Emergence of the State Constitution is the duty of all citizens of Myanmar Naing-Ngan.
Fullmoon Day of Taboung

Taboung, the last month of the Myanmar lunar calendar, which roughly corresponds with March, is a period at the end of the cold season and at the beginning of the hot season. Therefore, it is hot in the daytime and cool at night.

Today, the fullmoon day of Taboung, is a day of significance. It is one of the occasions set aside for doing meritorious deeds, especially offering of alms and provisions to Buddhist monks. Myanmar people are well known for their generosity and it is their lovely custom to make donations and do good deeds on days of religious significance.

On this day, as is customary, lay Buddhists here in this country as well as in other lands where the teachings of Lord Buddha thrive, offer the four essentials of the basic needs of the monks — the monastery, robes, food and medicine for sustenance — so that they may be able to conveniently practise, propagate and perpetuate the Sasana.

It is on this day that hundreds of monks receive provisions donated by thousands of the laity. Here, it is to be noticed the term “receive” means the act of receiving the offerings that enables the Buddhist faithful to do such offering. The relationship between the donor and the recipient is unique, for, without the recipient, there can be no donor and vice versa. It must, of necessity, apply to all donors and recipients, for those who are involved in the propagation of a faith are committed to their mission. If the monks had to go around in search of alms, the laity, individually or in groups or as organizations or government departments, organize alms offering ceremonies so that those in missionary service may enable the donors to donate and thus gain merit. The government organizes some of these alms-offering ceremonies almost always and also subsidises missions and homes for the aged and the needy.

Religious titles are usually presented to Sayadaws, monks and lay persons on a grand scale on the Kaba Aye Hillock on the fullmoon day of Taboung. It is indeed a remarkable contribution towards propagation and promotion of the Buddha Sasana. We wish all the citizens to pay serious attention to making donations, keeping precepts, dispensing metta and practising meditation.

Armed Forces Day member of the State Peace and Development Council for Observance of the 60th Anniversary Armed Forces Day chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Myint Swe, Chief of Staff (Navy) Commodore Nyan Tun, Vice-Adjoint- General Maj-Gen Khin Maung Tun, Director of Supply and Transport Maj-Gen Than Hjay, Parade Commander Brig-Gen Nyi Tun, and officials of the parade work group. Column Commander Col Khin Maung Oo reported on accommodation of Tatmadaw members company-wise, welfare services and supply of rations for them. Lt-Gen Kyaw Win provided necessary assistance for the column.

He also inspected the shops for military commands, LIDs and directorates.

On arrival at Mingaladon Station where Hsinbyushin Column is being put up, he heard reports by Brig-Gen Ye Chit Pe on management matters for the companies; Column Commander Col Khan Aung Myint, on accommodation of the companies; Column Medical Officer Lt-Col Khin Nu Nu Khin, on health care services for the columns. Lt-Gen Kyaw Win gave instructions and provided assistance.

Lt-Gen Kyaw Win proceeded to Ayeawady Naval Region Command where the Nawade Column is practising drills. He cordially conversed with the Tatmadaw members and viewed the drills. Parade Column Commander Captains Aung Zaw Win reported on accommodation of the companies, health care concerns, and welfare services for them. Lt-Gen Kyaw Win gave instructions to the officials.

Lt-Gen Kyaw Win also inspected the shops for welfare of the companies.

Cash donated to parade company of MRCS

YANGON, 23 March — The State Peace and Development Council for Observance of the 60th Anniversary Armed Forces Day chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Maung Oo and Minister for Health Dr Kyaw Myint donated cash to the parade company representing Myanmar Red Cross Society.

Minister for Home Affairs Maj-Gen Maung Oo presents K 1.5 million to the parade company representing Myanmar Red Cross Society.

MNA
China, Congo agree to further economic, trade cooperation

BEIJING, 22 March — China and the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) on Monday agreed to expand economic and political cooperation to maintain their "long-term stable friendship".

Chinese President Hu Jintao, in his talks with visiting DRC President Josef Kabila, said China supports the DRC's peace process and economic reconstruction and is willing to improve exchanges and cooperation at all levels and in all fields to promote relations between the two countries.

China and the DRC established full diplomatic ties in 1972. Hu said the relations between the two sides have developed steadily with increasing mutual trust in politics, effective cooperation in economic and social sectors and mutual understanding and support in international affairs.

Hu said China and the DRC are highly complementary in economy, and following the advancement of peace processes and the economic reconstruction of the DRC, a new opportunity for further trade and economic cooperation between the two countries has been ushered in.

Hu urged relevant departments to ensure timely delivery of subsidies for buying fine seeds and farm tools and direct subsidies for grain production, and to make public the minimum purchasing price of crops that are in short supply.

Hu also expressed China's appreciation for the DRC's consistent adherence to the one-China policy. Kabila said his government would firmly abide by the one-China policy. He expressed support for China's anti-secession law passed by the Chinese National People's Congress, saying that he hoped China would achieve national reunification soon.

Kabila said China is a dependable friend, and his government welcomes Chinese companies to invest in the DRC and join the DRC's economic reconstruction.

China, South Korea initiate joint study on feasibility of FTA

BEIJING, 22 March — China and South Korea have initiated the non-government joint study on the feasibility of free trade agreement (FTA), announced Wang Mengkui, director of the Development Research Centre of the State Council (DRC) here on Monday.

Wang Mengkui and Kyung Tae Lee, president of the Korea Institute for International Economic Policy (KIEP), signed a memorandum for joint study Sunday in Beijing.

In 2004, China and South Korea reached a consensus to develop nongovernment joint study on the feasibility of the FTA and designated DRC and KIEP for the project.

WASHINGTON, 22 March—As of Tuesday, 22 March, 2005, at least 1,523 members of the US military have died since the beginning of the Iraq war in March 2003, according to an Associated Press count. At least 1,162 died as a result of hostile action, according to the Defence Department. The figures include four military civilians.

