Tatmadaw born to meet aspirations of nation and people

Role of medical science pivotal for physical prowess of Tatmadawmen

NAY PYI TAW, 7 JAN — The following is the full text of translation of the speech delivered by Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) Vice-Senior General Maung Aye at the Graduation Parade of the 7th Intake of Defence Services Institute of Nursing and Paramedical Science.

Comrades,
At this Graduation Ceremony of the 7th Intake of Defence Services Institute of Nursing and Paramedical Science, I would like to stress solemnly some points you should know.

Comrades,
The objective of the Defence Services Institute of Nursing and Paramedical Science is to bring about skilful nurses, paramedical and pharmaceutical professionals with physical and intellectual aptitude for the National Tatmadaw which upholds Our Three Main National Causes.

Comrades,
Our nation is a union where more than one hundred national ethnic groups live through weal and woe in every corner of the country. However, due to divide and rule policy imposed during over hundred years of colonization, disunity emerged even during the time of independence struggle. Since independence was the first priority for the country, our leaders built national unity with some conditions. Therefore, the basic capability to organize our national groups was rather weak.
After achieving the independence, armed insurgency broke out all over the country. Political demands related to federalism also emerged. Since ethnic groups are spread out in all states and divisions throughout the country, without restricting to (See page 8)
PERSPECTIVES
Friday, 8 January, 2010

Build new railways to facilitate inter-region transport

To ensure an easy and smooth transport, new motor roads and railroads are being built in all parts of the Union. At the same time, major bridges across rivers and creeks and many other small bridges are being constructed.

Myanmar Railways is not only upgrading old railroads but also building new railroads to contribute to transport. Some sections of new railroads on the east and west bank of the Ayeyawady river have been already commissioned into service. As a result, the flow of commodities is quick and trading is brisk.

A lot of passengers and goods can be transported in a short time by means of rail transportation. As rail transport is cheap and convenient, it has become a reliable mode of transport for the public.

On 2 January, the Monywa-Bawditahtaung section of the circular railroad in Monywa in Sagaing Division was inaugurated. It will facilitate the commute in Monywa where more than 250,000 people live. Thanks to the opening of Aungtha-Bawditahtaung section of the circular railroad, people in Monywa as well as in seven nearby villages can travel from one place to another with reasonable fees. It also helps the students of Technological University (Monywa) go to their classes conveniently. Not only that, pilgrims from all over the country and tourists can visit pagodas and places of interest around Monywa using the train.

Ensuring better transport is one of the most important tasks in our bid for all-round national development. Myanma Railways is striving for the emergence of new railroad networks, building more than 1,200 miles of new railroads. With the emergence of new railroad networks, transportation and trading of regional products will become quicker and economy of the respective regions will develop further.

4th Inter-School Senior Cricket Challenge Shield concludes

YANGON, 7 Jan — The final matches of the 4th Inter-School Senior Cricket Challenge Shield 2009 of Yangon Division took place at the sports ground in Lanmadaw BEHS No. 1, here, on 27 December.

The Myanmar Cricket Federation presented cash awards to outstanding players of the challenge, outstanding students in the matriculation examination for 2008-09, Saw Phone Thet Paing of Myanmar U-19 cricket team who secured the Man of the Match in the U-19 Cricket Challenge 2009 in Thailand.

Next, special prizes were awarded to all the teams of the challenge.

Officials presented medals and K 20,000 each to third prize winning Mingala Taungnyunt BEHS No. 3 women’s team and joint third prize winning Kyauktada BEHS and Mingala Taungnyunt BEHS No. 4 men’s teams.

In the women’s event, Kyimyindine BEHS No. 3 secured the second prize and K 40,000, while Lanmadaw BEHS No. 1 men’s team won the second prize and K 40,000.

Best Batsman Awards, Best Bowler Awards and Best All-Rounder Awards were presented to respective winners and teams.

President of the federation U Nyunt Win awarded K 70,000 to first prize winning Aihlon BEHS No. 4 men’s team. On behalf of Director-General U Aye Kyu of No. 3 Basic Education Department, Staff Officer U Soe Myo Aung presented K 70,000 to Aihlon BEHS No. 4 women’s team.

Council accepted cash donated by wellwishers and presented certificates of honour to them.

Afterwards, the minister, the deputy minister and the deputy chief of MFP awarded winners of basic education level essay, painting and poster contests on traffic rules.

The opening of the third Traffic Rules Educational Show and Competitions took place in the compound of Nay Pyi Taw Pyinmana Aung Mingalar Kandaw Hall and at the compound of Aung Mingalar Bus Terminal yesterday morning, attended by Patron of the supervisory committee Commander of Nay Pyi Taw Command Maj-Gen Wai Lwin.

It was also attended by Minister for Rail Transportation Maj-Gen Aung Min, Deputy Ministers Thura U Thaung Lwin and U Pe Than, Chairman of the supervisory committee Deputy Commander Brig-Gen Min Zaw, Secretary of Nay Pyi Taw Development Committee U Tun Kyi, departmental heads, the deputy chief of Myanmar Police Force, officials of the supervisory, social organization members, wellwishers, prize winning students and guests.

First, Maj-Gen Aung Min made an address and Deputy Commander Brig-Gen Min Zaw spoke on the occasion.

Next, Deputy Chief of MPF Police Brig-Gen Zaw Win and Director U Thein Oo gave talks on traffic rules and road safety measures.

Then the deputy commander and the chairman of Nay Pyi Taw District Peace and Development

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

Third Traffic Rules Educational Show, Competitions and Prize Presentation Ceremony held in Nay Pyi Taw

NAY PYI TAW, 7 Jan — Organized by Nay Pyi Taw Traffic Rules Enforcement Supervisory Committee, the third Traffic Rules Educational Show, Competitions and Prize Presentation Ceremony was held at Nay Pyi Taw Pyinmana Aung Mingalar Kandaw Hall and at the compound of Aung Mingalar Bus Terminal yesterday morning, attended by Patron of the supervisory committee Commander of Nay Pyi Taw Command Maj-Gen Wai Lwin.

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The opening of the third Traffic Rules Educational Show and Competitions took place in the compound of Nay Pyi Taw Pyinmana Aung Mingalar Bus Terminal. Deputy Commander Brig-Gen Min Zaw, MPF Deputy Chief Zaw Win and Deputy Director-General U Win Thaung of Directorate of Road Transportation formally opened the show.

The commander and party viewed booths and shops displayed at the show.

The show will be opened up to 10 January.
US believes one in five ex-detainees joining militant US.

WASHINGTON, 7 Jan — A classified Pentagon assessment shows about one in five detainees released from the US military prison at Guantanamo Bay has joined or is suspected of joining militant groups like al-Qaeda, US officials said on Wednesday.

The disclosure comes amid revelations that former Guantanamo detainees had joined al-Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula — a Yemen-based group believed to be behind a failed plot to blow up a US passenger jet on Christmas Day.

Under pressure to increase safeguards, President Barack Obama announced on Tuesday that he had suspended the transfer of additional Guantanamo detainees to Yemen, citing the deteriorating security situation in the country. But Obama said the suspension of transfers would not prevent him from closing the prison, which was opened in early 2002 by the Bush administration to house terrorism suspects.

More than 560 detainees from Guantanamo have been released, the vast majority of them by the Bush administration. An Obama administration official said the White House had received “no information that suggests that any of the detainees transferred by this administration have returned to the fight.”

At least eight dead in blasts aimed at Iraq.

BAGHDAD, 7 Jan— Five explosions that mostly targeted law enforcement officials ripped through a city in Anbar province Thursday morning, killing at least eight people and injuring 10 others. Security forces imposed a curfew before dawn in the small city of Hit, about 120 miles west of Baghdad, as they searched for two potential suicide bombers they believed to be in the city, a police spokesman said.

