THE NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR (21 March, 1997)
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(1) State Councillor and Secretary General of PRC Mr Luo Gan to pay official visit to Myanmar
(2) Myanmar cooperates with UN agencies on child rights Centuries-old religious, cultural, social guarantees adequate
(3) Deputy Prime Minister receives President of Electric and Electronic Association of Malaysia
(4) Minister receives Golden Asia President
(5) Minister for Transport inspects Ministry's booth
(6) London Myanmar Open from 3 to 6 April
(7) Heroin weighing 0.9945 kilo seized in Mandalay
(8) Action taken against 447 persons in 297 drug-related cases in February
(9) 1.276 kilo of heroin seized in Kachin State
(10) Pa-O nationals hold collective novitiation ceremony
(11) Minister receives Ambassador of ROK

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(1) State Councillor and Secretary General of PRC Mr Luo Gan to pay official visit to Myanmar

YANGON, 21 March - At the invitation of the Secretary-1 of the State Law and Order Restoration Council of the Union of Myanmar His Excellency Lt-Gen Khin Nyunt, His Excellency Mr Luo Gan, State Councillor and Secretary-General of the State Council of the People's Republic of China, will pay an official visit to the Union of Myanmar in the near future.

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(2) Myanmar cooperates with UN agencies on child rights Centuries-old religious, cultural, social guarantees adequate

YANGON, 20 March National Committee on the Rights of the Child of the Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement held its fourth meeting at Department of Social Welfare on Kaba Aye Pagoda Road this morning. Secretary-1 of the State Law and Order Restoration Council Lt-Gen Khin Nyunt addressed the meeting.

Also present were Chairman of NCRC Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Maj-Gen Soe Myint and members Chief Justice U Aung Toe, Attorney-General U Tha Tun, Deputy Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Brig-Gen Maung Kyi, Deputy Minister for Health Col Than Zin, Deputy Minister for Education Col Kyi Maung, Deputy Minister for Culture U Soe Nyunt, Director-General of Office of the State Law and Order Restoration Council Lt-Col Pe Nyein, directors-general, managing directors and officials of departments concerned, members of the Work Committee on the Rights of the Child and representatives of wellwisher organizations.

In his address, the Secretary-1 said Myanmar, being a member of the United Nations, has to adhere to the tradition of cooperating with UN agencies in international affairs and other activities.

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(3) Deputy Prime Minister receives President of Electric and Electronic Association of Malaysia

YANGON, 20 March Member of the State Law and Order Restoration Council Deputy Prime Minister Chairman of Myanmar Investment Commission Vice-Admiral Maung Maung Khin received Member of Parliament and President of Electric and Electronic Association YB IR Donald Lim Siam Chai and Managing Director of Valiant Towers Sdn Bhd Dato Lau Yin Pin from Malaysia at his office this afternoon. They discussed production of electrical appliances, cement and hydro-electrical power and investment opportunities in Myanmar.

Minister at the Office of the Deputy Prime Ministers Secretary of Myanmar Investment Commission Brig-Gen Maung Maung and officials were also present.

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(4) Minister receives Golden Asia President

YANGON, 20 March -Minister for Hotels and Tourism Lt-Gen Kyaw Ba received President of Golden Asia Inter Co Ltd of Thailand Mr Dhirah Taechalertpaisarn and party at his office this afternoon.

Mr Taechalertpaisarn said he wanted to invest about 18 million dollars in a new international standard hotel project which will be implemented stage by stage. From five million to seven million dollars will be invested on the first phase, he said. The detailed project will be presented soon, he added.

Lt-Gen Kyaw Ba welcomed his proposal and assured him of necessary assistance. Director-General of Directorate of Hotels and, Tourism U Khin Maung Latt was also present.

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(5) Minister for Transport inspects Ministry's booth

YANGON, 20 March -Minister for Transport Lt-Gen Thein Win this afternoon inspected Ministry's booth being opened in commemoration of 52nd Anniversary of Armed Forces Day at Defence Services Museum and Historical Research Institute.
Accompanied by Deputy Minister U Sann Wai, directors-general and managing directors and officials and he arrived at Defence Services Museum at 3 pm today.

He observed booths on nation-building endeavours, painting and photographs and statistics.

Then, he gave necessary instructions to responsible officials.

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(6) London Myanmar Open from 3 to 6 April

YANGON, 20 March - Over 140 international golfers including professional golfers from host Myanmar will take part in London Myanmar Open, the second professional golf tourney to be held here. The first-prize winner will be awarded $ 200,000. In previous year $ 150,000, was awarded as first-prize. Professional golfers from the United States, Canada, Japan, the Republic of Korea, Australia, India, Singapore, Malaysia, Hong Kong, the Philippines, Thailand, New Zealand, England, Scotland, Taiwan and Wales will compete at the City Golf Resort from 3 to 6 April.

Officials of Myanmar Golf Federation, Asian Professional Golfers Association, Rothmans of Pall Mall (Myanmar), and Myanmar Professional Golfers Association met the Press today, explaining points of the tourney.

