

BURMA-CHINA CHRONOLOGY to 1999

This chronology was compiled in 1999 by David Arnott as part of the research for his chapter on Burma-China relations in [“Challenges to democratization in Burma: Perspectives on multilateral and bilateral responses. Chapter 3 - China–Burma relations”](#) published by International IDEA in 2001.

Most of the extracts are from news sources, notably the official Burmese daily *The Working People's Daily (WPD)*, re-named *The New Light of Myanmar (NLM)* in April 1993. Most extracts from 1987-1996 are taken from [The Burma Press Summary](#) compiled by Hugh MacDougall. Other sources include the US Govt's *Foreign Broadcast Information Service (FBIS)* and the Internet version of *NLM*.

A lighter China-Burma chronology updated to end 2001 exists on *The Irrawaddy* research pages at http://www.irrawaddy.org/research_show.php?art_id=446

2nd Century BC

The "South-West silk Road" from Sichuan via Yunnan, Burma to India was already open

97 (Tang Dynasty)

The Tian King, Yun Yu Tao (the Chinese knew Burma as the "Tian" or "Pyu" Kingdom) sent envoys to the Chinese Emperor

120

He sent more

From this period, Chinese migrants (mainly Yunannese) and various hill peoples, moved in and out of Burma

1287

Pagan falls to the armies of Kublai Khan, emperor of the Mongol Yuan dynasty, sent from Yunnan.

In the following centuries, several Chinese invasion forces were repelled by Burman and Shan rulers. From this period, the Burmese have been wary of Chinese domination

Late 17th Century

Manchu Qing armies invaded northern Burma to capture the last successor to the Ming throne, Prince Yong-li, who had fled to the Burmese capital, Ava.

1776-1769

Three Qing invasions of Burma

1824-1826:

1st Anglo-Burmese war

1886

Annexation of Burma into British India

Following the British annexation of Burma, a flood of new Chinese labourers and migrants came by sea from Canton (Guandong) and Fukian (Fujian) provinces to set up shops and do business in Rangoon, Pegu, Moulmein, Mandalay, Bassein and other towns in central and lower Burma.

1949

1 Oct: People's Republic of China (PRC) proclaimed

17 Dec: Burma recognises the PRC

1950

January-March: KMT enter Burma

5 May: Naw Seng and his men retreat to China

May: KMT launch 1st cross-border raid into Yunnan

July: KMT driven back to Burma

1951-53

KMT make 4 major incursions into Yunnan (BIPE)

1952-57

PLA presence on border to counter KMT

1954

28-29 June: Chinese Foreign Minister (FM) Chou Enlai visits Rangoon (communique on 5 principles of coexistence (Friendly Relations?))

1-16 Dec: U Nu visits China. Talks on border questions and nationality of Chinese residents of Burma

1955

April: Bandung Conference where Burma become one of the founders of the Non-Aligned Movement. Helps reduce Burma-Chinese tensions (BIPE 157)

September: Lt. Gen Ne Win leads high level military delegation to China. Meets Mao and visits munitions factories and army training establishments

November: 30 Chinese soldiers enter Wa Hills and clash with BA troops

1956

24 Oct-7 Nov: U Nu (as president of AFPFL) visits China and holds talks with Chou Enlai. China agrees to withdraw its forces in disputed areas in Kachin State

1-20 Dec: Chou Enlai visits Burma

1957

2 March-2 April: U Nu visits Kunming

1960

24-29 Jan: Gen Ne Win, as PM of caretaker govt, visits China and holds talks with Chou Enlai. A 10-year treaty of friendship and mutual non-aggression and a Sino-Burmese agreement on demarcation of their 2,800km [2,100 MS] common boundary was signed on 28 Jan.

15-19 April: Chou Enlai visits Burma

28 Sept-4 Oct: U Nu visits China

1 Oct: Boundary treaty between PRC and Burma signed

1961

1-9 Jan: Chou Enlai visits Burma. Border agreement ratified. Agreement on economic and technical cooperation signed -- interest-free loan of \$30million from 1 Oct 1961-30 Sept 1997

26 Jan: 20,000 PLA troops and 5000 BA troops attack KMT bases North of Kentung

27 Jan: Sino-Burmese trade agreement signed in Beijing

Feb: KMT base at Mong Po captured by PLA and BA

Feb: Outbreak of Kachin (KIO) uprising, partly fired by the concession of some Kachin territory in the treaty of 1 Oct 1960 signed over the heads of Kachin villagers(BIPE p158)

1-15 Oct: U Nu visits China

1962

1 August: CPB exiles in Burma are allowed to issue their first public statement condemning the new military regime

1963-1967

100,000 Chinese merchants and traders leave Burma following Ne Win's nationalisation of the economy

1963

20 April: Liu Shaoqi visits Burma

July-Sept 3 groups of CPB members return from China to Burma for peace talks

14 Nov: Peace talks break down

End 1963-1968: In China, CPB (and later Kachin) leaders prepare China-sponsored push into Burma

1964

14 Feb: Chou Enlai arrives in Rangoon

10 July: Chou Enlai visits Burma

1965

3-4 April: Chou Enlai visits Burma

26-27 April: Chou Enlai visits Burma

24 July-1 August: Ne Win visits China. A joint communique is issued, reaffirming the 1961 treaty and the 5 principles of peaceful coexistence

14-25 September: Ne Win visits Soviet Union. A joint communique is issued, reaffirming mutual friendship

1966

17-19 April: Liu Shaoqi and Marshall Chen Yi visit Burma

16 May: Cultural Revolution begins in China

1967

27 Jan: 130 Nagas arrive in Yunnan and are provided with political and military training

10 March: Burma signs a border agreement with India

18 June: CPB purges

19 June: Mao badges banned in Rangoon

22 June: Chinese buildings and property in Rangoon looted or destroyed

26 June: 2000 Burmese gather outside 2 Chinese schools in Rangoon

27 June: Martial law declared in Rangoon

28 June: 1328 Chinese detained in Rangoon. Chinese embassy protests

29 June: Chinese Embassy attacked by demonstrators. Beijing announces that its ambassador will not return to Rangoon. Burmese say 50 killed; Chinese say several hundred

30 June: Radio Beijing attacks the Ne Win Govt as "counter-revolutionary, fascist and reactionary"

5 July: Ba Thein Tin (CPB leader) gives keynote address at a memorial rally (in Beijing?) for Liu Li. During this period, CPB leaders made public appearances in China at official government functions.

7 July: China's aid programme to Burma is suspended

16 July: A correspondent for the New China News Agency is expelled from Burma

11 August: Chinese foreign ministry protest to Burmese Embassy in Beijing, accusing Burma aircraft and troops of crossing into Yunnan

15 August: Beijing Radio broadcasts a "proletarian internationalist" message in support of the CPB's armed struggle:

"There was, the CCP announced, a 'profound friendship' between the two parties: 'It is our firm conviction that the CPB headed by Thakin Than Tun, which persists in the revolutionary line of 'to win the war and seize political power', will assuredly further unite the whole party and the people of all nationalities in Burma, overthrow the reactionary Ne Win government, and win complete victory in the revolutionary war in Burma (NCNA 15 August, quoted in Smith 1993, p 226)

21 August: All Burmese students studying in China are recalled. Critical Burmese claim anti-Chinese riots were designed by Ne Win Govt to deflect attention from rice shortages

25 August: "Beijing Review" calls for a CPB-led "people's war"

Aug-Sept Brang Seng and other Kachins visit Shanghai and Beijing

6 Oct: All Chinese technicians ordered to leave Burma

November: 2nd Kachin delegation visits China. Meets Chou Enlai and Kang Sheng as well as CPB leaders

1967-89

long-term reciprocal CPC/CPB support. Chinese aid was gradually reduced from the late '70s(See Smith 93, 301ff). "The CPB's tone towards China has always been eulogistic"(Smith, 93, p302) CPB attacked Deng when he was down -- this did not help them when he returned to power.

1968

1 Jan: Several hundred CPB troops led by Kachin hero Naw Seng, cross from China and take Mong Ko. All-out Chinese support for the CPB insurgency begins.

5 Jan: Other CPB troops enter Burma

15 Jan: CPB and KIO leaders in Beijing agree military cooperation (this does not work out on the ground)

Feb: More CPB troops enter Burma

March 330 Nagas reach China and are given shelter and training

6 April: Chinese protest arrest of Chinese in Burma

1970

14 November: Burmese ambassador returns to Beijing

1971

April: CPB radio begins broadcasting from Yunnan

6-12 Aug: Ne Win goes to Beijing to mend fences

1972

16 Feb: The Chinese Ambassador returns to Rangoon

1973

Shan and Karen delegations are invited to China

1974

11 November: Ne Win arrives in China for an official visit

1975

May: "Beijing Review" published a "bitter denunciation of the Ne Win-San Yu military regime, by the CPB CC" (Smith 93, p301) and prophesying victory.

16-26 May: CPB elect new leadership

11-15 Nov: Ne Win visits China. Agreement on "no aggressive acts" between the 2 countries

16 Dec: Kang Sheng dies

1976

8 Jan: Chou Enlai dies

April: Deng Xiaoping ousted from power

5-6 July: KIO and CPB form military alliance ending 8 years of war. KIO begins to receive Chinese arms via CPB

30 July: CPB sends message to CPC condemning "revisionist clique" Deng and Liu Shaoqi

9 sept: Mao dies

30 Sept: CPB repeats its condemnation of Deng and Liu

1977

August: CPC declares end to Cultural Revolution. Deng returns to power

26 Nov. Ne Win arrives in Phnom Penh as 1st foreign head of State to visit Cambodia after Khmer Rouge takeover in April 1975

1978

26 Jan: Deng in Rangoon for a 6-day visit. In Malaysia he had said that government-to-government relations were different from party-to-party relations, implying that China would continue to support CPB etc. (in support of China's role - iscr)

1979

12 July: New \$63 million aid agreement with China

7 Sept: Burma leaves NAM. San Lu criticises Vietnamese invasion of Cambodia (iscr)

28 Nov: China's FM, Huang Hua, arrives in Burma

1987

April 1: Chinese Minister for Petroleum Wang Tao and an eight-man delegation arrived to study the Burmese oil industry. (WPD 4/2) –

April 2: Met with Prime Minister and Cabinet Officers. (WPD 4/3) - April 8: Departed. (WPD 4/9)

April 17: Burmese trade delegation headed by Minister for Trade U Khin Maung Gyi returned from China after a visit that began April 3. Talks were held in Beijing with Vice Premier Wan Li and Minister for External Economic Relations Zheng Tuobin. An agreement to sell 100,000 tons of rice to China was signed. The delegation visited Kunming and the Quang Zhou spring trade fair. (WPD 4/19)

Burma Information Delegation

May 23: Chinese Vice-Premier Qiao Shi and a delegation of 12 arrived at the invitation of Deputy Prime Minister U Tun Tin. The delegation included Zhang Wanshou, Deputy Secretary-General of the State Council, Yang Zhenya, Director-General of the Foreign Ministry Asian Department, Jiang Zhongkui, Deputy Director-General of Regional Affairs in the Ministry of Foreign Economic Relations and Trade, Chen Jiping, the Vice-Premier's secretary, and Gong Husheng, Division Chief of the Foreign Ministry Asian Department.

On arrival Qiao Shi expressed pleasure in the continued progress of Sino-Burmese relations "based on the Five Principles of Peaceful Co-Existence", and his hopes for further cooperation "and the traditional Paukphaw [cousinly] sentiments between our two peoples". A dinner was hosted by Deputy Prime Minister U Tun Tin. (WPD 5/24) - May 24: Vice-Premier Qiao Shi visited the Rangoon-Syriam bridge project and National Indoor Stadium No. 1 [both Chinese aid projects], as well as the National Museum and Shwedagon Pagoda. (WPD 5/25) -

May 25: He was received by President U San Yu and other top officials, and called on Deputy Prime Minister U Tun Tin. (WPD 5/26) - May 28: Vice-Premier Qiao Shi and his delegation departed, after visiting Taunggyi, Mandalay, and Pagan/Nyaung-U. (WPD 5/29)

Chinese Union Delegation

May 26: Yu Qinghe, Secretariat member of the All-China Federation of Trade Unions, accompanied by Zhen Guoshun, Deputy Head of the Federation's International Department and an interpreter, arrived at the invitation of the Workers Asiayone Central Body. (WPD 5/27) - May 27: The delegation met with officials of the Workers Asiayone Central Body, and visited local sights including Chinese aid projects. (WPD 5/28) - May 28: The delegation visited the No. 1 Oil Refinery at Syriam, and the National Museum. (WPD 5/29)

Chinese Labor Delegation

May 31: The Chinese Labor delegation headed by All-China Federation of Trade Unions Secretariat member Yu Qinghe met with Vice Chairman U Ba Nyein and officials of the Workers Asiayone Central Body, which hosted a dinner for the Chinese. On May 29-30 the delegation visited Pagan/Nyaung-U, the lacquerware training school, and the Kyunchaung Fertilizer Plant in Pakokku Township. (WPD 6/1) - June 1: The delegation departed. (WPD 6/2)

Chinese Swimming Team

June 24: The Yunnan Province swimming team arrived for goodwill competitions to be held at the National Swimming Pool in Rangoon on June 26-28. It was headed by Yunnan Swimming Federation President Zhang Fenggui and included two coaches, an interpreter, and 5 boy and 5 girl swimmers. (WPD 6/25) - June 26: Competitions began. (WPD 6/26) - June 27: Competitions continued. (WPD 6/27) - June 28: Competitions concluded. (WPD 6/29)

Chinese Envoy Arrives

Aug. 25: The new Chinese Ambassador Mr. Cheng Ruisheng presented credentials to President U San Yu. (WPD 8/26)

Journalists to China

Sept. 9: A journalist delegation headed by Chief Editor U Gordon Po of The Myanmar Alin Daily left on a study tour of China under the bilateral cultural exchange program. Other members were Executive Editor U Htay Kyi of The Myawaddy Press; Editor U Daniel Aung of the News Agency Burma (Foreign), News and Periodicals

Corporation; Editor U Win Tun of the Forward Journal and Compiler U Tin Tun Ohn of the Shaytho Journal, Information and Broadcasting Department; Deputy Assistant Director U Bo Myint Than of the Motion Picture Corporation; and Editor U Win Pe of the Sarpay Beikman, Printing and Publishing Corporation. (WPD 9/10) - Sept. 26: The delegation returned. (WPD 9/27)

Delegation to China

Sept. 16: A cultural delegation headed by Deputy Minister for Culture U Than Maung left on a study tour of China under the bilateral exchange program. Members were Director-General U Soe Nyunt of the Fine Arts Department, Head of Office U Tun Zaw of the Office of the Ministry of Culture, Research Officer U Kyaw Win of the Department of Cultural Institute, Administrative Officer (Theatre Division) U Tin Win of the Fine Arts Department, and Research Officer U Khin Maung Lon (Shan State Cultural Division) of the Department of Cultural Institute. (WPD 9/17)

Burmese Dance Troupe to China

Sept. 30: A Burmese dance and drama troupe, headed by Director of the Arts Department of the Ministry of Culture U Thein Sein left for a series of performances in China, under the bilateral cultural exchange program. (WPD 10/1) - Oct. 14: The troupe returned. (WPD 10/15)

Oct. 4: The cultural delegation to China, led by Deputy Minister for Culture U Than Maung, which left Rangoon Sept. 16, returned by air via Bangkok. (WPD 10/5)

Chinese Football Team

Oct. 28: A Chinese youth football team, headed by Deputy Director of the Ball Games Research Section of the Chinese Sports Commission Yin Huairong, with 23 members, arrived on a goodwill mission. (WPD 10/29) - Oct. 29: It played a drawn game with the Burma youth football team in Rangoon's Aung San Stadium. (WPD 10/30)

Chinese Aid Delegation

Nov. 12: A five-member delegation headed by Chinese Deputy Minister for Foreign Economic Relations and Trade Mr. Lu Xuejian arrived in Rangoon, at the invitation of the Ministry of Construction, to study Chinese-Burmese economic cooperation and hold talks on present and future programs. (WPD 11/14) - Nov. 13: The delegation called on Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Planning & Finance Thura U Tun Tin, as well as on Minister for Construction Maj-Gen Myint Lwin, Minister for Trade U Khin Maung Gyi, and Deputy Minister for Culture U Than Maung. It visited the Thuwunna National Indoor Stadium and the Rangoon-Syriam Bridge construction site. Deputy Minister for Construction U Kyin Hlaing hosted a dinner for the delegation. (WPD 11/14) - Nov. 16: The delegation, which had visited the Sittang Paper Mill on Nov. 14, and attended the groundbreaking of a cultural theatre in Rangoon on Nov. 16, departed. (WPD 11/17)

Chinese Aid Agreement

Nov. 16: Chinese Deputy Minister for Foreign Economic Relations and Trade Mr. Lu Xuejian and Deputy Minister for Planning & Finance U Nyunt Maung signed an economic and technical cooperation agreement. It will provide an RMB Yuan 80 million (Ky 142.4 million) interest-free loan to supplement the funds for the Rangoon-Syriam Bridge. (WPD 11/17)

Chinese Cultural Visitors

Nov. 19: A Chinese cultural delegation headed by Mr. Liu Jianqing, visiting Burma Nov. 18-30, called on Minister for Culture and Information U Aung Kyaw Myint. (WPD 11/20) - Nov. 28: Minister for Culture and Information U Aung Kyaw Myint held a luncheon for the delegation.

On Nov. 20-22, the delegation visited the Archaeological Museum, the Lacquer Training School, and temples in Pagan-Nyaung-U. On Nov. 23, it went to Mandalay to visit the Shwekyanggyi, Mandalay Hill, and the Mahamyatmuni Pagoda and to study the gold-leaf industry. On Nov. 24 it visited Maymyo. On Nov. 25 it visited the Ywathitkyi Academy for Development of National Groups and the Kaunghmudaw Pagoda in Sagaing, and studied the silverware works at Ywahtaung.

On Nov. 26 the delegation returned to Rangoon, "and enjoyed Burmese dances and a puppet show staged by the Fine Arts Department". On Nov. 27, it met members of the Music Council Organizing Committee and the Thabin Council Organizing Committee and prominent artistes, and visited the Bogyoke Aung San Museum. (WPD 11/29)

Chinese Education Delegation

Dec. 4: A six-member Chinese education delegation, headed by Deputy Minister of the State Education Commission Zhou Shiyan, currently on a study tour in Burma, met with Deputy Education Minister Dr. Maung Di, who hosted a dinner in the evening. In addition to meeting Education officials, the delegation visited Rangoon University and the Universities Central Library. (WPD 12/5) - Dec. 8: The delegation toured Mandalay from Dec. 6-8, visiting the University and various schools, and then returned to Rangoon. (WPD 12/9) - Dec. 9: The delegation visited the Technical, Agricultural and Vocational Department, the Institute of Foreign Languages, the Rangoon Institute of Technology, and the Insein Technical Institute. (WPD 12/10) - Dec. 10: The delegation visited the Latha Township No. 2 Basic Education High School, the Institute of Medicine 1, and the Medical and Basic Education Departments. (WPD 12/11) - Dec. 11: The delegation left Burma. (WPD 12/12)

Chinese Radio Delegation

Dec. 6: A Chinese broadcasting journalist delegation headed by Mr. Zhang Shuyi, Director of the Beijing Radio Broadcasting Department, which arrived in Rangoon Dec. 4, called on Minister for Information and Culture U Aung Kyaw Myint at the Myanma Athan (BBS) on Prome Road. The other members of the delegation are Mr. Zhong Guohong and Mr. Wang Xiangnian, also of the Broadcasting Department. They then visited the National Indoor Stadium 1 in Thuwunna. On Dec. 5, they visited the National Museum and the Rangoon-Syriam Bridge site. They will be in Burma until Dec. 18. (WPD 12/7)

Chinese Association

Dec. 25: The 89th Annual Meeting of the Chinese Merited Association, 75/77 Lammadaw St., Rangoon, will be held Dec. 27. (WPD 12/25)

1988

Chinese Entertainers

Jan. 14: A Chinese traditional music and magic troupe headed by Deputy Leader of the Central Indigenous Music Committee Zhao Yong Shan, which arrived Jan. 13, called on Minister for Culture and for Information U Aung Kyaw Myint. The troupe will perform at Aung San Gymnasium from Jan. 14-21. (WPD 1/15) // Jan. 17: Minister U Aung Kyaw Myint hosted a lunch for the troupe in the Shwewa Room of the Karaweik Hall. (WPD 1/18) // Jan. 19: The performances have been extended to Jan. 22. (WPD 1/20)

Chinese Arts Delegation

Feb. 24: A three-man Chinese Arts Delegation headed by Xue Yongnian, accompanied by Wang Qingming and Yan Xiangdong, arrived on a tour under the bilateral cultural exchange program that will last until Mar. 9. They called on Minister for Culture and for Information U Aung Kyaw Myint. (WPD 2/25)

Chinese Arts Delegation

Mar. 6: The Chinese Fine Arts Delegation that arrived in Rangoon Feb. 24 [see February BPS, p. 3] was given a lunch by Minister for Culture and for Information U Aung Kyaw Myint. (WPD 3/6)

Chinese Red Cross Chief

Mar. 9: The President of the Chinese Red Cross, Cui Yueli, and a delegation comprised of Shandong Province Red Cross President Ma Chang Gui, Chinese Red Cross Society Deputy Secretary-General Qu Zhe, and Chinese Red Cross Society International Relations Officer Miss Gao Xiaoyan, arrived on a study tour of Burma. (WPD 3/10) // Mar. 10: The delegation visited the Shwedagon Pagoda, and met with the Burma Red Cross Society Executive Committee headed by President U Kyi. In the afternoon, Cui Yueli visited the National Museum. (WPD 3/11) // Mar. 18: He met with the Rangoon Division Red Cross Supervision Committee, headed by Chairman U Mya Win, at the Nurses Training School of the Health Department. The Committee gave him lunch at the Thamada Hotel. (WPD 3/19) // Mar. 23: The delegation departed. (WPD 3/24)

Loans: --China: Loan of Ky 71.3 million (=Yuan 38.1 million) for the Rangoon-Syriam Bridge, BRBRMB; (WPD 3/15?)

Chinese Journalists

Mar. 23: A Chinese journalists delegation headed by Vice Chairman of the Hunan Provincial Journalists Association Liang Nianzhi, with six members, arrived under the bilateral exchange program, and in the evening visited the Working People's Daily. (WPD 3/24) // Mar. 24: It was received by Minister for Information and for Culture U Aung Kyaw Myint, and visited the Shwedagon Pagoda, the Burma Broadcasting Service and television station, the National Museum, and the Motion Picture Corporation. (WPD 3/25) // Mar. 25: The delegation visited the Post Harvest Technology Application Center in Hlegu Township, and the training center in Zayatkwint Village. (WPD 3/26)

Chinese Journalists

Apr. 1: The Chinese journalists delegation headed by Liang Nianzhi visited Pagan, Mandalay, Maymyo, Sagaing, and Taunggyi from Mar. 29-31 and returned to Rangoon. (WPD 4/2) // Apr. 2: It visited the National Indoor Stadium 1, and the 100-ton capacity rice mill at Pazundaung. (WPD 4/3) // Apr. 3: It visited Pegu. (WPD 4/4) // Apr. 5: It visited the Rangoon zoo, natural history museum, and aquarium. (WPD 4/6) // Apr. 6: The delegation departed. (WPD 4/7)

Chinese Sports Equipment

Apr. 25: Chinese Ambassador Cheng Rui-sheng handed over sports equipment presented to Burma by the Chinese Sports and Physical Education Commission. (WPD 4/26)

Chinese Sports Delegation

May 9: A Chinese delegation led by Minister of the State Physical Culture and Sports Commission Li Menghua, comprising three members, arrived on a four-day visit. (WPD 5/10) // May 10: He called on Minister for Education and Acting Minister for Health Dr. Kyaw Sein, and on Minister for Trade and Acting Minister for Foreign Affairs U Khin Maung Gyi. He visited the Shwedagon Pagoda and donated Ky 1000, the National Indoor Stadium No. 1 at Thuwunna, and was given a dinner by Dr. Kyaw Sein at the Inya Lake Hotel. (WPD 5/11) // May 11: He visited the National Museum, and the Hlawga Gardens in Mingaladon Township. (WPD 5/12) // May 12: The Delegation left. (WPD 5/13)

Deputy Prime Minister to China

May 25: A Burmese delegation led by Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Planning and Finance Thura U Tun Tin left for economic co-operation talks in China. He will spend nine days there. The delegation includes Minister for Construction Maj.-Gen. Myint Lwin and Deputy Minister for Finance and Planning U Kyaw Myint. (WPD 5/26) // May 27: On May 26, he received a courtesy call from Chinese Minister of Finance Wang Bingqian, and was given a dinner by Vice-Premier Wu Xueqian. (WPD 5/28)

Foreign Minister Visits China

May 4: Foreign Minister U Ye Goun left on a good-will visit to China. He was accompanied by Director-General of the Political Department U Ohn Gyaw, Director U Tun Ngwe, and his personal secretary U Hla Oo. (WPD 5/5) // May 12: The Minister returned to Rangoon. (WPD 5/13)

U Tun Tin Returns from China

June 5: The delegation headed by Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Planning and Finance Thura U Tun Tin and his delegation returned from China. During its visit, the delegation called on President Yang Shangkun, Vice President Wang Zhen, Premier Li Peng, Political Bureau Standing Committee member Qiao Shi, Vice Premier Wu Xueqian, Vice Chairman of the Congress Standing Committee Mm. Chen Muhua, Minister of Finance Wang Bingqian and others. (WPD 6/6)

Delegation Back from China

June 8: The Burmese sports study delegation headed by Director of Sports and Physical Education Department U Aung Nyein returned from China. (WPD 6/9)

Youth Delegation to China

June 22: A Burmese youth delegation left on a study visit to China at the invitation of the Chinese Communist Youth Central Committee Headquarters. The delegation is headed by Lanzin Youth Central Organizing Committee (LYCOC) Chairman and Council of People's Attorneys member U Sein Win, and includes Monywa Township LYOC Secretary U Aung Than Swe, Myitkyina Township LYOC Secretary U Kaman Du Naw, Loikaw Township LYOC Secretary Daw Than Than Tin, and Matupi Township LYOC Secretary Daw Hau Lan Vung. (WPD 6/23)

Youth Delegation Returns

The Burmese youth delegation headed by U Sein Win returned after a study tour of China. (WPD 7/7)

Chinese Goodwill Delegation

June 30: The Chinese Goodwill Delegation led by Mr. Huang Shiming called on Vice Chairman Dr. Maung Di of the Lanzin Youth Central Organizing Committee, on Vice Chairman U Chit Swe of the Peasants Asiayone Central Body, on Vice Chairman U Kyi Thein of the Workers Asiayone Central Body, on Principal U Ye Myint of the Central Institute of Political Science, and on Secretary of the BSPP Central Committee Headquarters U Htwe Han. In the evening Secretary of the BSPP Central Committee Headquarters U Aung Thein hosted a dinner for the delegation at the Inya Lake Hotel. (WPD 7/1) // July 1: The delegation visited Syriam, where it toured No. 3 footwear factory, garment factories Nos. 3 and 4, No. 1 Industrial Training Centre, and the Rangoon-Syriam bridge site. (WPD 7/2) //

July 2: The delegation visited the Shwedagon Pagoda, the National Museum, National Indoor Stadium (1), and the Central Agricultural Training Centre at Zayatkwint village, Hlegu Township [Rangoon]. (WPD 7/3) // July 3: It visited Taunggyi and Inle Lake. (WPD 7/4) // July 5: The delegation visited Mandalay and the Academy for the Development of National Groups in Ywathitkyi, Sagaing; it then returned to Rangoon. (WPD 7/6) // July 7: The delegation departed. (WPD 7/8)

Chinese Delegation

July 27: An eight-man delegation headed by Zhu Kui, Vice Governor of Yunnan Province, arrived and called on Minister for Trade U Khin Maung Gyi. It will be in Burma until Aug. 7. (WPD 7/28) // July 29: It discussed border trade matters with Deputy Minister for Trade Col. Tin Gyi, after visiting the Shwedagon Pagoda and Pegu on July 28. (WPD 7/30)

China Border Trade Agreement

Aug. 5: Zhu Kui, Vice Governor of China's Yunnan Province, signed an agreement for border trade between the Myanmar Export Import Corporation and the Yunnan Provincial Import Export Corporation. Trade will begin in October at Muse in Burma and Shweli in China. Later he called on Minister for Trade U Khin Maung Gyi. (WPD 8/6) // Aug. 7: The Vice-Governor returned to China. (WPD 8/8)

Sept 18: SLORC formed

Chinese Trade Talks

Oct. 3: Chinese Embassy Commercial Counsellor Zhen Dee Run held "frank and cordial" talks with Minister for Trade Col. Abel on border trade. Besides the commodities agreed on with Yunnan Province officials other items can be usefully exported and imported. [photo] (WPD 10/4)

Chinese Rail Coaches

Oct. 27: The Railways Corporation will purchase 65 railway coaches from the Chinese National Machinery Import Export Corporation, to be purchased with World Bank funds under the timber transport project. A Chinese delegation headed by Deputy General Manager Mme. Yu Yuan Yun arrived Oct. 26 to sign the agreement. (WPD 10/28)

Chinese Border Trade

Dec. 1: Private entrepreneurs and cooperative societies, as well as Governmental organizations, have the right to "do the Burma-China border trade business." Governmental organizations may import 100% of what they export, as they wish. Private entrepreneurs may import 60% of exports as they wish, and must import the remaining 40% for the Myanmar Export Import Corporation (MEIC) in goods on the MEIC priority list. Cooperative societies may import 75% of exports as they wish, and must import 25% for MEIC. These goods will be paid for by MEIC in local currency at the fixed exchange rate. Inquiries may be made through MEIC at its office at No. 577/622 Merchant St., Rangoon (Tel. 80266, ext. 308, and 78583) and at MEIC branch offices in Mandalay, Lashio and Muse.

In his Dec. 1 press conference, Minister for Trade Col. Abel said that total border trade, including China-Burma trade, was expected to total US\$ 300 million in 1988-89. (WPD 12/1)

Chinese Trade Delegation

Dec. 29: A Chinese trade delegation headed by Chen Mao Qi of the the China National Arts and Crafts Import and Export Corporation, Guangdong Arts and Crafts Co Ltd, arrived. [photo] (WPD 12/20)

Dec. 30: The delegation was received by Minister for Planning & Finance, for Energy and for Mines, Rear Admiral Maung Maung Khin. (WPD 12/31)

1989

Chinese Delegation Leaves

Jan. 5: The Chinese Trade Delegation headed by Director Chen Mao Qi from the China National Arts and Crafts Import and Export Corp., Guangdong Arts and Crafts Co. Ltd. [see Dec. BPS] departed. [photo] (WPD 1/6)

Chinese Trade Delegation

Jan. 17: Maj-Gen. Chit Swe, Minister for Co-operatives, for Livestock and Fisheries, and for Agriculture and Forests, received a Chinese delegation headed by Mme. Wang Ling, member of the China National Native Produce and Animal By Products Exports and Import Corporation. Trade in teak and hardwood was discussed. (WPD 1/18)

Feb 20: CPB leadership rejects China's invitation to them to retire to China

Mar. 12: Mutiny in cpB begins

Dr. Pe Thein to China

Mar. 29: Minister for Health and for Education Dr. Pe Thein left for China at the head of a delegation to study health and education activities. (WPD 3/30) // Apr. 11: The delegation returned. (WPD 4/12)

Apr. 17: Muntinous Wa troops capture CPB HQ. The leadership escapes to China

Col. Abel in China

Apr. 22: Minister for Planning & Finance and for Trade Col. Abel returned to Rangoon after attending the 65th Spring Fair in Guangzhou, China. (WPD 4/23)

Apr 22: Khin Nyunt travels to the Salween to meet the CPB mutineers

Rangoon-Syriam Bridge

Apr. 25: Minister for Construction and for Co-operatives Brig-Gen. Aung Ye Kyaw inspected the Rangoon-Syriam Bridge project, and was briefed on damage during the disturbances and the repair of the Chinese technicians' houses. He met with Deputy Leader of the Chinese technicians, Mr. Yan Tong Chun, who said construction work would resume as soon as the remaining Chinese technicians return. (WPD 4/26)

Delegation to China

Apr. 26: A Burmese sports delegation left for China under the bilateral sports exchange program. It includes Director-General of the Sports and Physical Education Department U Aung Din, Deputy Director Maj. Maung Win, Capt. Than Tun of the Ministry of Defence, and Personnel Assistant Capt. Tin Pe. (WPD 4/27)

June 2: At the 42nd State LORC Press Conference, the Information Committee spokesmen said:

-- Myanma media did not cover Chinese demonstrations demanding democracy, because "all matters which would hurt the friendly relations would not be mentioned in the media...with a view to maintaining friendly ties. However, some matters which ought to be mentioned would be mentioned and those which ought not to be mentioned would not be mentioned. Things which would damage our friendship, not only with our neighbouring countries but also with other countries, would never be done out." (WPD 6/23)

Red Cross to China

Sept. 27: A Red Cross delegation headed by Red Cross Vice President Col. Tun Oo and 4 members left on a study tour of China. (WPD 9/28)

Chinese Theatre Visited

Sept. 30: State LORC Secretary (1) Brig-Gen. Khin Nyunt inspected the construction site of the theatre donated by China during the 1985 visit of President Li Xian. He praised the long-established 'paukphaw' [cousin] relationship that Myanmar and China have had for many years, and said "We sympathize with the PRC as the disturbances similar to those took place in Myanmar Naing-Ngan during 1988 broke out in the PRC," and thanked China for sending engineers "while it is suffering from the consequences of the disturbance." Later he visited the construction site of the Mausoleum for Heroic Soldiers near the Thway Hsay Pond at the entrance of the Shwedagon Pagoda. (WPD 10/1)

Information Delegation to China

Oct. 11: An information delegation headed by State LORC Information Committee leader U Kyaw Sunn left on a trip to China. Other members of the 11-man delegation are Information Committee members Col. Aung Thein (Deputy leader), Lt-Col. Than Tun, Lt-Col. Ye Htut, U Soe Nyunt, U Thein Sein, Maj. Aung Kyi Tun, Maj. Aung Myo Min, Maj. Than Tun, Capt. Saw Aung Naing, U Than Nyunt, and U Tin Maung. (WPD 10/12) // Oct. 18: The delegation returned. (WPD 10/19)

Red Cross Delegation Returns

Oct. 11: The Red Cross delegation returned from China. It consisted of Red Cross Vice President Col. Tun Oo (Director General of Social Welfare Department), CEC member U Tin Oo (Director General of Fire Services Department), and Central Council members Dr. L. Fook Hlui (Chin State Health Department head) and Dr. Hla Tun (Ayeeyarwady Div. Health Department head). (WPD 10/12)

Big Delegation to China

Oct. 18: A major Myanmar Government delegation led by Commander-in-Chief (Army) Lt-Gen. Than Shwe, left on a goodwill visit to China. Others in the 24-member delegation include Minister for Home & Religious Affairs and for Information and for Culture and Quartermaster-General Maj-Gen. Phone Myint, State LORC Secretary (1) Brig-Gen. Khin Nyunt, Northern Commander Brig-Gen. Kyaw Ba, Minister for Planning & Finance and for Trade Col. Abel, Chief-of-Staff (Air) Col. Thein Win, Chief-of-Staff (Navy) Capt. Than Nyunt, Director-General of the State LORC Office U Kyaw Aye, 99th Light Infantry Division Commander Col. Kyaw Than, and other military officers. They were seen off by State LORC Chairman Gen. Saw Maung and other top officials. (WPD 10/19)

Oct. 30: The delegation returned to Yangon. It had had meetings with Chinese Chairman Deng Xiaoping, President Yang Shangkun, and Premier Li Peng, as well as with Chinese Commander-in-Chief Gen. Su Xian and other high officials. The visit included Kunming, Beijing (official talks), Shijiazhuang, Hebei Province (inspection of F-6 fighter-jets and rocket launcher factory); Nanjing (Sun Yatsun Mausoleum, and 179 Infantry Division demonstration of firing power, etc.) [to be continued].

At a dinner hosted by Chinese Commander-in-Chief Gen. Su Xian, attended by Premier Li Peng, Lt-Gen. Than Shwe praised the special Myanmar-China "Paukphaw" [cousin] relationship. He thanked Premier Li Peng for the message sent to Gen. Saw Maung in Nov. 1988, and thanked China "for its correct stand regarding the disturbances that took place in the Myanmar Naing-Ngan, that the People's Republic of China had always stood by our side whenever we faced with difficulties" Premier Li Peng accepted an invitation by Gen. Saw Maung to visit Myanmar.

At the Myanmar Embassy, State LORC Secretary (1) Brig-Gen. Khin Nyunt told embassy staff "to avoid the words and deeds which may harm the relations between the two countries," and to "stay away from party politics." (WPD 10/31)

Delegation to China

Nov. 1: [Cont.] Lt-Gen. Than Shwe's delegation went on to Shanghai on Oct. 25, where it visited the Shanghai Naval Base and the Jade Buddha Temple. On Oct. 26 it went to Guangzhou, where it visited the TV tower, the Huangpu Ship-Building Works, and the Trade Fair. On Oct. 27, it flew to Singapore, where it went sightseeing and was given a lunch by Singapore First Deputy Prime Minister Goh Chok Tong. On Oct. 29 State LORC Secretary (1) Brig-Gen. Khin Nyunt told Myanmar Embassy staff to stay away from political parties and adhere strictly to regulations. Singapore Technologies Corp. hosted a dinner. After discussions on Oct. 30 with the Singapore First Deputy Prime Minister, the delegation returned home.

In speeches exchanged in Beijing on Oct. 19, Lt. Gen. Than Shwe lauded the longstanding friendship and Pauk Phaw [cousin] relations between Myanmar and China. Chinese Deputy Chief of Staff Gen. Xu Xin responded, reiterating China's support of peaceful co-existence, and its opposition to "hegemonism and big-nation chauvinism." "Recently," he said, "there took place counter revolutionary upheavals and disturbances in Beijing because of the

instigations of a handful of people. After putting down the upheavals, the political situation in China has become more stable." The people "are enthusiastically and unitedly making strenuous endeavour for further strengthening the socialist system." [5 pages of photos] (WPD 11/1)

Nov. 2: At a dinner in Nanjing on Oct. 22, Lt-Gen. Than Shwe and Nanjing Military Region Commander Gen. Xiang Xiao Zhi exchanged remarks of welcome [text published].

Addendum to Nov. 1 article: Visits by Lt-Gen. Than Shwe to the Great Wall, the International Air Show, and the China North Industries Corporation (NORINCO) military weapons showroom in Beijing described. (WPD 11/2)

Chinese Delegation

Oct. 27: A Shanghai Foreign Economic and Technical Co-Operation Delegation, led by Huang Shui Gen, called on Minister for Livestock Breeding & for Agriculture & Forests and Acting Minister for Planning & Finance and for Trade Maj-Gen. Chit Swe. (WPD 10/28)

Chinese Trade Delegation

Oct. 31: A delegation from the Shanghai Foreign Economic Relations and Technical Co-operation Corporation, headed by Huang Suhi Gen, called on Minister for Planning & Finance and for Trade Col. Abel. (WPD 11/1)

Yunnan Governor

Nov. 29: Yunnan Province (China) Governor Mr. He Zhiqiang and a delegation of 13 arrived to discuss economic and technical co-operation. He will remain until Dec. 7. The delegation met with Minister for Planning & Finance and for Trade Col. Abel and other Ministers. (WPD 11/30)

Nov-Dec: SLORC-CPB mutineers conclude cease-fire

Chinese Trade Agreement

Dec. 4: A Memorandum of Understanding regarding economic and trade co-operation between China and Myanmar was signed by the visiting Yunnan Provincial delegation and the Ministry of Trade. Yunnan Province will open department stores in Mandalay and Lashio; Yunnan commodities will be sold in Myanmar department stores; branch company offices will be opened; and tourism between Yangon and Kunming will be encouraged. (WPD 12/5)

Dec. 5: Further Memoranda of Understanding were signed for: (1) joint exploration of tin in Namhkam and coal trading in Lweje region, Momauk Twp. [Kachin]; (2) a Caustic Soda Plant Project at Sittaung, and a feasibility survey for a small cement plant at Muse. (WPD 12/6)

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Chinese Writers

Jan. 7: The Chinese writers delegation led by Mr. Xie Pu, toured Myanmar monuments in Bagan-Nyaung-U, Mandalay, Pyin Oo Lwin, Sagaing, and Taunggyi from Dec. 30-Jan. 7, before returning to Yangon and seeing the [Chinese financed] Yangon-Tanyin bridge project. (WPD 1/8) // Jan. 8: It called on Minister for Home & Religious Affairs and for Information and for Culture Maj-Gen. Phone Myint. (WPD 1/9) // Jan. 9: It visited the Phaunggyi Central Institute of Public Services in Hlegu, and the National Museum where it was escorted by Director-General of the Department of Cultural Institute Dr. Ye Htut and Curator U Kyaw Win. (WPD 1/10) // Jan. 10: The delegation left. (WPD 1/11)

OFFICE CALLS IN YANGON ON 17 FEBRUARY

(B) Minister for Transport received A Chinese delegation led by Vice-President Mr Guan Xiaolin of Messrs Poly Technologies Inc at his office.

Jan. 20,25: World-renowned Myanmar jade dykes on the hills, by Myint Thein and Kyaw Sein. [(1) Visit to Phakant jade area, where 300 tons of jade were mined in 1989-90. There are three jade dykes: No. 1 (700 tons); No. 2 (96 tons); No. 3 (80 tons). Jade sales were US\$1.95 million in 1986-87, US\$2.37 million in 1989-88 {sic}, and US\$1.10 million was sold to China in early 1989, for a total of US\$5.42 million. (2) Jade mining methods.]

Mar. 21: Mr. Zhong Dongsheng, Manager of the Beijing Agriculture, Industry and Commerce General Corporation (BAIC) called on Minister for Planning & Finance and for Trade Col. Abel, accompanied by Chinese Ambassador Cheng Ruisheng. (WPD 3/22)

Chinese Information Group

Apr. 4: A Chinese Information delegation headed by Jin Guihua, Deputy Director General of the Foreign Affairs Information Department and Foreign Affairs Spokesman, arrived to discuss mass media and information. The delegation includes Mme. Chen Zenmei, Deputy Chief of the Department; Mr. Shen Xinggen, Chief Editor of the Third Page of the People's Daily; Mr. Zhang Fu, Reporter in charge of international news on the First Page of the Yunnan Daily; Mr. Zhong Xuhui, Assistant Editor of World Affairs Magazine; and Ms. Wang Wenzhao, of the Foreign Affairs Information Department and English interpreter. (WPD 4/5) // Apr. 9: The delegation was given dinner by State LORC Information Committee member Managing Director of the News and Periodicals Enterprise U Soe Nyunt. From Apr. 6-9 it visited Mandalay, Sagaing, Bagan-Nyaung-U, Taunggyi and Inle Lake. (WPD 4/10)

Apr. 5: The Delegation called on Election Commission Chairman U Ba Htay, on various media, and on Minister for Home & Religious Affairs and for Information and for Culture Lt-Gen. Phone Myint. (WPD 4/6) // Apr. 11: The delegation left, after visiting tourist sites in Mandalay, Taunggyi, and Yangon. (WPD 4/12)

Chinese Trade Delegation

Apr. 6: A 6-man Chinese delegation headed by Mr. Ji Kang, Deputy Secretary General of Nantong Township, Jiang Su Province, called on Minister for Planning & Finance and for Trade Brig-Gen. Abel. (WPD 4/6) // Apr. 10: The delegation visited the [Chinese sponsored] Yangon-Tanyin Bridge Construction Project, the Tanyin Glass Factory, and the Tanyin Refinery. (WPD 4/11)

Chinese Radio/TV Delegation

Apr. 11: A 5-member Chinese delegation led by Deputy Minister of Radio, Film and Television Ma Quingxiong arrived for a 1-week stay. Other members are General Manager of the Chinese Record Company Liu Shengmin, Deputy Director of the International Broadcasting Station Hu Yaotin, Deputy Director of the Central Television Station External Department Lu Bin, Ministry Officer-in-Charge of Asia Affairs Mme. Yang Jie, and Interpreter Xie Tianbao. (WPD 4/12) // Apr. 12: The delegation visited the Information and Broadcasting Department and tourist sites. (WPD 4/13) // Apr. 13: The delegation visited the Motion Picture Enterprise in Shwetaunggyar St. [Yangon] and met with State LORC Information Committee members. It also called on Minister for Industry 1 and for Industry 2 (and Acting Minister for Information and for Culture) Lt-Gen. Sein Aung (WPD 4/14) // Apr. 16: The delegation was given a dinner, on its return from Mandalay, by Minister for Home & Religious Affairs and for Information and for Culture Lt-Gen. Phone Myint. (WPD 4/17)

Apr. 12: Chinese Military, Naval and Air Attaches Sen. Col. An Fat and Sen. Col. Liu Huanpu [called] on Deputy Commander-in-Chief Gen. Than Shwe. Present were Director of Defence Services Intelligence Maj-Gen. Khin Nyunt and Deputy Director Col. Than Tun. Vietnam Ambassador Nguyen Hoa on Minister for Planning & Finance and for Trade Brig-Gen. Abel. (WPD 4/13)

Chinese Cultural Delegation

Apr. 25: A Chinese cultural delegation, headed by Deputy Minister for Culture Liu Deyou, arrived. (WPD 4/26) // Apr. 26: It called on Minister for Home & Religious Affairs and for Information and for Culture Lt-Gen. Phone Myint, and visited the Shwedagon Pagoda, the National Museum, and the new

Chinese Cultural Delegation

Apr. 30: The Chinese cultural delegation headed by Deputy Minister of Culture Dr. Lin Deyou departed, after visiting cultural institutions in Mandalay and Sagaing. (WPD 5/1)

Cultural Minister to China

May 2: An 8-member delegation led by Minister for Home & Religious Affairs and for Information and for Culture Lt-Gen. Phone Myint left to visit China. Other members were Director-General of Cultural Institute Department Dr. Ye Tut, Head of Office of the Ministry of Information U Sein Win, Deputy Directors of the Fine Arts Department U Than Yi and U Thant Sin, Principal of Yangon State School of Fine Arts U Soe Tint, Director of Fine Arts Department U Tun Zaw (Secretary), and PSO to the Minister Maj. Myint Tun. (WPD 5/3) // May 12: The delegation returned. (WPD 5/13)

Agriculture Minister Returns

May 3: Minister for Livestock Breeding & Fisheries and for Agriculture & Forests Lt-Gen. Chit Swe returned from the 20th FAO Regional Conference for Asia and the Pacific held in Beijing. (WPD 5/4)

Economic Delegations

May 12: General Manager (Administration) U Maung Ko of Myanmar Agricultural Service left for China to attend a workshop on registration of pesticides at the expense of the FAO. // (WPD 5/13)

May 16: A delegation composed of Deputy General Manager U Min Han, Assistant General Manager U Sein Lwin, and Manager U Maung Maung Ohn of the Myanmar Hotels and Tourism Services left on a 7-day study tour of Yunnan Province in China. (WPD 5/17)

Border Chamber of Commerce

May 13: The Ministry of Trade licenced the Union of Myanmar Muse/ Namkham Border Chamber of Commerce, to establish friendly relations with similar organizations in China, promote a fair rate of exchange between the kyat and the yuan, cooperate in preventing trade in banned goods, protect poor traders, etc. The Chamber's office is at Chitkyiyay Road, Town Committee Office, Muse [Shan]. (WPD 5/14)

May 14: 65 freight cars (40 timber transport cars, 20 sawn timber cars, 5 brake vans) purchased from China were handed over to Myanmar Railways. (WPD 5/15)

Chinese Vice Minister

May 23: Chinese Vice-Minister of Machine-Building and Electronics Industry Zhang Xuedong, who arrived with a delegation, called on Minister for Home & Religious Affairs and for Information and for Culture Lt-Gen. Phone Myint. (WPD 5/24) // May 24: He called on Minister for Transport & Communications and for Social Welfare and for Labour Lt-Gen. Tin Tun to discuss satellite communication techniques and telephone and cable links, including fibre-optics and laser communications. Minister Lt-Gen. Phone Myint hosted a dinner. (WPD 5/25) // May 27: The delegation returned from a visit to Thandwe [Sandoway] and Ngapali. (WPD 5/28) // May 29: The delegation returned from a visit to Mandalay. (WPD 5/30) // May 30: The delegation departed. (WPD 5/31)

Satellite TV to Begin

May 25: Beginning May 27, Myanmar television programs will be beamed by Chinese Asiasat 1 satellite to border retransmission stations at Kengtung and Lashio, and in Chin and Kachin States. Further stations are being built at Hkamti and Myeik [Mergui]. Experimental programs have been being beamed to Kengtung, Lashio, Myitkyina, Bhamo, and Kale since May 20. (WPD 5/26)

June 7: A demonstration flight of the Y-12 Aircraft was given at Yangon Airport by M/S Airtrust (S) Pte. Ltd. of Singapore and M/S China National Aero Technology Import Export Corporation (CATIC) of China. It is a 17-seat short haul, multi-role commuter aircraft, selling for about US\$ 2 million. (WPD 6/8) // June 8: Vice President Wang Dawei of CATIC and President Peter Fong of Airtrust called on Minister for Planning & Finance and for Trade Brig-Gen. Abel. (WPD 6/9) // June 9: The Y-12 made a demonstration flight over Bagan-Nyaung-U, Gangaw, and Kyauktu. (WPD 6/10)

Chinese Transport Official

June 21: A Chinese delegation led by Mr. Zhang Jinguang, Deputy Head of the Yunnan Province Transportation Department, called on Minister for Transport & Communications and for Social Welfare and for Labour Lt-Gen. Tin Tun, and on Minister for Planning & Finance and for Trade Brig-Gen. Abel. (WPD 6/22) // June 25: He called on Minister for Home & Religious Affairs and for Information and for Culture Lt-Gen. Phone Myint. (WPD 6/26)

Chinese Minerals Official

June 22: A delegation led by Mr. Xia Li Wei from the Minmetals Precious and Rare Minerals Import and Export Company of the Ministry of Foreign Economic Relations and Trade called on Minister for Livestock Breeding & Fisheries and for Agriculture & Forests Lt-Gen. Chit Swe. (WPD 6/23)

Exchange Program with Yunnan

July 5: A meeting was held between Director General of the Yunnan Province Sports Commission Miss Jiang Shao Min and the Myanmar Sports Committee to coordinate sports exchanges. The Chinese delegation arrived July 4 and includes Mr. Xu Xiao Hua; Yunnan Football Federation President Mr. Tan Yin Guan; Deputy Director Yunnan Sports Commission Mr. Zhang Xian; and interpreter Miss Cai Qiong Lian. Also arriving was basketball coach Mr. Lou We Li, who will be coaching in Myanmar for one year. (WPD 7/6)

Maj-Gen. Khin Nyunt's Speech

July 13: At the 100th State LORC Information Committee Press Conference (otherwise reported above), State LORC Secretary (1) Maj-Gen. Khin Nyunt made a major speech, of which the following are the principal points:

-- "[Political parties] have been issuing publications and also shouting over the foreign broadcasting stations as if we do not want to transfer power, as if we are procrastinating, creating doubts among the people.... National League for Democracy...Bulletin 13/90...includes:... 'When will power be transferred? When will Daw Aung San Suu Kyi be released? The problem of three powers. The problem of political prisoners. The Chinese Ambassador says the National League for Democracy and the SLORC really need to hold discussions.'... One really had to scour right through the paper to find out the name of the publisher.... If false stuff is written and if accusations are made, we will have to call the publisher in and tell him.... We have called him [U Chit Khaing] in and told him that action will be taken according to law if it went on any further. So [he] has furnished this signed statement of undertaking that a correction will be inserted.... [photocopy of hand-written statement]." [Earlier errors in NLD publications, implying that Gen. Saw Maung had personally given press conferences, outlined at length.]

.....-- Lengthy discussion of foreign diplomatic meddling. Why does the NLD mention only the Chinese Ambassador when it has met with many Western Ambassadors? "No foreigner will love our country.... They have made all kinds of rules to be observed by [our] diplomats and even when we want to have our embassy building repaired it is not easy. One cannot fell a tree freely. That is in their country.... Our embassy staff...have no freedom of their movements. This is according to their Ministry of Foreign Affairs We do not pay attention to their pressure on us....we do not pay the slightest attention to their pressure." (WPD 7/14)

July 15: Labour Department Director U Aung Ba Kyi left to attend a seminar on private businesses sponsored by the ILO and the Chinese Ministry of Labour in Shanghai, July 16-20. (WPD 7/16)

July 16: Basic Education Department Division Head Daw Khin Swe Tun and Myitkyina Domestic Science School Principal Daw Mya Mya left July 14 for Kunming, China, to attend a Regional Workshop for the Planning of Skills-based Literary Programme for Women and Girls on July 16-24 sponsored by UNESCO. (WPD 7/17)

July 26: Myanmar delegate U Tin Aung, Assistant Director (Bago Division) of the Sports and Physical Education Department left for China to study preparations for the 11th Asian Games to be held in Beijing beginning Sept. 22, 1990. (WPD 7/27)

Myanmar Sports Delegations

Aug. 8: Officials gave advice to members of a sports delegation which will make a good-will visit to Yunnan under the Myanmar-Yunnan (China) Sports Exchange Program. (WPD 8/9) // Aug. 12: The delegation left, headed by No. 99 LID Tactical Operation Commander Col. Ngo Cin Pau. It includes two study teams, swimming and track and field athletes, and will visit Yunnan sports institutions, train, and take part in friendship competitions. (WPD 8/13)

Foreign Sports Teams

Aug. 14: The Yunnan (China) Men's Volleyball Team will play a series of goodwill matches on Aug. 18-21 in Yangon, Aug. 24 in Mandalay, and Aug. 25 in Sagaing. (WPD 8/15) // Aug. 17: The 15-member team arrived in Yangon, headed by Mr. Zha Jial Jun, Deputy Director of the Yunnan Province Sports and Physical Education Department. It had arrived in Kyuhkok-Pangsai by road from Yunnan Aug. 15, and visited Muse, Kutkai, Hsenwi, and Lashio, before flying on to Yangon. (WPD 8/18) // Aug. 18: In the first goodwill match, in Yangon, the Myanmar team beat the visitors 3-0 (15-1, 15-1, 15-12). (WPD 8/19) // Aug. 19: In the second match, Myanmar won 3-1 (15-12, 15-11, 4-15, 15-6). (WPD 8/20) // Aug. 20: It was given dinner by Sports and Physical Education Director-General U Aung Din. (WPD 8/21) // Aug. 21: Myanmar won 3-2 (15-8, 13-15, 12-15, 15-13, 15-10). (WPD 8/25)

Chinese Narcotics Delegation

Aug. 22: A 6-member delegation led by Mr. Yuan Yong Yuan of the Chinese Ministry of Public Security arrived to study narcotic drug abuse control in Myanmar. It called on Chairman of the Central Committee for Drug

Abuse Control (CCDAC) Minister for Home & Religious Affairs and for Information and for Culture Lt-Gen. Phone Myint. (WPD 8/23) // Aug. 24: It called on State LORC Secretary (1) Maj-Gen. Khin Nyunt. (WPD 8/25) // Aug. 25: It was given "a demonstration on the art of self-defence" by police officers. (WPD 8/26) // Aug. 27: It visited the Yangon Psychiatric Hospital, and the Social Welfare Department. (WPD 8/28) // Aug. 28: It met with the CCDAC education committee. (WPD 8/29)

Chinese Narcotics Delegation

Sept. 1: The Chinese narcotics study delegation headed by Mr. Yuan Yong Yuan visited Mandalay Aug. 29, toured drug treatment facilities and tourist attractions in Mandalay, Lashio, and Bagan, and returned to Yangon Aug. 31. (WPD 9/2) // The delegation departed. (WPD 9/3)

Sept. 12: A writers delegation headed by U Myo Thant (Maung Hsu Shin), Director of the Sarpay Beikman Board and Secretary of the Central Executive Committee of the Writers and Journalist Organization left on a two-week cultural trip to China. Other members are U Tin Htwe (Tin Htwe), Director (Admin) of the News and Periodicals Enterprise; Daw Yin Yin (Saw Mon Hnyin), member of the Myanmar Language Commission Department; U Kyaw Aung (Kyaw Aung), Chief Editor (retired) of the Universities Translation and Publications, Higher Education Department; and U Ye Tint (Ye Tint), Chief Editor of Kyemon Daily. (WPD 9/13) // Sept. 26: The delegation returned. (WPD 9/27)

Cultural Delegation to China

Sept. 26: A 46-member cultural delegation headed by Director-General U Tin Htoo of the Fine Arts Department left for two-weeks of performances in China. (WPD 9/27)

Maj-Gen. Khin Nyunt

"With the market economy in effect we have been carrying out border trade...[with] China...and with Thailand.... Trade between Myanmar ...and China...started in December 1988 [and has] resulted in trading up to 2.3 million US dollars worth of goods up to July 1990.... (WPD 9/12)

Border Meeting

Sept. 30: Inaugurating the Shwethamin Park in Muse, Maj-Gen. Maung Thint, Vice-Chairman of the Shan State LORC, was joined by "15 officials of the People's Republic of China together with about 10,000 national races and residents of the town." (WPD 10/4)

Chinese Education Delegation

Oct. 4: A three-member Chinese education delegation headed by Vice-Director Mme. Li Zhenli of the Students Studying Abroad Department of the State Education Commission arrived for a six-day visit. (WPD 10/ 5) // Oct. 5: The delegation called on Minister for Health and for Education and Chief Commanding Officer of the University Training Corps Col. Pe Thein, who hosted a dinner. (WPD 10/6)

Oct. 5: A study delegation headed by U San Lwin, Director-General of the Department of Myanmar Language Commission, and including Chairman of the Myanmar Board of Examinations U Maung Maung Sein, Director (University) of the Higher Education Department Daw Sein Sein, Magway Division Education Officer U K Naw Tawng, and Principal of the Pyay Teachers Training School Daw Khin Khin, will visit China Oct. 10-23. It was received by Minister for Health and for Education and Chief Commanding Officer of the University Training Corps Col. Pe Thein. (WPD 10/6) // Oct. 10: It left, and will study Chinese education activities for two weeks. (WPD 10/11)

Arts Delegation Returns

Oct. 10: The cultural delegation led by Director General U Tin Htoo of the Department of Fine Arts returned from China. (WPD 10/11)

Oct. 31: A 6-member art and sculpture delegation led by Principal U Maung Maung Lay of the Mandalay State School of Music and Drama left for China for a 2-week study tour. (WPD 11/1) // Nov. 14: It returned. (WPD 11/15)

Chinese Art Exhibit

Nov. 7: An exhibition of graphic paintings from Zhejiang Province opened at the National Museum, in the presence of Mr. Li Chang Lian, Manager of the Foreign Relations Department of the International Arts Exhibition Agency and Mr. Lu Wen Hu, Research Officer of the Public Arts Institute, etc. It will last until Nov. 13. (WPD 11/8)

Chinese Industrial Delegation

Nov. 29: A Chinese delegation headed by Deputy Minister of Machinery and Electronics Industry Mr. Tang Zhongwen arrived, and was received by Deputy Commander-in-Chief Gen. Than Shwe. (WPD 11/30)

Nov. 28: The Chinese drug officials, led by Deputy Director of the Division for Suppressing Trug Trafficking Mr. Yuan Yongyan, and UNFDAC officials present at the narcotics burning called on Police Director General U San Thein. (WPD 11/29) // Nov. 29: The Chinese departed. (WPD 11/30)

Chinese Industry Delegation

Nov. 30: The Chinese Industry Delegation headed by Deputy Minister of Machinery and Electronics Industry Mr. Tang Zhongwen visited the Shwedagon Pagoda, the Yangon-Tanyin Bridge Project, and the Satellite Ground Station at Toegyaunglay in Thingangyunn Twp., and called on Minister for Planning & Finance and for Trade Brig-Gen. Abel. (WPD 12/1) // Dec. 1: It toured Yangon. (WPD 12/2) // Dec. 4: After visiting Bagan and Thandwe [Sandoway] Dec. 2-4, the delegation returned for a dinner hosted by Minister for Planning & Finance and for Trade Brig-Gen. Abel. (WPD 12/5) // Dec. 6: The delegation left. (WPD 12/7)

Chinese Red Cross Delegation

Dec. 5: A delegation headed by Chinese Red Cross Secretary-General Mr. Han Chang-Lin arrived under the cultural exchange program. Other members are Mr. Zhang Yuan-Mao (Vice President of the Fu Zhou Town Red Cross Society, Fu Jian Province); Mr. Jiang Jian (Manager of the Qu Fu Town Red Cross Clinic, Shan Tong Province); Mr. Zhang Jian-Ping (newspaper correspondent, Red Cross Headquarters); and Mr. Zhou A-Yan (interpreter, International Relations Dept.) (WPD 12/6) // Dec. 12: The delegation toured Yangon, and was given a dinner by Myanmar Red Cross President Dr. Hla Nwe. (WPD 12/13) // Dec. 13: The delegation left. (WPD 12/14)

Delegation to China

Dec. 5: A good-will delegation headed by Minister for Transport & Communications and for Social Welfare and for Labour Commander-in-Chief (Air) Lt-Gen. Tin Tun left for China. (WPD 12/6) // Dec. 20: It returned. (WPD 12/21)

Chinese Railway Vice-Minister

Dec. 10: A delegation headed by Chinese Vice-Minister for Railways Sun Yongfu arrived to study transportation. (WPD 12/11) // Dec. 11: The delegation visited the Shwedagon Pagoda and the Insein Loco Shed, and was dined by Minister for Construction and for Co-operatives Lt-Gen. Aung Ye Kyaw. (WPD 12/12) // Dec. 12: The delegation visited the Tanyin [Syriam] bridge project. (WPD 12/13) // Dec. 13: It called on officials of the Ministry of Transport & Communications. (WPD 12/14) // Dec. 15: It visited Bagan-Nyaung-U and Mandalay. (WPD 12/16) // Dec. 16: It toured Yangon. (WPD 12/17) // Dec. 17: After calling on Managing Director of Public Works U Khin Maung Yin, the delegation departed. (WPD 12/18)

Dec. 13: A 5-member Social Welfare Department delegation left for China on Nov. 29, comprising Daw Khin Khin Lay, Principal of the Yangon Disabled Training School; Daw Khin Than Ohn, Administrative Officer of Kengtung Nursery; Daw Yi Yi Myint, Principal of the Patheingyi Pre-Primary School; Daw Khin Mya Mya, Instructor at the Mandalay Training School for Women; and Daw Myint Myint Hlaing, Instructor at the Yangon Training School for Women. They returned Dec. 10. (WPD 12/14)

Historical & Cultural Articles

Dec. 22: The Cultural Theatre, a symbol of good neighbourly and friendly relations between the Union of Myanmar and the People's Republic of China, by Ye Myint Pe. [History and description of Theatre, built by China after 1985 to replace Yangon's traditional "Open-air Cultural Theatre."]

Yunnan Delegation

Jan. 4: The Yunnan (China) delegation headed by Mr. Wu Zhong-Ning was given a dinner by Foreign Minister Political Director-General U Ohn Gyaw. From Jan. 25-Feb. 4 the delegation visited Mandalay, Myitkyina, Lashio, and Pyin-Oo-Lwin, and Bago. (WPD 2/5) // Feb. 5: It toured Yangon's People's Square and Park, and the Indoor Stadium, where Chinlon and thaing demonstrations were given. (WPD 2/6) // Feb. 6: The delegation left. (WPD 2/7)

Yunnan Delegations

Jan. 10: A 10-member delegation headed by Mr. Xu Quan-Sheng, head of the Yunnan Provincial Foreign Affairs Department, China, arrived Jan. 9, and on Jan. 10 called on Minister for Planning & Finance and for Trade Brig-Gen. Abel. (WPD 1/11)

Jan. 23: A delegation headed by Mr. Wu Zhong-Ning, Division Chief of the Yunnan Provincial Foreign Affairs Office, China, arrived. (WPD 1/24) // Jan. 24: It visited the Aquarium and Zoo and called on Foreign Ministry Political Director-General U Ohn Gyaw. (WPD 1/25) // Jan. 25: It studied the Yangon-Tanyin Bridge Project. (WPD 1/26)

Jan. 24: Women's basketball and volleyball teams from Yunnan Province, China, will arrive at the end of the month, and play friendly matches in Yangon (Feb. 8,9,11), Mandalay, Lashio, and Sagaing. (WPD 1/25)

Jan. 28: Mr. Luo Gan, General Secretary of the Council of State of China, arrived [via Tradewinds Airlines] with a delegation of six. (WPD 1/29) // Jan. 30: He visited the Yangon-Tanyin Bridge project. (WPD 1/31)

Chinese State Council Chief

Jan. 31: Mr. Luo Gan, Secretary-General of the Chinese State Council, called on State LORC Chairman Senior General Saw Maung. Later he formally delivered the National Theatre, constructed with Chinese aid, to the Myanmar Government. (WPD 2/1) // Feb. 1: After visiting Bago and the Shwedagon Pagoda, the delegation left. (WPD 2/2)

Feb. 4: Addressing the SLORC-State/Divison LORC Co-ordination meeting, State LORC Chairman Senior General Saw Maung said [excerpts]:

-- [Long discussion of friendly China-Myanmar relations, focussing on mutual non-interference. "{China regards} the problem of the Burma Communist party as the internal affair of Myanmar...."] (WPD 2/22)

Chinese Sports Teams

Feb. 5: The Yunnan (China) women's basketball team beat Myanmar 58-37 in the opening goodwill match at the sports ground of the Yunnan Chinese Temple on 80th Street in Mandalay. (WPD 2/6) // Feb. 8: Goodwill basketball and volleyball matches with the Yunnan Province (China) women's teams began in Yangon, in the presence of Minister for Health and for Education and Chief Commanding Officer of the University Training Corps Col. Pe Thein and of Yunnan Sports and Physical Education Commission Chairman Mr. Dai Wen Zhong. Yunnan beat Myanmar 63-40 in basketball, and 3-1 (15-4, 2-15, 15-7, 15-2) in volleyball. (WPD 2/9) // Feb. 9: Yunnan beat Myanmar 49-32 in basketball, and 3-0 (15-1, 15-6, 15-5) in volleyball. Minister Col. Pe Thein gave a dinner for the Yunnan teams. (WPD 2/10) // Feb. 10: Yunnan beat Myanmar 64-46 in basketball, and 3-1 [sic] (15-6, 11-5, 16-4) in volleyball. (WPD 2/11)

Feb. 15: The Sichun Province (China) men's and women's acrobatic team will arrive Feb. 20, and will perform Feb. 22-24. (WPD 2/16) // Feb. 25: The 25-member team arrived, headed by Mme. Zeng Quin Hua. (WPD 2/21) // Feb. 22: Performance at National Indoor Stadium I, Thuwunna. (WPD 2/23) // Feb. 23: Another performance, viewed by Minister for Health and for Education and Chief Commanding Officer of the University Training Corps Col. Pe Thein. (WPD 2/24) // Feb. 24: Another performance. (WPD 2/25) // Feb. 27: They visited South-West Command (Pathein) on Feb. 25, and performed at the People's Gymnasium. (WPD 2/28)

Chinese Cultural Delegation

Feb. 20: A 48-member Chinese cultural troupe, headed by Deputy Director General of the Ministry of Culture Mr. Chen Qilin, arrived; it includes a gymnastic team from Liaoning Province and a dance ensemble, and will perform in Yangon Feb. 23-27 and Mar. 1-4. (WPD 2/21) // Feb. 21: It called on Minister for Home & Religious Affairs and for Information and for Culture Lt-Gen. Phone Myint. (WPD 2/22) // Feb. 25: More performances at the National Theatre.

(WPD 2/26) // Feb. 26: Continued performances at the National Theatre. (WPD 2/27) // Feb. 27: Continued performances at the National Theatre, and visit to Bago. (WPD 2/ 28)

Chinese Cultural Delegation

Feb. 28: The Chinese Cultural Troupe was given a dinner by Minister for Home & Religious Affairs and for Information and for Culture Lt-Gen. Phone Myint, who presented a gift to Deputy Leader Mr. Wei Baogui. (WPD 3/1) // Mar. 1: They visited the State School of Music and Drama, and also continued their performance at the National Theatre. (WPD 3/2) // Mar. 4: They visited the Fine Arts Department, and gave their final performance. (WPD 3/5) // Mar. 6: They returned to China. (WPD 3/7)

China Medical Board Chairman

Mar. 5: Dr. William D. Sawyer, Chairman of the China Medical Board, called on Minister for Health and for Education and Chief Commanding Officer of the University Training Corps Col. Pe Thein. (WPD 3/6)

Chinese Gymnasts

Mar. 6: The team of Chinese Gymnasts from Sichuan Province, led by Madam Zeng Qing Hua, left Myanmar after performing in Yangon and Patheingyi. (WPD 3/7)

Trade Minister to China

Apr. 10: A delegation headed by Minister for Planning & Finance and for Trade Brig-Gen. Abel left for Yunnan Province, China, and will go on to attend the 69th Spring Trade Fair in Guangzhou beginning Apr. 15. (WPD 4/11) // Apr. 13: The delegation to the Fair left, including Deputy Quartermaster-General Lt-Col. Aye Maung and representatives of the Ministries of Construction, Agriculture & Forests, Mines, Transport & Communications, and Trade. (WPD 4/ 14) // Apr. 20: The Minister returned. (WPD 4/21)

Apr. 25: The Assistant Supervisor of Myanmar Farms Enterprise [name not given] left for China to attend a 4-month training course on integrated fish farming. (WPD 4/26)

Early May: Large quantities of military equipment from China arrives in Rangoon

Delegation to China

May 9: A delegation led by Foreign Ministry Political Affairs Director-General U Ohn Gyaw, and including 6 officials from the Central Drug Abuse Committee and 3 from Foreign Affairs and Public Works, left for China to attend a seminar in drug control in Beijing. U Ohn Gyaw will also discuss and sign contracts for the construction of two bridges across the river at the Myanmar-Chinese border. (WPD 5/10) // May 25: The delegation returned. The bridge construction contract was signed with Deputy Foreign Minister Mr. Qi Huai Yuan on May 11, and a drug control agreement with Deputy Security Minister Mr. Gu Lin Fang and UNIDCP Acting Chairman Mr. G. Giacomelli on May 14. (WPD 5/26)

Agriculture Minister to China

May 15: A delegation headed by Minister for Livestock Breeding & Fisheries and for Agriculture & Forests Lt-Gen. Chit Swe left to study agriculture, fisheries, and forestry in Yunnan, China, and in the Philippines. The delegation includes Director U Hla Pe of the Myanmar Timber Enterprise, Managing Director U Tin Hlaing of Myanmar Agriculture Service, Assistant Director U Tin Htut Oo of the Agriculture Planning and Statistics Department, Director General U Tin Maung of the Livestock Planning and Statistics Department, No. 11 Light Infantry Division Commander Col. Nyunt Tin, and Capt. Thaik Toe. The delegation will be joined in the Philippines by Director General Dr. Myint Thein of the Agriculture Planning and Statistics Department. (WPD 5/16) // May 27: The delegation returned. (WPD 5/28)

May 14: Managing Director Mr. Li Shanghui and Project Manager Mr. Xu Wen of China National Aero-Technology Import and Export Corporation, accompanied by Embassy Economic Counsellor Mr. Zhang Yong Zhi, called on Minister for Transport & Communications and for Social Welfare and for Labour Lt-Gen. Tin Tun to discuss bilateral aviation matters. (WPD 5/15)

May 29: A group of historical research officers led by Prof. U Tun Aung Chein of the Department of History, Yangon University, left for China and Singapore to study "the evidences of historical research" at the invitation of Beijing University and the Department of South-East Asian Study of Singapore. Other delegation members are Prof. Daw Ohn

Kyi (2) of the Department of History, Magway Degree College; Director (Research) Daw Ni Ni Myint, and Senior Research Officers Daw Khin Khin Kha and U Thein Hlaing of the Department of History, Yangon University. (WPD 5/30)

Chinese Ambassador Approved

May 30: The Myanmar Government has approved the nomination of Mr. Liang Feng as Chinese Ambassador to Myanmar. Ambassador Liang was born in May 1932 in Guangdong Province. Following graduation from university, he has served as Attache in Viet Nam, Deputy Division Chief in the Second Department of Asian Affairs at the Foreign Ministry, Deputy Division Chief, Division Chief, and Deputy Director-General of the Department of Asian Affairs, Counsellor of Embassy in Bangkok, and Ambassador to Senegal and the Gambia. He is currently Ambassador to Laos. (WPD 5/30)

June 7: A demonstration flight of the Y-12 Aircraft was given at Yangon Airport by M/S Airtrust (S) Pte. Ltd. of Singapore and M/S China National Aero Technology Import Export Corporation (CATIC) of China. It is a 17-seat short haul, multi-role commuter aircraft, selling for about US\$ 2 million. (WPD 6/8) // June 8: Vice President Wang Dawei of CATIC and President Peter Fong of Airtrust called on Minister for Planning & Finance and for Trade Brig-Gen. Abel. (WPD 6/9) // June 9: The Y-12 made a demonstration flight over Bagan-Nyaung-U, Gangaw, and Kyauktu. (WPD 6/10)

Chinese Transport Official

June 21: A Chinese delegation led by Mr. Zhang Jinguang, Deputy Head of the Yunnan Province Transportation Department, called on Minister for Transport & Communications and for Social Welfare and for Labour Lt-Gen. Tin Tun, and on Minister for Planning & Finance and for Trade Brig-Gen. Abel. (WPD 6/22) // June 25: He called on Minister for Home & Religious Affairs and for Information and for Culture Lt-Gen. Phone Myint. (WPD 6/26)

Chinese Minerals Official

June 22: A delegation led by Mr. Xia Li Wei from the Minmetals Precious and Rare Minerals Import and Export Company of the Ministry of Foreign Economic Relations and Trade called on Minister for Livestock Breeding & Fisheries and for Agriculture & Forests Lt-Gen. Chit Swe. (WPD 6/23)

June 22: In accordance with the agreement between the National Library of China and the Universities' Central Library of Myanmar, 60 volumes of "Qing Shi Lu", the history of the Qing Dynasty, were presented by Chinese Ambassador Cheng Ruisheng. (WPD 6/23)

July 17: A delegation headed by Deputy General Secretary Mr. Huang Renyue of Yunnan Province, China, arrived to study agriculture and livestock breeding. (WPD 7/18) // July 18: They called on Minister for Livestock Breeding & Fisheries and for Agriculture & Forests Lt-Gen. Chit Swe; and looked at agricultural mechanization and fishbreeding. (WPD 7/19)

Chinese Ambassador Arrives

July 10: Mr. Liang Feng presented credentials to State LORC Chairman Senior General Saw Maung as Chinese Ambassador to Myanmar. (WPD 7/11)

Sports Delegations Abroad

July 17: A sports delegation headed by Yangon Command No. 2 Military Region Commander Col. Win Hlaing left for China under the sports exchange programme. He was accompanied by Assistant Director U Mya Than of the Sports and Physical Education Department and Assistant Electrical Engineer U Win Pe and Assistant Civil Engineer U Aung Myint of the National Indoor Stadium-1. (WPD 7/18)

July 17: A Myanmar volley-ball team headed by Deputy Director U Maung Win of the Sports and Physical Education Department left via Lashio and Muse for Yunnan, China, for a two-week series of good-will volley-ball matches. (WPD 7/18)

July 18: Myanmar will donate 1,500 tons of rice to China, as assistance to flood victims. (WPD 7/19)

July 24: A four-member writer (translator) delegation from China led by Mr. Luo Luo arrived for a two-week exchange visit. Other members are Mr. Lin Huangtian, Mr. Gao Mang, Ms. Huang Qingshan, and Ms. Fan Yingyan. (WPD 7/25) //

July 25: They called on News and Periodicals Enterprise officials and Myanmar writers, and on Minister for Home & Religious Affairs and for Information and for Culture Lt-Gen. Phone Myint. (WPD 7/26) // July 30: They visited Mandalay and Sagaing on July 26-28, before leaving for Heho. (WPD 7/31)

Chinese Delegations

July 31: The Yunnan Province agricultural delegation headed by Yunnan Deputy General Secretary Mr. Huang Renyue, which arrived July 17, departed for home. On July 31 it "signed notes on cotton cultivation and production on experimental basis, construction of dam, breeding of fresh water prawn and production of medicines for animals." (WPD 8/1)

July 31: The Chinese writers delegation headed by Mr. Luo Luo visited Shan State July 28-30. (WPD 8/1) // Aug. 1: It visited the Phaunggyi Central Institute of Public Services at Phaunggyi, Hlegu Twp. [Yangon]. (WPD 8/2) // Aug. 4: It visited Bagan-Nyaung-Oo on Aug. 2-4, and returned to Yangon. (WPD 8/5) // Aug. 5: It visited Bago. (WPD 8/6) // Aug. 6: It met in Yangon with "Myanmar literati and translators." (WPD 8/7) // Aug. 7: The delegation returned home. (WPD 8/8)

Aug. 9: Managing Director Li Shanghui and Project Manager Xu Wen of China National Aero-Technology Import and Export Corporation called on Minister for Transport & Communications and for Social Welfare and for Labour Lt-Gen. Tin Tun to discuss "aviation, sale of Y-8 aircraft and hire of aircraft." (WPD 8/10)

Aug 10: The first major shipment of arms and ammunition from China arrives in Rangoon" (Bertil Lintner, "Burma in Revolt", p379)

21-26 August: Gen Saw Maung visits China. Meets Li PM Peng, and President Yang Shangkun, who promise more political and military aid to Rangoon

Gen. Saw Maung to China

Aug. 15: "At the invitation of His Excellency Yang Shangkun, President of the People's Republic of China, Senior General Saw Maung, Chairman of the State Law and Order Restoration Council, accompanied by Madame Saw Maung, will pay a goodwill visit to the People's Republic of China in the near future." (WPD 8/15)

Aug. 20: State LORC Chairman Senior General Saw Maung and his wife, Daw Aye Yee, left for China by special aircraft. He was accompanied by State LORC Secretary (1) Maj-Gen. Khin Nyunt and wife; Eastern Commander Maj-Gen. Maung Aye and wife; North-East Commander Maj-Gen. Maung Thint; Minister for Planning & Finance and for Trade Brig-Gen. Abel and wife; Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs U Ohn Gyaw; Chief of Staff (Navy) Rear-Adm. Than Nyunt; Chief of Staff (Air) Maj-Gen. Thein Win; No. 22 LID Commander Brig-Gen. Tin Hla; Director of Signals Brig-Gen. Myo Thant, "and the Directors-General and Directors." [photos] (WPD 8/21)

Aug. 21: On arrival in Kunming, where he was welcomed by Yunnan Governor H Zhiquiang, State LORC Chairman Senior General Saw Maung said his visit was to promote existing friendly relations with China, and that Myanmar was preserving its culture, traditions, and customs. "He said that although some countries regarded and treated them with a wrong opinion, yet they were always on the side of justice on their part." The Yunnan Governor replied that Myanmar "was regarded as a most trusting friend," and that although foreigners did not believe there was no problem on the Myanmar-China border, "they came to believe and accepted when they saw for themselves that everything was peaceful and pleasant there." The delegation then flew on to Beijing. (WPD 8/22)

Aug. 25: State LORC Chairman Senior General Saw Maung and his party returned to Yangon.

He and Chinese President Yang Shangkun met in Beijing on Aug. 20 and exchanged expressions of mutual friendship in the tradition of Sino-Myanmar Pauk-phaw kinship; in the evening the Chinese president hosted a state banquet.

On Aug. 21, the Chairman visited the Beijing Agricultural and Industrial Corporation, modern plantations in Huaxiang Township, and the Beijing Television Factor.

Later, the Chairman held discussions with Chinese Premier Li Peng, where further mutual expressions of support and goodwill were exchanged.

Premier Li Peng said China still had a major population problem. In serious natural disasters the People's Liberation Army joins in rehabilitation. He said: "In...China political stability is needed to bring about economic development.... I share many of Chairman Senior General Saw Maung's views and there are also similar views.... In is

necessary to nurture all the new undertakings in political and economic sectors etc. based on justice and peace. The most important in the field of international relations is non-interference in the internal affairs of one nation by another....

Senior General Saw Maung said in his reply: "The [SLORC]...has declared to continually practise independent and active foreign policy in international relations to ensure improvement. Myanmar...is accepting the UN leadership and continuing to adhere to the Five Principles of Peaceful Co-existence.... It has been over forty years that China and Myanmar have maintained pauk-phaw relationship.... During this period our two countries have enjoyed better understanding and greater co-operation and sympathy towards each other.... There are attacks on Myanmar Naing-Ngan by certain Western nations on human rights, environmental protection, narcotic drugs and economic development. We are rebutting those attacks by clarifying the facts. We understand that... China, too, is countering such attacks with facts. We will not bow to the pressure of any country or any bloc at the expense of our national cause....

"Border trade...is making progress and meeting with success. There have been similar progress and success in co-operative narcotic control measures. Furthermore, assistance provided by...China in bringing about economic development is highly appreciated. The Yangon-Tanyin Bridge Construction Project...The National Theatre...The National Indoor Stadium at Thuwunna...."

Other Myanmar delegation members called on Vice-Minister of Aerospace He Wenzhi at the China National Aero-Technology Import and Export Corp. Madame Saw Maung visited the Forbidden City, the Youth Cultural Palace, and cultural exhibits. In the evening Premier Li Pung hosted a banquet. [photos] (WPD 8/25)

Aug. 26: On Aug. 23, State LORC Chairman Senior General Saw Maung met with Chinese Communist Party Secretary General Jiang Zemin. They exchanged mutual expressions of goodwill and support for the doctrine of non-intervention, and reviewed developmental and anti-narcotics activities in the two countries.

Meanwhile, On Aug. 22, Gen. and Mme. Saw Maung visited the Buddha's Tooth-Relic Pagoda, and invited Sayadaw Hai Yuan of Guang Ji Si Monastery to visit Myanmar and bring the Relic for the Myanmar people to pay homage to. Religious titles will be given to Chinese Sayadaws, as they were to Japanese, Thai, and Sri Lankan Sayadaws. He then visited the Asian Games Village, and the Myanmar Embassy, which hosted a dinner. Mme. Saw Maung visited the Great Wall and the Summer Palace.

Other members of the delegation met with their Chinese opposite numbers, and two agreements were signed:

-- Construction of Television Station (CH-5 Project), signed by Director of Signals Brig-Gen. Myo Thant and Vice-Chairman of the CITIC Company Mr. Wang Jun.

-- Economic and Technical Co-operation, signed by Minister for Planning & Finance and for Trade Brig-Gen. Abel and Minister for Foreign Economic Relations and Trade Mr. Li Lauqing. Under it, China will grant interest-free loans totalling Yuan 50 million. [photos] (WPD 8/27)

Aug. 27: On Aug. 24 State LORC Chairman Senior General Saw Maung and his party flew from Beijing to Kunming. There they toured the Kunming Electric Motor Works and the Kunming Cable Works, and were hosted at dinner by Yunnan Governor H Zhiqiang. On Aug. 25 they visited the Western Hills before returning to Yangon. [photos] (WPD 8/28)

Aug. 17: Staff Officer U Tin Tun of the Agricultural Mechanization Department left for China to attend a 2-month training course on invention and production of agricultural implements. (WPD 8/18)

Aug. 21: A delegation headed by Division Manager of Myanma Agricultural Produce Trading left for China to study the power tiller industry at Yunnan Provincial Import and Export Corp. in Kunming from Aug. 21-28. Other delegates are Senior Engineer U Kyaw Thaung, Assistant Engineer U Chit Chit, Deputy Assistant Engineers U Nyunt Yi and U Ko Ko Win, Accounts Manager Daw San San and Administrative Manager Daw Than Hnit. \ Assistant Director U Saw Naing of Myanma Farms Enterprise left for Germany to attend a one-month course on Ruminant Production in the Tropics. (WPD 8/22)

Aug. 28: Principal U Zaw Win of the Mandalay State School of Fine Arts and Instructor U Mya Aye of the Yangon State School of Fine Arts left for China for a year at the Chinese School of Fine Arts. (WPD 8/29)

Aug. 29-31: We have friends, by Kyaw Thura. [China. "We have friends, those on whom we can count, and those who can count on us, whenever needed.... Events have proved China's helmsmen to be fully in touch with what should be the best for their people.... Both China and Myanmar have staunchly withstood any attempt at undermining what we have been striving to achieve. Equally, both have gone through a period of political turmoil made more complicated by those who keep striving to interfere in our internal affairs. However, such attempts only further strengthen our resolve to carry on the good work we are doing...."] (Political article from WPD -- DA)

Sept. 4: Chinese President Yang Shangkun on August 13 sent the following message to State LORC Chairman Senior General Saw Maung: "It is learnt that some parts of Myanmar have been stricken by floods rarely seen in the past decades as a result of which vast areas of agricultural fields and many public facilities were inundated, and peoples' property has sustained great losses. On behalf of the Chinese people and in my own name, I hereby extend my sincere sympathy to Your Excellency and through Your Excellency to the people in the disaster-stricken areas." (WPD 9/5)

Sept. 5-10,12,19,22,27,29-30: China-Myanmar goodwill visits of great historic significance, by Bo Thanmani. [Cont. (1-12) Review of visits between China and Myanmar since World War II.]

China Trade Order

Sept. 9: Ministry of Trade Order No. 7/91 regulates the China-Myanmar Border trade as of Oct. 1, 1991. "According to the Order, duties were assigned to the Myanmar Export Import Services and the Union of Myanmar Muse Namhkam Traders' Association for supervising border trade activities" under the border trade system. (WPD 9/10)

Sept. 11,13-15: A visit to beloved friends, by A High-ranking Tatmadaw Officer. [(1) Account of Gen. Saw Maung's August visit to China by a member of his delegation. "I have been well acquainted with China for over 20 years as a researcher. I visited China and went around on a study tour only once before this visit." {in 1980??--HCMacD.}]

[(2) "I also saw all the signs and evidence of development achieved in China between 1989 and 1991. The situation in 1989...is markedly different if compared with that of 1980. One can see the changes.... There have been great changes in their style of dress, in their living, in shops, stores, markets, roads, ports and vehicles. I found that the people are satisfied and calm. The Chinese leaders said... that the age of socialism has not become extinct yet.... The people firmly believe that socialism is the only way for development and progress.... The consequence...is the prevalence of political stability"

[(3) Premier LI Peng presented Gen. Saw Maung with a poem in his own handwriting, as follows:

Up here in the area
At the source of the river
I live;
Down there in the area
on the banks of the same river
You live.
The river flows for ever
And we who drink the clear water
from the same river
love each other
With boundless love;
With no end whatsoever.

[(4) Between Myanmar and China there is "complete understanding."]

Sept. 11: A Myanmar Red Cross delegation led by President Dr. Hla Nwe left for China to study Red Cross works in China. Members are Honorary Treasurer U Tun Myint, Deputy Assistant Secretary Daw Nu Nu Yi, Mingaladon Ambulance Brigade Company Commander U Ko Toe, and Mayangon Ambulance Brigade Company Commander Daw Hla Yin. (WPD 9/12) \ Sept. 25: The delegation returned. (WPD 9/26)

Sept. 19: A group led by Central Committee for Drug Abuse Control [CCDAC] Joint Secretary Police Col. Ngwe Soe Tun, and United Nations Drug Control Programme Office [UNDCPO] advisers led by Mr. J. Kristensen, visited Kengtung and Tachilek Townships [Shan] on Sept. 11-18 to discuss implementation of projects related to "joint-co-operation between Myanmar and China [and] ...Myanmar and Thailand to fight drugs and to meet with local national races...." (WPD 9/20)

Sept. 19: Managing Director Mr. Li Shanghui and Project Manager Mr. Xu Wen of the China National Aero-Technology Import and Export Corporation called on Minister for Transport & Communications and for Social Welfare and for Labour Lt-Gen. Tin Tun. (WPD 9/20)

Sept. 23: China donated US\$100,000 worth of clothes, biscuits, tinned provisions, and rubber shoes. (WPD 9/24)

(flood relief)

Yunnan Vice-Governor

Sept. 25: Vice-Governor of Yunnan Province, China, Mr. Jin Ren-Qing and party of five arrived on a goodwill visit. He called on Minister for Foreign Affairs U Ohn Gyaw, who hosted a dinner. (WPD 9/26) // Sept. 26: He called on State LORC Secretary (1) Maj-Gen. Khin Nyunt to discuss economic cooperation and road building, and on Minister for Planning & Finance and for Trade Brig-Gen. Abel. (WPD 9/27) // Sept. 27: He met with trade and technical officials from many agencies. (WPD 9/28)

Sept. 25: A delegation headed by Prof. U Nyan Thin of the Geology Department, Mawlamyine University, left for Beijing to study universities in China. Other members are Prof. U Sein Win of the Yangon Institute of Technology, Prof. Dr. Tin Myint and Prof. Daw Po of Yangon University, and Prof. Daw Winnie Murray of Mandalay University. (WPD 9/26)

Oct. 2: A delegation headed by Director General U Kyi Lwin of Myanmar Television and Radio left for Kunming, China, to study the setting up of small television stations. Other members are Deputy Chief Engineer U Win Naing, and Assistant Engineers U Myo Win, U Tun Kyi, and U Hlaing Myint. (WPD 10/3)

Yunnan Delegations

Oct. 1: The delegation from Yunnan Province, China, led by Vice Governor Jin Ren-Qing, called on Minister for Planning & Finance and for Trade Brig-Gen. Abel. (WPD 10/2) // Oct. 2: The delegation left. (WPD 10/3)

Oct. 11: A delegation headed by Yunnan Province Vice Prefecture Chief Mr. Liu Dapin, on a two-week visit, called on Minister for Livestock Breeding & Fisheries and for Agriculture & Forests Lt-Gen. Chit Swe, and on Minister for Planning & Finance and for Trade Brig-Gen. Abel. (WPD 10/12)

Oct. 16: A delegation led by Director and Rector Dr. Sun Handong of the Kunming University of Botany arrived. (WPD 10/17) // Oct. 17: It called on Minister for Livestock Breeding & Fisheries and for Agriculture & Forests Lt-Gen. Chit Swe. (WPD 10/18) // Oct. 30: The delegation left. (WPD 10/31)

Oct. 30: A cultural delegation headed by Deputy Director Ma Sun Wei of the Yunnan Province Cultural Department arrived under the cultural exchange program. It will remain for two weeks, and will visit Nyaung-U, Pagan [sic], Mandalay and Taunggyi. (WPD 10/31)

Oct. 1-9: China-Myanmar goodwill visits of great historic significance, by Bo Thamani. [Cont. (13-21) Review of visits in both directions since 1949. "Pauk-phaw" {relative} relationship between the two countries recalled. Myanmar gave 1,500 tons of rice to China for flood victims after the May-June 1991 Chinese floods, and China will give interest-free loans of Yuan 50 million to Myanmar and construct a Television Station (CH-5 project).]

Oct. 11: The six-man delegation headed by Professor of Geology U Nyan Thine of Mawlamyine University returned from China after studying university co-operation. (WPD 10/12)

Oct. 13: Minister for Planning & Finance and for Trade Brig-Gen. Abel left for China to attend the Spring Export Commodities Fair in Kwangzhou, Oct. 15-30, and the 1991 annual IMF-World Bank Meeting in Bangkok. He was accompanied by Managing Director U Win Kyi of Myanmar Export Import Services and by his personal secretary U Tin Maung Htay. (WPD 10/ 14) // Senior Research Officer Dr. Sann Shwe of the Medical Research Department left for Thailand to attend an Oct. 14-18 Biregional Meeting of the Fieldlines Programme for SEARO and WPRO sponsored by WHO. (WPD 10/14) // Oct. 18: Planning & Finance Minister Abel returned. (WPD 10/19)

Oct. 16: Deputy Director U Khin Maung Win of the Traditional Indigenous Medicine Department left for China to attend the International Indigenous Medicine Conference in Beijing, beginning Oct. 10. (WPD 10/ 18)

Oct. 16: A delegation led by Yangon Institute of Technology Librarian U Tin Maung Lwin left for China to study libraries in China. Other members are U Nyan Htun of Mandalay University, Daw Khin Khin Myint of Magway Degree College, and Daw Khin Thin Kyu of the Workers' Degree College. (WPD 10/18) // Oct. 28: The delegation returned. (WPD 10/29)

Oct. 20: Director U Maung Maung of the Agricultural Mechanization Department left for China to attend an Oct. 22-26 meeting on mechanization of agriculture in developing countries. (WPD 10/21)

Oct. 25: The China National Aero-Technology Import & Export Corporation demonstrated its Y-8 transport aircraft at Yangon Airport. Representing the company were Vice-Chairman Mr. Zhao Mingqi and Managing Director Mr. Li Shang Hui. The Y-8 carries 20,000 kilos, flies 550 kilometres per hour, and has a range of 5,615 kilometres. (WPD 10/26)

Chinese Delegations

Oct. 31: A Yunnan Cultural Delegation led by Deputy Yunnan Director of Cultural Services Ms. Sun Wei called on Minister for Home & Religious Affairs and for Information and for Culture Lt-Gen. Phone Myint. (WPD 11/1) // Nov. 10: Minister for Home & Religious Affairs and for Information and for Culture Lt-Gen. Phone Myint hosted a dinner for the delegation. (WPD 11/11) // Nov. 13: The delegation left, after visiting Bagan, Nyaung-U, Mandalay, and Taunggyi. (WPD 11/14)

Nov. 6: Chinese Ambassador Liang Feng delivered documents on flood relief donations comprising 7 tons of tinned provisions, 2,300 pieces of clothing, 3,000 pairs of rubber shoes, and 4 tons of biscuits. (WPD 11/7) // Nov. 9: The goods, worth US\$100,000, arrived in Patheingyi. (WPD 11/10)

Chinese Rail Purchase Agreement

Nov. 12: Managing Director U Win Sein of Myanmar Railways signed an agreement with Manager Mr. Zhan Jing Wen of the Yunnan Machinery Import & Export Corp. to purchase 7,000 tons of rails for US\$3.6 million. They will be delivered next March for use on the Myingyan-Tada-U line. This is the first agreement with this company. (WPD 11/13)

Nov. 13: A 40-member gymnastic, dance and music troupe led by Vice-Chairman Zhou Gengxin of the Yunnan Association of Cultural Exchange with Foreign Countries, arrived. It will perform in Yangon on Nov. 14-16 before going on to Lashio, Mandalay, and Taunggyi. (WPD 11/14) // Nov. 14: The troupe called on Minister for Home & Religious Affairs and for Information and for Culture Lt-Gen. Phone Myint. In the evening it performed at the National Theatre; tickets are K50, K75, and K100. Several Ministers attended. (WPD 11/15) // Nov. 15: Minister for Home & Religious Affairs and for Information and for Culture Lt-Gen. Phone Myint hosted a luncheon. (WPD 11/16) // Nov. 16: The troupe visited Hlawga Park. (WPD 11/17) // Nov. 19: The troupe was received Nov. 17 in Lashio by North-East Commander Maj-Gen. Maung Thint, where it will perform Nov. 18-19. (WPD 11/20) // Nov. 23: The troupe was received Nov. 20 in Mandalay by Deputy Central Commander Col. Aung Khin, where it will perform Nov. 21-22. (WPD 11/24) // Nov. 26: The troupe, after entertaining for two nights in Taunggyi, will give its final performance in Yangon. (WPD 11/27) // Nov. 27: The troupe departed for Yunnan, after 4 performances in Yangon, and 2 each in Lashio, Mandalay, and Taunggyi. (WPD 11/28)

Nov. 13: A Chinese military goodwill delegation led by Deputy Chief of Staff Lt-Gen. He Qizong arrived at the invitation of Gen. Than Shwe. (WPD 11/14) // Nov. 14: It called on State LORC Chairman Senior General Saw Maung, and visited the Shwedagon Pagoda. (WPD 11/15) // Nov. 15: On Nov. 14-15 it visited Mandalay and Bagan-Nyaung-U; on its return to Yangon a dinner was hosted by Gen. Than Shwe. (WPD 11/16) // Sept. 16: the delegation left. (WPD 11/17)

Nov. 13: A seven-member Chinese delegation headed by Minister of Aero-Space Industry Lin Zongtang, arrived on a one-week visit to discuss aviation matters. (WPD 11/14) // Nov. 18: The delegation met with State LORC Chairman Senior General Saw Maung, and called on Minister for Planning & Finance and for Trade Brig-Gen. Abel. (WPD 11/19) // Nov. 19: The delegation left. (WPD 11/20)

Dec. 11: A delegation led by Managing Director U Soe Nyunt (Htila Sitthu) (Chairman of the Union of Myanmar Literary and Journalist Organization) left on a two-week study tour of Yunnan Province, China, "to exchange literary experiences." Members are Managing Director U Myint Soe (Writer-Theikpan Soe) of the Printing and Publishing Enterprise, Lecturer Dr. Thein Nyunt (Poet Nyunt Wai, Katha) of Yangon General Hospital, Deputy General Manager (Admin) U Maung Maung Latt (Poet-Naung) of the Myanmar Oil and Gas Enterprise, Staff Officer U Tin Hlaing (Writer-Laidwintha Saw Chit) of the Press Scrutiny and Registration Division, and Professor of Physiology Dr. Maung Maung Nyo (Writer-Dr. Maung Maung Nyo) of the Yangon Institute of Medicine-1. (WPD 12/12) // Dec. 25: The delegation returned. (WPD 12/26)

Dec. 11: The delegation led by CEC Chairman Maj-Gen. Tun Tin (retd.) of the Myanmar Naing-Ngan War Veteran Organization returned from Yunnan Province, China. Other members were Maj-Gen. Aung Khin (retd.), Maj-Gen. Taungza Kaing (retd.), Col. Min Naung (retd.), Lt-Col. Thaung Tin (retd.), and U Ye Shwe. (WPD 12/12)

Chinese Delegations

Dec. 11: A delegation of Chinese writers headed by Mr. Han Xiao arrived, and called on Minister for Home & Religious Affairs and for Information and for Culture Lt-Gen. Phone Myint. (WPD 12/12) // Dec. 20: The delegation returned from a Dec. 13-19 tour of Bagan, Mt. Popa, Mandalay, Pyin Oo Lwin, Sagaing, Taunggyi, and Innlay Lake. (WPD 12/21) // Dec. 23: It toured Yangon. (WPD 12/23) // Dec. 23: It visited Bago. (WPD 12/24) // Dec. 24: It visited down-town Yangon, including the National Museum. (WPD 12/25) // Dec. 25: The delegation returned home. (WPD 12/26)

Dec. 20: A delegation headed by Deputy Director-General Mr. Qian Guan Lin of the Chinese Customs Department met with Secretary Police Brig-Gen. Maung Toe of the Central Committee for Drug Abuse Control (CCDAC). (WPD 12/21) // Dec. 26: It called on Mandalay Police Commander Col. Ni Than, to hear about anti-drug activities. (WPD 12/27)

Dec. 25: A 3-member delegation headed by Deputy Director Mr. Liu Guoneng of the National Archives Bureau of China arrived. (WPD 12/26) // Dec. 26: The delegation called on Minister for Planning & Finance and for Trade Brig-Gen. Abel. (WPD 12/ 27)

Chinese Railway Equipment

Dec. 16: A Letter of Intent for the purchase of rails, engines, coaches, linkages, and rail maintenance equipment from Huaxin Hainan Development Construction and Business Company was signed by Myanmar Railways Managing Director U Win Sein and Huaxin Hainan Co. representative Mr. Yang Fu. The goods are worth about US\$ 20 million, which will be loaned without interest by the Huaxin Hainan Co. (WPD 12/17)

Foreign Teams & Delegations

Dec. 11: Chinese gymnastic coach Miss Liang Ping left "at the conclusion of her duties in Myanmar." (WPD 12/12)

Chinese Delegations

Dec. 21: The Chinese Writers Delegation visited Hlawga Park and the the Buddha Pitakataik in Yangon. (WPD 12/23)

Dec. 25: A 3-member delegation headed by Deputy Director Mr. Liu Guoneng of the National Archives Bureau of China arrived. (WPD 12/26) // Dec. 26: The delegation called on Minister for Planning & Finance and for Trade Brig-Gen. Abel. (WPD 12/ 27)

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Jan. 1: The Chinese National Archives Bureau delegation led by Mr. Liu Guoneng departed. (WPD 1/2)

Jan. 8: Vice-Chairman Mr. Zhao Mingqi of the China National Aero-Technology Import & Export Corporation (CATIC) called on Minister for Transport & Communications and for Social Welfare and for Labour Lt-Gen. Tin Tun to discuss CATIC aircraft, and extension of air service with China. (WPD 1/9)

Jan. 29: The Myanmar Naing-Ngan Chinese Social Welfare Committee donated US\$50,000 for Ayeyarwady flood relief. (WPD 1/30)

Chinese Construction Agreement

Feb. 14: China and Myanmar signed an agreement and exchange notes under which "China will send two teams to study the Satellite Ground Station construction work and Steam-powered Power Generating Plant in Mawlamyine and to provide necessary spare parts there." Costs will be covered by an interest-free Yuan 50 million loan. (WPD 2/16)

Feb. 17: A goodwill badminton team led by Badminton Federation President U Kyi Nyunt left for Yunnan to study sports activities and play friendly matches. They will travel via Lashio to the the frontier at Muse-Shweli. (WPD 2/18)

Feb. 19: A delegation from the Shandong Native Produce Import and Export Corporation (SNP) of China, led by Mme. Wang Ling, called on Minister for Agriculture & Forests Lt-Gen. Chit Swe. (WPD 2/20)

Feb. 19: An 18-member national culture troupe and a 3-member delegation headed by Director U Nyunt Khin of the Fine Arts Department left for China for two weeks to participate in the 3rd Chinese Cultural Festival in Yunnan Province. (WPD 2/ 20)

Feb. 21: The Yunnan Province (China) gymnastics and Wushu team gave a demonstration at the National Stadium-1 in Thuwunna. (WPD 2/22) // Feb. 22: The second demonstration was attended by Deputy Minister for Health Col. Than Zin. (WPD 2/23)

Mar. 4: The 18-member cultural troupe led by Director U Nyunt Khin of the Fine Arts Department returned from the 3rd Yunnan Province cultural festival. (WPD 3/5)

Mar. 4: Mr. Zhao Mingqi, Assistant to the President of China National Aero Technology Import & Export Corporation called on Minister for Transport, for Social Welfare, and for Labour Lt-Gen. Tin Tun. They discussed a demonstration flight of a K-8 plane jointly produced by China and Pakistan. (WPD 3/5)

Mar. 4: A delegation led by Director-General of the Co-operative Department Col. Maung Hti left for China on a three-week study tour of mills, factories and business activities in Kunming, Beijing, Shanghai and four other cities, at the invitation of the Hao Yu Co. Ltd. Other members are Vice-Chairman of the Central Co-operative Society U Kyi Win, Chairman of the Shan State (North) Syndicate of Township Co-operatives [STC] U Ba Hla, Secretary of the Mandalay Division STC U Aung Than, and Deputy Branch Manager U Tun Hlaing and Assistant Director U Saw Samson Hla of the Co-operatives Department. (WPD 3/5)

Mar. 9: The first 100 (of 200) bogies purchased from Yunnan Machinery and Equipment Import & Export Corporation, arrived at Lashio, via Muse, on Feb. 29. The rest will arrive in May. The contract, for US\$283,000, was signed in Nov. 1991. (WPD 3/10)

Mar. 11: A Myanmar technical delegation headed by Capt. Tun Aung (MN), Commander of the Naval Hydrographic Depot, left for Xien Hung, Yunnan Province, China, to attend the Mar. 13-17 tri-partite meeting on the determination of the tri-junction point of the Myanmar, Lao and China boundaries. Other members are Director-General U Mya Thein and Adviser U Maung Maung of the Survey Department, Director U Nyunt Maung Shein and Branch Head U Khin Maung Win of the Boundary Division of the Foreign Ministry, Lt-Col. Pe Nyein and Maj. Than Tun, General Staff Officers at the Office of the Commander-in-Chief (Army), and Cmdr. San Myint (MN), Deputy Commander of the Naval Hydrographic Depot. (WPD 3/12) // Mar. 20: The delegation returned, after signing the Agreed Minutes of the Meeting on Mar. 16 with Mr. Xu Wenyi, head of the Chinese delegation, and Mr. Ouan Phommachack, head of the Lao delegation. (WPD 3/21)

Mar. 13: Chinese Ambassador Liang Feng on Minister for Communications, Posts and Telegraphs U Soe Tha. Yugoslav Ambassador Dr. Svetozar Jovicevic on Minister for Livestock Breeding & Fisheries Brig-Gen. Maung Maung. UNDP Representative Gerd Merrem on Minister for Planning & Finance and for Trade Brig-Gen. Abel. (WPD 3/14)

Apr. 9: Delegations of Myanmar, China, and Laos met at Kenghon, Yunnan Province, China, from Mar. 13-16 to discuss erecting boundary markers at the tripoint where the three countries meet. The Myanmar delegation was led by Capt. Tun Aung (Navy). It was agreed on Apr. 5 to erect No. 245 marker on the west bank of the Mekong River in Myanmar territory and No. 45 marker on the east bank for China and Laos. The two markers were ceremonially placed on Apr. 5-8. "Land maps will be jointly drawn and agreements on demarcating the Myanmar, PRC, and Lao border will be signed as a follow-up." (WPD 4/10)

Apr. 9: Mr. An Kun and Mr. Lin Jia Rong of the Ministry of Construction of China called on Minister for Transport and for Labour Lt-Gen. Tin Tun to discuss "construction of an airport hotel and aviation facilities." (WPD 4/10)

Apr. 18: 10,700 tons of cargo arrived on the MV Pathein, including 4,014 tons of rails from China and 1,620 tons of bogies and parts for upper class rail coaches from Korea. 12 mini-buses from Hong Kong were also aboard. The rails are for the Aungban-Loikaw railroad. (WPD 4/19)

Chinese Caustic Soda Plant Pact

Apr. 22: Myanmar Paper and Chemical Industries and Yunnan Provincial Chemicals Import and Export Corporation signed a contract for a caustic soda plant. The original memorandum was signed Dec. 5, 1989. The US\$6 million plant will produce 5,000 tons of caustic soda per year, plus, as by-products, 1,000 tons of chlorine, 5,000 tons of hydrochloric acid, 2,000 tons of bleaching powder, and 33,000 tons of bleaching solution. The caustic soda will be used to produce paper and soap, textiles, foodstuffs, and personal goods. The by-products will be used in foodstuff industries, purifying water, and bleaching. (WPD 4/23)

Apr. 23: A Chinese business delegation composed of Director Mr. Yang Shu Wei of Bureau of Machine Building Industry of Yunnan Province, Chairman Mr. Lin Zaiyou of Yunnan Machinery and Equipment Import & Export Corporation, and Manager Mr. Yang Fu of Huaxia Hainan Development Construction and Business Company, met with Minister for Rail Transportation U Win Sein to discuss Myanmar purchase of locomotives, coaches, rails and other equipment with loans provided by China. (WPD 4/24) // Apr. 24: They signed an agreement with Myanmar Railways for an interest-free US\$20 million loan with a grace period of three years. (WPD 4/25)

Chinese Delegations

Apr. 30: A Chinese delegation led by Mr. Yuan Yuwo of the Ministry of the Aerospace and Aviation Technology called on Minister for Industry-2 U Than Shwe. (WPD 5/1)

May 2: Chinese Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs Mr. Yang Fu Chang, with a 5-member delegation, arrived at the invitation of Minister for Foreign Affairs U Ohn Gyaw, who hosted a dinner. (WPD 5/3) // May 3: He visited the Yangon-Thanlyin Bridge Project and the Shwedagon Pagoda, and attended the opening of the National Sports Festival. Chinese Ambassador Liang Feng hosted a dinner at the Embassy. (WPD 5/4) // May 6: Prior to departing for home, the delegation called on State LORC Secretary (1) Maj-Gen. Khin Nyunt. (WPD 5/7)

May 7: A six-member delegation from Yunnan Province led by Vice Director Yang Xue Liang of the Lin Cang Region Administrative Office, arrived in Lashio [Shan] on May 2, and met with local military and civil officials to discuss border trade and transport links. It went on to Mandalay May 5. (WPD 5/8) // May 11: It called on Minister for Planning & Finance and for Trade Brig-Gen. Abel. (WPD 5/12)

May 20: A six-member Chinese study delegation headed by Historian Prof. Zhang Xueshu of Beijing University arrived for a 15-day visit. (WPD 5/21) // May 22: It called on Minister for Health and for Education Col. Pe Thein. (WPD 5/23)

May 20: A Myanmar writers delegation headed by Director (News) U Hla Tun (Hla Tun--Twantay) of the New and Periodicals Enterprise left for China at the invitation of the Chinese Writers Federation. Other members are U Aung Thein (a) U Kyi Aye (Sinbyukyun Aung Thein), WO II Maung Nyunt (Maung Kyin Nwe) of the Defence Services Records Office, and Maung Hlaing (Maung Swe Nge) of the Sarpay Beikman Board. U Maung Maung Oo (Hien Latt) of the Myanmar Educational Research Bureau is secretary to the delegation. (WPD 5/21)

Drug Control Agreement

June 10: A 9-member Chinese narcotics delegation headed by Vice Minister Yu Lei of the Ministry of Public Security, who is General Secretary of the National Narcotic Control Council (NNCC), arrived "to sign an agreement on drug abuse control." (WPD 6/11) // June 11: The delegation visited the National Museum, the Myanmar Gems Enterprise, and the Yangon Zoo. (WPD 6/12)

June 12: The visiting delegations were received by SLORC Secretary-1 Maj-Gen. Khin Nyunt. The UN delegation, in addition to UNDCP Executive Director Giorgio Giacomelli, includes Bangkok UNDCP Resident Representative William Beachner and UNDP Resident Representative Gerd Merrem. The Chinese delegation, in addition to Vice-Minister Yu Lei, includes NNCC Director-General Liu Weng and Chinese Ambassador to Myanmar Liang Feng. The Thai delegation, in addition to Police General Chavalit Yodmani, includes Police Maj-Gen. Wichai Pungsang Phan and Thai Ambassador Virasakdi Futrakul. The Lao delegation, in addition to Mr. Kou Chansina, includes Mr. Prasith Sayasith from the Drug Suppression and Supervision Committee.

The Thai delegation called on Minister for Home Affairs Lt-Gen. Phone Myint, Chairman of the Central Committee for Drug Abuse Control.

Myanmar and UNDCP signed tri-partite Project Agreements with China and Thailand with the following objectives:

"(1) To eliminate trafficking in narcotic drugs and chemicals used in the refining of narcotic drugs across the border.

"(2) To eliminate poppy cultivation in the areas adjacent to the border through economic and social development programmes.

"(3) To eliminate the demand for local consumption of narcotic drugs in border areas."

