A Loyal Tatmadaw

It can be said that the Tatmadaw was conceived in the anti-colonialist struggle and born of the anti-fascist resistance. As it was the rallying point of patriotic youths, it fitted into the good tradition of a patriotic Tatmadaw. As it maintained good military discipline, it became a disciplined Tatmadaw. At the time Myanmar regained her independence, the fire of national insurrection was also started. Though there were many attempts to entice the Tatmadaw, it looked only to the face of the nation. It therefore gained the attribute of a loyal Tatmadaw.

Senior General Than Shwe
Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council
Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services

(From address at the parade of the 52nd Anniversary Armed Forces Day)
Potable water supply in rural areas

In April 1999, Head of State Senior General Than Shwe gave guidance on implementing the 10-year plan on supply of potable water in all villages in Mandalay, Sagaing and Magway Divisions in the tropical region where water is scarce.

In accord with the guidance of the Head of State, 1,169 wells have been dug in the three divisions and other state and divisions with the contribution of the State, wellwishers and NGOs.

The seventh cash donation ceremony for supply of potable water in rural areas of the Ministry for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs was held at the meeting hall of the Development Affairs Department in Thanybyuzeton, Botataung Township on 12 March, attended by Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Soe Win.

In his address the Secretary-1 said that the potable water supply projects directly benefit the people and that making contributions towards the projects amounts to carrying out the public welfare service. Total of the donations at the ceremony amounted to 131,259,305 kyats, 4,468 US dollars, 270 euros and 10,000 FECs.

From the 2000-2001 fiscal year to date, 60 per cent of tasks for supplying water have been completed as water supply tasks have been carried out in 4,783 villages out of 8,042 villages in three tropical divisions.

International organizations also provide assistance to the rural water supply projects. Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) has sunk 91 tube-wells out of 250 in the five-year plan in Shan State (North). As the master plan on supply of potable water in tropical region is being implemented, a total of 22 deep test-wells has been sunk in 11 townships, so far.

Bridge Asia Japan (BAJ) has been digging 48 tube-wells with the measurements of 4 inches and 6 inches in Kayuqadaung Township beginning 2001-2002. Similarly, UNICEF has been participating in 390 water supply tasks of the rural water supply project in three tropical divisions from 2001-2002 to date.

Likewise, the Union Solidarity and Development Association, Myanmar Maternal and Child Welfare Association and Myanmar National Committee for Women’s Affairs also lend themselves in the rural water supply task.

At a time when efforts are being made for national development, it can be seen that success has been achieved in all sectors thanks to the cooperation of the organizations and the people with the Government.
Two US soldiers killed in Iraq roadside blast

Tikrit, 14 March — A roadside bomb killed two American soldiers and wounded three Saturday, the first casualties suffered by an Army regiment taking over security in Saddam Hussein’s hometown as part of a giant troop rotation.

In Baghdad, the brother-in-law of a member of the US-appointed Iraqi Governing Council was killed when a bomb exploded in a shop Saturday, an official said. The bomb destroyed the troops’ armoured Humvee as they patrolled through downtown Tikrit at around 5 am hours before the outgoing 4th Infantry Division’s 1st Battalion, 22nd Infantry Regiment handed over security duties in the area to the 18th Infantry Regiment at a ceremony on Saturday.

In the attack, gunmen opened fire on the rear vehicle in the three-Humvee patrol, then the bomb went off by the second Humvee, said one of the soldiers at the scene.

A Bradley fighting vehicle sped to the scene and strafed the area with heavy machine gun fire. It was unclear if any of the attackers sustained casualties.

After the attack, about 50 soldiers fanned out through the city searching for evidence and asking locals for information about the attack.

The three wounded soldiers were evacuated to a military hospital north of Tikrit and were in stable condition, said 1st Infantry Division spokeswoman Maj Debra Stewart. Roadside bombs have become the main threat to US soldiers on patrol in the Sunni Triangle, a region north and west of Baghdad that has seen some of the fiercest guerrilla fighting. Three soldiers were killed and three wounded Thursday by bombs in Baqouba and near the town of Habbaniyah.

Last Saturday’s deaths brought to 560 the number of US service members who have died since the beginning of military operations in Iraq according to the Department of Defense. Of those, 381 died as a result of hostile action and 179 died of non-hostile causes, the department said. — Internet

One in 73 US households declared bankruptcy in 2003

WASHINGTON, 14 March — One out of every 73 US households filed for bankruptcy last year, a record high, despite historically low interest rates, the American Bankruptcy Institute said on Friday.

The institute said Utah faced the highest per-household bankruptcy rate — one out of every 47 — followed closely by Tennessee, Georgia and Nevada. Alaska had the lowest rate last year, just one filing for every 189 households.

"Despite enjoying the sustained benefit of low interest rates, growing numbers of US consumers are facing difficulty in meeting their monthly obligations," ABI Executive Director Samuel Gerdano said.

"Ironically, these same consumers are being relied upon to continue spending to keep the economy growing," he added. US households had 10.4 trillion US dollars in debt outstanding at the end of last year, although debt accumulation slowed toward year’s end, according to data from the Federal Reserve.

Some economists have grown concerned the high debt burden could lead consumers to pare spending enough to hurt economic growth. Others, including Fed Chairman Alan Greenspan, have said low interest rates have kept the cost of carrying debt from growing overly troubling.

Nevertheless, bankruptcies have reached record highs.

Last month, the Administrative Office of the US Courts said there were 1,660,245 personal bankruptcies last year. It was a record for any calendar year, but off slightly from the all-time 12-month high reached in 1998.

ABI calculated its per-household bankruptcy figures using data from both the Administrative Office of the US Courts and the US Census Bureau. MNA/Reuters

Halliburton admitted faulty Iraq costs

WASHINGTON, 14 March — Pentagon auditors found a Halliburton Co subsidiary gave faulty cost estimates on a $2.7 billion contract to serve American troops in Iraq and Kuwait, and company officials acknowledged making mistakes, Defense Department documents show.

The estimate problems included a failure to tell contract managers that Halliburton had terminated two subcontracts for feeding troops, which affected costs on $1 billion worth of that work, the Defense Contract Audit Agency found. Halliburton also did not tell contract managers it had already awarded subcontracts worth $141.5 million for work it said would cost $208.8 million, the auditors found.

