

The NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

Volume XV, Number 315

4th Waning of Tabodwe 1369 ME

Monday, 25 February, 2008

Senior General Than Shwe felicitates Emir of Kuwait

NAY PYI TAW, 25 Feb — Senior General Than Shwe, Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to His Highness Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah, Emir of the State of Kuwait, on the occasion of the National Day of the State of Kuwait which falls on 25 February 2008. — MNA

Prime Minister sends felicitations to Kuwait

NAY PYI TAW, 25 Feb — General Thein Sein, Prime Minister of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to His Highness Sheikh Nasser Al-Mohammad Al-Ahmad Al-Sabah, Prime Minister of the State of Kuwait, on the occasion of the National Day of the State of Kuwait which falls on 25 February 2008. — MNA

Lt-Gen Kyaw Win looks into progress of power line, power stations, development of Tamoenye Township

NAY PYI TAW, 24 Feb — Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Kyaw Win of the Ministry of Defence met officials of Shweli-Mansan-Shwesayan 230 kv power line and power stations construction project at Shweli Yadana Hall in Lashio yesterday morning.

Project Manager U Aung Kyaw Oo of Power supply Project (North) of Myanma Electric Power Enterprise reported on progress of the project for installation of the power line and power stations. Commander of North-East Command Maj-Gen Aung Than Htut gave a supplementary report.

In his instruction, Lt-Gen Kyaw Win stressed the need to carry out the tasks in time meeting set standards to fulfil the demand of the State's power demand.

In Tamoenye, they met local national races, departmental officials and local people at the town hall. Town Administrator U Htin Kyaw submitted the report on progress of education, health and agricultural sectors of the town. The commander gave a supplementary report.

After hearing the reports, Lt-Gen Kyaw Win urged officials to harmoniously participate in the extended cultivation of crops, tasks of regional development and imple-

mentation of the projects, and presented gifts to the leader of the national race in Tamoenye Township and the headmaster.

At Wulon Green Tea and Processed Tea Factory of the local national race group, they viewed production of tea. Leader of the national race group U Myint Lwin conducted them round the factory.

At the hall of Tamoenye Station, Lt-Gen

Kyaw Win met servicemen and family members of the station and presented gifts to family members.

MNA

Lt-Gen Kyaw Win of Ministry of Defence inspects Wulon Green Tea and Processed Tea Factory in Tamoenye Township. — MNA



Four political objectives

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

Four economic objectives

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

Four social objectives

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

Significant night temperatures

Haka	(0°C)
Namhsan, Heho and Loilem	(3°C)
Pinlaung and An	(4°C)
Mogok and Lashio	(5°C)

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

PERSPECTIVES

Monday, 25 February, 2008

Promote eco-tourism

Tourism industry has increased rapidly day by day. The nations of the world are widely undertaking the industry on a commercial scale. Asia and the Pacific region including Myanmar has also become a major tourist destination.

A great number of ancient cultural structures and artistic works can be seen in the archaeological regions in Myanmar. Moreover, natural scenic beauty, snow-capped mountain ranges and beautiful beaches can also be enjoyed.

Concerted efforts are to be made for development of tourism based on eco-tourism. There are snow-capped mountain ranges, various kinds of biodiversity and beautiful natural beauty in Putao region in th northern part of the country.

Many tourists who enjoy eco-tourism visit Phonkantaung region because of shorter duration required of the trip, the old route and a short distance between the nearest village and the peak.

Among the tourists, Putao region is famous for its snow-capped mountain ranges. The tourist arrival will increase by constructing resorts of international standard and roads close to the mountain including skiing camps.

Tourism officials and tour operators are urged to provide services such as accommodation, transport and communications for the convenience of tourists. By doing so, Myanma tourism industry will further develop in the future.



International Institute of Abhidhamma General Secretary U Thein Han and Daw Khin Mar Kyu of No 14, Ringroad in Patheinyunt (Sanpya) Ward in Mingala Taungnyunt Township donated K 150,000 to be spent on IIA building at Sitagu International Dhamma Beikman in Dagon Myothit (North) Township recently. Pro-Rector of IIA Retired Ambassador U Mya Than accepts donation.— H

People's Desire

- * Oppose those relying on external elements, acting as stooges, holding negative views
- * Oppose those trying to jeopardize stability of the State and progress of the nation
- * Oppose foreign nations interfering in internal affairs of the State
- * Crush all internal and external destructive elements as the common enemy

Titles and certificates offered to three monks who passed religious examination

YANGON, 24 Feb — A ceremony to offer titles and certificates to three monks who passed the 90th Çetiyangana Religious Examination, organized by Shwedagon Pagoda Board of Trustees, was held at Chanthagyi Prayer Hall on the platform of Shwedagon Pagoda, here, this morning.

Member of the Pagoda Board of Trustees U Sein Win Aung supplicated on the purpose of holding the ceremony.

Pagoda Ovadaçariya Çetiyangana Ovadaçariya Nyaungdon Monastery Sayadaw Agga Maha Pandita Abhidhaja Maha Rattha Guru Bhaddanta Sobhana of Bahan Township administered the Five Precepts.

Deputy Minister for Religious Affairs Brig-Gen Thura Aung Ko and members of the Pagoda Board of Trustees U Sein Win Aung and U Mya Than offered titles and certificates to three monks

who passed the Çetiyangana Religious Examination.

The deputy minister and party donated alms to members of the Sangha. The Nyaungdon Sayadaw delivered a sermon, followed by sharing of merits gained. — MNA



Deputy Minister for Religious Affairs Brig-Gen Thura Aung Ko offers title and certificate to a monk.—MNA

Deputy Minister inspects transformers in Industrial Zones

YANGON, 24 Feb — Deputy Minister for Electric Power No 2 Brig-Gen Win Myint on 22 February inspected transformers and electrical appliances of Soe Electrical and Machinery Co Ltd in Industrial Zone-1 in Dagon Myothit (South) Township.

At the briefing hall of the company, the deputy minister heard a report presented by Managing Director of the company U Kyaw Min Tun on production of trans-formers and functions of the company.

Next, the deputy minister proceeded to Yangon Transformer and Electrical Co Ltd in

Shwepyitha Industrial Zone and heard a report presented by Managing Director U Tun Lin Thaung on production and distribution of transformers and electrical

appliances.

After giving necessary instructions, the deputy minister looked into the production process of the company. MNA

China seeks three-way talks with US, Japan

TOKYO, 24 Feb — China has proposed to the United States and Japan that the three nations hold regular high-level talks on matters such as North Korea energy strategies and the environment, the Nikkei business daily reported on Saturday.

The proposal, which was made last year, calls for talks between vice ministers and senior bureaucrats, and possibly also between heads of state and foreign ministers the paper said.

At present, a framework exists for Japan-US Japan-China and US-China talks but not three-way discussions.—MNA/Reuters

Foreign Minister sends felicitations to Kuwait

NAY PYI TAW, 25 Feb — On the occasion of the National Day of the State of Kuwait, which falls on 25 February 2008, U Nyan Win, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to His Excellency Sheikh Dr Mohammad Al-Sabah Al-Salem Al-Sabah, Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister of the State of Kuwait. — MNA

18 households left homeless in Nyaungdon Tsp fire

YANGON, 24 Feb — A fire caused by negligence broke out in Patok village of Thazinkyaw village-tract, Nyaungdon Township at about 11.25 am on 21 February.

The fire that started from the house of U Thaung Khin, fisherman, 31, son of U Tun Kyi was put out at 12.45 pm by local people. A total of 18 households were left homeless and one-year and four-month girl Ma Su Bo Bo Oo, daughter of U Thaung Khin, was injured in the fire. She was taken to Peasant Hospital in Sarmalauk village.

A total of 98 fire victims are accommodated and being looked after. Action is being taken against U Thaung Khin by Nyaungdon Police Station.—MNA

UK troops accused of executions, torture in Iraq

LONDON, 24 Feb — Lawyers for five Iraqis have accused British soldiers of mass executions and torture and called for a police investigation into an “atrocious episode” in British Army history.

Phil Shiner and Martyn Day, who have brought several cases

against the British military for its actions in Iraq, produced statements on Friday from five men who say they were detained by British forces after a battle in southern Iraq in May 2004.

The men, who were blindfolded and bound, said their captors repeatedly beat and

abused them, including forcing them to strip naked. While detained, they said they heard the systematic torture and execution of up to 20 other detainees. “On the basis of the evidence currently available, we are of the view that our clients’” allegations — that the British were responsible

for the torture and deaths of up to 20 Iraqis — may well be true,” Day told a news conference.

“Whether or not there is enough evidence to prosecute individual soldiers, it will only be by an open public inquiry that this question will be answered.”

MNA/Reuters



People view the infinitude images at an exhibition in Beijing, capital of China, on 23 Feb, 2008. Mirror Art Exhibition, produced by Italian artist Michelangelo Pistoletto, kicked off at Beijing 798 Art District recently.—INTERNET



People walk past the building of Cuba's Interior Ministry, which is decorated with a portrait of Che Guevara, in Havana, Cuba, on 23 Feb, 2008. Cuba has completed all preparations for the elections of a new president and other national leaders, and the elections will proceed on Sunday as scheduled, President of the National Electoral Commission and Justice Minister Maria Esther Reus said on Saturday.—INTERNET

Cuba ready for election of national leaders

HAVANA, 23 Feb — Cuba has completed all preparations for the elections of a new president and other national leaders, the top electoral official said on Saturday.

The elections will proceed on Sunday as scheduled, President of the National Electoral Commission and Justice Minister Maria Esther Reus told the official daily

Granma.

The Cuban National Assembly of People's Power will be convened on Sunday, when the 614 deputies elected last month will be called to create the country's new legislature.

The deputies, who are to serve a five-year-term, will choose the assembly's president, vice president and secretary-general.

Under Cuba's

constitution, the national assembly chooses 31 of its members to form the Council of State, whose leader will be Cuba's president.

Sunday's vote will determine the successor to retired Cuban leader Fidel Castro, who announced on Tuesday that he would not accept the presidency of the Council of State.

Internet

Six killed in attacks in Mogadishu

MOGADISHU, 24 Feb — Six people including four Somali Government policemen were killed and seven others wounded in separate attacks on Somali and Ethiopian troops in the Somali capital Mogadishu, witnesses and local media reports said on Saturday.

Suspected Islamist

insurgents in police uniform assaulted a government police vehicle, killing four of them and wounding three other passers-by in Yaqshid District of Mogadishu, Simba radio reported.

It is the first time Somali insurgents used this tactic of wearing the uniform of

Somali Government security forces to carry out attacks on government targets.

Somali police officials would not comment on the incident but a senior police officer, who sought anonymity, confirmed that the attack, saying the investigation is underway.

MNA/Xinhua

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Israeli missile strike kills three civilians in Gaza

GAZA, 24 Feb — Three Palestinian civilians were killed by an Israeli missile strike near the northern Gaza Strip town of Beit Hanoun on Saturday, medical and Hamas officials said.