Minister for Foreign Affairs U Ohn Gyaw reviewed the history of the negotiations leading up to these agreements, including meetings with UNFDAC in Yangon (Dec. 2-4, 1989); with China in Yangon (Aug. 22-Sept. 2, 1990); with China in Beijing (May 10-20, 1991); with Thailand in Myanmar (Sept. 24-27, 1990); and with Thailand in Chiangmai (Mar. 4-8, 1991). Meetings were also held with Laos in Yangon and Vientiane, and similar agreements would be signed with that country. [photos] (WPD 6/13)

June 16: The delegations toured border areas in Shan State, and visited Bagan-Nyaung-U, from June 13-16 [details]. (WPD 6/17)

June 17: Joint meetings were held between the Myanmar-China-UNDCP and Myanmar-Thailand-UNDCP drug committees to discuss 1992 activities. \ The Laotian Delegation left. (WPD 6/ 18)

June 18: The Chinese, UNDCP, and Thai narcotics delegations left. (WPD 6/19)

June 21: A three-member delegation led by Director-General of the Indigenous Medicine Department Dr. Sein Yi left to study indigenous medicine for two months in China, Japan, and India. Other members are U Nyan Lwin and U Than Soe. (WPD 6/22)

July 8: The delegation led by Dr. Khin Maung Nyunt, member of the Committee for Compiling Authentic Facts on Myanmar History, returned from a two-week visit to China, where they discussed Myanmar literature and translation with writers in Beijing, Shanghai, Guangdong, and Kunming. (WPD 7/9)

Myanmar Teams & Delegations

July 11: A 35-member shooting and judo team going to Yunnan Province, China, and a delegation leaving for Mahidol University in Thailand to study sports medicine, were addressed by Vice-Chairman of the Myanmar Olympic Committee U Aung Din. (WPD 7/ 12)

July 13: The 34-member [sic] Myanmar shooting and judo team left for Mandalay by train, from where it will go on to Yunnan Province, China, via Lashio. Team leader Shooting Federation President Brig-Gen. Thein Tun and party will fly to Yunnan on July 15. (WPD 7/14)

July 15: Mr. Wang Guiyi, Senior Adviser of the China National Machinery Import Export Corporation arrived with a delegation to "conduct feasibility studies and discuss cooperation in mining and industries" during a two-week stay. He called on Minister for Planning & Finance Brig-Gen. Abel. (WPD 7/16) // July 16: He called on Minister for Mines Vice-Adm. Maung Maung Khin. (WPD 7/17) // July 17: He called on Minister for Industry-1 Lt-Gen. Sein Aung, and later visited the Steel Mill at Ywama. (WPD 7/18)

July 22: A 6-member delegation headed by Minister for Rail Transportation U Win Sein left for China to study rail transport for two weeks. Members are Managing Director of Myanma Railways U Kyaw Myint, Col. Aung Thein of the Ministry of Rail Transportation, Deputy Chief Engineer U Myint Maung Htwe and Deputy Chief Mechanical Engineer U Tun Aye of Myanma Railways, and the Minister's PA U Myint Wai. (WPD 7/23)

July 20: Rails worth US\$1.5 million, purchased from China, arrived from Nanking. The shipment totalled 3,000 tons at US\$518 per ton, and will be used on the new Aungban-Loikaw Rail Track. A first shipment of 4,000 tons arrived in April. (WPD 7/21)

Aug. 10: A 39-member team from Yunnan Province, China, including marksmen, judokas, and table-tennis players, will arrive Aug. 19 by road via Muse and Lashio to take part in goodwill sports competitions in Yangon (Aug. 22-23) and Mandalay (Aug. 26-28). (WPD 8/11) // Aug. 19: The team, headed by Yunnan Sports Committee Director Mr. Dai Wenzhong, arrived in Yangon, having entered Myanmar at Muse on Aug. 17. There will be goodwill shooting, judo, and table tennis matches Aug. 22-23. (WPD 8/20) // Aug. 21: The delegation held talks about sports exchanges with Myanmar sports authorities; Myanmar plans to hire coaches from China and conduct "joint sports trainings." (WPD 8/22) // Aug. 21: The goodwill competitions began. (WPD 8/23) // Aug. 23: The competitions continued. (WPD

8/24) // Aug. 25: The team arrived in Mandalay. (WPD 8/26) // Aug. 26: The team toured Mandalay. (WPD 8/27) // Aug. 27: The team visited pagodas in Sagaing and Mandalay. (WPD 8/28)

Aug. 31: A 5-member delegation led by Deputy Minister for Co-operatives U Than Aung left for China to study cooperatives. Other members are Director of the Department of Cottage Industries Dr. Tun Aung Phyu, Deputy Director of the Co-operative Department Maj. Tint Lwin Oo, EC Member of the Central Co-operative Society U Win Sein, and Chairman of the Township Co-operative Society in Yangon Division U Tin Yu. (WPD 9/1)

Chinese Cultural Delegation

Aug. 31: The Chinese Cultural Delegation led by Mr. Wu Chunde arrived Aug. 29 in Mandalay, and visited cultural sites. The following day it returned to Yangon. (WPD 9/1)

Sept. 2: Institute of Education tutors Daw Khin Than Nwe and U Tun Kyi left for China to attend a post-graduate course on physical and school health education. Institute of Foreign Languages tutor Daw Yin Yin Myint left for China to attend Chinese language studies. Assistant Lecturer U Ye Myint of the Zoology Department of Yangon University (Botahtaung Campus) left for Malaysia for a course on Rabbit Meat Production in the Tropics. Tutor Daw Chit Chit Myint of the Japanese Department of the IFL left for Japan on a two-week study tour at the invitation of the Japan Foundation. (WPD 9/3)

Sept. 11: The Chinese Embassy presented a Ch'ing dynasty statuette of a warrior and two books on bronze casting to the Folk Arts Exhibition. (WPD 9/12)

Sept. 20: The final section of the Chinese-built Yangon-Thanlyin bridge was put into place, three months ahead of schedule. SLORC Secretary-2 Maj-Gen. Tin Oo and Minister for Construction U Khin Maung Yin presented gifts to Chinese technicians Mr. Li Zhong Sheng and Mr. Li Jia Xing. (WPD 9/21)

Chinese Trade Delegation

Sept. 29: A delegation from Hainan Province, including Vice Manager of the Hainan Province Foreign Economic Relations and Trade (Group) Mr. Wen Shi Chan, and Deputy Director of the China Chamber of International Commerce Mr. Liu Han Bing, called on Yangon Mayor U Ko Lay. (WPD 9/ 20)

Welfare Minister Visits China

Oct. 7: A goodwill delegation headed by Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Brig-Gen. Thaung Myint left for China at the invitation of the Chinese Ministry of Engineering. Other members are Director-General Col. Than Po of the Social Welfare Department, Director-General U Saw Thein of the Relief and Resettlement Department, and Director-General U Win Lwin of the Fire Services Department, PSO to the Minister Capt. Tin Tun, and Capt. Hlaing Myint of the Directorate of Military Engineers. (WPD 10/8) // Oct. 17: The delegation returned. (WPD 10/18)

Oct. 21: Brig-Gen. Thaung Myint was received on Oct. 8 by Chinese Minister of Civil Affairs Cui Nai Fu, who reviewed Myanmar-Chinese traditional good relations and China's recent economic progress under leader Deng Xiaoping. The Myanmar visited Shanghai and, on Oct. 14-15, the Shenzhen economic zone in Guangdong Province. Shenzhen had grown in 12 years from a small town to a "modern big town" with a population of 2.38 million, thanks to China's open-door policy and economic changes. (WPD 10/22, corrected 10/23)

Chinese Irrigation Delegation

Oct. 14: A six-member irrigation works study delegation from Yunnan Province, headed by Deputy Director Mr. Li Zhi Shou of the Water Conservation and Hydel-Power Department of Yunnan Province, called on Minister for Agriculture Maj-Gen. Myint Aung. (WPD 10/15)

Oct. 15: The delegation called on Minister for Forestry Lt-Gen. Chit Swe. (WPD 10/16)

Chinese Red Cross

Nov. 4: A goodwill delegation headed by Central Executive Committee Member Mme. Chin Liying of the Chinese Red Cross Society, with four members, arrived for an 11-day visit to Yangon, Bago, and Mandalay. (WPD 11/5) // Nov. 5: The delegation visited the Shwedagon Pagoda and National Museum. (WPD 11/6) // Nov. 11: The delegation left. (WPD 11/12)

Nov. 13: A six-member Chinese health delegation, headed by Deputy Minister for Public Health Mr. Sun Longchun arrived on a goodwill visit. (WPD 11/14) // Nov. 14: The delegation visited the Shwedagon Pagoda. (WPD 11/15) // Nov. 17: The delegation visited Thandwe [Sandoway] and Mandalay on Nov. 15-17. (WPD 11/18) // Nov. 18: Health issues were discussed with Deputy Minister for Health Col. Than Zin. (WPD 11/ 19) // Nov. 19: The delegation called on SLORC Secretary-1 Maj-Gen. Khin Nyunt, and visited the Primary Health Personnel Training Institute. (WPD 11/20) // Nov. 20: The delegation left. (WPD 11/21)

Nov. 14: Mr. Hans Ulrich Hugo, Senior Programme Officer of UNDP, New York, and Mr. C.F. Massey, Chief Technical Adviser of UNDCP, met with Secretary of the Myanmar Central Committee for Drug Abuse Control Police Maj-Gen. San Thein. He is studying projects being implemented under the Myanmar-Chinese-Thailand-UNDCP agreements. (WPD 11/15)

Nov. 23: An education delegation headed by Head of Division U Aye Myint of the Border Area Development Programme of the Basic Education Department left for China to "study border area education in China" Other members are Township Education Officer of Kyaington U Sai Peng Mong, Assistant Township Education Officer of Kunlong U Khin Maung Ohn, and Headmaster of Nantit Primary School, Hopang Township, U Sai Aike Thein. (WPD 11/24)

Myanmar-China Boundary Committee

Nov. 25: A ten-member Myanmar delegation led by Acting Director-General U Thein Htay of the Survey Department, Ministry of Forestry, left for Beijing to attend the first meeting of the Myanmar-China Joint Boundary Inspection Committee, to arrange the second joint inspection of the boundary. (WPD 11/26)

Chinese Delegations

Dec. 7: A delegation from the Chinese State Scientific and Technological Commission led by Mr. Wu Zhi Chun of the office of the Foreign Investment Commission called on Minister for Planning & Finance Brig-Gen. Abel. (WPD 12/8)

Dec. 9: A writers delegation headed by Mr. Liu Hongyu of Yunnan Province arrived for a two-week visit to Bagan-Nyaung-U, Mandalay, Sagain, Pyin-Oo-Lwin [Maymyo], Taunggyi, and Inlay. Other members are Mr. Zhao Huaijin, Mr. Li Junlong, Mr. Yang Zhenkun, Mr. Xiong Wangping, and Secretary Mr. Yang Hongkun. (WPD 12/10) // Dec. 10: The delegation called on Minister for Information Brig-Gen. Myo Thant. China and Myanmar have had relations since Feb. 12, 802. (WPD 12/11) // Dec. 15: The delegation visited Bagan Nyaung-U on Dec. 12-13. (WPD 12/16) // Dec. 16: The delegation was given a dinner in Mandalay by Central Commander Brig-Gen. Kyaw Than, after visiting Mandalay sites on Dec. 14. (WPD 12/ 17) // Dec. 19: They were given a dinner in Yangon by U Soe Nyunt (Htilar Sitthu), Chairman of the Myanmar Literary and Journalists Organization. Previously, on Dec. 17, they visited Taunggyi. (WPD 12/20) // Dec. 20: They visited pagodas in Bago. (WPD 12/21) // Dec. 21: They met with members of the Literary and Journalists Organization (LJO) at the Karaweik Hall. (WPD 12/22) // Dec. 22: It visited the National Museum and was dined by Minister for Information Brig-Gen. Myo Thant. (WPD 12/23) // Dec. 23: The delegation left. (WPD 12/24)

Dec. 24: A 34-member Shandong Province Beijing Opera Troupe arrived for two weeks, led by Shandong Province Director-General of Culture Mr. Yu Zhamde. It will give four performances in the Yangon National Theatre, and three in Mandalay, before going on a study tour of Yangon, Mandalay, and Bago. (WPD 12/25) // Dec. 25: The troupe gave a special performance attended by Minister for Culture Lt-Gen. Aung Ye Kyaw and other officials. (WPD 12/26) // Dec. 29: Members of the troupe called on Minister for Culture Lt-Gen. Aung Ye Kyaw. (WPD 12/30)

Dec. 17: The Hotaung bridge across the Nanlwe Stream in Mongyaung Twp. [Shan] was inaugurated Dec. 15. The 253-foot bridge is 33 feet wide and cost K13 million, of which k4.7 was donated by "leaders of the national races of the region." Construction was carried out by the Monglin District construction engineer group of China, beginning Jan. 2, 1992. Present were Myanmar and Chinese officials. The Chinshwehaw (Nampha) Bridge on the China-Myanmar border was inaugurated by Myanmar and Chinese officials on Dec. 14. (WPD 12/18)

Jan. 1: The Special Projects Implementation Committee held its first 1993 meeting under the chairmanship of SLORC Chairman General Than Shwe. "Special projects" include gold production work, hydro-electric power supply work, and irrigation work. All military units are to consider such projects in their areas as "their own" and "to render assistance." Reports were presented on the Special Metal (2) Gold Project site at Kyaukpahto Region "for increasing the rate of recovering gold using CIP system," as well as at the Phayaungtaung Special Metal (2) Gold Mine; on the Zaungtu Hydel Power Project in Bago Twp. [Bago], and the Balu Chaung No. 3 Hydel Project in Loikaw Twp. [Kayah]; on the implementation of the Okkan Dam Project in Taikkyi Twp. [Yangon], Min Ye Chaung Dam Project in Pyu Twp. [Bago], Hsin Chaung Dam Project in Yesagyo Twp. [Magway], and Kazunma Dam Project in Seikpyu Twp. [Magway]; and on the Thanlyin Bridge Construction Project being implemented jointly with China. (WPD 1/2)

Chinese Opera Troupe

Jan. 2: The Shandong Province Beijing Opera troupe, which arrived in December, performed at the open air theatre near the palace wall in Mandalay. (WPD 1/3) // Jan. 6: The troupe returned to China. (WPD 1/7)

Jan. 5: The Myanmar Co-operative Trade Fair was opened by Minister for Co-operatives Maj-Gen. Mya Thinn, with over 1000 products on sale. It will last until Jan. 16. (WPD 1/6) // Jan. 6: Under sales contracts signed at the fair on its first day, Sanmas Trading Co. of Singapore will purchase US\$325,000 of agricultural products, and Eastbourne Chemical Industry Pte. Ltd. of Myanmar, and Huang Yui Co. of China will buy K208 million of agricultural products, timber, and sculptures. On the second day, contracts were signed worth US\$1.3 million. (WPD 1/7) // Jan 7: The Fair was inspected by SLORC Chairman General Than Shwe. (WPD 1/8) // Jan. 8: M/S Sinmyan Commodities Pte. Singapore purchased US\$598,200 of forest products, M/S Mauriello (Hong Kong) purchased US\$4,060 and M/S Vencoa, USA purchased US\$13,070 of handicrafts. (WPD 1/9) // Jan. 9: R Piyarelall Import & Export Co. of India purchased US\$3.18 million of crops. (WPD 1/10) // Jan. 10: Rui Li Huan Yu Group Companies Ltd. of Yunnan purchased US\$1.5 million of crops, and M/S Eastbourne Chemical Industry Pte Ltd. of Singapore purchased K106.7 million of forest products. (WPD 1/11) // Jan. 13: Irrawaddy Investment Ltd., Hong Kong, purchased US\$163,500, and Tohmokuya & Co. of Japan US\$28,500, of forest products. (WPD 1/14) // Jan. 14: M/S Aman Timber Pte Ltd of Singapore bought US\$150,000 of forest products, and China-Myanmar International Investment Trading Ltd. signed a memorandum of understanding for the purchase of US\$3.4 million of agricultural produce. (WPD 1/15) // Jan. 15: M/S Pine Products (USA) and M/S Phamtrade (M) Malaysia purchased US\$2.26 million of agricultural produce; M/S Eastbourne Chemical Industry Pte Ltd of Singapore purchased K7.5 million of forest products. (WPD 1/16) // Jan. 16: on the final day of the fair, Abdoolally Ebrahim & Co. of Hong Kong purchased US\$825,000 and Kothari Trading Co., of India US\$410,000 of agricultural products; China Trade Co. Ltd. US\$80,000 of fisheries products; Thai Southern Investment Co. Ltd. US\$209,000 of forest products; Ruili Humm Yu Group Companies of Yunnan, China, US\$12,175 of handicrafts. During the whole trade fair, sale contracts valued at US\$13,433,500 were signed. Handicrafts were sold also [details]. Over 100,000 persons visited the trade fair. (WPD 1/17)

Jan. 21: Chinese Ambassador Liang Feng called on Minister for Development of Border Areas and National Races Maj-Gen. Maung Thint, and delivered documents relating to the donation of 12 small generators at Shweli on Dec. 21, 1992. British Ambassador J D N Hartland-Swann called on Minister for Prime Minister's Office Brig-Gen. Lun Maung, accompanied by Mr. Gavin Hewitt, Head of Department of South East Asia Department of the Foreign and Commonwealth Office. (WPD 1/22)

22-24 Jan: KIO and SLORC hold peace talks in Mytkyina. Chinese-backed (initiated?)

Chinese Foreign Minister

Feb. 1: State Councillor and Minister for Foreign Affairs of China Mr. Qian Qichen, with a 10-member delegation, arrived. On arrival, the Minister issued the following statement [text]:

"It give me and my colleagues great pleasure to have this opportunity to visit Yangon at the invitation of the Government of the Union of Myanmar.

"China and Myanmar are friendly neighbours sharing a common border of over 2,100 kilometers. Our two peoples have maintained a profound, traditional Pawkphaw-like friendship. Back in the 1950s, our two countries jointly initiated the Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence. By early 1960s, we concluded a boundary treaty. In recent years, guided by the Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence, our mutually beneficial cooperation in trade and Economic field has developed steadily. I am looking forward to an exchange of views with leaders of Myanmar on our bilateral relations and other issues of common concern during my current visa. I believe my visit will help increase our

mutual understanding, strengthen the traditional friendship between our two peoples and push forward our friendly and good-neighbourly relations.

"May the Union of Myanmar enjoy prosperity and its people well-being." [Note: "pawkpaw," or cousin, has traditionally been used to describe the special relationship between China and Burma.--HCMacD.]

Later, the Minister called on SLORC Secretary-1 Maj-Gen. Khin Nyunt. (WPD 2/2)

Feb. 2: The Minister called on SLORC Chairman General Than Shwe. He also toured the Shwedagon Pagoda and the Yangon-Thanlyin Bridge Construction Project. (WPD 2/3)

Feb. 3: On Feb. 2 the Minister held discussions with Minister for Foreign Affairs U Ohn Gyaw at Thandwe [Sandoway] in Rakhine State. He returned Feb. 3 to Yangon and left for home. (WPD 2/4)

Feb. 3: A four-member Chinese archaeological delegation led by Mr. Mao Zhixiong, Deputy Director-General of the Cultural Department of Yunnan Province, China, arrived on a two-week visit to see cultural sites including the excavation of Bayintnaung Nandawya. (WPD 2/4) // Feb. 15: The delegation visited Bagan on Feb. 8, and on Feb. 11 went to Mandalay, Sagaing, and Pyin-Oo-Lwin. A dinner was given them in Mandalay on Feb. 14. The delegation returned to Yangon Feb. 15. (WPD 2/16) // Feb. 16: The delegation called on Minister for Culture Lt-Gen. Aung Ye Kyaw. (WPD 2/17) // Feb. 17: The delegation left. (WPD 2/18)

Feb. 4: Myanmar has appointed U Set as new Myanmar Ambassador to China. (WPD 2/ 4) // Feb. 19: Ambassador U Set left for China. (WPD 2/20)

Feb. 6: A delegation led by Deputy Minister for Planning & Finance Brig-Gen. Win Tin left for Kunming, China, to attend a Feb. 10-12 Seminar on Economic Development and Opening Up China's Southwest Region. // Feb. 15: He returned. He was accompanied by Director-General U Thein Tun of the Energy Planning Department and Assistant Director U Han Tun of the Trade Department. (WPD 2/16)

US Congressman

Feb. 9: United States Congressman Bill Archer, Ranking Minority Member of the House Ways and Means Committee, arrived at the invitation of the Myanmar Foreign Ministry, and was welcomed by Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs U Nyunt Swe. He is accompanied by his wife, Mrs. Sharon Archer, by Congresswoman Nancy L. Johnson and her husband Dr. Theodore Johnson, and by President Richard G. Quick and Executive Director Marsha P. Lefkovits of the Far East Studies Institute. (WPD 2/ 10)

****? Feb. 10: The delegation called on Minister for Trade Maj-Gen. Tun Kyi. (WPD 2/11)

Feb. 14: The delegation called on Minister for Planning & Finance Brig-Gen. Abel, and on Minister for Livestock Breeding & Fisheries Brig-Gen. Maung Maung. (WPD 2/15)

Feb. 15: The delegation called on SLORC Secretary-1 Maj-Gen. Khin Nyunt. In the afternoon, the delegation left. The delegation had called on Minister for Trade Maj-Gen. Tun Kyi on Feb. 10, and was given a dinner by Minister for Foreign Affairs U Ohn Gyaw. On Feb. 11 it visited Mandalay, where Mandalay LORC Chairman Brig-Gen. Kyaw Thun hosted a dinner, and toured Bagan. On Feb. 13 it visited Innlay Region, where Shan LORC Chairman Maj-Gen. Maung Aye hosted a dinner. (WPD 2/16)

Chinese Civil Affairs Minister

Feb. 26: A 5-member Chinese good-will delegation headed by Minister of Civil Affairs Mr. Cui Naifu arrived, at the invitation of Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Brig-Gen. Thaung Myint. (WPD 2/27)

Feb. 27: The Minister and his delegation met with Minister for Mines Maj-Gen. Kyaw Min, and with Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Brig-Gen. Thaung Myint. (WPD 2/28)

Myanmar-China Boundary

Feb. 28: A Chinese delegation led by Ambassador Xu Wenyi of the Foreign Ministry and party arrived to attend the second session of the Joint Boundary Inspection Committee, to be held in Yangon. They will meet with the Myanmar delegation led by Acting Director-General U Tin Myint of the Survey Department. (WPD 3/1) // Mar. 5: The delegation left, after discussions and The joint signing of agreed minutes of the meetings. (WPD 3/6)

Mar. 3: U Set presented credentials Mar. 2 in Beijing to President Yang Shangkun as new Myanmar Ambassador to China. (WPD 3/4)

6-8 April: KIO and SLORC agree a cease-fire

Apr. 14: An archaeological delegation led by Director-General U Thawda Sein of the Archaeology Department left for Yunnan, China, for two weeks to study archaeological activities there. Other members are Departmental Research Officers U Kyaw Oo Lwin, U Pauk Pauk, U Hla Gyi Maung, and Cultural Ministry Head of Division U Aung Kyi Myint. (WPD 4/15) // Apr. 28: The delegation returned. (NLM 4/29)

Apr. 6: Chinese Ambassador Liang Feng called on Minister for Construction U Khin Maung Yin to discuss the Yangon-Thanlyin bridge project. Singapore Charge d'Affaires Anthony Chng Chye Tong called on Minister for Trade Maj-Gen. Tun Kyi. Nepalese Ambassador Dr. Thakkan Mallik called on Yangon Mayor U Ko Lay. (WPD 4/7)

Apr. 27: A 50-member Myanmar team led by Vice-Adjutant-General Col. Than Tun left for China to play goodwill matches in Yunnan Province; it includes track and field, weightlifting, swimming, gymnastics, basketball, table-tennis, and badminton athletes. (NLM 4/28)

May 12: A five-member Myanmar cultural delegation led by Deputy Minister for Information U Soe Nyunt left for China at the invitation of the Chinese Ministry of Broadcasting, Motion Pictures and Television. Other members are Managing Director U Tin Pe of the Motion Picture Enterprise, Director U Phone Myint of Myanmar Television and Radio Department, Chairman Accordion U Ohn Kyaw of the Myanmar Naing-Ngan Music Asiayon, and film actor U Nyunt Win. (NLM 5/13) // May 21: The delegation returned. (NLM 5/22)

May 26: A five-member Chinese study group led by Prof. Zhao Guangwu, Deputy head of the Philosophy Department, Beijing University, arrived on an 8-day cultural visit. (NLM 5/27) // May 27: The delegation called on Minister for Education Col. Pe Thein. (NLM 5/28)

May 20: 640 power tillers from China will be distributed at the end of the month. The Yangon Division Township Co-operative Society has signed a contract for importing Chinese 960 power tillers through Eastbourne Myanmar Limited, of which 640 had arrived by May 20. (NLM 5/21)

China-Myanmar Bridge Opened

May 29: The Wanting-Kyukok Bridge on the China-Myanmar border was opened May 28 by Minister for Development of Border Areas and National Races Maj-Gen. Maung Thint, Minister for Prime Minister's Office Brig-Gen. Lun Maung, and the Vice-Governor of China's Yunnan Province. "The bridge was declared open followed by setting off fire crackers, flying national flags and singing national anthems of two countries accompanied by the music bands." Speakers noted that the Wanting-Kyukok road and bridge had once formed part of the pre-war "Burma Road." (NLM 5/30)

May 31: Assistant Lecturer Daw Khin Khin Aye of the Department of Medicine, Institute of Animal Husbandry and Veterinary Science, left for China May 29 to attend a two-month Training in Animal Husbandry and Veterinary (Class II). (NLM 6/1)

June 2: A delegation led by Minister for Rail Transportation U Win Sein left for China to study "construction of locomotives and coaches which Myanmar Railways will import." Other members are Adviser to the Ministry U Kyaw Myint, Managing Director U Aung Thein of Myanmar Railways, General Manager Thura U Thauung Lwin, Deputy General Manager U Myint Wai, and the Minister's PSO Daw Thanda Win. (NLM 6/3) // June 13: He called on Deputy Premier Zou Jiahua on June 4, and on Chinese Rail Minister Han Zhubin. Myanmar has purchased 6 locomotives, 6 upper class coaches, 17 ordinary class coaches, rails and communication equipment, which will arrive from China soon. (NLM 6/14)

June 3: An energy study delegation led by Deputy Minister for Energy U Tin Tun returned from China [departure was not noticed by BPS--HCMacD.]. Other members, all from Myanmar Electric Power Enterprise, were Chief Engineer U Bo Kyin, Assistant Chief Engineers U Sein Ti and U Tin Shein, and Executive Engineers U Aung Khin and U Ye Myint. (NLM 6/4)

June 3: The Chinese Sports and Physical Education Department donated sports equipment to the Myanmar Olympic Committee. (NLM 6/4)

Ship Agreement with Yunnan

June 4: A contract was signed between Inland Water Transport, represented by Managing Director U Khin Maung Thein, and Yunnan Machinery Import and Export Corporation, represented by General Manager Mr. Wu Wen Kuan, for the supply of 14 vessels (including double and triple-deckers, tug-boats, and cruise vessels) and 28 cargo vessels, financed with a Chinese US\$30 million five-year, interest-free, loan. (NLM 6/5)

June 4: Delegations led by U Tin Myint and U Mya Maung returned from meetings of Myanmar-China Boundary organizations in Kunming from May 27-June 3. (NLM 6/5)

June 8: Chinese Ambassador Liang Feng donated electrical equipment for the National Theatre. (NLM 6/9)

June 21: Minister for Rail Transportation U Win Sein returned from a visit to China and the Republic of Korea. (NLM 6/22)

June 27: Counsellor Mr. Qi Zhijia of the Chinese Embassy, on behalf of Ambassador Liang Feng, donated K200,000 for Myingyan fire victims. (NLM 6/29)

June 29: Deputy Sports Minister Mr. Liu Ji of China, and President of the Asian Traditional Rowing Federation, arrived to discuss Myanmar participation in the Federation; he will stay until July 1. (NLM 6/30)

June 30: Asian Traditional Rowing Federation President, Chinese Deputy Sports Minister Liu Ji, called on Myanmar Rowing Federation President U Sein Tun and visited facilities. (NLM 7/1)

Yunnan Trade Mission

June 30: Special Adviser Mr. Pu Chaozhu of the Yunnan Province Government, China, arrived with a delegation of 13, and called on Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs U Nyunt Swe. (NLM 7/1) // July 1: The delegation visited the Shwedagon Pagoda, and called on Minister for National Planning and Economic Development Brig-Gen. Abel, Minister for Rail Transportation U Win Sein, and Deputy Minister for Energy U Tin Tun. (NLM 7/2) // July 2: The delegation called on Minister for Trade Maj-Gen. Tun Kyi, and on Minister for Forestry Lt-Gen. Chit Swe. (NLM 7/3) // July 5: The delegation visited Mandalay on July 3-4. (NLM 7/6) // July 6: It visited Myitkyina and Lashio July 4-5, returning to Yangon July 6. (NLM 7/7) // July 7: It visited Dagon Myothit, and called on SLORC Secretary-1 Maj-Gen. Khin Nyunt, and on Minister for Foreign Affairs U Ohn Gyaw, Minister for Construction U Khin Maung Yin, and Minister for Transport Maj-Gen. Thein Win. (NLM 7/8) // July 8: The delegation visited the Thanlyin Bridge and the Dagon Department Store. (NLM 7/9) // July 9: Special Adviser Mr. Pu Chaozhu and his delegation left, after hosting a farewell luncheon. A series of business contracts were signed by Myanmar officials with delegation members, as follows:

 ÄÄ A memorandum of understanding on Bhamo timber extraction was signed between Forest Department Acting Director-General U Thein Lwin and Yunnan Forestry Bureau Director-General Mr. Li Gui.

 ÄÄ A memorandum of understanding on the lease of land for Yangon Hotel construction was signed between Myanma Railways Managing Director U Aung Thein and China Real Estate Development Co. Managing Director Mr. Lin Pinxiao.

 ÄÄ A contract for the purchase of 30,000 metric tons of rails, and a draft contract for the purchase of locomotives, coaches and spare parts was signed between Myanma Railways Managing Director U Aung Thein and Yunnan Machinery & Equipment I/E Corporation (YMEC) General Managers Mr. Lin Zaiyou and Mr. Wu Wenkuan.

 ÄÄ A contract for the purchase of \$2 million of motor vehicles and equipment was signed between Road Transport Managing Director U Ohn Myint and YMEC General Manager Mr. Wu Wenkuan.

 ÄÄ A contract on Chin Shwe Haw and Kunlon Power Projects was signed between Myanma Electric Power Enterprise (MEPE) Managing Director U Thauang Sein and YMEC General Manager Mr. Lin Zaiyou.

 ÄÄ A letter of intent concerning Zawgyi Hydro-electric Power Project was given by MEPE Managing Director U Thauang Sein to YMEC General Manager Mr. Lin Zaiyou. (NLM 7/10)

Industry

July 7: Speaking at Meeting No. 2/93 of the National Industrial Promotion Committee, Minister for Prime Minister's Office Brig-Gen. Lun Maung said the Committee is "to smooth out procedures for entrepreneurs in coordination with Industry-1 and Industry-2 Ministries to supply machinery and equipment requested by the private enterprises; and to find ready markets for the products of the industry." He said that arrangements were being made to send technicians to Yunnan Province, China, "on study tours to widen their scope of outlook." Committee members are "to discuss meeting the raw material needs of the industrial enterprises, providing assistance for businesses expansion and enhancing the quality of products." Also speaking were Minister for Industry-2 U Than Shwe, Minister for Co-operatives U Than Aung, and Deputy Minister for Mines U Myint Thein. (NLM 7/ 8)

Chinese Mayor

July 26: Mayor Jin Guan Liang of Shweli, Yunnan Province, China, and his party, called on Minister for Trade Maj-Gen. Tun Kyi. (NLM 7/27)

Chinese Special Envoy

July 28: A Chinese delegation led by Special Envoy Mr. Bu He, Vice-Chairman of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress, arrived at the invitation of the Myanmar Government. The 16-member delegation includes Deputy Secretary-General of the State Council Mr. Li Shizhong, Deputy Minister for Railways Mr. Sun Yongfu, and officials from the Ministries of Foreign Trade and Economic Cooperation, Foreign Affairs, Finance, and Railways, and from the National People's Congress, the State Council, and the National Complete Plant Corporation. On arrival, the Special Envoy made a statement [full text published in NLM] in which he said that "The Chinese Government and people extremely treasure the traditional friendship between the two countries," and said the main objective of his visit was to attend the completion ceremony of the Yangon-Thanlyin Bridge. He said China hoped to further develop friendly relations "in accordance with the principles of 'equality and mutual benefit, emphasis on actual results, diverse forms and common development.'"

Special Envoy Mr. Bu He then called on Deputy Prime Minister Vice-Adm. Maung Maung Khin, who was accompanied by Deputy Prime Minister Lt-Gen. Tin Tun, Minister for National Planning and Economic Development Brig-Gen. Abel, Minister for Rail Transportation U Win Sein, Minister for Construction U Khin Maung Yin, Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs U Nyunt Swe, and others. Deputy Prime Minister Vice-Adm. Maung Maung Khin hosted a dinner, at which speeches were exchanged.

The principal points from the Special Envoy's speech [text of summary from NLM; full text not published in NLM] were:

- China and Myanmar are two friendly neighbours that exist with their forests, mountains, water and land contiguous. Since ancient times the peoples of the two countries have maintained friendly interchanges and traditional baobo friendship [presumably the Chinese equivalent of the Burmese term paukphaw--"cousin"--traditionally used to describe the Sino-Burmese special relationship. HCMacD.].

- What is to be specially pointed out is that the two countries had together led in proposing the Five Principles of Peaceful Co-existence and achieved full success in resolutions of the matter of boundary demarcation, and so had set an example of amicable and friendly co-existence with mutual confidence and reliance.

- Different changes centered on establishment of socialist market economic system have deepened continuously and made new gains. At the same time, the Government and the people of China are very much delighted to see the Government and the people of the Union of Myanmar achieving successes in their nation-building tasks.

- Neighbourly friendship, and perpetuation and development of bilateral relations between China and Myanmar is the consistent policy of the Chinese Government.

- We are confident that, through mutual efforts, friendship and cooperation between China and Myanmar would produce more fruitful results.

Principal points from the speech of Deputy Prime Minister Vice-Adm. Maung Maung Khin [text of NLM summary]:

- The river that is our friendship stems from the streams of shared tradition, geography and the sense of closeness and co-operation we have in social and cultural matters.

- I am sure the leaders of both countries will share the view that both countries have a close identity in regional and international forums, with a mutual reciprocity in the process of development, and with common values and concerns.

- The Myanmar people have always considered our Chinese friends as kith and kin with the genuine interest of consolidating the shared values. It is therefore my privilege to extend our hospitality to you on this happy and auspicious occasion.

(NLM 7/29)

July 29: The Special Envoy called on SLORC Chairman Senior General Than Shwe. He visited the Shwedagon Pagoda and the National Museum. (NLM 7/30)

July 30: The Special Envoy visited the National Theatre. (NLM 7/31)

50 Million Yuan Loan

July 30: An agreement on economic and technical cooperation was signed by Minister for National Planning and Economic Development Brig-Gen. Abel and Chinese State Council Deputy Secretary-General Mr. Li Shizhong, including "an economic aid of interest-free loan of 50 million renminbi yuans." Mr. Li said that plans have been mapped out for new projects, after the July 31 inauguration of the Yangon-Thanlyin Bridge. "The projects he cited are for the provision of parts for Mawlamyine Electric Power Plant construction and parts for the establishment of a satellite ground station and for the survey for a satellite television retransmission station." (NLM 7/31)

Yangon-Thanlyin Bridge Opened

July 31: The Yangon-Thanlyin [Syriam] bridge, built with Chinese aid, was opened one year ahead of schedule. Attending on the Chinese side was Chinese Special Envoy Mr. Bu He, Vice-Chairman of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress. On the Myanmar side were Deputy Prime Minister Vice-Adm. Maung Maung Khin, Deputy Prime Minister Lt-Gen. Tin Tun, SLORC Secretary-1 Maj-Gen. Khin Nyunt, and SLORC Secretary-2 Maj-Gen. Tin Oo, the Ministers, and numerous other officials. Speeches were made, and the rail and motor lanes opened. [photos]

The project was launched with China in 1980 [details of project agreements]. It spans the 1.8 km. Bago River from Tharketa to Thanlyin Townships in Yangon Division. It carries both railway trains and automobiles; with approaches, the railway bridge is 2939 metres and the highway 2151 metres, the length of the main bridge being 1822.4 metres. The superstructure is of riveted and welded trusses and girders, with 18 spans, set on 53 piers and abutments [numerous technical details]. At its peak in 1985, the project employed 1,565 persons. The first Chinese technicians arrived in October, 1985. (NLM 8/1)

Project Inaugurations

Aug. 1: A China-Myanmar bridge was inaugurated July 6 in Kaunghmuto village, Muse Twp. [Shan]. Representatives from Shweli in China were present. (NLM 8/2)

Chinese Special Envoy

Aug. 1: Chinese Special Envoy Mr. Bu He, Vice-Chairman of the People's Congress Standing Committee, and delegation visited Bagan-Nyaung-U and Mandalay on July 31-Aug. 1, before returning to Yangon. (NLM 8/2)

Aug. 2: The Chinese Special Envoy and his delegation departed. (NLM 8/3)

Myanmar-China Border Commission

Aug. 2: Twenty Myanmar members of the Joint Boundary Inspection Group left for Shweli, in China, to carry out field inspection work from July-October 1993 as part of the second Myanmar-China Joint Boundary Inspection (first phase). Fifteen members left for Kunming on July 28. (NLM 8/ 3)

Aug. 4: An 8-member Chinese delegation led by Division Chief Mr. Sun Bonian of the Department of Survey, Ministry of Defence, arrived in Yangon to attend the Second Meeting of Surveying and Mapping Experts for the Inspection. (NLM 8/5)

Aug. 4: A delegation led by Deputy Minister for Trade Col. Aung Thaung left for China to attend the Aug. 8-18 Kunming Trade Fair. Other members are Managing Director U Hla Tin of Myanma Department Stores, Managing Director U Aung Myint of Construction and Electrical Stores Trading, Managing Director U Aung Kyi of Vehicles, Machinery and Equipment Trading, and Trade Ministry Head of Office U Htay Aung. (NLM 8/5) // Aug. 11: Managing Director U Aung Kyi of Northern Shan State Venture Co. Ltd., accompanied by U Kyaw Thein, U Win Aung, and U Harvey, left for the Fair. \ The delegation led by Minister for Trade Maj-Gen. Tun Kyi returned. (NLM 8/12).

Aug. 4: An 18-member children's dance troupe led by Director U Ngwe Tun of the Fine Arts Department left for Kweiyang, Guangzhou Province, China, to attend the Aug. 8-14 International Children Get-Together. They were accompanied by Principal Daw Wai Mar Oo of the State School of Music and Drama (Yangon) as Secretary. (NLM 8/5) // Aug. 18: The delegation returned. (NLM 8/19)

Myanmar & Chinese Consulates-General

Sept. 1: Myanmar and China have agreed, through the exchange of Notes in Beijing on Aug. 19, to re-establish their respective Consulates-General. The Myanmar Consulate-General will reopen Sept. 1 in Kunming, Yunnan Province, and the Chinese Consulate-General will reopen shortly in Mandalay. (NLM 9/1)

Sept. 8: An education delegation led by Deputy Education Minister Col. Kyi Maung left for China to study educational activities for two weeks at the invitation of the Chinese Education Commission. Other members are Director-General U Maung Maung Than of the Higher Education Department, Acting Director-General U Bo Win of the Basic Education Department, Principal Dr. Hla Myint of Bago Degree College, and Principal Dr. Maung Htoo of Monywa Degree College. (NLM 9/9) // Sept. 24: The delegation returned. (NLM 9/25) // Sept. 25: The delegation visited Beijing Normal University, Beijing University, Provincial authorities in Jiangsu Province and Yangshou, South-East University in Nanjing, Jiangsu Agricultural College, Nanjing College of Traditional Chinese Medicine, the Sun Yat Sen University of Medical Sciences, Guangdong College of Nationalities, the Quanzhou School for the Deaf and Dumb and Vocational Secondary School of Electronics, among other institutions. (NLM 9/26)

Yunnan Cultural Delegation

Sept. 21: An 8-member delegation led by Deputy Director-General Li Zhengrong of the Yunnan Culture Department arrived via Lashio on a two-week study tour. It will visit Yangon, Bago, Bagan-Nyaung-U, Mandalay, Sagaing, and Pyin Oo Lwin before returning to China by road. (NLM 9/22) // Sept. 22: The delegation called on Minister for Culture Lt-Gen. Aung Ye Kyaw. (NLM 9/ 23) // Sept. 23: The delegation visited the Thanlyin Bridge and the National Theatre. (NLM 9/24) // Sept. 24: The delegation visited the National Museum, and were given a dinner by Deputy Minister for Culture U Soe Nyunt. (NLM 9/25) // Sept. 25: The delegation visited Bago. (NLM 9/26) // Sept. 26: The delegation left for Bagan-Nyaung-U, Mandalay, Sagaing, and Pyin-Oo-Lwin; it will return home by land. (NLM 9/27)

Sept. 21: International Airport at Mandalay Midway Between East and West, by Sein Shwe Hlaing. [There has been news in the past few weeks of another major SLORC project, "that of constructing an international airport in Mandalay...." Brig-Gen. Kyaw Than of Central Command visited the site and met with Mr. Luo Kaifu, Chairman of the CMC Beijing of China, "whose organization is going to collaborate with Myanmar in the building of the airport." The following are facts on the project. "The Mandalay International Airport (Tada-U), is located at longitude 96 East and latitude 21°40' North which is a place 12 miles south of Tada-U town, 8 miles west of Singaing town that is on Yangon-Mandalay highway, 2 miles north of Kyaukse-Nahtogyi motor road and about 2000 feet east of Tada-U-Umin village motor road, on a hard-surface ridge 33,000 feet in length and 2,500 feet in breadth." The elevation is 305 feet above sealevel. "Under arrangements made by the Commander of the Central Command 15,000 local people are now contributing voluntary labour in improving the existing Singaing-Sawye road into a motorable one. Travel time from the airport to Mandalay will be further shortened when a Bailey bridge has been built across the Panlaung river." Land survey and designing has been completed, and structural construction begun. "Myanmar is collaborating with China in implementation of this project. Collaborating agencies from China are the CMC (China National Machinery Import and Export Corporation) and the YMC (Yunnan Machinery Import and Export Corporation). The main runway will be constructed by Myanmar, the International Terminal buildings and all other facilities will be built by the Chinese. Management of the whole project will be by Commander of Central Command and financing by the Civil Aviation Department...." The project is due for completion in 18 months. The airport will have a runway of 14,000 feet, and all facilities will be to international standards. "About 70 international aircraft overfly the territory of Myanmar every day at present. Aircraft that flies across Myanmar air space has to pay a fee of a minimum 192 dollars. If 50 aircraft fly across Myanmar airspace a day fees obtained from them for a month would come to 288,000 dollars or three and a half million dollars a year or 70 million dollars in 20 years." The new airport will be able to take Boeing 747-400 aircraft and larger. It will "become an international airport for Upper Myanmar and have a longer runway than the Lower Myanmar international airport at Mingaladon which has a runway of 8,100 feet.... {It} will provide the shortest route for air transport between the Eastern world and the Western world" Tourists will surely come. {maps}]

Sept. 26: Minister for Rail Transportation U Win Sein inspected 6 2000-HP diesel engines manufactured by the Dalian Railway Engines Plant, and two upper-class and two ordinary-class coaches manufactured by the Sifang Coaches Factory, arriving in Yangon from China on the mv Magway. Also aboard were 150 trucks, 1,000 power tillers, 100 trailers, and 1,353 tons of other Chinese goods. (NLM 9/27)

Sept. 27: The Rail Minister inspected 30 "'Dong Feng' trucks imported from...China which were changed into truck cum buses" and 15 new 'Dong Feng' buses." (NLM 9/28)

Oct. 3: Rice Mill Managers U Nyunt Oo and U Ko Ko Win of Myanma Agricultural Produce Trading left for China Oct. 2 to attend a 2-month UNDP-sponsored course on Rice Process Technology Research and Development at Wuxi Light Industry College, Jiangsu. // Assistant Managers Daw Khin Aye Myint and Daw Aye Kyu Thein of Myanma Posts and Telecommunications left for Thailand Oct. 2 to attend the 18th Postal Statistics Course from Oct. 4-Nov. 26. // Township Medical Officer Dr. Zaw Htoo of the Ministry of Health left for Egypt Oct. 2 to attend a 10-month diploma course on Population and Development in Cairo sponsored by UNFPA. // Assistant Director U Htin Lin of the Customs Department left to attend the 18th course on Management, sponsored by the Customs Cooperation Council, from Oct. 4-Nov. 12 in Belgium and Japan. (NLM 10/4)

Oct. 6: Minister for Agriculture Lt-Gen. Myint Aung inspected the assembly of Dong Feng power tillers imported from China. The first consignment of 500 of 1000 tillers has arrived, and will be sent to townships on Oct. 9. The power tiller will be sold for K145,000. A total of 1,663 tillers "are imported by the Ministry of Agriculture." (NLM 10/7)

Oct. 7: Deputy Director Ms. Chen Rongxian of the Chinese International Exhibitions Agency, currently in Yangon to hold an exhibit of Chinese cultural handicrafts, accompanied by Agency Officer (Art) Mr. Jiang Rong, called on Minister for Culture Lt-Gen. Aung Ye Kyaw. The exhibit will run from Oct. 8-14 at the National Museum. (NLM 10/8) // Oct. 8: The Exhibit was opened by Minister for Culture Lt-Gen. Aung Ye Kyaw. (NLM 10/9) // Oct. 19: The Chinese officials were dined by Minister for Culture Lt-Gen. Aung Ye Kyaw. The exhibition will continue to Oct. 22 in Yangon and Mandalay. (NLM 10/20)

Chinese Fishing Trawlers

Oct. 10: A reception was held for Chinese trawlers arriving at the Thabyuchaung Cold Storage and Ice Factory, Thandwe, Rakhine State. Attending were Minister for Livestock Breeding & Fisheries Brig-Gen. Maung Maung, other officials, American Embassy Economic Counsellor Ms. Laura Kirkconnell, Chinese Embassy Economic Counsellor Mr. Chen Sie Jie, and Ms. Miriam Marshall Segal of Myanmar-American Fisheries Joint-Venture Company. (NLM 10/11)

Myanmar-China Boundary Committee

Oct. 13: A 7-member delegation headed by Ambassador Mr. Xu Wenyi of the Chinese Foreign Ministry arrived to attend the second meeting of the Chief Representatives of the Myanmar-China Joint Boundary Inspection Committee. (NLM 10/14) // He called on Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs U Nyunt Swe. (NLM 10/15) // Oct. 21: He departed, after signing Agreed Minutes of the meeting with the Myanmar Delegation headed by Capt. Tun Aung (Navy). (NLM 10/22)

Oct. 16: A second consignment of 500 power-tillers arrived from China in early October. Of the 470 sent to the Agricultural Mechanization Department, 100 have already been distributed. (NLM 10/17)

Delegations to China

Oct. 20: A delegation led by Managing Director U Myint Thein Lwin of Myanma Heavy Industries left for China to "discuss cooperation in production of electrical and industrial goods," at the invitation of China International Trust and Investment Corporation, CITIC Technology Inc. Other members are MHI Director (Finance) Daw Hta Hta Yi, Factory Manager of Factory No. 4 U Kyaw Win, Deputy Director (Admin) U Win Win, and Assistant Director (Production) Daw Aye Cho. (NLM 10/21)

Oct. 27: A delegation led by Deputy Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement U Win Naing left for China to coordinate social welfare activities. Other members are Director U Htein Win of Fire Services, Deputy Director U Maung Pi of the Department of Relief and Resettlement, Deputy Director U Myat Swe of the Social Welfare Department, and Staff Officer U Khin Maung Than. (NLM 10/28)

Oct. 27: Artistes Palei Sein and Daw Myint Myint Shein of the Fine Arts Department left for the School of Fine Arts in Yunnan Province, China, to give Myanmar dance lessons. (NLM 10/28)

Delegations Visit China

Nov. 3: A 25-member performing arts troupe led by Deputy Director-General Col. Ba Hsan of the Ministry of Culture left for China; they will perform in Beijing and three other cities for two weeks. (NLM 11/ 4) // Nov. 17: The troupe returned, after performing in Beijing and Santong. Also returning were U Pale Sein and Daw Myint Myint Shein of the Fine Arts Department, who taught Myanma Dancing at the Yunnan Fine Arts School. (NLM 11/18)

Nov. 12: The delegation led by Sayadaw Agga Maha Pandita Bhaddanta Supanindabhivamsa, Vice-Chairman of the State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee, returned from China "after promoting Myanmar-Chinese Buddhist relations." Other members are Sayadaw Aga Maha Pandita Bhaddanta Arcindabhivamsa, Director U Ay Ko of the Department for Promotion and Propagation of Sangha, and Additional Director U Aung Than of the Religious Affairs Department. (NLM 11/13)

Nov. 17: A journalist delegation led by Editor U Thaung Pe of Myawaddy Press left for an exchange visit to China. Other members are Deputy Chief Editor (Rtd) U Myat Thu (Tekkatho Myat Thu) of The Kyemon Daily, Lecturer Dr. Daw Tin Win (Dr. Ma Tin Win) of the Institute of Education, Writer-cum-director Maung Wunna, Vice-Chairman composer Hinthada Myint Ngwe of Myanmar Naing-Ngan Music Asiayon, and Editor Daw Mya Mya Than (Ma Hnin Phway) of Sarpay Beikman, Printing and Publishing Enterprise. (NLM 11/18)

Nov. 17: A cultural troupe led by Deputy Director U Kyaw Win of the Cultural Institute Department left for Beijing to stage a Myanmar Folk Culture Show beginning Nov. 20. He was accompanied by Staff Officer U Saw Hta Lon of the Kayin State Library and Museum. (NLM 11/18,19)

Nov. 17: Yunnan Provincial official Mr. Zhang Peng Jian, accompanied by Director Yuan Fan Gany of Zhong Long International Trading Co. (Myanmar) called on Mandalay Mayor U Tun Kyi on Nov. 8. (NLM 11/18)

Nov. 17: A Memorandum of Understanding was signed between the Central Cooperative Society, represented by Chairman U Myo Myint, and Jinan Vacuum Flask Factory of the Huam Yu group of China, represented by Mr. Wang Hia Dang, to set up a vacuum flask factory on an equal share basis. (NLM 11/18)

Nov. 19: 63 members of the Joint Boundary Inspection Groups left for Shweli (Reli) and Chin Shwe Haw, China, by train, to carry out field inspection work of the second Myanmar-China Joint Boundary Inspection (section phase) at the northern and southern sector. It will be carried out from Nov. 1993 to Jan. 1994. The first batch of 25 left for Mangxin and Talo, China, on Nov. 18. (NLM 11/20)

Nov. 23: In the China-Myanmar goodwill women's 5-km. walking race the first three places were taken by Wang Jinli, Ma Khin Lwan, and Ma Win Win. In the Men's 10-km. walking race winners were Gao Yunbin, Tun Tin, and Long Guixiang. In Women's volleyball, Yunnan beat Myanmar 3-1. (NLM 11/24)

Nov. 26: Chinese Economic Counsellor Mr. Chen Shijie called on Minister for National Planning and Economic Development Brig-Gen. Abel at the Foreign Investment Commission Office. Korean Ambassador Jung Hwan Kim called on Minister for Prime Minister's Office Brig-Gen. Lun Maung. Japanese Ambassador Takashi Tajima called on Minister for Agriculture Lt-Gen. Myint Aung. (NLM 11/26)

Drug Cooperation Committees

Nov. 29: The Myanmar/China/UNDCP Joint Executing Committee, and the Myanmar/ Thailand/UNDCP Joint Executing Committee, held their third meetings separately at the Medical Research Department. Present were a six-member Thai Delegation led by Secretary-General Police General Chavalit Yodmani of the Office of Narcotics Control Board (NCB), a four-member Chinese Delegation led by Mr. Liu Deren of the National Narcotics Control Commission (NNCC), a six-member UN Delegation led by Director Mr. William F. Beachner of the UNDCP Regional Center, Bangkok, UNDCP Yangon Field Office Adviser Mr. Jorn Kristensen, observer Mr. Kou Chansina of the Lao Embassy, and Yangon officials led by Secretary Police Maj-Gen. San Thein of the Central Committee for Drug Abuse Control and Director-General of the People's Police Force. (NLM 11/30)

Dec. 1: A five-member Chinese writers delegation arrived, headed by famous novelist Mr. Jiang Zilong, member of the Panel of Patrons of the Writers Union and Chairman of the Tianjin Writers Union. He is accompanied by Mr. Wang Hongpu, Mr. Wang Yun, and Ms. Wang Fu, with Ms. Wang Xiaolan as interpreter. The delegation called on Minister for Information Brig-Gen. Myo Thant, and a dinner was hosted by Managing Director U Aung Naing of the Printing and Publishing Enterprise. (NLM 12/2) // Dec. 2: The delegation visited sites in Yangon. (NLM 12/3) // Dec. 12: Between Dec. 3-10 the writers visited Bagan-Nyaung-U, Mandalay, Taunggyi, and Innlay Lake. On their return the writers were given a lunch by Deputy Minister for Information U Thein Sein. (NLM 12/13) // Dec. 13: The writers

visited Bago, and returned to Yangon for a dinner given by Minister for Information Brig-Gen. Myo Thant. (NLM 12/14) // Dec. 14: They attended the presentation of the 1992 National Literary and Sarpay Beikman Manuscript awards at the National Theatre. (NLM 12/15) // Dec. 15: The writers departed. (NLM 12/16)

Dec. 1: A three-member Chinese Buddhist delegation arrived, led by Mr. Dao Shuren Vice-Chairman of the All China Buddhist Association and Chairman of the Buddhist Association of Yunnan Province. The delegation spend 10 days visiting pagodas in Yangon, Bagan-Nyaung-U, Mandalay, and Bago. (NLM 12/2) // Dec. 3: The delegation visited pagodas in Yangon and Bagan-Nyaung-U. (NLM 12/4) // Dec. 5: The delegation visited Mandalay and Sagaing. (NLM 12/6) // Dec. 8: The delegation visited Phaungdaw-U Pagoda in Shan State. (NLM 12/9) // Dec. 9: The delegation paid respects to Sayadaws in Yangon. (NLM 12/10) // Dec. 10: The delegation, which also includes Sayadaw Wubingyawensa of the Chinese Buddhist Association and Vice-Chairman Sayadaw Du Longshuang of the Yunnan Province Buddhist Association, called on Minister for Religious Affairs Lt-Gen. Myo Nyunt. (NLM 12/11) // Dec. 11: The delegation left. (NLM 12/12)

Dec. 1: A 26 member Zinyang Acrobatic Troupe, led by Mr. Gao Ton Yu, arrived from China to give performances in Yangon and Mandalay for two weeks under the China-Myanmar cultural exchange program. (NLM 12/2) // Dec. 3: A special show was given at the National Theatre, attended by high officials. (NLM 12/5) // Dec. 14: The troupe was given a dinner by Minister for Culture Lt-Gen. Aung Ye Kyaw. (NLM 12/ 15). // Dec. 15: The troupe performed in Mandalay on Dec. 12, and after returning to Yangon, departed for home on Dec. 15. (NLM 12/16)

Dec. 2: Director William F. Beacher of the United Nations International Drug Control Programme (UNDCP), UNDCP Research Officer Mr. Gale Day, Mr. Liu Deren of the Chinese National Narcotic Control Committee, and Secretary-General Police Gen. Chavalit Yodmani of the Thai Narcotic Drug Control Committee, attending the third coordination meeting on regional cooperation in narcotic drug abuse control work, called on Chairman of the Myanmar Central Committee for Drug Abuse Control Minister for Home Affairs Lt-Gen. Mya Thin. (NLM 12/3) // Dec. 3: The Thai, Chinese, and UNDCP delegations left. (NLM 12/4)

Dec. 3: Chairman Mr. Lin Zai You of Yunnan Machinery & Equipment Export/Import Corporation signed a contract with Managing Director U Aung Thein of Myanmar Railways for the purchase of six 2000-HP and 4 1200-HP locomotives, ordinary class coaches, and heavy machinery. (NLM 12/4)

Dec. 3: Managing Director Mr. Qi Wen of Sifang Locomotive and Coach Factory attended delivery to Myanmar Railways of six 2000-HP locomotives, 2 upper class coaches, and 2 ordinary class coaches. They were then commissioned by Deputy Secretary-General Mr. Yang Chong Yong of the Yunnan Provincial Government and Managing Director U Aung Thein of Myanmar Railways. (NLM 12/4)

Dec. 7: Chairman Mr. Yang Guoxiang of Yunnan Machinery Import and Export Corporation signed an agreement with Managing Director U Aung Thein of Myanmar Railways for a fourth US\$5 million interest free loan for the purchase of coaches, freight wagons, and other railway equipment. (NLM 12/ 8)
Locomotives & Coaches Delivered

Dec. 9: The reconditioned Mongyulay-Kyukok (Pangsai) Motor Road, which runs 105 miles from Wanting in China to Kyukok, was inaugurated on Dec. 4, in the presence of North-East Commander Maj-Gen. Aye Kyaw, the Mayor of Wanting and other Chinese officials, and 30,000 people from Muse and Kyukok Twps. [Shan]. (NLM 12/ 10)

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Jan. 2: Minister for Religious Affairs Lt-Gen. Myo Nyunt addressed a ceremony honoring the 15th Anniversary of the Chinese-Myanmar Buddhist Association (CMBA). Present was CMBA Chairperson Daw Khin Myint. (NLM 1/3)

Economic Delegation to Kunming

Jan. 26: A six-member delegation headed by Minister for National Planning and Economic Development Brig-Gen. Abel left for Kunming, Yunnan Province, China, "to discuss economic matters, possible cooperation, and

promotion of friendship." Other members are Managing Director U Myat Win of Myanmar Timber Enterprise, Director (Production) U Aye Mauk of the Industrial Planning Department, Chief Engineer U Aung Kyaw of Public Works, General Manager (Inspection) Thura U Thaung Lwin of Myanmar Railways, Director U Myint Lwin (a) U Wan Kwe Tar of the Shan State (North) Joint Venture Co. Ltd., and the Ministers PSO U Tin Maung Htay. (NLM 1/27)

Jan. 27: Managing Director Mr. Yuan Fa Gang of the Chinese Dragon Company in Te Hon Tai Sub-province, Yunnan Province, called on Yangon Mayor U Tun Kyi. (NLM 1/ 28)

Feb. 2: A delegation led by Minister for National Planning and Economic Development Brig-Gen. Abel returned from Kunming, China, where it held discussions with the Governor of Yunnan Province. Other members included Managing Director U Myat Win of Myanmar Timber Enterprise, Director (Production) U Aye Mauk of the Industrial Planning Department, Chief Engineer (Works) U Aung Kyaw of Public Works, General Manager (Inspection) Thura U Thaung Lwin of Myanmar Railways, Member of Board of Directors U Myint Lwin (a) U Wan Kwe Tar of the Shan State (North) Joint Venture Co. Ltd., and the Minister's PSO U Tin Maung Htay. (NLM 2/3)

Feb. 19: The De Gon (Myanmar) International Company Ltd. of Dehong Prefecture, Yunnan Province, China, was opened on Kaba Aye Road, Yangon, in the presence of Vice Governor Mr. Huang Yi of Dehong Prefecture. The company will "make full investments and import and sell farm machinery, transport machinery and machinery for general use. It will also go into joint ventures with government organizations, cooperative societies and private entrepreneurs in mining exploration and other economic undertakings." (NLM 2/21)

Feb. 21: Yangon Mayor U Ko Lay inspected modern fire engines, Jiefang tippers from China, and Hyundai RB 520 passenger buses from Korea. The buses will be sold for K1.2 million each; for information dial 86592, 98454, or 84910. (NLM 2/22)

China Boundary Inspection

Feb. 23: An 8-member Chinese delegation led by Division Chief Mr. Zhao Manjian of the Department of Survey, Ministry of Defence, arrived to attend the Fourth Meeting of the Surveying and Mapping Experts for the Second Joint Inspection of the Myanmar-China Boundary. (NLM 2/24)

Feb. 28: The Sacred Tooth of Buddha, now in China, will be brought to Myanmar in March. (NLM 3/1) // Mar. 5: "The tooth will arrive here next month under the friendship and cooperation programme between" China and Myanmar. (NLM 3/6) Mar. 8: At a coordination meeting on the visit of the Sacred Tooth, SLORC Secretary-1 Lt-Gen. Khin Nyunt "said it is an auspicious opportunity to pay obeisance to the Tooth Relic from the PRC and it is the second time to convey it here. He said the occasion will coincide with the presentation of religious titles." There were reports on paying respects to the Tooth Relic at the airport and conveying it to the reliquary; on elephants to be used; on caparisons for the elephants; on construction and decoration of the reliquary; on messing; on invitations and accommodations; on public donations; on transportation; on information; on health; and on security. (NLM 3/9)

Mar. 14: Chairman Shen Jue Ren of China Resources (Holding) Co. Ltd. and a study delegation called on Minister for Trade Lt-Gen. Tun Kyi. (NLM 3/15)

China Light Industry Fair '94

Mar. 17: It was announced that the China Light Industry and Machinery Fair '94 Yangon will be held at the Tatmadaw Hall on U Wisara Road from May 7-13, jointly sponsored by the Ministry of Trade, Myanmar, Aviation Industries of China (AVIC), and Pioneer Myanmar Holdings Ltd. and organized by the China Committee for the Promotion of International Trade (CCPIT) Sub-Council of Aviation Industry, Qingdao Zhongfu Economic Development Co. Ltd., the Civil Product Information Centre of China Aerospace Corporation, and Kimway International Trading Ltd. 500 items will be shown, including motorcycles, light automobiles, diesel engines, refrigerating machines, medical apparatus, rubber machinery, chemical products, metal tools, family appliances, sports products, and handicrafts. (NLM 3/ 18)

Mar. 19: Myanmar Shipyards in Sinmalaik are building nine 800-ton vessels with a US\$30 million loan from Yunnan Province Import and Export Corporation of China. (NLM 3/20)

Mar. 23: A 7-member delegation led by Capt. Tun Aung (Navy), Director-General of the Survey Department, Ministry of Forestry, left for Beijing to attend the third meeting of the Myanmar-China Joint Boundary Inspection Committee. Other members are Lt-Col. Htwe Maung, Office of the Commander-in-Chief (Army), Directors U Mya Maung and U Aung Than of the Survey Department, and Adviser U Maung Maung, Deputy Director U Ba Cho, and Head of Branch U Khin Maung Win of the Foreign Ministry. (NLM 3/24)

Mar. 29: A six-member delegation of Chinese engineers led by Mr. Cai Zhizou, in Yangon to study the National Theatre, called on Minister for Culture Lt-Gen. Aung Ye Kyaw. (NLM 3/30)

Sacred Tooth

Apr. 1: A meeting was held to coordinate the "conveying of Buddha's Tooth Relic" from China, beginning Apr. 20. (NLM 4/2)

Apr. 13: The schedule for the tooth visit will be:

Apr. 20: arrival in Yangon from China and royal procession.

Apr. 21-May 4: residence at the Maha Pasana Cave at Kaba Aye in Yangon.

May 5: Yangon-Bago-Nyaunglebin.

May 6: Nyaunglebin-Pyu-Toungoo.

May 7: Toungoo-Yedashe/Swa-Pyinmana.

May 8: Pyinmana-Yamethin-Meiktila.

May 9: Meiktila-Kyaukse-Mandalay.

May 10-18: residence in Mandalay.

May 19: Mandalay-Yangon.

May 19-June 4: residence in Yangon.

June 5: Return to China.

(NLM 4/13)

Apr. 18: Minister for Religious Affairs Lt-Gen. Myo Nyunt left for China to escort the Tooth. He was accompanied by Director-General of Protocol Thura U Aung Htet of the Foreign Ministry. An advance team led by Director-General U Arnt Maung of the Religious Affairs Department had left on Apr. 15. (NLM 4/19)

Apr. 19: The delegation arrived in Beijing on Apr. 18. (NLM 4/20)

Apr. 20: The Sacred Tooth arrived and was given a "majestic welcome" by top government and Buddhist leaders, led by Chairman of the Leading Committee for Conveying the Tooth Relic SLORC Secretary-1 Lt-Gen. Khin Nyunt." It was transported before large crowds on a float pulled by an elephant to its temporary resting place at the Maha Pasana Cave at Kaba Aye, where it was place adjacent to the "ancient Emerald Statue" [see under Cultural articles, below]. There SLORC Chairman Senior General Than Shwe paid homage. [2 pages of photos] \\ While in China, Minister for Religious Affairs Lt-Gen. Myo Nyunt called on State Councillor and Secretary of State of the Office of the Chinese State Council Mr. Luogan, and attended consecration of the Tooth Relic. He said "Permission of the PRC Government to convey the Tooth Relic to Myanmar signifies lasting friendship between the leaders of the two countries and that the two are very close neighbours." (NLM 4/21)

Apr. 21: SLORC Secretary-1 Lt-Gen. Khin Nyunt paid obeisance to Buddha's Tooth Relic. 14,063 persons have paid obeisance, and K1.45 million has been donated. Chinese Buddhist monks (Mahayana, Lama, and Theravada), led by Sayadaw Ming Yang, and laity led by Deputy Director Mr. Luo Sang Chinai of the Chinese Bureau for Religious Affairs, accompanied by Chinese Embassy Cultural Counsellor Mr. Lin Chaozhong, toured famous pagodas in Yangon. (NLM 4/22)

Apr. 22: The Chinese monks visited the Yangon-Thanlyin Bridge and the Thuwunna Indoor Stadium-1, built with Chinese aid. (NLM 4/23)

Apr. 23: The Kung Ingsi Buddhist Temple offered soon to the Chinese monks. The monks then left for Bagan-Nyaung-U. 22,800 paid obeisance and total donations exceed K3.6 million. (NLM 4/24)

Apr. 24: Total donations are nearly K5 million. (NLM 4/25)

Apr. 25: The Chinese monks visited pagodas in Bagan. Donations exceed K6.48 million. (NLM 4/26)

Apr. 26: The Chinese monks visited pagodas in Mandalay and Sagaing. Others paid homage to the Tooth Relic in Yangon. Donations exceed K8.1 million. (NLM 4/27)

Apr. 27: Deputy Minister for Religious Affairs Col. Aung Khin paid respects to the Chinese monks. Afterwards, the Chinese monks returned to China. (NLM 4/28)

Apr. 28: SLORC Secretary-1 Lt-Gen. Khin Nyunt and SLORC Secretary-2 Lt-Gen. Tin Oo paid obeisance to the Tooth Relic. Donations exceed K11.8 million. (NLM 4/29)

Apr. 29: Donations exceed K14.2 million, including a collection of 50-pya and 1-kyat coins, totalling K313.50, which were the 30-year savings of Daw Aung May Sein, aged 80. (NLM 4/30)

Apr. 21: Buddha's Sacred Tooth Relic and King Anawrahta, by Dr. Khin Maung Nyunt. [A duplicate of the Tooth Relic, the original of which is in Sri Lanka, was brought to Myanmar by King Anawrahta in 1071 AD and enshrined at the Shwezigon Pagoda in Bagan; additional Teeth "miraculously reproduced from the China tooth" were enshrined at the Lawkananda Pagoda and several others; that at the Lawkananda Pagoda, in its gold casket after the 1975 earthquake, and was displayed for two years before being re-enshrined in the renovated Pagoda. The Tooth sent to Myanmar was "a duplicate of the sacred Tooth, for as in the case of China, Sri Lanka was the country where the lower left eye-tooth of the Lord Buddha was divinely ordained to reside for the Buddha Sasana period of 5000 years." King Anawrahta had previously gone to China to ask to borrow the Tooth ordained to reside in China, but was instead given "an emerald (green jade) Buddha image 'which had come into contact with the Tooth.'"]

Apr. 11: A delegation led by Deputy Minister for Trade Col. Aung Thaung left of Hong Kong to attend the 75th Chinese Export Commodities Fair (Spring) to be held from Apr. 15-30 in Quanzhou, and the Chinese Machinery, Electronic Instrument Commodities Fair, 94, to be held Apr. 18-24 in Shenkiang. Other members are Managing Director U Thaung Sein of Myanmar Export and Import Services, Deputy Director Maj. Bo Bo of the Directorate of Trade, and Assistant General Manager U Nay Dun of Vehicles, Machinery and Equipment Trading. They will be joined in Hong Kong by Consul-General U Soe Win. (NLM 4/12) // Apr. 24: The delegation returned. (NLM 4/25)

Chinese Industry Fair

May 6: The Light Industry and Machinery Fair '94 of China will be held at Tatmadaw Hall on U Wisara Road from May 7-13, arranged by the Aviation Industry of China, represented by Mr. Wang Hengbin, and Pioneer Myanmar Holdings Ltd., represented by its Managing Director U Zaw Win. The Fair has been held successfully in Saudi Arabia, Brussels, Tokyo, Hanoi, Bangkok and Hong Kong. More than 500 items will be displayed, arranged by Kimway International Trading Ltd., Aviation Industry of China, and Qingdao Zhongfu Economy Development Co. Ltd., with sale in kyats. There are catalogues for machinery too heavy to display. Spare parts will be available after the Fair. Varied kinds of machines that will be offered are described. (NLM 5/7)

May 7: The Fair was opened by SLORC Secretary-2 Lt-Gen. Tin Oo. Minister for Trade Lt-Gen. Tun Kyi praised this first Chinese Fair in Myanmar. Assistant President Mr. Liu Guozhuo of Aviation Industries of China (AVIC) spoke, said the fair was an opportunity for "the China and Myanmar entrepreneurs and commercial banks to promote mutual understanding, to establish relations and to enhance friendship." 40 Chinese companies are displaying over 500 products. (NLM 5/8) // May 8: Mr. Liu Guozhuo called on Deputy Minister for Transport U San Wai. (NLM 5/10)

Yunnan Governor

May 16: A 7-member delegation led by Yunnan Governor Mr. He Zhiqiang arrived via Bangkok; it was accompanied by an 18-member Economic Cooperation Mission. They will remain until May 25 to discuss economic cooperation. Minister for National Planning and Economic Development Brig-Gen. Abel hosted a dinner for the Governor. (NLM 5/17)

May 17: The Governor was received by SLORC Chairman Senior General Than Shwe. He also called on Minister for National Planning and Economic Development Brig-Gen. Abel, to discuss cooperation "such as building of border roads, hydro-electric power, establishment of a furniture factory, railways and machinery stores, building of a caustic soda factory, construction of Hanthawady Airfield and other projects." Calls were also made on Deputy Minister for Trade U Aung Thaung, and on Minister for Rail Transportation U Win Sein. A Memorandum of Understanding for the purchase of 55,000 tons rails on credit was signed by General Manager (Admin) U Aye Mu of Myanmar Railways and Deputy General Manager Mr. Gao Chong Yun of the Yunnan Machinery Equipment Import and Export Corporation (YMEC). (NLM 5/18)

May 18: The Governor called on Minister for Forestry Lt-Gen. Chit Swe, on Minister for Culture Lt-Gen. Aung Ye Kyaw, on Minister for Foreign Affairs U Ohn Gyaw, and on Chairman Lt-Gen. Phone Myint of the Security and Management Committee. In the evening, Minister for Rail Transportation U Win Sein hosted a dinner for him. (NLM 5/19)

May 19: The Governor called on Minister for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs Lt-Gen. Maung Thint, and on Minister for Transport Lt-Gen. Thein Win, who hosted a dinner for him. (NLM 5/20)

May 22: On May 20, the Governor and his delegation visited Mandalay, including No. 1 Iron and Steel Mill, and the Yunnan Buddhist Temple on 80th Street; he was given lunch by Chairman U Zaw Gam of the Temple Trustees. On May 22, the Governor visited the Cooperative Market Festival at the Chanmyathazi Department Store in Mandalay. (NLM 5/23)

May 23: He returned from Mandalay on May 21. On May 23 he hosted a dinner for Minister for National Planning and Economic Development Brig-Gen. Abel at the Inya Lake Hotel. (NLM 5/24)

May 24: He visited the Sittaung Caustic Soda Plant Project; he was given lunch by Minister for Industry 1 Lt-Gen. Sein Aung and dinner by Minister for Energy U Khin Maung Thein. (NLM 5/25)

May 25: The delegation finalized an agreement on economic cooperation with various Ministries, and then returned to China. (NLM 5/26)

Construction Minister to China

May 18: A good-will delegation led by Minister for Construction U Khin Maung Yin left for China at the invitation of the Chinese Ministry of Rail Transportation. Other members are Deputy Director-General U Soe Lwin of the Department of Human Settlement and Housing Development, Technical Consultant of the Public Works U Thant Zin, Director (Architect) U Aung Kyee Myint of the Public Works, and the Minister's PSO U Tin Aye. (NLM 5/19) // May 29: He returned, via Singapore. (NLM 5/30)

Sacred Tooth

May 30: Donations in Yangon for Buddha's Tooth Relic exceed K 83.83 million. (NLM 6/1)

June 1: An 8-member Chinese delegation led by Vice Chairman Sayadaw U Pannyavamsa of the Chinese Buddhist Association and Mr. Yang Tongxiang (Deputy Minister level) of the Council of State Religious Bureaus, arrived to convey the Tooth Relic back to China. Donations exceed K 87.98 million. (NLM 6/2)

June 2: The Chinese delegation visited Bagan-Nyaung-U and Mandalay. Donations exceed K 93.54 million. (NLM 6/3)

June 3: The Chinese delegation returned from Upper Myanmar. Chinese monk Venerable Jing Chun donated K 10,000 to the Buddhist Hospital. (NLM 6/4)

June 4: Donations exceed K 104.4 million. (NLM 6/5)

June 5: Buddha's Sacred Tooth was returned to China by air, with great ceremony, headed by SLORC Chairman Senior General Than Shwe, after 45 days in Myanmar. Accompanying the Tooth Relic on the return trip was Minister for Religious Affairs Lt-Gen. Myo Nyunt, Director-General U Aye Lwin of the Consular, International Law, Treaties and Research Department, Foreign Ministry, Director-General U Sann Lwin of the Department for Promotion and Propagation of the Sasana, Maj. Hla Aung and Maj. Than Kyaing of the Ministry of Defence, the Minister's PSO Capt. Ba Hein. Staff Officer U Hla Aye of the Information and Public Relations Department, Ministry of Information, Senior Reporter U Win Myint of the News and Periodicals Enterprise, and U Tin Maung and U Kyaw Kyaw Min of the Myanmar Television and Radio Department. Two replicas will be housed in new Pagodas in Yangon and Mandalay. Total donations in Yangon were K 107.29 million plus 7,274 pieces of jewellery; in Mandalay they were K 54.9 million plus 6,509 pieces of jewellery. [Two pages of photos] (NLM 6/6)

June 7: [Four pages of photos of departing Tooth Relic.]

June 8: [Four pages of photos of departing Tooth Relic.]

June 10: The Myanmar delegation led by Minister for Religious Affairs Lt-Gen. Myo Nyunt, that escorted the Tooth Relic back to China, returned to Yangon. While in China the Minister called on Director Zhang Shengzuo (Minister level) of the Religious Bureau, and visited Buddhist and other sites. (NLM 6/11)

June 11: On June 7, the Minister visited the Great Wall, and called on Vice-Premier and Foreign Affairs Minister Qian Qichen. While in Beijing, He met on June 8 with Myanmar Embassy officials and staff. (NLM 6/12)

June 26: SLORC Chairman Senior General Than Shwe inspected the site in Yangon where a pagoda will be built to enshrine the replica of the Tooth Relic. (NLM 6/27)

June 10: A Myanmar Red Cross delegation led by President Dr. Tin Oo left for China to study Red Cross work in China. Other members are Executive Director U Myo Lwin, Deputy Director of Fire Services Department U Than Hlaing, Staff Officer U Maung Maung of the Bago Red Cross Bridge, and Administrative Officer Daw Khin Myo Myat Thein. (NLM 6/11) // June 22: The delegation returned. (NLM 6/23)

June 12: A five-member delegation of private entrepreneurs led by Manager U Aung Win of Industry No. 3, Myanmar Heavy Industries, left by rail for Kunming, Yunnan, to study industries there. (NLM 6/13)

Chinese Military Delegation

June 22: A 7-member Chinese army goodwill delegation led by Gen. Li Jiulong, Commander of the Chengdu Military Region, arrived, and was welcomed by Chief of the No. 1 Bureau of Special Operations Chief of Staff (Army) Lt-Gen. Tin Oo, who later hosted a dinner at the Tatmadaw Guest House. The delegation called on Deputy Commander-in-Chief of the Defence Services and Commander-in-Chief (Army) Gen. Maung Aye. (NLM 6/23)

June 23: The delegation was received by Prime Minister of the Union of Myanmar Minister for Defence Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior Gen. Than Shwe. Following visits to the Memorial to Fallen Heroes, The Defence Services Museum, and the National Defence College, a dinner was hosted by Commander-in-Chief (Air) Lt-Gen. Thein Win. (NLM 6/24)

June 24: The delegation toured Yangon, including the Shwedagon Pagoda, a Cooperative salesroom, the National Museum, and the Bogyoke Aung San Market. (NLM 6/25)

June 27: The delegation visited Bagan-Nyaung-U, Mandalay, Pyin-Oo-Lwin, Taunggyi, Bahtoo, and Kalaw from June 24-27. (NLM 6/28)

June 28: The delegation toured Yangon, visiting Naval vessels Yan Aye Aung and Yadanabon, going on a river cruise, and visiting the Yangon-Thanlyin Bridge and the National Indoor Stadium 1 [both Chinese-aided projects], and Dagon University. (NLM 6/29)

June 29: The delegation returned home. (NLM 6/30)

June 21: Myanma Railways signed an agreement with Messrs Yunnan Machinery and Equipment Import/Export Corporation (YMEC), represented by Chairman Lin Zaryu, to buy 55,000 tons of rails for use on the Pakokku-Gangaw-Kalay, Shwe Nyaung-Namsany, and Ye-Dawei railroads. Myanma Railways had already agreed to import a total of 106,530 tons of rails from China. (NLM 6/22)

Writers Visit China

June 22: A Myanmar writers delegation headed by General Manager U Saw Myint (Maung Saw Myint) of Printing and Publishing Enterprise left for China under the cultural exchange program. Other members are: Editor Daw Khin Shwe of Sarpay Beikman, Assistant Director Dr. Tin Tun Oo (Dr. Tin Tun Oo) of the Health Department, Editor U Than Lwin of Myawady Press, and Chief Editor U Kyi Nyunt (Chitkyiyay Kyi Nyunt) of Myanma Alin, as Secretary. (NLM 6/23)

June 30: A five-member delegation led by Prof. Zhang Aoluo of the Science and Technology Commission of Yunnan Province, China, met with Minister for Forestry Lt-Gen. Chit Swe. (NLM 7/1)

June 30: The industrial study group led by Factory Manager U Aung win of No. 3 Factory, Myanma Heavy Industries, returned from Yunnan. (NLM 7/1)

July 9: The 250-ton cargo barge No. Ta-2501 was launched by Dalla Shipyards, under the contract between Yunnan Machinery Import and Export Corporation of China and Inland Water Transport. SLORC Secretary-1 Lt-Gen. Khin Nyunt attended. (NLM 7/10)

July 12: The 100-ton cargo barge No. Ta-1001 was launched by Ahlon Shipyard, was commissioned by Industrial Import and Export Corporation of Yunnan. SLORC Secretary-1 Lt-Gen. Khin Nyunt attended. (NLM 7/13)

July 20: A delegation led by Minister for Livestock Breeding & Fisheries Brig-Gen. Maung Maung left for China, at the invitation of Chinese Minister of Agriculture Liu Jiang. With him were Director-General U Soe Win of the Planning and Statistics Department, Director-General U Kyaw Lwin of the Fisheries Department, Managing Director U Tin Maung Myint of the Livestock, Feedstuff and Dairy Products Enterprise, and Assistant Manager U Khin Maung Soe of Myanma Fisheries Enterprise. (NLM 7/21)

July 29: The Minister returned, after holding talks with his counterpart and a group led by Beijing Mayor Mr. Li Qiyang. An agreement was signed July 25 between the Beijing Fisheries Corporation and the Myanmar Ministry. En route home, the delegation studied fish and prawn processing and cold storage in Hong Kong. The Minister held a news conference July 28 at the Grand Hyatt Hotel, attended by various foreign news media, and briefed them on the political, economic, and social situation in Myanmar. In the evening, Mr. Phillip Tose of Perigrine Co. hosted a dinner for the Myanmar delegation. (NLM 7/30)

July 24: A Memorandum of Understanding on a second stage for construction of vessels was signed between Inland Water Transport, represented by Managing Director U Hla Min, and Yunnan Machinery Import and Export Corporation of China, represented by General Manager Yang Guo Xiang. (NLM 7/25)

Aug. 3: Three 800-ton cargo barges, intended for the Machinery Import-Export Corporation of Yunnan Province, China, were launched at Myanmar Shipyards and handed over to Corporation Deputy General Manager Mr. Yang Guo Xiang. 28 vessels have been ordered by the Yunnan firm from Myanmar Shipyards, including 9 cargo barges. (NLM 8/4)

Aug. 8: A delegation led by Deputy Minister for Industry-2 U Saw Tun left for Korea and China for three weeks to study for "joint production of motor vehicles and equipment in Myanmar," at the invitation of Doopung Industries Co. Ltd. of Korea and Citic Technology Inc. of China. He was accompanied by Director U Ye Tun of Technical Services, Deputy Director U Aung Min of No. 2 Industry, and Deputy Manager U Tin Aung Win of No. 1 Industry. (NLM 8/9)

Chinese Trade Delegation

Aug. 10: An 8-member Chinese trade delegation led by Deputy Minister of Foreign Trade and Economic Cooperation Madame Li Guohua arrived, and was hosted at dinner by Minister for Trade Lt-Gen. Tun Kyi. (NLM 8/10)

Aug. 11: The delegation called on Minister for Transport Lt-Gen. Thein Win, on Minister for Rail Transportation U Win Sein, on Minister for National Planning and Economic Development Brig-Gen. Abel, and on Minister for Forestry Lt-Gen. Chit Swe, and visited the National Theatre. A dinner was hosted by Minister for National Planning and Economic Development Brig-Gen. Abel. (NLM 8/12)

Aug. 12: The delegation called on Deputy Prime Minister Vice-Adm. Maung Maung Khin, and on Minister for Industry-2 U Than Shwe, and visited Daewoo Electronic Myanmar Co. (NLM 8/13)

Aug. 13: The delegation toured Yangon, including the Shwedagon Pagoda, Myanma Department Store, National Indoor Stadium 1, and Thanlyin Bridge. The Deputy Minister signed a memorandum of understanding on bilateral border trade with Deputy Minister for Trade U Aung Thaung, who hosted a lunch. A dinner was hosted by Deputy Minister for Transport U Sann Wai. (NLM 8/14)

Aug. 14: The delegation visited Mandalay and Sagaing. (NLM 8/15)

Aug. 15: The delegation departed. (NLM 8/16)

Chinese Consulate in Mandalay

Aug. 25: China opened a Consulate-General in Aungmyethazan Township, Mandalay, on Aug. 22. Chinese Ambassador Liang Feng noted that Myanmar had opened a Consulate-General in Kunming on Sept. 1, 1993. Consul-General Mr. Shen Xiangkun also spoke. (NLM 8/26)

Aug. 30: 50 new fire engines, purchased from Yunnan Machinery Import and Export Corporation, were delivered Aug. 22 at the Nan Yang Hotel in Shweli, Yunnan Province. The fire engines are now in Mandalay, and will be distributed to States and Divisions. (NLM 8/31)

Sept. 1: The Government has agreed to the appointment of Mrs. Chen Baoliu as new Chinese Ambassador to Myanmar. She was born in July 1938 in Zhejiang Province, and after her graduation served as staff member of the Department of Educational Affairs and Department of Asian Affairs in the Foreign Ministry. Subsequently she served as Attache, Third Secretary, Second Secretary, and First Secretary at the Chinese Embassy in Myanmar. She has also served as Chief of Division of the Department of Asian Affairs in the Foreign Ministry. She is presently Counsellor of Embassy in the Chinese Embassy in Manila. She is married with one son. (NLM 9/1)

Secretary-1 to China

Sept. 1: SLORC Secretary-1 Lt-Gen. Khin Nyunt will visit China in the near future at the invitation of Secretary General Luo Gan of the State Council of China. (NLM 9/2)

Sept. 7: SLORC Secretary-1 Lt-Gen. Khin Nyunt left for China, accompanied by Minister for Transport Lt-Gen. Thein Win, Minister for National Planning and Economic Development Brig-Gen. Abel, Minister for Foreign Affairs U Ohn Gyaw, Minister for Industry-2 U Than Shwe, Northern Commander Maj-Gen. Saw Lwin, Deputy Minister for Trade U Aung Thaung, Deputy Minister for Information U Thein Sein, Deputy Minister for Home Affairs Col. Tin Hlaing, Deputy Minister for Construction Col. Aung San, and other officials. (NLM 9/8)

Sept. 8: SLORC Secretary-1 Lt-Gen. Khin Nyunt arrived in Beijing, and was hosted at dinner by Mr. Luo Gan, Secretary of the Chinese State Council. In a Press Communique issued in Beijing, it was stated, inter alia, that:

"The SLORC Secretary-1 Lt-Gen. Khin Nyunt of the State Law and Order Restoration Council of the Union of Myanmar is leading a high-level delegation to further enhance and strengthen the existing friendly ties which have been traditionally nurtured and maintained over the years, and to exchange views and hold discussions between responsible personnel at various levels for the promotion of mutually beneficial economic cooperation between the two countries." (NLM 9/9)

Sept. 14: The delegation returned, and was met at the airport by SLORC Chairman Senior General Than Shwe. The delegation met on Sept. 8 with Secretary Luo Gan of the State Council and exchanged views. The Secretary-1 then called on Chinese Vice-President Rong Yiren. He then paid homage at the Buddhist Sacred Tooth Pagoda. Commander-in-Chief (Air) Lt-Gen. Thein Win called on his Chinese counterpart, Gen. Cao Shung Mang, while Minister for National Planning and Economic Development Brig-Gen. Abel called on Chinese Assistant Minister of Foreign Trade and Economic Cooperation Mr. Liu Xiangdong.. In the evening, a dinner was hosted by Chairman Xie Da Tong of the Poly Group Company. On Sept. 9, the delegation visited the Chinese Ethnic Culture Park, and then received a call from Director-General Maj-Gen. Fu Jia Ping of the Ministry of Defence Foreign Relation Department. In the afternoon, the Secretary-1 called on Prime Minister Li Peng. A dinner was hosted by Vice-Minister of Foreign Affairs Tian Zhengpei. Meanwhile, Minister for Transport Lt-Gen. Thein Win met with Vice-Minister Le Zhao of the General Administration of Civil Aviation to discuss inauguration of Myanmar Airways Yangon-Kunming route in November. There were further technical aviation discussions. Other Myanmar Ministers also held technical talks with Chinese counterparts. On Sept. 10, the Secretary-1 left by car to visit the Tianjin Development Zone, visiting en route the Tianjin-Xingang Shipyard. He returned to Beijing for a dinner hosted by the Myanmar Embassy. On Sept. 12, the Secretary-1 left Beijing for Kunming. [Special 4-page photo section] (NLM 9/15)

Sept. 15: Lengthy account of activities in Kunming and Jing Hong on Sept. 11-14. [2 pages of photos]. (NLM 9/16)

Sept. 21: Chairman Wu Wen Kuan of Yunnan Province Machinery Import and Export Corporation signed a Memorandum of Understanding with Managing Director U Percy Maung Maung of Myanma Shipyards for the upgrading of the Sinmalike Shipyard, using an interest free loan. On completion, the shipyard will be able to build 8,000-ton vessels and pontoons. (NLM 9/22)

Sept. 22: Mr. Yang Shu Wei and party, of the Bureau of Machine Building Industry, Yunnan Province, China, met with Minister for Energy U Khin Maung Thein to discuss hydro-electric projects. (NLM 9/23) // Sept. 29: He signed a Memorandum of Understanding for construction of the Paunglaung Hydel Power Station Project. A 131-metre high dam across the Paunglaung Creek will generate 911 million units of power per annum. He was also received by SLORC Secretary-1 Lt-Gen. Khin Nyunt. (NLM 9/30)

Sept. 29: Chairman Mr. Chen Tian Li of China Shipbuilding Trading Co. Ltd. (Kunming Branch) signed a Memorandum of Understanding with Myanma Five Star Line for the purchase of container ships with interest-free loans. (NLM 9/30)

Chinese Photo Exhibit

Sept. 26: A Chinese photographic exhibition in honor of the 45th Anniversary of the founding of the People's Republic, including 150 photos on economic, social, cultural and science and technological developments in China will be held at the Information and Public Relations Department Office from Sept. 29-Oct. 8. (NLM 9/27) // Sept. 29: The exhibition opened. (NLM 9/30)

Sept. 30: Miss Feng Mi of China was given a certificate by the University of Culture for attending a one-year course on Myanmar dancing. Miss Feng graduated from the PRC Dancing College in 1966, and is Director (Assistant Professor in Dancing) of the Oriental Singing and Dancing Troupe. She was awarded an international Latin Dance bronze medal in 1968 by the Royal Association of Dancing Tutors (Britain). (NLM 10/1)

Sept. 30: The Myanma Port Authority signed a Memorandum of Understanding with Chairman Mr. Chen Tian Li of China Shipbuilding Trading Co. Ltd. (Kunming Branch) for construction of a container wharf and development of container handling facilities in Yangon. (NLM 10/1)

Oct. 12: A 15-member Chinese delegation led by Kunming Vice-Mayor Mr. Zi Guorui arrived at the invitation of Minister for Industry-2 U Than Shwe. (NLM 10/13) // Oct. 19: He left. [See also under ECON: Joint Ventures] (NLM 10/20)

Oct. 12: A 5-member cultural delegation led by Principal U Maung Maung Khaing of the University of Culture left on a two-week study tour of China. Other members are Literature Lecturer Daw Khin Hla Htay, Music Assistant Lecturer U Kyi Thwin, and Art Assistant Lecturer U Kyaw Lay of the University of Culture, and Principal U Soe Tint of the State School of Fine Arts. (NLM 10/13) // Oct. 26: The delegation returned. (NLM 10/27)

Oct. 19: Minutes of Discussion for purchasing 1,000 Yunnan-made mini-tractors and electric appliances through setting up a joint venture enterprise were signed by Deputy Minister for Industry-2 U Saw Tun and Vice-Mayor of Kunming Mr. Zi Guorui. The joint venture enterprise "will produce mini tractors,

Yunnan Cultural Delegations

Oct. 20: A four-member libraries study delegation from Yunnan Province, led by Deputy Librarian Yang Bing Cheng of the Yunnan Province Library, arrived. He was accompanied by Staff Officer Liang Tingji of the Yunnan Province Culture Department, and Librarians Chen Zhijie and Li Shize. They will remain until Nov. 2, and visit libraries, ancient buildings, and museums on Yangon, Mandalay, and Taunggyi. (NLM 10/21) // Oct. 21: The delegation called on Minister for Culture Lt-Gen. Aung Ye Kyaw. (NLM 10/22) // Oct. 22: The delegation visited the Shwedagon Pagoda and downtown Yangon. (NLM 10/23) // Oct. 24: The delegation visited the Library of the Sarpay Beikman Board, the National Museum, and the National Library. (NLM 10/25) // Oct. 25: The delegation visited the Archaeology Department Library, the Central Bio-medical Library, the Library of Central Research, and the Library of Buddha University at Kaba Aye. They were hosted at dinner by Deputy Minister for Culture U Soe Nyunt. (NLM 10/26) // Oct. 30: The delegation visited Mandalay Oct. 28-29, including the Mandalay Library and Museum. (NLM 10/31)

Oct. 20: Lecturers from the Yunnan Province School of Dance and Drama Fang Lun Yu and Ms. Liu Kabo called on Minister for Culture Lt-Gen. Aung Ye Kyaw. They will visit the University of Culture in Yangon and the State School of Dance and Drama in Mandalay. (NLM 10/21) // Oct. 25: The delegation, and the library delegation [above] were hosted at dinner by Deputy Minister for Culture U Soe Nyunt. (NLM 10/26)

Chinese Photo Exhibit in Mandalay

Oct. 22: The China News Photo Exhibition marking the 45th Anniversary of the People's Republic of China opened in Mandalay; speeches were made by Mandalay LORC Chairman Maj-Gen. Kyaw Than and the Chinese Consul-General in Mandalay. (NLM 10/23) // Oct. 30: The exhibition concluded, after being seen by 13,802 persons. (NLM 10/31)

Oct. 25: A Chinese Mahayana Monk, Shih Hsin Tao (a) U Kusala, who was ordained as a Theravada Monk in Myanmar, returned home. (NLM 10/26)

Oct. 19: Minutes of Discussion for purchasing 1,000 Yunnan-made mini-tractors and electric appliances through setting up a joint venture enterprise were signed by Deputy Minister for Industry-2 U Saw Tun and Vice-Mayor of Kunming Mr. Zi Guorui. The joint venture enterprise "will produce mini tractors, electric motors, electric meters, power generators and transformers. (NLM 10/20)

Boat Deals with China

Nov. 4: A second batch of three 800-ton cargo barges built by Myanmar Shipyards (Sinmalaik) for the Machinery Import-Export Corporation of Yunnan Province (YMC) was handed over to Resident Representative Mr. Cheng Fang. (NLM 11/5) // Nov. 5: A second batch of three 100-ton cargo barges built at Ahlon Shipyard for the same buyer were launched. "After arrival of two powered-boats named Hsingalay 1 and Hsingalay 2 being built in China, the barges will ply along Chindwin River and between Mandalay and Bhamo on Ayeyarwady River." The first batch are now plying with rice and other projects in the delta. (NLM 11/6) // Nov. 26: A second contract was signed for the purchase by Myanmar of 30 vessels with US\$ 40 million interest-free loans from YMC. (NLM 11/27)

Nov. 5: A delegation led by Staff Officer U Soe Thein of Mandalay Library and Museum left for China via Lashio and Muse to study Yunnan province libraries from Nov. 9-23. Other members are Assistant Librarian U Myint Kyaing of

the National Library, Head of the Patheon Library and Museum U Han Sein, Research Officer Daw San San Maw of the Archaeology Department, and Assistant Librarian Daw Khin Mu of the University of Culture. (NLM 11/6)

Nov. 8: The 9-mile paved Mongyu-Muse motor road was inaugurated Nov. 7 in Shan State, in the presence of SLORC Secretary-1 Lt-Gen. Khin Nyunt, and of Chinese officials including Party General Secretary of De Hong Tai Mr. He Yuan Can, Party General Secretary of Shweli Mr. Li Chang Su, and Mayor of Ruili Mr. Chen Hong Liang. China and Myanmar split the 5.2 million yuan cost. Col. Chit Khaing, on behalf of the Northeast Commander, briefed the Secretary-1 on plans for the establishment of a Muse economic and trade zone, including "the blue plan of the site for department store, hotel, shops, recreation centre, office, parking lot, heavy industry, small scale industry, warehouses and brokerages and water supply programme." SLORC Secretary-1 Lt-Gen. Khin Nyunt "revealed plans to allot plots of land to entrepreneurs and merchants of Myanmar to invest," said work would soon begin on the Nampaw Creek hydro-electric power project to provide round-the-clock electricity to the border towns of Muse, Namhkam and Kyukok, and disclosed "the plan to allow visitors from the other country an over-night stay in Myanmar...." He said national entrepreneurs wishing to open hotels, motels, and inns in Muse can do so. (NLM 11/9)

Chinese Communications Minister

Nov. 10: Chinese Minister for Communications Mr. Huang Zhendong and party arrived on an invitation from Minister for Transport Lt-Gen. Thein Win. (NLM 11/11)

Nov. 11: He called on Minister for Transport Lt-Gen. Thein Win to discuss "extension and upgrading of ports, construction of container yards and Kyaukpyu Deep-water Port, construction of a bridge across the Ayeyarwady and building of sea-going, coastal and riverine vessels and upgrading of shipyards." He also called on Minister for Rail Transportation U Win Sein to discuss "abundance of existing traffic rules and laws on both sides as the number of vehicles plying China-Myanmar border increases." (NLM 11/12)

Nov. 12: He visited Mandalay. (NLM 11/13)

Nov. 14: He departed. (NLM 11/15)

Secretary-2 to China

Nov. 2: A goodwill delegation led by SLORC Secretary-2 Chief of Staff (Army) Lt-Gen. Tin Oo left for China and Singapore, SLORC member for Military Appointments Lt-Gen. Maung Hla and senior Tatmadaw officers. (NLM 11/3)

Nov. 17: The Secretary-2 returned. (NLM 11/18)

Nov. 9: 350 Xingxing pumps, from Eastbourne Chemical Industry of China, arrived on the mv Sagaing Nov. 6, and will be used for cultivation of summer paddy. (NLM 11/10)

Chinese Friendship Mission

Nov. 16: An 8-member delegation from the Chinese Association for International Understanding, led by Vice-President Mr. Wan Guoquan, who is Vice-Chairman of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference, arrived at the invitation of Minister for Foreign Affairs U Ohn Gyaw, who received the delegation in a meeting. (NLM 11/17)

// Nov. 18: Round table discussions were held with the Myanmar Institute of Strategic and International Studies, with greetings from Minister for Foreign Affairs U Ohn Gyaw. (NLM 11/19) // Nov. 22: The delegation was received by SLORC Secretary-1 Lt-Gen. Khin Nyunt, and met with Minister for National Planning and Economic Development Brig-Gen. Abel to discuss economic cooperation. (NLM 11/23) // Nov. 23: The delegation departed. (NLM 11/24)

Yunnan Delegation

Nov. 22: A 15-member delegation led by Chairman Liu Shusheng of the Yunnan People's Political Consultative Conference arrived at the invitation of Minister at the Prime Minister's Office Col. Pe Thein, on whom the delegation called. (NLM 11/23)

Nov. 23: The delegation visited sights in Yangon. (NLM 11/24)

Nov. 24: The delegation called on Minister for Religious Affairs Lt-Gen. Myo Nyunt, on Minister for Industry-2 U Than Shwe, on Minister for Foreign Affairs U Ohn Gyaw, and on Minister for Rail Transportation U Win Sein. (NLM 11/25)

Nov. 27: The delegation toured Yangon, visiting the National Stadium-1 in Thuwunna and the National Theatre. (NLM 11/28)

Nov. 28: Members of the delegation visited Bago. (NLM 11/29)

Nov. 29: The delegation was received by SLORC Secretary-1 Lt-Gen. Khin Nyunt, and visited the Myanmar Shipyards. (NLM 11/30)

Chinese Construction Minister

Dec. 14: A six-member delegation led by Chinese Minister of Construction Mr. Hou Jie arrived at the invitation of Minister for Construction U Khin Maung Yin. It visited the Shwedagon Pagoda. (NLM 12/15)

Dec. 15: The Minister was received by SLORC Secretary-1 Lt-Gen. Khin Nyunt. He visited the Yangon-Thanlyin Bridge, the Thuwunna Gymnasium, and the National Theatre [all built with Chinese aidÄÄHCM]. (NLM 12/16)

Dec. 18: The delegation flew to Heho on Dec. 16 and visited Innlay Lake and Taunggyi. On returning to Yangon, Dec. 18, the Minister signed a Memorandum of Understanding with Minister for Construction U Khin Maung Yin "on providing PRC technical assistance and cooperation." The two Ministers then visited Dagon University. (NLM 12/19)

Dec. 19: The delegation departed. (NLM 12/20)

Chinese Army Official

Dec. 14: Maj-Gen. Fu Jiaping, Director of the Foreign Affairs Bureau, Chinese People's Liberation Army, arrived and was received by Chief of No. 1 Bureau of Special Operations Chief of Staff (Army) Lt-Gen. Tin Oo. (NLM 12/15) // Dec. 20: He called on Minister for Agriculture Lt-Gen. Myint Aung. (NLM 12/21)

Dec. 16: The delegation [led by Minister for Rail Transportation U Win Sein] visited China from Dec. 6-11. It called on Chinese Minister of Railways Mr. Han Zhu Bin on Dec. 7, and studied the model of the West Beijing Railway Station. It paid a courtesy call on Deputy Premier Mr. Li Lianqing. On Dec. 8, the delegation visited Qi Qi Har Town by special train, and studied railway car construction and maintenance. On Dec. 11 the delegation studied rail engine and coach construction at Qing Dao Town in Shandong Province, and discussed the purchase of 4 1,200 HP diesel engines and parts for 30 passenger coaches by March 1995. (NLM 12/16) // Dec. 18: On Dec. 12-15, the delegation went to Kunming, and visited the new Guantong-Dali railroad construction project near the China-Myanmar border. It returned to Myanmar on Dec. 18. (NLM 12/ 19)

Chinese Premier Li Peng

Dec. 15: It is announced that Chinese Premier Li Peng will pay an official goodwill visit to Myanmar in the near future, at the invitation of SLORC Chairman Senior General Than Shwe. (NLM 12/15)

Dec. 23: Official biography of Premier Li Peng. (NLM 12/24)

Dec. 26: Editorial: Welcome. [This single word carries in the broadest sense the sentiments of the State Law and Order Restoration Council and the entire people of the Union of Myanmar for...Premier Li Peng...who arrives today...at the invitation of...Senior General Than Shwe.... Significant as it is, His Excellency Li Peng's visit underscores the strengthening of 'paukphaw' friendship and good-neighborly relations between the two governments.... Myanmar-China friendship is centuries-old and has been strengthened further with each passing generation.... Myanmar and China strictly adhere to the Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence.... Welcome, we pronounce, and this shall reverberate from Yunnan to the eastern shores, to let all the world know we are today spreading out the red carpet for our honourable and distinguished guest."]

Dec. 26: Premier Li Peng and Madame Zhu Lin arrived at 12:30 pm, and were welcomed with full official honours at Yangon Airport by SLORC Chairman Senior General and Madame Than Shwe. The Premier was accompanied by a delegation of 58, including State Councillor Mr. Li Guixian, Minister of Communications Mr. Huang Zhendong, Governor of Yunnan Province Mr. He Zhiqiang, Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs Mr. Tang Jiaxuan, Vice Minister of Foreign Trade and Economic Cooperation Mr. Shi Guangsheng, Chairman of the Board of the Bank of China Mr. Wang Qiren, Deputy Director (Vice Minister) of the Office of Foreign Affairs of the State Council Mr. Lu Congmin, and Special Assistant to the Premier Mr. Wan Jingchang. Also accompanying the delegation are journalists from Xinhua News Agency, CCTV, China Radio International, China New Service, China National Radio, China Daily and People's Daily, TV crews and technicians.

Premier Li Peng issued the following arrival statement [full text]:

"I am very pleased to pay an official goodwill visit to the Union of Myanmar at the kind invitation of Senior General Than Shwe, Chairman of the State Law and Order Restoration Council and Prime Minister. I would like to extend, on behalf of the Chinese Government and people, our high regards and good wishes to the Government and people of Myanmar.

"China and Myanmar are close neighbours linked by mountains and rivers and our two peoples have enjoyed a traditional phaukphaw friendship. Recent years have witnessed a steady growth of the friendly relations between China and Myanmar based on the Five Principles of Peaceful Co-existence and good cooperation between the two sides in the political, economic, cultural and other fields. History over the past four decades and more proves that friendship between China and Myanmar is in keeping with the fundamental interests and shared aspiration of our two peoples, and is conducive to peace and stability of this region. My current visit is aimed at further strengthening the good neighbourly and friendly ties between us and expanding our mutually beneficial cooperation. I will exchange views with leaders of Myanmar on bilateral relations and regional and international issues of common concern. I believe that as the Myanmar side has made thoughtful arrangements, my current visit will yield positive results and further facilitate the growth of the existing friendly relations between our two countries both in scope and depth.

"May the Union of Myanmar enjoy prosperity and its people well-being!"

[Note: Phaukphaw ("cousin") is frequently used to describe a "special relationship" between China and Burma--HMacD.]

In the late afternoon, SLORC Secretary-1 Lt-Gen. Khin Nyunt and [his wife] Dr. Khin Win Shwe called on the Premier.

In the evening, Senior General Than Shwe hosted a banquet for the visiting Chinese Premier, at which speeches were exchanged [full texts printed in NLM].

That of Senior General Than Shwe concluded, after reviewing previous Chinese visits, "I am therefore convinced that your visit, even though very brief, will be registered as a welcoming new chapter in the annals of our Pauk Phaw relations. It is therefore my conviction that we shall have a stronger and active cooperation in the years ahead." He also thanked China for permitting the 45-day tour of Myanmar, beginning last April, of the Sacred Tooth of Lord Buddha.

Chinese Premier Li Peng returned the remarks with a toast, in which, after noting the 40th anniversary of the Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence, he said: "The world today is still in transition from an old pattern to a new one, the trend toward multipolarity is accelerating, the international situation is complicated and volatile, hegemonism and power politics are still in existence, the world economic development remains uneven and North-South gap continues widening. Peace and development remain the two major tasks facing the world. China stands ready to join hands with other Asian countries, including Myanmar in holding high the banner of the Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence and work together to establish a fair and equitable new international political and economic order, and bring a more peaceful, stable, prosperous and developed Asia into the 21st century." (NLM 12/27)

Dec. 27: Special four-page supplement, with three pages of photos of Premier Li Peng's arrival, and article, Myanmar's Neighbour and True Friend, People's Republic of China, by Min Ye Kaungbon. (NLM 12/27)

Dec. 27: Editorial. Concrete step. ["We fully endorse the views of both leaders, and that the visit, as Premier Li Peng has envisioned, will yield positive results and further facilitate the growth of existing friendly relations between our two countries both in scope and depth."]

Dec. 27: SLORC Chairman Senior General Than Shwe received Chinese Premier Li Peng, and discussions were held between the top Myanmar and Chinese officials. Later, the Premier visited the Yangon-Thanyin Bridge [built with Chinese aid -- HMacD.].

Madame Zhu Lin visited the Gems Emporium, accompanied by Dr. Daw Khin Win Shwe (wife of SLORC Secretary-1 Lt-Gen. Khin Nyunt), Daw Khin Than Nwe (wife of SLORC Secretary-2 Lt-Gen. Tin Oo), Daw Khin Kyi (wife of Minister for Foreign Affairs U Ohn Gyaw), Daw Tin Aye Win (wife of Myanmar Ambassador to China U Set), and Daw Win Win May (wife of Military Attache Col. Thein Kyi).

News Conference: Director Mr. Chen Jian of the Chinese Foreign Ministry Information Department briefed media personnel on the visit, which he said strengthened existing traditional friendship. "He went on to clarify that Premier Li Peng pointed out as China-Myanmar border trade has made considerable achievement, further progress could be made through necessary coordination. The PRC Government would encourage companies and economic enterprises in the PRC to cooperate with Myanmar in different forms including implementation of certain major projects. Enterprises should be the core of cooperation, the official quoted Premier Li Peng as saying."

The two leaders also discussed drug abuse control; Premier Li Peng lauded Myanmar efforts, and said that "PRC wishes to step up anti-drug drive in cooperation with Myanmar and UN agencies," and said that "producing, consuming and trafficking nations are equally responsible for combating the danger of narcotic drugs." Senior General Than Shwe "made it clear that the problem would be solved through development projects for the hill regions in the north."

After discussing the current international situation, the spokesman said Premier Li Peng said "China opposes the policy practised by other countries in bullying and influencing others and the country will never practice such a policy of bullying and influencing other countries and it will never plan to gain influence over others. As China

opposes other countries interfering in the internal affairs of the country it will never interfere in the internal affairs of other countries. The Government and the people of each and every country have the right to choose the social system and development path which are suitable to the prevailing situation of respective country. He said the Premier has mentioned that China has proposed and urged all the time for all to respect the culture, traditions and religious belief of each and every country." The Premier invited Senior General Than Shwe to visit China "at any convenient time."

The Chinese spokesman then quoted Senior General Than Shwe as saying that "diplomatic contacts and ties between Myanmar Naing-Ngan and Western countries are being resumed. Myanmar Naing-Ngan gives more priority to its diplomatic activities with the countries in the region. The relations between Myanmar and ASEAN countries have gained new grounds.

Chinese Minister of Communications Mr. Huang Zhendong called on Minister for Rail Transportation U Win Sein. (NLM 12/28)

Dec. 28: Editorial: Strengthening of friendship. ["In the two days that Premier Li Peng has been here before winding up the official goodwill visit with a Press meet, we have been able to accord warm hospitality as befits a true and honoured friend, who, despite his onerous duties of State, took time out to come to us to work for the further strengthening of friendship.... China is ahead of Myanmar in development in more ways than we might imagine. That is an advantage for us in seeking the skills and expertise to help us similarly forge ahead. To the positive achievements of our leaders' talks, Madame Zhu Lin has added her grace and charm, which has made the visit more complete...."]

Dec. 28: News Conference: Premier Li Peng visited the Shwedagon Pagoda, and later gave a News Conference, saying that "the visit was short but had achieved complete success," details of which would appear in the Joint Communique.

In response to a question from Xinhua News Agency, he reviewed Myanmar-Chinese friendship, and "pointed out that border trade had made considerable progress during the past years. He assured that efforts would be made for further progress.

In response to a question from U Sein Win of Kyodo News Agency about human rights in China and Myanmar, and citing Western commentaries that China's support for Myanmar "is aimed at looking for an outlet to the Indian Ocean," the Premier "replied developing countries have their own views on human rights. The concept of human rights is very extensive. He said China shares the same view on human rights with many Asian countries, actually with many other developing countries. He said he can give the names of those countries that include Myanmar. As to reports of Western news agencies that his visit was aimed at establishing China's military influence on the Indian Ocean, he said it is sheer fabrication.... China...will never engage in any hegemonistic activities and actually it has not stationed a single soldier abroad. He pointed out that as the mediemen could see there was no military personnel in his delegation. So, the delegation had not discussed military matters with Myanmar, he said.

In response to a question from U Maung Maung of Jiji Press, the Premier praised Myanmar's economic development, beauty, and tourist attractions.

In response to a question from Mr. Hirotsugu Tamura, Chief of Asahi Shimbun Singapore Bureau, concerning China's solution to the Tiananmen issue and "the view of the Premier on finding a solution to the problem of Daw Aung San Suu Kyi issue in Myanmar," the Premier "replied that the matter of Daw Aung San Suu Kyi is Myanmar's internal affairs and he would not interfere. He spoke of the difference between China and the West. He said the matter of Daw Aung San Suu Kyi was not discussed in his meetings. He said Myanmar friends told him they would give priority to national reconciliation and wished them success. The Premier said political stability is important and economic progress would be impossible without it. Political stability should be given priority for any task, he said."

In response to questions from the China People's Daily and Kyemon Daily, the Premier spoke generally of economic and trade cooperation between the two countries.