The homemade bombs that struck the homes of Hit’s deputy police chief, two counter-terror police officials and a lawyer came just one week after twin explosions killed at least 24 people in Anbar and ripped off the hand of provincial governor, Kassim Mohammed Fahdawi.

They also follow a series of some 40 assassinations in the province that primarily have targeted politicians, police officers, tribal chiefs and religious figures.

The explosions underscore fears that, as U.S. troops begin to withdraw from Iraq, the province’s fragile security is deteriorating.

Anbar was considered an American model of success after Sunni tribal leaders and U.S. forces struck a deal to rein in insurgents in a place once known as a militant heartland and a graveyard for Americans.

‘Seven killed’ in suspected Afghanistan suicide bombing.

GARDEZ, 7 Jan— A suspected suicide bomber has attacked a market in the south-eastern Afghanistan city of Gardez, killing at least seven people, reports say.

A spokesman for the provincial governor said the targets of the attack were apparently Afghan security officials. Reuters news agency reported those killed included the security commander for neighbouring Logar province, his brother, and three bodyguards. Reports say a further 24 people were wounded in the blast.

Gardez is the capital of Paktia province, and Thursday’s attack happened at 1630 local time (1200 GMT) when the suspected suicide bomber, wearing an explosives-filled vest, detonated his device.

“This was a suicide attack.” said the spokesman for the governor of Paktia province, Rohullah Samon. Correspondents say suicide attacks, usually targeting government officials and security installations, have become increasingly common in Afghanistan.

Cuba says detained contractor worked for US intelligence.

HANNA, 7 Jan — A senior Cuban official says that an American government contractor detained in Cuba for more than a month was “working for American intelligence.” Parliament leader Ricardo Alarcon says the man is under investigation but has not yet been charged.

Neither government has identified the man who was arrested on 4 Dec on suspicion he was handing out communications equipment to opposition groups. Alarcon says the man’s actions are “part of the privatization of war.”

The State Department has said that he was working a Maryland-based economic development organization. The company’s president has said he was part of a US government-financed programme to “strengthen civil society” in Cuba. Alarcon spoke on Wednesday.— Internet

Blast injures governor of Afghanistan’s Khost.

KABUL, 7 Jan — An Afghan Interior Ministry spokesman says the governor of a restive eastern province is slightly injured after a bomb exploded in a garbage container outside the governor’s compound.

The midday Thursday blast broke windows in the building and Gov. Tahir Khan Sabari was cut by the glass but not seriously injured, ministry spokesman Zemeri Bashary told The Associated Press. He said no one else was injured.

Khost borders Pakistan, where a suicide bomber on 30 Dec killed seven CIA employees at an agency base.

The province is one of Afghanistan’s most troubled. On Wednesday, at least 15 people were injured in a blast outside a shop in Khost city, the provincial centre.

Three killed in bomb attack in Iraq’s E Diyala.

BAQUBA, 7 Jan — Three people were killed and 15 others injured in a bomb explosion in the eastern Iraqi province of Diyala on Thursday, a provincial police source said. The incident took place on Thursday morning when an explosive charge went off outside the mosque in the town of Khanaqin, near the Iranian border, the source told Xinhua on condition of anonymity.

Five of the wounded were in critical conditions, the source said. Located some 160 km northeast of Baghdad, Khanaqin is dominated by Shiite Kurds. The town is part of the disputed area outside the northern autonomous Kurdish region between the Baghdad government and the Kurdish regional government.— Xinhua.
S Korea’s LG Electronics aims for 52 b USD in 2010 global sales

SEOUL, 7 Jan — South Korean electronics manufacturer LG Electronics announced on Thursday that this year’s global sales goal has been set at 59 trillion won (52 billion US dollars), local media reported.

This year’s projection is nearly 10 percent up from last year’s output, sustaining the company’s goal of keeping a 10 percent annual growth rate, Xinhua News Agency said.

All figures were consolidated, which means it also includes overseas affiliates, and the estimates were based on a currency rate of 1,150 won per US dollar, it added.—Xinhua

S Korean conglomerates to launch business in new business hub

SEOUL, 7 Jan — South Korean conglomerates, including Samsung Electronics Co Ltd, SK Group and Hanwha Group, are expected to launch business operations in a new city the government aims to turn into a business and science hub, local media reported on Thursday.

The reports come as the government is moving to unveil its revised plan next week on how to transform the new city of Sejong into a business city, although the initially envisaged plan by late President Roh Moo-hyun was to move nine ministries and four government agencies to South Chungcheong Province, about 160km south of Seoul, in order to make a new administrative center and solve regional disparity.—Xinhua

Turkmenistan opens new Iran gas pipeline

TEHERAN, 7 Jan — Turkmenistan has opened a second gas pipeline to Iran, further eroding Russia’s historical domination of its energy sector.

The new pipeline will eventually more than double Turkmenistan’s annual gas exports to Iran to 20bn cubic metres.

With a pipeline to China that opened last month, sales to Russia will be a much smaller proportion of exports.

The EU also wants to build a gas link that bypasses Russia, which for now remains the main buyer of Turkmen gas.

Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad inaugurated the new 30km (19 miles) pipeline with Turkmen President Kurbanguly Berdymukhamedov in a ceremony in the desert near the Iranian border.

The two jointly turned a spigot to symbolically open the link, which will deliver gas from the Dovletabad field to Iran’s Khargiran refinery.—INTERNET

Jobless rate hits 10.5% in Hungary

BUDAPEST, 7 Jan — Hungary’s unemployment rate continued to climb in September-November 2009, to peak at a record-breaking 10.5 percent, a 0.1 percent higher than the 10.4 percent of August-October, the Central Statistics Office reported on Wednesday.

In actual numbers, 5,500 more people were out of work in the September-November period than in August-October. It also meant that 55.1 percent of the population aged 15-74 had work. The overall number of jobless people was 445,000 out of a population of ten million, which means that 115,000 more people were unemployed now than a year ago.

The jobless rate for the 15-24-year-olds was 27.7 percent, 7.3 percent higher than a year ago.—Xinhua

AT&T to release seven new smart phones

BEIJING, 7 Jan—

AT&T, one of the largest provider of wireless service in the United States, is planning to release seven new smart phones, according to news reports on Thursday. The communication giant announced it would sell seven new smart phones in the first half of 2010, including two using the Palm technology and five using the Google’s Android technology.

As AT&T’s 3G contract with Apple will end by the middle of this year, it has begun to seek for new partners.

And as Palm is under pressure to find its technology carriers, AT&T proves to be one of its best choices. AT&T has also begun to make its first venture with Google by carrying its Android operating system.

In the apps world, it also plans the “apps for all” as Apple is doing. The company also announced it would expand its phone applications to more phone companies and develop more apps and other devices.—Xinhua

Lenovo reveals first hybrid notebook

LAS VEGAS, 7 Jan —

Chinese technology giant Lenovo on Wednesday revealed the industry’s first hybrid PC for consumers, the IdeaPad U1 hybrid notebook, featuring a groundbreaking detachable screen.

The IdeaPad U1’s unique design provides consumers in one device with two PCs, which work together with their own processor and operating system and work independently as either a clamshell laptop or a multi touch slate tablet, according to Lenovo officials.

“The IdeaPad U1 hybrid notebook is a game-changing technology in the PC industry that lets users switch their PC experience within a single device to match their dynamic lifestyle,” said Liu Jun, senior vice president of Idea Product Group, Lenovo.