William R. Walter, a manager for Halliburton’s subsidiary KBR, wrote to the DCAA 4 Dec to acknowledge the company did not give current, accurate and complete cost data in its 7 Oct spending proposal.

“...are many excuses and reasons available — but in the end, KBR did not include the most current data in our proposal,” Walter wrote.

The pricing issue is just one of several problems with Halliburton contracts in Iraq. Both the Pentagon and Justice Department have launched criminal investigations of the company, formerly headed by Vice President Dick Cheney.

Halliburton’s problems include:

— An alleged kickback scheme that prompted Halliburton to fire two workers and reimburse the Pentagon $6.3 million.

— Possible overcharging for food services which Halliburton reimbursed the Defense Department for nearly $30 million. Halliburton has set aside $141 million to pay other possible reimbursements.

— A separate DCAA audit which accused KBR of overcharging by $61 million for gasoline delivered to serve the civilian market in Iraq last year. Halliburton has said the charges were proper.

Democratic critics say Halliburton is an example of war profiteering by companies friendly to the Bush administration. Company and administration officials say politics had nothing to do with Halliburton’s contracts in Iraq. Cheney’s office says he severed relations with Halliburton when he ran for vice president in 2000. Internet

CPPCC National Committee adopts political resolution

BEIJING, 14 March — The Tenth National Committee of the Chinese People’s Political Consultative Conference (CPPCC), the top advisory body, approved a political resolution at the closing of its second session Friday.

According to the political resolution, the session approved a report on the work of the Standing Committee of the CPPCC National Committee, a report on the issue of the members’ proposals, and the amendment to the CPPCC Charter.

The members of the CPPCC National Committee also observed the Second Session of the Tenth National People’s Congress (NPC), the top legislature, and agreed to the Report on the Work of the Government, the draft amendment to the country’s Constitution, and other reports.

They spoke highly of the country’s achievements in the past year and expressed confidence in the accomplishment of all the tasks set forth in the Report on the Work of the Government.

The CPPCC members reached a consensus that the draft amendment to the Constitution is based on the opinions from all walks of life, embodies the important thought of “Three Represents” and the essence of the 16th National Congress of the Communist Party of China (CPC), reflects the common aspiration of the whole people, and accords with the fundamental interests of the whole people.

According to the political resolution, the amendment to the CPPCC Charter is an important event for the implementation and improvement of the system of multi-party cooperation and political consultation system under the CPC leadership, and a major step for the CPPCC to meet the new requirements under the new situation and tasks, which is bound to have a major impact on the cause of the CPPCC. — MNA/Xinhua

Store owners walk through twisted metal doors and other debris following an explosion inside a clothing store at Karada commercial district in BaghQdad, on 13 March, 2004. Witnesses claimed a man carrying a plastic bag walked into the store and hurriedly left, with a loud explosion heard seconds later. The store owner, a brother-in-law of one of Iraq’s Governing Council members Ibrahim Al-Jaafari, was killed with about ten stores nearby were also damaged. — Internet

A US trooper in their Humvees prepare to conduct patrol at Tikrit, 180 kilometres southwest of Baghdad, Iraq on 13 March, 2004. A roadside bomb killed two American soldiers and wounded three others on Saturday, the first casualties suffered by a US Army regiment taking over security in Saddam’s hometown as part of a giant troop rotation in Iraq—Internet
US current account deficit surges to record high in 2003

WASHINGTON, 14 March— The current account deficit of the United States expanded to a record 541.8 billion US dollars in 2003, registering 12.7 per cent larger than the previous year’s 480.9 billion US dollars, the Commerce Department reported Friday.

Tracking goods and services trade, income from investments and overseas workers, and one-way transfers such as foreign aid, the current account is the broadest measure of trade.

The Commerce Department’s data showed that the shortfall in trade of goods and services in 2003 bulged 17.3 per cent to 490.2 billion US dollars. The deficit in goods, widening last year to 549.4 billion US dollars from 482.9 billion US dollars in 2002, was the main factor in the overall deficit for 2003.

In the services category, the United States was still running a surplus in 2003. But the surplus narrowed to 59.2 billion US dollars from 64.8 billion US dollars in 2002. Investment earnings turned around in 2003, showing a surplus of 16.6 billion US dollars.

The income of the country in the previous year was a deficit of four billion US dollars. Meanwhile, the net outflow of one-way transfers widened 9.4 billion US dollars to 68.3 billion US dollars in 2003.

Economists had forecast that the current account deficit would be deteriorating in the final quarter of 2003. Unexpectedly, however, it narrowed to 127.5 billion US dollars from 135.3 billion US dollars in the previous three months. —MNA/Xinhua

China patent electronic application system launched

BEIJING, 14 March— Tian Lupu, vice-commissioner of the State Intellectual Property Office (SIPO), received the first online patent application here Friday.

The first application was submitted by the Yongxin Patent and Trademark Agency for a driving circuit of semiconductor laser equipment.

With the launching of the China Patent Electronic Application System, China has become the fifth in the world, next to Japan, the United States, the European Union and South Korea, to provide online service for patent applications.

Beginning Friday, the 20th anniversary of China’s first patent law, domestic and overseas patent applicants and agents could submit any of their applications by logging on to the official web site.

At the opening ceremony organized by the SIPO, Tian said the system would greatly facilitate the patent application process in China and also benefit international exchange in the field.

Tian asked the system management body to better their online service to worldwide applicants and agents. —MNA/Xinhua

Thousands protest Iraq war as Blair speaks

MANCHESTER, 14 March—Thousands of people protested against the war in Iraq as British Prime Minister Tony Blair addressed a gathering of his ruling Labour Party.

The two-hour demonstration snaked through the centre of Manchester, northwest England, where Blair was speaking to Labour delegates at the party’s spring conference. Protestors topped a mocked-up statue of the prime minister, mimicking the fate of a huge statue of Iraqi leader Saddam Hussein in Baghdad when the city fell to US troops almost a year ago.

The Stop the War Coalition, which organised the march, said around 3,000 people had turned out.

“We are trying to oppose a war which turned into an unmitigated disaster,” said Coalition spokesman Richard Searle.

“Our prime minister went to war on the most outrageous lies so today we are telling ‘Tony Blair, it is time you went.’”