In response to a question from U Hla Htwe of Nikkei and Antara news agencies, noting that there had been expectations of a signed bilateral agreement during the visit, the Premier said the visit "was to enhance mutual understanding and to lay more solid foundation for cooperation in future.... Concerning the signing of bilateral agreement, he said competent officials would sign them at an appropriate time. He said it would not be necessary for such agreements to be signed in the presence of top leaders of the two countries as it was only a matter of formality."

In response to a question from Jing Xiaolin of China News Service about policy towards Chinese resident in Myanmar (with whom the Premier had met), he "replied that Chinese nationals would have to abide by the laws and rules of the host nations. They would have to live in friendship and closely together with the people of those nations. He said he believed Chinese nationals would be able to contribute towards Myanmar's economic development.... He said China has no intention to make capital out of overseas Chinese. He said he also believed overseas Chinese would be able to live in friendship with the people of the nation concerned and contribute towards further promoting friendship between the two countries."

Joint Communique: A lengthy Joint Communique was issued [full text in NLM], listing those present at the meeting between the Premier and the SLORC Chairman. Myanmar informed the Premier of its "far reaching constitutional, political, economic and social changes...and...efforts to secure national reconciliation." The Premier informed Myanmar of "China's reform, opening up and its building of socialism and its views and position on the international situation." Both sides recalled the 40th Anniversary of the Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence, endorsed them, and "believed that the countries of the world should have the right to freely choose their own social system and road of development according to their traditions, culture, historical background and popular aspirations." They "expressed their readiness to work for regional peace, security, stability and economic development." China praised Myanmar's economic development efforts. The two sides "reaffirmed their desire to further promote cooperation in the economic, agricultural, environmental, cultural, tourism, forestry, educational and scientific affairs, as well as in combatting illicit drugs." The Premier invited Senior General Than Shwe to visit China "at a convenient time," and the General accepted "with pleasure" and invited Chinese President Jiang Zemin to visit Myanmar.

Premier Li Peng departed at noon for China, leaving a message of thanks to Senior General Than Shwe "for the warm reception and hospitality accorded to us." [two pages of photos] (NLM 12/29)

Dec. 29: Editorial: Fresh impetus. ["The Premier's visit is not just another one. It is a milestone that bears testimony for mutual regard and cooperation."]

Dec. 27: A cultural delegation led by Deputy Director U Thant Zin of the Research and Training Branch of Fine Arts Department left by air for Lashio, to travel to China by road on a two-week study visit. Members are Assistant Director U Sein Myint Aung of Cultural Institute Department, Assistant Engineer U Kyaw Oo of Planetarium, Assistant Director U Tin Htut of Archaeology Department, Research Officer U Tin Maung Lwin of Research and Training Branch (Fine Arts Department), Myanmar's lecturer Daw Khin Kywe Oo of the University of Culture, Assistant Lecturer of Music U Ye Nwe and Staff Officer U Su Aung of Production Division in Mandalay. (NLM 12/28)

Dec. 29: A Contract was signed between Myanmar Railways (represented by Managing Director Thura U Thaung Lwin) and Messers Joint Venture of China Road and Bridge Corporation (represented by Chairman Mr. Zhu Shenliang) and Shandong Native Produce Import and Export Corporation for purchase of steel bridge beams for the Chindwin River Bridge Project valued at US\$ 10 million. A Memorandum of Understanding was signed for purchase of engines, coaches, spare parts and machines for Myanmar Railways (US\$ 35 million) and spare parts for Road Transport (US\$ 5 million) with loans from China National Complete Plant Import and Export (Group) Yunnan Corporation (represented by Chairman Mrs. Zhang Lianju). (NLM 12/30)+

Dec. 30: Myanmar Shipyards launched three more 800-ton barges for the Machinery Import/Export Corporation (MIEC) of Yunnan Province, China, in the presence of MIEC Vice President Mr. Zhang Jin Wen. Six others were delivered on Aug. 3 and Nov. 14. (NLM 12/31)

1995

BUDDHIST EVENTS

Buddha's Tooth Relic

Jan. 10: The Buddha's Tooth Relic from China, which toured Myanmar in 1994, will return in 1996. Meanwhile, Buddha's Sacred Tooth Relic Pagodas are being constructed in Yangon and Mandalay to house replicas. Donations so far for the Yangon Pagoda total some K 115 million plus jewels worth over K 30 million. Donations for the Mandalay Pagoda total some K 67 million plus over 8 thousand pieces of jewellery. (NLM 1/11)

Jan. 15: Four Chinese boys were ordained as Buddhist samaneras in Mayangon Township, Yangon. Foreign Missionary Myanmar Rahan Bhaddanta Kundala (MA) and Chinese citizen Buddhists offered alms, and donated K 200,000 for the International Theravada Buddhist Missionary Tekkatho to be constructed on Dhammapala Hill. (NLM 1/16) // Jan. 26: Four Chinese monks led by Ashin Kundala met with Deputy Minister for Religious Affairs Col. Aung Khin. (NLM 1/27)

Jan. 19: Chinese Theravada Sayadaw U Kusala, with three nuns and a layman, arrived; they will visit Lashio, meditate in Mahasi Sasana Yeiktha, and tour famous pagodas. (NLM 1/20)

Jan. 22: The Women's Chapter of Chinese-Myanmar Buddhist Association, Latha Township, led by Chairperson Daw Khin Myint, Yangon, celebrated the Chinese New Year, in the presence of SLORC Secretary-2 Lt-Gen. Tin Oo, Deputy Minister for Religious Affairs Col. Aung Khin, and others. (NLM 1/23)

Jan. 10: A delegation led by Deputy Education Minister Col. Kyi Maung left for China to study education for two weeks. Other members are Director-General Dr. Khin Maung Win of the Technical, Agricultural and Vocational Education Department, Director-General U Myo Nyunt of the Higher Education Department, Chairman Thura U Aung Tun of the Myanmar Naing-Ngan Examination Board, and Head of Office of the Education Ministry U Hla Myint. (NLM 1/12) // Jan. 29: The delegation returned. (NLM 1/30) // Jan. 30: The delegation held talks with authorities in Beijing and provincial authorities in Wu Han, Hubei Province, and visited schools and universities. On their way home they had talks with Thai officials in Bangkok, and with the UNESCO Principal Regional Office for Asia & the Pacific. (NLM 1/30)

Jan. 12: A Chinese economic delegation led by President Mr. Li Tongzhou of CITIC Technology Inc. called on Minister for Industry-2 U Than Shwe. (NLM 1/13)

Boats To and From China

Jan. 17: Five boats purchased from the Yunnan Industrial Import-Export Corporation by Inland Water Transport arrived at Thilawa Port. IWT has ordered 14 motorized vessels and 28 cargo vessels worth US\$ 30 million; the first arrivals were 3 passenger boats and 2 push tugs. (NLM 1/18)

Jan. 19: A last batch of three 100-ton cargo barges (of a total of nine) for Yunnan Industrial Import Export Corp. were launched at Ahlon Shipyard. "Out of the 28 100-ton cargo barges to be built for the [YIIEC], nine were built at the Ahlon Shipyard. The third and last batch of the three were completed two-and-half months earlier than schedules. Based on the experience in building the former six barges, the last three were provided with ventilation system to prevent moisture accumulation." (NLM 1/20)

Jan. 21: The Dalla Shipyard launched three 250-ton cargo barges for Yunnan Machinery Import and Export Corp. Of 28 barges ordered, 10 were built at Dalla Shipyard. Speakers included Mr. Cai Jingtai of Yunnan Province. (NLM 1/22)

Jan. 24: The first five (of 14) vessels built by Yunnan Machinery Import and Export Corp. under a US\$ 30 million contract were delivered to the Inland Water Transport, with papers signed by YMIEC Chairman Mr. Wu Wen Kuan. The five include three triple-deckers and two push-tugs. (NLM 1/25).

Yunnan Deputy Governor

Jan. 20: Deputy Governor Mr. Liu Jing of Yunnan Province, China, called on Minister for Communications, Posts & Telegraphs U Soe Tha, on Minister for Transport Lt-Gen. Thein Win, and on Minister for Rail Transportation U Win Sein. (NLM 1/21)

Jan. 21: He called on Minister for National Planning and Economic Development Brig-Gen. Abel, and on Minister for Construction U Khin Maung Yin. (NLM 1/22)

Jan. 22: He called on Minister for Transport Lt-Gen. Thein Win, who also hosted a dinner. (NLM 1/23)

Jan. 24: He hosted a return dinner for Minister for Transport Lt-Gen. Thein Win. (NLM 1/25)

Jan. 25: He returned home. (NLM 1/26)

Jan. 21: 300 Xing Xing pumps, usable with 12-inch pipe, arrived from China for irrigation use. (NLM 1/22)

Feb. 19: A 5-member goodwill delegation from the All-China Women's Federation, led by Ms. Liu Liying, arrived at the invitation of the Myanmar Maternal and Child Welfare Association. (NLM 2/20) // Feb. 20: The delegation called on Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Brig-Gen. Thaung Myint, and visited the Institute of Culture and other institutions. (NLM 2/21) // Feb. 21: The delegation called on Minister for Health Vice-Adm. Than Nyunt. It visited the Shwedagon Pagoda and the Myanma Gems Enterprise. (NLM 2/22) // Feb. 23: The delegation watched rowing and yachting demonstrations on Inya Lake. On Feb. 22, it visited Mandalay. (NLM 2/24) // Feb. 24: The delegation left, after visiting Padagyi village in Kyauktan Township. (NLM 2/25)

Feb. 24: Deputy Mayor Mr. Huang Xueqi and an Economic and Trade Delegation from the Yangzhou Municipal Government in China called on Deputy Minister for Industry-1 U Than Nyunt. (NLM 2/25) // Feb. 25: The delegation called on Minister for National Planning and Economic Development Brig-Gen. Abel. (NLM 2/26) // Feb. 27: The Deputy Mayor called on Deputy Minister for Industry-2 U Saw Tun. (NLM 2/28)

Feb. 24: Minister for Rail Transportation U Win Sein inspected 10 brake vans and 10 coaches imported from China. (NLM 2/25)

Feb. 24: A Chinese football team will play friendly matches in Yangon (Mar. 9 and 11), and Mandalay (Mar. 13). (NLM 2/25)

Feb. 28: The Yunnan Machinery Import & Export Corporation, represented by Vice-Chairman Mr. Yang Guo Xiang, handed over 42 rail coaches, including passenger coaches, to the Myanmar Railways in Yangon. (NLM 3/1)

Mar. 6: China-Myanmar friendly soccer matches will be held at Aung San Stadium on Mar. 9 and 11, with tickets at K 100 for first class and K 50 for ordinary. The Chinese Olympic team will arrive Mar. 8. (NLM 3/7) // Mar. 8: The team arrived, led by Mr. Li Chuan Qi. The team includes a deputy team leader, a chief-coach, three managers, and 20 footballers. (NLM 3/9) // Mar. 9: The first game, attended by SLORC Secretary-1 Lt-Gen. Khin Nyunt, was a 1-1 tie. (NLM 3/10) // Mar. 11: China beat Myanmar 4-0. (NLM 3/12) // Mar. 15: China beat Myanmar 3-1 in Mandalay. (NLM 3/16)

Chinese Ambassador's Message

Mar. 8: Chinese Ambassador Mrs. Chen Baoliu, "the first Chinese lady ever accredited as Ambassador to Myanmar," extended greeting to Myanmar women on the occasion of International Women's Day. She speaks fluent Myanmar and "is more popularly known in Myanmar official circles as Daw Nyunt Nyunt." (NLM 3/9)

Mar. 8: A Chinese delegation led by Ambassador Xu Wenyi of the Chinese Foreign Ministry arrived to attend the Fourth Session of the Joint Boundary Inspection Committee for the second joint inspection of the Myanmar-China boundary line. (NLM 3/9) // Mar. 15: The delegation departed, after signing Agreed Minutes of the meeting. (NLM 3/16)

Mar. 9: A Memorandum of Understanding was signed between Director-General U Kyaw Lwin of Fisheries Department, and Director-General Mr. An Gang of the Chinese Department of Agriculture and Forestry, for bilateral cooperation "in establishment of an ice factory and a cold storage in Patheingyi Township, fishing prawn breeding, and distribution of marine products." Minister for Livestock Breeding & Fisheries Brig-Gen. Maung Maung and Beijing Vice-Mayor Duan Qiang. (NLM 3/10)

Mar. 10: He called on South-West Commander Maj-Gen. Tin Hla, Ayeyarwady Division LORC Chairman, on Mar. 9 to discuss "construction of an ice factory and cold storage." They broke ground for the factory. (NLM 3/11) // Mar. 11: He toured sights in Yangon, and was hosted at dinner by Yangon Mayor U Ko Lay. (NLM 3/12) // Mar. 12: He visited Thanlyin. (NLM 3/13) // Mar. 13: He departed. (NLM 3/14)

Mar. 10: A Chinese Buddhist mission led by Sayadaw U Naga held a reordination and donation ceremony in Naga Hlainggu Kalaywa Tawkyakyaung in Yangon. Five monks in the mission were reordained. The mission presented gifts to the Tiger Parahita School for the Development of National Races, the Sasana Hospital (Kaba Aye) of the Defence Services General Hospital, monks and novices from border areas residing at the Naga Hlainggu Monastic Education School, K 50,000 for the International Buddhist Tekkatho, and K 100,000 for the Ay Yeikmon Nun's Orphanage in Mandalay. (NLM 3/11) // Mar. 24: Chinese monk Sut Kun Shen and 146 members of the Chinese Buddhist mission donated K 200,000 to the Theravada Buddhism Missionary Tekkatho, and K 1 million to the Bago Kyakhatwaing Kyaungtaik. (NLM 3/25) // Mar. 30: The 85-member study mission of Chinese monks, nuns and lay disciples, left for home. During their visit, they offered robes to 5,000 monks, visited religious edifices in Mandalay, Bagan, and Bago, and made donations of over K 8 million. (NLM 3/31)

Mar. 16: The triple-decker Pyigyimon was launched in Mandalay, for service on the Mandalay-Pyay route. It is one of 5 shallow-draft vessels constructed under the contract between Inland Water Transport and the Yunnan Machinery Import-Export Corp. It is 48 metres long, with two 296 KW engines, and has 10 first class (air-conditioners

and private bath) rooms, 10 second-class rooms, and three third-class, plus space for 374 passengers and 30 tons of freight. (NLM 3/17)

Mar. 18: A delegation led by Assistant Director U Ohn Win of the Watershed Management for Three Critical Areas Project left for China to study land reclamation, forestry, and watershed conservation for two weeks, with UNDP and FAO sponsorship. Other members are Project Staff Officer U Zaw Win, Forester U Myint Oo, Nyaungshwe Township LORC member U Myint Nyein, and local farmers U Sein Paw, U Nyunt Tin, Than Aung, and U Nanda. (NLM 3/19)

Mar. 20: The double-decker Maykha was launched at Dalla Shipyards, with a speech by SLORC Secretary-1 Lt-Gen. Khin Nyunt. "Within two years, he said, the IWT purchased 42 vessels including cargo barges at a cost of 30 million US dollars interest-free from the People's Republic of China and another 30 vessels were also purchased at a cost of 40 million US dollars, and built together 73 vessels including present one."

Mar. 22: The Cultural Troupe of the Chinese People's Liberation Army, consisting of 46 members led by Sr-Col. Qu Zong arrived to honour the Golden Jubilee Armed Forces Day. Following its arrival, it flew to Mandalay to entertain troops and the public there; it will return to Yangon to perform on Mar. 27 at the National Theatre. (NLM 3/23) // Mar. 26: The troupe visited Mandalay from Mar. 23-25. It will entertain at the National Theatre on Mar. 27. (NLM 3/27) // Mar. 30: The troupe performed at the National Theatre. (NLM 3/31)

Mar. 22: A 6-member Chinese writers delegation led by Mr. Zang Kunhua of Yunnan Province arrived under the bilateral cultural exchange programme. (NLM 3/ 23) // Mar. 23: It called on Minister for Information Brig-Gen. Myo Thant, visited the Shwedagon Pagoda, and was given lunch by Chairman U Myo Thant (Maung Hsu Shin) of the Myanmar Writers and Journalists Organization. (NLM 3/24) // Mar. 25: The delegation called on Central Commander Maj-Gen. Kyaw Than in Mandalay. (NLM 3/26) // Mar. 29: The delegation visited Monywa [Sagaing] on Mar. 26, and Mandalay on Mar. 27. (NLM 3/30)

Mar. 31: The Chinese Army Cultural Troupe led by Sr-Col. Qu Zong was received by SLORC Secretary-2 Lt-Gen. Tin Oo. (NLM 4/1)

Apr. 5: A 45-member Shipxangbanna troupe from Yunnan Province, China, led by Ms. Han Peigen, arrived, and will entertain the public in Kengtung, Taunggyi, Yangon, and Mandalay. It was received by SLORC Secretary-1 Lt-Gen. Khin Nyunt. (NLM 4/6) // Apr. 12: After giving performances in Taunggyi and Bahtoo, the troupe returned to Yangon to take part in the Thingyan water festival from Apr. 13-16. From Apr. 18-20, it will perform at the National Theatre; admission is K 200 for downstairs and K 100 for upstairs. (NLM 4/ 13) // Apr. 17: The troupe performed at the National Theatre. (NLM 4/18) // Apr. 21: The troupe left for Mandalay. (NLM 4/ 22) // Apr. 23: The troupe began performances in Mandalay, where they were dined by Central Commander Maj-Gen. Kyaw Than at the Nagoya Guest House. (NLM 4/24) // Apr. 26: The troupe departed for home. (NLM 4/27)

Apr. 8: The Central Cooperative Society of Myanmar, represented by Minister for Cooperatives U Than Aung, and Jinan Vacuum Flask Factory of Shandong Province, China, represented by Chairman Mr. Wang Fang Xin, signed a profit-sharing agreement to build a vacuum flask factory. (NLM 4/9)

Apr. 10: A contract was signed between the Ministry of Rail Transport, represented by Managing Director of Road Transport Ohn Myint and Managing Director of Myanmar Railways U Thaung Lwin, and China National Complete Plant Import and Export (Group) Yunnan Corporation (Complant), represented by Chairman Mr. Zhang Lian Ju, for the purchase by Myanmar of locomotives and rolling stock worth US\$ 35 million and trucks and passenger buses worth US\$ 5 million. (NLM 4/11)

Apr. 12: Chinese Ambassador Mme. Chen Baoliu presented seven Chinese 25-inch colour TV sets to various ministries. (NLM 4/13)

Apr. 19: An industrial delegation led by Managing Director U Khin Maung Lin of Technical Services left for China to study factories and discuss industrial cooperation. Other members are Deputy Manager U Ko Ko Gyi of No. 3 Factory of the Ministry of Heavy Industry [Industry-1], Deputy Manager U Myint Than of No. 1 Factory, Assistant Director U Khin Maung Cho of Ministry of Heavy Industry Headquarters, and Head of Office U Chit Lwin of the Ministry of Industry-2. (NLM 4/20)

Apr. 26: 4,000 water pumps, for use in cultivating oil-seed crops, ordered from the China National Machinery and Equipment Import and Export Corporation, were unloaded. Each is worth US\$ 698, and the total cost including spare parts is US\$ 3 million; the pumps can deliver 300 gallons per minute to a height of 90 feet. (NLM 4/ 27)

May 10: China donated 20 "walking tractors trawlers jeeps of Dong Feng 12 type", worth 200,000 yuan, for distribution to returned refugees in Buthidaung and Maungtau Townships, Rakhine State. (NLM 5/11)

May 10: Vice-Chairman Mr. Shan Ningwu of Dong Feng Motor Corp. of China and party called on Minister for Industry-2 U Than Shwe. (NLM 5/11)

Chinese Delegations

May 11: Chairman Mr. Tong Yong Xi of Jing Gan District of China, and party, called on Yangon Mayor U Ko Lay. (NLM 5/12)

May 25: Deputy Director-General Mr. Zhang Ruikum of the Yunnan Foreign Trade and Economic Cooperation Department and delegation called on Minister for Trade Lt-Gen. Tun Kyi; it invited the Minister to participate in the Trade Fair to be held in Kunming on Aug. 8-16. (NLM 5/26) // May 28: Minister for Trade Lt-Gen. Tun Kyi hosted a dinner for the delegation, and for that led by General Manager Ms. Zhang Lun of China Economic and Trade Consultants Corp. (NLM 5/29)

May 14: Myanma Five Star Line, represented by Managing Director U Khin Maung Htoo, and Yunnan Machinery Import & Export Corp., represented by Chairman Mr. Wu Wen Kuan signed a contract for the purchase of two 3,000 ton coastal freighters. (NLM 5/15)

May 25: Chinese Ambassador Mrs. Chen Baoliu presented the Ministry for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement, on behalf of the Chinese Red Cross, with US\$ 10,000 for Bago fire relief. (NLM 5/26)

May 31: Myanmar Airways International announced that it will inaugurate flights to Kunming, China, on Saturday, June 3. UB-271 will depart Yangon at 0815 hours and arrive in Kunming at 1145 hours. UB-272 will depart Kunming at 1245 hours and arrive in Yangon at 1315 hours. (NLM 6/1) // June 3: The flight was inaugurated with dignitaries on board led by Minister for Transport Lt-Gen. Thein Win. On arrival in Kunming, they were greeted by Yunnan Provincial Governor Mr. Ho Zhiqiang, the Mayor of Kunming, Myanmar Consul General in Kunming U Win Aung, and others. (NLM 6/4)

June 2: Chinese Ambassador Mme. Chen Baoliu presented 50 sewing machines worth US\$ 4,000 for Buthidaung and Maungtau Townships, Rakhine State. On Apr. 30, China had presented 20 power-tillers worth 200,000 yuans. (NLM 6/3)

June 2: Minister for National Planning and Economic Development Brig-Gen. Abel and Chinese Ambassador Mrs. Chen Baoliu signed an agreement under which China will provide "spares and technical help for maintenance and renovation of the National Theatre." (NLM 6/3)

Chinese Health Vice-Minister

June 4: Chinese Vice-Minister of Health Dr. He Jie Sheng and a five-member delegation arrived, and was given a dinner by Deputy Minister for Health Col. Than Zin. (NLM 6/5) // June 5: She called on Minister for Health Vice-Adm. Than Nyunt, who hosted a dinner. (NLM 6/6) // June 6: She held talks with Myanmar officials headed by Deputy Minister for Health Col. Than Zin, which included "health care for women and children, measures to be taken against spread of infectious diseases through channels of border areas and air, marine and land transport, traditional medicine, and bilateral cooperation in health. Afterwards a Memorandum of Understanding was signed. She then visited the Myanma Gems Enterprise and the Yangon-Thanlyin Bridge. (NLM 6/7)

June 10: The delegation visited Bagan, Pyin-Oo-Lwin and Mandalay between June 7-9, including tourist sites and the Mandalay Institutes of Medicine and Traditional Medicine. (NLM 6/11)

Relations with China Feted

June 6: Chinese Ambassador Mrs. Chen Baoliu held a reception to mark the 45th Anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between Myanmar and the People's Republic of China, which was attended by SLORC Secretary-2 Lt-Gen. Tin Oo and wife Daw Khin Than Nwe, Deputy Prime Minister Vice-Adm. Maung Maung Khin, Ministers, Chief Justice U Aung Toe, Deputy Ministers, etc. (NLM 6/7)

June 14: Five Myanmar journalists led by Managing Director Lt-Col. Tin Kha of the News and Periodicals Enterprise left to visit Beijing, Shanghai, and Sinchuan under the Cultural Exchange Program with China. Other members are Chief Reporter U Myint Lwin of MNA (Internal), Editor U Ohn Lwin of PPE (Sarpay Beikman), Assistant Editor U Maung Maung Thaung of Myawady Press, and Editor U Kyaw Zeya of IPRD as Secretary. (NLM 6/15) // June 23: The delegation returned. (NLM 6/24)

June 21: A Defence Services Signals Delegation led by Deputy Director of Office of the Director of Signals Col. Aung Myint left for China at the invitation of M/s Nanjing Panda Electronic Import and Export Corp. Members are Lt-Col. Tin Tun, Maj. Thein Win, Maj. Ne Win, and Capt. Tun Tun Oo of the Office of Director of Signals, Maj. Khaing Zaw of the Commander-in-Chief's Office, and U Thein Aung of the Office of the Director of Procurement of the Ministry of Defence. (NLM 6/22)

Delegations Visit China

June 21: Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs U Nyunt Swe left for China at the invitation of Vice-Minister of Foreign Affairs Mr. Tang Jiaxuan. He was accompanied by Director-General U Aye Lwin of the Consular, International Law and Research Department, Deputy Director U L Zau Goone of the Political Department, and Head of Branch II U Tin Maung Win. Two other members left June 14: Deputy Director U Ba Cho of the Foreign Ministry and Assistant Director U Than Tun of the Survey Department of the Ministry of Forestry. (NLM 6/22)

June 21: A Defence Services Medical Delegation led by Director of Medical Services Col. Mya Thein Han left for China. Members are Col. Aung Nyein, Lt-Col. Ye Thway, Lt-Col. Hla Tun, Lt-Col. Thein Soe, Lt-Col. Ye Tint, Lt-Col. Tun Yi, and Lt-Col. Saw Aung Myat Thein of the Office of Director of Medical Services. (NLM 6/22) // June 28: The delegation returned. (NLM 6/29)

June 28: A delegation led by Minister for Hotels and Tourism Lt-Gen. Kyaw Ba left for China at the invitation of the Chairman of the Chinese National Tourism Administration Bureau. It included Co. Thiha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo of the Ministry of Defence, Director U Hay Aung of the Hotels and Tourism Directorate, Manager U Win Myaing of Myanmar Hotels and Tourism Services, and the Ministers personal staff officer Capt. Myo Myint Sein. (NLM 6/29)

June 28: A four-member police delegation led by Director of Criminal Investigation Department Police Col. Maung Maung Than left for China to study police training courses for two weeks. (NLM 6/29)

June 13: Director-General U Kyo Lwin of Myanmar Television and Radio Department and Commercial Counsellor Chen Shijie of the Chinese Embassy signed an agreement for the joint construction by MTRD and the China Commercial Corporation for International Economic and Technical Cooperation of five TV retransmission stations: a 1-kw station (90 metre tower) in Loikaw; 5-kw station (110 metre tower) in Bago; 3-kw station (100 metre tower) in Monywa; 3-kw station (120 metre tower) in Bogale; and 1-kw station (110 metre tower) in Labutta. (NLM 6/14)

Chinese Agriculture Minister

June 25: A nine-member delegation headed by Chinese Minister for Agriculture Mr. Liu Jiang arrived to study agriculture and livestock breeding activities. (NLM 6/26)

June 26: The Minister met with Minister for Agriculture Lt-Gen. Myint Aung, and with Minister for Livestock Breeding & Fisheries Brig-Gen. Maung Maung. He also toured a carpet factory in Dawbon Township and the Myanmar Agriculture Museum in Bahan Township. (NLM 6/27)

June 27: The Minister visited agricultural projects in Hlegu and Bago. (NLM 6/28)

June 28: The Minister visited a farm machinery workshop and various farms in Yangon, and the Pyinmabin Breeding Farm. In the evening, Minister for Livestock Breeding & Fisheries Brig-Gen. Maung Maung hosted a dinner. (NLM 6/29)

June 29: The Minister called on SLORC Chairman Senior General Than Shwe. Later he signed an Agreement on Cooperation in Agriculture with Minister for Agriculture Lt-Gen. Myint Aung. "Under the agreement, prevention of pests against fruits and industrial crops, development in agricultural research, sericulture, hybrid production of paddy seeds, exchange of seeds and technology, technical cooperation, processing, production and trade of agricultural produce, cooperation in agricultural mechanization, production of farm machines, production of canned fruits and

vegetables and establishment of sugar mill will be carried out in cooperation between the two countries." He also visited the Shwedagon Pagoda, and Nyaungdon Kyun in Ayewady Division to study integrated farms. (NLM 6/30)

June 30: Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs U Nyunt Swe and his delegation returned from China. He paid a courtesy call in China on Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Mr. Qian Qichen, and held talks with his counterpart Mr. Tang Jiaxuan. They signed the Second China-Myanmar Joint Boundary Inspection Agreement, toured Beijing, and studied tourism and economic undertakings in Kweilin and Hainan Provinces. [see June issue under Delegations Visit China] (NLM 7/1)

June 30: Chinese Economic Counsellor Mr. Chen Shijie explained Chinese-Myanmar trade relations in a talk at the Chinese Embassy. (NLM 7/1)

July 3: The Defense Service Signals delegation led by Deputy Director Col. Aung Myint of the Office of Director of Signals returned from China [see June issue under Business Delegations] (NLM 7/4)

Chinese Defence Minister

July 5: An 11-member goodwill delegation led by Chinese State Councillor and Minister of Defence Gen. Chi Haotian and wife arrived, at the invitation of Vice-Chairman of the State Law and Order Restoration Council Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) Gen. Maung Aye. On arrival he issued a statement [text in NLM] hailing Chinese-Myanmar friendship and cooperation, and extending cordial greetings from the Chinese people and army.

General Maung Aye hosted a dinner, at which speeches were exchanged [texts in NLM]. In his address, General Chi Haotian noted that "Improvement in relations between the two countries coincided with the continuous growth of contacts between the two Tatmadaws, he said. He pointed out the growing contacts between the two Tatmadaws especially in the past few years. He also spoke of the commitment to strive for the continued progress in friendship and cooperation between the two nations and the two Tatmadaws. (NLM 7/6)

July 6: The Chinese Defence Minister called on SLORC Chairman Senior General Than Shwe, and toured Yangon. His wife, Madame Jiang Qing visited the Pyidaungsu Ayeyeknayein, the Gems Market, and the Gems Emporium Hall, and later went to the University of Culture and shopped at Bogyoke Aung San Market, the Coop Showcase, and Theingyizay Market. (NLM 7/7)

July 7: The delegation visited the Shwedagon Pagoda and the Defence Services Museum, and then flew to Bagan. (NLM 7/8)

July 8: The delegation toured Bagan. (NLM 7/9)

July 9: The delegation toured Mandalay and Pyin Oo Lwin. (NLM 7/10)

July 10: The delegation visited the Flight Training Base at Meiktila. (NLM 7/11)

July 11: The delegation visited Innlay Lake and Taunggyi in Shan State before returning to Yangon, where it saw the Yangon-Thanyin Bridge and the National Theatre. Minister for Transport Lt-Gen. Thein Win hosted a dinner at the Karaweik Hall, accompanied by SLORC Secretary-1 Lt-Gen. Khin Nyunt and others. (NLM 7/12)

July 12: The delegation departed. (NLM 7/13)

Chinese Local Officials

July 5: A Yunnan Economic Delegation headed by Mr. Wang Da Zhang of the Standing Municipal Party Committee, who is also Director of the Administrative Committee of Jie Gao Economic Ruili District, called on Minister for Trade Lt-Gen. Tun Kyi. (NLM 7/6)

July 12: Chairman Mr. Tong Yong Xi of Jian An Township, Shanghai, China, called on Yangon Mayor U Ko Lay. (NLM 7/13)

July 13: Mayor Mr. Meng Piguang of Wanding City, Yunnan Province, called on Minister for Trade Lt-Gen. Tun Kyi. (NLM 7/14)

July 13: a Delegation of the Kunming International Economic and Technical Cooperation Corp. led by General Manager Mr. Zhang Yushi called on Minister for Industry-2 U Than Shwe to discuss joint manufacturing of power-tillers and farm machinery. (NLM 7/14)

July 19: An 8-member delegation led by Chairman Mr. Yin Jun of the People's Congress of Yunnan Province arrived. It called on Minister at the Prime Minister's Office Col. Pe Thein, who hosted a dinner. (NLM 7/20) // July 20: The delegation visited the Shwedagon Pagoda, the Myanmar Gems Museum, the National Theatre, and the Yangon-

Thanlyin Bridge, and watched sports demonstrations at the National Indoor Stadium-1. The delegation called on SLORC Secretary-1 Lt-Gen. Khin Nyunt, and on Minister for Transport Lt-Gen. Thein Win. (NLM 7/ 21) // July 23: The delegation flew to Bagan on July 21, then visited Mandalay, and returned to Yangon. He then departed for home. (NLM 7/24)

July 5: One Heart Trading Co. Ltd. opened a salesroom at Thiri Mingalauyin Teiktha on Strand Road, where products of Yunnan Province will be sold. Managing Director Ms. Zhao Yi Fen and special representative Mr. Zou Guo Yun spoke, as did Managing Director U Aung Kyi of Vehicles and Machinery Equipment Trading. (NLM 7/6)

July 7: Minister for Hotels and Tourism Lt-Gen. Kyaw Ba and his delegation returned from China. [see June issue under Delegations Visit China] (NLM 7/8) // July 8: In China, the Minister met with Chinese National Tourism Administration Bureau Chairman Mr. Lui Yi and other officials from June 28-July 4, including a courtesy call on Deputy Prime Minister Mr. Qian Qichen. From July 4-7 he visited Hong Kong, studying hotel construction and the Ocean Park tourist attraction. (NLM 7/9)

July 17: Inland Water Transport and Yunnan Machinery Import and Export Corp., represented by Chairman Mr. Wu Wen Kuan, signed an agreement for the purchase of shipyard machinery and equipment. IWT, said Minister for Transport Lt-Gen. Thein Win, has five shipyards: "Mandalay Shipyard is only a workshop and out of the remaining four, some were more than 100 years old, he said. Repair of vessels could not be efficiently carried out due to lack of modern facilities...." (NLM 7/18)

[Border trade encouraged]

July 19: (35) The State Law and Order Restoration Council has been most methodically implementing the economic reform programme only after giving precedence to the interests of the entire mass of the people. In 1988 Myanmar foreign exchange reserve was meagre. The government had therefore to urge merchants doing export-import business to export first. Barter systems had to be resorted to because of lack of foreign exchange. Efforts had to be made to open cross-border trade.

An agreement on China-Myanmar border trade was signed in October 1988 and cross-border trade began. This trade was carried on at three points--Namhkan, Muse and Pansaing (Kyukok). Myanmar exported cotton, duck feathers, chicken feed, dried fish, dried prawns, betel nuts, dried plums, isinglass, air bladder, green gram, dried chillies, groundnut cakes, soya bean, pomelo, etc. These were commodities that Myanmar had not thought of exporting in the past.

The Chinese exported to Myanmar medicines, construction materials, tooth-paste, thermos flasks, bicycles, soap powder, baby milk, enamel paints, crockery and other personal goods. These had been black market stores controlled in the past by the BCP. When the border trade was opened it became possible to bring in these commodities after paying Customs Duties at the border and sell them freely in any part of the country. This expedited flow of commodities.

Efforts were also made to open similar border trade with Thailand and with Bangladesh. Border trade with Thailand began in sea-fishing sector. Nineteen companies from various foreign countries approached Myanmar for legal fishing rights. In fact fish resources in Myanmar seas were being poached for a very long time. To try to sell those resources that were being stolen would only bring in cash

Delegations to China

July 26: A nine-member goodwill delegation led by Yangon Mayor U Ko Lay left for China and Vietnam at the invitation of the Mayors of Beijing and Hanoi. (NLM 7/27)

July 26: An eight-member goodwill delegation led by Director of Artillery and Armour Col. Lun Thi left for China at the invitation of Poly Technologists Inc. Co. in China. (NLM 7/27)

Aug. 21: Director U Soung Tin of the Central Statistical Organization left for China to attend an Aug. 23-25 workshop on International Statistical Integration in Beijing, organized by the International Statistical Institute for Netherlands and the Asian Development Bank. (NLM 8/22)

Aug. 30: Tutor Daw Yin Yin Tun of the Mechanical Engineering Department, Yangon Institute of Technology, left for China to study Mechanical Engineering, leading to a Master's Degree, with assistance from the Chinese Government. Lecturer Daw Tin Kyi of the Chinese Language Department, Institute of Foreign Languages, left similarly to attend a Chinese Language Course leading to a Ph.D. Degree. (NLM 8/31)

Delegations to Meetings & Events

Aug. 13: A delegation led by Chief Justice U Aung Toe left for China to attend the Aug. 16-20 6th Meeting of the Chief Justices of Asia and Pacific Region. Other members are Director-General U Ba Than of the Supreme Court, and the Chief Justice's PSO U Myint Thein Tun. (NLM 8/14) // Aug. 25: He returned. (NLM 8/26)

Kunming Trade Fair 95

Aug. 1: The Myanmar trade delegation to the Kunming Trade Fair 95, to be held Aug. 8-16, left for Mandalay, and will continue on by road via Muse. The delegation is led by Minister for Trade Lt-Gen. Tun Kyi, and includes North-East Commander Brig-Gen. Tin Ngwe, South-West Command Tactical Operations Commander Col. Nay Win Oo, Managing Director U Khin Maung Oo of Inspection and Agency Services, Director U Tin Maung Win of the Trade Department, and the Minister's PSO Capt. Moe Kyaw. Also attending the fair are Chairman U Khin Maung Yi and Joint General Secretary U Zaw Min Win of the Myanmar Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Managing Director U Tin Win Aung of Joint Venture Corporation No. 3 Ltd., and representatives of Cooperatives Societies, JVC-6, and 39 business organizations, for a total of 140. A 41-member advance team left by air to Lashio, en route to Kunming to prepare the Myanmar displays. About 150 Myanmar delegation members will attend the opening of the Border Trade Office in Muse on Aug. 3, en route to Kunming. After the trade fair, the Minister and five delegations members will tour China and Hong Kong to discuss trade promotion. (NLM 8/2)

Aug. 3: A second group of 40 flew to Lashio, where they will proceed by road via Muse to the Kunming Fair. (NLM 8/3)

Aug. 9: Minister for Trade Lt-Gen. Tun Kyi and delegation, after dedicating the border trade office in Muse on Aug. 5, went on to China by car on Aug. 6. (NLM 8/10)

Aug. 12: Minister for Trade Lt-Gen. Tun Kyi met with Governor Mr. He Zhi Qing on Aug. 6, and discussed the Trade Fair. On Aug. 7, he met with Secretary Mr. Gao Yan of the Yunnan Communist Party, and with the Chairman of Yunnan Machinery Co. (NLM 8/13)

Aug. 13: Minister for Trade Lt-Gen. Tun Kyi on Aug. 8 inaugurated 50 Myanmar booths, the largest number from any country, at the opening of the Kunming Trade Fair-95. Members of the 160-member Myanmar delegation met with their Chinese counterparts, led by Yunnan Governor Mr. He Zhi Qiang, to discuss economic cooperation. On Aug. 9, the Minister visited the Yun Feng Walking Tractor Factory, and then left for Jinghong in Xishuangbana District, where he visited Ganlanba, a village of Dai nationals. On Aug. 10 they visited the boarder town of Dalo, and returned to Mongla in Myanmar; returning to Jinghong and Kunming. On Aug. 11 they visited the Kunming stone forest, and the Wood Slab Factory that makes slabs and briquettes from sugarcane and sawdust. Myanmar Consul-General U Win Aung hosted a dinner at the Myanmar Consulate-General in Kunming. (NLM 8/14)

Aug. 21: Minister for Trade Lt-Gen. Tun Kyi returned, via Hong Kong, from the Kunming Trade Fair. He had toured China after with four colleagues: Tactical Operations Commander Col. Nay Win Oo of South-West Command, Managing Director U Khin Maung Oo of the Inspection and Agency Services, Director U Tin Maung Win of the Trade Department, and PSO Capt. Moe Kyaw. (NLM 8/22) // Aug. 26: The last batch of Myanmar participants returned home to Yangon. (NLM 8/27)

Aug. 31: Deputy Mayor of Lanzhou Mr. Huang Xue Qi called on Yangon Mayor U Ko Lay. (NLM 9/1) // Sept. 3: Yangon Mayor U Ko Lay hosted a dinner in his honor at the Club House of the city Golf Resort. (NLM 9/4,28))

Military Delegation to China

Sept. 6: A delegation led by Director of Signals of the Ministry of Defence Brig-Gen. Sein Lay left for China at the invitation of the Fenghuo Radio Plant, Shaanxi Province. It includes General Manager U Myint Swe of the Directorate of Defence Services Procurement and military officers. (NLM 9/7) // Sept. 18: The delegation returned. (NLM 9/19)

Sept. 12: The second batch of four, out of 14 vessels worth US\$ 30 million, built under the agreement between Inland Water Transport and Yunnan Machinery Import and Export Corporation were handed over by YMIEC Chairman Mr. Wu Wen Kuan. Five vessels were delivered in January 1995, and the remainder will arrive by the end of this year. SLORC Secretary-1 Lt-Gen. Khin Nyunt inspected the triple-decker Pyi Myanmar-2, which is 48.5 metres long and can carry 30 tons of cargo and 36 first-class, 20 second-class, 48 third-class, and 270 ordinary passengers. The triple-decker Panmawady-1 and 2, 46 metres long, can carry 60 tons of cargo as well as 32 first-, 20 second-, and 60 third-class passengers, with 16 crew. The double-decker Bala Kyaw Htin is 45 metres long and can carry 30 tons of cargo

and 250 passengers (24 in first class), with 12 crew. The triple-deckers will cruise the Chindwin and Ayeyawady Rivers, and the double-decker waterways up to Pyay. (NLM 9/13)

Sept. 13: Chairman Mr. Ouyang Guobin and party of the Yunnan Economic Research Academy called on Minister for National Planning and Economic Development Brig-Gen. Abel. (NLM 9/14) // Sept. 14: He called on officials of the Ministry of Cooperatives. (NLM 9/15) // Sept. 20: He flew Sept. 16 to Mandalay where he met with the Mandalay City Development Committee and visited economic and tourist sites on Sept. 17, leaving Mandalay on Sept. 18. (NLM 9/21)

Sept. 14: President Mr. Wu Wen Kuan and party of Yunnan Machinery Import and Export Corporation, and President Mr. Ni Lian Hai and party of Shandong Native Produce Import and Export Corporation called on Minister for Trade Lt-Gen. Tun Kyi, who hosted a dinner for the two groups. (NLM 9/15)

Sept. 20: A 5-member goodwill delegation led by Minister for Labour Lt-Gen. Aye Thoung left on an official visit to China at the invitation of the Chinese Ministry of Labour. Members are Deputy Commander Col. Thura Aye Myint of No. 33 Light Infantry Division, Chairman U Chit Than of the Social Security Board, Director U Kyaw Win of the Labour Department, and Personal Staff Officer Capt. Zaw Lwin. (NLM 9/21) // Sept. 29: The delegation returned. (NLM 9/30)

Sept. 20: A 15-member delegation led by Minister at the Prime Minister's Office Col. Pe Thein left for China at the invitation of the Yunnan Provincial Peoples Congress Chairman. (NLM 9/21) // Sept. 27: The delegation returned. (NLM 9/28)

Sept. 20: A delegation led by Director Miss Zhu Xia Fang of the China Council for the Promotion of International Trade, Shanghai, called on Minister for Trade Lt-Gen. Tun Kyi. (NLM 9/21)

Sept. 27: A Chinese religious delegation composed of Venerable Shi Neng Xiu of Damin Monastery and Deputy Director for Religious Affairs Mr. Yanhuayi of Lanzhou, Gansu Province, arrived and were welcomed by Myanmar officials and visiting Deputy Mayor Mr. Huang Xue Qi of Lanzhou. (NLM 9/28) // Sept. 28: The delegation called on Yangon Mayor U Ko Lay. (NLM 9/29)

Oct. 3: The Myanmar labour delegation led by Minister for Labour Lt-Gen. Aye Thoung returned Sept. 29 from his visit to China. On Sept. 21 he called on Chinese Labour Minister Mr. Li Boy Yong (who later hosted a dinner), and on Vice-Chairman Mr. Li Jishing of the All-China Federation of trade Unions. On Sept. 22 he visited the Labour Employment Head Office in Beijing, and studied the feedstuff industry run by the Labour Employment Division. On the 23rd, he called on Deputy Prime Minister Mr. Wu Banggyo. On Sept. 24, he went on to Shanghai, and on the 25th toured Labour Department activities in Shanghai and the Fudon Economic Development Zone; in the evening Vice-Governor Mr. Mang Cian of Shanghai hosted a dinner. On Sept. 26, he visited a bicycle factory in Xianjian and was given dinner by Vice-Governor Mr. Li Decheng. On Sept. 28, he went on to Hong Kong and visited the Provisional Airport Authority; he returned to Yangon on September 29. (NLM 10/4)

Oct. 4: Rev. Shi Neng Xiu, Buddhist Abbot of Damang Temple and party of Young Zu in China called on Yangon Mayor U Ko Lay. (NLM 10/5) // Oct. 6: The delegation, which included Deputy Director Mr. Yanghuaiyi of Young Zu Religious Affairs Department of Kyaing Su Province, and Deputy Mayor of Young Zu Mr. Huang Xue Qi, departed. (NLM 10/7)

Oct. 11: A ceremony on exchange of Instruments of Ratification of the Agreement between Myanmar, China, and Laos on the Demarcation of the Trijunction Point of the Common Boundary, was held in Vientiane, Laos. Present were Myanmar Ambassador to Laos U Thein Han, Chinese Ambassador to Laos Mr. Li Jiazhong, and Lao Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs Mr. Phongsavath Bouphe. The Agreement had been signed in Yangon on Apr. 8, 1994. (NLM 10/12)

Oct. 20: 10,000 tons of equipment for the Ministry of Rail Transportation arrived, including six 2,000 HP diesel locomotives, parts for 30 passenger cars, 4,000 metric tons of rail, parts, and 280 tons of sheet piles for bridge construction, all imported from Yunnan Machinery Exports and Imports Corporation of China. (NLM 10/21)

Oct. 25: A Myanmar basketball team led by Federation President U Maung Maung Thwin left for China to participate in the Invitational National Basketball Tournament in Guilin from Nov. 1-5. It includes officials U Chang Kwee (manager), Dr. Moe Zaw (Medical officer), U Maung Maung Hnyat (secretary), U Tint Swe (umpire), U Ye Aung (instructor), and U Pe Than (assistant instructor), and players Nyunt Han, Than Htwe, Aung Naing Win, Maung Maung Myint, Sai Hla Tun, Win Aung, Myo Naing Tun, Tun Than Win, Khin Maung Yi, and Nyi Nyi Maung. (NLM 10/26).

Oct. 30: A boat team left to participate in the Traditional Boat Race in Nanhong, Guangdong Province, China, on Nov. 1-2. The 29 member team is led by Director of Customs Department U Ye Myint, and will compete in the 300-metre and 500-metre events. (NLM 10/31)

Nov. 13: Chief Engineer Mr. Lu Rongchang and members of the Panda Electronics Group of China called on SLORC Secretary-2 Lt-Gen. Tin Oo. (NLM 11/14)

Nov. 17: A contract for renovation of the National Theatre was signed between Director-General U Tin Htoo of the Fine Arts Department and Chinese Commercial Counsellor Mr. Chen Shijie on behalf of National Machinery Import and Export Corporation of China. (NLM 11/18)

Nov. 17: Deputy Director-General Mr. Zhang Rui Kun and party of the Yunnan Foreign Trade and Economic Cooperation Bureau called on Minister for Trade Lt-Gen. Tun Kyi to discuss Yunnan participation in the Myanmar Trade Fair '96. (NLM 11/18)

Nov. 30: A Memorandum of Understanding was signed between the Directorate of Hotels and Tourism and the Shweli District Economic Commission of Yunnan Province for the construction of a 350-room hotel on an island in the Shweli River in Namhkam Township, Myanmar. The Hotel will cost 50 million yuan and be completed within 18 months. (NLM 12/1)

Dec. 1: Minister for Transport Lt-Gen. Thein Win inspected the final consignment of five riverboats, out of a total of 42) delivered by the Yunnan Machinery Import and Export Corporation of China, under an interest-free loan of \$ 30 million. The Myathanda cruise boat will ply the Yangon-Mandalay route; the Shwekeinnari cruise boat will ply between Mandalay and Bagan; the double-deckers Balaminhin, Banyalat, and BanyaU will operate along rivers in the Ayeyawady Division. (NLM 12/2)

Dec. 6: Mr. Wang Wubin and Mrs. Ma Qundi of China arrived to hold a China Water Colour Exhibition in Myanmar. (NLM 12/7) // Dec. 7: Accompanied by the Chinese Ambassador, they called on Minister for Culture Brig-Gen. Thaung Myint. (NLM 12/8) // Dec. 8: The exhibition opened. (NLM 12/9) // Dec. 19: Deputy Minister for Culture U Soe Nyunt hosted a dinner for the Chinese officials. (NLM 12/20)

Chinese Conference Chairman

Dec. 8: Chairman Mr. Li Ruihuan of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference (CPPCC) and party arrived by special flight at the invitation of Vice-Chairman of the State Law and Order Restoration Council Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) Gen. Maung Aye. The Chairman was accompanied by Secretary-General Mr. Zhu Xun of the CPPCC, Members of the CPPCC Standing Committee Mr. Jing Shuping and Mr. Liu Bingsen, CPPCC member Mr. You Deqing, Vice-Minister of Foreign Affairs Mr. Tang Jiaxuan and other officials. Vice-Chairman of the State Law and Order Restoration Council Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) Gen. Maung Aye hosted a dinner for the delegation, at which speeches were exchanged [full texts in NLM].

The SLORC Vice-Chairman noted that SLORC Chairman Senior General Than Shwe would be visiting China in the near future, and that both visits would provide further consolidation of Paukphaw [cousinly -- a term reserved for China-Myanmar relations] friendship.

The Chinese visitor responded noting the long history of China-Myanmar relations, since Myanmar became one of the first countries to establish diplomatic ties with the People's Republic of China. "Our veteran leaders such as Chairman Mao Zedong, Premier Zhou Enlai and General Ne Win forged profound friendship in struggles to safeguard independence and peace in the respective countries." He noted that "Peoples of the nations have the right to freely choose social systems and paths of progress that suit the conditions of their respective nations. In this connection, no nation has the right to say this or that and interfere; no one has the right to dictate his wishes to others by force" and went on to praise the Five Principles of Peaceful Co-existence. (NLM 12/9)

Dec. 11: The Chinese delegation met with Myanmar Ministers at the International Business Centre. Those present included Deputy Prime Minister Vice-Adm. Maung Maung Khin, Deputy Prime Minister Lt-Gen. Tin Tun, Minister for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs Lt-Gen. Maung Thint, Minister for Home Affairs Lt-Gen. Mya Thin, Minister for National Planning and Economic Development Brig-Gen. Abel, Minister for Foreign Affairs U Ohn Gyaw, Minister at the Prime Minister's Office U Than Shwe, and Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs U Nyunt Swe. The Chinese CPPCC Chairman called on SLORC Chairman Senior General Than Shwe. He also toured sights in Yangon. (NLM 12/12)

Dec. 12: The delegation departed for home. (NLM 12/13)

Chinese Air General

Dec. 14: Deputy Commander-in-Chief (Air) Lt-Gen. Xin Dianfeng of China and delegation was received by Vice-Chairman of the State Law and Order Restoration Council Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) Gen. Maung Aye; later he called on Minister for Transport Lt-Gen. Thein Win. (NLM 12/15) // Dec. 18: He visited Mandalay and PyinOoLwin. (NLM 12/19)

Dec. 14: General Manager Mr. Yu Zhu De of Materials Corporation of Broadcast and TV Department of Yunnan Province presented TV retransmission equipment worth K 230,000 to the Myanmar TV and Radio Department. (NLM 12/15)

Dec. 20: The triple-decker riverboat Pammawady-1, purchased from China, was inaugurated in the Yangon-Pathein service. The 46-metre boat can carry 32 passengers in first class, 20 in second, 60 in third, and 108 deck passengers, as well as 60 tons of cargo. (NLM 12/21)

Dec. 20: A five-member Chinese Writers Delegation led by Mr. Yuan Ying arrived under the Cultural Exchange Programme. It called on Minister for Information Maj-Gen. Aye Kyaw, and was hosted at dinner by Managing Director U Than Maung of the Printing and Publishing Enterprise. (NLM 12/21) // Dec. 21: Chairman U Myo Thant (Maung Hsu Shin) of the Myanmar Writers and Journalists Association hosted a lunch for the delegation. (NLM 12/22) // Dec. 27: On Dec. 22-27 the delegation visited Bagan, Popa Park, Mandalay, PyinOoLwin, and Sagaing, before flying on to Taunggyi. (NLM 12/28) // Dec. 29: The delegation toured Shan State, before returning to Yangon. (NLM 12/30). // Dec. 30: The delegation visited Hlawga Park. (NLM 12/31)

Dec. 22: China donated medicines worth 3,000 yuan to the Myanmar Maternal and Child Welfare Association. (NLM 12/23)

Dec. 30: The last five of 14 triple-decker boats purchased from China were received: Banya U, Banya Lat, Bala Min Din, Myat Thanda, Shwe Keinnari. They will operate on the Yangon-Mandalay, Mandalay-Bagan, and Yangon-Delta routs. A second agreement to buy 30 boats was signed in 1994, and the first consignment of six will arrive in January 1996. Altogether, IWT has ordered 72 boats. (NLM 12/31)

Dec. 31: Minister for Information Maj-Gen. Aye Kyaw held a dinner for the Chinese Writers Delegation led by Mr. Yuan Ying. The delegation toured Yangon. (NLM 1/1) // Jan. 1: The delegation toured Bago. (NLM 1/ 2) // Dec. 2: The delegation visited the Printing and Publishing Enterprise, the Defence Services Museum, and the Bogyoke Aung San Market. (NLM 1/3) // Jan. 3: The delegation returned home. (NLM 1/4)

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Chinese Provincial Officials

Jan. 3: A five-member delegation led by Deputy Governor Mr. Liu Jing of Yunnan Province called on Minister for National Planning and Economic Development Brig-Gen. Abel, and on Minister for Transport Lt-Gen. Thein Win. (NLM 1/4) // Jan. 5: The delegation called on Minister for Trade Lt-Gen. Tun Kyi. (NLM 1/6)

Jan. 8: Vice-Governor Mr. Huang Yi of Dehong Prefecture, Yunnan Province, and party called on Minister for Trade Lt-Gen. Tun Kyi. (NLM 1/9)

Jan. 26: Vice-Governor Mr. Zhang Jiakun of Fujing Province, and party, called on Minister for Trade Lt-Gen. Tun Kyi. (NLM 1/27)

Gen. Than Shwe To China

Jan. 2: SLORC Chairman Senior General and Madame Than Shwe will visit China, at the invitation of "the Government and Leaders" of China, in the first half of January 1996. (NLM 1/2)

Jan. 7: SLORC Chairman Senior General and Madame Than Shwe left for China. They were accompanied by SLORC Secretary-1 Lt-Gen. Khin Nyunt and wife, Minister for National Planning and Economic Development Brig-Gen. Abel, Minister for Foreign Affairs U Ohn Gyaw and wife, Minister for Information Maj-Gen. Aye Kyaw, Minister for Construction Maj-Gen. Saw Tun, Minister for Industry-2 Maj-Gen. Kyaw Than, Commander of North-East Command Brig-Gen. Tin Ngwe, and officials from the SLORC, the Defence Ministry, and the Foreign Ministry

On arrival in Beijing, the delegation issued the following Press Release [full text]:

1. At the invitation of the Government and Leaders of the People's Republic of China, Senior General Than Shwe, Chairman of the State Law and Order Restoration Council of the Union of Myanmar, is currently visiting the People's Republic of China on an official friendly visit.

2. The Chairman of the State Law and Order Restoration Council is leading a high-level delegation to further enhance and strengthen the existing friendly ties which have been traditionally nurtured and maintained over the years, and to exchange views and hold discussions between responsible personnel at various levels for the promotion of mutually beneficial economic cooperation between the two countries.

3. During the visit the Myanmar Delegation will hold discussions with the Chinese leaders in further promoting mutually beneficial interests. While in the People's Republic of China, Senior General Than Shwe and members of the Myanmar Delegation will also visit sites of historical and cultural interest as well as economic and industrial centres.

4. The Delegation of Myanmar notes with great appreciation the opportunity to visit the People's Republic of China as the First Delegation in 1996.

5. The Delegation of Myanmar conveys the cordial greetings and goodwill of the people of Myanmar to the people of the People's Republic of China.

(NLM 1/8)

Jan. 8: SLORC Chairman Senior General Than Shwe and his delegation arrived in Beijing on Jan. 7, and were welcomed by Chinese President Jiang Zemin with full ceremonies. [page of photos] (NLM 1/9)

Jan. 10: In Jan. 8, SLORC Chairman Senior General Than Shwe, accompanied by his delegation, held talks with Chinese President Mr. Jiang Zemin. The Chinese side included Vice Premier and Minister for Foreign Affairs Mr. Qian Qichen, Minister for Construction Mr. Hou Jie, Chinese Ambassador to Myanmar Mrs. Chen Baoli, Vice-Minister for Communications Mr. Hong Shanxiang, and Vice-Minister for Foreign Trade and Economic Cooperation Madame Li Guohua.

SLORC Chairman Senior General Than Shwe stressed the need to work for "regional cooperation to secure regional stability and progress," and noted that Myanmar placed emphasis on its regional relations and "at the same time give priority to cooperation with ASEAN nations." The Chinese President recalled the 2,000-year friendship between China and Myanmar, and noted the existence of "ample opportunities in economic and trade sectors between the two countries," referring to "agreements due to be signed during the day. He expressed delight in Myanmar's progress under the leadership of the State Law and Order Restoration Council, and "said he believed sovereign nations must have the right to choose social system and the development course in accord with their own conditions. He said he would not accept in any way putting international pressure and interfering in internal affairs under the pretext of human rights and democracy."

At noon, the following agreements were signed by Minister for National Planning and Economic Development Brig-Gen. Abel and Vice-Minister for Foreign Trade and Economic Cooperation Madame Li Guohua:

ÄÄ Framework Agreement on Provision of Interest-Subsidized Preferential Credit by the Government of the People's Republic of China to the Government of the Union of Myanmar.

ÄÄ Agreement on Economic and Technical Cooperation between the Government of the Union of Myanmar and the Government of the People's Republic of China (Grant)

The following was signed by Myanmar Ambassador to China U Set and Vice-Minister for Culture Mr. Liu Deyou:

ÄÄ Protocol on Cultural Cooperation between the Ministry of Culture of the Union of Myanmar and the Ministry of Culture of the People's Republic of China.

SLORC Chairman Senior General Than Shwe then called on Chairman of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference Mr. Li Ruihuan, who hosted a lunch. The Myanmar delegation then proceeded to the Dagoba of the Sacred Tooth Relic at the Ba Da Chu outside Beijing, where Senior Gen. and Madame Than Shwe paid homage. It was announced separately that the Buddha's Tooth Relic will again visit Myanmar in late 1996.

In the evening, Chinese President Mr. and Mrs. Jiang Zemin hosted a dinner.

Madame Than Shwe visited the All China Women's Federation and the Friendship Store. [full page of photos] (NLM 1/11)

Jan. 13: On Jan. 9, SLORC Chairman Senior General and Madame Than Shwe called on Chinese Premier and Madame Li Peng, who then hosted a lunch. SLORC Secretary-1 Lt-Gen. Khin Nyunt and several ministers met with Secretary-General Mr. Luo Gan of the State Council. Daw Kyaing Kyaing [Mme. Than Shwe] visited the Beihai Kindergarten. The delegation then flew to Shanghai. It received Shanghai Mayor Mr. Xu Kuangdi, and Vice-Mayor Mr. Sha Lin hosted a dinner. On Jan. 10, the delegation drove to Zhangjiagang City, where they were welcomed by Governor Mr. Zheng Silin of Jiangsu Province, who hosted lunch. SLORC Secretary-1 Lt-Gen. Khin Nyunt and the ministers visited the Montresor Food Co. Ltd., supermarkets, restaurants, and the Pedestrian Street, as well as the 271 unit model Qianxixiang Village. Sen-Gen. Than Shwe visited the Shazhou Iron and Steel Works. The delegation went back to Shanghai for the night. On Jan. 11, they visited industries and sights in Shanghai, including the Bell Telephone Equipment Co. where they were welcomed by General Manager Mr. Roger Theys and others. SLORC Secretary-1 Lt-Gen. Khin Nyunt and the ministers visited the Shanghai Constructions Group Cement Factory. The delegation flew on to Kunming. [two pages of photos] (NLM 1/14)

Jan. 13: The delegation returned home to Yangon. (NLM 1/14)

Jan. 14: On Jan. 11, the delegation arrived in Kunming, and was welcomed by Yunnan Province Governor Mr. He Zhiqiang and Vice-Governor Mr. Niu Shaoyao, Kunming Mayor Mr. Wang Tinchun, Myanmar Consul-General U Win Aung and others. On Jan. 12, the Governor escorted the delegation on visits to the Yunnan Institute of the Nationalities and the Kunming Pharmaceutical Factory. Secretary Mr. Gao Yan of the Yunnan Communist Party Standing Committee hosted the delegation at lunch. In the afternoon, SLORC Secretary-1 Lt-Gen. Khin Nyunt and the ministers visited the Yunnan Minority Nationalities Cultures Village. In the evening, the Yunnan Governor called on Senior General Than Shwe, and then hosted a dinner. On Jan. 13, after visiting the Myanmar Consulate-General, the delegation flew back to Yangon. [page of photos] (NLM 1/15) // [two pages of photos] (NLM 1/16)
.c.:Sino-Myanmar Joint Communique

Jan. 13: Joint Communique by Myanmar and China, 13 January 1996 [full text]:

The Chairman of the State Law and Order Restoration Council Senior General Than Shwe paid an official friendly visit to the People's Republic of China from 7 to 13 January, 1996, at the invitation of the Government of the People's Republic of China.

President Jiang Zemin of the People's Republic of China held official talks with Chairman of the State Law and Order Restoration Council Senior General Than Shwe. Premier Li Peng and Chairman Li Ruihuan of the National Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference met with the Chairman Senior General Than Shwe separately. The talks and meetings were held in a warm and friendly atmosphere. The two sides briefed each other on their respective domestic situation and had an in depth and extensive exchange of views on the ways to develop Sino-Myanmar friendly relations and cooperation and on international and regional issues of common concern. During the visit, the two sides signed the (i) Agreement of Economic and Technical Cooperation Between the Government of the People's Republic of China and the Government of the Union of Myanmar; (ii) Protocol on Cultural Cooperation Between the Ministry of Culture of the People's Republic of China and the Ministry of Culture of the Union of Myanmar; and (iii) Framework Agreement on Provision of Interest-Subsidized Credit by the Government of the People's Republic of China to the Government of the Union of Myanmar. The distinguished Myanmar guests also visited industrial, agricultural, cultural and educational projects in Beijing, Shanghai, Zhaingjiagan and Kunming. The two sides are satisfied with the important results of the visit by Chairman Senior General Than Shwe and believe that it has further enhanced their good-neighbourly relations and cooperation and will contribute to peace, stability and development in the region.

The two sides expressed their satisfaction with the rapid development of their relations in recent years. They shared the view that it accorded with the aspiration and interests of the two peoples to constantly consolidate and promote the Sino-Myanmar friendship and cooperation and the traditional Paukphaw friendship between the two peoples. The two sides have agreed to further explore new ways and new areas for expanding their economic cooperation so as to advance their economic and technical cooperation as well as trade to a new high.

The two sides shared extensive consensus on major regional and international issues. They stressed that the Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence jointly initiated by China and Myanmar which had proven in international practice to have strong vitality should continue to serve as the basic norms governing state-to-state relations in international affairs. Both sides agreed that it accorded with the common aspiration and the fundamental interests of the peoples of the region to safeguard regional peace and stability and to intensify bilateral and regional economic cooperation.

The Myanmar side briefed the Chinese side on its domestic situation and external relations. The Chinese side gave a positive appraisal of the new achievements that the Myanmar Government and people made in carrying out the major development objectives in the political, economic and social fields and in their external relations. The Myanmar side reiterated once again that Myanmar would firmly follow the "One China" policy and recognize Taiwan as an inalienable part of China. It would not establish official ties with Taiwan. The Chinese side appreciated Myanmar's position as thus stated.

The Chinese side informed the Myanmar side of the progress it had made in reform and opening-up and the long-term objectives for its future economic development. The Myanmar side positively appraised and congratulated the achievements of the Chinese Government and people scored in economic development, reform and opening-up program and external relations.

The Chairman of the State Law and Order Restoration Council and Madame Than Shwe expressed sincere thanks to the Chinese Government and people for the grand, warm and friendly reception accorded to them during their visit to China. Chairman Senior General Than Shwe invited President Jiang Zemin to visit Myanmar at a mutually convenient time and President Jiang Zemin accepted the invitation with pleasure. (NLM 1/14)

Jan. 6: The Public Works of the Ministry of Construction, represented by Managing Director U Tint Swe, and Yunnan Machinery Export and Import Corporation of China, represented by President Mr. Wu Wen Kuan, signed contracts for the purchase of "heavy equipment valued at \$8,724,000 on three instalments including a two-year grace period." Vice-Governor Mr. Liu Jin of Yunnan Province and various Myanmar officials attended. (NLM 1/7)

Jan. 10: Vice-President Mr. Li Shuzhi of China National Machinery and Equipment Import and Export Corporation called on Minister for Transport Lt-Gen. Thein Win, and discussed building ships for Myanmar Five Star Line. (NLM 1/11)

Jan. 12: Minister for Transport Lt-Gen. Thein Win inspected six double-decker riverboats delivered by the Yunnan Machinery Import and Export Corporation; the first consignment of 30 vessels worth \$40 million under the second agreement between Inland Water Transport and YMIEC. The Danyawady No. 1, Danyawady No. 2, Thallawady No. 1, Thallawady No. 2, Pyigyidagon No. 1, and Pyigyidagon No. 2 will operate along the Chindwin and upper Ayayawady rivers and in Rakhine State. 23 of the vessels are being built in China, and other in Myanmar. (NLM 1/13)

China-Myanmar Cooperation Committee

Jan. 31: The SLORC established the Leading Committee for Promotion of Economic Cooperation between the Union of Myanmar and People's Republic of China "for promotion of bilateral mutual economic cooperation and for implementation of Myanmar's economy with momentum during short-term five-year plan beginning 1996-97 fiscal year":

Chairman: SLORC Secretary-1 Lt-Gen. Khin Nyunt

Members: Ministers for Industry-1; Forestry; Agriculture; Home Affairs; Hotels and Tourism; Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs; Mines; Transport; Rail Transportation; and Industry-1.

Secretary: Minister for National Planning and Economic Development.

(NLM 2/1)

Cultural and Scientific Articles

Feb. 1: Paying obeisance to the Primary Enshrinement of the Buddha Tooth Relic Pagoda being built in Mandalay, by Ba Sein (Religious Affairs). [Two Buddha Tooth Relic pagodas are being built, in Yangon and Mandalay. Although King Anawrahta had tried to convey the Buddha Tooth Relic from China to the Kingdom of Myanmar 950 years ago, it was only in 1994 that China let it be conveyed to Myanmar where it was paid homage in Yangon from Apr. 20-May 4, 1994, and in Mandalay from May 10-18, 1994. "The Buddha Tooth Relic from the People's Republic of China was conveyed to Beijing on 5th June 1994. After that the two Buddha Tooth Relics are still being paid homage in the Union of Myanmar, one in Yangon and another in Mandalay." The First Enshrinement of the Buddha Tooth Relic in Yangon took place on Jan. 4, 1996, attended by SLORC Chairman Senior General Than Shwe. It is learned that the First Enshrinement of the Buddha Tooth Relic in Mandalay will be held Feb. 6, 1996, and all Buddhists are urged to attend.]

Feb. 2: A ceremony was held to hand over the first six double-decker riverboats out of 30 under the second contract for purchase (\$40 million) between Inland Water Transport and Yunnan Machinery Import and Export Corporation,

attended by SLORC Secretary-1 Lt-Gen. Khin Nyunt, SLORC Secretary-2 Lt-Gen. Tin Oo, Chairman Mr. Wu Wen Kuan of YIEC, and others. Of the six boats, the 44.5-metre Danyawady-1 and Danyawady-2 will be used in Rakhine State, the 38.5-metre Thallawady-1 and Thallawady-2 on the Chindwin route, and the 49.6-metre Pyigyitagun-1 and Pyigyitagun-2 on the Mandalay-Bhamo route. (NLM 2/3)

Feb. 8: President Mr. Hu Bai Yin of China Jilin International Economic and Technical Corporation called on Deputy Minister for Construction Col. Aung San. (NLM 2/9)

Feb. 21: Eight Chinese engineers led by Mr. Zhou Xingru arrived to "conduct repair and maintenance of the National Theatre" under the bilateral goodwill programme. They will remain for three months. (NLM 2/ 22)

Feb. 27: President Mr. Wong Keng Seng of the Macao-Myanmar Overseas Chinese Association and party called on Minister for Finance and Revenue Brig-Gen. Win Tin. (NLM 2/28) // Feb. 28: He called on Minister for Hotels and Tourism Lt-Gen. Kyaw Ba. (NLM 2/29)

Feb. 27: A 7-member economic and trade investigation team from the Jingan District Government (Shanghai) led by Deputy Governor Mr. Qu Jun met with Yangon Mayor U Ko Lay, to discuss opening a department store at Yangon City Central Plaza. It also called on Minister for National Planning and Economic Development Brig-Gen. Abel. (NLM 2/28) // Feb. 28: It called on Minister for Trade Lt-Gen. Tun Kyi. (NLM 2/29)

Chinese Women's Day Message

Mar. 7: Chinese Ambassador Mme. Chen Baoliu issued a message on International Women's Day addressed to "Dear 'Pauk Phaw' sisters of Myanmar" [full text in NLM], in which she reported on Chinese implementation of the Declaration and Action Platform adopted in Beijing at the World Conference on Women, in the following areas: (1) Women's Action for Eliminating the Poverty; (2) Women's Action for the Career Work; (3) Women's Action for fighting Illiteracy; (4) Women's Action for Accomplishment; (5) Women's Action for Civilised Behavior. (NLM 3/8)

Mar. 7: Chinese Monk Rev. Yang Ching Chau, Chairman of the Chinese Buddhist Vegetarian Association, donated \$2,500 to the Ministry of Religious Affairs for the Lawkamani Sula Pagoda in Lumbini, Nepal, as well as K300,000 for the Tooth Relic Pagoda in Yangon. (NLM 3/8)

Mar. 8: President Mrs. Wen Yiming of the Women's Association of the Chinese Embassy donated K 100,000 to the Myanmar Maternal and Child Welfare Association. (NLM 3/9)

Mar. 14: President Mr. Lin Zai You and Vice-President Mme. Liu Zhong Rong of Yunnan Machinery & Equipment Import and Export Corp. called on Minister for Transport Lt-Gen. Thein Win to discuss construction of the Bo Aung Kyaw jetty. (NLM 3/15)

Industry Deputy Minister to China

Mar. 18: A four-member Industrial Delegation led by Deputy Minister for Industry-2 U Saw Tun left for China. It includes Managing Director U Lwin Swe of Myanmar Fritz Werner Industrial Co. Ltd., Manager U Lone Khaing of Myanmar Heavy Industries Factory No. 4, Deputy Manager U Kyaw Thein of Factory No. 1, and Head of Branch U Kyaw Nyunt. (NLM 3/19)

Mar. 18: Four 1200 HP Diesel Locomotives purchased from Yunnan Machinery Export and Import Corp., represented by Chairman Mr. Lin Zai You, were delivered in Yangon. Present was Deputy Chief Engineer Mr. Zou Liangyi of Sifang Locomotive and Coach Factory, and Managing Director Thura U Thaung Lwin of Myanmar Railways. "Altogether 16 locomotives are in operation in MR." (NLM 3/19)

Mar. 20: A contract was signed between Myanmar Railways, represented by Managing Director U Thaung Lwin, and China National Complete Import and Export (Group), Yunnan Corporation (Complant), represented by Chairperson Ms. Zhang Lian Ju for the purchase of \$50 million of locomotives, coaches, and heavy equipment, including 10 2,000-HP locomotives, 10 upper class coaches, 18 ordinary class coaches, 35 pieces of heavy equipment, etc. The sellers also donated K 400,000 to the Ministry's welfare association. (NLM 3/21)

Mar. 25: Vice-Chairman Mr. Wang Jinchou and party of China National Complete Plant Import & Export Corporation (Group) called on Minister for Transport Lt-Gen. Thein Win. (NLM 3/26)

Chinese Provincial Delegation

Mar. 26: Vice-Governor of Jiangsu Province Mr. Zhang Huaixi and party called on SLORC Secretary-1 Lt-Gen. Khin Nyunt, in Chairman of the Myanmar Investment Commission Deputy Prime Minister Vice-Adm. Maung Maung Khin, and on Minister for Mines Lt-Gen. Kyaw Min. (NLM 3/27) // Mar. 28: He called on Yangon Mayor U Ko Lay. (NLM 3/29)

Mar. 14: President Mr. Lin Zai You and Vice-President Mme. Liu Zhong Rong of Yunnan Machinery & Equipment Import and Export Corp. called on Minister for Transport Lt-Gen. Thein Win to discuss construction of the Bo Aung Kyaw jetty. (NLM 3/15)

Chinese Labour Delegation

Apr. 3: A five-member goodwill labour delegation led by Deputy Minister for Labour Ms. Liu Yazhi arrived, and visited the Yangon-Thanlyin Bridge. The delegation called on Minister for Labour Lt-Gen. Aye Thoun, who hosted a dinner for it. (NLM 4/4) // Apr. 4: The delegation visited the Shwedagon Pagoda and met with Deputy Minister for Labour U Kyaw Aye. (NLM 4/5) // Apr. 6: The delegation visited Taunggyi on Apr. 5-6; following its return to Yangon it visited Pepsi Cola Products Myanmar Ltd. in Mingaladon Township, the Wood Products Factory of GoldStar Co. Ltd. in Hmawby Township, and the Daewoo International Co. Ltd. (NLM 4/7) //

Apr. 8: The delegation toured Bagan on Apr. 7-8. (NLM 4/9) // Apr. 9: Following an Apr. 8-9 visit by the delegation to PyinOoLwin and Mandalay, and a visit to the Defence Services Museum in Yangon, Minister for Labour Lt-Gen. Aye Thoun hosted a dinner. (NLM 4/10) // Apr. 10: The delegation called on SLORC Secretary-1 Lt-Gen. Khin Nyunt, and then departed for home. (NLM 4/11)

Apr. 4: Officials of the Yuxi Hongta Group Ltd. and Yunnan Tobacco Export and Import Corp. of Yunnan, China, met with newsmen in Yangon to discuss "their intention to invest in Myanmar and quality of Xinxing and Hongtashan cigarettes." (NLM 4/5)

Apr. 8: Vice-Governor Mr. Du Shicheng of Shangdong Province of China, accompanied by 33 Chinese entrepreneurs, called on SLORC Secretary-1 Lt-Gen. Khin Nyunt, and on Minister for National Planning and Economic Development Brig-Gen. Abel, and met with Chairman U Khin Maung Yee of the Union of Myanmar Chamber of Commerce and Industry. (NLM 4/9) // Apr. 9: Minister for Industry-2 Maj-Gen. Kyaw Than hosted a dinner for the group, which also met with entrepreneurs led by the Chairman of the Myanmar Chamber. [see also under Business Openings] (NLM 4/10) // Apr. 10: He called on Deputy Minister for Livestock Breeding and Fisheries U Aung Thein. (NLM 4/11)

Apr. 9: Myanmar Qing Qi Co. Ltd. opened a showroom at 770/772 Maha Bandoola Street, Yangon, to sell Chinese motorcycles. Present were Vice-Governor Mr. Pu Shi Cheng of Shandong Province, Chairman Mr. Zhang Jia Ling of the Qing Qi Group, General Manager Mr. Jiang Sheng Yang of Myanmar Qing Qi Corporation, and others. (NLM 4/10)

Apr. 24: A soccer team led by President of the Myanmar Football Federation (and Director-General of the Sports and Physical Education Department) left to play goodwill matches in Yunnan, China. The team includes U Win Myint (manager), U Nyan Win (instructor), U Thein Tun Thein (assistant instructor), U Htay Aung (secretary), and players Zaw Win Naing, Sai Maung Maung Oo, Kyaw Min, Tin Myo Aung, Tint Zaw, Zaw Oo, Win Zaw, Saw Mya Thwe, Zaw Lay Aung, Myo Thein Aye, Kyi Lwin, Myo Myint Htwe, Aung Bo Hein, Maung Maung Oo, Tin Htwe, Zaw Win Tun, Myint Htay, and Tun Tun Oo. (NLM 4/25)

Apr. 24: Eight Chinese monks accompanied by Deputy Secretary-General Mr. Ni Qiang and Mr. Jin Yang of the International Department of the Buddhist League of China arrived to learn Pariyatti literature at the State Pariyatti Sasana Tekkatho (Yangon); the monks will spend five years at the Tekkatho. (NLM 4/25) // Apr. 25: The monks visited Bago. (NLM 4/26) // The monks will be ordained on Apr. 28. (NLM 4/28) // Apr. 28: They were ordained into the Buddhist Sasana in Maha Theindawgyi at Kaba Aye. (NLM 4/29)

Chinese Deputy Attorney-General

Apr. 25: A delegation led by Deputy Attorney-General Mr. Zhao Hong of China arrived. (NLM 4/26) // Apr. 26: He called on Minister for Home Affairs Lt-Gen. Mya Thin, on Attorney-General U Tha Tun, and on Chief Justice U Aung Toe. The Chinese official is accompanied by Yunnan Province Attorney-General Mr. He Zhanjun, members of

the Attorney-General's Office Mr. Liu Benum and Mr. Ding Kai, Deputy Attorney-General of Jiangsu Province Mr. Wang Jihua, and translator Mr. Wang Zongying of the Chinese Embassy. (NLM 4/27) // Apr. 27: He visited the Shwedagon Pagoda. (NLM 4/28)

Chinese General

Apr. 28: A 16-member goodwill delegation headed by Vice-Chairman of the Chinese Central Military Commission Gen. Zhang Wannian and wife arrived at the invitation of SLORC Chairman Senior General Than Shwe. He issued an arrival statement (full text in NLM) praising the longstanding friendship between China and Burma. The delegation then visited the Shwedagon Pagoda. (NLM 4/29) // Apr. 29: The General called on SLORC Chairman Senior General Than Shwe, and SLORC Vice-Chairman Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) Gen. Maung Aye hosted a dinner for the delegation. The delegation also visited the Defence Services Museum. The General's wife, Mme. Zhong Pei Zhao, toured Yangon and visited the Yangon-Thanlyin Bridge. (NLM 4/30)

Chinese Military Delegation

Apr. 30: Vice-Chairman Gen. Zhang Wannian of the Chinese Central Military Commission, and party, visited the Thanlyin Naval Training Command Headquarters and the Mingaladon Air Force Base. His wife, Mme. Zhong Pei Zhao, visited the Myanmar Gems Museum. Later the delegation flew to Mandalay. (NLM 5/1) // May 2: He visited Mandalay on Apr. 30, and Taunggyi on May 1, returning to Yangon on the morning of May 2. On May 2 he visited the Myanmar Gems Museum. (NLM 5/3) // May 3: He departed. (NLM 5/4)

Chinese Deputy Attorney-General

May 1: Chinese Deputy Attorney-General Mr. Zhao Hong and party called on SLORC Secretary-1 Lt-Gen. Khin Nyunt. Later he departed for home. He had visited Bagan on Apr. 28, and Mandalay on Apr. 29-30. (NLM 5/2)
.c.:Chinese Provincial Delegations

May 2: Governor Mr. Tong Yongzi of Jingan District, Shanghai City, and party called on Minister for Trade Lt-Gen. Tun Kyi and on Yangon Mayor U Ko Lay. (NLM 5/3)

May 8: A Chinese Journalists Delegation led by Deputy Director-General Mr. Zhao Huali of the China Legal Daily called on Managing Director of the News and Periodicals Enterprise. Other delegation members are Director Mr. Liu Zhenyun of the Cultural Department of the Peasants Daily; Director Mr. Yan Li of the Chief Editor's Office of Jiangxi Daily; Director Mr. Jia Chanmung of the Editorial Department of China Pictorial; and Mr. Cai Di of the International Department of the China Journalist Association. (NLM 5/9) // May 9: The delegation visited the Shwedagon Pagoda and the Sarpay Beikman, and went shopping. (NLM 5/10) // May 12: Mandalay Mayor Col. Sein Win hosted a dinner for the delegation. (NLM 5/13) // May 13: The delegation visited PyinOoLwin and Taunggyi. (NLM 5/14) // May 14: It toured Taunggyi, before returning to Yangon. (NLM 5/15) // May 15: The delegation toured Yangon, visiting the National Indoor Stadium No. 1, the Yangon-Thanlyin Bridge, the Defence Services Museum, and the Myanmar Gems Museum. It called on Minister for Information Maj-Gen. Aye Kyaw, who hosted a dinner. (NLM 5/16) // May 16: The delegation visited the Myanmar Television and Radio Department and Dagon University. (NLM 5/17) // May 17: The delegation departed. (NLM 5/18)

May 9: A Chinese delegation headed by Mr. Nopparat Sujaritpinij of UH Trading Co. called on Minister for Transport Lt-Gen. Thein Win to discuss the Thilawa and the Kyaukphyu deep-water ports. (NLM 5/10)

May 11: Myanmar Five Star Line, represented by Managing Director U Khin Maung Htoo, and Yunnan Machinery Import and Export Corporation, represented by Chairman Mr. Wu Wen Kuan, signed an agreement for the purchase a new coastal liner. The 550-ton liner [sic] is 252 feet long, and can carry 440 passengers at 14.5 knots; it will be used on the Taninthayi and Rakhine coastal runs. Two 3,000-ton coastal liners are also being built by Wu Song (Shanghai) Shipyard. (NLM 5/12)

May 15: Chairman Mr. Linzai You of Yunnan Machinery and Equipment Import and Export Corporation called on Minister for Transport Lt-Gen. Thein Win. (NLM 5/16)

May 15: An 11-member Police Delegation led by Chief Mr. Yang Ming of the Yunnan Province Police arrived on May 8. In addition to meeting with Myanmar police officials, it toured Yangon and Mandalay. The delegation departed. (NLM 5/16)

May 16: Deputy Director-General Mr. Zhang Ruikum and party of the Yunnan Bureau of Foreign Trade and Economic Cooperation called on Minister for Trade Lt-Gen. Tun Kyi. (NLM 5/17) // May 18: He called on Director-General U Maung Hti of the Cooperatives Department to discuss Myanmar participation in Kunming Trade Fair '96. (NLM 5/19)

May 16: Deputy Director-General Mr. Zhang Ruikum and party of the Yunnan Bureau of Foreign Trade and Economic Cooperation called on Minister for Trade Lt-Gen. Tun Kyi. (NLM 5/17) // May 18: He called on Director-General U Maung Hti of the Cooperatives Department to discuss Myanmar participation in Kunming Trade Fair '96. (NLM 5/19)

May 21: A contract was signed between Myanma Port Authority, represented by Managing Director U Tin Oo, and Yunnan Machinery and Equipment Import and Export Corporation, represented by Chairman Mr. Linzai You, for construction of a container wharf at Yangon Port. It will accommodate 167-metre container ships, will be 30.5 metres wide, and will be completed in 21 months at a cost of K 744 million and \$27,099,000. (NLM 5/22)

May 24: Myanma Electric Power Enterprise, represented by Managing Director U Zaw Win, and China National Agricultural Machinery Corporation and Hunan Hydroelectric Power Survey and Design Institute signed a Memorandum of Understanding for a the 90 megawatt Kun Hydel Power Plant Project in Phyu, Bago Division. (NLM 5/25)

May 29: Vice-Mayor of Kunming Ms. Lin Shuang Shuang arrived to attend the inauguration of Yangon Shanghai International Shopping Centre. (NLM 5/30) // May 30: She called on Yangon Mayor U Ko Lay. (NLM 5/31)

May 29: A delegation led by Minister for Forestry Lt-Gen. Chit Swe left on a goodwill visit to China and the Philippines. The delegation includes Director-General U Soe Tint of the Planning and Statistics Department, Adviser U Myat Thin, General Manager U Shwe Baw of Myanma Timber Enterprise, and the minister's PSO Capt. Than Aung. (NLM 5/30)

May 31: The Yangon Shanghai International Centre will open June 1. It is a joint investment of Kunming International Economic and Technical Cooperation Company, Shanghai Jing An Industrial and Commerce United Development Company Ltd. and Shanghai Rail Road Economic Development Exploration Co. Women's cosmetics, etc., are on the ground floor; men's Western suits and goods and stationery on the first floor; electric appliances, art, and hardware on the second floor. 140 categories and nearly 10,000 commodities, mostly from Shanghai, being sold. Except for "experienced high-ranking personnel and managers," the nearly 400 staff and managers are Myanmar. Vice-Mayor Mr. Hua Jianmin and Vice-Mayor Ms. Zheng Shuang Shuang will be present. Company Chairman of the Board Mr. Zhang Yushi and General Manager Mr. Li Qingsu met with the press to discuss the opening. (NLM 6/1) // June 1: The opening was attended by State Law and Order Restoration Council as Chairman of the Leading Committee for Bilateral Economic Cooperation between Myanmar and China, and other officials. (NLM 6/2)

June 1: Deputy Mayor of Kunming Ms. Lin Shuang Shuang called on Yangon Mayor U Ko Lay. (NLM 6/2)

June 6: Yunnan Province Adviser Mr. Gao Yan and party called on SLORC Chairman Senior General Than Shwe. (NLM 6/7) // June 9: At the invitation of Minister for Foreign Affairs U Ohn Gyaw, he toured Bagan-NyaungU and Mandalay on June 7-9, returning to Yangon. He then visited the Yangon-Thanlyin Bridge, and the Myanma Gems Museum. (NLM 6/10) // June 10: He called on Minister for National Planning and Economic Development Brig-Gen. Abel, before departing for home. (NLM 6/11)

June 7: Military Attaches in Myanmar, headed by Dean of Military Attaches Sr. Col. Wu Huachang of China, escorted by the Head of Department under the Office of Strategic Studies, visited Kengtung and Tachilek on June 5-6, where they were briefed and taken to sites relating to anti-drug activities and local development. (NLM 6/8)

June 11: The delegation led by Minister for Forestry Lt-Gen. Chit Swe on a Goodwill Visit to China and the Philippines returned. In Beijing on May 30 it called on Chinese Forestry Minister Mr. Xu Youfang, and visited the Beijing University of Forestry. On May 31 it visited the Great Wall, called on Chinese Deputy Prime Minister Mr.

Jiang Chunyun. In Shanghai on June 1, it studied a private firm using Myanmar 'Padauk,' and tourist sights. After visiting a factory making machine parts for wood-based industry, it flew to Shenzhen. On June 3 it visited the Xian Hu Botanical Gardens and other sights in Shenzhen ..returning to Yangon June 11. (NLM 6/12)

June 12: The delegation to China led by Managing Director U Than Maung of Printing and Publishing Enterprise returned. (NLM 6/13)

June 12: Chairman Mr. Li Shuming and party of Carrie Enterprises Ltd. of China called on Chairman of the Myanmar Investment Commission Deputy Prime Minister Vice-Adm. Maung Maung Khin. (NLM 6/13)

June 15: 1,000 engines and gear-box sets for Leya-12 power tillers arrived from China. Another 1,500 sets will arrive soon. (NLM 6/16)

June 28: The 12-HP tillers, produced since January with Chinese engines and gear-boxes, are selling well, and are "capable of ploughing, harrowing, harvesting, pumping and transport. No. 1 Factory in Yangon produces 30 per day, and No. 2 Factory in Kyaukse 20. So far, 1,493 have been distributed around the country. Another 1,500 engines will arrive in July. (NLM 6/29)

July 2: A Chinese economic delegation headed by Director Mr. Ma Xing Yuan of Committee of Ning Bo of China called on Chairman of the Myanmar Investment Commission Deputy Prime Minister Vice-Adm. Maung Maung Khin. (NLM 7/3) // July 3: It called on Minister for National Planning and Economic Development Brig-Gen. Abel. (NLM 7/4)

Attorney-General to China

July 3: A goodwill delegation headed by Attorney-General U Tha Tun left for China. It includes Director U San Maung and Deputy Director U Maung Maung Hla of the Attorney-General's Office, Mandalay Law Officer U Han Shein, Shan State (North) Joint Law Officer U Tin Thein Maung, and PSO U Win Myint. (NLM 7/4) // July 12: The delegation returned. (NLM 7/13)

July 3: Public Works, represented by Managing Director U Tint Swe, and China National Construction and Agricultural Machinery Import and Export Corp., represented by Vice-Chairman Mr. Jiang Zhao Rong, signed a contract to supply steel truss "at low price" for the Ayeyawady Bridge (Nyaungdon) project. (NLM 7/4)

July 3: A goodwill delegation from Yunnan Province headed by Party Secretary Mr. Zhang Pan Dao of Lu Si County of China called on Minister for Trade Lt-Gen. Tun Kyi to discuss border trade, and on Minister for Health U Saw Tun. (NLM 7/4)

July 4: The delegation led by Minister for Industry-2 Maj-Gen. Kyaw Than returned from China. (NLM 7/5) // July 10: Chronicle of the delegation's visit, which included automobile and truck production and assembly plants in many cities in China between June 19-29. On June 30, it flew to Bangkok, and again visited vehicle factories in Bangkok and Chiangmai, returning to Yangon on July 3. (NLM 7/11)

July 13: A women's delegation led by Deputy Director U Kyaw Hlaing of the Department of Cooperatives and Director Daw Khin Aye Mu of Mingalamay Women's Cooperative Society left for China at the invitation of the International Trade Promotion Council of Chongqing Province. (NLM 7/14)

July 15: General Manager Mr. Lin Wei Qing and party of Dadonghai Tourism Centre Holding Co. Ltd. of Hainan, China, called on Minister at the Prime Minister's Office Brig-Gen. Lun Maung. (NLM 7/16)

July 20: The National Narcotics Control Commission (NNCC) of China, represented by Mr. Wang Qing Rong of NNCC and Mr. Dong Jia Lui of UPNCC of Yunnan; the Central Committee for Drug Abuse Control of Myanmar represented by Joint Secretary Police Col. Ngwe Soe Tun; and UNDCP, represented by Mr. Vincent McClean and Mr. Richard Dickens, met in Shweli, Yunnan Province, China, on July 26, and "discussed exchange of information on prevention of trafficking across the Myanmar-China border, communications and eradication and controlling of narcotics." (NLM 7/21)

July 23: Six boats from the Yunnan Machinery Import Export Corporation of China were handed over to the Inland Water Transport department, under a second contract to build 30 boats worth \$40 million with interest-free loans. Under the contract, 23 will be built in China and 7 in Myanmar; 12 boats have arrived. (NLM 7/24)

July 24: A delegation headed by Vice-Chairman of Yangon City Development Committee Vice-Mayor Col. Maung Pa of Yangon left for Kunming at the invitation of its Vice-Mayor. With him are YCDC member Col. Thaung Wai and Deputy Head of the Budget and Accounts Department Daw Win May. (NLM 7/25)

Yangon Delegation to Kunming

July 24: A delegation led by Director-General U Kyi Lwin of Myanmar Television and Radio Department left on a study tour of China, Hong Kong, and Thailand. He was accompanied by Staff Officers Daw Khin Myo Win, U Han Myint, Daw Than Than Maw, and technician U Steven Sein Nyunt. (NLM 7/25)

July 24: A Myanmar Buddhist delegation led by Minister for Religious Affairs Lt-Gen. Myo Nyunt left for China. Members are Director-General U Arnt Maung and Assistant Director U Tint Wai of the Religious Affairs Department, Adviser to the Ministry U Maung Maung Lay, Director U Thein Swe of the Department for Promotion and Propagation of the Sasana, Maj. Than Kyaing of the Ministry of Defence, Secretary U Tin Hlaing of the Yangon East District Union Solidarity and Development Association, and the Minister's PSO Capt. Tint Kyaw. (NLM 7/25)

Aug. 1: A first contingent of 13 entrepreneurs, led by U Tun Thura of No. 1 Emporium Cooperative Syndicate left for China to participate in the Aug. 8-15 Kunming Trade Fair 96. 81 representatives of 28 Myanmar cooperative societies will display products "such as marine products, finished wood products, paintings, sculptures, jade, jewellery...." (NLM 8/2) // Aug. 2: Another 29 cooperative syndicate entrepreneurs and 8 Myanmar Chamber of Commerce and Industry members led by MCCI official U Win Myint left for Kunming. (NLM 8/3) // Aug. 7: 29 members of the Board of Directors of Cooperative Societies of Yangon Division, left for Kunming, bringing the total to 78. Also, Deputy Director U Tin Aye of the Trade Department and Assistant Director U Ye Myint of the Cooperatives Department left for the Fair. A total of 273 members of joint venture corporations, cooperative societies, and the private sector will participate. (NLM 8/8)

Aug. 2: Director-General of Technology, Import & Export Administration Department of the Chinese Ministry of Foreign Trade Mr. Liu Hu and party called on Minister for National Planning and Economic Development Brig-Gen. Abel to discuss cooperation in ceramics, steel, and hydel-power. (NLM 8/3) // Aug. 5: He called on Minister for Trade Lt-Gen. Tun Kyi, and on Chairman of the Myanmar Investment Commission Deputy Prime Minister Vice-Adm. Maung Maung Khin. (NLM 8/6)

Labour Delegation to China

Aug. 14: A goodwill delegation led by Deputy Minister for Labour U Kyaw Aye left for China "to promote friendly relations and cooperation between the two countries." The Deputy Minister was accompanied by Chairman U Aung Ba Kyi of the Social Security Board, Director-General U Sein Myint of the Directorate of Labour, Director U Okka of the Factories and General Labour Laws Inspection Department, and Secretary Dr. Htay Naing of the Myaungmya Township Union Solidarity and Development Association. (NLM 8/15) // Aug. 15: The delegation had discussions with the Union Solidarity and Development Association at City Hall, and promised ongoing cooperation. (NLM 8/16) // Aug. 21: The delegation returned. (NLM 8/22) // Aug. 23: On Aug. 15, the delegation called on Chinese Minister of Labour Mr. Li Boyong and met with Vice-Minister Ms. Liu Yazhi. It visited schools and factories, and called on Vice-Minister of Civil Affairs Mr. Xu Rui-xing. On Aug. 17 it visited the Great Wall and the Pudong Industrial Zone of Shanghai. It also visited cultural sites in Beijing, Shanghai, Shenzhen, and Kunming. (NLM 8/ 24)

Chinese Youth Delegation

Aug. 14: A 5-member delegation led by Vice-Chairman Mr. Li Denghai of the All China Youth Federation arrived at the invitation of the Union Solidarity and Development Association. (NLM 8/15) // Aug. 15: The delegation visited the Myanmar Gems Emporium. It also met with the USDA and agreed on "five points" promising continued contact and cooperation. (NLM 8/16) // Aug. 18: The delegation visited Mandalay on Aug. 17, and was dined by Central Commander Maj-Gen. Ye Myint. On Aug. 18, the delegation was dined in Yangon by Minister for Energy U Khin Maung Thein. (NLM 8/ 19) // Aug. 19: The delegation departed. (NLM 8/20)

Aug. 27: Vice-Chairman Mr. An Chengxin of the China Council for the Promotion of International Trade, and delegation, called on Chairman of the Myanmar Investment Commission Deputy Prime Minister Vice-Adm. Maung Maung Khin. (NLM 8/28) // Aug. 28: He called on Chairman of the Myanmar Investment Commission Deputy Prime Minister Vice-Adm. Maung Maung Khin. (NLM 8/29) // Aug. 29: He called on Minister for Cooperatives U Than Aung. (NLM 8/30)

Aug. 28: Junior Clerk Daw Khin Pa Win of the Department of Trade left for China to attend a two-year diploma course. (NLM 8/29)

Aug. 28: An agreement was signed between Myanma Five Star Line, represented by Managing Director U Khin Maung Htoo, and China Harbour Engineering Co. (CHEC), represented by Project Manager Mr. Wang Yan, for driving piles for the Thakayta Wharf Construction Project. 216 piles will be driven for the first 220-metre wharf, to be completed in November. (NLM 8/29)

Aug. 28: "A ceremony to enshrine sacred relics of Kundaung of Buddha Tooth Relic Pagoda was held on Dhammapala Hill in Mayangon Township," Yangon, attended by Chairman of the Leading Committee for Building of Tooth Relic Pagoda SLORC Secretary-1 Lt-Gen. Khin Nyunt, and top Buddhist and government officials. 429 Buddha statues were enshrined in eight chambers of the pagoda, and the pivot was installed. (NLM 8/29) // Aug. 30: Enshrinement ceremonies were attended by SLORC Chairman Senior General and Madame Than Shwe. The following "note" was read [full text]:

"The Union of Myanmar and the People's Republic of China had brotherly relations in the past. With the aim of strengthening the existing friendly ties, Buddha's Tooth Relic has conveyed from the People's Republic of China to the Union of Myanmar with the mutual agreement of the Governments and the peoples. As the Tooth Relic had been kept for 45 days in the country, the national brethren of the Union paid obeisance to it to their heart's content. The Government and the people of Myanmar has striven with the uttermost and noblest convictions and zeal to build two Tooth Relic Pagodas in the country. With the patronage of Head of State Senior General Than Shwe, the ground-clearing ceremony, the ground-breaking ceremony, the foundation-laying ceremony, and Thattahtana enshrinement ceremony could be held in pomp and pageantry. And now, the central reliquary enshrinement and central pivot putting up ceremony has been held successfully. At 9 hours 9 minutes and 18 seconds, Friday, 30 August, 1996 AD, the First Waning of Wagaung, 1358 ME in the span of Buddha Sasana, holy deeds such as enshrinement of sacred objects in the pagoda, receiving of the Nine Precepts from the members of the Sangha, attending to the parittas and offering of alms were performed at the central reliquary enshrinement and central pivot putting up ceremony of the Tooth Relic Pagoda, which is the donation of the public with the patronage of the State Law and Order Restoration Council. These merits are shared to the beings of all abodes." [2 pages of photos] (NLM 8/31)

Sept. 1: A three-member delegation led by Yangon Mayor U Ko Lay left for China to attend the 5th World Conference of Historical Cities in Xi'an, as well as to consecrate Buddha images donated by Myanmar at the Bamein Temple in Jiangsu Province. Members are Department heads U Khin Maung Myint, U Min Thein, and U Tin Maung Win. (NLM 9/2) // Sept. 11: The delegation returned. (NLM 9/12)

Sept. 1: The Myanmar delegation led by Minister for National Planning and Economic Development Brig-Gen. Abel returned from the Sixth Ministerial-level meeting on Mekong Region cooperation, held in Kunming, China. (NLM 9/2) // Sept. 3: The meeting was attended by delegates from Cambodia, China, Laos, Myanmar, Thailand, and Vietnam, and by representatives from the ADB, ASEAN, Australian Agency on International Development (AUSAID), Japan Export Import Bank (JEXIM), Indonesia, Japan, New Zealand, Singapore, the Mekong Region Commission (MRC), the Overseas Economic Cooperation Board (OECB), economic cooperation boards of Cambodia, Laos, and Myanmar, UNDP, and the World Bank. Minister for National Planning and Economic Development Brig-Gen. Abel discussed Myanmar economic reform and opportunities for development of infrastructure in the Mekong region. He met with Secretary Mr. Gao Lang of the Yunnan Regional Committee of the Chinese Communist Party, to discuss economic cooperation. He also met with Governor Mr. He Zhigiang and Vice-Governor Mr. Liu Jing of Yunnan Province to discuss "car and rail road linking Myanmar and Yunnan and border trade." (NLM 9/4)

Sept. 2: President Mr. Xue Zhao and party of China National Export Bases Development Corp. called on Chairman of the Myanmar Investment Commission Deputy Prime Minister Vice-Adm. Maung Maung Khin, and on Minister for Livestock Breeding & Fisheries U Aung Thaung. (NLM 9/3)

Sept. 3: A memorandum of understanding was signed between Myanma Hotel and Tourism Services, represented by Managing Director U Soe Thein, Team Success International Ltd., represented by Mr. Xiang Cheng, The Golden Dragon Group Co. Ltd., represented by Mr. Luo Qing, and Yunnan Machinery and Export Cooperation (Consortium), represented by Mr. Cheng Fang, for a 20-year lease and \$3.5 million renovation of Karaweik Hall. (NLM 9/4)

Sept. 4: A 25-member cultural troupe led by Director (Admin) U Ngwe Tun of the Fine Arts Department left for China under the cultural exchange programme. (NLM 9/5)

Sept. 10: Chairman Mr. Yin Zilie and party of China International Enterprises Cooperative Corp. called on Minister for Transport Lt-Gen. Thein Win to discuss construction of the Hanthawady International Airport. (NLM 9/11)

Sept. 11: A delegation led by Deputy Minister for Transport U Sann Wai, including officials from Myanma Five Star Line, left for China to attend the Sept. 15 launching of the 3,000 ton freighter Mongla, being built at the Zhong Hua Shipyard and Shanghai by Yunnan Machinery Export and Import Corporation for the Myanma Five Star Line. (NLM 9/12)

Sept. 11: A labour study mission led by Director-General U Tun Shwe of the Labour Department left for China. Other members are Branch Head U Thein Lwin of the Yangon City Development Committee, Division Head U Kyaw Soe of the Ministry of Industry-1, and Security Officer U Thaung Han of the Central Inland Freight Handling Committee. (NLM 9/12) // Sept. 18: It returned Sept. 17. (NLM 9/19) // Sept. 19: It returned Sept. 18. (NLM 9/20)

Sept. 19: The freighter Mongla, being built at the Zhong Hua Shipyards in Shanghai by Yunnan Machinery Import and Export Corporation for Myanma Five Star Lines, was launched on Sept. 16. The launching was attended by Deputy Minister for Transport U Sann Wai, who arrived in China on Sept. 11 and returned Sept. 19. (NLM 9/20)

Oct. 1: Chinese and Myanmar officials discussed Prevention of Infectious Diseases in China-Myanmar Border Areas at the Medical Research Department. Present were 19 officials of WHO and China, 27 Myanmar officials, and officials from UNICEF and JICA. Speakers included Director-General Dr. Hla Myint of the Health Department, Dr. Daizhi Cheng of the Disease Prevention Department of China, WHO Resident Representative Dr. Klaus Wagner, West Pacific WHO Representative Dr. D. J. Bilous, and South-East Asian WHO Representative Dr. Imam Morchny. "The meeting discussed programmes to wipe out polio in China and Myanmar and assistance to be rendered by WHO." (NLM 10/2)

Oct. 2: Chairman Mr. Kong Chui Zhu of Paosan Region Foreign Goodwill Association of Yunnan, China, and party called on Minister for National Planning and Economic Development Brig-Gen. Abel. (NLM 10/3) // Oct. 3: He called on Minister for Construction Maj-Gen. Saw Tun, and on Minister at the Deputy Prime Minister's Office Secretary of the Myanma Investment Committee Brig-Gen. Maung Maung. (NLM 10/4) // Oct. 9: He called on Minister for Hotels and Tourism Lt-Gen. Kyaw Ba before leaving for home. (NLM 10/10)

Oct. 9: A 28-member Chinese cultural troupe led by Deputy Director-General Mr. Liu Shen of the Foreign Relations Bureau, Ministry of Culture, arrived and will entertain the public at the National Theatre on Myoma Kyaung Road from Oct. 10-12. In the evening, SLORC Secretary-1 Lt-Gen. Khin Nyunt attended a special show. (NLM 10/10) // Oct. 14: Mandalay Commander Maj-Gen. Ye Myint hosted a dinner for the troupe. (NLM 10/15) // Oct. 15: The troupe performed in Mandalay on Oct. 14. (NLM 10/16)

Oct. 10: Chinese pilgrims, on their fourth visit to Myanmar, offered soon to 1,000 Sangha members and donated a car. (NLM 10/11)

Oct. 16: A five-member cultural delegation led by Minister for Culture U Aung San left on a study tour of China at the invitation of Chinese Minister for Culture Mr. Liu Zhongde. Members are Lecturer U Ye Htut of the University of Culture, Executive U Thein Swe of the Htilin Township Union Solidarity and Development Association, Secretary U Win Myint Maung of the Gangaw Township USDA, and Personal Staff Officer to the Minister U Thaung Win. (NLM 10/17) // Oct. 26: On Oct. 17, in Beijing, he met with Chairman Mr. Liiu Peng of the All China Youth Federation, and called on member of the Political Bureau State Counsellor Mr. Li Tie Yint. On Oct. 20, he met with Vice-Governor Ms. Fen Shao Min of Shaanxi Province in Xian, and on Oct. 21 with General Secretary Mr. Song Zhiwang of Shen Zhen Municipal People's Government. He also visited the China Conservatory of Music, the Chinese Acrobatic Troupe, the Tooth Relic Pagoda Palace Museum, and the Buddhist Temple in Beijing. In Xian he visited the Museum of

Terracotta Warriors, the Ancient Crafts Production Department, Famen Si Temple, and Xian Yang Historical Museum. He visited the Shen Zhen Historical Museum, the Exhibition of 15th Anniversary founding, the China Folk Culture Villages, and the National Library in Shen Zhen. (NLM 10/27)

Oct. 22: Chinese technicians, who built a pavilion for the Shukhintha Amusement Park, donated by the Mayor of Yang Zhou Province, were given certificates and souvenirs by Yangon Mayor U Ko Lay. (NLM 10/23)

Oct. 23: A six-member Chinese media delegation led by Deputy Minister Mr. Yang Wei-guang of Radio, Motion Pictures and Television, arrived under the bilateral China-Myanmar exchange program, and called on Minister for Information Maj-Gen. Aye Kyaw, who hosted a dinner. (NLM 10/ 24) // Oct. 26: He called on Minister for Information Maj-Gen. Aye Kyaw; Deputy Minister for Information U Thein Sein hosted a dinner for the visitors. (NLM 10/27) // Oct. 27: On Oct. 25 he flew to Bagan, and on Oct. 26 flew on to Mandalay, visiting cultural sites. He returned to Yangon and departed for home on Oct. 27. (NLM 10/28)

Oct. 28: Governor Mr. Qui Sanyi of Nuxian County, Yunnan Province, China, called on Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation Lt-Gen. Myint Aung to discuss investment, etc. (NLM 10/29)

Chinese Goodwill Delegation

Oct. 28: A Chinese goodwill delegation led by Mayor Mr. Shi Guoxing of Yang Zhou called on Yangon Mayor U Ko Lay. He was accompanied by Yanguo Director of Foreign Office Mr. Ding Zhang Hua, Deputy Director of the Economic Commission Mr. Yang Sheng, Director of the Religious Bureau Mr. Jiang Renfu, and Mr. Zhang Lian Sheng of the Foreign Office. Mayor U Ko Lay hosted a lunch. (NLM 10/29) // Oct. 29: He presented a "Chinese tradition powered cruise-boat" to Yangon Mayor U Ko Lay, and opened a Yang Zhou pavilion. (NLM 10/30)

Oct. 29: A workshop on "drawing of southern Wa region development project," under the Myanmar/China drug control programme, was held at the Myanmar Police Force Head Office. (NLM 10/30)

Nov. 1: Chinese Buddhist pilgrims led by Theravada Buddhist Monk Ven. Su San Li (Hung Miao) of Maesai, Thailand, donated 3,000 sets of robes, stationery, and a Toyota car to the State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee. The monk had previously visited in 1994. (NLM 11/2)

Nov. 5: Chairman Mr. Chan Fat Chu and party of Tem Fat Hing Fung (Holdings) Ltd. and the Chinese Gold and Silver Exchange Society called on Minister for Commerce Lt-Gen. Tun Kyi. (NLM 11/6)

Nov. 7: A delegation led by Mr. Chen Gong Ze of the Chengda Chemical Engineering Corp. of China from Sichuan Province called on Minister at the Deputy Prime Minister's Office Secretary of the Myanma Investment Committee Brig-Gen. Maung Maung. (NLM 11/8)

Nov. 13: A Chinese Buddhist goodwill delegation led by Deputy Director-General Mr. Luo-sang Chinai of the Religious Bureau of the Chinese State Council, arrived. It called on SLORC Secretary-1 Lt-Gen. Khin Nyunt. (NLM 11/14) // Nov. 15: The delegation met with the State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee. (NLM 11/16) // Nov. 21: The delegation left. (NLM 11/22)

Nov. 14: A 61-member Jiangsu [China] Provincial Trade Delegation, led by Mr. Wu Fumin and comprising representatives of 30 companies, held a press conference; they will display machinery, electronic appliances, chemicals, and textiles. (NLM 11/15)

Nov. 14: General Manager Mr. Wang Rongsheng of the China State Shipbuilding Corp. called on Minister at the Deputy Prime Minister's Office Secretary of the Myanma Investment Committee Brig-Gen. Maung Maung. (NLM 11/15)

Nov. 15: Team Success International Co. Ltd. was inaugurated, in the presence of Chairman Mr. Ning Chang Hui and General Manager Mr. Xiang Cheng, Minister at the Prime Minister's Office Brig-Gen. Lun Maung, Yunnan entrepreneur Mr. Lin Jian, and Chairman U Kyaw Myint of Hnin Hnin Khaing Co. (NLM 11/16)

Nov. 19: An agreement was signed between the Cooperatives Department, represented by Director U Kyaw Thein, and Simar Machinery Co. Ltd. of Sichuan Province, China, represented by Managing Director Mr. Zhaodan to buy 1,000 Sefang "walking tractors," for use by agricultural cooperative societies throughout Myanmar. (NLM 11/20)

Nov. 21: A Chinese economic mission called on Minister for Livestock Breeding & Fisheries U Aung Thaung to discuss fisheries, chicken, and pork. (NLM 11/22)

Nov. 22: Vice-Chairman Mr. Zhu Shi Ken and party of the Jingan Township People's Government of China called on Yangon Mayor U Ko Lay. (NLM 11/23)

Nov. 27: A "transport and communication routes study delegation" from Yunnan Province, China, toured the Ayeyawady by boat from Bhamo to Mandalay on Nov. 20-23. (NLM 11/28) // Nov. 29: Between Nov. 27-29 the mission surveyed the Ayeyawady River between Bagan and Pyay. On Nov. 29, it left Pyay for Hinthada. (NLM 11/30)

Nov. 27: China donated deep freezers and communications equipment to the Ministries of Education and Information. (NLM 11/28)

Dec. 1: The Yunnan Province Transport and Communications Delegation travelled the Ayeyawady River from Pyay to Hinthada on Nov. 29. On Dec. 1 they it visited the Shwedagon Pagoda in Yangon. (NLM 12/2) // Dec. 4: The delegation departed. (NLM 12/5)

Dec. 1: Let us welcome and pay deep homage to the Sacred Tooth Relic of the Buddha from the People's Republic of China, by Ba Sein (Religious Affairs). [It will arrive Dec. 6.]