Family members of the three men killed, identified

them as an employee of a Jordanian bank, a former government employee, and a student.

An Israeli Army spokesman confirmed Israel had conducted a missile strike in the area and said the target was a group of militants who

were preparing to launch mortar bombs into Israel.

Israel frequently carries out missile strikes and raids against militants in the Gaza Strip in what it says is an effort to stop them launching rockets into southern Israeli towns.—MNA/Reuters

Iran's president hails “victory” after IAEA report



Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad

TEHERAN, 23 Feb — Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad on Saturday hailed his country's “victory” in its nuclear issue, one day after the UN atomic watchdog's chief circulated his latest report on Iran's nuclear programme.

“Ahmadinejad in a message on Saturday congratulated Supreme Leader of Islamic Revolution Ayatollah Seyed Ali Khamenei on Iranian nation's historical nuclear victory over the domineering powers,” said the official IRNA news agency.

“In the message, President Ahmadinejad also congratulated the Iranian nation on their victory over the domineering powers after the 1979 Islamic Revolution,” it added. The message read that the country owes the victory to solidarity and perseverance of the faithful and devoted Iranian nation under wise guidelines of the supreme leader.

Ahmadinejad assured the supreme leader that Iranian nation and government will continue their way with strong determination regardless of hues and cries of the enemy.

Iran will more joyfully and with more motivation emerge strongly in all the scientific, economic and cultural scenes, he added.

The Iranian president issued the message one day after International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) Director General Mohamed ElBaradei circulated his latest report on Iran's nuclear programme to the Agency's Board of Governors.—Internet

US “torture flights” landed on British territory

LONDON, 23 Feb — British Foreign Secretary David Miliband admitted on Thursday that two US “torture flights” did land on British territory in 2002, contrary to previous reports.

Miliband told the House of Commons that he was “very sorry indeed” to have to say previous denials made in “good faith” were now having to be corrected.

“Terrorist suspects” on

two separate US flights landed at a US base on the British Indian Ocean island of Diego Garcia to refuel in 2002, he said, and the United States had only alerted the British Government to the incidents last week due to archive errors.

Former British prime minister Tony Blair and former foreign secretary Jack Straw made statements in 2005, 2006 and 2007 saying there was no evidence that flights had stopped on British territory.

Xinhua

All items from Xinhua News Agency

Israel issues hijack alert to all incoming airlines

JERUSALEM, 24 Feb — Israeli Ministry of Transportation ordered all carriers heading for Israel to tighten security measures in a bid to avoid potential terror attack, in fear of a possible Hizbollah retaliation for its chief officer’s death, local Yedioth Ahronoth reported on Friday.

According to the report, Israel has recently issued an instruction to all airlines flying into the Jewish state to tighten security measures in order to minimize the risk of a terrorist attack on flights to Israel.

The instruction came following growing concerns that Hizbollah might try to launch a retaliatory attack against Israel, which the group held responsible for the killing of its military leader Imad Mugniyah.

Danny Shenar, head of security in the Transportation Ministry, has ordered all foreign and local airlines heading for Israel to require passengers to remain seated half an hour before landing, when planes approach a distance of 180 miles from the country's shores. Until now, passengers have only been instructed to return to their seats at a distance of some 90 miles from Israel, or 15 minutes before landing.

Xinhua

A cast member of the Beijing Chinese Opera performs in Singapore on 22 Feb, 2008.—XINHUA



Students perform in a street dancing competition during the flower festival in Baguio City, north of Manila on 23 Feb, 2008.—XINHUA

US soldier dies of non-combat related illness

BAGHDAD, 24 Feb — An American soldier died of a non-combat related illness, the US military said on Saturday.

The incident occurred on Thursday, a brief military statement said, adding that an investigation about the soldier’s death is underway.

The name of the deceased is being withheld pending notification of next of kin, it added.

The latest death brings the number of US soldiers who have been killed in Iraq to about 3,970 since the outbreak of the US-led war on Iraq in 2003, according to media account based on Pentagon figures.

Xinhua

Roadside bombing kills seven Afghans in E Afghanistan

KABUL, 24 Feb — Seven Afghan employees of a local road construction company were killed when their vehicle hit mines Saturday morning in eastern Afghan Province of Kunar, a police officer said.

Abdul Jalajalal, the provincial police chief told that the blast occurred at around 8:30 am s(0400 GMT) in Sarkanu district of Kunar Province.

However, the police chief did not say who was possibly behind the attack, adding that the mines were planted by militants days ago.

News reports said that Taleban militants have been blamed for carrying out series of similar incidents before. Conflicts and Taleban-related insurgency had left more than 6,000 people dead in 2007, while observers predict more suicide attack and roadside bombing in 2008 in the post-Taleban Afghanistan. —Xinhua

US airplane makes safe emergency landing in Miami

WASHINGTON, 23 Feb — A US airplane carrying 138 people made a safe emergency landing in Miami, Florida on Friday due to a technical failure.

The American Airlines flight 862 was diverted to the Miami International Airport in the afternoon on its way from West Palm Beach to Chicago after a reported problem with its nose gear.

The airlines spokeswoman Martha Pantin said the MD80 plane with 133 passengers and five crew members on board circled first above the airport to exhaust fuel before landing.

According to Federal Aviation Administration spokeswoman Kathleen Bergen, the problem was either with the nose gear or its door.

She also said “crews are well trained to handle these situations”.—Xinhua

A firefighter is tended to by colleagues during a fire in downtown Durango, Colo, on 22 Feb, 2008. The fire engulfed Season’s Restaurant, a T-shirt shop and Le Rendezvous Swiss Bakery. The fire blew out the front of Main Avenue Marketplace and injured at least seven firefighters. XINHUA



Emirates to launch flight from Malaysia to Cape Town

KUALA LUMPUR, 24 Feb — Dubai-based airline Emirates will launch its service from Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia to Cape Town, South Africa on 30 March, it said in a statement here on Friday.

The South African city will be the airline's 100th

destination in its network.

Emirates will fly daily to Cape Town International Airport, Africa’s third-busiest airport, from Kuala Lumpur via Dubai, the statement said.

The Emirates’ flight will offer 2,000 seats and loading capacity for over

100 tons of cargo per week to Cape Town.

This is a development that will be welcomed by business and leisure travellers on both sides of the equator, Emirates said.

“Business tourism is a vital growth sector, often contributing more foreign spending per tourist than leisure tourism.

“Leveraging on Emirates’ strong network of operations in Europe, Middle East and Australia, Emirates will support the South African Government’s efforts in boosting business and tourism inflow into the country,” Emirates’ country manager Alban Lee said.

Xinhua

US banker warns of slower growth

BEIJING, 24 Feb — The US will probably experience slower economic growth rather than a deeper downturn, predicts Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas President Richard Fisher.

The most likely scenario is the US will avoid a “prolonged period of negative economic

growth,” Fisher said in Fort Worth, Texas, without mentioning the term “recession,” Bloomberg News reported. He also said he's hearing increasing expressions of concern from executives about inflation, which got his “attention.”

Fisher spoke after data

last week showed the US was moving closer to a recession, while inflation was accelerating at the same time. He said on Friday that the slowdown in growth will probably last for a “couple” of quarters and warned it may be difficult to quickly raise interest rates.

Fed officials anticipate growth of 1.3 percent to two percent this year, down from 2.5 percent in 2007. Two members of the panel charged with dating US economic cycles said yesterday that it's too early to decide whether the US is in recession.

“We have to be wary of the fact that we are navigating through an extremely narrow passageway here: with on the one side of us inflationary shoals and on the other the risk of weaker economic growth,” said Fisher, who alone voted against the Federal Open Market Committee's January 30 decision to lower the benchmark rate by half a point.

Internet



Logs that were illegally cut from the Amazon rain forest are loaded onto trucks during an operation by Para state district attorneys to transport them to the state capital, near Tailandia, 180 km (112 miles) south of Belem at the mouth of the Amazon River, on 23 Feb, 2008.—INTERNET

Indonesia, Exxon agree stake sharing in Cepu oil block

JAKARTA, 24 Feb — The Indonesian Government and US oil giant Exxon Mobil reached agreement Friday on the share split of the major oil block Cepu on the provincial border between Central and East Java. Exxon and Indo-

nesian state-run oil firm Pertamina have a 45-per-cent stake each, while the local governments in Central and East Java own the remaining 10 per cent, reported leading news website Detikcom.

The agreement was

signed in the Central Java capital of Semarang in the presence of Energy and Mineral Resources Minister Purnomo Yusgiantoro, Home Affairs Minister Mardianto, Pertamina president Ari Soemarno, Exxon's local unit Mobile Cepu Ltd. president Mike Nelson and officials from the two provinces.

MNA/Xinhua

Tourist arrivals in Malaysia rose 19.5% in 2007

KUALA LUMPUR, 24 Feb — Tourist arrivals in Malaysia reached 20.97 million in 2007, up 19.5 per cent from the previous year, the Tourism Ministry said Friday.

The number of tourist arrivals surpassed the target set by the Malaysian Government for 2007, which coincided with Visit Malaysia Year, the ministry said.

Singapore remained the top market with 10.49 million tourists, followed by Indonesia with 1.80 million, Thailand with 1.62 million, Brunei with 1.17 million, China with 689,293, India with 422,452, and Japan with 367,567.

MNA/Xinhua

Beijing Hyundai completes one millionth car

BEIJING, 23 Feb — Beijing Hyundai produced its one millionth car here on Friday, just over five years after it first began production.

The auto joint venture between China and the Republic of Korea (ROK) was set up in November 2002 has been the fastest car maker in China to reach the one million-unit sales target.

However, no flamboyant show was put on Friday to mark the success. A simple ceremony saw workers gather for half an hour to

celebrate the milestone.

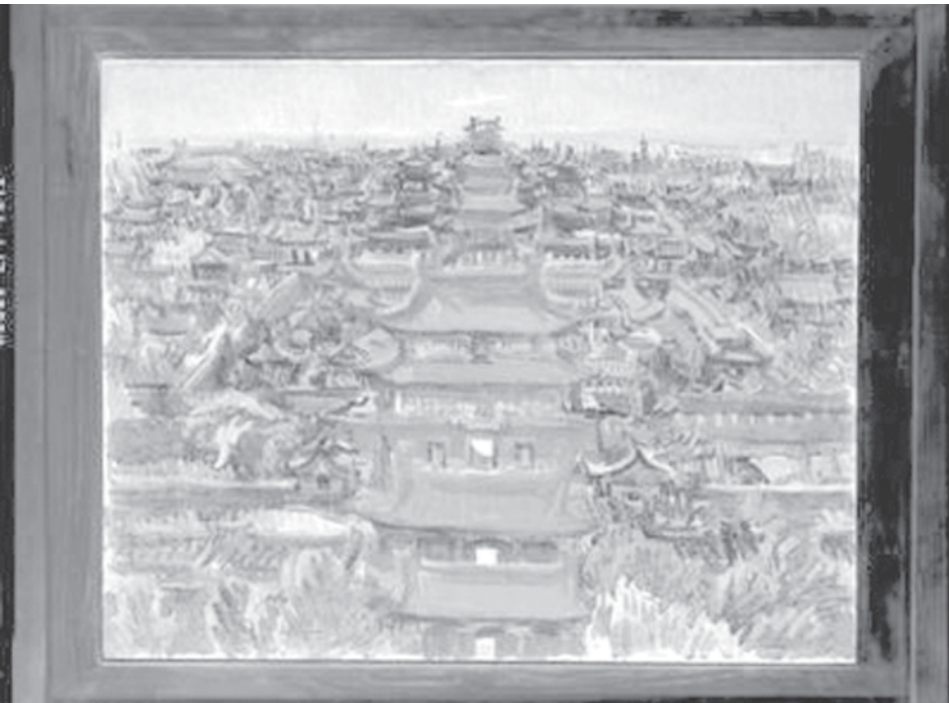
Li Honglu, deputy general manager of Beijing Hyundai, said that the company wanted to save the celebration cost for donations to assist the disaster relief work in southern China region. It has donated five SUVs valued at one million yuan (138,000 US dollars) in total

to the snow-plagued regions.