The AP count is five higher than the Defence Department's tally, last updated at 10 am EST Tuesday.

The British military has reported 86 deaths; Italy, 21; Ukraine, 18; Poland, 17; Spain, 11; Bulgaria, eight; Slovakia, three; Estonia, Thailand and the Netherlands, two each; and Denmark, El Salvador, Hungary, Kazakhstan and Latvia one death each.

Since 1 May, 2003, when President Bush declared that major combat operations in Iraq had ended, 1,385 US military members have died, according to AP's count. That includes at least 1,053 deaths resulting from hostile action, according to the military's numbers.

Since the start of US military operations in Iraq, 11,442 US service members have been wounded, according to a Defence Department tally released Tuesday.

At a national teleconference on spring plowing, Hu said: "Though China's agriculture has seen a favourable turn in grain production and an increase of farmer's income during the past year, it remains an onerous task for us to maintain the momentum.

Hu urged relevant departments to ensure timely delivery of subsidies for buying fine seeds and farm tools and direct subsidies for grain production, and to make public the minimum purchasing price of crops that are in short supply.

To achieve these goals, China will step up efforts in checking the price increase of chemical fertilizer, improve supervision over farming materials, and also promote water-saving irrigation technologies, Hu said.

At the beginning of 2005, the Chinese authorities jointly released the year's "No 1 Document," which worked out 27 detailed, substantial measures to ensure financial, administrative and technological support to the agricultural sector, including tax exemption and reduction.

Figures from the National Bureau of Statistics show that in 2004, the per capita annual income for Chinese farmers was 2,936 yuan (about 354 US dollars), up 6.8 per cent over the previous year, a record growth rate since 1997.

The grain output reached 469.5 billion kilos, up 9 per cent over the previous year.

Tea workers in India seen on 23 March, 2005. Indian scientists said they have developed a 'tea pill' which can be carried in the pocket to be chewed when desired for the same refreshing effect as a freshly-brewed cuppa. — INTERNET
World Meteorological Day…

Meteorology and Hydrology, ambassadors, coordi-
ator of UNDP, resident representatives of UN
Agencies, delegates of Na-
tional Institute of Ocean
Technology (NIOT), India,
Japan Agency for Marine-
Earth Science and Technol-
gy and guests.

Next, Prime Minis-
ter Lt-Gen Soe Win deliv-
ered an address. He said: It
gives me great pleasure to
deliver the address today
in commemoration of the
World Meteorological Day,
celebrating the Convention
that created the World Me-
teorological Organisation
in 1950, of which Myanmar
is proud to be one of the
earliest signatory states.

As Myanmar is an
agricultural country, the
people have always lived
with changes in the weather
and climate, depending on
their observations to decide
when to plant and when to
harvest their crops. Ad-
vances in technology, which
have brought about more
sophisticated weather forecasts, have proved to
be a boon for farmers, giv-
ing them accurate informa-
tion and enabling them to
plan their planting cycles
accordingly.

This is in keeping
with the WMO theme for
this commemoration, which
recognises the valu-
able contributions of mete-
orology, hydrology and re-
lated geophysical sciences
to the progress of mankind.
One important factor in
talking about progress of
mankind is sustainable de-
velopment, which can be
dependent not only on fav-
vourable weather and cli-
matic conditions, but also
on having access to predic-
tions that will help prepare
for adverse weather condi-
tions.

Myanmar is fortu-
nate in being blessed for
the most part with favour-
able weather and geo-
graphical formations which
allow not only for the pres-
ence of a diverse flora and
fauna but also for the cul-
tivation of a wide variety of
crops. Another blessing is
an abundant fresh water
supply for agriculture and
irrigation, various uses in
the daily lives of people, as
well as for industries.

Due to its geographi-
cal location in the Bay of
Bengal, Myanmar is af-

Prime Minister Li-Gen Soe Win views booth to mark World Meteorological Day at the central hall of MICT
Park.— MNA

Prime Minister Li-Gen Soe Win with party pose for documentary photo with winners of contests in commemorating World
Meteorological Day.— MNA

Minister for Transport Maj-Gen Thein Swe accepts GIS Softwares and K 900,000 for National Crisis
Management Committee donated by U Zaw Naing,
General Manager of Myanmar Credent Technology.— MNA

commitment for financial
and technical support from
the International Commu-

nity and Agencies such as
the WMO, UNDP, the Pa-
cific Tsunami Warning
Centre, Asian Disaster Pre-
paredness Centre, and
ASEAN Subcommittee on
Meteorology and Geophys-
ics, it is hoped that in the
future, natural disasters on
the scale of the 2004 Tsu-
nami will not wreak havoc
of such a magnitude.

As you are fully
aware, the Government of
Myanmar is endeavouring
to make the most of the all-round
development of the coun-
try. The infrastructures nec-

essary in every sector such as agriculture, transport,

continuously monitors cli-
matic conditions in order to
issue timely warnings and
bulletins towards this end.

This past year has
seen unprecedented dam-
age caused by nature world
wide, culminating in the
disastrous Tsunami of 26th
December, which struck
coastlines around the In-
dian Ocean, tragically
brings about great loss of
lives and property, chang-
ing the configuration of the
land as well as the seabed
and from which affected
countries are still struggling
to recover. Myanmar is
lucky to have escaped with
only 61 lives being lost and
relatively little property
damage. Calls for some sort
of protection against such
destruction in the future
have resulted in arrange-
ments being made to estab-
lish a Regional Tsunami

(See page 5)
World Meteorological Day...

(from page 4)

other establishing modern monitoring facilities to have accurate weather forecasts and warning. We also have to be aware that mankind all over the world has also, by making uncontrolled use of natural resources, contributed towards conditions such as loss of forests and desertification leading to catastrophic floods and climate changes. All of us need to be vigilant in using conservation practices that lead to economic progress without degrading the environment.

