Senior General Than Shwe sends felicitations to Malaysia

NAY PYI TAW, 31 Aug—On the occasion of the 52nd Anniversary of the Independence Day of Malaysia, which falls on 31 August 2009, His Excellency Senior General Than Shwe, Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to His Majesty Tuanku Mizan Zainal Abidin Ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Mahmud Al-Muktafi Billah Shah, Yang di-Pertuan XIII of Malaysia.—MNA

Prime Minister General Thein Sein felicitates Malaysian counterpart

NAY PYI TAW, 31 Aug—On the occasion of the 52nd Anniversary of the Independence Day of Malaysia, which falls on 31 August 2009, His Excellency General Thein Sein, Prime Minister of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to His Excellency Dato’ Sri Hj Mohamed Najib bin Tun Hj Abdul Razak, Prime Minister of Malaysia.—MNA

Government recognizes cooperation for development of Kokang Region

Law violation in Kokang Region concerns only four persons including U Phon Kya Shin

Artless members of Kokang armed group who complied with the command allowed to enter legal fold in safety

Government of the Union of Myanmar issues Announcement No (1/2009)

NAY PYI TAW, 30 Aug—The Government of the Union of Myanmar today issued Announcement No (1/2009) dated 30 August 2009. The translation of the announcement is as follows:

Government of the Union of Myanmar
Announcement No (1/2009)
11th Waxing of Tawthalin 1371 ME
(30 August 2009)

1. Shan State (North) Special Region (1) Kokang Group returned to the legal fold on 21 March 1989. Since then, it has been working together with the government for restoration of peace and stability and regional development. As a result, Kokang Region has developed far more than in the past and the people are much pleased with it. The government recognizes the group’s cooperation with it.

2. However, four leaders of Special Region (1) U Phon Kya Shin, U Phon Kya Phu, U Phon Tar Shwin and U Phon Tarli violated the laws promulgated by the government. They have been summoned since 8 August 2009 for coordination to figure out the issue in accordance with the law. Nevertheless, they fled Kokang Region instead of addressing the issue.

3. In addition, there was no progress in addressing the issue through coordination in which Kokang troops loyal to U Phon Kya Shin on 27 August 2009 captured and took the members of the Myanmar Police Force who were discharging duties at Yanlonkeng in Myanmar-China border gate. Accordingly, arrangements were made to save the captured policemen. In that regard, Kokang troops opened fire at the security forces of the State. So, the security forces had to launch counter attacks and took the members of the Myanmar Police Force who were discharging duties at Yanlonkeng in Myanmar-China border gate. Accordingly, arrangements were made to save the captured policemen. In that regard, Kokang troops opened fire at the security forces of the State. So, the security forces had to launch counter attacks for their security and that of the captured members. The skirmishes ceased on 29 August 2009.

4. Now, peace has been restored, and tasks for restoration of regional peace, stability and development have returned to normal. The provisional leading committee formed by Special Region (1) Kokang Group is cooperating and undertaking the tasks under the leadership of the government.

5. The law violation in Kokang Region does not concern any other person except the four persons. The government understands well that the artless troops who had to open fire did not violate the law because they had to just follow the orders. The government hereby announces that those artless Kokang troops who followed the orders are allowed to enter the legal fold in safety, and they are therefore to contact Kokang Region provisional leading committee in Laukkai to return to the legal fold.

By order,
(5d) Thant Shin
Colonel
Secretary
Government of the Union of Myanmar

MPF exposes and seizes illegally-run arms and ammunition factory in Kokang Region of Shan State (North) Special Region (1)

U Phon Kya Shin, other responsible persons, unwilling to meet officials to settle the issue flee Kokang region

They are urged to seize opportunity to address the issue in accord with law

Kokang Region Provisional Leading Committee issues announcement

NAY PYI TAW, 30 Aug—Kokang Region Provisional Leading Committee of Shan State (North) Special Region (1) issued an announcement dated 30 August 2009. The translation of the announcement is as follows:

(See page 8)
Partake iodized salt daily to prevent avoidable iodine deficiency

Good health somehow enhances cognitive growth of human beings. So, every citizen should keep themselves fit with long life expectancy.

The Ministry of Health is now stepping up public health care with the aim of ensuring better longevity of the people and preventing and controlling diseases. In order to achieve the lofty aim, it has launched the integrated drive of disease control measures, treatment, rehabilitation, sanitation and health education.

The Ministry of Health is mobilizing the public in nutritional development week activities since the first week of August. The combined efforts cover giving Vitamin A tablets to children, iron tablets to pregnant women, immunization, school health care, and nutritional development work.

In the fourth week of the month, the ministry put into action the movements for wiping out the outbreaks of the diseases caused by iodine deficiency. Iodine deficiency had a negative impact on the public health standard. Many kinds of seafood contain iodine, but it alone is not enough to satisfy the iodine requirements of man. So, the people, irrespective of region and age are required to partake iodized salt.

If a pregnant woman suffers from iodine deficiency, she may have miscarriage, give a premature birth, or give birth to mentally and physically-handicapped baby. And if a child suffers from iodine deficiency, he may be smaller than normal, face less cognitive development and suffer from goiter.

As a result of the Ministry of Health’s endeavour to make iodized salt more common to the people, more than 90 per cent of the people consume iodized salt. Every citizen will be healthy with high intellectual power if the Department of Health and related regional organizations raise public awareness about consequences of iodine deficiency and the people keep a balanced diet of seafood, fruit and vegetables and cereals.

CEOs of Smart Resources, Singapore Education Consultancy Services U Nay Lin Phyo gives opening speech.—NLM

Ambassador U Aung Thein presents credentials to Crown Prince of Thailand

NAY PYI TAW, 31 Aug — U Aung Thein, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Union of Myanmar to the Kingdom of Thailand, presented his Credentials to His Royal Highness Crown Prince Maha Vajiralongkorn, His Royal Highness Crown Prince of the Kingdom of Thailand, on the behalf of the King of the Kingdom of Thailand on 5 August 2009, in Bangkok.—MNA

Foreign Affairs Minister felicitates Malaysian counterpart

NAY PYI TAW, 31 Aug — On the occasion of the 52nd Anniversary of the Independence Day of Malaysia, which falls on 31 August 2009, His Excellency U Nyan Win, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to His Excellency Datuk Anifah Aman, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Malaysia. MNA

Commander meets local people in Kengtung

NAY PYI TAW, 30 Aug—Chairman of Shan State (East) Peace and Development Council Commander of Triangle Region Command Maj-Gen Kyaw Phyo met with local people at the Naungkan village in Kengtung Township and presented stationery and publications to them on 22 Aug morning.

MWVO erects billboard for conference 2009

Chairman of WVSC of Nay Pyi Taw Command Lt-Col Ye Nyunt unveils Myanmar War Veterans Organization billboard for conference 2009.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 30 Aug—Myanmar War Veterans Organization erected a billboard marking the conference for 2009 near the Bawgathiri highway station in Nay Pyi Taw Pyinmana on 28 Aug morning. It was attended by Chairman of War Veterans Supervisory Committee of Nay Pyi Taw Command Lt-Col Ye Nyunt, chairman of Township WVVO Lt-Col Thein Sae (Retd) and members of committee, members of WVO, social organizations, local people of Kyauk Chek and Kimpontan villages. At the auspicious time, the Chairman of WVSC of Nay Pyi Taw Command pressed the button to unveil the billboard. MNA

Talks on Business Management held

Yangon, 30 Aug—Talk on International Level Business Management was held at Traders Hotel on Sule Pagoda Road here on 29 August, with an opening speech by CEO of Smart Resources, Singapore Education Consultancy Services U Nay Lin Phyo.

On the occasion, Principal Consultant of Myanmar Management Consulting Saya U Aye Kyaw gave talks on Management Career, Deputy Manager of Kaplan Singapore Mr Ethan Wong on the teaching method on American Management Education System and the subjects for Myanmar students.

Afterwards, they answered the queries on the subjects raised by those present.—NLM
India defence drive attracts global suppliers

NEW DELHI, 30 Aug — India’s drive to protect itself after last year’s Mumbai attacks is attracting interest from some of the world’s biggest companies who see opportunities in the push for improved homeland security.

The government, after shunning the private sector for decades, is embracing it as an ally in the quest for new security strategies and technologies following the Mumbai bloodbath on last November that left 166 people dead.