Li said the production of the company's new model Elentra HDC has been carried out on a trial basis in the factory. Another modified model Sonata Yuxiang will be produced in the second half of this year.

MNA/Xinhua

A plantation worker extracts juice to make unrefined sugar in the Philippines. Tate and Lyle, the biggest sugar cane refiner in Europe, has announced that it would switch to Fairtrade sugar supplies in Britain to guarantee producers in poor countries a fair price.—INTERNET



“The Forbidden City” by artist Guo Bochuan, which is expected to fetch \$5 million at the upcoming Sotheby's contemporary Chinese Art Spring Sale on 9 April, is displayed in this handout photo made available on 22 Feb, 2008. Auction house Sotheby's expects to sell \$167 million worth of Asian art at its upcoming spring sales in Hong Kong, downplaying concerns over a correction in Asian art prices amid global market turmoil.—INTERNET

Togo, China hold 1st meeting of joint eco commission

LOME, 24 Feb — The first meeting of the China-Togo Mixed Commission on Economy and Trade was held here Friday to strengthen bilateral co-operation. The meeting, jointly presided over by Togolese Foreign and Regional Integration

Minister Leopold Messan Gnininvi and visiting Chinese Deputy Commerce Minister Wei Jianguo, was attended by seven other Togolese ministers, members of the Chinese delegation and some Chinese entrepreneurs. At the meeting,

both sides reviewed the development of bilateral economic and trade ties in recent years, and reached consensus on a variety of issues. The two sides also signed seven agreements on economic and technological cooperation.

MNA/Xinhua





Supporters cheer as Democratic presidential hopeful, Sen Hillary Rodham Clinton, D-NY, makes a campaign stop at Cincinnati State Technical and Community College Gymnasium in Cincinnati on 23 Feb, 2008. Clinton and her Democratic presidential rival, Sen Barack Obama, D-Ill, are campaigning on Saturday in a tightening race in Ohio, which holds its primary on 4th March.—INTERNET

Musharraf says ready to work with new Parlt

WASHINGTON, 24 Feb—Embattled Pakistan President Pervez Musharraf said in a column published on Friday that he was ready to work with the newly elected Parliament to fight terrorism and build a stable democratic government to promote long-term economic growth.

“Because these goals are shared by the vast majority of Pakistanis, I am certain we can and will accomplish them, and I stand ready to work with the newly elected Parliament to achieve

these objectives,” Musharraf wrote in a column printed in Friday’s *Washington Post*.

Musharraf has been one of Washington’s top Muslim allies in the battle against al-Qaeda, but faces a hostile Parliament after a stunning defeat in Monday’s general election.

Leaders of the two parties that won the election, the Pakistan People’s Party (PPP) and the Pakistan Muslim League (Nawaz), or PML-N, vowed on Thursday to work together to form a

government, raising the prospect of a government intent on forcing Musharraf out of power.

Musharraf said success in the efforts to build democracy and a strong economy and to fight extremism in Pakistan depend on continued support from the United States.

MNA/Reuters

Car, horse-and-cart bombs kill four in Iraq

BAGHDAD, 23 Feb — A bomb strapped to a horse-drawn cart exploded in central Baghdad on Friday, killing one person, while a car bomb killed three people north of the capital, Iraqi security officials said.

A ban on animal-drawn carts in Baghdad was imposed in response to the bomb, which had been booby-trapped and placed on the cart, said Major-General Qassim Moussawi, spokesman for security operations in Baghdad.

“We had information about possible attacks using animal carts ... and now this happened this morning in Karrada District,” he said. “We have banned them until further notice to prevent these kinds of attacks.”

Horse-drawn carts are commonly used to transport gas canisters, garbage and vegetables, among other goods. Militants have used them in the past to launch bomb attacks. — MNA/Reuters



A US B-2 stealth bomber crashed at Andersen Air Force Base in Guam just after taking off but the two pilots on board ejected safely, the US Air Force said late on Friday.

INTERNET

Iran MP says atom report positive, undermines US

TEHERAN, 23 Feb — A senior Iranian lawmaker said on Friday a report by the UN nuclear watchdog on Iran’s atomic programme was “positive” and would undermine a US push for more UN sanctions, Iranian news agencies reported. The International Atomic Energy Agency said in its report Iran had shown new openness about nuclear advances earlier off-limits to UN monitors but not enough to prove the programme is not geared to making bombs.

Iran insists its programme is entirely peaceful. “In regards to the (IAEA) report ... about Iran’s peaceful nuclear activities and the resolution of some unclear issues, the road will not be paved for the Americans to issue a new

resolution against Iran in the (UN) Security Council,” the head of the Iranian Parliament’s national security and foreign policy commission, Alaeddin Boroujerdi, was quoted as saying.

Boroujerdi, speaking before a news conference by Iranian chief nuclear negotiator Saeed Jalili, described the report as “positive”, the official IRNA news agency reported.

“Issuing such (sanctions) resolutions not only has no technical and legal basis but also the Security Council should apologize to the Iranian nation because of its behaviour and announce the end of studying Iran’s nuclear issue,” he was quoted by *Fars* news agency as saying.

MNA/Reuters



A tortoise is hurt in a blaze at Lake Nakuru National Park in the Rift Valley in Nakuru, west of Nairobi, on 23 Feb, 2008. A bush fire engulfed the park on Friday, destroying vegetation and terrifying wildlife at one of the east African nation’s top tourist destinations, local authorities said.—INTERNET

Indonesia floods kill 11, displace thousands

JAKARTA, 23 Feb — Floods and landslides triggered by torrential rains in Indonesia’s Java and Nusa Tenggara Timur islands have killed 11 people and displaced thousands over the past two weeks, a Health Ministry official said on Friday.

Rustam Pakaya, head of the ministry’s crisis centre, said more than 3,500 people have been displaced in Central Java where some cities have been inundated by filthy water up to two metres high for nearly two weeks.

Nine people have been killed in Central Java and two in the Nusa Tenggara Timur chain of islands, which lie east of Java island.

MNA/Xinhua

Brazilian shipwreck death toll rises to 14

RIO DE JANEIRO, 23 Feb — The rescue team of the General Command of the Firefighters of the Amazon confirmed on Friday the shipwreck death toll rose to 14, which collided with a ferryboat on Thursday in the Amazon River.

Nine-year-old Rogerio da Silva Caio was one of the eight children confirmed to have died in the accident. The other victims were four women and two men.

The figures include the deaths of four members of the same family. The rescue team found on Thursday the bodies of Lucas da Cruz

Nunes, 29; of his wife Jacilene da Silva Nunes, 25; and of their two children, aged eight and seven, in a cabin of the riverboat *Almirante Monteiro*, which carried 111 people from Alenquer, in Para State, to Manaus, capital city of Amazonas State.

Ninety-two people were rescued alive by a police patrolling boat that was coincidentally passing by at the moment of the accident. The tragedy took place in the municipality of Itacoatiara, 286 kilometres away from Manaus.

MNA/Xinhua

Sacred Sa Ma Hill

Dr Khin Maung Nyunt

At the eastern extremity of Bago Yoma range are many offshoots of hills of which Sa Ma Hill is the one lying at the western end, about 3 miles distance from Thawuhti station on the Yangon-Mandalay railway. Between a triplot of Thadut paddy field, Tin Wa Taung paddy field and No 36 Forest Reserve in the Thawuhti district, near Nay Pyi Taw Lewe the hill is a small low branch covered with leafy trees and herbal undergrowths. To the east, west and south it is surrounded by ravines. Only the north side gives you the view of this hill. With five hills encircling it, the hill occupies a small area of 25 acres, or two furlongs east to west, sandwiched between the Forest Reserve and paddy fields. Travellers by trains or car on Yangon-Mandalay Highway on reaching Thawuhti, take a look at the western hill range. Though Sa Ma Hill with 5 pagodas is hidden behind green foliage of forest, religious monuments and covered stairways on the surrounding hill to the east and meditation houses and ordination hall on another nearly hill to the north would appear in their sight.

The name Sa Ma is unique. It is the two Myanmar alphabets in combination. Sa and Ma “Sa Da Ba and Wa” are four Myanmar alphabets which are used in cabalistic charms prepared by holymen in the form of magic squares, inscribed, embossed or written on metallic plates, terra cotta or papers or body skin. Holymen are neither monk nor hermit. They are ecolytes or just laymen weaving white clothes, vegetarian, observing moral precepts of Buddhism, chanting Paritta and religious scriptures, telling beads and sitting for hours to practise Samatha—concentration of mind. They live in seclusion in remote places in forest. Years of such assiduous moral and mental practices and concentration gain them some psychic powers with which they can perform good deeds, curing diseases, gifting good people with cabalistic charms which protect them from all dangers and living them fortune and luck to avoid unwholesome deed and to do wholesome deed. The short version of Hsa, Da, Ba, Wa is “Sa Ma”.

It was on the morning of the first waning moon of Waso (July) in Myanmar Era 1306 (1944) that the above 4 alphabets appeared on the clearing on the summit of the hill to the east of monastery there. A certain holymen named U Hpo Lu of Kyan Hpo Su village was informed of that strange occurrence by a villager. He and villagers came to the spot and tried to rub out or scratch away the alphabets appearing on the ground. For a while they seemed to be eradicated but later they reappeared. Not only the four alphabets but also the remaining ones of Myanmar 33 alphabets were visible on dry leaves tree trunks, stones, etc. News of such extraordinary appearances spread like wild fire, causing commotion among rural folks. The most curious of them came up the hill to see to believe. The more they tried to erase the alphabets, the more alphabets appeared almost everywhere, on fruits, bamboos, on walls of buildings, on ceilings of monasteries and even on the yellow robes of the monk U Kawein and on his body.

