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Tuesday, 2 August, 2005

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

General Thura Shwe Mann and wife attend 78th founding anniversary of People's Liberation Army

YANGON, 1 Aug — Member of the State Peace and Development Council General Thura Shwe Mann of the Ministry of Defence and wife Daw Khin Lay Thet attended the ceremony to mark the 78th anniversary of the founding of People's Liberation Army of the People's Republic of China, held at Traders Hotel this evening.

Also present on the occasion were member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Ye Myint of the Ministry of Defence and wife, Chief of Military Affairs Security Maj-Gen Myint Swe and wife, Minister for Foreign Affairs U Nyan Win and wife and senior military officers of the Ministry of Defence, Chinese Ambassador Mr Li Jinjun, wife and embassy staff, military attache' Senior Colonel, Ma Shoudong, wife and officials, ambassadors of foreign missions in Myanmar and others.

At the ceremony, the Guard of Honour and Military Band of the Tatnadow entertained the guests with the songs and the guests also enjoyed a Chinese cultural movie.—MNA

General Thura Shwe Mann and Daw Khin Lay Thet being welcomed by Senior Colonel Ma Shoudong and wife. — MNA



Prime Minister General Soe Win receives Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs of SRV

YANGON, 1 Aug— Prime Minister General Soe Win received Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam Mr Le Cong Phaung and party at the Zeyathiri Beikman on Konmyinthath this evening.

Present on the occasion were Minister for Foreign Affairs U Nyan Win, Deputy Ministers U Kyaw Thu and U Maung Myint, Director-General of the Prime Minister's Office U Soe Tint, Director-General of Protocol Department Thura U Aung Htet and officials.

The visiting Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs of SRV was accompanied by Vietnamese Ambassador Mr Tran Van Tung.

They discussed matters relating to extension of goodwill relations and cooperation between the two countries.—MNA

Prime Minister General Soe Win greets Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam Mr Le Cong Phaung.

MNA



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

PERSPECTIVES

Tuesday, 2 August, 2005

Raise the momentum of safe drinking water projects

With the purpose of bringing equitable development to border areas, the hills and the plains as well as rural and urban areas, the government is translating into reality the development plan for border areas and national races, the 24-region special development plan and the rural development plan. In accordance with the guidance of Head of State Senior General Than Shwe, efforts are being made to ensure good and smooth transport, sufficient water supply for drinking and agricultural purposes, better education, better health care services and economic development for rural areas.

In implementing the development plan for rural areas, home to the majority of the population, top priority has been given to sufficient supply of safe drinking water. Implementation of water supply projects is gaining momentum thanks to the funds provided by the State and development committees and donations and cooperation of wellwishers.

The 10th cash donation ceremony for supply of drinking water in rural areas was held at the meeting hall of Development Affairs Department under the Ministry for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs on 26 July and it was attended by Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thein Sein.

In his address on the occasion, the Secretary-1 said that drinking water supply projects have been successfully implemented in altogether 25 townships — seven each in Sagaing and Magway Divisions and eleven in Mandalay Division. The Secretary-1 urged all those responsible to make continued efforts to ensure sufficient water supply not only in the whole townships and districts but also in the entire divisions.

To ensure sufficient water supply for all villages in states and divisions, the government has been implementing a 10-year plan since the fiscal year 2000-2001. Due to the cooperation among the government, wellwishers and local and international NGOs, 7,157 out of 8,042 villages of three divisions in the dry zone now have water supply at the end of 2004-2005 fiscal year. Moreover, 7,152 villages out of 15,183 in other states and divisions are now enjoying a sufficient supply of safe drinking water.

We would like to call on those responsible to implement the water supply projects successfully in all rural areas by making the best use of the cooperation and donations of wellwishers and social organizations.



Members of Myanmar Baseball team together with their coach will leave for Japan where they will undergo training for two months.

(News on page 11) —H

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

Golden bolt fixed at rail track on Puchaung-Kaungsai railroad section

YANGON, 1 Aug— Minister for Rail Transportation Maj-Gen Aung Min and Deputy Minister U Pe Than, on 29 July, arrived at the site for building Puchaung-Bankyauk-Kaungsai railroad section under Shwenyaung-Namsan Railroad Project.

The minister together with Brig-Gen Thaug Aye of Mongnaung Station and officials inspected building of railroad along Puchaung-Bankyauk railroad.

At mile post No 124/18, between Kaungsai and Htipyin, the minister and the deputy minister fixed golden bolt at the rail track.

In the afternoon, they arrived at Namhsan Station via Mongseik station.



Minister Maj-Gen Aung Min sprinkles scented water on the rail track.—MNA

Shwenyaung-Taunggyi-Hsaikkaung-Puchaung-Namsan railroad section is 165.06 miles long and it is included in 192.62 miles long Shwenyaung-Namsan-Mongnai Railroad

project. It has been constructed starting from 1992. Shwenyaung-Taunggyi-Hsaikkaung railroad section and Kaungsai, Mongseik-Namsan-Moene section were completed and

trains are now plying on the railroads. The remaining Puchaung-Kaungsai section with the length of 27.5 miles has been completed and trains will run on the section in the open season. — MNA

SWRR Minister meets staff in Mandalay Division

Yangon, 1 Aug — Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Maj-Gen Sein Htwa visited Central Fire Services Training School in PyinOoLwin Township, Mandalay Division, on 29 July.

At the meeting hall, the minister heard a report on salient points of the school presented by the principal. After visiting the classrooms, he presented pastries to children of Zeebingyi Pre-primary School. Later, the minister inspected the storage of water from nearby springs for irrigation and conducting of the course.

The next day, he met with staff of Immigration and National Registration Department, Social Welfare Department and Fire Services Department and members of auxiliary fire brigade. He made arrange-

ments to provide necessary assistance to the school for the blind where the meeting was held.

Yesterday morning, the minister visited the women's care centre in Patheingyi Township. Mandalay Division Immigration and National Registration Department presented K 50,000 for the school of the centre. The minister and wellwishers presented clothes and provisions for the school.

In the afternoon, the minister met with personnel of Immigration and National Registration Department, Social Welfare Department, Relief and Resettlement Department, and Fire Services Department and members of auxiliary fire brigade in Mandalay.

After the meeting, he inspected a day care centre and presented candy for children. — MNA

MWEA President to attend ASEAN SME Convention

YANGON, 1 Aug— President of Myanmar Women Entrepreneurs Association Daw Khin Myint Myint this morning left here for Malaysia to attend the ASEAN SME Convention 2005 organized by Small and Medium Industries Development Corporation (SMIDEC) from 2 to 3 August in Kuala Lumpur.

The president was seen off at the airport by adviser to MWEA Daw Yi Yi Myint, Vice-President Daw Nu Nu Yi, Secretary Daw Hla Wady and officials.—H



President of Myanmar Women Entrepreneurs Association Daw Khin Myint Myint seen at the airport before departure for Malaysia.—H



Chinese residents walk with their bicycles on a flooded street in Kaifeng, central China's Henan Province, on 31 July, 2005. —INTERNET

မုတ်တူနီဒါးဝ်း တိုးမြှင့်ခြင်း

Malaysia to jointly handle illegal immigrant issue with Thailand

KUALA LUMPUR, 31 July—Malaysia has agreed to handle the issue of illegal immigrants with its neighbour Thailand, local media reported on Friday.

Thailand, which was facing the influx of illegal immigrants, had expressed its interest in learning the mechanism adopted by Malaysia in tackling the issue, Malaysia's Human Resources Minister Fong Chan Onn told reporters after meeting his Thai counterpart Sora-At Klinpratoom here.

Malaysia was facing the same problem and agreed to cooperate with Thai-

land, he said.

Klinpratoom also complained that Thai workers in Malaysia were not provided with insurance coverage, saying that he would look into the issue as Malaysia had made it mandatory for all employers to insure their employees, including foreign workers, against accidents at work.

MNA/Xinhua

Uzbekistan evicts United States from air base

WASHINGTON, 31 July—Uzbekistan has told the United States to quit a military base that has served as a hub for missions to Afghanistan since shortly after the 11 September, 2001, attacks, a Pentagon spokesman said on Saturday.

A notice to leave Karshi-Khanabad air base, also known as K2, was delivered on Friday by a courier from the Uzbek Foreign Ministry to the US Embassy in Tashkent, the *Washington Post* reported in its Saturday edition, citing an unnamed senior US official involved in Central Asia policy.

Asked about the report, Pentagon spokesman Glenn Flood said early on Saturday, "We are aware of the diplomatic note to the US Embassy on the issue of K2 airfield and we are working with the State Department, evaluating the note to see exactly what it means."

State Department officials could not be reached

for comment.

Uzbekistan will give the United States 180 days to move aircraft, personnel and equipment, the newspaper said. It said the United States expects Uzbekistan to follow through on the eviction notice.

The action would create logistical problems for US operations in Afghanistan, the newspaper said. Scores of flights have used the air field to transfer humanitarian goods that are then taken by road into northern Afghanistan, it said.

"The air field has been important to us and the US allies in operations over there," Flood said.

MNA/Reuters

Visitor arrivals in Singapore grow 8.6% in June

SINGAPORE, 31 July— Visitor arrivals in Singapore, totalling 746,541 in June, grew 8.6 per cent over the same month of last year, according to the figures released by the Singapore Tourism Board (STB) on Friday night.

Of the total, 61,000 visitors came from China, declining 3 per cent from a year ago, while Indonesia and India contributed 161,000 and 66,000 visitors respectively in June.

Indonesia, India,

China, Australia and Malaysia remained Singapore's top five visitor-generating markets for the month, which accounted for 53 per cent of the total visitor arrivals.—MNA/Xinhua

China educates farmers on pig-borne disease

BEIJING, 31 July— Sichuan Province in southwestern China has launched a campaign to educate poor, illiterate farmers not to slaughter sick pigs or eat their meat after an outbreak of swine flu hit about 100 villages and killed at least 32 people.

Sichuan, the country's top pork-producing province, has been forced to suspend all exports of chilled and frozen pork from Ziyang city and surrounding Neijiang prefecture to Hong Kong, where there have been 10 infections since 2004.

More than two million notices have been issued in affected areas informing farmers of the dangers, the *China Daily* reported on Saturday, quoting a vice mayor of Ziyang, situated near the provincial capital, Chengdu.

About 50,000 health workers and officials have been sent to the areas to inspect and register every pig, and authorities have set up 39 temporary roadside quarantine stations to stop dead pigs from reaching markets.

"It's having a big effect... In Sichuan, no one is buying meat or slaughtering hogs," Xie Hong of the animal feed company Southern Hope Co., part of the New Hope Group, told *Reuters*.

Pork is China's favourite meat and the country consumes more of it than anywhere else in the world. Of 618 million pigs slaughtered in 2004, Sichuan accounted for about 14 per cent.

Authorities say victims were suffering from *Streptococcus suis* bacteria, or swine flu, an infection contracted from slaughtering, handling or eating infected pigs.

The disease, first reported in Neijiang, has spread to Chengdu itself and four other Sichuan cities. One case has been reported in the southern province of Guangdong near Hong Kong.—MNA/Reuters

1,794 US soldiers killed in Iraq

WASHINGTON, 31 July—As of Sunday, 31 July, 2005, at least 1,794 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 1,382 died as a result of hostile action. The figures include five military civilians.

The *AP* count is two higher than the Defence Department's tally, last updated at 10 am EDT on Friday.

