

**Patriotic spirit not based on correct thinking likely to make one chauvinist**

**A chauvinist with his false beliefs often becomes destructionist**

**Ensure thinking and convictions deeply informed by  
Our Three Main National Causes**

**Bearing allegiance to others either directly or indirectly  
instead of relying on oneself will lead to loss of sovereignty**



*Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Than Shwe delivers a speech at graduation parade of 10th Intake of Defence Services Technological Academy. — MNA*

NAY PYI TAW, 19 Dec— *The following is the speech delivered by Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Than Shwe at the graduation parade of the 10th Intake of Defence Services Technological Academy today.*

**Comrades,**

On this occasion of the graduation ceremony of the 10th Intake of Defence Services Technological Academy, I shall address serious issues that you should be aware of.

As you will soon be commissioned as Defence Services Engineers and junior leaders, you must, first of all, be good Tatmadawmen. You must also be dependable engineering professionals,

serving the duties of building a modern Tatmadaw and a modern developed nation.

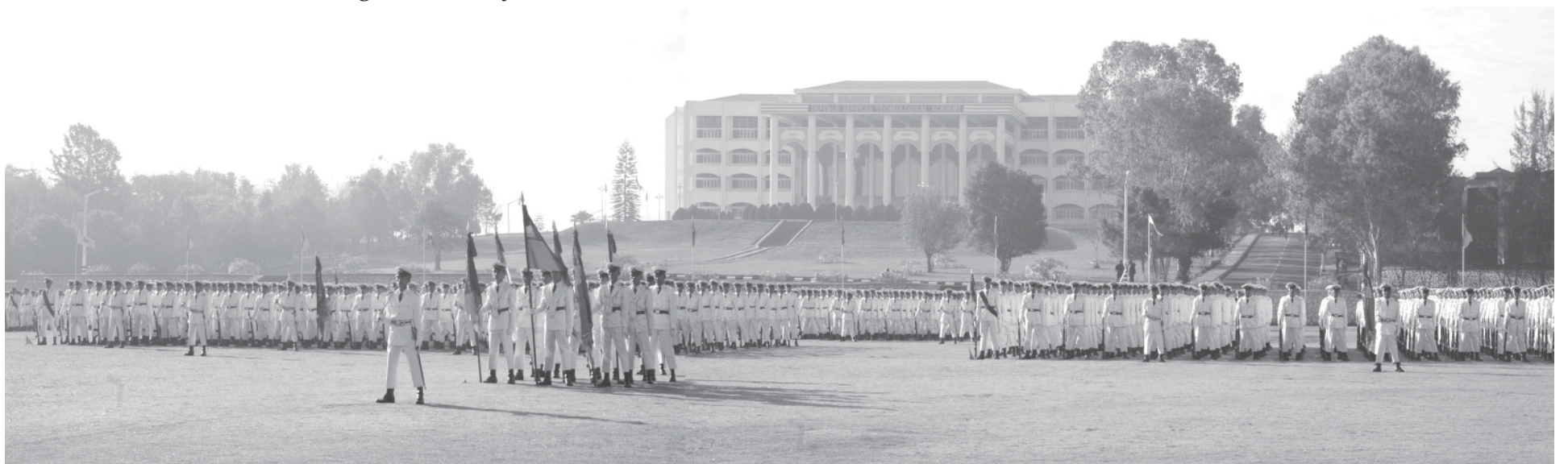
**Comrades,**

A good Tatmadawmen must be capable of carrying on the Twelve Traditions of the Tatmadaw.

Ours is the patriotic Tatmadaw with the resolve to serve the nation and the people even at the cost of our own lives. Life is what all living beings

value most; it is not something to be exchanged for any kind of privilege. We, who have no hesitation even to sacrifice our own lives, can sacrifice everything. It is because we dare to sacrifice individual interest that we are daring in serving the State and the people. The willingness to give up even one's life in the service of the State and the people is indeed a noble spirit.

*(See page 8)*



#### **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

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



## PERSPECTIVES

Thursday, 20 December, 2007

### Fossils found reveal the origin of human beings in Myanmar

Experts of the Ministry of Culture, the Ministry of Education and French palaeontologists conducted a field study of the environs of Paukkhaung, Magyeegan and Bahin Villages in Myaing Township in Magway Division in search of fossils from 19 November to 8 December this year.

The field study of the fossils in Pontaung region began in March 1997 with the assistance of the geologists from universities of the Ministry of Education.

Members of Myanmar-French expedition team discovered an upper molar of a primate, the fossils of two front teeth and the bone of a left thigh of a primate in Bahin and Magyeegan Villages in Myaing Township in Magway Division on 1 and 4 December.

The team also found jaw and teeth of the origins of goat and pig and teeth of other origins of carnivores in the region.

The French palaeontologists have carried out field work in Myanmar since 1998. They also conducted research work in 2005 joining hands with the Ministry of Culture and found more fossils.

The fossils they found is proof that human beings originated in Myanmar 40 million years ago. Moreover, the discovery of the articles and other belongings of successive periods and the fossils of primate reveal the existence of stone age culture in Myanmar.

The success of research on fossils by Myanmar-French palaeontologists and other interesting fossils support the fact that human beings originated in Myanmar.



*General Secretary of MGF U Aung Kyi delivers an address at a press briefing for holding Grand Royal Special Reserve Golf Championship. — MGF*

## 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

### Information Minister receives Chinese guests



*Minister Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan receives Mr Huang Baozhong, Vice-President of China Direct Broadcast Satellite Co Ltd, and Mr Li Xiaolong, a project manager of CDBS. — MNA*

YANGON, 19 Dec — Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan received Vice-President Mr Huang Baozhong and Project Manager Mr Li Xiaolong of China Direct Broadcast Satellite Co Ltd of the People's Republic of China on 17 December at

Myanma Radio and Television on Pyay Road, here.

Also present at the call were the director-general and managing directors and officials of the ministry.

MNA

### Grand Royal Special Reserve Golf Championship 2008 on 5 Jan

YANGON, 19 Dec —A press briefing for holding Grand Royal Special Reserve Golf Championship 2008 was held at Dusit Inya Lake Hotel, here this afternoon, attended by officials of the Ministry of Sports, General Secretary of Myanmar Golf Federation U Aung Kyi and executives, Design and Development Director of International Beverages Trading Co Ltd U Tint Oo and responsible persons, mediamen and guests.

First, the General Secretary of MGF made an opening address and executive U Chan Han gave accounts on matters related to the tournament.

Next, responsible persons answered the questions raised by those present.

Grand Royal Special Reserve Golf Championship 2008 is categorized into Qualify Round and Final Round. The qualify rounds will be held at Phan Khar Myay Golf Club in Magway on 5 and 6 January, Shwe Mann Taung Golf Club in Mandalay on 9 and 10 February and Yangon Golf Club on 28 and 29 February. The final rounds will take place at City Golf Resort here from 14 to 16 March.—MNA

### MANA holds 9th Annual Meeting



*Chairman of Myanmar Anti-Narcotics Association U San Thein presents prize to Dr Nay Win. — MNA*

YANGON, 19 Dec — The Myanmar Anti-Narcotics Association held its 9th annual meeting at the training hall of MANA (Head Office) on Kyuntaw Street in Kamayut Township this morning.

Chairman U San Thein of MANA made an opening speech on the occasion and presented a certificate of honour to honorary patron Dr Nay Win. The chairman accepted K 100,000 each donated by CEC members Dr Soe Myint and U Khun Myat (La Htaw), and K 200,000 by Chairman of Mon State Anti-Narcotics Association U Nay Win (Arrow Myanmar Enterprise Ltd).

Joint-Secretary U Myint Khine (Admin/Organizing) dealt with the new setup of MANA and sought approvals. Joint-Secretary U Tha Tun (International Relations) read out MANA Strategic Plan and MANA Operational Plan drawn by officials concerned of MANA.

Officials concerned replied to suggestions of CEC members.—MNA



## Senior CPC leader meets former Mongolian President

BEIJING, 18 Dec—Senior leader of the Communist Party of China (CPC) Wang Gang met here Monday with Nachagyn Bagabandy, former Mongolian president.

Wang, who is a member of the Political Bureau of the CPC Central Committee, hailed the relations between China and Mongolia, saying the bilateral relations have great potentials and a broad prospect.

The CPC and Mongolian People's Revolutionary Party (MPRP) have conducted in-depth exchanges and cooperation in recent years, which played an important role to push forward the all-round development of bilateral ties, said Wang.

MNA/Xinhua



An artist makes snow mascots for the 2008 Beijing Olympic Games at a ski resort in Urumqi, Xinjiang Uighur Autonomous Region, on 15 Dec, 2007.—INTERNET

## Vietnam, India to strengthen defence cooperation

HANOI, 19 Dec—Vietnam and India have agreed to negotiate to sign an agreement on their defence cooperation, local newspaper *Vietnam News* reported on Tuesday.

During the meeting between Vietnamese Prime Minister Nguyen Tan Dung and visiting Indian Defence Minister Shri AK Antony here Monday, the two sides also discussed issues on fostering the bilateral cooperation on navies and air defence forces, and training.

The move is seen as an initial step to the implementation of agreements on strategic partnerships signed during Dung's recent visit to India.

The Vietnamese Prime Minister highly appreciated the increasingly positive development in the two country's bilateral relations and multi-faceted cooperation.

MNA/Xinhua

## Israel kills 12 Palestinian militants in Gaza Strip

Gaza, 19 Dec—Israel killed at least 12 Palestinian militants in airstrikes in the Gaza Strip that marked on Tuesday its most deadly military response in months to frequent rocket attacks from the Hamas-controlled territory.

