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Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Soe Win inspects finished wooden products of Khine Industries Co Ltd at Hlinethaya Industrial Zone-3.—MNA

Secretary-1 inspects Hlaingthaya Industrial Zone

YANGON, 17 July—Chairman of the Industrial Development Committee Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Soe Win inspected factories in Hlaingthaya Industrial Zone here yesterday afternoon.

Together with Chairman of Yangon City Development Committee Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin and officials of the State Peace and Development Council Office, the Secretary-1 arrived at Shwe Tun Co Ltd on Pyinsi Minthagyi Street in Hlaingthaya Industrial Zone 4 at 3 pm. Deputy Minister for Industry-1 Brig-Gen Kyaw Win, Deputy Minister for Forestry Brig-Gen Tin Naing Thein and officials of the industrial zone welcomed the Secretary-1 and party.

The Secretary-1 and party inspected different brands of four-wheel vehicles to be used for general purposes, various brands of trailers for agricultural purpose, different brands of power-tillers, production process of parts of the ve-

hicles, and machine parts.

Managing Director of Shwe Tun Col Ltd U Saing Kyaw Hla reported on production of power-tillers and vehicles, and requirements. The mayor and Deputy Minister Brig-Gen Kyaw Win gave supplementary reports on production of vehicles. The Secretary-1 gave instructions on extended production of power-tillers and establishment of industries for production of import-substitute items.

The Secretary-1 and party proceeded to Khine Industries Co Ltd on Bhamo Atwinwun Street in the Industrial Zone 3. Deputy General Manager U Aung Lay Htut reported on production of furniture and distribution of the products. The Secretary-1 and party looked into production process of finished wooden items.

On arrival at Teak Farm Industries Co Ltd on U Mye Dabayin Wundauk U Mye Street in the Industrial Zone 2, the Secretary-1 and party inspected production process of wooden furniture. Managing Director U Zaw Myo Kyaw and officials conducted them round the factory. Deputy Minister Brig-Gen Tin Naing Thein reported on conditions on extended export of value-added wooden furniture and extended establishment of finished wooden furniture factories. The Secretary-1 said that it is heartening to note that modern finished

wooden factories have made progress in exporting the products.

They headed for Reva Rubber & Eva Manufacturing Factory (Reva Co Ltd) on Kanaung Minthagyi Street in the Industrial Zone 1, where they were welcomed and conducted pro-

duction process of various brands of slippers by Chairman U Maung Maung Thaung and officials. The Secretary-1 stressed the importance of greater development in manufacturing import-substitute items in the private sector and meeting the standards set. —MNA

Secretary-2 inspects factories, workshops under supervision of MWVO in Shwepyitha Industrial Zone

YANGON, 17 July—Chairman of Myanmar War Veterans Organization Central Organizing Committee Secretary-2 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thein Sein inspected factories and workshops under the supervision of MWVO Headquarters in Shwepyitha Industrial Zone this morning.

The Secretary-2, accompanied by officials of the Peace and Development Council Office, arrived at Byanhlwar Dry Cell Factory invested cent per cent by MWVO on

Kinwunmingyi Road in Shwepyitha Industrial Zone in Insein Township.

They were welcomed by Vice-Chairman of MWVO Central Organizing Committee Vice-Admiral Kyi Min (Retd) and members, factory manager and officials.

The Secretary-2 inspected display of production process of D and AA sizes. Factory manager Lt-Col Khin Maung Gyi (Retd) reported on location and area of the (See page 8)



Secretary-2 Lt-Gen Thein Sein inspects production process of Byanhlwar Dry Cell Factory in Shwepyitha Industrial Zone.—MNA

Four political objectives

- * Stability of the State, community peace and tranquillity, prevalence of law and order
- * National reconsolidation
- * Emergence of a new enduring State Constitution
- * Building of a new modern developed nation in accord with the new State Constitution

Four economic objectives

- * Development of agriculture as the base and all-round development of other sectors of the economy as well
- * Proper evolution of the market-oriented economic system
- * Development of the economy inviting participation in terms of technical know-how and investments from sources inside the country and abroad
- * The initiative to shape the national economy must be kept in the hands of the State and the national peoples

Four social objectives

- * Uplift of the morale and morality of the entire nation
- * Uplift of national prestige and integrity and preservation and safeguarding of cultural heritage and national character
- * Uplift of dynamism of patriotic spirit
- * Uplift of health, fitness and education standards of the entire nation

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Emergence of the State Constitution is the duty of all citizens of Myanmar Naing-Ngan.

PERSPECTIVES

Sunday, 18 July, 2004

Better lives through better transportation

In its drive for the nation to be a peaceful, modern and developed one, the Government has given priority to development of economic infrastructure. At the same time, emphasis is placed on better transportation which plays a pivotal role in national development. On one occasion, Head of State Senior General Than Shwe said that roads and bridges were built in a short period of time for better transportation throughout the country and that with better transportation, development of economic and social standard of the entire people would be promoted.

In accord with the guidance, plans have been laid down and are being implemented for better transportation. According to the needs of the respective regions, new roads are being built, the old ones, upgraded and bridges are also being built on these roads.

A ceremony to open Anyakatin Bridge on Kyaukhtu-Saw-Seikphyu Road was held at the pandal near the bridge in Saw Township, Magway Division, on 12 July. Sagaing Division Peace and Development Council Chairman North-West Command Commander Maj-Gen Tha Aye, Minister for Construction Maj-Gen Saw Tun and Magway Division Peace and Development Council Chairman Col Zaw Min formally opened the facility.

The 240 feet long bailey-type Anyakatin Bridge was constructed at a cost of K 30 million, and its clearance is 50 feet wide and 4 feet high. It can withstand 13-ton loads.

With the emergence of the bridge, traveling along Kyaukhtu-Saw-Seikphyu Road would be easier and people can travel from Mindat to Paletwa in Chin State (South) and to Mindat-Matupi-Falam-Tiddim-Tonzang-Kyikha as well. Arrangements are being made to upgrade 120-mile Mindat-Matupi Road to a tarred one in the open season. Many roads and bridges were built in Magway Division for better transportation and as a result, there have emerged a total of 1,695 miles of gravelled, macadam and earth roads including over 915 miles of tarred ones.

The Anyakatin Bridge is one of the three over 180 feet long bridges along Kyaukhtu-Saw Road in Gangaw District and it is an important one. With the emergence of new roads and bridges throughout the country, one region has an easy access to the other. We firmly believe that a network of roads and bridges throughout the country will surely help elevate the social and economic standard of respective regions.

Chess Tournament concludes

YANGON, 17 July —The prize-distribution ceremony of the 2004 Chess Tournament for the Trophy of the Commander-in-Chief (Air) was held at the regional battalion hall of Toungoo Station yesterday morning. Toungoo Station Commander Brig-Gen Kyaw Aung presented the Championship Shield to the Mingaladon Air base team. — MNA

National Basketball C'ship continues

YANGON, 17 July —The 2004 National Basketball Championship sponsored by the Myanmar Basketball Federation and Mikko Co continued at Aung San Gymnasium here at 9 am today. In the women's event, the Agriculture & Irrigation team beat the Industry-1 team 65-45 points. In the men's junior event, the ILBC team beat the Bahan BEHS-3 team 69-36 points and Industry-1 (A) team beat Baho Lunge team 106-30. In the men's senior event, the Gar Gar (A) team beat the Industry-1 (A) team 66-63 points and the Agriculture & Irrigation team beat the KKS team 79-35 points. The Championship continues tomorrow. — MNA

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



The Plenary Meeting of the Fifth State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee in progress. — MNA

Plenary Meeting of State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee ends

YANGON, 17 July —The second day session of the 11th 47-member Plenary Meeting of the Fifth State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee was held at the Wizaya Mingalar Dhammathabin on Kaba Aye Hill here this morning.

Present on the occasion were member Sayadaws of the State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee, Deputy Minister for Religious Affairs Brig-Gen Thura Aung Ko, Adviser U Arnt Maung, Director-General of Department for Promotion and Propagation of the Sasana U Sann Lwin, deputy directors-general of DPPS and Religious Affairs Department, directors and heads of state/division/district religious affairs departments.

Vice-Chairman of SSMNC Thayet Aungmingala Monastery Sayadaw Agga Maha Pandita Agga Maha Saddhamma Jotikadhaja Bhaddanta Kesara presided over the meeting. Joint-Secretary Sayadaw Agga Maha Pandita

Agga Maha Saddhamma Jotikadhaja Bhaddanta Tejaniya acted as master of ceremonies. Bhaddanta Tejaniya read the agenda of the meeting. Agga Maha Pandita Bhaddanta Tilokabhivamsa supplicated on Vinicchaya affairs and Agga Maha Pandita Bhaddanta Revata, on measures taken for education and the session went into recess.

In the afternoon session, matters related to religious and Sangha affairs were discussed. Bhaddanta Tejaniya supplicated on reviews concerning measures taken by the Fifth State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee during their office for approval. This was followed by a general round of discussions and the meeting ended successfully. Wellwishers U Sein Win-Daw Myint Myint Yi and family offered 'soon' to Sayadaws who attended the second day session, at Taungpulu Monastery on the bank of Inya Lake. — MNA

Course on safety of tourists ends

YANGON, 16 July —The training course No 8 on safety of tourists concluded with ceremony at the Ministry of Home Affairs here this morning. Deputy Director-General of the Myanmar Police Force Police Brig-Gen Zaw Win delivered the closing address and presented prizes to outstanding trainees. The 12-week course was attended by 40 trainees. — MNA

Minister for PBANRDA attends closing ceremony of training courses

YANGON, 16 July —The Basic Engineering Course No 6, the Advanced Tailoring Course No 6 and the Training Courses Nos 31 and 32 for clerical staff concluded with ceremony held at the central Training School of the Education and Training Department under the Ministry for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs in ward 51, Dagon Myothit (North) Township here at 8 am today.

Minister for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs Col Thein Nyunt delivered the closing address and presented prizes to outstanding trainees.

Junior Engineer Daw Theingi Aung won the best trainee award in the Basic Engineering Course. Assistant Tutor of Loikaw Domestic Science Training School Daw Mya Mya Aye won the best trainee award in the Advanced Tailoring Course. Lower divisional clerks Daw Ei Ei Nyein and Daw Cho The Kyi won the best cadet awards in the Training Courses Nos 31 and 32 for clerical staff. — MNA

MWAF Vice-President meets Vietnamese delegation

YANGON, 17 July — Vice-President of the Myanmar Women's Affairs Federation Prof Dr Daw May May Yi met the delegation led by Chairperson of Social Affairs Committee of the National Assembly of SRV Mrs Nguyen Thi Hoai Thu at the hall of MWAF at 132, Thanlwin Road in Bahan Township this morning.

Also present were Vice-Presidents of MWAF Daw Khin Lay Thet, Daw Than Than Nwe and Daw Khin Khin Win, General Secretary Prof Dr Daw Khin Aye Win, Vietnamese Ambassador Mr Pham Quang Khon and officials.

They cordially discussed women's affairs of the two countries. — MNA



MWAF Vice-President Prof Dr Daw May May Yi meets the Vietnamese delegation. MNA

ISD Karatedo Tourney on 26-28 July

YANGON, 17 July —Under the arrangement of the Sports and Physical Education Department and close supervision of the Myanmar Karatedo Federation, the 9th Inter-State/Division Karatedo Tournament will be held from 26 to 28 July at Aung San Gymnasium here. The competition is sponsored by Panasonic. — MNA

886 US troops killed since beginning of military operations in Iraq last year

BAGHDAD, 16 July—As of Friday, 16 July, 886 U.S. service members have died since the beginning of military operations in Iraq in March 2003, according to the Defence Department. Of those, 654 died as a result of hostile action and 232 died of non-hostile causes.

The British military has reported 59 deaths; Italy, 18; Spain, eight; Bulgaria and Poland, six each; Ukraine, four; Slovakia, three; Thailand, two; Denmark, El Salvador, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia and the Netherlands have reported one death each.

Since 1 May, 2003, when President Bush declared that major combat operations in Iraq had ended, 748 US soldiers have died — 545 as a result of hostile action and 203 of non-hostile causes.—INTERNET



Iraqi firefighters battle a burning oil pipeline near the town of Beji, 210km north of the Iraqi capital Baghdad on 15 July, 2004. A fire erupted in an oil pipeline in northern Iraq on Thursday near the country's main Kirkuk oilfields, witnesses said.

INTERNET

US senators may question Bremer on prison abuses

WASHINGTON, 16 July — Senators may ask Paul Bremer next week about his concerns over treatment of Iraqi prisoners while he led the US occupation, but a committee will put off questioning others while the Pentagon wraps up its own probes, the panel's chairman said on Thursday.

In a move that would push hearings into September or after the November elections, Senate Armed Services Committee Chairman John Warner said his committee would hold hearings as seven Pentagon reviews of US abuse of detainees in Iraq, Afghanistan and elsewhere are finished.

"As soon as the reports are completed, I will address the reports, hopefully in open hearing. And I can't predict when they'll be completed," Warner said.

He said he would hold hearings as individual reports are available instead of waiting for all of them to be done.

Warner, a Virginia Republican, said he was trying to arrange an open hearing for next week with Bremer, the former US administrator in Iraq who stepped down with the transfer of sovereignty to an interim government on June 28.

Bremer had raised questions about the US military's treatment of detainees before

the release of photographs in April showing the abuse of Iraqis at Abu Ghraib Prison near Baghdad shocked the world.

The scandal resulted in criminal investigations, and Warner said he must be careful "not to jeopardize the rights of any individuals being investigated".

Warner said he would also put off until after Congress' August recess other hearings with Administration officials who guided the Pentagon's prisoner interrogation and treatment policies but who are not subjects of criminal probes.