“Indian companies right now don’t have the capability, but they are acquiring it through overseas joint ventures as the opportunity is huge in the homeland security domain,” says Amit Singh from the Confederation of Indian Industry.

“Public sector enterprises cannot meet this demand.”

India plans to spend 30 billion dollars on military contracts by 2014, while junior defence minister Pallam Raju announced last week a separate 10 billion dollars homeland security upgrade to be completed before 2016.

“There are significant opportunities for the private industry to partner in the homeland security and sub-conventional warfare space,” Raju told a military meeting earlier this month.

India began opening up its defence industry to the private sector in 2001 and allowed foreign firms to own 26 percent of local ventures, although a surfeit of red tape put off many companies. — Internet

Brit teen arrested in huge cocaine bust at Peru airport

LIMA, 30 Aug — Peruvian customs officials on Saturday arrested a British teenager attempting to board a flight to London with some 29 kilograms (64 pounds) of cocaine in her suitcase, police said.

At a street value of 100 dollars per gram, the haul was worth almost three million dollars.

The 18-year-old woman, Salea Kathun, was detained alongside a young Canadian, Katia Carrilho, who was also allegedly holding around 3.5 kilograms (7.7 pounds) of cocaine, after the two were detected by drug-sniffing dogs at Lima’s international airport, police said.

Under Peruvian law offenders can expect at least six years in jail under drug trafficking charges.

Iran welcomes ‘positive’ IAEA nuclear report

THE NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR Monday, 31 August, 2009

An Iraqi youth looks into a shop after one of its walls collapsed following a car bomb in al-Sharqat, 100 kms north of the city of Tikrit. A spate of attacks across Iraq on Saturday killed 19 people, including a local politician and a child, and injured dozens, making it the country’s deadliest day since Ramadan began.—INTERNET

Iran welcomed on Saturday as “positive” the UN atomic watchdog’s latest report on its nuclear programme, but vowed to continue enriching uranium.

“Fortunately the current IAEA report has been more positive than the earlier ones due to the new approach of the Islamic republic,” the head of Iran’s nuclear energy organisation Ali Akbar Salehi was quoted by state television’s news website as saying.

The International Atomic Energy Agency said on Friday in a study obtained by AFP that Iran has slowed production of enriched uranium and agreed to tighter monitoring of its enrichment plant.

Teheran has also granted UN inspectors access to a research reactor long out of bounds, the restricted report revealed.

Enriched uranium can be used to make nuclear fuel, but can also become the fissile material for an atomic bomb.—INTERNET

NATO soldier killed in Afghanistan

THE NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR Monday, 31 August, 2009

A bag of seized freebase cocaine. Peruvian customs officials on Saturday arrested a British teenager attempting to board a flight to London with some 29 kilograms (64 pounds) of cocaine in her suitcase, police said.—INTERNET

KABUL, 30 Aug — A soldier of the NATO-led International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) was killed in the militancy-hit south Afghanian, a press release of the alliance said on Sunday.

“An International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) service member was killed on Saturday as a result an Improvised Explosive Device (IED) detonation that occurred in southern Afghanian,” the press release said.

However, it did not say the exact place of the incident or the nationality of the victim.

“We mourn the loss of a professional ISAF service member who sacrificed his life to help secure Afghans living in the south,” said Brigadier-General Eric Tremblay, ISAF Spokesperson in the press release.

The incident coincided with the visit of British Prime Minister Gordon Brown to the restive Helmand Province on Saturday.

Troops from The United States, Canada, Holland, Britain and Australia have been stationed in the southern region to stabilize security there.—Xinhua

Suicide attack kills two civilians, wounds 21 in S Afghanistan

KABUL, 30 Aug — A suicide bomber blew himself up in Zabul province, south of Afghanistan, Saturday, killing two civilians and wounding 21 others, a local official said.

“The incident occurred at 11:00 am(0630 GMT) when soldiers of international troops were on patrol in Shahjoji district, leaving two innocent civilians dead and 21 others wounded,” AbdulQuayum, district chief of Shahjoji told Xinhua.

Quayum added that the suicide bomber strapped explosive device in his body and exploded in the bazaar of Shahjoji when the foreign troops were on routine patrol. However, he did not say if there were any casualties on the foreign troops.—Xinhua

Suicide bomber kills 14 in Iraq

BAGHDAD, 30 Aug — A suicide bomber on Saturday killed 14 people, including nine police officers, and wounded another 19 north of Baghdad, Iraq’s Interior Ministry said.

The explosion occurred when a bomb-loaded mini-van was driven into a police station and detonated in al-Sharqat, Salaheddin province, CNN reported. Twenty shops and dozens of cars were damaged.

Last week, more than 100 people were killed and hundreds more wounded when two massive truck bombs were driven into the foreign and finance ministry buildings in Baghdad.

Suicide attacks have escalated since US combat forces hand over security control of cities and towns to Iraqi forces two months ago, CNN reported.—Internet
LNG boom to make Australia ‘Middle East of gas’

MELBOURNE, 30 Aug—Australia is poised to become “the Middle East of gas” as Asia’s rapidly growing economies queue up to buy its vast reserves in liquid form, according to analysts.

The government last week approved the massive Gorgon liquefied natural gas (LNG) project off Western Australia, which Prime Minister Kevin Rudd said would cost 50 billion dollars (41 billion US) to build and would generate 6,000 jobs.

German unemployment to stay under 4 mln

BERLIN, 30 Aug—German Labour Minister Olaf Scholz expects unemployment to keep rising in the coming months but believes it will stay below four million, according to a magazine interview to be published on Monday.

“The economic collapse will of course lead to a jump in unemployment in the coming months,” the Social Democrat minister told Der Spiegel magazine.

“But this year we will stay under the four million mark.”

The number of people out of work in Germany edged higher to just under 3.5 million in July, according to official data, and the unemployment rate rose to 8.2 percent.

A state scheme subsidising firms to cut working hours has thus far prevented a flood of jobless claims but experts have cut working hours has thus far prevented a flood of jobless claims but experts have

British firm opens oil field in India

BARMER, 30 Aug—Britain’s Cairn Energy on Saturday began pumping crude from a vast oilfield in the Indian desert state of Rajasthan that is set to increase the country’s crude output by 20 percent.

Indian Prime Minister Manmohan Singh told a ceremony inaugurating the field that Cairn’s success showed global investors that “India has a good climate for foreign investment.”

“I invite investors from around the world to come and invest in India,” he said from the western Thar Desert, site of the Cairn development.

“The government will give all its support,” he promised.

Cairn’s field, the country’s largest onland field and the biggest find in over two decades, will increase India’s oil output by 20 percent once it hits its initial peak production target of 175,000 barrels a day in 2011.

India, which imports at least 70 percent of its oil needs, has been frantically racing to find new energy sources to fuel its fast-growing economy.

Cairn, which has spent two billion dollars so far on developing the field, plans to invest up to 1.3 billion dollars more to increase production.

Cairn bought out the field in 2002 from Anglo-Dutch giant Shell, which had concluded it contained no major reserves. Two years later, Edinburgh-based Cairn struck oil.

Goodyear, Steelworkers reach deal on contract

CLEVELAND, 30 Aug—Goodyear Tire & Rubber Co and the United Steelworkers of America reached a tentative national contract agreement on Saturday night.

The union and company officials said the agreement was reached about three hours before a midnight Saturday-day deadline neared for the expiration of the old contract, which had been extended twice.

Rank-and-file members will be briefed on the deal and take a ratification vote.

Wayne Ranick, a spokesman with the union headquarters in Pittsburgh, said the deal was for four years.

The talks, which began in June with the national recession as a backdrop, covered about 10,300 Steelworkers at seven Goodyear plants in the US.

The Steelworkers had made job security their top priority in talks covering workers in Akron, Ohio; Buffalo, NY; Danville, Va; Fayetteville, NC; Gadsden, Ala; Topeka, Kan, and Union City, Tenn.

GM China, China’s FAW launch joint venture

SHANGHAI, 30 Aug—General Motors China and state-owned automaker FAW Group Corp launched a 2 billion yuan ($293 million) joint venture on Sunday to make light-duty trucks and vans, initially for the fast-growing Chinese market.

GM said the joint venture will use two existing factories affiliated with FAW and have a capacity of over 100,000 vehicles. That is expected to double by the end of 2010, GM China Group President Kevin Wale told reporters in a conference call.

Plans call for building a new assembly plant in Harbin, he said.