The British military has reported 92 deaths; Italy, 25; Ukraine, 18; Poland, 17; Bulgaria, 13; Spain, 11; 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, 1,655 US military members have died, according to *AP's* count. That includes at least 1,273 deaths resulting from hostile action, according to the military's numbers.—*Internet*



US troops prepare to remove the wreckage of a US Apache helicopter in Bagram north of Kabul, Afghanistan, on 30 July, 2005. —INTERNET

Saudi King Fahd dies, Crown Prince Abdullah named successor

RIYADH, 1 Aug— Saudi King died early Monday in a Riyadh hospital and his brother, Crown Prince Abdullah, has been appointed the country's new monarch, the Saudi royal court announced in a statement.

"With all sorrow and sadness, the royal court in the name of his highness Crown Prince Abdullah bin Abdel Aziz and all members of the family announces the death of the servant of the two shrines, King Fahd bin Abdel Aziz, "according to a statement read out on state-run Saudi TV. Fahd died early Monday at the King Faisal Specialist Hospital in the Saudi capital of Riyadh. He was admitted to the hospital in May due to acute pneumonia.

Abduallah has been the de facto ruler of the Kingdom since Fahd suffered a stroke in 1995.

Saudi Arabia is the world's biggest oil exporter. — *Internet*

India calls for amendments in WTO TRIP agreements

NEW DELHI, 31 July— India has called for amendment to the WTO TRIP (Trade-related Intellectual Property Rights) Agreement in order to protect traditional knowledge and bio-diversity.

A government statement issued Friday said that Indian Commerce Minister Kamal Nath has recently shot off a missive to 31 trade ministers, emphasizing the need to develop a sharper and more aggressive strategy on the issue as it has a strong bearing on large sections of people who are holders of traditional knowledge and are poor or disadvantaged.

"In the latter, Nath has also proposed the need to form a common position before Hong Kong for taking the process towards a logical outcome," the statement said. "While insisting on an amendment to the TRIP Agreement in line with our consistent policy, we could also think of a parallel line of action, similar to what we did on public health issues during the Doha Ministerial Meeting, namely, getting a Ministerial Declaration on TRIP and Biological Diver-

sity, Traditional Knowledge and Folklore. If we are able to achieve this at Hong Kong, it would strengthen our hands in getting an eventual amendment to the TRIP Agreement," the letter says.

Doha Ministerial Declaration of 2001 had instructed the Council on TRIP in the WTO to examine the relationship between the TRIP Agreement and the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) for the protection of traditional knowledge and folklore.

The issue was included in the negotiating mandate after several negotiating countries found that TRIP obligations were not supportive of the commitments they had undertaken under the CBD, which provided for the conservation and sustainable use of bio-diversity with a view to meeting the food, health and other needs of the growing world population.— *MNA/Xinhua*

ဝက်ပုစွမ်းအား ခေတ်ကျော်လွှား



Australian couple Matthew Rooke and Anna Longmore compete during the 6th SGDF Singapore Open DanceSport Championships at Raffles City Convention Centre at the Swissotel Hotel, in Singapore on 31 July, 2005.

INTERNET

China's electrical capacity now 460 million kw

BEIJING, 31 July — China's electrical capacity is 460 million kilowatts (kw) as of the end of June, said an official with the China Electricity Council (CEC) on Friday.

According to statistics with the CEC, the capacity newly put into operation in the first half of this year is 20.06 million kw, lower than the estimated figure of 25 to 30 million kw at the beginning of this year, said Wang Yonggan, Secretary-General of the CEC.

Hydropower capacity newly put into operation in the first half of this year is 2.59 million kw, the new coal-fired installed capacity is 17.4 million kw, and wind power capacity is 70,000 kw, he said.

MNA/Xinhua

Delegations of six-party talks to discuss joint document

BEIJING, 31 July — The US top negotiator to the six-party talks said here on Saturday that the six nations will have discussions on a joint document and expect to reach agreement.

"We will have a lot of discussion about the text, and see if we can come to some agreement today," said Christopher Hill, head of the US delegation, on Saturday when he left his hotel.

"Even though the text will be brief, it will be rather important," said Hill. "It means a lot to the six parties concerned."

"But I want to let you know it will take a while and cannot be finished within a day," said Hill. "This is a very difficult negotiation."

The parties concerned are expected to work for drafting a joint document at the meeting of delegation heads, said Japanese delegation head Sasae Kenichiro and on Saturday.

The delegation heads will meet again on Saturday morning, according to the information from the Press centre.

When asked about the schedule of the US delegation on Saturday, Hill said there will be more bilateral meetings.

The delegations of the US and North Korea, two major parties in the talks, agreed Friday to hold another bilateral meeting on Saturday. Japan is yet to have bilateral meeting plan on Saturday.

The fourth round of the six-party talks on the Korean Peninsula nuclear issue entered the fifth day on Saturday, longer than the previous three rounds.

MNA/Xinhua

Forest fire breaks out in N China

HOHHOT, 31 July — A fire is threatening a virgin forest in the northern Da Hinggan Mountains, according to the Inner Mongolia Autonomous Regional government.

The fire occurred at Aliya forestry farm in Uma, one of the Inner Mongolia's three virgin forestry centres, but the exact time is unknown.

The fire has been wrecking havoc to about 80 hectares of trees, and the fire line extended about four kilometres.

The regional government, Da Hinggan Mountain Forestry Department and Da Hinggan Mountain Forestry Police have sent 500 people to fight the fire. The accident site, however, is hard to reach. It is about 60 kilometres away from roads and the parachuted fire fighters have to walk eight kilometres before arriving at the site.— *MNA/Xinhua*

HK pork handlers urged to strictly follow working procedures

HONG KONG, 31 July — The Hong Kong Government on Saturday called on slaughtering staff and the food industry to take precautionary measures against *Streptococcus suis*, after the pig-born disease in Sichuan Province claimed 32 lives.

Acting Permanent Secretary for Health, Welfare & Food, Eddy Chan said on radio that the current measures on pork handling taken in Hong Kong in response to the Sichuan outbreak are appropriate.

He said the government will closely monitor the incident in Sichuan as the fatality rate there is much higher than expected.— *MNA/Xinhua*



A rooftop view shows smoke rising from a car bomb attack in front of the National Theatre, on 30 July, 2005, in Baghdad, Iraq.—INTERNET

London bombers plotted after seeing Iraq war video

LONDON, 31 July—A man arrested over the failed London bomb attacks has told police he watched videos of the Iraq war with fellow suspects.

Hussain Osman, accused of trying to detonate a bomb at Shepherds Bush, claimed he was shown footage of the conflict by Muktar Said Ibrahim, who was arrested in connection with the abortive attack on a Hackney bus.

The respected Italian newspaper *Corriere della Sera* said Osman, who was arrested in Rome on Friday night after a joint operation by British and Italian anti-guerrilla officers, told police: "Ibrahim showed us films and videos of the war in Iraq."

The paper said Osman had indicated he and his friends were interested in politics rather than religion.

It said Osman told police he had met Ibrahim at a gym in the London suburb of Notting Hill, near the flats where Ibrahim was arrested on Friday.

Osman was tracked throughout his 1600km journey from London to Rome via Paris and Milan, Brescia and Bologna, using mobile phone technology.

Osman vanished immediately after the bomb he is alleged to have been carrying failed to detonate on 21 July.

A few minutes later, he was captured on a TV camera boarding a bus to Wandsworth, in southwest London.

Where Osman went afterwards is unknown, but the next day police raided a south London flat where the mother of his Ethiopian girlfriend lives.—*Internet*

Australia says ASEAN nations keen on new climate pact

MELBOURNE, 1 Aug — Southeast Asian countries have expressed interest in joining a new US-led partnership to cut greenhouse gas emissions by developing technology and economic incentives, Australian Foreign Minister Alexander Downer said.

The Asia Pacific Partnership on Clean Development and Climate between Australia, the United States, China, Japan, South Korea and India was unveiled at an Association of South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN) forum in Laos last week. "The ASEAN governments were asking me whether it would be possible for them to join this partnership in time," Downer said on Australian television on Sunday.

"And I made it clear

that once we've worked out how we want it all to come together, we, in principle, would be very happy to see ASEAN countries become involved because their economies are growing and they're significant emitters as well," he said.

Unlike the Kyoto climate agreement, which requires cuts in greenhouse emissions by 5.2 per cent below 1990 levels by 2008-12, the Asia-Pacific partnership has no time frames or

targets.

"We hope that we'll start to get results under our partnership fairly quickly," Downer said.

"That's going to require collaborative research. It's also going to mean we'll have to investigate price signals coming from energy."

Downer said the work would probably be paid for jointly by governments and the private sector.

The six founding partners of the new pact account for 45 per cent of

the world's population, 48 per cent of the world's greenhouse gas emissions and 48 per cent of the world's energy consumption.

The United States and Australia are the only developed nations outside Kyoto. Both say Kyoto, agreed to in 1997, is flawed because it omits developing states.

MNA/Reuters

Romania heatwave death toll rises to 21

BUCHAREST, 31 July — At least nine people died on Friday due to high temperature in Romania, adding the total number of people killed to 21 in the three-day heatwave.

The highest temperature in the shade of trees has recently been as high as 36 degrees Celsius, the highest in this summer.

Hospital officials said that in Bucharest, Romania's capital, alone, 13 died of the heatwave.

At present, around 1,500 US troops are

participating in a joint manoeuvre along with 500 Romanian troops, which started on 19 July and will last till 2 August.

Many soldiers had heat stroke during exercises and were sent to hospitals for treatment.

According to weather forecast, the heatwave will last till Sunday.

MNA/Xinhua

Chinese cities on alert to block diseased pork

BEIJING, 31 July — Beijing and several other cities set up checkpoints on Friday to block diseased pork linked to the deaths of 31 people in China as authorities ordered a halt to the slaughter of infected pigs in Sichuan Province.

A veterinary inspection official said screening was tightened on highways leading into the capital from surrounding Hebei Province to prevent a health threat to nearly 15 million people.

"The strict measures guarantee that meat from dead or diseased pigs cannot enter Beijing

through normal channels," Beijing Television said on its web site.

Authorities said victims in southwestern Sichuan were suffering from infections of Streptococcus suis bacteria, contracted from slaughtering, handling or eating infected pigs. Four deaths and 21 infections were reported in

the previous 24 hours, the official Xinhua news agency said late on Thursday. Since reports of the outbreak surfaced last week, over 100 people have been taken ill, 27 of whom are in critical condition. The China Daily says the outbreak was discovered on 24 June.

MNA/Reuters



A Chinese fisherman standing on stilts catches shrimp with a net in the sea near Rizhao, east China's Shandong province on 30 July, 2005. — INTERNET

Death toll from north Iraq bomb climbs to 40

MOSUL, 31 July — The death toll from a suicide bombing in northern Iraq on Friday climbed to 40, police said on Saturday.

They said the number of wounded from the attack by a suicide bomber who blew himself up among a group of Iraqi Army recruits rose to 57. The attack occurred

outside a municipal building in Rabia, a town 80 kilometres (50 miles) northwest of Mosul.

The US military said on Friday that 10 people were killed in the blast.

Foreign militants and Saddam Hussein loyalists are waging a bloody campaign to topple the US-backed Iraqi Government.

MNA/Reuters

Chinese painting auctioned for US \$9m

BEIJING, 31 July — A traditional Chinese landscape painting by late artist Chang Ta-chien sold at auction for 73 million yuan (9 million US dollars) in Beijing on Friday, an auctioneer said.