Blair was Washington’s closest ally in the conflict, committing around 40,000 British armed forces personnel despite widespread public scepticism as to the reasons for the war.

The prime minister insisted it was necessary because Saddam possessed stockpiles of illegal chemical and biological weapons, and his popularity has suffered after no such armaments were found following the conflict.

Last month Blair announced an investigation into intelligence into Iraq’s weapons of mass destruction and to disseminate the sense of peace and security,” Mubarak told the gathering.

The prime minister insisted that the war on the most outrageous of illegal chemical and biological weapons, and his popularity has suffered after no such armaments were found following the conflict.

Last month Blair announced an investigation into intelligence into Iraq’s weapons of mass destruction and to disseminate the sense of peace and security,” Mubarak told the gathering.

The timing of the gathering coincided with an international argument on reform initiatives in the region,” he said, alluding to a US-backed initiative on reform in the Middle East.

The US initiative, the Greater Middle East Initiative, aimed at promoting greater democracy and prosperity, will be reportedly launched in June at a summit of the Group of Eight.

Mubarak made the remarks at a gathering, entitled “the Arab Reform — Vision & Implementation,” in the Mediterranean city of Alexandria, the official MENA news agency reported.

“The strategy of Arab world in realizing better future is based on two pivots — pushing forward modernization efforts and realizing a just and permanent peace in the region to free it from all kinds of weapons of mass destruction and to disseminate the sense of peace and security,” Mubarak told the gathering.

“The timing of the gathering coincided with an international argument on reform initiatives in the region,” he said, alluding to a US-led initiative on reform in the Middle East.

The US initiative, the Greater Middle East Initiative, aimed at promoting greater democracy and prosperity, will be reportedly launched in June at a summit of the Group of Eight.

Mubarak and some Arab rulers have given a cold shoulder to the plan, saying that the Arab world rejects any reform imposed from outside.

“Arab countries, taking into consideration negative and positive aspects of the reform process, have done their best to make structural and organizational reforms in political, economic and social domains,” Mubarak told the gathering.

“The Arab world has achieved greater modernization and development to benefit from the opportunity offered by globalization to eliminate structural problems in the political and socioeconomic aspects,” he said.

Egypt, a heavy weight in the Arab world, has claimed that an Israeli aggression hinders the reform process in the Middle East.

Speaking to reporters after a meeting with US Undersecretary of State for Political Affairs Meite Gromy, early March, Egyptian Foreign Minister Ahmed Maher said “The Americans must clearly understand that one of principal problems hindering the reform process is the Israeli aggression on the Palestinians and its incessant threat to the Arab nation.”

MNA/Xinhua
Kerry challenges Bush to monthly debates

Quincy (Illinois), 14 March — Democratic presidential candidate John Kerry, visiting the site of one of the most famous political debates in US history, challenged President George W Bush on Saturday to a “real discussion about America’s future” in monthly debates.

Kerry, already engaged in a running exchange of negative ads with Bush before the November election, said, “America shouldn’t have to put up with eight months of sniping.”

“I believe the American people are hungry for a genuine conversation about the fundamental questions before us,” Kerry said in Quincy, Illinois, site of one of the seven historic Abraham Lincoln-Stephen Douglas debates.

The 1,858 senatorial debates between Douglas and Lincoln, who lost the Senate race but won the presidency two years later, are legendary in US political history for their reasoned discussion of burning issues like slavery and states’ rights in the period before the Civil War.

Kerry said modern candidates “find it easier to exchange insults than to face issues” and called for a campaign that “honours the best in America”.

“Surely, if the attack ads can start now at least we can agree to start a real discussion about America’s future,” Kerry said, trying to take the high road early in a campaign already marked by bitter charges and counterattacks.

Bush and Kerry exchanged negative ads on Thursday, with Bush criticizing Kerry by name, accusing him of planning to raise taxes and threatening to weaken US security. Kerry fired back at what he called “misleading” accusations.

Kerry, who earlier this week called his Republican critics a “crooked — lying group”, challenged Bush to monthly debates on the “great issues” of the day, including the war on terrorism, the loss of US jobs and the plight of Americans without health care.

The Bush campaign objected to the request for monthly debates and questioned how Kerry could ask for a civil discussion after his remarks about Republicans and after spending millions of dollars on ads attacking Bush.

“Senator Kerry should finish the debate with himself before he starts trying to explain his positions to the voters,” said Bush campaign spokesman Steve Schmidt. A campaign official said they looked forward to “vigorous debates at the appropriate time”.

MENA/Reuters

Turkey stresses int’l cooperation against terrorism

ANKARA, 14 March — Turkey on Friday stressed a great importance of international cooperation in fighting against terrorism.

Sermet Atacani, Turkish Presidential Chief Adviser for Foreign Affairs, made the remarks at a news conference while talking about the terrorist attacks in Madrid on Thursday. Terrorists blew up three suburban trains in Madrid earlier on Thursday, killing some 198 people and injuring more than 1,000 others according to the latest media reports.

Atacani told the reporters that “Turkey is very sensitive about this issue because it suffered so much from terrorism. International cooperation is very important in fighting against terrorism, otherwise such sad incidents will increase”.

He noted that Turkey conveyed its sorrow and condemnation regarding the terrorist attacks in Madrid to Spanish officials at all levels.

Turkish President Ahmet Necdet Sezer has also expressed his sorrow over the attacks by sending a letter to Spanish King Juan Carlos I and shared the grief of the Spanish people, Atacani added.

MENA/Xinhua

India, Pakistan should resolve differences in innovative way

NEW DELHI, 14 March — Indian Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee Friday said that India and Pakistan should look at innovative ideas to resolve differences while maintaining that public opinion in the two countries should lead politicians to pragmatic and acceptable solutions to their problems.

The Prime Minister made the remarks when he was delivering the keynote address at a two-day meeting organized by India’s most popular magazine India Today, which is opened here Friday.

Vajpayee said that India has been advocating intensification of trade, foreign cooperation, cultural exchange and sporting links, so that public opinion in both countries can be mobilized in support of the peace process.

Observing that India has consistently used the language of cooperation, detente and dialogue in its neighbourhood policy, he said that the agreement reached with Pakistan in January this year flowed from this consistent stand: only bilateral dialogue can solve problems and this dialogue cannot be pursued or sustained if terrorism continues.