I should also like to touch briefly on the conservation programmes being carried out in Myanmar. Due to scientific and systematic management of forests in the country on a sustainable basis for over a century, over half of the country is still covered with forests and woodlands. Myanmar stands today as one of the most forest-covered countries in the Asia Pacific region.

The Myanmar Forest Law promulgated in 1992 covers every aspect of nature conservation ranging from preservation and protection of the environment and biodiversity, expansion of reserved forests and preservation of natural lands. In order to effectively conserve and protect our environment, the National Environment Policy was also laid down eleven years ago. The policy ensures harmony and balance between environment and development, protection and replenishment of rare and endangered indigenous plants and animal species. It also calls for the preservation of pasture lands by integrating environmental considerations into the development process.

At present, 2.15 million acres of forests have been constituted as Reserved Forest and 0.53 million acres designated as Protected Areas. Due to agricultural expansion, shifting cultivation, urbanization and ever-increasing domestic fuel consumption, about 27,050 acres of land is deforested. The Forest Department is making sure that the deforested areas are replenished with new trees by embarking on a reforestation programme since 1972. Plantations are being established at an annual rate of 74,130 acres according to this programme.

A five-year Bago Yoma Greening Project is being implemented, starting from 2004, with the aim of rehabilitating and conserving the area. A total of almost 200,000 acres of different types of plantation will be established under this project.

Also for prevention of the environmental degradation of the Dry Zone in the central part of Myanmar, a 30-year integrated plan, covering the period of 2001-2002 to 2030-2031 was formulated. 269,230 acres of plantations have already been established and 1.1 million acres put under systematic protection in accordance with the conditions laid down by the Project.

As a result, the weather conditions of the region have changed to more favourable conditions, thus permitting the local people to expand the cultivation of crops in acreage as well as variety.

I wish to express my sincere appreciation to the private sector and in particular to Creedent Technology and Inforithm Max for sponsoring the WMO Day Commemoration this year with the intention of promoting awareness among the public as well as the Government departments.

I am happy to note the holding of contests in article and essay writing as a special event for the new generation. I am sure that in working together, we can work towards our common goal of disaster preparedness, green of the land to bring about better climatic conditions and making use of modern meteorological and hydrological services in agriculture as well as in the daily lives of the people.

Next, Director-General of Department of Meteorology and Hydrology Dr San Hla Thaw read the message sent by Secretary-General of World Meteorological Organisation Coordinator of UNDP Mr Charles Petrie aslo spoke.

After the ceremony, Prime Minister Lt-Gen Soe Win and the guests had documentary photos taken together with winners of article and essay contests in commemoration of the World Meteorological Day.

The Prime Minister cordially greeted those present and visited the booth opened in commemoration of the World Meteorological Day at the MICT Park.

MNA
Senior General Than Shwe and wife Daw Kyaing Kyaing... (from page 1)

Commander-in-Chief (Navy) and wife, the Commander-in-Chief (Air) and wife, the Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command and wife, ministers and their wives, the Yangon Mayor, senior military officers and their wives, departmental heads and guests.

First, the ceremony was opened with three-time recitation of Namo Tassa.
Chairman of the State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee Abhidhaja Maha Rattha Guru Abhidhaja Agga Maha Saddhammajotika Magway Sayadaw Bhaddanta Kumara administered the Five Precepts.
Members of the Sangha recited Parittas.
Senior General Than Shwe and wife Daw Kyaing Kyaing offered requisites and alms to Chairman Magway Sayadaw Bhaddanta Kumara.
Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and wife Daw Mya Mya San donated requisites and provisions to Secretary Abhidhaja Maha Rattha Guru Nyaungdon Sayadaw Bhaddanta Osadhabhivamsa.
(See page 7)
Senior General Than Shwe and wife Daw Kyaiing Kyaiing...  

(Original page continues)

THE NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR Thursday, 24 March, 2005 7

Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than oversees progress of Ngwehsaung Town, construction of hotels

Yangon, 23 March — Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than of the Ministry of Defence, member of the State Peace and Development Council Commander of South-West Command Maj-Gen Soe Naing and officials, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than met with departmental officials, social organization members and local people. At Ngwehsaung Police Station, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than gave instructions to officials. In the hotel zone of Ngwehsaung Beach, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than oversaw progress in construction of buildings for Bay of Bengal Resort Hotel of Wood Land Co Ltd and Htoo Resort Hotel of Htoo Trading Co Ltd and Yuzana Resort Hotel.

The Ngwehsaung Hotel Zone is 380.44 acres. A total of 22 hotels have completed construction of 199 buildings comprising 699 rooms at which 1,467 visitors can be accommodated. And, 62 buildings are under construction to accommodate 398 visitors. Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than met with hoteliers and heard reports on their requirements in tasks. In the afternoon, they inspected progress of Pathene-Ngwehsaung Road and proceeded to Chaungtha Beach along Seintaung-Jetka Road.

Yangon, 23 March — Lt-Gen Ye Myint of the Ministry of Science and Technology will be 513-foottage public secondary 2,680 million sea feet high. It can house 2,600 feet long and 42 feet high. It can house 3,000 students. Construction work has completed up to 43.30 per cent. At the Manipura Multi-purpose Dam Project in Kalay Township, Lt-Gen Ye Myint heard a report on salient points of the ground works of the project. The earth core rock fill dam is 2,600 feet long and 525 feet high. Its storage capacity will be 1.26 acre-feet. It will have an outflow tunnel and another tunnel to run turbines to generate 2,680 million kilowatt hours annually. The dam will prevent flooding of Myittha plain and lower regions of Kalewa. It will irrigate 50,000 acres of crops. On arrival at Kabani rail-cum-road bridge, Lt-Gen Ye Myint inspected the duration of the facility and water course of the Manipura River. In Kalay,

MNA

Chronicle of 60th Anniversary

- Want to retell, not a folk Real episode, it is history Anti-fascist Resistance, written in blood Sacrificed lives, for the people Continually decided and avowed National spirit is Patriotism alive. Independence, built with blood To refer to history write on stone pillar The emergence, building of the Tatmadaw Start of the journey, March 27th The auspicious date, when it was born Among the people, it stood strong Sparkling pride, on red background Bright white star, together with the people. Glancing back over sixty years The Tatmadaw has worked for And taken up heritage Incessantly, entrusting lives Making sacrifices to ward off Internal and external dangers This noble journey is Strong pillar etched in stone.  