Dec. 2: Schedule for the "Tooth Relic's places of residence for public homage." It will arrive on Dec. 6, and be taken to Maha Pasana Cave at Kaba Aye for 30 days. On January 5, it will be conveyed to Mandalay, with one-night stops at Bago, Nyaunglebin, Toungoo, Pyinmana, Meiktila, and Kyaukse. The Relic will be kept at the Atumashi Kyaungdaw and the Mandalay Tooth Relic Pagoda for 21 days. On Feb. 1, it will be returned to Yangon with one-night stops at Myingyan, Bagan-NyaungU, Magway, Aunglan, Pyay, and Thayawady. It will be kept at the Yangon Tooth Relic Pagoda from Feb. 7 to March 5, when it will go back to China. (NLM 12/3)

Dec. 6: Buddha's Tooth Relic (Upper left eyetooth) arrived from China, and was met at the airport by Senior General and Madame Than Shwe, who paid homage to it. It was then ceremoniously conveyed to the Maha Pasana Cave at Kaba Aye, where it will remain for public reverence until January 4. [two pages of photos] (NLM 12/7)

Dec. 9: Senior General and Madame Than Shwe participated in the conveyance of sacred relics for enshrinement at the upper reliquary of the Mandalay Tooth Relic Pagoda. [page of photos] (NLM 12/10)

Dec. 14: Senior General and Madame Than Shwe conveyed the Shwehtidaw (golden umbrella) to the top of the Mandalay Tooth Relic Pagoda. [page of photos] (NLM 12/15)

Dec. 7: Deputy Director-General Mr. Liu Shu Xiang of the Religious Bureau of the State Council of China and party, who are escorting the Tooth Relic, called on Minister for Religious Affairs Lt-Gen. Myo Nyunt, accompanied by Chinese Rev. Jinh Hui of the Mahayana Sect and Chinese Ambassador Ms. Chen Baoliu. (NLM 12/8) // Dec. 10: The delegation visited Bagan and Mandalay on Dec. 8-10. (NLM 12/11) // Dec. 12: The "security group" returned home to China. (NLM 12/13)

Dec. 8: A Chinese Youth Buddhist Association delegation led by Chinese monk Sik Cheong Wai offered robes and soon to the Sangha. (NLM 12/9)

Dec. 10: A contract for production of wood-based finished products was signed between Myanmar Timber Enterprise, represented by Managing Director U Shwe Baw, and Yunnan Machinery and Equipment Export and Import Corporation (YMEC) of China, represented by Chairman Mr. Lin Zai You. (NLM 12/11)

Dec. 10: Secretary to the Chairman Mr. Li Shuming of China Carrie Enterprises Ltd. met with Minister at the Deputy Prime Minister's Office Secretary of the Myanmar Investment Committee Brig-Gen. Maung Maung to discuss a paper mill. (NLM 12/11)

Dec. 10: A contract to "jointly produce concrete sleepers under BOT system" was signed by Myanmar Railways, represented by Managing Director Thura U Thaung Lwin, and China National Complete Plant Import & Export

Yunnan Corporation (Complant), represented by Mr. Yang Fa. Complant will invest \$12 million in a factory in Myitnge to produce 300,000 concrete sleepers [railway ties] per year. (NLM 12/11)

Chinese Goodwill Delegation

Dec. 11: A goodwill delegation led by Chairman Mr. Wang Damang of the Political Consultative Conference Beijing Committee arrived, at the invitation of Yangon Mayor U Ko Lay, and called on Deputy Prime Minister Vice-Adm. Maung Maung Khin. (NLM 12/12) // Dec. 12: It toured sights in Yangon, including the Defence Services Museum, the National Museum, and the Thakayta Viewpoint Amusement Park, and called on Yangon Mayor U Ko Lay. (NLM 12/13)

Dec. 12: Chinese Buddhist pilgrims led by Nun Ti Yi Far Sil of Feng Tone Ton San Nunnery offered robes and soon to the Sangha. (NLM 12/13)

Dec. 18: A two-member delegation from China TV Theatre Production Centre, led by Deputy Director-General Mr. Hu En, arrived under the cultural exchange program, and called on Deputy Minister for Information U Thein Sein, who hosted a dinner for the pair. (NLM 12/19)

Dec. 27: Yunnan Province Vice-Governor Mr. Liang Gong Qing and party called on Chairman of the Myanmar Investment Commission Deputy Prime Minister Vice-Adm. Maung Maung Khin. (NLM 12/28) // Dec. 28: He called (jointly) on Chairman of the Myanmar Investment Commission Deputy Prime Minister Vice-Adm. Maung Maung Khin, Minister for Hotels and Tourism Lt-Gen. Kyaw Ba, Minister at the Office of Deputy Prime Ministers U Khin Maung Yin, Minister at the Office of Prime Minister Brig-Gen. Lun Maung, Minister for Information Maj-Gen. Aye Kyaw, Deputy Minister for Hotels and Tourism Brig-Gen. Tin Aye and others. He also called separately on Minister for Hotels and Tourism Lt-Gen. Kyaw Ba. (NLM 12/29)

Bombs at Tooth Relic Pagoda

Dec. 25 [full text]: "Bombs explode while large number of pilgrims pay homage to Sacred Tooth Relic. A bomb exploded in the shadows south of two lion statues at the Kaba Aye Pagoda's eastern stairway at 8.20 pm today, but no one was hurt.

"As the authorities were investigating the explosion, while a large number of pilgrims were paying homage to the Sacred Tooth Relic in the Maha Pasana Cave as it was Christmas Day and Full-moon Day of Nadaw, a second explosion occurred from within a vase at the place where flowers were offered at 10.35 pm.

"Seven security members on duty, one Red Cross member, four Union Solidarity and Development Association members, one member of the Sangha and five pilgrims totalling 18 were injured and one security member, two USDA members and one Red Cross member totalling four were killed.

"The Secretary-1 and the Secretary-2 of the State Law and Order Restoration Council, the Minister for Religious Affairs, responsible personnel and the Ambassador of the People's Republic of China came out there for inspection.

"It is learnt that such explosion was due to planting of a timed mine by the group of dastardly destructive elements with extremely wicked and ruthless intent to harm the friendship between China and Myanmar, disrupt the stability in the country, disturb the Buddhist laity's faith and reverence in the religion, cause terror and anxiety among the people, and that there was no damage whatsoever to the Sacred Tooth Relic." (NLM 12/26)

Dec. 26: SLORC Secretary-1 Lt-Gen. Khin Nyunt visited the injured at the North Okkalapa People's Hospital. (NLM 12/27)

Dec. 27: Minister for Health U Saw Tun visited the injured. SLORC Secretary-2 Lt-Gen. Tin Oo visited families of the dead. Sayadaws, accompanied by Minister for Religious Affairs Lt-Gen. Myo Nyunt, conducted ceremonies in memory of those killed in the bomb explosion. (NLM 12/28)

Dec. 27: A spokesman for the Chinese Embassy in Yangon issued the following statement:

"We are shocked at the bomb explosion in the Maha Pasana Cave on the evening of 25th December and strongly condemn this terrorist action. The Chinese Buddha's Tooth Relic came to Myanmar for enshrinement with the request of the Myanmar Government and the desire of the great majority of the Myanmar Buddhists. The bomb attacks on the Sacred Shrine killing and injuring the innocent people blaspheme the Buddha and go against the will of the people." (NLM 12/28)

Dec. 27: Dean of the Diplomatic Corps, Russian Ambassador Mr. Valeri Nazarov sent the following letter to Minister for Foreign Affairs U Ohn Gyaw:

"I was deeply distressed to learn about the unimaginable atrocity committed by dastardly unscrupulous elements at the Kaba Aye Pagoda and in the Maha Pasana Cave on the 25th of December, 1996, amidst a large number of pilgrims paying homage to the Sacred Chinese Buddha's Tooth Relic, resulted in killing four and injuring eighteen innocent people.

"This unprecedentedly cynical act of terrorism can cause nothing but the strongest feelings of shock, indignation and protest. Such a disgusting crime is totally incompatible with fundamental values of any civilized society and must be unconditionally condemned. My staff and, I am sure, my colleagues in the Diplomatic Corps share these sentiments.

"May I ask you to convey our heartfelt sympathy and condolence to the bereaved families and to those injured in the bomb attack." (NLM 12/28)

Dec. 28: A Memorial service for those killed in the bomb explosion was performed by Chinese Buddhist monks who have been escorting the Tooth Relic. Minister for Health U Saw Tun visited hospitalized victims of the blast. (NLM 12/29)

Dec. 29: Minister for Health U Saw Tun visited the hospitalized victims. (NLM 12/30)

Dec. 30: Rector Dr. Kyaw Myint Tun of the Institute of Medicine 1, Rector Dr. Tha Hla Shwe of the Institute of Medicine 2, and specialists led by Director-General Dr. Hla Myint of the Department of Health and Director-General Dr. Mya Oo of the Medical Science Department visited the hospitalized bomb victims. (NLM 12/31)

Dec. 27: The bomb of Devadats who will be swallowed by earth before sun-down, by U Pyay Gyaw. [History of tooth relic. "Buddhists have known that Devadat tried to kill the Lord Buddha by pushing a boulder onto Him.... Devadat...ended up his life being engulfed by earth.... Let me name the bomb explosion of the heretic destructionists at Maha Pasana Cave on 25-12-96 'Devadat Bomb'. They are Devadats who will be engulfed by earth before dusk."]

Dec. 27: Editorial: Keep vigil against destructive elements. ["It is shocking and outrageous that destructive elements were so brazen and evil as to cause death and injury at such a sacred place as the Maha Pasana Cave, the venue of the Buddha's Sacred Tooth Relic from the People's Republic of China. Their intention for committing such foolish and ruthless acts is quite obvious. It could be concluded that it is designed to harm the friendly relations between China and Myanmar, disrupt the stability in the country and cause terror and anxiety among the people. So, we should be mindful to ensure that it does not turn out to be as hoped for by the destructive elements and internal axe-handles with negative views. We will have to be vigilant to pre-empt recurrence of anything like the loss we have just suffered. It is necessary to act with rational appraisal and control. We must keep our eyes and ears alert and keep vigil with security awareness against the danger of destructive elements' brazen perpetrations and endeavour to expose them before they could strike again...."]

Dec. 28: Don't try to divide us who have been united since our birth, by Tekkatho Tin Kha. [Myanmar and China.]

Dec. 30: Three Inland Water Transport vessels, the Aungdagun-2, Aungdagun-3, and Danyawady-3, built in China, arrived in Sittway (Rakhine) and will operate in Rakhine State. (NLM 12/31)

1997

Title: CHINA, BURMA: Burmese Minister Leaves for Beijing for 10-Day Visit

Document Number: FBIS-CHI-97-004

Document Date: 6 Jan 1997

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Yangon [Rangoon], January 6
(XINHUA) -- Myanmar [Burmese] Minister for Transport
Lieutenant-General Thein Win left here today for Beijing via
Hong Kong on a 10-day visit to China.

At the invitation of Minister of Communications of
China Huang Zhendong, Thein Win is scheduled to tour some
Chinese cities including Zhuhai, Qingdao and Shanghai where
he will visit some shipyards and ports.

The Chinese minister visited Myanmar in November 1994.

Title: CHINA, BURMA: Yunnan Official Stresses Burma Trade, Tourism Ties

Document Number: FBIS-CHI-97-007

Document Date: 10 Jan 1997

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Rangoon, January 10 (XINHUA) -
- An official from Baoshan region, Yunnan Province of China, stressed cooperation between Baoshan region and Myanmar [Burma] in the field of trade and tourism at a press conference here today.

A 20-member delegation led by Chen Changli, chairman of the Baoshan Prefectural People's Congress Standing Committee, is currently visiting Myanmar.

Chen emphasized that cooperation between Myanmar and Baoshan will benefit both sides.

He disclosed that the total amount of foreign trade of the Baoshan region with Myanmar reached 450 million Chinese yuan in 1995.

Title: CHINA, BURMA: China, Burma Said To Sign Military Cooperation Accord

Document Number: FBIS-CHI-97-014

Document Date: 22 Jan 1997

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Hong Kong, Jan 22 (AFP) --
China and Burma have signed an agreement to boost military cooperation, including training and exchange of intelligence, the Far Eastern Economic Review said Wednesday.

The weekly news magazine said the article would be published in its Thursday edition.

The agreement was reached when the vice chairman of Burma's military junta, General Maung Aye, "paid an unpublicised visit to China from October 22-29," the Review said in a press release.

General Than Shwe, the chairman of the junta, finalised the accord with Chinese Prime Minister Li Peng a few weeks ago, it said.

"Under the deal, China will train 300 Burmese airforce and navy officers in flying skills, naval duties and the gathering of intelligence in coastal areas, while the People's Liberation Army (PLA) will provide additional places in staff colleges for senior Burmese officers," it said.

The two countries would exchange military intelligence and Beijing could also provide arms shipments to Rangoon at "friendship prices," it said.

Title: BURMA: Lashio-Hsenwi Sector of Highway to China Border Opened

Document Number: FBIS-EAS-97-022

Document Date: 30 Jan 1997

Rangoon Myanmar Alin in Burmese, 30 Jan 97 p4

[Article by Min Thein: "The dawn of a new historical era"]

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] [Passage omitted on lyrics of a song] Our journalist delegation led by Construction Minister Major General Saw Tun arrived at Lashio on 17 January 1997 by Myanmar [Burma] Airways with arrangements made by a local company -- Asia World Company [owned by former drug warlord Lo Hsing Han]. We came to attend the inauguration of the 28-mile-long Lashio-Hsenwi Road -- the first such endeavor undertaken by a local company -- on the morning of 18 January 1997.

In accordance with the Myanmar Investment Commission Permit No. Ma-Na-Ta-035/96 issued on 22 July 1996, the Asia World Company and the Public Works Department of the Construction Ministry signed an agreement on 22 July 1996 to construct the 102-mile-3-furlong-long Lashio-Muse [town bordering China] sector of the Mandalay-Lashio- Muse Union Highway. The 28-mile-long Lashio-Hsewi Road will be opened in the first phase while the 16-mile-long Hsenwi-Kutkai Road, the 27-mile-long Kutkai-Nantphetkar Road, and the 25-mile-long Nantphetkar-Mongyu Road will be opened in the latter part of this year.

After Asia World Company signed the contract it either leased or imported US\$4 million worth of heavy machinery, bitumen distributors, water bowsers, agitator trucks, and dump trucks. With its technicians and workers working day and night the company was able to complete the 22-foot-wide 28-mile-long Lashio-Hsenwi Road in three months. It is learnt that the total investment in the Lashio-Muse Road project will be over 800 million Myanmar Kyats and US\$27 million.

Furthermore, toll ways, toll offices, control and communication systems, parking areas, entry and exit roads, rest areas, and recreation centers will also be built. Asia World will collect toll fees in accordance with the agreement signed with the Public Works Department; Kyat 100 for a small car under one ton, Kyat 300 for a medium-size car weighing between one and two and three quarter tons, Kyat 500 for a big bus, Kyat 1,000 for a medium-size truck weighing up to 10 tons, Kyat 2,000 for trucks weighing between 10 and 20 tons, and trucks weighing more than 20 tons will pay Kyat 2,000 up to 20 tons and Kyat 200 for every extra ton.

The toll fees will be appropriately determined by the government once all the toll gates are completed. Tax on the tolls collected will be given to the government according to the following yearly rates: For the 10-year period, from the 4th to the 13th year, 10 percent; for the 10-year period from the 14th to the 23d year, 20 percent, for the seven-year period from the 24th to the 30th year, 30 percent.

Once the Mandalay-Lashio-Muse Union Highway is completed, transportation will become much smoother, bolstering regional economic and social growth and leading to a reduction in commodity prices. Moreover, it will

further enhance the goodwill and economic cooperation between the peoples of Myanmar and China. [passage omitted]
Instead of the government taking full responsibility, the participation of the public, who directly benefits from such endeavors, to a certain extent for a better and smoother transportation shows "the dawn of a new historical era".

Title: CHINA, BURMA: Burmese Minister of Construction Departs for Beijing

Document Number: FBIS-CHI-97-033

Document Date: 19 Feb 1997

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Rangoon, February 19 (XINHUA)
-- Myanmar [Burma] Minister for Construction Major General Saw Tun left here today for Beijing on a week-long visit to China at the invitation of his Chinese counterpart, Minister of Construction Hou Jie.

The Myanmar minister and his party will inspect some new residential buildings in Beijing, and visit the Shanghai-Nanjing expressway, some bridge construction sites and construction machinery factories in Shanghai.

Title: CHINA: Burmese Leader Expresses 'Profound Sorrow' Over Deng's Death

Document Number: FBIS-CHI-97-035

Document Date: 20 Feb 1997

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Yangon, February 20 (XINHUA) -
- Chairman of the Myanmar [Burma] State Law and Order Restoration Council Senior General Than Shwe today expressed profound sorrow over Deng Xiaoping's death on Wednesday night.

"In profound sorrow we learnt the news of the passing of His Excellency Deng Xiaoping at the age of 93," Than Shwe said in his message of condolence to Chinese President Jiang Zemin.

"Greatness of man does not lie only in accomplishment during his life time, but also in the spirit with which he has guided the future generations," he stated.

"With his passing, China has lost the paramount leader and we have lost a truly great friend," he said.

"At this moment of irreplaceable loss to the People's Republic of China", he expressed, on behalf of the Myanmar government and people and on his own, "heartfelt condolences and compassion" to the Chinese government and people. He also expressed conviction that "the continued progress and development of China in line with the vision of the late great statesman will be further consolidated in the years ahead."

Minister receives officials of PRC corporations

YANGON, 24 Feb-Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation Lt-Gen Myint Aung received General Manager Mr Chen Zhong De of Shanghai Tractors and Engines Corporation of the People's Republic of China and Manager Mr Wang Chun Lei of GMH Import and Export Corporation at his office this afternoon.

They discussed export of tractors to Myanmar and manufacturing of power-tillers in Myanmar.

Mr Wang Chun Lei handed related documents of a 30-ton rice mill, which was presented by GMH to the ministry to Minister Lt-Gen Myint Aung.

Deputy Minister U Tin Hlaing and officials were also present. "The New Light of Myanmar" (Internet version) 97-02-25

Title: CHINA: Jiang Zemin on 'Foreign Policy of Peace'

Document Number: FBIS-CHI-97-045

Document Date: 1 Mar 1997

Hong Kong ZHONGGUO TONGXUN SHE in Chinese, 1226 GMT 1 Mar 97

Subslug: ["Special Article" by Hong Kong ZTS reporter He Chong (6320 3095): "China's Independent Foreign Policy of Peace Will Remain Unchanged"]

[FBIS Translated Text] Hong Kong, 1 Mar (ZTS) -- Receiving foreign guests recently, China State President Jiang Zemin said: The Chinese party and government will carry out the behest of Deng Xiaoping; uphold the great undertaking of socialist reform, opening up, and modernization initiated by him; and continue to pursue the independent foreign policy of peace in order to contribute toward promoting world peace and development. An article released recently by Beijing to mourn the passing of Deng Xiaoping pointed out: An important part of Deng Xiaoping theory on building socialism with Chinese characteristics deals with the analysis of international situation and policy decisions on China's international strategies. Its most prominent aspects are the readjustment of relations with the United States, Japan, and Russia; development of friendly relations with adjacent countries and third world countries; and opening up of new prospects in foreign relations, all of which help create a favorable peaceful international environment in which we could concentrate on modernization. Deng Xiaoping held that China needs a stable internal environment as well as a peaceful international environment to carry out socialist modernization. He judged the hour, sized up the situation, and came up with a set of foreign strategies. He pointed out: Peace and development are the two main issues in the contemporary world. We should persevere in an independent foreign policy of peace, opposing hegemonism, and upholding world peace. He advocated using the five principles of peaceful coexistence as the criteria for building new international political

and economic order. He stressed that China will forever be in the third world and will never seek hegemony. At a special UN meeting as early as 1974 Deng Xiaoping expounded, on the Chinese Government's behalf, "The theory of the three worlds", declaring China's stand against hegemonism and winning cheers from third world countries.

At the end of January 1979, not long after China and the United States established official diplomatic relations, Deng Xiaoping visited the United States and opened a new page in Sino-U.S. economic and trade cooperation as well as opening the door for China to send large batches of students to study abroad in the United States. That was a major strategic foreign policy measure. Deng Xiaoping regarded the opening up as China's basic national policy, and relations between China and the United States, the number one nation in the west, would always be an obstacle toward opening up unless they were good. The U.S. strategy of "encirclement and blockade" against China would lose its morality and justice if China and the United States established a stable relationship that would enable China's opening up to the outside world to play a key role in making a breakthrough at the center.

Deng Xiaoping visited Japan in October 1978, and the Sino-Japanese treaty of peace and friendship was exchanged. The development of Sino-Japanese friendly relations played an equally important role in suppressing the revival of militarism and stabilizing peace in Asia while supporting China's opening up to the outside world. Over the last 25 years, triangular relations between China, U.S., and Japan have been in a state of equilibrium. Sino-Japanese trade volume was the largest in China's foreign trade, and there were more loans from Japan than other countries. This illustrated the importance of maintaining friendly Sino-Japanese relations.

In the early 1980's, Deng Xiaoping strove to improve relationships with the USSR by suggesting that the two sides dispatch envoys for talks. The three largest obstacles to Sino-USSR relations were eventually eliminated following six long years of talks. When USSR President Gorbachev visited China in 1989, Deng Xiaoping said to him: Our meeting serves to end the past and open up the future. Relations between the two countries will be normalized as of today. China maintained normal relations with Russia after the dissolution of the USSR, signed a border treaty, and eliminated the state of confrontation that had persisted for over 20 years so that the peoples living along the 7,000 km-plus border could resume friendly exchanges, and that China would have no fear of disturbance in terms of northern frontier defense.

China's friendly relations with neighboring countries developed gradually, and the country enjoyed close relations with Pakistan, Nepal, Burma, and all ASEAN countries. China improved its relations with Vietnam and India, and established a historically rare peaceful environment for good-neighborly, friendly relations with Korea.

In mid-1980's, Deng Xiaoping made major changes to the national defense strategy on the assumption that a world war would not occur for quite some time. At a time when the United States and USSR, the two super powers, were incessantly arguing with each other in disarmament talks and preparing for the development of "Star War" weapons, Deng Xiaoping announced that China would unilaterally disarm its military force by the millions, and strive for world peace with real actions. He won applause from most countries in the world.

The changeable international situation at the end of 1980's and early 1990's saw the successive dissolution of the USSR and East Europe countries, and a seriously complicated situation occurred in the socialist cause, presenting China with a test. In response to this, Deng Xiaoping put forward the strategy of "coolly observing, securing one's position, dealing with the situation calmly, and accomplishing something." He always gave top priority to safeguarding China's state sovereignty and security, and overcame challenges from all aspects. At the same time, he held fast to the central task of economic construction, and elevated China's economic level.

Influential political figures from all countries felt that after Deng Xiaoping's passing, "post-Deng China" will uphold the reform and opening up policy formulated by him and the line of economic construction as the central task.

In this sense, China will still need a peaceful international environment and will still have to promote good-neighboring friendly relations. It appears that Deng's line of foreign policy will not change.

Minister receives Deputy President of Guangdong New Technology Import & Export Zhuhai Corp

YANGON, 3 March-Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation Lt-Gen Myint Aung received Deputy President Mr.Sze Siu Wa and party of Guangdong New Technology Import & Export Zhuhai Corporation of the People's Republic of China at his office at 3 pm today.

They discussed matters relating to building of a sugar mill.

It is to be jointly built by GNTIEZC and Myanmar Sugarcane Enterprise in accord with policy and guide lines laid down by the State. "The New Light of Myanmar" (Internet version) 97-03-04

Myanmar delegation leaves for China

YANGON, 3 March -Myanmar delegation led by Minister for Livestock and Fisheries U Aung Thaung left here by air for People's Republic of China this morning to study livestock and fisheries sector there at the invitation from PRC.

The delegation was seen off by Minister at the Prime Minister's

Office Col Pe Thein, Minister for Cooperatives U Than Aung, Minister for Labour Maj-Gen Saw Lwin, CEC members of the Union Solidarity and Development Association U Saw Tun and U Tin Hlaing, Deputy Minister for Live-stock and Fisheries U Aung Thein, Ambassador of the People's Republic of China Ms Chen Baoliu and embassy staff, directors-general of the ministry and members of USDA at Yangon International Airport.

The delegation includes Director-General of Fisheries Department U Soe Win, Managing Director of Livestock, Foodstuff and Milk Products Enterprise U Maung Maung Nyunt, Minister's PSO Lieu-tenant Myo Aung, Secretary, of Taungtha Township USDA U Thaung Sein, Secretary of Kachin State USDA U Soe Thein and Director of Fisheries Department U Hla Win. "The New Light of Myanmar" (Internet version) S 97-03-04

Title: Study With Burma on Water Transport Route

Document Number: FBIS-CHI-97-063

Document Date: 4 Mar 1997

Beijing Zhongguo Xinwen She in English 1324 GMT 04 Mar 97

Beijing, March 4 (CNS) -- A jointly conducted study has been completed by a Sino-Burmese expert group on the possibility of land and water transport, via Yunnan Province and into the Irrawaddy River valley in Burma. The report concludes that it is feasible to open an outlet into the Indian Ocean by this method.

Currently both the Chinese and Burmese Ministries of Communications, as well as the Yunnan provincial government, are working on a draft accord on land and water co-ordinated transport involving the Irrawaddy River which originates in Tibet and runs through northern and western Yunnan and then into Burma.

The group carried out the study on land transport routes linking up Dehong Dai-Jingpo Autonomous Prefecture in Yunnan and the Burmese ports of Bhamo and Myitkyina, and other water transport routes connecting with Rangoon, capital of Burma.

Experts in the group were of the opinion that it was feasible to open such a channel along the Dehong--Bhamo land route and the Bhamo--Rangoon water route.

The highway linking the Dehong Prefecture in Yunnan Province and Bhamo in Burma can be readily converted to a high-grade road, and the river section between Bhamo and Rangoon enjoys sound transport conditions. Some of the Bhamo--Rangoon section can accommodate vessels of over 3,000 tonnage. Rangoon is considered an ideal transfer port bordering as it does on the Indian Ocean.

It is expected that construction of a terminal in Rangoon with nine berths for vessels of over 10,000 tonnage will be completed this year, and it can provide an all-weather shelter for vessels of up to 15,000 tonnage.

The proposed transport network can cut short the journey time by about one week compared with the route of between 3,000 and 5,000 kilometres along coastal areas in southeastern China.

Title: SLORC Official Meets With Chinese Buddhist Delegation

Document Number: FBIS-CHI-97-063

Document Date: 4 Mar 1997

Yangon [Rangoon], March 4 (XINHUA) -- First Secretary of the Myanmar [Burma] State Law and Order Restoration Council Khin Nyunt received a visiting Chinese Buddhist Delegation here today.

The delegation, which arrived here last Wednesday, is in Myanmar to make preparations for the shipment of a Buddhist tooth relic back to China.

The Chinese relic was brought here from Beijing last December for a 90-day public obeisance in Myanmar under a cooperation program between the two countries.

Secretary-1 receives Vice-Chairman of Religious Bureau of PRC

YANGON, 4 March-Secretary- 1 of the State Law and Order Restoration Council Lt-Gen Khin Nyunt received Vice-Chairman of Religious Bureau of the People's Republic of China Mr Yang Tongxiang at Dagon Yeiktha of the Ministry of Defence this afternoon.

Present on the occasion also were Minister for Religious Affairs Lt-Gen Myo Nyunt, Minister for Foreign Affairs U Ohn Gyaw, Myanmar Ambassador to PRC U Set, Director-General Thura U Aung Htet of Protocol Department and Ambassador of PRC to Myanmar Ms Chen Baoliu. "The New Light of Myanmar" (Internet version) 97-03-05

Title: Beijing Mayor Meets Burmese Delegation

Document Number: FBIS-CHI-97-070

Document Date: 11 Mar 1997

Citysource: Beijing Xinhua

Beijing, March 11 (XINHUA) -- Beijing Mayor Jia Qinglin said he expects to enhance cooperation and exchanges with Burma in various fields at a meeting this afternoon with Burma's Animal Husbandry and Aquatics Minister V Aung Thaung.

Beijing has carried out sound cooperation with Burma in the aquatics industry, Jia said, adding that he hopes for continued cooperation in the area.

The Burmese minister agreed that the cooperation between Beijing and Burma has a bright future. The Burmese ambassador to China was present at the meeting.

Title: Burma: PRC State Council Secretary General Lou Gan Arrives

Document Number: FBIS-EAS-97-084

Document Date: 25 Mar 1997

Rangoon TV Myanmar Network in Burmese 1330 GMT 24 Mar 97

Lou Ghan, member and secretary general of the PRC State Council, and his 15-member delegation arrived on a goodwill visit at 19:30 in Yangon [Rangoon] by air at the invitation of Lieutenant General Khin Nyunt, secretary-1 of the State Law and Order Restoration Council [SLORC] of the

Union of Myanmar [Burma].

Lou Gan and his delegation were welcomed at Yangon International Airport by Lt. Gen. Khin Nyunt, secretary-1 of the SLORC; U Ohn Gyaw, foreign minister; U Than Shwe, minister for the Office of the Prime Minister's Office; Lt. Gen. Thein Win, minister of transport; U Aung San, minister of culture; Major General Khin Maung Than, chairman of Yangon Division Law and Order Restoration Council and Yangon commander; U Nyunt Swe, deputy foreign minister; responsible officials from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs; Mrs. Chen Baoliu, PRC ambassador to Myanmar; and PRC Embassy staff.

Title: Burma: SLORC Chairman Receives PRC State Council Secretary General

Document Number: FBIS-EAS-97-084

Document Date: 25 Mar 1997

Rangoon Radio Myanmar in Burmese 1330 GMT 25 Mar 97

Senior General Than Shwe, chairman of the State Law and Order Restoration Council [SLORC] of the Union of Myanmar [Burma] and commander in chief of the Defense Services, received Lou Gan, visiting member and secretary general of the PRC State Council, at the Mingalar Hall of the People's Assembly Building in Yangon [Rangoon] at 1430 today. Also present were General Maung Aye, SLORC vice chairman, deputy commander in chief of the Defense Services, and army commander in chief; Lieutenant General Khin Nyunt, SLORC secretary-1; Lieutenant General Tin U, SLORC secretary-2; Vice Admiral Maung Maung Khin and Lieutenant General Tin Tun, both deputy prime ministers; Foreign Minister U Ohn Gyaw; Deputy Foreign Minister U Nyunt Swe; Mr. (Jiang Wan Qian), assistant foreign affairs minister; Mr. (Yan Wan Chan), assistant minister for foreign trade and economic cooperation; senior Chinese officials; and PRC ambassador Mrs. Chen Baoliu.

Title: China: Burmese Leader Receives Luo Gan

Document Number: FBIS-CHI-97-084

Document Date: 25 Mar 1997

Yangon [Rangoon], March 25 (XINHUA) -- First Secretary of Myanmar [Burma] State Law and Order Restoration Council (SLORC) Lieutenant-General Khin Nyunt and visiting Chinese State Councilor Luo Gan expressed here today their common wishes to further consolidate and develop the traditional good neighborly relations between China and Myanmar. The expressions were made by the two in today's meeting, in which they also expressed satisfaction over the development of the Sino-Myanmar relations in recent years.

Luo, who is also Secretary-General of the Chinese State Council, said that developing friendly relations with all of her neighbors is one of China's basic policy.

Luo and Khin Nyunt hoped to strengthen the trade and economic cooperation between the two countries.

Luo arrived here on Monday on a four-day official visit to Myanmar at the invitation of Khin Nyunt.

Myanmar is the third leg of Luo's trip to five Asian nations. He has just completed his visit to Vietnam and Cambodia and the rest of the trip

will take him to Bangladesh and Indonesia.

Title: Burma: Luo Gan, Khin Nyunt Sign Aid and Border Agreement

Document Number: FBIS-EAS-97-084

Document Date: 25 Mar 1997

Rangoon TV Myanmar Network in Burmese 1330 GMT 25 Mar 97

Citysource: Rangoon TV Myanmar Network

A ceremony to sign a memorandum of understanding and an agreement between the Government of the Union of Myanmar [Burma] and the Government of the People's Republic of China [PRC] was held at the Treaty Hall of the People's Assembly Building in Yangon [Rangoon] at 1515 today.

The ceremony was attended by Lieutenant General Khin Nyunt, secretary-1 of the State Law and Order Restoration Council [SLORC]; Lt. Gen. Tin U, SLORC secretary-2; Lt. Gen. Maung Thint, minister for progress of border areas and national races and development affairs; Lt. Gen. Mya Thinn, home affairs minister; Brigadier General Abel, minister for national planning and economic development; U Aung Toe, chief justice; U Tha Tun, attorney general; U Ohn Gyaw, foreign minister; Brig. Gen. Myo Thant, minister for the SLORC Chairman Office; Major General Aye Kyaw, information minister; U Nyunt Swe, deputy foreign minister, and senior departmental officials.

Present at the ceremony on the PRC side were: Mr. Luo Gan, PRC state councilor and secretary general of the State Council; Mr. (Jiang Wan Qian), assistant foreign affairs minister; Mr. Yang Wan Chan, assistant minister for foreign trade and economic cooperation; senior officials, and Mrs. Chen Baoliu, PRC ambassador to Myanmar.

The memorandum of understanding was signed and exchanged by Brig. Gen. Abel, minister for national planning and economic development and (Yang Wan Chan), PRC assistant minister for foreign trade and economic cooperation. Under the terms of the memorandum, the PRC Government will extend Yuan 5 million in aid to the Myanmar Government to purchase equipment and spare parts for agriculture sector from PRC and to give technical assistance. Next, the agreement between the PRC and Myanmar on border area management and cooperation was signed and exchanged by SLORC Secretary-1 Lt. Gen. Khin Nyunt and PRC State Council Secretary General Luo Gan. After the signing ceremony, Lt. Gen. Khin Nyunt posed for pictures with the visiting PRC guests.

Title: China: PRC, Burma Sign Border Management Agreement

Document Number: FBIS-CHI-97-084

Document Title: FBIS Transcribed Text

Document Date: 25 Mar 1997

Yangon, March 25 (XINHUA) -- China and Myanmar today signed here an agreement on border area management and cooperation.

Visiting Chinese State Councilor and Secretary-General of the State Council Luo Gan and First Secretary of Myanmar State Law and Order Restoration Council (SLORC) Lieutenant-General Khin Nyunt signed the agreement on behalf of their respective governments.

Second Secretary of the Myanmar SLORC Lieutenant-General Tin Oo

attended the signing ceremony.

According to the agreement, the local authorities in border areas of the two countries will establish a liaison system for the purpose of strengthening the management and cooperation in trade the exchange of locally-produced goods, cultural and sports cooperation in the border areas, it said.

The two sides will add some ports for entry and exit along the China-Myanmar border to facilitate traveling across the border and exchange of goods, it said.

The two sides will cooperate in the prevention and suppression of all cross-border crimes including drug-related activities, the agreement said.

China and Myanmar will enhance border trade on the basis of equality and mutual benefit, the agreement added.

Title: China: Thai Premier Interviewed on Relations With PRC

Document Number: FBIS-CHI-97-091

Document Date: 1 Apr 1997

Sourceline: OW0104084997 Beijing Xinhua in English 0816 GMT 1 Apr 97

Subslug: By Yu Zuncheng, Xiong Ping

BANGKOK, April 1 (Xinhua) -- Thai Prime Minister Chawalit Yongchaiyut said that "Thai-Chinese relations are now moving in an even smoother and steadier direction."

In an interview with Bangkok-based Chinese correspondents before his official visit to China from April 2 to 5, Chawalit said, "ties between the two countries are not ordinary ones. Thailand and China have special relational and brotherly feelings."

This is where Thai-Chinese relations differ from any other country-to-country relations, he said.

Commenting on China's reform and opening up, he said, "Like the Chinese people, the Thai people are also very happy to see China's growth and development trend in recent years."

Recalling the development of bilateral relations during the past two decades since the two countries established diplomatic relations in 1975, the Thai prime minister said that during the first decade the two countries built mutual understanding and confidence and they jointly played an active role in maintaining peace in the region.

He said the second decade was one for bilateral cooperation in economic and social development. The two-way trade increased with each passing year and China had become a most preferred country for Thai investors.

He said the first ten years in the next century "should be an important period for furthering their bilateral ties." The two countries need to work out programs for cooperation in line with each country's national economic and social development programs.

He added that the two countries can also enhance cooperation on the international arena in the fields of political, economic and social affairs.

Congratulating on China's great achievements in its modernization efforts and economic reform, Chawalit said that during the past two decades the living standard of the majority of the Chinese people had improved and are still improving.

Chawalit believed that each country has the right to choose its own way of carrying out realistic reforms in accordance with the country's

social reality. He also expressed his belief that the Chinese leadership does not want instability to occur and that among China's priorities are tapping its economic potentials and improving the quality of life of the people in hinterland, in particular the western provinces.

On China's political and economic relations of cooperation with the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), Chawalit said that the two sides are complementary and both have rich political and economic potentials.

China's cooperation and close relationship with ASEAN will not only be beneficial to both sides, but also contribute to the stability of the Asia-Pacific region, he said.

China became a dialogue partner to ASEAN in July 1996 and it is also a participant in the ASEAN regional forum, Chawalit said, adding that Thailand is pleased with these because the links will serve as bridges between China and ASEAN members.

Chawalit said that geopolitically speaking, China, now a close neighbor of ASEAN, will be adjacent to the grouping when Myanmar, Laos and Cambodia join ASEAN in the near future.

Relations between China and ASEAN will be even closer, when land and waterway transport networks are linked within the framework of the quadrangle growth area. The networks are expected to play an important role in strengthening the economic links between China and ASEAN, he noted.

On Thailand's trade links with Hong Kong after July 1, 1997, Chawalit said, the handover ceremony at midnight of June 30 will be an important event in China's history.

He believed that the handover will help build confidence of the international community in Hong Kong's future.

He said that the Thai government is confident in Hong Kong's future, believing that the Chinese government will be able to maintain Hong Kong's stability and prosperity, as well as its status as an international trade and financial center.

After Hong Kong's return to China, Chawalit said, trade between Thailand and Hong Kong will not be adversely affected, but will instead grow.

Title: Burma: Report Says China Trains Pilots, Provides Military Trucks

Document Number: FBIS-EAS-97-116

Document Date: 26 Apr 1997

Sourceline: BK2604131197 (Internet) BurmaNet News Listserv in English 24 Apr 97

Subslug: Report by Shan Human Rights Foundation

SLORC troops taught to fly Chinese fighter planes [subhead]

Since 1.1.97, at the Namzarng air base in southern Shan State (the largest SLORC's air base in Shan State), 12 Chinese air force military instructors have been training Burmese air force pilots how to fly, shoot and drop bombs from 9 China-made fighter bomber planes. There are now altogether 32 Chinese at Namzarng air base who are instructors in various fields of expertise. By the end of March, 3 of the 9 Chinese fighter-bombers which are currently practicing at Namzarng will be brought to practice in Murngsart, east of Salween, together with 3 Chinese instructors.

In the military base compound of No.49 IB in Murngsart, at a site just behind the hill stronghold, a building to house the Chinese instructors is

being built. It is a teak wood structure with corrugated iron roof and 5 yd by 9 yd big, with three 3 yd compartments. They started building it since 27.2.97 and it has not yet been completed up to now.

SLORC receives new military trucks from China [subhead]

On 26.3.97, deputy commander of the Eastern Command, Major General Myint Thein went to Xiu Khok (Pang Sai), a border town near Muse in northern Shan State, bordering with China, to receive 30 China-made 6-wheel military trucks from China. They were empty trucks with only tools and spare parts on them. They were brought to Taunggyi on 28.2.97 and are being kept at the HQ of Eastern Command. Most likely, they will later be taken to Eastern Shan State.

[Description of Source: BurmaNet News--Internet Listserv providing coverage of Burmese events, particularly human rights and opposition activities]

Title: Thailand: Foreign Ministers 'Firmly' Support Burma's ASEAN Entry

Document Number: FBIS-EAS-97-119

Document Date: 29 Apr 1997

Hong Kong AFP in English 1202 GMT 29 APR 97

Subslug: Report by Matthew Pennington

PHUKET, Thailand, April 29 (AFP)--The foreign ministers of Thailand and the Philippines said Tuesday they were firmly in support of Burma's entry into the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) despite US opposition.

Speaking at the close of a Thai-Philippines joint commission meeting here, both foreign ministers said the US position would be considered but stressed the strategic importance of integrating Burma into the grouping.

"ASEAN involvement with Myanmar is constructive engagement and our relations with Myanmar, being a close neighbor, is one that has strategic implications -- not only in the single dimension of human rights,"

Philippine Foreign Affairs Secretary Domingo Siazon said.

Seven-member ASEAN maintains a policy of promoting diplomatic and economic ties with Burma despite calls from western nations to isolate Rangoon's military junta which assumed power in 1988.

ASEAN, which Burma is expected to join this year at the same time as Cambodia and Laos, groups Brunei, Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam.

Last week Washington announced investment sanctions for US companies in Burma and said it was lobbying ASEAN states to turn down Rangoon's bid to become a full ASEAN member.

Siazon said Washington should appreciate ASEAN's position on Burma in light of how the United States had amended its policy towards China.

"The US has shifted its policy towards China from an essentially one-dimensional relationship of human rights towards a more comprehensive relationship that embodies other factors," he said.

Thai Foreign Minister Prachuab Chaiyasarn said Thailand respected the US position, but stressed the decision on Burma's admittance -- as well as Cambodia and Laos -- would be determined by their readiness to meet the obligations of ASEAN membership.

He said these obligations would include their ability to accede to the ASEAN Free Trade Area, under which trade barriers in the region would be virtually all dismantled in the next decade.

"Every decision will be based on reason -- not on emotion or various

emerging circumstances," Prachuab said.

However, Siazon also said domestic political turmoil in Cambodia could affect its ability to meet ASEAN requirements.

The "internal political situation could pose difficulties for Cambodia in complying with AFTA and the other commitments," he said.

Asked if a possible delay could mean a postponement of admittance for Laos and Burma as well, he said "anything was possible."

In December ASEAN said all three would be admitted simultaneously.

ASEAN foreign ministers are due to meet in May to discuss the timing of their admittance, expected to be in July or September, which would realise the group's ambition for a 10-nation ASEAN in its 30th anniversary year.

Saroj Chavanaviraj, Thai permanent secretary for foreign affairs, said that "unless something very drastic happens, all would be admitted in 1997."

Title: China: Burma Journalists Delegation Leaves for China Visit

Document Number: FBIS-CHI-97-120

Document Date: 30 Apr 1997

Yangon [Rangoon], April 30 (XINHUA) -- A five-member Myanmar [Burma] journalists delegation, led by U Hla Tun, director of Myanmar's state-run News and Periodicals Enterprise (NPE), left here today on a 10-day visit to China.

Under the cultural exchange program of China and Myanmar, the Myanmar delegation is to pay the visit at the invitation of the All-China Journalists Association.

The delegation will tour Beijing, Shanghai and Guangzhou, and visit some economic zones, factories, rural areas and news media units in China.

Title: China: Economy of Chinese Border Areas Grows Strong

Document Number: FBIS-CHI-97-124

Document Date: 4 May 1997

Sourceline: OW0405113197 Beijing Xinhua in English 1101 GMT 04 May 97

Kunming, May 4 (Xinhua) -- China's border areas, which are usually inhabited by ethnic minorities, have gained economic strength through opening up to the outside world, according to a recent conference held here.

In recent years, the Gross Domestic Product of open cities in border areas has grown with an annual rate of 15 percent. In 1995, the volume of border trade totalled 3.3 billion US dollars.

China's land borders stretch across more than 20,000 km, with 15 neighboring countries.

China's border areas include 135 county-level areas, of which 107 are managed by ethnic minorities.

The ethnic minorities are usually the Same origin of the people living in the neighboring countries. In the past, the areas were economically underdeveloped due to the China's strict restrictions on trade with other countries.

Since China initiated reform and opening-up policies in 1979, the border areas have become the country's vanguard in conducting economic and technological exchanges with foreign countries.

Southwest China's province of Yunnan, which borders Myanmar, Laos, Vietnam, has convenient conditions for border trade because it shares a boundary of 4,061 km with these countries.

The province focused its border trade with southeast Asian countries by taking advantage of Lancang-Mekong River. It has set up 19 ports of entry in frontier prefectures and has opened more than 100 roads for foreign trade and cross-border tourism.

By 1995, the imports and exports volume generated from border trade in the province had reached three billion yuan (about 365 million US dollars), maintaining an annual growth rate of 30 percent for 11 consecutive years. Border trade has spurred the economic development of border areas. By the end of 1995, industrial and agricultural output value of the country's border counties totalled 78.4 billion yuan.

Title: China: Yunnan Ready To Develop New Trade Route to Indian Ocean

Document Number: FBIS-CHI-97-125

Document Date: 5 May 1997

Kunming, May 5 (XINHUA) -- According to authoritative sources from southwest China's Yunnan Province, China has reached an agreement with the Myanmar [Burma] Government on the joint development of Irrawaddy River, a major inland river of Myanmar, to open a new, short channel to the Indian Ocean.

Local officials say the move is "of profound impact" for China's general opening-up, but especially for opening-up drive in southwest China, whose inland location and poor transport system have impeded economic development.

According to the plan, the channel starts from Kunming, Yunnan's provincial capital, and extends along China's No. 320 National Road.

Entering Myanmar via Ruili, a land port in southernmost Yunnan, the road goes about 100 kilometer further to Bhamo, a major harbour of the Irrawaddy River. From the harbour 1,300 kilometers down the river is Rangoon, capital city of Myanmar and a sea port to Indian Ocean.

Transport experts indicate that the new route provides a convenient channel for China and Myanmar. "There is no need to make a detour from Strait of Malacca to enter or exit southwest China," one expert notes.

"Still an inland province, the land ports along the Sino-Myanmar border in the future could be a trade entrepot for surrounding inland provinces, including China's most populous Sichuan Province and the underdeveloped Guizhou Province.

Compared with the traditional routes linking Kunming to major seaports, such as Shanghai, Guangzhou, and Facheng of Guangxi, the distances can be shortened 5,800 km, 3,400 km and 2,050 km, respectively.

"The trade volume between China's inland provinces and other countries in and out of the region is expected to soar after the opening," he concludes.

Conditions now are ripe to push forward the project which was initiated in the early 1980s. The stable political situation in north Myanmar and good neighborly relationship between the two countries are believed to be an impetus to the project. Sources revealed that China and Myanmar are to sign a land-river joint transport agreement in the second half of this year. The two countries will also give the go-ahead for co-building some industrial and agricultural projects in Bhamo.

According to local officials, the border trade between the two countries has thrived since the mid-1980s. The trade volume between the

two countries last year was 410 million US dollars.

Director of Resettlement leaves for PRC

YANGON, 7 May-Secretary-2 of the State Law and Order Restoration Council Chief of Bureau of Special Operations Chief of Staff (Army) Lt-Gen Tin Oo this afternoon saw off Director of Resettlement of the Ministry at Defence Col Thaik Tun who left for the People's Republic of China to study factoryless workshops and agriculture and livestock breeding and production. "The New Light of Myanmar" (Internet version) 97-05-08

Myanmar journalist delegation arrives back from PRC

YANGON, 11 May - A five-member Myanmar journalist delegation led by Director (News) U Hla Tun of News and periodicals Enterprise arrived back here yesterday evening from the People's Republic of China

They were welcomed back at-the airport by Managing Director of NPE U Tin Kha, Adviser U Kyi Nyunt of the Myanma Alin Daily, Cultural Counsellor Mr Wang Ruiqing and First Secretary Mr Wang Danian of PRC Embassy, Chief Reporter Mr Zhang Yunfei of Xinhua News Agency and relatives.

The delegation member Deputy Chief Editor Maj Kyaw Win of Myawady Literature House, editor U Tin Aung of Myann News Agency, editors Myo Myint and U Tb Lwin of Myanma Alin a Kyemon dailies also arrived back. "The New Light of Myanmar" (Internet version) 97-05-12

Title: Burma: Rangoon's Economic Role in Region Questioned at Seminar

Document Number: FBIS-EAS-97-164

Document Date: 13 Jun 1997

Bangkok The Nation in English 16 May 97 p A6

Report by Kulachada Chaipipat

Burma's ambivalent position on economic cooperation to open up the upper Mekong River could largely be attributed to security concerns over the participation of the rebellious Shan state and fears of external influence, Thai and Chinese scholars told a seminar yesterday.

Rangoon's agreement to cooperate within the quadrangular economic framework had not been backed by action, despite its pressing need to develop its border area a region hard-hit by the economic failure of 26 years of Burmese socialism, they said.

Speakers pointed to Burma's repeated postponement of an inter-government meeting it is due to host to conclude a pact for the navigation of the Mekong River in Yunnan, in southern China, Thailand and Laos. Another example was the delay in the construction of a road linking Chiang Rai with Yunnan, via Burma's Keng Tung township in the eastern Shan State.

"Although Myanmar (Burma) has several concerns about joining this economic framework, their leaders have never rejected outright their participation in the projects," Huang Guan Yang, a lecture at the Yunnan Institute of International Studies, said. ? Pornphimol Trichote, a

researcher at the Institute of Asian Studies, said despite Burma's move towards economic reform and a more open foreign policy since 1988, lingering security problems along its eastern border were delaying its participation in quadrangular cooperation.

Pornphimol said Burma spent four years making little progress on the road from Keng Tung town to Yunnan. This was not simply because of a lack of funds. She believed the Burmese leaders' reluctance to accept a soft loan when first offered by Thailand in 1995 to improve the road was a delaying tactic, rather than the official explanation that Rangoon wanted to undertake the project itself. Despite the surrender in January of drug warlord Khun Sa, whose Muang Tai Army had controlled part of the western bank of the Salwin River, there was no guarantee of stability in the border region, Pornphimol said. Huang and Pornphimol presented separate research papers on Burma's role in the Economic Growth Quadrangle yesterday, the second and last day of an academic seminar on problems confronting this economic framework, which was initiated in 1993.

The seminar was hosted by the Institute of Asian Studies' Chinese Study Centre at Chulalongkorn University and attended by scholars from Yunnan and Beijing. The first day focused on Laos and Yunnan.

Huang said the Burmese government feared that enabling navigation along the 270 kilometres of the upper Mekong River which passes through the eastern Shan state would open the country to outside influence, in particular from the United States and China.

This was a particularly sensitive issue because Rangoon was unable to fully control the Shan state. He said the ruling State Law and Order Restoration Council had a genuine concern about the influence of the Wa ethnic insurgency, even though the two sides had made a ceasefire agreement some years ago.

The United Wa Organisation was still active in eastern Shan state, under the leadership of Lin Ming Sien, and controlled the largest remaining opium plantation in the Fourth Special Region.

He said the Burmese leaders feared the economic prosperity that would be fuelled by the economic growth quadrangle would further strengthen the insurgency group.

They also feared that cooperation would lead to the resumption of Chinese assistance to the Burmese Communist Party.

Huang said Yunnan's Xishuangbanna region had since 1991 helped provide agricultural expertise to the Fourth Special Region, which could now produce rice for export and had reduced opium growing.

In February, China and Burma entered into an agreement on narcotics suppression through crop substitution.

[Description of Source: The Nation--daily newspaper widely read by the Thai elite]

Title: China: Lancang-Mekong River Dredging Project Viewed

Document Number: FBIS-CHI-97-144

Document Date: 24 May 1997

Beijing Xinhua in English 0240 GMT 25 May 97

Beijing, May 25 (XINHUA) -- Transportation authorities in southwest China's border province of Yunnan are conducting a dredging project on Lancang River, whose lower reaches outside of China are known as the Mekong.

The ongoing project has made it possible to turn the river into an international economic corridor, according to a report in today's "China Daily" (Business Weekly).

The project, involving 500 million yuan (60 million US dollars) of investment, will enable 300-ton ships to travel to the South China Sea from Saigon, Vietnam, the report said.

The river, the eighth longest in the world, flows 4,800 kilometers through China, Myanmar, Laos, Thailand, Cambodia and Viet Nam.

It is valued for its undeveloped natural and tourist resources and promising trade route. However, ships can not sail on the Lancang River for much of the year due to rapids, sharp curves and shallow water during the dry season.

The dredging work in the river's upper reaches is finished. When the whole project is completed, more vigor will be injected into the already booming border trade, the report said.

Asian Development Bank, the United Nations Development Program and companies from Europe, the United States, Hong Kong and Japan are interested in investing the project, it said.

The annual cargo trade on the Lancang-Mekong River climbed to 60,000 tons in 1996, from 1993's 10,000 tons.

The outlook for border trade has become more favorable because of Chinese, Lao, Myanmar and Thai governments' eagerness to tap the potential of the river, the report said.

Besides conferences and joint investigations, they are negotiating a multilateral cargo transportation agreement to allow direct shipping, it said.

Chinese media delegation calls on Deputy Minister for Information

YANGON, 26 May - Chinese media delegation led by Deputy Director-General of Foreign Affairs Department and Broadcasting, Movies and Television Department Mr Fan Guangdi of the People's Republic of China called on Deputy Minister for Information U Thein Sein at the Ministry of Information this morning.

They exchanged views on broadcasting, movies and television.

Present also were Director-General of Myanmar Television and Radio Department U Kyi Lwin, Managing Director of Printing and Publishing Enterprise U Than Maung, Managing Director of Motion Picture Enterprise U Tin Pe, Deputy Director-General of Information and Public Relation Department U Aung San, Director (News) of News and Periodicals Enterprise U Hla Tun, Director (Admin) of MTRD U Khin Maung Htay and Head of Office U Sein Win. "The New Light of Myanmar" (Internet version) 97-05-27

Title: China: Burmese Leader Receives Chinese Guests

Document Number: FBIS-CHI-97-148

Document Date: 28 May 1997

Yangon [Rangoon], May 28 (XINHUA) -- Myanmar leader Lieutenant-General Khin Nyunt said here today that he hoped trade and economic cooperation between Myanmar and China would be further developed.

The Myanmar [Burmese] leader made the remarks during his meeting with

a Chinese delegation led by Vice-Minister of Foreign Trade and Economic Cooperation Li Guohua.

Khin Nyunt, who is First Secretary of Myanmar State Law and Order Restoration Council, also said Li's visit will help enhance the development of trade and economic cooperation between the two countries.

Present at the meeting were Myanmar Minister for National Planning and Economic Development Brigadier-General Abel and Foreign Minister U Ohn Gyaw.

The 17-member Chinese delegation also includes some businessmen. They arrived here this afternoon for a five-day visit to Myanmar.

Title: China: Beijing, Rangoon Sign Trade, Economic Cooperation Accord

Document Number: FBIS-CHI-97-149

Document Date: 29 May 1997

Yangon, May 29 (XINHUA) -- China and Myanmar [Burma] today signed an agreement under which the two sides will establish a joint working committee on trade, economic and technical cooperation.

Visiting Chinese Vice Minister of Foreign Trade and Economic Cooperation Li Guohua and Myanmar Minister of National Planning and Economic Development Brigadier-General Abel signed the agreement on behalf of their respective governments.

Before the signing ceremony, the Chinese vice minister called on Myanmar Deputy Prime Minister Vice-Admiral Maung Maung Khin.

According to the agreement, the main functions of the joint working committee are to examine the implementation of relevant agreements signed between the two countries on economic, trade and technical cooperation and to jointly explore the possibilities of carrying out various forms of economic, trade and technical cooperation between the two countries.

The 17-member Chinese governmental economic and trade delegation, led by Vice Minister Li Guohua arrived here on Wednesday on a five-day visit to Myanmar.

Title: China: Delegation Discusses Trade, Economic Ties With Burma

Document Number: FBIS-CHI-97-150

Document Date: 30 May 1997

Yangon [Rangoon], May 30 (XINHUA) -- Visiting Chinese Vice Minister of Foreign Trade and Economic Cooperation Li Guohua today called on Myanmar [Burma] Minister of Commerce Lieutenant-General Tun Kyi and discussed trade ties between China and Myanmar.

Both sides expressed hope to further develop their bilateral trade including border trade.

The Chinese vice minister also called on Myanmar Minister of Transport Lieutenant-General Thein Win for discussion of cooperation between the two countries in the field of transport.

The 17-member Chinese government economic and trade delegation led by Vice Minister Li Guohua arrived here Wednesday on a five-day visit to Myanmar.

Title: China: River Transport Grows in Yunnan

Document Number: FBIS-CHI-97-169
Document Date: 18 Jun 1997
Beijing Xinhua in English 0236 GMT 19 Jun 97

Kunming, June 19 (Xinhua) -- Before 1949, there was only one large motorized ship in land-locked, mountainous Yunnan Province in the southwest China.

Now, the province has 1,324 km of navigable channels, 50 ports, more than 760 transport vessels, over 1,100 ferry-boats, and nearly 10,000 people to man them. In 1996, its water-transport sector handled 1.58 million tons of goods and 1.58 million passengers.

The great changes have mostly taken place since the '80s, when the country launched its ambitious reform and opening drive. Since then, Yunnan has used financial assistance from the central government and local resources to develop river shipping by clearing waterways, building or renovating ports, and manufacturing or purchasing vessels. A provincial shipping administration was also established.

In 1990, local shipping companies began to cooperate with neighboring countries in exploring the possibility of using the Lancang-Mekong River for international shipping. After this proved feasible, it resulted in the operation of 50 Yunnan-based vessels that cover a 430-km stretch of the Lancang-Mekong in China, Laos, Myanmar and Thailand.

Currently, Yunnan and Myanmar are drawing up plans for water transport along the Irrawaddy River and making it a major part of a water-land transport line between Kunming, the capital of Yunnan, and Yangon, the capital of Myanmar.

Photo Exhibition and Film Show on the Resumption of Exercise of Sovereignty over Hong Kong by the Government of the people's Republic of China opens

YANGON, 23 June - Photo Exhibition and Film Show on the Resumption of Exercise of Sovereignty over Hong Kong by the Government of the People's Republic of China opened at the embassy of the People's Republic of China, 94, Khayaybin Road, Dagon Township, this morning.

Present were Minister for Information Maj-Gen Aye Kyaw, Deputy Minister U Thein Sein, Director of Public Relations and Psychological Warfare Brig-Gen Aung Thein, Ambassadors, Charge d'Affaires ai, directors-general and managing directors of departments and enterprises, Ambassador of the PRC Ms Chen Baoliu, embassy staff, members of Information Committee of the State Law and Order Restoration Council, Patron of Foreign Correspondents Club in Myanmar U Sein Win, local and foreign newsmen and guests. "The New Light of Myanmar" (Internet version) 97-06-24

Title: China: China To Build Two Sugar Mills in Burma

Document Number: FBIS-CHI-97-175
Document Date: 24 Jun 1997

Yangon [Rangoon], June 24 (XINHUA) -- China and Myanmar [Burma] today signed a contract here today on building two new sugar mills in the country.

Under the contract between China National Complete Plant Import and Export (Yunnan) Corporation and state-run Myanmar Sugarcane Enterprise, the Chinese firm will supply complete sets of equipment for the two sugar mills each with a capacity of processing 2,000 tons of sugarcane per day. Second Secretary of the Myanmar State Law and Order Restoration Council Lt. Gen. Tin Oo, Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation Lieutenant-General Myint Aung and other Myanmar ministers as well as Chinese Ambassador to Myanmar Chen Baoliu attended the signing ceremony. Myanmar is rich in sugarcane resources, but sugar is still in great demand. The country's sugar output in the 1996-97 fiscal year ending March was 76,000 tons with per capita consumption at only 1.6 kilograms, according to official statistics.

Burma: China To Build Two Sugar Mills for Over 41 Million Dollars

Document Number: FBIS-EAS-97-176

Document Date: 25 Jun 1997

Rangoon The New Light Of Myanmar in English 25 Jun 97 p 12

Yangon, 24 June--A contract signing ceremony for establishment of two sugar mills between Myanma Sugarcane Enterprise and China National Complete Plant Import and Export Yunnan Corporation of the People's Republic of China was held at the Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation this morning, attended by Secretary-2 of the State Law and Order Restoration Council Lt-Gen Tin Oo.

Present also were Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation Lt-Gen Myint Aung, Minister for National Planning and Economic Development Brig-Gen Abel, Minister at the Office of the Prime Minister Brig-Gen Lun Maung, Minister for Finance and Revenue Brig-Gen Win Tin, Minister for Industry-2 Maj-Gen Kyaw Than, Ambassador of the PRC Ms Chen Baoliu, directors-general and managing directors of departments and enterprises under the ministry, Rector of Institute of Agriculture, officials and Chairman Mrs Zhang Lianju and members and guests.

Managing Director of MSE U Myo Myint and Chairman Zhang Lianju signed the contract.

Under the contract the corporation will supply equipment worth over 41 million dollars to MSE for two 2,000-ton sugar mills.

[Description of Source: The New Light Of Myanmar--government-run daily newspaper]

Dalla Shipyard launches first of three pusher-tug

YANGON, 1 July-A launching ceremony of the medium sized Hsin-haing 3 pusher-tug built at Dalla Shipyard of Inland Water Transport under an agreement between the Inland Water Transport of the Ministry of Transport and Yunnan Machinery Import and Export Corporation (YMC) of the People's Republic of China was held at 1.15 pm today and Secretary-1 of the State Law and Order Restoration Council Lt-Gen Khin Nyunt launched the boat.

Also present on the occasion were Ministers at the Office of the Chairman of the State Law and Order Restoration Council BrigGen Myo Thant and Lt-Gen Min Thein, member of the State Law and Order Restoration Council Security and Management Committee Vice-Admiral

Than Nyunt, Minister for Transport Lt-, Gen Thein Win, Minister for Labour Maj-Gen Saw Lwin, Deputy Minister for Transport U Sann Wai, Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs U Nyunt Swe, Chairman of Yangon Division Law and Ambassador Ms Chen Baoliu, the director-general and managing directors of the departments under the Ministry of Transport, officials of the Office of the State Law and Order Restoration Council, those of YMC and the Ministry of Transport, the Superintending Engineer and engineers of the Dalla Shipyard and staff.

First, Minister for Transport Lt-Gen Thein Win delivered an address. He said the Government is undertaking major tasks with added momentum for the emergence of a modern, developed and peaceful nation and for the well-being of the nation and the people after laying down political, economic and social objectives. (NLM/97-07-02 WEBSITE)

Secretary 1 attends reception to mark the People's Republic of China's Resumption of Exercise of Sovereignty over Hong Kong

YANGON, 1 July-A reception to mark the People's Republic of China's resumption of exercise of sovereignty over Hong Kong was held at the Embassy of the People's Republic of China on Khayebbin Street, Dagon Township, here this evening.

It was attended by Secretary-1 of the State Law and Order Restoration Council Lt-Gen Khin Nyunt Secretary-2 of the State Law and Order Restoration Council Lt-Gen Tin Oo, members of the State Law and Order Restoration Council, ministers, the Chief Justice, the Attorney-General, deputy ministers, ambassadors, senior Tatmadaw officers, heads of departments, local and foreign journalists and guests. NLM WS 97-07-02

Title: China: Myanmar Wants To Strengthen Neighborly Goodwill Ties

Document Number: FBIS-CHI-97-184

Document Date: 3 Jul 1997

Yangon, July 3 (XINHUA) -- Myanmar Deputy Prime Minister Lieutenant-General Tin Tun has said his country wants to further strengthen neighborly goodwill relations as well as trade and economic cooperation with China.

Tin Tun made the remarks here on Wednesday afternoon when he, on behalf of Chairman of the State Law and Order Restoration Council and Prime Minister Senior-General Than Shwe, received Chinese ambassador to Myanmar Chen Baoliu who is leaving her post in the country.

He noted Myanmar had consistently paid attention to the development of Myanmar-China bilateral relations.

He also expressed his congratulation on China's resumption of the exercise of sovereignty over Hong Kong on July 1, 1997.

Minister for A & I inspects sugar mill projects in Bago, Mandalay Divisions

YANGON, 3 July- Minister for Agriculture and irrigation Lt-Gen Myint Aung, accompanied by officials left here for Bago and Mandalay Divisions yesterday morning to inspect work being carried out by departments under the ministry there.

In Kyauktaga Township, the minister met members of Division, District and Township Law and Order Restoration Councils and departmental personnel at Alekhin Farm.

He instructed them to use machines so as to increase per-acre yield in monsoon paddy production and save time, expenditure and manpower in cultivation and Processing.

The minister discussed construction of a new sugar mill in Nyaungbintha with engineers and geologists of the People's Republic of China and officials at Nyaungbintha Central Farm in Pyu Township. "The New Light of Myanmar" (Internet version) 97-07-04

Minister inspects gantry cranes imported from PRC

YANGON 4 July - Minister for Transport Lt-Gen Thein Win inspected three gantry cranes imported from the People's Republic of China at Thilawa Port today.

The cranes will be used for the container wharf project, Myanmar International Terminal, Thilawa, being undertaken by C & P (Myanmar) Pte Ltd of Singapore.

At the port, he was welcomed by Managing Director U Tin Oo of Myanmar Port Authority, Chairman of Kyauktan Township Law and Order Restoration Council U Lu Maw, Commanding Officer of the Regional Battalion Lt-Col Zaw Weik and officials. "The New Light of Myanmar" (Internet version) 97-07-05

Title: China: Chinese Ambassador to Burma Leaves Post for Home

Document Number: FBIS-CHI-97-190

Document Date: 9 Jul 1997

Rangoon, July 9 (XINHUA) -- Chinese Ambassador to Myanmar [Burma] Chen Baoliu left here today for home after completing her term of office in the country.

Among those seeing off the Chinese Ambassador at the Rangoon International Airport were Charge d'Affaires of the Chinese Embassy Yu Tiegen, officials of the Myanmar Foreign Ministry and foreign diplomats in Myanmar.

Chen Baoliu took up her post as Chinese Ambassador to Myanmar in September 1994.

Title: China: Delegation Promotes Anti-Drug Efforts With Burma

Document Number: FBIS-TDD-97-193

Document Date: 12 Jul 1997

Rangoon, July 12 (Xinhua) -- A six-member Chinese delegation of anti-drug officials arrived here today for a week-long visit to Myanmar

[Burma] to promote cooperation in drug fighting.

The delegation was headed by Bai Jingfu, vice minister of the Public Security Ministry and deputy director of China's National Narcotics Control Commission.

Bai was greeted at Yangon International Airport by Myanmar Deputy Minister for Home Affairs Tin Hlaing, Secretary of the Myanmar Central Committee for Drug Abuse Control Police Soe Win and Charge d'Affaires of the Chinese Embassy in Myanmar Yu Tiegen.

The two country's officials are expected to have talks on promoting cooperation between China and Myanmar in the field of drug control, a Chinese official said.

Title: Burma: Narcotics Control Talks Held With China

Document Number: FBIS-TDD-97-195

Document Date: 14 Jul 1997

Rangoon Radio Myanmar in Burmese 1330 GMT 14 Jul 97

The visiting Chinese anti-narcotic delegation led by the vice chairman of the national drug abuse control committee and vice minister of public security, called on Lt. Gen. Mya Thinn, member of the State Law and Order Restoration Council, chairman of Central Committee for Drug Abuse Control [CCDAC], and minister of home affairs, at the latter's office at 0900 today.

The Chinese delegation and the Myanmar [Burmese] delegation led by Col. Soe Win, police director general and CCDAC secretary, held talks on narcotics control matters at the Karaweik Hall's Shwewar Chamber at 1000. [Description of Source: Radio Myanmar--government-run radio]

Chinese National Drug Abuse Control Commission delegation visits Thanlyin. Kyauktan Regions

YANGON, 13 July Vice-Chairman of National Drug Abuse Control Commission of the People's Republic of China Deputy Minister of Public Security Mr Bai Jingfu and party, currently here at the invitation of Chairman of the central Committee for Drug Abuse Control Minister for Home Affairs Lt-Gen Mya Thin, accompanied by Joint-Secretary of CCDAC Police Col Ngwe Soe Tun, visited the Shwedagon Pagoda this morning.

The Chinese Deputy Minister signed in the visitor's book and donated cash towards the pagoda funds.

then, they went to ,Thanlyin Bridge, Thanlyin and Kyauktan areas.

In the afternoon, the Chinese Deputy Minister and party visited the National Museum and Bogyoke Aung San Market. "The New Light of Myanmar" (Internet version) 97-07-14

Yangon Mayor arrives back from South-South Mayors Conference

YANGON, 15 July Myanmar delegation led by Chairman of Yangon City Development Committee Mayor U Ko Lay arrived back here this evening

after, attending South-South Mayors Conference held in Kuala Lumpur.

The delegation was welcomed back at the airport by Minister for Communications, Posts and Telegraphs U Soe Tha, Minister for Labour Maj-Gen Saw Lwin, Vice-Chairman of YCDC Vice-Mayor and members. Over 300 mayors of 31 countries attended the NA conference held in Kuala Lumpur from 3 to 5 July.

The mayor also visited the People's Republic of China at the invitation of Mayor of Yongzhou. He signed an agreement on mutual cooperation between Rangoon and Yongzhou on 8 July.

During his stay in PRICE, the mayor visited economic zones, factories and ancient and cultural places in Wuxi, Hsuzi and Shanghai. Bilateral goodwill relations and cooperation were discussed with respective mayors and heads of regions. "The New Light of Myanmar" (Internet version) 97-07-16

Title: China: Burmese Leader: Joint Efforts Against Narcotics Positive

Document Number: FBIS-CHI-97-198

Document Date: 17 Jul 1997

Yangon, July 17 (Xinhua) -- Myanmar [Burma] and China have positively cooperated in fighting drug abuse and Myanmar hopes the cooperation would be continued, said Myanmar leader Lieutenant-General Khin Nyunt here today. Khin Nyunt, first secretary of the Myanmar State Law and Order Restoration Council, made the remarks when he received visiting Chinese Vice Minister of Public Security Bai Jingfu, who is also Deputy Director of the National Narcotics Control Commission.

Bai, who leads a six-member Chinese delegation of anti-drug officials, is currently here on a visit to Myanmar.

Khin Nyunt appreciated the friendly relations between Myanmar and China, saying that Myanmar wants to further strengthen and develop the neighborly goodwill ties with China.

He reiterated Myanmar's persistence of "One China" policy, adding that his country was delighted with China's resumption of the exercise of sovereignty over Hong Kong.

The Chinese vice minister and his party arrived here last Saturday on a week-long visit to Myanmar at the invitation of Chairman of the Myanmar Central Committee for Drug Abuse Control and Minister for Home Affairs Lieutenant-General Mya Thin.

Title: China: Renmin Ribao on Admitting Burma, Cambodia, Laos to ASEAN

Document Number: FBIS-CHI-97-199

Document Date: 18 Jul 1997

Beijing Renmin Ribao in Chinese 6 Jun 97 p 6

Subslug: "International Forum" Column by Zong Yang (1350 2254): "Independent Choice"

On 31 May, seven ASEAN foreign ministers held a special meeting and officially decided to accept Myanmar [Burma], Cambodia, and Laos as ASEAN members at the 30th ASEAN Foreign Ministers Conference to be held in July. At a time when the 30th anniversary of the ASEAN founding was being

celebrated, ASEAN decided to carry out a plan formulated by its founders for forming an alliance of 10 Southeast Asian countries; this is of special significance and shows that ASEAN is entering a new development stage. ASEAN was officially founded by Malaysia, Indonesia, Thailand, Singapore, and the Philippines on 8 August, 1967. Later on, Brunei and Vietnam were admitted into ASEAN in 1984 and 1995 respectively. The end of the Cold War provided an opportunity for furthering ASEAN integration. The Fifth ASEAN Summit, held in December 1995, adopted a plan to admit Myanmar, Laos, and Cambodia into ASEAN before 2000. Since then, ASEAN integration has been accelerated.

Closer cooperation among Southeast Asian countries is bound to heighten the status of Southeast Asian countries in a new Asia-Pacific pattern. Economic development is a major factor for furthering ASEAN integration. ASEAN hopes to cultivate new growth points, maintain strong reserve economic strength, and enhance competitiveness in the world by opening up new markets and exploiting new resources. Besides, after admitting three new members, ASEAN is expected to expand internal coordination and cooperation and more effectively safeguard its interests in the Asia-Pacific cooperation and economic and security talks.

On the question of admitting Myanmar, ASEAN has had a trial of strength and a struggle with the United States and some other western countries on several occasions. The United States and the European Union [EU] are publicly opposed to ASEAN's admitting Myanmar on the pretext of Myanmar's human rights violations. They have threatened that if ASEAN admits Myanmar, U.S.-ASEAN and EU-ASEAN relations would suffer. However, the ASEAN countries withstood this pressure and declared in no uncertain terms that they are opposed to foreign forces interfering in ASEAN affairs and linking Myanmar's internal affairs with its ASEAN membership. The aforementioned decision made by the latest ASEAN Foreign Ministers Conference showed that ASEAN has become more conscious and more capable of resisting foreign intervention and handling regional affairs on its own.

After admitting Myanmar, Laos, and Cambodia, ASEAN will become a regional block comprising all 10 Southeast Asian countries and boasting a combined gross national product of almost \$700 billion. It is believed that an enlarged ASEAN will have a greater impact on regional and international affairs. ASEAN's development and expansion as a bloc of developing countries will definitely further multipolarization of the world and promote regional peace, stability, and economic growth.

As developing countries, China and ASEAN members have shared a wide range of common interests. China has all along supported ASEAN countries in playing a positive role in the region and the world. Besides, China has attached great importance to developing long-term, stable, good-neighborly, and mutual-trust partnership with ASEAN and its members. In recent years, China has rapidly developed relations and continually furthered friendly cooperation with ASEAN countries in political and economic fields and on international affairs as well. Since entering into a partnership of comprehensive dialogue last year, China and ASEAN have further developed a dialogue, consultation, and cooperation mechanism. The two sides have adopted a similar or identical stand on many regional and international issues and conducted fruitful cooperation in many international or regional organizations, including APEC, the ASEAN Forum, the Eurasian Conference, UN, and so on. China and ASEAN have strengthened relations of friendly cooperation on the basis of the Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence, since this conforms to the common interests of the two sides; is conducive to safeguarding regional and global peace and development; and demonstrates broad prospects.

Title: China: Benefits From Burma's Entry into ASEAN Noted

Document Number: FBIS-CHI-97-204

Document Date: 23 Jul 1997

Sourceline: OW2307131197 Beijing Xinhua in English 1156 GMT 23 Jul 97

Rangoon, July 23 (XINHUA) -- Burma, after standing alone for several decades, finally joined the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) today, opening a new chapter in its foreign relations.

Burma, together with Laos, officially became members of the regional grouping, boosting the number of ASEAN members from seven to nine and marking a step closer towards the organization's dream of including all ten Southeast Asian countries in its membership.

Cambodia's scheduled entry into the regional grouping along with Laos and Burma was postponed indefinitely following a decision made at the special meeting of the ASEAN foreign ministers on July 10 because of the latest developments in Phnom Penh.

ASEAN presently groups Brunei, Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, Vietnam, Laos and Burma.

Burma's entry into ASEAN contributes not only to the development of the country but also to peace, stability and development of the region.

For the first time, Burma participated in the 27th ASEAN Ministerial Meeting held in Bangkok in July 1994 as a guest of the Thai Government.

It became an observer of ASEAN at the grouping's 29th Ministerial Meeting held in Jakarta in July 1996 after its accession to the Treaty of Amity and Cooperation in Southeast Asia at the Brunei Ministerial Meeting in July 1995.

Burma's integration into the regional grouping is seen as not only an opportunity for the country in the development of its economy and trade and attraction of foreign investment, but also a challenge to it in commodity production and market competitiveness, some observers here believed.

According to official statistics, Southeast Asian countries, such as Singapore, Malaysia, Thailand and the Philippines, are investing in Burma with nearly 3 billion U.S. dollars out of the country's total foreign investment of over 6 billion U.S. dollars from 21 countries and regions at the end of May this year.

Burma's joining of ASEAN would also contribute to the transport sector of the Southeast Asian region. The eventual establishment of regional highway and railway networks would in turn promote the economic development of the region.

The country's admission into ASEAN also poses a challenge to its market competitiveness in commodity export since Burma is industrially weak to produce goods for the purpose.

Observers here believe that Burma's economy would be developed at a relatively quicker pace with technical assistance and support of other member countries of ASEAN.

Title: China: Burmese Police Head To Visit China

Document Number: FBIS-CHI-97-211

Document Date: 30 Jul 1997

Beijing Xinhua in English 1156 GMT 30 Jul 97

Yangon [Rangoon], July 30 (XINHUA) -- Director General of the Myanmar [Burma] Police Force Major General Soe Win left here today for Beijing on a week-long visit to China.

At the invitation of the Chinese Ministry of Public Security, Soe Win and his party will visit Beijing and Nanjing.

In the middle of this month, Soe Win, who is also secretary of the Myanmar Central Committee for Drug Abuse Control, held talks in Yangon with Bai Jingfu, Chinese vice minister of public security and deputy director of the National Narcotics Control Commission.

During the talks, both sides agreed to promote cooperation in the field of drug abuse control between the two countries.

Title: China: Wu Yi Meets With Burmese Commerce Minister

Document Number: FBIS-CHI-97-223

Document Date: 11 Aug 1997

Beijing, August 11 (Xinhua) -- Minister of Foreign Trade and Economic Cooperation Wu Yi, meeting today with Myanmar's [Burma] Minister of Commerce Tun Kyi, said she hopes that China and Myanmar will increase border trade to expand bilateral economic and trade co-operation.

Wu said that the two countries' friendship dates back to ancient times, that their people enjoy a time-honored friendship, and that the Chinese government places great importance on economic and trade co-operation with Myanmar.

Southwest China's Yunnan province is a neighbor of Myanmar, so the two sides should make full use of their respective advantages in economic exchanges to increase mutually-beneficial co-operation, she said, and that China is willing to make its own efforts in this.

Bilateral trade volume is currently about 700 millions US dollars a year. Wu Yi said that the two countries can explore new ways to co-operate, and expressed confidence in the prospect for bilateral economic and trade co-operation.

Tun Kyi said that the purpose of his China trip is to enhance Myanmar and China's friendship, and he hopes that bilateral economic and trade ties will continue to grow.

He is here as a guest of China's Ministry of Foreign Trade and Economic Cooperation.

Title: India: Article Views Threat From China's Naval Build-Up

Document Number: FBIS-TAC-97-224

Document Date: 12 Aug 1997

Delhi The Pioneer in English 12 Aug 97 p 16

Subslug: Article by Swaran Singh: "China's Naval Prowesss"

Next to its nuclear weapons, it is China's rapid expansion of its naval build-up that will threaten its neighbouring countries. This is because unlike nuclear weapons, naval warfare and especially use of naval power in making force projections remains a perfectly accepted and

legitimate instrument of settling inter-state power equations. Naval power is also more likely to be brought to bear because worldwide the continental partition is now over and most of the future conflicts are likely to shift to the open oceans. And here, the twin factor of China's expanding naval power as also its fast growing consumption levels are going to push China into seeking greater influence and control over open seas.

One example of the things to come was candidly visible during China's recent naval exercises which have been officially described as the largest since their tri-services exercises of 1964. This was also China's 5th military exercise involving its navy during the last two years. Conducted north of Taiwan between July 10-20, 1997 this naval exercise involved over one hundred warships. The aim of this exercise was said to be testing their "naval warfare theories, skills to launch guided missiles" and according to the official brief "the containment weapons were also examined". The exercise, if anything, was clearly projected as a rehearsal for the containment of Taiwan which remains China's next target following the return of Macao in 1999. But is China likely to stop at this? For those who follow China's defence strategy, Beijing has already earmarked its future itinerary. Besides, what is most important to note is that there has been no two opinions and no ad hocism in its implementation. Chinese have plans for emerging as the second most important naval power in the 21st century. By the year 2050, the Chinese plan to catch up with the United States.

Admiral Liu Huaqing, who recently retired as senior vice Chairman of China's most powerful military decision-making organ, the Central Military commission (CMC), is credited to be one man behind China's naval build-up. His offshore defence strategy of 1979 has been carried out step-by-step during these last two decades. This strategy had been originally planned to ensure China's control of the seas from China's coasts to the first island chain that runs from Kurile island in the north of Japan, through Taiwan, the Philippines, and most of Indonesia, thus including the whole of the South China Sea. But considering, China's naval build-up during these last two decades, Admiral Liu has lately been talking of extending China's naval operations farther into the Pacific-to the so called second island chain which then includes Guam, the Marianas, and the Carolines. Similarly, in the Indian Ocean, following its control over the South China Sea, China will still continue to depend on the Middle Eastern oil, which will make ensuring safe passage through the sea-lanes of this region increasingly important to China's economy. The Chinese have also been working in this direction. China and Burma, for example, have already established close military ties that may include the Chinese access to Burmese ports in the Indian Ocean. The two countries have signed military agreements that includes intelligence exchanges, arms sales and Burmese air force and navy officers being trained by China. China has also built extensive military cooperation with Iran which will ensure that at any given time it should be in position to contest any rival power trying to control the shipping through the Strait of Hormuz. Similar arrangements have also been visualised for the Straits of Malacca which is the most crucial checkpoint for the Chinese ships sailing into the Indian Ocean. This transformation in its thinking and environment has also brought about a similar shift in China's naval strategy and priorities. The thrust now is clearly on the offensive and in making projections. The new induction of submarines, larger and modern warships, long-range aircraft are clearly not meant for purely defensive purposes. According to Hong Kong Press the Chinese leader, Jiang Zemin, has approved a plan to accelerate the construction of China's first carrier before the year 2000.

This is further corroborated by the US Office of Naval Intelligence that two 48,000-ton carriers, with up to 40 fixed-wing aircraft apiece, could be built by 2005. Last year, China asked France to consider selling the 36-year-old Clemenceau. By even the most conservative estimates the Chinese naval flagships are expected to prowl in Indian Ocean by the early years of the next millennium. And since naval build-up is known to be a long term venture, those on the receiving end have to start preparing now. For one thing, contribution of Sino-Russian defence cooperation has been the most important factor to transform the profile of China's naval power and will remain the most important factor in China gaining edge in its future build-up. Apart from its Kilo- class attack submarines and Sukhoi-27s and their related technology transfers, China has recently bought Sovremenny-class destroyer's which can carry up to 4,430 mile-range SA-N-17 anti-aircraft missiles, one Kamov KA27 anti-submarine helicopter, extensive electronic warfare systems, and point-defence systems to counter anti-ship missiles and torpedoes. Its large 130mm guns can assist shore-bombardment missions. What makes this ship most alarming is the its main armament: the SS-N-22 supersonic anti-ship missile. This missile was built to counter US Aegis cruisers. It travels at more than twice the speed of sound and skims across the water as low as 23 feet, which decreases the chance of radar detection. When it approaches its target, it can execute pre-programmed evasive manoeuvres to confuse defending guns and missiles.

Besides, China has also improved its indigenous production and emerged as the sixth largest shipbuilder from being 16th a decade earlier. China now is building a very capable 23,000 ton replenishment ship for Thailand that also could be built for its own navy. Similarly, it has also come out with a whole range of medium and short range missiles which has reduced the dependence of its naval ship on air defence. Thus any one who continues to ignore China's recent naval expansion and describe its naval warships as of 1950s vintage will be doing so at one own peril.

Myanmar delegation seeks economic cooperation with PRC, Thai
Vietnam's Lao officials at Kunming Trade Fair 97

YANGON, 14 Aug - Myanmar economic delegation led by Minister for Commerce Lt-Gen Tun Kyi attended inauguration of Kunming Trade Fair 97 in Kunming, Yunnan Province, the People's Republic of China, on 8 August.

They are there as guests of Minister of External Trade and Economic Cooperation of PRC Madame Su Yi and Governor of Yunnan Province Mr Fle Zhi Qiang.

During their meeting with PRC officials led by Mr He on 7 August, they discussed further strengthening of existing bilateral friendly ties and economic cooperation and establishment of regular border trade.

Mr He hosted dinner in their honour at Kunming Hotel.

After the inauguration ceremony, Myanmar delegation met officials of Thailand, Vietnam, and Laos and governors of other provinces of PRC attending the fair.

Talks were on promotion of economic cooperation.

They also met the Chairman of China National Complete Plant Import and Export Yunnan Corporation and vice-chairman of Yunnan International Economic Corporation.

During their visit to Dong Fang car assembly plant, they discussed economic cooperation with Chinese officials led by the chairman of YMIEC.

Lt-Gen Tun Kyi looked into the requirements of Myanmar booths at the fair the day before the inauguration.

On arrival in Kunming on 6 August evening, they were welcomed by Consul-General U Win Aung and Yunnan officials.

The trade fair continues till 6 August. (NLM/97-08-15 WEBSITE)

Title: China: Hydropower Project Along Yunnan Border Approved

Document Number: FBIS-CHI-97-229

Document Date: 17 Aug 1997

Kunming, August 17 (Xinhua) -- The Chinese government recently officially approved the construction of another large hydro-power project in Lancang River in southwest China's Yunnan Province bordering Myanmar [Burma] and Vietnam.

Dachaoshan Power Plant, located in the middle reaches of the Lancang River, is designed to have an installed capacity of 1.35 million kw. The power generating capacity is set to reach 5.9 billion kwh annually in its initial period of operation, and eventually hit seven billion kwh a year. With an investment of 8.9 billion yuan, the first generating unit of the plant is scheduled to be operational in 2001. All the six units are expected to be in full operation in 2003.

The site of the project, with a steep water drop and sparse population, is ideal for such a large project.

The Dachaoshan Hydro-power Co. Ltd. was the sole developer and future operator of the project, which is jointly funded by State Development and Investment Corporation, Yunnan Hongta Industrial Co. Ltd., Yunnan Electricity Corporation and Yunnan Development and Investment Corporation. Up to now, some 1.2 billion yuan has been allotted for the preparation of the project. Water diversion tunnels, key to the damming of the river, have been put in use since May of 1996.

Title: China: Li Peng on Continued PRC Cooperation With ASEAN Nations

Document Number: FBIS-CHI-97-234

Document Date: 22 Aug 1997

Sourceline: OW2208053397 Beijing Xinhua in English 0508 GMT 22 Aug 97

Kuala Lumpur, August 22 (XINHUA) -- Visiting Chinese Premier Li Peng said today that China stands ready to continue its productive cooperation with ASEAN countries.

In a speech at the welcoming meeting hosted by the Institute of Diplomatic and Foreign Relations of Malaysia, Li called on the members of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) to join hands with China

to promote the establishment of a fair and just new international political and economic order.

The regional grouping comprises Brunei, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam.

Li said that China and Southeast Asian nations had similar past of prolonged foreign aggression and that they are now both faced with a common task of developing the national economy.

"Moreover, they share the need for securing regional and international peace. We are ready to join ASEAN countries to work unrelentingly for good-neighborly and friendly relations geared to the 21st century, " he said.

In the 1950s and 1960s, the historical trend toward national independence and liberation was irreversible, the Chinese premier said, "Today, the trend toward multi-polarization is accelerating and it has again become an irreversible historical trend to strive for world peace, national development and social progress."

The ASEAN, as an important regional organization, is playing an increasingly important role in maintaining regional peace and promoting economic development, he said.

"China stands ready to continue its productive cooperation with ASEAN countries, " he added

Li said that at the end of this year, the leaders of East Asian countries will have an informal summit in Kuala Lumpur in which Chinese President Jiang Zemin will participate

The gathering will be a major event in the history of China-ASEAN relations, the Chinese premier said.

"Let us join hands in a concerted effort to promote the establishment of a fair and just new international political and economic order characterized by peace and stability, " Li called.

Minister for Transport receives Group MD of C & P Holdings Pte Ltd

YANGON, 29 Aug Minister for Transport Lt-Gen Thein Win received Group Managing Director of C & P Holdings Pte Ltd Mr Loi Kai Meng at his office at 9 am today.

Similarly, Managing Director of China Harbour Engineering Company Mr Cui Qi and party called on Minister Lt-Gen Thein Win at his office at 10.00 am today.

Managing Director of Myanma Port Authority U Tin Oo and officials of the ministry were also present. "The New Light of Myanmar" (Internet version) 97-08-30

Title: Singapore: Controversy Over Burma's Attendance at ASEM Meet Viewed

Document Number: FBIS-EAS-97-246

Document Date: 3 Sep 1997

Sourceline: BK0309123997 Hong Kong AFP in English 0903 GMT 3 Sep 97

SINGAPORE, Sept 3 (AFP) - Fellow ASEAN members reacted guardedly Wednesday to outspoken Malaysian Prime Minister Mahathir Mohamad's threat to boycott next year's Asia- Europe summit in London if their new member

Burma is excluded.

Indonesian Foreign Minister Ali Alatas said Asian countries scheduled to attend the April summit had yet to discuss the possible participation of Burma, officially known as Myanmar, or other countries seeking to join the talks.

"The topic about Myanmar has not been discussed," Alatas said before attending a monthly cabinet meeting in Jakarta.

Alatas pointed out that a country's presence at the so-called Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM) "is based on individual participation, so it is not a meeting of ASEAN on one side and EU on the other."

Philippine Foreign Affairs Undersecretary Rodolfo Severino said foreign ministers and eventually the leaders of ASEAN would have to first discuss Burma's role in the Asia-Europe dialogue.

British Foreign Secretary Robin Cook said in Singapore on Monday that Burma could not take part in the summit because of European Union (EU) sanctions banning high-level visits by ministers from Burma's ruling military junta.

EU countries accuse the junta of systematic human rights abuses and links to international drug trafficking.

The first ASEM summit was held in Bangkok in 1996. It included the 15 EU members and the then seven members of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) -- Brunei, Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam -- plus China, Japan and South Korea.

Burma was admitted into ASEAN together with Laos last July despite warnings by western countries against the move.

Under an earlier understanding, proposed new participants in the ASEM summit would have to be approved by a consensus of all current members. India, Pakistan, Australia and New Zealand have been clamoring to join the Asian side.

Singapore -- which played the pivotal Asian role in organising the ASEM with France on the European side -- was the first to react to Mahathir's boycott threat, which diplomats said caught ASEAN partners by surprise.

In a statement late Tuesday, a spokesman for the Singapore foreign ministry said that the question of Burma's presence at the summit "does not arise" because no consensus had been reached on any new participants.

"There has been no decision taken on new membership for ASEM II, which has to be decided by consensus. Until a decision is taken, the membership of ASEM II in London will be the same as that of ASEM I in Bangkok."

Mahathir, in an interview with US-based Cable News Network (CNN), threatened Tuesday to "opt out" of the summit if the EU bars Burma from attending.

"We are in ASEAN and other people outside of ASEAN cannot dictate to us who should be members of ASEAN. Either you accept ASEAN as it is or you don't," he said, but clarified earlier reports saying he had warned of an ASEAN boycott.

"I'm not speaking for ASEAN, by the way, I'm speaking for myself. But if I find that other countries are going to dictate to us who should or who should not attend from among us then I think I might opt out," he said.

Mahathir, a vocal self-styled spokesman for the developing world known for strong anti-western views, had boycotted a summit of the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) forum in the United States in 1993, but later became a key backer of the organization.

Malaysia will host an APEC summit in late 1998.

Title: Malaysia: Foreign Minister on Burma's Attendance at Asem

Document Number: FBIS-EAS-97-251

Document Date: 8 Sep 1997

Sourceline: BK0909015297 Kuala Lumpur The Star (Internet version) in English 8 Sep 97

Subslug: Unattributed report

KUALA LUMPUR: Myanmar's attendance at the Asian-Europe Meeting (Asem) scheduled to take place in London next April has yet to be decided, Foreign Minister Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi said.

Even Laos, he said, had not received any official invitation from London to attend the summit.

"By rule, countries have to receive official invitations. They will not be invited to attend as part of the Asean regional grouping," he said. He was commenting on reports which quoted Britain's foreign secretary Robin Cook as saying last week that Myanmar could not attend the meeting in view of a visa ban on Myanmar's ministers in Europe.

Cook's statement had drawn criticism from Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad that he might boycott the meeting if Europe dictated to Asean who could attend.

Myanmar and Laos were admitted into Asean on July 23.

Asem groups the 15 European Union countries and 10 Asian states comprising China, Japan, South Korea and the Asean Seven (excluding Myanmar and Laos).

[Description of Source: The Star--daily newspaper owned by the Malaysian Chinese Association, widely read by the Chinese business community]

Title: Burma: Daily Envisages Bright ASEAN Future

Document Number: FBIS-EAS-97-252

Document Date: 9 Sep 1997

Rangoon The New Light Of Myanmar in English 8 Sep 97 p 3

Subslug: Article by Maung Maung Aye: "How we envisage ASEAN in the Year 2020"

Ten nations, namely, Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam are located in South-East Asia. Here in this region, 500 million people of different cultures and faiths reside in varying geographical conditions, in the plains, on the hills and on islands. When undisturbed in the past, the people of the region enjoyed life fully under their respective rulers. However, South-East Asia is a region of strategic importance, politically, militarily, economically and culturally, for it is wellknown for the fertile land, rich mineral deposits, long coastline, ancient cultural structures and glorious historical background. Located in an area bordered by the world's two most populous nations, China and India, the region attracted the attention of big powers. That was why the entire area, with the exception of Siam or Thailand, was overrun by the imperialists. In spite of unmatching strength of weaponry, the people of the region rose against the intruders with available weapons. Finally, they were able to wrest back their lost freedom. Still, the former rulers attempted to wield their influence over them in one form or another. The peoples of the

region, on their part, were on alert because of their bitter experience under alien rule. They realized that there lurked constant danger of foreign domination unless they remained united.

The Association of South-East Asian Nations, ASEAN, was founded on 8 August 1967 in Bangkok, Thailand, with the signing of the Bangkok Declaration by the five original Member Countries, namely, Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore and Thailand. The Bangkok Declaration united the ASEAN Member Countries in a joint effort to promote economic cooperation and the welfare of the peoples in the region. The declaration set out guidelines for ASEAN's activities and defined the aims of the organization.

The ASEAN nations came together with three main objectives in mind:
To promote the economic, social and cultural development of the region through cooperative programmes;

To safeguard the political and economic stability of the region against big power rivalry;

To serve as a forum for the resolution of intra-regional differences.

In the Bangkok Declaration, ASEAN clearly stated its vision: "The Association represents the collective will of the nations of Southeast Asia to bind themselves together in friendship and cooperation and, through joint efforts and sacrifices, secure for their peoples and for posterity the blessings of peace, freedom and prosperity."

Accordingly, at the First Summit of the grouping in Bali, in February 1976, the five Member Countries signed the Treaty of Amity and Cooperation in Southeast Asia and the Declaration of ASEAN Concord. The two documents signified ASEAN's aims towards ensuring regional peace and stability and to foster economic and social growth and enhancing the need for cooperation with all peace-loving nations.

The Second Summit in 1977 commemorated the association's tenth founding anniversary and assessed the progress in the implementation of the decisions taken at the previous summit.

When the Third Summit took place in Manila, the Philippines, in December 1987, the Member Countries signed the Manila Declaration and set up the ASEAN Plan of Action. The Protocol Amending the Treaty of Amity and Cooperation in Southeast Asia was also signed to enable countries outside ASEAN region to accede to the Treaty.

The ASEAN Heads of Government signed the Singapore Declaration of 1992 and the Framework Agreement on Enhancing ASEAN Economic Cooperation at the Fourth Summit. An outcome of the summit was the decision to set up the ASEAN Free Trade Area (AFTA) within 15 years. The members also signed the Agreement on the Common Effective Preferential Tariff (CEPT) Scheme which is the main instrument to establish AFTA.

The Fifth Summit held in Bangkok, Thailand, in December 1995, was a remarkable one. At this summit the ASEAN Leaders met with their counterparts from Cambodia, Laos and Myanmar, the three nations outside the ASEAN fold. For, Brunei Darussalam joined the association on 8 January 1984 and Vietnam became the seventh member on 28 July 1995. This initial meeting of all the leaders of the ten Southeast Asian states witnessed the signing of the Southeast Asia Nuclear Weapon-Free Zone Treaty.

At the Fifth Summit, the ASEAN Leaders agreed to meet informally every year and the First Informal Meeting of the ASEAN Heads of Government was held in Jakarta on 30 November 1996. At this meeting, the ASEAN Leaders reaffirmed their strong commitment to the speedy realization of an ASEAN comprising all ten Southeast Asian countries. As far as Myanmar is concerned, it was involved to become a member of ASEAN when it was first established in 1967. However, it did not participate in the Association

because of its priorities and prevailing conditions in the international arena at the time. Although not a member of ASEAN, Myanmar was able to develop close and cordial ties with all the countries of Southeast Asia in consonance with its independent and active foreign policy.

Then, Myanmar decided to take a more active role in regional and international affairs. This has been because of Myanmar's belief that there should be appropriate changes in the way of thinking and concepts in accordance with the changing times. In the contemporary world, no nation can stay aloof or isolated. That was why Myanmar decided to enter ASEAN in keeping with her political, economic and foreign policy interests.

Myanmar's stand was highly appreciated by all the ASEAN members. They did so in spite of attempts by some malcontents to bar Myanmar's membership in the ASEAN. The grouping first decided that the three nations, Cambodia, Laos and Myanmar would be integrated into ASEAN fold simultaneously and that they would be admitted in July 1997.

However, when the 30th ASEAN Ministerial Meeting took place in Kuala Lumpur on 23 July 1997, ASEAN welcomed Laos and Myanmar into its fold. Due to unexpected internal developments in Cambodia, the country's membership was deferred to the future.

ASEAN on 8 August 1997 turned 30. Three decades is sufficient enough to assess achievements of the past and look to the future. During this period, the ASEAN has virtually realized the vision of its founding fathers to establish a regional community of all ten states in Southeast Asia "binding themselves together in friendship and cooperation and, through joint efforts and sacrifices, secure for their peoples and for prosperity the blessings of peace, freedom and prosperity".

ASEAN countries can proudly claim a generation of uninterrupted peace as a part of their heritage. With peace and stability prevailing, ASEAN Member Countries have enjoyed sustained economic development and social progress. Today, ASEAN is the fourth largest trading entity in the world and also one of the most dynamic with its GDP showing an average growth rate of about seven percent over the past decade. With the eventual full complement of ten members, the ASEAN region will represent a market of about 500 million people and a regional GDP of almost US\$ 700 billion.

A study of ASEAN's success will show that a number of factors have contributed to it. First, its members have not set their sights too high, preferring to progress slowly but surely in the pursuit of modest and realistic targets and have been pragmatic in their approach. Through close consultations and consensus they have been able to build mutual trust and confidence. By taking small and measured steps they have laid a strong foundation on which to build a prosperous and progressive ASEAN.

The next factor is that the voices of all Member Countries carry equal weight, regardless of their size, or stature. Everybody's view is heard and respected. It is a partnership in which the big have not imposed their will on the small, and all have worked together for mutual benefit.

Another tenet of the Association is respect for sovereignty and independence of each Member Country and non-interference in each others' internal affairs. There is also no recourse to the use of force or even the threat to use it. Bilateral disputes have been peacefully resolved through dialogue and negotiation in the spirit of ASEAN friendship and solidarity.

ASEAN maintains contacts with its main trading partners by establishing the dialogue process. There are now ten Dialogue Partners: Australia, Canada, China, the European Union, India, Japan, the Republic of Korea, the Russian Federation, and the United States of America. The dialogue has enabled ASEAN to raise issues covering trade and economic matters, the transfer of technology, human resources development, and

technical and development assistance. The number of partners has increased to 11 with the addition of the United Nations Development Programme. On the economic front, the intra-ASEAN cooperation has intensified in the last five years. The ASEAN Free Trade Area or AFTA, which will be established by 2003, aims to reduce tariffs to 0-5 percent and eliminate non-tariff barriers to trade. There are signs that the target will be achieved well ahead of the deadline.

On the political level, the ARF has now become a well established institution where issues relating to peace and security, confidence-building measures and preventive diplomacy are discussed between ASEAN and its Dialogue Partners. In the functional areas too, the emphasis will be on implementing the various action plans in sectors such as environment, science and technology, culture and information, social development, and narcotics control. The above is an assessment on the objective conditions in favour of the ASEAN. All members look forward to a bright future and realization of the original aims. At the same time, it is to be admitted that prevailing conditions, especially, the response of some of the Dialogue Partners is not warm. A case in point is fluctuation of most of the ASEAN national currencies followed by massive speculation. There will be refutations of involvement but there are obvious reasons to believe that they are behind the speculation.

This alone indicates that ASEAN nations have to unite based on self-reliance. In this modern world, military might has no role so long as nations can establish the Zone of Peace, Freedom and Neutrality. To realize this, it is necessary to direct at flourishing the AFTA and bringing about deeper economic integration so as to achieve ASEAN Economic Commonwealth and to see that ASEAN members are economically strong by the year 2020. In his message on the occasion of ASEAN's Thirtieth Anniversary on 8 August 1997, Chairman of the State Law and Order Restoration Council says: "ASEAN has been enormously successful in establishing the firm foundation of this region. I am confident that the combined strength of our populations, national and human resources, and the Asian spirit of determination to see things through, will bring about the realization of the visions enumerated thirty years ago. Indeed, we in Myanmar pledge our most sincere effort to contribute positively towards the achievement of all the aspirations that ASEAN holds for the peoples of South-East Asia." There can be no doubt about the eternal values envisioned by the ASEAN three decades ago. ASEAN at present faces challenges and there are signs at the same time that they will be overcome with determination and united action. As the member nations move towards closer collaboration in the various fields of cooperation, all will be enhancing their identity as Southeast Asian citizens, with similar historical backgrounds and deep-rooted cultural links.

In fact, all the Southeast Asian nations have rich experience in all fields under alien rule or after regaining their freedom. Through sincere consultation and cooperation among the members what one envisages of ASEAN in the year 2020 is magnificently bright. This will be realized through strong determination and sustained efforts.

[Description of Source: The New Light Of Myanmar--government-run daily newspaper]

Title: China: Upgrade Burmese Border Road To Boost Trade With Yunnan

Document Number: FBIS-CHI-97-252

Document Date: 9 Sep 1997

Yangon, September 9 (XINHUA) -- A 163-kilometer road linking Lashio and Muse in Shan State in northeastern Myanmar [Burma], which leads up to the northern end of the country and runs towards China's southern city Ruili in Yunnan province, was inaugurated today after being upgraded. State-run Radio Myanmar said this evening that Lieutenant-General Khin Nyunt, first secretary of Myanmar's governing body the State Law and Order Restoration Council, and other ministers attended the opening ceremony. The construction of the road began in July last year. The completion of the road is expected to promote the development of Myanmar's border areas and its border trade with China.

Minister for Forestry receives Ambassador of Russian Federation (SIC)

YANGON, 8 Sept Minister for Rail Transportation U Win Sein received the Executive Vice-President of the Export and Import Bank of China Mr Gu Mingchao and party at his office this morning.

Present also were advisers at the ministry, heads of department and head of office. "The New Light of Myanmar" (Internet version) 97-09-09

Title: China: New Chinese Ambassador to Burma Presents Credentials

Document Number: FBIS-CHI-97-253

Document Date: 10 Sep 1997

Yangon [Rangoon], September 10 (XINHUA) -- New Chinese ambassador to Myanmar [Burma] Liang Dong today presented his credentials to Chairman of the Myanmar State Law and Order Restoration Council (SLORC) Senior-General Than Shwe.

Present on the occasion were First Secretary of the SLORC Lieutenant-General Khin Nyunt and Myanmar Foreign Minister U Ohn Gyaw. During the meeting, the Myanmar leader said that there have been friendly and cooperative relations in all fields between Myanmar and China. He was convinced that such kind of relations between the two countries would be continued and further developed.

The Chinese ambassador also said on the occasion that the Chinese government has consistently attached importance to the development of the neighborly goodwill relations between the two countries.

The new Chinese ambassador arrived in Yangon on September 3.

Title: Burma: Lashio-Muse Highway To Boost Border Trade With PRC

Document Number: FBIS-EAS-97-253

Document Date: 10 Sep 1997

Rangoon Radio Myanmar in Burmese 1330 GMT 9 Sep 97

Lt. Gen. Khin Nyunt, secretary-1 of the State Law and Order Restoration Council [SLORC] and chairman of the Work Committee for

Development of Border Areas and National Races, addressed the ceremony to commission the Lashio-Muse section of the Mandalay-Lashio-Muse Union Highway Project at the 105th Mile, Mongyu, in Muse Township at 0830 today. SLORC Secretary-1 Lt. Gen. Khin Nyunt said with the restoration of peace in the entire Shan State under the SLORC's rule, all the national brethren are of the same view and attitude and have been able to further safeguard non-disintegration of the Union, non- disintegration of solidarity, and perpetuation of sovereignty.

He pointed out that the newly-commissioned Lashio-Muse Highway bears witness to the fact that peace and tranquillity prevails in the entire Shan State.

Khin Nyunt said attention is being paid to the development of the private sector encompassing national entrepreneurs while inviting foreign investment to practice market-oriented economic system for national economic development. He recalled that the government had permitted the Asia World Company Limited to implement the Lashio- Muse section of the union highway. He said the company undertook the project working 24-hours a day in two shifts and the highway was commissioned into service within eight months.

He noted the Mandalay-Lashio-Muse Union Highway would directly benefit the people in the distant border areas.

With the completion of the highway, the spirit of national solidarity and union spirit could be forged further, he said, adding the highway reflects the success achieved through collective efforts of the government, the people, and the private entrepreneurs.

He said the highway would be of much help to facilitating contacts, trade, and friendship between Myanmar [Burma] and the People's Republic of China in addition to effectively boosting border trade.

Khin Nyunt added the emergence of a major highway within eight months was the result of cooperation between the government and the people or in other words the private sector.

The secretary-1 called for continued cooperation with the belief that the strength lies within and the internal strength is the strength of the entire Union.

Next, Maj. Gen. Tin Ngwe, Chairman of Northern Shan State Law and Order Restoration Council, delivered an address.

Afterwards, Managing Director of Asia World Co. Ltd. U Tun Myint Naing explained salient points about the Union Highway Project. [passage omitted] Next, Commander Maj. Gen. Tin Ngwe, U Lo Hsing Han of Asia World Co. Ltd. and Managing Director U Tun Myint Naing formally commissioned the Lashio-Muse Highway.

The secretary-1, ministers, and party then inspected the toll gate and later enjoyed an entertainment program to mark the occasion.

[Description of Source: Radio Myanmar--government-run radio]

Title: China: Beijing, Rangoon Sign Equipment Purchase Contract

Document Number: FBIS-CHI-97-257

Document Date: 14 Sep 1997

Yangon [Rangoon] , September 14 (XINHUA) -- China and Myanmar [Burma] today signed a contract on purchase of equipment for the building of Aung Ze Ya bridge in Insein township in the capital of Yangon.

The contract to supply cable stayed superstructure for the

1,153-meter-long bridge project was reached between China Shipbuilding Trading Co Ltd and Public Works of the Myanmar Ministry of Construction. Myanmar Minister of Construction Major-General Saw Tun and Chinese ambassador to Myanmar Liang Dong attended the signing ceremony.

Acetylene Factory launched at Ahlon Shipyard

YANGON, 14 Sept Hailing the Anniversary of the State Law and Order Restoration Council, Inland Water Transport of the Ministry of Transport formally inaugurated the newly constructed Acetylene Factory at Ahlon Shipyard this afternoon.

Secretary-1 of the State Law and Order Restoration Council Lt-Gen Khin Nyunt pressed the button to unveil the signboard.

The factory was purchased under contract from Yunnan Machinery import-export Corporation (YMIEC) for IWT shipyards and built by the Technical Services of the Ministry of Industry-2.

Minister for Transport Lt-Gen Thein Win said Technical Services, in cooperation with the, engineers and workers of the IWT and Chinese technicians, under took construction of an oxygen factory at Dalla Shipyard and this Acetylene Factory at Ahlon Shipyard for distribution to the IWT shipyards.

He said that due to the inadequacy of oxygen and acetylene at the shipyards, workers could not work fully for the projects, and expressed hope that repair and construction of ships will improve in quality and the number.

Minister for Industry-2 Maj-Gen Kyaw Than explained construction of the factory undertaken by the Technical Services.

The Secretary-1, ministers and guests were taken on a tour of the factory.

Technical Services took seven months, beginning 9 February 1997, to complete the construction of the factory on which K 21 million was spent.

It will produce 200 (40litre) cylinders of liquefied gas per day. As all the IWT ships use 100 cylinders per day, the remaining 100 cylinders will be distributed to organizations including those under the ministry.

Also present were Ministers Deputy Ministers and Officials and guests.

Title: China: Envoys Hail Five Principles of Peaceful Co-Existence (NLM/Internet 97-09-15.)

Hsin-haing 4 pusher-tug launched

YANGON, 14 Sept-The medium sized Hsin-haing 4 pusher-tug, built at Dalla Shipyard under an agreement between the Inland Water Transport and the Machinery Import and Export Corporation of Yunnan Province (YMC), People's Republic of China, was launched at the shipyards this afternoon to hail the Anniversary of the State Law and Order Restoration Council which falls on 18 September.

Present on the occasion were Minister for Transport Lt-Gen Thein Win,

Minister for Labour Maj-Gen Saw Lwin, Minister at the Office of the Chairman of the State Law and Order Restoration Council Lt-Gen Min Thein, Deputy Minister for Transport U Sann Wai, the directors-general and managing directors, the principal and advisers of the departments under the Ministry of Transport, PRC Ambassador Mr Liang Dong, officials of YMC, departmental personnel, Superintending Engineer U Maung Maung Tin and staff of the Dalla Shipyard.

In his address, Minister Lt-Gen Thein Win said ships are being built in the country by Myanmar engineers and professionals after upgrading the shipyards. "The New Light of Myanmar" (Internet version) 97-09-15

Agreement on purchase of cable-stayed superstructure

YANGON, 14 Sept - An agreement on purchase of cable-stayed superstructure was signed by Public Works of the Ministry of Construction and China Shipbuilding Trading Co Ltd at Traders Hotel on Sule Pagoda Road this evening.

Present were Minister for Transport Lt-Gen Thein Win, Minister for Construction Maj-Gen Saw Tun, Minister at the Office of the Prime Minister Brig-Gen Lun Maung, member of the Security and Management Committee Brig-Gen Thaung Myint, department heads of the Ministry of Construction, Vice-President Mr Wan Hui Er and officials from CST Co Ltd and guests.

Managing Director of Public Works U Tint Swe and Vice-President Mr Wan Hui Er extended greetings.

U Tint Swe and Mr Wan Hui Er signed the agreement, and exchanged documents. "The New Light of Myanmar" (Internet version) 97-09-15

Document Number: FBIS-CHI-97-260

Document Date: 17 Sep 1997

Beijing, September 17 (XINHUA) -- Under the current international situation, the Five Principles of Peaceful Co-Existence, initiated jointly by India, Myanmar [Burma] and China in the 1950's, are still necessary for successful inter-state relations.

This is the shared view of Indian Ambassador to China Vijay Kunhianandan Nambiar and Myanmar Ambassador to China U Set, in their recent exclusive interviews with Xinhua.

Nambiar said that the new international political and economic environment is characterized by a much higher degree of interdependence between nations, and that nations of the world have a better appreciation of global security and are more interested in each other's development. "This reinforces the relevance and usefulness of the Five Principles of Peaceful Co-Existence," Nambiar stressed.

With the growing emphasis on economic development, he noted, relations between states are increasingly based on cooperation for mutual interest and benefit, and international norms need to pay attention to the poorer countries of the Third World.

In international political and security matters, it is necessary to establish equitable and non-discriminatory international orders, Nambiar

said.

