

The NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

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Saturday, 13 December, 2008

Coordinated efforts and unity among the State, the people and the Tatmadaw could overcome any challenges

Our Independence regained through sacrifice of many lives, blood and sweat can be lost all of a sudden if we take it for granted

NAY PYI TAW, 12 Dec—*The following is the full text of the address delivered by Senior General Than Shwe, Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services, at the Graduation Parade of the 51st Intake of the Defence Services Academy in PyinOoLwin today.*

Comrades,

Today is the Graduation Ceremony of the 51st Intake of the Defence Services Academy. Since you Comrades have acquired the academic and military

knowledge through your studies at the Defence Services Academy and are going to assume your duties as junior leaders, I would like to ask you to learn things you need to observe.

Comrades,

Since its inception, our Tatmadaw has been formed based upon the patriotic spirit. It is known to all that our Tatmadaw has always stood firm at the front of

the State every time the State is in need, and upholding Our Three Main National Causes in the fore as our national conviction, we have been implementing the Twelve Objectives. You Comrades are required to participate in the nation-building tasks while carrying out your main responsibilities—safeguarding the State, training and carrying out the public welfare tasks.

Comrades,

In safeguarding the State, you Comrades are required to protect the lives and property of the public while safeguard-

ing the land and water territories and air space of the State. If you look back at the history of our country, we lost our independence and sovereignty since we had not formed a strong army to protect the country from the colonial invasion. That is why it is the responsibility of Our Tatmadaw to be strong, skillful and highly advanced. Only then will we be able to safeguard each and every inch of our territory from outside invasion. In constructing a strong, capable and patriotic Tatmadaw, we should be

well equipped with intellectual and academic aptitudes besides being outfitted with physical and mental prowess. In this connection, you Comrades who will shoulder the future State responsibilities as conquering warriors should be competent to utilize the sophisticated equipment such as high-tech weapons, vehicles and machinery. In the meantime, you Comrades should construct the Tatmadaw to become an advanced one while observing the changing military strategies.

(See page 8)

The objective of training is to be competent in modern warfare. Today, the joint military operations of army, navy and air forces have become the characteristics of the warfare rather than launching operations separately.



Senior General Than Shwe takes the salute of graduating battalions.—MNA



PERSPECTIVES

Saturday, 13 December, 2008

Donation of healthy blood, a noble deed

Donation of blood is a noble deed as blood is human life. Increasing the number of blood donors through the donation of blood is a profound contribution.

Blood transfusion is indispensable for those who lose a lot of blood from a wound or an injury and an operation, those who are in need of blood after giving birth and abortion, and those suffering from anemia and cancer.

Patients who are in need of blood are required to obtain enough blood in time. So also, blood donors need to be healthy and free from contagious diseases. Particularly, they are to be free from HIV/AIDS, Hepatitis-B and Hepatitis-C.

The Ministry of Health is taking steps for blood donors to undergo the required test in order to obtain healthy and disease-free blood for blood transfusion. Blood donors, on their part, may donate blood with peace of mind as sterilized needles and equipment are used in the taking of blood.

At present, regular blood donors, blood donors and members of social organizations are satisfying the demand for blood in hospitals.

Saving a life through donating healthy blood out of goodwill is a noble deed. Now, efforts are being made through the donation of cash and equipment to double the number of blood donors. Such noble deeds will surely be able to save a lot of lives.

Rakhine Friendship Association (Yangon) to go for picnic

NAY PYI TAW, 12 Dec—Rakhine Friendship Association (Yangon) will go for a picnic from 26 to 29 December.

Those wishing to join the programme may contact for tickets U Khin Maung Soe (Ph: 552126), U Kyaw Yin (09 5126489), U Myo Swe (09 8721726) (Haigy), U Zaw Aye Maung (09 8501686) (Haigy), U Bo Tin (09 5006926), U Tun Naing (09 5013887), U Hla Maung Thein (09 5139790), U Kyaw Naing (09 5001964), U Myint Kyaw (09 5064653), Dr Mya Hnin Aye (09 5021432), Daw San San Aye (09 5058136), Dee Dee Restaurant (510898), Swe Restaurant (in front of Tamway Police Station), office of Rakhine Friendship Association, Min Road Rakhine Rice Noodle & Seafood shops (09 5025110).—MNA

Talks on new financial paradigm

YANGON, 12 Dec — Chairman of First Private Bank Ltd Dr Sein Maung gave educative talks on Global Financial Crisis Search for a New Financial Paradigm at UMFCCI Office here on 6 December.

The educative talk was jointly organized by Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce Industry and Enervon-C (United Pharma Yangon Co Ltd). The educative talks opened with an address by Vice Chairman of UMFCCI U Zaw Min Win. — MNA

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

Minister for Foreign Affairs U Nyan Win and wife being welcomed at a reception to mark the birthday of the Emperor of Japan by Japanese Ambassador Mr Yasuaki Nogawa on 12 December.

MNA



DG of TRFLD signs Book of Condolences for Former Indonesian Minister of Foreign Affairs

YANGON, 12 Dec — Director-General for Training, Research and Foreign Languages Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs U Paw Lwin Sein signed Book of

Condolences at the Embassy of Indonesia, Yangon at 2:45 p.m.

opened for the demise of H.E Mr Ali Alatas, Former Minister of Foreign

Affairs of the Republic of Indonesia on 11 December 2008.—MNA

Director-General U Paw Lwin Sein signs Book of Condolences opened for the demise of Mr Ali Alatas, Former Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Indonesia.—MNA



Dy D-G of Protocol Department of MOFA signs Book of Condolences for Head of Russian Orthodox Church Patriarch Alexis II

Deputy Director-General U Soe Win signs Book of Condolences opened for the demise of the Head of the Russian Orthodox Church Patriarch Alexis II.

MNA



Ministry of Transport opens use of EDMS, basic computer course

YANGON, 12 Dec—A ceremony to open the use of EDMS and basic computer course, conducted by Ministry of Transport, was held at the meeting hall of Inland

Water Transport (Head office) here on 10 December, with an address by Managing Director U Soe Tint of IWT. Altogether 30 trainees are attending the

YANGON, 12 Dec —Deputy Director-General of Protocol Department of the

course. Three EDMS courses and four two-month basic computer courses will be conducted.

MNA

Ministry of Foreign Affairs U Soe Win signed Book of Condolences at the Embassy of the Russian Federation, here at 1:00 p.m., opened for the demise of the Head of the Russian Orthodox Church Patriarch Alexis II.—MNA

A look at attacks in or near Kirkuk

BAGHDAD, 12 Dec—A look at deadly attacks in or near the northern Iraqi city of Kirkuk over the past few years:

-11 Dec, 2008: A suicide bomber strikes a crowded restaurant where Kurdish officials were meeting with Arab tribal leaders, killing at least 55 people.

-28 July 28, 2008: At least 25 people are killed and 187 wounded when a blast tears through a crowd of Kurds protesting a draft provincial elections law.

-16 July, 2007: A suicide truck bombing outside the Patriotic Union of Kurdistan headquarters followed by two smaller car bombs elsewhere in the city kills more than 80 people and wounds at least 180.

- 2 April, 2007: A suicide truck bomber targets a police station in northern Kirkuk, killing at least 15 civilians and wounding nearly 200, including children and students who were leaving a girls' school nearby.

-17 Feb, 2007: Twin bombings leave 11 dead and 65 wounded in a Kurdish neighborhood of Kirkuk.

- 17 Sept, 2006: Six bombs kill 24 people and wound 84. The worst assault involves a suicide truck bomb that explodes in the city center.

- 22 Nov, 2006: A suicide car bomber attacks a police patrol killing at least 22 people and wounding 23; at least half of those killed are police officers.—Internet



A wounded man is brought to a hospital after a suicide bombing in Kirkuk, 290 kilometres (180 miles) north of Baghdad, Iraq, on 11 Dec, 2008. The bomber detonated his explosives inside a popular restaurant killing at least 55 people and wounding 120 others, police said. —INTERNET

Canada rejects Gates' hint to extend Afghan mission

OTTAWA, 12 Dec—Canada's Defence Minister Peter MacKay on Thursday appeared to be rejecting hints by the US that Canadian troops should stay in Afghanistan past the 2011 deadline, reiterating that the mission will end on time.

Earlier Thursday, US Secretary of Defence Robert Gates said during his visit in Afghanistan that he would like to see Canada's mission in Afghanistan as long as possible.

"The countries that have partnered here in RC South have made an extraordinary commitment and proportionately none has worked harder or sacrificed more than the Canadian The longer we can have Canadian soldiers as our partners the better it is," Gates said at a press conference.

But a statement released by MacKay following Gates' remarks noted: "The minister and the government have been very clear that Parliament has decided that our mission there ends in 2011."

In 2007, Canada's Parliament voted to extend the 2009 deadline of the Afghan mission to 2011. Prime Minister Stephen Harper stressed during the election campaign that the mission will end on time.

Internet

US captures six in raids against al-Qaida in Iraq

BAGHDAD, 12 Dec—US troops launched raids in at least four Iraqi cities, detaining six people believed associated with al-Qaida in Iraq, the US military said on Thursday.

A US statement says two men were detained on Wednesday in a pair of raids near Tarmiyah, 30 miles (50 kilometres) north of Baghdad.

Two others were cap-

tured Thursday in Ramadi, capital of Anbar province west of Baghdad, the statement said. The two others were arrested Thursday — one in Mosul and the other in Baghdad, the US said.

US troops have broad authority under a UN mandate to apprehend people deemed a security threat and hold them indefinitely without charge.