“By fusing the functionality of a notebook with the slate tablet’s rich multi touch entertainment and mobile Internet experience, U1 provides consumers the freedom to choose the device they prefer for any activity,” he said.

When the IdeaPad U1 is in its traditional clamshell form, the system boasts an 11.6 inch HD LED screen and runs Windows 7.—Xinhua

Samsung Electronics Co’s products are displayed at an electronic shop in Seoul, South Korea, on 7 Jan, 2010. Samsung, the world’s largest manufacturer of computer memory chips and flat screen televisions, predicted on Thursday an operating profit of up to $3.44 billion for the fourth quarter of 2009 after racking up its first ever loss a year earlier.—INTERNET

In this photo taken on 6 Jan, 2010, a man works on an assembly line in a car factory in Hefei, in central China’s Anhui Province. Ford Motor Co said on Thursday sales in China by the company and its local partners soared 44 percent in 2009, highlighting the country’s key role in driving demand for global automakers amid weak sales elsewhere.—INTERNET

Microsoft Entertainment and Devices Division President Robbie Bach speaks during CEO Steve Ballmer’s keynote address at the International Consumer Electronics Show (CES) in Las Vegas on 6 Jan, 2009.—INTERNET

In this photo taken on 6 Jan, 2010, a man works on an assembly line in a car factory in Hefei, in central China’s Anhui Province. Ford Motor Co said on Thursday sales in China by the company and its local partners soared 44 percent in 2009, highlighting the country’s key role in driving demand for global automakers amid weak sales elsewhere.—INTERNET
China, ASEAN mark FTA with grand ceremony

NANNING, 7 Jan—China and the Association of South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN) on Thursday held a ceremony marking the establishment of world’s largest free trade area of developing countries. “Let’s take the FTA as an opportunity to lift China-ASEAN relations to a new high,” Huang Mengfu, vice chairman of the National Committee of the Chinese People’s Political Consultative Conference (CPPCC), said at the ceremony.

Officially established last Friday, the FTA covers a population of 1.9 billion and accounts for about 4.5 trillion US dollars in trade volume. Under the FTA, the average tariff on goods from ASEAN countries to China is reduced from 9.8 percent to 0.1 percent. The six original ASEAN members, Brunei, Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore and Thailand, slashed the average tariff on Chinese goods from 12.8 percent to 0.6 percent. By 2015, the policy of a zero-tariff rate for 90 percent of Chinese goods is expected to extend to the four new ASEAN members, Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar and Vietnam. Pinning much hope on the FTA, Huang called for China and ASEAN nations to seek stronger political trust, deeper trade cooperation, as well as closer social and cultural exchanges.—Xinhua

A man receives the H1N1 vaccine in Panama City on 6 Jan, 2010.—Xinhua

Highly-educated, older parents more likely to have autistic children

LOS ANGELES, 7 Jan—A new US research has found a higher rate of autism in neighbourhoods with lots of college graduates. Researchers at the University of California in Davis (UCD) identified two groups that are more likely to have autistic children — highly-educated and older parents. Using data on about 2.5 million births in California in a five-year period, researchers identified 10 autism clusters, or geographical areas in which there was a higher than usual incidence of children diagnosed with autism. The rate of autism in the clusters was about twice that of the surrounding areas, according to the study appearing in the 6 Jan online issue of Autism Research.

The parents’ educational attainment was classified into one of four levels: less than 12 years of school, high school graduate, some college (13 to 15 years) or 16-plus years of school (college graduate or advanced degree). Parents who lived in the areas where autism was more prevalent were more likely to be college graduates or hold advanced degrees than parents who lived outside the clusters, said the study.—Xinhua

Afghanistan situation is still getting worse

UNITED NATIONS, 7 Jan—In the UN Security Council, on Wednesday was a day of doom and gloom about Afghanistan, albeit sprinkled with a modicum of hope. It was the time set aside by this month’s president of the panel of 15, Chinese Ambassador Zhang Yesui, to consider the latest quarterly report on the world organization’s effort in the Central Asia nation.

Before the Council was a 13-page document prepared by UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon and his Special Representative in Afghanistan Kay Eide. It was Eide’s last report and last appearance before the Council since he has decided not to renew his contract. Ban, in so many words, told Afghanistan to tidy up its house and for the international community to get its act together, pointing out an increase in military strength is not the solution despite an increase in violence.—Xinhua

Fighter jets purchase is a political decision

BRASILIA, 7 Jan—Brazilian Foreign Minister Celso Amorim said on Wednesday in Geneva that Brazil’s final decision on the purchase of 36 fighter planes will be political, local media reported.

“We will take into account the technical issues, but the final decision rests with the Minister of Defence and the President...It is not a purely military decision. It is a political decision,” the minister told a news conference. On Tuesday, the Brazilian Air Force announced it had completed the report on proposals by three companies: the Swedish Saab, manufacturer of the Gripen NG; the US Boeing company, producer of the F-18 Super Hornet; and the consortium Rafale International, led by French company Dassault. But the result was not disclosed.

The related departments do not see eye to eye on what planes to buy. A Folha de Sao Paulo newspaper report on Tuesday said the Brazilian Air Force’s first choice was the NG Gripen by Sweden’s Saab, and not the government’s pick, the French Rafale, which is more expensive. In September last year, Lula indicated that the decision to purchase fighter jets would be political and strategic and the President expressed interest in acquiring the aircraft from the French consortium Rafale International.—Xinhua

All Items from Xinhua News Agency

Highly-educated, older parents more likely to have autistic children

Los Angeles, 7 Jan—A new US research has found a higher rate of autism in neighbourhoods with lots of college graduates. Researchers at the University of California in Davis (UCD) identified two groups that are more likely to have autistic children — highly-educated and older parents. Using data on about 2.5 million births in California in a five-year period, researchers identified 10 autism clusters, or geographical areas in which there was a higher than usual incidence of children diagnosed with autism. The rate of autism in the clusters was about twice that of the surrounding areas, according to the study appearing in the 6 Jan online issue of Autism Research.

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Indonesian physicians allowed to prescribe traditional herbal

Jakarta, 7 Jan—Indonesian Health Minister Endang Rahayu said the ministry has officially included traditional herbals into the medicine allowed to be prescribed by domestic physicians for their patients, the Bisnis Indonesia reported here in Thursday. The government also planned to set up clinics to provide medical treatments using traditional herbals.

“Such a decision was part of efforts to preserve traditional herbs. However, the usage of traditional herbals is still limited in preventive and recovery treatment efforts. It would also promote use of traditional herbs,” the minister said on Tuesday.—Xinhua

Cambodian dancers perform in Phnom Penh, Cambodia, on 7 Jan, 2010.—INTERNET

Number of clean-tech venture deals near record high in 2009

SAN FRANCISCO, 7 Jan—Preliminary statistics released on Wednesday showed that 2009 would be a record year for the number of clean-tech venture capital deals worldwide.

There were at least 557 such deals in North America, Europe, China and India in the past year, market research company CleanTech Group and auditing firm Deloitte said. The tally is preliminary, they noted, and is expected to increase by 5 to 10 percent once investors fully announce their activity in the whole year.

