It is doing so with the concept of progress of the nation and its people.

The Prime Minister spoke of the need for the people in Magway Division to realize the goodwill and noble objectives and to be loyal to the State and patriotic and to work hard.

He also called on local people to maintain the factory for durability and to grow cotton needed mainly for the factory.

He said Pakokku and Salingyi Textile Plants are under construction. The new and old factories under the Ministry of Industry-1 need 30 million viss of cotton every year. There are about 800,000 acres of cotton in the country including Magway, Mandalay and Sagaing Divisions. And about 90 million viss of cotton can be produced. Production of cotton in the country has met with the local demand for State-run factories and privately-owned ones.

(See page 11)



Prime Minister Lt-Gen Soe Win inspects products of Textile Factory (Pwintbyu).— MNA

staffed with nearly 4,000 local people. In addition, technical efficiency of factory workers will improve, for they will have to cope with modern machinery installed to the factory.

The Prime Minister said irrigation acreage of Pwintbyu region, Minbu (Sagu) region and Salin region had been extended as Mone Multi-Purpose Dam, Mann Dam and Salin Dam were constructed. As a

acreage of monsoon and summer paddy and cotton along Mone Creek will be extended thanks to these dam projects.

He went on to say that the country needs to establish an agro-based industry through the development of agricultural sector. So, the State built such a greatly invested textile factory. In years to come, private-owned small and medium factories



Prime Minister Lt-Gen Soe Win hears reports on salient points of Textile Factory (Pwintbyu) presented by Minister for Industry-1 U Aung Thauang.— MNA



Col Phone Maw Shwe, U Oo Thein Maung and Lt-Col Ko Ko Zaw formally open Textile Factory (Pwintbyu).— MNA

State giving priority to establishment of mills...

(from page 10)

Nowadays, the governmental bodies including the Ministry of Industry-1 are engaged in land reclamation to satisfy the demand of raw materials on their own arrangements. This being the case, there emerged acres of new State-run cotton

State industries. The State is giving priority to establishment of mills and factories which need a great deal of capital and high technology.

The government is setting up the industries that are crucial for the State while establishing the agro-based industries.

development including development of economic and transport sectors and for the emergence of highly-qualified human resources, work programmes for mobilizing a transition to democracy to be in line with tradition and cultures of own State and own people have been laid down and are being implemented.

Integrated and well-coordinated efforts are of paramount importance in successful realization of political, economic and social objectives of the State. The future work programmes of the State are to be implemented by means of the active participation of the entire national people.

In conclusion, the Prime Minister called on officials concerned and local people to make concerted efforts for the emergence of a modern and developed nation, maintaining the fine traditions of Magway Division that has made marked progress through united efforts of local people and departmental officials under the leadership of the government.

Next, U Tin Min of Pwintbyu Township, on behalf of local people expressed thanks for construction of Textiles Factory (Pwintbyu) in Pwintbyu region.

Next, the Prime Minister presented a basket of fruits to Chairman Mr Sun Jian Rong and officials of Tianjin Ma-

chinery Import & Export Corporation. Mr Sun Jian Rong also presented a souvenir to the Prime Minister.

The Prime Minister cordially greeted those present and posed for a documentary photo together with the guests including Director-General of Committee of Commerce Tianjin Mr Li Pei Sheng.

Pwintbyu Textile Factory was built with a view to introducing import-substitute items, raising the living standard of the regional people, creating job opportunities for local people and improving the industrial technology as the factory is installed with modern machinery and over 600 weaving machines. The factory can produce 9.976 million yards of textiles per year.

MNA

Armed Forces Day commemorative computer quiz goes on



Deputy Minister for Science and Technology Dr Chan Nyein views Computer Art and Application Contest.— MNA

YANGON, 13 March—Organized by Work Committee for Holding the Booths of Twelve Objectives of the State, the 60th Anniversary Armed Forces Day commemorative computer quiz 2005 continued at Defence Services Museum and Historical Research Institute, Dagon Township this morning.

First, Chairman of Work Committee Lt-Col Aung Gyi of Directorate of Resettlement of the Ministry of Defence explained the purpose of holding the computer quiz to members of township Union Solidarity and Development Associations and Lecture of Yangon Institute of Computer Studies did its rules.

A total of 75 participants of Lanmadaw, Dagon Myothit (South) and Hlinethaya townships took part in the quiz.

MNA



U Tin Min of Pwintbyu expresses gratitude. MNA

plantations countable by the thousand in Magway Division.

Therefore, local farmers who are engaged in meeting the demand of cotton raw materials in the market are to acquire new techniques applying in new cotton plantations.

All in all, the agricultural sector of the State has been in the offing and so has the industry that is based on the agriculture. The Pwintphyu Factory has stood witness to it.

The industrial sector is the second greatest in terms of GDP of the State after the agricultural sector. The industrial sector constitutes about 98 per cent of private industries and 1.5 per cent of

It is doing so with the aim of paving the way for transforming an agro-based industrial nation to a modern industrial one.

In other words, the government is building the industrial infrastructures needed for the emergence of a peaceful modern and developed nation. On the other hand, with the aim of bringing about equitable development across the nation including Magway Division and of narrowing the development gaps among the regions, it has laid down electric power projects dispensable for industrial development.

With the establishment of infrastructures required for national de-



Myanmar Sports and Health Foundation Chairman Bo Ye Htut (Thirty Comrades) presents medal to Myanmar Wushu Federation President U Khin Maung Lay at the ceremony to present prizes to outstanding athletes on 19-3-2005.— H

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Mubarak calls for rallying Arab efforts to confront challenges

CAIRO, 18 March— Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak on Thursday called for rallying Arab efforts to render the upcoming Arab Summit in Algiers successful so as to confront challenges facing the region.

Mubarak made the call during his meeting in the Egyptian Red Sea resort of Sharm El-Sheikh with visiting Qatari Foreign Minister Hamad Bin Jasim Bin Jabr Al-Thani.

Presidential Spokesman Suliman Awwad told the official MENA news agency that the Egyptian-Qatari talks covered the latest Arab conditions and the agenda of the Tuesday Algiers Arab summit.