"I think we need to know the facts. And we're not in the position to try and have an independent investigation at this point in time," he said.

With Congress set to recess by early October to campaign for November presidential and congressional elections, the committee will have limited time to hold hearings.

MNA/Reuters

Italy supports Russia's plan to hold int'l meeting on Iraq

ROME, 16 July — Italian Foreign Minister Franco Frattini declared Thursday that Italy supported the plan presented by Russian President Vladimir Putin to hold an international meeting on the Iraq issue.

Frattini made the comments after meeting with his Russian counterpart Sergey Lavrov, who is visiting Italy and met with senior Vatican officials and Italian Premier Silvio Berlusconi earlier in the day. At a joint Press conference, Frattini said that the meeting, aimed to coordinate different views of all sides involved, is a key way to solve the Iraq problem.

He stressed that Italy will continue its efforts in solving the Iraq problem.

Besides, both ministers declared that a global fight against terrorism must be carried out in full respect of international law.

They also said that the two countries should coordinate their efforts in the reform process of the UN Security Council.

Frattini praised Russia's political and economic reform plan, and said that Italy would continue to encourage investment of Italian companies in Russia.

He announced that Italian Premier Silvio Berlusconi will hold a summit meeting with his Russian counterpart Vladimir Putin in Moscow in November. — MNA/Xinhua

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American public support slips for Iraq policy

WASHINGTON, 16 July — A majority of Americans now say the United States should have stayed out of Iraq, according to a poll released Friday.

The CBS-New York Times found that just over half, 51 per cent, said the United States should have stayed out of Iraq, while 45 percent said going to war was the right decision. Last month, people were evenly split on that question.

Sentiment on that question has slipped steadily since December, when the decision to go to war was supported by more than 2-to-1. The presidential race remains close in the CBS-Times poll.

Democratic Sen John Kerry held a slight lead, 49 per cent to 45 per cent, over President Bush in a two-way matchup. In a three-way race including independent Ralph Nader, Kerry had 45 per cent, Bush 42 per cent and Nader 5 per cent.

Kerry's popularity has increased since his announcement in early July that he had chosen Sen John Edwards as his running mate.

In June, 29 per cent viewed Kerry favour-

ably and 35 per cent viewed him unfavourably; about one-fourth, 26 per cent, were unsure. In the new poll, 36 per cent saw Kerry favourably, 33 per cent saw him unfavourably and 20 per cent were unsure.

Edwards has been a popular choice for Kerry, though his presence on the ticket has not significantly altered the race. People viewed Edwards favourably by a 3-1 margin, while they were more likely to view Vice President Dick Cheney unfavourably.

Voters are interested in the campaign, with almost half, 47 per cent, saying they are paying a lot of attention. That's twice the level of close attention at this time in the 2000 campaign.

The poll of 955 adults, including 823 registered voters, was taken June 11-15. The margin of sampling error is plus or minus 3 percentage points for the full sample, 4 percentage points for voters.

Internet

Filipino and Thai troops start pulling out of Iraq

MANILA, 16 July—Filipino and Thai troops have started pulling out of Iraq, putting behind all US requests to delay their stay to ensure law and order in the country.

Ten Philippines soldiers left their base in Iraq for neighbouring Kuwait on Friday, starting a troop pullout demanded by militants threatening to behead a Filipino truck driver, Angelo de la Cruz, the government said.

"The 10 members of the humanitarian contingent began their journey out of Iraq today and will be met by the Philippine embassy officials in Kuwait, from where they will take their commercial flight for Manila," Foreign Secretary Delia Albert

said in statement. The White House scolded the Philippines on Thursday for deciding to pull its forces from Iraq ahead of schedule to save the life of a Filipino hostage.

Thailand has also started withdrawing its troops from Iraq and the pullout is to be completed by September 20 as planned, the Defence Minister said on Friday.

Internet

Bad weather delays "Ariane-5" rocket launch

PARIS, 16 July— Bad weather delayed the launch of an Ariane-5 rocket for at least 24 hours, the second launch delay after the first due to a technical problem, the Arianespace said. The blast-off of the rocket was scheduled for 0043 GMT Friday from the South American base in Kourou, French Guiana. The new date now was set at 0044 GMT Saturday.

A problem detected in the rocket's electrical system on Monday, hours before scheduled launch, caused the first delay.

Aboard the rocket, the six-ton Anik-F2 satellite is the world's largest satellite ever built and launched so far. It was built by Boeing Satellite Systems for the Canadian telecommunications operator Telesat.

The satellite to be placed in orbit above the Equator will transmit digital signals to North America for a 15-year period. — MNA/Xinhua



A group of elephants stroll in Kaziranga National Park in the northeastern state of Assam, on 16 July, 2004. Nearly 80 percent of the 430 square kilometers national park is filled with floodwaters. The park, a World Heritage Site, is the world's largest refuge to the great Indian one-horned rhinoceros. There are around 1700 rhinoceros in the park. —INTERNET

Abdullah says Malaysia unlikely to send troops to Iraq

KUALA LUMPUR, 16 July — Malaysia’s leader has said his country would probably not send troops to Iraq, but he would urge Muslim countries in the region to do so.

Prime Minister Abdullah Ahmad Badawi said Muslim countries near Iraq should consider sending security forces now that the United States has handed power to the interim government of Iraqi Prime Minister Iyad Allawi.

‘Yes, power has been

handed over, but peace is not fully secured,’ Datuk Seri Abdullah said in an interview on Thursday.

‘We feel very strongly that Muslim countries in the region are better placed to send their troops because it is near, it is more economical.’

The comments came the

same day that Mr Allawi issued a plea for help from ‘our neighbours and brothers in the Islamic world to close ranks to fight terrorism’, amid a spate of bloody violence and hostage beheadings that have prompted the Philippines to pull its small contingent out

of Iraq, putting pressure on the US-led coalition forces.

Datuk Seri Abdullah had said previously that Malaysia would consider sending troops once Iraqis were running their own country - but only as part of a United Nations-mandated peacekeeping force.

Malaysia, a country with a majority Muslim population and the current chairman of the 57-member Organisation of the Islamic Conference, had often contributed to UN peacekeeping forces in the past.

But Datuk Seri Abdullah said his country was now likely only to send medical teams to Iraq, and those would not go until ‘the situation is a little more stable’.

He left yesterday for his first official trip as Premier to Washington, London and Paris.

Internet



An American soldier clears brush from an area along the Tigris River in Baghdad, on 16 July, 2004. He said that Army engineers are clearing the zone to build a public park.—INTERNET

Job is dangerous, says new UN envoy to Iraq

NEW YORK, 16 July —United Nations Secretary-General Kofi Annan plans to send his new special representative for Iraq to Baghdad as soon as possible to help the new government prepare for elections and draft a Constitution.

The envoy, Ashraf Jehangir Qazi, held his first meetings on Wednesday at United Nations Headquarters in New York since being named to the post Monday earlier this week.

Later, he said that he accepted the potentially dangerous job because of the challenge of helping the country complete its transition to democratic elections under a new constitution.

Qazi said everyone was concerned about security in Iraq, but he was looking forward to being the secretary-general’s representative in that Arab country, despite the dangers.

‘It’s a challenge,’ he told reporters. ‘It’s exciting, and I think the sense of gratification one would have in achieving ones purposes here would be nonpareil.’

The United Nations expects Qazi and a small staff to arrive in Iraq in late July or early August, depending on security arrangements, UN spokesperson Marie Okabe said. The UN Security Council has authorised a separate contingent in the US-led multinational force now in Iraq to protect UN staff and facilities.

Qazi said the United Nations’ role in Iraq is ‘critically important’ and he wants to contribute to implementing its mission. ‘There’s going to be an election.

There’s going to be a constitution, and there are going to be elections under the constitution, and I hope I can make a reasonable contribution to the successful completion of that process,’ he said.

Internet

Mubarak hopes for stronger Sino-Egyptian ties

CAIRO, 16 July — Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak on Thursday voiced hope that ties between Egypt and China would get stronger in the years to come, a Chinese Embassy source told Xinhua.

Mubarak made the remarks when holding talks with visiting Vice-Chairman of China’s Central Military Commission Guo Boxiong.

Under new circumstances, the growth of strategic relations of cooperation between Egypt and China is in the basic interests of the two countries, and will bring about tangible benefits to the two peoples and help maintain regional and world peace and stability, Mubarak said.

The two countries enjoyed a timed-honoured friendship and cooperation, which stood the test of time

and the changing international situation, the president noted.

Egypt and China have supported each other and engaged in fruitful cooperation in a variety of areas since the establishment of diplomatic relations in 1956, he said.

Mubarak asked Guo to convey his greetings to Chinese President Hu Jintao and China’s Central Military Commission Chairman Jiang Zemin.

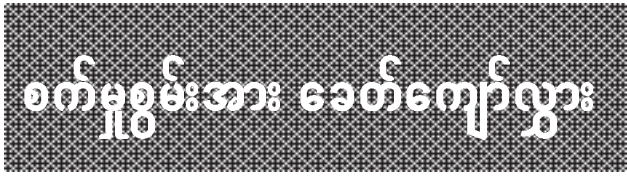
For his part, Guo said Sino-Egyptian ties have become closer since the two countries agreed to establish

strategic ties of cooperation in 1999, as defined by then Chinese President Jiang Zemin and Mubarak.

He said President Hu paid a successful visit to Egypt, ushering in a new chapter in bilateral ties, adding that the Chinese People’s Liberation Army places great importance on developing ties with the Egyptian Army.

The purpose of his current visit to Egypt was to promote mutual understanding and friendship as well as to expand common understanding and cooperation, Guo said.

MNA/Xinhua



Bulgaria says hopes fading for hostage in Iraq

SOFIA, 16 July — Bulgaria awaited evidence that a headless corpse found in the Tigris River was one of two Bulgarian hostages in Iraq and said hopes that the second man would be found alive were fading.

‘The information is unfavourable but we are still awaiting confirmation,’ Bulgarian Prime Minister Simeon Saxe-Coburg told reporters when asked about the fate of the second hostage.

Bulgaria has asked for testing of fingerprints and DNA samples to identify the body pulled from the river on Thursday in an orange jumpsuit often worn by foreign hostages in video tapes taken by their captors.

The two Bulgarian truck drivers Georgi Lazov, 30, and Ivailo Kepov, 32, went missing on 27 June while transporting cars to Iraq’s northern city of Mosul.

Last week kidnappers led by Abu Musab al-Zarqawi, a suspected ally of al Qaeda, said they would be killed unless U.S.-led forces released Iraqi prisoners.

Qatar-based Al Jazeera television said on Tuesday it had video of the beheading of one of the hostages but it was too gruesome to air.

The militants then threatened to execute the second Bulgarian at 2000 GMT on Wednesday. There has been no news since that deadline expired.—Internet

Cheney insists he will run with Bush

WASHINGTON, 16 July — Vice-President Dick Cheney on Wednesday sought to dispel any suggestion that he might not run for re-election with President George W Bush in November, saying, ‘He’s made his decision. I’ve made mine.’

With the presidential race neck-and-neck, there has been speculation, even among some Republicans that Cheney, a hard-line conservative who has become a lightning rod for Democratic criticism, may decide to step aside.

When asked in an interview with C-SPAN whether he could envision any circumstance in which he would step aside, Cheney responded; ‘Well, no, I can’t.’

‘If I thought that were appropriate, I certainly would. But (Bush has) made it very clear that he wants me to run again,’ he said.

‘The way I got here in the first place was that he persuaded me four years ago that I was the man he wanted in that post, not just as a candidate, but as somebody to be part of the governing team. He’s been very clear he doesn’t want (to) break up the team,’ Cheney said.

Cheney has been a leading architect of the war in Iraq and has stood by disputed assertions about Iraq’s weapons programmes and its ties with al-Qaeda.

Cheney’s business ties to energy giant Halliburton, which won uncontested recon-

struction contracts in Iraq, and the oil industry have inspired conspiracy theories about the motivations for the war.

C-SPAN made available extracts from the interview, which was conducted on Wednesday and will air on Sunday.

MNA/Reuters

Australia to upgrade warships' missile system

CANBERRA, 17 July — The Australian Government on Thursday announced to spend 550 million Australian dollars (about 385 million US dollars) to upgrade air defence missile system in the country’s warships.

Four of the navy’s Adelaide Class Guided Missiles Frigates, namely Darwin, Melbourne, Newcastle and Sydney, will be capable of firing the SM-2 missile in the upgrade by early 2009, said Defence Minister Robert Hill in a statement.

The upgrade would ‘significantly improve the air warfare capabilities of the Royal Australian Navy’, he said.

MNA/Xinhua



US marines cross a bridge while others stand guard during a foot patrol outside camp Saint Michael in Mahmudiyah, some 60km south of Baghdad recently. —INTERNET

Iraqi southern oil pipeline attacked

BAGHDAD, 16 July— Unidentified saboteurs drilled holes into the main oil pipeline in southern Iraq, causing pools of oil on both sides of the line, Qatar-based al-Jazeera TV channel reported Thursday.

The attack on the line took place at al-Askari District, 20 kilometres southwest of Basrah, the channel said.

It was not immediately clear if oil exports were affected as the damaged pipeline runs crude to offshore export terminals on the Gulf.

South Iraq serves as the country's major oil export

terminals, with exports there amounting to some 1.7 million barrels per day despite frequent disruption by sabotage attacks.

The damage to the pipeline on Thursday comes a little more than a week after exports were cut in half by damage to the smaller of the two key export pipelines.

The attacks on the country's pipelines reduced the southern exports to just 960,000 barrels a day.

Iraq's interim prime minister, Iyad Allawi, has said the attacks over the past few weeks have cost the country about one billion US dollars in lost revenue.