However, the mandate expires at the end of this month and will be replaced by a US-Iraqi security agreement that requires the US to obtain warrants to search houses or detain people except in active combat.

The new regulations will be part of a series of major changes in the five-year US-led mission.

Internet



A restaurant after a suicide bomber blew himself up in Kirkuk, 290 kilometers (180 miles) north of Baghdad, Iraq, on 11 Dec, 2008. —INTERNET

Attacks expose weakness of key Afghanistan supply route

KABUL, 12 Dec—Two sophisticated Taliban raids on NATO trucks in Pakistan have exposed the dangerous vulnerability of the vital supply route for international troops in Afghanistan through the legendary Khyber Pass.

Hundreds of vehicles were destroyed in two daring and well-planned attacks on terminals in northwest Pakistan— at a time the United States is preparing to almost double the size of its force in landlocked Afghanistan.

The bulk of the supplies and equipment required by NATO and US-led forces battling the Taliban insurgency is shipped to Pakistan's largest port, Karachi in the south.

From there, the containers of food, fuel, vehicles and munitions are taken by truck to the city of Peshawar before being transported through Pakistan's restive tribal areas to Afghanistan via the Khyber pass.

It makes the famous 50-kilometre (30-mile) mountain pass —used since the time of Alexander the Great —indispensable to international forces.

Internet

US strike kills six in Pakistan

DERA ISMAIL KHAN, 12 Dec—A suspected US strike killed six people Thursday on the Pakistan side of the Afghan border, a lawless region believed to be a stronghold of al-Qaida, two intelligence officials said.

The identities of those killed in the attack was not immediately known, the officials said on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to speak to the media.

"At present, local Taliban have surrounded the destroyed house, and they are not letting anybody get close to it," said one of the officials.

Citing agents and informants in the field, the officials said six people were killed in the strike late Thursday in a village near Azam Warsak in South Waziristan.

The United States is suspected of carrying out more than 30 missile strikes against militant targets on the Pakistan side of the Afghan border since August.

Internet



Pakistani firefighters extinguish smouldering trucks at a NATO container terminal near Peshawar on 8 Dec. Two sophisticated Taliban raids on NATO trucks in Pakistan have exposed the dangerous vulnerability of the vital supply route for international troops in Afghanistan through the legendary Khyber Pass.—INTERNET

N Korea nuclear talks fail to break deadlock

BEIJING, 12 Dec— Envoys failed to agree Thursday on how to verify North Korea’s past atomic activities in the latest round of talks on the country’s nuclear program, all but extinguishing hopes of a successful legacy on the issue by the outgoing Bush administration.

The deadlock means that the North Korea nuclear issue will be one of the many challenges fac-

ing President-elect Barack Obama when he takes office in January.

“We had some very ambitious plans for this round. Unfortunately, we were not able to complete some of the things we wanted to do,” Christopher Hill, the chief US negotiator, told reporters before leaving Beijing. “Ultimately (North Korea) was not ready to reach a verification protocol with all the

standards that are required.”

He did not elaborate what differences remained.

The current round of six-nation talks was marked by frustration over the North’s refusal to put into writing any commitments on inspection, making it impossible to move forward on an disarmament-for-aid agreement.

Internet



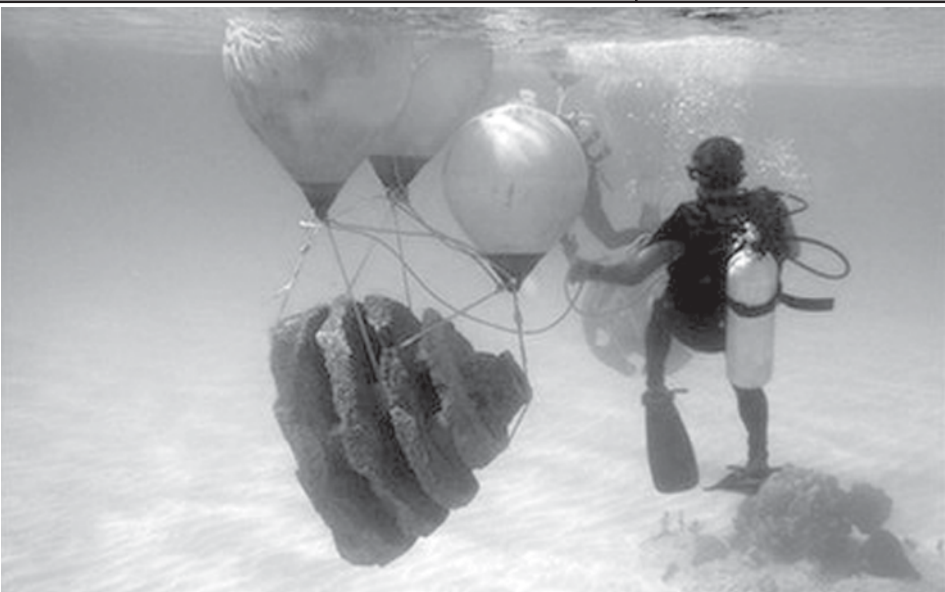
A resident buys vegetables at a market in Beijing on 11 Dec, 2008. China’s consumer price inflation fell to a 22-month low of 2.4 percent in November, giving the central bank free rein to cut interest rates further to offset an abrupt slump in the world’s fourth-largest economy.—INTERNET

22 killed, 57 injured in Nepal school bus accident

KATHMANDU, 12 Dec— A crowded school bus skidded off a bridge on a highway in southern Nepal, killing at least 20 students and two teachers, police said on Friday. At least 57 others were injured.

The bus was returning from a school picnic late Thursday when it plunged off the highway near Mukundapur village, about 125 miles (200 kilometres) southwest of the capital, Kathmandu. Police official Len Pratap Sen said all of the students were teenagers.

The 57 injured were treated at several hospitals, Sen said. An initial investigation indicated the bus was speeding, he said.—Internet



In this undated photograph released by the Turks and Caicos Islands, scuba divers submerge so-called reef balls on sandy seabeds off the coast of Grand Turk island. —INTERNET

Turkey escalates campaign against PKK based in Iraq

ANKARA, 12 Dec— Under the strong pressure of the Turkish political parties and Turkish nationals, the Turkish government and army is continuing to escalate the

campaign against the outlawed Kurdish Workers’ Party (PKK) based in the north of Iraq.

PKK guerrillas have hideouts in the high, rugged mountains dividing

Turkey from northern Iraq. On 3 Oct, 17 Turkish soldiers were killed when PKK militants based in northern Iraq attacked Aktutun Gendarmerie Border Unit in Semdinli town in the province of Hakkari.

The tension is mounting after the deadliest attack in the year and Turkish Prime Minister Recep Tayyip Erdogan and the military have pledged to intensify a campaign to crush the PKK, which was blacklisted by Ankara and the United States as a terrorist group.

The Turkish Air Force has conducted a number of airstrikes against PKK targets in northern Iraq since a week-long cross-border incursion into northern Iraq was launched the last incident.

Internet



A nurse attends to bus accident victims in a hospital at Nawalparasi on 12 Dec, 2008. A school bus crashed in southwest Nepal, killing at least 22 people, most of them children returning from a picnic, police said on Friday.

INTERNET

Number of hungry people worldwide rises to 963 mln

ROME, 12 Dec— Another 40 million people have been pushed into hunger this year primarily due to higher food prices, according to a new report published by the UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) this week.

This brings the overall number of undernourished people in the world to 963 million, compared to 923 million in 2007 and the ongoing financial and economic crisis could tip even more people into hunger and poverty, FAO warned.

“World food prices have dropped since early 2008, but lower prices have not ended the food crisis in many poor countries,” said FAO Assistant Director-General Hafez Ghanem, presenting the new edition of FAO’s hunger report, The State of Food Insecurity in the World 2008.

“For millions of people in developing countries, eating the minimum amount of food every day to live an active and healthy life is a distant dream. The structural problems of hunger, like the lack of access to land, credit and employment, combined with high food prices remain a dire reality,” he stressed.—Internet

Russian working for nuclear company dies in Iran

TEHERAN, 12 Dec—A Russian man working for a nuclear company in Iran has been found dead after disappearing 18 days earlier, Iranian media and a Russian spokeswoman said on Thursday.

According to the state-owned Iran newspaper, the man’s frozen body was found on Tuesday at a recreational area in a mountainous area just outside of Teheran, where nighttime temperatures dip well below freezing.

Iran is building its first nuclear power plant with Russian help in the southern port of Bushehr, which is expected to go on line next year. Russia has backed limited UN sanctions aimed at forcing Iran to suspend its uranium enrichment program, but has staunchly opposed the US push for harsher measures.

Meanwhile, a spokeswoman for the state-run Russian company coordinating the Bushehr project, Atomstroieksport, said the deceased was an employee and that he died in an accidental fall from a rock in the recreational area.

The spokeswoman, Irina Yesipova, would not identify the man or give specifics about his job. She said the area is a popular weekend getaway destination.

Internet

Obama's pick for health secretary Daschle

WASHINGTON, 12 Dec — Former Senate majority leader Tom Daschle was nominated on Thursday by President-elect Barack Obama as the next Secretary of Health and Human Services.

Daschle, 61, could bring to Washington a knowledge of Congress, especially the Senate, far deeper than Obama, analysts said.

He served in Congress from South Dakota for 26 years, including the 10 years as Democratic leader in the Senate.

As leader when the Democrats were in the

minority and the majority, Daschle was known for his soft-spoken and reassuring style.