President Mubarak reaffirmed his intention to attend the Arab Summit, Awwad added.

The 22-member Arab League is expected to celebrate its 60th birthday at the upcoming summit, due in the Algerian capital Algiers on 22-23 March.

Egyptian Foreign Minister Ahmed Abul Gheit had said that the upcoming Arab summit in Algeria will consider reforms of the decision-making mechanism of the League to active unified Arab action.

MNA/Xinhua

ပြည်ထောင်စုမြန်မာနိုင်ငံတော်အစိုးရ သိပ္ပံနည်းပညာဝန်ကြီးဌာန အဆင့်မြင့်သိပ္ပံနည်းပညာဦးစီးဌာန မဟာအင်ဂျင်နီယာ/ဗိသုကာဘွဲ့.သင်တန်းများအတွက် လျှောက်လွှာခေါ်ယူခြင်း

၁။ သိပ္ပံနည်းပညာဝန်ကြီးဌာနလက်အောက်ရှိ ရန်ကုန် နည်းပညာ တက္ကသိုလ်(လှိုင်သာယာ)၊ မန္တလေး နည်းပညာတက္ကသိုလ်နှင့် မြည်နည်းပညာ တက္ကသိုလ်များတွင် ၂၀၀၅-၂၀၀၆ ပညာသင်နှစ်အတွက် ၂၀၀၅ ခုနှစ်၊ ဧပြီလ (၁၈)ရက်နေ့တွင် စတင်ဖြင့်လှူမည့် အောက်ပါမဟာအင်ဂျင်နီယာ/ဗိသုကာဘွဲ့ သင်တန်းများအတွက် လျှောက်လွှာများခေါ်ယူအပ်ပါသည်။

- ဖွင့်လှစ်မည့်သင်တန်းများ (၁) M.E (Civil) (၇) M.E (Chemical) (၂) M.E (Mechanical) (၈) M.E (Mining) (၃) M.E (Electrical Power) (၉) M.E (Textile) (၄) M.E (Electronic) (၁၀) M.E (Petroleum) (၅) M.E (Information Technology) (၁၁) M.E (Metallurgy) (၆) M.E (Mechatronic) (၁၂) M.Arch

- ၂။ လျှောက်ထားသူများသည် အောက်ပါ သတ်မှတ်ချက်များနှင့် ပြည့်စုံသူဖြစ်ရမည်။ (က) လျှောက်ထားသူနှင့် ၎င်း၏မိဘနှစ်ပါး၊ (ခ) ဦးစိုးသည် မြန်မာနိုင်ငံသားဖြစ်ရမည်။ (ခ) သက်ဆိုင်ရာအိတ်ကတသာရရှိပြီး B.E/B.Arch ဘွဲ့ ရရှိပြီး၊ မဟာအင်ဂျင်နီယာသင်တန်းသို့တက်ရောက်ရန် အဆင့်မီသူများသာ လျှောက်ထားနိုင်သည်။ အစိုးရနည်းပညာကောလိပ်များမှ အောင်မြင်ပြီး ၂၀၀၅ ခုနှစ်၊ ဧပြီလ(၃)ရက်နေ့တွင် B.E/B.Archဘွဲ့ယူမည့်သူများထံမှ အဆင့်မီ (Qualify) ဖြစ်သူများသည် လျှောက်ထားနိုင်သည်။ (ဂ) သင်တန်းသို့ အချိန်ပြည့် တက်ရောက်နိုင်သူဖြစ်ရမည်။ (ဃ) သင်တန်းစတင်မည့် (၁၈-၄-၂၀၀၅) ရက်နေ့တွင် အသက် (၃၅) နှစ်ထက်မကျော်လွန်သူများ လျှောက်ထားနိုင်သည်။

- ၃။ (က) ရန်ကုန်နည်းပညာတက္ကသိုလ်(လှိုင်သာယာ) တွင် မြို့ပြ၊ စက်မှု၊ လျှပ်စစ်စွမ်းအား၊ အီလက်ထရွန်းနစ်၊ သတင်းအချက်အလက် နည်းပညာ၊ မက္ကစရော့နစ်၊ ဓာတု၊ ချည်မျှင်၊ သတ္တုတူးဖော်ရေး၊ ရေနံ၊ သတ္တုဗေဒ၊ ဗေဒကြောင်း၊ အင်ဂျင်နီယာဘာသာရပ်များနှင့် ဗိသုကာဘာသာရပ်များကို ဖွင့်လှစ်သင်ကြားမည်။ (ခ) မန္တလေးနည်းပညာတက္ကသိုလ်တွင် မြို့ပြ၊ စက်မှု၊ လျှပ်စစ်စွမ်းအား၊ အီလက်ထရွန်းနစ်၊ သတင်းအချက်အလက် နည်းပညာ၊ မက္ကစရော့နစ်၊ ဓာတုအင်ဂျင်နီယာဘာသာရပ်များနှင့် ဗိသုကာဘာသာရပ်များကို ဖွင့်လှစ်သင်ကြားမည်။ (ဂ) မြည်နည်းပညာတက္ကသိုလ်တွင် မြို့ပြ၊ စက်မှု၊ လျှပ်စစ်စွမ်းအားနှင့် အီလက်ထရွန်းနစ်၊ အင်ဂျင်နီယာဘာသာရပ်များကို ဖွင့်လှစ်သင်ကြားမည်။

၄။ ရန်ကုန်နည်းပညာတက္ကသိုလ်(လှိုင်သာယာ)တွင် အောက်ပါ နည်းပညာ တက္ကသိုလ်/ကောလိပ်များမှ တက်ရောက် အောင်မြင်သူများကိုလက်ခံသင်ကြားပေးမည်ဖြစ်သည်။

ရန်ကုန်နည်းပညာတက္ကသိုလ်၊ အစိုးရနည်းပညာကောလိပ်(လှိုင်ကော်)၊ အစိုးရနည်းပညာကောလိပ်(မော်ဘီ)၊ အစိုးရနည်းပညာကောလိပ်(သန်လျင်)၊ အစိုးရနည်းပညာကောလိပ်(ပခုပ္ပင်)၊ အစိုးရနည်းပညာကောလိပ်(ဘားအံ)၊ အစိုးရနည်းပညာကောလိပ်(ဇော်လမြိုင်)၊ အစိုးရနည်းပညာကောလိပ်(ထားဝယ်)၊ အစိုးရနည်းပညာကောလိပ်(မြိတ်)