Islamic Jihad, the group behind many of the rocket launchings that have been disrupting life

in southern Israeli communities, said four of its members were killed as they walked out of a mosque in the Jabalya refugee camp in northern Gaza.

Hours earlier, airstrikes killed seven Islamic Jihad militants, including a senior Gaza commander, prompting the group to threaten suicide bombings inside the Jewish state.

Israel has not been hit by a suicide bombing in 11 months, a respite that has helped pave the way for renewed peace efforts with Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas, who opposes such attacks.

MNA/Reuters

## Gunmen kidnap French journalist in north Somalia

BOSASSO (Somalia), 18 Dec — Gunmen in Somalia's northern Puntland region kidnapped a French journalist on Sunday, the

area's deputy governor said. "A French journalist has been kidnapped by unknown gunmen," Yusuf Mumin Bidde told *Reuters*. "Puntland security officials are now meeting on that issue." He had no information on the identity of the reporter or his media organization. The reporter's driver told *Reuters* the attack took place some 70 kilometres (45 miles) east of Puntland's main town of Bosasso. "I, with the translator, tried to talk to the gunmen who demanded a 70,000-US-dollar ransom," Omar

Ahmed said. He said the journalist was working on a story about Somali migrants being smuggled to Yemen.—MNA/Reuters

BAGHDAD, 18 Dec — An American soldier died of a non-combat related injury in area north of Baghdad on Monday, the US military said.

The incident took place near the Camp Taji, a US military base, some 30 kilometres north of Baghdad, the military said in a statement.

The soldier died of his fatal wounds after being transported to a nearby

military medical facility for emergency treatment, it said. The latest death brings the number of US soldiers killed in Iraq to

about 3,895 since the Iraq war broke out in March 2003, according to media count based on Pentagon figures.—MNA/Xinhua



Yakushima monkeys gather around a bonfire at Japan Monkey Park in Inuyama, central Japan on 19 Dec, 2007. The seasonal tradition at the park will be opened to public on Saturday.

INTERNET

## Japanese PM apologizes over missing pension premiums

TOKYO, 18 Dec — Japanese Prime Minister Yasuo Fukuda apologized on Monday for his ruling party's handling of a public pensions crisis, after seeing his support rating stumble in polls.

Fukuda offered the apology after the health minister admitted last week that the government might never be able

to sort out some of the 50 million public pension accounts found earlier to have been mishandled by officials.

"It is true that there were misleading expressions," Fukuda said of a flyer prepared by the ruling Liberal Democratic Party for its campaign for a July upper house election, according to *Kyodo News*

agency.

The LDP pledged in the flyer to sort out the pensions muddle by the end of March. "I must apologize," Fukuda was quoted as telling reporters.

Public outrage over the bungled pension records was a big factor in the ruling camp's huge loss in the July poll.

MNA/Reuters

The mother ship of the Japanese whaling fleet leaves Shimonoseki Port recently.

INTERNET





# Bomb attack in Thai south, injures two soldiers

BANGKOK, 18 Dec— Two soldiers were injured in a bomb attack at an abandoned bus station in Thailand’s violence- torn far southern province Yala on Monday.

The two victims, Sergeant Anuchit Thipsing, 24, and Sergeant Surapon Kaewcharoen, 26, who were on a routine patrol on Tasap-Lammai road in Muang District (provincial seat) of Yala Province, were taking a rest at an abandoned bus station when the bomb went off, according to *The Nation* news website.

Both soldiers were taken to a nearby hospital for wounds inflicted by shrapnel.

It is believed that suspected militants planted explosives at the bus station after observing the patrol unit’s route and learning that they usually stopped at the bus station, the report said. Police said the militants may have triggered the explosion by remote control.

Yala and its two neighbouring provinces of Narathiwat and Pattani on Thailand’s southern border have been going through a renewed round of insurgent unrest since January 2004. Authorities blamed separatist militants for launching almost daily attacks in the region, killing over 2,500 people in the past four years.

MNA/Xinhua



A Ferris wheel named “Tianjin Eye” is seen after completion on the Yongle Bridge, Tianjin Municipality, on 18 Dec, 2007. —INTERNET

## ADB provides \$100m loan for China’s railway system

MANILA, 18 Dec— The Asian Development Bank (ADB) is providing a 100-million-US-dollar loan to help develop an efficient

and effective emergency management system for China’s railway system.

The Railway Safety Enhancement Project will also receive 40 million dollars from the Ministry of Railways to complete the funding requirement, ADB said in a statement released on Monday.

The new technology will enable the railway system to respond more quickly to emergencies, reduce restoration time and enhance safety, it said.

The successful implementation of the project will lead to improved reliability, higher mobility, increased network capacity, optimal use of the railway network and other related assets, and increased staff productivity, the regional lender said.

At the end of 2006,

China’s railway system spanned 77,000 kilometres. The country’s rail system has the highest freight transport density in the world and the second highest passenger transport density next to Japan, the Bank said.

MNA/Xinhua

## Floods in Malaysia worsen, 26 die

KUALA LUMPUR, 19 Dec — The number of deaths caused by the floods in Malaysia stood at 26 and thousands more forced to flee homes on Monday, local media reported on Tuesday.

For the first time, the Royal Malaysian Air Force used a transport aircraft to air-drop food supplies in central state of Pahang on Monday for distribution to relief centres cut off by floodwaters. Northern Kelantan State, meanwhile, continued to suffer the most as the number of evacuees in the state more than doubled.

A police spokesman said 8,066 residents had been moved from their flood-hit homes to relief centres. On Sunday, the figure stood at 3,501.

MNA/Xinhua



The Australian Customs icebreaker “Oceanic Viking” is seen in this undated handout photograph made available on 19 Dec, 2007. —INTERNET

## German national kidnapped in W Afghanistan

KABUL, 18 Dec— A German has been kidnapped by unknown persons in western Afghan province of Herat, a local police official said Monday.

The man, kidnapped on Sunday, converted to Islam four years ago and has been living in Herat City as a carpenter, the official told *Xinhua* on condition of anonymity, saying he is not authorized to speak to the media.

“The German married an Afghan lady, who had not been divorced by her ex-husband,” the official said. “Enmity might be behind the kidnapping.”

Herat’s provincial police chief, Mohham Juma Azim, is said to be with a meeting, when his phone was reached by *Xinhua*.

MNA/Xinhua

## Scientists find giant rat in Indonesia

JAKARTA, 18 Dec— Scientists have found two mammals believed new to science on the latest expedition to an almost lost world in Indonesia’s Papua Province Conservation International (CI) said in a statement on Monday.

Scientists from CI and the Indonesia Institute of Science (LIPI) visited the Foja Mountains in June 2007, following a first trip to the area in late 2005 that saw them discover dozens of new plants and animals.

“During the June expedition, the team documented two mammals, a *Mallomys* giant rat and a *Carcartetus* pygmy pos-



An undated handout picture received on 18 December 2007 from Conservation International shows mammalogist Martua Sinaga holding a 1.4 kg *Mammolys* rat, discovered in the Foja Mountains of Papua province, Indonesia, in June 2007.

INTERNET

sum, one of the world’s smallest marsupials, both currently under study and apparently new to science,” CI said in the statement. “The giant rat is about five times the size of a typical city rat. With no fear of humans, it apparently came into the camp several times during the trip,” said Kristofer Helgen, a scientist with the Smithsonian Institution in Washington, DC.

The scientists also recorded the mating displays of several rare and little-known birds for the first time.

MNA/Xinhua



Villagers purchase meat in preparation for the upcoming festival of Eid al-Adha at a flooded street stall in Rantau Panjang in Malaysia’s northeast state of Kelantan on 19 Dec, 2007. —INTERNET





*Honda Motor Co President Takeo Fukui introduces the all new Inspire sedan during a year-end news conference in a Tokyo hotel on 19 Dec, 2007. —INTERNET*

## Singapore's non-oil export drops 3.4% in November

SINGAPORE, 18 Dec—Singapore's mainstay export, the non-oil domestic export (NODX), declined by 3.4 per cent year-on-year in November, reversing six months of increases, largely due to a drop in electronic NODX, the government said on Monday.

Domestic exports of electronic goods sustained ten consecutive months of contraction, dropping by 8.2 per cent in the month, due to lower domestic exports of Information computer system (ICs), telecommunications equipments and parts of PCs, said Singapore's trade promotion agency, the International Enterprise Singapore (IE Singapore).

Growth of non-electronic NODX was flat at

0.2 per cent in the month, down from the previous month's 20 per cent rise.

The flat growth was contributed by higher domestic exports of specialized machinery, non monetary gold, electrical machinery and primary chemicals.

However, most of these increases were offset by the 21 per cent contraction in pharmaceutical domestic exports in the month, said IE Singapore.

The main export to the top 10 markets, except China's Hong Kong, South Korea, Thailand, Malaysia, Japan, Taiwan, the United States and China, decreased in November.

The largest contributors to the NODX decline were the EU and

Indonesia. The NODX to China rose 0.6 per cent while to the United States rose slightly by 0.5 per cent, and to the EU dropped by 32 per cent, said IE Singapore.

*MNA/Xinhua*

## Vietnam to export some key industrial items in 2008

HANOI, 18 Dec — Vietnam is expected to export some key industrial items, including crude oil and coal next year, local newspaper *Investment* reported Monday.

Specifically, the country is expected to export 16 million tons of crude oil with average price of 78 US dollars per barrel in 2008, the paper quoted a report of the Vietnamese Ministry of Industry and Trade.

Vietnam is also

expected to ship abroad 30 million tons of coal next year, equaling to the export volume estimated for this year.