They replied to questions raised by local and foreign media persons.

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(7) Heroin weighing 0.9945 kilo seized in Mandalay

YANGON, 20 March- Members of Mandalay Anti-drug Squad, acting on a tip-off, searched the residence of Ma Yan Yin Chin (a) Soe Soe at 701, 72nd Street, between 34th and 35th streets, Yanmyolon Ward, Chanayethazan Township, on 24 February night.

The authorities uncovered heroin weighing 0.9945 kilo with K 110,000 believed to be proceeds from the heroin sale.

The heroin was hidden in the soap boxes.

Besides that, the authorities arrested Kyaw Kyaw Oo, who took heroin to the house, in front of the residence and confiscated a Sunny pickup with number plate 2Kagyi/7057 and one cellular phone (No 0960957) and one spare battery.

They also arrested Ma Khaung Bu and Ma San Myint who were at that house to illegally buy and sell heroin with Yan Yin Chin (a) Soe Soe.

Action is being taken against the four under the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law.

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(8) Action taken against 447 persons in 297 drug-related cases in February

YANGON, 20 March - Tatmadawmen of battalions and units seized 35.6435 kilos of opium, 9.9245 kilos of heroin, 5.7155 kilos of marijuana, 52.3 litres of Phensedyl and 401,612 pills of amphetamine.

During the same period, MPF personnel seized a total of 77.8508 kilos of opium in 32 cases; a total of 120.1668 kilos of heroin in 129 cases; a total of 2.4013 kilos of marijuana in 22 cases; a total of 107.62 litres of Phensedyl in 11 cases; a total of 6,979 kilos of low level opium in six cases; a total of 5.552 kilos of heavy opium solution in two cases; a total of 750 litres of cough syrup in one

case; 85 cases for failure to register for treatment and five other drug-related cases.

Personnel of the Customs Department together with MPF personnel seized 3.6 kilos of opium in one case and 2.445 kilos of heroin in three cases. The MPF personnel together with Tatmadaw and Customs personnel took action against 447 persons in connection with 297 drug-related cases in February 1997.

Among the MPF seizures, the MPF together with Tatmadawmen seized a total of 61.0064 kilos of heroin in 12 cases; a total of 5.5559 kilos of opium in six cases; a total of 54.725 litres of Phensedyl in four cases and a total of 0.0362 kilos of marijuana in two cases during the same period.

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(9) 1.276 kilo of heroin seized in Kachin State

YANGON, 20 March-A combined team of members of Defence Services Intelligence Bhamo Unit, Myitkyina Anti-drug Squad and Bhamo Police Force, acting on a tip-off, stopped and searched a Toyota Hilux pickup with number plate Pa/3328 at a point, two miles from Bhamo, on 23 February morning.

They seized 1.276 kilo of heroin from two women on the car.

The women who carried the heroin were Ma Kyan Min Ti, 25, daughter of U Kyan Shauk Chen, and Ma Kyan Hwai Chin, 26, daughter of U Kyan Shauk Neim of Dainka Village, Namhkam.

Action is being taken against the two under the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law.

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(10) Pa-O nationals hold collective novitiation ceremony

YANGON, 20 March-A collective novitiation ceremony sponsored by Pa-O national leader U Aung Hkam Hti and wife Daw Nang Phyu was held at Kyauktalon Village in Taunggyi Township, Shan State, in accordance with Pa-O culture from 14 to 17 March.

Five men and 256 boys were ordained into monkhood and novicehood.

The novitiation ceremony also marked the donation of the pagoda, sacred image and throne, ordination hall, rest-house, Pitakat Dhammayon, walls, well, pond, archway, Sangha hospital and other essentials to Koehsu Pagoda by Pa-O nationals.

During the days, meals were served to over 50,000 devotees every day.

At the merit-sharing ceremony on 15 March, offertories were presented to 157 mernbers of the Sangha headed by Thettawshay Sayadawgyi Agga Maha Pandita Bhaddanta Javana of Hsehsai.

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(11) Minister receives Ambassador of ROK

YANGON, 20 March Minister at the Office of Chairman of the State Law and Order Restoration Council Acting Minister for Industry-2 Lt-Gen Min Thein received Ambassador of Republic of Rokea Mr Kyung Bo Choi at his office this afternoon.

They discussed bilateral cooperation in economic and industry.

Present also were officials of the ministry.

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(12) Appointment of Ambassador of India agreed

YANGON, 21 March - The Government of the Union of Myanmar has agreed to the appointment of Mr Shyan Saran as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of India to the Union of Myanmar in succession to His Excellency Mr Lal Thanzaua Pudaite.

Mr Shvan Saran was born in September 1946. He joined the Ministry of External Affairs of India in July 1970 and served in various capacities in the diplomatic missions of the Republic of India in Hong Kong, Beijing and Tokyo. He is presently serving as High Commissioner of India to Mauritius.

He is married with two children.

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