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All citizens must steadfastly uphold "Our Three Main National Causes" to avoid recurrences of past bitter experiences

Vice-Senior General Maung Aye addresses Graduation Parade of the Sixth Intake of the Defence Services Institute of Nursing and Paramedical Science

NAY PYI TAW, 8 Jan—*The following is translation of the speech delivered by Vice-Senior General Maung Aye, Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army), at the Graduation Parade of the Sixth Intake of the Defence Services Institute of Nursing and Paramedical Science at the parade ground of the Defence Services Medical Academy in Yangon today.*

Comrades,

On this occasion of the Graduation Ceremony of the Sixth Intake of the Defence Services Institute of Nursing and Paramedical Science, I would like to give guidance solemnly as to what you should be aware.

Comrades,

The aim of the Defence Services Institute of Nursing and Paramedical Science is **to produce skillful nurses, paramedical and pharmaceutical professionals with physical and intellectual aptitude for the National Tatmadaw which will safeguard Our Three Main National Causes.**

Comrades,

With a view to providing training and education to you, more than 20 departments of academic subjects have been set up in this Institute. The Directorate of Studies and the Department of Paramedical Science have been effectively teaching Myanmar, English, Mathematics, Chemistry, Physics, Botany and Zoology as foundation subjects, Anatomy, Biochemistry, Physiology, Microbiology and Computer Science as supplementary subjects, and Pharmacology, Pathology, Radiology and Physiotherapy as major subjects. In addition, with regard to nursing, the subjects of Adult Care, Family Care, Nursing Aid, Public Care and Psychiatric Care are also being taught. Likewise, a library has been set up for trainees with an aim for their broader studies.

To date, this Institute has already produced a total of 1,034 graduates, and the number will reach 1,143 if your batch is concluded.

In terms of subjects, those graduates comprise 935 nurses, 54 pathologists, 52 radiologists, 46 physiotherapists and 56 pharmaceutical professionals.

Comrades,

Your senior graduates have earned a good reputation because of their firm belief in Our Three Main National Causes, their relentless endeavours to be qualified both physically and intellectually, their fervent desire for further dutifulness in accordance with the motto: **"Enthusiasm, *Cetana* (Goodwill) and Sacrifice".** With respect to further studies, a graduate of the First Intake has already received a Master's Degree in Nursing Care, and the number of trainees currently pursuing their studies for Master's Degrees has reached 18.

(See page 8)

Our national brethren, like a myriad of fruits stemming from a single stalk, have lived in unity through weal or woe, with wisdom taught by blood relations.

***Vice-Senior General Maung Aye delivers an address at Graduation Parade of Sixth Intake of Defence Services Institute of Nursing and Paramedical Science.*—MNA**

PERSPECTIVES

Friday, 9 January, 2009

Give polio vaccine to all under-fives

Millions of children throughout the world suffer infantile paralysis due to poliomyelitis. The whole global community is trying to eradicate polio. The world saw polio cases in 125 countries in 1988, and only four countries in 2008.

Myanmar has conducted vaccination campaigns every year since 1978. At first, children were vaccinated against diphtheria, whooping cough, tetanus and TB. Then, polio, measles and hepatitis (B) vaccines were also given to children.

The Ministry of Health regularly gives vaccines and holds National Immunization Days across the nation including border and rural areas in order that children do not fall victim to polio.

Polio vaccines were given to under-fives on the National Immunization Days held in November and December 2007. The first time covered more than 98 per cent, and the second time, over 97 per cent.

National Immunization Days for 2009 will be held soon. Polio vaccines will be given to more than seven million under-fives of 325 townships from 10 to 12 January in the first stage, and from 7 to 9 February in the second stage.

Polio disease is caused by poliovirus, and it makes victims have their legs and hands atrophied. The viral infections spread person to person primarily via excrement. Here, a notable point is that a person can be infected with poliovirus through food and water that are contaminated with poliovirus through human waste of a victim.

All mothers and regional social associations have to work together to ensure giving polio vaccines to each and every under-five on National Immunization Days in order that all under-fives are free from the disease.

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**

YIE Practising High School awards outstanding students

YANGON, 8 Jan—The Yangon Institute of Education Practising High School of Higher Education Department (Upper Myanmar) under the Ministry of Education held its 11th prize presentation ceremony for 2008-2009 academic year at Pyinnya Beikman Hall of the school on Pyay Road in Kamayut Township, here, this morning.

Students perform dances at 11th prize presentation ceremony for 2008-2009 academic year of Yangon Institute of Education Practising High School.

MNA

Present on the occasion were wife of the Minister for Education Dr Daw Sanda Aung, Director-General of Higher Education Department (Upper Myanmar) U Zaw Htay and wife, Director-General U Ohn Myint of Myanmar Education Research Bureau, Director-General U Aye Kyu of No. 3 Basic Education Department, Deputy Director-General U Myo Myint, Pro-rectors Dr Daw Lwin Lwin Soe and Dr Myo Tint of Yangon Institute of Education, Principal Dr Nanda Tun of the Practising High School and teachers and parent-teacher association, members of school board of trustees and prize winners.

Teachers and students presented songs and dances to those present. Officials concerned presented prizes to teachers who had attended school regularly, winners at international level ASEAN competitions and winners at the central-and-division level English and Mathematics skills and Olympic Mathematics contests.

Prizes were also presented to district-and township-level outstanding students.

MNA

Knowledge Bank paper reading session on 17 Jan

YANGON, 8 Jan — Organized by Myanmar Writers and Journalists Association, Knowledge Bank Paper Reading Session will be held at noon at the meeting hall of the building of the association on 17 January (Saturday). Sayamagyi Daw Kyan (Ma Kyan) and U Ngwe Thein (Company Guide) will present papers and anyone may attend the session.

MNA

Corrigendum

Please read "KTK distributes various kinds of NTN Bearing made in Japan. The company is also the sole agent for HCH and TR Bearing to Myanmar" in the news item "KTK Trading Co Ltd opened" which appeared on page 9 of the New Light of Myanmar Daily issued on 16-12-2008. Error is regretted.—*Ed.*

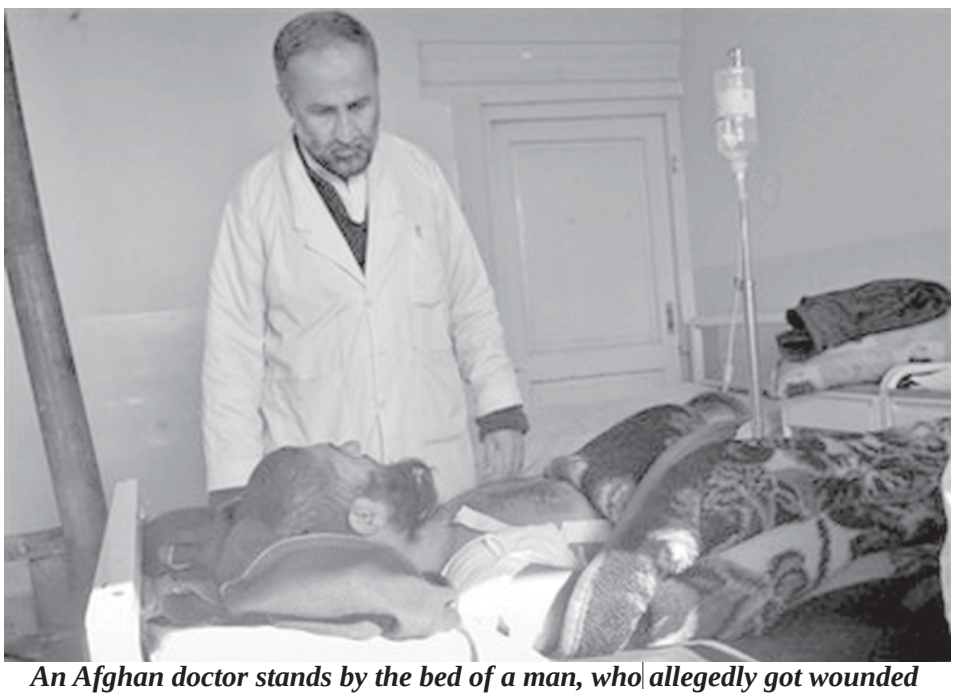
Table-Tennis Championship on 24-25 January

YANGON, 8 Jan—With the aim of improving Table-Tennis and for the emergence of new generation players, Horizon Open-2009 Table-Tennis Championship to be held on 24-25 January jointly organized by Myanmar Table-Tennis Federation and Horizon Sports Academy at Kyaikkasam Gymnasium.

The men's event includes U-13, U-16 and U-19, second class (Open) (States and Divisions Levels and Amateurs), first class (Open) (Myanma Old Selected players and Present Selected players) and U-50 individuals contests and the women's events includes U-13, U-16 and individuals contests (Open).

The interested persons are to submit original identity card (or) birth certificate (or) student identity card (or) and recommendation of the headmasters and headmistreses application forms are available at Myanmar Table-Tennis Federation (National Swimming Pool Compound) and Horizon International Education Center application forms together with two photos are to be sent to Horizon International Education Center No. 25 Phoe Sein Street , Bahan Township, Tel 543926, 541085 and 728016 not later than at 3 p.m on 20 January.

NLM



An Afghan doctor stands by the bed of a man, who allegedly got wounded during a US strike, in a hospital in Laghman Province, northeast of Kabul, Afghanistan, on 7 Jan, 2009.—INTERNET

US wars in Iraq and Afghanistan "will cost an additional $69bn"

WASHINGTON, 8 Jan—US Defence Secretary Robert Gates has told legislators that the military will need an additional $69.7 billion (£47bn) this year on top of the $65.9 billion (£44bn) already approved by Congress to continue the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan.

In a New Year's Eve letter to the chairmen of the House and Senate panels overseeing the wars, which was published on Wednesday, Mr Gates estimated that the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan will cost almost $136 billion (£91bn) for the 2009 budget year if they continue at their current pace. Mr Gates added that the estimate would cover Pentagon operations in Iraq and Afghanistan, as well as other elements of Washington's "war on terror." But he acknowledged that the estimate doesn't account for a proposed escalation of military operations in Afghanistan.

"This estimate is my personal assessment and does not reflect the position of the Bush administration or the incoming Obama administration," he wrote. An official request for war funding will follow a review by the Obama administration.—*Internet*

Iraqi cleric urges attacks on US troops over Gaza

BAGHDAD, 8 Jan—Anti-US cleric Muqtada al-Sadr on Wednesday urged reprisals against American forces in Iraq to protest Israel's Gaza offensive, as Arab anger grows over civilian deaths in the Palestinian territory.

The strongly worded statement signaled a threat by al-Sadr's militia fighters to renew violence against American troops after months of relative calm. It was unclear, however, just how much influence the once-powerful Shiite leader — who is believed to be in Iran — still has. His fighters have been hit hard in US-Iraqi military operations over the past year.

