Senior General Than Shwe receives Secretary of PRC Yunnan Province Communist Party and officials

YANGON, 14 NOV—Secretary of the Yunnan Province Communist Party of the People’s Republic of China Mr Bai Enpei and party paid a courtesy call on Senior General Than Shwe, Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council of the Union of Myanmar at the Credentials Hall of Pyithu Hluttaw Building on Pyay Road at 10 am today.

Also present on the occasion together with Senior General Than Shwe were Vice-Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Vice-Senior General Maung Aye, Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt, Minister for Commerce Brig-Gen Pyi Sone, Minister for Foreign Affairs U Win Aung, Director-General of the State Peace and Development Council Office Lt-Col Pe Nyein and Director-General of Protocol Department Thura U Aung Htet, and together with the guests was Chinese Ambassador to the Union of Myanmar Mr Li Jinjun.

Also present on the occasion to gether with Senior General Than Shwe were Vice-Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Office Lt-Col Pe Nyein and Director-General of Protocol Department Thura U Aung Htet, and together with the guests was Chinese Ambassador to the Union of Myanmar Mr Li Jinjun.

MNA

Pilot Course No 65 of No 1 Flying Training School concludes

YANGON, 14 NOV—The Pilot Course No 65 of the No-1 Flying Training School concluded at the Flying Training Base in Shande, Meikhtila, this morning.

Member of the State Peace and Development Council General Thura Shwe Mann of the Ministry of Defence attended the ceremony.

Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than inspects development tasks in Labutta Township

YANGON, 14 NOV—Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than of the Ministry of Defence, accompanied by Chairman of Ayeyawady Division Peace and Development Council Commander of South-West Command Maj-Gen Soe Naing, division level departmental officials and local authorities, inspected the development of Labutta Township by car on 12 November morning and gave necessary instructions to officials.

Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than and party inspected the tidal forest and thriving paddy fields on the banks of the Yaw and Pyathamar rivers by boat and arrived at Thitkpyan Gongyi village in Harrachet Village-tract in the township at 11 am. Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than and party met with chairmen and members of Village Peace and Development Councils, members of social organizations, townswalers and local people at Thitkpyan Hall of the village and gave instructions on undertaking regional development, agriculture and livestock breeding tasks.

At the meeting, the commander urged those present to actively participate in regional development tasks and explained the arrangements for development of the region.

Emergence of the State Constitution is the duty of all citizens of Myanmar Naing-Ngan.
Mone Creek Multi-purpose Dam—one of the facilities to benefit agriculture and industrial sectors

With abundant land and water resources, Myanmar is enjoying fruitful result of the agricultural development. Such measures as building dams and reservoirs, tapping underground water resources and implementing river water pumping projects are being taken to ensure water for agricultural purpose.

In some regions of the country, multi-purpose dam projects are being implemented not only for agricultural purpose but also for generating electricity. On completion of these projects, they will benefit the agriculture sector of the respective regions.

On 12 November, Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt inspected the Mone Creek Multi-purpose Dam Project, being implemented in Sedoktara Township in Minbu District, Magway Division and fulfilled the requirements.

At Mone Creek Multi-purpose Dam Project, the Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation is building the main embankment, diversion tunnel, hydel-power tunnel and spillway.

The Ministry of Electric Power, on its part, is carrying out the tasks for construction of facilities relating to electric power. Moreover, it is carrying out the tasks for installing pen stock pipelines, civil engineering works for building hydel-power facilities, installing turbines and other accessories.

The main embankment of Mone Creek Multi-purpose Dam will be 6490 feet and its height will be 200 feet. On completion of the dam it will irrigate over 100,000 acres of land.

Three turbines with the power of 25 megawatts each will be installed at Mone Creek Hydel-power Plant which will generate 330 million watts each. Moreover, it is designed for more donations and collections of Myanmar literature, and the people. He called for more donations and collections of Myanmar literature.
US war dead in Iraq exceeds early Vietnam years

PHILADELPHIA, 14 Nov—The US death toll in Iraq has surpassed the number of American soldiers killed during the first three years of the Vietnam War, the brutal Cold War conflict that cast a shadow over US affairs for more than a generation.

A Reuters analysis of Defence Department statistics showed on Thursday that the Vietnam War, which the Army says officially began on Dec 11, 1965, cost 392,983 military deaths and 1,100,000 injuries, with 30,000 people wounded and 100,000 troops—the same number reached in Vietnam by October 1965.

The casualty count for Iraq appears to have exceeded the Vietnam figure last Sunday, when a US soldier died in a rocket-propelled grenade attack south of Baghdad. The battle for the Iraqi capital began on March 20.

“Terrorist organizations around the world, including Al-Qaeda, have produced a generation of terrorists who want nothing but death and destruction,” said US Defence Secretary Donald Rumsfeld.

The Bush administration has rejected suggestions of comparisons between Iraq and Vietnam, which traumatized Americans a generation ago with a sad procession of military body bags and television footage of grim wartime cruelty.

—Internet

US forces fire at Iraqi official’s car, hit driver

BAGHDAD, 14 Nov—US forces fired at the car of an Iraqi Governing Council member on Wednesday, wounding his driver in the foot, a council statement said.

The statement said Mohammad Bahr al-Uloum, an independent Shiite Muslim cleric, was not hurt when US forces took his car for a stolen vehicle while he was being driven across a Tigris River bridge in the Iraqi capital Baghdad. “A US forces spokesman apologized to Mr Bahr al-Uloum and to the Governing Council, and said that an investigation was ongoing,” the statement said. MNA/Reuters

Relatives say five Iraqis killed by US troops

FALUJAH (Iraq), 14 Nov—US soldiers opened fire on a truck coming back from a chicken farm near the tense Iraqi town of Fallujah, killing five people and wounding three, relatives and hospitals officials said on Wednesday.

A US military spokesman in the town said troops had shot and killed five “enemy combatants” after coming under attack on the outskirts of the town on Tuesday night. He did not say if it was the same five people from the farm.

A subsequent news release from the US 82nd Airborne Division in the Fallujah area said para troopers had killed six “aggressors” and wounded four in defending the Jordanian Hospital and a forward operating base on Tuesday from an attack by “Iraqi combatants.”

Several vehicles were involved and there were no US casualties. It was not clear whether this was the same incident as the one involving the truck reportedly returning from the chicken farm.

Relatives said the truck was fired at as a check point on Tuesday evening, and hospital officials said five bodies had been brought in with gunshot wounds.

Emotions ran high after the deaths, with scores of relatives and others converging on the hospital where the bodies were taken in to Fallujah, located 32 miles west of Baghdad. “There is nothing good about the occupation forces, they are attacking the innocents and children,” screamed one man, Mohammad Abed Fayed. MNA/Reuters

“AIDS” research centre opens in Beijing

BEIJING, 14 Nov—An AIDS research centre was opened Tuesday by the Chinese Academy of Medical Sciences and the Beijing Union Medical College in the Chinese capital.

Former president of the United States Bill Clinton, who is also chairman of the International Fund for Prevention of AIDS, inspected the centre and addressed the opening function. Clinton said that the establishment of the centre, as an important step in the process of enforcing AIDS prevention, control and research, would enhance the international cooperation in this field.

Gao Qiang, executive vice-minister of Public Health, congratulated the centre’s establishment and expressed his hope that the centre would contribute to the prevention and control of AIDS by working in more close cooperation with the international research agencies.

The Chinese Government attaches close importance to AIDS research, said Gao, who also thanked the academy and the college for becoming basic bases for clinical treatment of AIDS patients.

China uses $43.56b overseas investment in first 10 months

BEIJING, 14 Nov—China has used 43.56 billion US dollars of overseas investment in the first 10 months of 2003, up 5.81 percent year-on-year, according to statistics from the Ministry of Commerce.

In the first 10 months, newly approved companies with overseas investment reached 32,696, up 17.99 percent compared with that of the same term of last year. Contracted overseas investment was $8.68 billion US dollars, up 33.75 percent. By the end of October 2003, the total number of companies with overseas investment was 456,892. Contracted overseas investment totalled $16.7 billion US dollars and actually used investment was $49.1.5 billion US dollars. MNA/Xinhua

Figures from battle zones outside Iraq show that 91 soldiers have died since Oct. 7, 2001, as part of Operation Endur ing Freedom, which President Bush launched against Afghanistan’s former Taliban regime after the Sept 11, 2001, attacks on New York and Washington.