Hein Htet Soe (Trs)

MNA

HAILING THE 60TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ARMED FORCES

MNA

Lt-Gen Ye Myint inspects Manipura Multi-purpose Dam Project in Kalay Township

MNA

The three-storey main hall of the college of the Ministry of Science and Technology will be 513-foot 358-foot and 42 foot by 358-foot and 42 feet high. It can house 3,000 students. Construction work has completed up to 43.30 per cent. At the Manipura Multi-purpose Dam Project in Kalay Township, Lt-Gen Ye Myint heard a report on salient points of the project presented by officials. He also inspected kilowatt hours annually. The dam will prevent flooding of Myittha plain and lower regions of Kalewa. It will irrigate 50,000 acres of crops. On arrival at Kabani rail-cum-road bridge, Lt-Gen Ye Myint inspected the duration of the facility and water course of the Manipura River. In Kalay,

MNA

POEM:

Strong pillar etched in stone.
This noble journey is
Making sacrifices to ward off
Incessantly, entrusting lives

Bright white star, together with the people.
Among the people, it stood strong
Continually decided and avowed
Real episode, it is history
Sacrificed lives, for the people
Incessantly, entrusting lives
Making sacrifices to ward off

Start of the journey, March 27th
The auspicious date, when it was born

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The Tatmadaw that has safeguarded the independence

The important role the Tatmadaw played was manifested in the course of Myanmar independence struggle. In the vanguard of independence struggle was the Tatmadaw which was constituted with a diversity of national races, pledged to sacrifice even their lives rather than enjoy benefits and privileges, and was determined to restore independence at any cost. In the end, Myanmar regained her independence.

The Union of Myanmar became a sovereign and independent nation on 4 January 1948. It is not with ease that Myanmar regained her independence. Together with national patriots, the Tatmadaw comprising the offspring of the general public restored the independence at the cost of their lives, blood and sweat.

The dawn of independence was a time of special importance to exert efforts on economic growth for the country and the people, to prevent alien threats, to maintain internal stability and peace, and to enforce the rule of law. The AFPFL, which was then in power, was split up into groups. Disagreement that arose among political parties on account of personal cult, sectarianism and dogmatism resulted in the BCP going underground on 28 March 1948. On 10 July the same year, Yebawbyu (PVO) separated from the AFPFL and went underground too. KNDO staged an armed revolt at the beginning of 1949.

At the time of upheavals in 1949, the situation worsened till the outbreak of internal strife as a direct consequence of the incapability of the government and the parliament to solve a magnitude of problems.

Under such circumstances, it was the Tatmadaw alone that remains steadfast and saved the country that was on the brink of the abyss. Standing by the country and the people, the Myanma Tatmadaw, which is ardently patriotic, prevented the country from disintegration and safeguarded it. The safeguarding of independence cost the Tatmadaw numerous lives of its members.

Insurgents staged armed revolts in Mandalay Division, Magway Division, Bago Division, Shan State, Kayah State, Ayeyawady Division, Rakhine State, Mon State and so on, and spread all insurgents approached Natalin, where they engaged in severe fights with the Tatmadaw. Of them, Pho Tha Aung Overpass battle near Natalin was more eminent.

It was at 7 pm on 19 August 1948. The Natalin-stationed Myanma Tatmadaw under the command of Major Aye Cho put up brave resistance from the overpass against the enemies whose strength greatly outnumbered its. The insurgents were prevented from advancing any further and forced to retreat after brilliant and adventurous resistance the Tatmadaw launched at risk to their lives in the interests of the country and the race. In that fight, Major Aye Cho was injured seriously, and he sacrificed his life for the country on 21 August. Like him, other members of the Tatmadaw sacrificed their lives for the country too.

At the beginning of 1949, the Tatmadaw was crushing the insurgents in battle fronts of Bago, DaikU and Thayawady. In a fight in the battle front of DaikU, the Tatmadaw’s rear command was surrounded by insurgents. Not only could private Hla Thaung kill a number of insurgents in that fight but he also could cover his mates to enable them to retreat. He stayed behind alone to protect his troops and sacrificed his life for the country and the race. The fight claimed some 100 lives of officers and other ranks of the Tatmadaw.

The country was in its worst condition in 1949 as 75 per cent of the country was in the hands of the multi-coloured insurgents. Even Yangon was near to fall into the hands of the insurgents. At that time, the word “Yangon Government” meant the government of the country. The Union was free from the condition as Myanma Tatmadawmen loyal to the Union and the people, to prevent alien threats, to maintain internal stability and peace, and to enforce the rule of law. The AFPFL, which was then in power, was split up into groups. Disagreement that arose among political parties on account of personal cult, sectarianism and dogmatism resulted in the BCP going underground on 28 March 1948. On 10 July the same year, Yebawbyu (PVO) separated from the AFPFL and went underground too. KNDO staged an armed revolt at the beginning of 1949.