The US State Department dismissed al-Sadr's calls, describing them as "outrageous."

"Any call for attacks against Americans is outrageous and, frankly, not worthy of much more comment," deputy State Department spokesman Robert Wood told reporters. "Outside calls to attack Americans for what's going on in the region are outrageous."—*Internet*

Two men, at right, assist an injured man as other victims lie in the street, after a suicide attack inBaghdad's northern Shiite neighborhood of Kazimiyah, Iraq, on 4 Jan, 2009.—INTERNET

Troops kill 32 militants in east Afghanistan

KABUL, 7 Jan—US-led forces raided a Taleban bomb-making cell in eastern Afghanistan, killing 32 militants in a battle with scores of armed militants who shot at them from rooftops and alleyways, the military said on Wednesday.

The firefight broke out Tuesday in Laghman province when as many as 75 armed militants converged on the troops, who were searching a number of compounds in the area, the military said in a statement. The 32 insurgents were killed when coalition troops returned fire.

The troops destroyed two caches of weapons and roadside bomb-making materials that were too unstable to move to another location, the statement said.

Internet

Roadside bombs kill five Iraqi soldiers in Diyala

BAGHDAD, 7 Jan—Police say two roadside bombs have struck an Iraqi army patrol north of Baghdad, killing five soldiers and injuring eight.

An official at the Provincial security headquarters in Diyala Province says the bombs exploded simultaneously on Thursday at about 2 am as the patrol was in a village near Jalula.

Insurgents have frequently targeted Iraqi security forces in a bid to disrupt recent security gains that have led to a sharp decline in violence.

The official read the report on the explosions on condition of anonymity because he wasn't authorized to release the information.

Internet

US military deaths in Afghanistan region at 560

WASHINGTON, 8 Jan—As of Wednesday, 7 Jan, 2009, at least 560 members of the US military had died in Afghanistan, Pakistan and Uzbekistan as a result of the US invasion of Afghanistan in late 2001, according to the Defence Department. The department last updated its figures Wednesday at 10 am EST. Of those, the military reports 407 were killed by hostile action.

Outside the Afghan region, the Defence Department reports 66 more members of the US military died in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. Of those, three were the result of hostile action. The military lists these other locations as Guantanamo Bay Naval Base, Cuba; Djibouti; Eritrea; Ethiopia; Jordan; Kenya; Kyrgyzstan; Philippines; Seychelles; Sudan; Tajikistan; Turkey; and Yemen.—*Internet*

US military deaths in Iraq war at 4,223

WASHINGTON, 8 Jan—As of Wednesday, 7 Jan, 2009, at least 4,223 members of the US military had died in the Iraq war since it began in March 2003. The figure includes eight military civilians killed in action. At least 3,402 military personnel died as a result of hostile action, according to the military's numbers.—*Internet*

A Palestinian mother and her son with dual citizenship wait outside a bus before they leave the Gaza Strip on 8 January, 2009.
INTERNET

China to build bridge linking HK, Macao, Pearl River Delta

BEIJING, 8 Jan—A bridge linking Hong Kong, Macao and the Pearl River Delta is expected to start in 2009 and the central government will offer 5 billion yuan (730 million US dollars) on its main body.

The plan was made public by Du Ying, vice minister of the National Development and Reform Commission at a news conference on Thursday.

The main body of the bridge stretches 29 km, the longest in the world. It will connect the country's three southern booming places of Hong Kong, Macao and Zhuhai.

Xinhua

Chen Zhili (L), president of All-China Women's Federation and vice chairwoman of the Standing Committee of China's National People's Congress, selects a sweater for a student who lost parents during the devastating earthquake hitting Sichuan on 12 May, 2008 at Tanghu High School in Dujiangyan City, southwest China's Sichuan Province, on 6 Jan, 2009. —XINHUA

Sony to sell world's lightest 8-inch notebook PC

BEIJING, 8 Jan—Japan's Sony Corp said Wednesday it is planning to introduce the world's lightest 8-inch notebook PC, aiming at a sharp growth of market share.

The new notebook, as thin as a mobile phone, weighs 0.634 kg(1.4 pounds), and can be preordered on Thursday.

Priced about 900 dollars, the new Sony Vaio PC will be equipped with Microsoft Corp's Windows Vista operating system, and sale will begin February in the United States.

Xinhua

All items from Xinhua News Agency

Customers try third-generation (3G) mobile phones at a China Mobile exhibition hall in Beijing, China, on 7 Jan, 2009. —XINHUA

Study shows California's deteriorating situation in higher education

LOS ANGELES, 8 Jan—California, once regarded as a leader in the United States for its public higher education system, is quickly dropping in the rankings, said a report released on Wednesday.

California ranks next to the last in the US for its number of adults with at least a high school diploma, according to the report, titled "California at the Edge of a Cliff," released by the California Faculty Association.

Meanwhile, the state's investment in public higher education has dropped over the past three decades, and now ranks 22nd in the country. That's despite having the country's largest public higher education system, the report said. "It's a collapse," said Thomas Mortenson, author of the report, who is an independent analyst living in Iowa and a senior scholar at the Pell Institute for the Study of Opportunity in Higher Education in Washington, DC.—*Xinhua*

Waterfowl perch on a fountain in front of a frozen weeping willow in St James's Park in London on 7 Jan, 2009. The Met Office issued another severe weather warning on Wednesday but said the cold snap will start to ease towards the weekend.

XINHUA

Staple food prices up over 20% in Brazil in 2008

RIO DE JANEIRO, 8 Jan—The price of staple foods jumped more than 20 percent in nine Brazilian state capitals last year, according to a study released on Wednesday.

The study by the Inter-Union Department of Statistics and Socioeconomic Studies (Dieese) said the largest price increase was in Joao Pessoa, Paraiba state, where costs rose 29.3 percent in 2008.

In Natal, Rio Grande do Norte state, in the northeastern region, prices increased 26.7 percent in 2008. In Florianopolis, southern Santa Catarina state, prices increased 25.2 percent, while in Fortaleza, Ceara state, prices were up 24.6 percent.

The lowest increases were in Belem, Para state, in the northern region, where prices were up 4.7 percent.

Food prices in December increased in all 17 state capitals evaluated by the Dieese.

Joao Pessoa registered the highest increase at 14.7 percent.

Xinhua

Obama names "chief performance officer"

WASHINGTON, 8 Jan—US President-elect Barack Obama Tuesday named a "chief performance officer", a newly-created position that would oversee the federal budget and reform government.

"We can no longer afford to sustain the old ways when we know there are new and more efficient ways to getting the job done," Obama told a news conference at his transition headquarters in Washington as he named Nancy Killefer for the post, "an expert in streamlining processes and wringing out inefficiencies".—*Xinhua*

Cambodia, Vietnam ink MoU to inspect animal cargoes across border

PHNOM PENH, 8 Jan—The Cambodian and Vietnamese government officials have signed a memorandum of understanding to inspect all animal cargoes crossing the border, said English-language daily newspaper the *Phnom Penh Post* on Thursday.

The MoU stipulated that the construction of 11 inspection facilities along the border to separate the flow of animal cargoes and humans, in order to contain spread of avian influenza and its contraction from animal to human.

"The agreement will help curb the disease from spreading form animal to animal and from animals to human," said Kao Phal, Director of the Animal Health and Production Department of the Cambodian Ministry of Agriculture, Forests and Fisheries.

A 19-year-old Cambodian man was infected with the H5N1 virus in December, which is the only confirmed infection in the country last year, but non-fatal, not like the 7 prior cases diagnosed in Cambodia.

Xinhua

*Dense smoke rises from Gaza city after Israeli bombardment on 8 Jan, 2009.—*XINHUA

Hamas responsible for deadly Gaza attack

OTTAWA, 8 Jan—The Canadian government blamed the Palestinian militant group Hamas for the deaths of more than 40 civilians who were killed by Israeli shells on Tuesday in some of the most hard-line comments by any leading western nation on the deadly incident.

Medical officials in Gaza said the civilians had been sheltering at a United Nations school. The Israeli army accused Hamas of using the civilians as human shields and of firing mortars at its troops from inside the school.

"Hamas bears a terrible responsibility for this and for the wider deepening humanitarian tragedy," Canadian Junior Foreign Minister Peter Kent told *Reuters* when asked for Ottawa's reaction to the attack.

"The burden of responsibility is on Hamas to stop its terrorist rocketing of Israel."

Canada's current Conservative government, which took power in early 2006, is an outspoken supporter of Israel.

"It is a tragedy and Canada is concerned about the loss of civilian life", Kent said of the school shelling, adding that Ottawa did not yet know much about the incident.

"Hamas's record is to use civilians — the population and civilian infrastructure — as shields and it would seem quite possible that this is yet another tragic instance," he said.

Internet

Poland mulling sending more troops to Afghanistan

WARSAW, 8 Jan— Poland's National Defence Ministry is mulling sending more troops to Afghanistan but no decisions have been taken as yet, ministry's spokesman Robert Rochowicz said on Wednesday.

"The decision will be taken after evaluation of incoming analyses of the functioning of Polish forces in one province in Afghanistan," Polish news agency *PAP* quoted Rochowicz as saying.

Poland's Defence Minister Bogdan Klich told *Gazeta Wyborcza* daily that the number of Polish troops in Afghanistan should be increased from the present 1,600 to 2,000-2,200. The Polish government is due to discuss participation of Polish troops in military missions next week, according to *PAP*.—*Internet*

*A woman looks at a manometer set on a gas pipe at a compressor station in the Ukrainian city of Boyarka. Envoys from Russia and Ukraine go to Brussels on Thursday for emergency EU-brokered talks to resolve a bitter gas fight between the two ex-Soviet giants that has engulfed Europe in a major energy crisis.—*INTERNET

China plans to double natural gas output by 2015, eyes more coal, oil

BEIJING, 8 Jan—China aims to more than double its annual natural gas output to 160 billion cubic meters by 2015.

The country also wants to increase its annual production of coal to more than 3.3 billion tonnes and crude oil production to 200 million tonnes by 2015, said chief planner Hu Cunzhi of the Ministry of Land and Resources at a press conference on Wednesday.

That represents an increase of about 30 percent and 7 percent for coal and oil output respectively from the levels in 2007. Levels for 2008 have not been released.

In addition to the natural gas output, 10-billion cubic meters of coal bed methane will be produced each year by draining gas from coal mines by 2015, said Hu.—*Internet*

Rocket fire defines life in southern Israeli town

SDEROT, 8 Jan—Few residents of the Israeli town of Sderot are on the streets these days. They prefer to sit out the war in safer parts of the country or barricade themselves at home as Palestinian rockets keep coming despite Israel's devastating military offensive against Gaza's Hamas rulers. One mile outside Gaza, Sderot was for years the top target of Palestinian rocket fire. Its residents have long demanded a military campaign to wipe out Gaza rocket squads, saying the current disruption of their lives is a small price to pay if the war brings what they long for: the ability to walk outside without hearing the dreaded rocket alert.