Meanwhile, exports of some other items such as textiles, garments, footwear, woodwork and electric components are forecast to see high growths. Vietnam reaped year-on-year export turnover growth of 20 per cent to over 43.6 billion US dollars in the first 11 months of this year,

including over 7.5 billion dollars from shipping abroad crude oil, nearly 7.1 billion dollars from textiles and garments, over 3.5 billion dollars from footwear, and 899 million dollars from coal, according to the country's General Statistics Office.

The country has eyed export revenues of 57.6-58.6 billion dollars in 2008, up from estimated 48 billion dollars in 2007, and 39.6 billion dollars in 2006. — *MNA/Xinhua*

## ECONOMIC NEWS

### China marks out zone for sustainable development

BEIJING, 18 Dec—Cluster of cities in central China has been designated the country's latest

experimental zone, this one for energy saving and environmentally friendly programmes, state media

reported on Monday.

China has a history of marking out zones for preferential policies which, if successful, are then rolled out across the country. Its most famous were the "special economic zones" of the south which launched the country's market reforms 30 years ago.

Now the Hunan cities of Changsha, Zhuzhou and Xiangtan — late chairman Mao Zedong's hometown — as well as the Hubei capital of Wuhan, will be targeted to lead China's drive to make its breakneck economic growth more environmentally sustainable. — *MNA/Reuters*



*Workers sort helmets at a factory in Hanoi on 11 Dec, 2007. Vietnamese motorcyclists appear to be complying with a new rule that gives them no choice but to wear a crash helmet, the latest drive to reduce the unacceptably high road traffic toll. —INTERNET*

## British Govt boosts lost pension rescue scheme

LONDON, 18 Dec— The government announced more help on Monday for 141,000 people who lost their pensions when their company schemes were wound up.

Work and Pensions Secretary Peter Hain said a state-backed fund will be boosted by 935 million pounds to guarantee 90 per cent of the value of the pensions. Hain said the improvements represent "a generous and appropriate final settlement" for workers who had lost their pensions through no fault of their own.

The changes to the government's Financial Assistance Scheme (FAS) will affect workers whose pension schemes collapsed between January 1997 and April 2005. Since 2005, workers' company pensions have been backed by the industry-funded Pension Protection Fund (PPF), which offered better terms.

*MNA/Reuters*

## Indonesia's coal reserves put at 5.3 bln tons

JAKARTA, 18 Dec— Indonesia has proven coal reserves of 5.3 billion tons with Kalimantan Island keeping 83 per cent of the deposits, an official said Monday.

Kalimantan Island holds some 4.40 billion tons of coal deposits while the rest is detected on Sumatra Island, said Calvin Gurusinga, a spokesman for the geological resources center with the Ministry of Energy and Mineral Resources.

*MNA/Xinhua*

*A tiger takes food as a pied magpie walks past in China Hengdaohezi Feline Breeding Center in the suburbs of Harbin, capital of northeast China's Heilongjiang Province, on 9 Dec, 2007. □*

INTERNET





# Attempts to harm amicable ties (2)

*Kyaw Min Lu (Shwepyitha)*

I noticed a news story about the death of Japanese photo correspondent who died accidentally in the September incidents aired recently by RFA. It is common knowledge that certain radio stations have aired stories about his death repeatedly. Based on compelling evidences, I wrote an article ‘**Attempts to harm amicable ties**’ in order that the case did not have any adverse effects on the ties between the two countries. I think the people read it. Recently, RFA again broadcast a new story about his death, and the broadcast impelled me to write another article that is the sequel of the first article.

In the news story, RFA said that the 22 November issue of Shukan Bunshu Magazine disclosed that Kengi Nagai was not interested in Myanmar, but the APF News Agency, with which he had signed an agreement, forced him to cover news about the incidents in Myanmar. The headline of the story was Toru Yamaji, in charge of APF News Agency, making economic benefits from death of correspondent Kengi Nagai. It was said that the story was based on what Japanese woman (the article said Nagai was her adopted son), who lived in Thailand and was friendly with Nagai. The story of RFA was about a lawsuit filed against the publisher of the magazine and the writer, saying that the article slandered Nagai and embarrassed his family, so the family claimed more than five million Yen as compensation. He has met his tragic end. After listening to the news, one can guess what is happening in the family, resulting from his death.

The incident has been long, and I have explained time and again that his death was just an accident. Despite many explanations about his accidental death, many persons and radio stations are still self-opinionated about the death.

The article in the Shukan Bunshu Magazine said that Mr Nagai did not want to go to Myanmar till the last moment; that he had to do so under the instruction of head of the news agency Toru Yamaji; that Nagai did not know about Myanmar at all, nor did he take interest in democracy movements; and that holding the camera openly and taking photos of the security guards in a face-to-face position in collecting news was very dangerous and it was an improper way. It also said that the head of the news agency praised Nagai as a democratic hero after the death of Nagai, who visited Myanmar unwillingly, and was making benefits through various news stories about the death, claiming that it was required to realize Kengi Nagai’s wish. Personally, I think he has made a lot of benefits by daily creating programmes in memory of Nagai.

The harshest accusation was that a security unit shot Kengi Nagai at close range. Kyauktada Police Station opened homicide case No 6/2007 regarding Nagai’s death, and then Yangon General Hospital carried out the case under PR 013. According to the postmortem conducted by the forensic doctor, the bullet penetrated the body from the part below the left shoulder in the back through the right chest. The entrance of the bullet hole was narrow and the exit was wide, and no burning, no gunpowder fouling and no tattooing were found. Therefore, it can be deduced that he was shot at a range of at least 30 yards. If he had been shot at close range, such

findings would not have been discovered. So, it has become vivid what is right and what is wrong.

In the previous article, I presented that Nagai visited the nation holding tourist visa and tried to cover the news. He met his tragic end because he failed to apply for journalist visa and collected the news illegally. If he held a journalist visa, he would enjoy due security measures. It was undeniable that he visited the nation in a dishonest way.

At that time, Section 144 was in force, and he went to a restricted area. So, after all, he was to blame. The tape circulated in Japan carries the voices “Dangerous, dangerous, shooting, shooting” and “Never mind”. I do not know why he went to the restricted area despite his knowledge about possible risk.

The security troops took measures in accordance with Aid to Civil Power. Aid to Civil Power had been vested in the troops since 1 pm on 26 September 2007, so at the time the troops had power to open fire to disperse the crowd. According to the international procedures, the people in the forefront are to be dealt with first. So, Mr Nagai who at the time was in the

the camera into the nation.

But the video programme aired in Japan has shown that a police officer confiscated a thing beside a person who fell down and propaganda spread that the stuff was a camera. So the authorities concerned explained to the Japanese ambassador that it was just a video trap and a trick could be seen after the incident had been looked into. As far as I remember, the man who was lying on the ground had nothing in his hands. Mr Nagai carried a bag. The place where the man fell down and its background were not the same as those shown on video. And neither were the images of the security guards. There was a difference between those wearing red hats and those wearing no hats. It is clear that the video tape the Japan news agencies produced was a trap. No officer picked up and kept Nagai’s camera. He carried no camera. It is rather difficult to return his stuff that he did not actually bring with him.

From the legal point of view, who is responsible for the death of Mr Nagai? He, despite being a correspondent, entered the country on a tourist visa. He did not act like a tourist. He came to the

**From the legal point of view, who is responsible for the death of Mr Nagai? He, despite being a correspondent, entered the country on a tourist visa. He did not act like a tourist. He came to the dangerous place where Section-144 was in force. He spoke ‘Never mind’ in English with Japanese accent. He did not declare his camera in the customs declaration form. These facts show who is to blame.**

forefront was hit. It should be understood that at that time, there were a large number of people and it was impossible to identify who was who. Indeed, measures were taken in conformity with the procedures.

After Mr Nagai fell down to the ground, some duty-conscious public members collected his belongings and sent him to the hospital. The policemen taking charge of duties at the hospital accepted his property from the public members who sent him, before the witnesses. And they informed the Japanese embassy and handed over 22 kinds of possessions to it. After they handed over the belongings, the embassy noticed that his Sony brand camera was missing. However, the airport declaration form did not show any Sony brand camera. He was the one who knew best that he did not bring the camera or he illegally brought

dangerous place where Section-144 was in force. He spoke ‘Never mind’ in English with Japanese accent. He did not declare his camera in the customs declaration form. These facts show who is to blame. The decision of the judge has proved that he was accidentally killed in the violence according to the report of a forensic doctor who performed an autopsy. If we review the facts the place where the incident happened and the uniforms of the security guards were all different and that the stuff the police officer picked up was a water bottle, not a camera, the news broadcast was merely a video trap.

In reality, Japan-Myanmar friendly ties have been cemented. The two countries are from Asia and  
(See page 7)



# KNU insurgents committing all destructive acts mine and attack passenger bus, killing 8 and wounding 6

NAY PYI TAW, 19 Dec—KNU insurgents are constantly committing all destructive acts such as undermining stability of the State, community peace and tranquillity and prevalence of law and order, killing and bullying innocent people, detonating bombs, armed robberies, collecting extortion money, and burning public property.

At 7.45 am yesterday, about seven KNU insurgents detonated a mine and fired small arms at a passenger bus on its way to Myawady from Kawkareik, at a place between Aukbote and Yedagunlay. In the incident, Ma Zin Mar Htwe, 30, of Bilin Township, and her baby, Maung Nay Win, 20, and Maung Sein Tun Naing, 19, of Kyaukkyi Township, Ma San San Htwe, 25, of Kyaikto Township, Daw Mi Reh, 42, of Kawkareik Township, Ma Hla Kyi, 36, of Bilin Township, and Saw Pe Aung of DKBA, totalling 8 were killed and U Zar Law Kay,



A body of a man killed in an attack of KNU insurgents. — MNA



33, of Hlaingbwe Township, Daw Nu Khin, 70, of Kamamaung Township, U Maung Hnin, 80, of Kawkareik Township, Maung Min Zeyar Soe, 19, of Kyaukkyi Township, Ma Win Nanda, 5, of Hpa-an Township and Saw Myo of DKBA, totalling 6 were wounded.