MENA/Xinhua

Russia, China resist US over Iran nuke resolution

VIENNA, 14 March — Washington faced growing resistance on Friday as Russia, China and non-aligned members of the UN atomic watchdog rejected a resolution that condemns Iran’s nuclear secrecy and keeps the door open for sanctions.

In backroom meetings at the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), Canadian, Australian and European diplomats on the IAEA’s Board of Governors negotiated with diplomats from the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) to revise a draft IAEA resolution. The United States, France, Britain and Germany spoke of a tentative deal this week on an Australian-Canadian draft text that “dilutes” Teheran’s keeping sensitive information from the IAEA and suggests a military link to Teheran’s atomic programme.

Iran’s Ambassador to the UN in Vienna, Pirooz Hosseini, told Reuters the draft was unacceptable and “consultations are going on...reach an agreed language.” Iran is not on the board but is involved in the talks as a key NAM member. NAM states have 13 out of 35 seats on the IAEA board and proposed a series of amendments to tone down the draft resolution. NAM insists that the word “depletes” be changed to “strongly regrets” or something else, but NAM diplomats complained the US-led camp were not being very accommodating.

“We don’t want the word ‘depletes’, a non-aligned diplomat told Reuters. “We want something that sounds more like the IAEA report on Iran, which used the word ‘concern’.”

He also said that Russia and China had received instructions from home to put their political weight behind the NAM proposal.


Not only that, several diplomats on the board told Reuters that France and Germany were willing to accept most of the NAM amendments, but that Britain was with Washington. This meant there were signs the EU-US deal was falling apart, they said. Non-aligned diplomats said the NAM block — the largest on the board — would not back the resolution if its sponsors did not include more of its proposed amendments in the text.

The IAEA adopts resolutions by consensus, so the board meeting could run into the weekend as negotiators seek a deal.

Russia, which is helping Teheran build an 800-million-dollar nuclear power station in Iran, has objected and tried to soften every US-backed IAEA resolution or statement on Iran in the past year. Russian UN delegates in Vienna declined to comment.

MENA/Reuters

ICRC says return of Red Cross to Baghdad depends on security

LISBON, 14 March — The return of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) to Iraq’s Baghdad and Basra will depend on the security situation in these areas, ICRC President Jacob Kellenberger said in Lisbon on Friday.

Following a meeting with Portuguese Foreign Minister Teresa Gouveia, Kellenberger told the Press that the Red Cross would continue to assist in other areas of Iraq. The ICRC withdrew its staff from Baghdad and Basra after huge blasts killed 35 people near the compound of ICRC’s headquarters in Baghdad on October 27, 2003.

Kellenberger highlighted the help that they granted to war prisoners, the union of families and the provision of minimum medical assistance in emergency situations.

Kellenberger held talks with the Portuguese President Jorge Sampaio on Friday and met with Defence Minister Paulo Portas on Thursday.

Kellenberger arrived in Lisbon on Thursday for a two-day visit to the European country.

MENA/Xinhua

A fire at the oil pipeline in Tikrit, 180 kilometres northwest of Baghdad, Iraq, continues to burn on Saturday, 13 March, 2004 after being sabotaged by guerillas on Friday. — Reuters

Iraqis sift through the damage of a building west of Baghdad. Iraq following an explosion before dawn on 13 March, 2004. — Reuters

The Bush campaign rejected the request for monthly debates and questioned how Kerry could ask for a civil discussion after his remarks about Republicans and after spending millions of dollars on ads attacking Bush.
In the days following the US occupation of Baghdad in April 2003, the Iraq Museum was looted. Experts have so far been unable to make any comprehensive damage assessment on location. The full extent of the damage to the museum’s collection may not be known for a long time, but it seems clear that thousands of items were either stolen or destroyed.

Lost treasures of Iraq

A statue destroyed during the US-led invasion against Iraq.

Recaptured antiques at the Baghdad museum

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Place</th>
<th>Items</th>
<th>Quantity</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>22-4-2003</td>
<td>Jordan border</td>
<td>paintings</td>
<td>42 pieces</td>
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<tr>
<td>28-4-2003</td>
<td>Kuwait border</td>
<td>various items</td>
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<td>photographs</td>
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Stolen gold helmet of Baghdad museum.

A statue destroyed during the US-led invasion against Iraq.

Stolen statues being seized by Jordanian Customs seen on 2 March, 2004.

Workers at Baghdad’s Archaeological Museum carry in some of the recovered items that had been looted following the US-led invasion to the Iraqi capital city.


Stolen statues of Iraq after the US-led invasion of Iraq.

Iraq in the aftermath of US invasion

Lost treasures of Iraq

After the US invasion of Iraq on 20 March 2003, many antiques were looted or stolen or destroyed at Baghdad museum. Experts cannot estimate the value of the lost antiques. The following table shows some of the items stolen or destroyed at the museum.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>Cost and amount</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Stolen items from museum</td>
<td>US$ 7000 million</td>
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<tr>
<td>Destroyed items</td>
<td>about 170000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Looted items</td>
<td>paintings, statuettes,</td>
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<td></td>
<td>verses, bowl, literature</td>
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<td></td>
<td>and photographs</td>
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<tr>
<td>Items returned to museum</td>
<td>over 800</td>
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<tr>
<td>earliest items</td>
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<tr>
<td>29-2-2004</td>
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<td>photographs</td>
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Stolen gold helmet of Baghdad museum.

A statue destroyed during the US-led invasion against Iraq.

Recaptured antiques at the Baghdad museum

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Stolen gold helmet of Baghdad museum.
Hailing the 59th Anniversary Armed Forces Day:

Joint efforts of the Tatmadaw and the people in carrying out nation-building tasks

Irrigation facilities constructed by the people and the Tatmadaw

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<tr>
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<td>4</td>
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<td>Myittha</td>
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<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Kyetmaukleti Dam</td>
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<td>Myotha Dam</td>
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<td>Nankathu Dam</td>
<td>Ingaung</td>
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<td>9</td>
<td>Moemakha Sluice Gate</td>
<td>Twantay</td>
<td>40000</td>
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The Ponmakyi Dam in Mahlaing Township, Mandalay Division, indicates combined efforts of the people and the Tatmadaw.

