THE NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR (Wednesday, 3 Dec 1997)

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(1) Secretary-1 receives Assistant UN Secretary-General

YANGON, 2 Dec-Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Khin Nyunt received Assistant Secretary-General of the United Nations, Assistant Administrator of UNDP and Asia and Pacific Bureau Regional Director Dr Nay Tun at Dagon Yeiktha of the Ministry of Defence this morning. Present together with the Secretary-1 were Minister for National Planning and Economic Development Brig-Gen Abel, Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs U Nyunt Swe, Director-General of Protocol Department Thura U Aung Htet, UNDP Resident Representative Dr Siba Kumar Das and UNDP Director Mr Roy Morey.

(2) Secretary-1 visits Orbis International aircraft

YANGON, 2 Dec-Chairman of National Health Committee Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Khin Nyunt visited Orbis International aircraft today.

Accompanied by Director-General of the State Peace and Development Council Office Lt-Col Pe Nyein and officials, he arrived at Orbis International aircraft at Yangon International Airport at 3 pm and was welcomed by Minister for Health Maj-Gen Ket Sein, officials of the Ministry of Health and Director Ms Kate Gibson and officials of Orbis.

On board the DC-10 aircraft, he visited the classroom, examination and treatment area, operating room, a TV system broadcasting live to monitors located in the plane's classroom, two-way audio visual system for host doctors watching the surgery from classroom to communicate with the operating surgeons and recovery room.

Officials briefed him on functions sectorwise.

The Secretary-1 signed in the visitor's book.

Orbis is treating eye patients in Myanmar from 15 November till 6 December.
The fifth Orbis programme in Myanmar is conducted in partnership with the Ministry of Health and the Ophthalmological Society of Myanmar. It is training Myanmar doctors and nurses.

(3) Deputy Prime Minister receives Chairman of Hocheng Corporation

YANGON, 2 Dec - Deputy Prime Minister Chairman of Myanmar Investment Commission Vice-Admiral Maung Maung Khin received Chairman of Hocheng Corporation Mr Csiu Chun Jung and party at his office this afternoon.

Present also were Minister at the Office of the State Peace and Development Council Chairman Secretary of Myanmar Investment Commission Brig-Gen Maung Maung and officials.

(4) Minister inspects cotton cultivation in Mandalay Division

YANGON, 2 Dec - Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation Maj-Gen Nyunt Tin, together with department heads, attended the concluding ceremony of Ngwechi Cotton Cultivation Refresher Course No 1/97 at Lunkyaw Model Ngwechi Cotton Farm in Kyaukse Township, Mandalay Division, yesterday morning.

He spoke of expansion of sown acreage and using modern methods to boost per-acre yield.

He presented prizes to outstanding trainees.

Later, the minister inspected cultivation of long-staple cotton on an experimental basis at the farm.

The minister then inspected the large-scale cultivation of Ngwechi cotton on 2,600 acres at Lunkyaw Model Farm.

Next, he proceeded to Cotton Mill in Myittha Township.

He heard a report on procurement and milling of cotton by General Manager of Myanmar Cotton and Sericulture Enterprise Maj Sein Win.

Then, he toured the mill.

Afterwards, he inspected cultivation of cotton with ground water near Kaingmyauk Village, Wundwin Township.

The minister was briefed by Director-General of Water Utilization Department Lt-Col Win Shwe, Managing Director of MCSE Dr Thein Htay and Head of Mandalay Division Irrigation Department U Khin Zaw on cultivation of Ngwechi cotton in the region, irrigation with ground water, condition of soil and progress in cultivation of Ngwechi cotton.

The minister called on regional authorities to supervise repair and maintenance of canals and water supply.

He gave instructions on future tasks.
**Efforts under way for early completion of Chindwin River Bridge (Yesagyo)**

YANGON, 2 Dec - A modern surgical bed worth $10,000 was presented for the operation theatre of Monywa People's Hospital yesterday morning with an address by Minister for Rail Transportation U Win Sein.