Officials concerned rushed the wounded to Kawkareik People’s Hospital and provided necessary assistance for them. Tatmadaw columns were in hot pursuit of the insurgents.

MNA

A body of a woman killed in an attack of KNU insurgents. — MNA

## WHO team arrives to probe Pakistan bird flu cases

ISLAMABAD, 18 Dec — A World Health Organization team headed for Pakistan’s North West Frontier Province on Monday to investigate how eight people were infected with bird flu, after the country reported its first human death from the virus.

Health officials confirmed at the weekend that eight people had tested positive for H5N1 in the province since late October, of which one person, who worked in a poultry farm, died.

A brother of the dead person, who had not been tested, also died. It was not yet clear if he was a victim of bird flu. “The team will investigate whom the affected people were in contact with, whether they visited poultry farms or affected persons,” Health Secretary Khushnood Akhtar Lashari told Reuters. “The other people tested positive were not from the poultry farm. Five of them have recovered while two were still being treated.”

MNA/Reuters

## Attempts to harm amicable...

(from page 6)

have the same faith in Buddhism. Their relations have existed for a very long time. During the Second World War, the Japanese soldiers launched the offensive against the allied troops by getting stationed in the Myanmar land. The Japanese and Myanmar soldiers used to be comrades. Although our country fought against the Japanese for independence, it is no longer needed to say who is the winner and who the loser. The mutual cooperation has indicated the long-lasting friendship between the two countries.

I am not writing this article to argue who is right and who is wrong between the two peoples of the countries, which have forged the mutual friendship. But it is necessary to decide everything in a fair and just way. It is regrettable that there was political instigation and the true situation was hidden. Actually, the incident was very simple and a person among the protesters was accidentally killed. It was really a coincidence. In addition to a Japanese, about ten Myanmars died in the incident. He was not shot deliberately and no act was committed against the law. Measures were taken step by step in accord with the procedures of Aid to Civil Power. I would like to see the one-sided media that are still broadcasting

fabricated news understand the true situation. In particular, we don’t want hatred to exist long. By nature, Myanmar people have patience, sympathy and understanding according to the Teachings of the Buddha. We no longer have hatred toward the Japanese Fascists and anti-Japan sentiments although our country suffered terribly in World War II. Although we can forget it as we are forward-looking people, some countries with similar experiences still have anti-Japan feelings. It is known to all.

Though our country and the people are magnanimous, Japanese media are still making profits by exaggerating the death of Mr Kengyi Nagai. I cannot say how many people are there like Head of APF Toru Yamaji, who wrote a news article about Mr Nagai in Shukan Bunshu magazine. Some Japanese news agencies repeatedly broadcast news stories about Mr Nagai’s visit to Myanmar distributed by some people, briefings of Japanese Foreign Affairs Ministry, demonstrations staged in front of the Myanmar Embassy in Tokyo, the protests that happened in Myanmar and rumours spread by some Myanmars who are in Japan, including the scenes featured in the said video tape.

The media are profiting at the expense of the death but those Japanese media should be aware of the fact that there might be misunderstanding between the peoples of the two countries. And consequently, it might

adversely affect the friendly relations. The matter should be taken seriously. The duty of the media is tremendous. It is necessary to maintain the dignity by presenting the public authentic news. For the peoples of the two countries, they need to know the true situation by discarding the instigation of the media.

As for us, like all the Japanese people and Mr Nagai’s family, we are very sorry for the accidental death of a Japanese man. We have sympathy and understanding. That was why the dead body of Mr Nagai was sent to his country. As they insisted that he brought his Sony camera with him, we tried to look for it anyhow. We did it for the good sake of his bereaved family. But it was clear that he brought no camera as he did not mention in the declaration form.

In a nutshell, Japan-Myanmar relations have existed for long with mutual respect based on mutual friendship. In the long run also, both the governments and the peoples want to maintain such friendship and amity. I am writing this article so that the mutual friendship between the two countries may not be damaged due to some biased news agencies that are fabricating and exaggerating news stories. So I warn that we need to realize the ulterior motive of such news agencies and stay away from them.

(Translation: MS+ST)

Myanma Alin+Kyemon:19-12-2007





Senior General Than Shwe presents Best Cadet Award to Cadet Kyaw Myo Aung.  
MNA



Senior General Than Shwe presents excellent study award to Cadet Aung Myint Than.  
MNA



Senior General Than Shwe presents excellent training award to Cadet Tin Hsan Oo.  
MNA

**Patriotic spirit not based on in correct thinking likely to...**

(from page 1)  
**Comrades,**  
In the Twelve Traditions of the Tatmadaw, Causes come easy to a person with the patriotic spirit. For this reason, you comrades must have a strong

integration of the Union, Non-disintegration of National Solidarity and the Perpetuation of Sovereignty.  
**Comrades,**  
Our country has malice, strong good will, helpfulness born of metta (loving kindness), compassion, a keen sense of national prestige and a strong patriotic spirit.  
(See page 9)

The motto, “*The strength of the nation lies only within*”, primarily refers to the patriotic spirit. The patriotic spirit is the single ultimate source of strength. Strong unity among all the national people with patriotic spirit is the best guarantee for the perpetuation of sovereignty and the best defence against any kind of threat the State may face.



Senior General Than Shwe meets with three outstanding cadets and their parents at the hall of DSTA. — MNA

the patriotic spirit is vital. Such traditions as good discipline, loyalty, capability, a willingness to make sacrifices and be daring, the relegation of one’s individual interests, a noble spirit, courage and the capability to surmount difficulties, resilience against hardships, persistence, industry and perseverance, and the upholding Our Three Main National

patriotic spirit.  
**Comrades,**  
The patriotic spirit that is not based on correct thinking is likely to make one a chauvinist. A chauvinist with his false beliefs often becomes a destructionist. So, you comrades must ensure that your thinking and convictions are deeply informed by Our Three Main National Causes—Non-dis-

more than 100 national races. Our nationalities have shared the same land and water for many years and we grew up together. Difficulties in transportation may have given rise to differences in languages and the varied climates may have led to a wide range of traditional dress, but our nationals share such characteristics as freedom from





Patriotic spirit not based on ...

(from page 8)  
Our nationals move freely within the country in search of improved livelihood opportunities. The national groups are spread all over Myanmar and they live harmoniously together just as a line cannot be drawn to divide water. I would like to say that a keen love of the Union is required to ward off threats of disintegration against the Union.

**Comrades,**  
The motto, “The strength of the nation lies only within”, primarily refers to the patriotic spirit. The patriotic spirit is the single ultimate source of strength. Strong unity among all the national people with patriotic spirit is the best guarantee for the perpetuation of sovereignty and the best defence against any kind of threat the State may face. Bearing allegiance to others either directly or indirectly instead of relying on oneself will lead to the loss of sovereignty.

For this reason, you comrades must have a strong patriotic spirit and a keen sense of national prestige.  
**Comrades,**  
As engineering professionals, your main duty will be the building of the modern Tatmadaw, but at the same time, you must also serve the State. So you need to be outstanding scientists and technologists.

To ensure this, the



Senior General Than Shwe inspects cadet companies at graduation parade of 10th Intake of DSTA.— MNA

Defence Services Technological Academy must ensure that its graduates are well on their way to carrying out research in addition to providing training. The Academy itself has to be a centre of excellence in creativity and innovation while you comrades make increasing efforts to achieve innovations, constantly utilizing the guidance provided by the Academy.

Only then will you become good sons on whom the State can depend.

**Comrades,**  
You will soon be commissioned as junior leaders and each of you have to build up your leadership abilities. In addition to battlefield leadership, you will need professional leadership skills. To be a successful leader on the battlefield, the Three Capabilities are



Dignitaries at the graduation parade of 10th Intake of DSTA. — MNA

necessary: the military capability, the administrative capability and the organizational capability. You have to be exemplary in matters of ethical conduct and make every effort to practise the Sixteen

Characteristics of Leadership. You must be capable of ensuring the unity of the unit under your command at all times. You must be daring, courageous and practise the Principal Factors that Lead

to Military Victory. Only then, will you have earned your position as a junior leader and win the respect, trust and confidence of your subordinates.  
For professional leadership, creativity and in-

novation are crucial. You have to be committed to and absorbed in research activities. In the technical fields, both outstanding individual efforts and team innovations are required.  
(See page 10)



Dignitaries at the graduation parade of 10th Intake of DSTA. — MNA



## Patriotic spirit not based on...

(from page 9)

I would like to urge you comrades to make collective endeavours to win the Outstanding Scientist Medals and the Outstanding Technologist Medals conferred by the State.

**Comrades,**

To sum up, in line with the aims of the Defence Services Technological Academy, I urge you to

- \* strive to become good professionals and good sons serving the national defence duty;
- \* participate with energy and vigour in the development of the Science and Technology of the Tatmadaw and the building of a modern Tatmadaw;
- \* ensure that you become the new generation of leaders who will defend the Twelve Traditions of the Tatmadaw, even with your lives; and
- \* join in the activities for the building of a modern developed nation, just as you work for the development of the Science and Technology of the Tatmadaw.