MNA/Xinhua

Police say suspected car bomb kills 3 in Iraqi town

BAGHDAD, 16 July — A suspected car bomb killed three Iraqi police and wounded nine other people on Thursday when it exploded near the main police building in an Iraqi town northwest of the capital, a police official said.

Police Lieutenant Mohamed Ghanem said the nine wounded in the blast in Haditha, 125 miles northwest of Baghdad, were also mainly police.

He said the blast also damaged a municipal building and a bank, as well as some surrounding shops.

Guerillas often target Iraqi police for

working with US forces in the country.

On Wednesday, a suspected suicide car bombing killed 11 people and wounded 30 in Baghdad in the first big guerilla attack in the Iraqi capital since an interim Iraqi Government took over from US-led occupiers on 28 June.

MNA/Reuters

Fire in Iraq oil pipeline near Kirkuk fields

BAGHDAD, 16 July — Fire erupted in an oil pipeline in northern Iraq on Thursday near the country's main Kirkuk oilfields, witnesses said.

Iraqi crews rushed to the site near Al-Fathah between Kirkuk and Iraq's largest refinery at Beiji. It was not immediately known whether the country's northern export pipeline, which runs in the same area, was the one on fire.

"Smoke is filling the sky and there is a large pool of

spilt oil," one witness said. "There are only shepherds here. They either don't know if it was sabotage or they are too afraid to say," he added.

Saboteurs have frequently attacked northern oil and gas pipelines that form part of the export network or supply Iraqi refineries and power stations.

Earlier this month saboteurs lobbed mortars at the North Oil Company compound in Kirkuk, causing no casualties.

Saboteurs also blew a hole in a gas pipeline supplying a power station in central Iraq and a liquefied natural gas plant on the edge of Baghdad. —MNA/Reuters

Britain should vet spy source more after Iraq

LONDON, 16 July—Britain's spies need to be better scrutinized to avoid making the same mistakes highlighted by Lord Butler's report on London's case for war in Iraq, analysts said on Thursday.

Butler found the intelligence was "seriously flawed" and criticized intelligence agencies for not checking sources of human intelligence carefully enough.

"There needs to be a new, unified process for the evaluation of sources from agents," said Alex Standish, editor of *Jane's Intelligence Digest*. "That was quite lamentable in the case of what happened in Iraq and in many ways, was the root cause of what followed," he told *Reuters*.

Butler's report on

Wednesday said overseas intelligence agency M16 only had five main sources on the ground in Iraq gave more credence to untried agents than normal and had agents working beyond their expertise.

Of those five, Butler said one reported authoritatively on some issues but just passed on what he had heard within his circle on others; another was "open to doubt", reports from a third were withdrawn as unreliable and reports from the other two "continue to be regarded as unreliable".

"That speaks to me of a service that was in crisis," Standish said. "They really were casting around, looking desperately for sources of information on Iraq, which to be honest had not been a priority for quite some time."

Analysts agreed with Butler's recommendations that monitoring and assessment ought to be boosted, reorganized and better coordinated across different parts of the intelligence community to pick up failings.—MNA/Reuters



A Kurdish ICDC (Iraqi Civil Defence Corp) soldier looks through piles of old bombs, remains of the old Iraqi army arsenal, at a scrap yard outside of Zakho, on the Iraqi-Turkish border, on 13 July, 2004. —INTERNET

Philippine troops await Iraq pull-out order

MANILA, 16 July — The Philippines awaited news on Thursday of the fate of a Filipino civilian hostage in Iraq, a day after the government said it would give in to his kidnappers' demands and withdraw its troops from the country.

But confusion remained over whether troops were actually being pulled out as the Air Force stood down two C-130 transport planes on standby for the evacuation.

Air Force spokesman Major Restituto Padilla said no order had yet been received to pull troops out, and the two C-130 aircraft were now conducting missions in the south of the country. "Nothing yet... In fact, the two aircraft that were supposed to be on standby for Iraq are now conducting missions in Mindanao," he told *Reuters*.

Police Major Honorio Agnila from the department in charge of the police deployment said officers in Iraq were continuing to go about their normal duties.

"There is no word yet, they are still there... They are working at the police academy as trainers. They are teaching the local police, who are former Iraqi military," he said.

"They have not been given any orders (to leave) yet. As a component of the armed forces peacekeeping centre, we just follow

their orders."

Militants in Iraq have threatened to kill hostage Angelo de la Cruz unless Manila withdraws its 51 troops — consisting of 43 soldiers and eight police officers — by 20 July, a month ahead of schedule.

Filipino diplomats in Manila have said they believe de la Cruz is alive and well, but a news blackout imposed on immediate developments by the presidential Palace to limit speculation meant little new information was available. The kidnappers' demand has left President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo, starting a fresh term in office, walking a tightrope between demands at home to save de la Cruz's life or braving international criticism and disappointing key ally Washington.

The United States expressed grave concern on Wednesday at a statement by Foreign Affairs Secretary Delia Albert saying she was working with the military to bring troops home.

MNA/Reuters

Australia vows to do everything to confront terrorism

CANBERRA, 16 July — The Australian Government said on Thursday it is ready to confront the terrorist threat, vowing to do everything in its power to prevent possible terrorist attacks.

Australian Foreign Minister Alexander Downer on Thursday announced the launch of Australia's first White Paper on terrorism, underlining that Australia is facing a serious threat from international terrorism.

"Contemporary terrorism differs from any threat previously faced by Australia. This scourge compromises our way of life and we cannot ignore or hide from it," Downer said in a statement.

The launch of the White Paper reflects the high priority the Australian Government places on dealing with this difficult issue and on keeping the public fully informed of the extent of the threat to Australia's interests, he said.

The White Paper details the nature and international dimensions of the evolving terrorist threat to Australia, highlighting its manifestations globally and how Australia's interests at home and abroad are endangered.

The White Paper also underlines Australia's previous and ongoing efforts to diminish the threat, strengthening Australia's strong commitment to greater cooperation with regional partners, traditional allies and other members of the global community, according to the statement.—MNA/Xinhua

OPEC to increase output next month

VIENNA, 16 July — The Organization of the Petroleum-Exporting Countries (OPEC) decided to cancel a ministerial meeting scheduled for next Wednesday in Vienna, but an output increase on August 1 will go ahead as planned, OPEC said in a statement Thursday.

The oil group "has decided that there is...no call for the conference to meet on 21 st July 2004, as originally foreseen," the statement said.

It would continue with a plan to raise the output ceiling by 500,000 barrels per day (BPD) because a previous production increase had not altered the oil market's supply-demand equation, the statement noted.

OPEC members would "continue to closely monitor market developments" to do what is necessary "to maintain market stability and keep prices at acceptable levels to both producers and consumers," the statement added.

The statement gave no further reason why the ministerial meeting was cancelled, but senior officials from OPEC members said that since all member countries have already supported the plan to increase quotas from August 1, there is no need for OPEC to hold the meeting. OPEC agreed last month to raise its output ceiling by 2.5 million barrels a day in two stages. The group decided first to raise its ceiling by two million barrels on July 1, and agreed to follow up with a second increase of 500,000 barrels on August 1, bringing the production of the 10 OPEC states in the quota system — Iraq is not included — to a total of 26 million bpd.

MNA/Xinhua



An unidentified Philippine truck driver arrives at his country's embassy in the Iraqi capital of Baghdad, on 16 July, 2004. The Philippines said it would begin pulling troops out of Iraq on Friday to save the life of a Filipino hostage ignoring calls by the United States and other allies not to bow to kidnappers' demands. INTERNET



An Iraqi man is treated for injuries received when a suspected car bomb exploded in central Baghdad, on 14 July, 2004.



An injured Iraqi boy surveys the scene of a car bomb explosion in central Baghdad, on 14 July, 2004.

Images of Iraq



The scene of a car bomb explosion in Baghdad, Iraq, on 14 July, 2004.



An Iraqi youth surveys the damage to his father's alcohol shop after it came under attack in Baghdad in this picture taken on 14 July, 2004.



Iraqi police and US troops gather at the site of a car bomb explosion near the main Iraqi government building on 14 July, 2004.



Iraqi citizens walk close to the site of a car bomb explosion on 14 July, 2004.

Irrigation facilities that benefit rural areas and the entire nation



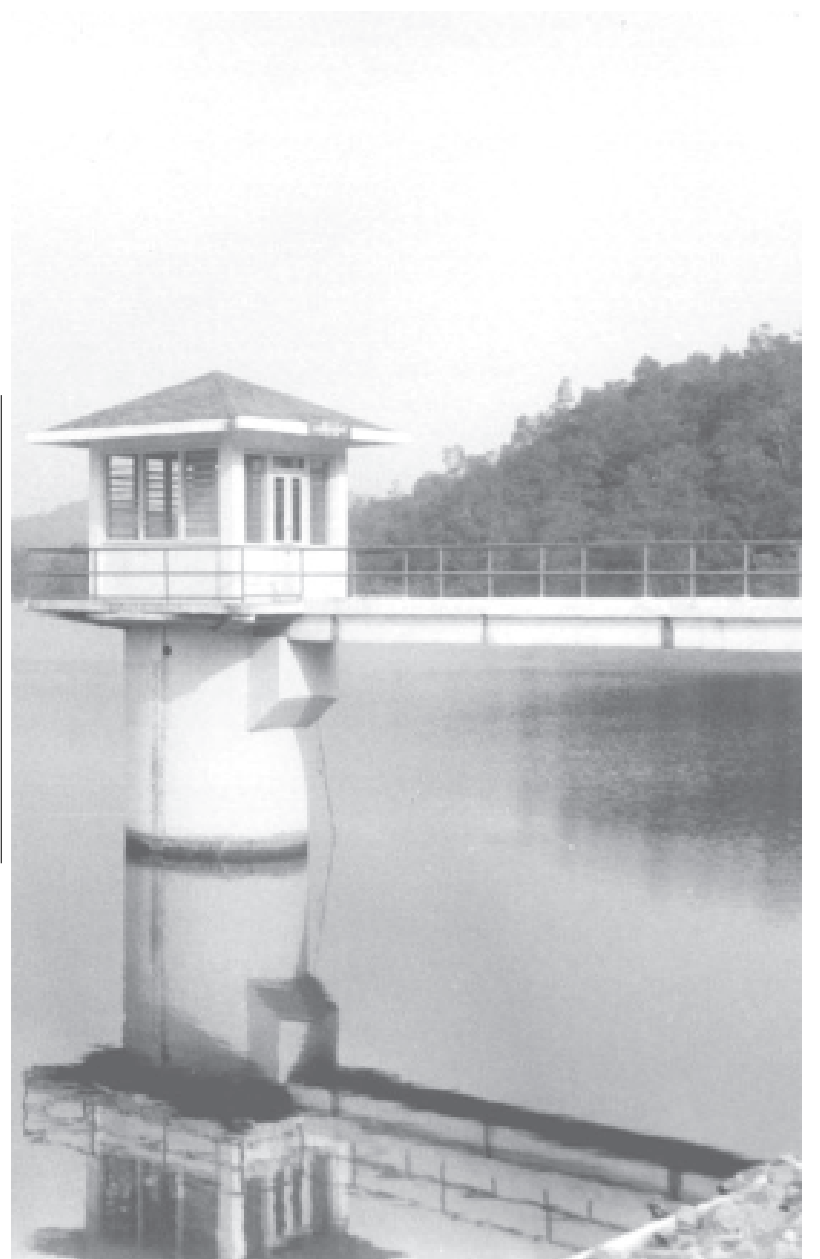
Thaphanseik Dam in Kyunhla Township, Sagaing Division, benefits 400,000 acres of monsoon paddy, 45,000 acres of cotton, 172,500 acres of summer paddy and 26,300 acres of sesame.—MYANMA ALIN



With water storage capacity of 228,000 acre feet, Swa Chaung Dam benefits people living in Yedashe Township, Toungoo District, Bago Division. — MYANMA ALIN



Saddan Dam in Myothit Township, Magway Division, benefits over 10,000 acres of farmland and thanks to the dam, the farmers are now able to conduct tripple cropping. —MYANMA ALIN



Humon Dam built to supply water for agricultural purpose in Lashio Township, Shan State (North).—THANT ZIN TUN (KYEMON)



Khawa Dam built by Construction-2 of the Irrigation Department near Chinywagyi, Padaung Township, Bago Division, benefits 2,000 acres of farmland.— MNA



Secretary-2 Lt-Gen Thein Sein inspects production process of Sunflower Polyethylene Factory in Shwepyitha Industrial Zone.— MNA

Secretary-2 inspects ...

(from page 1)

factory, investment, test operation of the factory, production on commercial scale, kinds of dry cells, raw materials, power supply, distribution of finished products, income, strength of staff and requirements.

Lt-Gen Thein Sein gave instructions on conducting technical courses, arrangements for substitution of parts needed for the factory, marketing for quality products, fire preven-

tive measures, worksite safety, spending and coordination and cooperation for progress of the factory.

The Secretary-2 and party inspected production process and warehouses.

The factory employing 127 staff produces 7,200 D and AA sizes dry cells each per hour. The dry cells are available on local markets and in Winthuza Shops of the Ministry of Industry-1.

The Secretary-2 and party went Sunflower polyethylene

bag factory under the supervision of MWVO in Shwepyitha Industrial Zone. They inspected the production process of the factory.

The Secretary-2 gave instructions on seeking markets and production of quality products and fulfilled the requirements.

There are 239 staff at the factory which produces over 50,000 bags of various kinds a day.

MNA

Lt-Gen Ye Myint tours Mingin, Kani ...

(from page 16)

Maternal and Child Welfare Association Chairperson Daw Kyi Kyi Aye. They then cordially met departmental officials and local people.