The painting was sold

through Beijing Zhongbang International Auction Group, which declined to reveal the name of the buyer, now the proud owner of a 1-metre (39-in) high, 34.5-metre (113-ft) wide image of the Yangtze River.

The 1968 work, "Ten Thousand Mile Landscape", went on the block with an opening price of 48 million yuan (5.9 million US dollars). It was insured for at least 50 million yuan (6.2 million US dollars), the official Xinhua news agency said.

Chang, world renowned for his traditional water colour paintings and use of a "splash of colour" technique, was born in 1899 in Neijiang in the southwestern province of Sichuan. He died in Taiwan in 1983 at the age of 84.

The Communists shut down all auction houses after sweeping to power in 1949 and ultra-leftist Red Guards burned or vandalized paintings and antiques during the 1966-76 Cultural Revolution.

MNA/Reuters

Australia boosts defences around biggest cities

MELBOURNE, 31 July — Australia will boost its defences against terror threats to its biggest cities by deploying a helicopter squadron near Sydney, Defence Minister Robert Hill said on Saturday.

Twelve Black Hawk helicopters and about 200 staff would be moved from the northern city of Townsville at the end of next year to a barracks just outside Sydney to train and work with special forces and commandos.

"The tactical assault group's primary role is to respond to terrorist threats against Australia," Hill said. He said with the Black Hawks, special forces could be flown anywhere in the Sydney area within minutes.

"But it's also about halfway between Brisbane and Melbourne and closer to Canberra, so in terms of covering the major cities on the east coast, we will be better equipped to do so," he told reporters in Sydney. — MNA/Reuters

Singapore seizes half a ton of python skins

SINGAPORE, 31 July — A half-ton consignment of python skins hidden among audio speaker parts has been seized by Singapore Immigration officers on the border with Malaysia, authorities in the city-state said.

Officers identified the skins after putting the lorry through a scanning system at Woodlands in northern Singapore on Wednesday, the Immigration and Checkpoints Authority said in a statement.

The 36-year-old Malaysian driver was arrested and faces a fine and up to one year in jail. Under Singapore's Endangered Species Act, the export and import of python skins must be accompanied by permits.

The Singapore authority did not put a market value to the python skins seized but local newspaper the Straits Times said the skins were worth about 45,000 Singapore dollars (27,110 US dollars).

The paper said local authorities had in October intercepted a shipment of 40,000 python and monitor lizard skins worth 800,000 Singapore dollars from Indonesia.

MNA/Reuters



British soldiers respond to the scene after an attack on a British Consulate convoy in the southern Iraqi city of Basra on 30 July, 2005. — INTERNET

Efforts for making the entire region free from drugs

Chingya (Maubin)

The origin of poppy was Egypt. It spread from Egypt to Greece and then to Asia-minor where poppy cultivation flourished. Opium being trafficked by Arab merchants spread to some outlying areas of Asia. Although knowing the evil consequences of opium, those who permitted the use of narcotic drugs and poppy cultivation were the colonialists as they were eager to collect taxes from opium. In the Cold War era, the colonialists used opium as a weapon to eliminate a race in the fight against an 'ism'. As they let the poppy cultivation, which is the enemy of human beings, flourish opium was transformed into various forms of narcotic drugs in the present time and it is threatening the entire mankind.

Nowadays, heroin produced from opium, psychotropic substances produced from chemical precursors and other kinds of drugs such as stimulants and ecstasy are being widely trafficked in the world and the drug is threatening the entire mankind.

The looming problem of stimulant tablets produced from chemical precursors is the serious concern of countries in the region. The problem of stimulants is totally different from that of drugs based on opium and poppy cultivation.

There is no source of chemical precursors in Myanmar. Chemicals that are used for producing narcotic drugs entered Myanmar from some neighbouring countries through illegal means. In the earlier period, Myanmar enlisting the technology and help of the UNODC was tackling those problems in cooperation with the People's Republic of China, India and Thailand.

In cooperation with the People's Republic of China, India and the UNODC, Myanmar organized a meeting in January 2003 on control of chemical precursors as host nation. The meeting discussed problems faced by Myanmar, exchange of information and technical cooperation.

With the sponsorship of the UNODC, officials from India and Myanmar held a meeting on control of precursors and chemicals in Moreh, India in March 2003. The meetings on border issues at basic and central levels between Myanmar and Thailand dealt with matters on exchange of information, cooperation and opening of liaison offices at the border.

A preliminary meeting for the Second ASEAN-China Conference on Control of Narcotic Drugs and a meeting on joint control of narcotic drugs of senior officials from the six signatories were held in Siem Reap, Cambodia on 19 May 2005. Myanmar delegation attended those meetings and discussed matters on control of narcotic drugs.

At the meeting, the six MoU signatories were formed as an organization in the sub-region, and those countries have been able to make concerted efforts for making the sub-region free from drugs. Moreover, the six countries held a coordination meeting on further cooperation between the six countries and the UNODC and donor nations.

A workshop on cooperation between chemicals entrepreneurs and government bodies for control of illicit drugs jointly sponsored by the Chemicals Supervisory Committee under the Central Committee for Drug Abuse Control and the

UNODC was successfully held in Yangon on 11 and 12 July 2005.

Myanmar is a member country of the 1988 UN Convention on Control of Illicit Trafficking in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances. Prior to this, the Ministry of Health of the Union of Myanmar announced 102 kinds of drugs as narcotic drugs on 20 February 1974.

The Ministry of Health announced 25 kinds of chemical precursors with the Notification No 1/2002. The ministry also announced rules on control of chemical precursors on 1 July 2004.

At the workshop, chemicals entrepreneurs agreed to cooperate with the government bodies on the control of the routes of chemical precursors which are the important substances in producing narcotic

As a matter of fact, the menace of narcotic drugs is the evil legacy left by the colonialists. Myanmar has been taking all possible measures in the fight against narcotic drugs through the correct leadership of the government, combined efforts of national forces including national races, and cooperation with neighbouring and regional countries. The danger of narcotic drugs is a global problem, so world nations have to further cooperate in addressing such an evil issue.

drugs such as heroin, stimulants, ATS, amphetamine, ecstasy etc.

Member of the CCDAC chairman of the Supervisory Committee for CCDAC work groups the deputy minister for Home Affairs delivered an address at the workshop, saying that precursor chemicals are used in producing consumer goods and at the same time they could be diverted to illicit channels, so the international bodies decided to restrict major precursor chemicals. Therefore collaborative efforts were to be exerted with duty consciousness to ensure that the chemicals, which entrepreneurs imported for production of goods, could not be diverted to clandestine refineries.

Departments concerned and the entrepreneurs were to seek better ways to cooperate in taking preventive measures to achieve the aim, he said.

The entrepreneurs engaged in chemical industry, pharmaceutical factories and trading chemicals, managers and officials of private industries, members of the supervisory committee and officials from relevant departments took part in the discussions at the workshop. Diverting restricted chemicals from legal trade to illicit channels is the global issue. In some East Asian nations, there were seizures of illegal laboratories used for producing stimulant tablets. Hence, a special attention is to be paid to the prevention against diverting restricted precursor chemicals used for production of amphetamine-type stimulants (ATS) to illegal refineries.

At a time when the chemical industry and pharmaceuticals industry are acquiring the precursor chemicals, it should be taken into consideration that drugs producers and traffickers may use various ways

to get these chemicals from the companies and entrepreneurs that do not have sufficient knowledge of methods on production of narcotic drugs and have not taken effectively preventive measures.

In this regard, cooperation is necessary between entrepreneurs and the government to realize the possibility of restricted chemicals being used for illegal purposes.

Now, UNODC, industrialists and respective departments and enterprises are seriously taking preventive measures to control and stop these chemicals from being diverted to illicit channels. They have conducted educative courses for production of video features with a view to disseminating knowledge of the important role of entrepreneurs in the drive for control and prevention against illegal production of drugs. That DVD would feature lively pictures, episodes with a narration, and special sound effects. UNODC provided necessary manuals for the course. The programme was aimed at enhancing knowledge on preventive measures among relevant departments, entrepreneurs, and chemical industrialists.

The workshop held on 11 and 12 July this year passed the following resolutions.

- Forming a national level cooperation committee for supervision of restricted chemicals and assigning duties.

- For entrepreneurs and companies to draw basic principles for laying down respective codes of conduct in the drive to stop restricted chemicals from being diverted to illegal channels.

- For company proprietors to conduct educative DVD courses through programmes to disseminate knowledge on the important role of industrialists, who are engaged in trading chemicals, in combating illegal production of drugs.

The Government has been putting into motion the 15-year drugs elimination plan (1999-2014) through three phases each lasting five years. In addition, it has implemented the New Destiny Project since April 2002. In tandem, it has been implementing projects for the development of border areas and national races.

The US report conducted in 2005 showed that there was a 34 per cent decline in poppy cultivation in 2004 if compared with that in 2003. And the nation's poppy production fell to 292 tons from 2,560 tons, accounting for a drastic decline of 88 per cent in eight years.

As a matter of fact, the menace of narcotic drugs is the evil legacy left by the colonialists. Myanmar has been taking all possible measures in the fight against narcotic drugs through the correct leadership of the government, combined efforts of national forces including national races, and cooperation with neighbouring and regional countries. The danger of narcotic drugs is a global problem, so world nations have to further cooperate in addressing such an evil issue.

Now, Myanmar has achieved measurable and visible success and enjoyed fruitful results in her drive to eliminate narcotic drugs, and that attests to its unremitting efforts to ensure a drug free nation, then a drug free region.

Translation: TS + MS

Myanma Alin, Kyemon: 31-7-2005

World Breastfeeding Week marked



MMCWA President Daw Khin Khin Win presents prizes for award winning hospitals to an official. — MNA



MWAF President Daw Than Than Nwe presents prizes for award winning hospitals to an official. — MNA

YANGON, 1 August— As a gesture hailing of World Breastfeeding Week, a ceremony to present prizes to systematic breastfeeding hospitals and townships, organized by the Ministry of Health and UNICEF, was held on Bogyoke Aung San Street this morning, with an address by Minister for Health Dr Kyaw Myint.

Also present on the occasion were Deputy Minister Dr Mya Oo, President of Myanmar Women's Affairs Federation Daw Than Than Nwe, President of Myanmar Maternal and Child Welfare Association Daw Khin Khin Win, directors-general and deputy directors-general of the departments under the ministry, directors, medical superintendents, resident representatives of WHO and UNICEF and UN organiza-

month old children must be made known to the public. Families are to live in good health and in loving kindness. Breastfeeding Week starts 1 August and ends 7 August commencing 1992 every year. So, the movements of Breastfeeding Week are launched in the world including Myanmar. With the guidance of the National Health Committee, the Ministry of Health has been implementing a wide range of projects for uplift of health standard of the entire nation. The breastfeeding project has been implemented since January 1993. A total of 379 hospitals were acknowledged as Baby Friendly Hospital Initiative and 134 townships, Baby Friendly Home Delivery until 2005. The motto for 2005 is designated " Breastfeeding and Family Food; Lov-

will telecast salient points on breastfeeding and Myanmar Nurses Association will talk on breastfeeding. Arrangements are under way to hold breastfeeding quiz and to present prizes on 5 August. On 6 August, MWAF will provide breastfeeding to its members. Myanmar Medical Association will hold a seminar on breastfeeding on 7 August. The breastfeeding movements are to be carried out through the year. By breastfeeding to the children, good sons and daughters will turn out in the future of the State. The minister urged those present to participate in breastfeeding movements. A total of 379 hospitals could be implemented during the period of over ten years.

