**THE NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR (Friday 28, March, 1997)**
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**(1) Commander-in Chief of the Defence Services Senior General Than Shwe delivered an address at the 52nd Anniversary Armed Forces Day**
**(2) Senior General and Madame Than Shwe host 52nd Anniversary Armed Forces Day dinner**
**(3) Myawady TV commences evening programme**
**(4) New offshore well yields gas on commercial-scale**
**(5) Minister for Livestock and Fisheries tours Mandalay Division**
**(6) Myanmar Youth Delegation arrives back**

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**(1) Commander-in Chief of the Defence Services Senior General Than Shwe delivered an address at the 52nd Anniversary Armed Forces Day**

YANGON, 27 March - Chairman of the State Law and Order Restoration Council Commander-in Chief of the Defence Services Senior General Than Shwe delivered an address at the 52nd Anniversary Armed Forces Day Parade in the Resistance Park on U Wisara Road here today.

Our Tatmadaw was conceived in the anti-colonialist freedom struggle and gained prominence as it emerged in the anti-fascist resistance. A modern army means one that has a regulated recruitment system. It has to have a distinct organizational set-up and comprehensive training. It has to be equipped with modern weapons. It has to be ready at all times. It is necessary for you, Comrades, to remember that our nation fell into servitude because we did not have such an army.

The Thirty Comrades strove to establish the Myanma Tatmadaw. From this, you, Comrades, will find in history evidence of how crucial a modern army is for a nation to regain its independence and how crucial it is for a nation to remain a sovereign entity.

The Tatmadaw was conceived in the anti-colonialist struggle and born of the anti-fascist resistance. As it was the rallying point of patriotic youths, it fitted into the good tradition of a patriotic Tatmadaw.

Our Tatmadaw had to confront all kinds of hardship. When internal insurrection broke out after regaining of national independence, our Tatmadaw had had to face the enemies who greatly outnumbered us. It had to repulse external infiltration which received assistance from powerful military blocs.

The Tatmadaw as the State Law and Order Restoration Council has been making endeavours directed at emergence of a peaceful, modern and developed new nation. In so doing, it can be found that political, economic and social objectives have firmly been laid down and are being implemented accordingly.
While our Tatmadaw is steadfastly endeavouring to serve national interests out of genuine goodwill based on firm objectives, destructive and traitorous elements within the country with intent to seize power through short cut are employing various ways and means

and planning attacks against our country in collaboration with external neo-colonialists with expansionist aims.

A modern Tatmadaw is a characteristic of a peaceful, modern and developed nation. Hence, we are building our Tatmadaw to be modern in accord with the status of the nation.

Sovereignty is the life-blood of a nation. The three powers-legislative, executive and judicial-must be understood as sovereignty. These three powers must be in the hands of our citizens and our national races.
Comrades, you are to play as much a role as possible in building a peaceful, modern and developed new nation. It is based on discharging the Three Main Duties while upholding Our Three Main National Causes. After taking lessons from history, it is also necessary to defend the nation to ensure that it does not relapse into servitude.

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**(2) Senior General and Madame Than Shwe host 52nd Anniversary Armed Forces Day dinner**

YANGON, 27 March Chairman of the State Law and Order Restoration Council Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General and Madame Than Shwe hosted 52nd Anniversary Armed Forces Day reception and dinner at Zeya Thiri Beikman of Yangon Command on Konmyinttha this evening.

Senior General and Madame Than Shwe arrived there at 6.55 pm and, together with Vice-Chairman of the State Law and Order Restoration Council Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander in-Chief (Army) General Maung Aye, Secretary-1 of the State Law and Order Restoration Council Lt-Gen Khin Nyunt, Secretary-2 Lt-Gen Tin Oo, Commander-in-Chief (Navy) Vice-Admiral Tin Aye, Commander-in Chief (Air) Lt-Gen Tin Ngwe, Adjutant-General Lt-Gen Win Myint and Quartermaster-General Lt-Gen Tin Hla, greeted ambassadors and their wives led by Dean of the Diplomatic Corps in Myanmar Ambassador of the Russian Federation Mr Valeri V Nazarov, charges d'affaires ai and military attaches and their wives+^the honorary consul-general, Chairman of Japan
Myanmar Social and Cultural Association Mr Tatsuro Izumiya and members and officials of UN agencies and their wives.

