

"The New Light of Myanmar" (30-1-97)

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- (1) Death sentence passed on 20 in drug cases under State Law and Order Restoration Council.**

YANGON, 29 Jan-The Tatmadaw, Myanmar Police Force and the Customs Department have been carrying out prevention and suppression of the menace of narcotic drugs as a national duty. In 1996, altogether 5,540 persons- 4,527 men and 1,013 women-were seized in 3,771 cases and the seizures included 1,300.002 kilos of opium, 504,6033 kilos of heroin, 13.809 kilos of opium base, 263.786 kilos of marijuana, 1,789.8611 litre of Phensedyl, 5,081.55 gallons of acetic anhydride, 5,106.3873 gallons of other liquid chemicals and 5,906,555 tablets of stimulants.

Death sentences were passed and other drastic punishments meted out on those in above cases who produced and dealt in narcotics and psychotropic substances and liquid chemical used in refining drugs.

Taunggyi District

In one case, Taunggyi District Court passed death Sentence on Aung Myint, 24, son of U Law Yan, and Sai Saw Nandi, 26, son of U Lon San Su Nandi, on 29 August 1996 under Section 19(a) / 21 of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law for carrying 122 blocks of heroin, weighing 44.802 kilos, hidden in their car, in Hopong, near Taunggyi, on 6 August 1996.

Muse District

In a similar case, driver Win Myint (a) Ar Myint and two

persons in the car-Yan Shi Chauk and Khwe Tin Chang-were seized together with acids used in refining drugs near Sehai Village, Namhkam Township, Shan State (North), on 28 July 1996. Further investigations led to seizure of acids and chemicals from the godown of Lauk Lu (a) Ar Lu (a) Saw An Ching of Manwein Village, Muse Township. Further investigations led to the arrests of Li Lian Wam, Yan Khwam, Hwan Wei and Kyan Hwa in three huts together with 236 gallons of acids and paraphernalia near Mongyulay Village on 1 August 1996 and they were sent up for trial to Muse District Court.

On 10 January 1997, the Muse District Court passed death sentence on Win Myint (a) Ar Myint, 26, son of U Chein Kaung, and Lauk Lu (a) Ar Lu (a) Saw An Ching, 26, son of U Saw Oo, under Sections 22 (a)(b) and 21 of the same law and an imprisonment of unlimited period on six persons-Khwe Tin Chang, 19, son of U Kwe Sai, Yan Shi Chauk, 20, son of U Yan Kyon Chin, Li Lian Wam, 31, son of U Chi Swe Chein, Yan Khwam, 30, son of U Yan Khaik, Hwan Wei, 32, son of U Wam She Kyan, and Kyan Hwa, 20, son of U Kyan Chan, under Sections 15, 16 (b), 20 (b), 22 (a)(b) and 21 of the same law.

Kengtung District

On 14 September 1996, 12 persons were seized at the houses of U Ya Bo Tip (a) Ya Bo Ti and U Kya Sho (a) U Kya Soe in Mskao Kham Ward, Tachilek, together with 98 blocks of heroin, weighing 45.08 kilos, and 280,92 tablets of stimulants, and were sent up for trial to Kengtung District Court.

On 20 January, 1997, the court passed death sentence on U Kya Sho (a) Kya Soe, 42, son of U Kyar Yaw, Ar Min (a) Law Tan, 32, son of U Wa Maw, and U Ya Bo Tip (a) Ya Bo Ti, 51, son of U Kya Khu, under Sections 19 (a), 20 (b) and 21 of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law, and 20 years imprisonment on Phu Chay, 46, son of U Swam Chis and Daw Elizabeth (a) Aye Aye Lwin, 42, daughter of U Kya Soe Hsu, under Sections 20 (b) and 21 of the same law and 15 years to Ma Ar Shin, 38, daughter of U Law Yan, and Tin Oo, 21, and Kyaw Oo, 18, sons of U Ya Bo Tip, under Sections 20 (b) and 21 of the same law.