A Japanese donor presented the equipment, he said. The donor has already presented modern surgical beds for operation theatres of Defence Services General Hospital and other Township and District People's Hospitals, he added. He has plans to donate other hospital equipment and medicines, said the minister.

Deputy General Manager (Medicine) of Myanma Railways Dr Kyaw Win presented papers for the gift to Medical Superintendent Dr Win Hlaing.

The ceremony at the hospital was also attended by military officers, local authorities, doctors, executives and members of Division, District and Township Union Solidarity and Development Association.

U Win Sein, who is also a member of Secretariat of USDA, met executives of Monywa, Yinmabin, ChaungU, Salingyi, Pale, Kani and Ayadaw Township associations at Monywa District USDA Office, urging them to promote their functions.

Township USDA secretaries presented progress in conducting field tours and community welfare tasks.

Accompanied by officials, he inspected Chindwin River Bridge (Yesagyo) Project.

Engineers briefed him on progress of work and future programmes.

The minister looked into their requirements, stressing the need to work day and night shifts for early completion.

The road and railroad bridge spanning the Chindwin will link ChaungU Township in Sagaing Division and Yesagyo Township in Magway Division when completed.

The reinforced concrete frame bridge will be 4,956 feet long and 64.29 feet wide. It will have 14 spans and 15 pillars.

On completion the bridge will help develop multi-sectors of the eastern and western banks of the river.

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**Minister inspects hospitals and Institute of Nursing in Mandalay**

YANGON, 2 Dec - Minister for Health Maj-Gen Ket Sein and Deputy Minister Dr Mya Oo inspected NyaungU Hospital yesterday.

The minister was welcomed by Chairman of NyaungU District Peace and Development Council Col Khin Maung Oo and members and health staff. Head of Township Health Department Dr Myo Win reported on treatment, strength of staff, work and construction.

The minister and party flew to Mandalay where they were welcomed by Deputy Commander of Central Command Brig-Gen Tin Soe, Tactical Operation Commander Col Zaw Win, Acting Director-General of Medical Science Department Dr Myo.
Minister for Industry-1 at factories in Bago Division

YANGON, 2 Dec.-Minister for Industry-1 U Aung Thaung inspected Yeni Paper Mill No 2 in Yedashe Township, Bago Division, this morning.

He was accompanied by Managing Director U Zaw Sein Win of Myanma Paper and Chemical Industries and Managing Director U Kyaw Myint of Myanma Foodstuff Industries.

Regarding production of paper, the minister gave instructions on standard of the products, innovation and worksite safety.

Yeni Paper Mill No 2 has a capacity to produce 10 tons a day.

The minister was briefed by Factory Manager U Aung Soe on the history, functions and future plans of the mill.

(8) Minister visits factories under MHI

YANGON, 2 Dec. Minister for Industry-2 Maj-Gen Hla Myint Swe, accompanied by Deputy Minister U Thein Tun and officials, visited Factory No 2 under Myanma Heavy Industries at Malun Station, Minhla Township, Magway Division, on 30 November afternoon.

They were welcomed there by Factory Manager U Aung Min and officials of the factory.
The minister heard a report on the history of the factory, production, strength of the staff and work done for staff welfare.

The minister gave instructions.

Later, he viewed pumps, products of the factory, research work and invented products, products manufactured for other ministries Zwe tractors and various kinds of trailer.

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(9) Inspection Committee for Renovation of Maha Pasana Cave meets

YANGON, 2 Dec-The Inspection Committee for Renovation of Maha Pasana Cave at Kaba Aye, where the Sixth Buddhist Synod was held, met at the Ministry of Religious Affairs at 2 pm today.

It was attended by Minister for Religious Affairs Maj-Gen Sein Htwa, Deputy Minister U Aung Khin, Director-General of Religious Affairs Department U Arnt Maung, Director-General of the Department for Promotion and Propagation of the Sasana U Sann Lwin, Deputy Director-General of Religious Affairs Department Dr Myo Myint and departmental officials included in the Inspection Committee.