A former Air Force officer, his adult life has been mainly involved in Congress.

He was 30 when he was elected to the House in 1978, after serving as an aide to Senator James Abourezk, Democrat of South Dakota.

Daschle left the Senate

after losing a brutal re-election bid to John Thune, a Republican Congressman, in 2004, the year Obama was elected to the Senate. So the two did not overlap as lawmakers.

But Daschle left office with a strong reputation as a scholar of Senate dynamics, and Obama eagerly welcomed his advice.

Xinhua



A cargo ship goes through the Panama Canal on its way to the Pacific Ocean in Panama City, on 9 Dec, 2008. Panama Canal Authority representatives and financial agencies signed an agreement to finance the Panama Canal expansion project.—XINHUA

All items from Xinhua News Agency



Ancient thermal baths are seen at Villa delle Vignacce near Ciampino airport, south of Rome, in an undated photo released on 10 Dec, 2008.

XINHUA

US radio NPR cuts work force

LOS ANGELES, 12 Dec — The US National Public Radio announced on Thursday that it was cutting its work force and canceling two nationally broadcast shows to cope with an uncertain economy and a sharp decline in revenues from corporate underwriting.

The two shows being canceled are "Day to Day" and "News & Notes" produced at NPR's Culver City West studio in Los

Angeles, according to the announcement.

The elimination of those shows will mean layoffs for at least 22 people, said Anna Christopher, senior manager for NPR Media Relations.

"Unfortunately, there will also be a number of technical and administrative people working on those shows who will also be getting laid off. I just don't have an exact number at this moment," Christopher said.—Xinhua

Israeli currency arrives in Gaza, employees get paid

GAZA, 12 Dec — One million Israeli Shekel (NIS) (around 25 million US dollars) arrived in Gaza from Israel on Thursday evening, and hundreds of civil and military servants get their November salaries paid.

The Palestinian Monetary Authority in the West Bank said in a writ-

ten statement sent to reporters that Israel agreed to transfer Israeli currency liquidity into the Gaza Strip through Gaza border crossings with Israel.

The statement said that the Israeli money were transferred from Israeli trucks to Palestinian trucks, and were sent immediately to the Gaza Strip banks to

enable the employees to get their salaries for November paid.

Tens of thousands of Palestinian Authority employees stood in queues in front of the Gaza Strip banks, which reopened in spite of Muslims' holiday — Eid al-Adha that would end on Thursday night.

Xinhua

Russia may coordinate with OPEC to stem crude prices fall

MOSCOW, 12 Dec — Russia is ready to coordinate its oil price policy with the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) in a bid to stem the plunge in crude prices, President Dmitry Medvedev said on Thursday.

"Our partners and colleagues from the oil club are asking us to pursue a coordinated policy," Medvedev told a confer-

ence on socio-economic development in the Urals.

"We are ready for this, we must defend ourselves ... Protective measures of this kind could be connected with a cut in oil output and taking part in existing supplier organizations or new organizations," he was quoted by Interfax news agency as saying.

World oil prices have fallen by more than 60

percent from a record high of 147 US dollar per barrel in July to under 50 dollars, as the global financial crisis has reduced the demand for fuel.

Russia and OPEC, which is to hold an extraordinary meeting in Algeria on 17 Dec to decide on further oil output cuts, account for more than half of global oil production.

Xinhua

POSCO to invest \$4.3 bln in 2009

SEOUL, 12 Dec — POSCO, the world's fourth largest steelmaker, announced that it would invest 6 trillion won (4.3 billion US dollars) in the domestic market in 2009 and create a 10 billion-won (7.2 million US dollars) R&D fund, the Korea Herald reported on Friday.

The amount of investment, which will be used to promote growth of POSCO's 13 subsidiaries, is up from 3.4 trillion won (2.4 billion US dollars) this year.

"By collaborating with our subsidiary companies, we can turn the current

crisis into a new business opportunity," POSCO CEO LeeKu-taek said.

Lee added that the plan will provide the company with a long-term growth engine while its competitors in China, India and Europe cut production and investment. In the meantime, POSCO is also expanding capacity for products including heavy plates for ships.

POSCO's production of heavy steel plates is expected to increase 38 percent to 7.3 million tons by 2011 with the new plant expected to be completed in July 2010. —Xinhua



Ford F-150 pickup frames sit on the assembly line at the Kansas City Ford Assembly plant October 2 in Claycomo, Missouri. The US Senate failed to reach a deal on a controversial multi-billion-dollar bailout for the beleaguered auto industry due to a disagreement over wage cuts, senators said.—XINHUA

Oil prices slip to below \$46 in Asia

KUALA LUMPUR, 12 Dec —Oil prices retreated to below \$46 a barrel on Friday in Asia after a strong rally overnight, but traders said expectations of a sharp production cut by OPEC will support the market.

Light, sweet crude for January delivery fell \$2.41 to \$45.57 a barrel in electronic trading on the New York Mercantile Exchange by mid-afternoon in Singapore. Losses were extended after news broke that a \$14-billion emergency bailout for US automakers had

collapsed in the Senate. Overnight, the contract surged \$4.46, or 10 percent, to settle at \$47.98.

David Moore, commodity strategist at Commonwealth Bank of Australia in Sydney, said comments by Saudi Arabia's Oil Minister Ali al-Naimi on Thursday that November production by the world's largest exporter was in line with OPEC's recently lowered targets indicated it was serious about output cuts.

"There are expecta-

tions that OPEC will move to tighten supplies," Moore said. "Oil prices softened this morning but well within the range we saw last night (despite) worries about falling consumption because of economic weakness."

The Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries, which accounts for about 40 percent of global crude supply, has signaled it plans to reduce output quotas at a meeting on 17 Dec in Algeria.

Internet



An environmental management specialist of the Batangas city fisheries office inspects a coral reef formation in the Verde sea passage south of Manila, Philippines. Almost a fifth of the planet's coral reefs have died and carbon emissions are largely to blame, according to an NGO study.

INTERNET

BofA plans up to 35,000 job cuts in next three years

NEW YORK, 12 Dec —Bank of America Corp said on Thursday it expects to cut 30,000 to 35,000 jobs over the next three years, as it faces a deteriorating economic environment and tries to absorb Merrill Lynch & Co.

The final number could be even higher, analysts say. Charlotte, NC-based Bank of America said it hasn't yet completed its analysis for eliminating positions, and won't until early next year.

The company and Merrill have about 308,000 employees in total, and the cuts will affect workers from both companies and all types of businesses. Bank of America is considered one of the country's healthier banks, and its decision to slash so many jobs illustrates the breadth of the layoffs hitting the United States. The nation lost more than half a million jobs in November alone, and economists expect many more to come. —Internet

Russian news agencies report nine dead in mine blast

Moscow, 12 Dec — Russian news agencies are reporting that at least nine workers have been killed in an explosion at a mine in northern Russia.

State-run RIA-Novosti cites an unidentified law enforcement official as saying three people remained missing and six others were injured by the blast on Thursday at a mine in the Murmansk region.

Interfax cites an unidentified emergency official as saying 12 people were killed and four injured.

According to RIA-Novosti, the mine belongs to a major company that produces a fertilizer component. It cites the law enforcement official as saying the blast happened while workers were conducting controlled explosions at the mine. —Internet

NEWS ALBUM

Two men survive crash, frigid night on Arctic ice

Two men believed to be from Sweden escaped with only "minor frostbite" after their small plane crashed in northern Canada and they spent a night on the Arctic ice near Baffin Island before being rescued.

An air search for the men was unsuccessful on Sunday evening, but a fishing vessel picked up the two men on Monday morning and they were later flown to Iqaluit, Nunavut, for medical treatment.

"They had some minor frostbite but other than that they were in good spirits and good health," said Major Denis McGuire of the Joint Rescue Coordination Center in Halifax, Nova Scotia.

In Iqaluit, the normal low temperature at this time of year is -25 degrees Celsius (-13 Fahrenheit), according to Environment Canada, although press reports said it was -13C around the time the men were picked up.

"They were very fortunate, they were wearing proper safety equipment and managed to scramble from the aircraft just prior to its sinking into the water," McGuire said.

Skinny screens to lighten load

A new kind of computer screen is set to revolutionise the way we think about notebooks, mobiles and personal organizers. That's according to computer maker Hewlett Packard, who have unveiled a prototype of the flexible display, said to be more efficient and affordable than anything that has gone before.

The new screen is paper-thin and consumes far less energy than today's computer displays, making it a perfect solution for portable devices like smart phones, laptops or e-readers, say its creators HP and Flexible Display Center (FDC) based at Arizona State University.

Its most striking feature is its affordability. The display is produced with HP is award-winning technology called SAIL (self-aligned imprint lithography). It's a potential replacement



Flexible Display Center at Arizona State University

technique for the photolithography process that is used to manufacture displays and computer chips today.

The groundbreaking manufacturing process dramatically cuts down costs both in material and time. The result is a "cheap-as-dirt" high-resolution display.

Santa arrives early for space crew

An unmanned Russian cargo ship has brought Christmas presents for the crew on the International Space Station.

The "Progress" was expected to dock automatically with the ISS but a crew member had to aid the process manually. The reason for the change of plans isn't clear. The capsule also delivered food supplies, a new air purification system as well as some presents for Christmas and the New Year.



In addition to the usual diet, crew members Yuri Lonchakov, Michael Fink and Sandra Magnus can look forward tucking in to 15kg of fresh fruit and vegetables as well as sweets and nuts.

