Witnesses said the latest US airstrike on the Iraqi flashpoint city of Fallujah early Friday, Sept. 9, 2004, wounded 17 others, a local resident told Xinhua, adding that the groom was killed and the bride was wounded.

“We have received 11 dead and 17 wounded,” said Khaled Mohammad al-Lubnani and Abu Anas al-Shami, described as Zarqawi group’s No 2 and spiritual adviser, the statement said.

Fallujah residents said the US military was exaggerating the number of foreign fighters in the city, asserting that the real goal of the US raids is to push Iraqi residents to fight the resistance in stead of their soldiers.

The US Army and Iraqi authority have pledged to recover rebel hotbeds four months ahead of the national elections slated for next January.

The attack targeted a wedding party, killing 11 people, including women and children, and wounding 17 others, a local resident told Xinhua, adding that the groom was killed and the bride was wounded.

“All of us who were involved in making an incredibly difficult decision are very sorry and do apologize for the fact that information was wrong,” Hewitt said when she appeared on BBC One’s “Question Time.”

“All of us who were involved in making an incredibly difficult decision are very sorry and do apologize for the fact that information was wrong,” Hewitt said when she appeared on BBC One’s “Question Time.”

On Hewitt’s comments, major opposition Conservative Party policy coordinator David Cameron told the BBC that the government was “apologizing for the wrong thing.”

“Yes, the information about weapons of mass destruction (WMDs) was wrong. What the apology is required for is the way in which the information was presented to Parliament,” Cameron said.

British opposition parties have urged Blair to come to the Parliament to make a full statement aimed at explaining why Britain went to war on a false premise, after the US-led Iraq Survey Group released a report on Thursday saying it had found no evidence that Saddam had chemical, biological or nuclear weapons when Iraq was invaded.

The British Government published an Iraq’s weapons dossier in September 2002, claiming that Iraq could develop chemical and biological weapons within 45 minutes of an order to do so. Blair, the staunchest US ally over Iraq, used the clam as a major justification for the Iraq war.

Inspections prove no militant camps in Bangladesh

DHALA, 9 Oct — Rejecting India’s claims, Bangladesh Thursday said its investigations have shown that there were no militant camps in its territory and that the security concerns of the two countries should be resolved through discussion.

“We have established that there are no militant camps on the soil of Bangladesh,” Foreign Minister Morshed Khan told reporters on his return from the United Nations General Assembly session.

Khan said India could have security concerns and Bangladesh too had some, but those should be solved across the table.

He also showed an Indian newspaper report, saying New Delhi has not specifically identified the camps in question.

Putin’s visit to China will promote Sino-Russian ties

MOSCOW, 9 Oct — Russian President Vladimir Putin’s upcoming visit to China will add new impetus to further development of bilateral relations, Russian Foreign Ministry Spokesman Alexander Yakovenko told a news conference on Thursday.

Yakovenko said Russia attaches great importance to developing relations with China, adding that President Putin’s upcoming visit to China would be of great significance.

During his visit in China, Putin will exchange views with Chinese leaders on issues of common concern in a broad and deep way. Cooperation in economy, trade and energy will be a key point. The Shanghai Cooperation Organization would be the top priority of the talks, said the spokesman.

Russia hopes fruitful results will be achieved and agreement be signed to further promote bilateral relations, he added.

The mechanism of regular exchanges among leaders of the two countries has been productive, and the two countries have signed new agreements on issues of common concern during each of their meetings, which have pushed the bilateral relations to a higher level, Yakovenko added.

The official said Russia and China have adopted the same or a similar stand on most international affairs. The two countries have cooperated well in international arenas and mediating regional conflicts. They have been good partners in the six-party talks on the nuclear issue with the Korean Peninsula, he stressed.

The two countries have also conducted sound dialogues on a series of important issues regarding international politics and maintaining global strategic stability, he said.

US soldier killed, another wounded in northern Iraq

BAGHDAD, 9 Oct — One US soldier was killed and another wounded when their patrol came under attack in northern Iraq on Friday, the US military said in a statement.

“One Task Force Danger soldier was killed and another was wounded when anti-Iraqi forces attacked their patrol near Tuz on 8 October at about 11.43 am (0843 GMT),” the statement said.

Tuz, some 200 kilometres north of Baghdad, is home to Kurds, Arabs and Turkmen, and has been rocked by ethnic violence.

Over 1,060 US soldiers have been killed in Iraq since the outbreak of the Iraq war in March 2003.