Next, resident representative of UNICEF Ms Carroll



Health Minister Dr Kyaw Myint speaking at the award ceremony for systematic breastfeeding hospitals and townships to mark World Breast Feeding Week.—MNA

tions, officials of social organizations, heads of departments in states and divisions, midwives and delegates.

First, the minister delivered an address on the occasion. In his speech, he said movements of World Breastfeeding Week have been launched across the world since 1992 and so has in Myanmar every year as of 1992. The movements of 14th World Breastfeeding Week for 2005 are being held in Myanmar starting today. The objectives of the movements for 2005 is to successfully hold the 14th World Breastfeeding Week and to breastfeed a child for six-months. A child must be breastfed for two years and above continuously. The better ways for cooking hygienic food for over six-

ing & Healthy. Health staff are to organize and educate mothers and expectant mothers to breastfeed their children systematically. Arrangements are to be made for holding World Breastfeeding Week in Myanmar. Forty hospitals and twenty townships are to honour prizes. MMCWA (Central) is to conduct breastfeeding courses to its members on 2 August. Professors and Associate Professors are to conduct Training of Local Assessors for BFHI/BFHD in Central Women's Hospital (Yangon) on 3 August. Talks on breastfeeding will be held by Yangon Division Department of Health in four districts of Yangon on 4 August. Radio Myanmar, MRTV and Myawady TV

C Long made a speech on the occasion.

Afterwards, Dr Kyaw Myint, Dr Mya Oo, President of MWAF Daw Than Than Nwe and President of MCWA Daw Khin Khin Win presented prizes to five hospitals each.

After that, resident representatives of UNICEF Ms Carroll C Long and WHO Professor Adik Wibowo presented prizes to six hospitals each. Then, Director-General of Health Department Dr Tin Win Maung awarded prizes to remaining hospitals.

Next, Directors-General Dr Maung Maung Wint, Dr Kyi Soe, Dr Paing Soe and Dr Thein Swe presented prizes to officials of twenty townships. — MNA



Minister Dr Kyaw Myint presents prizes for award winning hospitals to an official. — MNA

ကမ္ဘာ့မိခင်နို့တိုက်ရေးအဖွဲ့ချုပ်သတ္တဝါတို့

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(World Breastfeeding Week)

(1.8.2005) to (7.8.2005)

နို့တိုက်ကာ မိသားစုအစား ၊ ရင်သွေးကျန်းမာ ချစ်ကြင်နာ

Breastfeeding and family food: Loving & Healthy

ကျန်းမာရေးဝန်ကြီးဌာန

Member of the State Peace and Development Council General Thura Shwe Mann of the Ministry of Defence and Daw Khin Lay Thet attending ceremony to mark 78th Anniversary of founding of People's Liberation Army.

(News on page 1)

MNA



Taungdwingyi-Myothit-Natmaunk Road, Ywamon-Zibyugon-Kyaukpadaung Road inaugurated

YANGON, 1 Aug —The 28-mile tarred Taungdwingyi-Myothit-Natmaunk Road and 21-mile Ywamon-Zibyugon-Kyaukpadaung Road were inaugurated at the archway No 1 of Taungdwingyi-Myothit-Natmaunk Road in Taungdwingyi yesterday.

Present were Chairman of Mandalay Division Peace and Development Council Commander Maj-Gen Khin Zaw, Minister for Construction Maj-Gen Saw Tun, Brig-Gen Than Tun of Kyaukpadaung Station, Chairman of Magway Division Peace and Development Council Col Phone Maw Shwe, senior military officers, departmental heads, officials of Public Works, social organizations, teachers, students and local people.

Commander Maj-Gen Khin Zaw, Minister Maj-Gen Saw Tun and Chairman Col Phone Maw Shwe formally opened the Taungdwingyi-Myothit Road section. The commander, the minister and party posed for documentary photo together with local people.

Next, the commander, the minister and party formally opened Myothit-Natmaunk-Ywamon Road section. The ceremony to open Ywamon-Zibyugon-Kyaukpa-

daung Road was held at the mandat of Natmauk-Ywamon junction.

Minister Maj-Gen Saw Tun reported on upgrading of the roads.

He said under the guidance of the Head of State 37 roads are to be upgraded to tarred roads in five years. So far, the government has built 205 bridges nationwide, each of which are 180 feet long or above. The Ministry of Defence built 11 bridges with the strength of the Tatmadaw members, the Ministry of Rail Transportation 7, the Ministry of Electric Power and the Ministry of Construction 185. The minister called for maintenance of roads and bridges.

Next, Commander Maj-Gen Khin Zaw said development of transport is the most basic requirement for regional development. With the development of transport production and economic enterprises will improve. New roads and bridges benefit regional development and promote goodwill among the national races.

The commander spoke at length on construction of roads and bridges in Magway Division. Next, U Hla Chun thanked the government for upgrading roads.

The commander and the minister cordially greeted local people. The commander, the minister and Chairman Col Phone

Maw Shwe formally opened Ywamon-Zibyugon road section.

In the past the distance from Taungdwingyi to Kyaukpadaung was 117 miles. Now it is 77 miles, saving 40 miles with the use of new road section. Transport in the region will become better.

MNA

Commander Maj-Gen Khin Zaw delivers a speech at the opening of Taungdwingyi-Myothit-Natmaunk Road and Ywamon-Zibyugon-Kyaukpadaung Road.

MNA

Lt-Gen Maung Bo inspects regional development tasks in Myeik

YANGON, 1 Aug — Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Maung Bo of the Ministry of Defence, Chairman of Taninthayi Division Peace and Development Council Commander of the Coastal Region Command Maj-Gen Ohn Myint, on 30 July inspected construction and extension of roads in Myeik and attended to the needs.

On 31 July, Lt-Gen Maung Bo and the commander also inspected the condition of Kyweku-Kyaukphya Bridge and repair of road and maintenance of bridges on Myeik-Dawei

Road. When they arrived at monsoon paddy fields in To Village-tract in Palaw Township, Chairman of Palaw Township Peace and Development Council U Than Nyunt reported on efforts being made by farmers and departments to achieve the target per acre yield. Palaw Township set its target of 33,840 acres of monsoon paddy in 2005-2006 rainy season. Now, 26,750 acres have been cultivated.

Township Manager U Aye Naing of Myanmar Agriculture Service reported on use of urea and natural fertilizer in the monsoon

paddy fields and the commander on tasks being carried out to cultivate monsoon and summer paddy for food sufficiency in the region.

After hearing reports, Lt-Gen Maung Bo urged officials concerned and farmers to make efforts for food sufficiency in the region and for successful implementation of the five rural development tasks.

Lt-Gen Maung Bo and party also inspected rubber farms along Myeik-Dawei Road. Next, they went to Myeik Myothit and inspected the preparation for construction of jetties.

MNA



Cash donated to Buddha Ghaya Nuggaha Association

YANGON, 1 Aug — A ceremony to donate cash to Buddha Ghaya Nuggaha Association for religious purposes took place at the Maha Pasasana Cave on Kaba Aye Hill this morning.

It was attended by Minister for Religious Affairs Brig-Gen Thura Myint Maung and departmental heads and wellwishers.

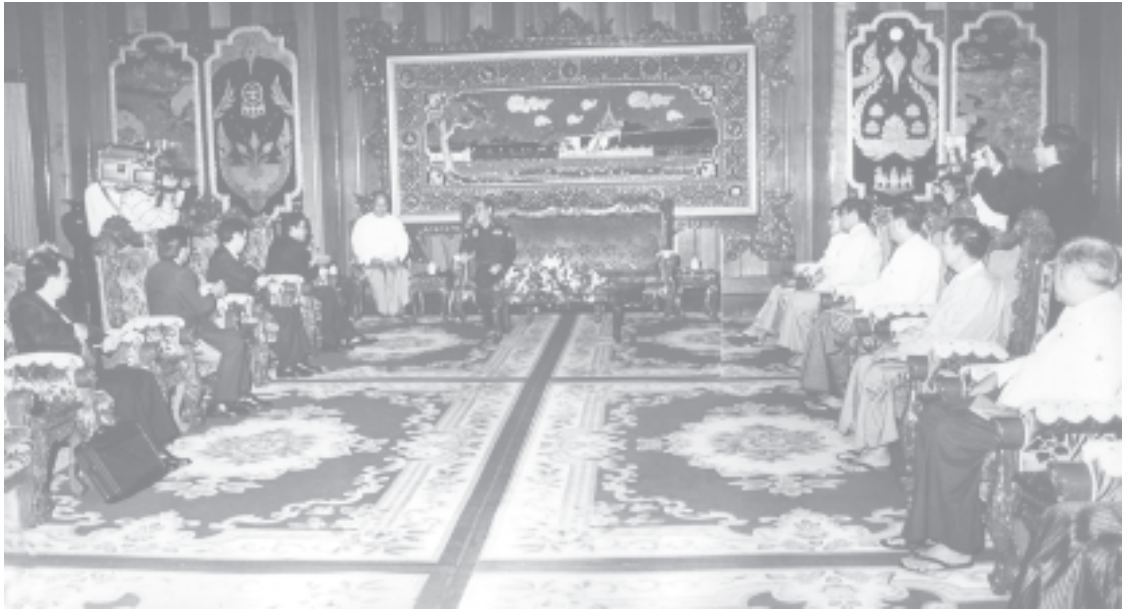
The donations amounted to K 14,713,000 including K 3 million each by the Union of

Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry and Shwe Thanlwin family and K 1 million each by Dagon International Ltd, Diamond Star Co Ltd, Pyae Sone Win Naing Co and Shwe Nagamin Co.

Minister Brig-Gen Thura Myint Maung accepted the donations, presented certificates of honour to the wellwishers and expressed thanks.

MNA

Prime Minister
General Soe Win
receives Deputy
Minister of Foreign
Affairs of the Socialist
Republic of Vietnam
Mr Le Cong Phung
and party at Zeyathiri
Beikman on
Konmyinthta.
(News on page 1)



MNA

Neo-colonialists and a handful of people hungry for power attempting to undermine the State's efforts



Member of
Loikaw
township
USDA
Daw Myint
Myint
Khaing.
MNA

country due to the instigation of groups such as FTUB, ABSDF, NCGUB. As a result, Myanmar had to close down about 160 garment factories on account of the sanctions imposed by some western countries. More than 80,000 workers lost their jobs and the economy of over 400,000 dependent families was affected.

In reality, the ILO should be an organization that is formed to serve the interests of workers. But, with the instigation of ex-patriates, it made a wrong

decision to put pressure on the country. She said, it has been known to all that representatives to the Myanmar War Veterans Conference and the ceremonies of Myanmar Women's Day voiced that it is time for Myanmar to resign from the ILO. As for the people of Kayah State, they will all agreed to the decision of the government whether or not the country should leave the organization, said Daw Myint Myint Khaing.

She said it is natural that those who do not

Child Welfare Association Daw Khin Saw Mu made a speech. She said that there are contradictions such as fake and genuine, constructive and destructive. Based on those contradictions, the government has been making all-out efforts for national development. Regrettably, some internal and external destructive elements under the influence of jealousy are attacking the government, resorting to various ways and means. Meanwhile, a handful of internal insurgents with the help of external destructive elements are perpetrating atrocious acts such as planting bombs in public establishments and their sinister acts have been harmful to public security.

