



Commander-in-Chief Senior General Min Aung Hlaing (Left) and Chairman of Military Committee General Mikhail Kostarakos (Right) inspect the Honour Guard in Nay Pyi Taw. **PHOTO: MNA**

Chairman of the European Union Military Committee visits Nay Pyi Taw

COMMANDER-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing received the visiting Chairman of the European Union Military Committee General Mikhail Kostarakos with a ceremonial Guard of Honor in front of Zeyar Thiri Beikman in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday morning.

The Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services and the Chairman of the European Union Military Committee were saluted by the Guard of Honour and then inspected the Guard of Honor.

Afterward the Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services

and the Chairman of the European Union Military Committee met in the meeting hall of Zeyar Thiri Beikman and discussed matters relating to appointment of European Union (EU) military attaché, attending military training courses, relation and cooperation.

In the evening, the Commander-in-Chief hosted a dinner in honor of the Chairman of the European Union Military Committee at Shwe Nandaw hotel, Nay Pyi Taw.

Earlier, at noon, the Chairman of the European Union

Military Committee and party visited Mausoleum for Heroes (Nay Pyi Taw) and laid a wreath in front of the monument and saluted the heroes who fell for the country.

Afterward, they arrive to National Defence College (NDC) where the head of NDC give a welcome speech in the meeting room. The Chairman of the European Union Military Committee then gave a power point presentation on EU in the training hall and discussed with the attending trainees.—Myanmar News Agency ■

U Win Htein says no reason to criticize Tatmadaw

By Ko Nyi Nyi

U Win Htein, a member of the Central Executive Committee of the National League for Democracy, said yesterday that recent comments on social media critical of the Tatmadaw were falsely attributed to the NLD.

U Win Htein said the authors of the criticism that said the Tatmadaw was responsible for recent transgressions were improperly attributed to him and the NLD. He did admit to speaking his mind about the current state of affairs in the country, which drew criticism from the Tatmadaw.

“I spoke openly about the current situations and when they later reprimanded and criticised it, I spoke my mind again”, U Win Htein said. “Maybe they didn’t pay attention to what I was saying, but I will say it again, my remarks were not aiming to accuse the Tatmad-



U Win Htein, member of NLD.

aw, and there is neither reason nor motive to. Therefore I have no comment on notifications they issued in response to that”.

U Win Htein made the remarks at a press conference at Nay Pyi Taw’s City Development Committee Guesthouse on 4 May, telling the media there is no truth to the rumours and news spreading on social media characterising his remarks as critical of the Tatmadaw and the Union Solidarity and Development Party. ■

Tatmadaw refutes accusations in Report Submitted to OHCHR

As regard accusations included in the report submitted to the Office of High Commissioner of Human Right, Tatmadaw true news information team released the news.

It has been described in the news release as follows:

Investigation team led by Lt General Aye Win, Office of the Commander-in-Chief (Army) went to Maungtau Township from 10th February 2017 to 4th March 2017 to investigate on the ground, for finding out the actual situations of the events, as regards the accusations that security forces performing area clearance operations committed terrorist attacks.

Investigation team interviewed 2875 villagers from 29 villages and wrote down statements and testimonies of 408 villagers, 184 military officers and ranks and files in line of duty at the time of the events, 31 border control policemen, 8 departmental personnel and 26 inmates in the Buthidaung penitentiary, 657 altogether.

Out of 18 accusations included in OHCHR’s report, 12 were found to be incorrect,

with remaining 6 accusations found to be false and fabricated accusations based on lies and invented statements.

Under the investigation of the investigation team, security forces were launching area clearance operations when one motor bike was carried and driven without the knowledge of its owner and left it somewhere. As the member of the security force was found guilty, he was put on trial under section 380 of the penal code and the culprit was sentenced to one-year imprisonment and ordered to pay the owner as compensation money, the value of the bike—530000 kyats.

And, upon the knowledge that the village administer & the villagers who lacked to cooperate in extinguishing the fire outbreak of the hostel for school teachers in Myinlut village were whipped several times, one responsible officials was reprimanded and the other two ranks and files were sentenced to one year imprisonment each under section 323 of the penal code.—Myanmar News Agency ■

Special region 4 group to attend UPC—21st Century Panglong 2nd Meeting

By Myo Thu Hein (MNA)

Union Peace Conference—21st Century Panglong 2nd meeting will be held in Nay Pyi Taw for 5 days from May 24 to May 28.

Khun Myint Tun, secretary of Union Peace Dialogue Joint Committee and chairman of Pa-oh National Liberation Organization said, “In the morning session of the first day of UPC, 21st Century Panglong 2nd meeting, the opening ceremony will be held and leaders of the groups will deliver opening speeches respectively, as in the 1st meeting of 21st century Panglong held previously. In the evening session, noteworthy facts for representatives present at the meeting to discuss and disciplines to abide by in the meeting are to

be clarified.”

He added, “On the 2nd and 3rd day of the meeting, discussions in respective sectors will be performed by dividing 5 sectors to be discussed by 700 representatives of the conference. If necessary, there will be discussions by groups. And, discussions in groups among armed national ethnic groups, and discussions in groups among political parties will be discussed. On the fourth day of the meeting, UPDJ meeting and Secretariat meeting will be held, with on the fifth day signing all approved facts as a part of Union Agreement and approving will be done. As far as we know for now, 8 groups which had signed National Ceasefire Agreement will attend the meeting. Out of



Khun Myint Tun. **PHOTO: HTEIN NAN NAW (MNA)**

the groups which did not sign yet, special region 4 has been learnt to attend the meeting as the specially invited guest. As regards the other groups, we did not yet know the situation.” ■