Under the State Law and Order Restoration Council, death sentence was passed on 20 persons, an imprisonment of unlimited period on nine, an imprisonment of 20 years and above on 28, life sentence on 48, an imprisonment of ten years and above on 6,909 and an imprisonment of ten years and below on 25,783 under the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law.

(2) Action taken against 304 persons in 216 drug-related cases in December

Yangon, 29 Jan --- Tatmadawmen of battalions and units seized 16.5415 kilos of opium, 0.003 kilo of heroin, eight gallons of ether, 32 gallons of methyl alcohol and 10 gallons of precursor chemicals in December 1996.

During that period, MPF personnel seized a total of 91.7958 kilos of opium in 29 cases; a total of 2.906 kilos of heroin in 104 cases; a total of 5.781 kilos of marijuana in nine cases; a total of 104.738 litres of Phensedyl in seven cases; a total of 0.0138 kilo of opium powder in one case; a total of 296 tablets of stimulant in two cases; a total of 920 tablets of Ephedrine in one case; a total of 66 bottles of cough syrup in two cases; a total of 18.6813 gallons of ether in one case; a total of 8.7912 gallons of methyl alcohol; 51 cases for failure to register for treatment and five other drug-related cases.

Personnel of the Customs Department seized a total of 1.7 kilos of heroin in one case and a total of 75, 801 tablets of stimulant during December 1996.

Tatmadaw, MPF and the Customs Department took action against 304 persons in 216 drug-related cases.

Among the MPF seizure, the MPF together with Tatmadaw seized a total of 2.2526 kilos of heroin in seven cases; a total of 42.9388 kilos of opium in nine cases, and a total of 0.1386 kilo of marijuana.

(3) Seizure of narcotic drugs during 1996

Yangon, 29 Jan --- Tatmadawmen of battalions and units seized 323.0667 kilos of opium, 230.366 kilos of heroin, 1.1431 kilos of marijuana, 263.045 litres of Phensedyl, 2,394 gallons of acetic anhydride, 2,461.01 gallons of precursor chemicals and 31,337 tablets of stimulant from 1 January to 31 December 1996.

Similarly, the MPF seized a total of 951.5069 kilos of opium in 443 cases; a total of 269.4663 kilos of heroin in 1,302 cases; a total of 13.809 kilos of brown opium in two cases; a total of 7.7037 kilos of heavy opium solution in 20 cases; a total of 261.8477 kilos of marijuana in 389 cases; a total of 1,490.0161 litres of Phensedyl in 142 cases; a total of 2,677.55 gallons of acetic anhydride in eight cases; a total of 2,645.3773 gallons of precursor chemicals in 10

cases; a total of 211.25 litres of cough syrup in 25 cases; 5,799,418 tablets of stimulant in 13 cases; 1,230 cases for failure to register for treatment and 176 other drug-related cases.

During the same period, personnel of the Customs Department seized a total of 25.4284 kilos of opium in three cases; a total of 4.7702 kilos of heroin in four cases; a total of 0.7952 kilo of marijuana in one case; a total of 36.8 litres of Phensedyl in one case; a total of 10 gallons of acetic anhydride in one case; 75,800 tablets of stimulant and one other drug-related case.

Among the MPF seizure, the MPF together with Tatmadaw seized a total of 295.6233 kilos of opium in 60 cases; a total of 193.6461 kilos of heroin in 82 cases; a total of 443.05 litres of Phensedyl in 24 cases; a total of 14.4712 kilos of marijuana in nine cases; a total of 280 gallons of acetic anhydride in two cases; a total of 355 gallons of ether in one case and a total of 1.39 kilos of heavy opium solution.

The MPF took action against 5,540 persons in connection with 3,771 drug related cases.

(4) Over 3 kilos of opium seized in Taunggyi

Yangon, 29 Jan --- Members of Defence Services Intelligence and Myanmar Police Force in Taunggyi and Ward Law and Order Restoration Council searched No 4 Ka 2268 of Pa-O Yadana Transport Association in Kanauk Ward in Taunggyi on 17 December.