On arrival at Kani, they attended the opening ceremony of X-ray Room of Kani Township Hospital. Chairman of Monywa District Peace and Development Council Lt-Col Kyi Sein handed over documents on related X-ray equipment and X-ray room to Health Department Officer Dr Than Tun. Next, Lt-Col Kyi Sein and Dr Than Tun formally opened the X-ray room. Lt-Gen Ye Myint and party inspected the room and other units of the hospital.

Next, Lt-Gen Ye Myint met departmental officials, social organizations and local people at the Township Peace and Development Council Office. He heard reports on progress of the township by Kani Township Peace and Development Council Chairman U Aung Myint. Lt-Gen Ye Myint gave necessary instructions.

Afterwards, he presented a computer and accessories, 40 dozens of exercise books and clothes to the Township Peace and Development Council Chairman.

They proceeded to Kane Village on other side of Kani, by boat. Local people welcomed them. Lt-Gen Ye Myint urged them to participate in carrying out regional development.



Lt-Gen Ye Myint presents a computer for Mingin BEHS to an official.— MNA



Monywa District Peace and Development Council Chairman Lt-Col Kyi Sein and District Health Department Officer Dr Than Tun formally open X-ray room of Kani Township Hospital.— MNA

Next, they went to Budalin through Kane-Ywatha-MonO-Pyutu-Thakhuttane rural road. At Thakuttane Village in Budalin Township, Lt-Gen Ye Myint attended the ceremony to donate cash for building the Station Hospital. Lt-Gen Ye Myint accepted K 20 million donated by U Kyaw Thaung and family of Mandalay; K 2 million by U Than Hlaing-Daw Win Kyi (Retired Headmistress) of Yangon; K 300,000 by U Hla Myint-Daw San Kha, K 100,000 each by U Khin Maung Nyo-Daw Myint Mar (Shweman Cafe); U Kyaw Min Aung-Daw Nelly Hsan; and U Than Htwe-Daw Mary.

The commander presented exercise books for Thakuttane Affiliated BEHS to Headmaster U Kyi Win. Deputy Minister Dr Mya Oo thanked for the donations.

Speaking on the occasion, Lt-Gen Ye Myint said that he expressed gratitude for donations of the wellwishers. Today, the government is enhancing health care service. In this regard, five rural development tasks are being carried out for narrowing development gap between rural and urban regions. In so doing, local people in rural regions should participate in regional development as much as possible.

They proceeded to Monywa by car.

Deputy Minister for Health Dr Mya Oo together with Dr Tin Min of Health Department inspected Kalewa Township Hospital and fulfilled the requirements. Similarly, Deputy Director-General U Thaung Khaing of No 2 Basic Education Department (Upper Myanmar) attended to requirements of basic education high schools in Kalewa.

MNA

Measures for ensuring smooth and secure transportation coordinated

YANGON, 17 July — The Yangon Division Supervisory Committee for Ensuring Smooth and Secure Transport held the coordination meeting at Yangon Command Headquarters yesterday evening, attended by Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Myint Swe.

Also present on the occasion were military region commanders, station commanders, divisional and district authorities, members of the supervisory committee, rectors, pro-rectors and registrars of universities and colleges in Yangon City, chairmen of bus lines and guests.

First, the commander explained that members of the supervisory committee are to perform tasks daily for ensuring smooth transport of passengers from Yangon City to various regions of the country and in downtown Yangon.

Member of the Supervisory Committee, the rectors, pro-rectors and registrars, the chairmen of bus lines took part in the discussions. Later, the commander gave the concluding remarks.

MNA



Lt-Gen Ye Myint of the Ministry of Defence formally unveils the stone inscription of the Ayemyawady school building of Monywa BEHS-1. — MNA

Lt-Gen Ye Myint inspects development of health, education, construction in Monywa

YANGON, 17 July — Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Ye Myint of the Ministry of Defence inspected the lay-out plan of extension of Monywa General Hospital in Monywa on 15 July and attended the ceremonies to open Resource Centre for Ancient Myanmar Manuscript and New Century Resource Centre of the Higher Education Department and new school building of Monywa Basic Education High School No 1. Accompanied by Chairman of Sagaing Division Peace and Development Council Commander of North-West Command Maj-Gen Tha Aye, Deputy Minister for Health Dr Mya Oo, Deputy Minister for Construction Brig-Gen Myint Thein and officials, Lt-Gen Ye Myint arrived at Monywa General Hospital. Medical Superintendent Dr Myint Myint Thein reported on the lay-out plan for units of the hospital. Deputy Minister Dr Mya Oo and Commander Maj-Gen Tha Aye gave supplementary reports.

Lt-Gen Ye Myint and party inspected the site for construction of the extended buildings at the hospital.

Next, they attended the opening ceremony of Resource Centre for Ancient Myanmar Manuscript and New Century Resource Centre. Commander Maj-Gen Tha Aye and Rector of Monywa University Dr Maung Htoo formally opened the RCAMM. Lt-Gen Ye Myint unveiled the signboard of the centre. Next, they viewed round the centre.

Similarly, the New Century Resource Centre was opened in Monywa and the commander and the rector formally opened the centre. Lt-Gen Ye Myint unveiled the signboard and sprinkled scented water on it.

Lt-Gen Ye Myint, the commander, the deputy ministers and departmental heads inspected computer training

centre, computer aided language lab (1), lab (2) and lab (3), e-Education learning centre, hardware training centre, software training centre, ED, reference books & reading centre and e-Education resource centre and left necessary instructions.

Next, they looked into construction of Union Highway from Monywa Home for the Aged to Kywe Ye Junction. The commander and officials reported on the project. Lt-Gen Ye Myint gave instructions to the officials. They also inspected earth work from Pyidaungsu Junction to Kyaukka Thanlan.

Next, they inspected land preparations from Kyaukka Thanlan Junction to Kye Ye. Those responsible conducted them round the construction site. Lt-Gen Ye Myint stressed the importance of meeting the set standard.

At the briefing hall, Lt-Col Win Myint in charge of the project made clarifications on the project. Lt-Gen Ye Myint instructions and fulfilled the requirements.

Lt-Gen Ye Myint and party headed for BEHS No 1 in Monywa and attended the opening of Ayemyawady new building of the school the ceremony to present K 100 million for Sagaing Division U Tin Maung Scholarship Award. Commander Maj-Gen Tha Aye, member of the school board of trustees U Chit and old student U Thein Aung formally opened the building. Lt-Gen Ye Myint pressed the button to unveil the stone inscription of the building. Lt-Gen Ye Myint, the commander and the deputy minister sprinkled scented water on it.

Lt-Gen Ye Myint and party inspected learning of the students at computer skill room, computer aided instruction room and language labs (1) and (2) on the first floor.

They also inspected learning of the students at the practical rooms (Chemistry), (Physics) and (Biology). They watched the entertainment programmes of the students at the arts room and presented cash awards to the presenters.

The second session of the ceremony followed at the meeting hall. Entrepreneur from Monywa in Sagaing Division U Tin Maung (Honda-Myanmar Co) explained the purpose of the donation and presented K 100 million for Sagaing Division U Tin Maung Scholarship to Lt-Gen Ye Myint.

Director of BM Group U Ne Myo Aung presented 500 compass boxes to the students through the commander, who then presented a certificate to him.

Member of the school board of trustees and the committee for construction of the school building U Win Myint reported on background history of the school and construction of the building.

Member of school construction committee U Win Myint handed over related documents of the school to Deputy Director-General of No 2 Basic Education Department U Thaug Khaing.

In his address, Lt-Gen Ye Myint said No 1 Basic Education High School in Monywa was opened in 1921. Over 80 years of its existence, the school produced intellectuals and intelligentsia. In international circle, science and technology are changing and developing rapidly and every nation is trying to apply them in the interest of nation and its people. He said the State Peace and Development Council is endeavouring for the emergence of a modern developed nation. Only highly-qualified human resources can build a modern nation, he said.



Sagaing Division Peace and Development Council Chairman North-West Command Commander Maj-Gen Tha Aye and Monywa University Rector Dr Maung Htoo formally open the Resource Centre for Ancient Myanmar Manuscript and New Century Resource Centre.



The Ayemyawady school building of Monywa Basic Education High School No 1. — MNA

National education promotion special four-year plan (2000-2001) has been implemented successfully and 30-year long term plan is being implemented. As a result, educational gap between urban and rural areas has become narrower. Progress has been made in education sector with the cooperation of the government and the people, he added. Next, Lt-Gen Ye Myint cordially greeted members of the school board of trustees, donors, members of social organizations and townselders.

The newly built Ayemyawady two-storey building of No 1 BEHS, Monywa is 148 feet long, 30 feet wide and 25 feet high. It was built at a cost of K 39.95 million. Lt-Gen Ye Myint and party spent the night in Monywa.

On 16 July, they attended the opening of gymnasi-ums in Mandalay and Kyaukse. They arrived back here this morning. Deputy Minister for Health Dr Mya Oo inspected People's Hospital in Kyaukse, Central Women's Hospital in Mandalay and construction of Medical Technological University.—MNA



Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than and wife Daw Marlar Tint see off Chief of Army of Malaysian Armed Forces General Dato' Seri Mohd Azumi Bin Mohamed and wife and party at the airport. (News on page 16) —MNA



Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than presents documentary photo album and video tapes to Chief of Army of Malaysian Armed Forces General Dato' Seri Mohd Azumi Bin Mohamed. (News on page 16) — MNA

Commander inspects paddy cultivation in Taikkyi Township

YANGON, 17 July—Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Myint Swe, accompanied by Secretary Lt-Col Myint Kyi and departmental officials, inspected agricultural and regional development tasks in Taikkyi Township, Yangon North District this afternoon and gave instructions to officials there.

The commander and party at 2 pm arrived at Thayetchaung Village jetty in Taikkyi Township where they were welcomed by Brig-Gen Htein Win of Taikkyi Station, Brig-Gen Kyaw Thu of Phugyi Station, Chairman of Yangon North District Peace and Development Council Lt-Col Myat Min and officials.

Next, the commander and party inspected the river water pumping project of Water Resources Utilization Department in Bawle River where officials reported on arrangements being made for cultivation of 3,000 acres of monsoon paddy in Bawlekyun region in the coming

monsoon paddy cultivation season to the commander who gave necessary instructions.

Next, the commander and party proceeded to the paddy production camp of the Ministry of Home Affairs in Aingkalaungkyun region. At the briefing hall, Director Thura U Thein Htun Aung reported on location and area of the camp, reclamation of 1,670 acres of land, cultivation of monsoon paddy, arrangements for cultivation of summer paddy and pulses and beans, cultivation of fruits and vegetables and livestock breeding.

In response to the report, the commander attended to the needs.

After that, the commander and party inspected cultivation of fruits and vegetables and digging of fish breeding ponds and gave instructions to officials.

The commander urged officials to make relentless efforts for development of agricultural and livestock breeding undertakings.

Next, the commander and party arrived at the land reclamation project of Agricultural Mechanization Department in Aingkalaungkyun region where an official reported on reclamation of 1,080 acres of land, arrangements being made for cultivation of summer paddy and others to the commander who gave necessary instructions.

Afterwards, the commander and party inspected reclamation of land with the use of the aquatic plant harvester produced by AMD for cultivation of paddy in Aingkalaungkyun wetland region and Head of Yangon Division AMD U Aye Than reported on work being carried out. Next, the commander called on officials to be fully engaged in land reclamation for cultivation of more paddy in Aingkalaungkyun wetland region and fulfilled the requirements.

Next, the commander and party looked into cultivation of monsoon paddy by AMD in Aingkalaungkyun region and fulfilled the requirements.—MNA



Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Chairman Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe inspects land reclamation in Aingkalaungkyun region.—YANGON COMMAND



Commander, Industry-2 Minister meet officials of Monywa Industrial Zone

YANGON, 17 July — Chairman of Myanmar Industrial Development Bank Minister for Industry-2 Maj-Gen Saw Lwin, accompanied by officials, arrived at Myanmar Industrial Development Bank (Mandalay Branch) in Chanayethazan Township on 15 July afternoon.

The minister inspected banking services and keeping of money and documents. At the hall of the bank, Assistant General Manager U Sai Tun Oo of the bank reported on monetary matters and savings and disbursements.

Director of the bank U Hla Myint reported on findings for disbursements for building the foundry plant and other factories in Monywa Industrial Zone and tasks being carried out.

The minister gave instructions on systematic keeping of money and opening of a bank branch in Monywa in a short time for giving disbursements to entrepreneurs of Monywa Industrial Zone.

Yesterday morning, the minister inspected medium-size truck, light truck, 10-ton truck and Super Mandalay Wagon assembled at the Workshop-1 being checked by the inspection team of the Ministry of Industry-2 and preparations of other vehicles produced by the industrial zone for inspection tasks in Aungmyethazan Township, Mandalay.

Afterwards, Minister Maj-Gen Saw Lwin gave instructions on assembling of parts in accord with the technology and safety measures.

In the afternoon, Sagaing Division Peace and Development Council Chairman North-West Command Commander Maj-Gen Tha Aye and Minister for Industry-2 Maj-Gen Saw Lwin met Monywa Industrial Zone Management Committee members at the hall of the Minoywa Industrial Zone.

The commander clarified assistance being provided by the government for establishment of Foundry Plant and spare parts factories and for development of Monywa Industrial Zone.

Next, the minister explained coordination for building the Foundry Plant and spare parts factories, technology and necessary assistance to be given by the Ministry of Industry-2 and conducting of on-job training courses at No 1 Agricultural Implement Factory (Hsinde).

Next, the minister gave instructions on timely completion of buildings, water and power supply.

Next, Commander Maj-Gen Tha Aye and Minister Maj-Gen Saw Lwin inspected the site chosen for construction of the Foundry Plant and spare parts factories in Monywa Industrial Zone and fulfilled the requirements.