Maxim Ben-Zikri runs one of the few thriving businesses in the town of 24,000 people: His Alum Mondial window business specializes in fixing houses that have been damaged by rocket fire. "I have work all the time, but that doesn't make me happy," he says.

He used to fix windows in Jewish settlements in Gaza before Israel pulled out of the seaside strip that is home to 1.4 million Palestinians in 2005. Now that Gaza militants have taken over those former settlements and moved closer to Israel, he has his hands full repairing windows in Israeli border communities.

Internet

Melting snow causes heavy flooding in Wash State

SNOQUALMIE, 8 Jan—Rain and high winds lashed Washington state Wednesday, causing widespread avalanches, mudslides, flooding and road closures as the heavy snowfall that has buried parts of the state began to rapidly melt.

More than 30,000 people were told to leave their homes in flood-endangered areas across western Washington as authorities warned of heavy flooding.

"This is going to be a memorable flood event," said Andy Haner, a National Weather Service meteorologist in Seattle.

Fire trucks rolled through Orting, about 10 miles southeast of Tacoma, with loudspeakers advising everyone to leave the town and surrounding valley, home to about 26,000 people. Sandbags were placed around many downtown homes and businesses as the Puyallup River neared record levels. It was forecast to crest on Thursday.

"They expect the town of Orting to go under water," Pierce County sheriff's Detective Ed Troyer said, adding that the flooding could be the worst in more than a decade. Tacoma Mayor Bill Baarsma declared a civil emergency because of flood risks at Puyallup River.

Throughout the state, about 60 highways were closed, including all east-west passes across the Cascade Mountains.

Internet

*In this photo provided by the Washington State Department of Transportation, water rushes past a washed out road near Blewett Pass on US highway 97 in Washington State on 7 Jan, 2009.—*INTERNET

The Polaroid Zinc instant print camera is demonstrated on 31 Dec, 2008 in New York.—INTERNET

AP Gaza reporter finds hometown in rubble

GAZA CITY, 8 Jan—I live alone in my office. My wife and two young children moved in with her father after our apartment was shattered.

The neighborhood mosque, where I have prayed since I was a child, had its roof blown off. All the government buildings on my beat have been obliterated.

After days of Israeli shelling, the city and life I have known no longer exist.

Gaza City, with some 400,000 people, stopped supplying water when the fuel ran out for the power station driving the pumps.

We listen to battery-run radios for news, even though the outside world watches what's happening to us on television. The Hadi grocery where we once shopped is closed. Food is scarce all over town.

Three days after Israel began its airstrikes against Hamas militants on 27 Dec, my apartment building was shaken by bombs aimed at a nearby Hamas-run government compound.

My brother took a picture of the room where my boys, 2-year-old Hikmet and 6-month-old Ahmed, once slept. Their toys were broken, shrapnel had punched through the closet and the bedroom wall had collapsed. I don't know if we will ever go back.

Internet

Chicago fire kills three children; one sibling rescued

CHICAGO, 8 Jan—Firefighters say they have found three young siblings dead in an apartment building that caught fire on Chicago's southeast side.

Fire Department spokeswoman Eve Rod-riguez says the bodies of 7-month-old Jimmy Gates, 2-year-old Tyrell Gates and 3-year-old Sharell Gates were found Wednesday on the top floor of a three-story building.

Officials were investigating possible causes, including the misuse of a space heater.

A 4-year-old boy found on the second floor was hospitalized in serious condition.

Rodriguez says the mother of the children was outside the building when firefighters arrived.

Neighbors say they heard the children screaming but couldn't reach them because of the heavy smoke.

Internet

Flight passenger subdued for bomb threat

LOS ANGELES, 8 Jan— A man who allegedly yelled "I've got a bomb" was subdued by fellow passengers on a Los Angeles-bound airliner on Wednesday, aviation authorities said.

The suspect, whose name was not given, was arrested when Delta Flight 110 landed at Los Angeles International Airport on Wednesday morning, said Albert Rodriguez of Los Angeles World Airports.

"The passenger is reported to have made a threat aboard the plane, and was subdued by (other) passengers," Rodriguez said.

Rodriguez said the man was handed to FBI agents and Los Angeles Airport Police for investigation.

Passenger Bruce Worrilow told Fox TV that he and his wife were aboard the airplane when the man "jumped up and started running ...(and) yelled 'I've got a bomb'."—*Internet*

Vets sue CIA, DoD over military experiments

SAN FRANCISCO, 8 Jan—Six veterans who say they were exposed to dangerous chemicals, germs and mind-altering drugs during Cold War-era experiments filed a federal lawsuit against the CIA, Department of Defence and other agencies Wednesday.

The veterans say they volunteered for military experiments as part of a wide-ranging program started in the 1950s to test nerve agents, biological weapons and mind-control techniques, but were not properly informed of the nature of the experiments.

They blame the experiments for poor health and are demanding the government provide their health care. They also want the court to rule that the program was illegal because its administrators failed to get their consent.—*Internet*

NY man demands estranged wife pay him for kidney

A Long Island surgeon embroiled in a nearly four-year divorce proceeding wants his estranged wife to return the kidney he donated to her, although he says he'll settle for $1.5 million in compensation.

Dr. Richard Batista, a surgeon at Nassau University Medical Center, told reporters at his lawyer's Long Island office Wednesday that he decided to go public with his demand for kidney compensation because he has grown frustrated with the negotiations with his estranged wife. He claimed he has been prevented from seeing their children, ages, 8, 11 and 14, for months at a time.

He said he gave his kidney to Dawnell Batista, now 44, in June 2001.

She filed for divorce in July 2005, although he claims she began having an extramarital affair 18 months to two years after receiving the kidney transplant, his attorney, Dominick Barbara said.

Douglas Rothkopf, the attorney representing Dawnell Batista, did not return telephone calls seeking comment.

Matrimonial attorneys were quick to shoot down any possibility Batista would succeed.

"I've been in this business over 40 years and I've never heard of that," said Seymour J. Reisman, a Long Island divorce lawyer. "It's not marital property, not a marital asset you can put a price tag on."

NEWS ALBUM

Photo shows a set of tea ware carved out of the daffodil, at a daffodil nursery garden in Zhangzhou City, southeast China's Fujian Province. Daffodil sculpture for indoor decoration has become increasingly popular among local people at the current high season of narcissus efflorescence.

Zeppelins set for comeback

A Russian company specializing in airships is planning to build a hard-shelled zeppelin capable of lifting 180 tonnes at a time — more than any modern cargo plane.

Exactly a century ago, in 1908, the first Russian airship blasted off in the then capital St Petersburg.

Today, after successfully building scaled-down zeppelins, the Russian company RosAeroSistemy is planing to realize the ideas of the rocket scientist - Konstantin Tsiolkovsky. The Russian pioneer of space theory predicted that airships with hard shells could be highly reliable and maneuverable once the right technology was developed.

The DT-N1 (Dirizhabl (zeppelin) Tsiolkovsky - 1) project is about building an airship 268 meters long, 64 meters wide, capable of carrying a 180-tonne cargo. Its maximum speed will be 179 km/h, with a cruising speed of 120 km/h. It will have a range of 5,000km.

The airship's all-metal body will have a total volume of 400,000 cubic meters.

NYC man sells bubbly calendars for popping fans

A New York City man has designed a calendar that will drive Bubble Wrap fanatics popping-mad.

The Daily News of New York reports in Thursday editions that Stephen Turbek is selling a poster-size calendar covered with the plastic bubbles.

Customers can pop a bubble each day to mark the passage of time.

The Brooklyn man says he has sold thousands of Bubble Calendars.

A handmade calendar with paper backing is available online for $30 and a plastic version costs $50.

Turbek says it makes a perfect gift for obsessive people — as long as they don't pop the whole year on the first day they get it.

Foreign Heads of State send felicitations to Senior General Than Shwe

NAY PYI TAW, 8 Jan—*The following are messages of felicitations from foreign Heads of State sent to Senior General Than Shwe, Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council, on the occasion of the 61st Anniversary of Independence Day of the Union of Myanmar.*

From President H.E. Felipe Calderon Hinojosa of the United Mexican States

It is an honour to convey to Your Excellency, on behalf of the people and the Government of Mexico, our warmest regards on the occasion of the Independence Day of the Union of Myanmar.

I would like to take this opportunity to ratify my will to continue strengthening in every area the Bilateral Relations between the Union of Myanmar and Mexico.

Wishing for your personal well-being and the prosperity of the people and the Government of the Union of Myanmar, I avail myself of this opportunity to renew to Your Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.

From His Majesty King Mohammed VI of the Morocco

Excellency,

As the Union of Myanmar celebrates its Independence Day, it gives me great pleasure to extend my heartfelt congratulations to Your Excellency, along with my best wishes to you for good health and happiness, and to the Myanmar people for continued progress and prosperity.

I should like to take this opportunity to tell you how keen I am to continue working with you to consolidate the ties of friendship and cooperation between our countries, for the mutual benefit of our peoples.

MNA

Mexican President sends felicitations to Myanmar Prime Minister

NAY PYI TAW, 8 Jan—*The following is the message of felicitations sent from President Felipe Calderon Hinojosa of the United Mexican States to General Thein Sein, Prime Minister of the Union of Myanmar, on the occasion of the 61st Anniversary of Independence Day of the Union of Myanmar.*

On behalf of the people and the Government of Mexico, I have the high honour to convey to Your Excellency, my warmest regards on the occasion of the Independence Day of your Country.

I am firmly convinced that our Bilateral Relations, characterized by the friendship, dialog and cooperation, will continue developing toward the benefit of our Nations.

I avail myself of this opportunity to renew to Your Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.

MNA

UN urges Nepal to search for missing slave girls

UNITED NATIONS, 8 Jan—The United Nations human rights agency has urged Nepal's government to search for girls who went missing after their parents sold them into domestic service, and urged an end to the practice.

Traditionally girls as young as six or seven from the ethnic Tharu community in five districts of west Nepal have been sent to work with families in towns and cities for as little as 1,500 Nepali rupees ($20).

The girls, known as "kamalaris" or indentured labourers, are often taken away by middlemen and made to work for about 20 hours a day without pay.

Although the government abolished the practice eight years ago and charities have rescued about 5,000 girls, activists say thousands of girls are still illegally employed.

"Parents send their daughters to be kamalaris as a last resort when they are under extreme pressure to settle debts; many of them end up being trafficked," Richard Bennett, from the U.N. High Commission for Human Rights in Nepal, said late on Wednesday.