Larger still is the number of Ameri can casualties from the broader US war on terrorism, which has produced 488 military deaths in Iraq, Afghanistan, the Philippines, Southwest Asia and other locations.

The British military has reported 52 deaths; Italy, 16; Denmark, Spain, Ukraine and Poland have reported one each. On or since May 1, when President Bush declared that major combat operations in Iraq had ended, 259 US soldiers have died in Iraq, according to the latest Defence Department figures. Since the start of military operations, 1,967 US service members have been injured as a result of hostile action, according to Thursday’s Defence Department figures. Non-hostile injured numbered 342.

China has most telephone subscribers in world

BEIJING, 14 Nov—China had over 500 million tele phone subscribers by the end of the third quarter of this year, ranking the top in the world, said sources with the Chinese Ministry of Information Industry on Wednesday.

The information communication industry has be come a leading and basic industry in China, said Xi Guang, China’s Vice-Min ister of Information Industry, at the opening ceremony of the 2003 China Interna tional Communication Equipment & Technology Exhibition held Wednesday in Beijing.

According to statistics with the International Telecommunication Union, China had 19 percent of the world’s telephone subscribers in 2002, compared to 9.6 percent in 1998.

Every 100 people in China have 20.5 fixed telephones and 19.5 mobile phones. The number of Internet users reached 68 million in the first half of 2003, ranking the second in the world. MNA/Xinhua

Russell Crowe, star of the new film ‘Master and Commander: The Far Side of the World’, arrives with his wife Danielle Spencer at a screening of the film at Academy of Motion Picture Arts & Sciences in Beverly Hills, Calif, on 11 Nov, 2003.—INTERNET

EIJING
Charity says Iraq war killed 21,000-55,000 Iraqis

BAGHDAD, 14 Nov — Between 21,000 and 55,000 people have died as a result of the US-led invasion of Iraq and its aftermath, according to a new report that also warned of rapidly deteriorating health conditions for those who survived.

London-based Medact, the British affiliate of International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War (IPPNW), concluded that the war’s continuing impact — particularly the failure of occupation authorities to ensure security — has resulted in a further deterioration of the Iraqi population’s health status. IPPNW’s US affiliate, Physicians for Social Responsibility, joined in the report’s release Tuesday.

The report’s funding was provided by Oxfam and the Polden-Puckham Charitable Foundation.

The health of the Iraqi people is generally worse than before the war,” according to an executive summary of the 12-page report, which noted that the state of health in Iraq was already poor by international standards.

It said women and children were particularly at risk due to the breakdown in law and order and damage to infrastructure and that women were also being affected by the emergence of religious conservatism after the war.

The report, entitled “Continuing Collateral Damage: The Health and Environmental Costs of War on Iraq 2003,” is the follow-up to a pre-war study released last November that predicted at the time that between 49,000 and 261,000 people could be killed in an invasion of Iraq over three months.

The much lower estimated death toll in the seven months that followed the March 20 invasion is due primarily to the quick collapse of Iraqi military resistance and the fact that no weapons of mass destruction were used.

The report says that 172 US and British combatants were killed during the war period (March 20 to May 1) and another 222 died between May 2 and October 20.

It estimates the number of civilians killed during the war at between 5,706 and 7,356. From May 2 to October 20, the report estimates civilian deaths resulting from hostilities at between 2,049 and 2,209.

Iraq oil demand buoyed by military, consumer durables

LONDON, 14 Nov — Iraq’s postwar domestic fuel demand is gradually picking up, bolstered by sustained military demand and a flood of imported consumer goods, the International Energy Agency (IEA) said on Thursday.

“It appears that demand, after being initially crippled by war and the damage inflicted on the power generation infrastructure, has since recovered, albeit with significant changes in the product mix,” said the IEA, the West’s energy watchdog.

Persistent insecurity and repeated attacks on coalition troops has bolstered military demand for longer, and at higher levels, than anticipated, the IEA said.

The end of sanctions and the abolition of taxes have transformed Iraq into a vast duty-free zone, opening the floodgates to a stream of imports of energy-intensive consumer goods at prices well below inflated pre-war levels, the agency said.

Some 300,000 to 450,000 second-hand automobiles have been imported into Iraq since the war, from dealerships as far away as the United Arab Emirates, the IEA said.

Cheap consumer durable imports, including air conditioners, freezers, washing machines and televisions, have met robust pent-up demand, it added.

Problems with electricity supplies have boosted imports of military, consumer durables including air conditioners, freezers, washing machines and televisions, which was taken on commercial flights to Britain through an intricate scheme including the London bag glove handler, Globo said.

“This should be seen as a model because the important thing in fighting the drugs trade is not only the quantity of drugs seized but the breaking and dismantling of the drug trafficking scheme, its production, its distribution and sale,” police chief Wagner Castro globo said. — MNA/Reuters

Pakistan makes big seizures of heroin, morphine

QUETTA, 14 Nov — Pakistani authorities have seized a ton of heroin and a similar quantity of morphine worth tens of millions of dollars on the international black market, officials said on Wednesday.

Anti-Narcotics Force agents found the heroin in a raid in Baluchistan Province near the border with Afghanistan on Tuesday after a heavy exchange of gunfire with smugglers who later fled. “The heroin was brought from Helmand Province in southern Afghanistan and dumped near the border area,” an official said.

According to UN estimates the heroin would have a wholesale value in Europe of about 38 million US dollars. — MNA/Reuters

Italian DM inspects bombed site in Nasiriyah

BAGHDAD, 14 Nov — Italian Defence Minister Antonio Marinoni flew Thursday to the southern Iraqi city of Nasiriyah to inspect the scene of a devastating blast at a military police base that killed 27 people, including 18 Italians.

Upon his arrival at the base, Marino told reporters that the same had killed 77 people and that for the September 11 terrorist attacks in New York and Washington in 2001.

The Defence Minister went to a military hospital to visit the Italian soldiers wounded in the devastating suicide attack.

A truck packed with explosives crashed at the entrance of the Italian military base in Nasiriyah, 350 kilometres south of Baghdad, and was detonated by another car on Wednesday.

MNA/Xinhua

Asia, Europe urged to promote agricultural cooperation

ROME, 14 Nov — The ASEM (Asia-Europe Meeting) High-Level Conference on Agricultural Cooperation Wednesday issued a chairman’s statement, calling on members to expand cooperation in the agricultural sector, given the importance to Asia and Europe urged to promote agricultural cooperation.

This diversity should be taken into account when considering cooperation among ASEM members in trade and investment in the agricultural sector, said the chairman’s statement.

According to the statement, agriculture and agricultural trade are of great importance to both Asia and Europe; the two continents are and will remain major players in the world farm products market. It is necessary to explore the possibility of expanding intercontinental trade in a bid to increase farm products trade among ASEM members.

Officials in charge of agriculture from nine Asian countries, 15 European Union members and the European Commission participated in the conference, which reiterated the members’ commitment to a new ASEM Agenda and the establishment of a fair and market-oriented trading system.

The participants underscored the important role that successful new round of World Trade Organization agriculture negotiations should play in promoting Asia-Europe agricultural trade, given that trade concerns.