China is a key growth market for GM, which is expanding here despite its difficulties in the US market.

“Light trucks and vans have a significant role in China and other parts of the world,” Wale said. “Adding trucks rounds out our vehicle portfolio in China. It’s really a key focus for future growth.”

The 50-50 joint venture, based in the northeastern Chinese city of Changchun, where FAW is also based, will make FAW-branded vehicles for the Chinese market, GM said in a statement.

The venture might make GM-branded vehicles for export later, but the focus for now is on meeting demand in China, Wale said.

FDIC seizes Maryland bank

TOWSON, 30 Aug—A Maryland bank founded in 1903 has been seized by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corp, which arranged to have another institution take over its operations.

Bradford Bank of Towson had been unable to find a buyer, The Baltimore Sun reported.

M&T Bank, now one of Maryland’s largest lenders, agreed to purchase Bradford’s assets from the FDIC.

FDIC officials entered Bradford’s headquarters on Friday. “People need to be calm. They don’t need to change anything,” said Glenn A Wafer, an FDIC ombudsman.

Wafer said Bradford’s nine branches, most of them in Baltimore County, would be open for business on Saturday and next week and depositors could continue to get access to their money.
UN peacekeeping force in Lebanon hails peaceful mandate since 2006

BEIRUT, 30 Aug—United Nations Interim Forces in Lebanon (UNIFIL) said on Saturday the past three years have been “the most peaceful” in UNIFIL’s operation, despite a recent suspected Hezbollah’s arms stockpiles in the south of the Arab country.

UNIFIL’s deputy spokesperson Andrea Tenenti told reporters at the force’s headquarters in Naqora that south Lebanon remains calm in general and that UN peacekeepers are fully coordinating with the Lebanese army, adding that UNIFIL has good relations with locals.

He denied any attempts to increase or lower the number of peacekeepers serving with the mission in a later period. The UNIFIL troops in Lebanon have been re-enforced by 5,000 peacekeepers after the war between Hezbollah and Israel in July 2006. There are currently 12,000 peacekeepers deployed in south Lebanon.

Regarding UNIFIL’s relations with Lebanon, Hezbollah and Israel, Tenenti said UNIFIL has the full commitment of all these parties to fulfill its mission and “this was reiterated during the UN Security Council’s meeting on Thursday.”

The UN Security Council on Thursday extended the mandate of the UNIFIL for one year without amending its jurisdictions in Resolution 1884 which was drafted by France and endorsed by all 15 member states.

The Resolution 1884 extends UNIFIL’s man-date, which expires at the end of this month, till 31 August, 2010, but does not introduce amend-ments to the peacekeeping force’s powers.—Xinhua

Large solar power programme starts in central China

WUHAN, 30 Aug—Construction of a large solar power project with an investment of 450 million US dollars was launched on Saturday in Wuhan, capital of Hubei Province in central China.

The 500-megawatt project is a joint venture of Greenway Solar-Tech (China) Co Ltd and Evergreen Solar Inc of the United States, according to Ding Kongsian, chief executive officer of Greenway Solar-Tech.

The project is scheduled to go into production in three years with an annual product value of 1 billion US dollars to turn out products related to solar power industry.

Nasdaq-listed Evergreen Solar manufactures and markets solar power products, including solar cells, panels and systems. It finalized its agreement with Greenway Solar-Tech and the government of Wuhan City on 30 July.

Strong blast rocks western Gaza, no injuries reported

GAZA, 30 Aug—A huge blast was heard at midnight on Saturday in western Gaza City which could be a bomb attack near a Hamas security compound in the area, residents said.

Witnesses said that a bomb exploded outside a Hamas security compound in western Gaza, known as the department of security and protection.

Gaza emergency chief Mo’aweya Hassanein told Xinhua that ambulances and rescue teams rushed to the area to check if there are any fatalities.

Security sources in Gaza said that explosives experts also discovered three bombs placed near security compound belonging to Hamas security forces, and they had dismantled the bombs. There are no immediate reports of any casualties.—Xinhua

Plastic bag limits save China 3 mln tons of oil per year

BEIJING, 30 Aug—China’s limits on the use of plastic bags cut crude oil consumption by three million tons per year, according to the National Development and Reform Commission (NDRC).

Since 1 June, 2008, all Chinese retailers, including supermarkets, department stores and groceries, no longer provided free plastic shopping bags. In addition, China banned ultra-thin plastic bags, or those thinner than 0.025 millimetres.

China is trying to cut the use of plastic bags in a bid to reduce energy consumption and polluting emissions.

The plastic bag limits could save about 2.4 million to 3.0 million tons of crude oil every year and cut 7.6 million to 9.6 million tons of carbon dioxide emissions every year, the NDRC said.—Xinhua

Sri Lanka police swoops on roadside bombs

COLOMBO, 30 Aug—Sri Lankan Police have recovered a dozen of claymore mines or the road side bombs.

Police spokesman senior deputy inspector general Nimal Mediwaka said on Sunday the bombs were found on Saturday in the northern districts of Mannar and Vavuniya.

Mediwaka said the police’s Terrorism Investigation Division had made the discovery of the 12 bombs in Mannar’s Silawatura area while another, 50 kg bomb, was found in Vavuniya along with C4 explosives and other equipment.—Xinhua

Technicians observe the growth of umbilical cord blood stem cells at the base for national stem cell clinic research for umbilical cord blood stem cell transplant centers of China, a national wide multi-center clinic research for umbilical cord blood stem cell transplant started here on Saturday. Tianjin now has the largest umbilical cord blood stem cell storage in the world.—Xinhua

Dutch actors perform lion dance, a form of traditional dance in Chinese culture, during the 8th Chinese Culture Festival in Rotterdam, the Netherlands, on 29 Aug. 2009. The 8th Chinese Culture Festival kicked off here on Saturday. XINHUA

A worker welds the last box girder for the Chuanyang River Bridge, a “VIP bridge” for the 2010 World Expo, in east China’s Shanghai Municipality on 29 Aug, 2009. Crossing the Chuanyang River, the bridge joined its two sections after four months’ construction on Saturday and would serve as a way leading the VIPs directly to the Shanghai Expo Park through VIP thoroughfare.—Xinhua

All items from Xinhua News Agency
Police investigate multiple killings in US mobile home

WASHINGTON, 30 Aug — Police are investigating a murder case in which seven people were dead and two others were seriously injured on Saturday morning in a mobile home in Glynn County, in the southeastern part of the US state of Georgia.

The county’s police chief Matt Doering told a televised news conference that police officers responding to a 911 call of multiple deaths found the victims shortly after 8 am eastern US time (1200 GMT).

However, Doering didn’t provide much detailed information about the incident, only saying that a homicide investigation is underway.

The two wounded people found inside the home were given immediate assistance, while the victims included seniors and young children.

Doering declined to say whether there was a suspect in the slayings.

Officers have tentatively identified some of the victims in the afternoon at a house in the area in the process of removing some of the bodies, Doering said.

A medical examiner from the Georgia Crime Lab was on the way to begin working on a determination of the causes of the deaths, he said.

Doering characterized the slayings as likely the largest single homicide in the county’s history.

TV footage shows the mobile home looks dirty from the outside with waste littering on the nearby ground.

Xinhua

European agency eyes Russian spacecraft

MOSCOW, 30 Aug — Europe may buy a Soyuz spacecraft to try to ensure at least one European astronaut heads to space each year, officials say.

Simonetta Di Pippo, director of human spaceflight at the European Space Agency, told the BBC the agency has asked Moscow if it could increase production of Soyuz spacecrafts from four to five a year.

That could enable the ESA, possibly in a partnership with the Canadians, to purchase one, Di Pippo said.

Once the US shuttle fleet retires in 2010 or 2011, Soyuz may be the only way to reach the International Space Station, at least for the short-term, the BBC said.

Di Pippo said ESA officials had discussed Soyuz with the Russians at the recent International Aviation and Space Salon, MAKS 2009.

Iraqi who threw shoes at Bush to be released early

BAGHDAD, 30 Aug — An Iraqi journalist imprisoned for hurling his shoes at former President George W Bush will be released next month after his sentence was reduced for good behavior, his lawyer said on Saturday.

Muntadhar al-Zeidi’s act of protest during Bush’s last visit to Iraq as president turned the 30-year-old reporter into a folk hero across the Arab world, as his case became a rallying point for critics who resented the US invasion and occupation.