Putins’s visit to China will promote Sino-Russian ties

MOSCOW, 9 Oct — Russian President Vladimir Putin’s upcoming visit to China will add new impetus to further development of bilateral relations, Russian Foreign Ministry Spokesman Alexander Yakovenko told a news conference on Thursday.

Yakovenko said Russia attaches great importance to developing relations with China, adding that President Putin’s upcoming visit to China would be of great significance.

During his visit in China, Putin will exchange views with Chinese leaders on issues of common concern in a broad and deep way. Cooperation in economy, trade and energy will be a key point. The Shanghai Cooperation Organization would be the top priority of the talks, said the spokesman.

Russia hopes fruitful results will be achieved and agreement be signed to further promote bilateral relations, he added.

The mechanism of regular exchanges among leaders of the two countries has been productive, and the two countries have signed new agreements on issues of common concern during each of their meetings, which have pushed the bilateral relations to a higher level, Yakovenko added.

The official said Russia and China have adopted the same or a similar stand on most international affairs. The two countries have cooperated well in international arenas and mediating regional conflicts. They have been good partners in the six-party talks on the nuclear issue with the Korean Peninsula, he stressed.

The two countries have also conducted sound dialogues on a series of important issues regarding international politics and maintaining global strategic stability, he said.

Lava flows down from Mexico’s ‘Fire Volcano’ in Colima state on October 8, 2004. Authorities have expanded an emergency zone to a 12.5-mile radius from the crater. — Internet

Putin’s visit to China will promote Sino-Russian ties

MOSCOW, 9 Oct — Russian President Vladimir Putin’s upcoming visit to China will add new impetus to further development of bilateral relations, Russian Foreign Ministry Spokesman Alexander Yakovenko told a news conference on Thursday.

Yakovenko said Russia attaches great importance to developing relations with China, adding that President Putin’s upcoming visit to China would be of great significance.

During his visit in China, Putin will exchange views with Chinese leaders on issues of common concern in a broad and deep way. Cooperation in economy, trade and energy will be a key point. The Shanghai Cooperation Organization would be the top priority of the talks, said the spokesman.

Russia hopes fruitful results will be achieved and agreement be signed to further promote bilateral relations, he added.

The mechanism of regular exchanges among leaders of the two countries has been productive, and the two countries have signed new agreements on issues of common concern during each of their meetings, which have pushed the bilateral relations to a higher level, Yakovenko added.

The official said Russia and China have adopted the same or a similar stand on most international affairs. The two countries have cooperated well in international arenas and mediating regional conflicts. They have been good partners in the six-party talks on the nuclear issue with the Korean Peninsula, he stressed.

The two countries have also conducted sound dialogues on a series of important issues regarding international politics and maintaining global strategic stability, he said.

US attacks Iraqi wedding party, killing 11 civilians

BAGHDAD, 9 Oct — At least 11 people were killed and 17 wounded in a latest US airstrike on the Iraqi flashpoint city of Fallujah early Friday, witnesses said.

The attack targeted a wedding party, killing 11 people, including women and children, and wounding 17 others, a local resident told Xinhua, adding that the groom was killed and the bride was wounded.

“All of us who were involved in making an incredibly difficult decision are very sorry and do apologize for the fact that information was wrong,” Hewitt said when she appeared on BBC One’s “Question Time.”

“All of us who were involved in making an incredibly difficult decision are very sorry and do apologize for the fact that information was wrong,” Hewitt said when she appeared on BBC One’s “Question Time.”

On Hewitt’s comments, major opposition Conservative Party policy coordinator David Cameron told the BBC that the government was “apologizing for the wrong thing.”

“Yes, the information about weapons of mass destruction (WMDs) was wrong. What the apology is required for is the way in which the information was presented to Parliament,” Cameron said.

British opposition parties have urged Blair to come to the Parliament to make a full statement aimed at explaining why Britain went to war on a false premise, after the US-led Iraq Survey Group released a report on Thursday saying it had found no evidence that Saddam had chemical, biological or nuclear weapons when Iraq was invaded.

The British Government published an Iraq’s weapons dossier in September 2002, claiming that Iraq could develop chemical and biological weapons within 45 minutes of an order to do so. Blair, the staunchest US ally over Iraq, used the clam as a major justification for the Iraq war.

Inspections prove no militant camps in Bangladesh

DHALA, 9 Oct — Rejecting India’s claims, Bangladesh Thursday said its investigations have shown that there were no militant camps in its territory and that the security concerns of the two countries should be resolved through discussion.