According to the statement, ASEM members consider it necessary to strengthen cooperation and coordination in the new round of agricultural negotiations and call on all WTO members to play an active role in negotiations on substantive issues to push ahead the negotiations toward a success. — MNA/Xinhua

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According to UN estimates the heroin would have a wholesale value in Europe of about 38 million US dollars. — MNA/Reuters
IRAQ UNDER US OCCUPATION

Armed Iraqis gesture after a bomb blast in Nassiriya, about 290 km (180 miles) south of Baghdad, on 13 November, 2003. Suicide car bombers devastated an Italian military police base in the Iraqi town of Nassiriya on Wednesday, killing at least 18 Italians and nine Iraqis. — INTERNET

British Army soldiers and Iraqi police arrest an Iraqi man in the center of Basra, southern Iraq, on 13 November, 2003. — INTERNET

Soldiers of the Italian Joint Task Iraq prepare to set up a barbed wire fence around the area of the destroyed Carabinieri building on 13 November, 2003, a day after a suicide bomber blew up a truck packed with explosives at Italy’s paramilitary base Wednesday, killing at least 27 people in Nassiriya, Iraq. — INTERNET

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A soldier of US Army’s 4th Infantry Division (Task Force Ironhorse) checks on an Iraqi baby left alone in a house during an early morning raid outside Baquba early on 13 November, 2003. US troops raided several houses outside Baquba just before dawn looking for supporters of former Iraqi president Saddam Hussein including an Iraqi man suspected of attacking coalition forces. — INTERNET

Dutch Army soldiers arrive at the police headquarters of the southern Iraqi town of Samawah, that was attacked by some 300 locals, on 13 November, 2003. Iraqi police opened fire Thursday on the crowd of stone-throwing protesters angry about alleged police corruption, wounding one of them, witnesses said. Several protesters were arrested. — INTERNET

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A soldier of US Army’s 4th Infantry Division (Task Force Ironhorse) checks on an Iraqi baby left alone in a house during an early morning raid outside Baquba early on 13 November, 2003. US troops raided several houses outside Baquba just before dawn looking for supporters of former Iraqi president Saddam Hussein including an Iraqi man suspected of attacking coalition forces. — INTERNET
US expatriates in Britain hit by wave of “anti-Bushism”

LONDON, 14 Nov — The British abandoned their stiff upper lips and hugged Americans after on 11 September attacks. Now much of that goodwill has evaporated and the blame is being laid firmly at the door of George W Bush.

After the twin tower attacks, a military hand broke with tradition and played the American national anthem at the Changing of the Guard ceremony at Buckingham Palace.

Less than 18 months later, one million people took to London’s streets to protest against the forthcoming war in Iraq. Now with President Bush heading to these shores next week to see Tony Blair for the handover of power to the Iraqi people, many living in London are reflecting on how times have changed.

They recall with wonder how the British dropped their innate reserve after the attacks on September 11, 2001. But now, after wars in Afghanistan and Iraq where British and Americans fought side by side, they face a wave not of anti-Americanism but anti-Bushism.

“It’s tougher being an American in London than it used to be. Our President has made it so,” said Newsweek magazine’s London correspondent Striker McGuire.

“Even among friendly Britons, there’s a growing scepticism about the gun-toting, electric-chairing land that has let Dubya be Dubya for nigh on three years now.”

Christine Swanson, back home after taking the kids on the morning run to school, said: “I am frustrated. As horrible as September 11 was, it was a real opportunity to move forward in a positive way.”

“There was a lot of goodwill to tap into and it took the incredible talent of George Bush to piss it all away in two years.”

Solana says after Iraq, US less quick to use force

BERLIN, 14 Nov — EU foreign policy chief Javier Solana said on Wednesday that the experience of Iraq may make the United States less inclined in future to go it alone and resort to military force to remove its enemies.

Solana said the idea that the United States should be a “revolutionary actor”, using force to oust governments around the world that it did not like, was not the dominant view in the Bush Administration.

“I don’t think that is going to be the majority now on foreign policy thinking. You cannot say (US Secretary of State) Colin Powell represents that,” Solana told a foreign policy seminar in Berlin. He was speaking as President George W Bush held urgent talks with his National Security Council and Paul Bremer, the US civil administrator in Iraq, to discuss ways to accelerate the postwar handover of power to the Iraqi people.

Solana said he expected the message from those talks to be “Let’s do it more rapidly, let’s do it more a la Bosnia or a la Afghanistan” — a reference to the importance of multinational cooperation in rebuilding other war-torn states.

“Even the United States has realised the problems of today are too difficult, too complicated, and they cannot be solved by a country alone,” the former NATO chief said.

US troops have been coming under constant attack in Iraq. At least 17 Italians and eight Iraqis were killed in a car bombing in Nassiriya on Wednesday, the latest deadly strike against foreign targets linked to the US occupation. In implied contrast to Bush’s stated policy of military pre-emption, Solana said the threat of a new European Union security doctrine, due to be adopted by the end of the year, was to head off potential threats by “preventive engagement”.

“Threats cannot be tackled by purely military means,” Solana said. He said the EU approach would involve a range of tools, including diplomacy, trade and sometimes economic sanctions, and cited Iran as an example where it was bringing pressure to bear.

Three EU foreign ministers last month persuaded Iran to suspend its uranium enrichment operations and accept tighter inspections of its atomic energy programme, which Washington suspects is masking a bid to acquire a nuclear bomb. “The first hurdle has been crossed. Let’s hope that we pass all the hurdles,” Solana said.

China improving copyright laws

BEIJING, 14 Nov — The National Copyright Administration is improving the nation’s copyright laws by instituting four new regulations, including one to protect folk literature and the rights of net-work information distribution, reported Thursday’s China Daily.

Regulations will also cover payments for radio and television broadcasting and for group management for copyrights of certain artwork, said the report.

The China Music Copyright Association, for instance, is in charge of authorising copyright for music broadcast in hotels or other locations, according to the administration. The administration will also intensify copyright legal enforcement by having regional intellectual property management departments join forces with local public security officers, industries and commerce officials, and Customs and culture sectors in an efforts to slash pirating activities, said Duan Yoping, an administration official.

Two drug dealers arrested in Bangkok

BANGKOK, 14 Nov — Thai police have arrested two drug dealers and seized as sets about 10 million baht (about 238,095 US dollars), local Press reported Thursday.

Some 100 policemen on Wednesday raided a community in downtown Bangkok, where was reportedly frequented by drug addicts. Having searched some 13 places around the area, the police seized 800 methamphetamine pills, a number of firearms, 580,000 baht (13,809 dollars) in cash and bank accounts with 8.5-million-baht (202,381 dollar) deposit.

Foreign drug arrested in New Zealand

WELLINGTON, 14 Nov — Two Chilean mountain climbers missing on Mount Aspiring near Queenstown on the South Island of New Zealand since Sunday were found Thursday morning.

They were both well and were taken by helicopter to Aspiring Hut and from there they would return to Wanaka later in the morning.

New Zealand Press Association quoted a police statement as saying that they spent the last four nights in a snow cave.

Concern had been mounting for the Wanaka-based Chilean climbers and poor weather had hindered search efforts for the past two days.

Rodrigo Condeza, 30, and Matias Trieco, 23, who have both lived and worked in Wanaka since May, left French Ridge hut to climb Mount Aspiring via the southwestern ridge early on Sunday...
**Rural low-cost housing projects under way in Sagaing Division**

*Article by Anyangye Po Tha Aung*

It was in 1980 that L, an adjutant at a light infantry regiment, had to supervise a communal Kathina robes offering ceremony of the regiment. I still remember what the Sayadow talked of the Kathina festival.

When it comes to creepers, the cane is superior.

When it comes to human beings, the house is superior.

When it comes to monasteries, the ordination hall is superior.

When it comes to making of donations, the Kathina robes offering is superior.

Human beings are busy with trying to meet food, clothing and shelter needs. Among them, the shelter need is the most essential and most particular thing for a family.

A tree without roots cannot stand long, just as a household without a place to live in will not be in peace and calmness.

Now is the time when the five rural development tasks initiated by the Head of State are being implemented practically. Duties are assigned to the Ministry for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs to raise the living standard of rural people by implementing low-cost housing projects.

According to the guideline, the Development Affairs Department started projects in Sagaing Division using 500 tons of timber in the current 2003-2004 fiscal year.

In doing so, five towns, namely Monywa, ChaungU, Myinmu, Sagaing and Shwebo, where timber is plenty, were initially designated as townships covered by the project. And 47 units of low-cost housing were constructed in nine villages.

The projects in Sagaing Division are gaining success as the Government provides necessary timber and corrugated zinc sheets at cheap prices.

Modern, neat and tidy low-cost houses will be seen on both sides of the road linking Sagaing to Monywa. People living in rural areas can now have access to such houses, which they had never dreamt of before, and with life more secured they no longer need to be worried about the houses to live in. Attractive, neat and lovely low-cost houses are now mushrooming in rural areas of Sagaing Division.

The rural low-cost housing projects being implemented by development affairs committees are something that will ensure the higher standard of living of rural people.

Translation: KTY

(Myanmar Alin: 3-11-2003)

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**APR agree on efforts for WMD non-proliferation**

**Tokyo, 14 Nov—** Armoury officials from the Asia-Pacific Region agreed Thursday to promote joint efforts to prevent the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction (WMD) in the region.