"I urge the government to take concrete steps to prohibit this practice, search for the missing kamalaris, and provide for rehabilitation to those who have been victims of this practice."

Hundreds of girls, rescued after working as indentured labourers for years, began protests in Kathmandu this week demanding education, training and jobs.

They want the government to determine the fate of the missing girls, and seek justice for those who suffered sexual exploitation, torture, rape and other abuses.

Reuters

WFP aid worker killed, his car hijacked in Somalia

MOGADISHU, 8 Jan—Gunmen killed a UN World Food Programme (WFP) worker on Thursday as his team distributed aid in Somalia's anarchic capital Mogadishu, the second staff member murdered this week.

Resident Halima Ahmed told Reuters the attackers struck as the WFP team handed out supplies in the area, which is 10 kms (6 miles) north of the city.

"They opened fire and hijacked the official's car after killing him. They also took guns from his bodyguards," she said.

Hijacking cars are common in Somalia.

"Gunmen shot and killed a staff member, the second in three days, as they carried out food distribution at Daynile," said Peter Smerdon, WFP spokesman in Kenya.

A WFP food monitor was shot dead on Tuesday by masked gunmen at a school near a town in the southwestern region of Gedo.

Internet

***Minister for Forestry Brig-Gen Thein Aung receives Executive Director Mr Rodrigo Urdaneta Fuentes and party of ASEAN Centre for Biodiversity-ACB)*—MNA**

Forestry Minister receives Executive Director of ASEAN Centre for Biodiversity

YANGON, 8 Jan—Minister for Forestry Brig-Gen Thein Aung received Executive Director Mr Rodrigo Urdaneta Fuentes and party of ASEAN Centre for Biodiversity-ACB) at the ministry, here, this morning.—*MNA*

Gunmen shoot editor of Sri Lankan opposition paper

COLOMBO, 8 Jan—An unidentified gunman on a motorbike shot the editor of a newspaper that has been highly critical of the Sri Lankan government on Thursday, leaving him in critical condition with head injuries.

Sunday Leader Chief Editor Lasantha Wickramatunga was in a car on his way to work when he was attacked, Wickramatunga's brother Lal said.

"The gunman smashed the window of the vehicle and shot at him," Lal Wickramatunga told Reuters.

Doctors said he was in critical condition and was being resuscitated before being transferred to the trauma unit at Colombo National Hospital. Police spokesman Senior Superintendent of Police Ranjith Gunasekara said the attack was being investigated.

The Sunday Leader has been locked in a court battle with the president's brother, Defence Secretary Gotabaya Rajapaksa, over stories it published alleging corruption in defence procurement. Rajapaksa has denied any wrongdoing.

Internet

Vice-Senior General Maung Aye takes the salute of the DSINPS companies.—MNA

All citizens must steadfastly uphold "Our Three Main National Causes"…

(from page 1)

There will also be opportunities for outstanding graduates to continue their further studies for Doctorates. In this connection, I would, first of all, like to urge you to do your utmost bearing in mind and fulfillment of the objectives of the Mother Institute.

Comrades,

If I may expound Our Three Main National Causes, namely Non-disintegration of the Union, Non-disintegration of national solidarity and Perpetuation of Sovereignty, these causes have been our national responsibilities handed down by the history. You would have learnt bitter lessons from a number of world events, in which certain States have become weaker after disintegration of their union owing to the external intervention in the midst of their conflicts resulting from the disintegration of national unity as well as those which have become puppet governments after losing their sovereignty.

Comrades,

If we look back to the origin of our national races, there were bodies of evidences which showed that human races have inhabited in our country since 40 million years ago. However, complex geographical location hindering communication, divergence of climates has resulted in emergence of various languages, and diverse costumes, cultures, customs, and traditions and this has led to the emergence of more than a hundred national races.

However, our national brethren, like a myriad of fruits stemming from a single stalk, have lived in unity through weal or woe, with wisdom taught by blood relations. They have been moving around for their livelihood in the country as freely as they desire. In this way, our national brethren have inhabited the length and breadth of the country maintaining the undividable unity and solidarity. Notwithstanding their cohesiveness, seeds of discord were sowed among our national brethren by colonialists and colonial historians through their divide-and-rule policy, resulting in separatist mentalities creeping into their minds since the colonial time. This is why, as you all are aware, our independence was regained only after forging national unity through painstaking efforts.

Comrades,

However, as national unity was not fully consolidated even after regaining independence, armed insurgencies mushroomed accompanying the independence.

National development efforts were not able to be carried out as armed insurgencies were rampant throughout the country. Development projects were done in vain as the roads, bridges and schools constructed were destroyed by the insurgents. Education and health levels of the national races in the remote border areas were seriously affected as the staff in these sectors were quite reluctant to serve in the border regions for lack of security there. This is why the human resource development of the State lagged behind to some extent.

Comrades,

After assuming the responsibilities of the State, the Tatmadaw has systematically implemented the infrastructures

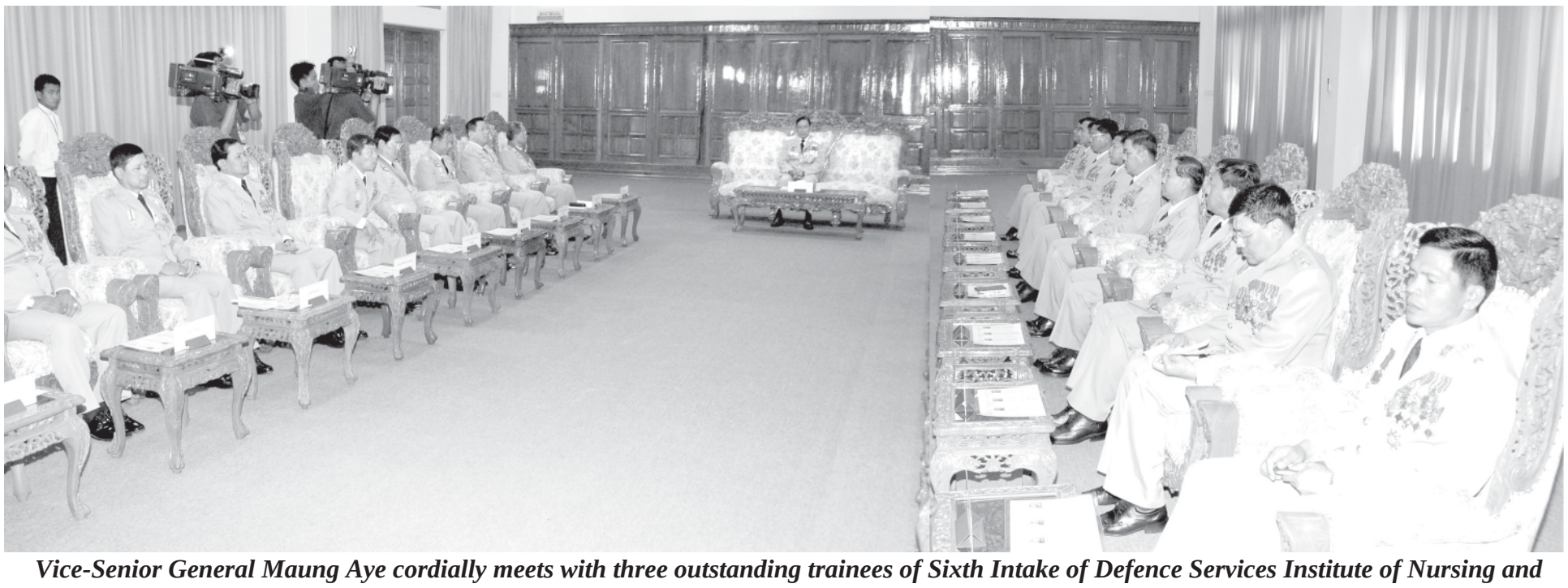
(See page 9)

Vice-Senior General Maung Aye presents Excellence in Training Award to Trainee Naing Naing.—MNA

Vice-Senior General Maung Aye presents Excellence in Study Award to Trainee Chit Ko Ko Win.—MNA

After assuming the responsibilities of the State, the Tatmadaw has systematically implemented the infrastructures projects in every corner of the country including the border areas for the human resource development and the development of the State.

Distinguished guests seen at Graduation Parade of Sixth Intake of Defence Services Institute of Nursing and Paramedical Science.—MNA



Vice-Senior General Maung Aye cordially meets with three outstanding trainees of Sixth Intake of Defence Services Institute of Nursing and Paramedical Science and their parents at the main lecture hall of the Defence Services Medical Academy.—MNA

All citizens must steadfastly uphold "Our Three Main National Causes"…

(from page 8)

projects in every corner of the country including the border areas for the human resource development and the development of the State. The Tatmadaw's relentless efforts for the national reconciliation have achieved significant improvements. As of now, 17 major national race armed groups and many small splintered groups have returned to the legal fold and have been working together with the Tatmadaw Government for the development of their respective regions. Therefore, all the national races nowadays are enjoying the fruits of peace and stability.

In order to avoid recurrence of the bitter experiences of the past, all the citizens of the State must steadfastly uphold "Our Three Main National Causes" as a national policy.

Comrades,

Let me continue to touch upon the physical and mental prowess. These twin capabilities are qualities that must be acquired and exist together. As patriotic Tatmadawmen, you must have physical strength and military knowledge to be able to safeguard the State. Likewise, you must also have courage, bravery and strong will to crush your enemies. You can carry out your duties well in the battlefield with your medical knowledge and expertise. Likewise, if required, you must be able to command your troops to combat and to defeat your enemy. Therefore, you will be given further training such as Platoon Commander Course, Company Commander Course and Commanding Officer Course in compatible with the respective ranks.

Comrades,

There have been many fine examples of the members of the Tatmadaw Medical Corps who were honoured for their distinguished bravery and sacrifice in the battlefields since the pre-independence period. As you have already committed to sacrifice the lives and limbs for the country, you must have the right attitude in demonstrating your courage to sacrifice your life. As you must work hand in hand with the infantry troops for the duties of medical care in the battlefields, you must have the spirit of good Tatmadawmen to learn combat experience willingly.

Comrades,

To become a good Tatmadawmen, you must strictly observe the codes of conduct of the Tatmadawmen. Similarly, you must have the five basic qualities such as spirit, discipline, loyalty, unity and three capabilities which are of necessary requirements for each armed force and Tatmadawman. You must also have the desire to carry on the twelve traditions of the Tatmadaw. In this way, you will be able to fully serve three major responsibilities of the Tatmadaw, namely to combat, to undergo training and to carry out nation-building task for the people.

Similarly, in your primary duties of medical care, you have to keep records of significant experiences. In encountering some difficulties in the field, you have to learn from experts. In addition, your have to provide continuous medical care to each and individual Tatmadawman, their family members, and the public by systematically keeping their health records.