Rural folks of the local villages firmly believed that the hill was sacred and they began calling the hill Hsa Ma Hill, and the place of the first appearance of Hsa Ma was an auspicious site on which they should build a pagoda. Monk U Kawein and his assistant monk U Panna built a meditating monastery on the hill and they lived there. On the fullmoon night of Tazaungmon (November) in 1945, one thousand oil lamps were lit on the hill as a propitiatory act of puja to the guardian gods



Arched entrance at the flight of steps to Mya Sein Taung Hill, Taung Nyo.

and goddesses of the hill before the area where the Hsa Ma alphabets first appeared was chosen as the auspicious site for building pagodas. On a big banyan Tree to the east side of the hill, over 500 wild crows alighted and uttered nonstop choruses of “Caw” “Caw” as if foreboding the coming of an important event. On the second waning of the moon, the villagers led by nine village elders, U Aung Htun, U Ye Din, U Hpo Kya, U Thein Maung, U Sein, U Kyaw Thein, U Hnan of Thaya Kon village and U Hpo Lu and U Pyaw of Kyan Hpo Su village came up the hill to begin building a pagoda. U Mar of Thawuhti village brought a band of Sidaw drum players with him. Similarly U Aung Gyi came with 4 ladies each bearing on her head two perfect bricks for ground breaking.

At sunrise the holyman Apey Nwe first struck the stake on the site. The rest were engaged at their respective duties while the Sidaw drums were booming. All of a sudden, an earth quake shook the entire hill swinging it from the north east (Sunday Planet Post direction) to the south west (Saturday Planet Post direction) with a frightening roar sending the villagers run amock. For days, religious performances took place there, chanting Parittas, preaching dhamma, meditating, telling beads, saying prayers group by group.

In 1946, outbreak of insurgency temporarily interrupted the building of the pagoda. But a year later on the 10th Waxing moon of Kason (May) the work was resumed. By 1951, five pagodas, the main pagoda in the centre and the four minors, each at the cardinal direction, were completely built. On the 1st Waning moon of Nayon (June) decorative htis were hoisted on the pagodas and the five pagodas were collectively named “Kaba Kat Kyaw Zedi Taw” (The Pagodas that protect the world from all dangers). On 14 April, 1957, the New Year Day of Myanmar Era 1320 at 4 am, the bronze bell of 108 viss in weight was installed on the precinct of the Pagodas. Leaders and followers, by turn struck the bell announcing their religious deeds to share their merit with all sentient beings.

In addition to the name “Sa Ma” the hill came to acquire 4 other appellations — (1) Yet Kan Sin

Taung (2) Min Wun Taung (3) Gu Taung and (4) Hpo U Taung. (1) To the west of Sa Ma Hill there lies a hill range called Yet Kan Zin Kyaw at a distance of 7 miles. On their range there used to be two old zedis with umbrellas atop. Two monks U Kutala and U Waipulla from Mandalay came to Sa Ma Hill for religious practices. They repaired and renovated the two zedis in ruin. The zedis came to be known as Yet Kan Zin Taung Pagodas as the two monks were originally from Yet Kan Zin Hill near Mandalay. local people believe that monk Sayadaw of Yet Kan Zin hill near Mandalay had once resided on Sa Ma Hill. (2) Monks and holymen from Min Wun hill range on the west bank of the Ayeyawaddy River in the past used to reside on this hill so the hill came to be called Min Wun Hill. (3) There were nine underground caves or tunnels around this hill where monks and holymen lived and meditated. So the hill is called Gu Taung. (4) In olden days hermits and alchemists lived on this hill and experimented their alchemy. There still remain sheds with remnants of bellows used for making balls of mercury compound to turn base metals into gold or to concoct the elixir of longevity. Since them Sa Ma hill. So the hill is also called Hpo U Taung (Bellows hill).

On 23rd March 1966, the Government gave official recognition to Sa Ma hill as Buddha Sasana Land. Since then Sa Ma hill and neighbouring hills developed as forest recluses for the practices of Buddha Dhamma Buddhist devotees and wellwishers from far and near poured in donations and contributions, cash and kind for the construction of religious buildings — pagodas, monasteries, covered causeways, flights of steps leading to the hill’s summit, devotional hall, preaching halls, dining rooms, meditation caves and houses, rest houses, water tanks and stores and some nat spirits shrines. Many more are under construction. Because of heavy loads of buildings and rain water in good monsoon Hsa Ma hill is in danger of land slide and erosion. Repair and maintenance are under way to build a strong retaining wall around the affected places

(See page 8)

Commander looks into sugarcane research farm, sunflower plantations

NAY PYI TAW, 24 Feb — Commander of Nay Pyi Taw Command Maj-Gen Wai Lwin yesterday morning heard reports on progress of sugarcane research farm presented by General Manager U San Thein of Myanma Industrial Crops Development Enterprise at the farm in Thabyehla Village of Nay Pyi Taw Pyinmana Township.

The commander inspected hybrid sugarcane, quality strain sugarcanes and progress



Commander Maj-Gen Wai Lwin visits a thriving mixed-crop sunflower plantation in Nay Pyi Taw Pyinmana Township.

MNA



of research works at the farm. The commander and party viewed thriving six acres of sugarcane plantation.

At Alyinlo Village of the town-

ship, the commander looked into thriving green gram and sunflower plan-tations. They also inspected production of honey products near the

sunflower plantations . They also viewed thriving sunflower plantations in villages of Nay Pyi Taw Lewe Township.

MNA

Child discarded at Bahosi Specialist Clinic

YANGON, 22 Feb — A Myanmar woman aged about 30 years at 1 pm on 20-2-2008 arrived at the sanitation staff quarter of Bahosi Specialist Clinic on Baho Street in Ward 10, Lanmadaw Township and entrusted her one-month old child to the workers and left.

The woman did not return. According to a letter found among some baby utensils in the nappy packet, the woman is from Ayeyawady Division with three children and she discarded her child as she could not afford to bring it up, for her husband passed away. The abandoned child is now under the care of the workers.

MNA

Minister inspects specialist Hospitals in Yangon

YANGON, 24 Feb —Minister for Health Dr Kyaw Myint together with officials inspected patient wards, X-ray unit and laboratory room of Specialist Hospital (Mingaladon) and water supply task in the hospital in Mingaladon Township today.

Next, the minister also inspected the site chosen for new building of the hospital and he urged officials to complete it in time.

The minister arrived at Special Hospital (Waibargi) where he looked into the greening tasks in the hospital compound, TB clinic, room for educative health, X-ray unit, out-patient department, patient wards, disease diagnostic department, use of advanced equipment and health care for patients.

At the meeting hall of the hospital, the minister met with Medical Superintendent, professors, doctors, assistant surgeons and nurses and he fulfilled the requirements of the hospital.— MNA

Car plunges into tributary, 23 injured

NAY PYI TAW, 22 Feb — A Dyna truck with licence plate La/1207 plunged into a tributary of Thebyu Dam at about 3pm on 20-2-2008 while it drove up Sitsee hill to Yebya Village from Thabyaybin Vilage in Nay Pyi Taw Lewe Township. Twenty three on board including U Sein Aung, 50, of Aung Tha Village in Nay Pyi Taw Lewe Township were injured and they have been hospitalized. In connection with the case, a lawsuit has been filed against the driver, U Kyaw Nyunt, 40, son of U Kalar, under section 337/338.

MNA

All this needs to be known

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

Sacred Sa Ma...

(from page 7)

especially the central monastery on the summit. In the central monastery, Monk Sayadaw U Wimala, a Shan-Palaung from Mogok resides, preaching dhamma and teaching the methods of practicing Samatha and Vipassana for many years. People far and near who are in quest of truth, peace and bliss of Buddha Dhamma, came to Hsa Ma hill to hear his preaching and teaching, and practise Dhamma at the recluses for a certain period or just weekends. Their basic needs are provided free. Only vegetarian meal is served.

Besides, Buddha Dhamma works, social welfare activities are in full swing at Hsa Ma hill. Just a few steps down and away from the central monastery on the way to the main arched entrance are a cluster of brick, wood and bamboo and thatch buildings under the cool foliage of trees and shrubs, on either side of the unpaved road wide enough for cars. It is a village of orphanages privately run and managed by a monk and lay volunteer wellwishers. The billboard at the entrance of the reception hall bears the letters in Myanmar “Sa Ma Taung Parahita Kyaung”. Over 200 orphans of

youngest 5 years to eldest late teenage are well looked after by a team of volunteer social workers of the locality headed by a middle age monk named Bhaddanta Nyanneiinda. He is a BA graduate with history major. He hailed from Bagan NyaungU after his graduation to come Sa Ma Hill to set up an orphanage 18 years ago. The orphanage has a school, from pre-primary to the middle grade (7th standard). The board at the entrance of the establishment records the list of 4 university graduates and 3 university students who were orphans at this school. They are 3 BAs (History major) and one BA (Business Management) who are now in service. Three university students, second year Law major, 3rd year Public Policy major and second year second year English major. The monk and his colleagues are happy to brief on the success of their social welfare works. The orphanage and the school are run on self-reliance base. Orphans regardless of their race, religion and age are accepted on condition that they are orphan and no relatives or friends to care them. They are given formal school education and practical training in agriculture, domestic sciences, general hygiene and health. Two newly admitted are five year old girls found abandoned at the market place.

Thanks to systematic physical and moral training, there over 200 orphans of different races and ages are well-fed, well-looked after and well disciplined. They are happy at their orphan village. Those who have grown up and left the school, came back to give their social service and contribute cash or kind to the school. The school occasionally receives medicare, and other supports from nearby towns. Wellwishers who pass by donate cash to the school fund. There are cafeteria, store and stall at the arched entrance of the Hsa Ma Hill, run by the monk, his colleagues and orphan pupils for the fund of the orphanage. On sale at the stall are candles, incense sticks, flowers and other votive objects and souvenirs made by orphan pupils. A dining hall nearby is where pilgrims and visitors are fed with vegetables meals, free of charge for kala dana (timely charity). Some vegetable farm worked by orphans produce fruit and vegetables for meal.

An orphanage on self-reliant basis at the remote corner of Sa Ma Hill run by a team of selfless volunteers under the management of a BA graduate monk is indeed a source of admiration and inspiration to all visitors and pilgrims.

Those who carried out rural development tasks honoured in Kungyangon

YANGON, 24 Feb — A ceremony to honour departmental personnel, local authorities and social organization members who participated in the tasks of rural development was held at Zartiman Hall of Kungyangon Basic Education High School No 2 in Yangon South District this morning.

Chairman of District Peace and Development Council U Zaw Win reported on carrying out of regional development in the township from 13 to 24 February.

Chairman of Yangon Division PDC Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Hla Htay Win presented certificates of honour to those who participated in the rural development tasks through officials.

To construct basic education schools and school buildings and village-to-village roads,

Tawkhayanlay Village-tract donated K 8.5 million, Tawkhalu Village-tract, Pakauk, Hsukalat and Daedanaw Village-tracts K 7 million each and Dayeilu Village-tract K 5 million, totalling K 86 million to officials.