The atrocious acts of those unscrupulous persons, who are putting self-interest in the fore, are found out to be horrifying. The Myanmar people who have been brought

up under religious teachings and civilization loathed their inhumane acts. As they dare not use the direct course of confrontation, they are attacking the government through wicked means. The people opposed and denounced their acts in the strongest terms.

National development undertakings cost a large amount of funds and physical and mental power. The entire national races do not accept the destructive acts of those who are destroying public properties.

Peace and tranquility is imperative for development of a nation. Thanks to integrated and well-coordinated efforts of the government, the Tatmadaw and the people remarkable progress has been made in various sectors of the nation. The people have been able to enjoy the fruitful results of peace and development.
(See page 10)

(from page 16)
with the delegates from all walks of life after the government has laid down the seven-point Road Map of the State. And the convention has adopted detailed basic principles that will be included in the State constitution. That is why the National Convention has achieved significant progress, and the entire national people are supporting it, she said.

However, there are neo-colonialists and a handful of people hungry for power are attempting to undermine the State's

efforts. Among those persons are Sao Hkam Hpa and his cohorts. He formed a parallel government, appointing himself as president, and opposed the present government. This means he is trying to jeopardize the stability of the State.

So, all the national people totally opposed and condemned their acts. She said there are some internal perpetrators as well, who are committing destructive acts in accord with the wishes of colonialists. The ILO put lop-sided pressure on the



Member of
Loikaw
township
WAO
Daw Khin
Saw Mu.
MNA

want to see the development of the country blessed with natural resources will always speak ill of the country and commit destructive acts. However, she said, what all the entire national people should do is guard against the dangers posed by destructionists through united strength of the people.

Representative of Loikaw Maternal and



Executive of
Loikaw
township
USDA
U Myo Thet
Naung
MNA

It is natural that those who do not want to see the development of the country blessed with natural resources will always speak ill of the country and commit destructive acts. However, what all the entire national people should do is guard against the dangers posed by destructionists through united strength of the people.

Neo-colonialists and a handful of...

(from page 9)

The destructive elements and renegades who are jealous of the success of the government detonated time bombs in Mandalay and Yangon and destroyed the lives and properties of the people. Due to their inhuman acts youths who are the future of the nation, service personnel and innocent people were in trouble and misery and have to lead a miserable life. They did so with the aim of destabilizing the nation and undermining national unity.

Although the people have been subjected to the atrocities of destructionists the latter were not merciful to the

Daw Khin Saw Mu.

Next, Representative of Loikaw Township MCWA Daw Ohmma Soe presented a report on participation in national development and successful realization of the seven-point Road Map with Union Spirit. He said that in an effort to build a peaceful modern and developed nation the government has designated and is implementing the 24 special development zones. As a result, unprecedented progress has been made in different sectors of Kayah State. With peace and tranquillity in the region more basic education schools were opened in the state with the emergence of Loikaw

lege and the Government Computer College.

In the health sector, Loikaw Hospital was upgraded into a 200-bed facility. The facility was installed with modern medical equipment, specialists, physicians and more health staff. Health staff including specialists made a field trip right down to villages and gave medical treatment to local people.

Toady is the time when efforts are being made for successful holding of the National Convention. At such a time like this, the nation will make progress ten times if there are no destructive acts and sanctions of some big nations and groups



Members of panel of patrons seen at the mass meeting in Loikaw. — MNA

will always join hands with the Tatmadaw in warding off destructive acts and making efforts for regional and national development.

She said the whole country has been performing the duty—Our Three Main National Causes—as national duty. While serving the duty, we all are in favour of the national convention, laid down by the State for drafting the new constitution that plays an important role in successful implementation of seven-point Road Map.

We are to root out those who incite the secession from the Union and harm Our Three Main National Causes through united strength of the entire national people. All are to collaborate with the Government in nation-building tasks

and successfully implementing the seven-point Road Map with Union Spirit and patriotism.

In his discussion, Loikaw Township WVO Chairman Maj Tin Win (Retd) said as it is known to all, underground and aboveground destructionists and expatriates committed destructive acts. Therefore, the government, the Tatmadaw and people will crush all destructive elements with the united strength of the people.

While the State is marching towards the discipline flourishing democratic nation, national armed groups, after realizing the genuine goodwill of the government and the Tatmadaw, returned to the legal fold and has been participating in the nation-building tasks in cooperation with people.

However, Sai Yi of

SSNA and destructionist Ywet Sit of SSA committed atrocities and undertook drug trafficking. Similarly, expatriate Sao Hkam Hpa who is under the influence of some western countries is trying to break up the union.

He said that the Tatmadaw and the people will ward off the destructionists if they betray the State and the people.

Thanks to the efforts of the government, there are mutual understanding and friendship, and the Union has become more stable and peaceful.

Afterwards, U Tun Tun Naing of Loikaw District USDA seconded the motion calling for participation in the nation-building tasks and successful realization of the seven-point Road Map with the Union Spirit, upholding Our Three Main National Causes tabled by Daw Ohn Mar Soe of Loikaw Township MCWA and Maj Tin Win (Retd) of Loikaw Township WVO.

The chairman sought the approval from the mass meeting and passed the two resolutions.

Later, the meeting ended with the chanting of slogans.

MNA



Members of panel of patrons chanting slogans at the conclusion of the mass meeting in Loikaw. — MNA

former and continued committing their loathsome acts.

In conclusion, she pledged that the entire national people including her will fight and ward off those who continue committing destructive acts.

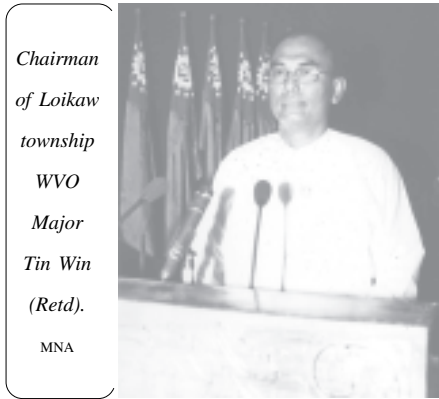
Afterwards, Executive of Loikaw District USDA U Myo Thet Naung seconded the motion of Representative of Loikaw Township USDA Daw Myint Myint Khaing and Representative of Loikaw Township WAO

University, the Government Technological Col-

including FTBU, ABSDF and NCGUB.



Member of Loikaw township MCWA Daw Ohmma Soe. MNA



Chairman of Loikaw township WVO Major Tin Win (Retd). MNA



Executive of Loikaw District USDA U Tun Tun Naing. MNA

At a time when the government is making strenuous efforts for national development some big nations in collusion with internal and external destructive elements are committing inhuman acts to cause disintegration of the Union, applying a variety of wicked means.

She said it is time to stop those relying on alien nations and to stop them committing destructive acts. She pledged that the entire national people

Peace and tranquillity is imperative for development of a nation. Thanks to integrated and well-coordinated efforts of the government, the Tatmadaw and the people remarkable progress has been made in various sectors of the nation. The people have been able to enjoy the fruitful results of peace and development.

Contract on Yeywa Hydel Power Project inked



Director-General U Win Kyaw and Mr Yang Jixue sign the documents. —MNA

YANGON, 1 Aug— A contract on Yeywa Hydel Power Project was signed between Hydel Power Department under the Ministry of Electric Power and China Gezhouba Water & Power (Group) Co Ltd of the People's Republic of China at Hotel Nikko here this morning.

Present on the occasion were ministers, deputy ministers, department heads, Chinese Ambassador Mr Li Jinjun and party and officials of China Gezhouba Water & Power

(Group) Co Ltd.

First, Minister for Electric Power Maj-Gen Tin Htut made an address and President of CGGC Mr Yang Jixue spoke words of thanks. Next, Director-General U Win Kyaw of Hydel Power Department and Mr Yang Jixue signed the documents.

Yeywa Hydel Power Project is being implemented on Myitnge River 31 miles South East of Mandalay. On completion, the 790 megawatt project will generate 3550 million

unit of electricity a year.

The contract is for the supply of machinery to be used in construction of concrete dam worth US \$ 46.325 million in the project.

Under the Friendship and Economic Cooperation Programme between Myanmar and PRC, the necessary machinery will be purchased from PRC.

On completion, Yeywa Hydel Power project will supply electricity through the grid to the whole country. —MNA

Minister for Commerce receives Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs of SRV



Minister for Commerce Brig-Gen Tin Naing Thein receives Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam Mr Le Cong Phung. —MNA

YANGON, 1 Aug— Minister for Commerce Brig-Gen Tin Naing Thein met Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Socialist Republic of

Vietnam Mr Le Cong Phung at the Ministry of Commerce on Strand Road this afternoon.

Present on the occasion were Deputy Min-

ister Brig-Gen Aung Tun and departmental heads, Vietnamese Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Tran Van Tung and officials.

MNA

Bago Division (West) police force meets

YANGON, 1 Aug— Bago Division (West) police force held a meeting at police commander's office on 29 August, with an address delivered by Chairman of Bago Division (West) Peace and Development Council

Brig-Gen Hla Min. Police Commander of Bago Division (West) Police Col Myint Soe explained the directives of the Minister for Home Affairs, the Deputy Minister and the Myanmar Police Force

director-general and the future work programmes.

Officials of district and township police forces presented sector-wise discussions. Police Col Myint Soe attended to their needs.

MNA

Foreign Minister attends 38th ASEAN Foreign Ministers meeting, related meetings

YANGON, 1 Aug— Minister for Foreign Affairs U Nyan Win attended the 38th ASEAN Foreign Ministers Meeting and other related meetings held from 25 to 29 July in Vientiane, Lao People's Democratic Republic.

During his stay in Vientiane, the minister attended the ASEAN Foreign Ministers' Working Dinner on 25 July; the ASEAN Foreign Ministers Informal Meeting on 26 July, the 38th ASEAN Foreign Ministers' Meeting and the ASEAN Dialogue Partners Meetings with China, Japan and the Republic of Korea on 27 July; the ASEAN Dialogue Partners' Meetings with New Zealand, the Russian Federation and US and the ASEAN Plus Ten Informal Meeting on 28 July and the 12th ASEAN Regional Forum.

During the Informal Meeting of the ASEAN Foreign Ministers held on 26 July, the minister briefed his ASEAN counterparts on the progress of the democratization process in Myanmar. He pointed out that it was at a crucial stage. In order to maintain the momentum of this process and taking into

consideration the interest of both ASEAN and Myanmar, the Government of the Union of Myanmar had decided to voluntarily forgo its ASEAN Chairmanship in 2006. The minister's briefing was well received by the ASEAN Foreign Ministers.

The minister also attended Dialogue Partner Meetings of ASEAN with New Zealand, the Russian Federation and US, and discussed matters relating to the Vientiane Action Plan and the narrowing of development gap among ASEAN countries.

The minister together with Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Mr Somsavat Lengsavad, on 29 July, attended the ceremony to mark the 50th Anniversary of establishment of Diplomatic Relations between Myanmar and Laos, held at Maiteechit Residence. He made a statement on the occasion.

Agreements on Establishment of ASEAN Development Fund and Disaster Management and Emergency Response were signed by the ASEAN Foreign Ministers during the AMM. The ASEAN Development

Fund is created to fund the activities under the Vientiane Action Plan. The Joint Communiqués on Cooperation in Combating Terrorism were signed between ASEAN and the Republic of Korea, New Zealand, and Pakistan. Accessions of Mongolia and New Zealand to the Treaty of Amity and Cooperation were signed. Australia expressed its desire to join the Treaty.