MNA

Vietnamese delegation calls on Minister for SWRR

YANGON, 17 July —Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Maj-Gen Sein Htwa received the 8-member delegation led by Chairperson of Social Affairs Committee of the National Assembly of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam Mrs Nguyen Thi Hoai Thu at his office this morning.

Also present at the call were Deputy Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Brig-Gen Kyaw Myint, Officer on Special Duty Brig-Gen Thura Sein Thauang, Ambassador of the SRV Mr Pham Quang Khon, Director-General of Social Welfare Department U Sit Myaing, Director-General of Fire Services Department U Myint Tun, Director-General of Relief and Resettlement Department U Than Oo, Head of Office U Maung Pi and officials.

They discussed social welfare. The guests visited Women Development Centre of Social Welfare Department. Director-General of Social Welfare Department U Sit Myaing reported on functions of the department and works of Women Development Centre.

They also visited salesrooms of weaving factory and handicraft factory.—MNA

Don't smoke

A historical milestone leading the nation to a new age — 3

Aung Moe San

The Tatmadaw Government that is in the process of building a modern and developed democratic nation has already started to implement the seven-point future policy programme of the State. The duty of all the national forces including political parties is to reinforce the work of the Tatmadaw Government to implement the task. In other words, it is the system of check and balance to build a democratic nation. But if one is too desirous of grabbing power, one will lack the spirit to promote democracy and that to serve the majority's interest.

Some of the developing countries of the world are facing conflicts leading to blood baths, disintegration and sufferings as they have offered political freedom before laying down a firm economic foundation. At the same time, others are taking lessons from them to be free from making such terrible mistakes. Thus, those countries are trying to set up democracy after laying down firm economic foundations. It may be recalled that today's powers of the west launched the democracy revolution only after the development of the capitalist production industries in their societies. But those countries have now forgotten their history, and are making demands that are contrary to the objective conditions. They are pressing others to make democratic changes in the superstructure, instead of advising them to develop their economic infrastructures. A nation which lacks industrial capitalist class must first set up one before building a democratic nation. The ruling elite usually initiates the task of setting up a capitalist class and a democratic nation. Because the capitalists are not mature enough to launch a democracy revolution. Thus, such a revolution is called the revolution from above. For example, at one time in Asia the countries that launched the revolution from above were: Japan, the Republic of Korea, ASEAN countries and the People's Republic of China. "In the developing countries, as trade and production of the private sector were not strong enough, the ruling elite had to usually take the initiative for the emergence of a class that would build a new era. In countries where the Armed Forces do not take part in the national political leadership role, the powerful presidential system is being applied.

Myanmar, that is on the path of capitalist democratic revolution, should be viewed correctly. International assistance is required. The acts to create obstacles in Myanmar will hinder the advancement of Myanmar society and disturb her democratization process.

At his meeting with the then US President Clinton in 1994, former Malaysian Prime Minister Dr Mahathir Mohammad said that he opposed American pressures against the PRC with the excuse that the action was meant to improve human rights there. He also told Clinton that instead of interfering, America should point out which was right and which wrong to win the trust of China. The US should not apply pressure on China, nor on any other countries, he added. Dr Mahathir is one of the founders of the ASEAN.

Based on his experiences in setting up a democratic nation, Mahathir cautioned that all should not be misled by the way democracy was defined by the West; that excessive practice of democracy could lead to political instability, economic decline, anarchism, and poverty; that under such circumstances, the West would threaten and press us; and that if democracy offered unlimited freedom, there would emerge problems involving same sex, degradation of morality, acts of bribery and corruption and families with single parent.

Because of the excessive practice of democracy in America, it faced a terrible terrorist attack on 11 September 2001. Now America is clamping restrictions and rules. It is a lesson for all. I will now present some of the submissions of Ms Mariam Marshall Segal, head of the MMAI group, to the hearing committee of the US Congress in 1994 in order that the senators and congressmen, who are asking their government to press Myanmar for the cent per cent flourishing of democracy in the country, may take note.

In her presentation, she said that some might agree to the option — immediate formation of a democratic government and approved by the ruling government— all should consider the fact whether or not to give order on the government concerning the provisions stipulated in the constitution and the timetable; that if history was reviewed, national re-construction was a difficult and

profound task; that the US history had already proved this fact; that a stable democratic society flourished in the US after many wars were waged and human rights violations committed for many times; that the process was the same in other European and Asian countries; and that solving of border problems, decentralization of the system, and forging unity of all forces took time.

She then said that anarchy would break out if democracy was installed without proper preparation in a country like Myanmar with a diversity of languages and cultures, regional prejudices and various religions; that democracy was not an export item; and that it was just a tree of a native species with strong roots and fine branches.

She continued to say that sanctions and isolation efforts would not help a country like Myanmar in its march to democracy; that it would be further keep her away from democracy if the country was forced to accept the individual interest and US norms; that first and foremost US should try to understand Myanmar's history; that US would be able to render effective assistance for Myanmar only if the US understood her history; and that the US should make efforts to enable professors, entrepreneurs, tourists and observers to visit Myanmar and to help Myanmar people read more books and periodicals.

Ms Segal also said that the most important thing was to accredit an Ambassador to Myanmar without any delay; and that the US could not hear information from Myanmar without having an Ambassador there.

Ms Segal is an American citizen. She had been to Myanmar for 18 years. She is a descendant of a Jewish family, who had experienced Nazi holocaust. Her father was killed in the struggle to establish the state of Israel. For 18 years, she lived as a stateless person. She understands the taste of independence and the sufferings of torture more than others.

Myanmar's political, economic and social situations have developed many times than that in 1994 when she presented to the congress. The seven-point future policy programme of the State has already been laid down, and the National Convention, that is the first step of the programme is in progress. Thus, I would like to present the fact that the seven-point future policy programme is a milestone leading the nation to enter a new age.

(Myanma Alin; Kyemon: 10-7-2004)

(Translation: TMT)

Minister tours Mandalay, Nawnghkio, Kyaukme, Hsipaw, Lashio

YANGON, 17 July — Minister for Home Affairs Col Tin Hlaing toured Mandalay in Mandalay Division and Nawnghkio, Kyaukme, Hsipaw and Lashio Townships in Shan State (North) on 12 and 13 July and met officers, staff and families of departments.

On 12 July, the minister met the commandant of Myanmar Police Force Central Training School, the Deputy Police Battalions Control Commander, the Division Police Force Commander, the commissioner of Mandalay Division General Administration Department and district level officials at Mandalay Division Police Force Office.

He gave instructions on efforts to be made for achieving success in implementation of future programme of the State joining hands with the people, prevalence of security, law and order, measures for peace and



Minister for Home Affairs Col Tin Hlaing inspects fish breeding pond of Shan State (North) Police Refresher Training School in Lashio. — HOME AFFAIRS

stability and administration, duty to be discharged conscientiously for winning the trust of the people, eradication of corruption and bribery cases, participation in elimination of drugs and trafficking in human and welfare tasks.

On 13 July, Minister for Home Affairs Col Tin Hlaing met officials of

departments concerned at Union Solidarity and Development Association Office in Nawnghkio Township and Myanmar Police Force Yeiktha in Lashio and gave necessary instructions.

Minister Col Tin Hlaing heard reports on matters related to 1,000 acres of coffee in

Nawnghkio Township by officials and attended to their needs. In addition, the minister together with Commander of North-East Command Maj-Gen Myint Hlaing inspected Shan State (North) Police Refresher Training School in Lashio and gave necessary instructions.

MNA

Efficient use of electricity

- * Use daylight as the main source of light
- * Use the least possible amount of electricity only if there is not enough natural light
- * Use the least possible amount of electricity required in production and service enterprises
- * Preventing waste of electricity benefits the user and others

There are about 500,000 households using electricity in Yangon. Thus, saving a four-foot fluorescent lamp everyday by each household amounts to saving power that is equal to the capacity a 20-megawatt power station can supply.

Efficient use of fuel

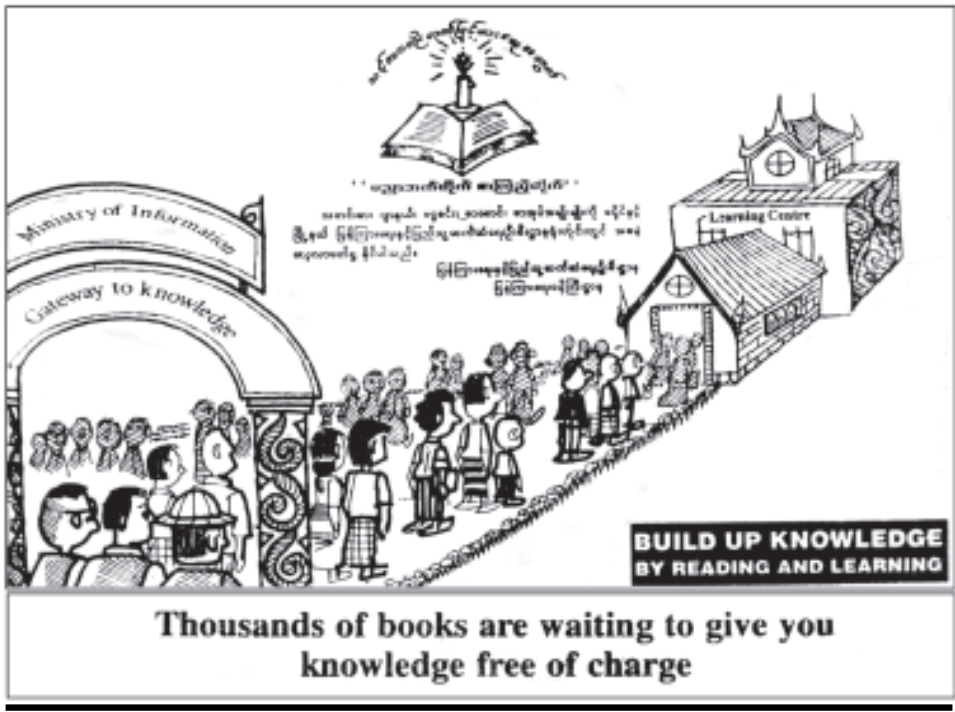
- * Saving one gallon of fuel per car per month will save the nation one US dollar
- * Thus, a total of 455,822 cars in Myanmar can save US\$ 5.5 million in a year
- * The amount, US \$ 5.5 million, can build a major bridge across Ayeyawady River

All this needs to be known

- * Do not be frightened whenever intimidated
- * Do not be bolstered whenever flattered
- * Do not be softened whenever appeased

The best time to plant a tree was 20 years ago.

The second best time is now.



ADVERTISEMENT

**ပြည်ထောင်စုမြန်မာနိုင်ငံတော်
ဝန်ထမ်းရွေးချယ်လေ့ကျင့်ရေးအဖွဲ့
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(၂၀၀၄ ခုနှစ်၊ ဇူလိုင်လ ၁၃ ရက်)**

လျှောက်လွှာခေါ်ယူခြင်း

၁။ စာရင်းစစ်ချုပ်ရုံးတွင် လစ်လပ်လျက် ရှိသော အောက်ဖော်ပြပါ ရာထူးများအတွက် လျှောက်လွှာများ အလိုရှိပါသည်-

ရာထူး	ယဉ္ဇာအရည်အချင်း	လစ်လပ်
မြို့နယ်စာရင်းစစ်အရာရှိ	(က)ဝါထိဇ္ဇာဘွဲ့ရရှိပြီး၊ လက်မှတ်ရ ပြည်သူ့စာရင်းကိုင် အောင်လက်မှတ်ရရှိသူ၊ (ခ)အထက်ပါဘွဲ့နှင့်လက်မှတ် မရရှိသောစာရင်းစစ်ချုပ်ရုံး နှင့်စာရင်းစစ်ချုပ်ရုံးလက် အောက်ရှိဒေသဆိုင်ရာ စာရင်းရုံးများမှဝန်ထမ်းဖြစ်ပါက တက္ကသိုလ်တစ်ခုခုမှဘွဲ့ ရရှိပြီး စာရင်းစစ်မှုရေးရာထူး (လစာနှုန်း၆၀၀၀-၁၀၀၀-၆၅၀၀) ခွဲလုပ်သက်(၅)နှစ်ရှိသူ။	၄ နေရာ

၂။ လျှောက်ထားသူသည်-
(က) ပြည်ထောင်စုမြန်မာနိုင်ငံသားဖြစ်ရမည်။
(ခ) ၉-၈-၂၀၀၄ နေ့တွင် အသက် ၃၅ နှစ် (ဝန်ထမ်းဖြစ်ပါက အသက် ၄၀နှစ်)ထက် မကျော်လွန်သူဖြစ်ရမည်။
(ဂ) စာရင်းစစ်မှုရေးရာထူး၌ ဌာနတွင်းလုပ်သက်(၅)နှစ်ရှိကြောင်း ဖော်ပြရန်လိုအပ်ပါက သက်ဆိုင်ရာအကြီးအကဲ၏ ထောက်ခံချက် ပူးတွဲတင်ပြရမည်။

၃။ လျှောက်လွှာကို ဝန်ထမ်းရွေးချယ်လေ့ကျင့်ရေးအဖွဲ့ရုံးသို့ ၉-၈-၂၀၀၄နေ့ အရောက်ပေးပို့ရမည်။

၄။ လျှောက်လွှာတွင် ဖော်ပြရမည့်အချက်များ၊ ပူးတွဲပါရှိရမည့် စာရွက် စာတမ်းများ၊ ဝင်ကြေးငွေ ၅၀/- ပေးသွင်းရမည့်နည်းလမ်း၊ ရေးဖြေ၊ နှုတ်ပြောစစ်ဆေးမှုအတွက် လေ့လာရန်လိုအပ်ချက် များနှင့်စစ်လျဉ်း၍ ဤအဖွဲ့က ကြေညာချက်အမှတ်၊ ၁/၉၁ဖြင့် ထုတ်ပြန်ထားသော **ဝန်ထမ်းရွေးချယ် လေ့ကျင့်ရေးအဖွဲ့က ကြော်ငြာခေါ်ယူသော ရာထူးများသို့ လျှောက်လွှာ တင်သွင်းသူများ အတွက် လမ်းညွှန်စာစောင်ပါ** သတ်မှတ်ချက်များနှင့်အညီ လိုက်နာဆောင်ရွက်ရန် ဖြစ်သည်။