According to their preliminary report, clean-tech venture capital investments totalled at least $5.6 billion US dollars last year, down 33 percent from 2008 and approximately equal with 2007. Xinhou

A man receives the H1N1 vaccine in Panama City on 6 Jan, 2010.—Xinhua

THE NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR Friday, 8 January, 2010
US mother, baby girl killed by elephant in Kenya

NAIROBI, 7 Jan — A lone elephant charged out of the brush as an American family was hiking near Mount Kenya and trampled to death a mother and the 1-year-old daughter she held in her arms, officials said on Wednesday. Four adults and the baby were walking with an unarmed guide just outside Mount Kenya National Park on Monday morning when the elephant charged, said Kenya Wildlife Service official Michael Kipkeu. The family was hiking on a nature trail about 1 mile (2 kilometres) from the Castle Forest Lodge, where the family was vacationing, said the owner, Melia van Laar. “The elephant emerged from the bush at full speed without any warning,” van Laar said. “Everybody ran away, but the lady, burdened by the weight of the baby, perhaps, or in panic, was not able to run fast enough.” Officials identified the woman as Sharon Brown, 39, and said her daughter’s name was Margaux. Brown, originally from New York, and her husband are listed as faculty members at the International School of Kenya. Friends and colleagues at the American-curriculum K-12 school held a memorial service on Wednesday. — Internet

Costa Rica extends evacuation near active volcano

SAN JOSE, 7 Jan — Costa Rica has widened evacuations around the Turrialba volcano in response to eruptions of ash. The National Emergency Commission says all resident living within a radius of 4 miles (6 kilometres) of the peak are being evacuated. About 50 people have taken refuge at government shelters. The commission said on Wednesday that ash has fallen in several communities east of the Costa Rican capital of San Jose. The 10,958-foot (3,340-metre) volcano is 42 miles (65 kilometres) of the peak are being evacuated.

Car thieves work extra hard on New Year’s Day

Car thieves are known to roam the streets on holidays, when people are most inattentive, but it’s on New Year’s Day when they work the hardest, the National Insurance Crime Bureau said on Thursday. More than one million vehicles were stolen in 2008 across the United States — 2,650 each day, or one every 33 seconds. But on holidays, car thieves are most active, with 3,017 vehicles stolen on New Year’s Day 2008, followed by 2,847 the United States — 2,650 each day, or one every 33 seconds. But on holidays, car thieves are most active, with 3,017 vehicles stolen on New Year’s Day 2008, followed by 2,847

Five new planets discovered but ‘too hot for life’

SAN FRANCISCO, 7 Jan — A space telescope that hunts Earth-like planets orbiting distant stars has scored its first success, with the discovery of five new worlds beyond the solar system. The planets detected by the Kepler spacecraft are much larger than Earth, similar in size to Jupiter and Neptune, and as all lie very close to their parent stars are far too hot to harbour life. The find, however, marks an important advance in the search for small rocky worlds like our own. Kepler does have the sensitivity to find Earth-size planets, said William Borucki, of NASA’s Ames Research Centre in California, who leads the mission team. “These observations contribute to our understanding of how planetary systems form and evolve. The discoveries also show that our science instrument is working well.”

Jon Morse, of the astrophysics division at NASA, said: “It’s gratifying to see the first Kepler discoveries rolling off the assembly line. We expected Jupiter-size planets in short orbits to be the first planets Kepler could detect.”

6.0 magnitude earthquake jolts New Zealand

WELLINGTON, 7 Jan — New Zealand’s southern South Island was shaken by an earthquake measuring 6.0 on the Richter Scale on Wednesday night. The quake caused no casualties or damages. The quake happened at 10:48 pm local time Wednesday (09:48 GMT Wednesday) and was centered 460 km southwest of the southern city of Invercargill at a depth of 12 km, the New Zealand Institute of Gealogical and Nuclear Sciences reported.

The quake was likely to have been felt in the southern South Island. — Xinhua

The largest commercially available hamburger is 84.14 kg (185.8 lbs) and is available for 499 US dollars on the menu at Mallie’s Sports Grill & Bar in Southgate, Michigan of the United States, May 2009.

Dog digs up unexploded grenade

A New Zealand man said an army expert visited his home to collect an unexploded grenade his dog found buried in the yard. Sean McDermott of Gesborne said he cleaned up a brown mass his dog dug up at about lunchtime on Tuesday and called police upon discovering it was an unexploded grenade. Radio New Zealand reported.

McDermott said police inspected the device and confirmed it was a hand grenade. He said they sent for the army expert, who told him the homeowner said the expert told him it used to be common practice for soldiers to keep grenades as souvenirs. The expert said McDermott’s home was the fourth he had visited for a grenade removal that day.

5 Most outstanding Guinness World Records in decades?

The Guinness World Records is now searching for the most outstanding records of the past decades and 100 will be picked up and displayed on its official website. People all around the world can vote for their favourites. The Russian woman Svetlana Pankratova who has the longest legs and Darren Taylor from the United States who set the highest shallow dive world record are both listed as the candidates.

Got a pet tarantula? Better protect your eyes

Here’s some advice stemming from the unusual case of a man who had spider hairs stuck in his cornea: Be sure to cover your eyes when hanging around with your pet tarantula.

Ophthalmologists at St James’s University Hospital in Leeds, England, used high magnification lenses to find out what made the man’s eye red, watery and light-sensitive, according to a study reported in the British medical journal The Lancet on Thursday.

They discovered hair-like projections stuck in the man’s cornea. It was a light bulb moment for the patient, who remembered that three weeks earlier he had been cleaning a stubborn stain on the glass tank of his pet, a Chilean Rose tarantula.

“Hesitated movement in the terrarium. He turned his head and found that the tarantula, which was in close proximity, had released ‘a must of hairs’ which hit his eyes and face,” the doctors wrote.
I am a Kayin national, but I, on behalf of Kayin people, ask the above question in the title of this article although the answer is obvious.

To be frank, I used to be a member of KNU for many years. I took part in the acts of the insurgent group due to my political concept, but I did not stick to the group’s narrow prejudiced policy. According to the objective conditions, I chose the most appropriate way to peace with which I thought I could do my utmost in the interest of my own state, native region and own race. Objective conditions bear witness to the fact that armed insurgency and terrorist acts should have been no more, unlike previous policies and programmes, which are intolerable for the people.

Yet, KNU: under the pretext of working for better future of Kayin race, clings to atrocities inclusive of bomb attacks, massacres, armed robbery, collection of extortion money, and arson attacks. I feel deeply disappointed that KNU is quite pigheaded: still committing terrorist attacks. One of the atrocities it has ever committed is the bomb attack at the Kayin New Year Day celebration in Papun.

Every country and race in the world celebrates their New Year Day festival on a grand scale with all seriousness. Kayin nationals not only in Kayin State and the Union, but also in foreign countries hold their New Year Day celebration with great pleasure. A New Year Day celebration is intended to leave behind the sins committed in the old year and to do things in the New Year hoping for the best. So, KNU is unforgivable for its deliberate attack on a New Year Day festival. Not only I but also entire Kayin people cannot stand for both the offenders and those who were behind the attack.

The terrorist attack left seven innocent people dead and 11 injured from among those celebrating Kayin New Year Day with happiness. Two of the injured succumbed to the injuries thereafter, thus bringing the death toll to nine. The blood of the casualties covered much of the ground where the ceremony was in progress, and the incident caused bitterness among local people.

Whoever denied that KNU was behind the attack, and whatever broadcasts West media aired, we know very well who are responsible for the tragedies, and so do the dwellers of Papun. Out of intolerance of the atrocity, some citizens complained to authorities concerned, disclosing the names of the offenders.

As usual, KNU (Central) denied committing the crime. It manufactured some fabrications through certain Western media in order that the government was deemed to be responsible for that. Nonetheless, profound evidences showed that some troops from Battalion (102) of KNU Brigade (5) had committed the bomb attack. Local people of Kayin State were condemning KNU for the bloodbath, and so leaders of the KNU (Central) leading a life of luxury in the neighbouring country came under pressure to issue an announcement. However, those who had returned from the refugee camps like me know very well that the announcement was nothing more than a lame excuse, and some points manifested in it implied that they were behind the attack.