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**(3) Myawady TV commences evening programme**

YANGON, 27 March Vice-Chairman of the State Law and Order Restoration Council Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) General Maung Aye this evening attended a ceremony to launch Myawady TV evening programme.

Before the ceremony, General Maung Aye, Secretary-2 of the State Law and Order Restoration Council Chief of Bureau of Special Operations Chief of Staff (Army) Lt-Gen Tin Oo, members of the State Law and Order Restoration Council Deputy Prime Ministers Vice-Admiral Maung Maung Khin and Lt-Gen Tin Tun, ministers, Commander-in-Chief (Navy) Vice-Admiral Tin Aye, Commander-in-Chief (Air) Lt-Gen Tin Ngwe, Adjutant-General Lt-Gen Win Myint, Quartermaster-General Lt-Gen Tin Hla and other senior Tatmadaw officers heard a report on Myawady TV

production submitted by Director of Public Relations and Psychological Warfare Brig-Gen Aung Thein at Myawady TV building.

Then, General Maung Aye and entourage proceeded to the central control room where General Maung Aye pressed the button to start the extension of Myawady TV programme.

General Maung Aye and entourage then watched the telecasting of the Myawady TV evening programme.

Director of Public Relations and Psychological Warfare Brig-Gen Aung Thein presented a commemorative pennant to General Maung Aye.

The General and party also watched videotaping of musical programme.

Myawady TV began telecasting its programmes on 27 March 1995, the Golden Jubilee Armed Forces Day. Hailing the 52nd Anniversary Armed Forces Day and marking its Second Anniversary, Myawady TV extended its programmes to the evening.

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**(4) New offshore well yields gas on commercial-scale**

YANGON, 27 March Shwepyihtay Test Well No-1 of Arco Myanmar Inc off Mottama coast has become another new offshore well yielding natural gas on commercial-scale.

It struck gas at a depth of 10,750 feet.

Minister for Energy U Khin Maung Thein today inspected the test well which is located 185 miles south of Yangon at Block-9 of Arco Myanmar Inc of US.

The company has drilled the test well as results of a seismic survey conducted at the block indicated favourable prospects to get gas. It has two offshore blocks, M7 7 and M-9 at off Mottama coast.

Accompanied by General Manager of the company Mr Fred Avila and officials, the minister heard a report on test drilling, finding of gas on commercial-scale and future programmes presented by Mr Anh Tran of Arco and Managing Director U Kyaw Nyein of Myanma Oil and Gas Enterprise on board the vessel, Energy Searcher, which is test drilling at the well.

He stressed measuring and examining of gas produced by the test well and drilling of Shwepyiaye Test Well No-1 at Block No 9.

The minister and party inspected gas burning.

U Khin Maung Thein presented gifts to employees of the test well.

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**(5) Minister for Livestock and Fisheries tours Mandalay Division**

YANGON, 27 March Minister for Livestock and Fisheries U Aung Thaung together with officials inspected poultry farm and fish breeding camp in.Patheingyi Township, Mandalay Division, from 25 March to yesterday.

Minister U Aung Thaung and party inspected poultry farm and Feedstuff Factory of the Livestock, Feedstuff and Milk Products Enterprise in Patheingyi Township on 25 March.

The minister and party also inspected hatchery of Fisheries Department in Patheingyi Township on 26 March.

The minister then met service personnel of the ministry at Thayetkone Camp of the Fisheries Department and gave necessary suggestion to responsible officials. Minister U Aung Tnaung, accompanied by Managing Director of Livestock, Feedstuff and Milk Products Enterprise U Maung Maung Nyunt and officials, inspected pasture of Livestock, Feedstuff and Milk Products Enterprise at Htonbo Village in Patheingyi Township this morning.

He also met service personnel at Htonbo Office of LFMPE and Bee Keeping Division.

The minister gave necessary instructions to responsible officials.

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**(6) Myanmar Youth Delegation arrives back**

YANGON, 27 March-A five-member Myanmar Youth Delegation led by U Kyaw Thant, Head of Office of Ministry of Foreign Affairs, arrived back here this evening by Myanmar Airways International after completion of a 10-day study tour in Japan under arrangement made by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan.

During their stay in Japan, the delegation visited various factories, universities and other places of interest in Tokyo, Kyodo, Nara and Osaka.

The delegation left here on 16 March.

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