Comrades,

Today, the Tatmadaw has exerted relentless efforts for the simultaneous development of the whole country by laying down Three Special Projects. They are Project for the Development of Border Areas and National Races, Project for Development of Special Regions and Project for Development of the Rural Areas. While serving duties at the assigned places, you will have to take care of the health and well-being of the public in order to contribute to the success of the health sector of the three special development projects.

Comrades,

In conclusion, I wish to urge you to

- Protect "Our Three Main National Causes" by sacrificing your own lives,
- Try to become a Tatmadawman with sound physical and mental prowess,
- Strictly observe the codes of conduct of the Tatmadawmen,
- Try to be endowed with the five basic qualities which are essential requirements for every armed force and Tatmadawman,
- Try to acquire much battlefield experience,
- Serve the interests of the people by participating in the development activities of the State, and
- Continue your further study in nursing and pharmacology to become specialists.

MNA

Distinguished guests seen at Graduation Parade of Sixth Intake of Defence Services Institute of Nursing and Paramedical Science.

MNA

Vice-Senior General Maung Aye attends graduation dinner of 6th Intake of DSINPS

NAY PYI TAW, 8 Jan – The graduation dinner of the 6th Intake of Defence Services Institute of Nursing and Paramedical Science was held at the auditorium of Convocation Hall of Defence Services Medical Academy in Yangon this evening, attended by Vice-Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) Vice-Senior General Maung Aye.

Present also were Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Quartermaster-General Lt-Gen Thiha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo; SPDC members Lt-Gen Ye Myint, Lt-Gen Kyaw Win, Lt-Gen Maung Bo and Lt-Gen Aung Htwe; SPDC member Lt-Gen Tin Aye of the Ministry of Defence, Commander-in-Chief (Navy) Rear-Admiral Nyan Tun and Commander-in-Chief (Air) Lt-Gen Myat Hein; Maj-Gen Ohn Myint, Maj-Gen Min Aung Hlaing, Lt-Gen Tha Aye, Lt-Gen Myint Swe 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 and 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; Commander of Yangon Command Brig-Gen Win Myint; the ministers, senior military officers, the Yangon mayor, the deputy ministers, officials of SPDC Office and departmental heads, the commandant of DSMA, the rector of the institute, advisers, the professors and heads of departments, the faculty members and trainees and their parents and relatives.

Vice-Senior General Maung Aye attends graduation dinner of Sixth Intake of Defence Services Institute of Nursing and Paramedical Science at auditorium of Convocation Hall of DSMA.—MNA

After the graduation dinner, artists of Myawady Music Band and Myanmar Music Asiayon and Myawady Anyeint Troupe performed entertainments.—*MNA*

Victorious Mon State Myanma Traditional Boxing and Women's Judo teams honoured

YANGON, 8 Jan – A ceremony to honour victorious Mon State Myanma Traditional Boxing team and women's Judo team who won in 10th State/Division Myanma Traditional Boxing Competition and 13th State/Division Women's Judo Event was held at Ramanya hall of Mon State PDC Office, attended by Chairman of Mon State Peace and Development Council Commander of South-East Command Maj-Gen Thet Naing Win.

U Kyaung Thar, coach of traditional boxing team, and U Myo Win Yu, team leader of women's Judo team, gave accounts of their experiences.

Next, Chairman of Mon State Myanma Traditional Boxing subcommittee Director of Mon State Forest Department U Thaung Tin and Chairman of Mon State Judo subcommittee Deputy Director U Moe Myint of Mon State Transport Department handed over Championship Shields to the commander.

Afterwards, the commander and officials presented prizes to athletes of victorious teams.—*MNA*

Deputy Minister Brig-Gen Myint Thein, Commissioner Mr Rocky H.T Wong of ASEAN Federation of Engineering Organizatons and MES Chairman U Than Myint open products show preliminary to the Annual General Meeting-2008 of MES.

MNA

Myanmar Engineering Society holds products show and paper reading session

YANGON, 8 Jan—A ceremony to open products show preliminary to the Annual General Meeting (2008) of Myanmar Engineering Society was held in front of MES building in Hline Campus here this morning. It was attended by Deputy Minister for Construction Brig-Gen Myint Thein, Deputy Minister for Rail Transportation Thura U Thaung Lwin, Deputy Minister for Electric Power No.2 Brig-Gen Win Myint, Commissioner Mr Rocky H.T Wong of ASEAN Federation of Engineering Organizations, Chairman of MES U Than Myint and members of Central Committee, members and guests.

Deputy Minister Brig-Gen Myint Thein, Commissioner Mr Rocky H.T Wony and MES Chairman U Than Myint opened the products show by cutting the ribbon and viewed the booths.

Afterwards, Chairman U Than Myint made a greeting speech at research and engineering paper reading session preliminary to the AGM (2008), held at the hall of MES. Resource persons read out the papers.

The paper reading session will be held up to 9 January and the product show up to 11 January. Interested persons may visit the show and the AGM 2008 will be held on 10 January.—*MNA*

Vice-Senior General Maung Aye attends…

(from page 16)

Vice-Senior General Maung Aye took the salute of the trainee companies and inspected them.

The graduation trainee companies marched past Vice-Senior General Maung Aye.

Vice-Senior General Maung Aye presented Best Trainee Award to Trainee Sit Myat Htet, Excellence in Training Award to Trainee Naing Naing and Excellence in Study Award to Trainee Chit Ko Ko Win.

Afterwards, Vice-Senior General Maung Aye left the parade ground.

After the graduation parade, Vice-Senior General Maung Aye met with three outstanding trainees and their parents at the hall of the main lecture hall of the DSMA.

MNA

Plywood Factory of Myeik creating jobs for local people

Article: *Myint Maung Soe;* Photos: *Aung Than (Mingala Taungnyunt)*

Taninthayi Division is earning foreign exchange by exporting aquatic and forest products.

Since few days, the news crew of the Myanma Alin Daily has been in Myeik of Taninthayi Division to cover the development of Myeik. Recently, members of the news crew visited Myeik Plywood Company Ltd in Myeik.

The plywood factory of the company is located in Myeik South Ward in Myeik. In the evening when the news team arrived at the factory, sheets of plywood were being produced.

The building of the factory is a large one. We, members of the news team, witnessed the lifting of logs by crane from a creek near the factory, the cutting of logs and the process of making plywood. The plywood making machine made in India is worth K 1,000 million and US$ 600,000.

In-charge of the factory U Hla Myaing explained, "Our plywood company is carrying out the tasks in accord with the rules and regulations of the Forest Law.

Our factory is exporting 200 tons of plywood to India monthly. Moreover, the factory is producing the plywood to supply the demand of the market. Depending on the profits, we paid the tax in foreign exchange to the State."

He added, "Furthermore, thanks to establishment of the factory, jobs could be created for 120 local people. In 2004-2005 financial year, the factory started the production of plywood.

"We receive necessary raw materials for the factory from the protected public forests in Bokpyin and Kyunsu townships in line with the rules and regulations of the Forest Law."

The plywood can be produced from Kanyin tree (Dipterocarpus alatus).

Timber logs being lifted by crane for making plywood.

Plywood sheets being produced from timber logs with the use of heavy machinery.

At present, the factory is manufacturing various sizes of plywood such as & feet by 4 feet, 7 feet by 4 feet, 7 feet by 4 feet, 6 feet by 4 feet, 8 feet by 3 feet, 7 feet by 3 feet and 6 feet by 2 feet.

According to the information from the in-charge of the factory, a plan is under way to make advanced plywood products soon.

For ensuring the emergence of a modern and developed nation, the government is giving priority to development of the private economic sector.

"Development of the economy inviting participation in terms of technical know-how and investments from sources inside the country and abroad" is one of the Economic Objectives of the State.

The collaboration between the State-owned industries and the private-run businesses in the State's economic infrastructure will contribute much to the economic development of the nation.

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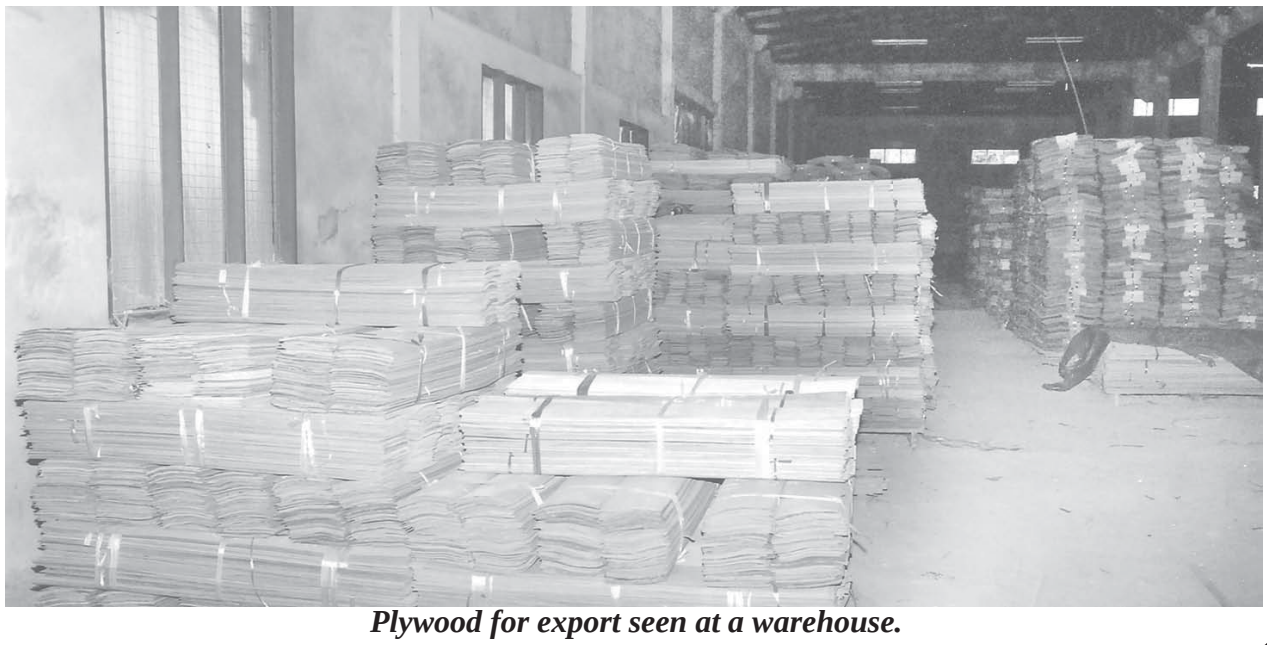
Translation: TTA

Myanma Alin:
3-1-2009



Plywood for export seen at a warehouse.