In the announcement, they said that the incident implied a vivid evidence that lack of security in border areas had also spread to urban areas. Therefore, it can be deduced from the announcement that it was the root cause of why they committed the bomb attack. It is because they are not happy with security and peace of Papun that have been restored due to the shelter of Tatmadaw columns, as well as the peaceful life local residents are leading. Their concept is that it will be convenient for them to collect extortion money from the locals only if the towns and villages lack stability and peace and the people are completely under their thumb. In addition, if the national race peace groups turn more attention to community welfare service, the people of Kayin State will dislike KNU to a higher extent.

The peace groups and national entrepreneurs are worthy of highest praise for their great generosity. Apart from giving free health care, they made all possible arrangements in order to ease unnecessary fears of artless locals and ensure comfort in their life. I was very pleased to view the scenes.

Members of the national race peace groups who returned to the legal fold like me worked in concert with the Tatmadaw for many local eye patients to regain their eyesight. The joy I gained sharing emotional feelings of local people who had regained their eyesight was indeed pervasive ecstasy beyond words, and was in contrast with the feelings I got learning the tragedies in the incident in Papun. Health care to local people in Myainggyingu and Htotkawoke regions is one of tangible results from peace. The bomb blast in the Kayin New Year Day celebration is one of the countless atrocities committed by KNU.

The ultimate goal of Kayin nationals of us is to enjoy peace, not to face tragic events. I am strongly confident that the objective need of the entire people of various national races across the Union is the same, as that of Kayin nationals of us: to enjoy stability, peace and regional development.

Translation: MS
specific places, disintegration of the nation will break up the country into pieces, not even part by part. If that happened, Myanmar would disappear from the world map.

To regain the independence, people from all walks of life sacrificed lives, sweat and blood. In order to maintain the independence and sovereignty, the Tatmadaw is safeguarding the nation by steadfastly upholding “Our Three Main National Causes” comprising Non-disintegration of the Union, Non-disintegration of national solidarity, and Perpetuation of Sovereignty.

Comrades,

Our Tatmadaw was first constituted with young patriots. As the Tatmadaw was born to meet the aspirations of the nation and the people, the Tatmadawmen were of high moral standard and integrity. They weathered the storm of hardship. They were brave enough to overcome hardship and challenges. They were ready to sacrifice. They were united. They were disciplined. Joining hands with the people, they were capable to achieve independence. Their efforts are mainly focused on “Our Three Main National Causes”. These are the noble tradition of the Tatmadaw and I would like to urge you to maintain and pass this on.

Comrades,

In order to safeguard “Our Three Main National Causes” in an explicit manner, we have been promoting our Tatmadaw to be a strong, capable, modern and patriotic military force. In doing so, the role of medical science is pivotal for physical prowess of the Tatmadawmen and there also is the tremendous need for professionals like pathologists, nurses and pharmaceutical personnel. That is why the Defense Services Institute of Nursing was established in 2000 and it was expanded to the Defense Services Institute of Nursing and Medical Science. The institute has nurtured a total of 1142 graduates from Intake 1st to 6th. The number will reach over 1300 including your batch. Moreover, there have been 10 Master Degree graduates and 3 Ph.D degree graduates in Nursing. Some are attending post graduate courses. Today, with the rapid advancement of science and technology in the world, latest scientific findings in the field of healthcare have been discovered everyday. Therefore, to catch up with the advancing healthcare technologies, I would like to urge you to work hard and pursue post graduate courses.

Comrades,

As patriotic Tatmadawmen, you will join forces to defend lives, properties and security of the people in various front line areas. You have been trained to serve this objective. Military knowledge, based on duration of service and experience, has to be enhanced steadily. Therefore, during your career, you will attend successive courses, such as – the Platoon Commander Course, the Company Commander Course and the Regiment Commander Course, as conducive to your assigned position. If and when necessary, you must be prepared to take the leading role and carry out operations.

(See page 9)
Tatmadaw born to meet aspirations…

Similarly, during operations, you are imperative not only for the health of fellow Tatmadawmen, but also that of local people. Being members of the Tatmadaw that was born out of the people, you should consider the assigned place as your home town and treat local people as your own parents. The socio-economic condition of people, especially those in the border areas, is relatively low due to negative impact caused by armed insurgents. By means of fulfilling every single need of these people, the traumas caused by domestic insurgency would be relieved. I would like to urge you, at this point, to actively participate in the development projects for the border areas and national races as well as the rural development projects implemented by the State.

For a Tatmadawman, physical ability means combat ability and mental ability means good moral conduct, high morale, high integrity and brave sacrifice. In this context, you Tatmadawman, physical ability means combat ability and mental ability means good moral conduct, high morale, high integrity and brave sacrifice. In this context, you should strictly abide by the sixty codes of conduct for Tatmadawmen, keep up the high moral standard and the courage to sacrifice for our nation and people. Similarly, Espiritde corps, the comrade spirit, which refers to compassion, attachment and loyalty among yourselves, is one of the essential qualities for all Tatmadawmen. We, Tatmadawmen, enjoyed many victories that can be attributed to the comrade spirit of sacrificing life for one another.

For your career, you are to acquire both physical and mental strength. For a Tatmadawman, physical ability means combat ability and mental ability means good moral conduct, high morale, high integrity and brave sacrifice.

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Comrades,
You are about to serve your duties with respect to the motto “Members of the Tatmadaw Medical Corps, efficiency with helping hands”. For your career, you are to acquire both physical and mental strength. For a Tatmadawman, physical ability means combat ability and mental ability means good moral conduct, high morale, high integrity and brave sacrifice.

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Vice-Senior General Maung Aye addresses...

(from page 16)

Command Maj-Gen Win Myint, Ministers Maj-Gen Khin Maung Myint, U Thaung, Brig-Gen Thein Zaw, Dr. Kyaw Myint and Dr. Chan Nyein, Vice-Chiefs of Armed Forces Training Maj-Gen Zaw Win and Maj-Gen Thoe Htein, Directors Maj-Gen Mya Win, Maj-Gen Ngwe Thein, Maj-Gen Nyan Tun, Maj-Gen Than Soe, Maj-Gen Maung Maung Ohn, Col Hla Myint, Maj-Gen Than Aung, Maj-Gen Hlaing Myint and senior military officers, Yangon Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin, Commandant of Defence Services Medical Academy Brig-Gen Tun Nay Lin, Commandant of Defence Services Institute of Nursing and Paramedical Science Brig-Gen Hla Myint Shwe, senior military officers of the local station, parents and relatives of the trainees and guests.

Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) Vice-Senior General Maung Aye took the salute of the trainee companies. Next, Vice-Senior General Maung Aye inspected the trainee companies. Afterwards, the trainee companies marched past Vice-Senior General Maung Aye.

Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) Vice-Senior General Maung Aye presented the best trainee award to trainee Yan Naung Soe, the excellent award in training to trainee Myo Kyaw Htay and the excellent award in studies to trainee Myat Soe Lwin.

Next, Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) Vice-Senior General Maung Aye delivered an address. (The address of Vice-Senior General Maung Aye is reported separately.)

After taking the salute of the trainee companies, Vice-Senior General Maung Aye left the parade ground. At the hall of the main lecture hall of the DSMA, Vice-Senior General Maung Aye cordially met three outstanding graduates and their parents and gave words of encouragement.

MNA

Vice-Senior General Maung Aye attends graduation dinner of 7th Intake of DSINPS

NAY PYI TAW, 7 Jan – The graduation dinner of the 7th Intake of Defence Services Institute of Nursing and Paramedical Science was held at the auditorium of Convocation Hall of Defence Services Medical Academy in Yangon this evening, attended by Vice-Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) Vice-Senior General Maung Aye.