Responsible per-



Commander Maj-Gen Hla Htay Win visits a thriving sunflower plantation in Kungyangon Township.— MNA

With noble mind

- In serving public interest
- Do not deviate from own way
- Because of slanders
- Just carry it on

(Venerable Shwe Hinthay Sayadaw)

sons accepted 5,694 USDA membership applications, 2,000 membership applications

of Women's Affairs Organization and 2,000 membership applications of Maternal and Child

Welfare Association.

Next, the commander gave instructions on regional

development.

Later, the commander viewed broadcasting of fertilizers

and thriving maize and sunflower plantations in Kamapa Village.

MNA



Minister for Industry-1 U Aung Thaung inspects CMPT pulp factory construction project (Yeni) of Myanmar Paper and Chemical Industries in Yedash Township on 23 February. (News Reported)— INDUSTRY 1

Hu Jintao urges improved public service in government

BEIJING, 24 Feb — China President Hu Jintao has urged the government to provide improved public services for the country's citizens.

Addressing an assembly of the Political Bureau of the CPC Central Committee Saturday in

Beijing, Hu said building a service-oriented government was key to social harmony and to government building.

He urged government officials at all levels to devote themselves in building a government "by the people, for the people",

and one that ensures all Chinese enjoy the fruits of the country's economic development.

"The government should provide education for the young, medication for the ill, care for the old-aged and housing for the homeless."—MNA/Xinhua

Sales representatives of Proven Technology Industry Co honoured

YANGON, 24 Feb—A ceremony to honour the sales representatives of Proven Technology Industry Co was held at Western Park Royal Restaurant here yesterday.

First, the managing director of Proven Technology Industry Co gave a welcoming speech and explained the quality of Toyo battery and a new product, Tubular battery. Next, he presented gifts to sales representatives who sold Toyo battery most in 2007.

Toyo battery factory was built in Shwepyitha Industrial Zone in 1995 and it manufactures N-20, N-40ZL, N-50ZL, N-70L, N-70ZL, N-100, N-120, N-150, N-200 as well as Industry (Stand By) battery for locomotives, coaches, trawlers, elevators and

escalators.

The product is popular among users as it is of high quality. The factory is preparing to launch a new product, Tubular battery which is one time more durable than other kinds of battery and the new product will be available at the

market in 2008.

Toyo battery is available at F/S 14, Shwe Sabe Yeikmon, Kamayut Township (Tel 701719 or 701720 or 527667) and at No 114, 84th Street, between 31th Street and 32th Street, Mandalay (Tel 723308).—MNA



U Tun Myint of Proven Technology Industry Co presents gift to an outstanding sales representative.— H

Kenya negotiators consult bosses on impending deal

NAIROBI, 24 Feb — Negotiators for Kenya’s rival political parties consulted their bosses on Saturday and pored over a draft for a new prime minister’s post to resolve a post-election crisis that has killed more than 1,000 people. “The draft bill is being considered in smoke-filled rooms throughout the country,” government negotiator Mutula Kilonzo

told *Reuters*. “We should reach a deal by Wednesday latest.” Exhausted by the nearly two-month, post-election crisis, most of Kenya’s 36 million people now want a quick political settlement between President Mwai Kibaki and opposition leader Raila Odinga so the country can start returning to normal. *MNA/Reuters*



China’s Chang’e I, the country’s first lunar orbiter, blasts off from the Xichang Satellite Launching Centre in southwestern China’s Sichuan Province in 2007. China hopes to launch its second moon-orbiting satellite in 2009, state media reported on Friday, as the country steps up its space programme.—INTERNET

Beijing campaigns to offer bus seats to needy

BEIJING, 24 Feb— Beijing has a campaign to encourage people to give up seats to the elderly, pregnant or others in need on public buses and subway trains. The 22nd days of every month was chosen as the promotion day in Beijing for passengers to give up their seats to those in need, said Liu Xiaoming, deputy director of the Beijing Municipal Transportation Commission on Friday.

“The number 22 resembles two seats,” he said in explanation why this specific day was chosen, “and the Chinese

pronunciation of two sounds like R first letter of PANG, which means giving in Chinese.” “With this move, we aim at creating a harmonious and orderly riding environment, and raising passengers’ awareness to take care of the elderly, the weak, the sick, the handicapped and the pregnant,” he said. Municipal media will keep a candid eye on this from July to September, praising those who give up their seats voluntarily and exposing those who refuse to do so, according to Liu. *MNA/Xinhua*

Arizona Representative indicted on fraud, finance charges

WASHINGTON, 24 Feb — A federal grand jury has indicted Republican US Representative Richard Renzi of Arizona on 35 criminal counts including conspiracy, wire fraud, money laundering and official extortion, according to court papers unsealed on Friday. The indictment stems from plan by Renzi and an

associate to benefit from a land-exchange plan in order to receive Renzi’s support for necessary federal legislation, court documents said. “It was an object of the conspiracy for Renzi to enrich (his associate) and personally benefit himself,” the indictment said. It also accuses Renzi of embezzling premiums

from clients of an insurance business to fund his congressional campaign. Renzi was first elected in 2002. US Attorney Diane Humetewa in Phoenix, where the indictment was handed down, has scheduled a news conference to details the charges. — *MNA/Reuters*

Thailand seeks to rejoin IPU

BANGKOK, 24 Feb — Thailand’s House of Representatives speaker has said his country, stripped of its membership in the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) following the 19 September, 2006 bloodless coup will reapply for membership, the *Thai News Agency* reported on Saturday.

House of Representatives Speaker Yongyut Tiyaipairat told visiting US Congressman David Price on Friday that the coup was considered a temporary incident and that the democratic system is now restored in Thailand.

He said that the Thai Parliament would try its best to restore confidence in democracy in the country and earn renewed recognition from the world community. *MNA/Xinhua*

AL concerned over Iraqi-Turkish border tension

CAIRO, 24 Feb — The Arab League (AL) on Saturday expressed concern about the current tension along the Iraqi-Turkish borders as Turkish military launched cross-border operations targeting the banned Kurdish Workers’ Party (PKK) into northern Iraq.

In a Press release issued by the Cairo-based pan-Arab body, the AL Secretary General Amr Moussa called on Turkey to end its military operation in northern Iraq while underlining the necessity not to target civilians. *MNA/Xinhua*

He also underscored the importance of maintaining the Iraqi sovereignty and territorial integrity as the UN security Council resolution does not allow any aggression on the Iraqi-Turkish border. Meanwhile, Moussa urged for an end of the crisis through diplomatic channels in order to keep relationship between Iraq and Turkey. The Turkish military said Friday that it launched air strike and shelling on Thursday on the separatist PKK targets in northern Iraq. *MNA/Xinhua*



Opposition party supporters take part in a protest to show solidarity with Gaza, in Amman, on 23 Feb, 2008.—INTERNET

Turkey says 29 killed in cross-border ground offensive

ANKARA, 24 Feb — Turkish Armed Forces killed 24 Kurdish Workers’ Party (PKK) rebels in clashes on Friday as Ankara continued its cross-border ground operation into northern Iraq, with five soldiers also died, said the military. The military, the General Staff, said in a statement posted on its website that there were dozens more rebels also killed by artillery and helicopter gunships in the fighting which continued sporadically. Earlier in the day, the General Staff announced that its Armed Forces TSK

launched a cross-border ground operation into the north of Iraq as of 1900 p.m. (1700 GMT) on Thursday following an artillery bombardment. The ground operation is backed by Turkish Air Forces jets, the General Staff said, adding that TSK would return to Turkey after it achieves the planned targets. The Turkish military has launched several cross-border attacks to fight separatist PKK rebels, who use northern Iraq as a launch pad for attacks against Turkey. — *MNA/Xinhua*



View of the Airbus stand at an airshow in the UK BOC Aviation, an aircraft leasing firm owned by the Bank of China, said on Friday it has ordered five A330-200F cargo planes from the European manufacturer.—INTERNET

Woodgate's extra-time marker gives Tottenham 2-1 Carling Cup win over Chelsea

Carling Cup

WEMBLEY,(England), 24 Feb — Jonathan Woodgate scored in extra time Sunday to give Tottenham a 2-1 win over Chelsea in the Carling Cup final and its first trophy in nine years.

Dimitar Berbatov had equalized in the second half after Didier Drogba's 39th-minute goal, but Woodgate headed his first goal for Tottenham in the 94th to complete the comeback.

Chelsea goalkeeper Petr Cech saved Woodgate's header from Jermaine Jenas' free kick, but the ball ricocheted back onto the defender's head and into the empty net.

It was Woodgate's first goal in English soccer since December 2002, when he scored in a 2-0 win for Leeds - against Chelsea.

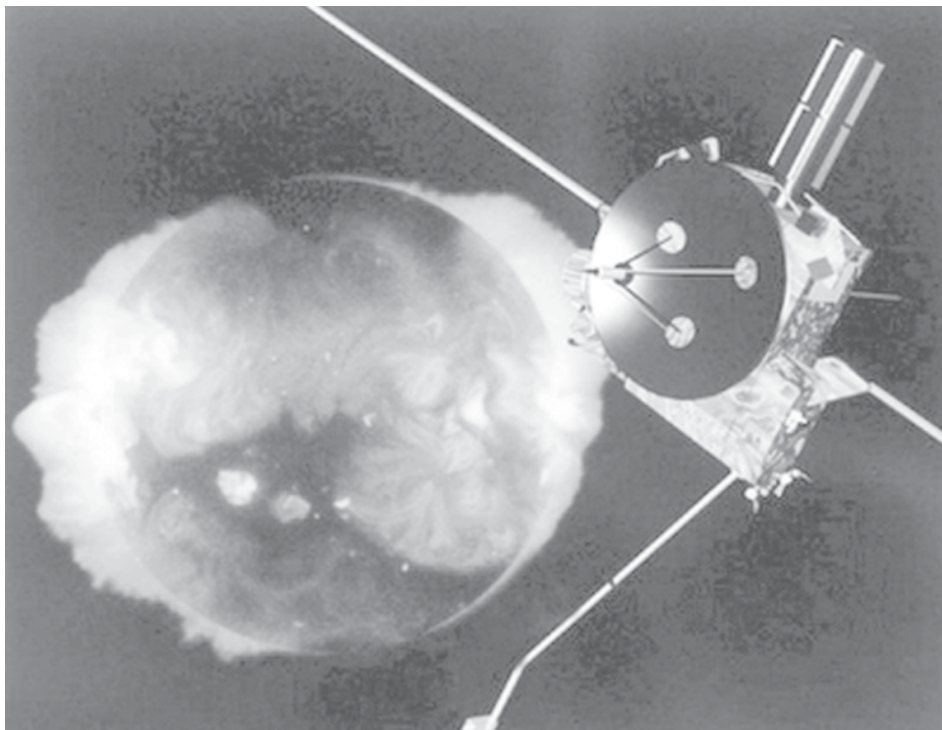
Tottenham goal-keeper Paul Robinson, recalled to the team this week after a month out, then made three key saves to preserve the lead and seal Tottenham's third win over Chelsea in 43 matches going back to 1990.

It was Spurs' fourth Carling Cup title, moving them into a tie with Chelsea and Nottingham Forest for third on the all-time list.