“Al-Zeidi’s shoes were a suitable farewell for Bush’s deeds in Iraq,” Sunni lawmaker Dhafir al-Ani said in welcoming the early release. “Al-Zeidi’s act expressed the real will and feelings of the Iraqi people. His anger against Bush was the result of the suffering of his countrymen.”

European Union signs trade pact with southeast African nations

BRUSSELS, 30 Aug — The European Union signed a temporary trade pact on Saturday with Mauritius, Seychelles, Zimbabwe and Madagascar calling for tariffs on European goods to be removed over the next 15 years.

The four countries in southeast Africa have had full access to the EU consumer market — the world’s biggest — since the start of 2008 for most goods. Trade barriers for rice and sugar, however, are being removed gradually.

The new deal excludes on agricultural products such as milk, meat, vegetables, textiles, footwear and clothing.

Zambia and Comoros have indicated they will sign the EU pact at a later date, the EU said.

Finding violin is sweet music to forgetful musician

South Korean-born virtuoso Hahn-Bin forgot the 600,000-dollar violin, made by Giovanni Francesco Pressenda, in a yellow cab on his way back to Manhattan from a concert the New York Post and other dailies said.

It was only after the exhausted fiddler had taken a shower in his Chinatown apartment that he realized what had happened.

The city’s taxi authorities, however, had no trouble tracking down the taxi: all yellow cabs are fitted with GPS trackers and the vehicle was found to be cabbie Dalbir Singh’s home in New Jersey.

“Losing an instrument is a greatest fear, even more than making a mistake on stage,” Hahn-Bin was quoted as saying.

British waste shipments sent back from Brazil

A ship laden with containers suspected of containing hazardous waste illegally exported to Brazil arrived back in Britain.

Brazilian health authorities say the shipment, supposedly recyclable waste, was in fact full of condoms, syringes and human waste. The material was found by Brazilian officials in three of the country’s ports over the past few months.

Britain’s Environment Agency said 71 of the 89 containers have arrived at Felixstowe docks in Suffolk, with the rest expected from next Tuesday.

“From what they have told us, they contain household waste and things like syringes, condoms,” said an Agency spokesman.

SUSPECTS IN QUARANTINE

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“From what they have told us, they contain household waste and things like syringes, condoms,” said an Agency spokesman.
Monsoon paddy ploughing concludes and fertilizer scattered collectively

NAY PYI TAW, 30 Aug—Chairman of Kayin State Peace and Development Council Brig-Gen Zaw Min attended a ceremony to conclude monsoon paddy ploughing and scatter fertilizer collectively held near Myainggalay model village in Hpa-an, delivering in Hpa-an village in Kayin State Health Department on 6 August and then presented iron tablet and vitamin A tablets to pregnant women and breastfeeding mothers and fed children anti-worm tablets.

On 7 August, Brig-Gen Zaw Min oversaw Yayboat silt dam project near Htilon village in Lashio and carried out integrated farming tasks at the field of peasant U Saw Tun Nay in Shwetaw village.

On 3 August, Brig-Gen Zaw Min looked into holding of drainage. Afterwards, he attended ceremonies to put fingerlings into the model paddy field near Tayokehla village, grow pepper plants and put fingerlings into paddy fields near Shewtaw village along both sides of Hpa-an-Zarthabyin road and viewed progress in carrying out integrated farming tasks at the field of peasant U Saw Tun Nay in Shwetaw village.

On 8 August, Brig-Gen Zaw Min in Shwetaw village and progress in building Dal bridge in Kya-in-Seikkyi.

Next, Brig-Gen Zaw Min inspected sanitation facilities in Hpa-an, delivering in Kayin State Peace and Development Council Brig-Gen Zaw Min attended the ceremony of nutrition week activities at the meeting hall of Kayin State Health Department on 6 August and then presented iron tablet and vitamin A tablets to pregnant women and breastfeeding mothers and fed children anti-worm tablets.

On 7 August, Brig-Gen Zaw Min oversaw Yayboat silt dam project near Htilon village in Hpa-an and carrying out integrated farming tasks at the field of peasant U Saw Tun Nay in Shwetaw village.

On 3 August, Brig-Gen Zaw Min looked into progress in building Dal bridge in Kya-in-Seikkyi. Next, Brig-Gen Zaw Min attended the ceremony of nutrition week activities at the meeting hall of Kayin State Health Department on 6 August and then presented iron tablet and vitamin A tablets to pregnant women and breastfeeding mothers and fed children anti-worm tablets.

On 7 August, Brig-Gen Zaw Min oversaw Yayboat silt dam project near Htilon village in Hpa-an.

Next, Brig-Gen Zaw Min in Shwetaw village and progress in building Dal bridge in Kya-in-Seikkyi.

Preliminary Conference 2009 of Taninthayi Division WVO Supervisory Committee held

NAY PYI TAW, 30 Aug—Preliminary Conference 2009 of Taninthayi Division War Veterans Organization Supervisory Committee of Myanmar War Veterans Organization took place at Taiyananug hall in Myeik this morning.

Patron of Taninthayi Division WVO Chairman of Taninthayi Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Coastal Region Command Maj-Gen Khin Zaw Oo and member of Central Organization Committee of Myanmar War Veterans Organization Minister for Livestock and Fisheries Brig-Gen Maung Maung Thein made speeches on the occasion.

The Patron of Taninthayi Division WVO and the member of Central Organization Committee of MWVO presented uniforms and cash assistance to the Taninthayi Division WVO Supervisory Committee.

Myanmar delegation attends 24th Session of the Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf

NAY PYI TAW, 30 Aug—The Myanmar delegation led by Director-General U Min Lwin of Consular and Legal Affairs Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs arrived back in Yangon yesterday after attending the 24th Session of the Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf held at the United Nations Headquarters, New York from 24 to 27 August 2009.

The Myanmar delegation comprised representatives from the ministries concerned.

The Myanmar delegation made presentations regarding Myanmar’s submission on the establishment of the outer limits of the continental shelf beyond 200 nautical miles from the baselines from which the breadth of the territorial sea of Myanmar is measured, the Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf at the 24th Session on 24 August 2009.
Shan State (North) Special Region (1)
Kokang Region Provisional Leading Committee

Announcement

Date: 30-8-2009

1. Myanmar Police Force exposed and seized an arms and ammunition factory illegally run for production and sales in Kokang region of Shan State (North) Special Region (1) on 8 August 2009. In connection with the case, MPF filed a lawsuit against responsible persons U Phon Kya Shin, U Phon Kya Phu, U Phon Tar Shwin and U Phon Tarli and summoned them to settle the issue. However, there was disagreement among the leaders of Special Region (1).
2. Moreover, the four responsible persons, unwilling to meet officials to settle the issue, have left Kokang region.
3. The incidents broke out in Kokang region are concerned only with the above four persons. Those who are not concerned with them may join Kokang Region Provisional Leading Committee.
4. U Phon Kya Shin, U Phon Kya Phu, U Phon Tar Shwin and U Phon Tarli also have the opportunity to address the issue in accord with the law in their own individual interests and in the interests of their region or people. They are therefore urged to seize the opportunity.

Shan State (North) Special Region (1)
Kokang Region Provisional Leading Committee

Myogyi diversion weir commissioned into service

NAY PYI TAW, 30 Aug—A ceremony to open Myogyi diversion weir near Taungtaw village in Kyaukse township, Mandalay division, built by Construction Group-7 of Irrigation Department of the Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation, was opened at the pandal near the diversion weir yesterday.

Present on the occasion were Chairman of Mandalay Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Central Command Maj-Gen Tin Ngwe, Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation Maj-Gen Htay Oo, departmental officials, members of social organization, local peasants and people and officials of the Construction Group-7.

The commander and the minister made speeches on the occasion.

Next, a local thanked the State Peace and Development Council for building the diversion weir.

Afterwards, the commander and the minister cordially greeted those present, members of social organizations and local people.

The commander then formally unveiled the stone plaque of the diversion weir.

Later, the commander and the minister sprinkled scented water on the stone plaque.

Myogyi diversion weir is the 225th irrigation project of the State. It is of broad crest type and 160 feet in width and 6.5 feet in height and it can benefit 35,500 acres of farmlands.

Upper part of Myogyi diversion weir, there are Myogyi and Kyaingkham dams which are under construction as well as already-built Zawgyi dam. Myogyi diversion weir was built to help Zawgyi irrigation system supply water within Kyaukse district. Besides, it will help carry out greening tasks for Meiktila plain.