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The Tatmadaw that has safeguarded the independence

(including page 8)

rounded by insurgents. hands of the multi-coloured insurgents. Even Yangon was near to fall into the hands of the insurgents. At that time, the word “Yangon Government” meant the government of the country. The Union was free from that condition as Myanmar Tatmadaw men loyal to the Union took risks to save the country. Though knowing that it is risky, the members of the Tatmadaw willingly gave up their lives for the country and the race. They safeguarded the hard-won independence with their lives.

Thanks to the members of the Myanmar Tatmadaw who safeguarded the national independence at risk to their lives, blood and sweat, the national people of Myanmar live in peace in the sovereign and independent country.

Provided the Tatmadaw could not quell in the nick of time the danger of the country’s disintegration consequent upon the splits of the then party in power, Myanmar, an independent nation, would fall into the abyss again.

After crushing the insurgents in Pho Tha Aung Overpass, Wetkaw Bridge, Bago Pagoda, Insein and Thazi, the Tatmadaw retook Gyobingauk on 13 May 1949; Zigon and Nattalin on 14 May; Pyawbwe, Yamethin, Taikton and TadaU on 22 May; Kyaukse, NyaungU, Chauk and Yangonyoung on 12 June; Thaton on 25 June; Thayawady on 13 July; Myintyan on 24 July; Lashio on 1 September; and Taunggyi on 21 November; and Hongyi village in December; and opened Yagon-Bago railroad.

Even in the post-independence period, the Myanmar Tatmadaw born of the independence struggle engaged in above-mentioned battles to safeguard the independence, sacrificing their lives, blood and sweat. It proves the importance of the Tatmadaw in a country.

It also shows the Tatmadaw’s patriotism, solidarity and selflessness. It is worth mentioning the strenuous performances of the Tatmadaw (Navy) in quelling the internal strife after the restoration of independence. May Yu and Imna, two war vessels of the Tatmadaw (Navy), provided cannon fire in the fights the Tatmadaw (Army) launched on the battle ground of Insein.

Moreover, the Tatmadaw (Navy) also bravely crushed the insurgencies in the delta region.

After launching combined attacks on the insurgents taking a strong hold of Pathein, war vessels May Yu and Imna and battleships 1299, 1369 and 1478 recaptured the town at the dawn of 1949. On 25 April the same year, war vessel Shwepazun and battleship 1456, which were on their way to Maubin to supply food rations and ammunition to the Tatmadawmen who were surrounded by insurgents there, came under fire with assorted arms. Though severely injured in his face, Lieutenant Tun Tin, captain of Shwepazun war vessel, counterattacked the insurgents brilliantly.

The victory the Tatmadaw (Navy) won is accounted for the fine traditions of the Tatmadaw such as serving the interest of the many rather than individuals, sacrificing and taking risks, and possessing valour and courage that can overcome the difficulties.

Similarly, the excellent performances of the Tatmadaw (Air) were much supportive for the land operations in quelling the insurgents.

Why was the independence on the verge of collapse even in its stage of infancy? The answer to the question is that it is because of those who were hatching schemes to break up the strength of the Tatmadaw as well as of self-seekers. After the restoration of independence, some parties that joined hands with the Tatmadaw during the independence struggle went underground on account of personal cult, sectarianism and dogmatism stemming from dissension. They broke up the Tatmadaw and threatened the independence. It is certain that the country will lose independence and relapse into alien subjugation soon after the Tatmadaw has been broken.

However, the Tatmadaw joined hands with the people and crushed all the obstacles after drawing public strength.

An artillery battery in action to crush the enemy.

Armoured carriers of Myanmar Tatmadaw marching to crush the internal insurgency.

A fighter plane of Myanmar Tatmadaw (Air Force).

Translation: KTY
Committee members, chairmen of subcommittees and officials, representatives of Kokang Democracy and Unity Party, National Unity Party, Union Kayin Leagues, Union Pa-O National Organization, Mro (a) Khami National Solidarity Organization, Lahu National Development party and Wa National Development party, representatives-elect of National Unity Party and Mro (a) Khami National Solidarity Organization and independent representatives, delegates of national races from Kachin, Kayah, Kayin, Chin, Mon, Rakhine, Shan (South), Shan (North) and Shan (East) States, Sagaing, Taninthayi, Bago, Magway, Mandalay, Yangon and Ayeyawady Divisions, delegates of peasants from Kachin, Kayah, Kayin, Chin, Mon, Rakhine, Shan (South), Shan (North) and Shan (East) States, Sagaing, Taninthayi, Bago, Magway, Mandalay, Yangon and Ayeyawady Divisions, intellectual and intelligentsia, delegates of workers from Kachin, Kayah, Kayin, Chin, Mon, Rakhine, Shan (South), Shan (North) and Shan (East) States, Sagaing, Taninthayi, Bago, Magway, Mandalay, intellectuals and intelligentsia, Dr Myat Myat Ohn Khin of the delegate group of State Service Personnel and Dr Hmu Htan of the delegate group of representatives-elect presented the proposals submitted by representatives-elect.

The plenary session went into recess at 11.05 am. U Aung Thein and U Tun Kyaw announced that the plenary session went into recess after the paragraph.

The NCCWC Chief Justice U Law Hsin, U Hla Soe, U Mya Hlaing, U Aye Tun Kyaw and U Tin Maung Tun acted as the plenary session went into recess at 11.05 am.

The next plenary session continued the day after tomorrow.
The State Central Working Committee of the Sangha of All Orders comprising 300 members of Sangha represents in the Union represents over four hundred thousand members of Sangha of Myanmar. According to the fundamental principles of the Sangha Organizations of the Union of Myanmar, the State Central Working Committee of the Sangha of All Orders shall hold its annual meeting.

We all Buddhists throughout the Union of Myanmar know that altogether six Congregations of the Sangha of All Orders leading and contributing to the purification, propagation and propagation of the Buddha Sasana were successfully held by arrangements and support of Buddhist people and Government of the Union of Myanmar in 1980, 1985, 1990, 1995 and 2000 respectively. In accordance with the objectives and guidelines laid down by these successful congregations of the Sangha of All Orders, the very first unity of the members of Sangha could be reconstructed in the Union of Myanmar within one hundred years.