Tottenham created more chances than Chelsea, which is eight places higher in the Premier League and was aiming to become the first team since Forest in 1990 to retain the Cup.—Internet



Tottenham Hotspur's Paul Robinson (L) and Robbie Keane celebrate with the trophy after defeating Chelsea in their Carling Cup final soccer match at Wembley Stadium in London on 24 Feb, 2008.—INTERNET



This undated computer generated image distributed by NASA shows the spacecraft Ulysses near the Sun. Ulysses, a US-European space scout that has been orbiting the Sun for 17 years, almost four times its expected lifetime, is on the brink of dying, the European Space Agency (ESA) has said.—INTERNET

Thailand starts advance voting for senators

BANGKOK, 24 Feb — The Two-day advance voting for senators throughout Thailand's 76 provinces started on Saturday in an atmosphere of lethargy as many eligible voters appeared to have wearied of elections. A total of 76 senators, one for one province will be elected during the advance voting and the official election day on March 2.

After casting his vote at a Bangkok election booth on Saturday morning, the Election Commission (EC) chairman Apichart Sukhaggonond was quoted by The Thai News Agency as saying that the panel had tried its best to encourage a turnout for the Senate election campaigns. However, the timespan or window of opportunity launching the campaigns was only two months, too short a time, and probably the public has become overtired of exercising their rights, the report said.—Xinhua

Images of the Day



Room Of One's Own, designed by Lynda Reeves, is showcased in the Design Live area at the Interior Design Show in Toronto, on Friday.—INTERNET



Mirrors are seen channelling sunlight onto a tube filled with oil during the dedication of Acciona's Nevada Solar One power plant in Boulder City, about 30 miles (48 kms) southeast of Las Vegas on 22 Feb, 2008. Acciona is a renewable energy company based in Spain. —INTERNET

WHO announces
end of Ebola
outbreak in Uganda

GENEVA, 23 Feb — A recent outbreak of Ebola fever in Uganda’s western Bundibugyo region has officially come to an end, the World Health Organization (WHO) announced here.

“The last person to be infected by the virus was discharged on 8 January, 2008. This is more than double the maximum incubation period (42 days) for Ebola,” the UN agency said in a statement.

According to the statement, a national task force comprising the Ministry of Health of Uganda, WHO and other international partners coordinated the response to this outbreak.

A cumulative total of 77 patients were treated in two isolation facilities set up in the country.

MNA/Xinhua

Lawmakers ask
coroner to stop
Diana “circus”

LONDON, 23 Feb — Senior British parliamentarians on Thursday urged the judge hearing the inquest into the deaths of Princess Diana and her lover Dodi al-Fayed in a Paris car crash to bring the “circus” to a halt.

But the plea was forcefully rejected by the coroner, Lord Justice Scott Baker, who issued a sharp warning to anyone commenting on the value of the hearing.

“These inquests ... will continue to be heard by the jury, which in due course will return its verdict,” he said.

“I remind everyone ... that the jury decides the case on the evidence it hears in this court and on nothing else.

“Comments that are made outside the court, often about a limited aspect of the evidence, may render the maker or publisher liable to contempt of court,” he added, referring to strict rules designed to ensure the fairness of legal hearings.—MNA/Reuters

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Dated: 25 February, 2008

Suicide bomber kills five in western Iraq

FALLUJAH (Iraq), 23 Feb — A suicide bomber blew himself up near a police checkpoint at a popular market in a town in Iraq’s western Anbar Province on Friday, killing at least five people and wounding 10 others, a local police source said.

“A suicide bomber wearing an explosive vest blew himself up at a police checkpoint in a crowded popular market in the town of Ameriyyat al-Fallujah, some seven kilometres south

of Fallujah City,” the source told Xinhua on condition of anonymity.

Initial police reports said that five people were killed and ten others wounded, the source said, adding that undetermined number of policemen were among the killed and wounded.

Iraqi security forces cordoned off the area to secure the scene and imposed curfew in the town until further notice, the source added.

MNA/Xinhua

INVITATION TO TENDER
IRRIGATION DEPARTMENT

Sealed Tenders are invited by the Irrigation Department, Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation, the Government of the Union of Myanmar, from reputed manufacturers or their bonafide agents from all eligible source countries for the supply and delivery of the followings :

Sr. No.	Tender No. and Description	Issuing Date & Time	Closing Date & Time
1.	ICB NO. 1/IRR/OPEC /(M) 2007-2008 Purchase of Earth Moving Equipments Commodity (1) Crawler Tractor (200 HP) - (6) units and spares . Commodity (2) Hydraulic Excavator (0.8m ³) with back hoe attachment - (14) units and spares Commodity (3) Light Duty Truck (6 Ton) -(4) units and spares Commodity (4) Dump Truck (15 Ton) - (23)units and spares	28.2.2008 (10:00) AM	30.4.2008 (12:00) AM

Tender Documents are available at the office of the Director General , Irrigation Department , Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation , Building No.15 , Naypyitaw , Myanmar , during office hours on Payment of US \$ 100.

Bids are to reach the office of the Director General , Irrigation Department , Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation , Building No.15 Naypyitaw , Myanmar on or before the Closing Date and Time shown against each Tender. The Bids will be opened publicly at 14:00 hour on the closing Date at the office of the Director General , Irrigation Department , Naypyitaw .

Bids not accompanied by earnest money (Bid Bond) will not be considered. No Telegraphic / Telex proposal will be considered or accepted.

Irrigation Department reserves the right to reject any or all Tenders without furnishing reasons. Tender will be accepted only from Tenderers who has purchased Tender Documents officially. (Those purchased through Embassies must declare for whom they are purchased.)

The above Goods are to be purchased from the proceeds of OPEC Fund in various currencies towards the cost of Thonze and Kabaung Irrigation Project.

Director General
Irrigation Department



Workers evacuate a pig from a flooded farm after heavy rains caused the Fraile River to overflow in Yumbo, in the southern colombia state of Valle del Cauca on 22 Feb, 2008.—INTERNET

EU Commissioner says Greece
faces bleak climate future

ATHENS 24 Feb— Greece will face droughts, higher temperatures and sea levels, and desertification that will damage agriculture and tourism because of climate change, EU Environment Commissioner Stavros Dimas said on Friday.

“The problem of parched land and drought will intensify and desertification will speed up (in Greece),” Dimas said in a speech. “Areas in seaside towns like Thessaloniki and Messolongi, will most likely find themselves under water.”

MNA/Reuters

Rescuers find Venezuela
plane crash black boxes

MERIDA, (Venezuela), 24 Feb— Rescue workers found two flight recorders on Saturday in the wreckage of a passenger plane that veered off course and slammed into the sheer face of an Andean mountain, killing all 46 people on board.

The “black box” recorders may explain what happened in the last moments before local airline Santa Barbara’s flight 518 crashed into a 13,000-feet (4,000 metre) rock wall known as Indian Face on Thursday soon after taking off from Merida, a high-altitude tourist town.

Ramon Vinas, who heads Venezuela’s civil aviation authority, turned over the boxes to public investigators. He said one contained recordings of the pilots’ conversations and the other held technical data.

MNA/Reuters



Icebergs break off the Vatnajökull glacier in Iceland before floating into sea in 2006. Four nations — including Iceland — and a clutch of cities and corporations have unveiled a Web-based information hub to help meet a pledge to radically de-carbonize their economies in the coming decades.—INTERNET

France wants UN to add its cuisine to heritage list

PARIS, 24 Feb — France, home to delicacies such as foie gras and soufflé, wants to be the first country to put its cuisine on the United Nations' World Heritage List, President Nicolas Sarkozy said on Saturday.

"We have the best gastronomy in the world," he said at the inauguration of the annual Paris farm show. "I have taken the initiative so that France becomes the first country in 2009 to submit its candidacy to obtain recognition of our gas-

tronomic heritage as part of World Heritage."

The UN Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) World Heritage List, created in 1972 to protect historical and natural sites, traditionally applies to places or geographical areas rather than cultural crafts such as cooking.

UNESCO's current list includes 851 sites which range from Egypt's ancient pyramids to the Great Wall of China and Australia's Great Barrier Reef. — MNA/Reuters

Lack of sleep leads to more injuries among children

LOS ANGELES, 24 Feb — A new research finds that pre-school children who lack adequate sleep may sustain more injuries.

The average number of injuries during the preschool years is two times higher for children who do not get enough sleep each day as described by their mothers, according to

the study published in the February issue of *Public Health Nursing*.

In the study, researchers at the University of Rochester School of Nursing collected data from nearly 300 mothers and their preschool children during two and a half years. Mothers reported on their child's sleep, and data on injuries were collected

through self-report and medical records.

The study was funded by the National Centre for Injury Prevention and Control. The study found a direct negative relationship between children's sleep and injuries. Children who get an adequate amount of sleep sustain fewer injuries.

MNA/Xinhua

Moderate fitness helps reduce stroke risk

LOS ANGELES, 24 Feb — A moderate level of aerobic fitness can significantly reduce stroke risk in men and women, according to a new study.

The study shows that 30 minutes or more of brisk walking, or an equivalent aerobic activity, five days a week

could lower stroke risk by about 40 per cent.

Researchers at the University of South Carolina Arnold School of Public Health analyzed data on more than 60,000 people — 46,405 men and 15,282 women — who participated in a long-term study between 1970 and

2001.

The participants, aged 18 to 100 and free of known cardiovascular disease when they entered the study, were followed for an average of 18 years. During that time, 863 people — 692 men and 171 women — had strokes. — MNA/Xinhua



A Lebanese skier skis in the Lebanese mount ski resort of Faraya, northeast of Beirut, Lebanon, on 23 Feb, 2008.—INTERNET

China to test deep-sea submersible

BEIJING, 23 Feb — China is to test a manned submersible that can reach up to 7,000 metres (23,000 feet) below sea level, the official *Xinhua* news agency reported on Friday, citing the State Oceanic Administration.

Research on the submersible will be given "equal importance with China's space endeavours", the report said. China put a man in space in 2003, part of an ambitious space programme that includes its first lunar probe launched last year.

Selection for the crew of the submersible began in August 2006, and China will finish building the first phase of its "deep-sea base project" by 2010.

A submersible is like a submarine, but they typically have a shorter range and rely on another vessel or facility for support.

The project would be equipped for deep-sea natural resource inspections as well as research and testing of equipment designed for deep-sea use, *Xinhua* said. The report did not mention military uses for the submersible.

MNA/Reuters



Japanes women at an Internet cafe in Tokyo. Japan has launched a satellite aimed at providing high-speed Internet access across Asia, after a one-week delay.—INTERNET

UK's seaside arcades facing extinction

LONDON, 23 Feb — Britain's seaside amusement arcades could be wiped out within a year, the slot machine industry will tell the government on Friday.

Along with "kiss-me-quick" hats and donkey rides on the beach, amusement arcades are a quintessential part of Britain's seaside

tradition.

Over the past 12 months they have been hit by new betting and smoking laws while torrential downpours lashed Britain and left coastal resorts deserted for much of the summer.

