

Fire outbreak in War Tayar plywood factory kills one, injures 13

A major fire outbreak occurred in Plywood factory, War Tayar Industrial zone, Shwepyitha Township on Monday, killing one and leaving 13 male workers injured, said U Thwin Yu Naing, head of Shwepyitha Township Fire Service Department.

The fire started at 7.10 pm on 18 February and it was under control about 8.15 pm and was totally extinguished at 8.30 pm.

Over 400 firefighters and 161 auxiliary firefighters battled the fire with 44 fire engines and five supportive vehicles.

“A wrong news that six people were killed in fire outbreak is spreading. At present, an in-

jured person, Nyein Chan Oo, 32 died at 4.40 am on 19 February at Insein Hospital and the two injured out of 13 are in critical condition at the Yangon General Hospital. With the cooperation of Fire Service Department and other relative departments, there was not any difficulties in extinguishing the fire”, said U Thwin Yu Naing.

Among 14 injured people in this fire outbreak, 12 persons were taken to Insein Hospital while the remaining two to the Yangon General Hospital.

The cause of fire outbreak is under investigation. —Pwint Thitsar/(Translated by La Wonn)



PHOTO: PWINT THITSAR

Fighting between Tatmadaw troops, AA insurgents occurred

ABOUT a hundred AA insurgents were reported to be active in hills near Paung-tote Village, Mrauk-U town, Rakhine State to establish a training camp and operation area about 31 km north from where Rakhine State Chief Minister's convoy was attacked by remote controlled improvised explosive devices on 1 January 2019 and 6 km. north east from a place where another vehicle was attacked by a mine on 17 February. As they were obstructing and destroying the roads used by the public, Tatmadaw columns conducted appropriate security operations.

During the operations two engagements with about a hundred AA insurgents occurred at about 15 km east of Kyauktaw Town and the insurgents retreated toward the south while the Tatmadaw columns were in hot pursuit.

During the engagement some Tatmadaw personnel were hurt and 9 bodies of AA insurgents were found with one RPG. Tatmadaw columns are continuing security operations



for the rule of law and regional stability in Rakhine State according to news released

by Tatmadaw Commander-in-Chief Office. — MNA (Translated by Zaw Min)

Social

Australians mark anniversary of Japan's WWII air raid on Darwin

DARWIN (Australia) — The northern Australian city of Darwin marked on Tuesday the 77th anniversary of a Japanese air raid that killed hundreds during World War II.

The Bombing of Darwin, which occurred on 19 February, 1942, was the first attack by Japanese forces on the Australian mainland and is estimated to have killed around 250 people, as well as destroying 30 aircraft and nine ships.

Administrator of the Northern Territory Vicki O'Halloran, the Queen's representative in the territory, said in her remarks at a service that the arrival of the war in Darwin was responsible for “fundamentally changing Australia.”

Darwin's close proximity to present-day Indonesia and its build-up of military infrastructure made the port city a prime target for the Japanese. In addition to Australian ships, there were a number of US Navy

vessels in the harbour at the time of the attack.

At 9:58 am, an air raid siren sounded and members of the Australian Defence Force re-enacted the exact moment 188 Japanese aircraft flew over Darwin Harbour.

As the siren blared, fighter aircraft flew over the site of the service and army personnel simulated the Australian response to the bombing, using ceremonial howitzers to return fire using blanks.

Brian Winspear, a former flight lieutenant in the Royal Australian Air Force, was in Darwin the day Japanese forces attacked and was involved in the defense of the city.

The 99-year-old told Kyodo News that during the war “we were supposed to hate the Japanese,” but his feelings toward the former wartime enemy have long since changed.

“We've got enough problems in the world without hat-

ing anyone,” he said, proudly pointing out that he has owned 15 Japanese-made cars in his lifetime.

Chief Minister of the Northern Territory Michael Gunner, the top elected official of the

territory government, said in his remarks that with Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe's visit to the northern Australian city in November, Darwin and its people “are now symbols of peace.” Abe's visit, which in-

cluded his laying a wreath at a memorial to victims of the Japanese bombing together with Australian Prime Minister Scott Morrison, marked the first visit to the city by a Japanese premier. —Kyodo News ■



Photo taken on 19 February, 2019, shows Northern Territory Chief Minister Michael Gunner and members of the local government laying a wreath at the Darwin Cenotaph War Memorial. PHOTO: KYODO NEWS