A DVD with a compilation of the crew's favourite music videos will set the mood for the holiday.

Among other gifts are the latest issues of GEO and Russian Space magazines and a book on the pioneers of space exploration by Konstantin Tsiolkovsky.



Volcano erupts in Russia's far East

Residents of the Kamchatka region have been watching a local volcano erupt for almost a week. The stream of lava coming from Kluchevskaya Sopka has reached over one kilometre.

Geologists say it poses no danger to the nearby village, as a glacier on top of the volcano is preventing the lava flow from moving towards the settlement.

Kluchevskaya Sopka is the highest active volcano in Eurasia.

Zeechaung Dam to irrigate 1000 acres of farmlands

Article: Singu Soe Win; Photos: Tin Soe (Myanma Alin)

Zeechaung Dam Project is about five miles from Kyauktaw, Rakhine State. On our way to the project, we had a wonderful view of Kissapanadi Bridge, a crucial part of Yango-Sittway Road, in the distance.

In the olden times, people wishing to go to Kyauktaw from Yangon had to cross the Kissapanadi River by boat or by ship. It was very risky to do so in the rainy season. In the time of the Tatmadaw



U Sao Khun Oo, Staff Officer (Civil) of Construction-3.

Image.

We noticed that the project was operating a five-kilowatt turbine to

workforce of 200 white collar workers plus blue collar workers. So far, the project has been completed by 90 per cent. After some time, it will be able to irrigate the summer paddy fields near the distributory, so local farmers will soon enjoy higher incomes.

The ground near the main dam is even and the catchment area consisting of mountains, forests and ravines is home to many wild animals such as elephant, tiger, deer, barking deer and sambur.

Head of Township



Zeechaung Dam in Kyauktaw Township, Rakhine State.

newspapers to the villages. So, every village-tract gets two copies of the Mirror Daily and the Myanma Alin Daily. We are now trying to get more copies of the newspapers and maintain the libraries".

As we got back to the lodging house, we were greeted by a report book and a letter of Township Development Affairs Committee. So, we were not in a position to take some rest. We got some excerpts from the book. Then, we visited the diesel and paddy husk-fired generator of Kyauktaw to get some facts about it.

After the assumption of State duties by the Tatmadaw government, Kyauktaw Township Development Affairs Committee has constructed tarred roads, gravel roads and earthen roads stretching 21 miles and 7.52 furlongs in total; upgraded rural roads of 4 miles and 5 furlongs into

gravel ones and laterite ones; and four concrete and two wooden bridges in urban areas, and three concrete and 11 wooden bridges in rural areas.

The committee has dug and repaired 28 lakes

upgrading lakes for urban water supply. It is also taking measures for sprucing up the town.

Thanks to Kissapanadi Bridge, local people have been enjoying better living



Kissapanadi Bridge in Kyauktaw Township, Rakhine State.

government, however, Yangon-Sittway Road was constructed for local people to enjoy all-round development despite a variety of challenges.

Staff Officer (Civil) U Sao Khun Oo briefed the Myanma Alin Daily on Zeechaung Dam Project which is nearing completion. He said that the earthen dam was 115 feet high and 840 feet long with a catchment area of three square miles; that the region got an average annual rainfall of 190 inches and inflow water into the facility was 13,200 acres a year; its stagnant water storage capacity was 580 acre feet and full tank water surface, 154 acres; and on completion, the dam would be able to benefit 1000 acres of summer paddy as double cropping and generate 80 kilowatts for the Maha Muni Buddha

supply power to the worksite. The 4' x 6' reinforced concrete type outlet is 577 feet long with a water outflow rate of 100 cubic feet seconds. And its 30 feet wide board crested type spillway's water outflow rate is 1700 cubic feet seconds. The project has a three miles long main canal, a five miles long distributory (secondary), and 80 canal structures.

The project has a

Information and Public Relations Department Daw Aung Mya Than said, "Up to now, we have opened round about 250 self-reliant village libraries in the township. Of them, 50 are separate buildings and the others are attached to schools and the offices of Village Peace and Development Councils concerned. Township PDC Chairman U Aung Kyaw Ootakes responsibility for providing daily



Heavy machinery operating for land consolidation work.



The control tower under construction of Zeechaung Dam.

and supplies water to 3237 houses of five wards in Kyauktaw, and the sufficiency of clean water is 66 per cent.

Similarly, it spent over 10.2 million kyats on digging 20 lakes; over 52.5 million kyats on urban roads; over 36.5 million kyats on rural roads; over 7.8 million kyats on urban bridges; over 16.7 million kyats on rural bridges; and over 3.2 million kyats on

conditions in the economic, social, health and education sectors. In Kyauktaw, Pyaingchaung Dam benefits 5000 acres of arable lands. Zeechaung Dam, on completion, will be able to benefit 1000 acres of agricultural farms. So, the township is on the point of development.

Translation: MS

Myanma Alin: 12-12-2008



Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Than Shwe presents Award for Excellent Performance in Training to Cadet Myint Thu Soe.—MNA



Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Than Shwe presents Award for Excellent Performance in Study (Science) to Cadet Paing Thu Htet.—MNA



Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Than Shwe presents Award for Excellent Performance in Study (Computer Science) to Cadet Kyaw Paing.—MNA



Distinguished guests at the Graduation Parade of 51st Intake of the Defence Services Academy.—MNA

Coordinated efforts and unity among the State, ...

(from page 1)
Comrades,
When you get to your postings upon completion of your course, you Comrades should construct the Tatmadaw in accordance with the Four Construction Tasks of the Tatmadaw after equipping your soldiers with the five fundamental requirements. In doing so, the most fundamental is constructing the Tatmadaw while undergoing training. You will fruitfully accomplish your tasks through training your soldiers to be well disciplined and highly spirited.

Comrades,
The objective of training is to be competent in modern warfare. Today, you need to understand that the joint military operations of army, navy and air forces have become the characteristics of the warfare rather than launching operations separately, and you need to comprehend the features of the army, navy and air forces, the supremacy of the advanced weaponry. Moreover, a combatant soldier should always engage in training besides being strong physically and mentally. Keeping balance in physical and mental trainings

will yield new strength and constructive outcomes. In accordance with the perspective of being skillful through training, being confident through skill, being valiant through confidence and being victorious through valiance, you Comrades should fully engage in training on the word of the motto “Only through proper temperature will fine iron be produced, and only when the iron is fine will the sharp knife be produced” so as to be able to carry out your tasks devotedly.
Comrades,
As you get to your respective postings, you need to devote your efforts to carrying out your tasks dutifully while observing the motto “Keep your forces in a good shape, and win

your battles.” In your endeavours to keep your forces in a good shape, the progress of the forces is highly dependent upon your leadership attributes. You need to command your forces with your leadership aptitude, and keep them

When an outside power intervenes in the State sovereignty, it indicates the loss of our sovereignty or loss of our independence. The initiative to shape the sovereignty must be kept in the hands of national brethren.

consolidated. Even though the armed forces need to be run by command as per their nature, the observation of those commands through comprehensive understanding will lead to successful accomplishment of the duties assigned. Accordingly, you Comrades should organize members of your forces to obey their command through full understanding.
Comrades,
While our Tatmadaw is carrying out

the tasks of safeguarding our State and getting engaged in training, we need to perform public welfare tasks when and where it is required. When Cyclone Nargis devastated the Ayeyawady delta in the beginning of last May, our Tatmadaw keeping its tradition of safeguarding the lives and property of the people got its manpower, vehicles, food and medicine ready. Soon after the devastation of
(See page 9)



Dignitaries seen at the Graduation Parade of 51st Intake of the Defence Services Academy.—MNA



Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Than Shwe inspects the cadet battalions of the DSA.—MNA

Coordinated efforts and unity among the State, ...

(from page 8)

Cyclone stopped, members of the Tatmadaw reached even to the farthest villages and rendered assistance to the grief-ridden people relying on our own rations and paving our own ways. Through our immediate relief and rehabilitation efforts provided to the people in cyclone-hit areas, we could prevent the subsequent disastrous challenges like hunger and outbreak of epidemics. This is an evident proof to the world community that the coordinated efforts and unity among the State, the people and the Tatmadaw could overcome any challenges. During the time we were making relief efforts, Tatmadaw (Army)

provided over 40,000 men, 769 vehicles for 3,350 times to transport 54,188 tons of relief items, Tatmadaw (Navy) provided over 1,400 men, 29 vessels of various types for 92 times to transport 3,407 tons of relief items, and Tatmadaw (Air) provided over 1,700 men, 25 helicopters and aircraft for 1,593 times to transport 588 tons of relief items. Furthermore, members of the Defence Services (Army, Navy and Air) and their families demonstrated their goodwill by donating cash amounting to over 1,179 million kyats which they saved from their salary to the people.

Also in their rehabilitation efforts, members of the defence services



Dignitaries seen at the Graduation Parade of 51st Intake of the Defence Services Academy.

MNA

The national unity is indispensable for the perpetuity of sovereignty. Our national brethren have been living in the country, in weal or woe, since time immemorial.

ried out accordingly.

Comrades,

The national unity is indispensable for the perpetuity of sovereignty. Our national brethren have been living in the country, in weal or woe, since time immemorial. However, due to the divide-and-rule policy of the colonialists, armed conflicts broke out among our national brethren leading to delays for our development endeavours. Today, as you are aware, the development tasks have been carried out momentarily all over the country since we could build national unity which was unlikely in the past. Our national brethren should promote the true patriotism or the Union Spirit to maintain our national unity.