Irrigation facilities constructed with combined efforts of the people and Tatmadaw members

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<td>9</td>
<td>Yangon Division</td>
<td>Moemakha Sluice Gate</td>
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Thedaw Dam has emerged in Letpadan Township, Bago Division thanks to collective endeavours of the people and the Tatmadawmen.
Men of noble hearts

The people viewed with joy the independence monument in front of the City Hall in Yangon. However, the people were not able to fully enjoy the taste of independence because of the ideological and factional prejudices in the ruling AFPFL party.

Men of noble hearts

The Tatmadaw (Armed Forces) in perpetual service of the people

History stands witness to the fact that the lack of peace and the unstable political environs are not only unfriendly to the flourishing of democracy, but can also become a cause leading to the loss of independence. Ideological differences can be cited as the main factor of its deterioration. It was due to the expulsion of the Burma Communist Party (BCP) to the fall of public support for the AFPFL.

As the AFPFL was split into two factions in May 1958, the party was split into two factions — the AFPFL (Clean) and the AFPFL (Stable). Because of the divisions leading to the downfall of the AFPFL, that was the ruling party then, and the National United Front, peace and stability started to deteriorate in the whole country. The rise in the factional prejudices had caused the destruction of the community peace and the rule of law. When the AFPFL (Clean) and the AFPFL (Stable) vied for power at the Pyithu Hluttaw meeting, held on 9 June 1958, the former won over the latter with only eight more votes, and formed the government.

However, the AFPFL (Clean) faced difficulties to lead the nation because of its weakness and the disagreements occurring within the government. As it was facing more political hardships, the then prime minister, the leader of the ruling AFPFL (Clean), submitted a proposal to the Pyithu Hluttaw, requesting the Tatmadaw to form the Caretaker Government and to lead the nation. It was passed by the Pyithu Hluttaw. First, the Caretaker Government restored the community peace and the rule of law. It then endeavoured to serve the public welfare task, to ease the food, clothing and shelter needs of the people. It relocated the slum dwellers of the city to the new satellite towns — South Okkalapa, North Okkalapa and Thakayta. The Tatmadaw dissolved all the pocket armies and also the armed security units of some ministries and systematically integrated the members of the dissolved bodies into the Tatmadaw.

At the same time, the Caretaker Government organized the feudal lords to relinquish their special powers and privileges. It demarcated the border between Myanmar and the People’s Republic of China under the agreement reached between the two countries.

After restoring all the dwindling political, economic and civil administrative machinery back to normal, it held a free and fair Pyithu Hluttaw and chamber of Nationalities elections, its final duty, on 6 and 26 February 1960 respectively and handed over the State power to the AFPFL (Clean) or the Pa-hita-sa, the winner in the election, on 4 April. It is the second time the Tatmadaw had safeguarded the nation and restored the political, administrative and economic sectors of the State, and put the nation back on the right track towards the parliamentary democracy system.

While the Caretaker Government was busy rebuilding the nation with all-out efforts, it was also crushing the insurgents for the peace and stability of the nation. When the Tatmadaw took over the duties of the State there were 9,000 insurgents plus 15,000 supporters including those from a number of organizations. The Tatmadaw launched military operations region-wise to crush them. In the Northern Command area, the Tatmadaw columns waged 51 battles against the BCP (White Flag) and the Red Flag communist insurgents in Mandalay, Kyaukse, Meiktila and Yamethin districts to drive them out, and crushed the BCP (White Flag) and communist insurgents (Red Flag) at 80 engagements in Sagaing, Monywa and Shwebo districts. Its columns fought... (See page 9)
Hailing the 59th Anniversary Armed Forces Day

Poem

Our Tatmadaw

* Bagan, Myin Saing
Periods in history
Foreign destruction at hand
All the dangers that be
Were to be repulsed
Beautiful history
That had been famous
Our Tatmadaw.
* Called white Indians
These fiends that came
Intruded and stayed
In that colonial occasion
With swords and spears
Took revenge
And was rightly famous
Our Tatmadaw.
* The rude fascists
Towards our Myanmar
Were partly helpful
Partly in guile
Wanted to usurp for keeps
And schemed for once
Which we resisted
And we held it steadfastly
Our Tatmadaw.
* When Independence
Was just regained
Intent on destruction
Colonialism reappeared
And there were divisive acts
There were wounds
And various splits
Brethren all
Had to be explained

Through discussions
Internal peace
Was received in hand
With might of hundreds
Our Tatmadaw.
* Through ten million lives
May have been lost
Sovereignty of our land
Was defended
Pride for which is famous
The Tatmadaw
We keep at heart
With great regard
May it shine constantly for life
May victories continue unabated

Bo Cho Myaung Myint Swe (Trs)

The Tatmadaw members of Operation Min Yan Aung cross creeks and brave all the rough terrain to drive out the Kuomington intruders.

The Tatmadaw has always been serving the interest of the people and safeguarding independence and sovereignty of the nation. It faced and solved the political hardships that occurred in 1958, 1959 and 1960.

All in all the Tatmadaw launched 108 major military operations and waged 332 regional military operations and waged 386 major battles and 2,743 minor battles against the Kuomington intruders. The White Flag and Red Flag communities have always been serving the interest of the people and safeguarding independence and sovereignty of the nation. It faced and solved the political hardships that occurred in 1958, 1959 and 1960.

Starting from the date it assumed the State duties, Caretaker Government was able to drive out the Kuomington intruders and crush the internal insurgents to their number fell to 5,000 from 15,000, with the assistance and information given by the people. The Tatmadaw defeated the enemies with its three capabilities — military capability, organizational capability and administrative capability.

The Tatmadaw born of the people has always been serving the interest of the people and safeguarding independence and sovereignty of the nation. It faced and solved the political hardships that occurred in 1958, 1959 and 1960.

Under the State power to the Pahta-sa, the Tatmadaw continued to crush the insurgency. But during the time, the ruling party was broke up into U, Bo and Thakin factions rivaling one another for gaining supremacy in the party.

The disagreements between the rival factions grew stronger till the administrative machinery was left in disarray. Taking the advantage of the worsening situation, the insurgents intensified their armed opposition, and at the same time the feudal lords were trying to break up the Union. Hence, the Tatmadaw formed the Revolutionary Council and took over the duties of the State on 3 March 1962 for the perpetuation of the national independence and sovereignty.