They reaffirmed their commitment to preventing terrorists or those who harbour them from acquiring or developing weapons of mass destruction and their delivery means as well as their related materials and technologies.

According to a chairman’s statement adopted during the one-day meeting of the Asian Senior-Level Talks on Non-proliferation held here, the participants also agreed that continued efforts to reduce this threat should be greatly encouraged.

They specified the importance of strengthening export control systems in Asian countries, promoting dialogue and cooperation on non-proliferation of WMD in the Asian region.

The participants shared that view that preventing the proliferation of WMD is crucial for peace and stability of the world.

Disarmament officials from the Association of Southeast Asian Nations, South Korea, Australia and the United States participated in the conference, the first of its kind held in Asia.

According to Kyodo news, the officials agreed to continue the dialogue on disarmament, although they did not set a specific date for the next round of the conference.

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**China supports Iran’s cooperation with IAEA**

**Beijing, 14 Nov—** Chinese Foreign Minister Li Zhaoxing said here Thursday that China supports Iran’s cooperation with the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), and hopes the Iranian nuclear issue will be properly resolved within the IAEA framework as soon as possible.

Li made the remarks during talks with visiting Iranian Minister of Foreign Affairs Kamal Kharazi on Iran’s implementation of the additional protocol to the safeguard agreement with the IAEA.

Kharazi said Iran will continue to cooperate with the IAEA and sign the additional protocol. Iran has stopped the uranium enrichment programme, but the right to the peaceful use of nuclear energy should be reserved.

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**Russian military airplane crashes in Armenia**

**Moscow, 14 Nov—** A Russian MiG-29 fighter jet crashed Wednesday in Armenia, a former Soviet republic in the North Caucasus, Russian Air Forces Press reported, according to the Interfax news agency.

Russian Air Force spokesman Colonel Alexander Drobyshovsky said that the incident occurred during a training flight near the Erebuni in Armenia.

“The airplane disappeared from radar at 12:53 GMT. The fighter did not return to the airfield at the set time,” he said.

An Mi-8 helicopter from the search and rescue service was sent on a search mission immediately after the incident, Drobyshovsky said.

There were no reports on casualties now. — MNA/Xinhua

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**Indian Army helping engineers in rebuilding airbase near Dushanbe**

**New Delhi, 14 Nov—** As Indian Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee flew for a day visit to Tajikistan, the country’s Army here Thursday said its engineers were helping in rebuilding an airbase near Dushanbe for boosting military cooperation and to funnel humanitarian aid.

“A batch of four officers and two Junior commissioned officers from the Military Engineering Service are based in Dushanbe to give technical expertise and advice to the Tajik engineers engaged in rebuilding the runway and other infrastructure at the airbase,” an Army spokesman said referring news reports in this regard.

Indian Air Force officials said that its aircraft had been flying to the airbase since January 2000 ferrying humanitarian aid to the country as also essential supplies and medical kit meant for northern areas of neighbouring Afghanistan.

India is also running a military hospital at Parakhov in Kuliyab Province on the Tajik-Afghan border for the past three years. The hospital is manned by military doctors and is providing much needed medical success on both sides of the Tajik-Afghan border.

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**Efficient use of electricity**

* Use daylight as the main source of light
* Use the least possible amount of electricity only if there is not enough natural light
* Use the least possible amount of electricity required in production and service enterprises
* Preventing waste of electricity benefits the user and others

There are about 500,000 households using electricity in Yangon. Thus, saving a four-foot fluorescent lamp every day by each household amounts to saving power that is equal to the capacity a 20-megawatt power station can supply.

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**Efficient use of fuel**

* Saving one gallon of fuel per car per month will save the nation one US dollar
* Thus, a total of 455,822 cars in Myanmar can save US $5.5 million in a year
* The amount, US $ 5.5 million, can build a major bridge across Ayeyawady River

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**All this needs to be known**

* Do not be frightened whenever intimidated
* Do not be bolstered whenever flattened
* Do not be softened whenever appeased

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Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than inspects…

Afterwards, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than made a speech. He said the division is fertile and so agriculture is flourishing in the division. The State had designated 24 development zones for the harmonious development of the entire country including the division. He urged the local people to safeguard peace and tranquillity in the village and the division.

Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than donated K500,000 to the development fund of the village. Chairman U Aye Maung of the Village Peace and Development Council and Headmistress of the Basic Education Middle School Daw Thaung Yin accepted the donation. Next, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than and party proceeded to the middle school and inspected the language lab, protector, medical superintendents, Chairman of Myanmar Academy of Medical Science Dr U Ko Ko, members of the committee for the observance of the "World Diabetes Day", WHO Resident Representative Mr Stephen P Jost and officials, township health officers, and members of social organizations.

On the occasion, Deputy Director-General of the Health Department Dr Soe Aung explained facts related to the "World Diabetes Day", followed by talks commemorating the "World Diabetes Day 2003" given by Dr U Ko Ko.

Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than made a speech at closing ceremony of No 65 Pilot Course.— MNA

Coord meeting for implementing ASEAN projects held

YANGON, 14 Nov — A coordination meeting for implementing the ASEAN projects of ASEAN Quiz (FY 2003-2004) and ASEAN Information Seminar Series (FY 2003-2004) was held at the meeting hall of the Myanmar Radio and Television on Pyay Road here this afternoon.

Deputy Minister for Information Brig-Gen Aung Thein attended the meeting and delivered the opening address on the occasion.

Also present at the meeting were directors-general and the managing directors of the ministries concerned, the director-general of the ASEAN Affairs Department and officials of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, professors of the International Relations Department and the Institute of Education and guests.

First, Deputy Minister for Information Brig-Gen Aung Thein made an opening speech.

At the meeting, the participants presented reports on general matters sector wise.

Deputy Minister Brig-Gen Aung Thein attended to their needs. Later, he made the concluding remarks.— MNA

"World Diabetes Day" observed

YANGON, 14 Nov — The Health Department of the Ministry of Health and the World Health Organization jointly observed the “World Diabetes Day” at the hall of Institute of Nursing (Yangon) on Bogyoke Aung San Road here this morning.

Present on the occasion were deputy directors-general of departments under the ministries, rectors, directors, protectors, medical superintendents, Chairman of Myanmar Academy of Medical Science Dr U Ko Ko, members of the committee for the observance of the “World Diabetes Day”, WHO Resident Representative Mr Stephen P Jost and officials, township health officers, and members of social organizations.

On the occasion, Deputy Director-General of the Health Department Dr Soe Aung explained facts related to the "World Diabetes Day", followed by talks commemorating the "World Diabetes Day 2003" given by Dr U Ko Ko.

Next, Dr Tin Swe Lat, project manager of diabetes control, explained about the history of "World Diabetes Day". Health officers also gave talks on notable facts about control and treatment of diabetes and renal diseases. Later, officials replied to queries raised by those present.

Pamphlets and gifts bearing the logo of the “World Diabetes Day 2003” were distributed. Pamphlets included facts about diabetes and renal diseases. The contents were distributed among the people at the basic education division. The State had despatched to wards and villages and the rule of law.

Next, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than and party arrived back Labutta in the evening by boat and proceeded to Myaungmya by car.— MNA
Yangon, 14 Nov — Lt.-Gen Khin Maung Than, accompanied by Chairman of Ayeyawady Division Peace and Development Council Commander of South-West Command Maj.-Gen Soe Naing and departmental officials, arrived at the Government Technological College in Pathein on Yangon-Pathein road on 11 November morning and inspected the construction of the three-storey building of the college. Principal Daw Yi Yi Myint and officials conducted Lt.-Gen Khin Maung Than and party round the college.

Next, Lt.-Gen Khin Maung Than and party inspected the digging of irrigation canals on both sides of Kyonwa-Kyonthoup road for summer paddy fields in Myaungmya Township. Director U Tint Hsan of the Irrigation Department reported to Lt.-Gen Khin Maung Than and party on digging the canals, benefits to be gained on completion of the canals, and water pumping systems installed. The commander and the division manager of Myanmar Agriculture service gave supplementary reports.

Next, Lt.-Gen Khin Maung Than and party attended the ground breaking of 400 acres of pilot monsoon paddy farms near Kyonwa Village in Myaungmya Township. Next, Lt.-Gen Khin Maung Than viewed the harvest and inspected the arrangements for cultivation of summer paddy and irrigation tasks. The chairman of the Township Peace and Development Council and officials conducted Lt.-Gen Khin Maung Than and party round the farm.