(See page 10)



Dignitaries seen at the Graduation Parade of 51st Intake of the Defence Services Academy.

MNA

cates the loss of our sovereignty or loss of our independence. The initiative to shape the sovereignty must be kept in the hands of national brethren. In today's world, there are a number of countries which have lost their sovereignty and rights to shape their own future. Our independence which we regained through sacrifice of many lives, blood and sweat can be lost all of a sudden if we take it for granted. Therefore, you Comrades who are to shoulder the future State responsibility need to maintain the national spirit and political



Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Than Shwe meets the four outstanding cadets and their parents.—MNA

Coordinated efforts and unity among the State, ...

(from page 9)

In this connection, you Comrades who will be assigned to various parts of the country should implement rural development tasks while safeguarding the lives and property of our national brethren. In addition, it is necessary to organize people enabling them to consolidate the true patriotism and the national unity.

Comrades,

Today our Tatmadaw has joined hands with the people to build our political might, economic might and defence might untiringly while assuming the State responsibility. Among

these, the economic might is pivotal since it can support the political and defence might. In this regard, our Tatmadaw government has laid down good foundation for the State after adopting four economic objectives and carried out the market-oriented economy to strengthen our economic might. It is your responsibility to observe international developments so as to maintain and further develop this good foundation. You need to cultivate yourself to be equipped with Four Outlooks—military outlook, political outlook, economic outlook and admin-

istrative outlook. If peace and stability does not prevail in a country even though it may be well developed, the inhabitants will experience only sufferings, far from reaping benefits. It is evident that there are a number of countries around the world where people experience only bloodshed because peace and stability does not prevail in these countries well-developed as they are. That is why we need to maintain peace and stability while we build our country into a developed new nation. You Comrades are advised to construct the national politics which is forging national unity in whatever system while implementing the tasks of national



defence, and to organize the people so that peace and stability will be promoted and noble objectives will be accomplished.

Comrades,

In conclusion, I would like to urge you to:

- Keep abreast with and observe the changing military strategies and stud-

Today our Tatmadaw has joined hands with the people to build our political might, economic might and defence might untiringly while assuming the State responsibility.

- Organize our national brethren enabling them to uphold the Union Spirit for safeguarding the State sovereignty while taking part in the regional development endeavours of the people at your respective assigned places.
- Always practise to be strong mentally and physically, be academically competent in accordance with Three Forevers, and

- Organize our national brethren enabling them to uphold the Union Spirit for safeguarding the State sovereignty while taking part in the regional development endeavours of the people at your respective assigned places.

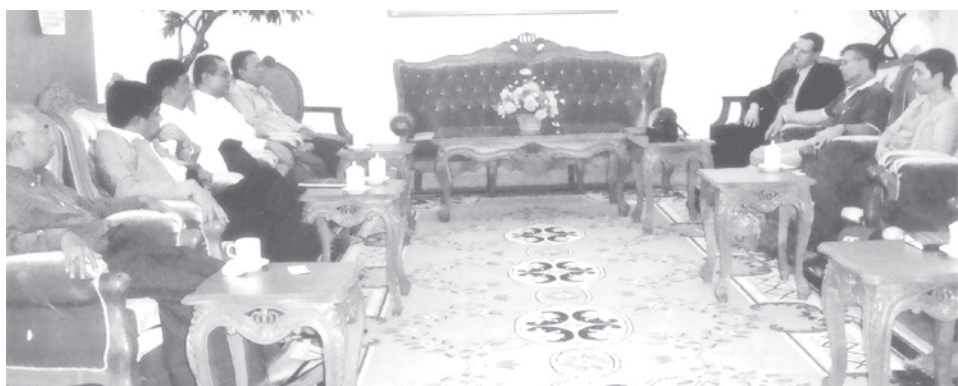
MFF meets Israeli Ambassador and scholars

YANGON, 12 Dec—Senior vice president-1 U Hla Maung Shwe, Vice president U Tin Maung Than, executive vice-president U Han Tun, general secretary U Win

Kyaing, secretary-1 U Hnin Oo and secretary-2 U Ba Thaw of the Myanmar Fishery Federation met Israeli Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Yaron Mayer and party at

MFF here on 10 December. At the call, they discussed matters related to cooperation between the two countries in the fishery sector.

MNA



Senior vice-president-1 U Hla Maung Shwe and party meet Israeli Ambassador Mr Yaron Mayer and scholars.—MNA



Major Maung Maung Oo accepts sports gear from U Kyaw Naing (Excellent Performance in Social Field-Third Class).—YCHC

Sports suits and equipment donated

YANGON, 12 Dec—A ceremony to present sports suits and sports gear to Yangon Command hockey team that will take part in the 12th Defence Services Commander-in-Chief's Shield Hockey Championship was held in Shwepyitha on 8 December.

Chairman of

Yangon Division hockey subcommittee Major Maung Maung Oo accepted 12 hockey sticks and five hockey balls worth K 350,000 donated by Director Dr Ebrahim Bin Dr Mohd Haroon and Country Representative U Kyaw Naing (Excellent Performance in Social Field-Third Class) of Sheiphia Holdings Sdn

Bhd of Malaysia, and 24 sports suits worth K 120,000 by Managing Director U Zaw Win of Just Fashion Co.

U Kyaw Naing explained the purpose of the donation. Major Maung Maung Oo spoke words of thanks and presented certificates of honour to the wellwishers.

MNA

National Kandawgyi Gardens (PyinOoLwin) teeming with visitors



Visitors seen at National Kandawgyi Gardens in PyinOoLwin. —MNA



People enjoy scenic beauty of National Kandawgyi Gardens in PyinOoLwin.

MNA



People take relaxation at National Kandawgyi Gardens. —MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 12 Dec—The celebration of the 77th anniversary of National Kandawgyi Gardens (PyinOoLwin) and the 2nd anniversary of the National Landmarks Gardens and the opening of Modern Amusement Park and the third Flower Festival were held under the

arrangements of the Ministry of Forestry on 11 December.

The National Landmarks Gardens was crowded with knowledge seekers and holiday-makers.

Moreover, the viewpoint is thronged with families and photographers going sightseeing in the

gardens where Christmas trees, statues and fountains are on display.

The 3rd flower festival was drawing the attention of the visitors. Well-known music bands entertained young visitors with songs and the music festival runs until tomorrow at Pyidaungsu square in the gardens.—MNA

Myanmar lead in archery tournament with four gold medals

YANGON, 12 Dec—Myanmar Archery Team secured two more gold and one more silver medals in the 1st Asian Compound Archery Tournament 2008 in the second day competition at Kyaikkasan Archery Ground, here, this morning.

Ye Min Swe bagged one gold medal in the men's 70-m singles knockout event and Hla Hla San, one gold medal and Aung Hngein, one silver in the women's 70-m singles knockout event.

After the second-day competitions, host

Myanmar led the tournament with 4 gold and 2 silver medals, and India, two silver and four bronze medals.

It was also attended by Secretary General of Myanmar Olympic Committee Director-General U Thaung Htaik of the Sports and Physical Education Department, member of Asian Archery Federation Council Vice-President of SEA Archery Federation Honorary President of Myanmar Archery Federation Dr Khin Shwe, General Secretary U Kyaw Oo, Vice-President of World Archery Federation Mr Sanguan Kosavinta, Vice-President of AAF Major (Retd) Baharuddin Jamil and Secretary Mr Um Sung Ho and officials.

NLM

Gold medalist Hla Hla San concentrating on archery in women's 70-m singles knockout event.
NLM



Visitors seen at National Landmarks Garden in PyinOoLwin.

MNA

Special market festival opens in PyinOoLwin

NAY PYI TAW, 12 Dec—Special market festival of the Ministry of Industry-1 was opened in the monument ground of PyinOoLwin on 10 December morning and officials formally opened the festival.

The ministry will sell 318 items of its products at the festival which lasts till 19 December from 8 am to 8 pm daily. —MNA

Corrigendum

Please read physic nut instead of rubber in paragraph four of the news "Farms use bio-gas to generate power" on page 1 of 11 December issue of this daily. Error is regretted. —Ed

ပြည်ထောင်စုမြန်မာနိုင်ငံတော်
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ဥက္ကဋ္ဌ
ပစ္စည်းဝယ်ယူရောင်းချရေးအဖွဲ့

TRADE MARK CAUTION

Chivas Brothers Pernod Ricard Limited, a company incorporated in United Kingdom, of 111/113, Renfrew Road, Paisley, PA3 4DY, United Kingdom, is the Owner of the following Trade Mark:-

CHIVAS

Reg. No. 4082/2008

in respect of "Class 33: Alcoholic beverages (except beers)".

Fraudulent imitation or unauthorised use of the said Trade Mark will be dealt with according to law.

Win Mu Tin
M.A., H.G.P., D.B.L
for Chivas Brothers
Pernod Ricard Limited
P.O.Box 60, Yangon
Dated: 13 December 2008

A Swiss Custom officer stops traffic on a country road 4 kilometers from the German border in Switzerland, near Zurzach, on 10 Dec.

INTERNET

Switzerland scraps land border controls

ZURZACH, 12 Dec—witzerland’s land borders opened up on Friday with its membership in the European border-free Schengen zone. Passport checks are now abolished for all travellers entering the country by road, but air passengers will have to wait until March 29 next year before they can benefit from the new rules.