The minister also had discussions with Lao-tian Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Mr Somsavat Lengsavad on 25 July and Chinese Foreign Minister Mr Li Zhaoxing on 26 July at Don Pasak State Guest House. He also met with Leader of Bangladeshi delegation Mr Reaz Rahman and Foreign Minister of Pakistan on 27 July and 28 July respectively and discussed matters on bilateral matters and exchanged views on international affairs.

On 28 July, the minister together with his ASEAN counterparts, called on His Excellency Mr Khamtay Siphandone, President of the Lao PDR at the Horkham Presidential Palace. —MNA



Foreign Minister U Nyan Win poses for documentary photo together with Foreign Ministers of ASEAN countries. —MNA

Baseball players honoured

YANGON, 1 Aug— The 10 Myanmar tentative baseball selections led by Coach Mr Iwasaki and assistant U Aung Naing Oo who will under go training in Japan were honoured at M 3 Food Centre here yesterday.

President of


Myanmar Baseball Federation U Aung Myat Oo of Ginvera and Vice-Presidents U Aung Hsu and Dr Naing Win spoke on the occasion.

Next, U Aung Myat Oo, Dr Naing Win and Vice-President U Myat Oo donated K 1 million, K 500,000 and K

300,000 respectively to MBF. After undergoing training in Japan for two months, Myanmar baseball team will take part in baseball tournament to be included for the first time in XXIII SEA Games to be held in Manila, the Philippines.

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နယူးလိုက်အော့စ်မြန်မာသတင်းစာ၊ စာတည်းအဖွဲ့က ပြုစုသည့် မူလတန်း၊ အလယ်တန်း၊ အထက်တန်း စာသင်သားများအတွက် အင်္ဂလိပ်စာ အထောက်အကူပြု Student's Companion စာစဉ် အမှတ်စဉ် (၂) ထွက်ပါပြီ။

ရန်ကုန်မြို့၊ နယူးလိုက်အော့စ်မြန်မာသတင်းစာတိုက်၊ မြန်ချီရေဌာန၊ အမှတ် ၂၂/၃၀ ကမ်းနားလမ်း၊ ဖုန်း ၂၉၇၀၉၃ သို့ဖြစ်စေ၊ သတင်းစာကိုယ်စားလှယ်များမှ တစ်ဆင့်ဖြစ်စေ ဆက်သွယ်ဝယ်ယူနိုင်ပါပြီ။

Second batch of Chinese policemen completes UN mission in Kosovo

BELGRADE (Serbia-Montenegro), 31 July— The second contingent of Chinese police personnel left Kosovo on Saturday afternoon after completing their 12-month mission as UN peacekeepers there, said reports from the Kosovo capital of Pristina.

Before their departure, the seven Chinese policemen were received by senior officials of the UN mission in Kosovo, who expressed appreciation for their dedication to safeguarding world and regional peace.

China sent 19 policemen in two batches to join the UN peacekeeping operations in Kosovo last year. The first batch of 12 policemen returned home on 27 June after finishing the 14-month mission.

The third batch of 18 Chinese policemen started their 12-month mission on 25 July to rotate the first two batches.

A province of Serbia, Kosovo has been put under UN Administration since the end of the Kosovo war in June 1999.

MNA/Xinhua

Tour group ends Britain visit as "ambassadors for China"

EDINBURGH (Britain), 31 July— The first Chinese tourist group to visit Britain, hailed by many of their British hosts as "ambassadors for China", ended their six-day visit around the island country on Friday.

The visit of the 80-member group, which came just days after the second wave of bomb attacks on London's transportation system, has been a big stir-up in the country.

VIPs, from Prince Andrew to mayor of Manchester, heads of VisitBritain and VisitScotland, held ceremonies wherever the group went, and reporters from major media, such as Reuters, BBC, Independent TV, Times and Daily Telegraph, covered their daily activities.

Prince Andrew, the Duke of York, said in his welcoming speech that he wished the first Chinese tourist group would act as "ambassadors for China" and bring more friends to Britain.

The Prince's speech was echoed by Mayor of Manchester, Mohammed Afzal Khan, and Tom Wright, head of VisitBritain, which is an arm of the tourism administration of Britain, said that "as the first visitors authorized under the Approved Destination Status (ADS), you are here as ambassadors for your country to be advocated for Britain with some great tales and photographs" to usher in more friends to the country.

The first tourism group is composed of about 50 tourists from Beijing and Shanghai, 15 journalists from China's mainstream media from the two biggest cities of China, and 15 managers from major travel agencies.

In his keynote speech to show his goodwill to the group, Tom

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V. SEA MERCHANT VOY: NO (587)

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V. SEA MERCHANT VOY NO (587) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 2-8-2005 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.W.P.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S ADVANCE CONTAINER
Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

Ukrainian PM to ally with President in parliamentary polls

KIEV, 31 July— Ukrainian Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko said on Saturday that she will stand alongside President Viktor Yushchenko instead of being his rival in the parliamentary elections in 2006.

Tymoshenko told a Press conference in the city of Simferopol that she is a member of the President's camp and has no intention to compete with him, according to the Interfax-Ukraine news agency.

Either her or the President's prestige will add to the prestige of the President's camp as a whole, and the enhancement of either's prestige will help propel the country's political reforms, she said.— MNA/Xinhua

Russia starts pullout from military base in Georgia

Moscow, 31 July — Russia began withdrawing equipment on Saturday from the Batumi military base in Georgia under a May agreement with the Caucasian country, a Russian military commander said.

The first convoy leaving the base consisted of 11 vehicles and was being accompanied by two Georgian police cars, Vladimir Kuparadze, deputy commander of the Russian troops in Transcaucasia, told the ITAR-TASS news agency. The convoy will travel 360 kilometres to Mtskheta in east Georgia Saturday, continue its journey Sunday toward the Georgian-Russian border and then head for the city of Vladikavkaz in south Russia. The withdrawal of vehicles from Batumi had been scheduled for Thursday, but the convoy was stranded for two days as the two sides wrangled over reentry visas to the Russian servicemen accompanying the convoy, until they were finally issued to the Russian.

In August, two Russian amphibious ships will pull back home 40 pieces of heavy equipment, including 20 tanks, from the base, Kuparadze said.

MNA/Xinhua

Bird flu harmful to humans found in Siberia

Moscow, 31 July — A strain of bird flu harmful to humans has been found in Siberia, where thousands of birds have died in an outbreak of the disease, a Russian newspaper said on Saturday, quoting findings by official experts.

The newspaper Kommersant quoted the state veterinary service as saying laboratory experts had found the H5N1 strain in samples from the Novosibirsk Region, where an outbreak of bird flu was reported last week.

More than 50 people have died in Asia from the virulent H5N1 strain since late 2003, raising fears it could mutate and form the basis of a global epidemic.

MNA/Reuters

DON'T SMOKE

မညာရေဖြင့် ခေတ်မီပို့ပြီးတိုးတက်သော နိုင်ငံတော်ကြီး တည်ဆောက်အံ့

Mexico volcano spews cloud of ash into sky south of Mexico City

MEXICO CITY, 31 July — Mexico's Popocatepetl Volcano spewed a cloud of ash into the sunny sky south of Mexico City on Saturday after a new eruption of the volcano, some 70 kilometres from the capital.

The latest eruption came a day after two strong eruptions on Friday, which have sent a cloud of hot ash 2.5 kilometres into the sky, covering automobiles and streets in southern Mexico City with a gray ash.

Mexico's National Disaster Prevention Centre said Saturday's eruption poses no danger to

the nearby communities, but it warned local residents to avoid breathing in the ashes as they clean up. The 5,450-metre high volcano, which has had several strong eruptions in recent months, is considered one of Mexico's most active and potentially most destructive volcanoes.

MNA/Xinhua

Caribbean Summit agrees to boost integration, reduce poverty

PANAMA CITY, 31 July — Leaders of 25 Caribbean nations on Friday wrapped up a regional summit, at which they discussed ways to combat poverty and boost integration.

Leaders at the fourth Summit of the Association of Caribbean States (ACS) managed to sign a final document calling for greater integration and solidarity among Caribbean nations, papering over rifts between regional rivalries represented by Mexico and an anti-US coalition led by Venezuela and Cuba, which tug the mainly island nation in a north-south divide. In the buildup to the summit, controversy erupted over Venezuelan President Hugo Chavez's proposal to supply discounted Venezuelan oil to Caribbean nations and his vision of an "economy based on solidarity" instead of free trade.

Costa Rica and Trinidad and Tobago opposed a proposal to welcome Venezuela's initiative in the summit's draft final statement, which was subsequently

modified in lights of the objection.

Despite the earlier controversy, the final document highlighted Venezuela's moves to cooperate with the Caribbean countries and also Trinidad and Tobago's efforts to set up a petroleum stabilization fund.

The final document included a clause on defence of sovereignty, territorial integrity and non-intervention and the right of nations to build their own political systems in peace and stability.

The position against intervention and in defence of national sovereignty had been put forth by the Cuban and Venezuelan delegations who condemned what they perceived as interventionist and hostile attitudes by the United States. — MNA/Xinhua

"Discovery's" astronauts go spacewalking

HOUSTON, 31 July — Two astronauts stepped outside the shuttle Discovery on Saturday in the first US spacewalk since 2002 and set to work testing damage-repair techniques developed after the Columbia disaster.

"What a view," Japan's Soichi Noguchi said as he drifted out into space while Discovery, docked to the International Space Station, sailed 224 miles (358 kilometres) above Southeast Asia. "Yeah, it's been a long road," said spacewalking partner Steve Robinson.

They left the shuttle a little more than an hour behind schedule and were to spend 6-1/2 hours outside in the first of three planned spacewalks.

In their first task, they used experimental tools to

dab on specially-developed materials NASA hopes can be used to repair damaged insulating tiles and wing materials that shield the shuttle from the heat of reentry.

They were to work only on test tiles stowed in the shuttle's cargo bay, not on the orbiter itself, which sustained minor damage at launch on Tuesday from flying debris. NASA engineers are to review the test upon Discovery's return.

Developing ways to repair an orbiting shuttle

was one of the recommendations of investigators into the crash of Columbia, which broke apart while returning to Earth on 1 February, 2003 after flying debris struck its wing heat shield at launch 16 days before. The seven astronauts on board died.

NASA said it does not think the nicks to Discovery pose a similar danger, but has kept open the possibility of using the still-unproven repair techniques for real if they decide there is a safety risk.

MNA/Reuters



Astronaut Steve Robinson of the US takes a photo of fellow spacewalker Soichi Noguchi of Japan outside the shuttle docking port hatch in Discovery's payload bay in this view from Noguchi's helmet camera at the end of their spacewalk on 30 July, 2005. Two astronauts stepped outside the shuttle Discovery on Saturday in the first US spacewalk since 2002 and set to work testing damage-repair techniques developed after the Columbia disaster. — INTERNET

Flooding hits parts of N-E China province

HARBIN, 1 Aug — Continuous rainstorms have resulted in flooding in some medium and small rivers of northeast China's Heilongjiang Province, inflicting severe damages to the cities of Hegang and Yichun.

Flood peak level in the Wutong River of Hegang City reached 99.02 metres on 29 July, the highest since 1972, according to the provincial flood and drought control and prevention headquarters.

The flooding in the Wutong River also threatened the safety of the Yuanbaoshan Reservoir in the city, which burst some spillways and spillway gates of the reservoir.