၅။ မန္တလေးနည်းပညာတက္ကသိုလ်တွင် အောက်ပါ နည်းပညာတက္ကသိုလ်/ကောလိပ်များမှ တက်ရောက်အောင်မြင်သူများကို လက်ခံသင်ကြားပေးမည်ဖြစ်သည်။

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၆။ မြည်နည်းပညာတက္ကသိုလ်တွင် အောက်ပါ နည်းပညာတက္ကသိုလ်/ကောလိပ်များမှ တက်ရောက် အောင်မြင်သူများကို လက်ခံသင်ကြားပေးမည်ဖြစ်သည်။

မြည်နည်းပညာတက္ကသိုလ်၊ အစိုးရနည်းပညာကောလိပ်(ပြည်)၊ အစိုးရနည်းပညာကောလိပ်(ပခုပ္ပင်)၊ အစိုးရနည်းပညာကောလိပ်(မေတ္တာ)၊ အစိုးရနည်းပညာကောလိပ်(တောင်ငူ)၊ အစိုးရနည်းပညာကောလိပ်(စစ်တွေ)၊ အစိုးရနည်းပညာကောလိပ်(ပုသိမ်)၊ အစိုးရနည်းပညာကောလိပ်(ပုသိမ်)၊ လျှောက်လွှာများကို သတ်မှတ်ပုံစံဖြင့် သက်ဆိုင်ရာ ရန်ကုန်နည်းပညာတက္ကသိုလ်(လှိုင်သာယာ)၊ မန္တလေးနည်းပညာတက္ကသိုလ်နှင့် မြည်နည်းပညာတက္ကသိုလ်များတွင် ၂-၄-၂၀၀၅ (စနေနေ့) နောက်ဆုံးတော့ လျှောက်ထားရမည် ဖြစ်ပြီး ၅-၄-၂၀၀၅ (အင်္ဂါနေ့)တွင် အင်္ဂလိပ်စာအရည်အချင်းစစ်ဖြေစာမေးပွဲကို သက်ဆိုင်ရာလျှောက်ထားသည့် တက္ကသိုလ်များတွင် နံနက် (၉:၃၀)နာရီမှ နေ့လယ် (၁၂:၀၀) အထိ ဖြေဆိုရမည်ဖြစ်သည်။ အခြားသို့လိုသည့်များရှိပါက ရန်ကုန်နည်းပညာတက္ကသိုလ်(လှိုင်သာယာ)၊ ဖုန်း-၀၁-၆၅၂၇၇၇၊ မန္တလေးနည်းပညာတက္ကသိုလ်၊ ဖုန်း-၀၂-၅၇၇၆၇၇၊ မြည်နည်းပညာတက္ကသိုလ်၊ ဖုန်း-၀၅-၂၅၈၇၇၇ ကျောင်းသားရေးရာဌာနများတွင် မေးမြန်း ခုံစမ်းနိုင်ပါသည်။

Yangon Golf Club Notice

Notice is here by given that the Annual General Meeting of the Yangon Golf Club will be held on Sunday 27th March, 2005 at Club House Premises at 10:00 hours.

Managing Member Yangon Golf Club

“Happy Birthday to Prof. Dr. Nai Pan Hla”

On your auspicious 82nd Birthday-20th Mar. 2005, we cordially wish you all the best for your health and your continued success in your distinguished academic career for ever.

Beloved wife - Mi Thein Nwe, Golden Valley Avenue, Yangon.

Beloved daughter - Mi Khin Khin Hla-Dr. Mehm Soe Myint, Pyi Road, Yangon.

Beloved sons - Min Aye Chan-Mi Tin Tin Sein; Min May Chan-Mi Thit Thit; Min Hlaing Htaw-Mi Kyi Kyi San; Min Aye Cho- Mi Hnin Si; Min Hlaing Soon.

Beloved grandchildren - Min Kun Htaw- Mi Hnin Phyu Pyar Han, Mi May Soe Mon, Min Hla Htaw, Min Htaw Mon (International Business and Special English College, Tokyo), Mi May Hlaing Kyi (London Institute of Technology English), Min Banya Htaw (DECK CADET, Five Star Line), Min Ohmar Chan, Mi Ei Mon Chan, Min Tin Oo Cho.

Iran will not give back three British naval boats

TEHERAN, 18 March— Iran will never return three British naval boats it seized last year on its border with Iraq, a senior military official was quoted as saying on Thursday.

Britain has demanded Teheran hand over the boats which were captured last June along with eight British servicemen in the narrow Shatt al-Arab waterway which divides southwestern Iran from Iraq. The men were freed after three days.

Earlier this month London lodged a formal

protest with Teheran about plans to display the boats as part of a military exhibition in southern Iran.

Iran has shown little sign of backing down.

"Iran will not give back the three British naval boats seized in the Shatt al-Arab and is putting them on display," the semi-official Fars

Britain unable to sustain mily deployments abroad

LONDON, 18 March—

The intensity with which the British Army is deployed on operations is unsustainable, the British Guardian newspaper quoted a cross-party committee of British lawmakers as saying in a report published on Thursday.

"Many frontline units in the Army have for some years been experiencing an operational and training cycle whose intensity is unsustainable over the longer term," the Commons Defence Committee was quoted as saying in its report.

MNA/Xinhua

American's life expectancy could shrink due to obesity

BOSTON, 18 March— For the first time in generations, Americans' average life expectancy could shrink because of an obesity epidemic sweeping the United States, researchers said on Wednesday.

In an analysis that weighed in on the debate over reforming Social Security, health experts concluded that the nation's steady rise in longevity may end in coming decades as more people die early from obesity-related health problems like heart disease, diabetes and kidney failure.