“Our investigations have established that there are no militant camps on the soil of Bangladesh,” Foreign Minister Morshed Khan told reporters on his return from the United Nations General Assembly session.

Khan said India could have security concerns and Bangladesh too had some, but those should be solved across the table.

He also showed an Indian newspaper report, saying New Delhi has not specifically identified the camps in question.

Putin’s visit to China will promote Sino-Russian ties

MOSCOW, 9 Oct — Russian President Vladimir Putin’s upcoming visit to China will add new impetus to further development of bilateral relations, Russian Foreign Ministry Spokesman Alexander Yakovenko told a news conference on Thursday.

Yakovenko said Russia attaches great importance to developing relations with China, adding that President Putin’s upcoming visit to China would be of great significance.

During his visit in China, Putin will exchange views with Chinese leaders on issues of common concern in a broad and deep way. Cooperation in economy, trade and energy will be a key point. The Shanghai Cooperation Organization would be the top priority of the talks, said the spokesman.

Russia hopes fruitful results will be achieved and agreement be signed to further promote bilateral relations, he added.

The mechanism of regular exchanges among leaders of the two countries has been productive, and the two countries have signed new agreements on issues of common concern during each of their meetings, which have pushed the bilateral relations to a higher level, Yakovenko added.

The official said Russia and China have adopted the same or a similar stand on most international affairs. The two countries have cooperated well in international arenas and mediating regional conflicts. They have been good partners in the six-party talks on the nuclear issue with the Korean Peninsula, he stressed.

The two countries have also conducted sound dialogues on a series of important issues regarding international politics and maintaining global strategic stability, he said.
Africa launches largest polio immunization campaign

Geneva, 9 Oct — More than one million polio vaccinators in 23 African countries launched on Friday a massive vaccination campaign, aiming to immunize 80 million children across the sub-Saharan Africa against polio over just four days.

This campaign, as part of the Global Polio Eradication Initiative, is a direct response to an ongoing polio epidemic in the region which risks paralysing thousands of children for life. The Initiative is spearheaded by the World Health Organization (WHO), Rotary International, the US Centres for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF).

The eradication effort has united all levels of civil society in Africa to collectively wipe out this disease. Tens of thousands of traditional and religious leaders, school teachers, parents and Rotary club members will join nurses and an array of other volunteers and health workers to systematically go house-to-house and village-to-village, to hand-deliver the vaccine to every child under the age of five.

Singapore launches construction safety campaign

Singapore, 9 Oct — Singapore on Friday launched this year’s construction safety and security campaign in a bid to boost its construction sector’s safety. Speaking at the launching ceremony of the campaign, whose theme is “Safety and Security, Everyone’s Responsibility”, Singapore’s Minister for Manpower Ng Eng Hen said that public confidence has been badly shaken by this year’s two major accidents in the construction industry, namely the Nicoll Highway cave-in and the Fusionpolis heavy steel bars crash in April. He stressed the need for Singapore to take deliberate steps to help workers feel safe and prevent further loss of lives.

Outlining three key threats to achieve the vision of a safe construction sector in the island state, he said that all parties involved in a construction project must firstly internalize safety as a primary concern. Top management plays a critical role in upholding safety, he said, adding that there is a need to continuously review and recalibrate safety standards, especially in an increasingly dense and built-up environment like Singapore’s where construction work happens close to public and property.

On his ministry’s part, he said that the ministry is introducing the Construction (Design and Management) Regulations, requiring designers to partner contractors in thinking through safety management for the entire life-cycle of a project.

China highlights UN role in facing world challenges

United Nations, 9 Oct — The United Nations is needed more than ever to face numerous world challenges, said Zhang Yishan, deputy Chinese representative to the UN.

Addressing the UN General Assembly as it concluded Friday its consideration of UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan’s report on the work of the organization, Zhang said the report put forward some enlightening ideas that needed consideration.

“The United Nations had been through a challenging year in the area of peace and security, having played an important role in, among others, Iraq, Sudan and Haiti,” he told the assembly.

Noting that the prospect of peacekeeping operations around the world required an increase in the resources to carry them out, he noted, hoping that developed nations would respond to Annan’s appeal for additional assistance. “Terrorism and the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction remain challenges,” he said, adding that it was necessary to strengthen cooperation in both those areas.

Zhang noted that development was the basis for peace and stability worldwide. “There was a need to close the widening gap between North and South, and the establishment of a new economic order was necessary so that globalization could benefit the whole world,” he said.