The Schengen agreement, named after the town in Luxembourg where it was signed in 1985, now allows for passport-free travel between 25 countries after Swiss citizens voted in favour of joining the Schengen area in a 2005 referendum. At the exit of northern Switzerland’s Zurzach forest bordering Germany, a Swiss mobile pa-

trol team geared up for the change ahead of the transition at midnight. One of the guards, Corporal Heinz Meister, said he was stopping vehicles only to ask about any goods being carried and not checking identity papers. Hans Arzethauser, a spokesman for the border security force, said the move would allow Switzerland to access the EU’s electronic information system for information about criminals.—Internet



Trung Le, 33, sits with his robot, named Aiko, at his parents house in Brampton, Ont., on 11 Dec, 2008.—INTERNET

Anthony home may be a crime scene

ORLANDO, 12 Dec — Authorities cordoned off the home of missing toddler Caylee Anthony’s grandparents on Thursday, hours after the remains of a small child were found nearby. The sheriff’s office in Orange County, Florida, said it is seeking a warrant to search the home of George and Cindy Anthony. Sheriff Kevin Beary said the home has been secured “pending more investigation.” The house has the “possibility of being more of a crime scene later,” he added. A child’s skull was found at about 9:30 a.m. by a utility meter reader who alerted authorities, sheriff’s spokesman Jim Solomons said. Investigators, including those from the Anthony case, rushed to the scene, he added. CNN affiliate WFTV reported that the meter reader picked up a plastic bag at the site and a skull fell out. The remains have been removed by the medical examiner and will be sent to the FBI lab at Quantico, Virginia, Sheriff Beary said. Prosecutors have asked police not to disclose many details surrounding the discovery, Beary said. Caylee Anthony, 3, has been missing since June in a case that has received national attention. Casey Anthony, the child’s 22-year-old mother, was charged last month with murder and other offenses. She is being held at the Orange County Jail.—Internet



Investigators have sealed off the Anthony home, which shows a large Caylee poster.—INTERNET

Elephants ‘die earlier in zoos’

LONDON , 12 Dec — A new study comparing wild, captive and working elephants has found that living in zoos can significantly shorten the animals’ lives. Writing in the journal Science, researchers say obesity is a major cause of death in adult zoo elephants. They also cite stress as the key factor in the death of young captive animals when they are moved from zoo to zoo. They say ideally zoos should not take on new elephants if they cannot provide suitable environments. The study focused on the lives of female elephants, comparing more than 4,500 individuals. The researchers looked at wild elephants in Kenya’s Amboseli National Park, working elephants in logging industry, and zoo elephant populations in Europe. For African elephants, the average lifespan in captivity was only 19 years compared with 56 years in the wild. Rates of mortality amongst zoo-born Asian elephants were two to three times higher than for those born in the logging camps. Ros Clubb from Britain’s Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (RSPCA) says diet and lifestyle are the key factors influencing elephant lifespan in zoos. “The vast majority are overweight in zoos, this could explain the high still-birth rates and why they’re dying early. Bigger mothers have bigger calves and more of these are still-born,” she said.—Internet

Senate report ties Rumsfeld to Abu Ghraib abuse

WASHINGTON, 12 Dec — Former Defence Secretary Donald Rumsfeld and other senior US officials share much of the blame for detainee abuse at Abu Ghraib prison in Iraq, and Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, according to portions of a report released on Thursday by the Senate Armed Services Committee.

The report's executive summary, made public by the committee's Democratic chairman Sen Carl Levin of Michigan and



Former US Secretary of Defence Donald Rumsfeld. —INTERNET
its top Republican Sen. John McCain of Arizona, said Rumsfeld contributed to the abuse by authorizing aggressive interrogation techniques at Guantanamo Bay on 2 Dec, 2002.

He rescinded the

authorization six weeks later. But the report said word of his approval continued to spread within US military circles and encouraged the use of harsh techniques as far away as Iraq and Afghanistan.

The report concluded that Rumsfeld's actions were "a direct cause of detainee abuse" at Guantanamo and "influenced and contributed to the use of abusive techniques ... in Afghanistan and Iraq."

Internet



Pensioners fencing in Melbourne. *Sarcasm may be the lowest form of wit, but Australian scientists are using it to diagnose dementia, according to research.* —INTERNET

Bone drug helps chemo fight breast cancer

SAN ANTONIO, 12 Dec — New research adds fresh hope that a drug that strengthens bones might also fight breast cancer. Women who were given the drug, Zometa, as part of their initial treatment had greater tumor shrinkage and were less likely to need radical surgery, according to a preliminary study reported on Thursday at a cancer conference in Texas.

In June, doctors were stunned when a big study found that Zometa — given to prevent bone loss caused by certain cancer treatments — also greatly cut the risk that cancer would recur in women who developed the disease before menopause.

Cancer specialists are eagerly awaiting the final results of a second, ongoing study testing Zometa in 3,360 women who had breast cancer

after menopause — a much more common situation.

Its leaders gave a mini-report Thursday on 205 participants who had chemotherapy to try to shrink their tumors before surgery.

Internet



Man sprays 'toilet-papering' teens with fox urine

WILLMAR (Minn), 12 Dec — A 50-year-old man who told authorities he was fed up with teens toilet-papering his house decided to defend his property — with a squirt gun filled with fox urine. Now, Scott Wagar is in trouble with the law.

Wagar pleaded not guilty on Wednesday in Kandiyohi County District Court to misdemeanor assault and other charges.

He was released on personal recognizance.

According to police, Wagar was on his property on 16 Sept when he used night vision goggles to see 15-20 people running toward his place. He told police that he told them to leave, swore at them and sprayed them with the fox urine. He also allegedly struggled with one of the teens.

Internet

People visit the Japanese design exhibition "Kansei" at the Arts Decoratifs museum in Paris. —INTERNET



This undated photo provided by their father Dong Yun Yoon, shows Grace Yoon, left and Rachel Yoon, 2 months. Grace, Rachel and two other members of their family were killed when a military F/A-18D jet crashed into the Yoon house on Monday in the University City neighborhood of San Diego. —INTERNET

Sumatra quake likely in few decades

WASHINGTON, 12 Dec — Another devastating earthquake along the coast of western Sumatra is likely during the lifetime of many people now living there, researchers are warning.

More than 200,000 died when a quake in that region generated a tsunami across the Indian Ocean on 26 Dec, 2004, and quakes have continued, including a major shock in 2007.

A research team led by Kerry Sieh of the California Institute of Technology reports in Friday's edition of the journal Science that a quake with loss of life and property equal to that of 2004 could occur within the next few decades. The researchers reached their conclusion studying earthquake history of the region and sea-level changes recorded on corals.

They found a series of events from 1350 to 1380, from 1606 to 1685 and from 1797 to 1833. The 2007 quake seems to be part of a similar pattern, they suggested, but the history is so variable they cannot make an exact forecast.

"Nevertheless, to those living in harm's way on the coasts of western Sumatra, it should be useful to know that the next great earthquake and tsunami are likely to occur within the next few decades, well within the lifetimes of children and young adults living there now," Sieh's team concluded. —Internet

FDA advisers: restrict some asthma drugs

WASHINGTON, 12 Dec — Government health advisers recommended restrictions Thursday on some long-acting asthma drugs, although not Advair, a top-selling medication.

Outside experts advising the Food and Drug Administration said Foradil and Serevent no longer should be used for asthma. But they said the benefits of the more widely used Advair and Symbicort clearly outweigh the risks.

Each contains an ingredient that relaxes muscles around stressed airways. But that may mask symptoms that can trigger

life-threatening asthma attacks. Advair and Symbicort contain a second ingredient that reduces inflammation inside breathing passages and may help patients avoid such problems.

For all four drugs, the FDA's drug safety experts had recommended restrictions, including not using them to treat asthmatic children. The agency's respiratory specialists disagreed, saying the risks were manageable.

With its own experts deadlocked, the FDA called in an unusually large panel of nearly 30 outside advisers.

The medical and scientific experts said Advair and Symbicort should continue to be used with all patients, including children. The FDA usually follows the recommendations of its outside advisers.

The panelists were unanimous in recommending that Advair (on a 27-0 vote) and Symbicort (on a 26-0 vote) continue to be used with adults. For Foradil, there were 18 "no" votes and nine "yes" votes — a "no" vote means the risks are greater than the benefits. For Serevent, "no" votes held a 17-10 edge.

Internet

SPORTS

No surprise French clubs do not excel in C1



Bordeaux football coach Laurent Blanc.
INTERNET

BORDEAUX, 12 Dec — Laurent Blanc claimed it was no surprise a French team has not won the Champions League in 15 years, saying his Bordeaux side's lack of individual talent and a 100-million-euro budget cost them dear.

Bordeaux's 2-0 defeat in Rome on Wednesday night meant they have the consolation of the UEFA Cup instead of a continued Champions League campaign.

The former World Cup-winning defender claimed the 16 first knockout round qualifiers have big money to spend to get the players required to compete at the highest level on the continental stage.

"I thought we were not far from going through but that little bit extra we needed is in fact a huge gap," Blanc said after Thursday training.

Internet

Barcelona urged to be wary of Real Madrid

MADRID, 12 Dec — Barcelona officials have warned their side to be on guard on Saturday when they meet rivals Real Madrid, who are determined to win under new coach Juande Ramos following a string of poor results.

"It is an injured Real who will be coming here. We must be very careful and make sure that they do not use the match to relaunch themselves, as they have in other years," said Barcelona president Joan Laporta.

"It seems that everyone expects us to win easily, it will not be easy... we have to keep our feet on the ground," he added.