Led by Jay Olshansky of the University of Illinois in Chicago, the researchers said obesity among adults rose by 50 per cent per decade during the 1980s and 1990s to the point that nearly one in three Americans now obese. The team suggested the methods used to establish life expectancy — long based

on historic trends — must be reassessed in light of the growing population of obese Americans.

A review is particularly important as obesity rates surge in children and young adults, they said.

More than nine million US children are obese. Not only do they risk being fat all their lives, doctors say, but they have a higher than average risk of heart disease and diabetes.

"We can compare the childhood obesity epidemic to a massive tsunami heading for the United States," said co-author David Ludwig of Children's Hospital in Boston. "By the time you see the waters rising from

the shoreline, it's too late to take protective action. We know that that wave is coming."

At a time when Social Security reform is consuming US politics, the researchers noted that the question of longevity is not just academic but has major public policy implications. The Social Security Administration has estimated that life expectancy in the United States will continue to rise steadily, reaching the mid-80s later this century.

The Olshansky team called this projection flawed because it did not factor in the health consequences of being overweight.

MNA/Reuters

ပညာရေးနှင့် ခေတ်မီပုံနှိပ်တိုးတက်သော နိုင်ငံတော်ကြီး တည်ဆောက်ဆုံ



A Japanese girl smiles as information robot "Actroid," co-developed by Japan's Kokoro Corp and Advanced Media Inc, speaks to visitors, working as an official Aichi Expo 2005 multilingual receptionist at West Gate during a press preview of the world fair in Nagakute, central Japan, on 19 March, 2005.—INTERNET

8,500 photographs for NY Museum of Art

NEW YORK, 19 March — New York's Metropolitan Museum of Art said on Thursday it had acquired 8,500 photographs collected by industrialist Howard Gilman, whose archive it said had helped define the history of photography.

"It's the preeminent private collection in this area. It's been the dream of the Met to acquire it," said Malcolm Daniel, curator of photography.

"It has things that were already the textbook examples from the history of photography but at the same time it helped define that history," Daniel told Reuters, picking out names such as 1860s British portraitist Julia Margaret Cameron and Roger Fenton, best known for his Crimean War pictures. The collection includes American Civil War pictures by Mathew Brady, Alexander Gardner and Timothy O'Sullivan, as well as work by Henri Cartier-Bresson and Man Ray.

Daniel said there was work by "anyone from the first 100 years of photography that anybody would have heard of," as well as unusual work by lesser known early photographers.

"People looked to the Gilman collection to establish the canon," Daniel said, recalling an 1862 picture titled "Woman Seen From the Back" by

Onesipe Aguado that was used on the cover of the catalogue of a 1993 Met exhibition of 250 pictures from the Gilman collection.

The collection was put together between 1977 and 1997 by Gilman, the chairman of the Gilman Paper Company, who together with his curator Pierre Apraxine sought out iconic and classic works from the 19th century and early 20th century.

Daniel said the foundation that owned the collection had made a partial gift of it to the museum. He did not say how much the museum had paid for the rest but the *New York Times* said the collection's market value could exceed 100 million US dollars.

Some 20 pictures from the collection would go on display on April 17 and more would be available during the year, said Daniel. "Every exhibition we do from now on will always have the Gilman collection because it becomes the essential core of the Met's collection," he added.

MNA/Reuters

Growing number of LA residents "stunningly unhappy"

LOS ANGELES, 18 March — California may be the golden state but a growing number of Los Angeles residents are "stunningly unhappy" with their quality of life, according to a survey released on Wednesday.

Traffic and housing costs are such a concern that one-third of those interviewed said they expected to leave Los Angeles County in the next five years — almost double the numbers of those who said they planned to leave in the last survey in 2003. "More LA city residents say they plan to leave the county than voted in last week's mayoral race," said Mark Baldassare, director of the Public Policy Institute of California which questioned 2,003 adult residents for the survey.

Some 74 per cent, up from 67 per cent two years

ago, of those questioned put traffic congestion on the freeways that crisscross the area as their biggest concern.

Some 64 per cent, compared to 54 per cent two years ago, cited the lack of affordable housing in a region that has seen house prices boom over the last two years.

Despite giving good ratings to the county's economy, 37 per cent said they believed that Los Angeles County would be a worse place, rather than a better place (24 per cent) to live in 20 years time.

MNA/Reuters

Better testing key to fight AIDS pandemic

BEIJING, 19 March — Better testing is the key to fighting the global AIDS pandemic, Richard Holbrooke said on Friday in Beijing, where he was in town to encourage Chinese businesses to play a role in stopping the spread of the disease.

The former ambassador to the United Nations who now heads the Global Business Coalition on HIV/AIDS also had harsh words for the World Health Organization, saying its emphasis on providing anti-retrovirals was misplaced when most of those with the disease did not know they were infected.

"The failure to test is the weakest link in the policy. If testing is not encouraged, AIDS will become, worldwide, the ultimate weapon of mass destruction," he told a news conference.

Holbrooke praised China's efforts to fight

AIDS, saying the SARS outbreak in 2003 had been critical to changing central government's attitudes toward the disease by highlighting the economic consequences of allowing its spread.

He had harsher words for the WHO's "3 by 5" initiative to provide anti-retroviral therapy to 3 million people with HIV/AIDS by 2005, saying it was an advertising slogan that could not be fulfilled and that just 800,000 had been reached to date.

"Even if they did get to 3 by 5, they wouldn't catch up with the spread. The only way to get there

is with testing," he said.

WHO officials in Beijing were not immediately available for comment.

But Holbrooke's emphasis on testing highlights the problems remaining in China, where, despite high-level shows of support, prevention is still hampered by social stigma and political sensitivity.

Holbrooke said testing should be carried out routinely for patients undergoing operations, couples getting married and for pregnant women, but he acknowledged compliance with such a policy would be difficult

without guarantees of confidentiality.

That presents a challenge for China, where the government was slow to acknowledge the epidemic and says it has fewer than 1 million cases — a figure many AIDS organizations say is a gross underestimate.

At the highest levels, the government's attitude has changed.

"The government will further enhance legislation on prevention and treatment and invest additional resources in this work," Health Minister and Vice-Premier Wu Yi said.