The Tatmadaw members always stand by the nation in times of emergency. They daringly make sacrifices in the interest of the nation and the people even at the risk of their lives. Despite their knowledge that the risk is high, with no financial or other gains, and that the destiny is the total sacrifice, they have dutifully and gallantly discharged the duties in the interest of the State. The Tatmadaw members are able to discharge their duties to that extent as they are the noble hearted, possessing the strong patriotism, selflessness, endurance and courage and zeal and perseverance.

(The translation: TMT)
People can now enjoy development ...

With the opening of the airport for tourists, foreign businessmen and local passengers will soon be able to have access to seaside resorts such as Ngwe Heang and Chaungtha Resorts that are developing in the division and people in the division will be able to enjoy better trading, thereby contributing to development of social sector. Currently, the government in cooperation with the entire national people is making all-out efforts for emergence of a peaceful and developed nation and for bringing about harmonious development to the length and breadth of the nation. Meanwhile, the government is making strenuous efforts for improvement of transport network of roads and bridges has emerged due to ship-to-township roads and trips. A network of town-long waterway. The old tradition so people had to rely on many rivers and creeks for getting of fish and meat production, he said.

He quoted Head of State Senior General Than Shwe as saying in his guidance that the division has better prospects for development of agriculture and livestock. The division has many rivers and creeks, ha.

Minister for Transport Maj-Gen Hla Myint Swe delivers an address at the opening ceremony of new runway of Pathein Airport. — MNA

General Thura Shwe Mann and party seen at the opening ceremony of new runway of Pathein Airport. — MNA

The newly opened runway of Pathein Airport in Ayeyawady Division. — MNA

Concerted efforts of the people in Ayeyawady Division under the leadership of the government and as a result, most of regions in the division can be accessible by car. Yangon-Pathein road emerged due to Bo Myat Tyn Bridge, Daka Bridge, Kyaukmon Bridge and Pathwe Bridge and Pyapon-Dedaye-Kungyangon-Dalla road emerged due to Dedaye Bridge. Likewise, Pantanaw-Shwe Luaung-Wakema-Kyomaungay road emerged due to Pantanaw Bridge, Shwe Luaung Bridge and Wakema Bridge and new Kyai Kla Pyapon-Bogalay road, Kyai Kla Maubin road and Maubin Sarmalauk road emerged due to Gonnyn Bridge, Maubin Bridge, Uyn Creek Bridge and others. Those roads brought about better transport in the region. On completion of projects are undertaken year after year. With the development of agricultural sector, there are over 60,000 acres of fish ponds and over 35,000 acres of prawn ponds. The division remains the one where the largest number of fowls and pigs are raised. Ayeyawady Division is the agriculture and livestock breeding special zone on which the State relies, he said. Development momentum of the division will get high if the people in the division give impetus to better conditions, he said.

The government has laid down the 24 development regions project, rural development project and border region development project and is implementing them for progress of not only Ayeyawady Division but also the entire Union. The regions with slow progress and the ones that lagged behind in development have now developed with greater momentum. According to the figures and data of the division give impetus to development. According to the figures and data of the division give impetus to development.

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The regions with slow progress and the ones that lagged behind in development have now developed with greater momentum. According to the figures and data of the division give impetus to development.
People can now enjoy development, peace and ...
**China to promote environment NGOs**

**BEIJING, 14 March —** China will support and guide non-governmental organizations (NGO) devoted to environmental protection, said a senior official from China’s environmental watchdog Friday.

Pan Yue, vice-director of the State Environmental Protection Administration (SEPA) said the annual assembly of the environmental protection association will make this announcement.

"China is transforming from a highly-consumption society to one which is sustainable. In this process, the public’s commitment and strength should not do everything. However, I believe NGOs will play a key role in China’s environmental protection," he said.

According to the official statistics, there are over 2000 environmental NGOs in China, most of which are small, roughly organized and lacking in communications framework.

"I believe NGOs will surely play a key role in China’s environmental protection," he said.

Pan said some NGOs have risen as the first step of its plan, he said.

He said SEPA is training, as the first step of its plan, the dozens of NGOs made up of Beijing’s college students.

Besides, SEPA held the first "Green China" forum in December 2003, which is designed to be a platform for NGOs and officials to exchange views and experiences.

**Fifty Bangladeshi fishermen missing in Bay storm**

**COX’S BAZAR, (Bangladesh), 14 March—** At least 50 fishermen were missing and feared drowned after 15 boats capsized during a storm in the Bay of Bengal off Bangladesh’s St. Martin’s Island, officials said on Friday.

St. Martins is Bangladesh’s only coral island, 344 miles from capital Dhaka. Moulama Saifullah, a community leader said about 25 other fishermen swam ashore or were picked up by rescuers. A search for the missing people was continuing, he said.

Hundreds of fishermen go missing or die in storms in the Bay of Bengal every year, as many boats lack basic safety equipment or ignore weather warnings, officials said. — MNA/Reuters

**“People’s Daily” hails success of China’s top advisory meeting**

**BEIJING, 14 March —** An editorial to be published in People’s Daily Saturday hails and congratulates the successful conclusion of the annual session of China’s top advisory body.

"This was a democratic, truth-seeking, united and molotov-boosting meeting. It will contribute greatly to our work this year and push forward the great cause of building a well-off society in an all-round way," says the editorial of the official newspaper of the Communist Party of China (CPC) Central Committee.

The National Committee of the Chinese People’s Political Consultative Conference (CPPCC), China’s top advisory body, held its annual session here from March 3 to 12.

Members of the CPPCC National Committee discussed the work of the CPPCC, adopted amendments to the organization’s charter, heard and discussed the report on the work of the government and other major reports made at the annual session of the National People’s Congress (NPC), China’s top legislature, and discussed amendments to China’s Constitution.

The editorial says that achieving the lofty goals of building a well-off society in all-round ways call for pooling the wisdom of the entire Chinese nation and uniting available forces as much as possible.

It says that as a patriotic united front organization, the CPPCC could play an important role in the cause by organizing political consultations among different sectors, doing research and reporting the findings to decision-making bodies and conveying to the broad masses the lines and policies of the CPC and the state and uniting forces of various areas.