BACTA, the body that represents UK arcade and amusement operators, says re-

venues in the industry, which also includes high street arcades, have dropped 21 per cent over the last year.

BACTA will be the latest gambling body to lobby the UK Government to change their stance on new rules that have outlawed some of the most profitable slot machines.

MNA/Reuters

SPORTS

Liverpool boss lauds Spanish striker



Liverpool manager Rafa Benitez

LONDON, 23 Feb—Liverpool manager Rafa Benitez praised the performance of Fernando Torres after the striker hit a hat-trick in Saturday's 3-2 victory over Middles-

brough at Anfield. The Reds had fallen behind to a Tuncay Sanli goal, but Torres then netted three times to help Liverpool overtake Merseyside rivals Everton - who travel to Manchester City on Monday - in fourth place in the Premier League. Stewart Downing set up a tight finish with a late consolation but Benitez has admitted his delight with Torres, who is now the first Liverpool forward to score more than 20 goals in a season since Michael Owen in 2003.

Internet

Leaders Olympiakos held in 1-1 draw at PAOK

ATHENS, 24 Feb — Leaders Olympiakos Piraeus were held to a 1-1 draw by PAOK Salonika in the Greek Super League at Thessaloniki on Saturday. The Olympiakos defence, which comfortably held Chelsea at bay during their goalless midweek Champions League clash, was in trouble after just two minutes at the Toumba. Glen Salmon's cross was poorly cleared by Olympiakos goalkeeper Antonis Nikopolidis and Spanish midfielder Antonio Gonzalez fired PAOK in front. Sergio Conceicao and Salmon had chances to double their lead but it was Olympiakos who found the net in the 22nd minute through an unmarked Darko Kovacevic. It was the Serb's 16th league goal of the season. PAOK had a great chance to reclaim the advantage when Gonzalez was brought down in the area but Nikopolidis saved Conceicao's spot-kick. The home side created the better chances in the second half but neither team was able to break the deadlock.—MNA/Reuters

Answers to yesterday's Crosswords Puzzle

1	A		2	H		3	S		4	D		5	S		6	Z
7	F	O	U	G	H	T		8	L	E	S	L	I	E		
	F		N		O		9	E		P		A		B		
10	A	T	T	R	A	C	T		11	O	C	C	U	R		
	B		I		L		I		S		K		A			
12	L	I	N	O		13	E	Q	U	I	P					
	E		G		14	M		U		T		15	P		16	F
			17	V	A	L	E	T		18	D	A	T	A		
19	P		20	W		D		T		21	S		U		L	
22	L	E	A	V	E		23	T	O	P	I	C	A	L		
	U		L		I		E		A		I		A			
24	M	A	T	U	R	E		25	C	R	I	T	I	C		
	P		Z		A				E		Y		Y			

Fergie—Win stressed urgency United boss delighted to close gap

LONDON, 23 Feb—Manchester United boss Sir Alex Ferguson believes his side have put the defeat against rivals Manchester City firmly behind them. The Red Devils were stunned by City earlier this month as Sven Goran Eriksson's men claimed a 2-1 success at Old Trafford. However, United have responded impressively, thumping Arsenal 4-0 in the FA Cup, drawing 1-1 away in the UEFA Cham-



Sir Alex Ferguson

pions League with Lyon and thrashing Newcastle 5-1 at St James' Park on Saturday.

Internet



Schalke's Kevin Kuranyi, left, Leverkusen's Simon Rolfes challenge for the ball during the German first division Bundesliga soccer match between Bayer 04 Leverkusen and Schalke 04 in Leverkusen, Germany, on 23 Feb, 2008.—INTERNET

Valencia held 1-1 by visitors Recreativo Huelva

MADRID, 24 Feb — Valencia's poor home form continued to haunt them as they were held to a 1-1 draw by lowly Recreativo Huelva in the Primera Liga on Saturday. Forward Juan Mata opened the scoring for the home side in the 39th minute after a wonderful pass from Argentine midfielder Ever Banega, but Recre's Portuguese midfielder Carlos Martins levelled from outside the area just after the restart. Ronald Koeman's side, who have a King's Cup semifinal first leg against Barcelona next week, missed a host of chances to wrap up the points but remain ninth. —MNA/Reuters



Liverpool's Steven Gerrard, center, vies with Middlesbrough's Julio Arca, left, during their English Premier League soccer match at Anfield Stadium, Liverpool, England, on 23 Feb, 2008.—INTERNET

Wenger retracts comments Arsenal boss softens stance towards Taylor

LONDON, 23 Feb--Arsene Wenger has withdrawn comments calling for Birmingham defender Martin Taylor to be banned for life. Taylor was red carded in the 2-2 draw at St Andrews for a tackle on Eduardo da Silva that left the Arsenal striker with a broken leg.



Arsene Wenger

Wenger was furious with Taylor after the match and said he could not be forgiven for such a challenge. However, the Gunners boss has now softened his stance after having more time to consider the incident. "On reflection, I feel that my comments about

Martin Taylor were excessive. I said what I did immediately after the game in the heat of the moment." An apologetic Martin Taylor has insisted there was no 'malicious intent' in the tackle.

Internet



Stuttgart's Cacau scores the team's third goal against Karlsruhe's Bradley Carnell, right, during the German first division Bundesliga soccer match between VfB Stuttgart and Karlsruher SC in Stuttgart, Germany, on 23 Feb, 2008.—INTERNET

Wenger angry after Arsenal's Eduardo breaks leg

LONDON, 24 Feb — Arsenal striker Eduardo da Silva broke his left leg in the 2-2 Premier League draw with Birmingham City on Saturday, bringing a furious reaction from his coach Arsene Wenger. The match was stopped for nearly eight minutes as the Brazilian-born Croatia international was treated on the field before being carried off on a stretcher. Birmingham defender Martin Taylor was given a straight red card for his challenge on Eduardo in the third minute. "The tackle was horrendous and this guy (Taylor) should never play football again," Wenger told BBC television. "I've seen some bad ones before but you are not always punished with a broken leg. "The minimum is that the season is over and we're scared it is much longer." Birmingham manager Alex McLeish said Taylor was very upset about the injury. "He's absolutely distraught, he's not that type of player," he told Sky Sports television. "He didn't feel he made that much contact with Eduardo."

MNA/Reuters

Daw Tin Myo Wai (June Ba Chit)

71 years

Youngest daughter of (Retired Session Judge U Ba Chit-Daw Khin Ma Ma); daughter-in-law of (Retired Session Judge U Mya Yin-Daw Khin Nyunt); beloved wife of Retired Immigration Officer U Maung Maung Latt; beloved mother of Daw Nyunt Oo Yin (Cheryl)-Keith Herd (Vancouver, Canada), Daw Thawdar Yin-U Khin Maung Htwe (Tony) (East Wind Ship Management Pte., Ltd. Singapore), U Nay Myo Yin, U Aung Myo Yin (Peepo)(U.K); grandmother of Aikaree Maung-Han Lynn Maung Maung (USA), Thynza Maung (Tiffany), James Yin and Matthew Yin peacefully passed away at No 886/c, Aung Zedi Kyaung Lane, 10th Mile, Insein, Township on 21st February 2008 at 5.30 am and will be cremated at 3 pm on 25th February 2008 at Yeway Crematorium. The funeral procession will leave from the above-mentioned residence at 2.00 pm.

Australia to keep troops in Afghanistan for long-term

CANBERRA, 24 Feb — Australia on Friday stated that it will keep its troops in Afghanistan for a long term, despite its decision to withdraw forces from Iraq, according to Defence Minister Joel Fitzgibbon.

"We've made it very, very clear that our commitment in Afghanistan is a long-standing one," the Defence Minister told reporters.

"I said in the Parliament just this week what a tragedy it would be if all that we'd done in Afghanistan so far was in the end all for naught. So our commitment is a long-term one."

Australia has deployed

about 1,000 troops in Afghanistan, mostly in the southern Afghan province of Uruzgan, a former Taliban stronghold.

Australia's previous government had sent 2,000 troops to support US and British forces in the Iraq invasion.

But the new Australian Government, elected in November last year, promised to pull out the country's combat troops from Iraq by mid-2008.

On Wednesday, Australia Air Chief Marshal Angus Houston told a Senate committee that the military is planning to withdraw 550 combat troops from Iraq.

MNA/Xinhua

Asleep in Jesus**Saw Matthew Ba Saing (Saw Khu)**

57 years

Younger son of (U Saw Harvey Ba Saing + Daw Aileen); son-in-law of (U Ko Gyi + Daw Mya Thein) of Mandalay; beloved husband of Daw Rita Ba Saing (FAO), residing at No.13, Yadana Road, Kyaukkone Ward, Yankin Township; and beloved father of Thet Mar Lynn (Australia) and Wai Linn Saing (Warren) (Australia) fell asleep in Jesus peacefully on 22 February, 2008 at 9 pm. Funeral Services will be held at Kanbe Baptist Church at 12 noon on 27 February, 2008 and thence to Yayway Christian Cemetery for burial.

Bereaved family

Ban appeals for "respect" of Turkey, Iraq border

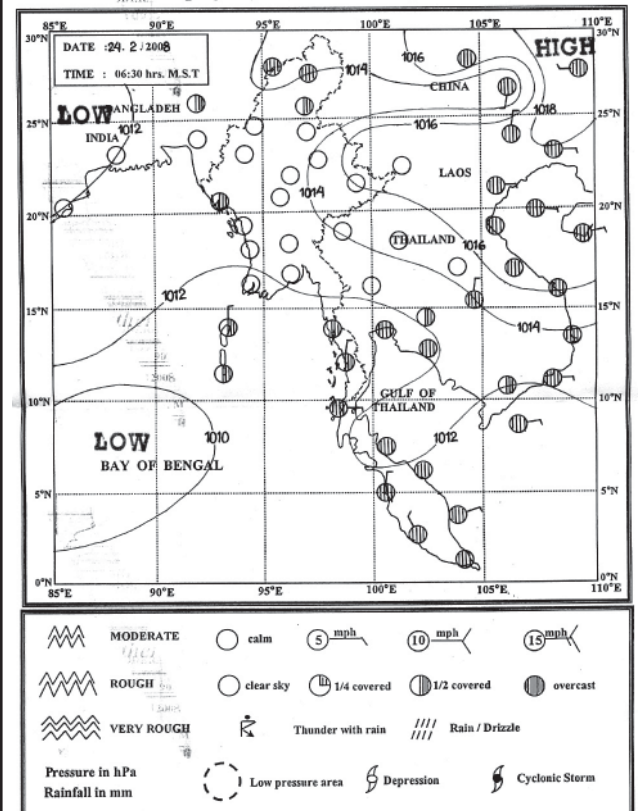
UNITED NATIONS, 24 Feb — UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon on Friday appealed for restraint and respect of the borders between Turkey and Iraq.