MNA/Reuters

Biologist documents new species of fairy shrimp in Idaho

SALMON (Idaho), 18 March — A military biologist has documented a new species of fairy shrimp in Idaho, one of only four species among hundreds that are longer than an inch and eat their relatives, officials said on Wednesday.

Dana Quinney, a biologist with the Idaho National Guard, said the new species most closely resembled "a feathery preying mantis with an attitude". Unlike the vast majority of fairy shrimp, the new species is armed with spines and ready to rumble with its smaller counterparts, said Quinney, adding, "This

guy is a carnivore, grabbing onto little guys and eating them."

The three-inch, flesh-coloured crustacean can lie dormant for years, even decades, in egg form, emerging only when infrequent rains and runoff fill the desert lakes of southwestern Idaho. Then it goes amok, eating, mating and laying eggs be-

fore another dry spell descends.

In lean times, the mega-sized fairy shrimp — which sports hooked arms, a forked tail and turquoise-coloured reproductive organs — clamps its fairy shrimp cousins to its abdomen to store for future dining. It's a very cool critter," said Quinney.

MNA/Reuters



Four piglets jump over a low wall on a dirt track during a pig race at Sydney's Royal Easter Show on 18 March, 2005.—INTERNET

SPORTS

Parma defeat Sevilla 1-0

ROME, 18 March — Parma's rollercoaster season continued on Thursday, when a goal by defender Giuseppe Cardone sealed a 1-0 win on aggregate over Sevilla to send them into the quarterfinals of the UEFA Cup.

The two-times UEFA Cup winners, who are battling relegation in Serie A, were lucky not to fall behind in the early stages of the match when visiting midfielder Adriano curled a free kick against the bar.

In the 19th minute Sevilla's defence failed to clear a corner, allowing Cardone to fire in the only goal of the tie from close range.

Sevilla pushed forward after the break but struggled to breakdown Parma's defence. Their best chance to equalize came 13 minutes from time, when Antonito slid a dangerous ball across the face of goal only for fellow striker Julio Baptista to send his shot high over the bar.

MNA/Reuters

Pele signs contract to write autobiography

NEW YORK, 18 March — Brazilian soccer legend Pele has signed a contract to write his autobiography, which is expected to hit the shelves ahead of the 2006 World Cup soccer championship, publisher Simon & Schuster said on Thursday.

The publisher declined to say how much the deal was worth, but the Publishers' Marketplace Web site described it as a "major deal", a term typically used for contracts worth at least 500,000 US dollars.

Pele, 64, won the World Cup with Brazil in

1958 and 1970 and is considered by many to be the greatest player in soccer history, revered by fans at home and around the world.

He first published an autobiography in 1977 and countless books have been written about him.

Simon & Schuster's

New York spokesman Adam Rothberg said the publisher's London office had signed world rights for the new book, to be called Pele: the Autobiography.

"It's meant to come out in 2006 in time for the World Cup," Rothberg said. —MNA/Reuters

Cagliari seal 4-3 aggregate win over Sampdoria

ROME, 18 March — Cagliari set up an Italian Cup semifinal clash with Inter Milan on Thursday, when they sealed a 4-3 aggregate win over Sampdoria despite losing the second leg of the tie 3-2.

Sampdoria, who lost the first leg 2-0, started brightly and took the lead in the 19th minute courtesy of a Cristiano Doni header.

Italy international striker Mauro Eposito's

goal for Cagliari three minutes later, however, left the home side needing to score at least three more goals to win the tie.

Sampdoria set off in pursuit of the target and pulled back two goals in

quick succession just before the break as Valeri Kutusov chipped the keeper and then Doni struck his second of the night from close range.

After the interval, Sampdoria coach Walter Novellino sent on leading striker Francesco Flachi in an attempt to grab a fourth goal.

Midway through the half Doni and Cagliari defender Loris Delnevo were sent off for brawling. Without their influential playmaker, Sampdoria struggled to create scoring chances.

MNA/Reuters

Sporting Lisbon beat Middlesbrough 1-0

LONDON, 18 March — Sporting Lisbon stayed on course to play this year's UEFA Cup final in their own Jose Alvalade Stadium when they beat Middlesbrough 1-0 to reach the quarterfinals 4-2 on aggregate on Thursday.



Middlesbrough's Gareth Southgate (C) is challenged by Sporting's Rogerio (L) and Joao Moutinho (R) during their UEFA Cup football match second leg 1/8 final clash Lisbon. Lisbon won 1-0.—INTERNET

The only goal came just before the end of an evenly-balanced second knockout round second leg match when Pedro Barbosa struck the ball just out of reach of Boro goalkeeper Mark Schwarzer.

That guaranteed Sporting's place in Friday's draw at UEFA headquarters in Nyon, Switzerland along with AZ Alkmaar and Newcastle United, who sealed their places on

Wednesday, and CSKA Moscow who won through earlier on Thursday.

Austria Vienna, Parma and AJ Auxerre also advanced, with the final place to be decided on Sunday when Villarreal meet Steaua Bucharest in their delayed second leg match. The first leg ended 0-0.

CSKA qualified with a 2-0 home victory and 3-1 aggregate success over

Partizan Belgrade who finished with nine men after Nenad Djordjevic and Ivan Tomic were sent off in the last seven minutes.

Daniel Carvalho (69th) and Vagner Love (85th pen) scored the goals that secured CSKA's progression.

Austria Vienna qualified on the away goals rule after throwing away a 2-0 lead at Real Zaragoza in a match that ended 2-2 on the night for a 3-3 aggregate result.

The Austrians raced into a 2-0 lead after only 12 minutes with goals from Sasa Papac and Tosin Dosunmu, but the balance of the match changed when goalkeeper Joey Didulica was red-carded by Luxembourg referee Alain Hamer after 31 minutes for a late challenge on Brazilian forward Savio.

Zaragoza eventually fought their way back with second-half goals from David Villa (58th) and Luciano Galletti (62nd) but could not get a third past substitute keeper Szabolcs Safar.