THE ASEAN SECRETARIAT IN JAKARTA INVITES ASEAN NATIONALS FROM BRUNEI DARUSSALAM, MYANMAR, PHILIPPINES, AND VIET NAM TO APPLY FOR THE FOLLOWING VACANCY

DEPUTY SECRETARY-GENERAL FOR COMMUNITY AND CORPORATE AFFAIRS (DSG CCA)

The ASEAN Charter signed by the ASEAN Heads of Government/State in Singapore on 20 November 2007 has provided new impetus to ASEAN's integration efforts by establishing a legal and institutional framework required to achieve the ASEAN Community by 2015. The ASEAN Secretariat is positively positioned to provide the necessary functions required to effectively support the Community-building process. This includes a Secretariat organisation structure that is aligned to the requirements of the Charter and their respective Community Blueprints, namely: ASEAN Political and Security Community (APSC), ASEAN Economic Community (AEC), and ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community (ASCC).

Currently, the ASEAN Secretariat is looking for a suitable candidate to fill the vacancy of Deputy Secretary-General for Community and Corporate Affairs (DSG CCA) who will be responsible for research, public affairs, community outreach and core corporate functions.

The DSG CCA will assist the ASEAN Secretary-General and will be responsible for providing strategic direction and guidance research, public affairs, outreach programmes for the ASEAN Community and for the implementation of corporate support functions, including core corporate services and ensuring clear prioritisation and alignment to overall policy objectives. The DSG CCA will ensure that ASEAN Secretariat has in place the systems, procedures and resources required to fulfill its mandate.

This post is a senior-level management position where the person will have to contribute to the collective leadership of ASEAN Secretariat and exercise managerial responsibilities apart from possessing expert knowledge in the financial and human resource management.

The candidates must possess advanced degree in management or relevant policy area and a minimum of 15 years of working experience with a proven track record and senior level exposure in government (including Ministerial level), inter-governmental, and/or international organization. Furthermore, the candidate should have a solid understanding of international and regional issues, and knowledge of and commitment to ASEAN ideals.

Visit our website at **www.asean.org** for further details on job specifications and application procedure. The Selection Committee's decision is final and only shortlisted candidates will be notified.

Closing date: 20 January 2009

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV GATI MAJESTIC VOY NO (-)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV GATI MAJESTIC VOY NO (-) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 9.1.2009 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.T.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm up to Claims Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the vessel.

No claims against this vessel will be admitted after the Claims Day.

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S GATI COAST TO COAST
Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV SUPA BHUM VOY NO (123)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV SUPA BHUM VOY NO (123) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 9.1.2009 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.P where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm up to Claims Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the vessel.

No claims against this vessel will be admitted after the Claims Day.

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S REGIONAL CONTAINER LINES
Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

TRADE MARK CAUTION

Sumitomo Rubber Industries, Ltd., of 6-9, 3-chome, Wakinohama-cho, Chuo-ku, Kobe-shi, Hyogo, Japan, is the Owner of the following Trade Mark:-

FORMULA

Reg. No. 4280/1998

in respect of "Tires for vehicles".

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 **Sumitomo Rubber Industries, Ltd.**
P. O. Box 60, Yangon
Dated: 9 January 2009

Woman burned to death for practicing witchcraft

HIGHLANDS , 8 Jan — A young Papua New Guinea woman was burned to death in what authorities fear is the latest witchcraft killing in the remote and lawless interior of the country. The woman, believed to be between 16 and 20 years old, was stripped naked, gagged and tied to a truck loaded with firewood— which was driven to a town dump and doused with gasoline — before being set aflame, according to witnesses who saw the act near Mount Hagen in the Western Highlands.

"The girl was stripped naked and could not shout for assistance or resist as she was tightly strapped and her mouth gagged," Jessie James, a man who saw the girl's death, told the local Post Courier Mail."I don't know the right words to describe it but it's barbaric. Can you find the best words to describe such acts that are rampant here?" said Highlands police chief Simon Kauba.

PNG police believe the girl was either accused of being a witch or that she had been blamed for infecting one of her killers with HIV/AIDS, both of which are punished by the death penalty by the jungle justice practiced by the indigenous communities of the Highlands.

Internet

A security guard smiles as he stands watch at Central Market in Phnom Penh, Cambodia on 8 Jan , 2009. The market, which features an art-deco style building, has been serving the Cambodian capital since 1935.—INTERNET

Canadian charged in cousin's 1970 death

KIRKLAND LAKE, 8 Jan—It took them 38 years, but police say they have solved the mystery of a 12-year-old Canadian girl's disappearance, charging her cousin with murder. Ontario provincial police said on Wednesday that Barry Vincent Manion, 60, has been charged with kidnapping and first-degree murder in the 1970 disappearance of his cousin, Katherine May Wilson of Kirkland Lake, the Canadian Broadcasting Corp. reported.Manion will appear in court in Haileybury, near Kirkland Lake, Friday, the CBC said.

Wilson vanished while walking home from a gas station convenience store about 5 pm, shortly after talking by phone with her mother, who sent her two sisters to meet her half way.Despite weeks of searching, her body has never been found.The CBC said authorities have not divulged how they broke the case. But for Wilson's mother, Manion's arrest brought relief.

"Now we'll have some closure," an emotional Aline Wilson said. "It's been a long time not knowing."

Internet

Lottery 'misprints' cost man $135,000

TORONTO, 8 Jan—A Toronto-area man who won $135,000 on four scratch-off lottery tickets has been told they were printing mistakes, and he won't be given the prizes.Thomas Noftall, 27, told the Toronto Sun he scratched the four tickets on New Years's Eve and was ecstatic to see his winnings.

He contacted the Ontario Lottery and Gaming Corp in Toronto by telephone, and a claims representative said he would be paid, but that he had to come to the lottery headquarters, the Sun said.That's when Noftall's luck turned sour.

"One guy pulled me into his office and said, 'Between me and you, they're going to void your tickets. They're not going to pay,'" Noftall told the newspaper.A lottery spokesman told the Sun there were 1,000 misprinted tickets distributed throughout the province.

Noftall didn't disclose his intentions concerning the tickets."I've gone from the highest of highs to the lowest of lows in the past few days," he said. —*Internet*

Mexican soldiers and police examine a car related to an attack on the offices of broadcaster Grupo Televisa in Monterrey city, Mexico, on 7 Jan, 2009.Gunmen threw a grenade and opened fire outside the television news station during its evening broadcast in Mexico on Tuesday and left a message warning journalists from reporting on drug war violence.—INTERNET

Northeast, Northwest endure storms

NEW YORK, 8 Jan—Twin storms are making it miserable in the United States' Northwest and Northeast.AccuWeather com reported a nasty mix of snow, ice and rain over much of the Northeast Wednesday night. The storm was delaying travelers both on the ground and in the air from the Great Lakes to the mid-Atlantic, New England and north into Canada, AccuWeather meteorologists said.Up to one-half inch of ice coated trees and power lines in parts of Pennsylvania, New York and New England. The Thursday morning commute potentially could be brutal with slush and black ice possible from Washington and Baltimore to Philadelphia and New York up to Boston.The wintry mess is expected to continue into Friday.Meanwhile, snow was expected to spread eastward across the northern Plains and more precipitation could trigger flooding in the Northwest. *Internet*

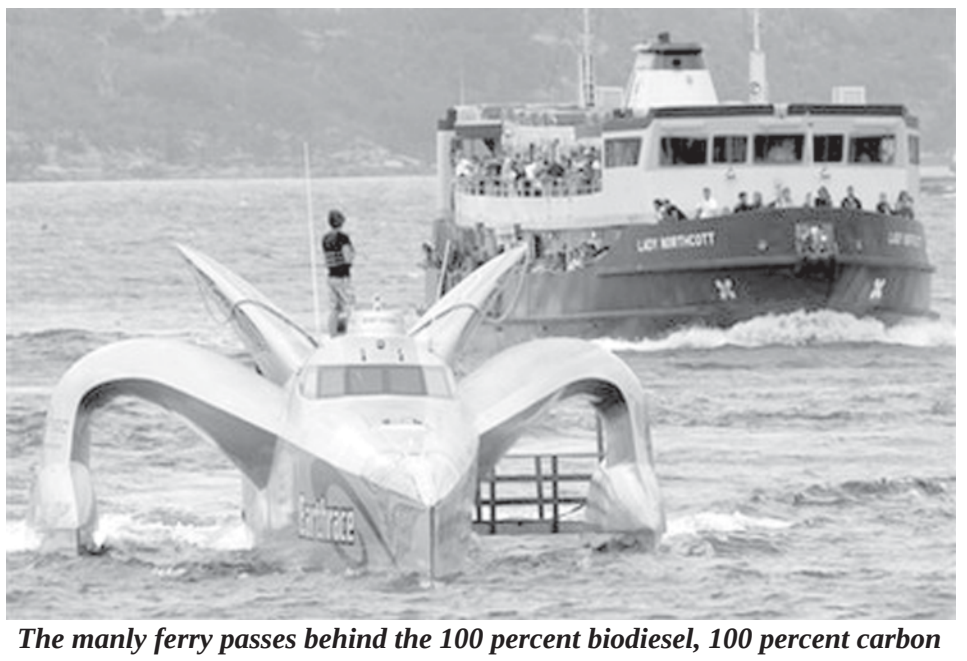
International experts probe into pig virus in Philippines

MANILA, 8 Jan.— A team of international experts are investigating the Ebola Reston virus found in pigs at two farms in the northern Philippines, the World Health Organization (WHO) said on Thursday.

Experts from the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization, the World Organization for Animal Health and the World Health Organization are now working with their Philippines counterparts "to address, through field and laboratory investigation, important questions as to the source of the virus, its transmission, its virulence and its natural habitat, in order to provide appropriate guidance for animal and human health protection," according to a statement released by the Manila-based WHO Western Pacific Regional Office.This is the first time that the virus has been found outside monkeys, and the first time ever, worldwide, that it has been found in swine, a food-producing animal.

The joint mission will last ten days and testing results will come out weeks later, said Caroline-Anne Coulombe, a technical officer of WHO, in a phone interview.

Meanwhile, WHO said that it remains safe to consume pork meat, as long as it is purchased in accredited outlets and it is handled and cooked properly. Meat from suspect pigs, sick pigs or pigs found dead, should not be eaten nor fed to other animals, and proper hygiene precautions and protection should be taken to dispose of sick or dead pigs, health experts warned the public.—*Internet*



The manly ferry passes behind the 100 percent biodiesel, 100 percent carbon neutral Earthrace at Manly wharf in Sydney, Australia, on 8 Jan , 2009. Earthrace smashed the round-the-world record by almost 14 days, completing almost 24,000 nautical miles in just 60 days 23 hours and 49 minutes. Earthrace is a 24-metre (78-foot) tri-hull wavepiercer that has been designed and built specifically to get the record for a powerboat to circumnavigate the globe.— INTERNET

Sudden veer took jetliner into field

DENVER, 8 Jan — A jetliner that roared into a field on takeoff in Denver last month veered suddenly off the runway despite the pilot's efforts, a report issued on Wednesday said.The National Transportation Safety Board investigators reported the Continental Airlines Boeing 737-500 "suddenly diverged to the left" while taking off 20 Dec at Denver International Airport, *The Denver Post* reported.