MNA
Illegal arms factory in Kokang region...

(from page 16)

Members of Myanmar Police Force shot at point-blank range by Kokang troops loyal to U Phon Kya Shin started to open fire at them. As there were casualties, the combined Tatmadaw force had to return fire. At 2 pm on 29 August, the combined force rescued 25 hostages including 11 wounded persons. In the confinement and some places 14 bodies of MPF personnel brutally shot to death at point-blank range were found.

During the rescue mission, skirmishes began on 27 August. As troops loyal to U Phon Kya Shin fled leaving their heavy weapons and small arms, it ended at 2 pm on 29 August. Eleven Tatmadaw members fell and 34 were wounded and over 40 new small arms and ammunition of various kinds in the surrounding areas of the illegal arms factory.

As the Tatmadaw, MPF members and Kokangs that joined hands with the Tatmadaw were able to restore peace in the region on 29 August, it is now in a stable condition and local administrative machinery has become normal. Locals who ran away to the other country were returning to Kokang region. They are being accepted after proper screening. Officials are also providing necessary assistance to them.

MNA
Commander, mayor attend opening of Mya Yaunggyi library

YANGON, 30 Aug—Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Win Myint together with Chairman of Yangon City Development Committee Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin opened Mya Yaunggyi library in Kyimyindine Township this morning. The commander then donated cash assistance. The well-wishers donated cash, TV set, Radio cassette and publications.

Next, the commander and the mayor viewed the students pursuing education at No 1 Basic Education High School (branch) and inspected preventive measures against diarrhoea and dengue hemorrhagic fever being collectively carried out by departmental personnel, members of social organizations and locals along Thihabala street in Aletchaung ward.

The commander and the mayor viewed scattering of natural fertilizer at farmer U Kyaw Than’s monsoon paddy farm and put the fingerlings into the farm. They symbolically planted the sapling at No 15 Basic Education Middle School (branch) and viewed feeding nutritious food, taking care and giving talks to students. After that, the commander and the mayor looked into purified water plant in Aletchaung ward and met local people.

Agricultural loans and inputs given to farmers

KAYIN STATE WVOSCE holds Preliminary Conference 2009

YANGON, 30 Aug—The Preliminary Conference 2009 of Kayin State War Veterans Organization Supervisory Committee was held at Zwegabin Hall in Hpa-an of Kayin State on 27 August morning.

Chairman of Mon State Peace and Development Council Commander of South-East Command Maj-Gen Thein Naing Win delivered a speech.

Officials submitted the report to the preliminary conference.

Chairman of the Kayin State War Veterans Organization Supervisory Committee Lt-Col Than Oo accepted cash donations for organizing the preliminary conference and presented certificates of honour to the well-wishers.

Also present on the occasion were member of Myanmar War Veterans Organization Central Organizing Committee Minister for Religious Affairs Brig-Gen Thura Myint Maung, Patron of Kayin State WVOSC Chairman of Kayin State PDC Brig-Gen Zaw Min and departmental officials, members of social organizations and representatives of War Veterans Organizations from seven townships.

Next, the commander and the mayor viewed the situation of the stream spanning bridge, donated cash assistance to a village elder.

Next, the minister met with residents at affiliated Basic Education Middle School in Phyapontaman Village and presented relief goods. He donated cash assistance to maintain the stream spanning bridge in Phyapontaman Village.

Next, Minister Maj-Gen Soe Naing and party also met with residents at Basic Education Primary School in Pale Village and presented relief goods.

Minister for Hotels and Tourism Maj-Gen Thaung Aye inspected Thaung Aye inspected Bama Sanpya Rice Mill in Tawtani Village of Dedaye Township.

Executive Committee of Myanmar Motion Picture Asiayon to be reorganized

YANGON, 30 Aug—The executive committee of Myanmar Motion Picture Asiayon will be re-organized at No. 50, the studio of feature film (Motion Picture Promotion) of Myanmar Motion Picture Enterprise on Shwetaunggya Road. The Asiayon has invited its members to attend the ceremony without fail.

The schedules for selection items, time and days are as follows:-
1. Play and movie background musicians group at 3 pm on 3 September.
2. Mechanical group at noon on 3 September.
3. Editing group at 3 pm on 3 September.
4. Video group at 9 am on 4 September.
5. Story and play script group at noon on 4 September.
6. Film director group at 3 pm on 4 September.
7. Actor and actress group at 9 am on 5 September.
8. Management, distribution and show group at 1 pm on 5 September.
9. Producers group at 9 am on 6 September.
10. Supporting actors and actresses group at 1 pm on 6 September.
Bomb injures soldiers near Philippine airport

Jolo (Philippines), 30 Aug—Suspected Al Qaeda-linked militants planted a bomb that exploded near an airport and an air force base on Sunday in the southern Philippines, wounding two soldiers, officials said.

Abu Sayyaf extremists most likely planted the bomb that exploded on late Sunday on a narrow road in Jolo township, wounding the two troops who were riding a scooter to a mosque, regional military chief Maj. Gen. Benjamin Dolorfino said.

The soldiers were taken to a hospital for treatment to shrapnel wounds. There were no reports of damage to either the airport or the air force base on Jolo, a predominantly Muslim island where American troops have been deployed to provide training to local forces battling the militants.—Internet

Beijing police frees boy from hostage taker

BEIJING, 30 Aug—Beijing police freed a schoolboy who was taken hostage by a young man at a training school on Sunday afternoon. A police source told Xinhua that a man armed with a knife broke into the English training school in Chaoyang District at around 3 pm and took the student hostage. The teacher and other students managed to escape from the back door and called the police.

Police seized the man amid a negotiation with him one and a half hours after the hostage incident took place. The boy was saved unhurt.

The hostage taker, surnamed Tang, 23, is a native from Ziyang, southwest China’s Sichuan Province. He did not ask for money but demanded a meeting with officials from local television station, witnesses said. Police are still investigating the case.—Xinhua

Pandas Tauntuan and Yanyuan were celebrating their fifth birthday in succession after eight months moved from Ya’an of southwest China’s Sichuan Province. Internet

A female jet fighter pilot dressed in the new flight suit prepares to board the plane at an airport in north China, on 30 Aug, 2009. The Chinese air force held Sunday a ceremony here for the first batch of female jet fighter pilots to be equipped with new flight suits especially designed for the female.—Internet

Google fails to squeeze into smartphone market

SAN FRANCISCO, 30 Aug—By day seven it was over. Queuing to use a cash machine, Torrez found he had even lost the will to Twitter. “I give up. I thought it would be fun to see what life was like on a different platform but I think I’ve seen more than enough on this hardware,” he wrote.

“At Saturday my family was here to visit and I found myself reaching for the iPhone to check on a restaurant, map some directions, and to check on an order. Given a choice between the two I just could not keep flipping that thing open knowing there were other perfectly good computers nearby ... I took the G1 into work today but I came home knowing what I had to do. I switched back to the iPhone.”

Good news for Apple. Bad news for Google. It is almost two years since Google launched Android but so far it has disappointed. After the initial hype, Harry Wang, analyst at Parks Associates, said he was surprised by how slow the rise of the software had been. Next month will be a big push for the system when Motorola is expected to introduce new phones powered by Android.

A reveller tries to get away from a heifer after a bull run in San Sebastian de los Reyes, outside Madrid, on 29 Aug, 2009.—INTERNET

N China high school suspends classes after A/H1N1 outbreak

ZHENGZHOU, 30 Aug—The No. 3 Senior High School of Xing’an County of central China’s Henan Province has been required to suspend all classes for one week after eight students were confirmed to have contracted the A/H1N1 flu as of Saturday.

The epidemic situation surfaced on Thursday afternoon when the People’s Hospital of Xin’an County received a A/H1N1 flu patient who was from the school’s Class Eight and Grade Two, sources with the county government said. Subsequent morning temperature screening and epidemiological survey staged by the county’s center for disease control and prevention showed 34 students from the Grade Two had a temperature higher than 38 degrees Celsius.

Israel sentences former Arafat aide to 20 years

RAMALLAH, 30 Aug—An Israeli court on Sunday issued a 20-year imprisonment sentence on a security advisor to late Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat, Palestinian sources said.

The military court of Ofar, near the West Bank, charged Fouda al-Shobaki with arms trade and financing “terror acts” of al-Aqsa Martyrs Brigades, the military wing of Fatah movement.