He called for the establishment of a true multilateral trade system and effective global partnerships with developing countries.

“Terrorism and the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction remain challenges,” he said, adding that it was necessary to strengthen cooperation in both those areas.

Zhang noted that development was the basis for peace and stability worldwide. “There was a need to close the widening gap between North and South, and the establish-
External pressure cannot produce democracy

Aung Moe San

Developing countries today are transforming themselves into democratic ones through two forms of democracy revolution. The first one is to give priority to political freedom before a nation is economically strong. Owing to the practice of this form, a country can be faced with a collapse resulting in bloodshed and leaving its people in great trouble. Some old eastern European socialist nations had practised it.

The second is to prioritize political freedom only after the nation has been economically strong, whereupon a nation can introduce democracy at home with better living standard of the people, development of productive forces and stability in the nation. Now, the People’s Republic of China and ASEAN countries are practising this type. Of these two types, a developing nation should choose the one they find appropriate, through which it can minimize sufferings and adversities of its people in democratic process.

It will become apparent for one if one compares the reform of the People’s Republic of China to that of eastern European countries.

In a bid to force them to directly copy western democracy, the United States and its allies have been putting political pressures and imposing sanctions on developing nations plus encroaching upon them.

To import western democracy, a nation does not need to have a strong economy but is to put first superstructure politics (democracy). Such reform can pose a grave danger to developing countries.

Now, the existing government of Myanmar is launching a democracy revolution which is suitable for the people and in conformity with the second type, but it has refused to directly copy and practice western democracy. So, the United States and its allies have cut humanitarian aid and imposed economic sanctions on the nation. But they have a bias in favour of some internal destructive elements who dance to their tune. However, they should bear in mind that their attempts to introduce the form of democracy they formatted in a developing country shall never work because they have no regards for the characteristics of the country concerned, since there is no ready-made democracy in the world that can be practised at any regions at any time.

The United States and its allies know Myanmar’s commitment to the establishment of a democracy by implementing the seven-point future policy programme. However, the act of interfering and intervening in the internal affairs of Myanmar by them is but to fuel internal conflicts.

It reminded me of the involvement of the United States’ CIA in the intrusion of nationalist Chinese (KMT) troops’ into Myanmar around 1950. Moreover, it also reminded me of some points that appeared in the report of CIA Director William Kobey to the US Senate in 1970. It said the United States’ expenditure on the internal affairs of Chile was US$ 8 million.

It meant the US spent that money to oust and assassinate Chilean President Allende. According to the report, the US spent US$ 500,000 on the canvassing of the pro-American right-wing political parties in the elections of Chile and US$ 350,000 on the gift (bribery) to the members of Chilean Parliament in 1970. That is a point world nations must be aware of in their dealings with the US.

With respect to Iraq affairs, Malaysian Prime Minister Mahathir Mohamed delivered a speech to Malaysian Parliament in Kuala Lumpur on 24 March 2003. In his address, the Malaysian prime minister said that the United States’ invasion of Iraq was a cowardly act of feudalism, and the UN Charter and international agreements would have no meaning. Like acts of Stone Age man, now we are influenced by the principle — might is right.

Nowadays, the United States is trying to reverse the trend, from capitalism to feudalism. So, world nations have faced the dangers of bullying posed by the US feudalism. The following is the concept on international human rights practised by China which is making economic progress considerably.

It was stated that for a long time China has been totally against the push of any countries in respect of how to put into practice its vision, political norm and development pattern at the expense of human right issue in the activities of UN human right campaign, and also against the interference in the internal affairs of other countries, especially of developing countries, and the assault on their sovereignty and prestige.

In this context, China stands in solidarity with developing countries, and is also in favour of justice. The human right issue by nature pertains to the administrative pattern of a particular country.

Respect for the sovereignty of a nation and non-interference in their internal affairs are widely recognized international norms. They should be adopted in any area of international relations. China also finds them fit to practise in human rights issues.

In the UN Charter, the Section (7) of Article (2) says “Nothing contained in the present Charter shall authorize the United Nations to intervene in matters which are essentially within the domestic jurisdiction of any state or shall require the Members to submit such matters to settlement under the present Charter; but this principle shall not preclude the application of enforcement measures under Chapter VII”. In the UN-approved resolutions such as the non-interference in internal affairs of other nations and the right to the safeguard of their freedom and sovereignty, the enhancement of cooperation in friendly relations in accord with the UN Charter; and the non-interference and non-intervention of internal affairs of other nations, it is clearly stated that neither any nation nor any nation grouping has the right to the interference and intervention of internal and exterior affairs of other countries for whatever reasons; and that every nation is obliged for avoiding the act of driving a wedge between nations or nation groupings either on the pretext of human rights issue or by means of invention.