With this, I conclude my speech.—MNA



*Dignitaries at the graduation parade of 10th Intake of DSTA. — MNA*

## ASEAN Railways CEOs' meet



*Minister Maj-Gen Aung Min, officials and diplomats pose for documentary photo at 29th ASEAN Railways CEOs' Conference.—MNA*

NAY PYI TAW, 19 Dec — The 29th ASEAN Railways CEOs' Conference was held at Sedona Hotel in Yangon this morning, with an address by Minister for Rail Transportation Maj-Gen Aung Min.

Also present at the conference were Deputy Minister Thura U Thaung Lwin, Railways CEOs and senior officers from ASEAN countries such as Cambodia, Indonesia, Thailand, Myanmar, Laos, Malaysia and Vietnam, ambassadors, diplomats and officials of foreign embassies.

Minister Maj-Gen Aung Min made an opening speech.

The delegates were entertained with Myanmar traditional songs and

dances.

The minister posed for a documentary photo together with ASEAN Railways CEOs, senior officers, diplomats, and officials.

The conference saw different sessions as CEO Group Session of ASEAN Railways CEOs, Technical Working Group Session of ASEAN Railway Technicians, Marketing and Operation Working Group Session.

The conference discussed matters on practising of market-oriented system and transportation among the ASEAN countries, development in railway services and difficulties encountered, opening the training schools for the development of railway

works and technical sectors, the preparation of ASEAN countries for ASEAN railway and future programmes.

The conference will last till 21 December.

MNA

## Myanmar, Thailand coordinate anti-drug measures

NAY PYI TAW, 19 Dec—The 12th Myanmar-Thailand meeting on narcotic drugs control took place here on 17 and 18 December.

The 17-member Myanmar side was led by Secretary of the Central Committee for Drug Abuse Control Director-General of the Myanmar Police

Force Brig-Gen Khin Yi. The 12-member Thai side was led by senior adviser to the ONCB Mr Chartchal Suthiklom, and the Thai Ambassador to Myanmar.

The meeting focused on bilateral cooperation, exchanging information and reciprocal help in anti-narcotics programmes.—MNA

## Nikon DSLR D300, D3 introduced

YANGON, 18 Dec — Nikon brand DSLR D300 and D3 were introduced today at Traders Hotel here.

DSLR D300 and D3 are manufactured by the Nikon to mark the 90<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Nikon.

D300 is all-new 12.3 effective megapixel Nikon DX-format CMOS image sensor with integrated A/D converter and the increased bit precision of selectable 14-bit NEF (Raw) output. It has 3-inch LCD screen with 920,000-dot resolution and with capability for ISO ranging

from 100 to 6,400. Its 51-point auto focus system can feature 15 cross-type sensors and can perform rapid 8 fps or 6 fps continuous shooting for up to 100 shots. Nikon's latest model is equipped with self-cleaning sensor unit for dust-reduction.

D3 is FX Format CMOS Image Sensor Camera and can produce 12.1 megapixel images. It can also perform 9 fps (FX), 9 (fps) (5:4) and 11 fps (DX) continuous shooting due to its 51-point Auto focus system. The latest camera can boost ISO

from 100 to 25,600. Its LCD Screen size has three inches and is equipped with the liveview with 920,000 pixel resolution.

Special Style Photo & Electronic Co provide one-year guarantee for D300 and D3. Nikon's two latest models and other Nikon brand cameras are available at the sales room of the Special Style Photo & Electronic Co at No W-1, Gyopu Street, west of Aung San Stadium, Mingalar Taung Nyunt (ph 01-386935, 252953, 4412609). — MNA



*Managing Director of Special Style Photo & Electronics U Maung Maung Win speaking at a ceremony to introduce Nikon D300 and D3 cameras. — MNA*



## Quality and services of Daewoo products introduced



*U Zaw Weik of OK Myanmar Co Ltd introduces Daewoo electronic products. — MNA*

YANGON, 19 Dec — OK Myanmar Co Ltd introduced quality and services of Daewoo electronic products at Excel Treasure Hotel in Bahan Township this afternoon.

Member of the Board of Directors of OK Myanmar Co Ltd U Zaw Weik extended greetings.

Responsible persons of the company explained quality and services of Daewoo products, sales and services of Daewoo sales agents, manufacturing of products with the use of advanced technologies, arrangements of the company to provide warranty and maintenance service to the customers and replied to the questions raised by journalists.

After the ceremony, the journalists viewed Daewoo electronic products and spare parts manufactured by Daewoo Electronic Corporation.

OK Myanmar Co Ltd is sole agent for distribution of Daewoo electronic products in Myanmar. These products

that have been examined under quality test were manufactured from Daewoo factories of the Republic of Korea. The company and sales agents distribute products to various townships throughout the country and provide service and warranty for all customers as well as those of Yangon and Mandalay. For further information, everybody may contact Daewoo electronics sales agents of countryside and OK

Myanmar (Head Office) at 163, Bo Aung Kyaw Road, Tel: 377627, 392986, 392987 and 392997, Daewoo Showroom (Yangon) at 175, Bo Aung Kyaw Road, Tel: 256947, HQ (1), Showroom at 124, Maha Bandoola Garden Street, Tel: 376997, HQ (1), Show-room at 201-203, Pansodan Street, Tel: 241077 and 387644, (Nay Pyi Taw) Pyinmana Sale & Service Centre at Ya-4/28, Yanaung Ward 1,

BOC, Nay Pyi Taw Pyinmana, Tel: 067-22953, (Mandalay) Daewoo Showroom at 135, 84th Street between 30thx31st Streets, Tel: 02-31582. For service task, everybody may contact Yangon Service Centre at the corner of Aungthabye and Padauk streets, the back ward of Yuzana Plaza, Mingala Taungnyunt Township, Tel: 299401, 298491, 09-99-26582.

MNA



*Daewoo electronic products being displayed at introduction ceremony.*

MNA

## Veterinary medicines exhibition, workshops on 23, 24 Dec

YANGON, 19 Dec—With the sponsorship of Myanmar Livestock Breeding Federation (Mandalay Division) and Livestock Breeding and Veterinary Department (Mandalay Division), the Third Executives Election of Myanmar Livestock Breeding Federation (Mandalay Division) will be held in conjunction with staging of veterinary medicines exhibition and holding of workshops at the office of the department in Mandalay on 23 and 24 December.

The two-day ceremony will include veterinary medicines exhibition by 21 local and foreign companies and research paper reading by LBVD.

Myanmar Livestock Breeding Federation (Mandalay Division) and Livestock Breeding and Veterinary Department (Mandalay Division) has invited district and township level departmental officials of Mandalay Division, executives of the Division, District and Township MLBFs and relevant entrepreneurs to attend the ceremony, it is learnt.

MNA

## 2nd Inter-School Cricket Challenge Shield 2007-2008 continues

YANGON, 19 Dec — Jointly organized by Myanmar Cricket Federation and No 3 Basic Education Department, the 2nd Inter-School Cricket Challenge Shield 2007-2008 continued at Bahan Cricket Training Ground in Bahan Township, here, this morning.

President of the federation U Nyunt Win and executives, Deputy Director of the department U San Aung and officials and cricket fans viewed the challenge.

In the boys' event, Lanmadaw BEHS 1 beat Tamway BEHS 3 by 37 runs. Ahlon BEHS 4 threw away Mingala Taungnyunt BEHS 4 by 1 run.

In the girls' event, Kyimyindine BEHS 3 edged out Ahlon BEHS 4 by 3 wickets and Tamway BEHS 3 defeated Dagon BEHS 2 by 7 wickets.

Semifinals will be held at 7 am on 20 December.

MNA

## UMFCCI executives leave for PRC

YANGON, 19 Dec — A three-member Myanmar delegation led by Executive U Aung Khin Myint of the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry left here by air for the People's Republic of China on 16 December to attend the Training Course on GMS Human

Resource Development and Cooperation which will be held in Kunming, China from 17 to 20 December.

They were seen off at Yangon International Airport by General Secretary of UMFCCI U Sein Win Hlaing and officials.

MNA



*A delegation of UMFCCI poses for documentary photo at Yangon International Airport before departure for China. — UMFCCI*



ADVERTISEMENT

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV ADMIRE CORAL VOY NO (6)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV ADMIRE CORAL VOY NO (6) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 20.12.2007 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the 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: EASTERN CAR LINER LTD

Phone No: 256924/256914

Philippines, Britain  
open joint methane  
power plant

MANILA, 18 Dec—A Philippine-British methane power plant, with investment of 30 million US dollars, was inaugurated Monday in eastern Philippines to reduce hazardous waste emissions and combat climate change.

The project, a joint venture between the group of Philippine mining mogul Salvador Zamora II and London-based carbon trading firm Carbon Capital Markets, is expected to generate 15 megawatts of power over a span of 10 years. It will start operation in May 2008.

It will utilize methane generated by the Rodriguez landfill, which receives 2,500 metric tons of wastes daily from various cities and municipalities of Metro Manila, the British company said. — MNA/Xinhua

UNGA President lauds Bali  
climate change breakthrough

UNITED NATIONS, 18 Dec—The President of the UN General Assembly Srgjan Kerim hailed on Monday the outcome at the UN Climate Change Conference in Bali, Indonesia, where nearly 200 countries agreed to launch a two-year process of formal negotiations to tackle the problem of global warming.

Kerim “commends the spirit of compromise and cooperation shown by all parties during the discussions in Bali”, according to a statement issued by his spokesperson. He thanked the Indonesian government for its leadership during the process and for hosting the landmark event, and believed that “advancing further on this agreement in the forthcoming negotiations is of crucial importance”. Kerim said he also intends to convene a high-level assembly meeting — bringing together member states, the private sector and civil society — on 11-12 February next year to bolster support for addressing climate change in partnership with the United Nations.