Present also at the dinner were Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Quarter-master-General General Thih Thura Triu Aung Myint Oo, SPDC member Lt-Gen Tin Aye, Commander-in-Chief (Navy) Vice-Admiral Nyan Tun, Commander-in-Chief (Air) Lt-Gen Myat Hein, senior military officers of the Ministry of Defence, the commander of Yangon Command, the ministers, senior military officers, the Yangon mayor, the deputy ministers, departmental heads, the commandant of DSMA, the commandant of the institute, advisors, the professors and heads of departments, the faculty members and trainees and their parents and relatives.

After the dinner, artists of Myawady Music Band and Myanmar Music Ayeint Troupe presented entertainments. — MNA

Energy Dy Minister inspects natural gas production

NAY PYI TAW, 7 Jan—Deputy Minister for Energy Brig-Gen Than Htay, accompanied by Managing Director of Myanmar Oil and Gas Enterprise and officials, arrived at Yadana Natural Gas Production Offshore Platform yesterday.

The deputy minister heard reports on progress of tasks, production and distribution of natural gas submitted by the general manager and officials of Total Myanmar Company. He called them for completion of task in time meeting set standards. The officials of Total Myanmar Company conducted the deputy minister round the production platform. The deputy minister greeted Myanmar staff working at Yadana Gas Field.

The deputy minister inspected the construction of Pipeline Centre and Landfall of Domestic-use Offshore Natural Gas Pipeline Installation Enterprise near Daw Nyein village in Ayeyawady Division. — MNA

US Embassy staff visited NLD HQ 23 times in Dec 2009

YANGON, 7 Jan—The National League for Democracy (NLD) Headquarters keeps in touch with the US Embassy and British Embassy in Yangon and complies with their directives, thus attracting widespread criticism and watchful eyes from the people.

In December 2009, the staff of the US Embassy in Yangon visited NLD HQ on West Shwegondaing Street here for 23 times. In every visit, they held a meeting with NLD CEC members, and presented them envelopes of different sizes. — MNA

Myanmar Health Research Conference (2009) on 25-29 Jan

YANGON, 7 Jan – The Ministry of Health will organize Myanmar Health Research Conference (2009) from 9 a.m. to 4.30 pm from 25 to 29 January at the meeting hall of Medical Research Department (Lower Myanmar) on Ziwaka Street in Dagon Township here. Resource persons will read out 92 papers and 20 posters at the conference. Workshops on health will be held along with the display of booths of pharmaceutical companies. Enthusiasts may attend the conference. — MNA
**US soldier charged in Japan with hit and run**

**Tokyo, 7 Jan** – Japanese prosecutors charged a US soldier on Thursday in connection with a fatal hit-and-run accident on the southern island of Okinawa. A spokesman for the prosecutor's office in Okinawa's local capital, Naha, said the soldier had been charged with negligence resulting in the death on 7 Nov of a 66-year-old man.

The spokesman refused to give further details and spoke on condition of anonymity because of office regulations.

Maj James Crawford, a spokesman for the US Army in Japan, said the soldier, based at Torii Station on Okinawa, was handed over to Japanese custody. He identified the soldier as Clyde Gunn, a 27-year-old staff sergeant from Oxford, Mississippi. "We are cooperating with the Japanese authorities," Crawford said.

Japanese investigators say the soldier raised suspicions when he took his military-registered car, which had dents and blood stains, to a repair shop. Samples collected from the car matched those of the victim, police said. The soldier has been interviewed several times by local police.

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**Israel to deploy Gaza rocket interceptor by June**

**Jerusalem, 7 Jan** — An Israeli interceptor system developed to shoots down the short-range rockets and mortar bombs used by Palestinian militants will be deployed outside the Gaza Strip by June, local daily Ha'aretz cited an Israeli defence official as reporting on Wednesday. "Our plan is to be operational by the mid-point of 2010," the defence official was quoted as saying on Wednesday. Earlier, the Israeli Defence Forces announced that the defence establishment this week successfully intercepted multiple salvos in field trials using the newly developed Iron Dome system, adding that military air-defence units were already training on it.

During tests conducted over the course of the last few days, the system managed to intercept a number of rockets, by simultaneously launching its own target missiles, said Ha'aretz. It added that over the summer, the Iron Dome passed its first live trial in intercepting the short-range rockets favoured by Palestinian and Lebanese militants. — Xinhua

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**American Airlines jet landed halfway down Jamaican runway**

**Kingston, 7 Jan** — An American Airlines jet that overshot a Jamaican runway and split apart last month touched down nearly halfway down the runway, well past its target, investigators said on Wednesday. Oscar Derby, director-general of the Jamaica Civil Aviation Authority, said it was not yet clear if that point of landing was a factor in an accident that injured dozens of passengers.

The plane’s wheels made contact at around the 4,000-foot mark and the plane bounced once on the wet runway before the brakes engaged, Derby said. The target mark for the Boeing 737-800 was within the first 1,500 feet of the 8,910-foot runway. Investigators said they are still considering potential factors including pilot error or mechanical failure. "We will be going to the analysis phase to rule out those things that are not factors and narrow down further to what is the probable cause," Derby said. A call to American Airlines for reaction was not immediately returned.

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**Weapons cache found in Illinois**

**McCook, 7 Jan** — An Illinois man is free on bond after being charged in connection with a cache of nearly 100 guns and 300,000 rounds of ammunition, authorities say. The St. Louis Globe-Democrat reported on its Web site on Wednesday Lowell Doric Augeenbaugh, 47, of McCook, Ill., has posted $100,000 bond and faces a court appearance on Tuesday. Augeenbaugh was pulled over by a Rolla, Mo., police officer Sunday, one day after authorities received word he allegedly was heading to the area to kill his estranged wife and children, the Globe-Democrat said.

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**US soldier dies in Iraq; death not combat related**

**Baghdad, 7 Jan** — The US army says a soldier has died in northern Iraq of injuries unrelated to combat. A military statement on Thursday says the soldier from Division-North died Wednesday. The name of the soldier is being withheld pending notification of next of kin.

The incident is under investigation and no further details were provided. The death raises to at least 4,372 the number of US military personnel who have died in Iraq since the war began in March 2003. That’s according to an Associated Press count.

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**Bus crash in Bolivia kills 22**

**La Paz, 7 Jan** — Transportation officials say at least 22 people were killed when a bus collided with a car, sending them both plunging 230 feet down a mountainside in Bolivia.

Police Comm Luis Herbas says the bus was traveling from Cochabamba to the Bolivian capital of La Paz when the wreck took place. Another 28 travelers were injured in the crash and were being treated at a nearby hospital.

A family of five was traveling in the car. A father and his daughter died. The collision took place before dawn on Wednesday.

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**US fighter jets scrambled due to unruly passenger**

**Portland, 7 Jan** — An unruly passenger aboard a Hawaii-bound airliner on Wednesday prompted the pilot to return the plane to Portland, Oregon, escorted by two military fighter jets, in the latest of several US aviation security scares this week.

The Hawaiian Airlines jet en route to Maui’s Kahului Airport turned back because of “a suspicious passenger who made threatening remarks and refused to store his carry-on bag,” said Suzanne Trevino, a spokeswoman for the US Transportation Security Administration.
CLAI M S D AY NOTICE
MV BANGSRIMUANG VOY NO (87)
Consignees of cargo carried on MV BANGSRIMUANG VOY NO (87) are hereby notified that the vessels will be arriving on 8.1.2010 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.P 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 to Claims Day.
No claims against this vessel will be admitted after the Claims Day.