MNA/Xinhua

Italian Parliament approves anti-terrorism laws

ROME, 13 July — The Italian Parliament gave final approval on Saturday to measures which would grant the state greater power to combat terrorism.

The anti-terrorism package, endorsed by the Senate on Friday, were backed by 385 lawmakers with 20 opposing it in the Chamber of Deputies.

The measures include expanding from 12 to 24 hours the period police can hold and question a suspect, tougher border con-

trols, acceleration of the process of deporting terrorist suspects and awarding residence permits to illegal immigrants who help uncover terrorist activities. The measures also would enable authorities to freeze assets and hold on to telephone data for two years and would make

it a crime to train people to prepare or use explosives without government authorization. The police would be allowed to take saliva samples for DNA tests from suspects under investigation. At present, DNA tests can only be taken after charges have been made. MNA/Xinhua

DEA agent gunned down in Honduras

TEGUCIGALPA (Honduras), 31 July — Honduran police said on Saturday a US Drug Enforcement Administration agent was shot to death as he visited a local religious shrine and that they arrested two young gang members in the killing.

Two assailants shot the vacationing DEA agent in both legs on Friday near the Virgen de Suyapa shrine in the capital, Tegucigalpa, police said.

The victim bled to death from gunshot wounds in what authorities said was probably an attempted robbery.

Police said they arrested two minors, both of them gang members, on Saturday in connection with the killing.

"They are presumably who shot the agent," Security Minister Oscar Alvarez told reporters.

Security Ministry spokesman Leonel Saucedo said the DEA agent was in Honduras on vacation and denied local media reports he was in the country to help train anti-narcotics forces.

Experts say close to 100 tons of cocaine pass through Honduras on the way to the US market every year. — MNA/Reuters

Zambian police confirms arrest of London bombing suspect

LUSAKA, 1 Aug — Zambian police confirmed on Saturday the arrest of Haroon Aswat, an Indian-Briton who was suspected to be linked with the 7 July London bombings.

"Mr Aswat, born on 22nd September, 1974, was arrested by Zambian security authorities on 20th July, 2005 in Lusaka," said a statement released by the Zambian police inspector-general Ephraim Mateyo, adding he was now in the custody of Zambian security authorities.

Aswat caught the attention of police when it was discovered that about 20 calls have been placed from his cell phone to some of the four suspected suicide bombers known to investigators.

"His arrest follows ongoing security investi-

gations on the threat of terrorism to which Mr Aswat is alleged to be connected," said the statement, adding Aswat entered the country on 6 July.

The statement also said the British authorities were duly informed on the arrest of Aswat in Zambia, and the two governments were cooperating accordingly.

"Zambia is closely following up Mr Aswat's case within and outside the region with other concerned security stakeholders," the statement said.

MNA/Xinhua

S P O R T S

Carew gives Lyon winning start to Ligue 1 season

PARIS, 1 Aug— John Carew scored a second-half winner to give French champions Olympique Lyon a 2-1 victory at promoted Le Mans in their first Ligue 1 outing of the season on Sunday.

The Norway striker, who netted a hat-trick in Lyon's 4-1 demolition of AJ Auxerre in the Trophy of Champions on Wednesday, headed home a

day, headed home a Sidney Govou cross just before the hour mark to clinch the points.

Gerard Houllier's side,

chasing an unprecedented fifth title in a row, opened the scoring in the 37th minute when Sylvain Wiltord, meeting a long cross from Anthony Revellere, volleyed home from the penalty spot.

Brazilian striker Tulio De Melo grabbed the equalizer for Le Mans in the 57th minute when he latched on to a Daisuke Matsui cross to score from close range.

However, Lyon replied in the next minute with the deadly Carew's first goal in the league.

Paris St. Germain are the first weekend Ligue 1 leaders after thrashing Metz 4-1 on Friday.

Monaco, expected to be Lyon's main challenger in the title race, beat promoted Nancy 1-0 on Saturday while Olympique Marseille slumped to a shock 2-0 home defeat at the hands of Girondins Bordeaux.

MNA/Reuters



China's Li Weifeng (R) and South Korea's Lee Dong-gook jump for a header at the East Asian Football Championship in Taejeon, about 160 km (100 miles) south of Seoul, on 31 July, 2005. National teams from China, Japan, North Korea and South Korea play in round-robin men's and women's East Asian events between on 31 July and 7 August at three venues in South Korea.—INTERNET

Ballack brace lifts Bayern to 3-1 win over Jubilo

TOKYO, 1 Aug— Germany captain Michael Ballack scored twice to give Bayern Munich a 3-1 win over Jubilo Iwata in the second of two pre-season friendlies in Japan on Saturday.

The German champions were forced to come from behind after Ryoichi Maeda's 15th-minute opener in Tokyo.

But Ballack restored parity for the visitors via the penalty spot nine minutes into the second half.

Substitute Jose Paolo Guerrero put Bayern in front with a close-range effort in the 72nd minute before Ballack made sure of the victory with a header seven

minutes from time. Bayern thrashed FC Tokyo 4-0 in their first game in Japan.

"We struggled with the humidity in the first half but we improved in the second half," Bayern coach Felix Magath told reporters. "I'm happy with the result and the tour had been a good test for us before the start of the German season."

Bayern goalkeeper Oliver Kahn played the full 90 minutes after missing Thursday's game with a back injury.

MNA/Reuters

Santos win on Robinho's return

RIO DE JANEIRO, 1 Aug— Brazilian champions Santos beat arch-rivals Corinthians 4-2 on Sunday as striker Robinho returned to the side following completion of his 30 million US dollar move to Real Madrid.

Robinho, who had refused to train or play for the club during the long-running transfer saga because he was not in the right frame of mind, was given a lukewarm reception by the crowd and missed an open goal during the second half.

"I'd give myself three out of ten," he told reporters, admitting he was out of shape. Robinho will stay at Santos until the end of next month before moving to Spain.

Robinho, who last played for Santos in the Libertadores Cup tie against Atletico Paranaense on 1 June, was outshone by former Barcelona and Olympiakos midfielder Giovanni, who scored twice and set up a third goal.—MNA/Reuters

MNA/Xinhua

Chelsea, AC Milan end US tour with 1-1 draw

EAST RUTHERFORD (New Jersey), 1 Aug— Chelsea and AC Milan drew 1-1 in a friendly match on Sunday as they wrapped up their pre-season tour of the United States.

Striker Didier Drogba put the English Premier League champions ahead in the second half while playmaker Rui Costa equalized for the beaten Champions League finalists. England international Frank Lampard missed a chance to clinch victory for the Londoners in the 87th minute when he flicked Drogba's deft pass just over the bar.

In a lacklustre first half before a crowd of 35,444 at Giants Stadium neither side came close to scoring. A Lampard free-kick over the bar and a shot from Milan's Brazilian defender Cafu that flew wide were the only highlights.

Chelsea coach Jose Mourinho made four halftime substitutions and in the 54th minute sent on Glen Johnson for William Gallas, who was hurt in a tackle. Milan made three halftime changes.

In the 64th minute, Ivory Coast forward Drogba, one of the substitutes, barrelled past two tackles on the left and forced his way into the area before firing past Valerio Fiori.

Six minutes later Christian Vieri, just signed from rivals Inter, thought he had scored but was given offside when the ball came down off the bar from an

Andrea Pirlo free-kick. But Milan levelled the scores in the 80th minute when Rui Costa held off two challenges in the area before swivelling to curl a shot inside Petr Cech's left-hand post.

Chelsea, who won their first league title in 50 years last season, beat Milan 1-0 last week in Massachusetts and defeated US champions DC United 2-1 in suburban Washington in midweek.

Milan, who were runners-up in Serie A last term beat Chicago Fire of Major League Soccer 3-1 in their second tour match.

Milan coach Carlo Ancelotti said he was happy with his side's performances on tour.

"We played with different tactics today, much more aggressively (than last week)," he added.

He declined to comment on media speculation that Ukrainian striker Andriy Shevchenko was a target for big-spending Chelsea.

Shevchenko missed the US tour to have surgery on a broken cheekbone. Midfielder Kaka was also absent, resting after playing with Brazil in the Confederations Cup.—MNA/Reuters

Rangers open Scottish title defence with 3-0 win

GLASGOW, 1 Aug— Rangers began the defence of their Scottish Premier League title with a comfortable 3-0 home win over Livingston on Sunday.

Club chairman David Murray unfurled their 51st championship flag before kickoff but the first half

was a largely frustrating affair for the champions as Livingston's new manager Paul Lambert, the ex-Celtic captain, packed his defence.

Croatian forward Dado Prso slid home the opener in the 22nd minute after Livingston goalkeeper

Roddy McKenzie parried a stinging long-range effort from midfielder Alex Rae.

French defender Jose Pierre Fanfan nudged home a second goal on his debut following Prso's headed flick-on from a Peter Lovenkrands cross after 53 minutes.

The misery piled on for Livingston when Richard Brittain was sent off for scything down Ian Murray 17 minutes from time.

Lovenkrands slotted home Rangers' third in stoppage time before 49,613 fans at Ibrox.

On Saturday Rangers' city rivals Celtic needed a stoppage time equalizer from Craig Beattie to draw 4-4 at Motherwell.

MNA/Reuters

Coria, Moya to fight for Croatia title

BELGRADE, 1 Aug— Spaniard Carlos Moya is to chase for his fifth title of the Croatia Open at Sunday's final against Argentina's Guillermo Coria after both claimed victories on Saturday.

Moya defeated Jiri Novak of the Czech Republic 6-4, 6-4, while Coria rallied to beat Filippo Volandri of Italy 4-6, 6-3, 6-2 in the semifinals.

A former French Open champion, Moya broke Novak in the opening game, immediately dropped his service, and broke again at 4-4 for the first set.

Novak was down 5-4 in the second and had a break point chance to force a third set, but Moya scrambled and held to win.—MNA/Xinhua

Verdasco ousts Massu to make final at Kitzbuehel

VIENNA, 1 Aug— Unseeded Fernando Verdasco sprung a surprise at the semi-finals of Kitzbuehel Open men's clay-court tennis tournament on Saturday as he eliminated defending champion Nicolas Massu of Chile 3-6, 6-3, 7-5 to make final.

Verdasco will meet third-seeded Gaston Gaudio in Sunday's final after the Argentine ousted compatriot Mariano Zabaleta 6-1, 6-1.

"It's amazing. I came to Kitzbuehel and wanted to win some matches. But I never dreamed of making it to the final," said the Spaniard.

In the final set, Verdasco broke his opponent early, but fell to pressure from Massu's crashing forehand and gave away his serve in game eight.



Wimbledon champion Venus Williams (R) of the US and Kim Clijsters of Belgium stand together holding their trophy plates after the final of the Stanford Classic tennis tournament at Stanford University in Palo Alto on 31 July, 2005. Clijsters beat Williams 7-5, 6-2.—INTERNET



U Saw Oo and Daw San San Win family to mark son Maung Saw Wunna Win's birthday present cash donation K 100,000 for Hninzigon Home for the Aged to U Maung Maung Gyi, Treasurer.— H

US reports show limited progress in Iraq rebuilding

WASHINGTON, 1 Aug — Despite pouring more than nine billion US dollars into rebuilding Iraq over the past two years, the United States has made only limited progress in key areas such as oil and power, according to new reports on US-funded projects there.