Israel has been chasing down brigadier general al-Shobaki since 2002 when it seized Karin A, a ship laden with weapons which Israel says was on its way to the Palestinian National Authority (PNA).

The court also accused al-Shobaki, who denies the charges, of transferring money to Fatah militants during the era of Arafat to establish an explosive lab in the West Bank.

In 2004, Arafat agreed to keep his aide at a Palestinian-run prison as part of an international deal to overcome an Israeli blockade on the Palestinian leader’s Ramallah office.

But in the summer of 2006, Israel raided Jericho prison and captured al-Shobaki and other wanted senior officials.—Xinhua

Driver will be charged in crash; Elderly couple die changing tire

DUDLEY, 30 Aug—The driver whose car allegedly struck and killed an elderly couple while they were on 1 Aug in the northbound lane of Interstate 395 near Jolo township, wounding the two troops who were riding a scooter to a mosque, regional military chief Maj. Gen. Benjamin Dolorfino said.

The soldiers were taken to a hospital for treatment to shrapnel wounds. There were no reports of damage to either the airport or the air force base on Jolo, a predominantly Muslim island where American troops have been deployed to provide training to local forces battling the militants.—Internet

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Some of around 10,000 people take part in the filming of “The big ask again” video clip on a beach of Oostende on 29 Aug, 2009.—INTERNET

Bomb injures soldiers near Philippine airport

Beijing police frees boy from hostage taker

Pandas Tauntuan and Yanyuan were celebrating their fifth birthday in succession after eight months moved from Ya’an of southwest China’s Sichuan Province. Internet

A female jet fighter pilot dressed in the new flight suit prepares to board the plane at an airport in north China, on 30 Aug, 2009. The Chinese air force held Sunday a ceremony here for the first batch of female jet fighter pilots to be equipped with new flight suits especially designed for the female.—Internet

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### Ministry of Information

**News and Periodicals Enterprise**

**Invitation to Tender for procurement of paper, ink and printing materials**

1. Sealed tenders are invited for procurement of the following paper and printing materials for News and Periodicals Enterprise:
   - **1. Newsprint Paper (48.8 gsm (30”)**: 3000 Tons
   - **2. Woodfree Paper (70 gsm) (500 Shs/Plkr)**:
     - (a) (31”x43”) (Indonesia): 500 Plks
     - (b) (16”x21”1/2”) (A3 Size): 750 Plks
     - (c) (8”x11”1/4”) (A4 Size): 1500 Plks
   - **3. Web Offset Ink**:
     - (a) (Black): 66,000 Kg
     - (b) Magenta: 1800 Kg
     - (c) Cyan: 1800 Kg
     - (d) Yellow: 1800 Kg
   - **4. Sheeted Offset Ink (Black)**: 4,500 Kg
   - **5. P.S Negative Plates**:
     - (a) 915x626x0.3mm: 1,500 Shs
     - (b) 889x586x0.3mm: 6,000 Shs
     - (c) 889x690x0.3mm: 3,000 Shs
   - **6. Wipe On Aluminium Plate (745x635x0.24mm)**: 1,500 Shs
   - **7. P.S Negative Developer**: 650 Litre
   - **8. Coating A-B Set**: 450 Sets
   - **9. Developing Lacquer**: 450 Litre
   - **10. Ortho Film (Roll) (24”x200’)**: 150 Rolls
   - **11. Ortho Film (Sheet) (22”x32” (50 Shs/Box)**: 270 Boxes
   - **12. Film Developer (5 Lit/Bot)**: 140 Shs
   - **13. Gum Arabic**: 900 Litre
   - **14. Rubber Blanket With T-Bar**: 890x625x1.95mm 100 Shs
   - **15. A3 Toner HP Laser Jet 5200N**: 600 Boxes
   - **16. A3 Toner HP Laser Jet 5000N**: 1000 Boxes
   - **17. Rubber Blanket With T-Bar**: 890x625x1.95mm 100 Shs
   - **18. Duplicating Ink Tube**: 450 Boxes
   - **19. Gum Arabic**: 600 Litre
   - **20. Rubber Blanket**:
     - (a) (765x780x1.95mm): 45 Shs
     - (b) (675x645x1.95mm): 90 Shs
   - **21. Imagesetter (Nay Pyi Taw)**:
     - (a) (Film 76.8 cmx 61m): 70 Rolls
     - (b) (Fixer 5.6 Lit/Bot): 540 Litre
   - **22. Imagesetter (Yangon)**:
     - (a) (Film 61cmx 60m): 70 Rolls
     - (b) (Fixer 5.6 Lit/Bot): 540 Litre
   - **23. Thermal Plate (889x609x0.30mm)**: 150 Shs
   - **24. Thermal Plate (Plate)**: 150 Litre

2. Tender will be closed at 16.30 hrs on 18-9-2009.

3. Tender documents and the detailed facts are available at the following address:

   Ministry of Information
   No. 28, Kokkine Yeiktha Street, Bahan Township
   Tel: 536029, 534574

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### Israeli planes hit suspected Gaza tunnel building

**Gaza, 30 Aug**—Israeli aircraft bombed a building in the Hamas-ruled Gaza Strip on Sunday which the military said had been used by Palestinians to enter a tunnel and carry out cross-border attacks in Israel.

The air strike, in which no one was hurt, took place in the early hours shortly after Hamas said unidentified Palestinians had set off explosive devices at two of its security compounds in Gaza City.

With an Egyptian-mediated truce mostly holding since its war with Israel early this year, Hamas has cracked down on perceived internal threats from the rival secular Fatah faction and breakaway Islamists aligned with al Qaeda.

Hamas described the target of the Israeli air strike as “open ground” but witnesses said it was a building with two rooms and a courtyard, which were ravaged by the attack.

An Israeli military spokesman said the strike was in response to a rocket fired from Gaza into Israel on Saturday, which caused no damage. There was no claim of responsibility for the rocket attack from any Palestinian faction.

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### Al Qaeda names man who tried to kill Saudi prince

**Dubai, 30 Aug**—Al Qaeda on Sunday identified a militant who tried to kill Saudi Arabia’s security chief on Thursday as Abdullah al-Asiri, a wanted suspect who was on a wanted list of 85 wanted persons Abdullah Hassan Tali’ al-Asiri, known as Abuul-Khair, managed to enter his palace, pass his guards and blow up a package, said a statement on Islamist websites attributed to the “Qaeda Jihad Organization in the Arab Peninsula.”

### Employees aim for up to 5 percent stake in VW

**Frankfurt, 30 Aug**—The roughly 370,000 employees of Volkswagen (VOWG.DE) and Porsche are striving initially to acquire a stake of up to 5 percent in the automotive group, VW’s labour chief told a German newspaper.

“I don’t know how much we will end up with. It certainly won’t be 10 percent overnight, but between one and five percent to begin with,” Sueddeutsche Zeitung quoted Bernd Osterloh on Saturday as saying.

It was not clear yet how the employees would finance the purchase of their stake, the paper said.

Volkswagen — Europe’s biggest carmaker — agreed to buy a 42 percent stake in the sports car unit of debt-ridden Porsche SE (PSPH.G.DE) earlier this month.

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### Kennedy laid to rest near his brothers

**Arlington, 30 Aug**—Democratic lion Edward Kennedy was reunited with his slain brothers as he was laid to rest in a Virginia cemetery while a lone bugle played Taps to bring the curtain down on a political dynasty.

Surrounded by his tight-knit family which has dominated US politics for half a century, Kennedy’s body was brought to Arlington National Cemetery, to rest on a hillside overlooking the nation’s capital.

The late senator was being buried 100 feet (30 meters) from the grave of his brother, Robert Kennedy, assassinated in 1968, and close to the eternal flame marking the last resting place of president John F Kennedy, shot dead in 1963.
Barcelona, 30 Aug—An experimental drug reduces the stroke risk in patients with irregular heartbeats by nearly four times, compared with the popular drug warfarin—but possibly at a cost, according to new research meeting in Barcelona. Patients with irregular heartbeats are up to 17 times more likely to have a stroke than healthy people. About one-sixth of all strokes occur in patients with irregular heartbeats who also have other risk factors such as smoking or obesity. In the United States, there are about 2 million people with such a condition.