၅။ **ရန်ကုန်မြို့နှင့်ပန္နလေးမြို့** များတွင်ရေးဖြေစာမေးပွဲစာစစ်ဌာနများ ထားရှိမည်။ မိမိဖြေဆိုလိုသော စာစစ်ဌာနကို လျှောက်လွှာတွင် ရှင်းလင်းဖော်ပြရမည်။

၆။ ဝန်ထမ်းများသည် မူရင်းလျှောက်လွှာတစ်စောင်ကို မိမိတာဝန်ထမ်းဆောင်သည့် **ဌာနအကြီးအကဲမှတစ်ဆင့် ဝန်ကြီးဌာန၏ ခွင့်ပြုချက်ရယူပြီး ဝန်ထမ်းရွေးချယ်လေ့ကျင့်ရေးအဖွဲ့ရုံးသို့ ၉-၈-၂၀၀၄နေ့အရောက်ပေးပို့ရမည်။** လျှောက်လွှာတစ်စောင်ကို မိတ်ပုံနှင့်အတူဤအဖွဲ့ရုံးသို့ တိုက်ရိုက်ပေးပို့ရမည်။

၇။ ၁၂-၉-၂၀၀၄နေ့နှင့် ၁၃-၉-၂၀၀၄နေ့များတွင် အရည်အချင်းစစ် ရေးဖြေစာမေးပွဲကျင်းပမည်။ ၉-၉-၂၀၀၄နေ့မှစ၍ မန္တလေးတိုင်း အထွေထွေ အုပ်ချုပ်ရေးဦးစီးဌာနရုံးနှင့် ဤအဖွဲ့ရုံးတို့တွင် ဖြေဆိုခွင့် ကတ်ပြားများကို ထုတ်ပေးမည်။

၈။ စုံစမ်းမေးမြန်းလိုပါက ဤအဖွဲ့ရုံးသို့ လူကုန်တိုင်ဖြစ်စေ၊ တယ်လီဖုန်းအမှတ် (၃၇၀၁၆၃)သို့ ဖြစ်စေ ဆက်သွယ်နိုင်ပါသည်။

**နိုင်ငံအဝန်း သစ်တောစွမ်းဖြင့်
စိမ်းလန်းစေရမည်။**

China, Ethiopia stress parliamentary relations in Beijing

BEIJING, 16 July— The National People's Congress (NPC), China's top legislative body, and the Council of People's Representatives (CPR) of Ethiopia vowed to promote parliamentary relations in Beijing Wednesday. Wu Bangguo, chairman of the NPC Standing Committee, met with a CPR delegation headed by CPR Speaker Ato Dawit Yohanes, and they expressed the hope to strengthen exchanges and cooperation between the two legislative bodies so as to promote the development of relations between the two countries and their peoples. Wu said China and Ethiopia boast traditional friendship and they have always supported each other, shared common views on many major international and regional issues, and maintained sound consultations and cooperation in international affairs.

He said the development of friendship and cooperation between China and African countries including Ethiopia has always been an important part of China's independent foreign policy of peace. The Chinese side will work with African countries to build a new Sino-African lasting and steady partnership of overall cooperation on an equal and reciprocal footing, said Wu.

MNA/Xinhua

Philippine Govt appeals for more time and trust

MANILA, 16 July— Philippine Government Wednesday appealed the nationals for more time and trust in dealing with the hostage crisis as it is still continuing seeking the safety release of the kidnapped Filipino in Iraq.

“President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo, myself and whole government continue to work on possible solution regarding the hostage situation,” Vice-President Noli de Castro said in a TV statement.

“The whole country is

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for Novartis AG
P.O. Box 60, Yangon
Dated: 18 July, 2004

Growth of Chinese farmers' income reaches seven-year high

BEIJING, 17 July — The average cash income of China's rural residents reached 1,345 yuan (162.6 US dollars) in the first half of 2004, up 16.1 per cent, or 10.9 per cent accounting for inflation, over the same period of last year.

The growth rate was 8.4 percentage points higher than last year, the fastest growth since 1997, said Zheng Jingping, spokesman of National Bureau of Statistics, at a Press conference Friday.

MNA/Xinhua

Indonesian carrier to buy 20 new planes

JAKARTA, 16 July — Indonesia's state-owned airline company PT Merpati Nusantara Airlines plans to purchase 20 new airplanes within the next two years to cope with growing competition in the domestic airline industry.

Merpati president Hotasi Nababan said the company planned to allocate around 600 billion rupiah (68 million US dollars) to purchase 20 new planes, half of which would be jets and the remainder propeller planes.

“We aim to increase the size of our fleet from 40 to 60 planes, in order to boost our flight frequency,” Hotasi was quoted Wednesday by *The Jakarta Post* as saying.

ARRIVAL/CLAIMS DAY NOTICE MV “BAGO” VOY NO BG774/N

Consignees of cargo carried on MV “BAGO” Voy No BG774/N are hereby notified that the vessel arrives at Yangon port on 19-07-2004 and will be berthing on about 20-07-2004 and cargoes will be discharged into the premises of Myanma Port Authority 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 between 8 am to 11.30 am and 12 noon to 4 pm upto Claims Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from vessel.

No claims against this vessel will be admitted after the Claims Day.

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Over 3,000 chickens destroyed in avian flu outbreak in Thailand

BANGKOK, 16 July— Agricultural officials in Thailand's northern province of Sukhothai and the north-eastern province of Khon Kaen Wednesday destroyed about 3,600 chickens in an attempt to halt the latest outbreak of the avian flu virus.

In Sukhothai, nearly 3,000 chickens in Klong Yang, Pa Kum Ko, and Dong Khu sub-districts were buried. Farmers across the province also carried out mass slaughters of their poultry stock.

In Khon Kaen, 600 chickens of a farm in Ta Kra Serm sub-district were culled after over 10 per cent of the chickens in the farm died which were suspected to have contracted avian flu, reported the *Thai News Agency* Thursday.

Provincial livestock officials met in Bangkok Wednesday to co-ordinate a common approach to dealing with the fresh outbreak of bird flu.

They agreed the immediate destruction of all chickens in any farms where some 10 per cent of the fowls have died suspiciously, Director-General of the Department of Livestock Development, Yukol Limlamthong was quoted as saying.

Blood tests of poultry will be conducted in every farm across the country from the end of July.

Any fowls found to have avian flu will be immediately culled, Yukol said.

The government will allocate a 60-million-baht (1.5-million-US-dollar) budget for all the operations in this aspect over the next two years.

MNA/Xinhua

He explained that the plan was expected to create a more efficient airline, a key factor in strengthening Merpati at a time when competition in the industry is becoming tighter with the entry of many new players, both local and foreign. He said that some of the planes were designed to have a capacity of 25 to 30 passengers for each aircraft to serve short-range routes in remote areas, since

demand for short-range routes would grow rapidly in the future, including in the heavily populated island of Java. Merpati currently serves some 250 routes, mostly to remote areas.

The purchase of the new aircraft will be financed from proceeds gained from the company's privatization programme, which is expected to start this year.

MNA/Xinhua

ing to free Cruz, a 46-year old Filipino trunk driver. He also called on all Filipinos to support government on the matter. “Let's give government enough time and trust.” Explaining the news blackout that the government has conducted on the hostage

crisis, de Castro said “because we are taking precaution to make sure that we get Cruz back alive”.

“Let's not add to the suffering of the de la Cruz's families and relatives through speculation,” he said. —MNA/Xinhua

ပညာရေးနှင့် ခေတ်မီပို့ဒ်တိုးတက်သော နိုင်ငံတော်ကြီး တည်ဆောက်အံ့

Specialists seek extra training for heart implants

CHICAGO, 16 July—Cardiologists should get additional training before implanting heart devices in patients, a professional group for doctors specializing in the implants recommended on Thursday.

The Heart Rhythm Society recommended the changes as the industry prepares for a huge acceleration in the number of people who get implantable defibrillators and special pacemakers designed to treat heart failure.

The group worries that more cardiologists are implanting the devices without sufficient training.

"People who get defibrillators have a lot of heart damage.... They're pretty sick patients, so they're at a higher risk anyway," said Dr Stephen Hammill, president of The Heart Rhythm Society.

Hammill said he has heard of patients who have been harmed and some who have died because their cardiologist did not have proper training in the devices.

He also acknowledged that doctors have a financial

incentive to do the implants. Based on current Medicare payments, a doctor earns almost 900 US dollars for implanting an ICD, which takes about two hours, he said.

The group's guidelines include a recommendation that implanting physicians do a minimum of 35 implants a year and 100 implants over the course of three years.

An implantable cardioverter defibrillator, or ICD, is a stop-watch size device implanted into the chest that detects a dangerously rapid beat and delivers tiny shocks to slow the heart to a normal rhythm.

Recent studies have found that many more patients can benefit from ICDs than previously thought.

Hammill, who is also a professor at the Mayo Clinic, said cardiologists need more training in implanting and

testing devices, and following up on patients who have them.

He added that cardiologists without an extra year of training in electrophysiology often cannot properly evaluate whether a patient is best treated with a device, drugs or a procedure that cauterizes heart tissue that causes an irregular beat.—MNA/Reuters

Thailand joins six-nation pact to make AIDS drugs

BANGKOK, 16 July—Thailand has joined a Brazil-initiated six-nation pact to make generic drugs and other prevention products in the fight against the HIV/AIDS pandemic, Health Minister Sudarat Keyuraphan said on Thursday.

"We would like to see further price reduction of drugs, possibly through compulsory licensing," she told reporters.

"Ultimately, this pact will bring exchange of raw materials among member nations and production techniques of the necessary drugs," she said.

Other Thai health officials said Thailand, which imports raw materials from India for its three-in-one generic antiretroviral pill, hoped to bring India into the pact and would seek a bilateral pact with China on generic raw materials for other

AIDS drugs.

"We will jointly research and develop new generic drugs and prevention products, including condoms and microbicides," said senior ministry official Pakdee Pothisiri, who signed the pact on the sidelines of the 15th global AIDS conference.

The six members — China, Russia, Ukraine and Nigeria are the other members — would hold their first meeting in October in Russia to map out an action plan, officials said.

MNA/Reuters

NASA to launch spacecraft to Mercury after 30-year break

WASHINGTON, 16 July— NASA is set to launch a spacecraft to Mercury in August for the first time in 30 years, with a probe meant to orbit the heavy-metal planet while it maps its surface and looks for frozen water in shady polar craters.

The Messenger spacecraft is set for launch August 2 on a seven-year journey that will loop around Earth, Venus and Mercury, getting a boost from the gravity of these three planets to guide it to a Mercury orbit for a one-year mission, the project's scientists said on Thursday.

Messenger will not make the first Mercury fly-by until 2008 and will not begin its main mission until 2011, after flying

some 4.9 billion miles, the scientists said at a briefing. The roundabout route is geared to saving the cost and weight of the extra fuel required for a quicker trip. The last time the National Aeronautics and Space Administration sent a spacecraft to this planet nearest to the sun was in 1974 and 1975, when the Mariner 10 probe made three close passes, returning detailed data on less than half of Mercury's surface. By contrast, Messenger will carry seven scientific instruments, including cameras, spectrometers to figure out what chemicals are present, a magnetometer to learn more about Mercury's magnetic field and an altimeter to measure its topography.

Sean Solomon of the Carnegie Institution of Washington, the principal investigator on the project, characterized Mercury as unusual among the inner rocky planets, which include Earth, Venus and Mars.

It is so dense that scientists believe at least two-thirds of it must be made up of iron. The temperature between day and night on Mercury varies up to 1,100 degrees Fahrenheit (600 Celsius), with a daytime temperature around 840 degrees Fahrenheit (450 Celsius), Solomon said. So at night it's several hundred degrees below zero Fahrenheit.

MNA/Reuters



Fireworks illuminate the sky at the Eiffel Tower in Paris during Bastille Day celebration on Wednesday, 14 July, 2004. INTERNET

US report says red wine compound may extend life

WASHINGTON, 16 July— The compound that makes red wine a healthful drink may also hold the secret to a longer life, scientists reported on Wednesday.

They found that Resveratrol acted on fruit flies and worms in the same way as a method known to extend the life of animals including monkeys — sharply restricting how much they eat.

The finding opens the possibility that people could take a pill to achieve the same benefits as strict dieting to live longer, healthier lives, said David Sinclair of Harvard Medical School in Boston, who led the study.

"We found this chemical that can extend the life

span of every organism we give it to," Sinclair said in a telephone interview. "We hope we can soon see molecules that treat diseases of aging, like diabetes for example... We really can have our cake and eat it, too."

Writing in the journal *Nature*, Sinclair and colleagues at the University of Connecticut and Brown University in Rhode Island said they were looking for some compound that would affect the body the way caloric restriction does.

MNA/Reuters

Study says customized vaccines help delay cancer death

WASHINGTON, 16 July—An anti-cancer vaccine made with a patient's own brain tumour has helped several sufferers live much longer than expected, US researchers reported on Thursday.

They found three specific targets called antigens in brain tumour cells, and customized a vaccine that, apparently, stalled the growth of the deadly brain cancers.

While the 14 patients were not cured, they lived an average of about two and a half years compared to seven and a half months for similar patients who did not get the vaccine, the researchers said.