After the two-week Bali negotiations were extended for an extra day, delegates reached agreement on Saturday on both agenda for the negotiations and a 2009 deadline for completing them so that a successor pact to the Kyoto Protocol on greenhouse gas emissions can come into effect in 2013.

MNA/Xinhua

MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY  
HOLIDAY NOTICE

As the wharves, warehouses and chellan offices of Yangon Port will be closed on the 21<sup>st</sup> December 2007 (Bakari Idd Day) being the public Holiday, Goods will be received, shipped or delivered on payment of Holiday Fees.

Bank Holidays

All Banks will be closed on 21<sup>st</sup> December (Friday), Bakari Idd Day and 25<sup>th</sup> December (Tuesday), Christmas Day, 2007, being public holiday under the Negotiable Instruments Act.

Central Bank of Myanmar

TRADE MARK CAUTION

SANOFI-AVENTIS, a Company incorporated in France, of 174, avenue de France, 75013 Paris, France, is the Owner of the following Trade Mark:-

BEJOWA

Reg. No. 6041/2007  
in respect of "Class 5: Pharmaceutical products".

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

Win Mu Tin  
M.A., H.G.P., D.B.L.  
for SANOFI-AVENTIS  
P. O. Box 60, Yangon  
Dated: 20 December 2007

Brazil-Argentina rocket  
blasts off successfully

RIO DE JANERIO, 18 Dec—A scientific research rocket took off successfully from Brazil on Sunday, marking the first time Brazil and Argentina have collaborated in a space mission. The Brazilian Space Agency (AEB) said the launch took place at 6:15 am local time (0915 GMT) from the Boca do Inferno Launch Centre in the Brazilian state of Rio Grande do Norte.

The Brazilian-made VS30 rocket reached a height of 121 kilometres in the first seven minutes and its flight lasted nine minutes and 25 seconds.

Bad weather had delayed takeoff three times since Wednesday.

The flight came after two micro-gravity experiments by Argentina and a test of a global positioning system (GPS) built by Brazil. The Brazilian Air Force sent two Black Hawk helicopters and a submarine team to the splashdown site, some 120

Nine killed as  
car crashes  
into crowd in  
Egypt

CAIRO, 18 Dec—Nine Egyptians were killed and seven injured on Monday when a car crashed into a group of people celebrating a religious festival in the Sinai Peninsula, security sources said.

The car ploughed into a crowd of hundreds in the town of Hurghada celebrating a local saint. Its brakes had failed, the sources said, adding police were investigating the incident.

The injured were taken to two hospitals in Hurg-hada, a popular tourist destination on the Red Sea coast. —MNA/Reuters

Oil falls back, stronger  
dollar weighs

LONDON, 18 Dec—Oil gave up early gains on Monday, as a rise in the US dollar curtailed a rally spurred by a winter storm in the Midwest and Northeast of top oil consumer the United States.

US light, sweet crude for January delivery, which expires on Tuesday, was down 22 cents to 91.05 US dollars a barrel by 1153 GMT.

London Brent crude for February delivery was down 10 cents at 91.59 US dollars a barrel.

Crude oil prices retreated as the US dollar reached fresh two-month highs against a basket of currencies.. The stronger dollar also hit gold, which touched its lowest level in about two weeks.

Oil and other commodities have an inverse relationship with the US dollar that most of them are priced in, strengthening if it weakens and vice versa.

The US currency is up after data on Friday showed US consumer prices rose by their highest in more than two years in November, partly due to surging energy costs, dampening prospects for further US interest-rate cuts and highlighting risks to the economy.

The uncertain US and global macro-economic outlook has become a major ingredient in the oil price.

MNA/Reuters

EU wants to reopen free  
trade talks with Mercosur

MONTEVIDEO, 18 Dec—The European Union (EU) is ready to resume free trade talks with the South American Common Market (Mercosur), EU Economic and Monetary Affairs Commissioner Joaquin Almunia said Sunday.

The two trading blocs have a shared political commitment to restart the negotiations and representatives of both sides are expected to meet next year on the issue, Almunia said after meeting with the economic ministers of Mercosur member nations.

Referring to a key sticking point in the free trade talks, Almunia said the EU wants Mercosur to make its markets more accessible to industrial goods and services from the western trading bloc and create more favourable conditions for EU investors, while the South American regional trading bloc hopes to increase exports of agricultural products to European markets.

MNA/Xinhua



Rail staff prepare to remove damaged carriages after a train derailed near Mehrabpur, 400 km (250 miles) from Karachi, Dec. 19, 2007. At least 50 people lost their lives in a train accident in Pakistan's southern Sindh province early Wednesday morning.—INTERNET



## Benin confirms H5N1 virus in two bird flu cases

COTONOU, 18 Dec — Two outbreaks of bird flu among poultry in Benin are the deadly H5N1 strain, the Agriculture Minister of the small West African state said.

In a statement late on Sunday, Minister Robert Dovonou said test results from a laboratory in Italy confirmed the H5N1 virus in the cases discovered earlier this month north of the capital Porto Novo and

on a farm in the commercial capital Cotonou.

When the suspected outbreaks were first announced by the government on 7 December, Health Ministry officials said several hundred birds were slaughtered as a precautionary measure in a five-kilometre (three-mile) radius around the two separate locations. All farms within a 15-kilometre (nine-mile)

radius were also disinfecting. The import of poultry was banned and restrictions on the movement of birds between farms imposed.

“The tests carried out on samples sent last week to Italy have shown positive... The two suspect locations are indeed infected by the group A and type H5N1 flu virus,” Dovonou said.

MNA/Reuters



*Tourists visit the 2,500-year-old Parthenon Temple on the Acropolis hill, in Athens, on 28 Sept, 2006. The Acropolis is among the 21 candidates for the new seven wonders of the world.—INTERNET*

## Seas could rise twice as high as predicted

WASHINGTON, 18 Dec— The world's sea levels could rise twice as high this century as UN climate scientists have predicted, according to researchers who looked at what happened more than 100,000 years ago, the last time Earth got this hot.

Experts working on the UN's Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change have suggested a maximum 21st Century sea level rise — a key effect of global climate change — of about 32 inches (0.8 metre).

But researchers said in a study appearing on Sunday in the journal *Nature Geoscience* that the maximum could be twice that, or 64 inches (1.6 metres). They made the estimate by looking at the so-called interglacial period, some 124,000 to 119,000 years ago, when Earth's climate was warmer than it is now due to a different configuration of the planet's orbit around the sun.

That was the last time sea levels reached up to 20 feet (6 metres) above where they are now, fueled by the melting of the ice sheets that cover Greenland and Antarctica. The researchers say their study is the first robust documentation of how quickly sea levels rose to that level. — MNA/Reuters

*A display of vases at the Karl Lagerfeld Greek revival exhibition hosted by Pierre Passebon at Delorenzo Gallery in New York on 17 Dec, 2007. The collection includes photographs by Lagerfeld, vases by Les Vases de Ciboure of France and furniture by the Swedish Nafveqvan Foundry.—INTERNET*



## Hong Kong public calls for air pollution fight

HONG KONG, 18 Dec— Most Hong Kong people were willing to pay for a tougher crackdown on chronic air pollution through road pricing and other measures, a government-backed report said on Monday.

The head of the government advisory body that collaborated on the report with Hong Kong University also said the city should establish a “superfund” for cleaning up the environment.

Released during Hong

Kong's traditionally smoggy winter months, the report is the most ambitious so far to gauge public attitudes about pollution, which frequently obscures the famous harbour.

“The public really wants something to be done even if certain costs are added to them...so it's really a good political capital that they (the government) have to drive on more initiatives,” said environmentalist Alexis Lau. Edgar Cheng, the Chairman of the Council for Sustainable Development, called for the government to establish the fund. —MNA/Reuters

## S Korea's worst oil spill threatens bird haven

TAEAN, 18 Dec— South Korea's worst oil spill is threatening to enter a bay that is an important winter rest stop for migratory birds, the Coast Guard and a conservation group said on Monday.

Tens of thousands of volunteers, soldiers and others have battled for 10 days to clean up 10,500 tons of crude oil that spewed from a tanker.

The spill then washed up on west coast beaches popular with tourists and blackened a nature reserve. The Coast Guard has set up containment fences and dispatched vessels to break up or turn

back the spill before it enters Cheonsu Bay, about 150 kilometres (95 miles) southwest of Seoul.

The bay is home for about 400,000 migratory birds, representing 300 different species that pass through during the South Korean winter, according to a statement by the Seosan Cheonsu Bay Bird Watching Fair Organization Committee. South Korea has declared the west coast Taeon region a disaster area and said it would make available 300 billion won (322.7 million US dollars) in loans to help residents who say they face ruin. —MNA/Reuters

## Report sees 7.6m global 2007 cancer deaths

WASHINGTON, 18 Dec— About 7.6 million people will die this year worldwide from various types of cancer, with lung cancer — heavily driven by smoking — killing 975,000 men and 376,000 women, the American Cancer Society said on Monday.

In all, about 12.3 million people will develop cancer this year, the organization projected, using data from the International Agency for Research on Cancer, a branch of the World Health Organization.

About 20,000 people

die of cancer every day worldwide, the report showed.

MNA/Reuters

*Toshiba Corp's laptop computers are displayed at an electronics store in Tokyo on 30 Sept, 2006. Toshiba said on Tuesday it would join a group led by IBM to develop system chips using 32-nanometre circuitry, as chip makers increasingly team up to cut development costs.—INTERNET*





# SPORTS

## FIFA ethics committee gets 2018 World Cup bidding role

BERNE (Switzerland), 19 Dec — FIFA's newly-formed ethics committee should have a "pivotal function" in overseeing the bidding process for the 2018 World Cup, world soccer's governing body said on Tuesday.