MNA/Reuters

CSKA Moscow sent into UEFA Cup quarters

MOSCOW, 18 March — Brazilian duo Vagner Love and Daniel Carvalho scored a goal each to send CSKA Moscow into the UEFA Cup quarterfinals with a 2-0 victory over Partizan Belgrade on Thursday.

Carvalho's goal on the counter-attack and Love's 85th-minute penalty sealed a 3-1 aggregate win for the Russians after their 1-1 draw last week in the Serbian capital.

Partizan played the last five minutes with nine players. Nenad Djordjevic was sent off in the 83rd minute for bringing down

Carvalho in the area, leading to the penalty, and Ivan Tomic was shown the red card two minutes later for dissent.

CSKA took the lead on 69 minutes when Love snapped up a misfired clearance and put compatriot Carvalho through on goal.

Carvalho's celebrations — involving stripping off his shirt — were deemed a little too exu-

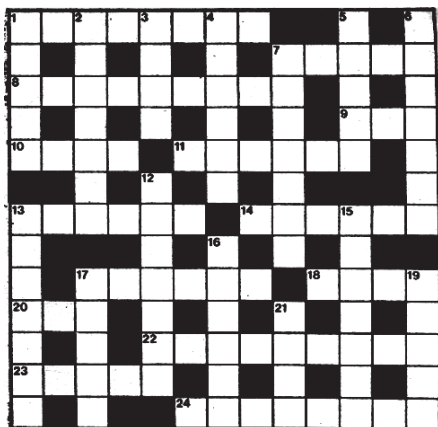
berant by the referee, who booked him.

Love's penalty strike was not his most assured and Partizan goalkeeper Ivica Kralj reached the ball but it had enough power to force its way under his body.

The match was moved to the southern city of Krasnodar because Moscow's weather in mid-March was too cold.

MNA/Reuters

CROSSWORD PUZZLE



ACROSS

- 1 Firing
- 7 Pause
- 8 Docker
- 9 Opening
- 10 Tidy
- 11 Gratify
- 13 Somewhat
- 14 Warden
- 17 Dream
- 18 Space
- 20 Employment
- 22 Annoying
- 23 Unaccompanied
- 24 Acknowledged

DOWN

- 1 Girl's name
- 2 Ham
- 3 Be abundant
- 4 blockhead
- 5 Brink
- 6 Captain
- 7 Scolded
- 12 Thoughtful
- 13 Career soldier
- 15 Scottish mayor
- 16 Wheedled
- 17 Poison
- 19 Was 12
- 21 Needle-case

Henman, Moya, Dementieva advance in Indian Wells

WASHINGTON, 18 March—Britain's Tim Henman booked his berth in the quarterfinals of the Pacific Life Open as the sixth seed brushed aside Henman, Dementieva advance in Indian Wells 6-4, 2-6, 6-2 in Indian Wells, California on Wednesday.

Seventh seed Carlos Moya of Spain also moved ahead with a 7-5, 6-2 triumph over France's Fabrice Santoro. Henman was joined by red hot German Nicolas Kiefer, who thrashed 10th-seeded Argentine David Nalbandian 6-1, 6-3.

In the women's draw, fourth seed Elena Dementieva overcame fellow Russian and US Open champion Svetlana Kuznetsova 3-6, 6-3, 7-5.

Kuznetsova saved four match points in the final game by ripping a series of groundstroke winners before double faulting on her fifth to lose the contest.

MNA/Xinhua



Alessandro Petacchi, center, celebrates as he crosses the finish line to win the seventh stage of the Tirreno-Adriatico cycling race, in San Benedetto del Tronto, Italy, on 15 March, 2005. —INTERNET

Charles de Gaulle Airport to be reopened in winter of 2007-08

PARIS, 19 March— A futuristic terminal roof at Paris Charles de Gaulle Airport, which killed four people when it collapsed last May little more than two years after its construction, will be rebuilt, authorities said on Thursday.

A new domed roof on Terminal 2E was the best way to guarantee security for passengers and airport workers, Aeroports de Paris (ADP) said in a statement.

An official report last month concluded that the terminal roof had been weakened by temperature changes that had caused the building's outer shell to shift by one or two centimetres daily and wore down the concrete roof.

The terminal, used mainly by national carrier Air France, has been only partially reopened.

"Based on internal and external studies, Aeroports de Paris has chosen to reconstruct the roof," it said in a state-

ment. "Only a reconstruction, guided by the principle of precaution, can assure fully the need for security."

The statement said ADP hoped to reopen all of Terminal 2E during the winter of 2007/2008. It said the lower levels of the terminal were safe and could be kept intact while the roof was rebuilt.

The French Government said last month it planned to press ahead with selling off shares in ADP, which helped build the terminal at a cost of 750 million euros (973.2 million US dollars). It is designed to handle 10 million passengers a year.

MNA/Reuters

Cuba, Sao Tome & Principe sign sports agreement

HAVANA, 19 March— Cuban coaches will soon travel to Sao Tome & Principe to collaborate with this country in the formation of physical education and sports professors.

This comes as a result of the bilateral cooperation agreement signed here by the minister of the sector of the West African country, Jose de Gracia Viegas, and the President of the Cuban Sports, Physical Education and Leisure Institute (INDER), Humberto Rodriguez. The agreement includes to send Cuban specialists in several sports like athletics, basketball, volleyball and canoeing, said Viegas to the Press.