Writing in the journal *Cancer Research*, Dr Keith Black and colleagues at Cedars-Sinai Medical Centre in Los Angeles and a team at the National Cancer Institute said they found the antigens in the most common and aggressive type of malignant brain tumour, glioblastoma multiforme.

"This is the first time that a specific response to brain tumour antigens has been demonstrated as the result of an immunotherapy strategy," said Dr John Yu, who helped lead the study.

Their trial was designed only to show the vaccines were safe, but they apparently

helped the patients survive longer.

Immune cells called T lymphocytes can attack cancer cells but usually do not because the cancer cells also carry the signature of normal, healthy cells.

Researchers working on a cancer vaccine are looking for antigens that are made only by cancer cells, so the body can be trained to recognize and attack them.

They took cells from the patient's own brain tumours and grew them in the lab alongside immune cells that had been primed to recognize each of the three antigens. The resulting "trained" immune cells were then injected back into the patients.

In another study, a team at Harvard Medical School used a slightly different approach to shrink tumours in two breast cancer patients.

Writing in the journal *Clinical Cancer Research*, Dr. Donald Kufe and colleagues at Harvard's Dana-Farber Cancer Institute said they fused tumour cells from the patients with T-cells.—MNA/Reuters

Report says US cancels air passenger screening upgrade

WASHINGTON, 16 July— The US Government is dropping a plan to collect personal data on airline passengers to assess security risks because of privacy concerns, *USA Today* reported on Thursday, citing the US homeland security chief.

Homeland Security Secretary Tom Ridge said officials had all but scrapped plans for the controversial Computer Assisted Passenger Prescreening System, known as CAPPS II, which has come under criticism from privacy advocates and some members of the US Congress.

The programme, which has never been tested fully, was launched after the September 11, 2001, hijacking attacks to refine electronic techniques for using personal

information to identify and rate potential threats.

Asked whether the programme could be considered dead, Ridge jokingly gestured as if he were driving a stake through its head and said: "Yes," *USA Today* reported.

Hecited privacy concerns, particularly those arising from proposed legislation that would have required airlines to hand over information about passengers as part of a test of the programme, the newspaper said.—MNA/Reuters

UNEP to develop investment principles

NAIROBI, 16 July—The United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) will develop key principles to guide global investors to better integrate short-termism capital markets with long-term environment and sustainable development cause, it was announced here Thursday.

While launching a so-called "responsible investment initiative," the Nairobi-based UNEP said it will work with major institutional investors to develop a set of globally recognized principles for responsible investment by September 2005.

The launch of the initiative is a follow-up to the meeting of more than 40 investors and fund managers held last month in Paris. At the meeting, the participants proposed a global alliance of

investors to guide responsible investment best practice.

"The time is now right to develop principles to guide best practice in responsible investment decisions worldwide," said Klaus Toepfer, UNEP's Executive Director.

He said he believed the investor community is now ready for the principles to assist with the complex process of responsible investment that meets investor expectations.

MNA/Xinhua

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Four injured Saudis sent home before Asian Cup

CHENGDU (China), 16 July — Saudi Arabia have sent three injured players home from China just three days before they begin their quest to win a record fourth Asian Cup, team officials said on Thursday.

After arriving at their base in Chengdu, midfield trio Mohammed Noor, Mohammed Ameen and Abdulla Al-Wakid, along with defender Osama Al-Harbi were promptly ordered to return home.

The Saudis, runners-up to Japan in Lebanon four years ago, were already without veteran goalkeeper Mohammed Al-Daeyea, who has an injured knee.

Saudi Arabia, who are coached by Dutchman Gerard van der Lem, won the Asian Cup in 1984, 1988 and 1996.

They play their opening game against Turkmenistan on Sunday. Iraq and Uzbekistan are the other teams in Group C.

The 16-team tournament begins on Saturday and runs until August 7.

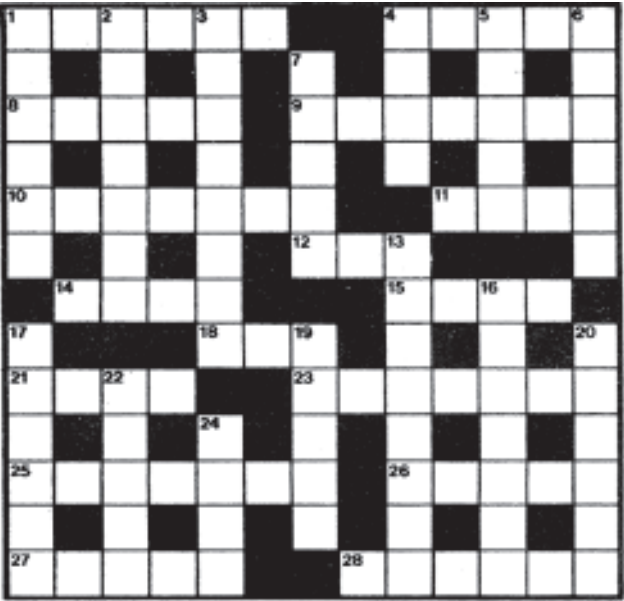
MNA/Reuters



Uruguay's Javier Delgado, below, Dario Rodriguez, center, and Carlos Diogo, fight for the ball during a training session in Piura, Peru, on Thursday, 15 July, 2004. Uruguay will face Paraguay on Sunday for their Copa America 2004 quarterfinal match.

INTERNET

Crossword Puzzle



ACROSS

- 1 Shelves
- 4 Subsequently
- 8 Gibe
- 9 Queue
- 10 Unsophisticated
- 11 Stretch
- 12 Ignited
- 14 Image
- 15 Lazy
- 18 Tibetan ox
- 21 Learning
- 23 Blamed
- 25 Treble
- 26 Combine
- 27 Lees
- 28 Scanty

DOWN

- 1 Hidden
- 2 Distrusted
- 3 Completely
- 4 Light sledge
- 5 Vagrant
- 6 Soften
- 7 Upset
- 13 Alcoholic solution of drug
- 16 Enduring
- 17 Shut
- 19 Stuffing material
- 20 Stick
- 22 Indian coin
- 24 Go by

Crespo joins AC Milan on loan from Chelsea

MILAN, 16 July — Chelsea's Argentine striker Hernan Crespo has joined AC Milan on a season-long loan, the Italian champions said on their web site on Thursday.

Crespo, who returns to Serie A after spells with Inter Milan, Lazio and Parma, has signed a deal until June 30, 2005.

Crespo, 29, will be back under the orders of his former coach at Parma, Carlo Ancelotti, who signed him from River Plate in 1996 and stood by him during a turbulent first season in Italy.

The Argentine, who struggled to settle at Chelsea, faces tough competition for a place up front for Milan, who have Ukrainian Andriy Shevchenko, Denmark's Jon Dahl Tomasson and Italy international Filippo Inzaghi.

"I know very well it won't be easy to win a place. I take that into account but I am not going to place limits on myself," Crespo told reporters after arriving in Milan on Wednesday evening.

Hampered by injuries and trips to World Cup qualifiers in South America, Crespo never really established himself at Chelsea last season, despite scoring 10 Premier League goals and two more in the team's run to the Champions League semifinals.

MNA/Reuters

Paraguay upset Brazil to grab top spot

AREQUIPA (Peru), 16 July — Ten-man Paraguay upset Brazil 2-1 in the Copa America on Wednesday to force the world champions into second place in Group C and a 2,000-kilometre trip north to face Mexico in the quarterfinals.

On the same night that Costa Rica managed a shock 2-1 win over Chile, Paraguay upset the odds by defeating a Brazil team who had already made travel arrangements on the assumption that they would remain top in the group.

Julio Gonzalez headed Paraguay into a first-half lead only for Luis Fabiano to equalize seven minutes later.

Fredy Bareiro stunned Brazil with the winning goal on 71 minutes.

Three minutes later, Paraguay's Emilio Martinez was sent off for an off the ball foul on Brazil's Gustavo Nery, showing his frustration after the referee had ignored penalty appeals for an apparent foul on Bareiro.

Brazil face Group B winners Mexico in Piura, while Paraguay have earned the right to stay in the south for a meeting with Uruguay, third in Group B, in Tacna in Sunday's quarterfinals.

With Maicon replacing Mancini at right back and Felipe in for Alex in midfield, Brazil played with greater fluency and dominated the play for long periods.

MNA/Reuters

Hungary to send chemical weapons experts to Athens

BUDAPEST, 16 July — Hungary will send a team of chemical and biological weapons experts and detection equipment to Athens for next month's Olympic Games, the Hungarian Government said on Thursday.

"The mobile bio-laboratory developed by the Hungarian Defence Forces will be moved to the Greek capital for the duration of the Games," the government said in a statement.

"The task of the laboratory will be to analyse and neutralise material entering the environment in the event of a chemical or biological attack," it added. The laboratory, which is to be manned by nine experts, is a key part of Hungary's contribution to NATO's Response Force (NRF), a cutting-edge rapid reaction force the alliance decided to set up last year.

Defence Minister Ferenc Juhasz said the Hungarian lab would be deployed in Athens for a month.

MNA/Reuters

Swiss striker Frei given three-match ban for Euro spit

LONDON, 16 July — Switzerland striker Alexander Frei was banned for three internationals by UEFA's Appeals Body on Thursday for spitting at England midfielder Steven Gerrard during Euro 2004.

Frei had originally been cleared due to lack of evidence but new TV footage showed him spitting on Gerrard's neck. He was withdrawn from the squad by the Swiss federation and provisionally banned for the duration of the tournament, missing Switzerland's final Euro 2004 group game against France.

Having seen the new evidence, UEFA then appealed against its own disciplinary body's decision to clear the Stade Rennes striker, asking for a five-game ban partly as an extra punishment for his initial denial.

The Appeals Body partially upheld the appeal on Thursday, Frei's 25th birthday, banning him for three games but including the missed France match among them.

MNA/Reuters

Denilson to miss start of season after knee operation

MADRID, 16 July — Real Betis winger Denilson will miss the start of next season after undergoing surgery to deal with a knee injury, medical staff said on Thursday.

"This should mean that the player will have no further knee pain next season," said Doctor Santiago Perez Hidalgo.

The doctor said the Brazilian international midfielder would be out of action for between two and three months.

Denilson, 26, missed the end of last season after undergoing a similar operation on the same knee.

The Spanish season is due to get underway on the last weekend of August, but the calendar has yet to be given official approval by the football authorities.

MNA/Reuters



Kathryn Andersen, front, Ann Gaffigan and Carrie Messner, left, clear the hurdle in the 3000 meter steeplechase final during the Olympic Track and Field trials in Sacramento, Calif, on Thursday, 15 July, 2004. Gaffigan placed first, Andersen placed second, Messner placed third. —INTERNET

MRTV-3

18-7-2004 (Sunday)
(Programme Schedule)
Morning Transmission

(9:00 - 10:00)

- 9:00 Signature Tune Greeting
9:02 Song of Myanmar Beauty & Scenic Sights "Myanma Panorama & Myanma Sentiment"
9:06 Export Prawn
9:10 Headline News
9:12 Waso Chinlone Festival
9:15 National News
9:20 Myanmar Movies Impact
9:30 National News
9:35 Popa Flat-topped Hill (Taung Ka Lat)
9:40 Song "Aristocratic Beauty"
9:42 Art in Glass Bottles
9:45 National News
9:50 Soap Factory (Yamethin)
9:58 Song of Myanmar Beauty & Scenic Sights "Come and See Myanmar"

18-7-2004 (Sunday)
Evening Transmission
(15:30 - 17:30)

- 15:30 Signature Tune Greeting
15:32 Song of Myanmar Beauty & Scenic Sights "Mingalabar"

- 15:36 Export Prawn
15:40 Headline News
15:42 Waso Chinlone Festival
15:45 National News
15:50 Myanmar Movie Impact
16:00 National News
16:05 Popa Flat-topped Hill (Taung Ka Lat)
16:10 Song "Aristocratic Beauty"
16:12 Art in Glass Bottles
16:15 National News
16:20 Soap Factory (Yamethin)
16:25 Song of Myanmar Beauty & Scenic Sights "Myanma Panorama & Myanma Sentiment"
16:30 National News
16:35 Pickled Featherback
16:40 Unique Biodiversity of Indawgyi Lake (Part-III)
16:45 National News
16:50 Bagan Archaeological Museum
16:55 Dance of the Konbaung Era
16:58 The Great Bell of King Sintgu
17:00 National News
17:05 Ornamental Jewellery of Outstanding Designs
17:08 Myanmar Modern Song "To Golden Mandalay"
17:15 National News
17:20 Fabulous Bagan (IV)
17:25 Song of Myanmar Beauty & Scenic Sights "Come and See Myanmar"

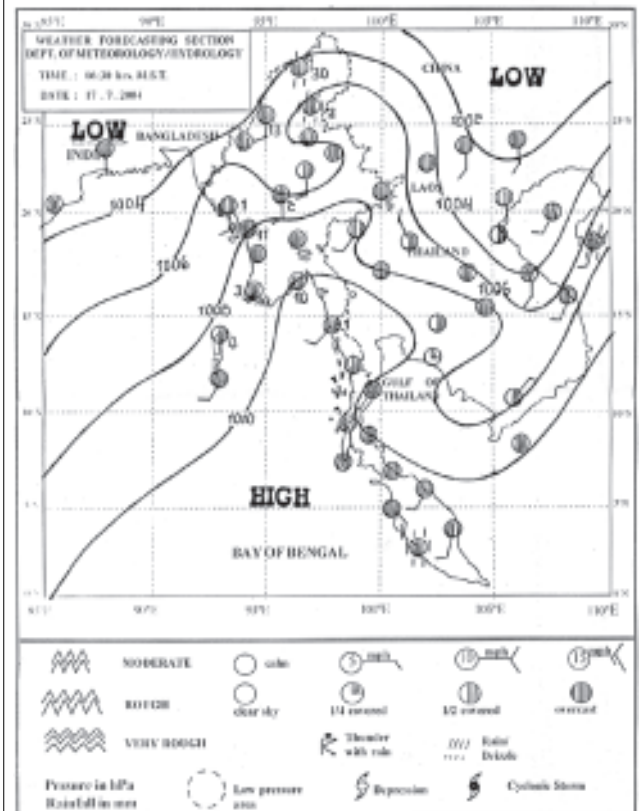
Evening Transmission
(19:30 - 23:30)