Until now most such patients have been given warfarin, which has been around since the 1950s and has side effects including bleeding risks and requires lifestyle changes such as dietary restrictions. Doctors hope the new drug can help improve treatment for patients, who must be monitored continuously if they are put on warfarin and avoid alcohol and foods such as spinach and cranberries.—Internet

Study shows experimental drug cuts stroke risk

Number of A/H1N1 flu cases in Bangladesh rises to 194

Dhaka, 30 Aug—The number of A/H1N1 flu cases in Bangladesh rose to 194 on Saturday as 31 more cases were detected, local newspaper The Daily Star reported on its website. Meanwhile, the government is likely to raise its A/H1N1 flu alert to Level 3 following the recent increase of A/H1N1 flu cases across the country, the newspaper said.

The Institute of Epidemiology Disease Control and Research (IEDCR) under the country’s health ministry said 31 new A/H1N1 flu cases were detected on Saturday. Most of the cases were mild and the infected people are receiving treatment at home. Only two of them have been admitted to hospital with little complications, the newspaper said, quoting IEDCR sources.—Xinhua

Japan reports two more A/H1N1 flu-related deaths

Tokyo, 30 Aug—A female cancer patient in her 60s in Kagoshima Prefecture and a 38-year-old woman in Hyogo Prefecture with no apparent underlying illness died early on Saturday, becoming the sixth and seventh deaths in Japan linked to the new A/H1N1 influenza virus, Kyodo News reported.

The cause of death of the younger woman is not known, but the Health, Labour and Welfare Ministry said that her death does not constitute a case in which a fully healthy person died due to the infection, apparently in an attempt to brush aside public concern about the ongoing pandemic.—Xinhua

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Swimming enthusiasts go for a 1200-metre-long sea voyage during an international sea crossing festival at a ferry port in Shantou, south China’s Guangdong Province, on 29 Aug, 2009. The international fair attracted some 1,600 enthusiasts, among whom the oldest was 78 years old and the youngest was 12 years old only.—Xinhua

Blackwater moves to dismiss lawsuit

Alexandria, 30 Aug—Lawyers for Iraqis killed by Blackwater employees told a US judge Erik Prince, the company’s founder, is directly responsible. The argument came during a hearing on Friday in federal court in Alexandria, Va, on a motion by Blackwater, now Xe LLC, to dismiss the lawsuits, The Washington Post reported.

“The person responsible for these deaths is Mr Prince,” said Susan Burke, an attorney for the plaintiffs. “He had the intent, he provided the weapons, he provided the instructions, and they were done by his agents and they were war crimes.” Judge TS Ellis III questioned Burke and other lawyers on whether it was really possible to infer that Prince had an intent to kill Iraqis.

“Are you accusing Mr Prince of saying, ‘I want our boys to go out and shoot innocent civilians?’” the judge asked.

Prince, a former Navy SEAL, founded the North Carolina-based company and won lucrative contracts to guard US government officials in Iraq.—Internet

Melting glaciers threaten ‘Nepal tsunami’

Lukla, 30 Aug—Over two decades, Funuru Sherpa has watched the lake above his native village of Dengboche in Nepal’s Himalayas grow, as the glacier that feeds it melts.

The 29-year-old, who runs a busy Internet cafe for tourists visiting the Everest region, remembers his grand-father telling him that 50 years ago the lake did not exist.

“Before, it was all ice,” he told AFP in the eastern Himalayan town of Lukla, in the shadow of Mount Everest.

“This is proof that the glaciers in the high Himalayas are melting. And that must be because the temperatures have gone up.” Scientists say the Imja Glacier above Dengboche is retreating by about 70 metres (230 feet) a year, and the melting ice has formed a huge lake that could devastate villages downstream if it bursts.

Flames from the Station Fire are seen above the NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory, in La Canada, California on 28 Aug, 2009. Thousands of residents were evacuated from million-dollar homes in exclusive Los Angeles communities as four wildfires burned on Friday in the mountains and coastal areas around the city.—Xinhua
Real Madrid begins season with narrow win

MADRID, 30 Aug—Big spending Real Madrid began the new season with a 3-2 win at home to batting Deportivo la Coruna on Saturday night.

Real Madrid may have spent over 250 million euros on players such as Kaka and Cristiano Ronaldo, but was made to suffer by a team that has hardly spent a cent all summer and which relied on organization and teamwork.

Real Madrid kicked off with seven new faces in the side to that which started last season and with 78,000 fans packed into the Santiago Bernabeu stadium it didn’t take long for them to take the lead. — Xinhua

Bayern wins top clash with Wolfsburg

MUNICH, 30 Aug—Thanks to newcomer Arjen Robben’s sparkling two goals, record German champion Bayern Munich whitewashed reigning champion Wolfsburg 3-0 to win the top clash of German Bundesliga on Saturday.

German soccer powerhouse Leverkusen remains on top of the table after their 2-1 victory over Bochum while Schalke 04 suffered an astonishing 1-0 defeat against newly-promoted Freiburg.

Champions Inter hand four-goal mauling to 10-man Milan

ROMA, 30 Aug—Champions Inter Milan claimed derby honours by hammering city rivals AC Milan 4-0 after Gennaro Gattuso was sent off in the first half. Milan, and Gattuso in particular, suffered in spectacular fashion during a 10-minute first half period in a match that suggests the loss of Kaka to Real Madrid has hit the red and black half of the city harder than they thought.

Thiago Motta scored his first goal for Inter and fellow new-recruit from Genoa Diego Milito added a penalty before Brazilian full-back Maicon’s strike had all but ended the contest by half time. Serbian Dejan Stankovic’s second half rocket put the gloss on an accomplished performance as coach Leonardo kicked the ball during the Italian Serie A soccer match at Stadio San Siro in Milan on 29 Aug, 2009.—Internet

Federer, Williams sisters among US Open 1st-day matches

NEW YORK, 30 Aug—Reigning US Open champions Roger Federer and Serena Williams will begin defending their titles on Monday as an opening-day match list also had Venus Williams and Andy Roddick at night. The year’s final Grand Slam tournament commenced on the Flushing Meadows hardcourts Monday with former world number one Kim Clijsters of Belgium facing Ukraine’s Viktoriya Kutuzova in the first match at Arthur Ashe Stadium.

Clijsters is making her first US Open appearance since winning the 2005 women’s title, her only Grand Slam crown. She returned to the court earlier this month after a layoff of more than two years to start a family. Federer, who has won the past five US Open men’s titles and has not lost at the US Open since the fourth round in 2003, begins his quest for six in a row against 18-year-old American Devin Britton in the second match at Ashe.—Internet

L-R: Serena Williams of the US, Roger Federer of Switzerland and actor Will Ferrell are seen during the Arthur Ashe Kids Day at the USTA Billie Jean King National Tennis Centre in Flushing, New York.—Internet

Lyons underpin title form

PARIS, 30 Aug—Lyons romped past Nancy 3-1 on Saturday to overtake reigning champions Bordeaux at the top of the French first division.

French international and former St Etienne striker Batistuta fired Lyon into a 37th-minute lead and in-form Argentine striker Lisandro Lopez, having combined with Mirlaem Pianiic to lay on the opener, clipped home a second five minutes after the restart. Lyon moved onto 10 points from four games, one clear of Bordeaux, who must travel to Marseille on Sunday for one of the Gironnds’ trickiest fixtures of the campaign in the cauldron of the Stade Velodrome. On the day predecessor Karim Benzema made his first league start for Real Madrid, Lopez already instrumental in taking the French outfit into the Champions League group stage at the expense of Anderlecht, showed Lyon fans he is perfectly capable of filling the France striker’s boots with his smarts-taken-goal.

Asia clashes with Europe in table tennis

BEIJING, 24 Aug—The Asia vs Europe table tennis competition will start in Beijing on Tuesday.

The two-day event will pit the top Asian players against the leading European players.

China’s Ma Long and Ma Lin, South Korea’s Joo Se Hyuk, Chinese Taipei’s Chuang Chih-yuan and Hong Kong player Cheung Yek form the Asian team.

The European team is comprised of Belarus’ Vladimir Samsonov, Greece’s Kalinikos Kreanga, Germany’s Dimitrij Ovtcharov, Denmark’s Michael Maze and Sweden’s Jorgen Persson.
Microsoft offers Bing SDK for iPhone, Mac

SAN FRANCISCO, 30 Aug—Microsoft is offering an open source software development kit linking the company’s Bing search engine to Apple’s iPhone and Mac systems, according to a Bing community blog post on Thursday.