Set said that the Five Principles of Peaceful Co-Existence still has significance in today's world, noting that these principles have stood the test of time and have matured over the years, thus setting a norm for inter-state relations.

Myanmar is confident that the Five Principles of Peaceful Co-Existence will "play even greater role in inter-state relations in the future," Set said.

He held that only when relations among countries, big and small, are based on respect for equality, non-interference and sovereignty, will there be peace and harmony in the world.

He said that China's foreign policy has helped relax international tensions and build stability around the world. "India has consistently respected China's long-term interests and upheld the principle of 'one China'," hoping to develop cooperative and constructive relations with China for the next century, he noted.

Set said that China is making an all-out effort to implement its independent foreign policy of peace. Myanmar-China friendship is firmly based on the Five Principles of Peaceful Co-Existence, and bilateral friendship and cooperation have been continuously strengthened and developed, he said.

He said that he hoped to further strengthen the existing mutually beneficial ties through joint efforts based the Five Principles of Peaceful Co-Existence.

The two ambassadors agreed that China's further development will contribute to regional and world prosperity and stability, hoping that China can play a greater role in regional and international affairs.

Title: China: Yunnan Extending Highways to Neighboring Countries

Document Number: FBIS-CHI-97-264

Document Date: 21 Sep 1997

Sourceline: OW2209031797 Beijing Xinhua in English 0236 GMT 22 Sep 97

Kunming, September 22 (XINHUA) -- Yunnan province in southwest China is making an effort to extend its highways to neighboring Myanmar, Thailand, and Viet Nam.

Two major highways going to Viet Nam and Thailand have been completed. One to Myanmar is under construction. There are still others in the planning stage.

Foreign loans have been used for some of the work, according to local officials, and according to the provincial plan it will improve roads to all neighboring countries by early next century.

Yunnan has also sped up work on links to neighboring provinces like Sichuan and Guizhou, and the Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region. The efforts will ultimately provide the Chinese with a road network for all of Southeast Asia and South Asia. The network is expected to promote international trade and economic relations.

Border trade between Yunnan and its neighbors is already much better, thanks to the improved communication conditions, and goods from other parts of the country are even being exported via the province's highway network.

Senior General Than Shwe sends felicitations to People's Republic of China

YANGON, 1 Oct-On the occasion of the forty-eighth anniversary of the Founding Day of the People's Republic of China, which falls on 1 October 1949, Senior General Than Shwe, Chairman of the State Law and Order Restoration Council and Prime Minister of the Union of Myanmar, has sent messages of felicitations to His Excellency Mr Jiang Zemin, President of the People's Republic of China, and to His Excellency Mr Li Peng, Premier of the State Council of the People's Republic of China. "The New Light of Myanmar" (Internet version) 97-10-01

Title: China: Burmese Welfare Minister Leaves for China Visit

Document Number: FBIS-CHI-97-276

Document Date: 3 Oct 1997

Rangoon, October 3 (XINHUA) -- A four-member Myanmar [Burma] delegation, led by Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Soe Myint, left here today for Beijing on a week-long visit to China. During his visit in Beijing, Soe Myint will have discussions and exchange views with his Chinese counterpart, Minister of Civil Affairs Doje Cering, who visited Myanmar in June last year. The Myanmar delegation will also visit Shanghai, a developed industrial and commercial city in China.

Establishment of small and medium factories for welfare of disabled discussed in China

YANGON, 12 Oct-Myanmar delegation led by Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Maj-Gen Soe Myint left here on 3 October at the invitation of Minister of Public Affairs of the People's Republic of China and arrived in Beijing via Hong Kong at 6.05 pm local time.

On 4 October, the delegation, accompanied by Myanmar Ambassador U Set and Military Attache Col Myint Thein, visited the Great Wall, Tiananmen Square and Forbidden City. They were conducted around by officials of Ministry of Public Affairs. The minister and party went to Myanmar Embassy and met the staff there.

On 5 October, the delegation, accompanied by Deputy Director-General Mr Xu Wei of Ministry of Public Affairs, observed care for the aged and medical services at Beijing Senile Illness Hospital.

The delegation met Deputy Minister of Public Affairs Mr Fan Bao Jun and discussed social services and establishment of small and medium factories for welfare of the disabled and those who suffered social disorders.

Deputy Minister Mr Fan Bao Jun hosted dinner in honour of the delegation at Beijing Rost Duck Hotel.

On 6 October, the delegation flew to Shanghai and visited the Oriental Pearl Tower.

The Myanmar delegation, on arrival at Shanghai Hu Zhong Cosmetics Factory in Qing Pu Township, was welcomed by Vice-Mayor Mr Xu Hamming, district Chairman

Mr Li Jun, Deputy Director of Public Affairs Bureau Mr Yi Weichang, Director of Shanghai Township Public Affairs Bureau Mr Hu Bao Yuan and, Director of the Factory Mrs Wang Ying.

Officials reported on salient points of the township and the factory. They discussed establishment of cosmetics factories and visited the factory and Office of District Chairman.

In the afternoon, the delegation visited Yu Yuan Park in Nan Saw, a southern township of Shanghai.

On 8 October, the delegation visited Jade Buddha Temple, welcomed by Venerable Jue Xing.

Vice-Mayor of Shanghai Mr Feng Guo Qin hosted lunch. "The New Light of Myanmar" (Internet version) 97-10-13

Title: India: Indian Interest in Pacific Asia Viewed

Document Number: FBIS-NES-97-287

Document Date: 14 Oct 1997

Sourceline: BK1410122197 Calcutta The Telegraph in English 11 Oct 97 p 12

Subslug: Article by Kanti Bajpai, associate professor at the School of International Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi:

"What Seas, What Shores"

India has rediscovered Pacific Asia. A combination of factors caused to disengage from the region from the late Fifties to 1991. These included India's uneasiness after Bandung conference, 1955, its defeat by China in 1962, United States hostility to Indian role in the region as well as fears about its growing military capabilities in the Eighties. Since 1991, however, in concert with some regional states and the US India has reawakened to Pacific Asia. The end of the Cold War, the rise of China as a great power and India's economic reforms have encouraged both sides to engineer New Delhi's quiet return to the region.

New Delhi has three interests in Pacific Asia. First, with the end of the Cold War US power must be "balanced" to the extent this is possible on key issues. Obviously, balancing in a strict sense is not feasible given the US is the sole superpower. In addition, New Delhi recognizes that a partnership with the US in economic and diplomatic matters is desirable. But Washington's stand on select issues is troublesome, particularly on proliferation but also human rights, trade and intellectual property rights and global environmental issues.

What South Block wants, therefore, is to cultivate as many other centres of power as a way of giving it some greater degree of manoeuvre with Washington. New Delhi sees the Association of Southeast Asian Nations in particular as facing a structurally similar problem with respect to Washington: torn between the desire for partnership with and the need to balance against US power on specific issues. India is aiming therefore for a loose but subtle engagement with southeast Asia in diplomatic terms. Second, and more important, the rise of China is pushing India towards the region. China is either an expansionist power or an embattled giant at the centre of an Asia wide "security dilemma". In either case, India sees dangers ahead. New Delhi's interest is to team up with the southeast Asian states.

If China is expansionist, then an alliance with ASEAN may be a

stabilizing influence. This is clear from India's Myanmar policy. Having ditched its pro democracy policy, New Delhi embarked on a diplomatic and economic engagement with Yangon to restrict Chinese influence. However, given the limited nature of its relations with Myanmar, it has lined up with the ASEAN policy of "constructive engagement", rather than the Western policy of sanctions.

If, on the other hand, the problem is that a pattern of mutual suspicions and arms acquisitions is engendering a security dilemma across the face of the continent -- with China and the rest of the continent not sure who is on the defensive and who is on the offensive -- then an Asian cooperative security architecture with ASEAN at the core may help overcome misperceptions and misconceptions on all sides.

Third, and most important, New Delhi's interest in Pacific Asia is economic rather than diplomatic and military. As things stand, 50 per cent of India's cumulative foreign direct investment inflow and outflow since 1991 and 40 per cent of its global trade have been accounted for by Pacific Asia. India needs markets for its exports, FDI to trigger and sustain rapid economic growth and technology to improve productivity and competitiveness.

While the US and Europe are key partners in all three areas, India would like to reduce its dependence on the West. Since economic relations and political influence are thought to be related, New Delhi would prefer to widen the web of economic interactions as a way of balancing Western political influences. Pacific Asia is attractive in this regard. While Indians continue to be suspicious of economic links with the West, this is not the case with fellow Asians.

Four factors constrain India's role in Pacific Asia: India's proliferation policies and attitudes; the quantum and purposes of Indian power; New Delhi's relations with the rest of south Asia; and India's economic and political stability.

While India feels it has acted with restraint on nuclear and missile issues this view is not altogether shared by Washington or various Pacific Asians. Nevertheless, the degree of divergence here is shrinking.

The Indian prime minister has repeated that India has no plans to go nuclear at this juncture. The US seems increasingly prepared to live with India's present policy of nuclear and even missile "ambiguity". Pacific Asia generally lines up behind US non-proliferation concerns, but, apart from Japan, no one has shown any great activism on the issue. Indeed, there is a subterranean feeling in the region that an Indian nuclear capability -- if not an over deployment -- is a reassurance against gains in Chinese power.

The second constraint on India's role in the region is how its power and intentions are perceived. New Delhi's links with the Soviets during the Cold War, its stand on various regional issues (Cambodia, Vietnam) and its growing naval power during the Eighties -- all these evoked suspicions in Pacific Asia. With the end of the Cold War and changes in regional relations, the first two disjunctures have disappeared.

If India's naval power disturbed the region, this rested largely on Cold War concerns and on New Delhi's ineptness. Since 1991, fears over the Indian navy have subsided, in large part because India has reached out to the region's navies. It has exercised with almost all the southeast Asian navies and has invited them to its annual gathering, "Milan". Declining defence spending and the abridgement of India's naval acquisitions have also reduced the fear of Indian power.

The third constraint on a more active Indian role in Asia is its relations with its immediate neighbours. To the extent that New Delhi is seen as distracted by or overbearing in its attitude towards south Asia it

is not an attractive partner in Pacific Asia.

This has been comprehended by South Block. It would be facile to say the Gujral doctrine was occasioned by the "look East policy". But it has had the effect of pacifying south Asia and of thereby releasing India from its immediate neighbour hood.

Finally, stability in economic policy and in politics is vital if India is to play a larger role in Asia. As things stand, Pacific Asia's primary interest in India is its market. However, the ups and downs of economic policy continue to dismay the region. New Delhi has put in place most of the important reforms. What is vital is not as much another wave of reforms as working the system that has been put in place.

In addition, improvements in infrastructure and in the working of financial monitoring and regulatory institutions are necessary if investor confidence is to increase. Not unrelated is the problem of political instability. India has had six governments in eight years and only one has completed its term. The other five have therefore, had an average life of seven months. This does not inspire confidence in potential strategic partners.

India has rediscovered Pacific Asia, and the region has turned its gaze towards the second largest country in the world. A more thoroughgoing engagement is possible, with interest on both sides. For the time being though, India and the region are approaching each other modestly with a focus primarily on confidence building, and economic exchange. This is a reasonable programme given various constraints.

Title: China: Fu Quanyou Meets With Burmese Military Officer

Document Number: FBIS-CHI-97-289

Document Date: 16 Oct 1997

Beijing, October 16 (Xinhua) -- Fu Quanyou, Chief of General Staff of the People's Liberation Army (PLA) of China, said here today that relations between the armies of China and Myanmar [Burma] is an important part of the Sino-Myanmar relations and that constant visits have strengthened their friendship.

Fu made the remarks while meeting with Lieutenant Tin Ngwe, Commander-in-Chief of the Myanmar Air Force.

Fu, a member of the Central Military Commission, noted that China values the friendship between the two countries and two armies and is willing to work more for it.

Fu briefed the visitors on Hong Kong's successful return to the motherland and the 15th National Congress of the Chinese Communist Party held recently in Beijing.

Tin Ngwe discussed the situation in Myanmar with Fu.

Liu Shunyao, Commander of the PLA Air Force, attended the meeting.

Tin Ngwe arrived here on Monday as Fu's guest.

USDA study delegation leaves for PRC

YANGON, 22 Oct-A study delegation led by CEC member of the Union Solidarity and Development Association Deputy Minister for Information U Thein Sein left here this afternoon for the People's Republic of China at the

invitation of All China Youth Federation.

The delegation was seen off at the airport by Minister for Science and Technology and Acting Minister for Information U Thaung, Ambassador of PRC Mr Liang Dong and embassy staff, heads of departments and enterprises under the Ministry of Information, officials and relatives.

The delegation members are EC member of Ayeyawady Division USDA Dr Aung Phyto, Secretary of Mandalay District USDA U Thein Tun, Secretary of Myeik District USDA U Soe Moe Naing, Secretary of Leshi Township USDA U Shi Thee and EC member of Shan State (East) Kengtung Township USDA Daw Nan Ni Laing Saing. "The New Light of Myanmar" (Internet version) 97-10-23

Title: China: PLA Delegation Leaves For Thailand, Bangladesh, Burma

Document Number: FBIS-CHI-97-299

Document Date: 26 Oct 1997

Sourceline: OW2710021097 Beijing Xinhua in English 0159 GMT 27 Oct 97

Beijing, October 27 (XINHUA) -- A delegation of the Chinese People's Liberation Army (PLA), led by General Liu Jingsong, commander of PLA Lanzhou Military Area Command, left here today for an official good-will visit to Thailand, Bangladesh and Myanmar [Burma] at the invitation of the armed forces of these countries.

Title: Burma: PRC Official in Rangoon for Visit, Loan Agreement Signed

Document Number: FBIS-EAS-97-300

Document Date: 27 Oct 1997

Sourceline: BK2810035897 Rangoon Radio Myanmar in Burmese 1330 GMT 27 Oct 97

At the invitation of Vice Adm. Maung Maung Khin, member of the State Law and Order Restoration Council [SLORC] of the Union of Myanmar [Burma] and deputy prime minister, a Chinese goodwill delegation led by Mr. Wu Bangguo, vice premier of the State Council of the People's Republic of China, arrived by special aircraft at Yangon [Rangoon] International Airport at 1050 this morning.

The delegation was welcomed at Yangon International Airport by Vice Adm. Maung Maung Khin, SLORC member and Deputy Prime Minister; Brig. Gen. Abel, Minister of National Planning and Economic Development; Foreign Affairs Minister U Ohn Gyaw, Brig. Gen. Maung Maung, Minister of Deputy Prime Minister's Office and secretary of Myanmar Investment Commission; Transport Minister Lt. Gen. Thein Win, Maj. Gen. Khin Maung Than, Chairman of Yangon Division Law and Order Restoration Council and Yangon Command Commander; responsible personnel from the foreign ministry, PRC Ambassador Mr. Liang Dong, and embassy officials.

The Vice Premier of the PRC State Council, Mr. Wu Bangguo, was accompanied by Minister for Transport Mr. Huang Zhendong, Vice Minister for the State Planning Commission Mr. Ye Qing, Vice Minister for the State Economic and Trade Commission Mr. Zhang Wule, Deputy Secretary General of the State Council Mr. (Zhe Qushiao), Vice Minister for the State Commission for Restructuring Economic System Mr. Hong Hu, Vice Governor of Yunnan

Province Mr. (Liu Jing), Assistant Minister for Foreign Affairs Mr. (Yao Wanchen), Assistant Minister for Foreign Trade and Economic Cooperation Mr. Sun Guangxiang, Vice Governor of the Bank of China Mr. (Gao Dezhu), and other senior officials.

Mr. Wu Bangguo, the visiting Vice Premier of the PRC State Council, called on Vice Adm. Maung Maung Khin, SLORC member and Deputy Prime Minister, at the reception hall of the International Business Center on Prome Road in Yangon at 1500 this evening. They later held talks at the hall of the International Business Center.

After the talks, the framework agreement between the Government of the Union of Myanmar and the Government of the People's Republic of China on a preferential loan with interest subsidized by the Chinese Government was signed by Brig. Gen. Abel, Minister of National Planning and Economic Development, and Mr. Sun Guangxiang, Assistant Minister for Foreign Trade and Economic Cooperation. The ceremony ended after the notes were exchanged.

Vice Adm. Maung Maung Khin, SLORC member and Deputy Prime Minister, hosted a banquet in honor of Mr. Wu Bangguo, the visiting Vice Premier of the PRC State Council, and his delegation at the Zeyarthiri Beikman in Yangon at 1900. The dinner was attended by SLORC Secretary-1 Lt. Gen. Khin Nyunt, SLORC Secretary-2 Lt. Gen. Tin Oo, Lt. Gen. Tin Tun, SLORC member and Deputy Prime Minister; SLORC members, cabinet ministers, the attorney general, the mayor of Yangon, deputy foreign affairs minister, senior military officials, departmental heads, the PRC ambassador, and embassy officials.

Vocalists accompanied by the modern music troupe of Radio Myanmar entertained the guests with music and songs before and during dinner. After dinner, the guests were entertained to a variety cultural show presented by the Fine Arts Department.

Title: China: Vice Premier Wu Bangguo Visits Burma

Document Number: FBIS-CHI-97-300

Document Date: 27 Oct 1997

Yangon [Rangoon], October 27 (XINHUA)

-- Chinese Vice-Premier Wu Bangguo arrived here today on a three-day official visit to Myanmar [Burma] at the invitation of Myanmar Deputy Prime Minister Vice-Admiral Maung Maung Khin.

It is Wu's fourth leg of his trip to five Asian countries -- Bangladesh, Vietnam, Laos, Myanmar and Thailand.

The Chinese vice-premier's 40-member party includes Minister of Communications Huang Zhendong, Vice-Minister in charge of the State Planning Commission Ye Qing, Vice-Minister in charge of the State Economic and Trade Commission Zhang Wule, Deputy Secretary-General of the State Council Shi Xiushi, Vice-Minister in charge of the State Commission for Economic Restructuring Hong Hu, Vice-Governor of Yunnan Province Liu Jing, and some other Chinese government officials as well as businessmen.

Vice-Premier Wu is due to have talks later today with his Myanmar counterpart Maung Maung Khin on promoting good-neighborly relations and economic cooperation between the two countries.

Wu will also call on Myanmar leaders on Tuesday to exchange views on issues of common interest.

A loan agreement is expected to be signed during Wu's stay in Yangon,

capital of Myanmar.

Title: China: Wu Bangguo Holds Talks With Burmese Counterpart

Document Number: FBIS-CHI-97-300

Document Date: 27 Oct 1997

Rangoon, October 27 (Xinhua) -- Visiting Chinese Vice Premier Wu Bangguo held talks with Myanmar [Burma] Deputy Prime Minister Vice Admiral Maung Maung Khin at the International Business Center here today. Both expressed the desire to further develop the Sino-Myanmar good-neighborly relations and strengthen the trade and economic cooperation between the two countries.

After the talks, the two sides signed a loan agreement, under which the Chinese government will provide a preferential loan to the Myanmar government.

The Myanmar deputy Prime Minister is scheduled to host a banquet this evening in honor of the Chinese vice premier.

Vice Premier Wu Bangguo, who led a 40-member party, arrived in Rangoon this morning from Laos as the fourth leg of his five-Asian-nation tour which also brought him to Bangladesh, Vietnam and Laos. He will proceed to Thailand after a three-day stay in Myanmar.

Title: China: Wu Bangguo Meets Burmese Leader

Document Number: FBIS-CHI-97-301

Document Date: 28 Oct 1997

Rangoon, October 28 (Xinhua) -- Myanmar [Burma] leader Senior-General Than Shwe said today that Myanmar and China enjoy traditional "paukphaw" (fraternal) friendship which should be further consolidated and developed. Meeting with visiting Chinese Vice-Premier Wu Bangguo here, Than Shwe, who is chairman of the Myanmar State Law and Order Restoration Council (SLORC) and Prime Minister, stressed that his country would continue to follow the "one China" policy in its relations with China.

He expressed the desire to further strengthen trade and economic cooperation between the two countries and welcomed companies from China to make investment in Myanmar.

At the meeting, Vice-Premier Wu said development of good-neighborly and friendly relations with all countries including Myanmar around China constitutes an important part of China's foreign relations.

He added that the good-neighborly and friendly ties between China and Myanmar and their mutual help and joint development not only benefit both sides but also contribute to the region.

Present at the meeting were also SLORC Vice-Chairman General Maung Aye and other leaders on the Myanmar side and key members of the visiting Chinese delegation and Ambassador Liang Dong.

Vice-Premier Wu also called on SLORC First Secretary

Lieutenant-General Khin Nyunt today and exchanged views with him on bilateral relations and matters of mutual interest.

Wu arrived here on Monday at the head of a 40-member delegation for a three-day official visit to Myanmar at the invitation of Myanmar Deputy

Prime Minister Vice-Admiral Maung Maung Khin.
Myanmar is the fourth leg of Wu's five-nation Asia tour which has also taken him to Bangladesh, Vietnam and Laos. He is scheduled to proceed to Thailand after ending his visit in Myanmar tomorrow.

Title: Burma: SLORC's Than Shwe Receives PRC Vice Premier Wu Bangguo

Document Number: FBIS-EAS-97-302

Document Date: 29 Oct 1997

Rangoon Radio Myanmar

Language: Burmese

Sr. Gen. Than Shwe, State Law and Order Restoration Council [SLORC] chairman of the Union of Myanmar [Burma] and Defense Services commander in chief, received Mr. Wu Bangguo, the visiting Vice Premier of the State Council of the People's Republic of China, and delegation at the People's Assembly Building's Mingalar Chamber in Yangon [Rangoon] at 1000 today. Also present were Gen. Maung Aye, SLORC vice chairman, Defense Services deputy commander in chief, and Army commander in chief; SLORC Secretary-1 Lt. Gen. Khin Nyunt, SLORC Secretary-2 Lt. Gen. Tin Oo, Vice Adm. Maung Maung Khin and Lt. Gen. Tin Tun, both SLORC members and deputy prime ministers; Foreign Minister U Ohn Gyaw, Thura U Aung Htet, director general of the Protocol Department of the Foreign Ministry; and Chinese Ambassador Mr. Liang Dong. [Description of Source: Radio Myanmar--government-run radio]

Title: China: Wu Bangguo Ends Visit to Burma

Document Number: FBIS-CHI-97-302

Document Date: 29 Oct 1997

Yangon, October 29 (XINHUA) -- Chinese Vice Premier Wu Bangguo concluded his three-day official visit to Myanmar [Burma] and left here today for Thailand, proceeding with his final leg of the five-Asian-nation tour which has brought him to Bangladesh, Vietnam, Laos and Myanmar. During his visit to Myanmar, Vice Premier Wu has met with Chairman of the Myanmar State Law and Order Restoration Council (SLORC) and Prime Minister Senior-General Than Shwe. He also called on First Secretary of the Myanmar SLORC Lieutenant-General Khin Nyunt. Talks were held in Yangon between Vice Premier Wu and Myanmar Deputy Prime Minister Vice-Admiral Maung Maung Khin, in which both sides expressed the desire to further develop the good-neighborly ties and strengthen the trade and economic cooperation between the two countries. A loan agreement was signed, under which the Chinese government will provide a preferential loan to the Myanmar government. The Chinese entrepreneurs who accompanied the vice premier for the visit held separate discussions with Myanmar economic department officials on investment and trade. Vice Premier Wu Bangguo, who led a 40-member delegation, arrived in Yangon Monday from Laos on the fourth leg of his five-Asian-nation trip at the invitation of his Myanmar counterpart Maung Maung Khin.

Title: Philippines: 'Dubious Result' of ASEAN Policy Toward Burma Viewed

Document Number: FBIS-EAS-97-301

Document Date: 28 Oct 1997

Manila Philippine Daily Inquirer in English 24 Oct 97 p 8

Subslug: Editorial: "Contrasting Perspectives"

FOREIGN Secretary Domingo Siazon is pursuing Asean's "constructive engagement" policy on Burma with mixed, if not dubious, results. Following President Ramos' departure from Burma, which he visited on Oct. 15 to 17, Siazon stayed behind and was allowed by the Burmese junta to meet the opposition leader Aung San Suu Kyi at her Rangoon home.

The fact that Siazon made contact with Suu Kyi is a small opening for an Asean dialogue with her, although Siazon is secretive about what this meeting accomplished. Earlier, the junta gave a cold shoulder to a request by Mr. Ramos to meet Suu Kyi. Mr. Ramos is the first Asean head of state to visit Burma after its accession to Asean and in that respect, he has even surpassed the enthusiasm of Malaysia, which insisted on Burma's admission at the Asean ministerial conference in Kuala Lumpur. Prime Minister Mahathir Mohamad is not itching to humor the Burmese generals with a state visit.

The dialogue between the President and the junta in Rangoon was rather surreal and bizarre. He urged the regime to moderate its behavior and open dialogue with Suu Kyi. He said that law and order would come through a more democratic government. In the joint communique issued at the end of the Ramos visit, the junta did not waste time to contradict their visitor. They emphasized their "achievements made in establishing political stability and national reconciliation."

The communique reflects sharply the contrasting perspectives between the Philippines and Burma on the question of political rights and, by implication, the futility of a dialogue between two countries who do not speak the same political language. It indicates how little ground the "constructive engagement" approach has made and how difficult is the role played by Manila as an "honest broker" to establish a dialogue between the opposition and dictators.

Siazon often repeats that at least in constructive engagement, one can talk with the junta and something could happen from talking rather than shouting at them and giving them lectures on democracy. The problem, however, is that the non-confrontational Asean approach is not softening the junta at all. There is, however, a political reason behind the rush to admit Burma as Asean's ninth member. The reason is that Asean fears that if Burma were isolated, it would fall into the orbit of China, which is now having extensive economic relationship with Burma. Well, talking of orbit, Burma is already there.

Asean, especially Indonesia, Vietnam and Thailand, fear Chinese hegemony over the region. Partly because of these fears, that also infect the Philippines, it is not important to them whether the State Law and Order Restoration Council troops fire at people or the Burmese remain under the heels of a repressive regime. This China context has doomed efforts by Mr. Ramos and Siazon to moderate the junta which has defied so far Western pressure and threats of economic sanctions in order to force the generals to begin a dialogue with the opposition.

Title: Burma: Burmese Mapping System Switches to UTM System

Document Number: FBIS-EAS-97-303

Document Date: 30 Oct 1997

BurmaNet News Listserv in English 30 Oct 97

Subslug: From unattributed "Information Sheet No. A-0188(I) issued on 29 October 1997, place not given

A meeting was held on 28 October to transform Myanmar's map projection system from Lambert Conical Orthomorphic Projection System to Universal Transverse Mercator Projection System. The system has many disadvantages in applying in Myanmar, which has larger expanse from south to north. Every country has chosen map projection system which is suitable to its location, area and shape to produce the most accurate maps in accord with the facts it requires. Myanmar's neighbours China has already adopted Guass Projection System, Thailand UTM Projection System and India Lambert Projection System respectively. Myanmar will transform its system to UTM Projection System. The system is specially appropriated with Myanmar which has greater expanse from south to north and is located near the equator. Introduction of the system in Myanmar has become vital as it is widely used in the world at present and advanced nations are manufacturing machines with the system.

[Description of Source: BurmaNet News--Internet Listserv providing coverage of Burmese events, particularly human rights and opposition activities]

Title: China: Li Peng, Qian Qichen Attend Bamboo Network Ceremony

Document Number: FBIS-CHI-97-310

Document Date: 6 Nov 1997

Beijing, November 6 (Xinhua) -- An agreement to set up a China-based international network for bamboo and rattan was signed at the Great Hall of the People here today.

Co-sponsored by China and Canada, it is the first international governmental organization to establish its home base in the Chinese capital city.

Chinese Premier Li Peng and Vice-Premier Qian Qichen attended today's ceremony for the project, which was inked by nine government representatives from Bangladesh, Canada, China, Indonesia, Myanmar [Burma], Nepal, the Philippines, Peru and Tanzania.

The network is designed to protect the interests of producers and consumers of bamboo and rattan, by coordinating and supporting research in the field. It is required to safeguard these two natural materials and maintain their sustainable development.

It also aims at strengthening coordination and cooperation among various countries that are engaged in bamboo and rattan.

UN member nations and members of UN specialized committees are entitled to join the network provided they observe the network's rules.

China, a big producer in bamboo and rattan, has attached great importance to the protection, exploration and utilization of the materials.

The government closely watches and supports the preparatory work for network, regarding the work as one of the most important follow-up actions

for the UN Conference on Environment and Development.

Title: China: PLA Delegation Visits Burma

Document Number: FBIS-CHI-97-311

Document Date: 7 Nov 1997

Rangoon, November 7 (Xinhua) -- A Chinese People's Liberation Army (PLA) delegation, led by General Liu Jingsong, commander of the Lanzhou Military Region, arrived here today on a six-day goodwill visit to Myanmar [Burma] at the invitation of Lieutenant-General Tin Oo, Myanmar Chief of Staff of the Army and Chief of Bureau of Special Operations.

Tin Oo, who is also second secretary of the Myanmar State Law and Order Restoration Council, met with Liu this afternoon and had discussions on friendly relations between the two countries and the two armed forces. The Chinese PLA delegation came to Myanmar after concluding their visits in Thailand and Bangladesh.

Ministry for PBANRDA to purchase \$ 6.4m machinery for development projects

YANGON, 7 Nov-The Ministry for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs today signed a contract with Kanematsu Corporation of Japan and Xuzhou Construction and Machinery Group Import and Export Co Ltd of the People's Republic of China for hire-purchase of heavy machinery for border region development projects.

The Ministry for PBANRDA will purchase 30 bulldozers and three excavators from Kanematsu Corporation and 30 rollers, 100 tippers, 10 water carriers and 10 bowsers from Xuzhou Construction and Machinery Group Import and Export Co Ltd.

The total value of machinery will be \$ 6.4 million.

Member of the State Law and Order Restoration Council Minister for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs Lt-Gen Maung Thint spoke at the contract-signing ceremony at Mya Yeik Nyo Royal Hotel this morning.

Next, Director-General of Department for Development of Border Areas and National Races Lt-Col Thein Han and General Manager Mr Akira Takahama of Kanematsu Corporation and Chief Representative Mr Tang Weiming of Xuzhou Construction and Machinery Group Import and Export Co Ltd signed the contract.

The dinner to mark the contract-signing ceremony held at Mya Yeik Nyo Royal Hotel was attended by Secretary-1 of the State Law and Order Restoration Council Lt-Gen Khin Nyunt, ministers, the Chief Justice, the Attorney-General, Ambassador of Japan to Myanmar Mr Yoichi Yamaguchi, Ambassador of People's Republic of China Mr Liang Dong and guests. "The New Light of Myanmar" (Internet version) 97-11-08

Title: Burma: PRC Lanzhou Army Region Commander, Party Arrive Rangoon

Document Number: FBIS-EAS-97-314

Document Date: 10 Nov 1997

Citysource: Rangoon Radio Myanmar

At the invitation of Lt. Gen. Tin Oo, Chief of Bureau of Special Operations and Army Chief of Staff; a Chinese goodwill delegation led by General Liu Jingsong, Commander of Lanzhou Military Command of the Chinese People's Liberation Army; arrived by air at 1115 today.

The goodwill delegation was welcomed at Yangon [Rangoon] International Airport by Lt. Gen. Tin Oo, Chief of Bureau of Special Operations and Army Chief of Staff; Maj. Gen. Khin Maung Than, Commander of Yangon Military Command; Commodore Nyunt Thein, Navy Chief of Staff; Brig. Gen. Kyaw Than, Air Force Chief of Staff; Brig. Gen. Lun Ti, director of Artillery and Armor; Brig. Gen. Ba Htay Chit, commander of Mingaladon Air Base; Col. Taik Tun, commander of No.1 army region; PRC Ambassador Mr. Liang Dong, and the military attache.

Lt. Gen. Tin Oo, Chief of Bureau of Special Operations and Army Chief of Staff; received the Chinese goodwill delegation led by the Commander of Lanzhou Military Command of the Chinese People's Liberation Army, at Zeya Thiri Beikman on Konemyittha at 1400 today. [passage omitted] [Description of Source: Radio Myanmar--government-run radio]

Title: China: Lanchang River Blocked for Power Project

Document Number: FBIS-CHI-97-314

Document Date: 10 Nov 1997

Beijing Xinhua in English 1359 GMT 10 Nov 97

Dachaoshan (Yunnan Province), November 10 (XINHUA) -- The Lanchang River in southwest China was blocked this morning for construction of the Dachaoshan Hydropower Station, the second of its kind on the river. Yunnan Governor He Zhiqiang attended today's damming ceremony and noted that the event symbolizes that China has turned a new page in developing hydropower resources of the river.

The river originates in the Tangula Mountain in northwest China's Qinghai Province and is named Mekong after it enters into Laos, Myanmar [Burma], Thailand and Cambodia.

The 2,000-km Lanchang River, which offers vast potential hydropower resources and untold advantageous conditions, has been listed as a national hydropower development base. Plans call for construction of 14 tiered hydropower stations on the river with a combined generating capacity of 22 million kilowatts.

The Dachaoshan Hydropower Station will be the second one being built on the river, following the one at Manwan.

Dachaoshan will have an installed capacity of 1.35 million kw and will be able to generate 5.9 billion kwh of electricity a year. The first generator is scheduled to go online in 2001 and the entire project will be completed in 2003.

Completion of the station will help alleviate power shortages in southwest China.

The downstream Jinghong Hydropower Station, which will have a designed installed capacity of 1.5 million kw, will involve investments from

Thailand and will mainly supply power to that country. Feasibility studies for the project was completed recently.

Preliminary designs for the upstream Xiaowan Hydropower Station have also been completed. The station, with an installed capacity of 4.2 million kw, will be a key project in the development of hydropower resources of the Lanchang River. By adjusting water flow, Xiaowan will enable other stations to generate an extra seven billion kwh of electricity a year.

The design for construction of other hydropower stations is also ongoing.

Title: China: World's Largest Bronze Statue of Buddha Erected in Wuxi

Document Number: FBIS-CHI-97-320

Document Date: 16 Nov 1997

Nanjing, November 16 (Xinhua) -- A bronze statue of Sakyamuni [Buddha] standing 88 meters in height has been erected on Lingshan Mountain in Wuxi City, east China's Jiangsu Province.

The statue, which weighs approximately 800 tons, is purported to be the world's largest bronze statue of Buddha.

The unveiling ceremony, held at the Xiangchan Temple in Wuxi on Saturday, was attended by representatives from the State Council Bureau of Religious Affairs, the Chinese Buddhist Association and the United Front Work Department of the Jiangsu Provincial Committee of the Chinese Communist Party.

The ceremony also attracted more than 10,000 Buddhists from throughout China, as well as their counterparts from Singapore, Myanmar [Burma], Nepal, Indonesia, Hong Kong, Taiwan and Macao.

Title: China: Burmese Leader Receives PLA Medical Delegation

Document Number: FBIS-CHI-97-324

Document Date: 20 Nov 1997

Sourceline: OW2011132797 Beijing Xinhua in English 1306 GMT 20 Nov 97

Yangon, November 20 (XINHUA) -- Newly-appointed Third Secretary of the Myanmar State Peace and Development Council Lieutenant General Win Myint met here today with a visiting medical delegation of the Chinese People's Liberation Army (PLA) led by Major General Li Chaolin.

The Chinese PLA medical delegation arrived here last Sunday and has visited the Institute of Medicine and the General Hospital of the Myanmar Defense Services and Myanmar pharmaceutical industries in the capital.

Title: Burma: Win Myint Receives PRC PLA Medical Delegation

Document Number: FBIS-EAS-97-324

Document Date: 20 Nov 1997

Rangoon Radio Myanmar in Burmese 1330 GMT 20 Nov 97

Lt. Gen. Win Myint, secretary-3 of the State Peace and Development Council [SPDC] received a visiting medical delegation of the Chinese People's Liberation Army led by Maj. Gen. Li Chaolin at 1300 today at Dagon House of the Ministry of Defense.

Lt. Gen. Win Myint hosted a dinner in honor of the visiting PLA medical delegation at 7 pm this evening at Mya Yeiknyo Royal Hotel.
[Description of Source: Radio Myanmar--government-run radio]

Minister for Energy received General Manager of Total Oil Company Mr M Viallard and Resident Representative Mr H Madeo at his office. The Minister also received Chairman of Yunnan Machinery & Equipment Import and Export Corporation (YMEC) Mr Lin Zai You and party at his office.
Information Sheet No.A-0226(I) Date. 26-11-97

Minister for Industry-1 U Aung Thaung received Chairman of Yunnan Machinery and Equipment Import and Export Corporation Mr Lin Zai You and party of Kunming at his office.
Information Sheet No.A-0228(I) Date. 28-11-97

Minister receives Chinese delegation

THE NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR (Friday, 28 Nov 1997)
YANGON, 27 Nov Minister for Industry-1 U Aung Thaung received Chairman of Yunnan Machinery and Equipment Import and Export Corporation Mr Lin Zai You and party of Kunming at his office at 2.30 pm today.
Minister U Aung Thaung also received Chairman of China National Construction and Agricultural Machinery Import and Export Corporation Mr Jiang Zhaorong and party at his office at 3.30 pm today.
Present also were Deputy Minister Col Than Zin, directors-general and managing directors and officials of the ministry.

MIC Secretary receives Chairman of Xuxi Hongta Tobacco (Group) Ltd

THE NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR (Friday, 28 Nov 1997)
YANGON, 27 Nov Minister at the Office of the Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council and Secretary, of Myanmar Investment Commission Brig-Gen Maung Maung received Chairman of Xuxi Hongta Tobacco (Group) Ltd of the People's Republic of China Mr Zi Gourui and party at Myanmar Investment Commission Office at 1 pm today. Present also were officials of the Directorate of Investment and Companies Administration.

Construction of Bo Aung Kyaw Wharf inspected

THE NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR (Saturday, 29 Nov 1997)
YANGON, 28 Nov-Minister for Transport Lt-Gen Tin Ngwe, accompanied by Deputy Minister Brig-Gen Kyaw Myint and Director-General of Transport Department U Khin Maung Myint, arrived at the site of Bo Aung Kyaw Wharf in Botahtaung Township this afternoon.

The minister and party were welcomed by General Manager of Myanmar Port Authority U Hlaing Swan, President Mr Lin Zai You of Yunnan Machinery and Equipment Import and Export Corporation (YMEC) and officials. U Hlaing Swan reported on project and progress of work, Deputy General Manager of MPA U Myint Sein on technical and electrical matters, Adviser U Tin Ohn of MPA construction of wharf and Chief Engineer U Khin Maung Zaw on the project. The minister inspected unloading of equipment for the project. The minister spoke of worksite safety and called for efforts for completion earlier than scheduled. The project started in September 1996 with interest free loan of US \$ 27.1 million under the agreement between MPA and YMEC. It will be completed by January 1998. Modern equipment including one 40-ton portal crane, one 35-ton container quay crane, container trailers and others, have arrived.

Title: China: China Daily: Special Economic Zones Proposed

Document Number: FBIS-CHI-97-334
Document Date: 30 Nov 1997

Beijing, November 30 (XINHUA) -- A senior economic researcher has proposed the establishment of three cross-border special economic zones to ginger up China's central and western regions, today's China Daily reported.

Di Kui highlighted three transnational corridors running through zones on the Sino-Russian, Sino-Burma and Sino-Kazakhstan borders: the bridge being constructed between Russia and China's Northwestern Heihe city; the road connecting southwest China's Yunnan Province with Burma, leading finally to the Indian Ocean; and the new Euro-Asia Continental Bridge running from east China's Lianyungang and Rizhao ports through the vast central and western provinces all the way to Rotterdam in the Netherlands. Di suggested that these three transportation corridors, if effectively used, could propel the economy of the landlocked middle and western regions.

Di noticed that due to their small scattered and unorganized nature, the existing cross-border co-operation is too weak to spark the macro-economy of the central and western regions.

Di also proposed that "border processing zones" that could make full use of the abundant raw materials and labor force in these remote areas of China.

Among the three trans-border free economic zones he proposed, Di said that the one bordering Burma is the most mature and the easiest to develop and the zone in northeastern China is "evolving" with China and Russia starting negotiations in 1995.

Di predicted that the northwestern zone on the China-Kazakhstan border will tap the tremendous potential that the new Euro-Asia Continental Bridge contains to boost the economic development of both this region and the whole central and western area.

Title: Thailand: Mekong Nations Take Steps To Curb Human Trafficking

Document Number: FBIS-EAS-97-335

Document Date: 1 Dec 1997

Sourceline: BK0112055597 Bangkok The Sunday Nation in English 30 Nov 97 p A3

Subslug: Report by Mukdawan Sakboon

IN A fresh effort to contain widespread trafficking in women, children and illegal immigrants, policy and law makers from six countries in the Mekong sub-region have agreed to set up national committees to address the problem.

Representatives from Burma, Cambodia, China, Laos, Thailand and Vietnam also pledged to meet again by 2000 and expressed hope there will be gains by then in the war against people who traffic in human misery.

The regional conference agreed on Friday the national committees will be authorised to formulate plans of action and programmes to prevent and suppress human trafficking and to seek ways to protect the victims from further abuse, said Saisuree Chutikul, adviser to the National Commission for Women's Affairs.

Legislation should also be enacted to differentiate between trafficking in women and children and organised illegal immigration, added law lecturer Prof Vitit Muntabhorn of Chulalongkorn University.

This should include provisions friendly to women and child victims, to ensure that they are properly treated, and should also cover slavery-like situations and forced labour.

People should be considered victims of trafficking if they are transported by others who used or threaten to use violence, abused by people in authority or positions of dominance, or subjected to deception or other forms of coercion for the purpose of exploiting them sexually or economically for the profit or advantage of others, Vitit said.

Vitit said that to ensure proper treatment of people being deported to their country of origin, bilateral treaties formalising the repatriation process would be drafted, as a mechanism through which a "central authority" could work.

[Description of Source: The Sunday Nation--Sunday edition of The Nation newspaper]

Title: China: Chinese Writers Delegation Visits Burma

Document Number: FBIS-CHI-97-337

Document Date: 3 Dec 1997

Yangon [Rangoon], December 3 (XINHUA) -- A five-member Chinese writers delegation arrived here today on a two-week visit to Myanmar [Burma] under the China-Myanmar cultural exchange program.

During the visit, the Chinese delegation led by Yang Yiyan, Honorary Member of the China Writers' Association and novelist, is expected to call on the Myanmar Deputy Information Minister and the Chairman of the Myanmar Writers and Journalists Association.

The delegation will also tour some other cities in the country such as Mandalay and Bagan.

China: PRC: Jiang Zemin Meets Burmese Leader

Dec 15: Kuala Lumpur, December 15 (XINHUA) -- Chinese President Jiang Zemin

and Chairman of the Myanmar [Burmese] State Peace and Development Council Than Shwe today expressed satisfaction with the development of the relations between their two countries.

During a meeting here with Than Shwe, Jiang said that in recent years, the ties between China and Myanmar have maintained the momentum of all-around development and the Chinese government has always attached importance to the promotion of friendly relations with Myanmar.

Jiang pledged that his country would make continuous efforts to promote its neighborly friendship with Myanmar oriented toward the 21st century.

He said the economic and trade cooperation between the two countries has also made remarkable progress in recent years and has great potential for further development.

He expressed the belief that such cooperation will be pushed to a new high through the joint efforts of the two governments and the business circles of the two countries.

Jiang congratulated Myanmar on its joining the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), saying the development and the strengthening of ASEAN is conducive to lasting peace and long-term development in the Asia-Pacific region.

Than Shwe said there exist traditional friendly relations between the two countries, nurtured by their elder leaders.

"We are responsible for and committed to maintaining, consolidating and promoting the friendship between Myanmar and China. We would never forget the support and assistance provided to us by the Chinese government at the time when Myanmar faced difficulties," he said.

Than Shwe briefed Jiang on the efforts and achievements Myanmar has made in its economic development in recent years.

Congratulating Myanmar on the improvement and development of its economy, Jiang said, "The world is a diverse one and each country has the right to choose its social system and road of development in the light of its own conditions." "The domestic problems faced by any country should be dealt with by its own people and the problems faced by the world should be settled by the countries concerned through friendly consultations."

The two leaders also spoke highly of the informal summit of East Asian nations held here today and shared the view that the exchange of views informally by the leaders is conducive to mutual understanding between the countries concerned and to seeking common ground while reserving differences.

Jiang believed that the difficulties faced by Southeast Asian countries would be overcome gradually.

"I am confident of the future of Asia's economic development," Jiang said.

Title: China: 'Roundup' on Burma's Entry Into ASEAN

Document Number: FBIS-CHI-97-349

Document Date: 15 Dec 1997

Beijing Xinhua in English 1042 GMT 13 Dec 97

[Roundup by Zhang Yunfei: "Myanmar's Entry Into ASEAN Opens New Chapter in Foreign Relations"]

Rangoon, December 13 (Xinhua) -- Myanmar [Burma]'s entry into the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) is a major event for the

country in the outgoing year of 1997 and has opened a new chapter in its foreign relations.

ASEAN, withstanding pressure from certain Western countries, made its decision to admit Myanmar into the fold of the grouping in July, showing its independence and maturity in dealing with regional issues.

Myanmar's entry into the grouping, from a long-term point of view, is not only conducive to the development of the country, but also to peace, stability and development in the region as a whole, observers here said. Since its integration into ASEAN, Myanmar has been making efforts to work closely with other ASEAN members to share the responsibility of the regional grouping.

Accordingly, Myanmar formed a leading committee on ASEAN affairs in June and then set up respective committees and groups in all sectors to take an active part in meetings and activities of the grouping.

The series of ASEAN meetings Myanmar has attended showed the country's positive response to the cooperation among ASEAN member nations.

At a meeting of the ASEAN Free Trade Area (AFTA) Council and ASEAN economic ministers' meeting in Kuala Lumpur in October, Myanmar presented its commodities list compiled for tariff reduction for the establishment of AFTA which is to bring tariffs down to zero to 5 percent within 10 years after joining AFTA.

In Myanmar's final Common Effective Preferential Tariff (CEPT) packages, there are 2,355 tariff lines (43 percent of its total) in the inclusion list of products and 2,987 tariff lines (54.6 percent of its total) in the temporary exclusion list.

It was decided at the Council meeting that ASEAN will provide technical assistance to Myanmar as well as Laos, its two new members, to help them fulfill their obligations for AFTA.

At an ASEAN agriculture and forestry ministers' meeting in Bangkok in September, Myanmar stressed cooperation among ASEAN member nations in food, agriculture and forestry sectors.

Meanwhile, at an ASEAN transport ministers' meeting in the Philippines' Cebu in September, Myanmar pledged to cooperate with other members in carrying out projects and activities under the integrated implementation program for the ASEAN plan of action in transport and communications sectors.

In drugs control, Myanmar is also making preparations to act as a host in implementing individually and collectively ASEAN members' three-year narcotic drugs control project which was worked out at the 18th meeting of ASEAN Senior officials on Drug Matters (ASOD) in Bangkok in 1995.

In Brunei in August, Myanmar attended the 20th meeting on ASOD which discussed the latest development of each country's anti-drug program and cooperation among ASEAN countries.

In the education sector, Myanmar is planning to revise its education curriculum to conform to the education standards in ASEAN member states, aiming to turn out skilled workers and technicians in the process of human resources development.

With regard to parliamentary affairs, Myanmar promised to cooperate with other member nations in achieving economic well-being of the Southeast Asia region when Chairman of the Myanmar National Convention Convening Work Committee U Aung Toe attended as observer the 18th Working Committee and General Assembly of the ASEAN Inter-Parliamentary Organization (AIPO) in Bali, Indonesia, in September.

In financial affairs, Myanmar, together with Laos, signed the memorandum of understanding on multilateral cooperation in ASEAN's financial sector at a special meeting of ASEAN Finance Ministers held in

Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, early this month.

Myanmar's integration into the regional grouping, which now embraces nine members -- Brunei, Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, Vietnam, Myanmar and Laos, is seen as not only an opportunity for the country in the development of its economy and trade and attraction of foreign investment, but also a challenge to it in commodity production and market competition.

Since Myanmar was admitted into ASEAN, the Association's Secretary-General Ajit Singh has visited Myanmar twice, the last trip being in November when he led an ASEAN business forum delegation, exploring business cooperation with Myanmar counterparts, especially the private sector.

According to official statistics, at the end of September, investment from other ASEAN countries added up to over 3 billion U.S. dollars, accounting for about 45 percent of the total 6.44 billion dollars of foreign investment in Myanmar. This has helped the country obtain much-needed foreign exchange and promote job creation and economic growth. Observers here believe that with the technical assistance and support from other member nations, Myanmar's economy would develop at a relatively quicker pace which would in turn promote the region's economic, social and cultural development.

[Description of source: Beijing Xinhua in English -- China's official news service for English-language audiences (New China News Agency)]

Title: China: Report on Informal Summit Held With ASEAN

Document Number: FBIS-CHI-97-350

Document Date: 16 Dec 1997

Kuala Lumpur, December 16 (Xinhua) -- The first informal summit between China and ASEAN here today reached consensus on forging a good-neighborly partnership of mutual trust oriented to the 21st century. Chinese President Jiang Zemin said at the outset of the bilateral summit that China and the nine-member Association of Southeast Asian Nations must give priority to their economic relations and step up mutual support on major regional and international issues to safeguard the interests of developing countries, ASEAN groups Brunei, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar [Burma], the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam.

Jiang said China and ASEAN should draw on each other's advantages and reinforce cooperation in several areas including resources, technology, market, banking, information and investment.

He said China and ASEAN must also intensify dialogue and mutual support in the United Nations, Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation, Asia-Europe Meeting and the ASEAN Regional Forum.

He said the bilateral summit marked the beginning of a new stage of China-ASEAN relations and he also put forth the objectives and guidelines for the development of future relations between China and ASEAN.

ASEAN leaders said that Jiang's presence at the summit shows that China attaches great importance to the relations between China and ASEAN.

They all held the view that China as a major trading partner in the world should join the World Trade Organization as soon as possible.

The ASEAN leaders spoke highly of the guidelines put forth by the

Chinese president for the development of future relations, hoping to take the informal summit of East Asian nations and that between China and ASEAN as opportunities to work together for realizing the goal of forging the good-neighborly partnership of mutual trust oriented to the 21st century.

On the disputes over the South China Sea, the leaders of China and ASEAN agreed to resolve them through friendly consultations and negotiations in accordance with universally recognized international law, including the 1982 UN Convention on the Law of the Sea.

In a joint statement issued at the end of the China-ASEAN bilateral summit, the leaders expressed satisfaction with the rapidly developing relations between ASEAN and China as well as between individual ASEAN member states and China.

They agreed that the consolidation of these relations served the fundamental interests of their respective peoples as well as peace, stability and prosperity of the Asia-Pacific region.

[Description of source: Beijing Xinhua in English -- China's official news service for English-language audiences (New China News Agency)]

Double Game for Chinese?

Intelligence Newsletter
December 18, 1997

Security officials in the Chinese border province of Yunnan have been showing special concern for opponents of Burma's regime in recent months. At the behest of their chief, Liu Xuanle, the Gonganting's "Blue Dogs", as they are known, have sounded out dissidents and established close relations with some of them. According to sources in Rangoon, this has infuriated one of the regime's four strong-men, lieut.-gen. Khin Nyunt, head of military intelligence, who fears that the Chinese leadership around Jiang Zemin will start seriously thinking the junta could be toppled and decide to play both sides of the street.

The Chinese and Burmese security services have worked together in Yunnan since 1992 to fight against drug trafficking. And that cooperation goes hand in hand with the new interest in dissidents. Elsewhere, a "cyber war" center set up this autumn in Burma by Khin Nyunt is working to intercept telephone calls, fax messages, mobile telephone communications and e-mail of foreign businessmen whom the government believes could be used by dissidents loyal to Aung San Sus Kyi to pass along messages for them. Along with Japanese businessmen, diplomats from Japan are also being closely watched because of their sympathies for the Nobel prize winner.

These news are searched and posted by Washington, DC based news journal, The Rangoon Post, to inform BurmaNet subscribers the situations of Burma. Further information contact at RANGOONP@aol.com.

Title: China: Burma's Role in Regional Development Noted

Document Number: FBIS-CHI-97-359

Document Date: 25 Dec 1997

Subslug: "Roundup": Myanmar [Burma] Takes More Active Part in Regional Cooperation"

Yangon, December 25 (XINHUA) -- Following its integration into the

Association of Southeast Asian Nations in July this year, Myanmar Monday also joined another new regional grouping, the BIMST-EC, signifying the country's increasingly active and positive participation in the regional cooperation. The BIMST-EC (Bangladesh, India, Myanmar, Sri Lanka and Thailand -- Economic Cooperation) is a sub-regional economic grouping along the rim of Bay of Bengal. The originally-formed four-member grouping, initiated by Thailand and founded in June this year, decided to expand its membership to Myanmar in August. A special ministerial meeting of the grouping held Monday in Bangkok, agreed to strengthen cooperation in the fields of trade, investment, transport and communications, energy, tourism and fishery among the member countries. On the issue, an Asian diplomat here said that as a country straddling South and Southeast Asia, Myanmar is destined to play the key role of a bridge in the regional economic cooperation. Today's Myanmar, after standing alone for several decades, comes to realize that the regional economic cooperation has become an acknowledged vehicle for promoting economic development. Myanmar, together with Thailand, is not only a member of the ASEAN but also an associate of the BIMST-EC, thus becoming a gateway for the two groupings to link South and Southeast Asia. Myanmar's successive entry into the two groupings is also seen as a major event for the country in the outgoing year of 1997 and has opened a new chapter in its foreign relations with the nations in the region. Since Myanmar opened its door to the outside world in late 1988, adopting a market-oriented economic system, investment from countries in the region increased year by year. According to official statistics, foreign investment, coming from other ASEAN countries, had increased to over 3 billion U.S. dollars, accounting for about 45 percent of the 6.5-billion-dollar total foreign investment by the end of November this year. With regard to Myanmar's foreign trade, Singapore, Thailand and India are among the country's major trading partners in the region with an annual volume of trade maintaining at a level of about 500 million, 500 million and 250 million U.S. dollars respectively in recent years, according to available figures. The initiation of border trade agreements between Myanmar and Bangladesh, India and Thailand in the last two years has also brought about further development of Myanmar's trade with these countries and promote the regional cooperation. Observers here said that Myanmar's positive response to the cooperation among member nations of the ASEAN and the BIMST-EC would be, from a long term point of view, not only conducive to the development of the country but also to peace, stability and development in the region as a whole. [Description of source: Beijing Xinhua in English -- China's official news service for English-language audiences (New China News Agency)]

1998

PRC, Japan donation for MMCWA

YANGON, 31 Dec - The cash donation ceremony for Myanmar Maternal and Child Welfare Association by staff families of the Embassy of People's Republic of China was held in the office at No 341, Banyadala Road, Tarmway Township, at 11 am today.

Present also were Ambassador of PRC to Myanmar Mr Liang Dong and wife and staff families, Chairperson of MMCWA and executives.

Mrs Niu Yu Lan, wife of Ambassador of PRC Mr Liang Dong, and staff families donated K 500,000 to Chairperson of MMCWA Professor Daw Kyu Kyu Swe who presented a certificate of honour to the donors and thanked them.

Likewise, Ravac Japan also donated S 1,500 to the MMCWA at this afternoon.
"The New Light of Myanmar" (Internet version) S 98-01-01

Hsinhaing-5 pusher-tug launched

YANGON, 3 Jan - Hailing the Golden Jubilee Independence Day, the medium-sized Hsinhaing-5 pusher-tug built by Dalla Shipyard under contract between Inland Water Transport and Yunnan Machinery Import and Export Corporation of the People's Republic of China was launched at the shipyard this morning, attended by Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Khin Nyunt.

Present also were Minister for Transport Lt-Gen Tin Ngwe, Minister for Labour Vice-Admiral Tin Aye, Deputy Minister for Transport Brig-Gen Kyaw Myint, officials of the Office of the State Peace and Development Council, heads of departments, directors-general and managing directors of departments and enterprises, principal and advisers officials of PRC Embassy and YMC and students of No 1 Basic Education High School in Dalla.

Minister Lt-Gen Tin Ngwe said the ministry is making efforts for equitable development as other sectors and IWT imported modern new boats as well as local shipyard built new boats.

He lauded the success made by workers and engineers of the shipyard. The minister spoke at length on upgrading of the shipyard under contract between IWT and YMC.

Ten cargo barges out of 28 and three boats out of seven has been built in the shipyard under the contract and the shipyard earned a total of US \$ 375,000.

The minister said hard work with good ideas for national development will contribute toward secure and smooth transport and regular flow of commodities. The Secretary-1, the ministers, the . deputy ministers and guests boarded the boat and they were conducted round by Managing Director U Tun Aung Myint of IWT.

The Secretary-1 formally launched the boat.

The Hsinhaing-5 pusher-tug, valued at US \$ 836,600, is 28 metres long, 7.5 metres wide and 2.2 metres high with the draught of 1.4 metres. It can push or tow four 250-ton cargo boats. The Dalla Shipyard earned US \$ 50,000 for the tug. (NLM 98-01-04 WS)

Title: China: Report on Military Diplomacy in 1997

Document Number: FBIS-CHI-98-012

Sourceline: OW1201125398 Beijing Xinhua in English 1249 GMT 12 Jan 98

Beijing, January 12 (Xinhua) -- China increased military contacts with peripheral countries in 1997 to work for peace and stability in line with its principle of good-neighborliness and friendly cooperation, according to

the National Defense Ministry.

Last year, senior military leaders including Liu Huaqing, Chi Haotian, Yu Yongbo and Wang Ke, visited Russia, Kazakhstan, Kirghizstan, Pakistan, Vietnam, the Philippines, Indonesia, Malaysia, and Singapore, and military delegations visited India, Nepal, Laos, Bangladesh, Thailand, and Myanmar [Burma].

China also played host to high-ranking military leaders from Russia, Kazakhstan, Singapore, Indonesia, Thailand, Bangladesh, Nepal, Thailand, India, Myanmar, Pakistan, Vietnam and Laos.

The Chinese military invited delegations of the armed forces of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to visit China and sent delegations to the DPRK. It also invited senior officials from the Republic of Korea's National Defense Ministry to visit China, and started high-level exchanges with the Japanese armed forces.

The area commands of Shenyang, Beijing, Lanzhou, Guangzhou, and Chengdu increased visits and exchanges with their counterparts in nations next door in 1997 to increase mutual understanding and cooperation between border troops.

Mid-Year Gems Emporium displays 1,386 lots at reserve price \$ 11.37m

YANGON, 16 Oct - A total of 1,386 gems lots at a reserve price of \$ 11.37 million are on display at Mid-Year Myanmar Gems Emporium, said Deputy Minister for Mines U Myint Thein today at a Press Conference.

The emporium displays 962 jade lots at a reserve price of \$ 5.96 million, 254 gem lots at \$ 3.5 million and 170 pearl lots at \$ 1.91 million, he added.

Sponsored by Myanmar Gems Emporium Central Committee, it will be held from 16 to 22 October.

The deputy minister, who is chairman of MGECC, estimated that over 300 merchants of 51 companies from 13 countries will attend the emporium to be held at Myanmar Gems Mart, adding invitations were sent to 787 companies of 28 countries.

More quality stones and lots are included in this emporium than in the previous sales as the State is providing assistance to gems miners such as rendering advanced cash and loans and speedy foreign currency services and curbing smuggling gems abroad, he noted.

The reserve prices for the lots are lower than in the past sales due to currency devaluation and economic instability in international scene, he said.

Over 50 new merchants from Canton and Yunnan provinces of the People's Republic of China are expected to attend the emporium, he said, adding coordinations are under way to sell jade blocks to Yunnan by land.

Member of Information Committee of the State Peace and Development Council Deputy Minister for Information Brig-Gen Aung Thein also spoke.

U Myint Thein and Secretary of MGECC Managing Director of Myanmar Gems Enterprise U Khin Oo replied to questions raised by foreign and local

journalists.

Led by Brig-Gen Aung Thein, officials and journalists including Managing Director of News and Periodicals Enterprise U Tin Kha, Director-General of Myanmar Radio and TV U Khin Maung Htay, Director-General of Information and Public Relations Department U Chit Naing, Director (News) of NPE U Hla Tun, Patron of Foreign Correspondents Club U Sein Win and Chairman U Sao Kai Hpa previewed the display and visited shops at the mart. (NLM 98-01-17 WS)

Title: China: Burma Invites Foreign Investment

Document Number: FBIS-CHI-98-020

Sourceline: OW2101033698 Beijing Xinhua in English 0319 GMT 21 Jan 98

Yangon [Rangoon], January 21 (XINHUA) -- Myanmar [Burma] is inviting foreign investors to set up enterprises in the newly established Mingaladon Industrial Zone in the capital of Yangon.

The infrastructural development project of the 89-hectare Mingaladon Industrial Zone has been completed, the official newspaper The New Light of Myanmar reported Wednesday.

The zone, located in the Mingaladon area north of Yangon, is one of the five planned industrial zones in the capital. The other two -- Thanlyin-Kyauktan and Hlaingtharya -- are being developed mainly by Singapore, Malaysian and Thai companies respectively.

The facilities of the Mingaladon Industrial Zone have been built in conformity with international standards to enable foreign entrepreneurs to invest in the zone, the report quoted an official as saying.

Meanwhile, a 115.8-hectare garden city project with a golf course has also been underway in the Mingaladon area and will be completed in five years, the report added.

According to official sources, 17 industrial zones in the country are being implemented in cities including Yangon, Mandalay, Bago, Hinthada, Maungmya, Myeik, Yenangaung, Pyay, Mingyan and Meiktila.

[Description of source: Beijing Xinhua in English -- China's official news service for English-language audiences (New China News Agency)]

Title: China: PRC Vice Foreign Minister Visits Myanmar

Document Number: FBIS-CHI-98-031

Sourceline: OW3101124198 Beijing Xinhua in English 1132 GMT 31 Jan 98

Yangon, January 31 (XINHUA) -- Chinese Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs Tang Jiaxuan arrived here Saturday afternoon for a four-day visit to Myanmar at the invitation of his Myanmar counterpart, U Nyunt Swe. During the visit, Tang is expected to hold talks with Nyunt Swe on bilateral issues and matters of mutual interest.

The Chinese vice minister will also call on Myanmar Minister for Foreign Affairs U Ohn Gyaw and other Myanmar officials to exchange views on promotion of Sino-Myanmar good-neighborly relations.

[Description of source: Beijing Xinhua in English -- China's official news service for English-language audiences (New China News Agency)]

PRC Vice-FM and party arrive

YANGON, 31 Jan - At the invitation of the Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Union of Myanmar U Nyunt Swe, a goodwill delegation led by Mr Tang Jiaxuan, Vice-Minister of Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of China arrived here by air this evening.

The Chinese Vice-Foreign Minister and party were welcomed at Yangon International Airport by Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs U Nyunt Swe, officials of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Chinese Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Liang Dong and staff of the Chinese Embassy in Yangon. "The New Light of Myanmar" (Internet version) 98-02-01

Title: Burma: PRC Vice Foreign Minister Arrives in Burma

Document Number: FBIS-EAS-98-033

Document Date: 2 Feb 1998

Sourceline: BK0202031498 Rangoon TV Myanmar Network in Burmese 1330 GMT 21 Feb 98

A goodwill delegation from the People's Republic of China led by Mr. Tang Jiaxuan, vice minister of foreign affairs, arrived in Yangon [Rangoon] by air this afternoon at the invitation of U Nyunt Swe, deputy foreign minister of the Union of Myanmar [Burma].
The PRC vice minister and his delegation were welcomed at the airport by Deputy Foreign Minister U Nyunt Swe, officials concerned, and PRC Ambassador Mr. Liang Dong.

Title: China: Myanmar Leader Meets Chinese Vice Foreign Minister

Document Number: FBIS-CHI-98-033

Sourceline: OW0202152598 Beijing Xinhua in English 1523 GMT 02 Feb 98

Yangon, February 2 (XINHUA) -- Myanmar leader Khin Nyunt said here Monday that his country wants to further strengthen the neighborly goodwill ties as well as trade and economic cooperation with China.
When meeting with visiting Chinese Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs Tang Jiaxuan here Monday, Khin Nyunt, first secretary of the Myanmar State Peace and Development Council, said leaders of the new generation of the two countries are responsible for carrying on the good-neighborly and friendly ties forged by leaders of the older generation.
Tang's visit will help enhance the development of trade and economic cooperation between the two countries which have a great potential, he added.
At the meeting, Vice Minister Tang said China also attaches importance to the development of Sino-Myanmar good-neighborly and friendly relations and trade and economic cooperation.
He is convinced that such relations would be continued and further developed.
On the same day, Tang also held talks with his Myanmar counterpart, U Nyunt Swe, on the promotion of the two countries' bilateral ties including

trade and economic cooperation and on matters of mutual interest.
The Chinese vice minister arrived here last Saturday on a four-day
visit to Myanmar at the invitation of U Nyunt Swe.

Title: Burma: Khin Nyunt Receives PRC Vice Foreign Minister, Delegation

Document Number: FBIS-EAS-98-033

Sourceline: BK0302022898 Rangoon Radio Myanmar in Burmese 1330 GMT 2 Feb 98

Lt. Gen. Khin Nyunt, secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development
Council of the Union of Myanmar [Burma], received PRC Vice Foreign Minister
Tang Jiaxuan and delegation at the Defense Ministry's Dagon House at 1700
today. [passage omitted]

Agreement on mutual exemption of visas between Myanmar and PRC signed

YANGON, 3 Feb - The Signing Ceremony of Agreement on Mutual Exemption of
Visas between the Government of the Union of Myanmar and the Government of
the People's Republic of China for Holders of Diplomatic, Official/Service
Passports was held today at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The Agreement
was signed by Deputy Minister U Nyunt Swe for the Government of the Union
of Myanmar and Chinese Vice-Minister Mr Tang Jiaxuan for the Government of
the People's Republic of China. It was attended by Minister for Foreign
Affairs U Ohn Gyaw, the Ambassador of the People's Republic of China to
Myanmar Mr Liang Dong, members of the Chinese delegation and staff of
Embassy of the people's Republic of China.

In the afternoon, the delegation visited the National Museum.

Vice-Minister of Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of China Mr Tang
Jiaxuan and party left by air this afternoon. They were seen off at Yangon
International Airport by Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs U Nyunt Swe,
responsible officials of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Ambassador of
the People's Republic of China to Myanmar Mr Liang Dong and staff of the
Embassy of the People's Republic of China.

The Chinese Vice-Minister and party visited Taunggyi, Heho and Inle.

During their visit to Taunggyi, Deputy Commander of the Eastern Command
Brig-Gen Myint Thein hosted dinner in honour of the delegation. "The New Light of Myanmar" (Internet version) 98-
02-04

Title: China: Peace Prevails Along Borders in 1997

Document Number: FBIS-CHI-98-036

Document Date: 5 Feb 1998

Sourceline: OW0502135198 Beijing Xinhua Domestic Service in Chinese 0604 GMT 4 Feb 98

Subslug: "Newsletter" by Xinhua reporter Cao Zhi: "Peace Prevails in
Thousands of Miles of Border Areas"

At the 15th CPC National Congress which was held in the golden autumn of 1997, General Secretary Jiang Zemin declared to the world: "On the basis of the 1 million troop cut in the 1980's, China will carry out another 500,000 troop cut in the coming three years."

This was the most powerful "voice of peace" China gave forth last year.

As a nation that is creating a new historical situation with redoubled confidence and courage, full of pride and enthusiasm, the 1.2 billion Chinese people are marching toward a new century in peaceful sunshine. A noted expert on international affairs maintained: To the 3 million officers and soldiers of the People's Liberation Army and the thousands of miles of border areas, the greatest achievement in 1997 was peace.

While gazing out at China's endless land frontier, the winding and rugged boundary line, and every border sentry and port, we joyfully saw a bright blue sky over the motherland's frontier, which witnessed rounds and rounds of smoke from gunpowder and experienced constant conflicts in the past.

Thanks to several years of unremitting efforts, a vast belt of security and trust is taking shape in our country's northern border areas.

The boundary bridge of the small frontier town of Jeminay in Altay Prefecture, Xinjiang is situated on the picturesque tributary of the Ertix He. Under the bridge, the water of the river is crystal clear, the banks of the river are covered with thick bushes and on each bank of the river herdsmen graze sheep and cattle freely. Due to the rapid development of border trade, the boundary bridge of Jeminay, which was too small and too old, no longer lived up to its historical mission. Therefore, in the upper reach one kilometer away from the bridge, a new reinforced concrete bridge has spanned the boundary river.

Train whistles have long disturbed the tranquillity of Alataw Pass.

As an important international freight port, Alataw Pass handled 2.3 million tonnes of transit goods last year, ranking second among frontier ports.

While covering the "Good Eighth Company in Heihe," this reporter was informed of this event: In August last year, upon hearing that the Eighth Company was conferred the glorious title of "the Good Eighth Company in Heihe" by the Central Military Commission, the Blagovescensk Border Sentry under the command of the Russian Far East Frontier Military District specially sent its personnel to offer congratulations. They said: "You were named a model by the Central Military Commission of the People's Republic of China while we were named a red sentry by the Russia Federal General Frontier Administration. We must learn from each other and join hands to build an exemplary boundary in the days to come."

People will not forget that at the end of 1960's, these areas were still restricted military areas, where dark clouds covered the sky, and the situation was dangerously explosive.

The doors of the country have been opened to the outside world quietly and the solid ice is melting drop by drop.

Dozens of ports in Heilongjiang, Inner Mongolia, and Xinjiang have been opened to the outside world so far. Frontier guards between China and Russia, between China and Mongolia and between China and Kazakhstan have opened their border sentries to each other.

China and Russia signed "the Agreement on Frontier Cooperation Between the People's Republic of China and the Russian Federal General Frontier Administration" in August 1995.

Heads of state of China, Russia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, and Tajikistan signed "the Agreement on Confidence Building in Military Field

Along Border Areas" in Shanghai in April 1996.

"The Agreement on Mutual Armed Forces Reduction Along Border Areas" was signed by heads of state of China, Russia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, and Tajikistan in Moscow on 24 April 1997.

There is no longer a heaviness in the sky over the thousands of kilometers of northern border areas. When meeting each other on patrol, soldiers of the two countries exchange friendly greetings rather than the clicking of rifle bolts. The common words used in border talks and meetings have also changed. The very frequently used words, such as "protest" and "condemn," have given way to "notice" and "inform." Like its northern border areas, our country's southern border areas, which were bleak, desolate, and out-of-the-way in former days, have now presented a completely new scene of harmony, tranquillity, and prosperity everywhere.

Yunjing Village in Ruili City, Yunnan, which is located beside boundary marker No. 71 on the border between China and Burma, is closely linked with Mangxiu Village in Burma with row upon row of houses and bamboo forests.

Villager Han Yue worked a vegetable plot on the national border. Last year when the cucumber was doing well, the cucumber vines extended to the open ground of the Shuai Gen family in Mangxiu Village on the opposite side of the border. Every time he went to the plot, he pulled back the cucumber vines to his plot. Shuai Gen said to Han Yue: "If the cucumber vines are moved, young cucumbers will easily wither and turn yellow. Don't worry about that. After all, the ground is idle." Han Yue said in response: "Well, you can pick the cucumbers growing on your side then."

The brown rocks and white ice and snow on the snow-capped boundary line at an elevation of 4,700 meters in Naiduila, Tibet, form a sharp contrast.

The Chinese and Indian sentries, which are 26 meters apart, are erected on the two sides of wire entanglement. With grains of sand and snow, the wind blows across the sentries, sometimes from the Chinese side and sometimes from the other side. Every day, frontier guards of the two countries convey friendly expressions in their eyes to each other in a unique form, which are understandable to each other.

In winter, snow is dazzlingly bright. There are no books and newspaper for our young soldiers to read and no incoming letters for them to receive for a long time. However, the uninteresting and oxygen-deficient living conditions do not deprive them of their youthful vigor. In the snow-covered basketball court in front of the camp, they were playing basketball.

Wave upon wave of the sound of demolitions were heard from the slopes of the mountain behind Nahua Village in Longzhou County, Guangxi at 1430 on 28 November last year--in accordance with the State Council's and the Central Military Commission's directions, frontier troops stationed in Guangxi started the second minesweeping operations in the border areas of Guangxi.

In the first minesweeping operations, which were carried out in the border areas of Guangxi and Yunnan, an area of 108 square kilometers was cleared of mines. One million or so mines and other explosives were cleared; 19 frontier ports were opened to business; 160 or more thoroughfares were opened to traffic; and an area of more than 500,000 mu of land was returned to production of all types.

Although brilliant achievements were scored in the first minesweeping operations, the mines planted in the border areas have not yet been thoroughly cleared. The remaining mines were mostly planted in barren

hills, trackless forests, and open grounds. In the second minesweeping operations, two years will be spent in thoroughly clearing the mines in the border areas between China and Vietnam so as to eliminate the peril of mines from the border areas of the two countries.

Prior to this, the construction of frontier infrastructures, the largest scale construction ever launched since the founding of the People's Republic, has been carried out in a comprehensive way in nine frontier provinces and autonomous regions, including Liaoning, Jilin, Heilongjiang, Inner Mongolia, Gansu, Xinjiang, Tibet, Yunnan, and Guangxi. Approved by the State Council and the Central Military Commission, our country will carry out construction of frontier infrastructures, such as frontier patrol roads, frontier wire entanglements, frontier management supplementary marks, and frontier monitoring facilities, during the Ninth Five-Year Plan period.

A concerned person in charge said: The main purpose of building such-a-colossal-scale projects is to improve frontier patrol conditions, safeguard good order in border areas, and develop good-neighborly friendly relations with neighboring countries.

Building a peaceful, stable, and harmonious border line into a bridge and a tie linking neighboring countries is the dream cherished by generation after generation of frontier guards and people living in border areas. Today the dream is gradually coming true.

The National Frontier Defense Committee conducted a survey of frontier defense infrastructures in fiscal 1996 from July to November last year.

Results of the survey showed: The quality of most completed projects, such as the 1,500-km patrol roads, 500-km wire entanglements, and the 10,000-meter port railings, met and even exceeded the set standards.

Frontier infrastructures have brought about benefits in many ways.

They have helped not only enhance frontier guards' ability to manage and control the frontiers, but also promote the economic development of border areas and make the people's life there more convenient, thus having good influence inside and outside the borders. At border talks and meetings, representatives of frontier defense departments and border areas of many neighboring countries said: "These facilities have effectively standardized frontier and port management order. Building such projects indicates that your country is strong and your nation is prosperous."

"National strength, national prosperity, harmony, and tranquillity"

were present throughout China's thousands of miles of border areas in 1997 and its 9.6 million square kilometers of land.

Title: China: PRC Achieves Good Results in Cracking Down on Drugs

Document Number: FBIS-TDD-98-040

Document Date: 9 Feb 1998

Sourceline: OW0902045998 Hong Kong Zhongguo Tongxun She in Chinese 0735 GMT 6

Subslug: Feature by Zhongguo Tongxun She reporter Lin Ying: "China Has Achieved Results in Prohibiting Narcotic Drugs, But More Work Has to Be Done"

Hong Kong, 6 Feb (ZTS) -- China's relevant departments achieved the best results last year in combating narcotic drugs by carrying out special projects, initially creating an atmosphere of combating narcotics by all people. However, because drug traffickers are very crafty and often change their trafficking methods and channels, the task of cracking down on the

crime of drug trafficking and abuse is still very arduous this year.

According to preliminary statistics by the National Narcotic Control Commission, Chinese public securities organs in 1997 seized more than five tonnes of heroin, the largest amount seized in one year; in addition, they also seized 1.9 tonnes of opium, over 1 tonne of ice [bing du 0393 3021], and more than 350 tonnes of easy-to-make chemicals of various kinds used as narcotics. Meanwhile, procuratorial organs handled more than 10,000 drug-related criminal cases and arrested over 16,000 drug-making and -dealing suspects, and people's courts tried and wound up over 12,000 drug-related criminal cases. More than 180,000 drug addicts were compelled to receive treatment to give up drugs.

Drug-related crime, international terrorism, international organized crime, and international financial and economic crime are listed as four serious public nuisances in the world, and drug-related crimes is the worst of them. Statistics show that there are more than 200 million drug addicts in the world now, and over 200,000 people die from narcotics a year. In recent years, drug-related criminal activities have formed a complete system consisting of planting, processing, trafficking, and marketing, and the amount of drugs sold has increased year by year. The total volume of drug trafficking in the world was estimated at more than \$500 billion in 1997 alone, amounting to 13 percent of the world's total volume of trade, greater than the volume of petroleum trade, and next only to the volume of arms trade. Not a single country now is not threatened or harmed by drug-related criminal activities.

China had the good reputation of being "a drug-free country" for more than 30 years, but that was a period in which the country was closed to the outside world. Since China was opened to the outside world in the early 1980s, international drug-trafficking groups and drug traffickers have used the opening-up conditions along the country's borders to establish ties with the drug-producing "Golden Triangle" and to smuggle narcotic drugs from the triangle to international drug consumer markets through Yunnan and Guangxi borders. Meanwhile, lawbreakers in China rushed into danger to seek exorbitant profits by taking part in drug trafficking; they smuggled and sold narcotics to inland cities and rural areas of the country, thus reviving drug addiction in China. According to relevant statistics, China now has more than 530,000 registered drug addicts; however, when calculated according to the international practice of compiling statistics regarding drug addicts, China now should have at least 2 million drug addicts.

According to estimates by the United Nations Narcotic Control Organization, the "Golden Triangle" now produces about 2,500 to 3,000 tonnes of opium a year. Such drug is usually smuggled by international drug trafficking groups in an organized way to narcotics markets in various parts of the world. The China-Burma border is one of the routes along which international drug- trafficking groups smuggle opium.

Drug-trafficking activities in areas along the China-Burma border abated several years ago after investigating and cracking down on them, but such activities have increased since last year. To evade investigation and arrest, drug traffickers continue to change their trafficking means and routes and use such usual international means as hiding narcotics in human bodies and diverting drugs and traffickers; such means have become a common occurrence in China in recent years, and drug traffickers are moving in the direction of being organized and possessing weapons; moreover, drug traffickers at home and abroad have colluded with one another, forming a professional drug trafficking network in which production, supply, and marketing are made a coordinated process. They contact one another with modern communication equipment, use special vehicles for drug transport

under armed escort, and resist instigation and arrest with violence. This has increased the difficulty of cracking down on drug-trafficking activities by Chinese public security organs.

In the face of the grim situation in which narcotics are being extensively smuggled into China from the "Golden Triangle," the country's customs and public security organs are carrying out special projects to crack down on drug trafficking; while continuing to step up the crackdown on border drug trafficking, they have also strengthened their supervision and management of easy-to-make chemicals whose export is restricted. For instance, Yunnan customs and public security organs seized more than three tonnes of heroin and opium last year, and the amount of narcotics seized by them accounted for about 50 percent of the country's total. Customs and public security organs in Guangxi, Guangdong, and in Lhasa and Urumqi in the west of the country also seized large amounts of narcotics and easy-to-make chemicals used as drugs, thus effectively cracking down on various drug-related criminal activities.

[Description of source: Hong Kong Zhongguo Tongxun She in Chinese -- a PRC-owned press agency ("China News Agency")]

No 3 Bo Aung Kyaw Wharf boosts container handling capacity of Yangon Port

YANGON, 11 Feb - No 3 Bo Aung Kyaw Wharf of Myanma Port Authority was launched this morning at the facility hailing the 51st Anniversary Union Day.

Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Khin Nyunt attended and unveiled the plaque.

Speaking on the occasion, Minister for Transport Lt-Gen Tin Ngwe said although No 1 and No 2 Bo Aung Kyaw Wharfs were upgraded from conventional bridges to container bridges in 1990, containers are being handled with cranes on board the ships as these two facilities cannot withstand the installation of modern container carriers.

The No 3 Bo Aung Kyaw Wharf, a modern container bridge, was built under the agreement reached between MPA and Yunnan Machinery and Equipment Import and Export Corporation (YMEC) of People's Republic of China on 21 May 1996, he said.

A modern crane of the No 3 wharf can handle 18 containers per hour and another crane has the capacity to move eight containers per hour, he said, adding conventional wharfs can handle at the rate of only six units per hour.

Opening of this wharf plus four gantry cranes under operation will speed up freight handling work at Yangon Port, he noted.

The wharf with 40-ton capacity cranes can be moored by ships up to 15,000 tons and 30-foot draught, he said.

Foreign technology and investment have been invited in upgrading Yangon Port and building Thilawa Port, he stated.

He thanked the main contractor YMEC, designer The Ninth Design and Research Institute, wharf builder China Harbor Engineering Co (CHEC) and machinery supplier Shanghai Port Machinery Plant (SPMP) and MPA for their efforts.

President of YMEC Mr Lin Zai Yau also spoke.

Lt-Gen Tin Ngwe and Mr Lin formally opened the wharf. ("The New Light of Myanmar" (Internet version) 98-02-12)

INFORMATION SHEET NO.A-0316(I)
12th February 1998

Myanma Electric Power Enterprise, Yunnan Machinery and Import and Export Sign \$ 250m MoU for Implementation of Paunglaung Hydropower Project

Memorandum of Understanding for implementation of Paunglaung Hydropower Project involving a loan of US \$ 250 million was signed between Myanma Electric Power Enterprise and Yunnan Machinery and Equipment Import and Export Corporation (YMEC) at MEPE Head Office on 12 February. Paunglaung Hydropower Project is situated near Pyinmana in Mandalay Division. It has an installed capacity of 280 MW and will annually generate over 900 million Kwh which will be distributed through the national grid. The project will jointly be implemented by Myanma Electric Power Enterprise and Irrigation Department of the Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation.

DATELINE: BANGKOK, Feb 13

Myanmar and China have signed a 250 million dollar loan deal under which Beijing will provide funds for a badly-needed hydroelectric plant for the military-run state, the media said Friday.

The two sides Thursday signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) to help launch the Paunglaung Hydropower Project near the city of Mandalay in the centre of the country, the official New Light of Myanmar said.

The project, near the town of Pyinmana, will have an installed capacity of 280 megawatts and will annually generate over 900 kilowatts of electricity to be distributed through the national grid.

The deal was signed between the scheme's operator, Myanmar Electric Power Enterprise and the Yunnan Machinery and Equipment Import and Export Corp. Power Minister major General Tin Htut said talks for the scheme had been underway for months and the signing constituted an "important milestone" for the implementation of the scheme.

A shortage of power to help industrialise the nation is one of the key problems afflicting Myanmar's (Burma's) troubled economy. Foreign investors from the west are reticent about investing in Myanmar amid bad publicity over the junta's human rights record.

MEPE, YMEC sign \$ 250m MoU for implementation of Paunglaung Hydropower Project

YANGON, 12 Feb - Memorandum of Understanding for implementation of Paunglaung Hydropower Project involving a loan of US \$ 250 million was signed between Myanmar Electric Power Enterprise and Yunnan Machinery and Equipment Import and Export Corporation (YMEC) at MEPE Head Office this morning.

The MoU signing ceremony was attended by Attorney-General U Tha Tun, Minister for Finance and Revenue U Khin Maung Thein, Minister for National Planning and Economic Development U Soe Tha, Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation Maj-Gen Nyunt Tin, Minister for Electric Power Maj-Gen Tin Htut, counsellors and officials of Chinese Embassy, crew of Yunnan TV and correspondents of Yunnan Daily, and officials from MEPE and Irrigation Department.

Speaking on the occasion, Minister Maj-Gen Tin Htut mentioned that the discussion for that project has been going on for long time and that day's signing was an important milestone for the implementation of that project which is of great importance for the economic development of the country.

This cooperation between YMEC and MEPE will strengthen friendly relationship between the two countries.

MEPE, Managing Director U Zaw Win and Mr Lin Zai You, President of YMEC also made speeches.

After signing the MoU, U Zaw Win and Mr Lin Zai You exchanged documents.

Paunglaung Hydropower Project is situated near Pyinmana in Mandalay Division.

It has an installed capacity of 280 MW and will annually generate over 900 million Kwh which will be distributed through the national grid.

The project will jointly be implemented by Myanmar Electric Power Enterprise and Irrigation Department of the Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation.
NLM-WS 98-02-13

Title: China: Yunnan, Burmese State Fight Poppy Production Together

Document Number: FBIS-TDD-98-050

Document Date: 19 Feb 1998

Sourceline: OW1902114598 Beijing Xinhua Hong Kong Service in Chinese 0817 GMT 16 Feb 98

Subslug: By reporter Jiang Zhengang

Kunming, 16 February (XHK) -- After seven years of hard work, the Fourth Special Region [FSR] in eastern Shan State, Burma, has succeeded in completely banning the growing of poppies since late last year as result of a green anti-drug project the FSR launched with Xizhuangbanna Prefecture in China's Yunnan Province to replace poppy production with grain and economic crops.

The FSR in Shan, a Burmese state adjacent to Xishuangbanna Prefecture's Menghai County, is located in the Golden Triangle and was one of the areas that produced opium and other narcotics with its main crop, poppies. In May 1991, the FSR set up a Special Regional Anti-Drug

Committee to take charge of the "Six-Year Anti-Drug Project" it promulgated.

To help Burmese poppy growers solve their living problems after poppy growing was banned, the Chinese side, from 1991 through 1997, helped the FSR develop more than 40,000 mu of hybrid grain (15 mu equal to 1 hectare) with seeds and technical expertise the Chinese side provided. The average per-mu output of the hybrid grain has exceeded 400 kilograms, topping the local traditional variety by 300 kilograms. At the same time, the Chinese side also helped the FSR grow economic crops such as sugarcane, tea leaves, watermelons, rubber, and soy beans.

The Xishuangbanna Public Security Bureau and the FSR have verified that the anti-drug project has reached its first-phase target. To consolidate the achievements and completely eradicate the source of narcotics, the two sides recently decided to proceed with the second-phase cooperation, which will focus on developing sugarcane, fruits, flowers, sunflower seeds, and tea leaves as well as providing training in agricultural science and technology.

[Description of source: Beijing Xinhua Hong Kong Service in Chinese -- China's official news service to Hong Kong (New China News Agency)]

Title: China: Chinese Improvements Allow 24-Hour Traffic Along Mekong

Document Number: FBIS-CHI-98-040

Sourceline: OW0902132098 Beijing Xinhua in English 1303 GMT 09 Feb 98

Kunming, February 9 (XINHUA) -- China is now offering day and night boat services along the upper reaches of the Mekong River, increasing trade considerably with nearby countries.

The 4,880-km-long river runs through China, Myanmar [Burma], Laos, Thailand, Cambodia, and Vietnam. The 2,130-km section upstream in China is known as the Lancang River.

A fleet of freighters belonging to the China Southwest Water Transport Development Group operates on 361 km on the upper reaches, between Burma, Laos, and Thailand, but there are more than 100 rapids, and night travel was not possible in the past.

But, the group had decided to provide 24-hour service as trade with Southeast Asian countries has been increasing rapidly. It has put more than 100 navigation markers on the river, and is equipping its ships with advanced navigation equipment.

It now takes 20 hours to go from Guanlei in Yunnan Province to Thailand, half a day less than it took before. As a result, more than 30 ships are in the harbor daily, moving metals, machinery, and daily necessities from China, and seafood, minerals, and timber from countries along the lower reaches of the river.

[Description of source: Beijing Xinhua in English -- China's official news service for English-language audiences (New China News Agency)]

No 3 Bo Aung Kyaw Wharf boosts container handling capacity of Yangon Port

YANGON, 11 Feb - No 3 Bo Aung Kyaw Wharf of Myanma Port Authority was launched this morning at the facility hailing the 51st Anniversary Union

Day.

Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Khin Nyunt attended and unveiled the plaque.

Speaking on the occasion, Minister for Transport Lt-Gen Tin Ngwe said although No 1 and No 2 Bo Aung Kyaw Wharfs were upgraded from conventional bridges to container bridges in 1990, containers are being handled with cranes on board the ships as these two facilities cannot withstand the installation of modern container carriers.

The No 3 Bo Aung Kyaw Wharf, a modern container bridge, was built under the agreement reached between MPA and Yunnan Machinery and Equipment Import and Export Corporation (YMEC) of People's Republic of China on 21 May 1996, he said.

A modern crane of the No 3 wharf can handle 18 containers per hour and another crane has the capacity to move eight containers per hour, he said, adding conventional wharfs can handle at the rate of only six units per hour.

Opening of this wharf plus four gantry cranes under operation will speed up freight handling work at Yangon Port, he noted.

The wharf with 40-ton capacity cranes can be moored by ships up to 15,000 tons and 30-foot draught, he said.

Foreign technology and investment have been invited in upgrading Yangon Port and building Thilawa Port, he stated.

He thanked the main contractor YMEC, designer The Ninth Design and Research Institute, wharf builder China Harbor Engineering Co (CHEC) and machinery supplier Shanghai Port Machinery Plant (SPMP) and MPA for their efforts.

Title: China: 'Roundup': Burma Strives To Develop Border Areas

Document Number: FBIS-CHI-98-054

Sourceline: OW2302090498 Beijing Xinhua in English 0728 GMT 23 Feb 98

Yangon, February 23 (XINHUA) -- In recent years, the Myanmar [Burma] government has been taking various measures to promote economic development and social progress in its border areas, where ethnic minorities are benefiting greatly.

In the 19 border regions including Kachin, Kokang, Wa, Kengtung, Shan, Kayah, Kayin, Mon, Rakhine and Chin, the government has been focusing its efforts towards community development, integrated and rural development, poppy plantation eradication and poppy substitute crop plantation.

The official New Light of Myanmar newspaper quoted a senior official as saying that the implementation of development projects during the period between 1989 and 1993 were encouraging, but after that it began slowing down for some time.

Work has been picking up in recent years. The government hopes to expedite the development of border areas, improvement in the living standards of ethnic minorities living there and eradication of narcotic

drugs.

After the first four years of project implementation, the government laid down an 11-year master plan for the development of its border areas beginning in 1993, including the first short-term three-year plan (1993-94 to 1995-96), the first medium-term four-year plan (1996-97 to 1999-2000) and the second medium-term four-year plan (2000-01 to 2003-04).

The government has spent billions of Myanmar kyats (one U.S. dollar equals about six kyats) in the past nine years on infrastructure projects, including the building of roads, bridges, dams, schools, hospitals, hydropower stations and telecommunications systems, according to official sources.

According to a recent work review of the country's Work Committee for Development of Border Areas and National Races, 50 percent of the border development-related projects have been completed.

Myanmar has been cooperating with United Nations agencies in this regard and seven projects have been or are being implemented with the involvement of the United Nations Development Program (UNDP) and the United Nations Drug Control Program (UNDCP).

The development of border areas has received a great boost since the government made peace with various anti-government armed groups.

Almost all the anti-government armed groups, including 15 ethnic rebel groups and the Khun-Sa-led drug trafficking Mong Tai Army which had controlled several border areas, have made peace with the government, and they are reportedly getting involved in the development of border areas in cooperation with the government.

An example is in the Mongla region in eastern Shan state which became an opium-free zone in 1996. The government is striving to create more opium-free zones including Kokang, Wa and Monkoe.

Myanmar has also been cooperating with neighboring countries like Bangladesh, China, India, Laos, Thailand and Vietnam in fighting drug trafficking in common border areas under bilateral or multilateral agreements.

[Title: Burma: Economic Collapse 'Almost Unnoticed']

Document Number: FBIS-EAS-98-056

Document Date: 25 Feb 1998

Sourceline: OW2502101598 Bangkok The Nation in English 25 Feb 98 p A5

Subslug: Article by Gerald Roberts: "Trouble Ahead for Burma"

While most international attention has been concentrated on the economic crisis in Thailand, Indonesia and Korea, the economic collapse in Burma has gone almost unnoticed.

This is partly because Burma has a relatively small amount of foreign debt estimated by the World Bank to be US\$5.2 billion - and so its problems would appear to have little effect on other countries.

However, the dramatic devaluation of the Burmese kyat has meant that Burma can now only purchase a fraction of the foreign goods it once did.

This has not only meant reduced exports for other Asean economies but is now also damaging China's trade in Southeast Asia as well.

On Jan 10, Chinese-Burmese trade relations hit a new low when the Burmese military junta banned all trade in "nonessential" goods with China. During the early 1990s, Burma enjoyed a mini-economic boom. Its bubble economy was financed primarily from overseas investment in such sectors as

energy and tourism.

This influx of new investment was mainly the result of the ruling junta's new open-market economy system in Burma. Hundreds of millions of dollars poured into projects such as the Yadana gas pipeline and various hotels and shopping centres in Rangoon.

In addition, the junta also relaxed restrictions on foreign trade, which resulted in a huge influx of foreign imports. Burma became quickly dependent on such goods as Malaysian cooking oil and Chinese farm machinery and tools.

Foreign investors soon found out, however, that little had changed in Burma despite the proclamations of the junta. First, the market was really only open to those Burmese who had connections to the military and this severely restricted the overall economic growth of the country. Second, all types of business had to pay unofficial "fees" to various members of the Burmese junta.

"When Singaporean investors wanted to set up a new airline in Burma, they had to pay US\$5 million to Gen Thein Win [Air Force] to get him to sign the agreement," says a Rangoon businessman who wished to remain anonymous.

"Also, to export rice, traders had to pay \$10 per tonne to Lt Gen Myint Aung [of the Agriculture Ministry] in order to get an export permit". Moreover, political instability also adversely affected foreign investment projects, especially in the tourism sector. The junta's 1996 "Visit Myanmar Year" was by all accounts a disaster, with only about 100,000 tourists visiting Burma when one million had been predicted. The result has been that many of the larger hotels have had to slash staffing levels by over 50 per cent.

Spending Spree [Subhead]

By 1996, all these factors plus the international economic sanctions had brought new investment to a trickle. Burma's bubble economy finally burst, together with that of many other Asean countries, with the currency crisis in mid-1997.

Burma was hit especially hard, however, because of its heavy reliance on imported goods and its resulting huge trade deficit.

Also, because of Burma's spending spree on foreign goods, it had virtually no foreign currency reserves with which to protect its own currency.

According to the World Bank, Burma had less than \$156 million in foreign reserves in June 1997.

When the kyat began to fall last July, the junta reacted immediately by arresting anyone caught buying or selling US dollars on the black market.

By eliminating any trade in the dollar, the junta was hoping to hold the exchange rate to 150 kyat against the dollar from its previous value of about 100 kyat.

However, in September the kyat slipped again to about 250, and by December it had sunk to 400. Again, the junta began arresting black market buyers, including Thein Htun, owner of Myanmar Pepsi Co, who was sent to Insein prison.

Apparently, some members of the junta blamed Burma's currency crisis on the lax import policies of the then trade minister Gen Tun Gyi, which they believed had led to the huge trade deficit and the collapse of the kyat. As a result, import/export policy control was moved out of the trade ministry and placed under the control of a new import/export commission chaired by Gen Maung Aye in mid-1997.

One of the first actions of the new commission was to change the

system for granting import permits. Previously, importers could take foreign goods on loan and then repay later by bartering Burmese goods if possible.

The new system required importers to pay with foreign currency up front before being granted permission to import.

One result of this new system was the drastic reduction in the amount of foreign imports that required payment in dollars such as those from Malaysia and Singapore. It also led to an even greater demand for the US dollar on the black market.

At the same time as the demands for US dollars was increasing, its supply was falling, not only because of the drop in foreign investment, but also because of the sharp decline of Burma's once major export - rice. Rice has been in short supply, mainly due to mismanagement and the export debacle of 1996.

The junta had estimated a total rice harvest of about 8 million tonnes for 1996 and so made contracts to export one million tonnes to mostly Asian countries such as Indonesia.

Unfortunately, the rice harvest estimate was based on false field reports from army commanders who were afraid to displease their superiors. The result was that the junta was several hundred thousand tonnes short and had to dip heavily into rice stocks reserved for civil servants in order to meet the contract.

"Normally, the price of rice does not start to rise until June or July," said one Burmese trader, "but because there was less rice last year, rice prices were already increasing in January, and they still have yet to come down."

In order to prevent massive rice shortages, the junta is now restricting rice shipments outside of the districts in all divisions and states of Burma.

Chinese Trade Fell [Subhead]

According to several Rangoon-based businessmen, the junta was hoping that the effect of the Southeast Asian currency crisis would bypass Burma, as most of its trade was with China and involved Chinese yuan, not the US dollar.

But the value of the kyat has also fallen dramatically against the yuan. The exchange rate had been about 20 kyat per yuan for several years, but in August 1997, the kyat fell to 25 and by December it stood at 43 kyat per yuan. Not surprisingly, trade between Burma and its largest trading partner has tumbled. Although current Burma-China trade figures are not yet available, one need look no further than the main Burma-China trading gate at Muse/Ruili in China's Yunnan province to comprehend the enormous change which has taken place over the last six months.

"Before July last year, there used to be at least 200 trucks full of Chinese goods crossing this border every day," lamented a Muse-based trader. "This year there are only 30 to 40. Now all the restaurants and hotels in Muse are nearly empty."

The same trader said the economy on the Chinese side has also been hit.

"There used to be at least 2,000 Burmese living in Ruili working in restaurants, selling jade or as working as prostitutes. Now there are less than 700 left because of fewer jobs and so little money being spent by the Chinese."

Most of Burma's trade with China involves exports of agricultural products and fish products and imports of agricultural machinery, tools and electrical goods. According to a Burmese machinery importer interviewed in Ruili, trade began to decline when the kyat fell in August 1997.

"Most Burmese traders get paid in kyat for their exports and have to pay in yuan for imports. The demand for Chinese goods is still there, but

we just cannot afford to buy the same amount any more."

Counterfeit Money [subhead]

Another problem which may be affecting the value of the kyat is the amount of counterfeit Burmese currency in the area. Most of the counterfeit currency is made in China, and a 500-kyat note can be purchased for as little as five yuan, less than half the price for the real Burmese currency.

"The fake kyat is no problem because the quality is so good you can hardly notice. Anyway, when we make deals, we just count the bundles of kyat because we do not have time to count every note," said an Indian-Burmese trader based in Muse.

In any case, Burmese authorities appear to be taking the problem seriously. In October 1997, they arrested a Chinese businessman in Muse attempting to pass off over 1.5 million counterfeit kyat as real currency. Burmese traders in Muse said most of the counterfeit money is sent to mining areas deep inside Burma to be used for purchasing gems and jade. The latest blow to Chinese-Burmese trade was the implementation of the junta's trade ban in January. This order banned all imports and exports at Burmese-Chinese trading gates for 26 "non-essential" goods including rice, sugar, metal, jade, teak, fruit and petrol. Businessmen based in Ruili see the ban as an attempt by the junta to shore up the value of the kyat. It is believed that if Chinese imports can be substantially reduced, the trade deficit with China can be balanced, which will lead to lower demand for yuan and thus a higher value for the kyat.

The Chinese trade ban also appears to be aimed at restricting illegal exports and shifting legal exports through trade centres in Mandalay and Rangoon. This would improve tax collection on exports and increase export prices by allowing competitive bidding by foreign businessman.

Previously, many of the exports of jade and teak were shipped through areas controlled by ethnic ceasefire groups who do not pay export tax to the junta. In addition, exports to China are usually not open to competitive bidding, which allows Chinese businesses to buy Burmese products cheaply and simply re-export them for higher profits to overseas markets. The theory may be sound, but according to those in the field, implementation is another story.

"I think this ban is only temporary," said one Mandalay-based trader.

"The Burmese economy cannot survive very long without these Chinese goods. Anyway, I do not think that China will allow it to continue much longer. It is not only about selling Chinese goods in Burma, but more importantly Burma is the main transit point for Chinese goods going to Thailand, Bangladesh and India. This ban is really hurting the Chinese."

Although other countries in Southeast Asia also face severe economic difficulties, the difference in Burma is that there is still a civil war, and the junta has yet to solve the political stalemate with the opposition National League for Democracy (NLD).

Many analysts predict that as long as this political situation remains, it seems unlikely Burma can carry out the sweeping economic reforms necessary to stabilise its economy.

The priority for political reform in Burma was emphasised by an event that took place just after the currency crisis began last July. At that point, the Burmese junta had done everything it could to stop the fall of the kyat, but it was to no avail.

However, on the day when the junta announced it had held a secret meeting with some leaders of the NLD, against all economic trends and expectations the value of the kyat rose against both the dollar and the yuan.

[Description of Source: The Nation--daily newspaper widely read by the Thai elite]

Title: Burma: Burma, PRC, UNDCP Hold Drug Meeting

Document Number: FBIS-TDD-98-058

Document Date: 27 Feb 1998

Rangoon TV Myanmar Network in Burmese 1330 GMT 26 Feb 98

AFS Number: BK2702094298

The fourth cross border meeting of law enforcement officers of Myanmar [Burma], China, and UNDCP was held at Mongla Hotel reception hall in Mongla, Eastern Shan State Special Region-4, on 23 February.

Present at the meeting were Police Maj. Gen. Hla Tun, member of the Central Committee for Drug Abuse Control, chairman of Anti-Drug Squad, and Deputy Director General of Myanmar Police Force, and responsible personnel; six representatives led by U Kyee Myint of Mongla Special Region-4, General Secretary Mr Sun Da Hong of Yunnan Province Drug Control Commission of the People's Republic of China, Mr. (Wan Qing Riao), Director of National Narcotics Control Commission Office; and 18 delegates from Xishuangbanna, Weishan, Lijian, and (Licang) provinces of the PRC, and Mr. Richard Dickens, senior law enforcement officer from UNDCP regional Office in Bangkok.

They discussed the bilateral anti-drug campaign, the destruction of opium plantations and opium refineries at the border, the seizures of precursor chemicals, opium, heroin, stimulant tablets, and ephedrine powder; the declaration of an Opium Free Zone, cooperation at grassroots level, measures to be taken against those who have committed cross border crimes; the cultivation of opium substitute crops, and assistance for economic and regional development.

The Chinese and UNDCP delegates visited the opium free commemorative museum in Mongla, and witnessed the cultivation of opium substitute crops such as sugarcane, paddy, melon, and rubber, and saw the construction of a sugar mill.

The UNDCP and national leader U Sai Lin of Mongla Special Region-4 and party hosted lunch and dinner respectively in honor of the Chinese delegates.

[Description of Source: TV Myanmar Network--government-run television]

Fourth cross border meeting of law enforcement officers of Myanmar, China and UNDCP held

YANGON, 26 Feb - The fourth cross border meeting of law enforcement officers of Myanmar, China and UNDCP was held at Mongla in Special Region-4, eastern Shan State, on 23 February.

Present were members of Committee for Central Drug Abuse Control and Chairman of Anti-Drug Squad Deputy Director-General of Myanmar Police Force Police Maj-Gen Hla Tun, Shan State East Additional Police Commander Police Col Saw Say Wa Nyunt, members of anti-drug squads of Kachin and Shan States (East and North) and military officers, General Secretary Mr Sun Da Hong of Yunnan Province Drug Control Commission of the People's Republic of China, Director of National Narcotics Control Commission Office, 18 delegates from

four provinces of PRC and law enforcement officer Mr Richard Dickens.

Six representatives led by U Kyee Myint of Mongla Special Region 4 attended the meeting as observers.

They discussed anti-drug campaign, destruction of opium plantations and opium refinery, seizures of precursor chemicals, opium, heroin, stimulant tablets, Ephedrine powder, declaration of Opium Free Zone, cooperation at grassroots level, taking action against those who committed crime, cultivation of opium-substitute crops and assistance for economic and regional development.

The Chinese and UNDCP delegates visited opium free commemorative museum in Mongla, cultivation of opium-substitute crops and construction of sugar mill. UNDCP and national leader U Sai Lin of Mongla Special Region-4 and party hosted lunch and dinner in honour of the Chinese delegates. "The New Light of Myanmar" (Internet version) 98-02-27

Diplomats arrive back after visiting northern Shan State

YANGON, 27 Feb - Heads of foreign missions and UN agencies in Yangon and their wives led by Dean of Diplomats Ambassador of Lao People's Democratic Republic Mr Ly Bounkham arrived back here this afternoon by special Tatmadaw flight after paying a visit to Lashio, Kutkai, Muse, Kyukok and Namkham in northern Shan State. They left here by special Tatmadaw aircraft for Lashio on 24 February morning.

On behalf of the commander, Deputy Commander of North-East Command Brig-Gen San Thein, military and civilian officials and local people welcomed them there.

Brig-Gen San Thein extended greetings to the diplomats at the hall of North-East Command and explained to them situation and development of the region and drug eradication tasks being carried out in the region.

The diplomats viewed photos on regional development tasks, opium substitute crop plantations, drug seizures and destroying seized drugs and opium plantations being displayed in the hall.

In the afternoon, they visited Mansu Pagoda and Kwanyinsi Chinese Communal Temple and rested at the hot spring resort there.

In the evening, Chairman of Shan State (North) Peace and Development Council Commander of North-East Command Brig-Gen Thiha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo and wife Daw Khin Saw Myint hosted dinner in their honour at Shweli Guest House of the command.

On 25 February morning, they left Lashio for Kutkai by car.

At the Lwesansit Guest House there, Commander of No 1 Base Tactical Operations Command Col Soe Yi and officials welcomed them.

Chairman of OSS (101) of US war veterans Mr Peter K Lutken Jr explained to them plans being implemented for eradication of drugs and cultivation of

opium substitute crops in Kutkai and Namtu in cooperation with local people.

The diplomats went to Muse by car and then proceeded to the Border Post between Myanmar and China.

On arrival at the border post, they were welcomed by Mayor of Shweli of the People's Republic of China Mr Si Li Jang, Chinese officials and local people.

They studied Kyaikhaung Economic Zone of Shweli from the bridge across Shweli River.

Mr Lee Kyin Suo, Secretary of District Party, explained to them Shweli Kyaikhaung Economic Zone at Kaitong International Hotel in Shweli, Yunnan Province.

Mayor Si Li Jang then hosted lunch in their honour.

The diplomats then visited Shweli Market and left there.

In the evening, they arrived in Kyukok (Pansaing) where they were welcomed by Chairman of Muse District Peace and Development Council Lt-Col Maung Maung Gyi and officials and local people.

On 26 February morning, the diplomats left there for Wantang by car.

At the border bridge Wantang, Mayor of Wantang Mr Mon Bi Kuang and officials welcomed the diplomats and took them to Van Du Entertainment Village.

The diplomats arrived back in Muse later in the morning. Township authorities explained to them development tasks for Muse District and border trade in the town hall.

The diplomats then viewed documentary photos on drug eradication tasks of Muse District in the town hall.

They then visited Santhida Resort and the national races village in Namkham.

The diplomats studied the village and bought regional products there.

They arrived back Lashio in the evening.

This morning, the diplomats went shopping at Myoma Market and left Lashio by special Tatmadaw flight.

Deputy Commander Brig-Gen San Thein, officials and local people saw off them at the Lashio Airport.

They arrived back here in the afternoon. (NLM 98-02-28 WS)

Deputy Minister of Agriculture of PRC arrives

YANGON, 27 Feb - A five-member Chinese delegation led by Deputy Minister of Agriculture of People's Republic of China Mr Zhou Youzhan arrived here by air at 6.42 pm today at the invitation of Ministry of Livestock and Breeding.

They were welcomed at Yangon International Airport by Director-General U Kyaw Lwin of Directorate of Livestock and Fisheries and officials. "The New Light of Myanmar" (Internet version) 98-02-28

MIC Chairman receives Chinese business delegation

YANGON, 11 Mar - Deputy Prime Minister Chairman of Myanmar Investment Commission Vice-Admiral Maung Maung Khin received Project Managing Director Mr An Xiaoyan and party of Shandong Agricultural Industry & Commerce Group Corporation of the People's Republic of China at his office at 4 pm today.

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

Thallawady-4 double-decker starts service on Chindwin River. "The New Light of Myanmar" (Internet version) 98-03-12

YANGON, 21 Mar - Thallawady-4 shallow draught double-decker started her maiden voyage on the Chindwin River this morning hailing the 53rd Anniversary Armed Forces Day.

An inauguration ceremony to mark the start of her voyage was held in Monywa, Sagaing Division.

It was attended by Chairman of Sagaing Division Peace and Development Council Commander of North-West Command Brig-Gen Soe Win, Deputy Minister for Transport Brig-Gen Kyaw Myint, local authorities, departmental officials, USDA members of Monywa District and local people.

Speaking on the occasion, Brig-Gen Soe Win said Chindwin River plays a vital role in transport sector of Sagaing Division, Chin State and Naga hill region and people living along the river between Hkamti and Monywa rely on river transport.

Rice, edible oil, foodstuff and personal goods required for townships upstream are being carried by Inland Water Transport boats, he said. He thanked the Ministry of Transport on behalf of the local people for building of new modern double-deckers for the transport of the region.

Deputy Minister for Transport Brig-Gen Kyaw Myint also said the ministry signed an agreement with Yunnan Machinery Export and Import Corporation of the People's Republic of China to import and locally build new ships.

Six shallow draught type double-deckers including the present Thallawady-4 are included in the ships to be built and imported under the agreement, and Thallawady-1, Thallawady-2 and Thallawady-3 are now in service.

Two double-deckers - Thallawady-1 and Thallawady-2- were built in PRC and the remaining four at Myanma Shipyards (Hsinmalaik), he added.

The commander and officials then inspected the boat, 37.4 metres long and 8.5 metres wide.

With a draught of 1.2 metres, it can carry 250 passengers and 60 metric tons of cargo and will run on Monywa-Homalin route. (NLM 98-03-22 WS)

Thallawady-5 double-decker launched

YANGON, 26 Mar - The 37-metre shallow draught type Thallawady-5 double-decker of Yunnan Machinery Import and Export Corporation was launched at Myanma Shipyards (Hsinmalaik) in Kamayut Township this morning.

It was built at the shipyard.

The ceremony to launch the ship was attended by Deputy Minister for Transport Brig-Gen Kyaw Myint, Deputy Minister for Labour U Kyaw Aye and heads of departments.

The ship worth US \$ 1,451,700 can cruise at 10 nautical miles per hour carrying 267 including 17 crew and 20 first-class passengers and 30 tons of cargo. NLM-WS 98-03-27

Title: China: Dalian Locomotive Plant Increases Exports to Burma

Document Number: FBIS-CHI-98-093

Document Date: 3 Apr 1998

Sourceline: OW0304095398 Beijing Xinhua in English 0855 GMT 03 Apr 98

Dalian, April 3 (Xinhua) -- The Dalian Locomotive Plant, China's largest diesel locomotive producer, recently exported 10 2,000-horsepower diesel locomotives to Myanmar [Burma].

The plant has sold 22 such locomotives to Myanmar and has won the trust of Burmese customers.

The plant has exported its products to six countries. Last year, it earned 30 million US dollars by exporting 26 locomotives. The plant expects to export as many as 40 locomotives in 1998.

The plant produces half of the nation's annual production of locomotives.