"Attempts to correct the deviation with the rudder were unsuccessful," the report stated.The incident left 38 of the 110 passengers and five crew members injured. All those hurt are now out of the hospital, the Post reported.The report went on to say the veteran pilot briefly tried to turn the aircraft back to the center of the runway with his tiller but was unable to control it.The jetliner, speeding at more than 100 mph, traveled 2,300 feet across a snow-covered field, bounced through a gully and went over an airport taxiway and raised airport service road before stopping. It then burst into flames, the NTSB reported.Crosswinds were at least 31 mph just prior to takeoff and may have gusted higher. —*Internet*

A great white shark is prepared for dissection by Clinton Duffy from the Department of Conservation (DOC) at the Auckland Museum in Auckland, New Zealand, on 8 Jan, 2009. During the autopsy, DOC workers looked at the shark's stomach contents and measured its internal organs which was broadcast to over ten million people on the internet. The shark died accidentally after being entangled in a gill net last week.— INTERNET

Thousands evacuated ahead of wildfire

BOULDER, 8 Jan — Two wildfires whipped by winds approaching 75 mph on Wednesday forced the evacuation of more than 11,000 homes near Boulder, Colo, authorities said.Cmdr Phil West of the Boulder County Sheriff's Department said the evacuation line was within a half-mile of the north side of the city, *The Denver* Post reported.

West said firefighters couldn't stop the fires so were concentrating on protecting structures."Firefighters are having severe wind issues," said Steve Segin, a public information officer for the Rocky Mountain Area Coordination Center.

"Strong winds can really push the fire along and makes it difficult to fight."Volunteers and first-responders were trying to rescue 100 horses at the Green Tree Equine Facility, the Post reported.

Internet

Everest trip helps critically ill

LONDON , 8 Jan — The lessons learned by medics from a trip to Everest could help the treatment of critically ill patients.The team that braved the Himalayan summit to study the body's responses to extreme adversity has recorded the lowest ever human blood oxygen level.The results could see treatment plans for some patients with similarly low blood oxygen levels re-evaluated.

The "Caudwell Xtreme Everest" work has been published in the New England Journal of Medicine.The blood readings established what has long been suspected — that high-altitude climbers have incredibly low levels of oxygen in their blood, which at sea-level would only be seen in patients close to death.The average arterial oxygen level was 3.28 kilopascals or kPa - the lowest was 2.55 kPa.

The normal value in humans is 12-14 kPa and patients with a level below 8 kPa are considered critically ill.Expedition leader Dr Mike Grocott said: "We rarely see below 6 kPa in our patients."

Internet

Twelve dead as winter weather freezes Europe

WARSAW , 8 Jan — A blast of frigid weather has claimed up to a dozen lives in Europe as temperatures tumbled below freezing overnight in what weather officials today dubbed the coldest night of winter.Polish police said the latest victims who froze to death yesterday included a 68-year-old homeless man found in an abandoned house in the southeast town of Jozefow, and a 51-year-old man who lived alone in central Eligiow and died a few steps away from his home.

Five other deaths across Europe have also been blamed on the harsh blast of wintry weather, including that of a man in Milan who died when a canopy collapsed on him under the weight of snowfall.Temperatures in Poland dropped as low as -25deg Celsius.According to Interior Ministry data, hypothermia has been blamed for 76 deaths in Poland since November 2008.Snowfalls disrupted air traffic across Europe, shutting down airports in Italy for several hours and paralysing TGV high-speed trains in France.Milan's two airports Malpensa and Linate, as well as the airports in Turin and Bergamo, were closed all morning after snow reached up to 30 cm.

Internet

Workers sprinkle sand to prevent vehicles from skidding on a slippery snow-covered road in Miaowangpo, Guizhou Province, on 7 Jan, 2009. INTERNET

SPORTS

Lucky United still on course for five football trophies: Ferguson

Ferguson said United were lucky to still be on course for five trophies this season after their shock 1-0 defeat against Derby.—INTERNET

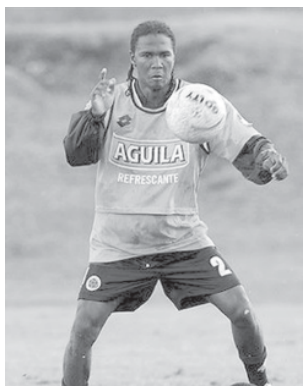
DERBY, 8 Jan — Alex Ferguson said Manchester United were lucky to still be on course for five trophies this season after their shock 1-0 League Cup semi-final, first leg defeat against Derby County.

The Manchester United manager was punished by the side languishing 18th in the Championship for fielding a vastly-weakened side, with only Serbian Nemanja Vidic and Paul Scholes beginning the game decided by Kris Commons' wonderful 30th minute goal.

Ferguson clearly had one eye on Sunday's crucial Premier League meeting with rivals Chelsea at Old Trafford and that was part of his team thinking but even the 60th minute double substitution of Cristiano Ronaldo and Wayne Rooney could not prevent overwhelming favourites United from slipping to their fourth defeat of the season against the side that was relegated from the Premier League eight months ago with 11 points, the worst total ever recorded.

Internet

Wigan poised to sign Colombian striker



Colombian international striker Hugo Rodallega, seen here in 2008, looks set to sign for Premiership side Wigan Athletic.
INTERNET

LONDON, 8 Jan — Colombian international striker Hugo Rodallega looks set to sign for Premiership side Wigan Athletic and provoke more speculation surrounding the futures of Senegal's Henri Camara and England international Emile Heskey.

The 23-year-old Colombian will cost Wigan 4.5 million pounds from Mexican side Necaxa, for whom he scored 15 times in 36 appearances last season, should he be granted a work permit next week.Wigan manager Steve Bruce said that the club would be securing the talents of an out and out scorer."He's fast, about 6ft 1in, he's good in the air, rangy rather than thick-set, can score a goal - just a genuine all-round striker," said Bruce.

Rodallega said he was prepared for the challenge of a totally different style of football."They (Wigan) have a very similar style to all the teams there — fast, strong, tough," he said. "Considering what I have and what I am going to learn, I will get to a team with a lot of ambition.I think you can adapt yourself to all the leagues. If the English league is not the best in the world, it is one of the best. It is a big challenge to me and I am mentally prepared."—*Internet*

Slovakia into Hopman final after Kiefer injury collapse

Nicolas Kiefer of Germany retires from the court in a wheelchair after injuring his ankle against Dominik Hrbaty of the Slovak Republic during their singles match on Session 9 of the Hopman Cup in Perth, on 8 January. Kiefer was leading 3-1 games in the first set.
INTERNET

PERTH, 8 Jan — Slovakia advanced to a fourth Hopman Cup final in dramatic circumstances when Germany's Nicolas Kiefer collapsed on court with an ankle injury and was taken off in a wheelchair.

Both teams were unbeaten going into the tie, but the much-anticipated clash came to a premature end when Kiefer crashed down with a twisted ankle in the fifth game of his singles clash with Dominik Hrbaty.

Slovakia won the tie 3-0 after being awarded the mixed doubles on a walkover.

Internet

Xerox Classic goes on hiatus for lack of sponsor

ROCHESTER, 8 Jan— The Xerox Classic has been left off the Nationwide Tour schedule for 2009 after the corporate sponsor decided not to sign a new deal.Xerox Corp. cited the harsh economic climate that forced it to lay off 3,000 employees in October as reason for ending its sponsorship of the event.

Tournament director Don Jeffries of the Rochester Broadway Theater League, which ran the event and was one of the benefiting charities, informed the PGA Tour that the tournament would have to go on hiatus.Jeffries said he'll continue to shop for a new title sponsor in hopes the event can return to the Nationwide Tour schedule in 2010.

Internet

Redknapp plans to follow Defoe swoop with more deals

Tottenham's English Striker Jermaine Defoe.

LONDON, 8 Jan — Harry Redknapp hopes to follow his swoop for Jermain Defoe with a host of new signings to bolster Tottenham's bid for cup glory.Redknapp's League Cup holders moved within touching distance of a second successive final appearance by thrashing Burnley 4-1 in the semi-final first leg at White Hart Lane on Tuesday. But despite the one-sided nature of the scoreline, Tottenham were totally outplayed by their Championship opponents in the first half and Redknapp is more convinced than ever that new recruits are needed to continue the north London club's recent revival.Redknapp has tied up a deal to bring Defoe back to Spurs from Portsmouth in a 15 million pounds transfer worth around 60,000 pounds a week to the England striker.But the Spurs boss is desperate to add some experience to the squad he inherited from Juande Ramos.

"It's been a badly balanced, badly put-together squad from day one," Redknapp said. "I'd like to get three or four decent players in. I think we need them. There are some young players here and there's a bit of experience and know-how missing at times."I'm having a look at Stephen Appiah. I watched him six or seven times when he was playing for Ghana but Juventus wouldn't sell.

Internet

Mauresmo still a force as she ousts Ivanovic at WTA Brisbane

Amelie Mauresmo of France hits a backhand return in her victory over Ana Ivanovic of Serbia in the quarter-finals of the Brisbane International, on 8 January. —INTERNET

BRISBANE, 8 Jan — Amelie Mauresmo showed she was still a force to be reckoned with as she thumped top seed Ana Ivanovic 6-3, 6-2 in the quarter-finals of the Brisbane International.Mauresmo, the world No 23, took just 67 minutes to down the fifth-ranked Ivanovic, who struggled through the first two rounds of the tournament and looked completely out of touch against the 29-year-old Frenchwoman.

The win was Mauresmo's first over a top 10 player since she beat Kim Clijsters in Antwerp in 2007 and sets up a semi-final against either her fellow countrywoman Marion Bartoli or Italy's Tathiana Garbin.

Both Mauresmo and Ivanovic had marathon second round matches on Wednesday but Mauresmo, eight years older than her Serbian opponent, looked the fresher of the two players.

Internet

Dementieva through to WTA ASB Classic semis

AUCKLAND, 8 Jan — World number four Elena Dementieva cruised into the last four of the ASB Classic, defeating Israel's Shahar Peer who faced protests over her country's military offensive in Gaza.The Russian Olympic champion and top seed had little trouble in winning 6-3, 6-1, but Peer refused to use the noisy protest by about 20 people outside the tennis centre as an excuse.