Barcelona are at the top of the Spanish league, nine points ahead of fourth-place Real, and were seen as the favourites to win the match until the reigning Spanish champions on Tuesday ousted their German coach Bernd Schuster and replaced him, effective immediately, with Ramos.

"With Schuster we knew more or less what they did, with the new coach there will be other things, it will be a very difficult match," said Bar-



New coach of Real Madrid Juande Ramos.—INTERNET

celona coach Josep Guardiola.—*Internet*

Man Utd left sweating on UEFA Rooney verdict

MANCHESTER, 12 Dec — Manchester United face a nervous wait to learn whether they will be deprived of the services of Wayne Rooney for a Champions League second round tie which could pit them against either Real Madrid or Inter Milan.

Rooney was fortunate to escape a red card over an incident in Wednesday's 2-2 draw with Aalborg in which he appeared to trample on the chest of the Danish side's midfielder Kasper Risgard, but he could yet face disciplinary action once UEFA reviews the



Manchester United's English forward Wayne Rooney.—INTERNET

video of the match.

Risgard was convinced Rooney should have been sent off. "I don't know what happened but he was jumping on my chest," he said. "I think he was a little bit frustrated."—*Internet*

Jankovic confident of breaking Slam duck

HONG KONG, 12 Dec — World number one Jelena Jankovic is working hard to get into shape for the 2009 season as she bids to break her Grand Slam duck at next month's Australian Open. The Serbian won four titles this year and ends 2008 as the top player after a see-saw battle for the number one spot but has yet to win one of the four majors.

"I'm really training hard and doing my best to get as fit as possible. I hope to be ready and in the best shape ever by the Australian Open because my goal is to win," said Jankovic, speaking to re-



Jelena Jankovic of Serbia.—INTERNET

porters here by telephone from the United States.

The 23-year-old, back on the courts and in the gym after two weeks' holiday in Hawaii, reached the semi-finals of last year's opening Grand Slam as well as the semi-final of the French Open and final of the US Open.

Internet

Sorenstam opens final tournament with 70 in Dubai

DUBAI, 12 Dec — Annika Sorenstam started the final tournament of her career on Thursday with a 2-under 70, four shots off the lead at the Dubai Ladies Masters.

The defending champion closed with back-to-back bogeys at Emirates Golf Club after starting from the 10th tee. She double-bogeyed the 18th, but had seven birdies at the season-ending tournament on the Ladies European Tour.

Johanna Head of England opened with a bogey-free 66 to lead Anja Monke of Germany by two shots. England's Katharina Schallenberg,



Annika Sorenstam from Sweden reacts after she missed a ball on the 15th during the first round of Dubai Ladies Masters golf tournament in Dubai, United Arab Emirates, on 11 Dec, 2008.—INTERNET

Sweden's Maria Boden and Italy's Veronica Zorzi each shot 69s.

Sorenstam started with three birdies in her first four holes before dropping a shot on the 14th. On the par-5 18th, her third shot to the green spun back into the water hazard guarding the front of the green.

"I got off to a tremendous start," Sorenstam said. "Played well for about 14 holes and collapsed on the other four, which is a bummer when you feel so good about something and then you come in with such a terrible finish."—*Internet*

Organisers say Davenport enters Australian Open

MELBOURNE, 12 Dec — Lindsay Davenport has indicated she intends continuing playing on the WTA Tour by officially entering next month's Australian Open, organisers said Thursday.

The former world number one and 2000 Australian Open champion has not played since the US Open last August and there was speculation that she may retire from competitive tennis.

But Australian Open officials said the 32-year-old American mum intends to return to Melbourne Park to play in the



Lindsay Davenport.
INTERNET

year's opening Grand Slam tournament from 19 January to 1 February.

"We are really excited that she has entered," tournament director Craig Tiley said. "She is a world class player and a great ambassador for our sport."—*Internet*

Pavin officially selected Ryder Cup captain

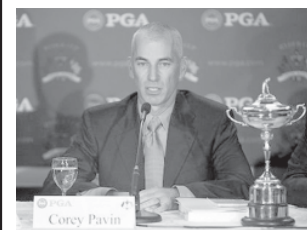
NEW YORK, 12 Dec — Corey Pavin's hand was shaking so badly that all he could do was drop the ball and hope it stayed on the tee. It was his first Ryder Cup overseas, and he had the opening tee

shot at The Belfry.

Pavin composed himself and won three matches to help the United States to victory in 1993. That was the last time the Americans won the Ryder Cup in Europe, and the last time they successfully defended the cup.

Now the pressure is on Pavin to repeat those feats — this time as a captain.

"The nerves you feel at the Ryder Cup are nothing like you feel anywhere else in golf," Pavin said on Thursday as he was introduced as captain at a news conference. "I've won the US Open — it felt like a walk in the park compared to the Ryder Cup."—*Internet*



In this photo released by the PGA of America, golfer Corey Pavin is shown with the Ryder Cup trophy during a new conference where he was introduced as the next US captain for the Ryder Cup on 11 Dec, 2008, in New York.—INTERNET

Bruce tells Scolari to forget about signing Zaki

WIGAN, 12 Dec — Wigan manager Steve Bruce has told Chelsea boss Luiz Felipe Scolari to forget about signing Egypt striker Amr Zaki.

Zaki has caught Scolari's eye after scoring eight times in the Premier League since joining on loan from El Zamalek and the Blues have been linked with a big-money bid when the transfer window reopens in January.

But Bruce is determined

to keep the 25-year-old and insists he will remain at the JJB Stadium for the rest of the season.

Internet



Egypt striker Amr Zaki.—INTERNET

Worker in German factory infected with anthrax

BERLIN, 12 Dec— A worker in a meat factory in western German city of Saarbruecken has been infected with the potentially fatal disease anthrax, German news agency DPA reported on Thursday.

However, German authorities said Thursday anthrax had not come from the plant's meat.

The man, a French national who commutes across the border to work in German city of Saarbruecken, had been infected on a farm in the French region of Lorraine, health officials was quoted as saying by DPA. The man was under treatment.—MNA/Xinhua



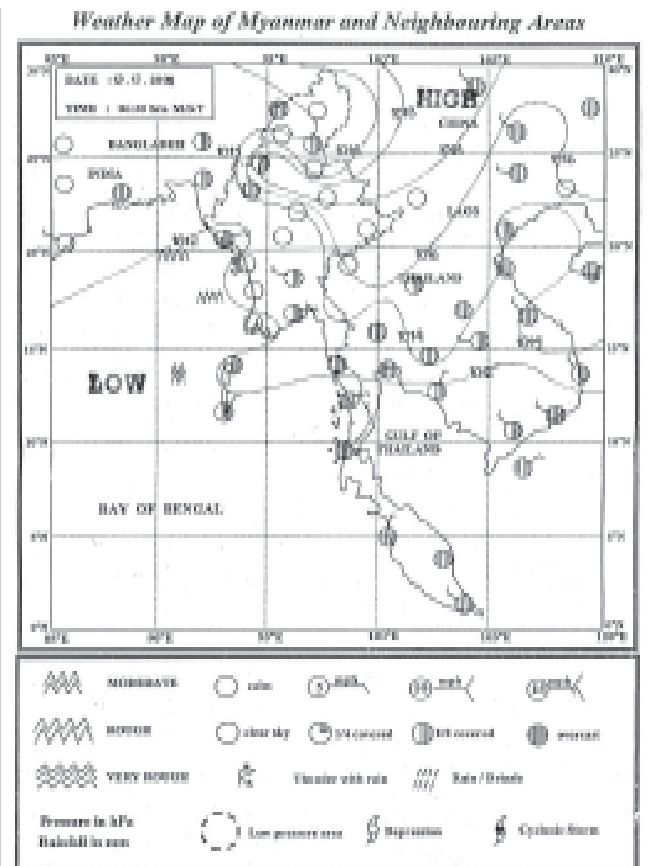
Rare positioning of planets Venus (top left) and Jupiter (top right) and the crescent moon of the Earth provides a 'smiley' effect that captivated Asia Monday night on 2 Dec, 2008.—INTERNET



A girl born with two faces rests in her relative's lap at Saini village in Noida, some 55 km (34 miles) from New Delhi.—INTERNET

400 kilos of opium, weapons seized in S Afghanistan

KABUL, 12 Dec— Afghan National Security Forces (ANSF) supported by NATO-led International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) have seized and destroyed "a sizeable quantity of drugs and weapons" in southern Afghanistan, said an ISAF statement released here on Thursday. The joint forces during the operation in the Nawa area of southern province Helmand earlier this week discovered about 400 kilogrammes of wet opium in the targeted compound with an estimated street value of nearly 1.5 million US dollars, the statement said. "Those drugs were destroyed later." It said that large number of weapons and ammunition were also found at the same place, including rocket propelled grenades, mortar rounds, small arms and components of explosive.—Internet



WEATHER

Friday, 12 December, 2008

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hr MST: During the past 24 hours, weather has been generally fair in Chin, Rakhine and Mon States, lower Sagaing, Magway and Ayeyawady Divisions and partly cloudy in the remaining areas. Night temperatures were (3°C) to (4°C) below December average temperatures in Shan State and upper Sagaing Division, (5°C) below December average temperatures in Taninthayi Division, (3°C) above December average temperatures in Rakhine State and about December average temperatures in the remaining areas. The significant night temperatures were Loilem (1°C), Namsam and Hakha (4°C) each and Pinlaung (5°C).

Maximum temperature on 11-12-2008 was 91°F. Minimum temperature on 12-12-2008 was 62°F. Relative humidity at (09:30) hours MST on 12-12-2008 was 80%. Total sunshine hours on 11-12-2008 was (7.1) hrs approx.