Afterwards, Lt.-Gen Khin Maung Than met with local farmers of the villages near Myaungmya and urged them to strive for increased production of paddy, pointing out the assistance rendered and arrangements made by the State. Next, the commander explained the arrangements for smooth transportation of produce, and distribution at the regional level. The Lt.-Gen Khin Maung Than and party cordially greeted the local farmers.

A total of 11.81 acres of Manawthikha paddy included in the 400-acre pilot farm yielded 110.50 baskets per acre. Later, Lt.-Gen Khin Maung Than and the commander proceeded to Myaungmya Bridge and inspected it. He gave instructions to the officials on maintenance of the bridge constructed spending a lot of fund. Next, Lt.-Gen Khin Maung Than and party went to Bhamo-Thongwa river water pumping project. At the briefing hall of the project, Staff Officer U Hay Lin of the Division Water Resources Utilization Department reported to Lt.-Gen Khin Maung Than and party on salient points of the project. The commander gave a supplementary report on Lt.-Gen Khin Maung Than inspected full requirements. Afterwards, Lt.-Gen Khin Maung Than inspected pipe lines, pumps and motors. On completion of the project, it will be able to irrigate 5,262 acres of farms in Bhamo-Thongwa region.

Later, Lt.-Gen Khin Maung Than arrived at Myaungmya Jute Mill and inspected the gems and machinery there. Responsible officials conducted Lt.-Gen Khin Maung Than and party round the mill. Lt.-Gen Khin Maung Than gave instructions on meeting the set standards and taking measures for work force safety. They also inspected Myanmar-Myaungmya Labutta road by car and arrived at Labutta Bridge. Lt.-Gen Khin Maung Than inspected the paddy fields and gave instructions on under-taking maintenance of Labutta Bridge. Next, they arrived at the worksite of digging irrigation canals being carried out by the Irrigation Department. Staff Officer U Kyaw Win of the Irrigation Department and Chairman U Myint Maung Soe of the Township Peace and Development Council reported to them on arrangements for irrigation of summer paddy fields in Kyakan Station and Labutta Myaungmya region. Lt.-Gen Khin Maung Than full requirements. The arrangements will be made for irrigation of 950 acres of summer paddy in Labutta Myaungmya region.

Afterwards, Lt.-Gen Khin Maung Than and party attended the harvest of the pilot farm of U Talote and viewed the arrangements for cultivation of summer paddy and thresholding and winnowing of paddy with use of machine. Lt.-Gen Khin Maung Than cordially greeted the local people there.

Later, Lt.-Gen Khin Maung Than met with departmental personnel and members of social organizations at Bayinnaung Yetkein in Labutta. Next, Lt.-Gen Khin Maung Than and party arrived at the Wuyanapy Hall in Labutta Township, where he met with departmental officials, members of social organizations and townswomen and gave instructions on measures for regional development and the enforcement of law and order.

At the meeting, officials reporting on the location and area of the township, the population, cultivation of monsoon and summer paddy, livestock breeding work, production of salt, measures for health, social and economic sectors, and implementation of the five rural development tasks. The commander later called upon departments, social organizations and local population to strive for regional development.

Lt.-Gen Khin Maung Than also spoke of the need of the people to cooperate with the Government in marching towards a modern and developed nation. Over 3.4 million acres of land have been put under cultivation of monsoon paddy in Ayeyawady Division. And all arrangements are under way to extend the sown acreage to 3.5 million acres next month.

Moreover, fisheries and poultry farming should also be conducted on a broader scale as the township is near the sea.

It is also necessary to ensure stability and enforcement of law in the region while taking regional development measures, he said.

Later, Lt.-Gen Khin Maung Than and party proceeded to the Labutta Township Peace and Development Council, where he inspected the newly-completed two-storey patient ward measuring 50 feet and 30 feet, which was constructed at a cost of K 25 million donated by Dr. Sein Win and Daw Khin Khin Myint and family of Yangon.

He also met with patients receiving medical treatment at hospital and comforted them. He also inspected round the hospital.

NCC Management Committee meets

Yangon, 14 Nov — National Convention Convening Management Committee Auditor-General Maj.-Gen Lun Maung makes a speech at the coordination meeting of management committee.—MNA

Chairmen and officials of respective subcommittees also took part in the discussion.

The meeting came to a close with concluding remarks by Chairman Maj.-Gen Lun Maung. —MNA

MRA to open special English classes

Yangon, 14 Nov — General English, Spoken English, English for Nurses and Doctors, and Medical English classes being conducted by Principal and Teaching Director Dr Myint Hline of Myanmar Royal Academy (MRA) himself at the MRA Education Centre at No 57, ground floor, 9th Street (Mid) by Principal and Teaching Director Dr Myint Hline of Myanmar Royal Academy (MRA) himself at the MRA Education Centre at No 57, ground floor, 9th Street (Mid)

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Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than inspects Einme... (from page 16)

Next, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than and Commanding Officer Maj-Gen Soe Naing met with departmental officials and members of social organizations at the meeting hall of Einme Township Peace and Development Council, and gave instructions on regional development, community peace and prevalence of law and order. Commander Maj-Gen Soe Naing also called on officials at different levels to make efforts for development of economic and social sectors in the township to ensure successful realization of the objectives laid down by the State.

Next, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than made a speech. He said that prevalence of peace and tranquility is the length and breadth of the nation is of paramount importance for successful realization of the future work programmes laid down by the State.

Measures will have to be taken for extended reclamation of land in every township in the division as 3.5 million acres of land are targeted to be put under monsoon paddy. After viewing round Einme Township, Commander Maj-Gen Soe Naing and party arrived at the local battalion at 1.30 pm.

Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than met with officials and other ranks and their families at the hall of the local battalion and gave instructions on livestock breeding and production. He also urged the officials and other ranks to engage in agriculture and livestock breeding undertakings on a manageable scale.

Next, they arrived at Einme Township People’s Hospital and spoke words of encouragement to the wounded patients. Next, Commander Maj-Gen Soe Naing presented K 100,000 for the hospital through Township Health Officer Dr Ko Ko Maung. Afterwards, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than and party proceeded to Einme Township Basic Education High School and viewed round learning of the students.

They were conducted round the classrooms by Headmistress Daw Naw L. Maline and teachers.

Next, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than and party arrived at the land reclamation project in the Mogokedidoke (North) wetland region being implemented by First Top and Olympic Co Ltd in Pantanaw Township. At the briefing hall of the project, the Project In Charge reported to Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than on land reclamation, arrangements being made for cultivation of monsoon and summer paddy and digging of fish and prawn breeding ponds. Commander Maj-Gen Soe Naing gave a supplementary report.

In response to the reports, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than and party left the project by car and arrived back here in the evening. — MNA

Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt receives Vice-Governor Mr Zhong Shan of Zhejiang Province of the PRC at Zweythiri Beitman, Konnyintha. (News on page 16) — MNA

Maj-Gen Myat Hein inspects the graduating companies and guards of honour. (News on page 1) — MNA

Ngazun region in the process of development

Ngazun Township was once under Sagaing Division Peace and Development Council and it has been under Mandalay Division Peace and Development Council since 2000. Under the guidance of the Head of State and due to frequent visits of the high-ranking officials, progress has been made in economic and social sectors of the region. Trading was not brisk in the region in the past as there was poor transportation.

With an annual average rainfall of 29-47 inches, the region is in constant need of water for agriculture purpose. In agricultural sector, there were 1,431 acres of paddy, 18,080 acres of cotton and 3,471 acres of pulses and beans before 1988.

In the time of the State Peace and Development Council, three river water pumping stations have been implemented and four reservoirs including Myaukpintle Reservoir constructed in the township.

Three river water pumping stations were Kyauktalon river water pumping station benefiting 100 acres of farmland, Ywathit river water pumping station benefiting 2,000 acres of farmland and Ngapanyarri rivewater pumping station benefiting 500 acres of farmland.

The four reservoirs namely: Myaukpintle Reservoir, Myotha Reservoir, Phaungkataw Reservoir and Natthataw Reservoir were constructed with the aim of irrigating 963 acres of farmland. The sown acreage in the township has increased up to 6,406 in 2003 from 4,131 in 1988. With the effective use of water from the reservoirs and river water pumping stations paddy is now thriving in the region.