The 21-year-old said she had been unaffected by the protest, which ended during the early stages of the match, although Dementieva said the situation in Israel must have affected Peer."I'm sure it was a tough day for her because of the situation in her country," Dementieva said."I'm sure it was not easy to play for her. I just know she can play better tennis next week."

Internet

World number four Elena Dementieva (seen here in November) cruised into the last four of the ASB Classic, defeating Israel's Shahar Peer.—INTERNET

It takes two to know one: Shared Experiences change self-recognition

SCIENCE DAILY, 8 Jan — Looking at yourself in the mirror every morning, you never think to question whether the person you see is actually you. You feel familiar—at home with your own unique self image. After all, you have been sporting the same old face for years. An innovative study by Dr Manos Tsakiris, Department of Psychology, Royal Holloway, University of London, challenges this common-sense notion about our own self image.

The study shows for the first time that the image we hold of our own face can actually change through shared experiences with other people's faces.

The study reveals that recognition of our own face is not as consistent as we might think. The participants' ability to recognise their own face changed when they watched the face of another person being touched at the same time as their own face was touched, as though they were looking in a mirror. Specifically, when asked to recognize a picture of their own face, the picture that people chose included features of the other person they had previously seen. This did not happen when the two faces were touched out of synchrony. Sharing an experience with another person may change the perception we have of our own self, such as the recognition of our own face. "As a result of shared experiences, we tend to perceive other people as being more similar to us, and this applies also to the recognition of our own face. This process may be at the root of constructing a self-identity in a social context," says Dr Tsakiris who led the study funded by the Economic and Social Research Council, UK.

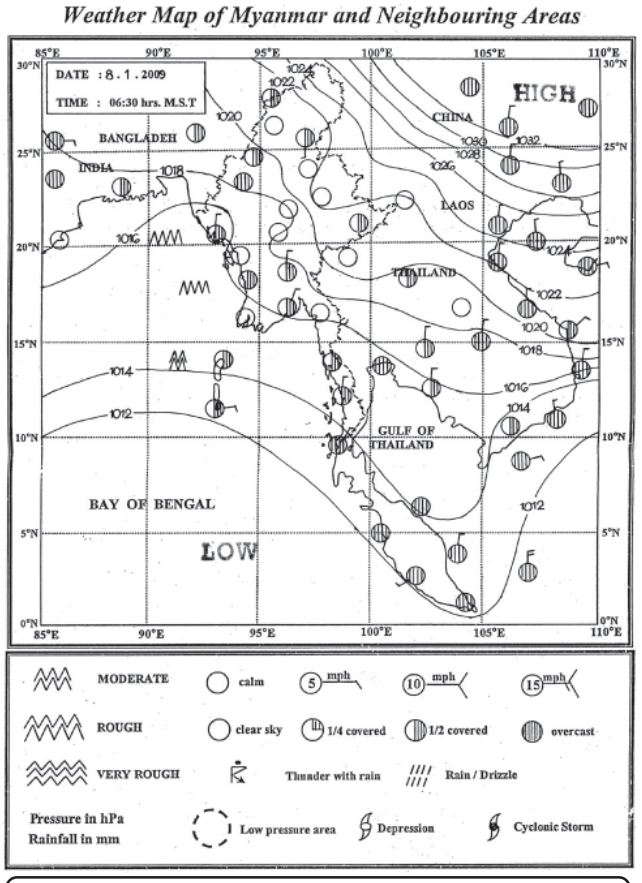
The findings imply that shared experiences may influence the way we perceive ourselves and possibly the way we interact with others. Dr Tsakiris explains, "If I feel that you are more like me, I might then behave to you in a different way. We now test whether shared experiences can make us stereotype others less, or change our attitudes towards people of different social groups, race or gender."

Research on self-recognition may also have a significant impact in understanding and helping people with appearance-related concerns. Shared sensory experiences may ease such concerns and provide insights into the mechanisms that cause them.

Internet

***Icy Paris : A fountain is covered with ice and snow on Place de la Concorde, in Paris.*—INTERNET**

Weather Map of Myanmar and Neighbouring Areas



WEATHER

Thursday, 8 January, 2009

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hr MST: During the past 24 hours, weather has been partly cloudy in Kachin State, Ayeyawady and Taninthayi Divisions and generally fair in the remaining States and Divisions. Night temperatures were (3˚C) to (4˚C) below January average temperatures in upper Sagaing and Yangon Divisions, (5˚C) below January average temperatures in Chin State, (3˚C) above January average temperatures in Mon State and about January average temperatures in the remaining areas. The significant night temperatures were Hakha (-2˚C) , Loilem (1˚C), Namhsan (3˚C), Moekok and Pinlaung (4˚C) ecah.

Maximum temperature on 7-1-2009 was 92˚F. Minimum temperature on 8-1-2009 was 61˚F. Relative humidity at (09:30) hours MST on 8-1-2009 was 67%. Total sunshine hours on 7-1-2009 was (9.1) hrs approx.

Rainfall on 8-1-2009 was (Nil) at Mingaladon, Kaba-Aye and Central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2009 was (Nil) at Mingaladon, Kaba-Aye and Central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (6) m.p.h from North at (09:30) hours MST on 8-1-2009.

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

Forecast valid until evening of 9th January 2009: Weather will be partly cloudy in Kachin State, upper Sagaing and Taninthayi Divisions and generally fair in the remaining areas.

State of the sea: Strong easterly winds with moderate to rough sea are likely at time Gulf of Mottama ,off and along Mon-Taninthayi Coast. Surface wind speed in strong easterly wind may reach (35) to (40) m.p.h. Sea will be slight to moderate elsewhere in Myanmar waters.

Outlook for subsequent two days: Likelihood of isolated light rain in the extreme Northern Myanmar areas.

Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring area for 9-1-2009: Generally fair weather.

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 9-1-2009: Generally fair weather.

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 9-1-2009: Generally fair weather.

TV Myanmar

Friday, 9 January
View on today

7:00 am
1. မင်းကွန်းဆရာတော်ဘုရားကြီး၏ ပရိတ်တရားတော်
7:25 am
2. To be healthy exercise
7:30 am
3. Morning news
7:40 am
4. အဆိုပြိုင်ပွဲ
7:50 am
5. နိုင်ငံ့စီးပွားအလေးထားကျေးလက်ထုတ်ကုန်များ
8:00 am
6. Songs of yesteryears
8:10 am
7. နားဝင်ဖီယံသူ့လက်သံ
8:20 am
8. "အဲ့ဒီမှာစတွေ့တာဘဲ" (မင်းအုပ်စိုး၊ ငှက်ပျောကြော်၊ မြတ်ကေသီအောင်၊ နှင်းဝတ်ရည်သောင်း) (ဒါရိုက်တာ–မင်းအုပ်စိုး)
8:30 am
9. International news
8:40 am
10. Musical programme
8:50 am
11. အကပြိုင်ပွဲ
4:00 pm
1. Martial song
4:10 pm
2. အတီးပြိုင်ပွဲ
4:30 pm
3. Musical programme
4:45 pm
4. အဝေးသင်တက္ကသိုလ်ပညာရေးရုပ်မြင်သံကြားသင်ခန်းစာ တတိယနှစ် (သမိုင်းအထူးပြု) (သမိုင်း)
5:00 pm
5. Songs to uphold national spirit
5:10 pm
6. Dance of national races
5:20 pm
7. မြန်မာစာမြန်မာစကား
5:35 pm
8. ရုပ်မြင်ရသတေးစုကဏ္ဍ
5:50 pm
9. စိုက်ပါပျိုးပါမြန်မာ့မြေလွှာ၊ ဝင်ငွေလည်းရဝမ်းလည်းဝ
6:00 pm
10. Evening news
6:30 pm
11. Weather report
6:35 pm
12. သုတစုံလင်ရွှေဥဏှ်ရှင်
7:10 pm
13. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ "ကုန်သွယ်မှုနှံတိုင်း" (အပိုင်း–၄၂)
8:00 pm
14. News
15. International news
16. Weather report
17. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ "ပင်လယ်ပျော်မင်းသား" (အပိုင်း–၆၂)

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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

Vice-Senior General Maung Aye attends Graduation Parade of 6th Intake of Defence Services Institute of Nursing and Paramedical Science

Vice-Senior General Maung Aye inspects companies of DSINPS.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 8 Jan—The Graduation Parade of the 6th Intake of Defence Services Institute of Nursing and Paramedical Science was held at the parade ground of the Defence Services Medical Academy in Yangon at 7.30 a.m. today, with an address by Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) Vice-Senior General Maung Aye.

Also present on the occasion were Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Quartermaster-General Lt-Gen Thiha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo; SPDC members Lt-Gen Ye Myint, Lt-Gen Kyaw Win, Lt-Gen Maung Bo and Lt-Gen Aung Htwe; SPDC member Lt-Gen Tin Aye of the Ministry of Defence; Commander-in-Chief (Navy) Rear-Admiral Nyan Tun and Commander-in-Chief (Air) Lt-Gen Myat Hein; Maj-Gen Ohn Myint, Maj-Gen Min Aung Hlaing, Lt-Gen Tha Aye, Lt-Gen Myint Swe 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 and 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; Commander of Yangon Command Brig-Gen Win Myint; Ministers Maj-Gen Htay Oo, Brig-Gen Tin Naing Thein, U Thaung, Maj-Gen Saw Lwin, Brig-Gen Ohn Myint, Col Zaw Min, Maj-Gen Maung Maung Swe, Maj-Gen Thein Swe, Brig-Gen Maung Maung Thein, Brig-Gen Lun Thi and Dr Chan Nyein; Vice-Chiefs of Armed Forces Training Maj-Gen Zaw Win and Brig-Gen Thoe Htein; Directors Maj-Gen Mya Win, Brig-Gen Hla Myint, Brig-Gen Kyaw Nyunt, Brig-Gen Maung Maung Ohn, Maj-Gen Ngwe Thein, Brig-Gen Nyan Tun, Maj-Gen Sein Lin and senior military officers, Yangon Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin, deputy ministers, Commandant of Defence Services Medical Academy Brig-Gen Tun Nay Lin, Rector of the Institute Brig-Gen Hla Myint Shwe, senior military officers of the station, graduate trainees, parents, relatives and guests.

(See page 10)

Vice-Senior General Maung Aye presents Best Trainee Award to Trainee Sit Myat Htet of Sixth Intake of Defence Services Institute of Nursing and Paramedical Science.—MNA

Prime Minister congratulates Bangladeshi Counterpart

NAY PYI TAW, 8 Jan—General Thein Sein, Prime Minister of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of congratulations to Her Excellency Sheikh Hasina, who has been elected as the Prime Minister of the People's Republic of Bangladesh.—*MNA*