[Description of source: Beijing Xinhua in English -- China's official news service for English-language audiences (New China News Agency)]

Title: Burma: New Tollway Enhances Trading Route to China

Document Number: FBIS-EAS-98-097

Sourceline: BK0704074998 (Internet) BurmaNet News Listserv in English 7 Apr 98

Subslug: From the unattributed "Information Sheet No. A-0378 (I)"

issued on 6 Apr; place not given

The 30-mile Lashio-Kontha section of Mandalay-Lashio-Muse Union Highway undertaken by Diamond Palace Co Ltd was commissioned on 5 April. Diamond Palace Co Ltd entered into a contract with Public Works on 22 July 1996 and the construction project began on 15 December 1996, and noted that inauguration of Lashio-Kontha section will contribute a great deal toward smooth and secure transport in northern Shan State. It was the first successful step of the local company Diamond Palace Co Ltd to be able to commission the section after the contract had been signed. Mandalay-Lashio-Muse Union Highway is a strategic road vital for transport between Myanmar and China and it can also be called Sino-Myanmar Golden Gate Highway. The Lashio-Muse section undertaken by Asia World Co Ltd was put into service on 9 September 1997 and completion of the Lashio-Kontha section will be added to greater progress of the transport sector. Shan State (North) is home to the nationalities such as Shan, Kachin, Palaung, Kokang and Wa, and the government is utilizing plenty of funds on border areas and national races development and the Union Highway will uplift the life and economy in border region. The virgin and fallow lands along the Union Highway can be reclaimed for cultivation and the four-pillar crops [paddy, cotton, sugarcane, and beans] can be grown so that the agriculture sector will be enhanced and the crops can be transported efficiently with the improvement of the road. [Description of Source: BurmaNet News--Internet Listserv providing coverage of Burmese events, particularly human rights and opposition activities]

Title: Burma: China Described as 'Friend in Need'

Document Number: FBIS-EAS-98-099

BK1004023398 Rangoon The New Light Of Myanmar in English 8 Apr 98 p 5
Subslug: Article by Sithu Nyein Aye: "Walking East While Looking North"

I, Maung Nyein Aye, could not forget the guidance laid down by Malaysian Prime Minister Dr Mahathir, who built Malaysia into the most promising "Tiger" of South-East Asia, as soon as he took office. The guidance is "Look East".

The guidance "Look East" laid down by Dr Mahathir implies Japan which at that time was top of the list of industrialized nations, and South Korea which was gathering momentum.

New Economic Policy of Malaysia, built on the guidance of Dr Mahathir, could practically encourage industrial development. For the materialization of the New Economic Policy, Industrial Master Plan (IMP) was drawn and executed nationwide.

Economic condition of Malaysia which surged in a decade ago accounted for the fact of whether the guidance "Look East" was successful or not.

The Gross Domestic Product of Malaysia is 208 billion US dollars, following GDP 230 billion dollars of Saudi Arabia which is the most oil producing country in the world. There is not much difference in population between these two countries.

The GDP of Singapore, the population of which is much less than that of Malaysia, is only 75 billion dollars. Moreover, per capita income of Singapore is more than that of Malaysia. The annual export value of

Malaysia amounts to 78.5 billion dollars.

Malaysia-made proton cars penetrated into European market.

As for Myanmar going through a transition to a new market-oriented economic system, some of the achievements, of Malaysia which are worthy of imitating, have to be imitated after making a careful assessment.

The fact I happened to take notice of at first is that there is a stance calling for "Don't imitate Western style" behind the new policy "Look East".

It is not strange Japan and Korea which then ranked first in business administration and diligence, are ideals to imitate for Malaysia.

I have learnt about how Japanese people work hard and strictly observe discipline since my childhood. I have also heard of the fact that even Japanese people are said to be lazy in the world and the country which works harder than Japan is Korea.

It is a correct stand that Malaysia didn't imitate Western style. So, Myanmar has to look east.

If we cast a glance at the north while looking east, the following will be found.

The Gross Domestic Product of the People's Republic of China is 3,945 billion dollars, which is feeding and caring for 1,239.5 million people equivalent to one-fifth of the present world population 5,900 million. Next to GDP 7,575 billion dollars of the US which ranks first in the world, it stands second. The GDP of Japan, which ranks third, stands at 2,940 billion dollars.

Foreign reserves is 141.3 billion dollars, which ranks second, whereas 220.1 billion dollars of Japan stands first.

In the export sector, the export value during the last year amounted to 182.7 billion dollars. Relatively speaking, this amount is less than half of export value 411 billion dollars of Japan. However, it is more than the export value of developing countries.

According to statistics released for 1997, during this year, export and import values totalled 325.1 billion dollars. The export value exceeded the import value by about 40.3 billion dollars. Such surplus was no mean feat. In a considerable number of countries, the import value exceeds the export value.

Of export value 182.7 billion dollars of the People's Republic of China, 59.3 billion dollars were gained from the export of industrial and electronic goods.

Foreign direct investment stood at 45.3 billion dollars.

Goods with "Made in China" markings can be found in every shopping mall around the world. Chinese made products such as shirts, stocking caps, gloves, socks, trousers, warm clothing, hand bags, shoes, jewellery, radios, cassettes and televisions can be seen at various places. Why do China achieve such a desirable success? Because of hard work, they are winning success. You can get nothing by staying idle.

As it has given priority on agriculture and sufficiency in food, the country could produce 492.5 million tons of cereals, 4.3 million tons of cotton, 53.45 million tons of meat and 35.61 tons of marine products.

The West had cornered our nation for many years, making restrictions for Myanmar to face starvation and troubles.

It has imposed economic sanctions, also applying various means to stop loans and aids from central monetary firms.

Myanmar have confronted and defied all these sanctions and restrictions, depending on its own land, water and human resources.

We will never forget such conspiracies to cause starvation and troubles in Myanmar and to lead toward internal stability. These are all

unforgettable acts. We feel bitterness whenever we think about internal ax-handles betraying their own nation.

China shows its goodwill toward Myanmar not only in words but in deeds, always ready to help Myanmar to stand firmly.

China has become the true friend of the Third World Countries, staying firm as the only permanent member of the United Nations Security Council, always defending the rights of developing nations at the UN.

Chinese leaders Zhou En-lai and Deng Xiaoping visited Myanmar many times and opened more ways to further cement the existing bilateral cordial relations. Leaders of Myanmar have also visited China and further developed the goodwill relations between the two.

Facilities such as Thanlyin Bridge, National Theatre and Thuwunna Youth Sports Training Centre are monuments of China-Myanmar friendly relations.

What kind of assistance did we get from the West during the last 30 years? We never got anything from them. The Dome on Pyaya Road and the Engineering College can be pointed as assistance of the West.

While the West has neglected our country bitterly, China has come out as a friend in need, proving itself the true friend of Myanmar.

Similarly, ASEAN friends showing understanding on Myanmar, repulsing all Western pressures, has fostered a brethren friendship with our nation.

As long as we have friends like these, we have no reason to be afraid of the West. We will retaliate the West's bitter ignorance on US.

The Eastern sun is rising higher and higher at the time the Western sun is setting under darkness.

Myanmar people will see the People's Republic of China which is always willing to see our betterment and which has metta and cetana [loving kindness and goodwill] on us when they look to the north while turning their back on the West and marching toward the East.

Similarly, we will see friends from the East warmly welcoming us with cordial smiles.

We Myanmar people should rally our strength and work hard in building a firmer and stronger nation. We will surely succeed one day.

Title: India: Fernandes: China Bigger Threat to India Than Pakistan

Document Number: FBIS-TAC-98-123

Document Date: 3 May 1998

Sourceline: BK0305111598 Hong Kong AFP in English 1035 GMT 3 May 98

Subslug: As of filing time, Indian sources monitored at Bangkok Bureau have not been observed to report the following]

[Report by Pratap Chakravarty

NEW DELHI, May 3 (AFP) -- Defence Minister George Fernandes said Sunday India faced a bigger threat from China than from Pakistan and added New Delhi would make nuclear weapons if the country ran out of options.

"China is potential threat number one," the defence minister told the private Home TV network.

"The potential threat from China is greater than that from Pakistan and any person who is concerned about India's security must agree with that fact," it quoted Fernandes as saying.

His statement came hard on the heels of the first-ever visit to India by a chief of the Chinese army, General Fu Quanyou.

India, which exploded a nuclear device in 1974, fought a brief but

bitter border war with China in 1962 which led to a 14-year diplomatic freeze.

India has also fought three wars with Pakistan since 1947.

Replying to questions about a supposed build-up of Chinese military around India, Fernandes said Beijing had deployed its nuclear missiles in Tibet.

"China has its nuclear weapons stockpiled in Tibet right along India's borders..."

Fernandes also said Chinese military airfields in Tibet had been extended in the last six months.

He said there was "a lot of naval activity" off the coast of Myanmar (Burma), including the construction of harbours on islands owned by Myanmar where Chinese ships could be berthed.

"And their (China's) senior officials have said that the Indian Ocean is not India's ocean. There is no doubt in my mind that China's fast-expanding navy, which will be the biggest in this part of the world, will be getting into the Indian Ocean fairly soon."

Fernandes, a firebrand socialist in India's new coalition government, also said China was training Myanmar's army and it had set up a "massive electronic surveillance establishment" on Myanmar's Coco Islands on the northern tip of India's Andaman and Nicobar islands.

"These are Burmese territory. China has taken them on loan. Already there is massive electronic surveillance establishment which the Chinese have installed and which is monitoring everything in India.

"There are moves to convert that into a major naval base which would be a direct threat to us," he said.

Sino-Indian tensions have eased following a series of high-level visits which began in 1988 but disputes over their border persists.

India says China still holds 40,000 square kilometres (16,000 square miles) of its territory at Aksai Chin in Kashmir. China lays claim to a swathe of Indian territory in the far eastern state of Arunachal Pradesh.

Fernandes, speaking about India's policy on China, said: "I think there is a reluctance to face the reality that China's intentions need to be questioned.

"This is where our country has made mistakes in the past. We made those mistakes in the early 1950s. We paid the price in the 1960s. And I think things have not changed."

Speaking on India's nuclear policy he said: "It is taking the inevitable next step. We have come to a point where we believe we need to make a review of the defence policy."

Fernandes, however, added India would build nuclear weapons only after a strategic review.

"If those threat perceptions are as one visualises them to be following the defence review, then you have no option," he said of India's claims of military threats from Pakistan and China.

"If the review leads us to a point where it becomes obvious it is time now to exercise the nuclear option, then we will exercise it."

India refuses to sign the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty or the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty, describing them as discriminatory between the nuclear haves and have-nots.

"When we took that position it was implied that we will have opportunities to exercise more than one option," the firebrand defence minister added.

Title: Thailand: China To Suppress Export of Chemicals for Drugs

Document Number: FBIS-TDD-98-125

Sourceline: BK0505074798 Bangkok Phuchatkan in Thai 4 May 98 p 6

Subslug: Report by Suphalak Kanchanakhundi from Kunming

China, which is a major supplier of chemicals used in the production of narcotics, has said it is ready to cooperate with the countries along the banks of the Mekong river to prevent the chemical which is the main ingredient of amphetamines from reaching Thailand.

Chen Lufan, head of a southeast asia study association and a narcotics specialist in Yunnan, said the Chinese administration has the policy of preventing chemicals which are the main ingredients for production of narcotics from spreading to neighboring countries along the Mekong river. Yunnan Province is in southwestern China and borders several countries on the banks of the Mekong, particularly the countries which are the world's main narcotics producers -- Laos and Burma. Because of ease of transport, narcotics producers usually order narcotics-producing chemicals from China.

Chen said: "We know that amphetamines are a big problem for Thai society and are aware that the chemical Ice [previous word rendered in English], which is the main ingredient in production of amphetamines, is manufactured in China and sent to Burma for production of amphetamines before the finished product is finally sent to Thailand. We are currently trying hard to prevent the chemical from being sent out of the country."

The chemical Ice is in crystal form and looks like ice, which is why most people call it Ice. The Chinese name of the chemical Ice is Mahuangsu, it is extracted from the grass which has the Chinese name of Mahuangcao, which grows in abundance in western China.

Mahuangcao has a medical property which is effective in treating cough and nasal discharge. The Chinese people knew of this grass for more than 1,000 years and cultivated it for its medical properties.

Tang Chialin, the narcotics specialist at the international study institute in Yunnan, said the Chinese authority enacted a law in 1996 to prohibit possession of Mahuangsu and violators of the law could be punishable by execution. He said: "The loophole in the law is that Mahuangcao is a non-poisonous herb, unlike opium which is poisonous in itself. The government cannot enact a law to prohibit cultivation of this grass. Unscrupulous gangs exploit this loophole to extract the chemical Ice from the grass.

Chen noted that the Chinese authorities often launched campaigns to arrest producers of the chemical Ice. The latest arrest was in Canton and involved a Taiwanese gang which extracted the chemical Ice for export. He said: "I told Thai narcotics officials many times that they must watch out for Taiwanese gangs because they have very good chemists who can extract narcotics from plants and produce narcotics from widely available chemicals."

Chen said China has an acute narcotics problem as well. The narcotics which is popular with consumers in China is heroin, whose production base is in Burma. The Chinese administration has tried hard with little success to seek Burma's cooperation to suppress and prevent heroin from entering China because most heroin producers in Burma are armed minority groups which are opposed to the Burmese government, such as the Wa and the Kokang.

[Description of Source: Phuchatkan--business-oriented daily newspaper]

Title: China: Burma Rejects Indian Comments on Sino-Burmese Ties

Document Number: FBIS-CHI-98-128

Sourceline: OW0805101998 Beijing Xinhua Domestic Service in Chinese 0751

GMT 6 May 98

Subslug: By reporter Zhang Yunfei

Rangoon, 6 May (Xinhua) -- Burmese official spokesman Ramin [name as transliterated] today refuted recent irresponsible comments on Sino-Burmese relations by Indian Defense Minister Fernandes.

Ramin said: "The Indian defense minister, without any basis whatsoever, claimed that China is using Burma's Coco Islands for strategic defense purposes. Burma expresses deep regret on this."

Ramin pointed out: Burma had firmly pursued a nonalignment policy throughout the entire Cold War period. Today Burma still pursues the policy of "being friendly with all countries but forming alignment with no countries."

Ramin said: "Fabricating such a fictitious story (by the Indian side) is to cater to the appetite of some people in the international and domestic communities and to find excuses to develop nuclear weapons and expand national defense forces."

[Description of source: Beijing Xinhua Domestic Service in Chinese -- China's official news service (New China News Agency)]

Title: India: Delhi Press: Chinese Said Working at 9 Burmese Bases

Document Number: FBIS-NES-98-131

Document Date: 11 May 1998

Sourceline: BK1105130498 Delhi The Pioneer in English 10 May 98 p 1

India has gathered crucial evidence of Chinese naval officials working on at least nine Myanmar naval bases and Chinese vessels visiting certain islands close to the Indian coastline to monitor signal communications. Senior Government officials said they have the specific number of PLA naval engineers and operation officers posted at the Myanmar naval bases. The discovery of this substantial Chinese military presence close to the Indian shore has come at a time when both the Chinese and Myanmar governments have flatly denied setting up a signal monitoring station at Coco Islands near the Andamans.

The new evidence of increased Chinese activity in Myanmar naval bases only strengthens India's suspicions about Beijing's intentions. Naval experts have cautioned that China might pose a long-term threat to India's maritime security.

Senior officials said the Chinese have been quietly building the pressure by sending vessels to intercept Indian signal communications. Two such vessels had visited Munaung, Yan Ria and other islands in October and December last and January this year Munaung island falls within the Danyawaddy naval regional command.

The latest sighting of Chinese vessels was in the north-west of Munaung in March this year.

Intelligence reports reveal the following new developments at some of the Myanmar naval bases:

a) Coco Islands: There are six naval engineers and operation officers

from the PLA Navy.

b) Halnggyi Islands: Four naval engineers and operation officers.

c) Kyakkame naval base: Five PLA Navy officers.

d) Margul Kyunsu naval base: Four PLA officers.

e) Tannlntharyi naval HQ: Seven naval officers.

d) Sittute naval base: Seven officers.

e) Zadet Gyi naval base: Two PLA officers.

f) Ayeyarvady Naval HQs: Seven PLA navy officers and engineers.

[Description of source: The Pioneer--Independent daily with a reputation for strong coverage of domestic issues and thoughtful editorial positions; owned by the Thapar Group]

Title: China: Yunnan Vice Governor Meets With Burmese Official

Document Number: FBIS-CHI-98-135

Sourceline: OW1505114098 Beijing Xinhua in English 1128 GMT 15 May 98

Rangoon, May 15 (Xinhua) -- Myanmar [Burma] Deputy Prime Minister and Chairman of the Foreign Investment Commission Vice-Admiral Maung Maung Khin Friday met visiting Vice-Governor of Yunnan Province of China Niu Shaoyao.

During the meeting, the two men expressed the hope to strengthen the bilateral trade and economic cooperation between the two countries.

Niu, at the head of an eleven-member provincial economic delegation, arrived here Wednesday at the invitation of Myanmar Deputy Commerce Minister Myo Tint.

The Yunnan delegation also held discussions Thursday with Myanmar officials on the promotion of the province's trade ties and economic cooperation with Myanmar.

Title: China: Asian Countries Sign Pact on Drug Cooperation

Document Number: FBIS-TDD-98-135

Sourceline: OW1505130798 Beijing Xinhua in English 1259 GMT 15 May 98

Hanoi, May 15 (Xinhua) -- Six Asian countries signed a series of agreements here on Friday designed to strengthen cooperation on drug control.

The agreements cover joint projects to reduce demands for drugs among high risk groups of abusers, improvement of drug abuse data collecting systems, and cross-border cooperation for reducing opium poppy cultivation.

The agreements were signed at the end of a two-day meeting of senior drug-control officials from Cambodia, China, Laos, Myanmar [Burma], Thailand and Vietnam who reviewed the drug control situation in the region.

During the meeting, participants discussed positions to be taken by the six countries at the United Nations General Assembly Special Session on Drugs scheduled to be held in New York from June 8 to 10, a press release said.

The meeting also discussed a global strategy for elimination of illegal crops by year 2008, the release added.

Title: China: Burma Leader Meets China's Yunnan Vice Governor

Document Number: FBIS-CHI-98-139

Sourceline: OW1905071398 Beijing Xinhua in English 0703 GMT 19 May 98

Yangon, May 19 (Xinhua) -- Myanmar [Burma] leader Lieutenant-General Khin Nyunt, first secretary of the State Peace and Development Council, Tuesday met with visiting Vice-Governor of China's Yunnan Province Niu Shaoyao and discussed with him trade and economic cooperation. The two sides expressed the hope that trade and economic cooperation between Myanmar and China's Yunnan will be further strengthened. Niu, who heads an 11-member Yunnan provincial economic delegation, arrived here last Wednesday at the invitation of Myanmar Deputy Commerce Minister Myo Tint. During the visit, the Yunnan delegation also held discussions with its Myanmar counterpart on the promotion of the province's trade ties and economic cooperation with the country.

Title: China: Yunnan Attempting To Eliminate Drug Sources

Document Number: FBIS-TDD-98-142

Document Date: 22 May 1998

Sourceline: OW2205093898 Beijing Xinhua in English 0918 GMT 22 May 98

Kunming, May 21 (Xinhua) -- The director of the Public Security Department in Yunnan Province, Jiang Pusheng, said the solution to drug problems in frontier areas in southwestern China lies in eliminating drug sources in the "Golden Triangle". Yunnan borders the "Golden Triangle", which is one of the world's major drug sources, and it has put a lot of effort into fighting drug trafficking and smuggling. From 1992 to 1997, it dealt with more than 30,000 drug cases. More than 80 percent of the heroin and about 70 percent of the opium that China seized were caught in Yunnan province. Jiang said that Yunnan's experiences of the past decade show that increased economic growth and prosperity have a positive effect on halting the growing drug menace. In recent years, Yunnan has allocated 300 million yuan (36 million US dollars) for agriculture and technical training to help farmers in the northern frontier region of Myanmar (Burma) and Laos grow cereals crops to replace the opium poppy, and that economic exchanges and development in the area can reduce the reliance on the poppy economy there. More than 20,000 hectares of farmland there have been changed from poppy raising to other crops. An official of Myanmar's Special Region 4, on the frontier of the Golden Triangle, said that China's economic reforms and opening-up have also promoted economic growth in the region, which has greatly benefited the from border tourism and trade that have added some 40 million yuan (4.8 million US dollars) per year. Under the pressure from the Chinese Government, three of the six gangs involved in the drug business in northern Myanmar have reduced their poppy-raising area. The United Nations Drug Control Program is planning to use 250 million US dollars to aid farmers in the Golden Triangle grow other crops, according to Pino Arlacchi, UN deputy secretary-general and executive

director.

Arlacchi said that the international community expects farmers in the Golden Triangle to completely give up poppy raising in ten years.

[Description of source: Beijing Xinhua in English -- China's official news service for English-language audiences (New China News Agency)]

Title: China: Wu Bangguo Meets Burmese Delegation

Document Number: FBIS-CHI-98-167

Document Date: 16 Jun 1998

Sourceline: OW1606135298 Beijing Xinhua in English 1255 GMT 16 Jun 98

Beijing, June 16 (Xinhua) -- Chinese Vice-Premier Wu Bangguo met with a delegation from Myanmar [Burma] led by Minister of Electric Power Tin Htut here today.

Wu said China and Myanmar are friendly neighbors, and their friendship is the common aspiration of both governments and the two peoples.

China emphasizes its friendly co-operation with Myanmar, and supports the joint efforts of Myanmar and China's Yunnan Province in constructing a water power plant in the former, Wu said, expressing the hope that both countries would further expand their co-operation in the electricity sector.

Tin Htut thanked the Chinese Government for its long-term assistance to Myanmar.

The delegation is visiting China at the invitation of the Yunnan Provincial People's Government.

Title: China: China, Burma, Laos Cooperate in Eliminating Drug Sources

Document Number: FBIS-TDD-98-181

Sourceline: OW0107022198 Beijing Xinhua in English 0156 GMT 01 Jul 98

Kunming, July 1 (Xinhua) -- Southwest China's Yunnan Province, which is on the border of the "Golden Triangle", has cooperated with Myanmar [Burma] and Laos in an anti-drug project, bringing some hope for the peaceful elimination of drug sources in the Golden Triangle.

The project, which began six years ago, has given help to farmers in Myanmar's Special Region 1 and Special Region 4, and in three provinces of Laos in raising cash crops, greatly reducing their dependence on the poppy economy.

A Yunnan official says that the Chinese have provided seeds, techniques, and fertilizers for the farmers and have promised to purchase their agricultural products at Chinese prices.

Police in Yunnan, which has suffered tremendously from the drug trade, worked on 6,852 drug cases last year, and confiscated 4,073 kg of heroin and "ice", and 1,132 kg of opium, or about 70 percent of the drugs seized in China.

Yunnan has continued to come down hard on drug manufacturers, traffickers, and drug addicts, but still hopes that its "green anti-drug project" will fundamentally solve the drug problem. For more than a hundred years, farmers in the Golden Triangle have relied on the poppy economy and opium sales, and, in spite of the fertile soil, many still live in extreme

poverty as the profits have gone to drug lords.

By planting cash crops and cereals, however, farmers have had sufficient food and a stable income, and many have been encouraged to stop growing opium poppies.

Pino Arlacchi, deputy secretary-general and executive director of the United Nations' Drug Control Program, said in his May visit to Yunnan that China has successfully helped its neighbours to replace opium planting and that this achievement has even surpassed his expectations.

Li Hanbo, Yunnan's vice-governor, says that replacing poppies is an important link in the international anti-drug strategy because it helps maintain living standards and economic development in drug-growing regions. Because of this, the international community should provide funds and techniques for the project, he says.

In Myanmar's Special Region 4, specialists from Yunnan are helping the local government build power stations and reservoirs to further improve agricultural output and facilitate the planting of certain cash crops.

Title: China: 'Roundup' Views Burma-ASEAN Ties

Document Number: FBIS-CHI-98-202

Sourceline: OW2107043898 Beijing Xinhua in English 0334 GMT 21 Jul 98

["Roundup" by Duan Tingchang: "Relations Between Myanmar, Asean Develop"ASEAN fellow member countries.]

More MOUs on the exemption with the remaining ASEAN members are expected in the future.

In addition, Myanmar signed with the Philippines accords on trade, establishment of a joint commission for bilateral cooperation (JCBC), cooperation against drug trafficking and abuse, and promotion of technical cooperation in forestry and forest-industrial development, investment promotion and protection, cultural cooperation and human resources development.

Agreements were also reached with Malaysia on double taxation avoidance and prevention of fiscal evasion with respect to taxes and income, and with Brunei on setting up a JCBC.

Chairman Than Shwe attended for the first time the Kuala Lumpur second informal summit meeting of the ASEAN last December, during which Myanmar joined in signing a MOU concerning the setting up of the ASEAN Foundation and a protocol to implement the initial package of commitments under the ASEAN framework agreements on services.

The ASEAN Foundation to promote and strengthen people-to-people contact was reportedly formally established earlier this month in Jakarta, Indonesia.

Since integration into the ASEAN, Myanmar has been working closely with other ASEAN members, forming respective committees and groups in all sectors and taking an active part in various meetings and activities of the association.

Myanmar has also attended since then a series of regional meetings relating to ASEAN Free Trade Area (AFTA) scheme, investment, agriculture, forestry, transport, drug control, education, tourism, information, environment, financial, labor and home affairs.

On these occasions, Myanmar joined in the signing of accords on regional cooperation in finance and tourism as well as the setting-up of a foundation.

Myanmar, together with Laos, is also receiving technical assistance from the grouping at the Kuala Lumpur meeting of the AFTA Council in October 1997, for the fulfillment of its obligations to the AFTA. For the establishment of AFTA, Myanmar has presented its commodities list for tariff reduction.

Also since Myanmar's joining of the ASEAN, both the association's former Secretary-General Ajit Singh and new Secretary-General Rodolfo C. Severino had respectively visited Myanmar, enhancing the country's commitments in regional affairs.

Myanmar's integration into the grouping is seen as not only an opportunity for the country in the development of its economy and trade and attraction of foreign investment, but also a challenge for it in commodity production and market competition.

An ASEAN business forum delegation, led by Ajit Singh, visited Yangon last November and explored business cooperation with Myanmar counterparts, especially in the private sector.

According to official statistics, investment in Myanmar from five ASEAN fellow member countries -- Indonesia, the Philippines, Malaysia, Singapore and Thailand -- added up to more than 3.3 billion US dollars in over 140 projects at the end of March this year, accounting for about 45 percent of the 7-billion-dollar total foreign investment.

Of the five ASEAN fellow member states, Singapore ranked the second out of the total foreign investment in Myanmar with 1.31 billion dollars in 65 projects, dominating investment in hotels and tourism, followed by Thailand (1.16 billion dollars), Malaysia (587 million dollars), Indonesia (236 million dollars) and the Philippines (6.67 million dollars).

ASEAN now groups nine Southeast Asian countries -- Brunei, Indonesia, Malaysia, Myanmar, Laos, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam.

Title: China: 'Roundup' Views Burma-ASEAN Ties

Document Number: FBIS-CHI-98-202

Sourceline: OW2107151198 Beijing Xinhua in English 0334 GMT 21 Jul 98

Subslug: "Roundup" by Duan Tingchang: "Relations Between Myanmar, Asean Develop"

Yangon [Rangoon], July 21 (Xinhua) -- The relations between Myanmar [Burma] and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) have been developing after the country's integration into the grouping in July 1997.

Exchange of visits by state leaders of Myanmar and other ASEAN member nations since then has promoted the development of their bilateral ties.

Up to now, leaders of five other member countries including the Philippine former President Fidel Ramos, Malaysia's Prime Minister Mahathir Mohamad, Singapore's Prime Minister Goh Chok Tong, Brunei's Sultan Hassanah Bolkiah and Vietnam's Deputy Prime Minister Nguyen Manh Cam have visited Myanmar.

Chairman of the Myanmar State Peace and Development Council (SPDC) Senior-General Than Shwe, SPDC Vice-Chairman General Maung Aye and First Secretary Lieutenant-General Khin Nyunt also toured the Philippines, Brunei, Vietnam and Singapore respectively.

On these occasions, Myanmar initiated with these countries memorandums of understanding (MOU) on mutual exemption of visas to each other's citizens holding diplomatic and official passports in order to facilitate the exchange of visits between officials of Myanmar and the five ASEAN

fellow member countries.

More MOUs on the exemption with the remaining ASEAN members are expected in the future.

In addition, Myanmar signed with the Philippines accords on trade, establishment of a joint commission for bilateral cooperation (JCBC), cooperation against drug trafficking and abuse, and promotion of technical cooperation in forestry and forest-industrial development, investment promotion and protection, cultural cooperation and human resources development.

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ASEAN now groups nine Southeast Asian countries -- Brunei, Indonesia, Malaysia, Myanmar, Laos, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam.

Secretary-2 receives GMs of Shanghai Diesel Engine Co

YANGON, 31 July - Secretary-2 of the State Peace and Development Council Patron of Myanmar Industrial Development Committee Lt-Gen Tin Oo received General Managers Mr Xu Wei Da and Mr Horig Ling Bai and party of Shanghai Diesel Engine Co Ltd of the People's Republic of China at Mayor's Parlour of Yangon City Development Committee at 3 pm today.

Present were Deputy Minister for Forestry Col Thaik Tun, Vice-Chairman of Yangon City Development Committee Vice-Mayor Col Maung Pa and Lt-Col Yin Maung Sein of the Ministry of Defence. "The New Light of Myanmar" (Internet version) 98-08-01

Secretary-2 receives delegation of PRC Ministry of Agriculture

YANGON, 31 July - Secretary-2 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Tin Oo received delegation of the Fisheries Department of the Ministry of Agriculture led by Mr Zhang Tian Zhen of the People's Republic of China at Mayor's Parlour of Yangon City Development Committee at 3 pm today.

Present on the occasion were Deputy Minister for Forestry Col Thaik Tun, Vice-Chairman of Yangon City Development Committee Vice-Mayor Col Maung Pa and Lt-Col Yin Maung Sein of the Ministry of Defence. "The New Light of Myanmar" (Internet version) 98-08-01

Secretary-1 attends reception for 71st Founding Anniversary of PLA

YANGON, 1 Aug - A reception to mark 71st Anniversary of Founding of the People's Liberation Army of the People's Republic of China was held at the Office of Military Attache of PRC on Khayaybin Street in Dagon Township this evening. Present were Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Chief of the Office of Strategic Studies Director of Defence Services Intelligence Lt-Gen Khin Nyunt and wife, Secretary-2 Chief of Bureau of Special Operations Chief of Staff (Army) Lt-Gen Tin Oo and wife, Secretary-3 Adjutant-General Lt-Gen Win Myint and wife, ministers, deputy ministers, senior military officers of the Ministry of Defence, ambassadors, military attaches and their wives of missions in Yangon, Charge d'Affaires ai of the PRC Embassy Mr Yu Tiegen and wife, military attaches and wives and guests. "The New Light of Myanmar" (Internet version) 98-08-02

Minister for Transport receives GMs of Shanghai Diesel Engine

YANGON, 1 Aug- Minister for Transport Lt-Gen in Ngwe received General Managers Mr Xu Wei Da and Mr Hong Ling Bai of Shanghai Diesel Engine Co Ltd of the People's Republic of China at his office at 2 pm today.

Present were Deputy Minister Brig-Gen Kyaw Myint, Managing Director Col Thein Htay of Myanmar Port Authority and Managing Director U Percy Maung Maung of Myanmar Shipyards. "The New Light of Myanmar" (Internet version) 98-08-02

Title: China: Xinhua Reports on Burma's Agricultural Mechanization

Document Number: FBIS-CHI-98-217

Sourceline: OW0608032998 Beijing Xinhua in English 0319 GMT 06 Aug 98

Rangoon, August 6 (Xinhua) -- Myanmar [Burma] is striving for mechanization of its agriculture by encouraging farmers to widely use farm machinery and equipment in cultivation and introducing both locally-produced and imported agricultural implements for the purpose. So far, 23 model mechanized agricultural villages have been established across the country, according to an annual official report on Myanmar's financial, economic and social conditions.

The Myanmar government increased distribution of both local and foreign-made farming implements to farmers in the country in the 1997-98 fiscal year which ended in March. In use were 36,200 tractors and power tillers for a total of 6 million hectares of land, an increase of 2.7 million hectares over the previous year.

Although Myanmar has made some achievements in agricultural mechanization, the majority of its land is still cultivated with draft and cattle.

According to the report, the number of draft cattle was 3.5 million yokes in 1997-98, increasing by 83,000 yokes over a year earlier. The average cultivated area by a yoke of draft cattle was 3.07 hectares.

Myanmar gives first priority to the production of farm machinery and equipment by the country's manufacturing sector during the present five-year plan period (1996-97 to 2000-2001).

According to a promulgation of the Myanmar Ministry of Commerce in April, agricultural implements are also among the 14 first-priority goods designated for import.

Official statistics show that Myanmar's agriculture, the mainstay of its economy traditionally accounting for 35 to 40 percent of the gross domestic product and 35 percent of the export, grew by 2.9 percent in its output value in 1997-98.

The country's rice production in the fiscal year was 17.3 million tons, of which 28,300 tons were exported.

Title: China: Xinhua Reports on Burma's Private Sector Economy

Document Number: FBIS-CHI-98-217

Sourceline: OW0608023798 Beijing Xinhua in English 0204 GMT 06 Aug 98

Rangoon, August 6 (Xinhua) -- Myanmar [Burma]'s private sector is playing an active role in the country's economic development, contributing 75.4 percent to the gross domestic product (GDP) in the 1997-98 fiscal year when GDP grew by 4.6 percent.

According to the Myanmar Ministry of Commerce, the private sector's

export and import have been considerably boosted with its share of exports jumping from 46.3 percent in 1988-89 to 67.8 percent in fiscal 1997-98 which ended in March. Meanwhile, its share of imports rose from 40.7 percent to 71.9 percent.

The sector's investment accounted for 53 percent of the total, increasing from 5.6 billion kyats (18.6 million US dollars) in 1989-90 to 75.9 billion kyats (253 million dollars) in 1997-98.

Thanks to the private sector's active participation in economic development, Myanmar achieved an average annual growth of 7.5 percent in the last four-year plan (1992-93 to 1995-96) and a 6-percent growth in the first two years of the current five-year plan (1996-97 to 2000-2001).

Title: China: Railway Planned to Link Tibet, Yunnan

Document Number: FBIS-CHI-98-219

Document Date: 7 Aug 1998

Sourceline: OW0708073298 Beijing Xinhua in English 0658 GMT 07 Aug 98

Shanghai, August 7 (Xinhua) -- A group of experts has begun a feasibility study of the planned railway line linking the Tibet Autonomous Region and Yunnan Province in southwest China, the Shanghai Wen Hui Daily reported recently.

With approval from the Ministry of Railways, the group will conduct field surveys over the 1,654-kilometer railway, which will have bridges and tunnels running a total of 710 kilometers.

The line will begin at Dali, a popular tourist city in Yunnan Province, and terminate in Lhasa, capital of the Tibet Autonomous Region. The construction of the railway will cost an estimated 63.6 billion yuan (about 7.8 billion US dollars).

As the shortest line from Tibet to coastal ports, the railway will also be able to link-up with trains from China to Thailand and Myanmar. Tibet is the only provincial region in China still without railways.

\$1,000 donated for PRC flood relief

YANGON, 18 Aug - Myanmar Red Cross Society donated \$ 1,000 for flood victims of the People's Republic of China in 1998 at the PRC Embassy at 2 pm today.

Present were President of MRCS Dr Hla Bu, Secretary Dr Ko Ko Gyi, Treasurer U Tun Myint, executive U Tun Sein and Deputy Executive Director U Hla Myint, Charge d'Affaires at PRC Embassy Mr Yu Tiegen and embassy staff.

Mr Yu Tiegen explained flood disaster situation in PRC in 1998 and Dr Hla Bu the purpose of donation.

U Tun Myint presented \$ 1,000 for use in relief work for flood victims.

Mr Yu Tiegen accepted the donation and presented a certificate of honour to Dr Hla Bu. "The New Light of Myanmar" (Internet version) 98-08-19

Title: China: Yunnan To Export Power Plant Equipment to Burma

Document Number: FBIS-CHI-98-237

Beijing Xinhua Domestic Service in Chinese 0209 GMT 22 Aug 98

Subslug: By Lu Nuo and Li Ziliang

Kunming, 22 August (Xinhua) -- In the coming five years, Yunnan will export \$250 million's worth of mechanical products, electrical products, and technologies to Burma for building the Banlang Power Station, the biggest hydropower station in Burma. The two sides sign an agreement on cooperation a few days ago.

According to sources concerned, this is China's biggest trade cooperation project with Burma, and even with Southeast Asia as a whole. The cooperation has been carried out in the form of an export credit. The Yunnan Provincial Machines and Equipment Import and Export Company will provide Burma with a large and complete set of equipment, construction machines, power station design, and construction guidance needed for the construction of the power station.

The Banglang Power Station is located in the Madalay area in central Burma. Its installed capacity is 280,000 kw. The total investment in it is \$600 million. It is the biggest hydropower project planned by Burma. The power station will mainly be used for generating electricity, but it will also be used for irrigation and flood-prevention.

Although Southeast Asia is still faced with a grim financial situation, Yunnan Province still put forward at a meeting on opening up to the outside world held at the beginning of this year that it will continue to expand exchange and cooperation with countries in Southeast Asia. Yunnan Province is close to Vietnam, Laos, and Burma, and has a boundary of more than 4,000 km. It is China's base and window to countries in Southeast Asia.

Title: China: Yunnan Company To Repair Burmese Cement Factory

Document Number: FBIS-CHI-98-240

Sourceline: OW2808103298 Beijing Xinhua in English 0335 GMT 28 Aug 98

Yangon [Rangoon], August 28 (Xinhua) -- A Yunnan company of China has reached a contract with the Myanmar Ministry of Industry on repairing a state-owned cement factory in the Southeast Asian country's central Magway division.

According to the contract, signed here on Thursday between the Yunnan Machinery and Equipment Import and Export Corporation (YMEIEC) and the Myanmar Ceramic Industries of the ministry, the Yadana Theingi, a furnace of the Thayet cement factory is to be repaired, the official New Light of Myanmar newspaper reported Friday.

The Thayet factory is one of the three state-run cement enterprises in Myanmar and they have a combined annual output of 480,000 tons in the past five years. However, it is still far from meeting the growing domestic demand. The country imported 83.7 million US dollars worth of cement in the 1997-98 fiscal year, according to the latest official statistics.

The statistics also show that China's investment in Myanmar ranked the 16th with 29.26 million dollars in 9 projects at the end of April this year. The total foreign investment from 23 countries and regions stood at

nearly 7 billion dollars.

Agreement to repair furnace of Thayet Cement Factory signed

YANGON, 27 Aug - Myanma Ceramic Industries, Yunnan Machinery and Equipment Import and Export Corporation and Yadana Theingi Co Ltd signed an agreement for repairing furnace of Thayet Cement Factory in Magway Division at the Ministry of Industry-1 this afternoon.

The signing ceremony was attended by Minister for Industry-1 U Aung Thaung, Deputy Ministers Brig-Gen Thein Tun and Col Than Zin, heads of departments and officials of YMEIEC, Three Elephant Cement Plant, China Perfect Machinery Industry Corp Ltd and Yadana Theingi.

Managing Director U Than Shwe of MCI, Chairman Mr Lin Zai You of YMEIEC, General Manager Mr Song Suogen of China Perfect Machinery Industry Corp Ltd, Managing Director of Three Elephant Cement Plant Mr Yunn Fa Gang and Managing Director of Yadana-Theingi U Aik Yi Signed the agreement.
NLM-WS 98-08-28

Title: China: New Burmese Border Trade Point Opens

Document Number: FBIS-CHI-98-240

Sourceline: OW2808104398 Beijing Xinhua in English 0540 GMT 28 Aug 98

Yangon [Rangoon], August 28 (Xinhua) -- One more trade point has been opened in Myanmar's northern border town of Bhamo in Kachin state bordering China.

The Bhamo trade point, inaugurated in the last weekend, is another border trading point with China after Muse, Namkham and Kyukok (Pansaing), The New Light of Myanmar newspaper reported Friday.
China and Myanmar officially signed a border trade agreement in October 1988.

According to Myanmar official statistics, bilateral trade including border trade amounted to 331 million US dollars in the 1997-98 fiscal year. The balance of trade was in China's favor.

Myanmar's foreign trade in 1997-98 totaled 3.24 billion dollars, of which exports amounted to 1 billion dollars, registering a trade deficit of 1.24 billion dollars.

[Description of source: Beijing Xinhua in English -- China's official news service for English-language audiences (New China News Agency)]

Title: China: Yunnan To Help Burma Build Largest Hydropower Station

Document Number: FBIS-CHI-98-240

Sourceline: OW2808105098 Beijing Xinhua in English 0823 GMT 28 Aug 98

Kunming, August 28 (Xinhua) -- Yunnan Province in southwest China will help Myanmar [Burma] build its largest hydropower station during the next five years.

According to an agreement signed recently, the province bordering Myanmar will sell a total of 250 million US dollars worth of equipment, machinery, design and construction technology to the power station project. This will be China's largest cooperative project with Myanmar ever, according to provincial officials.

The six-million-U.S.-dollar facility, to be constructed in Mandalay in central Myanmar, will have a designed generating capacity of 280,000 Kw. A key state project, the station is also designed to improve local irrigation and flood control.

PRC journalists go sightseeing, visit NPE head office

YANGON, 27 Aug - The visiting six-member Chinese journalist delegation went sightseeing in the city today.

Led by Mr Lai Nanchi, Vice-Chairman of Guangzhou Daily of the Republic of China, the Chinese journalists visited the Shwedagon where they donated cash and signed in the visitors book.

The guests then proceeded to the People's Square and People's Park where they studied Pyidaungsu Ayeyeknye.

Administrative Officer U Win Htein and officials explained about it to the journalists who signed in the visitors book.

Afterwards, the Chinese delegation called on Managing Director U Tin Kha of News and Periodicals Enterprise at his office on Theinbyu Road.

With Managing Director U Tin Kha, were Director (News) U Hla Tun, Director (Administration) U Soe Win, Chief Editor U Soe Myint of Myanma Alin Daily, Chief Editor U Ye Tint of Kyemon Daily, Chief Editor U Kyaw Mm of The New Light of Myanmar, Chief Editor U Zaw Mm Them of Myanma News Agency (Internal), Deputy Director (Administration) U Hmwe Kyi and advisers to NPE U Kyi Nyunt and U Maung Maung Nyo.

The Chinese journalists were accompanied by officials of Embassy of the people's Republic of China.

Both sides discussed matters relating to print media between the two countries.

Next, the Chinese journalists visited Myanma Alin Daily where Chief Editor U Soe Myint and officials welcomed them and conducted them around.

Later, they visited the National Museum on Pyay Road where they were welcomed by Deputy Director-General U Kyaw Win and officials of Department of Cultural Institute.

The Chinese journalists proceeded to Myanma Radio and Television (MRTV) where they held discussions on radio and TV broadcasting with Director (Administration) U Ohn Myint and Director (Broadcasting) U Ko Ko Htwe and officials of MRTV.

Afterwards, they toured MRTV studios. "The New Light of Myanmar" (Internet version) 98-08-28

Deputy Prime Minister receives Ambassador of Malaysia

YANGON, 28 Aug - A ceremony to donate US \$1,000 for flood relief in Republic of Korea by the MMCWA was held at the ROK Embassy on University Avenue this morning.

Vice-Chairperson of the MMCWA Dr Khin Win Shwe presented US \$ 1,000.

Ambassador of ROK Mr Kyong Bo Choi accepted the donation and presented a certificate of honour to her.

On 24 August, Myanmar Maternal and Child Welfare Association donated US \$ 1,000 for flood relief in the People's Republic of China at the PRC Embassy on Pyidaungsu Avenue.

Vice-Chairperson of MMCWA Dr Khin Win Shwe presented US \$ 1,000 to Charge d'Affaires at the PRC Embassy Mr Yu Tiegeng who presented a certificate of honour to her. "The New Light of Myanmar" (Internet version) 98-08-29

Chinese journalists call on Minister for H & T, Supreme Court Justices

YANGON, 31 Aug - The Chinese journalist delegation led by Vice-Chairman of Guangzhou Daily Mr Lai Nanchi called on Minister for Hotels and Tourism Maj-Gen Saw Lwin at the minister's office today.

The Chinese journalists were accompanied by the Charge d'Affaires at the Embassy of the People's Republic of China and embassy officials.

Also present on the occasion were Deputy Minister for Hotels and Tourism Brig-Gen Aye Myint Kyu, Director-General of Directorate of Hotels and Tourism U Khin Maung Lat and officials.

The Chinese journalists also called on Supreme Court Justices U Kyaw Win and U Aung Myin later this afternoon.

Director-General of the Supreme Court U Ba Than Aung and officials were also present. "The New Light of Myanmar" (Internet version) 98-09-01

Minister receives Deputy GM of China National Complete Plant Import & Export Corporation (Group)

YANGON, 31 Aug - Minister for Industry 2 Maj-Gen Hla Myint Swe received Deputy General Manager of China National Complete Plant Import & Export Corporation (Group) Mrs Lin Yan and party at his office this morning.

Present were managing directors and officials. "The New Light of Myanmar" (Internet version) 98-09-01

Title: China: 'Roundup': Burma Active in Foreign Relations

Document Number: FBIS-CHI-98-261

Sourceline: OW1809041898 Beijing Xinhua in English 0153 GMT 18 Sep 98

Subslug: "Roundup" by Duan Tingchang: "Burma Active in Foreign Relations"

Rangoon, September 18 (Xinhua) -- Myanmar [Burma] has been following an active and independent foreign policy in accordance with the principles of the United Nations (UN) Charter, the Five Principles of Peaceful Co-existence and Non-Aligned, maintaining friendly ties with all nations in the world, particularly with neighboring countries in the region. In dealing with its relations with other countries, Myanmar gives priority to the maintenance of world peace and security, mutual respects and equal rights despite differences in political and economic systems of different countries.

Up to now, Myanmar has established diplomatic ties with 72 countries in the world, opening up nearly 40 embassies and consulates-general. In the period of the State Law and Order Restoration Council (SLORC) (from 1988 to 1997), which was renamed the State Peace and Development Council (SPDC) in November 1997 with major reshuffle of the government cabinet, Myanmar established ties with more countries such as Peru, Venezuela, Columbia, Papua New Guinea, Brunei, Brazil, South Africa and Kenya.

In order to carry out tasks of foreign affairs on a broad scale, Myanmar formed in October 1992 the Foreign Affairs Policy Committee, headed by Lieutenant-General Khin Nyunt, first secretary of the then SLORC and the present SPDC, deliberating and coordinating important policies regarding foreign relations and overseeing their implementation.

For the past few years, Myanmar leaders have exchanged visits with those of Asian countries including Brunei, China, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam. These visits brought about further enhancement of their bilateral friendly ties and trade and economic cooperation.

Myanmar, which became a UN member in April 1948, takes an active part in the UN General Assembly sessions and other conferences held by the UN in accordance with the principles contained in the UN Charter.

Myanmar became a member of the Geneva Conference on Disarmament in 1962 and acceded to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT) in 1992.

The country also acceded in the year to four Geneva Conventions of 1949 regarding humanitarian treatment in the midst of hostilities and the instruments of accession became effective in Myanmar in February 1993.

Myanmar also expanded economic contacts with foreign countries and international financial and economic organizations with which the country sought monetary aid and loans as well as technical assistance.

Various projects on education, health and agriculture are among those jointly implemented in Myanmar with aid from a number of UN agencies such as UNDP (United Nations Development Program), UNICEF (United Nations Children's Fund), WHO (World Health Organization), FAO (Food and Agriculture Organization), UNESCO (United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization) and ESCAP (Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific).

Myanmar was one of the co-founders of the Non-Alignment Movement (NAM) established in Belgrade, Yugoslavia, in 1961. The country once suspended

its participation in the movement in 1979 but resumed the activities beginning with the 10th NAM Summit in Indonesia in September 1992.

As for regional cooperation, Myanmar has also been actively participating in the activities and cooperation of some regional groupings especially the Association of Southeast Asian Nations, into which the country was integrated in July 1997.

In August the same year, Myanmar joined again a new South Asian sub-regional economic grouping, the BIMST-EC (Bangladesh, India, Myanmar, Sri Lanka and Thailand - Economic Cooperation), bordering the Bay of Bengal.

Myanmar actively cooperates with countries in the world in the fight against narcotics. So far, it has bilateral agreements on this respect with neighboring Bangladesh, China, India, Laos, Vietnam and Thailand as well as the Russian Federation.

Sub-regional cooperation in combating narcotics has also been carried out under separate agreements with China and Thailand involving the United Nations Drug Control Program (UNDCP).

For five decades since its independence, Myanmar has adhered to the UN Charter in its foreign relations, opposing neo-colonialism and hegemonism and adopting a non-interference policy. The country reiterates that "it will never interfere in the internal affairs of others and will never tolerate any outside interference".

[Description of source: Beijing Xinhua in English -- China's official news service for English-language audiences (New China News Agency)]

Myanmar delegation leaves for China

YANGON, 23 Sept - A Myanmar delegation led by Deputy General Manager U Soe Thein of Myanma Hotels and Tourism Services of the Ministry of Hotels and Tourism left here by yesterday morning to attend Beijing International Culture Tourism Festival '98 in Beijing, at the invitation of Beijing Tourism Administration of the People's Republic of China.

The delegation includes 14 entrepreneurs of private hotels and tours enterprises and five-member traditional dance troupe.

They were seen off at Yangon International Airport by Deputy Minister for Hotels and Tourism Brig-Gen Aye Myint Kyu, Managing Director U Kyi Tun of Myanma Hotels and Tourism Services, officials and families.

Tourism promotion, photo contest, stage shows and various restaurants will be included in the festival. Heads of tourism~services, worldwide, entrepreneurs and traditional dance troupes will attend it. "The New Light of Myanmar" (Internet version) 98-09-24

Secretary-2 receives GM of Beijing Bluewaters Promotion Corp

YANGON, 25 Sept - Secretary-2 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Tin Oo received General Manager of Beijing Bluewaters Promotion Corp Mr Wan Li Fang and party, currently here to make the promotion of bilateral fisheries cooperation between the Myanmar and People's Republic of China, at the Office of the Prime Minister at 1 pm today.

They discussed Oil investment and livestock and fisheries matters.

Present also were Minister for Livestock and Fisheries Brig-Gen Maung Maung Thein, Minister at the Office of the Prime Minister Brig-Gen Lun Maung, Deputy Minister for Livestock and Fisheries U Aung Thein and OSD to the Office of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Col Than Tint and officials. "The New Light of Myanmar" (Internet version) 98-09-26

Construction materials for Bo Myat Tun Bridge Project arrive

YANGON, 25 Sept - Minister for Construction Maj-Gen Saw Tun, accompanied by Deputy Minister U Tint Swe and officials of Public Works, inspected unloading of construction materials from mv Sittway at Sule Jetty, here this afternoon.

This is the last batch of construction materials imported from the People's Republic of China for Bo Myat Tun Bridge Project.

The materials are 947.478 tons of steel bridge frames.

The minister supervised the unloading and gave instructions to ensure safety in the transport of the construction materials and to send them to the project site as soon as possible. "The New Light of Myanmar" (Internet version) 98-09-26

Secretary-2 receives Vice-Chairman of China Railway Engineering Corporation

YANGON, 26 Sept - Secretary-2 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Tin Oo received Vice-Chairman of China Railway Engineering Corporation Mr Chen Keji at the office of the Prime Minister at 11:30 am today.

They discussed construction of railroad and bridges and investment matters.

Present also were Minister at the Office of the Prime Minister Brig-Gen Lun Maung and Officer on Special Duty to the Office of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Col Than Tint. "The New Light of Myanmar" (Internet version) 98-09-27

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They discussed construction of railroad and bridges and investment matters.

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MIC Chairman receives foreign entrepreneurs

YANGON, 29 Sept - Deputy Prime Minister Chairman of Myanmar Investment Commission Vice-Admiral Maung Maung Khin received Mr Mao Rui Long and party of China Anneng Construction Corporation, Zhejian Company, of the People's Republic of China at his office at 11:30 am today.

Present were Minister at the Office of the Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Secretary of Myanmar Investment Commission Brig-Gen Maung Maung and officials of MIC Office and Myanma Electric Power Enterprise.

They discussed opportunities of investment for hydropower production.
"The New Light of Myanmar" (Internet version) 98-09-30

Chairman of State Peace and Development Council Senior General Than Shwe sends felicitations to People's Republic of China

YANGON, 1 Oct - On the occasion of the forty-ninth anniversary of the Founding Day of the People's Republic of China, which falls on 1 October 1949, Senior General Than Shwe, Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council and Prime Minister of the Union of Myanmar, has sent messages of felicitations to His Excellency Mr Jiang Zemin, President of the People's Republic of China, and to His Excellency Mr Zhe Rongji, Premier of the State Council of the People's Republic of China. "The New Light of Myanmar" (Internet version) 98-10-01

Title: Burma: Burma Signs Hydropower Deal With Chinese Firm

Document Number: FBIS-EAS-98-280

Sourceline: BK0710063898 Rangoon TV Myanmar Network in Burmese 1330 GMT 6 Oct 98

Lt. Gen. Tin Oo, secretary-2 of the State Peace and Development Council, attended a contract signing ceremony between the Ministry of Electric Power's Myanmar Electric Power Enterprise and Yunnan Machinery and Equipment Import and Export Corporation for implementing the Paunglaung Hydroelectric Power Station project held at the International Business Center on Prome Road in Yangon [Rangoon] at 0900 this morning. [passage omitted]

Speaking at the ceremony, Electric Power Minister Maj. Gen. Tin Htut explained that this is the most expensive contract signed by the Government of the People's Republic of China, Yunnan Province government, and the Government of the Union of Myanmar [Burma] and that the project further illustrates and strengthens the traditional friendship, cooperation, and understanding between the two countries and peoples. He said there is rising demand for electric power in Myanmar which has switched to market-oriented economy. [passage omitted]

Speaking at the ceremony, U Yan Naing, director of the Myanmar Electric Power Enterprise, said that there are 10 major hydroelectric power

stations, including Paunglaung project, in Myanmar capable of producing 25,000 megawatts and that other projects--Yeywar, Bilin, Thaukyekat, and Shwelikon--would soon be implemented one after another and that Paunglaung project, which is worth US\$160 million, is the biggest project under the bilateral economic cooperation arrangement. He said, Paunglaung project, with the capacity of 280 megawatt, is the biggest hydroelectric power station and the first underground station to be built in Myanmar. He said the power station is expected to contribute to the country's social and economic development. [passage omitted]

Agreement on implementing Paunglaung Hydroelectric Power Project signed between Myanmar and China

YANGON, 6 Oct - A ceremony to sign an agreement on implementing Paunglaung Hydroelectric Power Project between Myanma Electric Power Enterprise of the Ministry of Electric Power and Yunnan Machinery & Equipment I & E Corporation (YMEC) was held at the International Business Centre on Pyay Road this morning, attended by Secretary--2 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Tin Oo.

Also present were Chairman of Myanmar Investment Commission Deputy Prime Minister Vice-Admiral Maung Maung Khin, Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation Maj-Gen Nyunt Tin, Minister for Industry- 1 U Aung Thaung, Secretary of MIC Minister at the Office of the Chairman of State Peace and Development Council Brig-Gen Maung Maung, Minister for Electric Power Maj-Gen Tin Htut, Minister at Office of the Prime Minister Brig-Gen Lun Maung, Attorney-General U Tha Tun, Deputy Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation U Ohn Myint, Deputy Minister for Electric Power Brig-Gen Maung Maung, Director-General of Electric Power Department U Zaw Win, Managing Director of MEPE U Yan Naing, departmental officials of the Ministry of Electric Power, Ambassador of the People's Republic of China Mr Liang Dong, Representative of Yunnan Province Governor Mr Wang Xue Ren, Chairman of YMEC Mr Lin Zai You and officials.

In his address, Maj-Gen Tin Htut said this is the most precious agreement in the course of economic cooperation between the Union of Myanmar and Yunnan Province Government of the People's Republic of China, and it is also a token which further strengthens friendship, mutual understanding and cooperation which have existed for years between two governments and the peoples of two countries.

Myanmar is practicing market-oriented economic system, and the electricity demand is on the rise, he said and added though the Ministry of Electric Power is implementing electric power projects in accord with the guideline of the Government, increasing electricity demand cannot be fulfilled.

He thanked the Government of the People's Republic of China and the Yunnan Province Government led by the Province Governor and YMEC for the technical and financial assistance to be able to implement Paunglaung Hydroelectric Power Project.

The Government of the Union of Myanmar regards Paunglaung Hydroelectric Power Project as a State Project and has formed the Project Leading Committee led by Secretary-2 of the State Peace and Development Council

Lt-Gen Tin Oo.

He affirmed that the Government will strive to complete the project as scheduled, if possible, earlier than scheduled.

Then, Mr Wang Xue Ren spoke.

U Yan Naing said Myanma Electric Power Enterprise, in cooperation with YMEC, has built 15 hydroelectric plants since 1990, and the total value of machinery is worth about US \$ 50 million.

In Myanmar, hydroelectric power project including Paunglaung Hydroelectric Power Project can generate about 25,000 megawatt, he said and added projects from Ye Ywa, Bilin, Thaukyekhat, Shweli and Kuri will be implemented one after another.

The agreement on implementing Paunglaung Hydroelectric Power Project signed today is worth about US \$ 160, and the biggest project in the course of economic cooperation of two nations, he stated.

Paunglaung Hydroelectric Plant can generate 280 megawatt and it is the biggest of its kind and the first underground factory in Myanmar, he remarked and added the project will fulfil electricity demand considerably, thereby contributing much to development of economic and social sectors of the State.

Then, Mr Lin Zai You spoke.

Later, U Yan Naing and Mr Lin Zai You signed the agreement, and exchanged documents. "The New Light of Myanmar" (Internet version) 98-10-07

Deputy Premier receives Special Representative of Governor of Yunnan Province

YANGON, 6 Oct - Deputy Prime Minister Chairman of Myanmar Investment Commission Vice-Admiral Maung Maung Khin received Special Representative of the Governor of Yunnan Province Senior Adviser of Government of Yunnan Province Mr Wang Xue Ren and party, accompanied by Ambassador of the People's Republic of China Mr Liang Dong, at his office at 3 pm today.

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

They discussed mutual cooperation in Paunglaung Hydel Power Project to be implemented. "The New Light of Myanmar" (Internet version) 98-10-07

Minister for Electric Power receives Special Representative of Governor of Yunnan Province

YANGON, 6 Oct - Minister for Electric Power Maj-Gen Tin Htut received Special Representative of the Governor of Yunnan Province Mr Wang Xue Ren and party at his office this morning.

Present were Deputy Minister Brig-Gen Maung Maung, Managing Director U Yan Naing of Myanma Electric Power Enterprise, Director-General U Zaw Win of Department of Electric Power and officials.

They discussed friendly relationship and development tasks for electric power sector. "The New Light of Myanmar" (Internet version) 98-10-07

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They discussed mutual cooperation in Paunglaung Hydel Power Project to be implemented. "The New Light of Myanmar" (Internet version) 98-10-07

Minister for Industry-1 receives MD of Wincal Pharmaceutical

YANGON, 13 Oct - Minister for Industry-1 U Aung Thaung received Managing Director Mr Wong Sue Hung, Jimmy and party of Wincal Pharmaceutical Co Ltd of the People's Republic of China at his office at 1 pm today.

Also present were Deputy Minister Col Than Zin, Director-General U Win Zaw

Nyunt of Directorate of Industries, Director-General U Tin Hlaing of Regional Industrial Coordination and Industrial Inspection Department and Managing Director Col Myint Oo of Myanma Pharmaceutical Industries. "The New Light of Myanmar" (Internet version) 98-10-14

PRC company donates medicines worth US \$ 6,000 to Medical Services

YANGON, 14 Oct - CVC Central Medical Products Co Ltd of the People's Republic of China donated medicines worth US \$ 6,000 to the Defence Services Medical Services today.

The donation ceremony at the Defence Services Medical Research and Development Committee Office, No 2 Military Hospital, this evening was graced by Secretary-2 of the State Peace and Development Council Chief of Bureau of Special Operations and Chief of Staff (Army) Lt-Gen Tin Oo.

First, Vice-Chairman of CVC Central Medical Products Co Ltd Mr Yang Wei Qin explained the objective of the donations and handed the medicines to Director of Medical Services Brig-Gen Mya Thein Han who accepted the donations and presented a certificate of honour.

Also present were Deputy Director of Medical Services Col Aung Naing, General Staff Officer (Grade I) Lt-Col Thaung Htaik, Lt-Col Ye Thwe of No 2 Military Hospital, Lt-Col Thein Soe of No 1 Medical Depot and senior military officers, Medical Specialists and personnel of CVC Central Medical Products Co Ltd. "The New Light of Myanmar" (Internet version) 98-10-15

Title: China: Chinese-Built Ship Added To Burma Transport Services

Document Number: FBIS-CHI-98-288

Sourceline: OW1510060098 Beijing Xinhua in English 0411 GMT 15 Oct 98

Rangoon, October 15 (Xinhua) -- A 12,000-ton Chinese-built ship has been added to the state-run Myanmar [Burma] Five Star Line (MFSL) in its overseas and coastal shipping services, bringing the total number of its fleet to 24.

The mv Dawei multi-purpose sea-going vessel, which launched its maiden voyage on September 9 and arrived the Yangon Port on October 10, is one of the two 12,000-ton ships that Myanmar has agreed with the China National Machinery Import and Export Corporation to build for the MFSL.

Built at Xing Gang Shipyard in China's Titangyin in accord with Lloyd's class, the mv Dawei can carry 11,654 tons of cargo including 382 containers of 20 feet or 138 containers of 40 feet.

With a speed of 14.7 nautical miles (27.239 kilometers) per hour, it can cruise up to 12,000 miles (19,200 kilometers) without refueling. Its sister ship mv Kengtung and two other 440-seat passenger cargo coastal vessels are expected to be completed soon.

According to official statistics, in 1997-98 fiscal year which ended in March, Myanmar's state inland water transport undertook transport services with 358 powered barges and 342 non-powered ones. The MFSL launched overseas and coastal shipping services with 23 ocean liners and

coastal vessels.

Privately owned vessels totaled 4,282 including 2,832 powered vessels and 1,450 coastal vessels in the fiscal year.

12,000-ton MV Dawei added to Myanmar Five Star Line

YANGON, 14 Oct - A ceremony was held on board MV Dawei at Yangon Port this morning to welcome the maiden voyage of the 12,000-ton multi-purpose sea-going cargo vessel.

MV Dawei is one of the two 12,000-ton ships Myanmar has agreed with China National Machinery Import and Export Corporation (CMEC) to build for Myanmar Five Star Line, said Minister for Transport Lt-Gen Tin Ngwe at the ceremony.

By adding MV Dawei, MFSL fleet has now 24 ships.

Its sister ship MV Kengteng and two other 440-seated passenger-cargo coastal vessels will be completed soon.

Built at Xing Gang Shipyard in Titangyin, the People's Republic of China, in accord with Lloyd's class, MV Dawei can carry 11,654 tons of cargo including 382 20-foot containers or 138 40-foot containers, he said.

With speed of 14.7 nautical miles per hour, it can cruise up to 12,000 miles without refuelling.

It began its maiden voyage from the shipyard on 9 September 1998 and arrived the port on 10 October, earned \$ 392,000 on her way to Yangon by conveying over 1,000 tons of soda ash from Xing Gang, over 6,000 tons of steel coils from Pyung Teak port, Republic of Korea, over 1,400 tons of trucks, mini-buses and general goods from Pusan port, and over 6,000 ton of cars and general cargo from Yokohama port, Japan, totalling over 15,000 tons.

Vice-Chairman of CMEC Mr Li Shuzi also gave a speech.

The ship will leave Yangon for Mumbai in India on 17 October.

Deputy Minister Brig-Gen Kyaw Myint, directors-general and managing directors of departments and enterprises under the Ministry of Transport, principals, Managing Director of MFSL Col Khin Maung Kyi, officials of CMEC, Managing Director Mr Shao Fengchong of Xing Gang Shipyard and guests were also present. "The New Light of Myanmar" (Internet version) 98-10-15

Myanmar delegation leaves for China

YANGON, 14 Oct - A Myanmar delegation led by Minister for Industry-2 Maj-Gen Hla Myint Swe left for the People's Republic of China by air this evening to discuss prospects of industrial cooperation and to study the industries there at the invitation of Minister for State Administration of Machinery Industry of PRC for boosting industrial cooperation between the

Union of Myanmar and PRC.

The delegation led by Minister for Industry-2 Maj-Gen Hla Myint Swe were seen off at Yangon International Airport by Minister for Industry-1 U Aung Thaung, Minister for Foreign Affairs U Ohn Gyaw, Deputy Minister for Industry-2 U Thein Tun, officials of the PRC Embassy, departmental officials and relatives.

The delegation includes Director-General U Khin Maung of Directorate of Myanmar Industrial Planning, Managing Director U Than Tun of Myanmar Agricultural Machinery Industries, Managing Director Lt-Col Oo Zun of Myanmar Tyre and Rubber Industries and Deputy Director U Khin Maung Cho of Directorate of Myanmar Industrial Planning. "The New Light of Myanmar" (Internet version) 98-10-15

Mid-Year Gems Emporium Displays 1,386 Lots at Reserve Price \$ 11.37m

Information Sheet N0.A-0652 (I) 17th October 1998

A total of 1,386 gems lots at a reserve price of \$ 11.37 million are on display at Mid-Year Myanmar Gems Emporium. The emporium displays 962 jade lots at a reserve price of \$ 5.96 million, 254 gem lots at \$ 3.5 million and 170 pearl lots at \$ 1.91 million. Sponsored by Myanmar Gems Emporium Central Committee, it will be held from 16 to 22 October. Over 300 merchants of 51 companies from 13 countries will attend the emporium to be held at Myanmar Gems Mart. More quality stones and lots are included in this emporium than in the previous sales as the State is providing assistance to gems miners such as rendering advanced cash and loans and speedy foreign currency services and curbing smuggling gems abroad. The reserve prices for the lots are lower than in the past sales due to currency devaluation and economic instability in international scene. Over 50 new merchants from Canton and Yunnan provinces of the People's Republic of China are expected to attend the emporium, coordinations are under way to sell jade blocks to Yunnan by land.

Title: China: Wu Bangguo Meets Burma Visitor

Document Number: FBIS-CHI-98-292

Sourceline: OW1910160798 Beijing Xinhua in English 1311 GMT 19 Oct 98

Beijing, October 19 (Xinhua) -- Chinese Vice-Premier Wu Bangguo met with Minister of Industry Two Hla Myint Swe of Myanmar here today. The Myanmar visitor was invited by the State Machine-Building Industry Bureau.

Minister meets Chinese entrepreneurs

YANGON, 23 Oct - Minister for Industry-1 U Aung Thaung met Yangon-based in-charge Mr Wu Yahl Chai of China Chen Zhou Engineering and Yangon-based in-charge Mr Gao Jia Ling of Kunming Light Industry Machinery Corporation of the People's Republic of China at his office at 3 pm today.

Present were Deputy Minister Col Than Zin, Director-General U Win Zaw Nyunt

U.S., CHINA ALLIES IN WAR ON DRUGS

HOUSTON CHRONICLE: 31 October, 1998

WASHINGTON - In a step toward joint operations to fight international crime, the United States and China have established a secret electronic surveillance post along China's border with Burma to eavesdrop on narcotics traffickers from the Golden Triangle, one of the world's biggest sources of heroin, sources say.

The U.S. government has also given China several dozen Humvee vehicles for narcotics interdiction in mountainous terrain along the Burmese border. Chinese sources also said that the United States has established a secret fund that Chinese officials can access to run the surveillance center.

The listening post, staffed by Chinese and U.S. agents near the Chinese border town of Ruili in southern Yunnan province, marks a significant step forward in a U.S. intelligence-sharing relationship with China that dates back to 1971.

It follows on the operation in the 1980s by the CIA and its Chinese counterpart of listening posts in China's far-western Xinjiang Autonomous Region to monitor Soviet nuclear weapons tests.

The 1995 opening of the Ruili post illustrates the complexities of the United States' ties with China, which can include negative as well as positive engagements.

While U.S. agents were shuttling from Washington to Ruili, Yunnan's provincial capital of Kunming, and Beijing, installing the listening post, the countries were bickering over Taiwan, an island of 21 million that China views as a renegade province.

That dispute climaxed in 1996 when China lobbed missiles over Taiwanese territory and the United States dispatched two naval battle groups to warn China that U.S. officials would not tolerate an attack on Taiwan.

However, the tremors did not affect the establishment of the listening post, Chinese sources said, adding that intelligence cooperation is insulated from what one Chinese source called "short-term" troubles in the relationship.

In fact, the Ruili listening post is only the most advanced new initiatives that U.S. intelligence and law enforcement agencies are launching with China to battle crime.

After the October 1997 summit in Washington between President Clinton and Chinese President Jiang Zemin, a liaison group for law enforcement agreed last month to draw up a list of U.S. and Chinese suspects believed to be operating in each other's countries.

Title: China: Burmese Newspaper Begins Publishing in Chinese Language

Document Number: FBIS-CHI-98-308

Document Date: 4 Nov 1998

Sourceline: OW0411052298 Beijing Xinhua in English 0200 GMT 04 Nov 98

Yangon [Rangoon], November 4 (Xinhua) -- The Myanmar Morning Post began publishing here Wednesday in Chinese language. This is the first

time in 30 years that Myanmar [Burma] allowed a newspaper in the Chinese language to be published.

The Myanmar Morning Post will be initially published on a weekly basis with a circulation of 5,000 on every Wednesday and be distributed across Myanmar and to other countries and regions such as Singapore, Thailand, Malaysia, the United States, Britain, Canada, China's Hong Kong Special Administrative Region and Macao.

The newspaper, which is planned to increase its publication from once a week to twice or thrice a week, is made up of 16 pages containing columns of local and foreign news, economic, trade and investment information, culture and advertisements.

Before the middle of the 1960s, there were six newspapers in the Chinese language in Myanmar. They are the People's Post, the China Daily, the China Commerce Post, the New Yangon Post, the Freedom Daily and the Times.

On January 1, 1966, all the newspapers terminated their publication because the Myanmar authorities stopped issuing permits to them.

Title: China: Burma, PRC Company Sign Power Project Contract

Document Number: FBIS-CHI-98-315

Document Date: 11 Nov 1998

Sourceline: OW1111061498 Beijing Xinhua in English 0547 GMT 11 Nov 98

Rangoon, November 11 (Xinhua) -- The Myanmar [Burma] electric power authorities and a Chinese Yunnan company reached one more contract here Wednesday on the implementation of the Paunglaung Hydroelectric Power Project in Pyinmana, central Mandalay division of the country.

The signing ceremony of the second volume contract between the state-run Myanmar Electric Power Enterprise (MEPE) and the Yunnan Machinery and Equipment Import and Export Corporation (YMEC) of China was attended by Minister of Electric Power Major-General Tin Htut and Economic and Commercial Counsellor of the Chinese Embassy Lin Jian.

Representing their respective parties, Director-General of the MEPE U Yang Naing and President of the YMEC Lin Zai You signed the contract. According to the 10 million US dollar contract, the YMEC is to provide machinery and equipment and spare parts for construction of the underground factory.

The Chinese side will extend seller's credit, while the Myanmar side is to make advance payment of 5 percent. The term of repayment is 5 years with a grace period of 2 years.

The first volume contract of the project, which is worth 160 million dollars, was signed here in early last month, according to which the YMEC is to provide the complete set of machinery and equipment, design underground factory and direct work implementation.

The Paunglaung hydroelectric power station, with an installed capacity of 280 megawatts accounting for 28 percent of Myanmar's existing installed capacity, will mainly generate electricity and will also possess agricultural irrigation capacity.

Since 1989, the YMEC has been cooperating with Myanmar in building hydroelectric power stations and has exported to the country complete sets of related equipment for 17 small and medium stations of its kind, accounting for 94.4 percent of the country's hydroelectric power projects.

[Description of source: Beijing Xinhua in English -- China's official

news service for English-language audiences (New China News Agency)]

Secretary-2 receives DGM of China Tuhsu Hainan Imp & Exp Corp

YANGON, 11 Nov - Secretary-2 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Tin Oo received Deputy General Manager Mr Liu Guohua of China Tuhsu Hainan Imp & Exp Corp of the People's Republic of China and party at Dagon Yeiktha of the Ministry of Defence at 9 am today.

Minister at the State Peace and Development Council Chairman's Office Brig-Gen Abel and Minister at Prime Minister's Office Brig-Gen Lun Maung were also present. "The New Light of Myanmar" (Internet version) 98-11-12

YMEC to supply \$ 10m worth of heavy equipment for Paunglaung Hydel Power Project

YANGON, 11 Nov - Yunnan Machinery & Equipment Corporation has agreed today to supply 96 units of heavy equipment worth US \$ 10 million for Paunglaung Hydel Power Project.

This is the second agreement reached between YMEC of Yunnan Province, the People's Republic of China, and Myanma Electric Power Enterprise concerning Paunglaung Hydel Power Project, said Minister for Electric Power Maj-Gen Tin Hut at the signing ceremony.

The primary agreement to buy US \$ 160 million worth of machinery for the project was reached between the two enterprises here in 6 October 1998, he recounted.

Reaching of this agreement will further strengthen the existing bilateral friendship, cooperation and understanding between the two nations, he declared.

Designated as the national project, Paunglaung Hydel Power Project is being implemented by the leading committee led by Secretary-2 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Tin Oo and comprising ministers, he said.

The government is making efforts for completion of the project as scheduled, if possible earlier than scheduled, he said.

Chairman of YMEC Mr Lin Zai You said his corporation will supply the most advanced Chinese-made equipment as well as modern machinery from Sweden, Finland, the United States and Japan. YMEC will work in accord with the contract for early completion of the underground hydel power station and for the entire plant he assured.

Managing Director of MEPE U Yan Naing also spoke.

Mr Lin Zai You and U Yan Naing signed the contract at the ministry.

Secretary of Myanmar Investment Commission Minister at the State Peace and Development Council Chairman's Office Brig-Gen Maung Maung, Minister for

Energy Brig-Gen Lun Thi, Minister Maj-Gen Tin Ngwe, Minister at Prime Minister's Office Brig-Gen Lun Maung, Deputy Minister for Electric Power Brig-Gen Maung Maung and officials were also present. "The New Light of Myanmar" (Internet version) 98-11-12

Title: Burma: Burma Looks to 'Good Friend' China To Beat Isolation

Document Number: FBIS-EAS-98-320

Document Date: 16 Nov 1998

Sourceline: BK1711023698 Hong Kong AFP in English 0134 GMT 17 Nov 98

Subslug: As of filing time, Burmese media monitored at Bangkok Bureau have not been observed to report the following

YANGON, Nov 17 (AFP) -- Pilloried by the West and disappointed with the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), Myanmar is turning to its "big brother" China for support and investment, ministers say.

"We have a good friend, the big brother is helping us," one senior minister confided to AFP in an interview.

With the West refusing to grant Myanmar vital investment because of the government's failure to recognise a 1990 election defeat, and ASEAN funding slashed by the economic crisis, officials hope China may step into the vacuum.

They warn that by ostracising the country, western nations may be prodding Myanmar towards its powerful northern neighbour, which is poised to become a 21st century superpower.

"If you are pushing from one side, naturally we will lean to the other side," said Brigadier General Maung Maung, an economics minister and secretary of the Myanmar Investment Commission.

"If you don't want us to lean to the other side don't push."

Another minister, Brigadier General D.O. Abel said Beijing had already helped Myanmar in dam construction and pointed to the growing Chinese influence in the central city of Mandalay.

"China has been very supportive of Myanmar, they come forth to help in every little way they can," he said.

A Yangon based diplomat said China may be eyeing southern ports and markets for its populous Yunnan province.

"China did step into a vacuum," especially in commercial sectors, he said, but cautioned ASEAN nations realised Myanmar's argument it was pushing for closer ties with Beijing was "basically a weak one."

"The fact is our friend in the north has its own problems," he said, adding Beijing had reportedly refused to grant balance of payments relief to Myanmar.

Ministers here play up the country's strategic importance and potential as an ally for the West, given its position between regional heavyweights India and China.

"They risk losing a lot because Myanmar has been the balancing factor all along between two big giants," said Abel.

However, should China, the West and ASEAN turn the other cheek, the government insists it can ride out the storm alone.

The doctrine of "self reliance" preached by socialist strongman Ne Win between 1962 and 1988, is rearing its head again as the economy crumbles amid high inflation and a rocky currency.

"We will go on with our objective -- if you come we can reach our objectives quicker," said Abel.

"We are not at the end of the road, some people look to tomorrow, we

look to more than tomorrow."

Junta ministers admit that they would be loath to step back from the country's stated neutrality policy, under which every country is regarded as a friend but none are allies.

Historically, many Burmese have been suspicious of Chinese influence, according to some analysts and may resent the heavy Chinese presence in Mandalay.

Myanmar, which is desperate to exploit abundant oil and gas reserves, has been drained of foreign investment by the United States embargo and other punitive measures maintained by the European Union.

The government has been waging a long campaign against the National League for Democracy (NLD) of Aung San Suu Kyi, and refuses to recognise the party's 1990 election victory.

In its first year as an ASEAN member Myanmar has also been deprived of funding from its neighbours which are fighting their own battles with economic turmoil.

"It has been a real drain for them, they (Myanmar) have got nothing out of it," said another Yangon based diplomat.

Prior to the crisis half of foreign direct investment came from ASEAN members.

[Description of source: Hong Kong AFP in English -- Hong Kong service of the independent French press agency Agence France-Presse]

Minister meets Chinese delegation

YANGON, 18 Nov - Minister for Electric Power Maj-Gen Tin Htut met Chairman Mr Sun Xiaowen of China International Trust and Investment Corporation Technology Co Ltd of Beijing, People's Republic of China, who called at his office this afternoon.

They discussed friendly relations, mutual understanding and strengthening of economic cooperation between the two countries.

Also present at the call were Director-General U Zaw Win of Electric Power Department, Managing Director U Yan Naing of Myanma Electric Power Enterprise and officials. "The New Light of Myanmar" (Internet version) 98-11-19

Minister meets GM of China Machine-Building Intl Corp

YANGON, 20 Nov - Minister for Industry-1 U Aung Thaung met General Manager Mr Zheng Rongguang and party of China Machine-Building International Corporation (Sichuan Branch) of the Peoples Republic of China who called at his office at 3 pm today.

Also present on the occasion were directors-general and managing directors of departments and enterprises under the ministry. "The New Light of Myanmar" (Internet version) 98-11-21

Title: China: Burma, Chinese Companies Sign Power Project Agreement

Document Number: FBIS-CHI-98-325

Document Date: 21 Nov 1998

Sourceline: OW2111052598 Beijing Xinhua in English 0511 GMT 21 Nov 98

Yangon, November 21 (Xinhua) -- Myanmar [Burmese] electric power authorities and a Chinese company have reached an agreement on the implementation of two hydroelectric power projects in the central part of Myanmar [Burma].

The agreement was signed Friday between the state-run Myanmar Electric Power Enterprise (MEPE) and the China International Trust and Investment Corporation Technology Co. Ltd. (CITIC), with the presence of Second Secretary of the Myanmar State Peace and Development Council Lieutenant-General Tin Oo, Minister of Electric Power Major-General Tin Htut and Chinese Ambassador to Myanmar Lian Dong.

Under the agreement, worth about 52 million US dollars, the two sides will implement the Mone Creek Reservoir Hydroelectric Power Project on the Mone creek in Sedoktara township, Magway division, and the Thaphanseik Reservoir Hydroelectric Power Project on Mu river near Thaphanseik village west of Thityabin, Kanbalu township, Sagaing division.

The first project could generate 330 million kilowatt-hours (KWHs) per year, and the second 117 million KWHs annually on completion.

Early this month, the MEPE and the Yunnan Machinery and Equipment Import and Export Corporation (YMEC) of China signed a second contract worth 10 million dollars on the implementation of the Paunglaung Hydroelectric Power Project (PHPP) in Pyinmana, central Mandalay division of the country.

The PHPP's first 160-million-dollar contract was signed here early last month. The project would have an installed capacity of 280 megawatts, accounting for 28 percent of Myanmar's existing installed capacity.

Since 1989, the YMEC has been cooperating with Myanmar in building hydroelectric power stations and has exported to the country complete sets of related equipment for 17 small and medium power stations, which make up 94.4 percent of the country's hydroelectric power projects.

[Description of source: Beijing Xinhua in English -- China's official news service for English-language audiences (New China News Agency)]

MEPE and CITIC sign agreement on implementation of hydroelectric power projects

YANGON, 20 Nov - Myanma Electric Power Enterprise of the Ministry of Electric Power and China International Trust and Investment Corporation Technology Co Ltd (CITIC) of the People's Republic of China signed an agreement on implementation of Mone Creek Hydroelectric Power Project and Thaphanseik Hydroelectric Power Project at the International Business Centre on Pyay Road this morning, and Secretary-2 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Tin Oo attended the agreement-signing ceremony.

Also present were Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation Maj-Gen Nyunt Tin, Minister for National Planning and Economic Development U Soe Tha, Ministers at the Office of the Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Min Thein and Brig-Gen Maung Maung, Minister for Energy Brig Gen Lun Thi, Minister for Electric Power Maj-Gen Tin Htut, Ministers at the Prime Minister's Office Brig-Gen Lun Maung and Lt-Gen Tin Ngwe, Minister Maj-Gen Tin Ngwe, Deputy Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation U Ohn Myint, Deputy Minister at the State Peace and Development Council

Chairman's Office U Set Maung, Deputy Minister for Electric Power Brig-Gen Maung Maung, Ambassador of the People's Republic of China Mr Lian Dong, officials of the State Peace and Development Council Office, department heads and officials, the president and officials of CITIC and guests.

Maj-Gen Tin Htut said just as the agreement is on about US\$ 52 million worth economic cooperation, it can also be regarded as a token which further strengthens the long-time friendly ties, mutual understanding and cooperation.

He said that in efforts to build a peaceful, modern and developed nation, electricity is essential, and with a view to fulfilling the growing demands of electricity, such hydroelectric power projects as Paunglaung, Mone and Thaphanseik are being implemented simultaneously in accord with the guidelines of the Union of Myanmar Special Projects Implementation Committee. "The New Light of Myanmar" (Internet version) 98-11-21

CHINA, BURMA SIGN POWER DEAL

24.11.98/THE NATION/BUSINESS

REUTERS

RANGOON - China's state-owned International Trust and Investment Corp technology Co has signed a US\$52-million deal with Burma's Ministry of Electric Power to build two hydroelectric plants, the official Myanmar News Agency (MNA) said.

MNA reported on Saturday the two plants, in Kanbalu township, 480 km northwest of Rangoon would generate 330 and 117 million kilowatt hours of electricity a year. The agency did not say when the projects would be completed or give other financial details.

The deal, signed on Friday, was the second major agreement between Burma and China on hydroelectric power this year. The electric power ministry and China's Yunnan Machinery and Equipment Import and Export Corp recently signed agreements worth \$170 million to build Burma's first underground hydroelectric power plant.

The Paunglaung power plant, which will generate 280 megawatts of electricity when it is completed in 2002, was the biggest ever project agreed between Burma and China, officials said.

Shanghai Women's Association delegation tours Yangon

YANGON, 26 Nov - Chairperson Ms Meng Yaukun of Shanghai Women's Association of the People's Republic of China visited Super One Shopping Centre in Tamuway this afternoon.

Accompanied by Chairperson Prof Daw Kyu Kyu Swe of Myanmar Maternal and Child Welfare Association, Vice-Chairperson Dr Khin Win Shwe, executives and staff of PRC Embassy, they went shopping at the centre.

Managing Director Daw San San Yi of the centre presented a souvenir to Ms Meng Yaukun.

They also visited Shwedagon Pagoda and the Gems Museum of Myanmar Gems

Enterprise.

The Ambassador of PRC hosted dinner in honour of them.

The delegation arrived Mandalay yesterday.

They studied maternal and child welfare activities there. "The New Light of Myanmar" (Internet version) 98-11-27

Title: China: 'Roundup' Views Burma's Border Trade

Document Number: FBIS-CHI-98-331

Sourceline: OW2711062798 Beijing Xinhua in English 0322 GMT 27 Nov 98

Subslug: "Roundup" by Duan Tingchang: "Myanmar strives To Promote Border Trade"

Yangon [Rangoon], November 27 (Xinhua) -- Myanmar [Burma] has opened a total of 12 border points with neighboring countries to promote its border trade with them since the government took over the power of state in late 1988. Myanmar has border trade with China, Thailand, India and Bangladesh under bilateral agreements, carrying out trade activities at six trade points with China, four with Thailand and one each with India and Bangladesh. China is one of Myanmar's major trading partners. The two countries reached a border trade agreement in October 1988.

The inauguration of Bhamo (Lweje) border trade point of the Myanmar side in August this year brought the number of such points with China to six, and three of them are designated as state-level ones.

According to Myanmar official statistics, bilateral trade including border trade between Myanmar and China amounted to 331 million US dollars in the 1997-98 fiscal year, rising from 242 million dollars the previous year, with the balance of trade in China's favor.

Myanmar began border trade with Thailand, its other major trading partner, in March 1996 at four border points. The addition of the Thai-Myanmar Friendship Bridge on the Moei (Thaungyin) River linking border towns of Myawaddy (Myanmar) and Maesot (Thailand) in August 1997 has also facilitated bilateral border trade.

The Thai trade authorities proposed in September this year to establish a border trade coordinating agency of the two countries, and suggested it meet three times a year.

The Thai side has asked Myanmar to lift its ban on exports of such goods as gem stones, seafood and some livestock animals.

Meanwhile, the Myanmar side is considering easing its restrictions on the export of artificial flowers, seafood and fresh-water fishery products except buffaloes or cows for fear of shortages at home.

According to official statistics, bilateral trade including border trade between Myanmar and Thailand stood at 330 million dollars in the 1997-98 fiscal year, up from 289 million dollars in 1996-97. The balance of trade was in Thailand's favor.

Myanmar's trade links with India also grew after the two countries formally inaugurated border trade in April 1995. Since then, bilateral trade at the border point of Tamu (Myanmar)-Moreh (India) has grown markedly. Meanwhile, India has agreed with Myanmar in principle to open two more border trade points, while undertaking to upgrade the infrastructure facilities of Tamu-Kalemyo highway.

To promote trade with Myanmar, India held two trade exhibitions in Yangon [Rangoon] in 1995 and 1997.

Bilateral trade has registered significant growth in the past four years with Myanmar's exports to India rising from 111.9 million dollars in 1993-94 to 236.63 million dollars in 1997-98, according to Myanmar official Economic Indicators.

Myanmar's imports from India increased from 46.89 million dollars to 107 million dollars during the same period. Myanmar enjoyed a large surplus in its trade with India.

Myanmar and Bangladesh signed an agreement on border trade in May 1994, with the Maungtau (Myanmar)-Teknaf (Bangladesh) trade point formally opened in September 1995.

Bilateral trade including border trade stands at about 8 million dollars annually.

To promote its trade with Myanmar, Bangladesh held two trade fairs in Yangon in March 1995 and May 1996.

A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) signed between the two countries' major trade organizations in July this year in Dhaka envisages trade expansion and economic cooperation.

Under the MOU, a Bangladesh-Myanmar business promotion center will be set up in the private sector to explore the possibilities of increased bilateral trade and economic cooperation, particularly the possibility of setting up a special export processing zone in the border town of Teknaf in southeast Bangladesh, exclusively for joint ventures based on raw materials from Myanmar.

Two-way trade and investment between the two countries is expected to rise to 500 million dollars in two or three years.

In November 1997, Myanmar adjusted its border trade policy to turn the trade into a normal one, using US dollars as settling accounts instead of the local currencies.

Starting February this year, Myanmar exempted the commercial tax, which was previously levied at 5 percent, cut border trade services charges to 8 percent from 10 percent and raised the rate of income tax on imported goods from 1.5 percent to 2 percent.

Myanmar's foreign trade, including border trade with neighboring countries, in 1997-98 totaled 3.24 billion dollars. The exports amounted to one billion dollars, running a trade deficit of 1.24 billion dollars.

[Description of source: Beijing Xinhua in English -- China's official news service for English-language audiences (New China News Agency)]

Title: China: Liaoning Firm Signs Mining Agreement With Burma

Document Number: FBIS-CHI-98-331

Sourceline: OW2711104998 Beijing Xinhua in English 1044 GMT 27 Nov 98

Rangoon, November 27 (Xinhua) -- The Myanmar [Burma] mining authorities and a company in China's Liaoning reached an agreement here Friday on mineral prospecting, exploration and feasibility study for developing gold and copper deposits in the country's northern Kachin state. The signing ceremony of the agreement between the Department of Geological Survey and Mineral Exploration (DGSME) of the Myanmar Ministry of Mines and the Liaoning Jin Di Construction Consortium Co., Ltd. of China was attended by Myanmar Minister of Mines Brigadier-General Ohn Myint, Vice Secretary General of the Liaoning Provincial People's

Government Yu Fengsheng and Economic and Commercial Counselor of the Chinese Embassy Lin Jian.

Representing the respective parties, Director-General of DGSME U Soe Myint and Vice President Han Zhiming of the Chinese company signed the agreement.

This is the first agreement for a Chinese company to carry out mineral prospecting and exploration in Myanmar.

In recent years, more than a dozen foreign companies including those from Australia, Canada, Japan, Malaysia, Singapore, Thailand and the United States have been participating in mineral extraction in Myanmar, with Canadian companies specializing in copper mining.

According to official statistics, foreign investment in Myanmar's mining sector amounted to 501.36 million US dollars in 43 related projects at the end of May this year.

The latest statistics also show that the output value of Myanmar's mining sector rose 1.5 percent in the 1997-98 fiscal year which ended in March as compared with the previous year.

Minister meets Chinese delegation

YANGON, 28 NOV- Minister for Mines Brig Gen Ohn Myint met Vice Secretary-General Yu Fengsheng and party of Liaoning Jin Di Construction Consortium Co Ltd of the People's Republic of China who called at his office yesterday. They are here in connection with the work to search for old and cooper in Hsinbo, Nam-ki-sam and Bhamo Myothit regions, upper Myanmar.

Also present at the call were Deputy Minister U Myint Thein and officials.
"The New Light of Myanmar" (Internet version) 98-11-28

Chinese economic delegation arrives

YANGON, 2 Dec-A nine member Chinese economic delegation led by Adviser to People's Government of Yunnan Province Mr Linghu An from the People's Republic of China arrived here at 12.45 pm today promote friendly relations and economic cooperation.

They were welcomed at Yangon International Airport by Minister for Electric Power Maj-Gen Tin Htut, Deputy Minister for Electric Power Brig-Gen Maung Maung, Ambassador of PRC Mr Liang Dong, the director-general of Myanma Electric Power Department, the managing director of Myanma Electric Power Enterprise and officials of the Chinese Embassy. "The New Light of Myanmar" (Internet version) 98-12-03

Title: China: Burma Leader Meets Provincial Government Adviser

Document Number: FBIS-CHI-98-337

Document Date: 3 Dec 1998

Sourceline: OW0312145698 Beijing Xinhua in English 1433 GMT 3 Dec 98

Yangon [Rangoon], December 3 (Xinhua) -- First Secretary of the Myanmar [Burma] State Peace and Development Council Lieutenant-General Khin Nyunt met with visiting Advisor to the People's Government of Yunnan

Province of China Linghu An here Thursday afternoon.
Linghu An is also Chairman of the Yunnan Provincial Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference.

The two sides expressed their wish to further strengthen the neighborly and friendly ties and economic cooperation between the two countries.

Khin Nyunt said on the occasion that Myanmar would treasure the relationship between the two countries and attach importance to the development of goodwill relations with China, he added.

He reiterated that Myanmar would firmly follow the "One China" policy.

At the meeting, Linghu also said promotion and development of the two countries' friendly and cooperative relations are the common desire of the two sides.

He said that Myanmar's national reconsolidation, social stability, and economic development would benefit not only Myanmar but also China.

Present at the meeting were Myanmar Minister of Electric Power Major-General Tin Htut and Chinese ambassador to Myanmar Liang Dong. At the invitation of the Myanmar government, the Yunnan provincial goodwill delegation led by Linghu arrived here Wednesday for a six-day visit to Myanmar.

Secretary-2 receives Adviser to People's Government of Yunnan Province of PRC

YANGON, 2 Dec- Secretary-2 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Tin Oo received Adviser to People's Government of Yunnan Province Mr Linghu An and party who called at Dagon Yeiktha of the Ministry of Defence at 2.40 pm today.

Present on the occasion together with Secretary-2 Lt-Gen Tin Oo were Minister for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs Col Thein Nyunt, Minister for Electric Power Maj-Gen Tin Htut, Minister at the

Prime Minister's Office Brig-Gen Lun Maung, Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs U Khin Maung Win and Director-General of Protocol Department Thura U Aung Htet.

The guests were accompanied by Ambassador of People's Republic of China Mr Liang Dong. "The New Light of Myanmar" (Internet version) 98-12-03

Secretary-1 receives Adviser to People's Government of Yunnan Province of PRC

YANGON, 3 Dec - Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Khin Nyunt received Adviser to the People's Government of Yunnan Province Mr Linghu An and party who called at Dagon Yeiktha of the Ministry of Defence at 4 pm today.

Present on the occasion together with Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Khin Nyunt were Minister at the Office of Chairman of State Peace and Development Council Brig-Gen Abel, Minister for Home Affairs Col Tin Hlaing, Minister for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs Col Thein Nyunt, Minister for Electric Power Maj-Gen Tin Htut, Minister for Foreign Affairs U Win Aung, Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs U Khin Maung Win, Deputy Minister for Commerce Commodore Myo Tint and Director-General of Protocol Department Thura U Aung Htet.

The guests here accompanied by Ambassador of the People's Republic of China Mr Liang Dong: "The New Light of Myanmar" (Internet version) 98-12-04

General Maung Aye receives PRC Military, Naval and Air Attaches

YANGON, 3 Dec -- Vice-Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) General Maung Aye received Military, Naval and Air Attache Senior Colonel He Yaokui who has completed his tour of duty and his successor Senior Colonel Ma Shoudong from People's Republic of China at Dagon Yeiktha of the Ministry of Defence at 8.30 am today.

Present on the occasion together with General Maung Aye were Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Chief of the Office of Strategic Studies and Director of Defence Services Intelligence Lt-Gen Khin Nyunt, Secretary-2 of the State Peace and Development Council Chief of Bureau of Special Operations and Chief of Staff (Army) Lt-Gen Tin Oo, Commander-in-Chief (Navy) Rear Admiral Nyunt Thein and Commander-in-Chief (Air) Maj-Gen Kyaw Than. "The New Light of Myanmar" (Internet version) 98-12-04

Title: China: PRC Buddhists Congratulate Burma on University Opening

Document Number: FBIS-CHI-98-343

Document Date: 9 Dec 1998

Sourceline: OW1012035398 Beijing Xinhua in English 0322 GMT 10 Dec 98

Yangon, December 10 (Xinhua) -- The Buddhist Association (BA) of China has congratulated Myanmar [Burma] on the founding of its first International Theravada (Little Vehicle) Buddhist Missionary University (ITBMU).

The ITBMU, Myanmar's permanent center of higher learning of the Theravada Buddhism in various languages, was grandly inaugurated at the Mahapasana (Great) Cave of Kaba-aye (World Peace) Hill here Wednesday. The message of congratulation from China's BA was read by Venerable Chuan Yin, member of the Standing Committee of the BA of China, who attended the inaugural ceremony.

Chuan Yin is also Deputy Director of the Chinese Buddhist Academy and Abbot of Dong Lin Monastery at Lushan Mountain.

The message said the good neighborly ties between China and Myanmar has begun since ancient times.

Especially after 1950, the friendly exchanges between the Buddhists of the two countries have been further developed with the Holy Tooth Relic of Lord Buddha visiting Myanmar three times, the message stated.

Friendly exchanges have further promoted the mutual understanding and traditional friendship between Buddhists of the two countries, the message added. The message firmly believed that the newly founding of the ITBMU would contribute to training more Buddhist talents and propagating Buddhism in the future.

In addition to the Chinese message, messages sent by Buddhist organizations of Cambodia, Laos and Sri Lanka were also read by their respective representatives.

Along with Myanmar leaders, ministers and religious personnel, representatives of Buddhist circles from 14 countries -- China, Laos, Cambodia, Vietnam, Malaysia, Singapore, Republic of Korea, Japan, India,

Sri Lanka, Nepal, Russia, Britain and the United States attended the ceremony.

Title: China: 'Roundup' Views Burma's Role in ASEAN

Document Number: FBIS-CHI-98-347

Sourceline: OW1412035498 Beijing Xinhua in English 0325 GMT 14 Dec 98

Subslug: "Roundup" by Duan Tingchang: "Myanmar Seeks Active Role in ASEAN"

Yangon [Rangoon], December 14 (Xinhua) -- Myanmar [Burma] has been working closely with other members of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) since its entry into the grouping in July 1997, trying to play an active part in the meetings and activities of the organization.

In January, Myanmar attended the 7th ASEAN Tourism Forum held in Cebu, the Philippines, and joined in signing a memorandum of understanding (MOU) on regional cooperation in tourism with the aim to draw more tourists from ASEAN member countries, especially Malaysia, Singapore, and Thailand which are key tourist suppliers in the region.

Myanmar participated in the Second ASEAN Finance Ministers Meeting in Jakarta, Indonesia, in February, reaffirming its readiness to cooperate with other ASEAN member nations in solving currency and other economic issues.

In cooperation with Singapore's Hanns Seidel Foundation and the ASEAN Secretariat, Myanmar held for the first time in May a training workshop on participation in the ASEAN Framework Services Agreement to enhance the commitment of the grouping's new members.

The workshop covered topics on seven services sectors to be liberalized within the context of the ASEAN Free Trade Area (AFTA) such as services of finance, tourism, telecommunications, air and maritime transport, construction and business.

Senior finance officials of the ASEAN met in Yangon, capital of Myanmar, in July to discuss the regional currency crisis which has swept the region for over a year. Myanmar Minister of Finance and Revenue U Khin Maung Thein admitted at the meeting that the crisis has affected his country slightly, and called for cooperation with other ASEAN member countries in resolving the crisis.

In the same month, Myanmar joined in setting up a foundation in Jakarta to promote people to people contact, human resources development, education, skill training, healthcare and culture.

Later that month, Myanmar, along with other ASEAN member nations, agreed at the 5th meeting of ASEAN information ministers in Bangkok, Thailand, to launch an ASEAN satellite channel by 2000 as a step to enhance exchange of information.

The agreement also included launching a new website for culture and information.

Also in July, Myanmar joined in signing the second protocol of the Treaty of Amity and Cooperation (TAC) and the Joint Declaration on Drug-Free ASEAN at the 31st ASEAN Ministerial Meeting held in Manila, the Philippines.

At the end of July, then Myanmar Foreign Minister and Chairman of the National Commission for Environmental Affairs U Ohn Gyaw attended the ASEAN Environment Ministers Meeting in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, which was aimed at coordinating measures to deal with recurrence of forest fires and haze in

the region.

Myanmar Minister of Energy Brigadier-General Lun Thi participated in the 16th ASEAN Energy Meeting held in Singapore in August to strengthen the cooperation in energy sector among ASEAN nations. The meeting called for continuing to lay natural gas pipelines and supply power according to the ASEAN Vision 2020.

Myanmar also hosted the 7th meeting of the Working Committee on Investment of ASEAN in August, which discussed the drafting of a framework agreement for the grouping's investment area, which was later presented to the meeting of ASEAN Economic Ministers held in Manila in October.

Myanmar attended as observer the 19th Working Committee Meeting and the General Assembly of ASEAN Inter-Parliamentary Organization (AIPO) held in Kuala Lumpur in August, during which Myanmar elaborated its adoption of a step-by-step approach in the development of the country's multi-party democratic process, and expressed its wish to become a member of the AIPO. To promote its cooperation with other ASEAN members in transport, Myanmar joined in signing an agreement on mutual recognition of commercial vehicle inspection certificates and endorsing a Framework Agreement on Cooperation in Goods and Public Services Vehicles by ASEAN member countries. The agreement, reached at the 4th ASEAN Transport Ministers Meeting held in Singapore in September, was aimed at facilitating cross-border movement of goods and vehicles.

In this respect, Myanmar has formed a Special Action Committee which involves four concerned ministries to formulate an action plan for active participation in implementing the ASEAN plan of action in the sector.

Myanmar also joined in endorsing a plan for cooperation in food, agriculture and forestry at the 20th Agricultural and Forestry Ministers Meeting in Hanoi, Vietnam, in September.

In order to revive its economy hit by the ongoing Asian financial crisis, Myanmar agreed to work together with other ASEAN member nations according to a decision made at the 30th ASEAN Economic Ministers Meeting in Manila in October, endorsing the Framework Agreement on ASEAN Investment Area and the protocol on the notification of procedures in connection with the Common Effective Preferential Tariff Scheme.

To promote greater intra-ASEAN trade and mitigate the impact of the financial crisis, six ASEAN member countries including Myanmar also agreed at the meeting to use local currencies in regional trade.

The members also signed at the meeting an agreement to remove restrictions on investment to make the region more attractive to investors.

Myanmar also took part in the 5th ASEAN Science and Technology Conference in Hanoi in October, which discussed science and technology related issues in the Hanoi Plan of Action with the aim of implementing the ASEAN Vision 2020.

In order to facilitate its tasks of the livestock and fisheries sector in cooperation with other ASEAN members, Myanmar formed a national-level fisheries federation in December.

After joining the ASEAN, Myanmar had attracted 3.69 billion US dollars of investment in 143 projects from five ASEAN member countries by the end of May this year, which made up 52.28 percent of the total 7.06 billion dollars of foreign investment in the country.

Secretary-2 receives CCEC Chairman

YANGON, 14 Dec-Secretary-2 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen

Tin Oo received Chairman Prof Mr Luo Shu Sheng of Chengda Chemical Engineering Corporation of Sichuan Province, the People's Republic of China, and party at Dagon Yeiktha of the Ministry of Defence this afternoon.

Also present at the call together with the Secretary-2 were Minister for Labour Maj-Gen Tin Ngwe, Minister at Prime Minister's Office Lt-Gen Tin Ngwe, Vice-Quartermaster-General Brig-Gen Kyaw Win and officials. "The New Light of Myanmar" (Internet version) 988-12-15

Deputy Minister for Construction leaves for China

YANGON, 16 Dec Myanmar delegation led by Deputy Minister for Construction Brig-Gen Thura Aye Myint left here by air this afternoon for the People's Republic of China.

Deputy Minister for Construction Brig-Gen Thura Aye Myint and officials will inspect production of frames in China Chenzhou Highway Engineering Machinery Works, which are to be used for Anawrahta Bridge (Chauk) project across the Ayeyawady River and Min Chaung Bridge project and factories of China Shipbuilding Trading Company Limited and China National Constructional & Agricultural Machinery Import and Export Corporation.

The delegation was seen off at Yangon International Airport by heads of departments and officials under the Ministry of Construction.

The delegation comprises Superintending Engineer (Planning) of Public Works U Soe Han of Anawrahta Bridge (Chauk) and Superintending Engineer (Bridge) U Han Zaw as members. "The New Light of Myanmar" (Internet version) 98-12-17

Title: China: Report on Investment Growth in Yunnan

Document Number: FBIS-CHI-98-351

Document Date: 17 Dec 1998

Sourceline: OW1712083498 Beijing Xinhua in English 0729 GMT 17 Dec 98

Kunming, December 17 (Xinhua) -- While Southeast Asian countries are still struggling with the financial crisis and lack of investment, decreasing production, and falling exports, the Chinese province of Yunnan just across the border has had some of the fastest investment growth in China.

The Provincial Statistics Bureau reported today that the province has started construction of more than 3,000 new projects this year and investment in fixed assets is expected to reach 68 billion yuan, an increase 14 percentage points higher than the nation's average.

Financial support from the Central government for Yunnan amounted to 6.2 billion yuan, an increase that is just behind that for the cities of Beijing, Tianjin and Shanghai.

Yunnan borders Laos, Viet Nam and Myanmar [Burma] and is not far from Thailand. Half its exports go to Southeast Asia, which provides half Yunnan's overseas tourists.

Companies from the Republic of Korea (ROK), Thailand, and Japan account for 80 percent of the province's overseas investors. But, the

financial crisis caused big decreases in Yunnan's border and processing trade from January to June, and caused the number of tourists from Southeast Asia to drop to a fifth what it was in the same period of 1996. The province's GDP from January to June grew around 7 percent. Yunnan started increasing spending on fixed assets the middle of this year to spur economic development, with 70 percent of it going to farm construction, transportation, telecommunications, urban construction and environmental protection.

Li Jiating, the province's governor, says that the increased spending is meant to boost domestic demand and reduce the impact of the Asian financial crisis and to create a good environment for the World Horticulture Fair next year.

More than 9 million people are expected at the fair, to be held in the provincial capital, Kunming from May 1 to October 31, 1999.

The provincial government has spent 10 billion yuan improving infrastructure in Kunming and a billion-yuan project at Kunming Airport will soon be completed. The terminal building is being expanded to 74,000 sq.m. to handle 10 million passengers annually.

The province has also put 8 billion yuan into highway construction to give it an improved highway network that will run to Thailand, Sichuan province in the north, Myanmar in the west, and Guizhou in the east.

Prof. Che Zhimin, deputy head of Provincial Government's Economic Research Center, says that the spending has offset the negative impact of the Asian financial crisis. Every one billion yuan in fixed assets spending will increase GDP growth by 0.6 percentage points.

[Description of source: Beijing Xinhua in English -- China's official news service for English-language audiences (New China News Agency)]

Senior General Than Shwe delivers opening statement at Sixth ASEAN Summit, attends meetings of Heads of State / Government of ASEAN, China, Japan, Korea

YANGON, 17 Dec-Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council and Prime Minister of the Union of Myanmar Senior General Than Shwe delivered an opening statement at the Sixth ASEAN Summit in the Ba Dinh Hall of Hanoi, Socialist Republic of Vietnam, at 9.30 am on 15 December.

The opening ceremony was attended by Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council and Prime Minister of the Union of Myanmar Senior General Than Shwe and Daw Kyaing Kyaing, Prime Minister of SRV Mr Phan Van Khai, His

Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah of Brunei Darussalam, President of Republic of Indonesia Mr B J Habibie, Prime Minister of Lao People's Democratic Republic Mr Sisavath Keobounphanh, Prime Minister of Malaysia Dato Seri Dr Mahathir bin Mohamad, President of the Republic of the Philippines Mr IwEjercito Estrada, Prime Minister of Republic of Singapore Mr Goh Chok Tong, Prime Minister of Thailand Mr Chuan Leekpai and their wives, Prime Minister of Cambodia

Mr Samdech Hun Sen and wife, President of Burkina Faso Mr Blaise and wife, Foreign Ministers and Economics Ministers of ASEAN member nations, the Secretary-General and wife of the ASEAN Secretariat, senior ASEAN officials senior economics officials, ASEAN Directors-General and representatives of observer and other nations. Also present together with Senior General Than Shwe were Secretary-I of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Khin Nyunt and wife Dr Khin Win Shwe, member of the State Peace and Development Council Commander of Northern Command Maj-Gen Kyaw Win, Minister at the Office of the State Peace and Development Council Chairman Brig-Gen Abel, Minister for Foreign

Affairs U Win Aung and wife, Minister for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs Col Thein Nyunt, Minister at the Office of the Prime Minister Brig-Gen Lun Maung, Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs

U Khin Maung Win, Myanmar Ambassador to SRV U Khin Soe and wife, Director-General of the State Peace and Development Council Office Lt-Col Pe Nyein and departmental heads. "The New Light of Myanmar" (Internet version) 98-12-18

Senior General Than Shwe and Daw Kyaing Kyaing arrive back from Sixth ASEAN Summit and Meetings of Heads of State and Government of ASEAN, China, Japan and Korea

YANGON, 17 Dec Myanmar delegation headed by Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council and Prime Minister of Union of Myanmar Senior General Than Shwe and Daw Kyaing Kyaing arrived back here this afternoon after attending the Sixth ASEAN Summit and Meetings of Heads of State and Government of ASEAN, People's Republic of China, Japan and Republic of Korea held in Hanoi on 15 and 16 December at the invitation of Prime Minister of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam Mr Phan Van Khai.

Members of the delegation headed by Senior General Than Shwe and Daw Kyaing Kyaing were welcomed back at Yangon International Airport by Vice-Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) General Maung Aye and wife, Secretary-2 Lt-Gen Tin Oo and wife, Secretary-3 Lt-Gen Win Myint and wife, members of the State Peace and Development Council Commander-in-Chief (Navy) Rear-Admiral Nyunt Thein and wife, Commander-in-Chief (Air) Maj-Gen Kyaw Than and wife, Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander Maj-Gen Khin Maung Than and wife, Deputy Prime Ministers Vice-Admiral Maung Maung Khin, Lt-Gen Tin Tun and Lt-Gen Tin Hla, who is also Minister for Military Affairs, and their wives, ministers, senior Tatmadaw officers, Dean of Diplomatic Corps Ambassador of the Lao People's Democratic Republic Mr Ly Bounkham and wife, ambassadors and their wives and military and civil officers.

Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Khin Nyunt and wife Dr Khin Win Shwe, member of the State Peace and Development Council Commander of Northern Command Maj-Gen Kyaw Win, Minister at the office of

Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Brig-Gen Abe1, Minister for Foreign Affairs U Win Aung and wife Daw San Yon, Minister for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs Col Thein Nyunt, Minister at the Office of the Prime Minister Brig-Gen Lun Maung, Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs U Khin Maung Win and departmental officials also arrived back with Senior General Than Shwe and Daw Kyaing Kyaing. "The New Light of Myanmar" (Internet version) 98-12-18

YANGON (Dec. 22) XINHUA - A Chinese company reached a contract here Tuesday with the Myanmar Ministry of Industry No.1 to renovate the country's Sittoung Paper Mill No.1 in Mon state. The contract on the renovation of the mill's caustic soda and chlorine plant was reached between China's Kunming Electro-Chemical Plant (KECP) in Yunnan province and the Myanmar Paper and Chemical Industry (MPCI) under the Ministry of Industry No.1.

Under the contract, the Chinese side is to bear the cost of the renovation of 1.2 million U.S. dollars which cover the supply of machinery equipment and transfer of technical know-how, while the Myanmar side is to repay with the products of caustic soda.

Daily production of caustic soda will be increased to 15 tons after the renovation from the previous 9 tons. Annual output will be 5,000 tons.

The Sittoung Paper Mill No.1 was established in 1992 and production began in 1994.

Title: Burma: China's Potential Access To Burmese Seaport Worries India

Document Number: FBIS-EAS-98-363

Sourceline: BK3012014398 (Internet) BurmaNet News Listserv in English 30 Dec 98

Subslug: China-Burma Border Report issued by the All Burma Students'

Democratic Front on 25 December; place not given

Summary of Chinese Technicians' Arrival [subhead]

A Chinese technician group consisting of about 260 crewmembers arrived recently to build a highway connecting Bhamo, Burma, and Yunnan State, China. This is an implementation of the agreement between the Chinese government and the SPDC [State Peace and Development Council] last year. This project also includes establishment of ports along the Irrawaddy River. The Chinese crew entered into Burma via Lweje border route in Kachin State. The information from China-Burma border reveals that the crew will survey land for Shweli-Bhamo highway, ports and shipyards along Irrawaddy River, and in Mandalay. China has already built a railroad from Kunming, city of Yunnan State to Zingon near Bhamo, Burma. The famous highway from Shweli to Bhamo during the Second World War has also been restored.