These internationally-recognized resolutions indicate the majority consent of preserving international legislative norms and normalized relations. In other words, these are the basic principles to be followed in global campaigns for human rights.

Therefore the United States breaking up international interests and serving self-interests will be further shunned by international community. Since the birth of the UN, international community have resisted and removed colonialism up to now.

The United States and its allies should emulate China’s attitude towards international community. It is because democracy cannot be introduced nor flourish in a developing country by means of international pressure and foreign invasion and they should have realized well that internal affairs of a nation is just the concern of its.

****

The Objectives of the 12th Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions

* To vitalize patriotism and nationalism in all citizens
* To preserve and safeguard Myanmar cultural heritage
* To perpetuate genuine Myanmar music, dance and traditional fine arts
* To preserve Myanmar national character
* To nurture spiritual development of the youths
* To prevent influence of alien culture

Democracy cannot be introduced nor flourish in a developing country by means of international pressure and foreign invasion.
Mandalay Industrial Zone will...  

(from page 1)

making progress if it operates the factories including modern foundry plants through modern methods and greater efforts. In conclusion, the Secretary-1 pledged that the Government will continue to render assistance to the zone for its greater progress.

Next, the Secretary-1 and party observed samples of farm implements and machinery that the foundry and forging plants will produce on completion.

They also inspected progress of construction of machine shop Nos 1 and 2, forging shop & heat treatment, foundry shop and warehouse. So far, 63 per cent of construction of modern foundry has been completed.

Similar plants are being built in Aye Thaya in Taunggyi and Monywa Industrial Zones.

The Secretary-1 and party went to UD Group Factory in Mandalay Industrial Zone-1 and inspected the machines to be used for changing diesel or petrol engines into natural gas engines.

Chief Executive Officer of UD Group U Khin Maung Win reported on installation of gas engines in automobiles, and test-running of the cars between Mandalay Myaukpyin automobile and test-workshop of U Chint Oo.

In response, the Secretary-1 gave instructions and inspected CNG buses.

The Secretary-1 and party also inspected foundry plant and lathe of various kinds of motor vehicles assembled by Myingyan Industrial Zone, machinery and farm machinery.

Later, the Secretary-1 and party looked into the foundry plant of U Aye Maung and the foundry plant and lathe workshop of U Chint Oo.

Then, they left Myingyan by helicopter and inspected the greening of Mount Popa in Kyaukpaduang Township.

Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Soe Win inspects automobiles manufactured from Myingyan Industrial Zone.— MNA

Coord meeting to construct Nanattaw overpass in Kamayut held

YANGON, 10 Oct — A coordination meeting to construct Nanattaw overpass in Kamayut township was held at the briefing hall of the construction project this morning.

Present on the occasion were Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Myint Swa, Minister for Rail Transportation Maj-Gen Aung Min, Chairman of Yangon City Development Committee Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin, Deputy Ministers for Rail Transportation Thura U, Than U, and officials.

At 10 am, the Secretary-1 and party met members of Myingyan district and township PDCs and industrials in the hall of Myingyan Industrial Zone. Secretary of Myingyan District PDC Maj Myint Soe reported on the location and area of the industrial zone, land allotments to industrials, power supply, water supply, installation of phone lines and operations of factories in the zone.

Next, the Secretary-1 gave necessary instructions to officials and inspected compressors and accessories, pumps, pistons and biofertilizers produced by the industrialists.

He also inspected various kinds of motor vehicles assembled by Myingyan Industrial Zone, machinery and farm machinery.

Next, Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin briefed them on arrangements to be made for providing assistance for timely completion of the project. And Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swa explained that the Ministry of Rail Transportation is now building overpasses at places of level crossing in Yangon City to avoid traffic jams while the trains are passing to transform Yangon City into high-class one in line with international cities. The local authorities and officials are to cooperate in order not to affect power lines, telephone lines and pipe lines during the period of construction of the overpass.

Nanattaw overpass to be built is of reinforced concrete, which is 946 feet long. Its motorway is 48 feet wide, 14 feet high. If completed, it can withstand 60-ton loads.

If completed, it can withstand 60-ton loads.

Sec-