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S WONGSAMUT OCEAN SHIPPING CO., LTD
Phone No: 256916/256919/256921

CLAI M S D AY NOTICE
MV RATHA BHM VOY NO (506)
Consignees of cargocarried on MV RATHA BHM VOY NO (506) are hereby notified that the vessels will be arriving on 8.1.2010 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.P 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 to Claims Day.
No claims against this vessel will be admitted after the Claims Day.

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: MS REGIONAK CONTAINER LINES
Phone No: 256916/378316/376797

CLAI M S D AY NOTICE
MV JIAO CHENG VOY NO (99)
Consignees of cargo carried on MV JIAO CHENG VOY NO (99) are hereby notified that the vessels will be arriving on 8.1.2010 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of B.S.W 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 to Claims Day.
No claims against this vessel will be admitted after the Claims Day.

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: MS COSCO SHIPPING CO., LTD
Phone No: 256916/256919/256921

CLAI M S D AY NOTICE
MV HUI SHENG VOY NO (90IS)
Consignees of cargo carried on MV HUI SHENG VOY NO (90IS) are hereby notified that the vessels will be arriving on 8.1.2010 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.T.T where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.
Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm to Claims Day.
No claims against this vessel will be admitted after the Claims Day.

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: KOOK YANG SHIPPING CO., LTD
Phone No: 256924/256914

Britain brases for more snow

LONDON, 7 Jan—Britain braced on Thursday for more snow that has already caused chaos amid its most brutal winter in decades. Millions of Britons were set for another day of blizzard conditions and crippled transport links that have already kept many away from work and knocked Britain’s recession-hit economy hard.

London and the south-east will receive more heavy snowfalls, the Met Office forecast, as many businesses wait anxiously to see if their staff can make it in to work. The forecasters said the cold spell was the worst since 1987 and warned of more to come. “Bitterly cold and wintry weather is forecast to continue for the next couple of weeks with further snowfall expected at times,”—

Much of the rest of Europe was also hit by the winter blast on Wednesday, with freezing temperatures causing treacherous conditions and travel mayhem across the continent. Norway was among the coldest countries, with temperatures in the central town of Roeros dropping to minus 41 degrees Celsius (about minus 42 Fahrenheit).
Dublin airport closed, heavy snow at Amsterdam-Schiphol Airport caused delays and cancellations, and there was chaos at London Gatwick, as more than 400 flights were cancelled when snow closed the runway. Transport links across densely-populated southern and central parts of England were snarled up by the cold weather.

A Legoland employee clears snow from a model in Windsor. Britain braced on Thursday for more snow that has already caused chaos amid its most brutal winter in decades.

Internet

Over 70,000 inoculated against A/H1N1 flu in Macao

MACAO, 7 Jan — A total of 72,586 people in Macao have been inoculated with the A/H1N1 vaccines so far, Macao’s Health Bureau announced on Wednesday. Some 3,016 people were inoculated with the vaccines on Wednesday alone, and the Bureau started the inoculation in late November last year.

Chui Sai On, the chief executive of Macao Special Administrative Region (SAR), along with many officials of the SAR government have been inoculated with the vaccines, and Chui also called for local people to get inoculated, saying it was the most efficient way to stop the flu from spreading.

The SAR government has purchased a total of 700,000 doses of A/H1N1 vaccines, and local medical staff, children, old people and patients with chronic illness were among the group of local people who were firstly inoculated with these vaccines. According to the statistics from the Health Bureau, there were no new A/H1N1 flu cases reported in local hospitals on Wednesday.—Xinhua

Doctor warns of higher mortality risk from steroid therapy

BEIJING, 7 Jan — A risk posed by steroid therapy that crippled hundreds of patients of the 2003 SARS outbreak in China seems to have emerged in the current treatment regime for the H1N1 pandemic flu.

Overuse of the steroid glucocorticoid treatment criminal cases have already occurred. New H1N1 patients have, in many cases, worsened their condition, even leading to deaths after weakening their immunity, warned Li Ning, president of Beijing Youan Hospital, one of the two government-designated hospitals to treat severe H1N1 cases.

So far, 15 of the 49 serious H1N1 patients have died at the hospital, including two pregnant women, said Li. All the dead had received steroids before being admitted to Youan, said Li, who does not use that line of treatment. Most of the victims had been given steroid therapy in high doses ranging from 300 mg to 1,200 mg.

Xinhua
Innovation zone to be set up in central China

WUHAN, 7 Jan—Donghu New Technology Development Zone in central China’s Hubei Province will be developed into a national innovation demonstration zone, local officials announced on Wednesday.

The goal is to trial policies aimed at preventing talent loss in state-owned enterprises and improving living conditions for professionals.

“With the zone’s strategic development, high-end enterprises and finance sectors will be introduced,” said Wang Jianqun, vice president of the zone’s Strategic Research Institute.

The State Council approved Donghu Development Zone in Wuhan, capital of Hubei, last month as the second national innovation demonstration zone after Zhongguancun Science Park in Beijing, said Wang.

Donghu Development Zone, covering 80 square kilometers, has attracted 748 million US dollars of foreign investment and 15.63 billion yuan (2.29 billion US dollars) of domestic investment since it opened in 1988.

Despite the budding success of many companies in Donghu Development Zone, others were crippled by a lack of funds, said Qin Zunwen, of Hubei Provincial Academy of Social Sciences.

“We will try to get the approval of the China Securities Regulatory Commission to set up a system in which unlisted companies can transfer shares,” said Wang Jianqun.

“We will also encourage commercial banks to open branches in Wuhan,” Wang said. —Xinhua

S Korea sees jump in corporate bond sales in 2009

SEOUL, 7 Jan—South Korea’s corporate bond sales soared 64.6 percent in 2009 from a year earlier as companies sought more liquidity amid a global credit squeeze, the securities deposit agency said on Wednesday.

According to the Korea Securities Depository (KSD), the total bond issuance of 1.489 trillion won (1.38 billion US dollars) in 2008 to 19.47 trillion won (17.14 billion US dollars) in 2009, sharply up from the previous year’s figure of 45.97 trillion won (40.5 billion US dollars).

The total sales marked the highest level since 2005 when the agency started to provide related data, the KSD added.

In addition, the sales of asset-backed securities exploded 132.7 percent from 8.37 trillion won (7.37 billion US dollars) in 2008 to 19.47 trillion won (17.14 billion US dollars) during the cited period, the KSD said. —Xinhua

Heavy fog forces India to cancel five trains in capital

NEW DELHI, 7 Jan—Five trains were cancelled on Wednesday in the Indian capital due to dense fog in the city and parts of north India, while two dozen trains were running behind schedule, said railway officials.

The trains cancelled included the Sitamarhi-bound Licchavi Express and Gaya-bound Mahabhodhi Express, while Bhopal Shatabdi, Puri Express and Taj Express were rescheduled.

At least 10 people were killed in three train collisions in the northern Indian state of Uttar Pradesh last Sunday due to heavy fog.

North India has been hit by a cold wave over the past week, in which at least 100 people have died of coldness. —Xinhua

Teen charged after classmate ‘killed strict mum’

HOUSTON, 7 Jan — US detectives have charged a murdered woman’s teenage son with capital murder for hiring a classmate to kill her because she was too strict, Houston police said. Danish Moazzam Minhas, 17, allegedly admitted to police he had hired 18-year-old Nur J. Mohamed to kill his “strict” and “controlling” mother, a Houston Police department spokesperson said.

Mr Mohamed allegedly admitted to fatally stabbing the mother, Tabassum Khan, because Mr Minhas had paid him. “The date of the murder was picked because the son knew the mother would have cash on hand that day,” the spokesperson told NewsCore. Ms Khan was recently laid off from her job in the medical industry.