We all Buddhists heartily know that altogether six great Buddhist Councils leading and contributing to the purification, propagation and propagation of the Buddha Sasana were convened after the noble demise of the Gotama Buddha over 2,500 years ago. The Fifth and Sixth great Buddhist Councils were held in the Union of Myanmar.

In order to preserve, propagate and keep the holy things of the Buddha Sasana, viz (1) the Pativadha Sasana (the history of Buddhism, it is learnt that schism and split usually occurred among the Monastic Orders whenever some members of the Sangha of Orders were in trouble through dispute and mutual misunderstanding. To reconstruct the unity and mutual understanding within different schools and sects of the Sangha Orders is deeply needed for the welfare and interest of the nation as well as for the Buddha Sasana.

Altogether Six Buddhist councils throughout our age were held to establish the unity of the Sangha of All Orders. The Sangha of All Orders is pure, the society prospers. The situation of the nation is prosperous. The situation is prosperous in these golden days when the members of the Sangha of the Order unanimously practice the Vinaya Laws and fulfill their religious duties.

Orders so long as the Buddha Sasana exists. All the Buddhists throughout our age firmly believe that without the unity of the Sangha, it is impossible to promote the Buddha Sasana. An old saying goes, “Whenever religion is pure, the society prospers”. The situation of the nation is well-developed and prosperous. Whenever Buddha Sasana has been carried out our age firmly believe that without the unity of the Sangha, it is impossible to promote the Buddha Sasana. An old saying goes, “Whenever religion is pure, the society prospers”. The situation of the nation is well-developed and prosperous. Whenever there are 688 members of the Sangha and 16 elder nuns will be invited to attend the great grand Religious Title Presentation Ceremony of 2005. It is further learnt that altogether 688 members of the Sangha and 16 elder nuns will be present on this auspicious occasion.

Besides, the auspicious ceremony for communal offering of provisions and various articles to 688 members of the Sangha and 16 elder nuns will be held on a grand scale on Kaba Aye Hillock, in the late afternoon of 24th March 2005 (The Fullmoon of Taboung 1366 ME). All Religious-Title Recipients have already been invited to attend the great grand Religious Title Presentation Ceremony of 2005. It is further learnt that altogether 688 members of the Sangha and 16 elder nuns will be present on this auspicious occasion.

We all Buddhists throughout the Union of Myanmar joyously and warmly welcome and congratulate the Fifth Meeting of the State Central Working Committee of the Sangha of All Orders and the great grand Religious Title Presentation Ceremony of 2005.
Ethiopian plane crash victims out of danger

KAMPALA, 22 March — The five-crew members of the cargo plane owned by Ethiopian Airlines that crashed in Entebbe, some 40 kilometres south of Kampala are out of danger, a medical official from a local hospital has said.

Dr Martin Nshubuga of Nsambya Hospital where the crash victims were rushed on Saturday told Xinhua on Monday that the crew members were now in a stable condition describing it as out of danger.

The five are two Ethiopians, one Rwandan, one Zambian and an Iraqi.

The Boeing 707 cargo plane crashed on Saturday as it came in for a technical stopover at Entebbe International Airport to refuel. It was landing around 11 am (0800 GMT) when it sneaked into the Victoria Lake. Entebbe airport's main runway ends at the shore of Lake Victoria, Africa's largest lake.

NMA/Xinhua

Zimbabwe plans to build more dams for irrigation

Harare, 22 March — Zimbabwean Vice-President Joyce Mujuru said on Sunday the government had plans to build more dams for irrigation.

Mujuru was addressing more than 25,000 people who gathered to witness the commissioning of Mutema Irrigation Scheme in the eastern city of Chipinge.

"Irrigation schemes are the answer to poor yields experienced due to droughts and the government will build more dams for irrigation," she said.

Mujuru urged all beneficiaries of the irrigation projects to jealously guard against theft and vandalism of equipment.

"We should look after our irrigation equipment with care as they are our lifeline. We should not steal or vandalise them. Blocked irrigation channels should be unblocked and maintained," she said.

She said agriculture was the country's backbone, boosting economic growth, creation of employment and the fight against HIV and AIDS. — MNA/Xinhua

Elbridge says US needs to give Iran security assurance

Paris, 22 March — The United States needs to give Iran some kind of security assurance as Washington joins the EU to try to persuade Tehran to resist its activities, the UN's nuclear watchdog chief said on Monday.

"I think when the issue of security comes up (in the EU-Iran talks), the US will have to step in, because ... the Iranians will very much need the American and not just European (security) assurance," Mohamed Elbaradei told reporters on the sidelines of a conference on the future of nuclear energy.

MNA/Reuters

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MNA/Reuters
Study shows Internet crimes focus on financial information

LOS ANGELES, 23 March — More than half of recent major Internet threats are targeting personal information, a sign that financial gain is behind the attacks, IT security firm Symantec said on Monday.

While releasing its latest Internet Security Threat Report, Symantec said that identity theft features were found in 54 per cent of the top 50 malicious codes detected between July and December last year, marking an increase on the 36 per cent found during the same period in year 2003.

This represents a clear trend that attackers have gone from seeking fame to seeking fortune, according to Oliver Friedrichs, senior manager with Symantec Security Response.

Computers are increasingly coming under attack from Trojan horses, worms and viruses that attempt to steal users’ cached log-on data and passwords, financial information, and this trend is not likely to slow down soon, he noted.

The study also detected a rise in phishing attempts used by financially motivated attackers. Phishing scams, which rely on social engineering to dupe people into providing sensitive financial and confidential information, use fake e-mails and web sites that look like legitimate sites.