"The Secretary-General is concerned by the latest escalation of tension along the Turkish-Iraqi border," said a statement issued by Ban's Press office. "While conscious of Turkey's concerns, he reiterates his appeal for utmost restraint, and for respect of the international borders between Iraq and Turkey."

The UN chief also repeated his "previous calls for an immediate end to continued incursions" by the separatist Kurdistan Workers' Party (PKK) elements "carrying out terrorist attacks in Turkey from Northern Iraq".

"The protection of civilian life on both sides of the border remains the paramount concern," it added.

MNA/Xinhua

Weather Map of Myanmar and Neighbouring Areas**WEATHER**

Sunday, 24 February, 2008

Summary of observations recorded at 9:30 hours MST: During the past 24 hours, weather have been partly cloudy in Kachin State and Taninthayi Division and generally fair in the remaining States and Divisions. Night temperatures were (3°C) to (4°C) below February average temperatures in Kachin, Chin, Rakhine States, upper Sagaing, Mandalay, Magway and Yangon Divisions, (8°C) below February average temperatures in Bago Division and (3°C) above February average temperatures in Taninthayi Division and about February average temperatures in the remaining States and Divisions. The significant night temperatures were Haka (0°C), Namhsan, Heho and Loilem (3°C) each, Pinlaung and An (4°C) each, Mogok and Lashio (5°C) each.

Maximum temperature on 23-2-2008 was 95°F. Minimum temperature on 24-2-2008 was 63°F. Relative humidity at (09:30) hours MST on 24-2-2008 was 54%. Total sunshine hours on 23-2-2008 was (8.8) hours approx.

Rainfall on 23-2-2008 was (Nil) at Mingaladon, Kaba-Aye and Central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2008 was (0.67) inch at Mingaladon, (0.47) inch at Kaba-Aye and (0.35) inch at Central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (4) mph from Southeast at (18:30) hours MST on 23-2-2008.

Bay inference: Weather is partly cloudy in the Andaman Sea and South Bay and generally fair elsewhere in the Bay of Bengal.

Forecast valid until evening of 25-2-2008: Possibility of isolated rain or thundershowers in Kachin State and weather will be partly cloudy in Rakhin State and Taninthayi Divisions and generally fair in the remaining areas. Degree of certainty is (40%).

State of the sea: Seas will be slight to moderate in Myanmar waters.

Outlook for subsequent two days: Likelihood of slight decrease of night temperatures in the upper Myanmar areas.

Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring area for 25-2-2008: Generally fair weather.

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 25-2-2008: Generally fair weather.

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 25-2-2008: Generally fair weather.



Monday, 25 February
View on today

7:00 am

- ကျေးဇူးရှင်မင်းကုန်းဆရာတော် ဘုရားကြီး၊ နိုင်ငံတော်သံဃာ့ မဟာနာယကအဖွဲ့အကျိုးတော် ဆောင်ချုပ်၊ အဘိဓမ္မမဟာ ရှင်ဂုရု၊ အဘိဓမ္မအဂ္ဂမဟာ သဒ္ဓမ္မဇောတိက၊ တိပိဋကဓရ၊ ဓမ္မဘဏ္ဍာဂါရိက၊ ဆရာတော် ဘဒ္ဒန္တဝိစိတ္တသာရာဘိဝံသ၏ ပရိတ်တရားတော်

7:15 am

- တိပိဋကဓရ၊ဓမ္မဘဏ္ဍာဂါရိက၊ အဂ္ဂမဟာပဏ္ဍိတ၊ ဘဒ္ဒန္တသိရိန္ဒာဘိဝံသ (ယောဆရာတော်) ဟောကြားတော်မူအပ်သော ဥပ္ပါတသန္တိပါဠိတော်

7:25 am

- To be healthy exercise

7:30 am

- Morning news

7:40 am

- Nice and sweet song

7:55 am

- Song of national races

8:15 am

- Cute little of dancers

8:30 am

- International news

8:45 am

- Grammar made easy

4:00 pm

- Martial song

4:15 pm

- Song to uphold National Spirit

4:30 pm

- အဝေးသင်တက္ကသိုလ် ပညာရေးရုပ်မြင်သံကြား သင်ခန်းစာ-ပထမနှစ် (သရုပ်၊ဇာတ်ကဏ္ဍပဗေဒ အထူးပြုများ)(ရုပ်ပဗေဒ)

4:45 pm

- ၂၀၀၈ခုနှစ်တက္ကသိုလ်ဝင်တန်း စာမေးပွဲဘာသာရပ်ဆိုင်ရာ သင်ခန်းစာများ (ပထဝီဘာသာရပ်)

5:15 pm

- Dance variety

5:25 pm

- “စက်မှုဇုန်မှာ ကျွန်မတို့ရဲ့လူတည်တော်မူမယ်” (ပြီးငွေစိုး၊ မိုးဒီ၊ စောနိုင်(ရှမ်းပြည်)၊ သဇင်၊ နှင်းဆီ၊ ခင်မိုးမိုးအေး) (ဒါရိုက်တာ-တင်အောင်ရွှေ (သုတေသီ)

5:35 pm

- Song and dance of national races

5:45 pm

- Musical programme (The Redio Myanmar Modern Music Troupe)

6:00 pm

- Evening news

6:30 pm

- Weather report

6:35 pm

- အလှူရှာမယ် လှူကမ္ဘာဝယ်

6:50 pm

- Musical programme

7:05 pm

- နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ “ချစ်တယ်--ချစ်တယ်” (အပိုင်း-၂)

8:00 pm

- News

8:00 pm

- International news

8:00 pm

- Weather report

8:00 pm

- နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ “မေတ္တာမျဉ်းပြိုင်” (အပိုင်း-၆)

8:00 pm

- The next day's programme



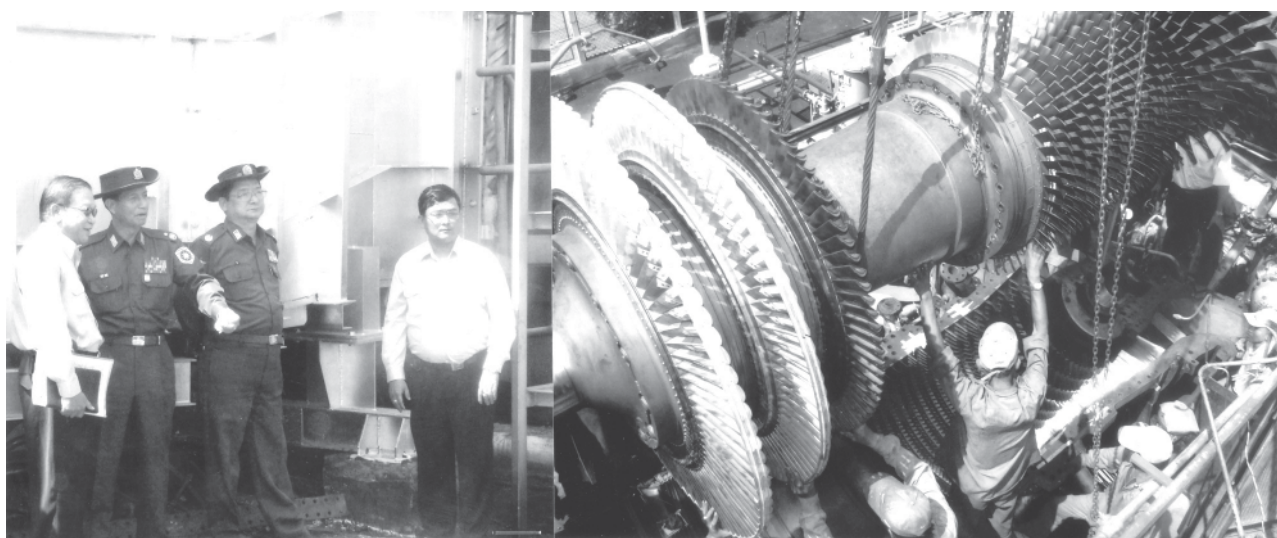
Monday, 25 February
Tune in today

- 8:30 am Brief news
- 8:35 am Music -Mandy
- 8:40 am Perspectives
- 8:45 am Music -Breathe easy
- 8:50 am National news
- 9:00 am Music -Sunrise
- 9:05 am International news
- 9:10 am Music -Falling in love with love
- 1:30 pm News/ Slogan
- 1:40pm Lunch time Music -Two hearts -The guitar man
- 9:00 pm Spotlight of the stars -The Carpenters
- 9:10 pm Article
- 9:20 pm Drug/Women affairs
- 9:35 pm Volcal gems -Love is love -Willow
- 9:45 pm News/Slogan
- 10:00 pm PEL

People's Desire

- ★ **We favour stability.**
- ★ **We favour peace.**
- ★ **We oppose unrest and violence.**

New Turbine Rotor installed at Ahlon power station



Minister Maj-Gen Khin Maung Myint inspects installation of new Turbine Rotor at the gas power station in Ahlon Township.— MNA

YANGON, 24 Feb — Minister for Electric Power No-2 Maj-Gen Khin Maung Myint together with Deputy Minister Brig-Gen Win Myint and officials inspected the gas power station in Ahlon Township yesterday.

At the power station, the minister inspected power supply with full capacity and installation of new Turbine Rotor for No-3 Turbine.

Chief Engineer U Than Lwin and factory manager U Than Naing Oo briefed the minister on major repair and substitution of new Turbine Rotor for No-3 Turbine.

Next, he inspected Cummins brand 1000 KVA power machine to be used in Sittway in Rakhine State.—MNA

Orbis International flying eye hospital arrives

YANGON, 24 Feb — Under the cooperation programme of the Ministry of Health and Orbis International, a twenty-nine member team of Orbis International Flying Eye Hospital led by Executive Director Mr Geoffrey Holland and Director Mr Erwin Timmerman arrived at Mandalay International Airport (TadaU) on 23 February.

The team was welcomed at the airport by Medical Superintendent Dr Thein Wai of Eye, Ear, Nose and Throat Hospital, Eye Specialist Associate Professor Dr Ye Lwin and eye specialists, nurses and officials.

The team will give treatment to eye patients, give lecture to undergraduates and postgraduates and exchange views on medical knowledge with Myanmar medical experts. — MNA

Objectives of the 63rd Anniversary Armed Forces Day

- * To work in concert with the people in building a peaceful, modern, developed and discipline-flourishing democratic nation
- * To realize the seven-step Road Map of the State joining hands with the people
- * Joining hands with the people and based on Union Spirit to crush internal and external destructive elements sabotaging stability and development of the State
- * To build a strong, capable and modern patriotic Tatmadaw to safeguard Our Three Main National Causes

INSIDE

An orphanage on self-reliant basis at the remote corner of Sa Ma Hill run by a team of selfless volunteers under the management of a BA graduate monk is indeed a source of admiration and inspiration to all visitors and pilgrims.

PAGES 7&8

DR KHIN MAUNG NYUNT

- ★ **Skyful liars attempting to destroy nation**
- ★ **BBC lying**
- ★ **VOA deceiving**
- ★ **RFA setting up hostilities**
- ★ **Beware! Don't be bought by those ill-wishers**