Rainfall on 12-12-2008 was (Nil) at Mingaladon, Kaba-Aye and Central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2008 was (110.31) inches at Mingaladon, (120.95) inches at Kaba-Aye and (140.94) inches at Central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (4) mph from North at (08:30) hours MST on 12-12-2008.

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 13th December 2008: Weather will be partly cloudy in Kachin, Chin and Rakhine States, Sagaing, Bago, Yangon and Taninthayi Divisions and generally fair in the remaining States and Divisions.

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

Outlook for subsequent two days: Likelihood of slight decrease of night temperature in the Northeastern parts of Myanmar areas.

Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring area for 13-12-2008: Generally fair weather.

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 13-12-2008: Partly cloudy.

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 13-12-2008: Generally fair weather.

Weather outlook for third weekend of December 2008: During the coming weekend, weather will be partly cloudy in Yangon Division, generally fair in Nay Pyi Taw and Mandalay Division.



Saturday, 13 December
View on today

7:00 am

- မင်းကွန်းဆရာတော် ဘုရားကြီး၏ပရိတ်တရားတော် ယောဆရာတော်ဘုရားကြီး၏ ဥပ္ပါတသန္တိပါဠိတော်

7:25 am

- To be healthy exercise

7:30 am

- Morning news

7:40 am

- အဆိုပြိုင်ပွဲ

7:50 am

- ကဗျာပန်းဥယျာဉ်

8:05 am

- Nice and sweet song

8:15 am

- "မြို့ကြီးသားယဉ်ကျေးမှု" (လျှမ်းထက်၊ ဖိုးချစ်၊ ပုလဲဝင်း၊ နန်းဆုရတီစိုး၊ စုချစ်ဇော်)

(ဒါရိုက်တာ-ဇော်လူထက်)

8:30 am

- International news

8:45 am

- Musical programme

11:00 am

- Matial song

11:10 am

- Musical programme

11:25 am

- Game for children

11:50 am

- Yan can cook

12:10 pm

- Round up of the week's TV local news

12:25 pm

- နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ

"အားကိုးချစ်သူကျေးတောသူ"

(အပိုင်း-၄)

1:10 pm

- ဆန်းကြယ်ထူးခြားပြိုင်ပွဲများ

(Telematch)

1:50 pm

- The golden triangle

past the present

2:25 pm

- Musical programme

2:35 pm

- Dance of national races

2:45 pm

- International news

4:00 pm

- Martial song

4:10 pm

- ပြန်ကြားရေးဝန်ကြီးဌာနနိုင်ငံတော်

သံစုံတီးဝိုင်းဖျော်ဖြေတင်ဆက်မှု

အစီအစဉ်

4:25 pm

- မြူးမြူးကြွကြွယဉ်ကျေးမှုအက

4:35 pm

- အဆေးသင်တက္ကသိုလ်ပညာရေး

ရုပ်မြင်သံကြားသင်ခန်းစာ

စတုတ္ထနှစ် (ဥပဒေပညာအထူးပြု)

(ဥပဒေပညာ)

4:50 pm

- Songs to uphold

national spirit

5:00 pm

- တိရစ္ဆာန်ဥယျာဉ်နေပြည်တော်

သွားလိုက်ကြနီတူပျော်ပျော်

(အပိုင်း-၁)

5:10 pm

- မူဟန်သွယ်သွယ်ဆိုကြမယ်

5:20 pm

- "ကြိုတင်ပြင်ဆင်ဆောင်ရွက်လျှင်

အန္တရာယ်ကင်းစင်မွေးမိခင်"

(ထွန်းထွန်းဝင်း၊ ဖိုးသောကြာ၊

မေသန်းနု၊ ပဝင်းခင်၊ ဝင်းနန္ဒာဖြိုး)

[ဒါရိုက်တာ-အောင်မိုး(ပဲရစ်)]

5:30 pm

- မြန်မာ့ဓလေ့ရိုးရာလက်ရာ

5:45 pm

- Musical programme

6:00 pm

- Evening news

6:30 pm

- Weather report

6:35 pm

- အလှူရှာမယ်လှကမ္ဘာဝယ်

6:50 pm

- ပဉ္စလက်ကျောင်းတော်

7:10 pm

- နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ

"သစ္စာနှင့်ယှဉ်သောမေတ္တာ"

(အပိုင်း-၁)

8:00 pm

- News

17. International news

18. Weather report

19. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ

"အချစ်စစ်ရှာဖွေခြင်း"

(အပိုင်း-၁၅)

Senior General Than Shwe addresses Graduation Parade of 51st Intake of Defence Services Academy



Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Than Shwe delivers an address at Graduation Parade of the 51st Intake of Defence Services Academy.—MNA

Vice-Chiefs of Armed Forces Training Maj-Gen Zaw Win and Brig-Gen Thoe Htein, Directors Maj-Gen Mya Win, Maj-Gen Tin Soe, Brig-Gen Kyaw Nyunt, Brig-Gen Maung Maung Ohn, Maj-Gen Khin Maung Tint, Maj-Gen Hlaing Myint, Brig-Gen Nyan Tun, Maj-Gen Than Htay, senior military officers, PyinOoLwin Station Commander Brig-Gen Zeyar Aung, Mandalay Mayor Brig-Gen Phone Zaw Han, departmental officials, Military

inspected them. The graduating battalions marched past the Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services. The Senior General presented Best Cadet Award to Cadet Han Zaw Tun, Award for Excellent Performance in Training to Cadet Myint Thu Soe, Award for Excellent Performance in Study (Science) to Cadet Paing Thu Htet and Award for Excellent Performance in Study (Computer Science) to

Cadet Kyaw Paing. Next, the Senior General delivered an address to the graduating battalions. *(The speech of the Senior General is reported separately.)* After taking the salute of the battalions, the Senior General left the parade ground. After the graduation parade, Senior General Than Shwe met with four outstanding cadets and their parents at the hall of the DSA Headquarters. MNA



NAY PYI TAW, 12 Dec—The Graduation Parade of the 51st Intake of Defence Services Academy took place at the parade ground of DSA in PyinOoLwin at 8 a.m. today, with a speech by Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Than Shwe.

It was also attended by Member of the State Peace and Development Council General Thura Shwe Mann of the Ministry of Defence, SPDC Secretary-1 Quartermaster-General Lt-Gen Thiha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo, SPDC

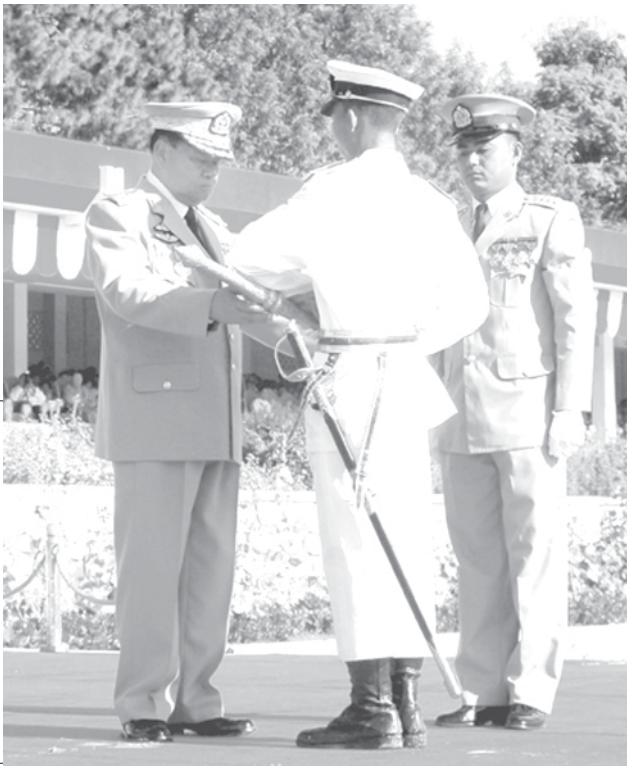
Member Lt-Gen Tin Aye of the Ministry of Defence, Commander-in-Chief (Navy) Rear-Admiral Nyan Tun, Commander-in-Chief (Air) Lt-Gen Myat Hein, Maj-Gen Ohn Myint, Maj-Gen Min Aung Hlaing and Lt-Gen Khin Zaw of the Ministry of Defence, Adjutant-General Lt-Gen Thura Myint Aung, Defence-Services Inspector-General Maj-Gen Thein Htaik, Military Appointment-General Maj-Gen Hsan Hsint, Judge Advocate-General Maj-Gen Soe Maung, Lt-Gen Myint Hlaing and Lt-Gen Ye

Myint of the Ministry of Defence, Chief of Armed Forces Training Maj-Gen Hla Htay Win, Defence Services Inspection and Auditor-General (Army, Navy and Air) Maj-Gen Maung Shein, Commander of North-East Command Maj-Gen Aung Than Htut, Commander of North-West Command Maj-Gen Myint Soe, Commander of Central Command Maj-Gen Tin Ngwe, ministers Maj-Gen Htay Oo, U Aung Thaung, U Thaung, Col Zaw Min, Brig-Gen TheinZaw, Brig-Gen Lun Thi, Dr Chan Nyein and Brig-Gen Thein Aung,

Attachés of foreign missions to the Union of Myanmar, members of social organizations, parents and relatives of the graduate cadets and guests.

Senior General Than Shwe took the salute of the graduating battalions of the DSA and

Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Than Shwe presents Best Cadet Award to Cadet Han Zaw Tun.—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