Approximately half of the undisclosed fee had been paid when police arrested the pair. The murder had been planned for a month. Mr Minhas originally told detectives he discovered his mother’s body on the morning of November 25 after he returned home from a rare night out alone. The 43-year-old woman had been stabbed several times. —Internet

Three workers crushed under train in SE Bangladesh

DHAKA, 7 Jan—Three workers were crushed under the wheels of a train in Bangladesh’s southeastern Chattogram, some 242 km away of capital city Dhaka, on Wednesday morning, police said.

Control room official in the local Sitakunda Police Station in Chattogram said the accident took place at around 7:30 am local time when the victims were crossing a rail gate without noticing the train on the tracks and met the tragic accident.

The victims were identified as workers of a steel re-rolling mill of that locality, said the control room official, who did not wish to give his name, adding no one on the train was hurt and the train proceeded as usual after the accident. —Xinhua

File photo shows a woman walking past the main office of PetroVietnam in Hanoi. Vietnam has learned a lesson from its first oil refinery and will build future facilities that are larger and more efficient, the chairman of PetroVietnam was quoted as saying on Wednesday. —Internet

Jetstar and AirAsia unveiled plans on Wednesday to slash costs and ticket prices by pooling some resources, taking the first step in an alliance that could transform the Asian budget market.—INTERNET
Atletico suffers Cup humiliation in Huelva

MADRID, 7 Jan — Atletico Madrid is on the verge of a surprise exit from the Copa del Rey following a 3-0 defeat to second division side Recreativo Huelva on Wednesday night. Atletico is in the easier half of the draw in the Copa del Rey and was expected to progress a long way in this season’s competition.

However, although coach Quique Sanchez Flores fielded a strong team against Recreativo, his players were overwhelmed 3-0. Fornaroil and Jeronimo Barrales put the home side 2-0 ahead after just 23 minutes, by which time Atletico defender Uñal was sent off for dangerous play. Home striker Daniel Barrales put the home side 2-0 ahead after just 23 minutes. There were no surprises in the other games.

Deportivo la Coruna also caused a minor shock with a 2-1 win away to Valencia. The only good news for Valencia was that winger David Silva returned to action with his side’s goal of the game, but by then Deportivo was already 2-0 ahead thanks to goals from Guardado and Pablo Alvarez.

There were no surprises in the other games, Villarreal is favourite to progress to the last eight after a 2-1 draw away to Celta Vigo, while Racing Santander is favourite to progress to the last eight after Guardado and Pablo Alvarez.

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URGENT: Eurostar train becomes stuck in tunnel

BEIJING, 7 Jan—A Eurostar train has broken down inside the Channel Tunnel after suffering “traction problems”, according to media reports. The service, which had been due to arrive at London St Pancras from Brussels at 08:56 GMT, stopped at about 08:30 GMT.

A spokesperson for Eurotunnel said a rescue engine was en-route to pull the train out. Another spokesperson for Eurostar said, “There is a train delayed in the tunnel but it will be on the move again shortly.”

In December more than 2,000 people were trapped inside the Channel Tunnel for hours than 2,000 people were trapped inside the Channel Tunnel for hours but it will be on the move again shortly.”

In December more than 2,000 people were trapped inside the Channel Tunnel for hours after five trains suffered electrical failure due to freezing conditions. The latest breakdown follows a three-day halt to Eurostar services just before Christmas after the wrong type of “fluffy” snow caused a series of stoppages. Condensation was caused by the snow melting as the train entered the tunnel, and this in turn affected electric systems. It is not known if the freezing weather currently sweeping across Britain played a factor in this latest incident, but workers in France said the heavy snow in northern France may have affected the electric systems. As of 10:30 GMT the train was still stuck.

A train leaves station in Hampshire, a village 40 miles west of London on 6 Jan, 2009. Internet

WEATHER

Thursday, 7th January, 2010

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hr. M.S.T. During the past 24 hours rain have been fairly widespread in Kayin state and Yangon Division, Scattered in Bago and Taninthayi Divisions, isolated in Mon State and Ayeyawady Division and weather have been partly cloudy in the remaining States and Divisions. Night temperatures were (3 °C) to (4 °C) below January average temperatures in Kachin, Northern Shan, Chin, Rakhine States and upper Sagain Division, (3 °C) to (4 °C) above January average temperatures in Mon and Kayin States, Bago and Taninthayi Divisions, (5 °C) to (6 °C) above January average temperatures in Kayah State and Ayeyawady Division and about January average temperatures in the remaining areas. The significant night temperatures were Namsam and Haka (2 °C) each, Putao, Machanbaw, Lashio and Lollem (3 °C) each. The noteworthy amount of rainfall recorded were Longlone (1.77) inches, Myawady (0.55) inch, Bago and Dawei (0.20) inch each, Thenzayat (0.16) inch, Kawkayek (0.12) inch, Kawthaung and Co Is (0.08) inch.

Maximum temperature on 6-1-2010 was 93°F. Minimum humidity at 09:30) hours M.S.T. on 7-1-2010 was 62%. Total sun shine hours on 6-1-2010 was (3.1) hours approx. Rainfall on 7-1-2010 was (Tr) at Mingaladon, Kabab-Aye and (NII) Central Yangon. Total rainfall, since 1-1-2010 was (Tr) at Mingaladon, Kabab-Aye and (NII) Central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kabab-Aye) was (41 mph) from Northeast at (17,30) hours M.S.T on 6-1-2010.

Bay inference: Weather is cloudy in the Andaman Sea and South Bay and partly cloudy elsewhere in the Bay of Bengal.

Forecast valid until evening of 8th January 2010: Light rain are likely to be isolated in Kayin and Mon States, Bago, Yangon, Ayeyawady and Taninthayi Divisions and weather will be partly cloudy in the remaining States and Divisions. Degree of certainty is (60%).

State of the sea: Strong easterly winds with moderate to rough seas are likely attimes Deltaic, Gulf of Mottama, off and along Mon-Taninthayi Coast. Surface wind speed in strong winds may reach (35) mph. Seas will be moderate elsewhere in Myanmar waters.

Outlook for subsequent two days: Likelihood of continuation of light rain in the Southern Myanmar areas. Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring area for 8-1-2010: Partly cloudy.

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 8-1-2010: Likelihood of isolated light rain. Degree of certainty is (60%).

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 8-1-2010: Partly cloudy.

THE NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR Friday, 8 January, 2010
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

Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) Vice-Senior General Maung Aye delivered an address at the graduation parade of the 7th Intake of Defence Services Institute of Nursing and Paramedical Science held at the parade ground of the Defence Services Medical Academy in Yangon at 7:30 am today.

Also present on the occasion were Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Quartermaster-General General Thiha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo, Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Tin Aye of the Ministry of Defence, Commander-in-Chief (Navy) Vice-Admiral Nyan Tun, Commander-in-Chief (Air) Lt-Gen Myat Hein, Lt-Gen Myint Swe and Lt-Gen Ohn Myint of the Ministry of Defence, Adjutant-General Lt-Gen Thura Myint Aung, Defence Services Inspector-General Lt-Gen Thein Huak, Military Appointment-General Lt-Gen Huan Hsint, Judge Advocate-General Lt-Gen Soe Maung, Lt-Gen Myint Hlaing of the Ministry of Defence, Chief of Armed Forces Training Lt-Gen Hta Htay Win, Commander of Yangon (See page 10)

KNU, under the pretext of working for better future of Kayin race, clings on to atrocities inclusive of bomb attacks, massacres, armed robbery, collection of extortion money, and arson attacks.

What is KNU?