They seized 3.1 kilos of opium from passengers Khun Aye Maung, son of U Hla of Hopong Township and Shwedaung and Ye Lwin, sons of U Maung Pya of Panglong.

Legal action is being taken against the three according to law.

(5) German Delegation calls on Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation

Yangon, 29 Jan --- The delegation led by Mr. Peter Amsinck of German Asia Pacific Business Association (OVA), accompanied by German Ambassador Dr. Wolfgang Wiesner, called on Chairman of Myanma Industrial Development Committee Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation Lt-Gen Myint Aung at his office this evening.

Investment of German businessmen in Myanmar industrial development and promotion of bilateral economic ties were discussed.

Present were Chairman of Myanmar Industrial Development Work Committee acting Minister for Industry-2 Lt-Gen Min Thein, Secretary of the Committee Deputy Minister for Industry-2 U Thein Tun, heads of department under the ministry and officials.

The delegation observed agricultural products showroom at the ministry.

(6) Pacific Medical Centre opens

Yangon, 29 Jan --- An official opening of Pacific Medical Centre was held at 81, Kaba Aye Pagoda Road yesterday, attended by Patron for Life of Myanmar Karuna Foundation Minister for Commerce Lt-Gen Tun Kyi.

Present were Ambassador of France Mr. Bernard Pottier, officials of the ministry, members of the Board of Directors of International Health Care System Ltd and guests.

Minister Lt-Gen Tun Kyi and Chairman of Health Management International Mr. Lam Chuan Leong made speeches.

General Manager Dr. Ng Kai Sum presented US \$ 10,000 for MKF to the minister.

Chairman of Pacific Medical Systems Pte. Ltd Mr. Kenneth Shein explained setup of the centre. The minister and guests then inspected the centre.

The PMC offers primary health care services as well as other services such as vaccinations, health screening and pre-employment checkups with modern facilities.

It is open from 8 am to 8 pm daily except Sunday.

(7) D-G of DIC meets Singapore delegation

Yangon, 29 Jan --- Director-General U Maung Maung Yi of

Directorate of Investment and Companies Administration received the 38-member Singapore trade delegation and investment mission led by Mr. Bob Tan Beng Hai at the office of Myanmar Investment Commission this afternoon.

Also present were officials of Directorate of Investment and Companies.

Main points on the Myanmar Foreign Investment Law and facilities and investment opportunities under the law were discussed.

(8) D-G of DICA receives Director of Hanwha Group Corp, party

Yangon, 29 Jan --- Director-General U Maung Maung Yi of Directorate of Investment and Company Administration received a 7-member delegation led by Director Mr. W J Hur of Hanwha Group Corporation of the Republic of Korea at Myanmar Investment Commission Office at 3.30 pm today.

They discussed economics and investment.

Officials of the Directorate of Investment and Company Administration were also present.

(9) Dai-Ichi Kangyo Bank Ltd opens representative office

Yangon, 29 Jan --- Dai-Ichi Kangyo Bank Ltd opened its Yangon Representative's office at FMI Centre on 23 January.

Deputy Minister for Finance and Revenue U Win Naing, Governor of Central Bank of Myanmar U Kyi Aye, Vice Governor U Kyaw Kyaw Maung, Managing Director of Dai-Ichi Kangyo Bank Ltd Mr. Takasuke Kaneko, Yangon branch in-charge Mr. Hisao Nishida, officials and guests were present.

Deputy Minister U Win Naing, Governor U Kyi Aye and Managing Director Mr. Takasuke Kaneko formally opened the office.

A dinner to mark the opening of its office was held at Strand Hotel.

Minister for Finance and Revenue Brig-Gen Win Tin, Managing Director Mr. Takasuke Kaneko and Ambassador of Japan Mr. Yoichi Yamaguchi and Mr Hisao spoke on the occasion.