The amended charter defines the CPPCC as a patriotic united front organization, an important organ of the multi-party cooperation and political consultation under the leadership of the CPC, and an important route for achieving socialist democracy in China’s political life. It also defines the functions, the main functions and the main functions of the CPPCC as political consultation, democratic supervision, and participation in government and political affairs.

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Win Mu Tin, M.A., H.G.P., D.B.L.

For Best Western International, Inc.

P.O. Box 60, Yangon, Manning 15, March, 2004

**41 kilos heroin seized in Pakistan**

**ISLAMABAD, 14 March —** Pakistan’s Anti Narcotics Force (ANF) Friday seized 41 kilos of heroin in Lahore, the country’s second largest city. The Associated Press of Pakistan (APP) quoted ANF sources as saying that the contraband was recovered from a Nigerian national at airport.

On receiving information, the ANF personnel searched the baggage of all passengers of the flight and recovered from the Nigerian the drug concealed inside cell phone parts, said APP.

It added that during first stage interrogations the suspect admitted that he was a member of an international gang which was smuggling drugs to different countries around the world.

Further investigations are underway, said APP. — MNA/Xinhua

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Opening Date: 30.4.2004 (Friday) (14:00) Hours

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**Deputy General Manager**

Supply Department, Myanma Railways, Botataung, Yangon.

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1. Sealed Tender is invited by Myanma Railways, for supply of the following Coil Spring Chart No. 89, 90, 106 which will be purchased in Myanmar Kyats:-

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Hundreds of fishermen go missing or die in storms in the Bay of Bengal every year, as many boats lack basic safety equipment or ignore weather warnings, officials said. — MNA/Reuters
Scientists invent micro-biological means to protect silk artifacts

WASHINGTON, 14 March—Chinese scientists announced Friday that they had invented a micro-biological liquid to protect discoveries of ancient silk, which are fragile and fade shortly after being unearthed.

A piece of silk from the Warring States Period (475-221 BC) unearthed from Jiangling of central China’s Hubei Province was displayed Friday, a sample protected by the liquid at the Hubei Provincial Museum on Friday. The silk retained its original colour and its tensile strength, improvement from zero to 25 grammes per square centimetre, which meant it would not be damaged by folding, twisting and transportation, said Shen Zhongxing, leading researcher of the project and former head of the museum.

“This is a remarkable breakthrough in cultural relics protection which for the first time utilizes biotechnology,” Shen said.

In the past, scientists used chemical and physical methods like hermetization and macromolecule materials to prolong the life of unearthed silk, but they did not work well and often caused damage. The micro-biological liquid could help protect silk in better conditions and was quicker to apply, said the researcher.

The achievement was made by a national research team tasked with finding a better way to protect silk and wooden archaeological discoveries. The team also found a chemical and physical way to protect wooden structures, which are often threatened by high water content. The scientists spent five months dehydrating an 8,000-year-old canoe made of masson pine which was soft when unearthed, which was the first sample of this invention.

A batch of large-scale concrete blocks and sites were found in provinces like Hubei and east China’s Zhejiang since 1970s, most of which were threatened by high water content in the wood. The dehydrating methods used in the past often damaged the fibrous structure of the wood and caused crazing and shrinkage, according to the team.

The first group of eight members of a ferry carrying passengers of a ferry carrying 143 people were listed as missing, including the crew and passengers of a ferry carrying 113 people which was capsized in mountainous seas.

Northeastern parts of coastal areas in Hubei, which were threatened by high waves and high tides, are houses jutting out of the sea,” Mike Huggins, regional spokesman for the UN’s World Food Programme, told Reuters.

State radio said 167 people were listed as missing, including the crew and passengers of a ferry carrying 113 people which was capsized in mountainous seas.

“The parts in the northeast that are completely flooded are described as a little lake, houses jutting out of the sea,” Mike Huggins, regional spokesman for the UN’s World Food Programme, told Reuters.

And the government is continuing to do assessment,” Huggins said. “There are a number of ways to train your bodies dealing with falls that could otherwise throw them off balance. “Research shows that one-third of falls could be prevented through balance training,” Vaananen said. “There are a number of ways to train your bodies dealing with falls that could otherwise throw them off balance. “Research shows that one-third of falls could be prevented through balance training,” Vaananen said. “There are a number of ways to train your bodies dealing with falls that could otherwise throw them off balance. “Research shows that one-third of falls could be prevented through balance training.”
**SPORTS**

**Ericksen disappointed as winter break blocked**

**LONDON, 14 March—** England coach Sven-Goran Ericksen has said he is disappointed that plans to introduce a winter break in England have been blocked by the Football Association (FA).

The FA Cup Committee voted this week against a winter break because it would mean the end of the FA Cup replays in fifth and sixth-round ties.

"I think it is very wrong," Ericksen told the BBC on Friday. "You cannot find one manager not wanting a break. I don't understand why the committee voted against it."

Ericksen said he was determined to keep trying to bring in a scheduled break to prevent his players being burnt out for major tournaments.

"I am extremely disappointed but we will go on trying to achieve that winter break," the Swede said.

"We think for English football, for the clubs and players, it is very important on all levels." — MNA/Reuters

**Ferguson issues Man United rallying call**

**MANCHESTER (England), 14 March—** Champions Manchester United must not dwell on their recent disappointments if they are to have any chance of closing the gap on league leaders Arsenal, manager Alex Ferguson said on Friday.

"It would be a pity if we lost today and just felt sorry for ourselves. We have to keep our heads up," Ferguson told a new conference.

"We just have to make sure that we have a good reaction, and then we have to go to Arsenal and try and win there."

With the quarterfinals of the Champions League still to come on Friday, the Swede was determined to end United's recent run of poor form.

"The last two games have not been very important on all levels." — MNA/Reuters

**Arsenal to face Chelsea in Champions League**

**NYON (Switzerland), 14 March—** English rivals Arsenal and Chelsea were drawn to meet each other in the pick of the Champions League quarterfinals on Friday.

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"We think for English football, for the clubs and players, it is very important on all levels." — MNA/Reuters

**PSV's Robben ruled out for a month**

**AMSTERDAM, 14 March—** PSV Eindhoven winger Arjen Robben will be sidelined for at least a month with a torn hamstring, the Dutch champions said on Friday.