The SDK enables querying of Bing from within Apple’s frameworks, APIs, and runtimes for Mac OS X development. A Microsoft representative earlier this month had pledged that stronger linkage between Bing and the iPhone would be forthcoming shortly. “The SDK was designed to remove the headache of manually having to parse XML or JSON in order to communicate with Bing,” according to the description of the SDK on the Microsoft CodePlex Web site.

Also with the SDK, synchronous and asynchronous queries can be performed and Bing searches made for Web, image, video, news, and phone book results. The queries can be performed and Bing searches made for having to parse XML or JSON in order to communicate with the Bing API, according to the description of the SDK on the Microsoft CodePlex Web site.

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30hr MST:
During the past 24 hours, rain or thundershowers have been isolated in Rakhine State and lower Sagain Division, scattered in Mandalay and Magway Divisions, fairly widespread in Shan and Chin States, upper Sagain, Bago and Taninthayi Divisions and widespread in the remaining States and Divisions. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Nay Pyi Taw (Lewe) (0.51) inch, Nay Pyi Taw (0.12) inch, Pyapon (2.91) inches, PyoDoWin (2.24) inches, Katha (2.16) inches, Kawkhoun (1.73) inches, Hmawbi (1.42) inches and Aunglan (1.38) inches.
Maximum temperature on 29-8-2009 was 92°F. Minimum temperature on 30-8-2009 was 69°F. Relative humidity at 09:30 hours MST on 30-8-2009 was 100%. Total sunshine hours on 29-8-2009 was (5.7) hours approx. Rainfall on 30-8-2009 was (0.43) inch at Mingaladon, (0.67) inch at Kaba-Aye and (0.74) inch at Central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2009 was (84.92) inches at Mingaladon, (96.42) inches at Kaba-Aye and (99.80) inches at Central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (5) mph from Southeast at (12:30) hours MST on 29-8-2009.

Bay inference: Monsoon is weak to moderate in the Andaman Sea and Bay of Bengal.
Forecast valid until evening of 31 August 2009: Rain or thundershowers will be isolated in lower Sagain and Magway Divisions, scattered in Shan, Chin, Kayah States and Mandaly Division, fairly widespread in Kayin, Kayin, and Rakhine States, Upper Sagain, Bago and Taninthayi Divisions and widespread in the remaining States and Divisions. Degree of certainty is (80%).

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

Outlook for subsequent two days: Likelihood of increase of rain in the Southern Myanmar area.
Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring area for 31-8-2009: Isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (80%).
Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 31-8-2009: One or two rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (80%).
Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 31-8-2009: Isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (80%).

**WEATHER**

**Sunday, 30th August, 2009**

**MRTV-3 Programme Schedule (31-8-2009) (Monday)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Transmissions</th>
<th>Times</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Local</td>
<td>(09:00am - 10:00am) MST</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Europe</td>
<td>(15:30pm - 23:30pm) MST</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North America</td>
<td>(23:30pm - 07:30am) MST</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Local Transmission**
- Signature Tune
- Song of Myanmar Beauty & Scenic Sights
- Where the Rhododendron Blooms
- Grow more Crops and carry out Afforestation Work
- Delicious Myanmar Traditional Food
- Culture Stage “Zawgyi (or) Magician of the Forest Marionette Dance”
- Mandalay’s Grand Walls and Moat....
- Myanmar Modern Song “Still missing the Confluence”
- Biological Expedition to Hponkan Razi Region (III) (Awadam Village-Ziadam Village)
- Song of Myanmar Beauty & Scenic Sights

**Europe/ North America Transmission**
- Signature Tune
- Song of Myanmar Beauty & Scenic Sights
- Where the Rhododendron Blooms
- Grow more Crops and carry out Afforestation Work
- Delicious Myanmar Traditional Food
- Culture Stage “Zawgyi (or) Magician of the Forest Marionette Dance”
- Mandalay’s Grand Walls and Moat....
- Myanmar Modern Song “Still missing the Confluence”
- Biological Expedition to Hponkan Razi Region (III) (Awadam Village-Ziadam Village)
- Scuba Diving Adventure
- Travelogue “Mawlamyaing”
- Culture Stage “Let’s sing and dance in the garden”
- The Beauty of Zweegbin and Livelihood of Kayin National
- Song “Still missing the Confluence”
- Sightseeing Around Taunggyi, Inaly (Part-II)
- Song of Myanmar Beauty & Scenic Sights

**Website:** www.mrtv3.net.mm

**Martial Song**
1. Foreign Tunes (Troupe)
2. Aunglan 1st Section
3. Aunglan 2nd Section
4. Aunglan 3rd Section
5. Aunglan 4th Section
6. Aunglan 5th Section
7. Aunglan 6th Section
8. Aunglan 7th Section
9. Aunglan 8th Section
10. Aunglan 9th Section
11. Aunglan 10th Section

**Morning News**
1. Foreign Tunes (Troupe)
2. Aunglan 1st Section
3. Aunglan 2nd Section
4. Aunglan 3rd Section
5. Aunglan 4th Section
6. Aunglan 5th Section
7. Aunglan 6th Section
8. Aunglan 7th Section
9. Aunglan 8th Section
10. Aunglan 9th Section
11. Aunglan 10th Section

**NAME OF THE PROGRAMME**
1. Foreign Tunes (Troupe)
2. Aunglan 1st Section
3. Aunglan 2nd Section
4. Aunglan 3rd Section
5. Aunglan 4th Section
6. Aunglan 5th Section
7. Aunglan 6th Section
8. Aunglan 7th Section
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**Website:** www.mrtv3.net.mm

**Weather Map of Myanmar and Neighbouring Areas**

**Monday, 31 August**

**View on today**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Programme</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7:00 am</td>
<td>1. Foreign Tunes (Troupe)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:15 am</td>
<td>2. Foreign Tunes (Troupe)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:25 am</td>
<td>3. To be Healthy Exercise</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:30 am</td>
<td>4. Morning News</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:40 am</td>
<td>5. Nice &amp; Sweet Song</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:55 am</td>
<td>6. Aunglan 1st Section</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:00 am</td>
<td>7. Cute Little Dancers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:15 am</td>
<td>8. Foreign Tunes (Troupe)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:25 am</td>
<td>9. Foreign Tunes (Troupe)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:40 am</td>
<td>10. International News</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:45 am</td>
<td>11. Musical Programme</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4:00 pm</td>
<td>1. Martial Song</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4:10 pm</td>
<td>2. Dance Variety</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4:20 pm</td>
<td>3. Song of National Races</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4:30 pm</td>
<td>4. Foreign Tunes (Troupe)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4:40 pm</td>
<td>5. Musical Programme</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5:00 pm</td>
<td>6. Foreign Tunes (Troupe)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5:05 pm</td>
<td>7. Songs for Uphold National Spirit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5:10 pm</td>
<td>8. Aunglan 1st Section</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5:15 pm</td>
<td>9. Foreign Tunes (Troupe)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5:25 pm</td>
<td>10. Aunglan 1st Section</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5:40 pm</td>
<td>11. Foreign Tunes (Troupe)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6:00 pm</td>
<td>12. Foreign Tunes (Troupe)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6:20 pm</td>
<td>14. Sing &amp; Enjoy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:00 pm</td>
<td>15. Foreign Tunes (Troupe)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:40 pm</td>
<td>16. Foreign Tunes (Troupe)</td>
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<tr>
<td>7:55 pm</td>
<td>17. Foreign Tunes (Troupe)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:00 pm</td>
<td>18. Foreign Tunes (Troupe)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:15 pm</td>
<td>19. Foreign Tunes (Troupe)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:25 pm</td>
<td>20. Foreign Tunes (Troupe)</td>
</tr>
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Only with stability and peace will the nation develop
Only with stability and peace will democratization process be successful

Anarchy begets anarchy, not democracy
Riots beget riots, not democracy
Democracy can be introduced only through constitution

People’s Desire
- We favour peace and stability
- We favour development
- We oppose unrest and violence
- Wipe out those inciting unrest and violence

VOA, BBC - sowing hatred among the people
RFA, DVB - generating public outrage
Do not allow ourselves to be swayed by broadcasts designed to cause troubles

Illegal arms factory in Kokang region of Shan State (North) Special Region 1 seized

With Kokang region provisional leading committee’s cooperation, combined force of Tatmadaw, MPF rescues MPF members taken hostage forcefully by Kokang group of Shan State (North) Special Region 1

Kokang region regains stability, administrative machinery in normalcy

Myogyi diversion weir commissioned into service