Ngazun condensed milk and butter are popular in the region and are being transported to other towns and cities in Mandalay and Sagaing Divisions. Other products in Ngazun are jaggery, cotton and pulses and beans.

There are four motor roads— the 6.6 miles long Ngazun-Kyaunkalant motor road, the 16 miles long Ngazun-Myohta motor road, the 20 miles long Ngazun-Ngahmyagyi motor road, the 13 miles long Ngazun-Ywathit-Hanaungkai motor road. Ngazun and Mandalay can be reached through the Ngazun-Kyaunkalant motor road.

The most serviceable road is the 60 miles long Ngahmyagyi-Ngazun-Mandalay road. It is used by those from every village and village-tract in the township.

Two air-con buses of Mandalay-Ngazun-Nyagmyagyi Buses Association are plying on the road beginning 14-10-2002. The Bagan-NyaungU road leading to the ancient cultural zone via Mandalay links with the Ngahmyagyi-Ngazun-Mandalay road.

With better transport, socio-economic life of the local people has improved and efforts for regional development are meeting with success, thereby contributing to improvement of health and education sectors.

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Translation: TS
(Kyemon: 10-11-2003)
Implementation of projects for socio-economic development of all regions in the country

Alami Dam was built near Kyantkun Village in Bago Division to irrigate 12,000 acres of farmland. — PHOTO: MNA

The 132 feet high and 3,044 feet long Minhla Dam in Okpo Township irrigates 5260 acres of farmland in Okpo Township and 9740 acres of cropland in Minhla Township. — PHOTO: MNA

Lagunbyin Dam built at the border of Yangon and Bago Division benefits 22,000 acres of farmland. PHOTO: MNA
Some 73,000 Malaysians agree to donate organs

Some 73,000 Malaysians have pledged their organs since 1997, chairman of the public education committee on organ donation Lee Lam Thye said here Wednesday.

When the organ donation pledging campaign started in the country in 1997 there were only 2,568 pledgers and this increased yearly until the total 72,999 pledgers nationwide as of October 31, Lee said in a statement.

From this figure, 49,021 or 67.2 per cent of the pledgers have pledged to donate all their organs, Lee said 44,571 people reportedly suffered from ailments while 5,555 agreed to donate their corneas and 1,294, their kidneys.

The increase in the number of organ pledgers in made possible through various publicity drives, roadshows and working with public transport operators over the past few years, he said.

Lee said this committee hoped to secure 80,000 organ pledgers by the end of this year while much needed to be done to increase the number of actual donors.

“If statistics are anything to go by, it would seem that public awareness of the significance of organ donation has increased due to the success of several organ transplantations carried out,” he said. Since the commencement of the organ transplantation programme, 15 heart transplants, 980 kidney transplants and 45 liver transplants have been carried out by the government and private hospitals.

Who’s measures to control HIV transmission

Malaysia is a multi-racial country with a population of some 24 million. Of which, Malays, Chinese and Indians are three major races.

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WHO’s measures to control HIV transmission

WHO has proposed the government to establish an anti-fake goods fund and impose heavier punishment on offenders.

He called on women who are HIV positive to go by, it would seem that public awareness of the significance of organ donation has increased due to the success of several organ transplantations carried out,” he said. Since the commencement of the organ transplantation programme, 15 heart transplants, 980 kidney transplants and 45 liver transplants have been carried out by the government and private hospitals.

Foreigners must pass language test before working in Indonesia

Jakarta, 14 Nov — For- eigners who wish to work or study abroad, must pass the Indonesian language test, said Anabel Gonzalez, the chief negotiator of Costa Rica.

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Motorcycle stunt performed at record height in Macao

Macao, 14 Nov — Four motorcycle players attending the 50th Macao Grand Prix Races here made a motorcycle stunt at the height of 233 metres on the Macao Tower, which was said to be a new world record by the organizers.

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WHO to launch action against substandard, counterfeit medicines

GENEVA, 14 Nov — The World Health Organization (WHO) will launch an action plan against substandard and counterfeit medicines with countries from the Greater Mekong sub-region this week.

According to a WHO statement on Tuesday, activities of counterfeiting and making substandard medicines are frequently detected in Southeast Asian nations and the problem seems to be increasing. WHO said that products most commonly counterfeited in this region include antibiotics and those used in the treatment of tuberculosis, malaria and HIV/AIDS.

Substandard medicines are thought to account for 5 per cent of medicines on the market in Thailand. Eight per cent of randomly collected samples in Vietnam failed laboratory testing for quality assessment.

Experts said that use of poor quality or counterfeit medicines has little or no therapeutic effect and in poor settings often leads to death.

“Combating low quality or illegal medicines is now more important than ever. Expanding access to safe effective treatment for AIDS and other illnesses is no longer an option, it is an imperative,” urged Dr. Lee Jong Wook, WHO Director-General.

GM to export $1.3b of cars to China

DETROIT, 14 Nov—General Motors Corp. said on Wednesday it will export to China thousands of Cadillacs, Buicks and other GM vehicles valued at about 1.3 billion US dollars in 2004 and 2005.

The world’s biggest car maker said it also signed two agreements with its joint-venture company in Shanghai to export to China about 1.1 billion US dollars of auto components and parts for its Buick Regal sedans and Buick GL8 wagons.

GM said it will export both completely built vehicles as well as partially assembled kits for final assembly in Shanghai. The 4,500 completely built vehicles that GM plans to export include the Cadillac CTS sedans, SXX mid-size sport utility vehicles, the next-generation Seville and the XLR roadster.

GM said this makes its unit, GM China, the first China-based subsidiary of a non-domestic automobile company to sign such a vehicle contract. With this deal, the Chinese Government has authorized the granting of trade and distribution rights a year earlier than required by the World Trade Organization, GM said.

US hospitals not using latest drugs in heart patients

ORLANDO (Florida), 14 Nov—Doctors are not using the latest heart drugs in nearly two out of three patients rushed to the emergency room, US researchers reported on Tuesday.

Hospitals also underuse proven lifesaving surgical procedures such as angioplasty, the team at Duke University in North Carolina told a meeting of the American Heart Association.

“Acting quickly with therapies that have been shown to be effective can save lives,” said Dr. James Hoekstra, chairman of the department of emergency medicine at Wake Forest University School of Medicine.

“If we stick with the guidelines and utilize all the proven therapies within the first 24 hours, our patients will do better.”

Dr. Eric Peterson and colleagues at Duke analyzed data about more than 56,000 US patients who arrived at emergency rooms with heart attack symptoms for their treatments.

For instance, they found that in the first day, nearly two-thirds of patients were not given a new class of clot-inhibiting drugs called glycoprotein (GP) IIb/IIIa inhibitors.

Yet studies have shown that quick administration of such drugs can save lives. These drugs stop blood platelets from clumping together to form clots.

The in-hospital death rate was 2.7 per cent for those who got the drugs the first day, compared to 4.7 per cent for those who got them later.

China to import more cars, auto parts from US

DETROIT, 14 Nov—A delegation from China’s auto industry and DaimlerChrysler signed letters of intent on Wednesday evening, in a move expected to boost US States exports and distribution of passenger vehicles to China.

DaimlerChrysler plans to export about 4,500 vehicles to China, including vehicles from the Chrysler Group and the Mercedes-Benz M-Class built in the United States, totaling in value about 300 million US dollars.

The signing of these letters is an important step in efforts to increase the export and distribution in China of Chrysler, Jeep and Mercedes-Benz vehicles, and significantly complements the company’s future business plans there, said Dieter Zetsche, the Chrysler CEO.

“Our strategy in China — importing, building and selling passenger cars and commercial vehicles — will help ensure that we take advantage of many business opportunities in the world’s fastest-growing automotive market,” he said.

China signs multibillion-dollar contracts with US companies

WASHINGTON, 14 Nov—In a major effort to boost the US export, China signed two contracts Wednesday with US companies for the purchase of billions of dollars’ worth of planes and aircraft engines.

Five Chinese airlines have decided to order 30 Next-Generation 737 jets valued at about 1.7 billion US dollars. The planes are scheduled to be delivered in 2005 and 2006 to Air China, Hainan Airlines, Shandong Airlines, Shenzhen Airlines and Xiamen Airlines.

