(1) Senior General Than Shwe sends felicitations to President of Maldives
YANGON, 26 July On the occasion of the 32nd anniversary of the Independence Day of the Republic of Maldives, which falls on 26 July 1997, Senior General Than Shwe, Chairman of the State Law and Order Restoration Council of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to His Excellency Mr Maumoon Abdul Gayoom, President of the Republic of Maldives.

(2) Secretary-1 receives member of House of Representatives of Japan
YANGON, 25 July Secretary-l of the State Law and Order Restoration Council Lt-Gen Khin Nyunt received member of the House of Representatives of Japan and Chairman of Japan-Myanmar Parliamentarians League Mr Tatsuo Ozawa and party at Dagon Yeiktha of the Ministry of Defence this morning.

Present also were Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs U Nyunt Swe and Director-General of Protocol Department Thura U Aung Htet.

The guests were accompanied by Ambassador of, Japan Mr Yoichi Yamaguchi.

(3) Deputy Prime Minister receives Chairman of Hyosung Group
YANGON, 25 July Member of the State Law and Order Restoration Council Deputy Prime Minister and Chairman of Myanmar Investment Commission Vice-Admiral Maung Maung Khin received Chairman of Hyosung Group Mr S R Cho and party of the Republic of Korea at his office this afternoon.

Present also were officials of Myanmar Investment Commission.

(4) Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation receives Minister of Trade of SRV
YANGON, 25 July Minister for Agriculture, and Irrigation Lt-Gen Myint Aung received Minister of Trade of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam Mr Le Van Triet and party, accompanied by Ambassador of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam Mr Tran Viet Tan, at his office this afternoon.

Present also were directors-general and managing directors under the ministry.

Then, they viewed the exhibition of agricultural products.

(5) 20 members of armed groups exchange arms for peace 1-10 June

YANGON, 25 July The State Law and Order Restoration Council has laid down and is implementing the 12 political, economic and social objectives for emergence of a peaceful, modern and developed nation while it is working for national reconsolidation, upholding Our Three Main National Causes. In so doing, it has established model villages, reclaimed land for cultivation, set up small industries and agriculture services and fulfilled health, education and social requirements for the security of life and peaceful earning of livelihood for those who, having realized their misdeeds, have exchanged arms for peace and their families.

Remnants of armed groups, realizing that destructive acts no longer benefit the nation and perceiving the noble mind, genuine goodwill and correct endeavours of the Government, are exchanging arms for peace, individually or in groups.

Altogether 20 members of armed groups exchanged arms for peace from 1 to 10 June 1997.

In South-East Command area, school teacher San Kyaw Oo of KNU No 6 Brigade and WO II Kyi Aung of KNDO No 6 Battalion exchanged arms for peace, bringing in one grenade.

In Taninthayi Division, KNU member in charge of Thukha Tollgate Dar Kwee exchanged arms for peace, bringing in one mine.

In Northern Command area, Cpl Tun Aye, L/Cpl Naing Oo, Ma Hla Win, Pvt Aung Khaing Soe (a) Maung Naing, Ma Khin Pu, Than Zaw Oo, San Maung, Ma Nyo Nwe, Ma Khin Set Naing and Ma Sanda of ABSDF (North) Central exchanged arms for peace.

In North-West Command area, Privates Ni Oke, Tan Khan Mong and Yon Lian and U Za Mei Yet Khuin, in charge of history, of Chin CNA group exchanged arms for peace.

In Eastern Command area, regional organizer Sai Lian and wife Mi Mi Naw of SURA, remnants of Loimaw group, exchanged arms for peace, bringing in one M-22, 20 rounds, one Icon and one hand grenade. Thu Manna of a bandit group also brought in one M-16, one M22 and 28 rounds.

Officers of respective military camps welcomed them warmly and fulfilled their requirements in food, clothing and shelter.
(6) **GAD personnel urged to crush internal, external destructionists**

YANGON, 25 July General Administration Department held its first biannual meeting for 1997 this morning at the department with an address by Minister for Home Affairs Lt-Gen Mya Thin.

GAD personnel must always strive to uplift their ability as they are playing a vital role in building a new, modern and developed nation, he stressed, saying working in accord with the State’s national objectives is dutiful discharging of their department’s functions.

They should work hard and should accept that successful implementation of the National Economic Plans is an important national task, he pointed out, urging them to always have security awareness and to resolutely crush the internal and external destructionists.

The minister urged them to systematically use rural development funds, provided by the Government, in accord with the principles, to abide by the regulations of service personnel, to stay aloof of bribery and to avoid misuse of the rights.

Deputy Minister Col Tin Hlaing discussed progress in departmental functions and assessed the accomplishments, explaining the national progress.

Director-General of GAD’U Aung Thein also participated in the discussions.

Director-General of Myanmar Police Force Col Soe Win, directors-general of departments under the ministry, Deputy Director-General of GAD U Maung Win and other officials were also present.

(7) **Minister for Commerce receives Austrian business delegation**

YANGON, 25 July Minister for Commerce Lt-Gen Tun Kyi received a delegation led by Regional Director Mr Chris J McGuinn of VA Tech International GmbH (Thailand) of Austria at his office this afternoon.

They discussed economic matters and investment.

(8) **Minister for Transport receives GM of Muhibbah Engineering Bhd, Comintel (M) Sdn Bhd**

YANGON, 25 July Minister for Transport Lt-Gen Thein Win received General Manager of Muhibbah Engineering Bhd Comintel (M) Sdn Bhd and Eximbank Mr En Yakob Masir and party at his office this morning.

Present also were officials of the ministry.
(9) Deputy Minister gives counsel to Fukuoka-bound children

YANGON, 25 July On behalf of the Minister for Education, Deputy
Minister Col Kyi Maung gave counsel to eight students and supervisor
Headmistress Daw Tin Yi of Sittway Basic Education Middle School No
2, who will attend the Ninth Get-together of Children and Students in
Asia and the Pacific Region in Fukuoka, Japan, from 26 July to 6
August, at the ministry this morning.

The deputy minister stressed proper behaviour during their stay for
further strengthening of bilateral relations and friendly relations
with their counterparts from other countries and Japanese families
and told them to seek knowledge.

He told them to demonstrate courage, composure, honesty and
perseverance as good citizens of Myanmar and maintain good
traditions.

Head of Office U Hla Myint and Deputy Director (Foreign Studies) U
Khin Maung Tint were also
present.

(10) Kyat 500 banknotes will not be withdrawn

YANGON, 25 July Rumours that Radio Myanmar had announced the
withdrawal of Kyat 500 banknotes bearing certain serial numbers are
not true.

It is learnt from the Central Bank of Myanmar that it has no
intention at all of withdrawing Kyat 500 banknotes and that they can
be used confidently.