Committee chairman Sebastian Coe has been asked to define the "relevant principles" involved in the drawing up of the World Cup bidding rules, FIFA said in a statement released on its website (www.fifa.org). Coe, who is also the chairman of London's 2012 Olympic Games organizing committee, said in October that he wanted the ethics committee to have a role in overseeing the bidding process.

Competition to stage the 2018 World Cup is expected to be especially intense following FIFA's October 29 decision to end its policy of rotating the tournament through its continental federations. Ten countries including England, the United States, Russia and a combined bid from Belgium and Holland have already expressed interest in staging the event. —MNA/Reuters



*German FC Energie Cottbus' Daniel Ziebig, right, competes for the ball with China Olympic's Tan Wangsong during a friendly soccer match in Foshan, southern China's Guangdong Province on 18 Dec, 2007. The game ended in a 1-1 draw. —INTERNET*

## China Olympic squad member suspended for drunk-driving

BEIJING, 19 Dec — A Chinese Olympic squad member has been suspended by his team for one year for crashing his car while under the influence of alcohol, a month after the player's club denied he had been drinking.

Cui Peng, a 20-year-old striker for Chinese Super League club Shandong Luneng, crashed his car last month while driving at night with two young women in the northeast city of Dalian.

The three were taken to hospital with light injuries.

Shandong later denied Cui had been drinking, citing road conditions and other reasons for the crash in a report posted on its Web site last month.

Police, however, had found that Cui had alcohol in his system and the player served a mandatory detention period at home due to his "special identity", a local newspaper report reproduced in the Beijing News said.

MNA/Reuters

## Tottenham, Arsenal reach Cup semifinals

LONDON, 19 Dec — Premier League leaders Arsenal and north London rivals Tottenham Hotspur both reached the League Cup semifinals on Tuesday with away victories despite ending with 10 men.

Arsenal manager Arsene Wenger again used the competition to give his squad players rare starts but they showed plenty of class as Eduardo da Silva's double gave them a 3-2 extra time win at Blackburn Rovers.

Tottenham, steadily improving under coach Juande Ramos, had makeshift central defender Didier Zakora sent off after 20 minutes but were comfortable 2-0 winners over Manchester City.

The two London clubs joined Everton in the last four after their victory over West Ham United last week, while Chelsea and Liverpool meet on Wednesday.

Arsenal, who beat Tottenham in the semi-finals last season before losing to Chelsea in the final, outclassed Rovers in the first half with Abou Diaby and Eduardo putting them 2-0 up inside half an hour.

Roque Santa Cruz pulled a goal back for Rovers on the stroke of halftime and he took his tally to five in two games with a 60th-minute header to make it 2-2. Arsenal had Brazilian midfielder Denilson sent off for a rash challenge on David Dunn near the end of normal time as tempers flared.

Croatia international Eduardo showed his class in the first period of extra time, striding on to a defence-splitting pass from Alexandre Song and shooting low past Brad Friedel. —MNA/Reuters



*Manchester City's Elano Blumer (L) challenges Tottenham Hotspur's Teemu Tainio during their fifth round English League Cup soccer match at the City of Manchester Stadium, northern England on 18 Dec, 2007. —INTERNET*

## Zico angry with FIFA ruling on Club World Cup

RIO DE JANEIRO, 19 Dec — Former Brazil captain Zico reacted angrily on Tuesday after FIFA apparently declined to recognize the Flamengo side in which he played as world club champions in 1981.

"It's another of those controversies involving players, supporters and the media which are decided by people sitting in an office," Zico, now coach of Turkish club Fenerbahce, told the Estado News Agency in an interview. Flamengo won the South American Libertadores Cup in 1981, beating Chile's Cobreloa in a stormy final, and then hammered European champions Liverpool 3-0 in the Intercontinental Cup final played in Tokyo.

"There's nothing to argue about. We took part in a very difficult Libertadores, we played European champions, as the representatives of South America, and we won," he said. "What else is there to say?"

Soccer's governing body FIFA ruled at a meeting in Japan on Saturday it would only officially recognize the winners of the club world championship it has organised itself. FIFA has so far held four club world championships, one played in Brazil in 2000 and then three held in Japan from 2005 onwards. "With respect to the history of the FIFA Club World Cup and intercontinental club competitions in years gone by, such as the Copa Rio in the 1950s, the FIFA Executive Committee endorsed the view that the first edition of this competition was held in 2000 in Brazil where Corinthians became the very first FIFA club world champions," said FIFA in a statement. —MNA/Reuters

## Barca's Messi out for up to 5 weeks with thigh injury

MADRID, 18 Dec — Barcelona forward Lionel Messi will be out of action for up to five weeks after tearing a thigh muscle in his left leg.

The Argentina international had to be substituted on Saturday just before halftime of his side's 3-0 victory away to Valencia in the Primera Liga, having helped set up the first two goals for Samuel Eto'o.

Tests by club doctors on Sunday confirmed the original diagnosis, which rules him out of the top-of-the-table clash with league leaders Real Madrid next weekend. Barca are second a point behind their arch-rivals, who play Osasuna at home later on Sunday.

Messi is Barca's top scorer in the league with eight goals, and could miss up to seven league and King's Cup matches before returning, the club said.

MNA/Reuters

## Iran acts to end federation chief row with FIFA

TEHERAN, 19 Dec — Iran's vice-president Mohammad Aliabadi has withdrawn from the election for the head of the Iranian Football Federation (IFF) after a row with FIFA over political meddling in the game, local media said on Tuesday.

FIFA, world soccer's governing body, and the IFF have been at loggerheads for months over Iran's refusal to bar members of the state-run Physical Education Organization (PEO), headed by Aliabadi, from running in its presidential election.

The vote was initially scheduled for December 6 but was postponed after FIFA said it would not recognize the result.

President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad, in an attempt to settle the dispute with FIFA, said he had called on his deputy to quit the race for president of the IFF, the daily Etemad-e Melli reported.

"I told Aliabadi to end his nomination and allow the federation's (IFF) elections to be held," Ahmadinejad told state television, the daily reported.

Aliabadi officially announced his decision to withdraw on Monday, Etemad-e Melli added.

"The current situation is the result of Aliabadi's mistake," Ahmadinejad said. He did not give further details. —MNA/Reuters



*Chicago Bulls forward Luol Deng (R) and Los Angeles Lakers Sasha Vujacic go for the loose ball in the fourth quarter of their NBA basketball game in Chicago on 18 Dec, 2007. —INTERNET*



## US helicopter hit by bullets in S Philippines

MANILA, 19 Dec—The mayor of a Philippine town said that an American military helicopter was shot at and suffered damage when it flew above the south Philippines, local media reported Tuesday.

Unkaya Pukan Mayor Joel Maturan said he received reports the helicopter was supposed to ferry American troops to his town to sign a memorandum of agreement for a road repair project when it reportedly

came under fire at 7 am Monday, the online edition of *Philippine Daily Inquirer* said.

The Philippine Army and the Joint Special Operations Task Force Philippines have not released any information despite queries made Tuesday morning, the report said.

The nature and the source of the bullets fired at the US helicopter were still unknown.

MNA/Xinhua

## Capsized tanker spills oil into Indonesian waters

JAKARTA, 19 Dec — A tanker ship carrying 50,000 litres of diesel oil capsized and spilled its content into the sea off East Java Province Tuesday.

The incident occurred when the Karisma Selatan tanker owned by local shipping firm PT Pasifik Selatan

was filling in the diesel fuel at the Tanjung Perak Port in the provincial capital of Surabaya.

No one was injured in the incident, which disturbed traffic in the country's second largest port, reported the national *Antara* news agency.

MNA/Xinhua

## US judge orders CIA tape destruction inquiry

WASHINGTON, 19 Dec — A US federal judge ordered a hearing Tuesday on whether the Bush Administration violated a court order by destroying CIA interrogation videos of two al-Qaeda suspects.

In a court order, District Judge Henry H Kennedy rejected calls from the Justice Department to stay out of the matter.

He ordered lawyers to appear before him Friday morning.

In Jun 2005, Kennedy ordered the administration to safeguard "all evidence and information regarding the torture, mistreatment, and abuse of detainees now at the United States Naval Base at Guantanamo Bay."

Five months later, the CIA destroyed the interrogation videos.

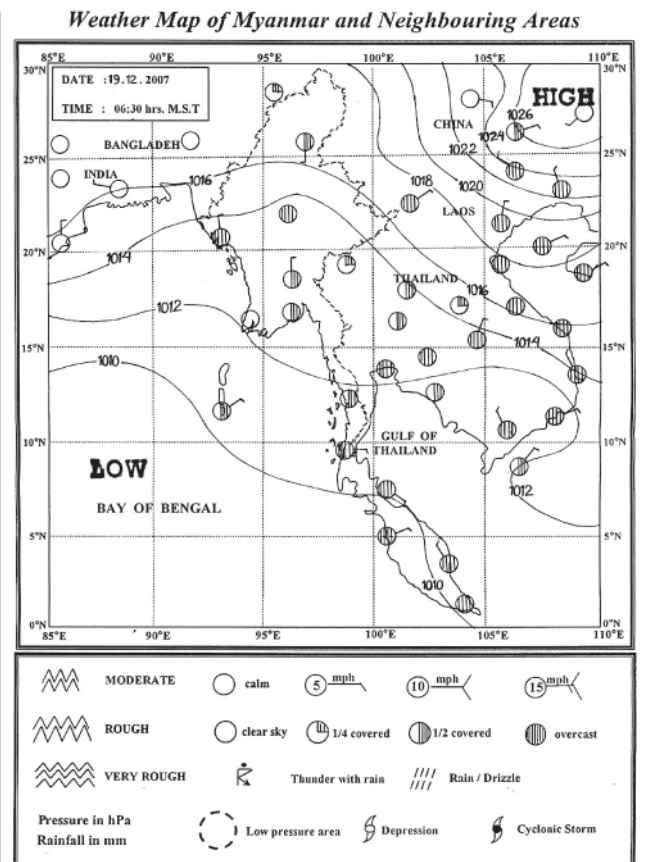
The recordings involved suspected terrorists Abu Zubaydah and Abd al-Rahim al-

Nashiri.