Some geopolitical analysts predict that India is uncomfortable with China's potentiality to build highways along the Irrawaddy all the way to Minhla from which they can establish a highway to Kyaukpyu sea port via the Arakan Mountain Range near India.

[Description of Source: BurmaNet News--Internet Listserv providing coverage of Burmese events, particularly human rights and opposition activities]

1999

Myanmar delegation arrives back from China

YANGON, 31 Dec Deputy Minister for Construction Brig-Gen Thura Aye Myint and two members arrived back here by air yesterday evening after inspecting the frames purchased by China Chenzhou Highway Engineering Machinery Works of the People's Republic of China for use in Anawrahta Bridge (Chauk) across Ayeyawady River and Min Chaung Bridge under the construction of the Public Works and visiting construction equipment factories at the invitation of China Shipbuilding Trading Company Ltd and China National Constructional & Agricultural Machinery Import Export Corporation.

The delegation was welcomed back at Yangon International Airport by heads of department of the Ministry of Construction, officials and families.

Members of the delegation Superintending Engineer (Project) U Soe Han of Anawrahta Bridge (Chauk) and Superintending Engineer (Bridge) U Han Zaw of the Public Works also arrived back on the same flight. "The New Light of Myanmar" (Internet version) 99-01-01

Title: China: First Antinarcotics Project With Burma Completed

Document Number: FBIS-CHI-99-016

Document Date: 16 Jan 1999

Sourceline: OW1601073599 Beijing Xinhua Domestic Service in Chinese 0748 GMT 14 Jan 99

Subslug: By reporter Qu Mingguang

Kunming, 14 Jan (Xinhua) -- The first phase of a greening and antinarcotics project, initiated by the Ministry of Science and Technology [MST] and Yunnan Province's Science and Technology Commission in cooperation with Burma, was recently completed in the fourth special zone in Burma's Shan State. Further, the project has passed the appraisal of experts and is greatly praised by the United Nations.

The fourth special zone in the eastern region of Burma's Shan State has some 74,000 residents of 13 ethnic groups. It is part of the "Golden Triangle," the world-renowned drug production base, and adjacent to Menghai County of Yunnan Province's Xishuangbanna Dai Autonomous Prefecture. Before April 1989, 262 of some 500 villages here were engaged in planting opium poppies, producing nearly 100,000 metric tonnes of opium and 600 kilograms of heroin annually. There were more than 2,000 drug addicts in the region. The grain production level was very low, and per capita unprocessed grain was less than 100 kilograms per year. It was necessary to purchase 800,000 kilograms of grain from China every year to tide over their food shortage. Because of this, the MST and Yunnan's Science and Technology Commission approved the Sino-Burmese "greening and antinarcotics project," an international science and technology cooperation program with projects such as a 1,000-mu pilot sugarcane farm and a 10,000-mu pilot farm planted with high-yield hybrid rice. The science and technology departments of Xishuangbanna Dai Autonomous Prefecture and Menghai County and other relevant departments have been responsible for the projects' specific implementation.

After the projects were started, 800 mu of sugarcane were planted in this region in 1995, and 150 mu were added in the following year. By 1998, a total of 9,000 mu of sugarcane were planted, with production expected to reach 40,000 metric tonnes. In recent years, China has provided 120,000 kilograms of hybrid rice seed, which has been planted over an area of 40,000 mu. The average output was 400 kilograms per mu, a threefold increase in output over that of the original variety of the region. The total accumulated output of 16 million kilograms has solved the problem of inadequate food in the region. Meanwhile, China has also helped Burma to develop 15,000 mu of economic crops such as rubber, tea, and fruits. The implementation of this project has basically eliminated drugs from the special region of eastern Burma. Since the region has been able to take its own measures now to eliminate drugs, UN antinarcotics inspectors, who have stationed in the region for many years, were satisfied and withdrew from the region. Meanwhile, the farmers' per capita income has been raised from less than 100 in Burmese currency during the time of opium poppy farming to 300 renminbi now. UN Under-Secretary-General Arlacchi, who is also executive director of the UN Drug Control Program, commented: "I am glad that China's assistance to Burma in substitute planting has produced such a good result." He expressed the hope that other drug-producing regions in the world would also begin to work to eliminate drugs based on this experience.

It is learned that the second-phase greening and antinarcotics project has now been discussed and approved and is being put into operation. [Description of source: Beijing Xinhua Domestic Service in Chinese -- China's official news service (New China News Agency)]

New Digital auto telephone exchange of MPR inaugurated in Insein Township

YANGON, 26 Jan-A new digital auto telephone exchange of Myanma Posts and Telecommunication was inaugurated at the MPT office near Insein Overpass in Insein Township this morning.

Present on the occasion were Minister for Communications, Posts and Telegraphs Brig-Gen Win Tin, Minister for Information Maj-Gen Kyi Aung, Ambassador of the People's Republic of China Mr Liang Dong, Director of Signals Brig-Gen Aung Myint, departmental officials, Chairmen of Yangon North District and Insein Township Peace and Development Councils and members, personnel of companies, Managing Director of MPT U Maung Maung Tin, foreign correspondents, officials of Shanghai Bell Telephone Equipment Manufacturing Co Ltd, band troupe and pom pom dance troupe members of Basic Education High School No 2 in Sangyoung and guests.

Managing Director of MPT U Maung Maung Tin said the 3,000line digital exchange, S-12 SPC Digital Switching Equipment, was presented by the government of the People's Republic of China during the Deputy Premier Mr Wu Bang Go's visit to Myanmar. It is also a gift in honour of Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Senior General Than Shwe's visit to Shanghai Bell Telephone Equipment Manufacturing Co Ltd on 11 January 1996.

Arrangements are being made for launching of CDMA mobile telephone system in Yangon and Mandalay and installation of Internet Service Provider.

Vice-President of Shanghai Bell Telephone Equipment Manufacturing Co Ltd Mr Yuan Xin extended greetings.

Mr Yuan Xin handed over related documents to Managing Director U Maung Maung Tin, Minister Brig-Gen Win Tin presented gifts to Mr Yuan Xin, Ambassador Mr Liang Dong, General Representative Mr Liu Peng Cheng.

Mr Yuan Xin also presented gifts to the minister and officials.

The minister and Mr Yuan Xin formally opened the exchange. The minister and party inspected the auto exchange. "The New Light of Myanmar" (Internet version) 99-01-27

Chinese language weekly in Burma

Bangkok Post (Mailbag) -

A Chinese language weekly, the Myanmar Morning Post, has been circulating in Rangoon in the past few weeks. The financier of this Chinese newspaper is U Aik Tun of Asia Wealth Bank Group. He was born in Yunnan, China and acquired Burmese citizenship.

It is believed that the Chinese government pressured the Rangoon government to allow publication of the Chinese language weekly as one of the conditions when a \$150 million hard currency loan was recently provided to the financially desperate military regime in Burma.

The registered proprietor of Myanmar Morning Post projects a circulation of 12,000 copies and the selling price is 50 kyats.

The Chinese government has now established an important precedent and any future foreign aid to Burma must also require the establishment of a free press in Burma.

We will support humanitarian aid to Burma if such foreign aid is administered directly by NLD which is the elected government of Burma.

We question the Slorc/SPDC generals' ability to administer humanitarian aid programmes in Burma. Especially since the Slorc/SPDC generals during the past few months unilaterally terminated the only American humanitarian aid programme in Burma.

In an arbitrary manner, the Slorc/SPDC generals terminated the crop substitution programme in the Kachin state administered by OSS-101 American War Veterans and financed by the US government. No reason was given for the termination of this American humanitarian aid programme.

Myint Thein
Dallas, Texas
Jan 31, 99

Title: Myanmar General Notes 'Good Relationship' with PRC

Document Number: N/A

Document Date: 08 Feb 1999

Sourceline: OW0802061999 Beijing Xinhua in English 0601 GMT 08 Feb 99

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Yangon, February 8 (Xinhua) -- The state-run New Light of Myanmar newspaper Monday carried excerpts from an interview made by the Japan Times newspaper with Brigadier General Kyaw Win, a high ranking Myanmar military official who visited Japan last month at the invitation of the Japanese government. Kyaw Win, deputy chief of the Office of Strategic Studies of Myanmar Defense Ministry and deputy director of the Defense Services Intelligence, toured Japan for nine days from January 20 to 28.

Asked about his views on the policy of sanctions on Myanmar by the United States and European industrialized countries, Kyaw Win commented that the policy is not very practical and realistic, saying that without a strong economy and basic infrastructure, transformation from one political system to another, especially from one-party socialist system into a multi-party political system, will not be possible.

On Japanese policy towards Myanmar, he praised it as a practical one, reasoning that sanctions, boycott and embargo do not help the country's transition to a democracy.

He said Myanmar does not have any specific requests to Japan which used to be one of the biggest donors in the past, believing that Japan may be able to extend assistance for education and other social sectors despite the fact that Japan cannot provide fresh official development aid to the country for various reasons.

Regarding the international accusation that the Myanmar government is involved in narcotics trafficking, he said Myanmar can challenge the world to show it evidence of its involvement, saying that "we are doing more than our share to solve the narcotics problem because we are one of few governments in the world that is doing much anti-narcotics activities without any outside assistance."

On Chinese-Myanmar ties, he said that the two countries have developed a good relationship as China is among countries that have assisted and supported Myanmar when it was facing time of difficulties from 1988 onward.

[Description of source: Beijing Xinhua in English -- China's official news service for English-language audiences (New China News Agency)]

Title: Tin Hlaing Speaks at Heroin Meeting

Document Number: FBIS-EAS-1999-0224

Document Date: 24 Feb 1999

Sourceline: BK2502034799 Rangoon The New Light of Myanmar in English 24 Feb 99 p 5

Subslug: Text of opening speech by Home Minister Col. Tin Hlaing at the opening session of the Fourth International Heroin Conference of Interpol in Rangoon on 23 February

Reference:

1. hong kong afp in english 0657 gmt 23 feb 99 -- heroin conference opens in burma us, uk criticized 2. rangoon tv myanmar network in burmese 1330 gmt 23 feb 99 -- rangoon interpol heroin conference opens

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Excellencies, distinguished delegates, ladies and gentlemen: At the outset, on behalf of the Union of Myanmar and the Central Committee for Drug Abuse Control, I wish to extend a most warm welcome to all the delegates and especially to those making their first visit to Myanmar, the Golden Land.

I am deeply honoured to be afforded this opportunity to address this auspicious occasion to all those present here to grapple with the problem of drugs, to exchange information and experiences on combating drugs.

The International Criminal Police Organization (Interpol) since its inception during the Second International Police Congress held in Vienna in 1923, giving birth to the International Police Commission eventually became an institution in 1956 with its own Constitution and General Regulations.

Article 2 of the Constitution stipulates the aims of the ICPO which are:- to ensure and promote the widest possible mutual assistance between all criminal police authorities within the limits of the laws existing in the different countries and in the spirit of the "Universal Declaration of Human Rights" and to establish and develop all institutions likely to contribute effectively to the prevention and suppression of ordinary law crimes.

We understand that ICPO-Interpol is an organization formed on the basis of free will, equality, non-interference in internal affairs of each country and action coordination of Police Forces with a view to combating crimes, protecting each nation's interest, contributing to maintaining security and strengthening regional and international cooperation.

These ideals, being also our aspirations, Myanmar became a member of ICPO-Interpol as of 1st January 1954 and since had been an active member attending all its annual meetings.

Excellencies, distinguished delegates, ladies and gentlemen: It is appropriate to draw your attention that the Special Session of the General Assembly held in June 1998 adopted the Political Declaration, recognizing that action against the world drug problem is a common and shared responsibility requiring an integrated and balanced approach in full conformity with the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations and international law and particularly with full respect for the sovereignty and territorial integrity of States, no-intervention in internal affairs of States, and all human rights and fundamental freedoms.

This conference is a collaboration effort of the Government of the Union of Myanmar and the International Police Organization, and on behalf of Myanmar, I would like to go on record of our deep appreciation and gratitude to private local donors for the financial support and to Interpol for technical assistance to make this conference a reality.

In similar vein do I also wish to thank heartily, all the delegates and distinguished guests for taking out time for this important meeting.

Excellencies, distinguished delegates, ladies and gentlemen: The principal objectives of this International Heroin Conference is to facilitate the establishment of enduring contacts among the law enforcement agencies and foster considerable understanding of each other's problems and difficulties which, in the long run, strengthens the will to cooperate against illicit drugs trafficking both at the regional and international level.

Looking at the objectives we can assume this is a timely meeting and the right venue where significant changes are taking place with regard to general trends and patterns of illicit heroin production and trafficking and also for expanding the existing cooperative mechanism, an appropriate forum where all available information, experience and expertise about new trends and development could be exchanged.

In this connection, it is unfortunate that the United States, Britain and some European countries have chosen to boycott this important conference. The international drug trade is an urgent problem which needs to be addressed in a spirit of mutual cooperation by the entire world community. As two of the largest markets for heroin in the world, the United States and Britain bear a special responsibility to work with the rest of the international community in every way possible. Their huge markets fuel a global narcotics trade which threatens to affect many countries in the developing world, including Myanmar.

The Government of Myanmar regrets the US and Britain refusal to participate in this important conference and urges them to put politics aside, for the sake of the millions of people around the world whose lives are threatened by the drug trade.

I fully believe this conference will provide an excellent opportunity to openly discuss and consider strategies and solutions to the problems pertaining to international drug trafficking. Also, Myanmar is pleased to be afforded this opportunity to acquaint the international community with the work that is being carried out in Myanmar against the illicit production and trafficking of heroin.

In recent years the global spread of drug abuse has become a major international concern.

Illicit drugs are a scourge whose evil consequences transcend borders and whose threat can only be overcome with international solidarity. Myanmar shares the view that concerted effort is required at the national, regional and global level. Accordingly in parallel with our national anti-narcotic drug campaigns we have been cooperating fully with the

international community to achieve a balanced approach in which illicit demand, supply and trafficking are tackled comprehensively. This conference stands testimony to the resolve of our governments to tackle this question within an international framework.

Excellencies, distinguished delegates, ladies and gentlemen: At the national level, Myanmar has adopted comprehensive plans to combat illegal drugs in line with national priorities. The problem of drugs in Myanmar is a pernicious legacy of its colonial past. Various national races of the hill regions in the border areas are engaged in poppy cultivation which is their only means of livelihood. Throughout our history until recently, these border areas remained undeveloped owing to communication difficulties. The problem was further aggravated after independence when the production of drugs and their trafficking became linked with the internal insurgency problem.

In the past, it had been our strategy to focus mainly on the destruction of poppy fields. However in 1988 we launched a new approach aimed at the social and economic development of our national races in the border areas. The key concept in the new approach is the alleviation of poverty by providing alternative income to the local populace.

Myanmar's political scenario unfolds that since 1989, 17 insurgent groups have returned to the legal fold and unprecedented peace, law and order have prevailed in the country. The State now has access to areas previously denied. The State has been able to set itself to the task of alternative and integrated rural development programmes with the twin strategy of:-

Designating drug eradication and prevention activities as a national duty and to gradually eliminate poppy cultivation by promoting the standard of living of the national races.

This augurs well for peace and solidarity and for our objective of eradicating opium in the entire country. Additionally, we have established the required mechanism, the Ministry for Border Area Development, to coordinate action against illegal drugs in all its aspects:

education, public awareness, health, agriculture, forest, livestock breeding, telecommunication, the administration of justice and social and economic development bringing to date with an expenditure of over 10 billion kyats from the State budget.

We are convinced therefore, that with the realization of these goals, the upliftment of lifestyle of the national races will be well close at hand and subsequently, the gradual elimination of poppy cultivation.

The sincere efforts of the Government has resulted in remarkable achievements and this instance may be illustrated with the establishment in April 1997 of the first Opium Free Zone in Mong La in Special Region 4 in the Eastern Shan State. As a further step, projects have been initiated for the Kokang and Wa Regions in the Northern Shan State with the year 2000 and 2005 set respectively as the target dates for the establishment of additional opium free regions.

At the same time, in order to ensure that our national efforts have maximum impact we have been cooperating with all our neighbours to harmonize our actions. This is reflected in its active cooperation in drug control activities with 5 countries in the subregion namely, China, Cambodia, Laos, Thailand and Vietnam. Furthermore, Myanmar signed bilateral agreements with India, Bangladesh, Vietnam, the Russian Federation, Laos and the Philippines to control drug trafficking.

We are confident that these cooperative efforts at the sub-regional and regional level will result not only in the effective elimination of opium cultivation and trafficking in narcotic drugs and chemicals used in the refining of heroin and the production of other illicit drugs, but also reduce the demand for consumption as well as concurrently address the problem of HIV/AIDS infection associated with intravenous drug abuse.

Excellencies, distinguished delegates, ladies and gentlemen: The full commitment of Myanmar has been proven beyond doubt by its sacrifice of many lives in its war on drugs and the resources it has spent to uplift the economic and social standards of the national races in remote border areas where poppy is grown. During the period of September 1988 to end of 1998, the Government was able to seize and destroy more than 4,125 kilos of heroin, over 28,358 kilos of opium, over 26 million tablets of Amphetamine type Stimulants, 6,239 kilos of ephedrine and over 56,832 gallons of precursor chemicals, burned down 98 heroin refining labs. Seized narcotic drugs have been put to torch in front of the public 12 times in Yangon and 19 times in the border areas.

I am pleased to inform this conference that you will have the opportunity to witness the 13th burning of seized drugs on Thursday 25th February morning before you depart for home.

But this was a result not without sacrifice. In these drug suppression endeavours, 766 members of the Myanmar Armed Forces lost their lives and 2,292 members sustained severe injuries.

We have also arranged a programme for the participants to visit the border areas in the Northern Shan State, to have a first-hand view of poppy cultivation in the Kokang region, eradication and alternative development programmes undertaken by the Government.

Here I would like to stress that all the efforts of the Myanmar Government for the suppression of narcotic drugs as well as for alternative development programmes for poppy growing areas are being carried out with our own limited resources. It is worth mentioning that every country with willing and reliable sources of financing still finds it difficult

to resolve the drug problem. We, however, are determined to achieve the goal of total elimination of poppy production in Myanmar within 15 years with available resources of our own.

Nevertheless, should there be assistance from the international community, this goal will be achieved sooner rather than later. Here, we wish to emphasize and assure that we will continue our unwavering efforts with available resources till we achieve the avowed aim of becoming a country totally free of evil drugs.

Excellencies, distinguished delegates, ladies and gentlemen: In conclusion, the fight against drugs cannot be solved single-handily by one nation and hence this combat calls for international cooperation. The opium producing countries on their part, too, must strive for eradication of cultivation just as transit countries as well as consumer nations must endeavour for demand reduction and law enforcement programmes respectively with conscientious efforts. Only when all join hands and pool in resources, will this drug menace find extermination. In this connection, Myanmar will resolutely undertake its share of the global burden and solemnly pledges to continue its fullest cooperation with the international community.

Last, but not the least, let me sincerely wish all the delegates here for a pleasant stay in Myanmar.

May the deliberations here come to full fruition and success. Thank you.

[Description of Source: The New Light Of Myanmar -- government-run daily newspaper]

Title: LDP's Kato Visits Crop Substitution Site in Burma

Document Number: FBIS-EAS-1999-0227

Document Date: 27 Feb 1999

Sourceline: OW2802015199 Tokyo Kyodo in English 1446 GMT 27 Feb 99

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Yangon [Rangoon], Feb. 27 Kyodo -- Koichi Kato, an influential lawmaker of Japan's ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP), visited Lockkhai in Kokang state, 800 kilometers northeast of Yangon, on Saturday to inspect a Japan-aided crop substitution project he conceived.

Kokang state, bordering China in the northeast, is one of the two major poppy-growing regions in Myanmar [Burma]. Experimental farming of buckwheat over 200 acres in the northern part of the state has proved successful and cultivation is being expanded to 2,000 acres this year.

The idea of crop substitution with buckwheat was conceived by Kato when he visited Myanmar two years ago and the project is being implemented with Japanese government assistance.

Other crops under cultivation include coffee, sugar cane, soy-bean and perennials like rubber, apples, pears and walnuts.

The buckwheat seeds used in the project were originally brought from Japan. Local people are now consuming a new strain of buckwheat as an alternative staple food to rice, and China is also buying produce from the region.

Kokang state hopes that through the crop-substitution program it can completely eradicate poppy growing by the year 2000.

Kato, former LDP secretary general, arrived in Yangon for a three-day visit Friday.

[Description of source: Tokyo Kyodo News Service in English--Japan's largest domestic and international news agency, owned by nonprofit cooperative of 63 newspaper companies and NHK]

MV Kengtung starts maiden voyage from Yangon Port

YANGON, 4 Mar - The Kengtung started her maiden voyage from Yangon Port today.

The 12,000-ton multipurpose marine vessel was the second of its kind built for Myanma Five Star Line with machines and parts purchased from the Chinese National Machinery Export and Import Corporation of the People's Republic of China.

The ceremony to mark the Kengtung's first voyage at Nanthida Jetty was attended by Secretary-I of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen

Khin Nyunt, member of the State Peace and Development Council Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander Maj-Gen Khin Maung Than, Minister for Rail Transportation U Pan Aung, Minister for Transport Maj-Gen Hla Myint Swe, Minister for Health Maj-Gen Ket Sein, Ministers at the Prime Minister's Office Brig-Gen Lun Maung and Lt-Gen Tin Ngwe, Chairman of Yangon City Development Committee Mayor U Ko Lay, Transport and specially invited guests. "The New Light of Myanmar" (Internet version) 99-03-05

Minister meets officials of foreign organizations

YANGON, 4 Mar - Minister for Transport Maj-Gen Hla Myint Swe met General Manager of Zarembo Invest SA Mr Robert Locher who called at his office at 1 pm today.

Also present at the call were Deputy Minister U Pe Than and Managing Director U Thein Htay of Myanma Port Authority.

Similarly, Minister for Transport Maj-Gen Hla Myint Swe met officials of China National Machinery Import & Export Corporation Mrs Luo Yan who called at his office at 3 pm today.

Present at the call were Deputy Ministers Brig-Gen Kyaw Myint and U Pe Than and Director-General U Wint Maung of Department of Civil Aviation.

Likewise, Minister for Transport Maj-Gen Hla Myint Swe met General Manager of Jardine Starline Management Pte Ltd Mr Eugene Lee who called at his office at 3.30 pm today.

Present at the call were, Deputy Ministers Brig-Gen Kyaw Myint and U Pe Than, and Managing Director U, Khin Maung Kyi of Myanma, Five Star Line. "The New Light of Myanmar" (Internet version) 98-03-05

Title: PRC-built Ship Joins Burmese Transport Services

Document Number: FBIS-CHI-1999-0304

Document Date: 05 Mar 1999

Sourceline: OW0503043899 Beijing Xinhua in English 0415 GMT 5 Mar 99

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Yangon, March 5 (Xinhua) -- A 12,000-ton Chinese-built ship has joined the overseas and coastal shipping services of the state-run Myanmar [Burma] Five Star Line (MFSL), bringing the total number of the line's fleet to 25.

The M/V Kengtung multi-purpose marine vessel, which launched its maiden voyage from Yangon Port Thursday, is the second of its kind built by the China National Machinery Import and Export Corporation for the MFSL.

The M/V Kengtung, built at Xingan Shipyard in China's Tianjin in line with the Lloyd's class, arrived at Yangon Port on February 15.

The vessel can carry 11,654 tons of cargo and can cruise up to 12,000 miles (19,200 kilometers) without refueling at the speed of 14.7 nautical miles (27.239 kilometers) per hour.

The first Chinese-built ship for the MFSL, M/V Dawei, was launched last October and two other 440-seat passenger cargo coastal vessels are expected to be completed later this year. According to official statistics, in the 1997-98 fiscal year, Myanmar has 358 powered barges and 342 non-powered ones operating in inland-water transport services.

[Description of source: Beijing Xinhua in English -- China's official news service for English-language audiences (New China News Agency)]

Title: PRC-ASEAN Cooperation Committee To Meet Starting 17 Mar

Document Number: FBIS-CHI-1999-0315

Document Date: 15 Mar 1999

Sourceline: OW1503072899 Beijing Xinhua in English 0620 GMT 15 Mar 99

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Kuala Lumpur, March 15 (Xinhua) -- The second China-ASEAN Joint Cooperation Committee meeting will be held in Malaysia beginning Wednesday, the Chinese Embassy here said in a statement Monday.

The two-day meeting in Kuala Lumpur will review the progress of cooperative relations and also decide on new cooperative projects between China and ASEAN, the statement said. Assistant Foreign Minister Wang Yi will lead China's delegation to the meeting, it said.

The joint meeting served as a full-range cooperation mechanism established after China became a formal dialogue partner of ASEAN in 1996, with its aim at expanding and deepening exchanges and cooperation between China and ASEAN members in all fields.

Malaysia is the coordinator for China-ASEAN dialogues.

ASEAN groups Brunei, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar [Burma], the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam.

The China-ASEAN Joint Cooperation Committee held its first meeting in Beijing two years ago.

[Description of source: Beijing Xinhua in English -- China's official news service for English-language audiences (New China News Agency)]

MD of China Construction International Corp calls on Deputy Prime Minister

YANGON, 17 Mar - Managing Director Mr Zhang Qihao of China Construction International Corporation of the People's Republic of China and party paid a courtesy call on Deputy Prime Minister and Chairman of Myanmar Investment Commission Vice-Admiral Maung Maung Khin at his office this morning.

They discussed investment of China Construction International Corporation in Myanmar.

Present at the call were officials of Government Office and MIC office. "The New Light of Myanmar" (Internet version) 99-03-18

Executive Vice-President of EIBC calls on Minister for Electric Power

YANGON, 17 Mar - A delegation led by Executive Vice-President Mr Gu Mingchao of the Export Import Bank of China (EIBC) of the People's Republic of China, accompanied by officials of PRC embassy and YMEC, called on Minister for Electric Power Maj-Gen Tin Htut at his office this morning.

Present at the call were Director-General of Electric Power Department U

Title: ASEAN, PRC Agree To Enhance Dialogue Relations

Document Number: FBIS-CHI-1999-0318

Document Date: 18 Mar 1999

Sourceline: OW1803082699 Beijing Xinhua in English 0727 GMT 18 Mar 99

Reference:

1. beijing xinhua english 170631 -- asean-prc joint committee meeting opens 17 mar
2. beijing xinhua english 150620 -- prc-asean cooperation committee to meet starting 17 mar

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Kuala Lumpur, March 18 (Xinhua) -- China and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) have agreed to further improve and enhance their dialogue relations which they said have brought about mutual benefit.

The agreement was reached at the two-day second ASEAN-China Joint Cooperation Committee (ACJCC) meeting which concluded here Thursday. Malaysia is the current country coordinator for ASEAN-China dialogue relations.

The meeting reviewed the progress of ASEAN-China dialogue relations, particularly the implementation of projects since the first ACJCC meeting in 1997 and the prospects for future cooperation between China and ASEAN, according to a joint press statement issued at the end of the meeting.

"Both ASEAN and China agreed that their dialogue relations have brought about mutual benefit. Both agreed that there is room for further improvement and enhancement," it said.

In this regard, the meeting discussed a number of project proposals covering the areas of cooperation including human resources development, training and exchange of visits, holding of trade and investment seminars.

All projects agreed upon will be implemented under the ASEAN-China Cooperation Fund set up in 1996, the statement said.

Meanwhile, Director General of ASEAN-Malaysia Syeed Sultan Seni Pakir and Chinese Assistant Foreign Minister Wang Yi who co-chaired the meeting, expressed their satisfactions about the outcome of the meeting at a joint press conference at the end of the meeting.

Describing the meeting as "a success," Wang said that besides reaching wide consensus on the progress made in China-ASEAN dialogue relations and identifying new cooperation projects, what is more important is that the meeting further enhanced mutual understanding and trust.

Optimistic of the future of China-ASEAN cooperation, Wang stressed the need for strengthening bilateral cooperation particularly in the economic and trade fields which he said has great potentials.

Wang also stressed the need for China and ASEAN to promote cooperation in the field of science and technology to cater for the need of the information age.

About 50 senior officials from all ASEAN member countries -- Brunei, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar [Burma], the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam, and China as well as representatives from the ASEAN Secretariat in Jakarta attended the meeting.

It was decided that the third ACJCC meeting would be held in 18 to 24 months in Beijing.

[Description of source: Beijing Xinhua in English -- China's official news service for English-language audiences (New China News Agency)]

Title: Tension Between Burmese Junta, UWSA Noted

Document Number: FBIS-EAS-1999-0323

Document Date: 24 Mar 1999

Sourceline: BK2403034699 Bangkok The Nation (Internet Version) in English 24 Mar 99

Subslug: Report by Don Pathan

Reference:

1. bangkok bangkok post (internet version) in english 9 feb 99 -- thai daily views upcoming drug talks in rangoon
 2. bangkok bangkok post (internet version) in english 1 mar 99 -- take 1 of 2 -- wa army builds settlement in mong yawn
 3. bangkok bangkok post (internet version) in english 25 feb 99 -- wa army denies thai charges of protecting drug fugitive
- [FBIS Transcribed Text] Doi Sam Sao, Burma -- Something is cooking in Burma's northeastern frontier along the Thai border and it's more than just chemicals being boiled in one of the numerous heroin labs belonging to Burma's narcotics' trafficking groups.

For the past year or so, tension between the Burmese junta and the United Wa State Army (UWSA) has been building up, threatening to end a decade-old ceasefire agreement between Rangoon and the armed ethnic group--dubbed the world's largest armed narcotics' trafficking organisation by the United States government.

The generals in Rangoon have ordered the UWSA to move back to their stronghold in Panghsang on the Burmese border with China, so far issuing two ultimatums without specifying the consequences should the armed rebels not comply.

Naturally, the UWSA chose to ignore the demands and instead beefed up their logistics along the Thai-Burmese border opposite Chiang Mai province. At the same time, the group has begun to welcome outsiders, allowing Thai merchants to transport everything from household goods to construction materials. Twice a week, hundreds of local Thai merchants line up at the checkpoint just north of Chiang Mai's Ta Thon district to be screened by immigration and customs officers before entering what has long been a no-go area and only a couple of decades ago a place where headhunters roamed.

Border officials said thousands of Thai nationals are currently working in the Wa-controlled territory, building everything from a small dam to hospitals and schools. The checkpoint, located in Mae Ai district, was opened last August.

A road construction project--financed by both the junta and the UWSA--which will link Chiang Mai's Mae Ai district to Mong Yawn and Mong Hsat, some 90 kilometres inside Burma's Shan State, is expected to be completed this year. A loop linking Mong Hsat to the popular border town of Tachilek opposite Chiang Rai's Mae Sai district is also on the way. "They are here to stay," said Maj Gen Chamlong Photong, chief-of-staff of the Thai Army's Third Region. "The pressure is on us to do something about it."

In fact, the Thai general added, the UWSA is on the verge of becoming the next druglord of the Golden Triangle, replacing Khun Sa and his Mong Tai Army, who surrendered to the government three years ago in return for amnesty.

Thai and US drug agencies estimate that about 1,700 tonnes of raw opium were cultivated in the Triangle last year, down from 2,300 tonnes the previous year, partly because of bad weather. About 10 kilogrammes of opium is needed to make a kilogramme of heroin.

"The Wa are responsible for nearly half this amount," said Sorasit Sangprasert, deputy chief of Thailand's Office of the Narcotics Control Board.

The UWSA came into existence shortly after the Communist Party of Burma crumbled a decade ago. A ceasefire agreement, orchestrated by Burma's security chief Lt Gen Khin Nyunt, was reached soon afterwards.

The idea, say Burma watchers, was to neutralise a 20,000-plus strong army that had enough weapons to last them at least a decade. Rangoon didn't want these weapons, most of which came from China, to fall into the hands of other rebel groups.

For the Wa, it was an opportunity to expand their heroin empire from their stronghold in Panghsang to a new frontier along the upper Thai-Burmese border.

But nothing comes easy in trouble-plagued Burma. The expansion meant that a war between Wa and the Khun Sa's Mong Tai Army, the Wa's arch rival and business competitor, was inevitable.

Three years ago, Khun Sa and his army surrendered to the junta and the territory once controlled by the former opium warlord was left up for grabs as Burmese, Thai and Wa troops rushed in to plant their flag poles. A Wa commander overseeing the crossing point to Thailand said the UWSA will not make the same "mistake" as Kun Sa.

Indeed, it's a very different story nowadays. With Khun Sa and his army out of the picture, the decade-old agreement is losing its appeal as territorial control along the rugged conflict-plagued borders becomes a higher priority for certain sectors in the junta's ruling body known as the State Peace and Development Council (SPDC).

The SPDC has demanded that the UWSA retreat to the Chinese border. Essentially, this would mean that their heroin and methamphetamine network through Thai gateways would be shut.

Thai military officers, however, say the implications are too great for the Burmese to begin a war with the Wa.

"The situation makes it difficult for us," Chamlong said. "Besides, the Chinese doesn't want them along their border either."

In fact, the growing drug problem in Yunnan province forced the Chinese authorities to summon UWSA leader Pao Yochang for a stern warning. At one point, the Chinese threatened to cut off the flow of food to Wa territory.

Nevertheless, the pressure is on Thailand to do something about the flow of drugs into the Kingdom. No longer is the group producing heroin for European and American markets. Instead, narcotics officials insist, millions of methamphetamines--known locally as yaa baa--produced cheaply by the group, have flooded into Thailand.

"It's cheap to produce and the market is right here in Thailand," Sorasit said.

During a recent two-day visit to Thailand, Burmese Foreign Minister Aung Win dismissed allegations that Rangoon is to blame for the rise in the methamphetamine problem in Thailand, saying the precursor chemicals needed for producing the stimulants comes from abroad.

"Besides, how do you know the drugs are not made here (in Thailand])" he added. "They could be produced anywhere."

Burma has come up with an ambitious plan to end opium cultivation nationwide within 15 years. The plan has received praise from some in the international community. Critics say the ruling junta is too willing to appease insurgent groups as foreign condemnations take a back seat to stability in the hinterland.

"They choose to ignore the reality (in Burma)," Win Aung said.

Nevertheless, it remains to be seen if the ruling junta is willing to pick a fight with one of the world's largest producers and traffickers of illicit drugs.

Besides, the generals in Rangoon have other pressing issues to deal with, namely the dry-season offensive against armed ethnic groups who refused to sign a cease-fire agreement with the government, Chamlong said.

Meanwhile, all parties agree that it is a matter of time before the Wa and Burmese begin fighting each other again.

[Description of Source: The Nation--daily newspaper widely read by the Thai elite]

Deputy Prime Minister receives Managing Director of Shandong
Agricultural Industry & Commerce Group Corporation

YANGON, 26 Mar - Deputy Prime Minister and Chairman of Myanmar Investment Commission Vice-Admiral Maung Maung Khin received Managing Director of Shandong Agricultural Industry & Commerce Group Corporation of China Mr. An Xiao Yan and party who called at his office at 4.30 pm today.

Present at the call were Secretary of Myanmar Investment Commission Minister at the State Peace and Development Council Chairman's Office Brig-Gen Maung Maung and officials of Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation. "The New Light of Myanmar" (Internet version) 99-03-27

Secretary-2 inspects construction of Aung Zeya Bridge

YANGON, 29 Mar - Secretary-2 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Tin Oo inspected construction of Aung Zeya Bridge across Hline River this afternoon.

The 3,786-foot bridge will link Insein Township and Hlinethaya Township.

The Secretary-2, accompanied by Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Brig-Gen Pyi Sone, Minister at the Prime Minister's Office Brig-Gen Lun Maung, Deputy Minister for Construction U Tint Swe, Deputy Minister for Home Affairs Brig-Gen Thura' Myint Maung, Deputy Minister for Transport U Pe Than, Deputy Minister for Labour Brig-Gen Win Sein, Officer on Special Duty at the State Peace and Development Council Office Lt-Col Than Tint and officials, inspected building of piers in Insein Township.

Superintending Engineer U Khin Maung Aye reported on measures undertaken for construction of the bridge and progress of work.

Deputy Minister U Pe Than reported on waterway of Hline River and assistance of the Ministry of Transport.

Joint Secretary of Yangon City Development Committee Col Myint Aung, Director-General of Department of Human Settlement and Housing Development U Arnt Kyaw and Chairman of Township Peace and Development Council U Khin Maung Kyaw reported on arrangements for resettlement of houses and markets in the project area.

The Secretary-2 gave instructions on supervision for durability of the bridge. He met experts from the People's Republic of China at the construction site.

Personnel are making concerted efforts for completion of the bridge as scheduled. "The New Light of Myanmar" (Internet version) 99-03-30

Minister for Mines receives PRC officials

YANGON, 29 Mar - Minister for Mines Brig-Gen Ohn Myint received officials of the People's Republic of China led by Chairman of Yunan Machinery Import, Export Corporation Mr Wu Wen Kuan at his office at 2 pm today.

Also present on the occasion were Deputy Minister U Myint Thein and officials. "The New Light of Myanmar" (Internet version) 99-03-30

Title: Burmese Leader Highly Praises Relations With PRC

Document Number: FBIS-CHI-1999-0402

Document Date: 02 Apr 1999

Sourceline: OW0304001699 Beijing Xinhua in English 1512 GMT 02 Apr 99

Language: English

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Yangon, April 2 (Xinhua) -- Myanmar [Burma] leader Lieutenant-General Khin Nyunt stressed here Friday that his country would further develop the close friendship relations with China forged by leaders of the older generations of the two countries.

Khin Nyunt, first secretary of the Myanmar State Peace and Development Council, made the remarks here Friday afternoon in a meeting with visiting Chinese education delegation led by Deputy Minister of Education Wei Yu.

Myanmar and China have a long history and have established political and economic links between the two countries long ago, he said.

"Our two countries have maintained friendly links and exchange of visits from the top to the bottom levels. I toured China for five times," he noted.

"Our two countries have mutual understandings and respects and mutually learn good things from each other and make use of each other's experiences for reference," he stated.

The five-member Chinese education delegation arrived here Wednesday on a six-day visit to Myanmar.

[Description of source: Beijing Xinhua in English -- China's official news

Secretary-1 meets Deputy Minister for Education of PRC

YANGON, 2 Apr - Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Khin Nyunt received Deputy Minister for Education of the people's Republic of China Madame Wei Yu and party at Dagon Yeiktha of the Ministry of Defence at 4 pm today.

Also present on the occasion were Minister for Foreign Affairs U Win Aung, Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs U Khin Maung Win, Deputy Minister for Education Brig-Gen Soe Win Maung and Director General of Protocol Department Thura U Aung Htet.

The guests were accompanied by Ambassador of PRC Mr Liang Dong. "The New Light of Myanmar" (Internet version) 99-04-03

Officials of NPE, MRTV leave for PRC

YANGON, 4 Apr - Chief Editor U Soe Myint of The New Light of Myanmar of News and Periodicals Enterprise and Director (Admin) U Phon Myint of Myanmar Radio and Television under the Ministry of Information, left here this morning by air for Beijing, People's Republic of China, to attend China-ASEAN Seminar on News Research to be held from 5 to 11 April in Beijing and Sinhsien.

They were seen off at Yangon International Airport by officials of NPE and MRTV and their families. "The New Light of Myanmar" (Internet version) 99-04-05

Title: Sino-ASEAN Senior Official Consultations Open

Document Number: FBIS-CHI-1999-0405

Document Date: 05 Apr 1999

Sourceline: OW0504062399 Beijing Xinhua in English 0150 GMT 5 Apr 99

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Kunming, April 5 (Xinhua)-- The Fifth China-Asean Senior Official Consultations opened this morning in this capital of southwest China's Yunnan Province.

The Chinese delegation for the current consultations, the third held in China since the consultation mechanism was established in 1994, is headed by Vice-Foreign Minister Yang Wenchang and Assistant Foreign Minister Wang Yi.

They will attend the consultations together with delegates from the Asean Secretariat including its Secretary-General Rodolfo Severino, and vice-ministerial officials from the nine Asean members: the Philippines, Malaysia, Thailand, Brunei, Singapore, Indonesia, Vietnam, Myanmar [Burma], and Laos.

According to the Foreign Ministry, the participants will have an in-depth exchange of views on the latest development of their respective countries, the China-Asean relations, the regional economic and financial situation, as well as regional and global issues of common concern.

They will also discuss how to enhance the 21st century-- oriented friendly cooperation in all fields in a bid to enrich the content of the good-neighborly and mutually trustworthy partnership between the two sides.

[Description of source: Beijing Xinhua in English -- China's official news service for English-language audiences (New China News Agency)]

Title: China-ASEAN Senior Officials Consultation Opens

Document Number: FBIS-CHI-1999-0410

Document Date: 05 Apr 1999

Sourceline: SK1004055299 Beijing Xinhua Hong Kong Service in Chinese 0248 GMT 5 Apr 99

Subslug: By reporter Tan Guoqi

[FBIS Translated Text] Kunming, 5 Apr (Xinhua) -- The Fifth China-ASEAN Senior Officials Consultation opened today in Kunming, the capital of Yunnan Province, that has long been known as the spring city. This is the third consultation ever held in China since China and the ASEAN introduced the senior official consultation system in 1994. The participating Chinese delegation is headed by Vice Foreign Minister Yang Wenchang and Assistant Foreign Minister Wang Yi. Participating in this consultation were ASEAN General-Secretary Rodolfo Severino and officials from the Philippines, Malaysia, Thailand, Brunei, Singapore, Indonesia, Vietnam, Burma, and Laos. During this senior officials consultation, China and ASEAN countries will deeply exchange ideas about their respective recent developments, about the relations between China and ASEAN, about the economic and financial situation, and about regional and international issues of common concern. They will also commonly explore ways to promote friendly cooperation oriented toward the 21st century in various aspects and to further strengthen the bilateral partnership of good neighborliness and mutual trust. [Description of source: Beijing Xinhua Hong Kong Service in Chinese -- China's official news service to Hong Kong (New China News Agency)]

Title: Sino-Burmese Trade at \$381.1 Million, Up 21.56 Percent

Document Number: FBIS-CHI-1999-0407

Document Date: 08 Apr 1999

Sourceline: OW0804024599 Beijing Xinhua in English 0146 GMT 8 Apr 99

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Yangon, April 8 (Xinhua) -- Myanmar[Burma]-China bilateral trade reached 381.1 million US dollars in 1998, 21.56 percent more than that in 1997 which was 313.5 million dollars. The latest official figures, issued by Myanmar's Central Statistical Organization, show that the country imported 257.7 million dollars' worth of goods from China, while exporting to China commodities valued at 123.4 million dollars. Myanmar mainly imports from China capital and consumer goods including transport and electrical machinery and apparatus, while its chief exports to China cover timber, marine and agricultural products. Border trade between Myanmar and China has been playing an important role in the two countries' bilateral trade. So far, Myanmar has opened, on its side, six trade points along the border with China. In its efforts to expand the foreign trade, Myanmar exempted the 5 percent commercial tax since February 1998, lowering the border trade service charges to 8 percent from 10 percent and raising the income tax rate on imported commodities from 1.5 percent to 2 percent. [Description of source: Beijing Xinhua in English -- China's official news service for English-language audiences (New China News Agency)]

Minister meets Ambassadors of ROK, Malaysia

YANGON 21 Apr - Minister for Mines Brig-Gen Ohn Myint met General Manager Mr Zou Weimin of 2nd Oversea Business department of China Metallurgical

Construction (Group) and Mr Lin Jian at his office this afternoon. "The New Light of Myanmar" (Internet version) 99-04-22

Deputy Prime Minister receives Regional Business Manager of China
Light & Power International

YANGON, 22 Apr - Deputy Prime Minister and Chairman of Myanmar Investment Commission Vice-Admiral Maung Maung Khin received Regional Business Manager of China Light & Power International of Hongkong Mr Joseph K L Cheung and party who called at his office at 2 pm today.

Present at the call were Deputy Minister for Electric Power Brig-Gen Maung Maung and official of the Government Office Settlement and Housing Development. They discussed investment opportunities on power generation in Myanmar. "The New Light of Myanmar" (Internet version) 99-04-23

Yunnan Province writers delegation calls on Deputy Minister

YANGON, 28 Apr - The visiting six-member writers delegation of Yunnan Province led by Vice-Chairman of Literature and Art Union of Yunnan Province and Chairman of Writers Association of Yunnan Province Mr Li Shi Liang called on Deputy Minister for Information Brig-Gen Aung Thein at the Minister's Office at 3.30 pm today.

Afterwards, the delegation called on General Manager U Saw Myint of Printing and Publishing Enterprise at PPE Office. "The New Light of Myanmar" (Internet version) 99-04-29

Title: Rangoon's 'Uneasy Alliance' With Wa Viewed

Document Number: FBIS-EAS-1999-0430

Document Date: 30 Apr 1999

Sourceline: BK3004083599 Bangkok The Nation (Internet Version) in English 30 Apr 99

Subslug: Article by Aung Naing Oo, foreign affairs secretary of the All Burma Students' Democratic Front: "Wa Ceasefire Haunts the Burmese Military"

Reference:

1. rangoon radio myanmar in burmese 1330 gmt 27 apr 99 -- take 1 of 2 --
khin nyunt marks peace in wa region

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Politically, and perhaps financially, the Burmese army has gained immensely from its 1989 ceasefire agreement with the United Wa State Army (UWSA). This marriage of convenience was the first peace pact between an ethnic army and the Burmese junta since the breakdown of peace talks in 1964, and served as a catalyst for truce agreements with most of the other ethnic groups.

A decade later, however, the Burmese junta is in the hot seat over its relationship with the Wa. Internationally, the regime has been candidly blamed for its association with the Wa, who have become the No. 1 drug trafficking syndicate in the world, thanks to the immunity they enjoy in return for allegiance to Rangoon. At home, the junta's uneasy alliance

with the Wa is riddled with long-held mutual distrust.

The Wa had been one of the main pillars of the Burma Communist Party (BCP) prior to its collapse in early 1989. The Wa truce with the junta followed in May of that year. When the BCP was active, the Burmese army had to deploy thousands of troops on the frontier near the Chinese border to contain the communists. During the BCP's time, the Burmese army rarely launched major offensives against other armed ethnic groups along Burma's eastern border with Thailand.

After the ceasefire with the Wa, it was able to save time, energy and enormous resources. More significantly, it was able to withdraw many troops from battles in the north and re-deploy them in the eastern border areas. From late 1989, the Burmese army was able to begin an all-out war against opponents in the eastern region. The Burmese military pressure forced many ethnic groups to cease operations against Rangoon.

For the Wa, the truce provided a good opportunity for them to expand their drug activities. Shortly afterwards, the Burmese army was accused of abetting the armed group in drug trafficking. The Burmese police have no authority to search any vehicle belonging to the UWSA. No action could be taken against the Wa who had shot and wounded civilians and killed a police officer in Mandalay in 1997. The unruly behaviour by Wa officers goes unchecked by the authorities.

Because of the benefits it has gained from the truce, however shaky, the Burmese regime has paid little attention to public criticism over its pro-Wa attitude. In any event, it cannot afford to do away with the peace pact, considering the risk of going to war with the Wa group.

In fact, both the Burmese army and the Wa have gained mutually from their deal. The junta's objective is to slowly kill ethnic rebellion through ceasefire agreements. The Wa wish to reclaim their freedom.

The mutual distrust has led to cat-and-mouse games between the Burmese army and the Wa. The former has often tried to smuggle arms or despatched disguised intelligence agents into the UWSA territory. In some cases, drugs seized from the Wa by Burmese soldiers have not been returned.

The Burmese army's attitude towards the Wa officers has changed steadily over the years. The Burmese attitude that the Wa, once known as headhunters, are barbaric has now surfaced in their daily interaction.

Of several confrontations over the years, the Burmese detention of three high-ranking UWSA officers, including the deputy commander of UWSA Division 486 Aik Si, in February this year may have been the toughest test of wills. The arrest was in response to an earlier seizure of a large consignment of amphetamine tablets from a Wa Division 486 officer in Taunggyi, the capital of the Shan States. The Burmese army eventually had to release the officers to avoid armed clashes with the Wa.

To retaliate, Burmese troops seized drugs and money from the Division 486 headquarters and forcibly relocated Wa families to Mong Mau township. In response, the UN Drug Control Programme was informed by the Wa that its service is no longer needed in the Mong Ping township.

The latest Wa action has damaged the junta's efforts for international recognition for its anti-drug campaign. In a recent incident, the Burmese army detained an officer in charge of business deals for Division 486 and several other soldiers after a car chase in Mong Hsu, a gem-mining town. The latest incident occurred on March 5 when the Wa demanded that a TV relay station be removed from its territory and that Burmese engineers working on a water project be recalled.

Burmese military intelligence chief Lt Gen Khin Nyunt's planned visit to Mong Yawn is likely to defuse the confrontation and straighten out differences between the two parties. Despite its wish to check their

strength, the Burmese junta is not yet ready to clash head-on with the Wa, who command the largest armed force and are unlikely to bow to the regime's threat.

The Wa are battle-hardened from their years in the BCP, and a fearsome enemy. Even Khun Sa, who once commanded some 20,000 soldiers and enormous wealth from the drug trade, was no match for the Wa. Military offensives against the Wa would be a massive drain for Burmese resources and an opportunity for other ethnic groups to exploit.

The Wa have another strong weapon. Their claims of potential support from their brethren in China, in case fighting resumes with the Burmese, is not a mere threat. The UWSA is proud of having Chinese-Wa graduates from Beijing University among its officers. They also claim to possess enough weapons to fight for 10 years.

The UWSA is also powerful financially. In 1989, it possessed nothing except a huge amount of weapons inherited from the communists. Ten years later, the Wa command an immense drug trafficking network and have earned millions of dollars. Their economic health is evident from the construction of a town in Mong Yawn, near the Thai-Burma border, reportedly costing about Bt1 billion.

The problems with the Wa are a hard nut to crack for the regime and could continue to haunt any government when the country returns to civilian rule.

As of now, the junta is globally criticised for the flow into Thailand and elsewhere of drugs produced by ethnic armies allied with Rangoon. Drug barons from Wa and other ethnic nationalities, who are wanted by Thailand and the United States, live freely in Burma. When nine Thai villagers were brutally killed near Mong Yawn, fingers were pointed at the Burmese army because of the Burmese-Wa connection.

For the UWSA, its primary struggle is for the recognition of their ethnic rights and this will continue at all costs. In the meantime, it will continue the lucrative drug business unless there is a political answer that can deliver the recognition. It will take political courage for the junta to find that answer.

[Description of Source: The Nation--daily newspaper widely read by the Thai elite]

MYANMAR SEEKS STABILITY IN THE HINTERLAND

THE ASIAN WALL STREET JOURNAL: 1 May, 1999 by Barry Wain
PANGHSANG, Myanmar - A decade ago, army commanders mutinied against the aging leadership of the Communist Party of Burma, the most powerful insurgent group trying to topple the government in Rangoon.

With the leaders seeking sanctuary in China, the movement fractured into four separate armies along ethnic lines. The Wa, who controlled the party's headquarters at Panghsang, agreed to a cease-fire with the government, following the example of the Kokang only days earlier.

Although nothing was put in writing, the agreements became the model for accommodation between central authorities and ethnic-based guerrillas that had been doing battle since soon after independence in 1948. Between 1989 and 1995, 17 major outfits negotiated similar deals, leaving only one, the Karen National Union, in open rebellion today.

Lt.-Gen. Khin Nyunt, Secretary 1 of the ruling State Peace and Development Council and head of military intelligence, this week visited Panghsang, in eastern Shan state on the border with China, to mark the anniversary of the

revolt. He thinks the arrangements have given the country, renamed Myanmar, its best chance of national reconciliation in 50 years.

"Nobody can deny the fact that during this 10-year period, all these regions have developed with amazing speed," he tells several thousand colorfully dressed minorities who greet him. Actually, not everyone interprets events so positively. Foreign critics maintain that the military and the retired rebels are playing a sinister game.

The controversy started when the SPDC's predecessor junta shot unarmed demonstrators in Rangoon, since renamed Yangon, and seized power in 1988. Democracy activists and human rights bodies say the regime forged alliances of convenience with the insurgents, allowing them to engage in narcotics production and trafficking as long as they stopped fighting the government. Not true, say senior army officers, who insist the "understanding" is that the insurgents can keep their weapons and administer the territory they controlled at the time, provided they renounce armed struggle. The government promised a border development program and pledged not to interfere in the zones.

As for narcotics, the officers say the guerrillas were told in general terms that they would have to end their involvement in all drug-related activities. No timetable was set, they say, though it was understood that subsistence farmers traditionally growing opium would need time to find other forms of income.

I accepted a government invitation to join Lt.- Gen. Khin Nyunt's entourage and a few diplomats and other journalists on a three-day foray, by Russian-made MI-17 helicopter, to parts of former bandit territory.

The overwhelming impression is that while Yangon has made a good start, it faces a massive challenge in trying to convert the ceasefires into a permanent peace, eliminate the narcotics scourge and integrate frontier areas into the rest of the nation.

The transformation of Panghsang, center of Northern Shan State Special Region Two, is impressive. Huts in the remote mountain town have given way to two- and three-story modern shopping centers and hotels.

In the Good Health Fine Jewelry workshop, 92 uniformed men and women, trained by Thai experts, polish rubies and fit them into gold rings and earrings. Gold, rubies and jade come from mining concessions elsewhere in Myanmar, which the government has given as assistance.

Yangon also has directed to the Wa region more than 6% of the 14.66 billion kyats (about \$43 million at current free-market exchange rates) that it has spent on the border development program in the past 10 years. The funds have been used to build roads, bridges, hospitals, dispensaries, schools and TV relay stations. Most business is in the hands of a general trading company, a type of cooperative in which 40,000 of the Wa region's 600,000 population have shares. Other far-flung ventures include a pig-breeding farm, a vineyard and an orchard.

Pau Yo Chan, chairman of the Wa administrative committee and identified by the U.S. as a suspect in the heroin or amphetamine trade, denies that drug money has been invested in such projects, just as he denies personal involvement. As well as using profits from mining, the region gets soft loans from China, he says.

Mong La, a border post to the Southeast and the center of Eastern Shan State Special Region Four, run by another breakaway faction of the defunct Communist Party, is more prosperous. It attracts about 500,000 Chinese tourists a year, lured by a casino, religious sites and a nature reserve.

With no need to obtain a visa, visitors pay two yuan, (about 24 U.S. cents), the only currency used in Mong La, for a day pass. They each spend an average 100 yuan, entertained by a Thai transvestite show and performing elephants, among other things. Again, the government has spent 727.1 million kyats on infrastructure, while the area exploits deposits of manganese and also receives help from nearby districts in China's Yunnan province.

Sai Lin, chairman of the region, dressed in a beige jacket with mandarin collar and matching trousers, holds hands with Lt Gen. Khin Nyunt as they approach a reception line. Also identified by Washington as a drug suspect, Mr. Sai Lin has been honored by Yangon for eliminating poppy cultivation and declaring his turf opium-free two years ago.

"I don't need to defend myself at all," he says. "I have a clear conscience." The government has every reason to be pleased that the ceasefires are holding and that it has access, however limited, to these vast swathes of the country. Stopping most of the fighting that characterized Myanmar for 45 years is a notable achievement.

Yet Yangon must tread carefully as it tries to overcome decades of suspicion and avoid any action that might rekindle violence. For instance, in an effort to build confidence, Lt-Gen Khin Nyunt leaves behind his usual heavily armed bodyguards when he goes on such excursions, demonstrating that he trusts once-im placable foes.

Pressuring the ethnic groups to abandon narcotics will require delicate diplomacy, as the SPDC moves toward its stated goal of eliminating poppy growing by 2014. For example, while the Wa claim to have cut opium output by 30% on the way to meeting their own 2005 deadline, Myanmar narcotics officials say any reduction has been insignificant.

Eventually, stability in the borderlands will depend on a satisfactory power-sharing arrangement in a new constitution being drafted since 1993. Ominously, a national convention charged with the task hasn't met for nearly three years, reportedly stuck on this very issue.

Further, the convention is being boycotted by Aung San Suu Kyi's National League for Democracy, which won an election in 1990 but wasn't allowed to take office. Although the government won't entertain the idea of talks with Ms Aung San Suu Kyi, it remains confident the insurgencies won't resume. "Everybody is fed up with fighting each other," says Col. Kyaw Thein, who was involved in the ceasefire negotiations. "They don't want to start again."

Title: Burma's Wa, 'Drug-Free' Areas Viewed

Document Number: FBIS-EAS-1999-0515

Document Date: 03 May 1999

Sourceline: BK1505091399 Rangoon Myanmar Alin in Burmese 2, 3 May 99

Subslug: Article by Tekkatho Myat Thu: "Echoes of Peace in the Wa and Mong La Regions"

Reference:

1. rangoon radio myanmar in burmese 1330 gmt 28 apr 99 -- burma's mong la celebrates peace, drug-free anniversaries

[FBIS Translated Text] [2 May, p 4] A ceremony to mark the 10th

anniversary of the restoration of peace in the northern Shan State

Special Region 2 was held in the Sports Stadium of Pang Sang at 0945 on

26 April. This is the region of the Wa nationals. I saw the ceremonial

proceedings in the evening newscast of the Myanmar Television Network on

27 April. I have been involved with the Wa region before and the program captivated me. The Wa region today has developed incredibly and it is completely different from the time when I was there in May and June of 1962. I was engrossed by what I was seeing on the screen. The program was showing the Wa regional scenes, the geographic terrain, the infrastructure, the mode of dress today, and the smiles and joyous looks on people's faces. The sports ground in Pang Sang runs smooth and even and the pavilion where the 10th anniversary celebrations were held looked grand.

The ceremony was attended by Lt. Gen. Khin Nyunt, chairman of the Work Committee for the Development of Border Areas and National Races and secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council [SPDC]; Maj. Gen. Thein Sein, commander of the Triangular Region Military Command and SPDC member; Maj. Gen. Thiha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo, commander of the Northeast Military Command; leaders of national races headed by U Pau Yu Chan of the northern Shan State Special Region-2; the local populace; ministers; deputy ministers; ambassadors; local and foreign newsmen; Mr. Iwakura Tomomitsu, director general of Japan's Liberal Democratic Party; and invited guests. Also present were the national ethnic leaders who, together with the Wa nationals, had signed the peace pact. They were from the northern Shan State Special Regions 1, 3, 5 and 7, the eastern Shan State Special Regional 4, Kayah State Special Region 2 and Mon New State Party.

When the ceremony for the 10th anniversary of the restoration of peace in the northern Shan State Special Region 2 started, the group that led the parade was the national flag team. The march past was then followed by the log drum cultural group, multi-colored flags troupe, the Lahu cultural troupe, the garland group, the Shan Toe-Naya dance troupe, colorful balloons troupe, the athletes team, the pom-pom troupe and the dragon dance troupe. Wa nationals traditionally have log drums at their villages. The drums are used to send signals and convene or alert the people. Wa youths passionately beating the log drums were quite a sight. On that very day, inaugural ceremonies were also held for the new Pang Sang (Pang Kham) city hall, the Wa region Son Phu hydroelectric power plant and the Hong Pang Brewery. The following day on April 27, the Mong Zin livestock station of the Hong Pang Livestock Breeding and Development Co., Ltd., which belonged to the Wa nationals in Keng Tung, was also opened. They are the positive results of the ten years of a journey of peace. The region has prospered and is completely different from the Wa region that I had visited 37 years ago in 1962.

I had led a team of ten writers to the Wa region on a 2-month tour.

The Myanmar [Burma] Writers Club, the Ministry of Information and the Frontier Administration Department arranged the trip. It was a long journey, taking a day to go from Rangoon to Mandalay, a day from Mandalay to Lashio, another day from Lashio to Kunlong, and a day more for a 12-mile journey from Kunlong to Ho-pang. From Ho-pang, it was a long trek through forest and mountain trails with mules and donkeys carrying the loads. Since we were walking, we could only cover a distance of 5 to 6 miles each day. The trek was tortuous and it took us a day to go from Ho-pang to Pinlong village, one more day from Pinlong to Pan Yawng village, another day from Pang Yawng to Pang Khun camp, and a day more from Pang Khun camp to the big Mong Mao village. We trudged up mountains, pulling ourselves up with all our strength. Whenever we reached a peak, a higher mountain always lay ahead and that made us even more tired. The trip from Rangoon to the Wa region, which entailed climbing a number of mountains and crossing numerous ravines, lasted exactly 8 days. Roads

those days meant grassy paths beaten down by travelers ahead of you. Wa region was quiet and peaceful then. Terrace farming on mountainsides produced agricultural crops. Small thatched huts with deeply slanted roofs provided shelter. A fire was kept burning to give warmth to the people around it. Pot after pot of water was boiled for green tea, which was prepared by putting slightly roasted tea leaves into a pot of boiling water. The serenity of the Wa region was later shattered by insurgency. Our base was at Mong Mao village and we visited the surrounding villages from there to study the culture of the Wa nationals. A big banyan tree grew on the east of Mong Mao village. It was called the Banyan of Peace. Whenever there was a dispute or an argument, it is said that the Wa nationals would go to that place, meet under that tree and peacefully resolve the dispute. To the east of the Banyan of Peace was the Loi Mu mountain and it was 8,000 feet above sea level. I saw an ancient pagoda on top of that mountain.

The Frontier Administration had its office at Mong Mao village. The region commissioner managed the office. Even though Mong Mao was designated as a big village, there weren't that many houses. It was a village where a market opened once every 5 days. On market days, vendors who came to sell their wares used the hut stalls that lined a long vacant plot of land on either side. They sold mustard greens, green tea, salt, rice, alcoholic drinks, and cloth. Alcoholic drinks are stored in earthen pots and a small bowl is used as a measure to sell the drinks. A buyer got a little over half a bowl to sample the drink before buying. I even saw some people moving from stall to stall asking for free samples and getting drunk on that. The sellers never complained, they even cheerfully looked at the person and smiled.

Opium was also sold at the market. A viss [3.6 pounds] of raw opium cost over 200 kyats only. Chinese businessmen sold general merchandise, ran gambling stalls, and bought opium. Because it was the choice of the Chinese businessmen, the silver coin and the square Tamu coin from the British colonial times were used as currencies. A silver coin fetched three Burmese kyat or 24 Tamu coins. The Chinese businessmen dominated the market because they controlled the currency exchange system, the gambling business and trade.

There was also a pharmacy where one pharmacist worked. He had to be persuaded to stay there. He played the role of doctor, nurse and pharmacist. Communication was difficult, the Wa nationals were poor and there was not the slightest trace of development when we visited the region. In 1962, we could not have expected the kind of development that we are seeing today on the 10th anniversary of the restoration of peace in the Special Region 2.

[3 May, p 4] Secretary-1 Lt. Gen. Khin Nyunt said, "This is a very auspicious day for both the Wa region and the State. It marks the 10th anniversary of the day when the whole Wa region in the northern Shan State, following its return to the legal fold after liberation from the yoke of the Burma Communist Party [BCP], started working closely with the government on regional development programs. I take this very auspicious occasion, to say that I am immensely pleased to be witnessing changes in Pang Sang and the Wa region, which unlike before, are prospering and developing. In addition, I am very happy that the friendship and solidarity with our Wa brethren have strengthened further over the past 10 years." In his return address, Pau Yu Chan also expressed his pleasure to see how his region has developed.

He said, "Some 10 years ago, on 17 April 1989, the people in the Wa region decided to enter the mainstream of international peace and

development. They set goals to end direct confrontation and attain peace without fail and worked toward those objectives accordingly. This was welcomed and supported by the other national races and the government. Thanks to the care and support from the government and because of the support and efforts by the local people under the leadership of the Special Region 2 Administration in the past 10 years, we were able to liberate from war the nationals in the Wa region as well as declare war against backwardness and poverty. We are happily enjoying the fruits of those endeavors today."

The Wa region has prospered and developed and everybody is glad about it. The smiling faces of the Wa national brethren reflect that mood. Peace and unity have opened the door to cooperation for development. During the ceremony, two groups in the march past chanted some slogans. Even though I could not make out the chants clearly, I believe they were saying something about strengthening the unity to achieve development. In his speech, the secretary-1 also spoke about how to achieve development on the basis of unity. He said, "SPDC Chairman Senior Gen. Than Shwe has given instructions that once mistrust disappears between the national races, armed struggles come to an end and peace is established in regions, efforts must be made in particular to develop the border areas and the national races so as to ensure that the union does not disintegrate, national unity is not destroyed and sovereignty of the nation is eternally perpetuated. In accordance with those instructions and to implement the objective of developing the border areas and the national races, a national-level committee headed by a government leader and a separate ministry were formed to systematically work toward those goals. This is unprecedented and evident to everyone."

The villages that we had visited before in the Wa region are now towns, and some have become township and districts. I notice that development grows in direct proportion to the growth of the border trade. When I and the other writers went on a study tour of the Wa region in May and June of 1962, heavy downpours made our return trip more tortuous and difficult. Today, roads are proliferating in the region like strands of a spider web. Before, we had to cross the streams and rivers by raft hooked up with pulleys and winches, and even had to wade across some of them. Today, bridges have already been constructed. There are a total of 493 miles of new roads in the Wa region: some unpaved earth roads, some built with rocks and some tarred. Renovation and maintenance work is also being done on 788 miles of old roads. There are 8 new main bridges, including the Tar Kaw-et steel suspension bridge, and 42 smaller ones, five hospitals, seven dispensaries, 45 primary schools, 3 middle schools, 3 television relay stations, 3 agricultural stations, 3 nurseries for reforestation, 3 livestock breeding farms, and 4 medical treatment centers. The state spent 16.65263 billion kyat for the overall border area development program, of which 908.74 million kyat went to the Wa region.

Imperialists of the olden days let the people at the border grow opium for a living. Today, the neo-imperialists are letting the old poppy plantations grow in the Golden Triangle border areas and bringing in modern heroin refining equipment, chemicals and methodologies to prop up the opium-dealing Koumintang and opium trafficking kingpins. The criminal gangs from western countries and western journalists, diplomats, military personnel, politicians and elected representatives are frequently going in and out of the camps belonging to the opium kingpins in the Golden Triangle not only to engage in the opium business but also in politics. The people of Myanmar are slowing trying to clear up the pile of opium

mess left behind by the imperialists. People are being educated to grow the other agricultural crops instead of poppy.

Wa national leader U Pau Yu Chan made his comments about the eradication of opium at the ceremony to mark the 10th anniversary of the restoration of peace in the northern Shan State Special Region 2. He said, "Narcotics are a common enemy to humankind, and the fight to eradicate opium is therefore a historic, noble task. Since 1990, we have been working under the motto: 'Reduce opium cultivation every year, and bring an end to it eventually.' Acting accordingly, we have been able to reduce the cultivated opium acreage by 30 percent over the past 10 years. By 2005, we will be able to solemnly declare to the world that the Wa region has become an opium free zone." U Pau Yu Chan made that pledge on behalf of the Wa region, and added, "In the coming months and years, we will be flying high the banner of national reconciliation under the leadership of the government, and, together with the other fellow brethren organizations, we will strive to build peace in the country and friendship with neighboring countries. In the same way as we nurture a beautiful garden, we will nurture the Union into a modern and developed nation."

To mark the occasion of the 10th anniversary of the restoration of peace in the northern Shan State Special Region 2, the SPDC Secretary-1 handed over to U Pau Yu Chan 20 tractors, 1,080 bags of fertilizer, a fire engine and a garbage truck.

Also on the morning of 27 April, a grand ceremony was held in the sports stadium of Mong La to mark the 10th anniversary of the restoration of peace in the eastern Shan State Special Region 4 as well as to commemorate the 2d anniversary of the declaration of an opium free zone in the region. The opium free zone in eastern Shan State Special Region 4 was declared at a function held in Mong La at 0900 on 22 April 1997 and a museum was inaugurated to mark the event. I, together with a team of journalists were there to cover the event. Today, the region has remained opium free for 2 years already. Mong La was already a bustling town when I went there in 1997. We drove from Keng Tung to Mong La but the road was still under construction then and it took us the whole day by the old road. The road was not much more than an unpaved earthen road then and rain delayed our journey. Today, 20 km of the road has been paved. I watched the Mong La 10th anniversary celebrations on television also. There were many new developments compared to 2 years ago. At the ceremony, the State presented 20 million kyat for the school building project at the Mong La High School and 50 million kyat for the Keng Tung-Mong La road expansion project. A foundation was also laid at a ceremony held on the same day for the new gems showroom. A digital automatic phone exchange was also opened. The state was seen presenting some farming machinery to mark the 10th anniversary of the restoration of peace in the region.

On the occasion, SPDC secretary-1 said the region was developing fast because of peace. He noted the important role played by eastern Shan State in the trade with neighboring countries; praised the efforts made by the Mong La Region nationality leaders and the local populace which enabled the region to be declared as an opium free zone to the world; pointed out the blatant intervention by some powerful nations to break up countries and the military invasion and violation of sovereignty in some other nations; and noted the need for all the national races in Myanmar to unite and uphold the Union spirit and to achieve development.

U Sai Lin, Special Region 4 nationality leader, stated that he and the others gradually understood the futility of the BCP policies and

therefore struggled free from its yoke and worked together with the government to develop the Mong La region. He said the region had seen peace in the past 10 years and been freed from opium for 2 years. He noted that there had been successes and all-round developments in the region and pledged to work together with the government in the interests of the State and the region. Wa and Mong La regions will remain peaceful and prosperous, and that is a certainty.
[Description of Source: Myanmar Alin--government-run daily newspaper]

Greater Mekong Subregion Tourism Sector Working Group 9th Meeting begins

YANGON, 4 May - The Ninth Meeting of the Working Group on the Greater Mekong Subregion Tourism Sector began at Inya Lake Hotel this morning.

It was attended by Deputy Minister for Hotels and Tourism Brig-Gen Aye Myint Kyu, Director-General of Directorate of Hotels and Tourism U Kin Maung Latt, heads of departments concerned and representatives of Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP), Asia Development Bank and Agency for Coordinating Mekong Tourism Activities (AMTA) and nations in Mekong region.

The programmes on making Mekong region known to the world as tourism centre will be discussed at the meeting which will continue till 5 May. The meeting is hosted by Myanmar, the People's Republic of China (Yunnan Province), Lao PDR, Thailand, Vietnam and Cambodia in rotation. "The New Light of Myanmar" (Internet version) 99-05-05

PRC industrialists meet MIPA members

YANGON, 6 May - Industrialists from the People's Republic of China met with Myanmar counterparts here this afternoon, coordinating means to extend industrial cooperation on mutual basis.

Led by Deputy Director Mr Hu Zuzhen of Foreign Affairs Office of Jinan Municipal People's Government, Shangton Province, they held talks with Central Executive Committee members of Myanmar Industrial Producers Association led by MIPA Chairman U Htein Win. "The New Light of Myanmar" (Internet version) 99-05-07

Public Works, China Shipbuilding Trading sign contract to buy bridge frames

YANGON, 8 May - The Public Works signed a contract with China Shipbuilding Trading Co Ltd at the Head Office of Public Works yesterday afternoon to purchase bridge frames for Minchaung Bridge Project.

Minister Maj-Gen Saw Tun made a speech on the occasion.

Deputy Managing Director (Works) U Thant Zin of Public Works and Mr Zhang Wanbai signed the contract and exchanged the agreed notes. "The New Light of Myanmar" (Internet version) 99-05-09

Minister meets Complant Group President

YANGON, 10 May - Minister for Rail Transportation U Pan Aung met with President Mr Li Zhiming of Complant Group, President Mrs Zhang Lianju of Complant Yunnan Co and party together with officials of the Embassy of the People's Republic of China at his office this afternoon.

Also present at the call were Deputy Minister Thura U Thaung Lwin, Managing Director of Myanma Railways U Kyaw Hsan, Director-General of Transport Planning Department U Aye Mu and Head of Office U Hla Myint. "The New Light of Myanmar" (Internet version) 99-05-11

Title: Burmese Leaders Send Condolence Messages to PRC Leaders

Document Number: FBIS-CHI-1999-0512

Document Date: 12 May 1999

Sourceline: OW1205092699 Beijing Xinhua in English 0745 GMT 12 May 99

Reference:

1. beijing xinhua english 111624 -- burma condemns nato attack on chinese embassy

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Yangon, May 12 (Xinhua) -- Chairman of the Myanmar [Burma] State Peace and Development Council (SPDC) and Prime Minister Senior-General Than Shwe has sent a message of condolences to Chinese President Jiang Zemin after the Chinese Embassy in Belgrade was attacked by NATO missiles at midnight Friday.

The attack killed three Chinese journalists and injured more than 20 others.

"This bombing of a diplomatic mission is tantamount to the violation of the UN Charter, and basic norms of international law," Than Shwe said in the message, according to official news release here Wednesday.

He expressed deep sympathy and sincere condolences for the loss of lives and injuries sustained as a result of the tragic incident.

First Secretary of the Myanmar SPDC Lieutenant-General Khin Nyunt sent similar messages to Wu Bangguo, Vice Premier of the Chinese State Council, and Luo Gan, Chinese State Councilor.

Moreover, Myanmar Foreign Minister U Win Aung sent a message of condolences to his Chinese counterpart Tang Jiaxuan.

[Description of source: Beijing Xinhua in English -- China's official news service for English-language audiences (New China News Agency)]

Press Release issued by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in connection with the bombing of the Embassy of the People's Republic of China in Belgrade by NATO forces

Myanmar Government and people greatly shocked and distressed by NATO bombing of RPC Embassy Senior General Than Shwe has conveyed deepest condolences and sympathy to the Government and the people of the PRC, particularly bereaved families

Call to solve crisis based on respect for UN Charter, independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity of Federal Republic of Yugoslavia

YANGON, 11 May - The following is the full text of the Press Release issued today by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in connection with the bombing of the Embassy of the People's Republic of China in Belgrade by NATO forces.

The Government and the people of the Union of Myanmar are greatly shocked and distressed to learn the news of the bombing of the Embassy of the People's Republic of China in Belgrade by the NATO forces which had resulted in tragic death and injuries to Chinese Embassy personnel. Myanmar deeply deplores this grave incident which is tantamount to violation of the UN Charter and the basic norms of the International Law; and undermines the fundamental principles of Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations governing inter-state relations.

In this regard, Senior General Than Shwe, Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council and Prime Minister of the Union of Myanmar, has conveyed to His Excellency Mr Jiang Zemin, President of the People's Republic of China, and His Excellency Mr Zhu Rongji, Premier of the State Council of the People's Republic of China, the deepest condolences and sympathy to the Government and the people of the People's Republic of China, particularly the bereaved families.

The Myanmar Government reiterates its conviction that a peaceful resolution should be urgently found to the current situation in the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia which has caused the loss of lives of many innocent civilians, including women and children. Therefore, it calls upon all parties concerned to solve the present crisis based on respect for the principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations, as well as respect for independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia. "The New Light of Myanmar" (Internet version) 99-05-12

Title: Khin Nyunt Receives PRC Envoy, US Charge D'Affaires

Document Number: FBIS-EAS-1999-0512

Document Date: 12 May 1999

Sourceline: BK1305022999 Rangoon Radio Myanmar in Burmese 1330 GMT 12 May 99

Reference:

1. beijing xinhua in english 1624 gmt 11 may 99 -- burma condemns nato attack on chinese embassy

2. rangoon radio myanmar in burmese 1330 gmt 11 may 99 -- burma 'deplores' nato bombing of prc embassy in belgrade

[FBIS Translated Text] Lt. Gen. Khin Nyunt, secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council [SPDC] of the Union of Myanmar [Burma], received Mr. Liang Dong, ambassador of the People's Republic of China, at the Defense Ministry's Dagon House at 1000 today.

Similarly, SPDC Secretary-1 Lt. Gen. Khin Nyunt received Mr. Kent M. Wiedemann, charge d'affaires of the American Embassy, at the Defense Ministry's Dagon House at 1100 today.

Also present at the meetings were Deputy Foreign Minister U Khin Maung Win, Thura U Aung Htet, director general of Foreign Ministry's Protocol Department, and responsible personnel.

[Description of Source: Radio Myanmar -- government-run radio]

Minister for Cooperatives meets delegates leaving for Kunming

YANGON, 13 May - Minister for Cooperatives U Aung San met delegates of cooperative societies who will take part in Kunming Trade Fair 99 at the Ministry of Cooperatives this afternoon.

The trade fair will be held in Kunming, Yunnan Province, People's Republic of China, from 6 to 10 June.

Present on the occasion were Director-General of Cooperative Department U Maung Hti, Director-General of Cottage Industries Department Dr Than Htaik, General Manager U Myo Than and officials of Cooperative Export and Import Enterprise, officials of Yangon Division Cooperative Department.

Deputy Director U Kyaw Hlaing explained arrangements for participation in this year's Kunming Trade Fair.

A total of 67 delegates from 19 cooperative societies will attend the trade fair and jewellery, gems and jade wares, silver wares, mother of pearls and handicraft. "The New Light of Myanmar" (Internet version) 99-05-14

Communications systems demonstrated

YANGON, 14 May - The technical demonstration of communications systems presented by Datang Telecom Technology Co Ltd of the People's Republic of China was held at Communications and Postal Training Centre of Myanmar Posts and Telecommunications at Lower Pazundung Road this morning.

It was attended by Minister for Communications, Posts and Telegraphs Brig-Gen Win Tin, Managing Director of Myanmar Posts and Telecommunications U Maung Maung Tin, heads of departments, engineers of Datang Telecom Technology Co Ltd and engineers of MPT.

Engineer of Datang Co Mr Tran Li extended greetings. "The New Light of Myanmar" (Internet version) 99-05-15

Title: Xinhua Interviews Foreign Journalists in Burma

Document Number: FBIS-CHI-1999-0515

Document Date: 15 May 1999

Sourceline: OW1505144999 Beijing Xinhua in English 1442 GMT 15 May 99

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Rangoon, May 15 (Xinhua) -- Resident foreign journalists in Myanmar [Burma] Saturday condemned the US-led NATO's missile attack on the Chinese Embassy in Belgrade on May 7.

U Sein Win of Kyodo of Japan, who is also honorary president of the Foreign Correspondents Club, said in an interview with Xinhua, "The NATO's acts violated the UN Charter and the Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations as well as the basic norms governing international

relations and infringed on Chinese sovereignty."

He pointed out that the NATO attack on the Chinese Embassy in Belgrade was "deliberate," adding that the NATO wanted to sound China out and see how China would react.

He stressed that following the disintegration of the Soviet Union, the United States becomes the sole superpower in the world which pursues and practices hegemonism and power politics globally.

In recent years, China's comprehensive national strength increased obviously, he noted, pointing out that the United States does not want to see the emergence of a strong China, thus taking a preemptive strategy on China.

In another interview with Xinhua, U Khin Maung Myint of NHK of Japan said a majority of the Myanmar people believe in Buddhism which calls for "accumulation of the good for morals," believing that "good will be rewarded with good and evil with evil."

Other foreign correspondents of Myanmar citizenship such as U Hla Htway of Antara of Indonesia, U Zaw Than of Jiji of Japan and U Nyunt Tin of Fuji TV of Japan also expressed their condemnation of the NATO attack.

[Description of source: Beijing Xinhua in English -- China's official news service for English-language audiences (New China News Agency)]

Title: Official: Burma Completes Military Buildup

Document Number: FBIS-EAS-1999-0518

Document Date: 19 May 1999

Sourceline: BK1905024999 Hong Kong AFP in English 0135 GMT 19 May 99

Subslug: As of filing time, Burmese media monitored at Bangkok Bureau have not been observed to report the following

[FBIS Transcribed Text] YANGON, May 19 (AFP) -- Myanmar's military build-up over the past decade has threatened to change Asia's strategic balance but junta officials here said Yangon's arms spending had fallen dramatically in the past two years.

Myanmar's arms purchases have slowed to a trickle and most military expenditure now was focused on consolidating the regime's grip on former ethnic rebel territory, officials said.

They also dismissed widely reported claims that China is developing spy posts and naval bases in Myanmar waters.

"We have been portrayed as a very dangerous race of people but before we purchased all this equipment we were one of the most poorly equipped countries in the world," junta spokesman Lieutenant Colonel Hla Min said.

He said Myanmar's military had been in desperate need of updating during the early 1990s when conflicts with a range of ethnic insurgents were at their peak and drug lords ruled swathes of territory along the border with Thailand.

But peace deals with most of the rebels and the surrender in 1996 of drug lord Khun Sa meant the military now had no need for new weapons.

"Khun Sa had an army of 20,000 men and weapons that we had only read about in magazines," he said. "All the weapons we bought were only for self-defence. We have no long-range bombers, submarines or aircraft carriers."

Myanmar is estimated to have poured about 40 percent of central government expenditure into the military throughout the 1990s, while much of its population is still without basic education or health care.

Annual defence expenditure at least doubled from 1988 to 1996, analysts say, giving Myanmar possibly the largest army in Southeast Asia in terms of enlisted troops.

Most of the weapons and ammunition came overland from China, but other sources included Pakistan, Yugoslavia, Singapore, North Korea, Russia and Israel, they said.

The "tatmadaw", as the military is known here, was updated with new jet fighters, helicopters, tanks and even battleships, giving the navy ocean-going vessels for the first time. Pakistan and China also reportedly supplied military advisors and communications gear.

The build-up, coupled with Yangon's renewed ties with China which had for years supported communist rebels in Myanmar, rang alarm bells across Southeast Asia and particularly in India, China's South Asian rival.

One Yangon-based foreign analyst of Myanmar's military told AFP last

week that China had built what was broadly assumed to be a listening post on Coco Island in the Bay of Bengal, and possibly others on nearby islands.

"There is a facility there (on Coco Island) with a very tall mast and a strange concrete structure. It's close to one of India's missile testing grounds and it seems to be some sort of surveillance facility," he said.

"India does not perceive any threat from Myanmar but they do watch with some concern what China is up to. If the military relationship leads to an increase in the Chinese presence in this country then India will be under a lot of pressure."

The analyst, who did not want to be named, said China's strategic objectives in Myanmar seemed to be firmly set on gaining access to the Indian Ocean for trade rather than military reasons.

Beijing and Yangon were in the middle of negotiations over the construction of a road linking China's undeveloped Yunnan province with the most northern point at which Myanmar's Irrawaddy River becomes navigable to deep-sea ships, he said.

Hla Min acknowledged that India and Southeast Asia were getting edgy over China's designs, but assured them Myanmar would not become a "proxy" or "client" state to Beijing. "There is some concern in Asia that we are getting too close with China," Hla Min said, adding that Myanmar would never let "foreign troops" on its soil. "But if it is true (that China is building military facilities in southern Myanmar), in today's world with all the spy satellites everyone should know what is happening there."

[Description of source: Hong Kong AFP in English -- Hong Kong service of the independent French press agency Agence France-Presse]

Title: Mekong States Sign Accord on Border Drug Suppression

Document Number: FBIS-EAS-1999-0522

Document Date: 22 May 1999

Sourceline: BK2205043599 Bangkok Bangkok Post (Internet Version) in English 22 May 99

Subslug: Report by Nusara Thaitawat

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Ministers from the six Mekong countries and the United Nations drug agency yesterday signed an agreement in Vientiane to cooperate in drug suppression across borders.

The agreement addresses a very sensitive area of cooperation between Burma, Cambodia, China, Laos, Thailand and Vietnam.

Most have little or no control over their extensive border areas, where drug trafficking is most active. Reasons differ from country to country and are both domestic and external in nature.

The agreement is for four years and will be implemented in two phases.

The first involves China, Laos, Burma and Vietnam; the second the Cambodia-Thailand, Cambodia-Vietnam, Laos-highland, Laos-Vietnam and Burma-Thailand borders.

The cost of implementation is \$1.8 million.

According to a UNDCP statement, activities under the agreement are mainly aimed at building national and bilateral cooperation, and enabling cross-border personnel to work as a team.

Key components will be workshops to build trust and confidence, and structures which favour close liaison. Enforcement activities conducive to practical and daily collaboration will also be identified and encouraged, it added.

[Description of Source: Bangkok Post--daily newspaper widely read by the foreign community in Thailand; provides good coverage on Indochina]

Minister for Industry-1 receives Chinese and Japanese entrepreneurs

YANGON, 27 May - Minister for Industry-1 U Aung Thaung received Vice-President Mr Yang Yanru of China National General Machinery Engineering Corp and party at 2.30 pm and Assistant General Manager Mr Tom Sato of Mitsui & Co Ltd (Yangon Branch) and party at 3.30 pm.

Also present at the calls were Deputy Ministers for Industry-1 Brig-Gen Thein Tun and Brig-Gen Kyaw Win, and directors-general and managing directors of departments and enterprises. "The New Light of Myanmar" (Internet version) 99-055-28

Minister meets President of Kunming Xing Zhi Science & Trade Development Corporation

YANGON, 28 May - Minister for Industry-1 U Aung Thaung met President of Kunming Xing Zhi Science & Trade Development Corporation of People's Republic of China Mr Gao Xiang Qian and party who called at his office at 3 pm today.

President of Hainan Import & Export Co Ltd Mr Zhang Sheng Can and party called on Minister U Aung Thaung at his office at 5:30 pm today. Also present at the calls were Deputy Minister for Industry-1 Brig-Gen Kyaw Win, director-generals and managing directors of the Department and Industries. NL-WS 99-05-29

Chinese writers delegation arrives

YANGON, 30 May - The five-member Chinese writers delegation led by member of the Panel of Patron of Writer Association of People's Republic of China Mr Shu Peide arrived here by air this afternoon.

The Chinese writers delegation was welcomed at Yangon International Airport by Chairman of Myanmar Writers and Journalists Association U Kyaw Aung (Kyaw Aung), Vice-Chairman U Than Maung, Secretary U Hla Tun (Hla Tun - Twantay), Treasurer U Saw Myint (Maung Saw Myint), member U Win Pe (Monywa Win Pe), First Secretary (Culture) of Chinese Embassy Ms Ren Xiu Zhi and embassy staff and officials.

The delegation visited the Shwedagon Pagoda in the evening.

The Chinese writers delegation will stay here for 10 days to visit Yangon, Mandalay, Bagan, Poppa, Pyin Oo Lwin and Bago.

The delegation includes Chairman of Writers Association in Gansu Province Mr Wang Wang Ken, Director of Foreign Relation Section of Writers Association of People's Republic of China Mr Chen Xiru and Liaison Officer of Foreign Relation Section of Writers Association of People's Republic of China Ms Wansy Li. "The New Light of Myanmar" (Internet version) 99-055-31

Deputy Minister meets Chinese writers delegation

YANGON, 31 May - Deputy Minister for Information Brig-Gen Aung Thein met

four-member writers delegation led by members of the Panel of Patrons of Writers Association of People's Republic of China Mr Shu Peide who called at the Minister's Office at 10 am today.

The delegation visited People's Square, People's Park and the National Museum in the morning and Defence Services Museum in the afternoon.

Deputy Minister for Information Brig-Gen Aung Thein hosted dinner in honour of visiting writers delegation at the Royal Yangon City Hotel in the evening. "The New Light of Myanmar" (Internet version) 99-06-02

Minister for CPT leaves for PRC

YANGON, 1 June - At the invitation of Minister of News and Information of the People's Republic of China Mr Wu Jichuan, a two-member delegation led by Minister for Communications, Posts and Telegraphs Brig-Gen Win Tin left here this morning for PRC to study communication services and factories that produce communication equipment.

The delegation was seen off at the airport by Minister at the Prime Minister's Office Lt-Gen Tin Ngwe, Commercial Counsellor Mr Lin Jian, officials of Myanma Posts and Telecommunications, Directorate of Posts and Telecommunications and Meteorology and Hydrology Department. "The New Light of Myanmar" (Internet version) 99-06-02

Deputy Minister leaves for Kunming Trade Fair

YANGON, 2 June - At the invitation of Government of Yunnan Province of People's Republic of China, Myanmar delegation led by Deputy Minister for Commerce Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan left here by air this afternoon for People's Republic of China to attend "Kunming Trade Fair 99" to be held from 6 to 10 June, 1999. "The New Light of Myanmar" (Internet version) 99-06-02

Title: Thailand's Mekong River Pier, Lao Road Project Reported

Document Number: FBIS-EAS-1999-0604

Document Date: 03 Jun 1999

Sourceline: BK0406080299 Bangkok Krungthep Thurakit in Thai 3 Jun 99 p 19

Subslug: Unattributed report

[FBIS Translated Text] Chiang Rai -- Anan Laothammathat, president of the Chamber of Commerce of Chiang Rai Province, told Krungthep Thurakit that at present the Economic Development Project in the Quadrangle Area along the common borders of Laos, China, Burma, and Thailand has been continually promoted by both the Thai Government and private sectors. Anan said he believed that the project will materialize in the near future. However, it appears that there is a delay in the support expected from certain government agencies. As a result, Thailand may lose a good opportunity to become the main gateway in the project. At present, our neighbors, such as Burma and the Lao People's Democratic Republic, are

trying to make progress on the project in many aspects.

Anan pointed out that it is important that the Thai Government urgently build a new pier in the Mekong River in Chiang Saen District, Chiang Rai Province. The old pier in the district was heavily damaged in a recent natural calamity and has not been repaired yet to meet the requirements stipulated in the project's master plan. The pier is supposed to be used as a link for waterways transportation with our neighboring countries.

The damage to the old pier has become a hindrance to the development of a transportation network between Thailand and other countries using the Mekong River as a trade route in the quadrangle. A lack of a functional pier in the district has become an important factor for investors in making decision whether to move into the district or not to engage in trading. Even though the Cabinet has already approved a carry-over budget of 260 million baht for fiscal 1999-2002 for a new fully-equipped pier in the district, no progress has been made so far to carry out the construction. It is believed that the construction blueprint is still being considered by various concerned government agencies. If it is possible, the project should be expeditiously implemented so that the new pier can facilitate the growing tourism in the region, especially along the Mekong River. The president of the Chamber of Commerce of Chiang Rai Province stressed that Thailand has built many piers and roads along the Mekong River long before any other neighboring countries. However, at present these facilities are not fully functional and able to serve their original purposes.

Meanwhile, the Lao People's Democratic Republic is reportedly stepping up efforts to continually develop transport routes within the country. With 200-million baht assistance from OPEC countries, the Lao Government has hired the Ital-Thai Company to construct a 50-kilometer long road along the banks of the Mekong River from Houai Sai to Ton Pheung Districts and to subsequently extend it to Meuang Mom District. In addition, the Lao Government also plans to promote Meuang Mom as a regional waterway transportation hub by building a pier and warehouses to accommodate waterway transport activities with other neighboring countries.

The president of the Chiang Rai Provincial Chamber of Commerce noted that the Lao Government plans to persuade the neighboring countries in the quadruple area to store their goods and to use the storage facilities at the Meuang Mom pier in the Lao Province of Bokeo. As a consequence, the pier in Chiang Saen District, if ever built at all, will be less competitive to the Lao facilities.

"Nevertheless, in mid-June, a delegation from the Chiang Rai Provincial Chamber of Commerce will visit Bokeo Province to meet the provincial governor. The delegation will ask him about the progress of the construction of the transport network in the province to link Thailand, Laos, and China, especially the delay in the construction of a road from Houai Sai in Luang Namtha Province to the Chinese border.

After definite facts are learned, the Chiang Rai trade council will take steps to encourage all parties concerned to proceed with the implementation of the quadrangle area development project as scheduled."

Secretary-1 to pay goodwill visit to PRC

YANGON, 4 June - At the invitation of Mr Luo Gan, State Councillor of the People's Republic of China, Lt-Gen Khin Nyunt, Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council, will pay a goodwill visit to the People's

Minister for Industry-1 meets company officials

YANGON, 3 June - Minister for Industry-1 U Aung Thaung met Deputy Manager Mr Li Shu Yan of Yangon Office of China Metallurgical Construction (Group) Corporation and party who called at his office at 4 pm.

He also received U Maung Maung Thaung of Yangon Office of Eva Company Ltd and party at his office at 4.30 pm.

They discussed building of a paper mill and gas and umbrella factories.

Also present were heads of department under the ministry. "The New Light of Myanmar" (Internet version) 99-06-04

Minister meets Acting MD of Shandong Weichai Import & Export Corporation

YANGON, 3 June - Minister for Industry-2 Maj-Gen Saw Lwin met Acting Managing Director Mr Huang Wensheng of Shandong Weichai Import & Export Corporation of the People's Republic of China and party who called at his office this afternoon.

They discussed cooperation in industries on mutual basis. Also present were Deputy Minister U Thein Tun and officials."The New Light of Myanmar" (Internet version) S 99-06-04

Title: China Vice-Premier Wu Bangguo Meets Burma Guests

Document Number: FBIS-CHI-1999-0604

Document Date: 04 Jun 1999

Sourceline: OW0406150199 Beijing Xinhua in English 1050 GMT 04 Jun 99

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Beijing, June 4 (XINHUA) -- Chinese Vice-Premier Wu Bangguo met here today with visiting Posts and Telegraphs Minister of Myanmar [Burma] Win Tin and his party.

Wu briefed the visitors on China's information and telecommunications development, saying increased cooperation in those areas will help cement the friendly relations between China and Myanmar and help promote peace and prosperity in south Asia.

Win Tin thanked China for granting Myanmar 12 Shanghai Bell- made 3,000-line switchboards in 1997. He said Myanmar hopes to expand cooperation with China in information and telecommunications area.

[Description of source: Beijing Xinhua in English -- China's official news service for English-language audiences (New China News Agency)]

Minister meets Chairman of Shandong Agricultural Industry Commerce Group Corporation

YANGON, 4 June - Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation Maj-Gen Nyunt Tin met a delegation led by Chairman of Shan dong Agricultural Industry Commerce Group Corporation of the People's Republic of China Mr Li Chuan Yue who called at his office at 1.30 pm today.

Also present at the call were Deputy Minister U Ohn Myint and heads of departments concerned. "The New Light of Myanmar" (Internet version) 99-06-05

Title: Burma Leader Khin Nyunt Leaves for 5 Day Visit to PRC

Document Number: FBIS-CHI-1999-0606

Document Date: 06 Jun 1999

Sourceline: OW0706003499 Beijing Xinhua in English 2356 GMT 06 Jun 99

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Yangon, June 7 (XINHUA) -- First Secretary of the Myanmar [Burma] State Peace and Development Council (SPDC) Lieutenant General Khin Nyunt left here Monday morning by special plane for his five-day official visit to China at the invitation of Chinese State Councilor Luo Gan.

Khin Nyunt's main entourage includes Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Military Affairs Lieutenant General Tin Hla, Foreign Minister U Win Aung, Minister of Agriculture and Irrigation Major General Nyunt Tin, Minister of Industry No.1 U Aung Thaung, Minister at the SPDC Chairman's Office Brigadier General Abel, Minister of Industry No.2 Major General Saw Lwin, Minister of Commerce Major General Kyaw Than, Minister of Hotels and Tourism Major General Saw Lwin and Minister of Electric Power Major General Tin Htut.

Khin Nyunt was seen off at the Yangon International Airport by Myanmar SPDC Chairman and Prime Minister Senior General Than Shwe, SPDC Vice Chairman General Maung Aye and other state leaders as well as Chinese Ambassador to Myanmar Liang Dong and embassy officials.

China and Myanmar are friendly neighbors linked by mountains and rivers with the two peoples enjoying a traditional "paukphaw" (fraternal) friendship.

Both China and Myanmar are initiators of the Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence on the basis of which the two countries' friendly ties have been continuously consolidating and developing.

Recent years have witnessed continuous exchange of visit at high levels.

In January and October 1996, Myanmar leaders Than Shwe, Maung Aye and SPDC Second Secretary Lieutenant General Tin Oo visited China respectively. In March and October 1997, Chinese State Councilor Luo Gan and Chinese Vice Premier Wu Bangguo toured Myanmar separately.

According to Myanmar official statistics, bilateral trade between China and Myanmar came to 381.1 million US dollars in 1998.

[Description of source: Beijing Xinhua in English -- China's official news service for English-language audiences (New China News Agency)]

Deputy Minister leaves for PRC, Thailand

YANGON, 6 June - A Myanmar delegation led by Deputy Minister for Forestry Brig-Gen Soe Myint left here this afternoon by air for the People's Republic of China, and Thailand to attend Kunming Trade and International

Horticultural Exposition and Wood-based Industry in Thailand.

The delegation members were seen off at Yangon International Airport by Second Secretary Mr Li Zhong Yuan of the PRC Embassy, heads of departments and enterprises under the Ministry of Forestry, officials and their families.

The delegation members are General Manager U Sein Win of Myanma Timber Enterprise, Assistant General Manager U Than Aung Naing and U Bo Ni of Forest Products Joint Venture Corporation Ltd. "The New Light of Myanmar" (Internet version) 99-06-07

PRC writers delegation calls on CEC members of MWJA

YANGON, 6 June - According to the cultural exchange programme between the People's Republic of China and Myanmar, visiting Chinese writers delegation led by member of Panel of Patrons of Writers Association of the People's Republic of China Mr Shu Peide called on the Chairman of Myanmar Writers and Journalists Association and CEC members at the Nanyu Hotel on Pansodan Street this evening. Joint-Secretary Daw Mya Mya Than (Ma Hnin Phwe) acted as master of ceremonies.

Present at the call were Chairman of MWJA U Kyaw Aung (Kyaw Aung), Vice-Chairmen U Hla Myaing (Ko Hsaung), U Than Maung (Than Maung) and U Tin Kha (Tekkatho Tin Kha), Secretary U Hla Tun (Hla Tun Twantay) and CEC members, Cultural Counselor Mr Ren Xiu Zhi and officials of the Chinese Embassy. The Chinese delegation visited Thanlyin Bridge in the afternoon.

The delegation, accompanied by Executive Editor U Khin Soe (Soe Soe-Padaung) of Sarpay Beikman, arrived in Bagan-NyaungU on 1 June and visited Bagan Archaeological Museum and pagodas.

On 2 June, they went to Popa and visited Popa Park and Mount Popa.

On 3 June, Chinese writers proceeded to Mandalay where they were welcomed at Mandalay Airport by Secretary of Mandalay City Development Committee Col Aye Tun Shwe and party.

The delegation called on Mandalay Mayor Brig-Gen Yan Thein and party at the Mandalay City Hall. In the evening, they visited Mandalay Cultural Museum, Myanansankyaw Shwenandaw and Mandalay Hill. Then, they attended the dinner hosted by the Mandalay Mayor. On 5 June morning, the Chinese writers paid obeisance to Maha Muni Pagoda. In the evening, they attended the dinner hosted by the Chinese Consulate in Mandalay. Present on the occasion were MWJA CEC member Dr Maung Maung (Maung Hsin Chin) and chairmen of township WJAs in Mandalay. "The New Light of Myanmar" (Internet version) 99-06-07

Chinese writers delegation calls on Deputy Minister

YANGON, 7 June - Chinese writers delegation led by member of Panel of Patrons of Writers Association of the People's Republic of China Mr Shu Peide called on Deputy Minister for Culture U Soe Nyunt at the Ministry of Culture on Kaba Aye Pagoda Road this evening.

Present at the call were Director-General U Tin Htoo of Fine Arts

Department, Director-General U Myint Thein Swe of Department of Cultural Institute, Director-General U Nyunt Han of Archaeology Department, Rector of University of Culture U Law Than and officials.

At 1.30 pm, they went to Sarpay Beikman where they were welcomed by Chief Editor U Win Pes Deputy Chief Editor U Soe Myint and officials.

Chief Editor U Win Pe explained publications of the Sarpay Beikman.

The delegation members visited Sarpay Beikman Library and book shop. "The New Light of Myanmar" (Internet version) 99-06-08

Deputy Prime Minister receives Chairman of Shandong Agricultural Industry & Commerce Group Corporation

YANGON, 8 June - Deputy Prime Minister and Chairman of Myanmar Investment Commission Vice-Admiral Maung Maung Khin received Chairman of Shandong Agricultural Industry & Commerce Group Corporation of People's Republic of China Mr Li Chuan Yue and party who called at his office at 9.30 am today.

Also present at the call were Minister at the State Peace and Development Council Chairman's Office and Secretary of Myanmar Investment Commission Brig-Gen Maung Maung and officials.

They discussed investment sectors on cultivation of sugarcane and construction of sugar mill in Myanmar. "The New Light of Myanmar" (Internet version) 99-06-09

Title: Burma's Khin Nyunt Leaves for PRC on Goodwill Visit

Document Number: FBIS-EAS-1999-0608

Document Date: 07 Jun 1999

Sourceline: BK0806045799 Rangoon Radio Myanmar in Burmese 1330 GMT 7 Jun 99

Reference:

1. beijing xinhua in english 1636 gmt 07 jun 99 -- state councilor luo gan meets burmese official

2. beijing xinhua in english 0941 gmt 04 jun 99 -- first secretary of spdc of burma to visit china

[FBIS Translated Text] Lt. Gen. Khin Nyunt, secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council [SPDC], who left on a special plane at 0600 today to pay a goodwill visit in the People's Republic of China at the invitation of Luo Gan, member of the PRC State Council, was seen off at the Yangon [Rangoon] International Airport by Sr. Gen. Than Shwe, chairman of the SPDC and commander in chief of the Defense Services of the Union of Myanmar [Burma].

Also present at the airport with Sr. Gen. Than Shwe were: Gen. Maung Aye, SPDC vice chairman, Defense Services deputy commander in chief, and Army commander in chief; Dr. Daw Khin Win Shwe, wife of SPDC Secretary-1 Lt. Gen. Khin Nyunt; SPDC Secretary-2 Lt. Gen. Tin Oo, SPDC members--Navy Commander in Chief Vice Adm. Nyunt Thein, Air Force Commander in Chief Lt. Gen. Kyaw Than, and Yangon Commander Lt. Gen. Khin Maung Than--Deputy Prime Ministers Vice Adm. Maung Maung Khin and Lt. Gen. Tin Tun, Daw Win

Kyi, wife of [Deputy Prime Minister] Lt. Gen. Tin Hla; Lt. Gen. Min Thein and Brig. Gen. Maung Maung, ministers at SPDC Chairman's Office; Information Minister Maj. Gen. Kyi Aung, Transport Minister Maj. Gen. Hla Myint Swe, Minister at Prime Minister's Office Lt. Gen. Tin Ngwe, deputy ministers of industry-1 and industry-2, PRC Ambassador to Myanmar Mr. Liang Dong and embassy staff; senior officials from the Defense Ministry, and responsible departmental officials.

The delegation led by SPDC Secretary-1 Lt. Gen. Khin Nyunt has Deputy Prime Minister Lt. Gen. Tin Hla as deputy leader of the delegation. Other members of the delegation are: Minister of Agriculture and Irrigation Maj. Gen. Nyunt Tin, Minister of Industry-1 U Aung Thaung, Minister of Industry-2 Maj. Gen. Saw Lwin, Commerce Minister Maj. Gen. Kyaw Than, Minister at SPDC Chairman's Office Brig. Gen. Abel, Foreign Minister U Win Aung, Hotel and Tourism Minister Maj. Gen. Saw Lwin, Minister of Electric Power Maj. Gen. Tin Htut, Deputy Foreign Minister U Khin Maung Win, and officials from the Defense Ministry and other ministries concerned.

[Description of Source: Radio Myanmar -- government-run radio]

Title: Zhu Rongji Meets Senior Burmese Official Khin Nyunt

Document Number: FBIS-CHI-1999-0608

Document Date: 08 Jun 1999

Sourceline: OW0806045199 Beijing Xinhua in English 0209 GMT 8 Jun 99

Reference:

1. beijing xinhua english 071636 -- state councilor luo gan meets burmese official [FBIS Transcribed Text] Beijing, June 8 (XINHUA) -- Chinese Premier Zhu Rongji met here today with Khin Nyunt, secretary of Myanmar's [Burma's] State Peace and Development Council.

The meeting is going on at the press time.

Khin Nyunt arrived here Monday afternoon on a five-day official visit to China, at the invitation of Chinese State Councilor Luo Gan.

In addition to Beijing, Khin Nyunt will also travel to Xiamen and Kunming cities.

Title: Further on Zhu Rongji Meets With Burmese Official

Document Number: FBIS-CHI-1999-0608

Document Date: 08 Jun 1999

Sourceline: SK0806130799 Beijing Xinhua in English 0803 GMT 08 Jun 99

Reference:

1. OW0806045199 beijing xinhua english 080209 -- zhu rongji meets burmese official khin nyunt

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Beijing, June 8 (XINHUA) -- Premier Zhu Rongji, in a meeting here today with Khin Nyunt, the Secretary of Myanmar's State Peace and Development Council, said that China and Myanmar [Burma] should strengthen their cooperation and the friendship initiated by the elder generation of leaders of the two countries and that there is no historic problem and conflict of interest between the two.

China is satisfied with the development of bilateral cooperation in

politics, the economy, trade, and culture, he said. He praised Myanmar's adherence to the One China policy and its support for the peaceful reunification of China.

China and Myanmar are both developing countries that are faced with the arduous tasks of safeguarding peace and building the country, he said, and consolidating bilateral relations is in their interest.

Khin Nyunt said that the purpose of his visit is to further bilateral relations, promote two-way trade, and to learn from China's experience.

He thanked China for its support for Myanmar's economic development for a long period of time.

[Description of source: Beijing Xinhua in English -- China's official news service for English-language audiences (New China News Agency)]

Title: Chi Haotian Meets Burmese Official Khin Nyunt

Document Number: FBIS-CHI-1999-0610

Document Date: 08 Jun 1999

Sourceline: OW1006053499 Beijing Zhongguo Xinwen She in Chinese 1304 GMT 8 Jun 99

Reference:

1. beijing xinhua english 081207 -- chi haotian meets with burmese officials
2. beijing xinhua english 071636 -- state councilor luo gan meets burmese official
3. beijing xinhua english 080209 -- zhu rongji meets senior burmese official khin nyunt

[FBIS Translated Text] Beijing, 8 Jun (Xinhua) -- Chi Haotian, vice chairman of the Central Military Commission, state councilor, and minister of national defense, met with Khin Nyunt, secretary general of the Burmese State Peace and Development Council, in Beijing today. Both sides exchanged their views on the two countries' relations and the two armed forces' contacts.

China and Burma are good neighbors and good friends and should keep their friendship forever, Chi Haotian said. He expressed satisfaction over bilateral cooperation in various fields, and readiness to make further efforts to promote bilateral cooperation.

Nyunt said that the relations between the two countries and the two armed forces are very good and that Burma highly values its cooperation with China, believing that the two countries' relations will further develop.

Title: Chi Haotian Meets With Burmese Officials

Document Number: FBIS-CHI-1999-0608

Document Date: 08 Jun 1999

Sourceline: SK0806131599 Beijing Xinhua in English 1207 GMT 8 Jun 99

Reference:

1. beijing xinhua english 071636 -- state councilor luo gan meets burmese official
2. OW0806045199 beijing xinhua in english 080209 -- zhu rongji meets senior burmese official khin nyunt

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Beijing, June 8 (XINHUA) -- Defense Minister Chi Haotian met with Myanmar [Burma]'s First Secretary of the State Peace and Development Council Khin Nyunt here today to discuss bilateral relations between the armed forces of China and Myanmar.

China and Myanmar are good neighbors and good friends and should keep their friendship forever, Chi told his guest and expressed his satisfaction with the bilateral cooperation in various fields and

promised to make an effort to further promote cooperation.
Myanmar places great importance on its friendship and cooperation with China and the current relations between the two nations and two military forces are doing very well, Khin Nyunt said.

[Description of source: Beijing Xinhua in English -- China's official news service for English-language audiences (New China News Agency)]

Title: Xinhua Highlights Beijing-Based Newspapers for 8 Jun

Document Number: FBIS-CHI-1999-0608

Document Date: 08 Jun 1999

Sourceline: OW0806034199 Beijing Xinhua in English 0129 GMT 8 Jun 99

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Beijing, June 8 (XINHUA) -- Highlights of today's major Beijing-based newspapers:

"People's Daily" [subhead]

.....

Chinese State Councilor Luo Gan said Monday that China is pleased to see Myanmar's [Burma's] membership of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN).

Luo made the remark in talks with Khin Nyunt, the first secretary of Myanmar's State Peace and Development Council, who arrived on a five-day official visit to China earlier Monday.

Title: CPPCC Chairman Li Ruihuan Meets Burmese Official

Document Number: FBIS-CHI-1999-0608

Document Date: 08 Jun 1999

Sourceline: OW0806232999 Beijing Xinhua in English 1500 GMT 8 Jun 99

Reference:

1. beijing xinhua english 071636 -- state councilor Luo Gan meets burmese official

2. beijing xinhua english 080209 -- Zhu Rongji meets senior burmese official Khin Nyunt

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Beijing, June 8 (XINHUA) -- Li Ruihuan, chairman of the National Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference (CPPCC), met today with Khin Nyunt, the first secretary of Myanmar's State Peace and Development Council.

Li said that the two countries, as good neighbors, should increase contacts, and expressed the conviction that Khin Nyunt's China visit will help promote good-neighborly and cooperative relations.

He said that bilateral relations have been developing steadily since the establishment of diplomatic ties almost a half century ago, although the international situation is changing, and the two countries have reached agreement on many issues, and he hopes that China and Myanmar [Burma] will enjoy further cooperation.

Li also expressed thanks for the Myanmar government's adherence to the one China policy, and its support over the issues of human rights, Tibet and NATO's bombing of the Chinese embassy in Belgrade.

He said that there exists enormous potential for economic and trade cooperation between the two countries, adding that both sides can work on

some projects.

Moreover, border trade conditions are unique and good, according to Li, and in that way, the two governments should continue efforts to boost cooperation.

Khin Nyunt said China's economic achievements that he has observed during his visit prove that the development road chosen by the Chinese people is correct. He added that Myanmar will continue to develop friendly relations with China.

[Description of source: Beijing Xinhua in English -- China's official news service for English-language audiences (New China News Agency)]

Title: PRC To Expand Trade Cooperation With Burma

Document Number: FBIS-CHI-1999-0608

Document Date: 08 Jun 1999

Sourceline: SK0806130699 Beijing Xinhua in English 0735 GMT 8 Jun 99

Reference:

1. beijing xinhua english 071636 -- state councilor luo gan meets burmese official

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Beijing, June 8 (XINHUA) -- Chen Xinhua, Chinese vice-minister of Foreign Trade and Economic Cooperation, said today that China is willing to expand mutually beneficial economic and trade cooperation with Myanmar [Burma].

Chen made the remark during talks with David Abel, minister of the Chairman's Office of Myanmar's State Peace and Development Council, and minister of Commerce Kyaw Than.

Chen said China places great importance on economic and trade cooperation with Myanmar, and will approach the imbalance in trade involving the two nations in a positive manner.

Abel said Myanmar wishes to further promote economic and trade cooperation with China.

The trade volume between the two countries stood at 162 million US dollars during the first four months of the year, up 8.6 percent on last year's same period.