- 19:30 Signature Tune Greeting
19:32 Song of Myanmar Beauty & Scenic Sights "Myanma Panorama & Myanma Sentiment"
19:36 Nan Pan Market Day
19:40 Headline News
19:42 Melodious Flute Tunes of the Villages
19:45 National News
19:50 Traditional Art of Making Goldware
19:55 Pana ma Aae Khan Gita Than
20:00 National News
20:05 New Vogue Flower Arrangement
20:10 Song "Dakukuku"
20:12 Oil Painting Model Demonstration
20:15 National News
20:20 Red Panda
20:25 Myanmar Modern Song "The Towering Flowers"
20:30 National News
20:35 Unique Biodiversity of Indawgyi Lake (Part-II)
20:40 Nan-Thae Model Plantation (Inlay Lake)
20:45 National News
20:50 Myanmar Movies Impact
21:00 National News
21:05 Myanmar Artistic Works at Shwedagon Pagoda Archways
21:10 Song "Treasure Land"
21:15 National News
21:20 Fabulous Bagan (IV)

- 21:25 Song of Myanmar Beauty & Scenic Sights "Mingalabar"
21:36 Export Prawn
21:40 Headline News
21:42 Waso Chinlone Festival
21:45 National News
21:50 Myanmar Movie Impact
22:00 National News
22:05 Popa Flat-topped Hill (Taung Ka Lat)
22:10 Song "Aristocratic Beauty"
22:12 Art in Glass Bottles
22:15 National News
22:20 Soap Factory
22:25 Myanmar Modern Song "You From Next Door"
22:30 National News
22:35 Pickled Featherback
22:40 Unique Biodiversity of Indawgyi Lake (Part-III)
22:45 National News
22:50 Bagan Archaeological Museum
22:55 Dance of the Konbaung Era
22:58 The Great Bell of King Sintgu
23:00 National News
23:05 Ornamental Jewellery of Outstanding Designs
23:10 Songs "To Golden Mandalay"
23:15 National News
23:20 Fabulous Bagan (V)
23:25 Song of Myanmar Beauty & Scenic Sights "Come and See Myanmar"

Rainfall on 17-7-2004

– (0.16 inch) at Yangon Airport,
– (0.39 inch) at Kaba-Aye and
– (0.47 inch) at central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2004 was 1447mm (56.97 inches) at Yangon Airport and 1397 mm (55.00 inches) at Kaba-Aye and 1389 mm (54.68 inches) at central Yangon.

Weather Map of Myanmar and Neighbouring Areas**WEATHER****Saturday, 17 July, 2004**

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST: During the past 24 hours, weather has been partly cloudy in Kayah State, lower Sagaing Division and rain or thundershowers have been isolated in Kachin, Shan, Chin, Kayin, Mon States and Taninthayi Division, scattered in upper Sagaing, Mandalay, Magway and Ayeyawady Divisions and widespread in the remaining areas with isolated heavyfalls in Rakhine State. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded was Maungdaw (5.04) inches.

Maximum temperature on 16-7-2004 was 32.5°C (90°F). Minimum temperature on 17-7-2004 was 20.6°C (69°F). Relative humidity at 9:30 hrs MST on 17-7-2004 was 82%. Total sunshine hours on 16-7-2004 was (4.9) hours approx. Rainfall on 17-7-2004 was (0.16 inch) at Yangon Airport, (0.39 inch) at Kaba-Aye and (0.47 inch) at central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2004 was 1447mm (56.97 inches) at Yangon Airport and 1397 mm (55.00 inches) at Kaba-Aye and 1389 mm (54.68 inches) at central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was 6 mph from Southwest at 16:45 hours MST on 16-7-2004.

Bay inference: Monsoon is weak in the Andaman Sea and moderate elsewhere in the Bay of Bengal. **Forecast valid until evening of 18-7-2004:** Rain or thundershowers will be widespread in upper Sagaing, Yangon, Bago Divisions, Kachin and Rakhine States, scattered in lower Sagaing, Mandalay Divisions, Chin and Shan States and isolated in the remaining areas. Degree of certainty is (80%). **State of the sea:** Seas will be moderate off and along Rakhine Coast and slight elsewhere in Myanmar waters.

Outlook for subsequent two days: Moderate monsoon. **Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 18-7-2004:** Sunny period with one or two rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (80%).

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 18-7-2004: Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (60%).

Flood Warning

(Issued at 11:00 hrs MST on 17-7-2004)

The Ayeyawady River water level at Chauk may rise 100 cm (about 3feet) and reach the danger level (1450) cm within the next 48 hrs commencing noon today.

The Thanlwin River water at Hpan-an may rise 40 cm (about 1.5 feet) and reach danger level (750) cm within the next 72 hrs commencing noon today.

**Sunday, July 18****View today:****7:00 am**

1. Recitation of Parittas by Missionary Sayadaw U Ottamathara

7:25 am

2. To be healthy exercise

7:30 am

3. Morning news

7:40 am

4. Nice and sweet song

7:55 am

5. ယဉ်ကျေးလိမ္မာ(၃၈)ပြာမဂ်လာ

8:10 am

6. အဆိုပြိုင်ပွဲ

8:15 am

7. ရွှေလောင်းကံတား

8:30 am

8. International news

8:45 am

9. Say it in English

11:00 am

1. Martial song

11:10 am

2. Musical programme

11:25 am

3. Round-up of the week's International news

11:40 am

4. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ
"သစ္စာချစ်ပန်း" (အပိုင်း-၁၀၀)

12:10 pm

5. အမျိုးသမီးများအားကစားစွမ်းရည်ပြပွဲ

12:25 pm

6. Myanmar Movie:
"ဘယ်ကလာတဲ့အချစ်လဲ"
ဓမ္မ၊ ထက်ထက်စိုးစိုး၊
ဒါရိုက်တာ- မျိုးမြင့်အောင်

2:45 pm

9. International news

4:00 pm

1. Martial song

4:15 pm

2. Songs to uphold National Spirit

4:30 pm

3. English For Everyday Use

4:45 pm

4. အဝေးသင်တက္ကသိုလ် ပညာရေး
ရုပ်မြင်သံကြားသင်ခန်းစာ
ပထမနှစ် (သိပ္ပံအထူးပြုအားလုံး)
(ခါတုပေး)

5:00 pm

5. Dance of national races

5:15 pm

6. မြန်မာစာ မြန်မာစကား

5:30 pm

7. Musical programme

5:45 pm

8. Agricultural Source Country's Development

5:55 pm

9. Sing and Enjoy

6:30 pm

10. Evening news

7:00 pm

11. Weather report

7:05 pm

12. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ
"နှင်းပွင့်" (အပိုင်း-၃၀)

7:35 pm

13. Musical programme

7:45 pm

14. အေးချမ်းစေ့စည်ရမ်းတို့ဌာနီ
(မြောက်ပိုင်း)

8:00 pm

15. News

16. International news

17. Weather report

18. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ

- "နှလုံးသားထဲကတစ်ခုတည်းသော
အချစ်" (အပိုင်း-၈)

19. The next day's programme

**Sunday, July 18**
Tune in today:

- 8.30 am** Brief news
8.35 am Music: Sunday morning
8.40 am Perspectives
8.45 am Music: Woman in me
8.55 am National news/Slogan
9.05 am Music: Tarzan Jane
9.10 am International news
9.15 am Cultural Images Of Myanmar
-Thabeik (or) rice bowl for monk
1.30 pm News/Slogan
1.40 pm Story for children
-The three friends
1.50 pm Songs for children
9.00 pm Weekly news review
9.10 pm Music
9.15 pm Article
9.25 pm Latest Hits!
-The last dance
-With you
9.45 pm News/Slogan
10.00 pm PEL

Visiting Chief of Army of Malaysia General Dato' Seri Mohd Azumi bin Mohamed concludes visit

YANGON, 17 July — Visiting Chief of Army of Malaysian Armed Forces General Dato' Seri Mohd Azumi bin Mohamed and party left here by air at 10.05 am today.

They were seen off at Yangon International Airport by member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than and wife Daw Marlar Tint, Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Myint Swe and wife, Maj-Gen Mya Win and Brig-Gen Kyaw Han of the Ministry of Defence and their wives, Defence Adviser Col Hj Abbas bin Hj Mat and wife and officials of the Malaysian Embassy.

Prior to their departure, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than presented documentary photo album and video tapes as gifts to the Malaysian Chief of Army at the Lounge of the airport.

Next, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than and wife Daw Marlar Tint and party saw off the Malaysian goodwill delegation.



MNA

Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than bids farewell to Malaysian Chief of Army.— MNA

Lt-Gen Ye Myint tours Mingin, Kani townships in Sagaing Division

YANGON, 17 July — Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Ye Myint of the Ministry of Defence, accompanied by Chairman of Sagaing Division Peace and Development Council Commander of North-West Command Maj-Gen Tha Aye, Deputy Minister for Health Dr Mya Oo, Brig-Gen Khin Maung Aye of Kalay Station and departmental officials, arrived at

the site of Myittha Bridge (Kalewa) Project on 14 July morning.

At the briefing hall, Lt-Gen Ye Myint met departmental officials and social organization members of Kalewa and Mawlaik townships and gave instructions on regional development.

Chairman of Mawlaik District Peace and Development Council Lt-Col Win Naung and Chairman of Kalay District Peace and

Development Council Lt-Col Aung Moe Myint reported on matters related to their districts. In-charge of Kalewa-Mawlaik Road Construction project Maj Aung Htay reported on progress of road construction and arrangements for building bridges and conduits on the road and U Myint Aung of Kalewa Township Development Affairs Department on development tasks. The com-

mander and officials gave supplementary reports. Lt-Gen Ye Myint gave necessary instructions.

Next, they inspected Myittha Bridge (Kalewa), Monywa-Yagyi-Kalewa Road and 220 feet long Lapin Bridge.

On arrival at 360 feet long Tein Bridge, they inspected durability of the bridge and gave instructions on prevention of bank erosion.

medical store and attended to the needs.

Next, Lt-Gen Ye Myint met departmental personnel, social organizations and local people at Mingin Township Peace and Development Council Office. The Chairman of Township Peace and Development Council reported on agriculture, land reclamation, education, health and development tasks of the township and departmental officials

of a ministry for ensuring development of border areas so as to bring about equal improvement of all regions of the country including border areas. Therefore, they arrived there to fulfil the requirements of Mingin Township and carry out regional development.

The government has built Monywa-Yagyi-Kalewa Motor Road for better transportation in Sagaing Division. Moreover, arrangements are being made to complete construction of Kalewa-Mawlaik Motor Road by the end of rainy season. And, Mingin-Monywa-Kalewa Road is under construction. In this regard, the Township Public Works, Development Affairs Committee and officials concerned are to make preparations for construction process. In so doing, township and district level officials should enlist strength of local people and social organizations for implementation of regional development.

Next, Lt-Gen Ye Myint presented a computer to Mingin Basic Education High School to Headmaster U H Phun Kee Ciung and clothes and garments to Township Peace and Development Council Chairman U Thein Htay.

The commander also presented exercises for students to Township Education Officer Daw Khin San and soaps to Township

(See page 8)



Lt-Gen Ye Myint inspects Tein Bridge on Monywa-Yagyi-Kalewa Motor Road.— MNA



Commander tours Hmawby, Taikkyi townships

YANGON, 17 July — Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Myint Swe and wife patron of Yangon Division Supervisory Committee for Maternal and Child Welfare Association Daw Khin Thet Htay, accompanied by officials, inspected agricultural matters in Hmawby and Taikkyi townships this morning. They inspected demonstration of agricultural technology and pilot plantations in Kalagon Village of Hmawby Township.

In Phalon Buta Village in Taikkyi Township, the commander and party attended the ceremony to mark fifth national level malaria control week organized by Yangon Division Supervisory Committee for MCWA at Phalon Buta Basic Education Middle School (Branch). The commander and the patron of Yangon Division MCWA SC gave speeches.

Next, Daw Khin Thet Htay presented 100 mosquito nets, stationery, textbooks and 100 school bags containing school uniforms to local people and Headmistress Daw Thida Lwin of the BEMS (Branch).

Afterwards, Chairman of Yangon Division MCWA SC Head of Yangon Division Health Department Dr Hla Myint presented 100 mosquito nets

for local people of Taikkyikham Village and Yangon Division MCWA Chairperson Daw Cherry Ye Khaung, 60 mosquito nets to people of Leinmawgyan Village to officials. The commander handed over K 100,000 for the school and U Hla Htay and family of Hmancho Traditional Medicine House, traditional medicines to officials. — MNA

Afterwards, they arrived at Myoma Village in Mingin Township. Next, they proceeded to Chaungwa Village by boat and met local people. Later, they went back to Mingin and paid homage to Mahamin Monastery Presiding Nayaka Sayadaw Bhaddanta Javana and offered provisions. At Mingin Township Hospital, Lt-Gen Ye Myint inspected wards, the operation theatre and

on communication, power supply and transport sectors. The commander and officials gave supplementary reports. Lt-Gen Ye Myint fulfilled the requirements.

Next, Lt-Gen Ye Myint delivered an address, saying that the government is implementing the five rural development tasks for uplift of living standard of the local people in addition to designation of 24 development regions and forming



Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe inspects demonstration of agricultural technology in Kalagon Village of Hmawby Township.—YANGON COMMAND