The Chinese AVIC I Commercial Aircraft Co. Ltd. also inked a deal with GE Aircraft Engines to supply GE engines for ARJ21, China’s new regional jet aircraft now under development and slated for flight-testing in 2006. Representatives from the two companies predicted that 500 ARJ aircraft will be produced in China over the next 20 years, creating approximately three billion dollars’ worth of business for GE engines.

Experts say Asian navies poised for spending spree

SINGAPORE, 14 Nov—The Asia-Pacific region could become the world’s largest market for warships in the next six to seven years, eclipsing the United States and Europe, defence officials said at a conference in Singapore.

AMI International, a market research firm which tracks naval defence spending around the world, estimates new warship procurement will rise to 14 billion in 2004 in the Asia-Pacific Region from the seven-billion US-dollar forecast to be spent this year.

“The Asia-Pacific naval market is going to be enormous,” said Alan Garwood, a top export official at Britain’s Ministry of Defence, said at the conference this week. “I think what is driving that is Exclusive Economic Zone protection as countries need to focus on protecting fisheries, mineral wealth, or protecting their coastline against immigration, or drugs or terrorism,” said Garwood.

Jorgen Sanderssen, sales executive at German shipbuilder Blohm+Voss GmbH, said Asian Armed Forces were in the process of modernizing and expanding their navies.

Quake jolts Tokyo

TOKYO, 14 Nov—An earthquake shook Tokyo on Wednesday but there were no immediate reports of damage or injuries and national broadcaster NHK said there was no danger of tidal waves.

The earthquake measured 6.5 on the Richter Scale and four on the Japanese seismic scale of seven in some areas of Tochigi Prefecture, to the north of Tokyo.

NHK said the focus was below the seabed at a depth of 240 miles offshore of the Kii Peninsula in western Japan. Train services were not disrupted, NHK said.

Japan sits atop the junction of at least three tectonic plates, immense slabs of the earth’s crust whose gradual movements are thought to cause earthquakes, making it one of the world’s most earthquake prone regions.

Patients not given the new drugs tended to be older, to have additional health problems, and to have more cardiovascular disease, said the researchers.

“This is one of the paradoxes that we see in medicine, that the patients who benefit the most from an effective therapy are not receiving it,” Peterson said in a statement.

Hoekstra said that patients who did the best were treated as soon as possible.

“As soon as the patients is identified, we need to treat,” he said.

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WASHINGTON, 14 Nov—In a major effort to boost the US export, China signed deals Wednesday with US companies for the purchase of billions of dollars’ worth of planes and aircraft engines.

Five Chinese airlines have decided to order 30 Next-Generation 737 jets valued at about 1.7 billion US dollars. The planes are scheduled to be delivered in 2005 and 2006 to Air China, Hainan Airlines, Shandong Airlines, Shenzhen Airlines and Xiamen Airlines.

The Chinese AVIC I Commercial Aircraft Co. Ltd. also inked a deal with GE Aircraft Engines to supply GE engines for ARJ21, China’s new regional jet aircraft now under development and slated for flight-testing in 2006. Representatives from the two companies predicted that 500 ARJ aircraft will be produced in China over the next 20 years, creating approximately three billion dollars’ worth of business for GE engines.

Experts say Asian navies poised for spending spree

SINGAPORE, 14 Nov—The Asia-Pacific region could become the world’s largest market for warships in the next six to seven years, eclipsing the United States and Europe, defence officials said at a conference in Singapore.

AMI International, a market research firm which tracks naval defence spending around the world, estimates new warship procurement will rise to 14 billion in 2004 in the Asia-Pacific Region from the seven-billion US-dollar forecast to be spent this year.

“The Asia-Pacific naval market is going to be enormous,” said Alan Garwood, a top export official at Britain’s Ministry of Defence, said at the conference this week. “I think what is driving that is Exclusive Economic Zone protection as countries need to focus on protecting fisheries, mineral wealth, or protecting their coastline against immigration, or drugs or terrorism,” said Garwood.

Jorgen Sanderssen, sales executive at German shipbuilder Blohm+Voss GmbH, said Asian Armed Forces were in the process of modernizing and expanding their navies.
**SPORTS**

**Owen leaves Liverpool options open**

LONDON, 14 Nov—Liverpool’s joy over extending captain Steven Gerrard’s contract has been dampened by England striker Michael Owen’s refusal to commit himself to Anfield beyond 2005.

“It is impossible to say about my future at Liverpool,” Owen was quoted as saying on the club’s web site on Wednesday.

“If they are winning the league every year, there will not be any decision to make about playing abroad,” the 2001 European Footballer of the Year added.

There is no problem now and, in an ideal situation, Liverpool will do really well this season and challenge for the (Premier) League. But I really need things to be playing in the Champions League and that is something we have to remedy,”

The club are eighth in the Premier League standings, 13 points behind leaders Arsenal with two thirds of the season left.

Owen’s England captain David Beckham has said he would like the 23-year-old striker along side him at Real Madrid and Barcelona have also been linked with Owen.

But Owen added “I’ve turned into a new house, I’ve just become a father, and my family are close by. I’ve lived here all my life, and you don’t just jump up and go.”

Gerrard signed a new contract running until 2007 on Tuesday.

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**1982 World Cup defeat by West Germany still hurts**

PARIS, 14 Nov—Alain Giresse says France’s 1982 World Cup semi-final defeat by West Germany was the greatest disappointment of his career — and it still hurts.

Speaking two days before France play Germany in a friendly, the former midfielder said he could not believe another match had rivaled the 1982 game for its intensity.

Germany, 3-1 down in extra time, came back to draw the game 3-3 and then won the subsequent penalty shootout 5-4.

“One can forget certain things but that was unforgettable. The more you think about the game and how it went, the more you feel regret,” said Giresse, who scored France’s third goal.

Giresse, who played 47 games for France, said even winning the 1984 European title had not made up for the loss of the match which took place on July 8, 1982 at the Sanchez Pizjuan Stadium in Seville.

“If I carry on talking about that match for an hour, I get angry purely because of this irritation. I have to stop,” Giresse told the web site.

Poland coach Pawel Janas said: “I’m very much a fan of Russia and the Germans. They could end up as one of our groups in the second round,”

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**Ronaldo misses training, close to separation**

REO DE LANDINGE, 16 Nov—Ronaldo missed training with Brazil for personal reasons on Wednesday morning while his spokesman has confirmed that the 26-year-old striker was close to separating from his wife, Milene Domingues.

Brazil coach Carlos Alberto Parreira confirmed that the 26-year-old striker had been excused on Wednesday as the world champions began their warm-up for Sunday’s World Cup qualifier against Peru.

“Please understand,” Parreira told Brazilian television in the mountain retreat of Teresopolis.

“It’s important that when he arrives, his head is in the right place. That he is at ease, because he’s very important for us.”

Parreira, who has already lost left-back Roberto Carlos and striker Ronaldo Inacio through injury, denied that Ronaldo was setting a bad example or being allowed privileges.

“How many times has he failed to turn up in the past? None,” said Parreira.

Ronaldo’s absence came as Brazilian media reported that he was close to separating from Milene, who he married in December 1999.

The couple have a three-year-old son called Ronald.

“Soccer cannot do anything,” Parreira said. “If they do anything, they should do it away from the pitch.”

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**Gerrard ruled out of Denmark friendly**

LONDON, 14 Nov—Steven Gerrard has been ruled out of England’s friendly against Denmark in Sunday with a back strain, the Football Association said on Thursday.

The Liverpool midfielder will undergo further consultations between England medical staff and his club, the FA’s web site said.

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**Champions Seongnam beaten 4-2 in K-League**

SEUL, 14 Nov—Champions Seongnam Illwa were humbled 4-2 at home by a determined Suwon Blue Wings in the penultimate round of matches in the K-League on Wednesday.

South Korean striker Kim Do-hoon, who is bidding to win the K-League “Golden Shoe” award for most goals scored this season, scored his 26th goal of the season for Seongnam in the 71st minute.

But Brazilian striker Magno Alves was also on target for Chonbuk Motors in a 3-1 home victory over Anyang Cheetahs, taking the 71st minute.

South Korean midfielder Kim Nam-il scored a 41st-minute equalizer as Chunnam earned a 1-1 draw at lowly Taegu FC.