Symantec said that by the end of last December, it was blocking an average of over 33 million phishing attempts a week, up from an average of 9 million a week in mid-July. This represents an increase of over 366 per cent.

Phishing will continue to be a very serious concern over the Year 2005, the study expected.

Regulatory intervention and technological means of checking the legitimacy of e-mails have been suggested as methods of reducing identity threat attacks. But regulations are somewhat limited, because the individuals behind the scams are already breaking the law and show an apparent disregard to rules and regulations, according to Friedrichs.

He added that technology, in its current form, is also hard-pressed to combat phishing e-mails and identity threat attacks. — MNA/Xinhua

Silicone hydrogel contact lenses reduce risk of keratitis

LONDON, 23 March — A new generation of contact lenses can significantly reduce the risk of severe eye infections, researchers said on Tuesday.

Weakers who keep their lenses in overnight can develop keratitis — inflammation or irritation of the cornea — but scientists found the new ones cut that risk five-fold.

“Those who choose to sleep in lenses should be advised to wear silicone hydrogel lenses, which carry a five times decreased risk of severe keratitis for extended wear compared with hydrogel lenses,” said Dr. Philip Morgan of the University of Manchester in the British Journal of Ophthalmology.

He and his colleagues studied 118 patients with different degrees of keratitis in a year-long study. Each person provided details about the type of lens they used and whether or not they slept with them.

Specialists determined the degree of severity they suffered. Four types of lenses — rigid hydrogel daily disposable, hydrogel and silicone hydrogel — were used in the study.

These tools demonstrate that the human dwellers in the area near

US threatens to renew lawsuit against EU aid for Airbus

BRUSSELS, 23 March — The United States threatened to renew a lawsuit against European aid for plane maker Airbus on Monday as the EU vowed not to budge without concessions on support for rival US titan Boeing.

A truce between the two sides broke down last week after Washington accused Brussels of backsliding on a commitment to eliminate state aid to civil aircraft manufacturers and putting new issues on the table.

The European Union said it was prepared to

African giraffe

Saudi Arabia to help pull down rising oil price

MANAMA, 22 March — Saudi Arabia can help to pull down rising crude oil prices through increasing the daily supply by 1.5 million barrels, visiting Petroleum Minister Ali Al-Naimi said on Monday.

Naimi, who is in Manama for a three-day visit, said that his country can increase oil supply depending on demand. He also dismissed the perception that the supply is limited. “There is plenty of supply. What we say in Saudi Arabia is that we have sufficient supply,” he added.

He said that Saudi Arabia doesn’t like high prices that negatively impact on economic growth particularly of developing nations.

“Taiwan has said that we in Saudi Arabia should not price our oil higher than today, and this means that the world may have been talkers.

They demonstrated that this new remote desert area is once lush with vegetation, which had a regular supply of sweet water, said Hellyer.

According to the ADIAS, the Neolithic period, the climate in the UAE was much wetter than today, and the plains may have been lakes.

There would have also been much more vegetation and wildlife than today, providing inhabitants with ample pasture for their herds of sheep and goats as well as opportunities for hunting such animals as gazelle and oryx.

7,000-year-old Neolithic flint tools, buildings found in UAE

ABU DHABI, 22 March — Archaeologists have recently discovered flint tools and the remains of small buildings dating back to the Neolithic period some 7,000 years ago in the United Arab Emirates (UAE), the Gulf News daily reported on Monday.

Finds for the first time included dozens of finely made flint tools plus important remains of small buildings, Peter Hellyer, Executive Director of Abu Dhabi Islands Archaeological Survey (ADIAS), was quoted as saying.

These tools demonstrate that the human dwellers in the area near
Real Madrid to take stake in Chinese football club

BEIJING, 23 March—Spanish football giant Real Madrid plans to buy a 30 to 40 per cent stake in Chinese club Beijing Guo’an for some 30 million yuan (about $3.62 million) dollars, local media reported on Tuesday.

The agreement is a confirmation of Uruguayan children's principal idol with the Chinese Football Association (CFA). The CFA finally compromised by agreeing to carry out a series of reforms to improve the league.

Eriksson says Ferguson, Wenger should thank him for planning US tour

MANNHEIM, 23 March—Sven-Goran Eriksson says Manchester United manager Alex Ferguson and Arsenal's Arsene Wenger should be thanking him instead of criticizing his planned US tour in May.

Ferguson and Wenger have expressed concerns over a trip which includes friendly games against the United States and Colombia at the end of a demanding season.

Forlan named UNICEF ambassador to Uruguay

MONTEVIDEO, 23 March—Diego Forlan, a member of the Uruguayan national soccer team and player of Spanish club Villarreal, was named Tuesday as UNICEF ambassador to Uruguay.

Real Sociedad's Ivan Helguera (L) and Hong Kong's Hao Haidong chase the ball during a pre-season match in August 2003. Real plans to buy a 30 to 40 per cent stake in Chinese club Beijing Guo'an for 30 million yuan ($3.62 million) dollars.—INTERNET

Forlan is the principal idol of Uruguayan children and in fundraising campaigns.

Eriksson was succeeded by the Chinese Football Association (CFA) during the World Cup, which Germany is hosting, and has said he will consider running for the UEFA job.

Forlan, 49, announced last week that he would stand for the UEFA presidency when the post falls vacant in a year's time.

Eriksson was succeeded by the Uruguayan children's principal idol. By 2006, Forlan said he will not seek re-election when he completes his fourth term in early 2006.

The striker of Villarreal signed the contract with the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) through which he will be the ambassador of the organization to Uruguay for a year, and for whose services he will receive the symbolic payment of one US dollar.

"I am very happy about this, and I expect to be able to collaborate for many Uruguayan children's happy childhood, such as mine," said Forlan during a ceremony at a Montevideo hotel.