The Justice Department argued that the videos weren't covered by the order because the two men were being held in secret CIA prisons overseas, not at the Guantanamo Bay prison.

David Remes, a lawyer who represents Yemeni detainees at Guantanamo Bay, asked for the court hearing. He said the government was obligated to keep the tapes and he wants to be sure other evidence is not being destroyed.

MNA/Xinhua



### WEATHER

Wednesday, 19 December, 2007

**Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST:** During the past 24 hours, rain or thundershowers have been isolated in Shan State, lower Sagaing and Mandalay Divisions, weather has been partly cloudy in Rakhine and Chin States, Bago Division and generally fair in the remaining areas. Night temperatures were (3°C) to (4°C) below December average temperatures in Kachin State and lower Sagaing Division, (6°C) below December average temperatures in upper Sagaing Division, (3°C) to (4°C) above December average temperatures in Rakhine and Kayin States, Magway, Bago and Taninthayi Divisions, (5°C) to (6°C) above December average temperatures in Shan and Kayah States and about December average temperatures in the remaining States and Divisions. The significant night temperatures were Haka (0°C) and Putao (4°C).

Maximum temperature on 18-12-2007 was 96°F. Minimum temperature on 19-12-2007 was 65°F. Relative humidity at 09:30 hours MST on 19-12-2007 was 74%. Total sunshine hours on 18-12-2007 was (7.9) hours approx.

Rainfall on 19-12-2007 was (nil) at Mingaladon, Kaba-Aye and Central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2007 was (136.57) inches at Mingaladon, (141.38) inches at Kaba-Aye and (144.29) inches at Central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (4) mph from Northeast at (10:30) hours MST on 18-12-2007.

**Bay inference:** According to the observations at (06:30) hrs MST today, the low pressure area over Southwest Bay has become unimportant. Weather is partly cloudy in the Andaman Sea and Bay of Bengal.

**Forecast valid until evening of 20-12-2007:** Possibility of isolated rain or thundershowers in Shan and Rakhine States, Sagaing, Mandalay and Magway Divisions, weather will be partly cloudy in Kachin State and Taninthayi Division and generally fair in the remaining States and Divisions. Degree of certainty is (40%).

**State of the sea:** Seas will be moderate in Myanmar waters.

**Outlook for subsequent two days:** Likelihood of slight increase of night temperatures in the southern Myanmar areas.

**Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring area for 20-12-2007:** Partly cloudy.

**Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 20-12-2007:** Generally fair weather.

**Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 20-12-2007:** Partly cloudy.



Thursday, 20 December

View on today

7:00 am

- ကျေးဇူးရှင်မင်းကွန်းဆရာတော် ဘုရားကြီး နိုင်ငံတော်သံဃာ မဟာနာယကအဖွဲ့အကျိုးတော်ဆောင်ရွက်အပ်စေမဟာရဋ္ဌဂုဏ်အဘိဓမ္မအဂ္ဂမဟာသဒ္ဓမ္မဇောတိက၊ တိပိဋကဓရ၊ ဓမ္မဘဏ္ဍာဂါရိက ဆရာတော် ဘဒ္ဒန္တဝိစိတ္တသာရာဘိဝံသ၏ ပရိတ်တရားတော်

7:25 am

- To be healthy exercise

7:30 am

- Morning news

7:40 am

- Nice and sweet song

7:50 am

- Dance of national races

8:00 am

- အဆိုပြိုင်ပွဲ

8:10 am

- Dance variety

8:20 am

- ဘိုင်းဒါးတံတား

8:30 am

- International news

8:45 am

- Let's go

4:00 pm

- Martial song

4:15 pm

- Song to uphold National Spirit

4:30 pm

- English for Everyday Use

4:45 pm

- အဝေးသင်တက္ကသိုလ် ပညာရေးရုပ်မြင်သံကြား သင်ခန်းစာ-ပထမနှစ် (စိတ်ပညာအထူးပြု)

5:00 pm

- Musical programme

5:15 pm

- Cute little dancer

5:30 pm

- မူဟန်သွယ်သွယ်ဆိုကြမယ်

5:45 pm

- ကြယ်ပွင့်များရဲ့ရင်ခုန်သံ

6:00 pm

- Evening news

6:30 pm

- Weather report

6:35 pm

- အတိုးပြိုင်ပွဲ

6:45 pm

- "ငှက်တစ်သောင်း" (ကင်းကောင်ငှက်ပျောကြော်၊ ထူးမွန်၊ အကယ်ဒမီစိုးရွှေ၊ ဦးမြင့်စိုး၊ တိမ်ညွန့်၊ (ဒါရိုက်တာ-မောင်သီ)

7:00 pm

- Musical programme

7:15 pm

- နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ "ရေသူမလေးတတိယချစ်ပုံပြင်" (အပိုင်း-၂၈)

8:00 pm

- News

- International news

- Weather report

- နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ "ချစ်သူများ" (အပိုင်း-၁၁)

- The next day's programme

Radio Myanmar

Thursday, 20 December  
Tune in today

8:30 am

Brief news

8:35 am

Music:  
-X'mas country style  
Perspectives

8:40 am

Music

8:45 am

-My X'mas love

8:50 am

National news/ Slogan

9:00 am

Music:

9:05 am

-X'mas holiday

9:10 am

International news

9:15 am

Music

1:30 pm

-X'mas vacations

1:40pm

News/ Slogan

1:45pm

Lunch time music

9:00pm

-Oh come all yr faithful

9:05pm

-Pretty paper

9:10pm

Aspects of Myanmar

9:15pm

-Myanmar music and musical instrument

9:20pm

Article

9:25pm

Topics

9:30pm

potpourri

9:35pm

-Scientists discover new genus dinosaur

9:40pm

-Scientists find fossil of biggest bug ever

9:45pm

Songs of your choice

10:00pm

-White X'mas

-Silver bells

News /Slogan

PEL



# People's Desire

- ★ We favour stability.
- ★ We favour peace.
- ★ We oppose unrest and violence.

## Senior General Than Shwe addresses Graduation Parade of 10th Intake of DSTA

NAY PYI TAW, 19 Dec — The Graduation Parade of the 10th Intake of Defence Services Technological Academy was held at the parade ground of the DSTA in PyinOoLwin at 8.30 am today, with an address by Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Than Shwe.

Also present at the parade were Member of the State Peace and Development Council General Thura Shwe Mann of the Ministry of Defence, SPDC members Lt-Gen Ye Myint, Lt-Gen Kyaw Win, Chief of Armed Forces Training Lt-Gen Aung Htwe and Lt-Gen Tin Aye of the Ministry of Defence, Commander-

in-Chief (Navy) Vice-Admiral Soe Thein, Commander-in-Chief (Air) Lt-Gen Myat Hein, Lt-Gen Myint Hlaing, Lt-Gen Ye Myint and Maj-Gen Khin Zaw of the Ministry of Defence, Adjutant-General Maj-Gen Thura Myint Aung, Commander of Central Command Brig-Gen Tin Ngwe, Ministers Maj-Gen Htay Oo, U Aung Thaung, Maj-Gen Saw Tun, U Nyan Win, Brig-Gen Ohn Myint, Brig-Gen Thein Zaw, U Thaung, Col Zaw Min, Dr Chan Nyein, Maj-Gen Hla Tun and Brig-Gen Thein Aung, Military Appointment-General Maj-Gen Hsan Hsint, Judge Advocate-General Maj-Gen Soe Maung, Defence Services Inspector-General Maj-Gen

Thein Htaik, Vice-Chief of Armed Forces Training Maj-Gen Zaw Win, Vice Quartermaster-General Maj-Gen Khin Maung Tun, Directors Maj-Gen Mya Win, Maj-Gen Tin Soe, Col Kyaw Nyunt, Maj-Gen Khin Maung Tint, Col Nyan Tun, Maj-Gen Than Htay, Maj-Gen Sein Lin and Maj-Gen Aye Myint of the Ministry of Defence, senior military officers, Mandalay Mayor Brig-Gen Phone Zaw Han, PyinOoLwin Station Commander Brig-Gen Zeyar Aung, Acting Rector of DSTA Lt-Col Zaw Myint and officials, parents and relatives of the graduate cadets and guests.

Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Than Shwe took the salute of the cadet companies and inspected them.

Next, the cadet companies marched past to salute the Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services.

Senior General Than Shwe presented the Best Cadet Award to Cadet Kyaw Myo Aung, the Excellent in Training Award to Cadet Tin Hsan Oo and Excellent in Study Award to Cadet Aung Myint Than.

Afterwards, Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Than Shwe delivered an address.

(The full text of the speech of the Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services is reported separately.)

After taking the salute of the cadet companies the Senior General left the parade ground.

After the graduation parade, Senior General Than Shwe met with three outstanding cadets and their parents at the hall of the DSTA Headquarters.

MNA



Senior General Than Shwe takes the salute of graduating cadet companies.  
MNA