In his opening speech, Minister Maj-Gen Sein Htwa said the Maha Pasana Cave was built about 43 years ago by architects of that time. He noted that grand religious ceremonies had been held in the cave. In spite of due maintenance carried out occasionally, he said, there has been deterioration. He said an Inspection Committee had been formed to look into repair and renovation of the religiously significant cave to ensure its durability in the long run. He called on the Inspection Committee members to speedily inspect it and report back on the findings.

Next, Deputy Minister U Aung Khin reported on the requirements for renovation and the findings.

U Arnt Kyaw then explained the history of the cave and grand ceremonies held in the cave.

A general round of discussions followed and the meeting ended with concluding remarks of Minister Maj-Gen Sein Htwa.

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(10) More power for required areas

YANGON, 2 Dec- Minister for Electric Power Maj-Gen Tin Htut, accompanied by officials, inspected Thakayta, Dawbon and Insein townships where extended power supply is being added today.

He met Township/Ward Peace and Development Councils, ward elders, small-scale industrialists and explained current power distribution capacity and plans to boost power supply, urging them to use power in accord with the principles.

He also discussed plans to reduce power leakage.

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(11) Mining projects, factories in Sagaing and Mandalay Divisions supervised

YANGON, 2 Dec-Minister for Mines Brig-Gen Ohn Myint, accompanied by Managing
Director of No 1 Mining Enterprise U Ko Ko, Managing Director of NO 2 Mining Enterprise U Tin Win, Director of No 3 Mining Enterprise U San Tun and officials, supervised mining projects and factories in Sagaing and Mandalay Divisions from 29 November to 1 December.

The minister inspected No 1 Copper Project in Salingyi Township. Project General Manager U Mya Win reported on SX-EW factory which can produce 25,000 tons of cathode copper a year.

The minister spoke of production of copper on 28 April next year as scheduled and coordination and cooperation with officials and making efforts for completion of the factory in time.

The minister inspected workshop, repair department and the site and presented fruit basket to foreign experts.

On 30 November, the minister inspected field for helicopter, smelting and pilot factory, staff quarters and hospital.

The minister inspected lime stone production project in Patheingyi Township, Mandalay Division.

On 1 December, the minister and party inspected No 1 Iron and Steel Mill in PyinOoLwin and Kyartwinyay iron ore block.

(12) Coordination Committee 2 of SEA-ME-WE 3 Submarine Cable holds third meeting

YANGON, 2 Dec - The Coordination Committee 2 of South East Asia-Middle East-Western Europe 3 Submarine Cable held its third meeting at the International Business Centre this morning.

The managing director and officials of Myanma Posts and Telecommunications under the Ministry of Posts, Telecommunications and Telegraphs, representatives of Thailand, Singapore, Malaysia, Australia, Sri Lanka, India and Indonesia and representatives of three companies from France and Japan.

Managing Director of MPT Col Maung Maung Tin spoke.

The meeting will be held till 5 December.

(13) Six armed group members exchange arms for peace

YANGON, 2 Dec- The State Peace and Development Council is implementing the 12 National Objectives with the aim for emergence of a peaceful and modern developed nation.

After realizing the goodwill and endeavours of the Government, armed group members are exchanging arms for peace, abandoning their destructive acts which do not benefit the country.

In the area of Coastal Region Command, pvt Than Aye of BCP Myeik District, bringing in one carbine, one magazine and six rounds of ammunition, exchanged arms for peace at the regional Tatmadaw battalion on 15 October.

In the area of Southern Command, pvts Tun Myint and Sein Ngwe of No 209
Battalion of ABSDF, bringing in one AK-47, 15 rounds of ammunition, one magazine and one grenade, exchanged arms for peace at the regional Tatmadaw battalion in Waw, on 9 November and cpl Saw Ta Hsay and pvts Myint Soe and Chit Win (a) Saw Kyi Po of No 7 Battalion of No 3 Brigade of KNU, bringing in two M-16s, four magazines and 120 rounds of ammunition, at the region at the regional madaw battalion in Minlan Thanseik on 9 and 10 November.

Officials of Tatmadaw battalions concerned warmly welcomed the armed group members and provided necessary assistance to them.