Rebuilding Iraq is seen by the Bush Administration as a major foreign policy priority but three US Government reports released this week — the latest on Sunday — indicate ambitious reconstruction goals are falling short.

Soaring security costs are a major stumbling block in what is billed as the biggest US foreign aid operation since the post-World War II reconstruction of Europe.

Congress' investigative arm, the Government Accountability Office, said in its latest report that as of May 2005, power generation in Iraq was at a lower level than before the US invasion of Iraq in March 2003.

Iraq's oil output, which US officials initially said would help pay for rebuilding projects, has also dropped in the past two years, said the GAO's report on Iraq reconstruction.

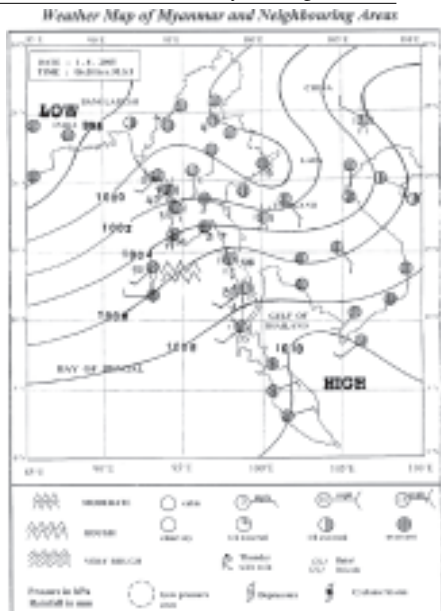
In March 2003, Iraq produced 2.6 million barrels of oil per day

and exported 2.1 million barrels daily. By May 2005, Iraq was producing just 2.1 million barrels of oil a day and exporting only 1.4 to 1.6 million barrels a day, said the GAO.

In a report to Congress released on Sunday, the US Special Inspector General for Iraq Reconstruction said two key concerns were whether the US Government could accurately predict how much it would cost to complete projects and whether Iraq's government could sustain US-funded work after it was handed over.

"A failure on either of these points puts at risk the important legacy of success that the US intends to leave," said Stuart Bowen, the inspector general.

MNA/Reuters



WEATHER

Monday, 1 August, 2005

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST: During the past 24 hours, weather has been partly cloudy in lower Sagaing Division, rain have been isolated in Kachin and Chin States and Magway Division, scattered in Shan, Rakhine and Kayah States, upper Sagaing, Mandalay and Bago Divisions and widespread in the remaining areas with locally heavyfall in Taninthayi Division and isolated heavyfall in Yangon Division. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Dawei (5.67) inches, Myeik (4.41) inches, Coco Island (3.55) inches, Ye (2.99) inches, and Kyaukpyu (2.33) inches.

Maximum temperature on 31-7-2005 was 85°F. Minimum temperature on 1-8-2005 was 68°F. Relative humidity at 9:30 hrs MST on 1-8-2005 was 96%. Total sunshine hours on 31-7-2005 was (1.6) hours approx. Rainfalls on 1-8-2005 were 0.43 inch at Mingaladon, 0.31 inch at Kaba-Aye, 0.71 inch at central Yangon. Total rainfalls since 1-1-2005 were 51.77 inches at Mingaladon, 52.20 inches at Kaba-Aye and 55.04 inches at central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was 7 mph from Southwest at (00:35) hours MST on 1-8-2005.

Bay inference: Monsoon is strong in the Bay of Bengal.

Special features: According to the observations at (06:30) hrs MST today, Tropical Storm "WASHI" over the Gulf of Tonkin has moved West-Northwest wards and crossed the Vietnam Coast.

Forecast valid until evening of 2-8-2005: Rain will be isolated in Kachin and Chin States, lower Sagaing and Magway Divisions, scattered in Kayah State, upper Sagaing, Mandalay and Bago Divisions and widespread in the remaining areas with likelihood of isolated heavyfalls in Mon State, Yangon and Taninthayi Divisions. Degree of certainty is 80%.

State of the sea: Temporary squalls with moderate to rough seas are likely off and along Myanmar Coasts. Surface wind speed in squalls may reach (35) to (40) mph.

Outlook for subsequent two days: Increase of rain are likely in Eastern Myanmar areas.

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 2-8-2005: Some rain. Degree of certainty is 80%.

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 2-8-2005: Likelihood of isolated rain. Degree of certainty is 60%.

All this needs to be known

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

U Khin Zaw (Paul Liu)
Lecturer & Head (Retired),
Department of Mathematics
Workers' College, Yangon
(79 years)

Son of late U Pho Cho and Daw Kyin Yone, beloved husband of Daw Khin Ohn Myint, father of (U Myint Zu), (Major Nwe Nwe Kyu), Dr Tadashi and Myint Myint Thu Oshiro, U Tin Win Zaw & Daw Myint Myint Kyi, Lt-Col Win Maung & Dr Khin Win Thawdar, U Win Naing & Major Aye Aye Khine, U Hla Min & Daw Moe Aye, U Lwin Mg Mg & Daw Khin Ohnmar San, U Thura Zaw & Daw Khine Wai Zaw and grandfather of Phyo Paing Zaw, Kyaw Htet Naing, Hein Nyi, Hikari, Naing Win Zaw, Thura Tauk Tun, Paing Win Mg and Phyu Kyawt Ngwe passed away at 03:30 hours on 31st July 2005. Funeral service will be held at 10:00 hrs in N0 II Military Hospital, Myoma Kyaung Street and buried in Yay-way cemetery at 11:30 hours on 2nd August 2005.

Radio Myanmar

Tuesday, 2 August
Tune in today:

- 8.30 am Brief news
- 8.35 am Music: Who will be there
- 8.40 am Perspectives
- 8.45 am Music: Just to have you
- 8.50 am National news/Slogan
- 9.00 am Music: Listen to your heart
- 9.05 am International news
- 9.10 am Music: What's your flavor
- 1.30 pm News/Slogan
- 1.40 pm Lunch time music
- Oh Baby
- When I found you
- 9.00 pm English Lesson -Level III, Unit (6)
- 9.15 pm Article
- 9.25 pm Weekly sports reel
- 9.35 pm Music for your listening pleasure
- Owner of my heart
- 9.45 pm News/Slogan
- 10.00 pm PEL



Tuesday, 2 August

View on today:

- 7:00 am Recitation of Parittas by Missionary Sayadaw U Oattamathara
- 7:25 am To be healthy exercise
- 7:30 am Morning news
- 7:40 am Nice and sweet song
- 7:50 am ဂန္ထဝင်သုတ္တံ
- 8:00 am အတိတ်ပြန်
- 8:10 am Song of yesteryears
- 8:20 am တံငါတံတား
- 8:30 am International news

- 8:45 am 10. Let's Go
- 4:00 pm 1. Martial song
- 4:15 pm 2. Songs to uphold National Spirit
- 4:30 pm 3. Musical programme
- 4:45 pm 4. အစားသင့်တော်သလိုပညာရေး ရရှိခြင်းကြား သင်ခန်းစာ -ပထမနှစ် (ရက္ခဝေးအထူးပြု) (ရက္ခဝေး)
- 5:00 pm 5. Dance of national races
- 5:15 pm 6. ခံစားနားဆင် စားစာတံငါ
- 5:30 pm 7. သားငါးဖွံ့ဖြိုး ပြည့်အကျိုး
- 5:45 pm 8. Sing and Enjoy
- 6:10 pm 9. နိုင်ငံခြားကာတွန်းစာတိုလမ်းဆွဲ "ရယ်စရာပြုမူမှုကိတ်စာ" (အပိုင်း-၁၀)

- 6:30 pm 10. Evening news
- 7:00 pm 11. Weather report
- 7:05 pm 12. နိုင်ငံခြားစာတိုလမ်းဆွဲ "ရွေးနိမလေးရဲ့စိတ်ပိုင်း" (အပိုင်း-၁၀)
- 7:35 pm 13. "ဘာစရာပဲလှ ပြန်မကုတ်" (အတိတ်ပညာ ဘာသာရပ် ဆေးစွန်းစနိုး) (အပိုင်း-၅)
- 7:45 pm 14. The mirror images of the musical oldies
- 8:00 pm 15. News
- 16. International news
- 17. Weather report
- 18. နိုင်ငံခြားစာတိုလမ်းဆွဲ "မဟာမင်းဆင်း၏ ရုန်းသဲစဉ်" (အပိုင်း-၄၀) (စာတိုသိမ်းပိုင်း)
- 19. The next day's programme

Some people make false accusations against Myanmar which could create misunderstanding between Myanmar and UN
Despite false accusations, disturbances, people witnessing development in Myanmar
All are to make efforts in unity to ensure perpetuation of the Union



U Tin Oo, executive of Kayah State USDA delivering an opening address at the mass meeting.— MNA

YANGON, 1 Aug — The mass meeting focusing “Guard against the danger posed by destructionists through united strength of the people ” was held at the City Hall in Loikaw, Kayah State, on 30 July.

Kayah State USDA U Tin Oo presided over the meeting with Secretary of Kayah State WVO Maj Myint Nyein (Retd), Joint Secretary of Loikaw District MCWA Daw Mya Kyin, Member of Kayah State WAO Daw Ni Ni

Panel of Chairman and those present saluted the State Flag.

Chairman U Tin Oo delivered an address. He said since Myanmar became a member of the UN on 19 April, 1948, it has been cooperating with

the UN agencies in implementing the tasks of the UN. However, some people made false accusations against Myanmar which could lead to misunderstanding between Myanmar and the UN, he added.

On behalf of the local people, he thanked FAO, UNICEF, UNDP and UNEP for their efforts for rural area development tasks in cooperation with ministries.

Though there were false accusations and disturbances, people witnessed the development in Myanmar.

Although some western countries imposed sanctions and put pressure on Myanmar in

favour of one party and one person in Myanmar, the government has built political, economic and social infrastructures which are necessary to build modern, developed nation. Moreover, it managed to build mutual understanding and trust among national brethren to make national reconsolidation strong. On 30 August, 2003, the government declared the seven-point Road Map. As part of implementing the road map step by step, National Convention has been reconvened.

All national people are to make efforts on the basis of patriotism and nationalism joining hands with the delegates of the

National Convention to finish the convention successfully.

In conclusion, he urged all participants to make efforts in unity to ensure the eternal existence of the Union, to actively participate in respective sectors for successful implementation of the seven-point Road Map with Union Spirit and to crush all destructive elements and to guard against the danger posed by destructionists through united strength of the people.

Daw Myint Myint Khaing, representative of Loikaw Township USDA, said now the National Convention is in progress (See page 9)

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Present were members of Kayah State Union Solidarity and Development Association, Myanmar Women’s Affairs’ Organization, Maternal and Child Welfare Association, Myanmar War Veterans’ Organization, Auxiliary Fire Brigade and Red Cross Society, townsenders and local people.

Win, Daw Khin Khin Aye of Myanmar Red Cross Society, U Soe Lwin of Auxiliary Fire Brigade and townsender U Khe Yae Hla Pe as members of the panel of chairmen.

Member of Loikaw Township USDA Daw Soe Soe Khaing acted as master of ceremonies with member of the township USDA Daw Nann Mo Mo San. First, members of

Executive of



The mass meeting focusing “Guard against the danger posed by destructionists through united strength of the people ” in progress in City Hall in Loikaw. — MNA

INSIDE

For company proprietors to conduct educative DVD courses through programmes to disseminate knowledge on the important role of industrialists, who are engaged in trading chemicals, in combating illegal production of drugs.