Viegas said "we don't aim at professional sport for the moment, but we're taking steps in that direction, though." — MNA/Xinhua

Asleep in Jesus U Saw Miraw

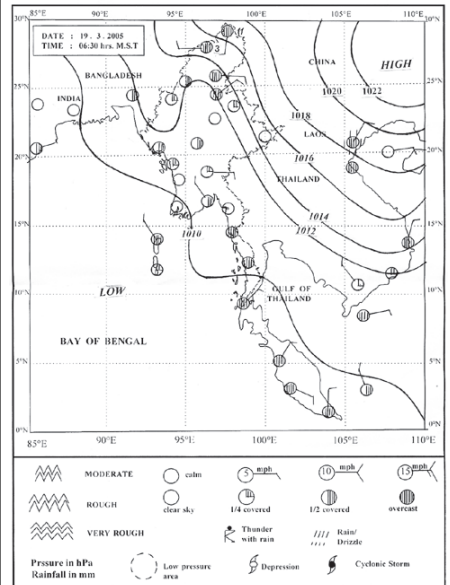
@ U Maung Lay

Age-93 years (Toungoo)

U Saw Miraw (U Maung Lay), the eldest son of U Gwe Gyi and Daw Soe, husband of (Daw Khin Aye), father of U A Tin Myint-Daw May Kyi Lay, Daw Bernadette, Daw Marie, U Saw Damian (SMART/FRONTIER DRILL)-Daw Nan Khin Khin Aye, grandfather of Ma Hnin Hnin Ei, Ma Aye Mi Mi Htet-U Moe Maw, Sai John, Sai Aung Thu, great grandfather of Ma Htet Eindare Lin, passed away peacefully at 62, Kyaukmyaung St, East Kyaukmyaung Qr, Tamway, at 4:55 pm on 18-3-05 (Friday). The funeral Mass will be held on 20-3-05 (Sunday) at 1:00 pm at Yayway Christian Cemetery. Buses will leave at 12:00 pm on that day at the above residence.

Bereaved family

Weather Map of Myanmar and Neighbouring Areas



WEATHER

Saturday, 19 March, 2005

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST: During the past 24 hours, rain or thundershowers have been widespread in Kachin State and isolated in upper Sagaing Division and weather has been generally fair in the remaining areas. The noteworthy amount of rainfall recorded was (0.43) inch in Putao. Day temperatures were (3°C) to (4°C) above normal in Kachin, Rakhine, Kayin and Mon States, upper Sagaing and Ayeyawady Divisions, (5°C) above normal in Mandalay and Magway Divisions and about normal in the remaining areas. The significant day temperatures were (42°C) in Magway and (40°C) in Minbu, Aunglan, Pyinmana and Hpa-an each.

Maximum temperature on 18-3-2005 was 101°F. Minimum temperature on 19-3-2005 was 68°F. Relative humidity at 9:30 hrs MST on 19-3-2005 was 64%. Total sunshine hours on 18-3-2005 was (9.2) hours approx. Rainfalls on 19-3-2005 were nil at Yangon Airport, Kaba-Aye and central Yangon. Total rainfalls since 1-1-2005 were (0.59 inch) at Yangon Airport, (1.54 inches) at Kaba-Aye and nil at central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (8) mph from Southwest at (21:30) hours MST on 18-3-2005.

Bay inference: Weather is generally fair in the Bay of Bengal.

Forecast valid until evening of 20-3-2005: Likelihood of isolated light rain or thundershowers in Kachin State and upper Sagaing Division, weather will be partly cloudy 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: Likelihood of continuation of isolated rain or thundershowers in the Northern Myanmar areas.

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 20-3-2005: Partly cloudy.

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 20-3-2005: Partly cloudy.

Strong wind warning

(Issued on 19th March, 2005)

During the hot-day season, beginning from now to about the middle of May, as day temperatures rise markedly all over the country, strong wind are likely locally in the afternoon/evening over the most of the areas. Surface wind speed may reach (40) to (50) mph and it may also be accompanied at times by squalls and hails in some places.



Sunday, 20 March
View on today:

7:00 am

- ကျေးဇူးရှင်စင်: ကွန်းဆရာတော် တုရားကြီး၊ နိုင်ငံတော်သံဃမဟာနာယကအဖွဲ့အစည်းတော်အဖွဲ့ချုပ်၊ အဘိဓမ္မာပညာရှင်၊ အဘိဓမ္မာပညာပဟာသဒ္ဓမ္မဇာတိက၊ တိပိဋကဓရ၊ ဓမ္မာက္ခရာ၊ ဆရာတော် ဘဒ္ဒန္တဝိစိတ္တ သာဓကတိဝံသ၏ ဝန်ကြီးတော်

7:25 am

- To be healthy exercise
- Morning news

7:40 am

- Nice and sweet song

7:55 am

- ယဉ်ကျေးလိမ္မာ (၃၀) မြာဇာလ

8:00 am

- အဆိုပြိုင်ပွဲ

8:10 am

- ရည်စူးတန်းတံတား

8:20 am

- နစ် (၆၀) ပြည့် တပ်မတော်နေ့ဂုဏ်ပြုအစီအစဉ်

8:30 am

- International news

8:45 am

- Say it in English

11:00 am

- Martial song

11:10 am

- နစ် (၆၀) ပြည့် တပ်မတော်နေ့ဂုဏ်ပြုအစီအစဉ်

11:25 am

- Round up of the week's international news

11:30 am

- နိုင်ငံခြားစာတိုလမ်းတွဲ "ချစ်စားနားရော်" (အပိုင်း-၂၀)

12:15 pm

- ကျေးဇူးပြုစုစု ကွန်ပျူတာနည်းပညာ (အပိုင်း-၂)

12:30 pm

- Myanmar Movie "ဝေလည်းမွေး၊ ကြွလည်းမွေး" (ကျော်ဟိန်း၊ ခွေး တင့်တင့်ထွန်း၊ မြင့်မြင့်နိုင်) (ခါရိုက်တာ-စင်စောဦး၊ မိုးသိမ်းထွဋ်)

2:45 pm

- International news

4:00 pm

- Martial song

4:15 pm

- Songs to uphold National Spirit

4:30 pm

- တပ်မတော်နေ့ဂုဏ်ပြုအစီအစဉ်: မြိုင်ပွဲကုရတေးများ (၂၀၀၅ ခုနှစ်)

4:45 pm

- အဝေးသင်တန်းသို့လှည့်ရေး ရုပ်မြင်သံကြား: သင်ခန်းစာ -ဝေလည်းမွေး (သိပ္ပံအထူးပြုအားလုံး) (ရုစော)

5:00 pm

- Song of national races

5:15 pm

- မြန်မာစား၊ မြန်မာစား

5:30 pm

- နစ် (၆၀) ပြည့် တပ်မတော်နေ့ဂုဏ်ပြုအစီအစဉ်

5:45 pm

- Sing and enjoy

6:30 pm

- Evening news

7:00 pm

- Weather report

7:05 pm

- နိုင်ငံခြားစာတိုလမ်းတွဲ "ချစ်စားနားရော်သံတော်စုတစ်လိပ်" (အပိုင်း-၁)