Robben, who joined Premier League side Chelsea at the end of the season, was substituted during the first half of PSV's UEFA Cup fourth-round match against AJ Auxerre on Thursday.

"It is a serious injury," manager Niek Stenders said. "It will be difficult to assess the damage until after a scan on Sunday."

The Dutchman will miss the rest of the competition and the Netherlands' friendly against France on 31 March.

"I think it is very wrong," Ericksen told the BBC on Friday. "You cannot find one manager not wanting a break. I don't understand why the committee voted against it."

Ericksen said he was determined to keep trying to bring in a scheduled break to prevent his players being burnt out for major tournaments.

"I am extremely disappointed but we will go on trying to achieve that winter break," the Swede said.

"We think for English football, for the clubs and players, it is very important on all levels." — MNA/Reuters

**Champions CSKA held to 0-0 draw in Russian league opener**

**Moscow, 14 March—** Torpedo-Metallurg Moscow held champions and city rivals CSKA to a 0-0 draw in the Russian Premier League opener on Friday.

"We were keeping our heads up," CSKA manager Viktor Goncharenko said.

"We were playing for a win but we had to be satisfied with a draw."

"I have to be grateful to my team," he added. "They played well and they defended our goal well."

**Answers for yesterday’s Crossword Puzzle**

**Defending champion and No 2 ranked Kim Clijsters of Belgium hits a backhand during her women’s second round match against Angelika Roehsch of Germany, at the Pacific Life Open in Indian Wells, California, on 12 March, 2004. Clijsters won, 6-1 6-3. — MNA/Reuters**
Monday, March 15
View today:
7:00 am
1. Recitation of Parittas by Missionary Sayadaw U Ottama Tha
7:25 am
2. To be healthy exercise
7:30 am
3. Morning news
7:40 am
4. Nice and sweet song
7:55 am
5. Singing of national races
8:05 am
6. Weather news
8:10 am
7. Little dancers
8:20 am
8. Radio news
8:30 am
9. International news
8:45 am
10. Let’s Go

Monday, March 15
Tune in today:
8:30 am
1. Brief view: Weather
8.35 am
2. Music
8.45 am
3. Music
8.50 am
4. National news
8.55 am
5. Music
9.00 am
6. International news
9.10 am
7. News and current events
9.20 am
8. Forecast until evening of 15-3-
9.30 am
9. Local news
10. Signature Tune
10:30 am
1. Afternoon Report
2. Visit to Shwedagon Pagoda
3. “Climax Song of Myanmar”
4. Myanmar Traditional Snacks
5. Myanmar Traditional Songs
6. Myanmar Traditional Snacks
7. Manna
8. Myanmar Traditional Snacks
9. Myanmar Traditional Snacks
10. Myanmar Traditional Snacks
11. Myanmar Traditional Snacks
12. Myanmar Traditional Snacks
13. Myanmar Traditional Snacks
14. Myanmar Traditional Snacks
15. Myanmar Traditional Snacks
16. Myanmar Traditional Snacks
17. Myanmar Traditional Snacks
18. Myanmar Traditional Snacks
19. Myanmar Traditional Snacks
20. Myanmar Traditional Snacks

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WEATHER

Sunday, 14 March, 2004
Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST:
During the past 24 hours, weather has been generally fair in the whole country. Day temperatures were (1°C) above normal in Kachin State and Mandalay Division, (3°C) to (4°C) above normal in upper Sagaing, Magway, Ayeyarwady and Tanintharyi Divisions, Shan, Kaya and Mon States and about normal in the remaining areas. The significant daily temperature was (42°C) in

Maximum temperature on 13-3-2004 was 38.3°C (101°F). Minimum temperature on 13-3-2004 was 19°C (66°F). Relativa

humidty at 9:30 hrs MST on 13-4-2004 was 64%. Total rain
shower hours on 13-3-2004 was 0.0 hours. Rainfall on 14-3-2004 was nil at Yangon Airport. Kaba-Aye and central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-3-2004 was 98.0 (0.12) inches at Yangon Airport and nil at Kaba-Aye and central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was 6 mph (09:00 hours) MST on 13-3-2004. Bay interfer-

ence: Weather is cloudy in the South Bay and fair elsewhere in the Bay of Bengal. Forecast until evening of 14-3-2004: For the possibility of isolated rain in Tanintharyi Division. Weather will be generally fair in the whole country. Degree of certainty is (40%). State weather will be slight in Myanmar waters.

Outlook for subsequent two days: Possibility of isolated rain


Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring areas for 15-3-2004: Fair weather.
Commander inspects development tasks in Kayan Township

YANGON, 14 March—Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Myint Swe inspected regional development tasks and agricultural matters in Kayan Township this morning.

On arrival at Phayapypo Village in Kayan Township this morning, the commander was welcomed by Chairman of Yangon South District Peace and Development Council Li-Col Aung Pyi and officials. The commander then met local people and departmental officials.

Next, the commander paid homage to Mya Thein Ta Myint Ta Monastery Sayadaw Bhaddanta Uttama and officials. Afterward, they arrived in Thetkeldon Village where Director U Khin Maung Myint of Construction-6 of irrigation Department reported on supply of water from Moeyungyi Lake to farmlands.

Next, the commander gave instructions on water supply tasks to be carried out in cultivation season of summer paddy as soon as possible for greening of eastern part of Yangon International Airport all the year round. Later, the commander inspected dredging of drains along Kayan-Thanatpin Road and extension of shoulder of the road.

UDNR Council meets

YANGON, 14 March—The University Council Meeting of the University for Development of National Races was held at its meeting hall on 11 March morning. Chairman of the University Council Commander of North-West Command Maj-Gen Tha Aye gave a speech. Next, the meeting sought approval of academic and management matters. Later, the commander gave a concluding remarks. After the meeting, the commander, accompanied by Vice-Chairman of the University Council Chairman of Civil Service Selection and Training Board Dr Than Nyun, CSSTB member U Aung Myint and officials, inspected computer section and gave necessary instructions.

Four political objectives

- Stability of the State, community peace and tranquility, prevalence of law and order
- National reconciliation
- Emergence of a new enduring State Constitution
- Building of a new modern developed nation in accord with the new State Constitution

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

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