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**Poles beat Italy in friendly marred by Iraq bombing**

WARSAW, 14 Nov—Poland beat Euro 2004-bound Italy 3-1 on Wednesday in a friendly international overshadowed by a bombing in Iraq which killed at least 18 friendly international overshadowed by a bombing in Iraq which killed at least 18

Players held a minute’s silence before the game as a mark of respect for the victims.

From the kickoff, Italy looked shaky at the back as Poland put on the kind of attacking display lacking from their failed Euro 2004 qualifying campaign.

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**Argentinian Soccer Star Claudio Caniggia (7) now playing for Qatar Sports Club appears in action with Al Ahli Club’s Jabir Mohammed at their Qatar National League Football match on 13 Nov, 2003, at Rayyan Stadium Doha. Qatar Club beat Al Ahli, 3-0.— Reuters**

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**Cristiano Zanetti (L) from Italy vies with (L-R) Marzusz Lewandowski, Mariusz Kukielka, Jacek Bak and Jacek Zielinski from Poland during a friendly match in Warsaw. —INTERNET**

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**Gerrard’s agent Michael Kennedy says Steven Gerrard is close to signing a new five-year deal with Liverpool.**

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**Osorio celebrates World Cup qualifying victory over Confed.**

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**Bombers kill 15 in Baghdad**

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**Author and soccer pundit Michel Platini former France’s 1982 World Cup winning captain and current UEFA vice-president talks about his famous World Cup defeat by West Germany.**

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**90s Review: Steven Gerrard’s road to the top**

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**Parreira tell Brazilian press he is not going to the World Cup.**

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**Italian coach Trapattoni finds inspiration in Costa Rican team’s defense.**

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**Brazilian striker Ronaldo was elated afterrdging the ball from Italian goalkeeper Toldo to win a penalty.**

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**Scotland in action in a friendly with Cameroon.**

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**Raymond Kopa, Real Madrid’s 1958 World Cup hero, dead at 70.**

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**Czech forward Pavel Pardo - Slavia Prague.**

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**France’s Ricardo - friendly against Belgium.**

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**French defender Sylvain Armand - a crowd favourite in France.**

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**1998 World Cup Champions France warm up for Sunday’s World Cup qualifier with Montenegro.**

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**1999 World Cup Champions France warm up for Sunday’s World Cup qualifier with Montenegro.**

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**Recap of the World Cup 1998 in France.**

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**Sepp Blatter's press conference.**

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**France’s Zinedine Zidane and Captain Deschamps.**

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THE NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR  Saturday, 15 November, 2003

WEATHER

Friday, 14 November, 2003

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST:

During the past 24 hours, except for the isolated rain or thunderstorms in the Tanintharyi Division, weather has been generally fair in the whole country. Night temperatures were 3°C to 4°C below normal in Kachin and Rakhine States, Mandalay, Magway and Maymyo Divisions and about normal in the remaining areas.

Maximum temperature on 13-11-2003 was 35.0°C (95°F). Minimum temperature on 14-11-2003 was 19.5°C (67°F). Relative humidity at 9:30 MST on 14-11-2003 was 67.5%. Total sunshine hours on 13-11-2003 was (9.9 hours) approx. Rainfall was nil in most areas.

Forecast valid until evening of 15-11-2003:

Except for the likelihood of isolated rain or thunderstorms in Tanintharyi Division, weather will be generally fair in the whole country.

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for Monday to partly cloudy. Holiday villages and small rivers in the neighbour-

ing area for 15-11-2003: Fair weather. Weather outlook for the weekend of November 14-15/2003 in the holiday villages and small rivers in the neighbour-

STORM NEWS

(Issued at 10:00 hours, Thursday, November 13, 2003)

According to the observations at 09:30h MST today, the low pressure area over Gulf of Thailand has moved into South Andaman Sea and intensified into a depression. It is centered about 200 miles Southwest of Kawthong and forecast to move west (0°) Northwestward slowly. It will be cloudy to mostly cloudy in South Andaman Sea and generally fair elsewhere in the Bay of Bengal. Afternoon:

Adeep in Jesus

U Yu Khin (Stephen)

Age 82

Superintendent (Retd)

Department of Civil Aviation

U Yu Khin (Stephen) of No. 13, Third Floor, 22nd Street, Pazundaung Township, son of (U Aseik-Daw Sein Yin) of Dagon North Township,glyphicon glyphicon-home; (Sitac Yaw Kyaw), elder brother of Dr. Hla Maung Khin. (Medical Superintend-

ent-Deputy) Dr. Hla Than Myint, father of Dr. Hla Hmwe Kyaw; (Graduate in Medicine). (U Aung Ko-Daw Ko) Dha Hla Maung Myint, U Tin Hein, Ma Shin Yu, U Tin Maung Win-Ma Thi Khin, U Tin Htwe-Ma Hui Huy Khin, Ma Ma On Ma Khin, father of 12 grandchildren. They will be held at St. Tresa Catholic Church in Ailhon Township at 5:30 PM on 15-11-2003. The funeral cortège will leave St. Tresa Catholic Church of No. 98, Min Ye Kyaw Swa Street, Ailhon Township. The interment will be on 16-11-2003 for entombment at Yaw Way Christian Cemetery.
Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt receives Vice-Governor of Zhejiang Province and party

YANGON, 14 Nov— Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt of the Union of Myanmar received Vice-Governor Mr Zhong Shan of Zhejiang Province and party at Zayathiri Beikman, Konnyntha. Present at the call were Minister for Foreign Affairs U Win Aung, Minister for Electric Power Maj-Gen Tin Htut, Director-General of Protocol Department Thura U Aung Htet, Chinese Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Li Junjun and Economic and Commercial Counsellor Mr Jin Honggen. —MNA

Pilot Course No 65 of No 1...

The graduates are to be in constant pursuit of necessary practice as co-pilots to become able ones for qualitative as well as quantitative improvement.

Besides the study of flying lessons, they should strive their utmost to turn themselves into good officers and leaders of respectable personality.

Regarding the aerospace sector, human had to overcome a lot of great difficulties and problems to achieve success in space flight until 1903. People could launch a spaceship into the space in 1957 and have been able to send a manned spacecraft into orbit in 1961. In 1969, man could walk on the surface of the moon. With the development of aerospace technology, significant progress has been made in air strategies. Only if Myanmar keeps abreast with the advancing air strategies, can she achieve success in space wars, he remarked. Continuing efforts are therefore to be made not to lag behind in aerospace advancements, he noted. Good health and fitness is a must for a pilot and thus they are to constantly keep themselves healthy and fit to be able to efficiently fly their aircraft.

He called on the newly-graduated pilots to discharge duties by doing their best with might and main in implementing the three objectives of the Defence Service (Air).

In conclusion, the Commander-in-Chief (Air) urged the graduates to carry out respective duties with added momentum with sense of duty based on Union Spirit and patriotism in building up a peaceful, modern and developed nation. The Commander-in-Chief (Air) presented Wings and completion certificates to the graduate officers and gave necessary instructions to them.

After the ceremony, Maj-Gen Myat Hein cordially greeted the graduate officers and gave them necessary instructions. —MNA

Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than inspects Einme Creek crossing bridge construction project site

YANGON, 14 Nov—Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than of the Ministry of Defence, accompanied by Chairman of Ayeayawady Division Peace and Development Council Commander of South-West Command Maj-Gen Soe Naing and officials, inspected thriving of monsoon paddy along Myanmar-Elmine motor road and bridges on the road yesterday morning.

At the briefing hall of Einme Creek Crossing Bridge construction project site near Intanithetke Village in Einme Township, Township Engineer U Phone Kyaw reported to Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than and Commander Maj-Gen Soe Naing on arrangements being made for construction of the bridge and condition of the bridges in Einme Township.

Commander Maj-Gen Soe Naing gave a supplementary report.

In response to the reports, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than gave necessary instructions and attended to the needs.

Afterwards, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than, Commander Maj-Gen Soe Naing and party inspected preparations being made for construction of the bridge and regional development.

Local authorities reported to Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than and party on matters related to regional development.

On arrival at Kyogon Village Basic Education Middle School, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than and party looked into learning of the students with the use of electronic media video system and language lab.

Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than donated a computer set for the school through Headmistress Daw May Lwin Lwin.

(See page 9)