China has established various forms of economic cooperation with Myanmar, including contract projects, joint investments and operations.

Chinese companies have invested in 21 projects in Myanmar, with total investments through the end of last year standing at 8.1 million US dollars.

An economic and technological cooperation agreement signed by the two countries on Monday is expected to boost bilateral trade ties.

[Description of source: Beijing Xinhua in English -- China's official news service for English-language audiences (New China News Agency)]

Title: Tang Jiaxuan Meets Burmese Counterpart in Beijing

Document Number: FBIS-CHI-1999-0609

Document Date: 09 Jun 1999

Sourceline: OW0906092099 Beijing Xinhua in English 0901 GMT 9 Jun 99

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Beijing, June 9 (XINHUA) -- Chinese Foreign

Minister Tang Jiaxuan and Myanmar Foreign Minister U Win Aung today stressed the need to further promote coordination and cooperation in multilateral arenas, including the United Nations and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN). U Win Aung is accompanying Khin Nyunt, the first secretary of Myanmar's State Peace and Development Council, on a five-day official visit to China.

During the meeting, the two foreign ministers exchanged views on Sino-Myanmese relations and other issues of common concern, sources from the Chinese Foreign Ministry said.

Tang and U Win Aung expressed satisfaction with the results of Khin Nyunt's ongoing China visit. They said that the further growth of friendly exchanges and cooperation is in the fundamental interests of the people of the two countries, and will also benefit regional peace and stability, the sources said.

[Description of source: Beijing Xinhua in English -- China's official news service for English-language audiences (New China News Agency)]

Contract signed with Yunnan Machinery and Equipment Import and Export Corporation

YANGON, 9 June - Directorate of Water Resources and Improvement of River Systems of the Ministry of Transport and Yunnan Machinery and Equipment Import and Export Corporation signed a contract to purchase three dredgers at Ottra Hall of Karaweik Palace yesterday evening.

Present on the occasion were Chairman of Myanmar Investment Commission Deputy Prime Minister Vice-Admiral Maung Maung Khin and Deputy Prime Minister Lt-Gen Tin Tun, Minister at the State Peace and Development Council Chairman's Office Lt-Gen Min Thein, Minister for Transport Maj-Gen Hla Myint Swe, Minister at the Prime Minister's Office Brig-Gen Lun Maung, deputy ministers, directors general and managing directors and principals of the ministry, officials of Water Resources and Riverine Development Department and guests.

Minister Maj-Gen Hla Myint Swe made a speech on the occasion.

Director-General of Directorate of Water Resources and Improvement of River Systems Captain Chit Khin and Chairman of Yunnan Machinery and Equipment Import and Export Corporation Mr Lin Zai You explained matters related to their works.

Then, they signed a contract and exchanged the documents.

Afterwards, dinner was held there to mark the success of the signing ceremony. "The New Light of Myanmar" (Internet version) 99-06-10

Secretary-2 receives D-G of Credit Management Department of China

YANGON, 10 June - Secretary-2 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Tin Oo received visiting Director-General of Credit Management Department of Export-Import Bank of China Mr Si Jianmin currently here on Paunglaung Hydroelectric Power Project and party who called at the meeting hall of Ministry of Electric Power on Lower Kyimyindine Road in Ahlon Township at 3.30 pm today.

They discussed matters relating to Paunglaung Hydroelectric Power Project. Also present on the occasion were Minister at the Prime Minister's Office Brig-Gen Lun Maung, Deputy Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation U Ohn Myint, Deputy Minister for Electric Power Brig-Gen Maung Maung, Director-General of Irrigation Department U Myo Myint, Director-General of Department of Electric Power Zaw Win, Managing Director of Myanmar Electric Power Enterprise U Yan Naing and officials. "The New Light of Myanmar" (Internet version) 99-06-11

Deputy Premier meets China Metallurgical Construction (Group) Corporation President

YANGON, 10 June - Deputy Prime Minister and Chairman of Myanmar Investment Commission Vice-Admiral Maung Maung Khin met President Mr Yang Chang Heng of China Metallurgical Construction (Group) Corporation and party who called at his office this afternoon.

They discussed investment opportunities in Myanmar and bilateral economic cooperation.

Also present were Minister at the State Peace and Development Council Chairman's Office Secretary of MIC Brig-Gen Maung Maung and officials. "The New Light of Myanmar" (Internet version) 99-06-11

Title: Khin Nyunt Returns to Burma After 5-Day PRC Visit

Document Number: FBIS-CHI-1999-0611

Document Date: 11 Jun 1999

Sourceline: OW1106120099 Beijing Xinhua in English 1125 GMT 11 Jun 99

Reference:

1. beijing xinhua english 081207 -- chi haotian meets with burmese officials
2. beijing xinhua english 071636 -- state councilor luo gan meets burmese official
3. beijing xinhua english 080209 -- zhu rongji meets senior burmese official khin nyunt
4. beijing zhongguo xinwen she in chinese 1304 gmt 8 jun 99 -- chi haotian meets burmese official khin nyunt

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Yangon, June 11 (XINHUA) -- First Secretary of the Myanmar [Burma] State Peace and Development Council (SPDC) Lieutenant-General Khin Nyunt returned here Friday from a five-day official visit to China at the invitation of Chinese State Councilor Luo Gan.

Khin Nyunt's main entourage -- Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Military Affairs Lieutenant-General Tin Hla, Foreign Minister U Win Aung and seven other ministers -- also came back by the same plane. Myanmar SPDC Chairman and Prime Minister Senior-General Than Shwe, SPDC Vice Chairman General Maung Aye and other Myanmar leaders as well as Chinese Ambassador to Myanmar Liang Dong welcomed back Khin Nyunt and his delegation at the Yangon International Airport.

While in Beijing, Khin Nyunt and Luo Gan exchanged views on the two

countries' bilateral relations, border management, anti-drug cooperation and matters of common concern.

The two sides signed an agreement on economic and technical cooperation. During his visit, Khin Nyunt also met separately with Chinese Premier Zhu Rongji, Chairman of the National Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference Li Ruihuan and Vice Premier Wu Bangguo. While in China, Khin Nyunt also toured the city of Xiamen on China's east coast and Kunming in southwest China.

[Description of source: Beijing Xinhua in English -- China's official news service for English-language audiences (New China News Agency)]

Title: Details of Khin Nyunt's PRC Trip Reported

Document Number: FBIS-EAS-1999-0614

Document Date: 11 Jun 1999

Sourceline: BK1406050699 Rangoon Radio Myanmar in Burmese 1330 GMT 11 Jun 99

Reference:

1. beijing xinhua in english 1125 gmt 11 jun 99 -- khin nyunt returns to burma after 5-day prc visit
2. beijing zhongguo xinwen she in chinese 1304 gmt 8 jun 99 -- chi haotian meets burmese official khin nyunt
3. rangoon the new light of myanmar (internet version) in english 12 jun 99 -- khin nyunt returns from china visit

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] Senior General Than Shwe, chairman of the State Peace and Development Council [SPDC] and Commander in Chief of the Defense Services of the Union of Myanmar [Burma], greeted Lt. Gen. Khin Nyunt, SPDC ssecretary-1, at 1545 this afternoon at the Yangon [Rangon] International Airport. Lt. Gen. Khin Nyunt returned by special flight from the People's Republic of China after paying a goodwill visit at the invitation of PRC State Councilor Luo Gan. [passage omitted on other members of welcoming party and stopover in Kunming]

The Myanmar goodwill delegation led by Secretary-1 Lt. Gen. Khin Nyunt arrived at Beijing Capital International Airport at 1425 local time and proceeded to Diaoyutai State Guest House. Secretary-1 Lt. Gen. Khin Nyunt and PRC State Councilor Luo Gan held talks at Fangfeiyuan building at 1630. The cordial and friendly talks were held in the spirit of pauk-phaw [kindred] friendship on the topics of bilateral friendship and cooperation and regional and international issues

In reviewing the bilateral relations, the two leaders expressed their great satisfaction that through the efforts of both sides, the friendship and economic cooperation between Myanmar and China had made great strides. Moreover, they agreed that the frequent exchange of visits and the personal rapport existing between the leadership of the two countries had greatly strengthened the ties of amity. Bilateral trade had grown from about US\$ 40 million in 1988 to over US\$ 600 million in 1998. Moreover, cultural exchanges and frequent contacts between the two peoples also contributed towards the present happy state of affairs. The two sides therefore expressed their determination to further expand and deepen the friendship and cooperation in the coming 21st century. The secretary-1 also conveyed the sincere thanks for China's assistance in Myanmar's development endeavors.

Mr. Lou Gan congratulated the SPDC for the success achieved in promoting and consolidating political stability, economic development, foreign relations, and efforts for national reconsolidation. He also expressed

his confidence that Myanmar will attain further success in political, economic and social spheres in the future as well.

Following the talks, a ceremony was held to sign the Agreement on Economic and Technical Cooperation Between the Government of the Union of Myanmar and the Government of the People's Republic of China at Fangfeiyuan building. Minister at SPDC Chairman's Office Brig. Gen. Abel and Vice Minister for Foreign Trade and Economic Cooperation Chen Xin Hua signed the agreement and exchanged documents.

In the evening, PRC State Councilor Luo Gan hosted dinner in honor of the secretary-1 and delegation at Fangfeiyuan building.

Secretary-1 Lt. Gen. Khin Nyunt called on Li Ruihuan, chairman of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference, in Xinjiang Room of Great Hall of the People in Beijing at 0800 local standard time on 8 June. The two leaders held a cordial and friendly discussion on matters of mutual interest. Chairman Li Ruihuan expressed his satisfaction at the similarity of views held by China and Myanmar on many important international issues and thanked Myanmar for the support provided in the international fora. On his part, the secretary-1 reiterated Myanmar's full support to the One China Policy of China and categorically stated Myanmar considered Taiwan as an integral part of China. He also said that Myanmar greatly welcomed the return of Macao to China in coming December and that the event clearly demonstrated the success of One Country Two Systems principle of China. Secretary-1 Lt. Gen. Khin Nyunt and Premier Zhu Rongji had an extensive and cordial exchange of views on bilateral relations, economic cooperation matters and international situation. In the course of the discussion, the secretary-1 stated that the Myanmar delegation had come to China with three objectives--to strengthen the existing friendship, to further promote the mutually beneficial economic cooperation, and to study first-hand the advances made by China in national development endeavors. He stated that it is incumbent upon the new generation to consolidate the ties of friendship nurtured by the leaders of the two countries and that Myanmar would be faithfully implementing this goal. He said there existed no problem in the relations between the two countries. Indeed, the economic cooperation and assistance provided by China had greatly contributed towards Myanmar's progress and development. Myanmar therefore looked forward to continue and enhance the mutually beneficial cooperation. At the same time, he expressed his conviction that trade between the two nations, both normal and border trade, would be further enhanced in the years ahead.

On his part, Premier Zhu Rongji stated that he was very happy to learn of the successes achieved by Myanmar in the economic field and expressed his belief that Myanmar would make great strides in economic development and that the socioeconomic standards of the people would be raised significantly under the leadership of the Myanmar Government. He also stated that China stood ready to assist Myanmar as much as possible. Next, Secretary-1 Lt. Gen. Khin Nyunt called on PRC Vice Premier Wu Bangguo at Yangyuanzhai building at 1145.

At the meeting, Secretary- 1 Lt. Gen. Khin Nyunt and Vice Premier Wu Bangguo exchanged views on experiences in national construction, bilateral economic cooperation matters, and the international situation in the spirit of friendship, understanding, and sincere desire to assist each other. Following the talks, Vice Premier Wu Bangguo hosted lunch in honor of Lt. Gen. Khin Nyunt and delegation at Yangyuanzhai Building. Secretary-1 Lt. Gen. Khin Nyunt then met with State Councilor and National Defense Minister Chi Haotian at his office at 1500.

During the meeting, matters relating to enhancement of relations between

the two nations and the two Armed Forces, opposition to hegemonism, and regional peace and stability were discussed in a cordial and friendly manner. The Chinese side also expressed its deep appreciation to Myanmar's efforts for national reconsolidation and suppression of narcotic drugs. In the evening, families of Myanmar Embassy in Beijing hosted dinner in honor of Secretary-1 Lt. Gen. Khin Nyunt and delegation at the Myanmar Embassy. [passage omitted]

Gen. Tin Hla, deputy prime minister and minister for military affairs who accompanied Secretary-1 Lt. Gen. Khin Nyunt, received Vice President Bai Jiliang of Sany International Group of Jiangsu Machinery Import and Export Corporation Ltd. and party at Villa 14 at 1030 on 8 June. They discussed matters relating to the 4000-ton cement factory which is to be built in Myanmar.

At 1630, Lt. Gen. Tin Hla received Vice President Jin Yi of First Automobile Group at the same venue and discussed sale of cars at FAW Showroom in Yangon and prospects of cooperation between Myanmar Economic Corporation and FAW.

Similarly, President Jiang Cheng Xun of China National Construction and Agricultural Machinery Import and Export Corporation called on Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation Maj. Gen. Nyunt Tin at Villa 14. They discussed mutual interest in agriculture.

At 1700, Maj. Gen. Nyunt Tin received President Jiang Kangwei of Sinochem International Company Ltd. at the same venue. They discussed use of fertilizer and other agricultural chemicals for development of the agriculture sector, cooperation in fertilizer and pesticide production on mutual basis, and trade.

Similarly, Minister for Industry-1 U Aung Thaung and Minister at the SPDC Chairman's Office Brig. Gen. Abel received President Li Jianmin of China North Industrial Company and party at the Villa 14 at 1730. They discussed prospects of establishing a glass factory, textile and garment factories, pharmaceutical factories and light industries in Myanmar.

Minister U Aung Thaung received President Lian Jisan of China National Building Materials Equipment Corporation and President Zhang Sheng Can of China Hainan Jiayi Machine Imports and Exports Company Ltd. at Villa 14 at 1100. Discussions were held on the establishment of cement, textile, garment, glass, and ceramic factories in Myanmar. Minister U Aung Thaung also received President Sun Jianrong of Tianjin Machinery Import and Export Group and party at Villa 14 at 1330 pm. They discussed the establishment of heavy and medium industries in Myanmar. At 1430, he received President Li Changli of China National General Machinery Engineering Corporation and party at the same venue. The minister discussed with them the establishment of cement, paper, glass, and umbrella factories in Myanmar.

Minister for Industry-2 Maj. Gen. Saw Lwin received President Wang Yongan of China Machine Building International Corporation and party at Villa 14 at 1400. They discussed project for manufacturing multipurpose diesel engine.

Minister Maj. Gen. Saw Lwin also received Vice President Zou Baozhong of China National Complete Plant Import and Export Corporation Group at Villa 14 at 1500 and discussed matters relating to importing machinery from China.

Minister for Commerce Maj. Gen. Kyaw Than and Minister Brig. Gen. Abel received Deputy Minister of Foreign Trade and Economic Cooperation Chen Xinhua and party at the Villa 12 at 1000 and discussed bilateral trade and promotion and implementation of projects.

President Qin Xiao of China International Trust and Investment Corporation,

CITIC, and party called on Minister for Electric Power Maj. Gen Tin Htut at Villa 14 at 1030 and discussed fast implementation of Mon and Thapanzeik dam and hydroelectric power station projects. Hotel and Tourism Minister Maj. Gen. Saw Tun received Chairman Ho Panwei of National Tourism Administration Department at 1830 at Villa 1 and discussed development tourism.
[Description of Source: Radio Myanmar -- government-run radio]

Agreement on Economic and Technical Cooperation signed between Governments of Union of Myanmar and People's Republic

YANGON, 11 June - Myanmar delegation led by Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Khin Nyunt left Yangon by special flight on 7 June to pay a goodwill visit to the People's Republic of China at the invitation of State Councillor of PRC Mr Luo Gan.

They arrived at Kunming Airport in Yunnan Province at 9.30 am local time.

They were welcomed by Director-General of Foreign Affairs Department of Yunnan Province and officials, Deputy Minister for Commerce Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan, who was there attending Kunming Export Commodities Fair '99 and delegation members, Deputy Minister for Forestry Brig-Gen Soe Myint and members, Myanmar entrepreneurs, Myanmar Consul-General U Shwe Moe and staff.

The Secretary-1 and party rested in the special lounge of Kunming Airport. They left Kunming for Beijing and arrived at the Capital International Airport at 2.25 pm.

They were welcomed there by officials of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of PRC, Ambassador of Myanmar to PRC U Ba Htay Chit, Military Attaché Col Sein Gyawt and staff.

They proceeded to Diaoyutai State Guest House where they would be staying. Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Khin Nyunt and State Councillor of the People's Republic of China Mr Luo Gan had discussions at Fangfeiyan building at 4.30 pm.

Also present together with Mr Luo Gan were Vice-Minister of Ministry of Foreign Trade and Economic Cooperation Mr Chen Xinhua, the Vice-Minister of Ministry of Agriculture, Assistant Minister of Ministry of Foreign Affairs Mr Wang Yi, officials of Light Industry Bureau, National Tourism Administration, State Power Corporation and State Machine Building Industry Bureau.

During the meeting, Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Khin Nyunt and Mr Luo Gan had a cordial and friendly discussion, in the spirit of Pauk-phaw friendship on the friendship and cooperation between the two countries as well as on regional and international issues.

In reviewing the bilateral relations, the two leaders expressed their great satisfaction that through the efforts of both sides, the friendship and economic cooperation between Myanmar and China had made great strides. Moreover, they agreed that the frequent exchange of visits and the personal

rapprochement existing between the leadership of the two countries had greatly strengthened the ties of amity. Bilateral trade had grown from about US\$ 40 million in 1988 to over US\$ 600 million in 1998. Moreover, cultural exchanges and frequent contacts between the two peoples also contributed towards the present happy state of affairs.

The two sides therefore expressed their determination to further expand and deepen the friendship and cooperation in the coming 21st century. The Secretary-1 also conveyed the sincere thanks for China's assistance in Myanmar's development endeavors.

On his part, Mr Lou Gan congratulated the State Peace and Development Council for the success achieved in promoting and consolidating political stability, economic development, foreign relations and efforts for national reconsolidating. He also expressed his confidence that Myanmar will attain further success in political, economic and social spheres in the future as well.

Afterwards, the ceremony to sign the Agreement on Economic and Technical Cooperation Between the Government of the Union of Myanmar and the Government of the People's Republic of China was held at Fangfeiyuan building.

Present on the occasion were Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Khin Nyunt and delegation members, State Councillor of PRC Mr Luo Gan, deputy ministers, the assistant ministers and departmental officials.

Minister Brig-Gen Abel and Vice-Minister Mr Chen Xin Hua signed the agreement and exchanged documents. State Councillor of PRC Mr Luo Gan hosted dinner in honour of the Secretary-1 and delegation.

Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Khin Nyunt called on Mr Li Ruihuan, Chairman of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference, in Xinjiang Room of Great Hall of the People in Beijing at 8 am local standard time on 8 June.

With the Secretary-1 were Deputy Prime Minister Lt-Gen Tin Hla, Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation Maj-Gen Nyunt Tin, Minister for Industry-1 U Aung Thaung, Minister for Industry-2 Maj-Gen Saw Lwin, Minister for Commerce Maj-Gen Kyaw Than, Minister at the State Peace and Development Council Chairman's Office Brig-Gen Abel, Minister for Foreign Affairs U Win Aung, Minister for Hotels and Tourism Maj-Gen Saw Lwin, Minister for Electric Power Maj-Gen Tin Htut, Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs U Khin Maung Win, Myanmar Ambassador to the People's Republic of China U Ba Htay Chit, Director-General Lt-Col Pe Nyein of the State Peace and Development Council Office, Director-General U Soe Tint of Government Office and Director-General Thura U Aung Htet of the Protocol Department.

With Mr Li Ruihuan were Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs of PRC Mr Yang Wen Chang and officials of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference.

The two leaders had a warm and friendly discussion on matters of mutual interest. Chairman Li Ruihuan expressed his satisfaction at the similarity of views held by China and Myanmar on many important international issues and thanked Myanmar for the support provided in the international fora. On

his part, the Secretary-1 reiterated Myanmar's full support to the One China Policy of China and categorically stated Myanmar considered Taiwan as an integral part of China. He also said that Myanmar greatly welcomed the return of Macao to China in coming December and that the event clearly demonstrated the success of One Country Two Systems principle of China.

Afterwards, Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Khin Nyunt paid a courtesy call on Premier Zhu Rongji of the People's Republic of China at his office at 10 am local time. With the Secretary-1 were Deputy Prime Minister Lt-Gen Tin Hla, Minister Maj-Gen Nyunt Tin, Minister U Aung Thaung, Minister Maj-Gen Saw Lwin, Minister Maj-Gen Kyaw Than, Minister Brig-Gen Abel, Minister U Win Aung, Minister Maj-Gen Saw Lwin, Minister Maj-Gen Tin Htut, Deputy Minister U Khin Maung Win, Myanmar Ambassador to the People's Republic of China U Ba Htay Chit, Director-General Lt-Col Pe Nyein, Director-General U Soe Tint and Director-General Thura U Aung Htet. With Premier Mr Zhu Rongji were Secretary to the Premier Mr Li Wei and senior officials.

Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Khin Nyunt and Premier Zhu Rongji had an extensive and cordial exchange of views on bilateral relations, economic cooperation matters and international situation. In the course of the discussion, the Secretary-1 stated that the Myanmar Delegation had come to China with three objectives, namely to strengthen the existing friendship, to further promote the mutually beneficial economic cooperation and to study at first hand the advances made by China in national development endeavors. It is incumbent upon the new generation to consolidate the ties of friendship nurtured by the leaders and Myanmar would be faithfully implementing this goal. There existed no problem in the relations between the countries. Indeed, the economic cooperation and assistance provided by China had greatly contributed towards Myanmar's progress and development. Myanmar therefore looked forward to continue and enhance the mutually beneficial cooperation. At the same time, he expressed his conviction that trade between the two nations, both normal and border trade, would be further enhanced in the years ahead. On his part, Premier Zhu Rongji stated that he was very happy to learn of the successes achieved by Myanmar in the economic field and expressed his belief that Myanmar would make great strides in economic development and that the socio-economic standards of the people would be raised significantly under the leadership of the Myanmar Government. He also stated that China stood ready to assist Myanmar as much as possible.

Then, Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Khin Nyunt called on Vice-Premier Mr Wu Bangguo of the People's Republic of China at Yangyuanzhai State Guest House at 11.45 am local time.

With the Secretary-1 were Deputy Prime Minister Lt-Gen Tin Hla, the ministers, the Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs and the Ambassador of Myanmar to PRC. With Vice-Premier Mr Wu Bangguo were Minister of Transport Mr Huang Zhen Dong, Deputy Minister of Foreign Trade and Economic Cooperation Mr Chan Xin Hua, Assistant Minister of Foreign Affairs Mr Wang Yi and senior officials.

At the meeting, Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Khin Nyunt and Vice-Premier Wu Bangguo exchanged views on experiences in nation building, bilateral economic cooperation matters and the international situation in the spirit of friendship, understanding and sincere desire to assist each other. Vice-Premier Mr Wun Bangguo hosted lunch in, honour our of Lt-Gen Khin

Nyunt and delegation at Yangyuanzhai Building. At 3 pm local time, Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Khin Nyunt met with State Councillor and National Defence Minister M Chi Haotian at his office.

During the meeting, matters relating to enhancement of relations between the two nations and the two Armed Forces, on opposing hegemonism and on regional peace and stability were discussed in a cordial and friendly manner. The Chinese side also expressed its deep appreciation to Myanmar's efforts for national reconsolidating and suppression of narcotic drugs.

In the evening, families of Myanmar Embassy in Beijing hosted dinner in honour of Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Khin Nyunt and delegation at the Myanmar Embassy. Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Khin Nyunt and delegation arrived at the embassy at 6.30 pm local time. They were welcomed there by Ambassador U Ba Htay Chit and wife, Military Attaché Col Sein Gyawt and embassy staff and their families.

In his meeting with staff and families of Myanmar Embassy, the Secretary-1 explained the close, firm and cordial bilateral relations between China and Myanmar, which has flourished since yore; their visit which is to further strengthen the bilateral relations and economic cooperation; the agreements reached between the two nations to further promote cooperation in the respective sectors including the economic field; flourishing of a strong economic cooperation between the two nations due to the strengthening of mutual cordial relations; gaining of good national economic foundations due to all-round endeavors made on all fronts; development of unity among the national races due to progressing of the regions of the national brethren with high momentum resulting from endeavors to ensure progress in the entire nation including border areas; maintenance of stability in Myanmar; destructive acts made by internal axe-handles who are relying on the West bloc; and efforts to boost the agro-production sector with the participation of national entrepreneurs and with the introduction of modern farming methods. Diplomats should strive to further promote the economic cooperation between the two nations to strengthen bilateral relations, he added.

Minister U Win Aung also gave a speech.

U Ba Htay Chit pledged that he and his staff will dutifully discharge duties assigned.

Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Khin Nyunt presented gifts to staff and families of the embassy. Deputy Prime Minister Lt-Gen Tin Hla who accompanied Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Khin Nyunt received Vice-President Mr Bai Jiliang of Sany International group, Jiangsu Machinery Imp & Exp Corporation Ltd and party at Villa 14 at 10.30 am local time on 8 June.

They discussed matters relating to the 4000-ton cement factory which is to be built in Myanmar.

At 4.30 pm, Lt-Gen Tin Hla received Vice-President Mr Jin Yi of First Automobile Group at the same venue.

They discussed sale of cars at FAW Showroom in Yangon and prospects of cooperation between Myanmar Economic Corporation and FAW.

Similarly, President Mr Jiang Cheng Xun of China National Constructional and Agricultural Machinery Import & Export Corporation called on Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation Maj-Gen Nyunt Tin at Villa 14. They discussed mutual interest in agriculture.

At 5 pm, Maj-Gen Nyunt Tin received President Mr Jiang Kangwei of Sinochem International Co Ltd at the same venue. They discussed use of fertilizer and other agricultural chemicals for development of the agriculture sector, cooperation in fertilizer and pesticide production on mutual basis and trade.

Similarly, Minister for Industry-1 U Aung Thaung and Minister at the State Peace and Development Council Chairman's Office Brig-Gen Abel received President Mr Li Jianmin of China North Industrial Co and party at the Villa 14 at 5.30 pm.

They discussed prospects of establishing glass factory, textile and garment factories, pharmaceutical factories and light industries in Myanmar.

Minister U Aung Thaung received President Mr Lian Jisan of China National Building Materials Equipment Corporation and President Mr Zhang Sheng Can of China Hainan Jiayi Machine Imports and exports Co Ltd at Villa 14 at 11 am.

They had discussions on establishing cement, textile and garment and glass and ceramic factories in Myanmar.

Minister U Aung Thaung also received President Sun Jianrong of Tianjin Machinery Import and Export Group and party at Villa 14 at 1.30 pm. They discussed establishing heavy and medium industries in Myanmar. At 2.30 pm, he received

President Li Changli of China National General Machinery engineering Corporation and party at the same venue.

The minister discussed with them establishing cement, paper, glass and umbrella factories in Myanmar.

Minister for Industry-2 Maj-Gen Saw Lwin received President Mr Wang Yongan of China Machine Building International Corporation and party at Villa 14 at 2 pm. They discussed project for manufacturing multi-purpose diesel engine.

Minister Maj-Gen Saw Lwin also received Vice-President Mr Zou Baozhong of China National Complete Plant Import and Export Corporation (Group) at Villa 14 at 3 pm and discussed matters relating to importing machinery from China.

Minister for Commerce Maj-Gen Kyaw Than and Minister Brig-Gen Abel received Deputy Minister of Foreign Trade and Economic Cooperation Mr Chen Xinhua and party at the Villa 12 at 10 am local time.

They discussed bilateral trade and promotion of implementation of projects.

President Mr Qin Xiao of China International Trust and Investment Corporation (CITIC) and party called on Minister for Electric Power Maj-Gen

Tin Htut at Villa 14 at 10.30 am. They discussed promotion of tourism industry. "The New Light of Myanmar" (Internet version) 99-06-12

(7) Myanmar delegation arrives back from China

YANGON, 11 June - Myanmar delegation led by Minister for Communications, Posts and Telegraphs Brig-Gen Win Tin arrived back here by air at 7 pm today after studying communications services in China at the invitation of Minister of Information and Electronic Industry of People's Republic of China Mr Wu Ji Chuan.

The minister and party visited the Iridium satellite camp on 1 June in Thailand.

The Minister left there the next day. The minister and party, accompanied by Ambassador of Myanmar to China U Ba Htay Chit, met Minister of Information and Electronic Industry Mr Wu Ji Chuan on 3 June.

Also present at the call were President of Shanghai Bell Company Mr Li Da Lai.

They discussed matters pertaining to the development of communications.

Then, the delegation attended the dinner hosted by Minister Mr Wu Ji Chuan.

On 4 June morning, the minister visited the Research and Development Centre of Da Tang Telecom.

Minister Brig-Gen Win Tin paid a courtesy call on Deputy Prime Minister Mr Wu Bang Guo of People's Republic of China in the evening.

The minister and party also visited Research and Development Centre of ZTE Zhongxing Telecom Ltd and Telephone factory in Shanghai City, communication system of SKY Link Co in Hong Kong on 9 June.

Myanmar delegation left Hong Kong by air yesterday.

The delegation was welcomed back at Yangon International Airport by Minister for Sports Brig-Gen Sein Win, Minister at the Prime Minister's Office Lt-Gen Tin Ngwe, heads of department of Myanma Posts and Telecommunications, Directorate of Telecommunications and Meteorology & Hydrology Department and families. "The New Light of Myanmar" (Internet version) 99-06-12

Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Khin Nyunt and delegation study development works, industries in Xiamen, Kunming

YANGON, 12 June - Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Khin Nyunt and delegation members, who went on a goodwill visit to the People's Republic of China at the invitation of State Councillor of PRC Mr Luo Gan, paid obeisance to the Buddha's Tooth Relic in Daroba Gahdhakuditaik in Beijing on 9 June.

They also paid respects to 95-year-old monk Ven. Hai Yuan, who gives close guard to the Tooth Relic.

The Secretary-1 offered robes to the monk.

They made cash donations for the Tooth Relic and later visited the site of the old pagoda, in which the Tooth Relic was enshrined.

Accompanied by officials of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of PRC, Ambassador of Myanmar to PRC U Ba Htay Chit and Military Attache Col Sein Gyawt, Lt-Gen Khin Nyunt and delegation members left Beijing for Xiamen in Fujian Province.

They were seen off at the Capital International Airport by Myanmar Embassy staff.

They arrived at Xiamen International Airport at 4.30 pm local time.

They were welcomed by Director-General Mr Zhong Xing Guo of Foreign Affairs Office of Xiamen Municipal Government and officials and Consul to Hong Kong U Hla Than.

They proceeded to Xiamen Mandarin Hotel where they would stay overnight.

Vice-Mayor of Xiamen Mr Chen Weiqin called on the Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Khin Nyunt at the hotel. "The New Light of Myanmar" (Internet version) 99-066-13

Secretary-1 inspects construction of Drug Abuse Control Museum

YANGON, 12 June - Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Khin Nyunt inspected construction of Drug Abuse Control Museum at the corner of Hanthawady Road and Kyundaw Street in Kamayut Township this morning.

Accompanied by officials of the State Peace and Development Council Office, Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Khin Nyunt arrived at the construction site of Drug Abuse Control Museum at 8.45 am.

They were welcomed by Chairman of Central Committee for Drug Abuse Control Minister for Home Affairs Col Tin Hlaing, deputy ministers, Deputy Commander Brig-Gen Hsan Hsint and officials.

At the briefing hall, Minister Col Tin Hlaing reported to the Secretary-1 on progress of construction work of Drug Abuse Control Museum and arrangements for greening of the museum area.

Deputy Minister for Home Affairs Brig-Gen Thura Myint Maung, Deputy Minister for Forestry Col Thaik Tun, Chairman of Yuzana Construction Group U Htay Myint and officials also reported to the Secretary-1 on construction of road and greening of the environs of the museum.

Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Khin Nyunt gave necessary instructions.

Then, Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Khin Nyunt inspected the construction site and left there. "The New Light of Myanmar" (Internet version) 99-06-13

Minister inspects MAI office

YANGON, 16 June - Minister for Transport Maj-Gen Hla Myint Swe, Deputy Minister U Pe Than and officials inspected Myanmar Airways International office under repair on Bo Aung Kyaw Street this morning.

Managing Director of Myanmar Airways U Tin Hlaing Hmi reported on condition of the office.

The minister and party went to No 7 Sule Wharf.

The minister then boarded mv Sagaing of Myanmar Five Star Line and inspected imported materials from the People's Republic of China for Maha Bandoola Bridge Project.

Managing Director of MFSL U Khin Maung Kyi reported on works.

The minister inspected unloading of beams, iron bars and containers and maintenance of ship. "The New Light of Myanmar" (Internet version) 99-06-17

ASIAN WALL STREET JOURNAL: MUSE IS NOT MODEL

26 June, 1999

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Your June 15 front-page article "What Recession? Town in Myanmar Finds Muse in Commerce" about a booming frontier town at the Sino-Burma border confirms what many Burmese fear: the virtual colonization of their country by their big neighbor up north. On the surface the article reads like a free-market success story. The details, however, showing China's overwhelming influence and virtual monopoly of this tiny Burmese town, are more chilling.

A young Rangoonite makes three times a civil servant's monthly pay in one day. Muse's electricity comes from China, as do the day-laborers building a huge commercial complex -- for Chinese merchants. The toll road concession belongs to a company founded by a convicted drug lord. You tell us that the "bar, brothels and nightclubs" are all in Ruili, a few minutes walk over the China border. You don't say, but we can assume, that the brothels are staffed by desperately poor young ethnic Burmese girls and service Burmese truck drivers.

Finally, no mention is made of this frontier town as an AIDS laboratory. Burma's HIV infection-growth rate is as out of control as Central Africa's, and the fastest spread of the disease is from border towns like Muse, helped by new highways and fast money. You also do not mention the resentment felt in many Burmese hearts when they see such "booms" propelled by non-Burmese. It's not only Muse -- some people call Mandalay a suburb of Yunnan.

Maureen Aung-Thwin

Director

Burma Project, Open Society Institute

New York

Title: AFP: 125 Drug Traffickers Executed in Yunnan

Document Number: FBIS-CHI-1999-0628

Document Date: 28 Jun 1999

Sourceline: OW2806095999 Hong Kong AFP in English 0954 GMT 28 Jun 99

Subslug: As of filing time, PRC media monitored at Okinawa Bureau have not been observed to report the following

[FBIS Transcribed Text] BEIJING, June 28 (AFP) - At least 125 drug traffickers, including one Pakistani and two Myanmar nationals, have been executed in China in a massive crackdown on drug related crimes, official sources said Monday.

The two Myanmar nationals were executed Friday in Kunming, capital of southwest Yunnan province, which borders on the "Golden Triangle" region of Myanmar, Laos and Thailand, a provincial official told AFP.

The two men were found guilty of drug smuggling and handed the death sentence by the Yunnan Provincial Intermediate Court along with seven Chinese traffickers, including one woman, a court spokesman said.

On Thursday, a Pakistani man was executed in the capital of the northwest Xinjiang autonomous region, an official with the Urumqi Intermediate People's Court said.

The man, who was convicted of smuggling nearly 200 grams (seven ounces) of heroin and 260 grams (9.1 ounces) of opium, was put to death on the same day as five Chinese in the same city.

Dozens of others were executed for drug related crimes across the country at the end of last week.

The crackdown coincided with International Narcotics Control Day on June 26, an occasion which gives way to numerous executions in China each year, including 100 in 1997 and 250 in 1996.

Last year no executions were reported by the official media, but June 26 fell just one day after US President Bill Clinton arrived in China for an official visit that focused largely on human rights issues.

While China does not publish official statistics on executions, media outlets have reported a total of 39 executions Thursday and 32 on Friday across the country.

Newspapers on Monday also said that 17 traffickers had been executed in southern Guangdong province, eight in southern Guangxi, 14 in southeastern Fujian and six in southwestern Sichuan province.

China is facing a growing problem with drug abuse, with state seizures of heroin rising 34 percent to 7.3 tonnes last year. Ice and marijuana seizures rose 20 and 137 percent respectively to a total of 1.6 tonnes and 5.1 tonnes.

By last year China had 596,000 registered drug users, an increase of nine percent over the end of 1997.

[Description of source: Hong Kong AFP in English -- Hong Kong service of the independent French press agency Agence France-Presse]

Discussions held on matters of enhancing China-Myanmar economic cooperation

YANGON, 29 June - Leading Committee for Promotion of Economic Cooperation between the Union of Myanmar and the People's Republic of China held the

third coordination meeting this morning at Office of the Commander-in-Chief (Army), with an address by Chairman of the Leading Committee Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Khin Nyunt.

The Secretary-1 said the Leading Committee was formed after Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Than Shwe had completed his goodwill visit to China in 1996.

The goodwill delegation led by him and comprising ministers visited the PRC from 7 to 11 June 1999 to further enhance the China-Myanmar economic cooperation.

During the visit, he met with the State Councillor of PRC Mr Luo Gan, Premier Mr Zhu Rongji, Vice-Premier Mr Wu Bangguo and other Chinese leaders and had cordial discussions with them on implementing of the tasks under the bilateral economic cooperation programmes and tasks to be extended.

Deputy Prime Minister Lt-Gen Tin Hla and ministers who were in the delegation also held meetings with officials of the respective ministries and companies of PRC.

All the discussions in China were successful as they were held with constructive approach and understanding.

When all the results of these discussions were presented to the Senior General, he (Senior General Than Shwe) gave work guidance to realize them.

Coordination should be made on ministry-wise tasks which must be implemented by the collective efforts of all the ministries concerned. Systematic plans should be made for speedy implementation of the plans.

Discussion should be centered on implementation of sector-wise plans. Minister at the State Peace and Development Council Chairman's Office Brig-Gen Abel reported on progress of tasks which are being implemented under the Myanmar-China Cooperation Programme. "The New Light of Myanmar" (Internet version) 99-06-30

Title: Daily Hails Burma-China Bilateral Economic Cooperation

Document Number: FBIS-EAS-1999-0701

Document Date: 01 Jul 1999

Sourceline: BK0207010599 Rangoon The New Light of Myanmar in English 1 Jul 99 p 2

Subslug: Editorial: "Enhancing Bilateral Economic Cooperation"

Reference:

1. beijing xinhua in english 1125 gmt 11 jun 99 -- khin nyunt returns to burma after 5-day prc visit
 2. rangoon radio myanmar in burmese 1330 gmt 11 jun 99 -- take 1 of 2 -- details of khin nyunt's prc trip reported
 3. rangoon the new light of myanmar (internet version) in english 12 jun 99
- khin nyunt returns from china visit

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Since a long time ago, there have been cordial and friendly relations between Myanmar and the People's Republic of China, with frequent exchange of visits of the leaders of both nations. Over the past 10 years, the two nations have enhanced relations in the economic field.

For promotion of bilateral economic cooperation, Myanmar formed the

Leading Committee for Promotion of Economic Cooperation between the Union of Myanmar and the People's Republic of China after the State visit of Head of State Senior General Than Shwe to China in 1996.

Recently, with three objectives, namely to strengthen the existing friendship, to further promote mutually beneficial economic cooperation, and to study at first hand the advances made by China in national development endeavours, a Myanmar goodwill delegation headed by Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Khin Nyunt, at the invitation of State Councillor of the People's Republic of China Mr Luo Gan, paid an official goodwill visit to China from 7 to 11 June.

During the visit, Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Khin Nyunt had cordial discussions with them on implementation of the tasks under the bilateral economic cooperation programmes and tasks to be extended, and Deputy Prime Minister Lt-Gen Tin Hla and ministers who were accompanying him had meetings with respective ministries and companies of the host country.

In connection with the visit, Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Khin Nyunt who is Chairman of the Leading Committee, said at the third coordination meeting of the Leading Committee held the other day, that all the discussions in China were successful as they were held with constructive approach and understanding. He also said coordination should be made on ministry-wise tasks which must be implemented by the collective efforts of all the ministries concerned, adding that systematic arrangements should be made for speedy implementation of the plans. It is believed that the peoples of both nations will enjoy fruits of interchanges through promotion of economic cooperation between the two nations in the near future.

[Description of Source: The New Light Of Myanmar -- government-run daily newspaper]

Deputy Minister inspects Maha Bandoola Bridge Project

YANGON, 4 July - Deputy Minister for Construction Brig-Gen Thura Aye Myint, together with officials of the Public Works, arrived at the site of Maha Bandoola Bridge Project this morning.

The deputy minister and party inspected the construction works on the bank of Pazundaung Township.

The deputy minister also inspected the storage of iron beams imported from the People's Republic of China and other construction materials and gave instructions on systematic storage of construction materials.

Then, the deputy minister and party went to the site on the bank of Dawbon Township.

Officials reported on progress of work. The deputy minister gave instructions on timely completion of construction works, work-site safety and systematic storage of construction materials. "The New Light of Myanmar" (Internet version) 99-07-05

Title: Red Wa Building on Khun Sa's Former Area

Document Number: FBIS-EAS-1999-0709

Document Date: 08 Jul 1999

Sourceline: BK0907073599 Bangkok Krungthep Thurakit in Thai 8 Jul 99 p 1

Subslug: Unattributed report

Reference:

1. bangkok krungthep thurakit (chutprakai supplement) in thai 8 jul 99 p 1

-- take 1 of 2 -- extent of burmese drug trafficking cited

[FBIS Translated Text] While a narcotic suppression drive has been intensively carried out by Thai authorities from the military, the Border Patrol Police, and Office of the Narcotics Control Board [ONCE] in all areas adjacent to the Doi Sam Sao mountain in northeastern Burma, an atmosphere of uneasiness is also simmering in the region. However, fears arising from such an atmosphere are not greater than those from the heroin producing factories operated by groups of drug traffickers in the area.

Over the past year, high tension has continually prevailed in the region thanks to confrontation between the Burmese Army and the Red Wa rebels since the 10-year truce agreement between the two sides is nearing its expiration, thereby turning this area into the most dangerous and explosive locality in this region and the armed forces of the two warring sides the largest well-armed units of the most notorious transnational drug traffickers in the world.

In the recent past, high-level authorities of the Burmese government in Rangoon issued warnings to the Red Wa Army on two occasions to withdraw from the area and move back to their former stronghold in Pang Sang town near the Chinese-Burmese border. But the warnings have fallen on deaf ears. If the Red Wa Army have refused to comply with the Burmese government's warnings, what will happen in the area in the near future? Certainly, many ethnic minority groups opposing the Burmese military government and operating in the region, including the Red Wa, do not pay much heed to the warnings, either. It is now clear that in addition to refusing to comply to the Burmese warnings to move back to their former stronghold, the Red Wa Army have now proceeded to reinforce their positions along the Thai-Burmese border opposite Thailand's Chiang Mai Province.

In the meantime, the Red Wa have also opened the door to welcome outsiders to pay visits to their territory. They have allowed Thai traders to transport goods, such as food items, essential goods, and construction materials, into their territory every two weeks for selling there. Local Thai traders have to pass through a check-point north of Thaton precinct with their goods to be inspected by local immigration and customs officers before being allowed into the Red Wa territory which was once a prohibited area for outsiders (because it was regarded some 20 years ago as the territory of the Red Wa head hunters).

A border patrol policeman said that at present thousands of Thai construction workers are working in the territory under the control of the Red Wa, building small artificial levees, hospitals, and schools which are located very near to a border check-point post in Mae Ai District, scheduled to be opened in August this year.

As for the construction of a road network in the area, the Red Wa have received some construction funds from the Burmese government and those accumulated by the Red Wa Army themselves. This road will link Mae Ai District in Chiang Mai Province with Muang Sat and Muang Yon which are located some 90 kilometers from Shan State. At present, a ring road is being built to link Muang Sat and Muang Yon in Thachilek Province, a Burmese border town located opposite Mae Sat District in Chiang Ran Province.

"The Red Wa have been determined to settle down in this area. Their presence has put great political pressure on Thailand. That is why Thailand must find a way out of this no-win situation. However, financial gains made from the Red Wa's presence also outweigh other concerns. Even the Burmese government authorities themselves do not want to fight with

them. It can be said that their presence is good for the Burmese government," a Thai official familiar with the situation in the region pointed out once.

But in reality, it can be said that the Red Wa have now replaced Khan Sa and his Mong Tai Army as the drug kingpin of the Golden Triangle.

"The Thai and US drug suppression authorities once estimated that approximately 1,700 metric tons of raw opium were harvested in the Golden Triangle in 1998, a decrease from 2,300 metric tons harvested in 1997.

The reduction of the opium harvest in the Golden Triangle was attributed to bad weather throughout the year. There was reportedly a lot of rain last year," said the same Thai official. He pointed out that 10 kilograms of raw opium could be processed into one kilogram of heroin. Half of the opium harvested in the Golden Triangle was in the possession of the Red Wa.

"As a matter of fact, the Red Wa Army were established shortly after the disintegration of the communist movement in Burma. A truce was subsequently signed with the Burmese government following a successful negotiation with the Burmese government delegation led by Lt. Gen. Khin Nyunt, head of the security office of the Burmese government. A Burmese observer even said that the truce agreement was reached between the Burmese government and the Red Wa Army because the Burmese government wanted to reduce tension with the Red Wa, which are composed of 20,000 armed men possessing enough weapons to fight for at least one more decade. In addition, the Burmese government does not want these weapons to fall into the hands of other ethnic minority groups fighting against the Burmese government."

A high-ranking Thai official said that the Red Wa will find it difficult to expand the territory for carrying out drug trafficking from Pang Sang town to the upper areas of the Thai-Burmese border where many ethnic conflicts are currently brewing. The expansion of the drug trafficking operating territory by the Red Wa will certainly lead to a war and be met with fierce resistance from the Mong Tai Army of Khan SA, their arch rival in drug trafficking businesses at the moment.

"Three years ago, Khan Sa surrendered to the Burmese government, thus creating a vacuum of power in half of the territory the former drug kingpin used to control. This region formerly controlled by Khan Sa has now become a big bone of contention for many parties, including the Karen, Burmese, Red Wa, and Thai groups."

A top commander of the Red Wa Army unit assigned to take control of the check-point entering Thailand expressed confidence that the Red Wa organization will not commit a similar mistake as made by Khun Sa. He said the situation in the region has now completely changed and Khan Sa plays no role in this area any longer. Therefore, the 10-year [truce] agreement has become meaningless because all the troubled areas in the territory are now under the control of either the Red Wa Army and other groups under the umbrella of the Burmese military government's State Peace and Development Council [SPDC].

In the meantime, the SPDC has also called on the Red Wa to withdraw from the territory and retreat back to their former stronghold in China. If the demand was met, the route for shipping amphetamine pills and heroin into Thailand would be altered. However, the question is that whether the Burmese demand will be met or not.

A Thai official added that China itself does not want the Red Wa to return to their former stronghold. China even held negotiation with Pao Yohang, a leading Red Wa element, requesting that the Red Wa Army refrain from going too close to the Chinese border. If they fail to comply with the Chinese request, China threatens to cut off logistic and

food support to the Red Wa Army.

"Thailand is now put under much pressure with regard to the passage of narcotic drugs through the Kingdom. A recent report said that the processing of heroin destined for the European and US Markets has now changed its pattern. Amphetamines and some stimulants are produced and marketed by certain groups of traffickers in Thailand," an ONCB official said. He also said that the products produced and shipped through Thailand are in high demand in foreign markets.

In early February this year, Burmese Foreign Minister Aung Win denied an allegation that the Rangoon government is the root cause of drug problems in Thailand. He also said that the primary chemicals used for processing drugs are [smuggled into Burma] from foreign countries. "How do you know that these drugs are not produced in Thailand? Drugs can be produced anywhere. The Burmese government has mapped out a plan to suppress and completely eradicate poppy cultivation in the country within 15 years. Our plan has been well received by many foreign countries," said the Burmese foreign minister during his recent visit to Thailand. Foreign observers said that the Burmese government is more than willing to please foreign drug suppression organizations because foreign denunciation [of its links to drug traffickers] has severely affected the security of this backward land.

"They choose to ignore the reality in Burma. It is doubtful whether the Burmese military government is willing to fight against the largest group of drug traffickers in the world or not."

Beside worrying about the Red Wa group, high-ranking Burmese military officers are also greatly concerned with confrontation and fighting with certain ethnic minority groups which have refused to sign cease-fire agreements with Rangoon for a long time.

"What is taking place along the Thai-Burmese border is an explosion waiting to happen. The Red Wa are creating their own kingdom with a strong military force armed with a great number of weapons. Burma does not want the Red Wa to do that while China does not want the Red Wa to return to their stronghold to create trouble along its border, either. It is like a time bomb waiting to explode. It is like a simmering fire burning quietly. No matter what happens, Thailand only stands to lose besides having already been used as a transport route for narcotic drugs at the moment" stressed a high ranking drug suppression official of Thailand.

Minister for Industry-1 meets Chairman of Board of Tianjin Machinery Import & Export Group

YANGON, 8 July - Minister for Industry-1 U Aung Thaung met Chairman of the Board of Tianjin Machinery Import & Export Group and President of Tianjin Machinery Import and Export Corporation (Group) Mr Sun Jianrong and party of the People's Republic of China who called at his office this afternoon.

Also present at the call were Deputy Ministers for Industry-1 Brig-Gen Thein Tun and Brig-Gen Kyaw Win, directors-general and managing directors of departments and enterprises. "The New Light of Myanmar" (Internet version) 99-07-09

Title: On ASEAN's Economic Recovery, Expansion

Document Number: FBIS-CHI-1999-0710

Document Date: 12 Jul 1999

Sourceline: OW1007100599 Beijing Beijing Review in English No 28, 12 Jul 99 pp 9-10

Subslug: By Li Bian: "ASEAN is Rising From Difficulty"

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The sixth ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF) will be held in late July in Singapore. Foreign ministers or other representatives of the 10 members of ASEAN, including Cambodia, which joined the organization recently, along with the 10 dialogue partners, including China, the United States, Russia and Japan, and observer countries will attend. The forum will focus on regional and international issues and its future development. This is the first ARF since the establishment of "Grand ASEAN." Since it is held at the recovery period of the ASEAN economy, it is attracting great attention.

Economic Recovery [subhead]

Southeast Asia was once an area with the most rapidly developing economy. Since 1997, when the most severe financial crisis took place, however, Southeast Asian countries have been struggling with economic recession. In 1998, the gross domestic product (GDP) of the entire ASEAN region decreased by 6.9 percent. Indonesia, Thailand and Malaysia, in particular, respectively saw drops of 13.7, 8.0 and 6.2 percent, unprecedented since the founding of ASEAN.

Now, the economy has hit bottom. The recovery period has begun, which can be seen from the stability or slight rise in each country's currency value and recovery of their stock markets. Also, the economy of Indonesia, which suffered the most in the Asian financial crisis, has begun to see positive economic growth again.

Experts predicted the recovery period of ASEAN economy could be divided into three stages.

The first stage is the cessation of economic decline, which will be realized by the end of 1999.

The second stage is an upturn, which will start next year, when ASEAN countries will begin to record low growth. The aim is to turn zero growth into 4 to 5 percent growth. Due to the bad economic situation of Europe and Japan, and overheated stock market of the United States, some international capital has begun seeking opportunities in Southeast Asia again. The most important impetus to economic recovery is exports. Fresh inputs of foreign capital and the expansive financial policies of local governments have not only encouraged a revival of exports but also supported the recovery of imports. At the same time, the large-scale currency devaluation undertaken at an earlier stage has boosted exports. This period is expected to last for three years.

The third stage is the high-speed economic growth. The whole growth rate will reach over 6 percent. During this period, ASEAN currencies may strengthen.

Since ASEAN countries had no effective group safeguarding measures, Indonesia and Thailand had to resort to international organizations and foreign governments. Learning many lessons from the financial crisis, they successfully held the first vice-finance ministerial meeting and the gathering of central bank vice-presidents in the East Asian area. Meanwhile, the process of financial system reform and the establishment of the ASEAN free trade Area (AFTA) were accelerated and their internal cooperation strengthened. As a result, the economic environment within these countries is turning good.

Indonesia has launched a profound reform of its financial system and its

politics have become stable. Therefore, investor confidence has been restored. According to the Asian Development Bank, if the Indonesian economy stopped shrinking in 1999, its growth rate would increase to 2 percent in 2000.

With the aid of the International Monetary Fund, the Thai economy had moved onto a steady development road by the end of 1998. Zero or weak growth may be realized in 1999. By 2000, the growth rate will reach 2.5 percent.

Since Malaysia introduced foreign exchange controls, its economy has become temporarily stable. The GDP growth rate may be 0.7 to 1 percent in 1999, and go up to 2.7 percent in 2000.

Due to its good economic foundations and great development potential, ASEAN countries will have optimistic prospects if they can achieve a stable political situation and proper external conditions.

Enhancement of Members [subhead]

During the Cold War period, two superpowers confronted each other, and ASEAN expansion seemed impossible. Entering the 1990s, with the end of the Cold War and the political solution of Cambodia's problems, the confrontation between ASEAN and Indochina countries (including Vietnam, Laos and Cambodia) also disappeared, which paved the way for ASEAN expansion. In the meantime, the rapid development of world regional economic cooperation imposed a great challenge for ASEAN's economic development and cooperation.

While strengthening and deepening economic cooperation, ASEAN, employing its advantageous geographical, cultural, and historical conditions, expanded to cover the entire Southeast Asia. In 1995, Vietnam became the seventh member of the ASEAN; and Myanmar [Burma] and Laos respectively became its eighth and ninth member in 1997, just before its 30th anniversary. On April 30, 1999, Cambodia became its 10th member, thus the "Grand ASEAN" was finally formed. This has become a milestone in the development of the organization.

The formation of "Grand ASEAN" has far-reaching influence on the peace and stability of Southeast Asia and the Asia-Pacific region.

Politically, "Grand ASEAN" enables the organization to participate in international affairs and has a positive effect on the world in regards to multi-polarization. Also, "Grand ASEAN" emphasizes its "oriental" feature, abides by self-dependence and opposes Western countries' interference in its internal affairs on the excuse of "human rights" and "democracy."

For instance, it shook off the pressure from the West in solving Myanmar's internal issues. Cooperation on the basis of equality and consultation will be promoted. The ASEAN principles of equality and mutual benefit and consultation have been identified and applied in the economic and security cooperation in the Asia-Pacific region and will play a role in coordinating and solving regional conflicts.

"Grand ASEAN" is also beneficial to the security of Southeast Asia. After accepting Vietnam, Laos, Cambodia and Myanmar, ASEAN has the ability to solve complicated disputes and problems in bilateral relations. As a result, ASEAN has a wider group coordinating function in Southeast Asia, thereby reducing the "interference" of Western countries and promoting the peace and stability of Southeast Asia. ASEAN expansion means Southeast Asian problems have become the internal affairs of the ASEAN organization. On the other hand, ASEAN becomes more concerned with factors outside the region and is ready to take action any time.

In economy, Grand ASEAN helps regional economic cooperation. In the 1980s, a world regional and group economy developed, and ASEAN actively

participated in economic cooperation while quickening the building of AFTA. With the extension in population, area and economic scale, it also saw an expansion in its economic scale, internal market capacity and need. This led to a change not only in the economic relationship among ASEAN members, but also in its external economic links and structure. Grand ASEAN will provide more opportunities to the regional economic development and cooperation.

People must see that ASEAN expansion is a process of adjustment. Because of differences in political situation, social systems and economic levels, the ASEAN members could not expand their organization and function synchronously. Time for regulation is needed. In addition, a country's crisis usually develops into a regional crisis, which weakens the strength of ASEAN to some degree.

[Description of source: Beijing Review in English -- China's official weekly general affairs journal for English-language audiences]

Minister meets foreign entrepreneurs

YANGON, 12 July - Minister for Industry-1 U Aung Thaung met President Mr Sun Jianrong and party of Tianjin Machinery Import and Export Group of the People's Republic of China, Plant Engineer Mr Chanin Wichien and party of Siam Cement Industry Co Ltd of Thailand and Vice General Manager Mr Sie Ji Hu and party of Kunming Light Industry Machinery General Corporation of the PRC who separately called at his office this afternoon. "The New Light of Myanmar" (Internet version) 99-07-13

Minister for Industry-1 meets foreign company officials

YANGON, 14 July - Minister for Industry-1 U Aung Thaung met Managing Director Mr Christoph Hoene of Arab Malaysian SGB Sdn Bhd and party at his office at 4.45 pm, the President of N R Industries Co Ltd and Thai Machine Product Co Ltd of Thailand and party at 5.15 pm and President M Yang Mingxian of Yunnan Bank of China and party at 5.45 pm.

Also present on the occasion were Deputy Ministers Brig-Gen Thein Tun and Brig-Gen Kyaw Win and heads of departments under the ministry. "The New Light of Myanmar" (Internet version) 99-07-15

Title: Thai Paper: Chinese, Burmese Supporting Wa

Document Number: FBIS-EAS-1999-0716

Document Date: 15 Jul 1999

Sourceline: BK1607053499 Bangkok Phuchatkan in Thai 15 Jul 99 pp 1, 2, 3

Subslug: Unattributed report

Reference:

1. bangkok krungthep thurakit in thai 8 jul 99 p 1 -- take 1 of 2 -- red wa building on khun sa's former area
 2. bangkok krungthep thurakit (chutprakai supplement) in thai 8 jul 99 p 1 -- take 1 of 2 -- extent of burmese drug trafficking cited
- [FBIS Translated Text] Regional News Center -- China and Burma are the

major supporters which enable the Wa to become a major narcotics production center. The Wa, the Chinese, and the Burmese have shared their benefits well. China helps by allowing transit of narcotics through its territory to Hong Kong and Taiwan. It provides fund for the Wa's education, communications, and agriculture development in exchange for the Wa allowing Chinese access through its southern territory to the sea. Thailand's fuzzy border policy makes it an unwitting united front of Wa activities, as evidenced by the unwillingness of Chiang Mai provincial authority to close the border crossing point at San Ton Du which the Thai private sector uses to trade with the Wa. The provincial authority claims that closure will affect relations with Burma, while the Thai military wants it permanently closed.

Colonel Phithiphon Musikanan, deputy director the Chiang Mai branch of the Internal Security Operations Command who has been assigned by the Chiang Mai governor to oversee security along the border, told Phuchatkan that the Third Army Region had recommended to the National Security Council [NSC] to close the temporary border crossing point at San Ton Du in Tha Ton subdistrict, Mae Ai District, Chiang Mai because the Wa has exploited it to launder narcotics revenues and smuggle narcotics. The NSC forwarded the recommendation to the Chiang Mai provincial authority which is in charge of management of the border crossing point.

The provincial authority considered the recommendation last month and concluded that the border crossing point would be kept open on grounds of good relations with Burma. The crossing point has been kept open despite violations of the regulations by the Thai private sector which is permitted to export goods through it. The violations include export of prohibited products. The exporters were given official warning; future violations would result in revocation of their export permits. To comply with the military's wish, more strict controls have been imposed on use of the border crossing point.

The San Ton Du temporary crossing point is less than 100 km from Mong Yon and Mong Sat, the main Wa communities, and constitutes the closest point by which goods can reach the Wa stronghold. The Chiang Mai provincial authority's decision to keep the crossing point open contradicts the wish of Lieutenant General Sommai Wichawon, Third Army Region commander, who urged during some interviews that it be closed permanently.

The NSC's consideration of the Third Army Region's recommendation concluded that the provincial administration should implement the NSC policy of strengthening relations with the neighboring country and prudent management of the border problems which may arise. This NSC position challenges its own emphasis against the Wa's narcotics problem, particularly its amphetamine production.

The Thai military wants the San Ton Du crossing point closed to transit of goods to curtail the Wa's growth as drug producer. The Wa smuggles some 200 million baht worth of amphetamines to sell in Thailand annually. In addition, selling goods to the Wa and sending Thai workers to work for them contributes to Wa's laundering of its narcotics revenues.

Competition by exporters using San Ton Du border crossing point [subhead]
Members of the Thai private sector have competed to export goods through San Ton Du border crossing point and their ensuing disputes have led to the parties involved to accuse each other of using falsified documents to apply for export license.

On 12 October 1998, the Chiang Mai provincial authority revoked the export license of Phukha Engravings Limited Partnership on ground of exporting other products outside that allowed by its oil export license.

A competitor of Phukha Engravings accused to the provincial authority that the latter used falsified documents. The ensuing arguments led the provincial authority to grant export license to five other companies, increasing the number of companies holding export licenses to seven. At that time, Phukha Engravings representative, Sunet Praiwan, claimed that her company's trading partner held a license issued by the Burmese government, while her competitor did not and its status no more than a local import-export company. If the agreement between the Thai and Burmese Commerce Ministries made during the Chawalit Yongchaiyut administration's term is used as guideline, several exporters may be illegal because they probably did not register with the Burmese government and their trading partners in Burma did not have licenses. Support from Burma, China [subhead]

It is clear that the Red Wa's growth, reflected by its construction of a new town opposite the Thai border and development of its army, is funded by its narcotics revenues. It also receives direct support of the Burmese government, including in the area of trade as companies must hold licenses issued by the Burmese Commerce Ministry. The growth is also contributed by indirect support of the Thai and Chinese governments. The three Wei brothers--Wei Hsueh Kang, Wei Hsueh Long, and Wei Hsueh Yin--are former Kuomintang members. They are now Red Wa military leaders and the brains behind the Wa narcotics operations. The Kuomintang were originally supporters of the Chinese nationalists but later switched to support the Chinese Communist Party and the pro-Chinese Burma to defeat the Kuomintang. This explains the Wei brothers' connection with China. The three brothers used their connections with China to build a network to transport narcotics through Yunan to China's east coast and on to Hong Kong, Taiwan, and the west. The narcotics transport activities encounter virtually no meaningful obstruction from the Chinese government. By cooperating with the Burmese military government to destroy the Mong Tai Army of Khun Sa, the Wa received in return the right to self rule and narcotics operations. The revenues from the Wa narcotics operation in Myawadi are split 30 percent for the Burmese government, 30 percent for the DKBA [Democratic Karen Buddhist Army], and 40 percent for the Wa themselves.

The Burmese government also provides military support to the Wa and allows Wa troop movement in the areas under government control. In 10 years after the United Wa State Army [UWSA] was established, it has built up an army of some 20,000 soldiers and established an armed force "to safeguard peace and sovereignty over land, sea, and air in the special zone 2." The principle of the Wa army is: "No one will be allowed to commit an act of aggression against us; we will not commit aggression against anyone. If anyone wages aggression against us, we will retaliate."

China builds schools and television station [subhead]

There are clear evidence of the support of the Chinese and Burmese governments for the Wa, or the so-called special administrative zone 2 of the Burmese federation, particularly in the development of Wa cities and the life of the Wa people.

Since early 1998, the Wa have begun to make business investments by themselves, using narcotics revenues, as well as with the Burmese to bring progress to its territory. It receives assistance from the Burmese government in education, industrial, medical, and public health development, as well as in highway construction. The Burmese government also allows the Wa to trade precious stones and jade and gives it special privileges to build a trade center in Rangoon and operate steel industry

in several major Burmese cities.

The Burmese government uses 3 million yuan from the Chinese aid to build "Wa Chenzing nationalities school" which now has some 400 students and 30 teachers. It teaches Chinese as the main language and Burmese and English as secondary languages. It also teaches agriculture and other vocational courses. The Burmese government also subsidizes an elementary school in the southern part of the Wa territory which currently has about 1,000 students.

The Chinese government built a television station in Pang Sang, the Wa capital north of the Golden Triangle, in June 1995. The Chinese television station in China's Sumao city extends cooperation to the Wa station by sending signals in MMDS format.

The UWSA uses its soldiers to aid people in agriculture in the military zone 171. The agriculture center in Ban Hong in southern part of Wa territory planted some 3,000 longan trees in 5 years as well as some 1 million teak trees. The independent regiment in Mong Yon built new irrigation canals to aid cultivation of 50 rai of rice. The regiment 214 used its soldiers to operate a big cattle farm in Pang Sang. The artillery and independent regiments planted some 5,000 rubber trees.

Lychee and cashew nut trees and tea plants were cultivated 5 years ago by the independent regiment, in addition to coffee and sipolan plants in the agriculture center west of Pang Sang. The fund for economic cooperation in Sumao city, China, donated sipolan plants to be planted in the Golden Triangle; some 350 plants were already grown.

In communication, the Wa regards road repair and construction as its first development priority, having built some 3,000 km of laterite roads and 90 percent of foundation have been completed for some 730 km of other roads. Some 19 bridges were built in Hua Tao, Kang, Jong, Long Kui, and Pan Sing, each costing more than 500,000 yuan. A hydroelectric dam was built by Chinese engineers on Nam Toeng river and began operations on 24 September 1998. The Kun Ma hydroelectric dam began operations on 28 November 1998. The 40-meter high Sung Fu hydroelectric dam was completed early this year and generated 7,500 kilowatts of electricity.

China and Taiwan aid Wa business networks [subhead]

The Wa established a joint trade development company in Lashio, near the Chinese border in December 1996 and opened company branches in Rangoon, Mandalay, Keng Tung, Thachilek, and other cities to run jade and precious stone business. It also opened similar offices in Su, Phakang, and Kut towns.

The companies set up by the Wa included: Hong Pang, Yi Sing, To Kang, Kang Lu, Kang Jiang, Fo Ya, Wa Oil Refinery, Sing Mai Jing Fong Hotel, Pang Sang Water, Kang Lo, Wa Nationality Bank, Sun Yin Tobacco Industry, and Tang Yan Ruby. Some 5,000 people are employed by these business operations.

A company from China's Hainan province invested some 3 million yuan to establish a joint venture in Wa territory to produce some 30,000 military uniforms annually for UWSA soldiers. It also invested 500,000 yuan to set up a computerized plant to print official materials in Chinese, English, Burmese, Wa, and Shan languages, as well as text books.

The Wa has established close relations with the Chinese government, particularly in Yunan. It attended meetings on China-Burma border activities which discussed suppression of smuggling as well as economic development.

The Wa leaders have close ties with senior Chinese officials as the result of past Chinese assistance to the Wa while it was part of the Communist Party of Burma. The Chinese government has reportedly sold

weapons worth a total of over \$1,400 million to the Wa and is developing network of roads from China to the mouth of Irawadi river to gain access to the Andaman Sea. The current Wa narcotics operations under leadership of Wei Hsueh Kang also receive Chinese support. The support from China also includes communications, education, and agriculture. Taiwan also provides support for the Wa, as Kuomitang remnants and their families still live and earn a living in Wa territory.

While Thailand has carried out intense suppression of amphetamine smuggling into its territory, the Wa has been able to exploit the loopholes to use its narcotics revenues to buy Thai goods and hire Thai workers for its development activities. This amounts to Thailand giving indirect support to the Wa to launder its narcotics revenues.

[Description of Source: Phuchatkan--business-oriented dailynewspaper]

Title: Burma Issues Statement on '1-China' Policy

Document Number: FBIS-CHI-1999-0716

Document Date: 16 Jul 1999

Sourceline: OW1607121899 Beijing Xinhua in English 1211 GMT 16 Jul 99

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Yangon [Rangoon], July 16 (XINHUA) -- The Myanmar [Burma] government said on Friday that it consistently abides by the "one China" policy.

"The Union of Myanmar was one of the first countries which recognized the People's Republic of China when it was founded on October 1, 1949," the Myanmar Foreign Ministry said in a statement regarding the recent separatist remarks made by Li Teng-hui on cross-Straits relations.

The statement reiterated Myanmar's full support for China's efforts to safeguard its sovereignty, dignity and territorial integrity.

[Description of source: Beijing Xinhua in English -- China's official news]

Title: Burma Reiterates '1 China' Policy

Document Number: FBIS-CHI-1999-0716

Document Date: 16 Jul 1999

Sourceline: OW1607095499 Beijing Xinhua in English 0927 GMT 16 Jul 99

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Yangon [Rangoon], July 16 (XINHUA) -- A spokesman for the Myanmar State Peace and Development Council said that Taiwan is part of China and that Myanmar [Burma] will always pursue the "one China" policy.

Lieutenant-Colonel Hla Min made the remarks Thursday evening at the Japanese Self Defense Forces Day ceremony when giving his comment on Lee Teng-hui's recent separatist remarks on cross-Straits relations.

Hla Min stressed that China is Myanmar's good neighbor, and Myanmar's existing policy is to strengthen and develop friendship and cooperation between the two countries.

The Myanmar government will stick to the "one China" stand as before, he added.

[Description of source: Beijing Xinhua in English -- China's official news service for English-language audiences (New China News Agency)]

Press Release

YANGON, 17 July - The following is the full text of the Press Release issued by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs today:

With regard to the recent statement by Lee Teng-hui on the cross-Straits relations, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs has issued the following Press Release.

The Union of Myanmar was one of the first countries which recognized the People's Republic of China when it was founded on 1st October 1949. Since then, Myanmar and China have been able to establish kinsfolk-like pauk-phaw friendship based on the Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence. As a close friend of China, Myanmar reiterates its full support to China's efforts to safeguard its sovereignty, dignity and territorial integrity.

Moreover, Myanmar consistently abides by the "One China Policy" and recognizes Taiwan as an inalienable part of the People's Republic of China. "The New Light of Myanmar" (Internet version) 99-07-17

Title: Overseas Chinese in Burma Condemn Separatist Remarks

Document Number: FBIS-CHI-1999-0718

Document Date: 18 Jul 1999

Sourceline: OW1807232399 Beijing Xinhua in English 1536 GMT 18 Jul 99

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Yangon, July 18 (XINHUA) -- Overseas Chinese and Chinese-Myanmar [Burma] residing in Yangon held a forum at the Chinese Embassy here Sunday, strongly condemning Li Tenghui's recent separatist remarks over cross-Straits relations.

Attended the forum were more than 50 representatives from 17 overseas Chinese (OC) associations in Yangon including the OC Chamber of Commerce, associations of Fujian Natives, Yunnan Natives and Guangdong Natives. The attendees pointed out at the forum that Li's separatist remarks are bound to end with failure.

The forum adopted a joint statement as follows:

Li Tenghui claimed in an interview on July 9 by a German media that Taipei now regards the ties between the two sides of the Taiwan Strait as "matters between two states" or "at least a special state-to-state matter" between them.

Li's separatist remarks have barely exposed his consistent and deliberate plot to divide China's territory and sovereignty, and create "Two Chinas", "One China, One Taiwan" and "Taiwan Independence".

Li's remarks are, in essence, to vainly attempt breaking up Taiwan from China and its crucial point is to negate the principle of One China.

As is known to all that there is only one China in the world and Taiwan is an inalienable part of China's territory and sovereignty.

Reunification of motherland is a sacred aim that nationalities of the whole world pursue. Chinese nationality is a great nationality who founded the world's most long-standing unified country.

Reunification of motherland is one of the most important standard norms of value of an ancient civilized China.

Any remarks and acts, aimed at splitting, refusal of reunification and creating obstacles over relations between the two sides of the strait, is a betrayal to the country and nationality. It will be strongly opposed by the Chinese people, including the Taiwan compatriots.

Any plot challenging against the principle of One China, creating "Two Chinas", "One China, One Taiwan" and "Taiwan Independence" is doomed to failure. Any people attempting to split the motherland will be cast aside

by the history and will become a culprit of the nationality.
[Description of source: Beijing Xinhua in English -- China's official news service for English-language audiences (New China News Agency)]

Myanmar journalists delegation arrives back

YANGON, 23 July - Under the China-Myanmar cultural exchange programme, a six member Myanmar journalists delegation led by Chief Editor U Ye Tint of the Kyemon Daily of the News and Periodicals Enterprise, Ministry of Information, arrived back by air this evening after visiting the People's Republic of China.

The delegation was welcomed back at Yangon International Airport by Managing Director U Tin Kha of NPE, Director (News) U Hla Tun, Chief Editor U Kyi Nyunt of the Myanma Alin Daily, Chief Editor of Myanma News Agency (Internal) U Zaw Min Thein, officials, officials of the PRC Embassy and families. "The New Light of Myanmar" (Internet version) 99-077-24

Minister meets foreign visitors

YANGON, 29 July - Minister for Industry-1 U Aung Thaung met Managing Director of China Shandong State Yan Tai San Ye Foodstuff Co of Chandong Province of People's Republic of China Mr Wang Zhang Xin and party who called at his office at 4 pm today.

Similarly, Minister for Industry-1 U Aung Thaung met Manager of China Textile Machinery (Group) Co Ltd of the People's Republic of China Mr Liu Ming Xiong who called at his office at 5 pm today.

Also present at the calls were Deputy Minister Brig-Gen Thein Tun and directors-general and managing directors of departments and enterprises. "The New Light of Myanmar" (Internet version) 99-07-30

Title: PRC Attends Mu-se Meeting on Narcotics Control

Document Number: FBIS-EAS-1999-0802

Document Date: 01 Aug 1999

Sourceline: BK0208084899 Rangoon Radio Myanmar in Burmese 1330 GMT 1 Aug 99

Reference:

1. rangoon tv myanmar in burmese 1330 gmt 28 jul 99 -- rangoon holds national workshop on anti-drug strategies
[FBIS Translated Text] The Sixth Cross-border Narcotics Control Meeting of Myanmar [Burma], the People's Republic of China, and the UNDCP [United Nations Drug Control Program] was held at 0900 on 29 July at the Shwe Thiri Hotel in Mu-se, northern Shan State.
The meeting was attended by an 18-member Myanmar delegation led by Police Brig. Gen. Hla Tun, chairman of the Narcotics Control Board and deputy director of police, and the 21-member PRC delegation from the Narcotics Control Bureau of Yunnan Province.

The meeting ended at 1530 after discussions and an exchange of information on the effective joint control of cultivation, production, trafficking, and sale of illicit narcotics in the border areas of the two countries; effective control of precursor chemicals used in the production of narcotics and amphetamines; and cultivation and creation of a market for opium substitute crops.

The leader of the Myanmar delegation, Police Brig. Gen. Hla Tun, hosted a luncheon for the delegates at the Mu-se Hotel and a dinner at the Pan Peng Restaurant.

[Description of Source: Radio Myanmar -- government-run radio]

Reception held to mark 72nd Anniversary of PLA

YANGON, 1 Aug - A reception for 72nd Founding Anniversary of the People's Liberation Army of the People's Republic of China was held at the office of PRC Military Attaché on Khayaybin Street in Dagon Township this evening.

Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Chief of the Office of Strategic Studies and Director of Defence Services Intelligence Lt-Gen Khin Nyunt, Secretary-2 of the State Peace and Development Council Chief of Bureau of special Operations and Chief of staff (Army) Lt-Gen Tin Oo and wife Daw Khin Than Nwe, Secretary-3 of the State Peace and Development Council Adjutant-General Lt-Gen Win Myint and wife Daw Khin Cho Oo, Deputy Prime Minister and Quartermaster General Lt-Gen Tin Hla, Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs, Heads of Department, senior Tatmadaw officers, ambassadors and military attaches, their wives and guests attended the reception.

They were welcomed there by Ambassador of the People 's Republic of China Mr Liang Dong and Military Attaché Senior Col Ma Shoudong and officials.

Then, dinner was hosted in honour of guests. "The New Light of Myanmar" (Internet version) 99-08-02

Minister meets Vice-President of China Textile Industrial Corporation

YANGON, 2 Aug - Minister for Industry-1 U Aung Thaung met Vice-President of China Textile Industrial Corporation for Foreign Economic and Technical Corporation of the People's Republic of China Mr Chen Jing and party who called at his office at 4 pm today.

Also present at the call were officials of departments and enterprises under the Ministry. "The New Light of Myanmar" (Internet version) 99-08-03

Title: Xinhua: Burma-PRC Trade Up 25.14 Percent During '98-'99

Document Number: FBIS-CHI-1999-0803

Document Date: 03 Aug 1999

Sourceline: OW0308053499 Beijing Xinhua in English 0517 GMT 3 Aug 99

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Yangon, August 3 (XINHUA) -- Myanmar [Burma]-China bilateral trade in the 1998-1999 fiscal year increased 25.14 percent from the previous year, to reach 418 million US dollars, official figures showed Tuesday.

Myanmar's imports of Chinese commodities were valued at 287 million dollars, while its exports to China were worth 131 million dollars in the fiscal year ending on March 31, according to figures released by the Myanmar statistics authority.

The bilateral trade volume accounted for 10.46 percent of Myanmar's total foreign trade in the said year, ranking third after those with Singapore and Thailand.

Myanmar imports from China mainly machinery and spare parts and consumer goods, while exports timber and marine products to China.

With six trading points already opened along its border with China, border trade plays an important role in the bilateral trade.

[Description of source: Beijing Xinhua in English -- China's official news service for English-language audiences (New China News Agency)]

Minister meets Managing Director of Complete Machinery and Equipment Engineering Bureau

YANGON, 5 Aug - Minister for Industry-2 Maj-Gen Saw Lwin met Managing Director of Complete Machinery and Equipment Engineering Bureau of Yunnan Province of People's Republic of China Mr Kyu Htaung and party who called at his office at 4 pm today. Also present at the call were Deputy Minister U Thein Tun and Head of Office U Chit Lwin. "The New Light of Myanmar" (Internet version) 99-08-06

Chinese smuggler of animal furs arrested

8 Aug - The last key suspect Jan Phar Bay wanted in connection with first smuggling case of animal fur was recently captured in July, said CCTV report.

The police in southern Province of Yunnan confiscated 500 to 600 wild animal furs from the home of the suspects Jan Gu Bin and Jan Phar Bay.

In July Kunming customs officers arrested Jan Phar Bay and learned that Jan Gu Bin had escaped to Myanmar. The Yunnan police immediately informed Myanmar police.

Myanmar police caught him and formally handed over the Yunnan police under the border cooperation agreement. Jan Gu Bin confessed that he had handled 1,000 wild animal furs sending them all over China. "The New Light of Myanmar" (Internet version) 99-08-09

Minister meets GM of China- State Farms Agribusiness Group

YANGON, 13 Aug - Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation Maj-Gen Nyunt Tin met General Manager of China State Farms Agribusiness Group under Ministry of Agriculture of People's Republic of China Mr Shan Zhengzhong and party who called at his office at 9.30 am today.

Also present at the call were Deputy Minister U Ohn Myint and heads of department. "The New Light of Myanmar" (Internet version) 99-08-14

Secretary-2 receives Commander of Yunnan Province Military Command (YPMC)

YANGON, 17 Aug - Secretary-2 of the State Peace and Development Council Chief of Bureau of Special Operations Chief. of Staff (Army) Lt-Gen Tin Oo received Commander of the Yunnan Province Military Command (YPMC) of Chinese People's Liberation Army Maj-Gen Wang Jitang and party who called at Dagon Yeiktha of the Ministry of Defence this morning.

The Commander of the Yunnan Province Military Command (YPMC) of Chinese People's Liberation Army and party were accompanied by Ambassador of the People's Republic of China Mr Liang Dong and Military Attache Sr Col Ma Shoudong. "The New Light of Myanmar" (Internet version) 99-08-18

UPMC Commander and party leave for home

YANGON, 22 Aug-Visiting Commander of Yunnan Province Military Command (UPMC) Maj-Gen Wang Jitang and party, left here for home by air at 1 pm today.

The visiting commander and party were seen off at Yangon International Airport by Brig-Gen Saw Hla M in of Phugyi Station, Deputy Commander of Yangon Command Brig-Gen Hsan Hsint and senior Tatmadaw officers of the Ministry of Defence, Military Attache of Chinese Embassy Sr Col Ma Shoudong and officials. "The New Light of Myanmar" (Internet version) 99-08-23

Title: Khin Nyunt Discusses Economic Cooperation With China

Document Number: FBIS-EAS-1999-0827

Document Date: 26 Aug 1999

Sourceline: BK2708060099 Rangoon Radio Myanmar in Burmese 1330 GMT 26 Aug 99

Language: Burmese

Reference:

1. rangoon radio myanmar in burmese 1330 gmt 17 aug 99 -- khin nyunt: bhamo to have international container port

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] The fourth coordination meeting of the Steering Committee for Promotion of Economic Cooperation between the Union of Myanmar [Burma] and the People's Republic of China [SCPECUMPRC] was held at 1400 today in the conference room of the Office of the Commander in Chief of the Army. Lt. Gen. Khin Nyunt, secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council [SPDC], in his capacity as chairman of the SCPECUMPRC, delivered an address. [passage omitted] Addressing the meeting, Lt. Gen. Khin Nyunt explained that today's meeting is the fourth meeting of the committee and that this is the second meeting since his last visit to China. He said that the economic cooperation between the Union of Myanmar and PRC has been progressing. He said that during his visit to China this year as head of the Myanmar delegation, he discussed with the Chinese leaders matters related to the further promotion of bilateral cooperation. He said at present, the joint projects are being implemented at an accelerated pace and arrangements are underway to undertake more projects.

He explained that the two countries are cooperating in a joint project to build a modern port and a container yard near Bhamo to promote international trade. He asked the officials to undertake bilateral

cooperation and to vigorously implement the projects to ensure the success of the outcome of the consultations between the leaders and officials of the two countries.

Later, Brig. Gen. Abel, minister at the Office of the SPDC Chairman, presented a progress report on the joint projects between the two countries for the promotion of Myanmar-China economic cooperation.

At the meeting, Agriculture and Irrigation Minister Maj. Gen. Nyunt Tin, Industry-1 Minister U Aung Thaung, Industry-2 Minister Maj. Gen. Saw Lwin, Commerce Minister Maj. Gen. Kyaw Than, Hotel and Tourism Minister Maj. Gen. Saw Lwin, Foreign Affairs Minister U Win Aung, Transport Minister Maj. Gen. Hla Myint Swe, Electric Power Minister Maj. Gen. Tin Htut, and Minister for Finance and Revenue U Khin Maung Thein reported on their coordination with Chinese authorities on the development of industries and programs.

The meeting concluded with a closing remarks by Secretary-1 Lt. Gen.

Khin Nyunt. [Description of Source: Radio Myanmar -- government-run radio]

Title: Surayut: 'Development Aid' for Wa Best Way To Fight Drugs

Document Number: FBIS-EAS-1999-0816

Document Date: 16 Aug 1999

Sourceline: BK1608065099 Bangkok Bangkok Post (Internet Version) in English 16 Aug 99

Subslug: Report by Veera Prateepchaikul, Nusara Thaitawat, Subin Khuenkaew, and Wassana Nanuam

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Development aid for Mong Yawn and the southern military command of the United Wa State Army (UWSA) in Burma's Shan State is the best strategy against drug trafficking by the group, the army chief said.

Gen Surayud Chulanont said in an interview with the Bangkok Post that both Thailand and Burma, which he referred to as "neighbour", had agreed on this point.

"Both our neighbour and us agree that to provide alternative development to the ethnic Wa was the best solution at this time to enable the people to have other means of living," he said.

The army chief said the government was exploring the idea of approaching the United Nations International Drug Control Programme (UNDCP) or a private organisation to come in and help the ethnic Wa.

The commander said he was not directly involved.

The United Wa State Party, the political arm of the UWSA which was formed in 1989 following the breakup of the Burma Communist Party of which the ethnic Wa were a dominant faction, had appealed for international development aid in 1993.

But letters of appeal, submitted to the UN and major aid donors were mostly ignored because of the international boycott of the Burmese military rulers in Rangoon. The UNDCP responded but faced much difficulty in raising funds for an alternative development project in Ho Tao, in the south of the UWSP's northern territory on the Chinese border, launched only last year.

But funding aside, the project which involves the governments of China and Burma, the Wa leadership and the UNDCP could serve as an example for Mong Yawn, located some 30km from the Thai border in Mae Ai district, Chiang Mai.

A private group based in Chiang Mai has already completed a "need assessment" paper for Mong Yawn.

Gen Surayud's remarks follow tough military action against the UWSA drug traffickers over the past month.

The 20-day operation involving 800 soldiers along a 50km stretch of the border classified as most sensitive in Chiang Mai and Chiang Rai, and which ended on July 31, had significantly destroyed the UWSA's network in the two provinces.

The suppression drive was prompted by the brutal killing of nine Thai villagers who accidentally stumbled on a Wa drug caravan.

Other operations involving smaller army units have been launched to keep up the pressure on the UWSA.

The San Ton Du temporary border crossing in Mae Ai was officially closed last week. Gen Surayud said he was not aware of any reaction from Burma, but that the official channel would be the Foreign Ministry.

"We want to send a signal to the UWSA that they can no longer do as they please," said Gen Surayud. "We want to make it most difficult for them," he said, of the result of the closure of San Ton Du.

While no drugs have been found at the San Ton Du border crossing, its closure was intended to disrupt the UWSA's massive infrastructure projects in Mong Yawn, believed to be funded by its drugs trade in Thailand. The projects include a hydro-electric dam being built under the supervision of Chinese engineers from Yunnan, electricity and water supplies, and housing for over 10,000 people.

Land was being cleared for agriculture and animal husbandry, and also to settle more people being relocated from UWSA's northern territory. The UWSP is headquartered in Panghsang near the Shan-Yunnan border.

An estimated 6,000 Thai workers are being employed by the UWSA to build its infrastructure in Mong Yawn and the UWSA southern military command which stretches from Mong Yawn to Mong Hsat.

Gen Surayud said that the army still believes that the Kiew Pa Wok temporary border crossing in Chiang Dao district, some 40km from San Ton Du should be closed as well because it also leads to Mong Yawn. The army had made the recommendation to the Defence Ministry together with San Ton Du but was rejected.

General Surayud said the anti-drug suppression was funded by the army's budget without any financial aid from the government because it thought drug scourge was a security threat.

But if the fund proved inadequate, he said the army would ask for more budget from the government.

[Description of Source: Bangkok Post--daily newspaper widely read by the foreign community in Thailand; provides good coverage on Indochina]

Title: Yunnan Military Commander Arrives in Rangoon

Document Number: FBIS-EAS-1999-0818

Document Date: 17 Aug 1999

Sourceline: BK1808091399 Rangoon Radio Myanmar in Burmese 1330 GMT 17 Aug 99

[FBIS Translated Text] A Chinese military delegation led by Maj. Gen. Wang Jitang, commander of the Yunnan Provincial Military Command, YPMC, of the Chinese People's Liberation Army, arrived in Yangon [Rangoon] by air this morning.

The commander of the YPMC of the Chinese People's Liberation Army and party were welcomed at Yangon International Airport by Brig. Gen. Saw Hla Min of Phugyi Station; Brig. Gen. San Sint, deputy commander of Yangon

Command; senior military officers of the Ministry of Defense; and Sr. Col. Ma Shoudong, military attache of the PRC Embassy; and officials. YPMC Commander Maj. Gen. Wang Jitang and party, accompanied by Brig. Gen. Saw Hla Min of Phugyi Station, PRC Embassy Military Attache Sr. Col. Ma Shoudong and officials, later visited the Memorial of the Fallen Heroes, where they were welcomed by Col. Myo Myint, chairman of the memorial's Maintenance Committee, and officials. The Yunnan commander laid a flower basket at the memorial and signed the visitors' book. The Yunnan commander and his delegation later visited the Defense Services Museum and Historical Research Institute on Shwedagon Pagoda Road. They were given a tour of the museum by the museum director, Col. Ye Htut, and officials. In the evening, Brig. Gen. Saw Hla Min of Phugyi Station hosted a dinner at the Kandawgyi Karaweik Palace in honor Commander Maj. Gen. Wang Jitang and his delegation.
[Description of Source: Radio Myanmar -- government-run radio]

Kachin report

NORTHERN IRRAWADDY PORT DREAM STILL IN THE CARDS

BurmaNews - BC: August 18, 1999 (based on NLM and MIC reports, Courier files)

BHAMO -- Burma's military junta is keeping alive a plan to develop a container port suitable for international traffic on the northern reaches of the Irrawaddy River near Bhamo.

The site for the projected port, about 32 kms downstream from Bhamo, was visited by SPDC First Secretary Khin Nyunt in his rounds of the Kachin state last weekend. Located near the riverside village of Sinkham, the port would be accessible from Mandalay and Mogok to the south, from Bhamo and Myitkyina to the north and eastwards from China along routes leading from the border towns of Museh and Lweje.

Conflicting figures in an official bulletin suggested that a wharf capable of handling three 500 ton vessels at a time would be constructed at Sinkham. A container yard capable of handling 320,000 tons of cargo a year would be built alongside the wharf.

A much discussed plan for transporting goods from Yunnan province in China would have them moving from Sinkham down the Irrawaddy to Min Hla in Magwe and from there overland by a route yet to be developed to a projected deep-sea port on the Bay of Bengal at Kyauphyu.

The Bhamo - Myitkyina route has been the target of major bridge construction projects. Last November a steel-frame bridge 2700 feet long across the Irrawaddy was inaugurated just south of Myitkyina. A concrete-reinforced Bailey bridge was opened over the weekend at Maliyan in Waingmaw township. Three other bridges are currently under construction along the 175 km highway. When completed travel time between the two major towns in the state will be cut in half.

In a major address at the Maliyan bridge opening Khin Nyunt said the Kachins, the Tais and the Burmans had stuck together through thick and thin for a thousand years, especially when there was danger of "alien aggression". The "divide and rule" policy of the "colonialists" had failed, he noted, and with it "their plot designed to sow discord" with its "evil legacy".

Earlier in his tour of the northern state, the SPDC's First Secretary visited a land reclamation project in the Dunban-naungmi area of Hpakan township. It was tough going, U Htin Aung, manager of the Golden Green Co,

reported to the general. The company has a concession of 5,500 acres of land for development, but so far only 600 acres have been reclaimed and of that only 240 acres have been planted with monsoon paddy in the current crop year. However Golden Green is aiming to sow a thousand acres with mustard soon.

Official head hunters of the Military Intelligence Service (MIS) were able to report to the intelligence chief that the very thought that he might visit Hpakant township had moved 323 members of the National League for Democracy branches there to resign from the opposition party "of their own volition" just days before his arrival. In Myitkyina, 166 NLD members submitted letters of resignation prior to the general's visit. An NLD member who fled to China recently estimated that there were only 30 party members left in the state.

A Thailand-based news source called Myabuzz reports the following:

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0817-01 New Highway Bridge Promotes Border Trade

**A 320-feet long Maliyan Bridge was built at a cost of over US \$ 0.15 Million. The bridge was inaugurated last August 15.

The reinforced concrete Bailey bridge lies on the Bhamo-Myitkyina Highway. This will serve for the smooth transportation of goods between the northern provincial capital of Myitkyina (nearly 1100 Km north of Yangon) and Bhamo, a major commercial town near the Chinese border.

This northern highway is touted to be crucial for border trade between Myanmar and the Yunnan province of China.

Title: Wa Money Laundering, Drug Operation Viewed

Document Number: FBIS-EAS-1999-0818

Document Date: 18 Aug 1999

Sourceline: BK1808163499 Bangkok Phuchatkan in Thai 18 Aug 99 pp 1, 2

Subslug: Unattributed report

Reference:

1. bangkok phuchatkan in thai 17 aug 99 pp 1, 2 -- take 1 of 2 -- drug smuggling points, burmese help noted

[FBIS Translated Text] Regional News Center -- Hong Pang Import-Export is reportedly the center for money laundering by the Wa group under command of Wei Hsueh Kang, the new narcotics kingpin. Ta Fa and Madame Yai are the two Wei lieutenants who control Hong Pang operations. A well-known kamnan [subdistrict chief] in Mae Sai District supports Hong Pang operations and provides Thai telephone connections used by Hong Pang Company. Two businessmen from the Thai side of the border are regular customers of Hong Pang Company.

The Wa group has enriched itself from amphetamine trafficking in Thailand and has turned to operate legitimate businesses to launder its narcotics money. Hong Pang Import and Export Company Limited [Hong Pang] has become the center of its open businesses.

According to a report from Chiang Rai Province, Hong Pang has its office in Thachilek, which is opposite Mae Sai District, Chiang Rai Province. The office is located on the Thachilek-Kengtung road, about 3-4 km from the bridge across the Sai river which serves as the permanent Thai-Burmese

border crossing point.

Hong Pang's manager is Ta Fa, who is reputed to be a major business brain of Wei Hsueh Kang, commander of the UWSA [United Wa State Army] regiment 361 who has become a leading world drug kingpin after Khun Sa surrendered himself to the Burmese government in 1996.

The report noted that the last place that Thai police authorities traced Surachai Ngoenthongfu to was Hong Pang. Surachai, or Bang Ron, was part of Wei's drug network before he fled to Burma to escape arrest.

Earlier, Suphot (family name unknown), who coordinates Wei's foreign businesses, admitted during a meeting with Police Colonel Phanurat, in his attempt to clarify accusations about Wei's and the UWSA narcotics trafficking activities, that "Madame Yai," or Yuphin, provided assistance to Bang Ron to flee to Burma. A report notes that Yuphin is Ta Fa's wife, while another report says she is a Hong Pang manager.

A report says Hong Pang currently uses the telephone which is connected to the Thai telephone system in Mae Sai District. The telephone number is 053-731... Fongnuan (family name withheld) of Mae Sai subdistrict reportedly applied for the telephone number from the Telephone Organization of Thailand and extended the cable across the river for use by Hong Pang. Fongnuan works for "kamnan S." who is a very influential person in Mae Sai District.

Hong Pang serves as a "holding company" for Wei's business network in Thachilek, which conducts trade in precious stones, agricultural products, chemical fertilizer, smuggled goods from China and Thailand, slaughter house, as well as import and export business, among others. It has a large warehouse in 2 rai of land on the Thachilek-Kengtung road opposite A-kon market. The warehouse reportedly stores all kinds of goods and some members of the Wa army could be stationed there. It is guarded around the clock.

The warehouse has lately become an important part in the management of the Wa group's legal and illegal business. It was reportedly used as a site for meetings of senior Wa officials. It has replaced the three-story, three-room wide townhouse located at number 1/10 in Ban Pongthun (left turn from the Thachilek circle and about 400-500 meters away--see accompanying map), which once served as a Wa command post in the area and the meeting place of Wa leaders.

Hong Pang reportedly operates a slaughter house, which is located further down the Thachilek-Kengtung road. The slaughter house supplies meat to markets in the area and reportedly serves as a major amphetamine tablet pressing plant.

The report notes that the Wa is also building a 10-story hotel near the Hong Pang warehouse. The site of the hotel is regarded as an area under influence of the Shan. The parts of the hotel construction which remain to be completed are the walls and outside and inside decoration.

Construction materials were brought from Thailand.

Trading in precious stones is a major business of the Wa in Thachilek. The business is under control of "Ta Wei". The store is located in Ban Pongthun on the Thachilek-Mong Yon road. Compared with other precious stone traders in Thachilek, Ta Wei's trade is done in big lots at value of 30-40 million baht and up. Ta Wei's precious stones are sent to Thai traders in Mae Sai, some of whom are in the Wei Hsueh Kang's network, and other legitimate businessmen to be resold in markets in Thailand and abroad. The report from an intelligence unit in Chiang Rai says although various businesses are supervised by different individuals, "Ta Fa," who is Hong Pang manager, controls every aspect of the overall business. However, so far there is no information to link Ta Fa to supervision of production

and trafficking of narcotics in Thachilek, particularly amphetamines, other than the reports that he directs all commercial activities.

Prior to Bang Ron's flight from arrest, there were reports that his narcotics network had contacts with Hong Pang of Ta Fa.

A report from Mae Sai in Chiang Rai Province notes that at least two Thai business groups are regular trading partners of Hong Pang. They are the group of Prasong (family name withheld) and the group of Hia Kui. These groups trade in garlic, smuggled goods from China, among other products.

Meetings with Burma [subhead]

According to a reporter, National Police Commander Police General Pracha Phromnok went to Phuket on 17 August to have an informal meeting with his Burmese counterpart on more effective suppression of narcotics along the Thai-Burmese border. They met on the same issue 3-4 months ago in Rangoon. Pracha disclosed that more clear cooperation resulted from the meeting, as it was Burma's policy to completely eradicate narcotics in 15 years. Also on 17 August in Ranong Province, the Narcotics Control Board [NCB] and the UNDCP [UN Drug Control Program] jointly organized the third meeting on anti-narcotics cooperation along the Thai-Burmese border between the NCB and the Central Committee for Drug Abuse Control [CCDAC], which is the Burmese central agency dealing with narcotics matters. It was a meeting of officials in the operational level, which preceded the 18 August meeting of senior officials. The senior level meeting will be headed on the Thai side by Phayon Phansi, NCB secretary general, and the Burmese side will be led by Police Major General Saw Win, the CCDAC secretary general.

According to Phayon, the senior officials meeting will discuss cooperation in training of Burmese anti-narcotics officials in identification of chemicals and amphetamine precursor materials, as they have very limited knowledge in these areas which causes ineffective identification of amphetamines. The training will also cover inspection of opium cultivation areas. Burma pledged to eradicate opium cultivation in 5 years, provided that it received assistance from other countries and international organizations.

In addition, there will be discussions on exchange of information for narcotics suppression. Phayon said he already had informal discussions with Gen. Saw Win on almost all issues, and Burma agreed on the cooperation. However, there are certain principle issues which have to be discussed at the negotiation table, but there should be no trouble as Thailand and Burma are ready to cooperate to suppress narcotics along their common border.

Phayon said the closure of border crossing points in the north and intensive inspection efforts have resulted in some change in the amphetamine transport routes, to the LPDR and to the west in Kanchanaburi, Tak, and Ranong. Interdiction efforts are in place in those new transport routes, including in Laos. Regarding border crossing point closure to deter amphetamine smuggling, Phayon said his office has focused on this matter, but it has to consult other units that are concerned with trade and investment. The National Security Council is the basic organization that handles this matter.

Burma pledges to apply pressure on the Wa [subhead]

Police Lieutenant General Nophadon Sombunsap, assistant commander of the National Police, said he met with Maj. Gen. Saw Win, the Burmese police chief, on 16 August to discuss cooperation against narcotics along the Thai-Burmese border. There will be improved coordination and exchange of

information. Ways to improve the operation of each unit were also discussed. For example, while the Thai police have freedom in narcotics suppression work, the Burmese police have to work with the Burmese military intelligence, which poses some problems.

Regarding narcotics production, Burma acknowledged that minority groups produced amphetamines. For the minority groups which joined the Burmese national development program, such as some Wa groups, Burma pledged to eradicate amphetamines by the year 2005. Pressure will be applied against the Wa groups which refuse to join the program. These groups are big amphetamine producers and engage in combat against Burmese Government forces.

[Description of Source: Phuchatkan--business-oriented dailynewspaper]

Title: Big Power Players in Burma's Wa Region Reported

Document Number: FBIS-EAS-1999-0822

Document Date: 23 Aug 1999

Sourceline: BK2308023099 (Internet) BurmaNet News Listserv in English 23 Aug 99

Subslug: Shan Herald Agency for News report; dated 20 August

Reference:

1. bangkok bangkok post (internet version) in english 20 aug 99 -- police, troops crack down on new drug routes in northeast

2. bangkok bangkok post (internet version) in english 19 aug 99 -- thailand launches new anti-drug campaign in northeast

3. bangkok phuchatkan in thai 17 aug 99 pp 1, 2 -- take 1 of 2 -- drug smuggling points, burmese help noted

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Big Power Play in The Wa Region [subhead]

Sources claim Was are just pawns of chess which is being played by the bigger powers around them.

Was, once known as vicious head-hunters and, at present, as the biggest drug pushers, are in fact mere puppets for Burma, Thailand, China, and Taiwan, especially the latter two, said sources close to the Wa-controlled areas. "Both of their areas, Pangsang in the north and Mong Yawn in the south, are crowded with Burmese outposts and garrisons, Thai businessmen and workers, and Chinese and Taiwanese who are there with any handy excuses", said one source.

One source reported to SHAN [Shan Herald Agency for News] he saw on 15 August several Chinese, about 70-100 of them, in two six-wheeled trucks on his way from Keng Tung to Tachilek. "The drivers said they were going to Mong Yawn", said the source, "And that hundreds of them are filling up the area of Mong Yawn day by day". Four days earlier another source reported to SHAN of meeting a group of 200 Wa and Chinese, who were traveling from Pangsang to Mong Yawn. Altogether a thousand of them would be coming down between August and September.

It has become a matter of concern for observers when it was reported recently that the Wa leadership in Pangsang has applied to the military government for the inclusion of Mong Ton and Mong Hsat townships in the Wa autonomous region. Both of the townships are located along Thailand's northern most border. The Was had already won agreement from Rangoon to incorporate six townships in the north in their domain. These townships are established along the Chinese border.

An atmosphere of cool relationship exists between Wie Hsueh-Kang, who is wanted by the US and Thai authorities, and the rest of the United Wa

State Army, UWSA, that he had a hand in building up.

Wei, who left Khun Sa in 1985 to form the Wa National Council with Ai Hsiao-sir, an ex-militia and ex-Kuomintang commander, had reportedly sent Baht 40 million to Pangsang in 1989, when the newly-established leadership there, after ousting the Burman leadership of the Communist Party of Burma, were facing a financial crisis. He was rewarded by becoming the Commander-in-Chief of the Southern Command. "The good old days are now over", said a source. "Wei now commands only his original group, the 171st Brigade in Banhoong, northeast of Mongyawn where the Southern Command headquarters is".

"He has a Chinese language school for the 500 boys who are under his care. The school was set up with Taiwanese assistance. And the kids salute to the portrait of Chiang Kai-shek, and not Mao Zedung, like the rest of the UWSA is doing".

"Also Wei enjoys an extra-special status in the junta-controlled areas. While the other Wa leaders have to report their visits to the junta authorities, Wei doesn't have to. He can go anywhere he likes at any time and with any number of heavily-armed guards".

Another source agreed. "One other reason for this tense relationship is the \$ 2 million reward issued by the United States for Wei. The Pangsang leadership thought they had to distance itself away from him in order to obtain assistance and, more importantly, recognition from the international community".

"The next is that Pangsang no longer has to depend on Wei for their finances. They are already fairly well-off now", added the source.

Another source concluded that a war between the two could very much rested on the Sino-Taiwanese relations, which is currently getting explosive after President Li Teng-hui of Taiwan spoke of a bilateral relations on a state-to-state basis.

[Description of Source: BurmaNet News--Internet Listserv providing coverage of Burmese events, particularly human rights and opposition activities]

UPMC Commander and party leave for home

YANGON, 22 Aug-Visiting Commander of Yunnan Province Military Command (UPMC) Maj-Gen Wang Jitang and party, left here for home by air at 1 pm today.

The visiting commander and party were seen off at Yangon International Airport by Brig-Gen Saw Hla M in of Phugyi Station, Deputy Commander of Yangon Command Brig-Gen Hsan Hsint and senior Tatmadaw officers of the Ministry of Defence, Military Attache of Chinese Embassy Sr Col Ma Shoudong and officials. "The New Light of Myanmar" (Internet version) 99-08-23

Work coordinated for promotion of economic cooperation between Myanmar and PRC

YANGON, 26 Aug-The Leading Committee for Promotion of Economic Cooperation between the Union of Myanmar and the People's Republic of China held its fourth meeting in the meeting hall of the office of Commander-in-Chief (Army) this afternoon.

Chairman of the Leading Committee Secretary- 1

of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Khin Nyunt attended the meeting and gave instructions. Also present at the meeting were the ministers, the deputy ministers, Director-General of the State Peace and Development Council Office Lt-Col Pe Nyein, department heads and officials.

In his address, the Secretary-I said today's meeting is the fourth one of the Leading Committee, and it is also the second one held after the visit of Myanmar goodwill delegation led by himself to the People's Republic of China. Economic cooperation between Myanmar and China is bearing fruit.

This year, the Myanmar goodwill delegation led by himself visited the People's Republic of China; and the delegation met with leaders of the PRC and discussed matters related to cooperation between the two countries.

Now, projects jointly undertaken by the two countries could be carried out with added momentum, and arrangements are being made to undertake new projects.

Moreover, arrangements are being made jointly by the two countries to build a modern port and a container yard near Bhamo and to promote international commercial activities.

In conclusion, the Secretary-I said it is necessary for all to make coordination continuously with a view to promoting economic cooperation between the two countries, speeding up efforts in carrying out all the work jointly undertaken by the two countries and implementing decisions made by the leaders of both countries, and urged all the officials to carry out the tasks in keeping with the time.

Minister at the State Peace and Development Council Chairman's Office Brig-Gen Abel reported on matters related to the tasks being undertaken by the two countries under Myanmar-China Economic Cooperation Promotion Programme.

In replying to their reports, the Secretary-I gave instructions. The meeting ended in the afternoon. "The New Light of Myanmar" (Internet version) 99-08-27

Minister-meets entrepreneurs of Yunnan Province

YANGON, 3 Sept-Minister for Industry-I U Aung Thaung met President Carol Auyang and party of International Corp, Complete Machinery & Equipment Engineering Bureau of Yunnan Provincial Government, People's Republic of China, who called at his office yesterday evening. ("The New Light of Myanmar" (Internet version) 99-09-04)

Copier donated to Ministry of Information

YANGON, 6 Sept-Ambassador of the People's Republic of China Mr Liang Dong presented a Canon copier for the Ministry of Information to Minister for Information Maj-Gen Kyi Aung at his office on Bo Aung Kyaw Street this morning. Present on the occasion were Deputy Minister for information Brig-Gen Aung Thein, Director-General of Myanmar Radio and Television U Khin Maung Htay, Director-General of Information and Public Relations Department U Chit Naing, Managing Director of Printing and Publishing Enterprise U Than Maung, Managing Director of News and Periodicals Enterprise U Tin Kha, Managing Director of Myanmar Motion Picture Enterprise U Bo Kyi, Adviser at the Ministry of Information U Hla Kyin, Chief Engineer of MRTV U Tin Wan, Adviser to the minister U Kyaw Min, Head of Office U Khin Maung Myint and officials of PRC Embassy. "The New Light of Myanmar" (Internet version) 99-09-07

Minister meets visitors from PRC and India

YANGON, 9 Sept - Minister for Industry-1 U Aung Thaung met President of China Mass Development Corporation and Complete Machinery & Equipment Engineering Bureau, Yunnan Provincial Government of People's Republic of China Mr Carola Auyang and party who called at his office at 3 pm today. Similarly, Minister for Industry-1 U Aung Thaung met Managing Director of Alfa Estates Pvt Ltd of India Mr S P Khetan and party who called at his office at 4 pm today. Also present at the call were directors-general and managing-directors of departments and enterprises. "The New Light of Myanmar" (Internet version) 99-09-10 WS)

Deputy Prime Minister meets Chinese economic delegation

YANGON, 14 Sept- Deputy Prime Minister Minister for Military Affairs Chairman of Myanmar Economic Corporation Lt-Gen Tin Hla met a 14-member Xiamen economic and trade delegation led by Deputy Director-General Mr Huang Wan Yong of Xiamen Municipal Economic Development Commission of the People's Republic of China who called at Zeyathiri Beikman Tatmadaw Hall on Konmyinthar this morning.

Also present at the call were Minister at the State Peace and Development Council Chairmans Office Brig-Gen Abel, senior military officers of the Ministry of Defence and officials of Myanmar Economic Corporation. The guests included entrepreneurs of textiles, industries, foodstuff, electric power, jewellery and edible oil enterprises. "The New Light of Myanmar" Internet version) 99-09-15

Minister meets Deputy DG of Xiamen Delegation

YANGON, 14 Sept-Minister for Industry-1 U Aung Thaung met members of Xiamen economic and trade delegation led by Deputy Director-General Mr Huang Wan Yong of Xiamen Municipal Economic Development Commission of the People's Republic of China currently here at the invitation of Deputy Prime Minister Lt-Gen Tin Hla, together with Commercial Counselor Mr Lin Jian and Commercial Attache Mr Wang Jiaxin of Chinese Embassy, heads of 18 companies and officials at his office at 11 am today. "The New Light of Myanmar" (Internet version) 99-09-15

Myanmar The Weak Link In The Regional China Containment Policy
(Is The Unipolar World A Threat To World Peace)

By Lt. Col. Hla Min
Office of Strategic Studies
Ministry of Defence
Union of Myanmar

In the murky world of internally competing government interest groups, particularly in the U.S. there is a strong lobby for containing China, as China being not only the potential superpower but also already a major world military power rapidly transforming itself into a global economic power. It has become a necessity for U.S. and other western governments to realize this containment policy after the effective demise of Communism and of the superpower rivalry of the cold-war days. There are several sets of operating conditions either in economic sector or in geo-political sphere but in realizing such a policy, one of the approaches to this problem is to influence China's immediate geographical neighbors in taking a more pro-western stance.

Therefore, from the western point of view, Myanmar could be deemed to be the weak link in the regional China containment policy as primarily advocated by the United States. Their attempt in creating Myanmar to become a satellite state of the west by their blatant interference in Myanmar's internal affairs under the much abused and misused pretext of human rights and democracy is quite obvious. It is now widely believed that more pragmatic western analysts are coming to realize that the policies implemented by their respective governments on Myanmar are not nearing in achieving their desired goals and thereby changes in policy formation and implementation are evidently necessary. It is also becoming more obvious that even in the west, especially in the United States, strategic planners and farsighted statesmen have naturally come to realize that the Myanmar affairs have been overplayed creating an overcharged spin where vested interest groups and vote hungry individual politicians have now taken over much of the control. Their superficial, unrealistic, irresponsible and more often cynically voter-oriented views are largely counterproductive and are delaying Myanmar's peaceful transition to a sustainable democracy.

In spite of the constant negative attitude and reports from some Western Governments, Myanmar has undeniably managed to transform itself into one of the most peaceful and stable nations in the world today from -- a not so long ago -- a war torn country. It is in the interests of all the people of Myanmar to maintain the currently existing peace, stability and national unity the nation is enjoying at present and at the same time realistically and responsibly acting to lay the foundation for a democratic system best suited to Myanmar's culture and national security. Unfortunately, there are some observers, both inside and outside the country who are demanding immediate changes. Realistically, new democracies do not automatically succeed. In fact, many failed. They fail when they are built on fragile foundations and unrealistic expectations. But they thrive when they are built on a solid economic base, when the societies are stable, when national security is assured and when there is a constitution suited to the culture and needs of a country. That is why Myanmar views with great concern over the interests of those who are blatantly interfering in Myanmar's internal affairs. If their actions of vested interests become successful, Myanmar will not only be once again spinned into a nation of warring ethnic groups and proxy war but the entire region will also suffer the consequences of being resultant in its destabilization.

Nevertheless, for small and developing countries like Myanmar, it does not have much interest in the containment strategy of the big powers. But the economic, military and political power-balance in totality among the big powers are deemed necessary to maintain a peaceful and stable world. The recent events that took place in Kosovo have become a classic example and trend of the fate of small nations in the unipolar world when the big and the powerful nations if not perforce contained and balanced can become a threat and a thorn to the world peace.

Myanmar is one of the small and developing nations in the world desiring to live in total peace and stability among the nations of the world where the U.N. Charter is respected, honored and implemented by all members without exception. It is also the sole desire of all the small and developing nations in the world not to have the U.N. Charter manipulated and exploited as a tool and a leverage to pressure and force smaller nations in the service of those manipulators' interests obviously leading towards a breakdown of international law. (copied from the www.myanmar.com website, September 1999)

Chronology compiled by Burma Peace Foundation, September 1999