7:30 pm

- Agricultural source country's development

7:40 pm

- အမျိုးသားညီလာခံဂုဏ်ပြုစာတမ်း

7:50 pm

- ပြည်သူ့အထွတ်တပ်မတော် "တပ်မတော်သည် ပြည်သူ့အတွက်"

8:00 pm

- News

8:05 pm

- International news

8:10 pm

- Weather report

8:15 pm

- နိုင်ငံခြားစာတိုလမ်းတွဲ "အချစ်သံသရာ" (အပိုင်း-၂၀)

8:20 pm

- The next day's programme



Sunday, 20 March
Tune in today:

8:30 am

- Brief news

8:35 am

- Music: -The lover after me

8:40 am

- Perspectives

8:45 am

- Music: -With you

8:55 am

- National news/Slogan

9:05 am

- Music: What the heart wants

9:10 am

- International news

9:15 am

- Cultural images of Myanmar

1:30 pm

- News/Slogan

1:40 pm

- Stroy for children: The race between rabbit and tortoise

1:50 pm

- Stroy for children

9:00 pm

- Weekly news review

9:10 pm

- Music

9:15 pm

- Article

9:25 pm

- Play: Unmatchable love

9:45 pm

- News/Slogan

10:00 pm

- PEL

Four political objectives

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

Four economic objectives

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

Four social objectives

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

Myitnge bridge 80 per cent complete

YANGON, 19 March — Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Ye Myint of the Ministry of Defence, accompanied by Chairman of Mandalay Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Central Command Maj-Gen Ye Myint, Minister for Industry-1 U Aung Thuang, Chairman of Magway Division Peace and Development Council Col Phone Maw Shwe and officials, left Magway for Pakokku by helicopter yesterday morning.

At the hall of the local LID, Lt-Gen Ye Myint met with departmental officials and gave instructions on extended cultivation of paddy in Pakokku District. Col Phone Maw Shwe and Chairman of Pakokku District Peace and Development Council Lt-Col Htay Aung reported on cultivation of monsoon and summer paddy, local food sufficiency, land reclamation and water supply.

Chairman of Sagaing Division Peace and Development Council Commander of North-West Command Maj-Gen Tha Aye briefed Lt-Gen Ye Myint on land reclamation in Gangaw District. After hearing a report, Lt-Gen Ye Myint gave instructions to them.

In Pakokku District, 80,722 acres of land have been put under monsoon paddy against the target of 86,604 acres in 2004-2005 and 4,523 acres of sum-



Lt-Gen Ye Myint views round the construction site of Myitnge River Bridge (Mandalay).— MNA

mer paddy against the target of 12,147 acres.

Similarly, the district has been able to put 462,326 acres of pulses and beans against the target of 457,280 acres accounting for 101 per cent; 417,116 acres of edible oil crops against the target of 445,727; 21,994 acres of kitchen crops out of 23,000 acres; 42,853 acres of cotton out of 50,400 acres; and 40,731 acres of maize against the target of 42,475 acres.

At Yedagun Hall of the local LID, Lt-Gen Ye Myint met with officers and other ranks and their families. Next, he flew from Pakokku to inspect thriving summer paddy in the watershed area of Ngathayauk river water pumping project in NyaungU Township and onion plantation near Hsindewa Bridge. He also inspected progress of Yangon-Mandalay Six-lane Union Highway.

This morning, accompanied by Commander Maj-Gen Ye Myint and officials, Lt-Gen Ye Myint went to Myitnge Bridge (Mandalay). He heard a report on construction tasks.

Afterwards, he oversaw construction of the approach roads on Myitnge bank and on Singaing bank and other tasks.

Myitnge Bridge will be 840 feet long. It will have 72 feet wide motor road and four feet wide pedestrian way on each side. The bridge is being built of reinforced concrete piles and pre-stressed concrete. Its clearance is 80 feet wide and 8.5 feet high. It can withstand 75 ton-loads. The bridge being built by Public Works started on 7 March 2003 and it has been completed by 80 per cent.

MNA

Myitnge Bridge will be 840 feet long. It will have 72 feet wide motor road and four feet wide pedestrian way on each side. The bridge is being built of reinforced concrete piles and pre-stressed concrete. Its clearance is 80 feet wide and 8.5 feet high. It can withstand 75 ton-loads.

Ngamoeyeik water supply project for capital in top gear

YANGON, 19 March — Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Chairman Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe and Yangon City Development

Committee Chairman Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin arrived at the site of Ngamoeyeik water supply project in Ahtayu Village in

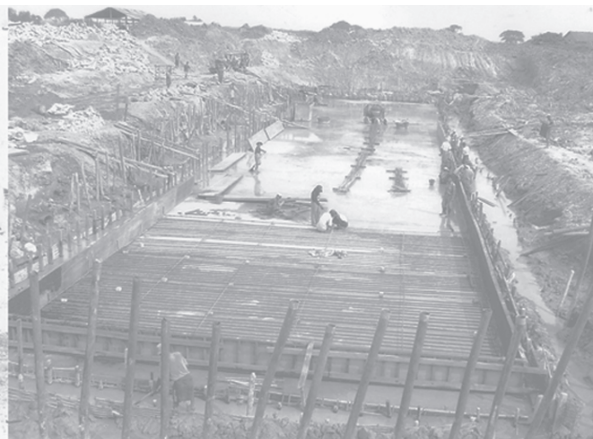
Hmawby Township this morning. The commander and

the mayor heard reports by YCDC member Col Tin Soe on the construction of the sub-power station and power supply tasks.

Afterwards, the commander and the mayor were conducted around the construction of siphon across Ngamoeyeik Creek and the progress of constructing concrete channel for water intake.

Next, they inspected the tasks being carried out and gave instructions on timely completion of the construction tasks, minimizing loss and wastage and making supervision at different levels.

MNA



Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe and Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin oversee construction of the pump station at Yangon City Water Supply Project (Ngamoeyeik).— YCDC