Government officials, sports celebrities and many children attended the ceremony.
Teleplay to honour Armed Forces Day

YANGON, 23 March — Thu-ye-gaung-nya Htin-ga-the (Heroes emerge) will be telecast on three parts on 24, 25 and 26 March on Myawaddy TV and on 28, 29 and 30 March on TV Myanmar after the evening news programme, hailing the 60th Anniversary Armed Forces Day.

The cast are motion picture academy winner actors Kyaw Thu, Zin Wang, Yan Aung, Dwe and Min Maw Kun, and actors Nine Nine and Sai Sai Kham Hlaing, and academy winner actresses, May Than Nu, May Thing Oo, Pan Phyu and Soe Myat Nanda, and many supporting actors and ac-
tresses. Director of the video play is Bagyi Soe Moe and script writer, Nyein Min, both winners of the academy award in their respective fields.

MVA

Int’l conference on space security opens in Geneva

GENEVA, 23 March — An international conference on safeguarding space security opened here on Monday aiming to help prevent an arms race in outer space.

The objectives of the conference, initiated by China, are to safeguard the benefits derived from peaceful activities in space, to introduce the concept of “space security” and to advance the consideration of an arms race in outer space by the Conference on Disarmament (CD).

The event, which is to end on Tuesday, is jointly organized by China, Russia, the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research (UNIDIR) and the Simons Centre for Disarmament and Non-proliferation Research of Canada. At the opening ceremony of the conference, Hu Xiaodai, ambas-
sador for disarmament affairs of China, said that “Outer space is the com-
mon heritage of mankind and the peaceful uses of outer space is the aspira-
tion of all peoples”.

“However... changes in the perception of se-
curity, the coming into age of related weapons technologies as well as the developments in comba-
t theories, all lead to the increasing danger of turning outer space into a battlefield and a place
without security,” he added. —MNA/Thinh

MYANMAR

Meet Thai in U-21 soccer final

YANGON, 23 March — The Myanmar youth team stretched its lead at the top of the Hassanal Bolkiah Trophy Under-21 Invitational Football Tournament with a 2-0 victory over the Vietnamese youth in the second semifinal match this evening.

Zaw Zaw of Myanmar scored an opening goal for his team at 22nd minute in the first half. At 84th minute in the second half, Myo Min Tun added one more goal. The Myanmar team moved up to the final, and on 25 March evening, it will meet with the Thai team which won over the Laos 3-2 in the first semifinal. —MNA

WEATHER

Wednesday, 23 March, 2005

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST:

During the past 24 hours, rain or thundershowers have been scattered in Kachin State and upper Sagaing Division, isolated in Chin State and lower Sagaing Divi-
sion and weather has been partly cloudy in Shan and Rakhine States and Mandalay Division and generally fair in the remaining areas. The noteworthy amount of rainfall recorded was Putao (0.94) inch. Day temperatures were (3°C) to (4°C) above normal in Chin and Kayin States, Bago, Ayeyawady and Tannaythi Divisions and (5°C) to (6°C) above normal in Mandalay and Magway Divisions and (5°C) below normal in upper Sagaing Division and about normal in the remaining areas. The significant day temperatures were (42°C) each in Buthaung and Myawaddy.

Maximum temperature on 22-3-2005 was 36°F. Minimum temperature on 23-3-2005 was 9°F. Relative humidity at 9:30 hrs MST on 23-3-2005 was 75%. Total sunshine hours on 23-3-2005 was (9.2) hours approx. Rainfalls on 23-3-2005 were nil at Yangon Airport, Kaba-
Ayee and central Yangon. Total rain falls since 1-1-2005 were (5.09) inch at Yangon Airport (5.44 inches) at Kaba-
Ayee and nil at central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Ayee) was (9) mph from Northwest at (01:00) hours MST on 23-3-2005.

Bay inference: Weather is partly cloudy in the North and South Bay and generally fair elsewhere in the Bay of Bengal.

Forecast valid until evening of 24-3-2005: Likeli-
hood of isolated rain or thundershowers in Kachin, Chin and Northern Shan States, upper Sagaing and Tannaythi Divisions, weather will be partly cloudy in Rakhine and Mon States, lower Sagaing, Mandalay, Bago and Yangon Divisions and generally fair in the remaining areas. De-
gree of certainty is (60%).

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

Outlook for subsequent two days: Likelihood of continuation of rain or thundershowers in the upper Myanmar areas.

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 24-3-2005: Partly cloudy.

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 24-3-2005: Partly cloudy to cloudy.
Prime Minister Lt-Gen Soe Win addresses the World Meteorological Day commemorative ceremony. — MNA

YANGON, 23 March — A ceremony to commemorate the World Meteorological Day sponsored by the Ministry of Transport was held at Myanma Information and Communication Technology (MICT) Park this evening, with an address by Prime Minister Lt-Gen Soe Win. Also present were Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Myint Swe, the ministers, Yangon Mayor, the deputy ministers, officials of the State Peace and Development Council Office, heads of departments, officials of Department of (See page 4)

Proposals on detailed basic principles on sharing of executive and judicial powers read at NC plenary session

YANGON, 23 March — The plenary session of the National Convention continued at Pyidaungsu Hall of Nyaungmyatn Camp in Hmawby Township this morning. Discussions of the delegate groups concerning detailed basic principles to be laid down for sharing of executive and judicial powers to be included in the drawing of the State Constitution were read. Present at the plenary session were Chairman of the National Convention Convening Commission Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thein Sein and Commission members, Chairman of the National Convention Convening Work Committee Chief Justice U Aung Toe and Work Committee members, Chairman of the National Convention Convening Management Committee Auditor-General Maj-Gen Lun Maung and Management (See page 10)

Members of the panel of chairmen at the plenary session of the National Convention. — MNA

NCCC Chairman Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein and party and National Convention delegates attend the plenary session. — MNA