Myanmar War Veterans Organization
Central Organizing Committee holds meeting

Secretary-1 urges MWVO to give priority to running training programmes to enhance members’ qualification and morale

Chairman Secretary-1 Li-Gen Thein Sein addresses regular meeting of Myanmar War Veterans Organization Central Organizing Committee.— MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 8 July — Myanmar War Veterans Organization Central Organizing Committee held its regular meeting at Myanmar War Veterans Organization here this afternoon, with an address by Chairman of the committee Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Adjutant-General Li-Gen Thein Sein.

Secretary-1 Li-Gen Thein Sein said the MWVOCCOC and its State/Division, District and Township level bodies are running its normal operations. Member of MWVO is increasing, and reserve members should be effectively organized for their active participation. MWVOCC members should conduct organizational activities till meeting the aims.

Region-wise leaders of the COC should make field tours, meet with members and organize and educate them to foster their spirit to keep in the fore Our Three Main National Causes and to love the race and promote patriotism in addition to the spirit to strictly adhere to the law, by-laws and rules and regulations, while solving the problems of the members.

The National Convention, the first step of the seven-point democracy transition programme has now reached final stage.

The successful completion of the National Convention is the victory of the first stage of democracy transition. Hence, members of the MWVO should take their respective roles in providing assistance for the successful completion of the National Convention.

As there are saboteurs attempting to disturb and destroy the government’s gentle process of democracy transition, the members will have to participate in the task of warding off those dangers as a reliable force in the respective sectors.

The firm establishment of the foundations of internal peace and stability, economic growth (See page 8)

Emergence of the State Constitution is the duty of all citizens of Myanmar Naing-Ngan.
Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions for building cultural strength

The first coordination meeting of Leading Committee for holding the 15th Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions was held at the Ministry of Culture in Nay Pyi Taw the other day.

Patron of the Leading Committee Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thein Sein delivered an address.

The Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions have been held since 1993 with the lofty aim of perpetuation of genuine Myanmar music, dance and traditional fine arts, the cultural heritage, in states and divisions, turning out new generations who will hand down Myanmar fine arts and keeping national prestige and character alive forever.

The essence of the performing arts competitions is to perpetuate and preserve Myanmar culture and national character forever along with national independence.

Noble traditions of Myanmar national character and nationalistic spirit may diminish and sovereignty of the State may be threatened unless the people systematically preserve Myanmar cultural heritage, customs and norms.

Today, most of the nations are under the influence of globalization and they are trying to preserve their own traditional cultures for national interest. Under the circumstances, cultural strength is needed for national cause.

It is believed that annual event of traditional cultural performing arts competitions will effectively help consolidate the Union to shape its bright future and build cultural strength.

Shan State (East) observes Myanmar Women’s Day 2007

NAY PYI TAW, 8 July — A ceremony to mark the Myanmar Women’s Day was held at the city hall in Kengtung on 3 July.

Chairperson Daw Mar Mar Thein of Shan State (East) Women’s Affairs Organization delivered an address and presented prizes to winners in the essay contest.

Officials also gave prizes to outstanding students and nurses. The chairperson and party viewed documentary photos on activities of Shan State (East) WAO, prize winning works of essay and poster contests.

Also present on the occasion were Daw Nu Nu Yi, wife of the deputy commander of Triangle Region Command and wives of special military officers of the command headquarters. — MNA

Donors honoured at Jivitadana Sangha Hospital

YANGON, 8 July — The 46th ceremony to share merits for donation of alms to Jivitadana Sangha Hospital by donors at home and abroad was held in conjunction with a ceremony to honour the wellwishers at the hospital this afternoon. Present on the occasion were patrons of the Administrative Board of the Hospital, the vice-presidents, Secretary U Maung Maung and members of the board, donors and guests.

The congregations took the Five Precepts from Sayadaw Bhaddanta Khemasiirlanka of Shwephein Monastery of Yankin Township. Next, the secretary of the board explained the purpose of the ceremony.

Afterwards, alms were offered to members of the Sangha. The Sayadaw delivered a sermon followed by sharing of merits gained. — MNA

Electric Power No 2 Minister inspects ShweMyo sub-power station

YANGON, 8 July — Minister for Electric Power No 2 Maj-Gen Khin Maung Myint together with Director-General Dr Thein Tun of Department of Electric Power, Managing Director Dr San Oo of Myanmar Electric Power Enterprise, Chief Engineer of Gas and Steam Turbine Plants U Than Lwin and officials inspected progress of the construction of 230/1331KV 100 MVA ShweMyo sub-power station near ShweMyo Village yesterday.

At the briefing hall of the construction site, the minister heard reports on completion of the station, arrangements for supply of electricity to Nay Pyi Taw and Taikkyi after completion of the project and progress of power grid installation presented by Project Director U Tin Aung. The minister stressed the need to complete the tasks sooner and urged officials to perform the tasks systematically.

Next, the minister looked into the work site and attended to the needs. — MNA

Myanmar Women’s Day marked in Bago

NAY PYI TAW, 8 July — Organized by Bago Division Women’s Affairs Organization, the Myanmar Women’s Day 2007 was marked at the city hall of Bago on 3 July. Present on the occasion were 800 women led by Chairperson Daw Khin Swe Nyunt of Bago Division WAO, members of Division/District/Ward/Village WAOs, members of social organizations, award-winning women and guests.

First, the ceremony was opened by WAO member schoolgirls of BEHS No 3, Bago, singing a song in honour of Myanmar Women’s Day.

Next, the chairperson gave a speech. The chairperson and officials handed prizes and certificates of honour to the winners of Myanmar Women’s Day commemorative article and essay competitions for 2007.

Later, the ceremony came to a close with a song sung by the schoolgirls of Bago, BEHS No 1, in honour of Myanmar Women’s Day.

Officials viewed the documentary photos and publications featuring the activities of Bago Division WAO. — MNA

All this needs to be known

* Do not be frightened whenever intimidated
* Do not be bolstered whenever flattered
* Do not be softened whenever appeased
**INTERNATIONAL NEWS**

**Israeli Army withdraws from Gaza after operation**

Jerusalem, 7 July — Israel Defence Forces (IDF) withdrew from the Gaza Strip on Friday morning, wrapping up its operations against the Palestinian militant infrastructure, a spokesman for the IDF told Xinhua.

During the operation in central Gaza on Thursday, IDF hit 13 Palestinian militants and arrested about 10 Palestinians, said the spokesman, adding that two Israeli soldiers sustained light wounds after their armoured personnel carrier was hit by an anti-tank missile.

According to Palestinian sources, at least 11 Palestinians were killed during the clashes between the IDF and the militants in Gaza throughout Thursday.

The IDF said that the operation was aimed at clearing out explosives and rocket-launching infrastructure set up by Palestinian militants from the border area. — MNA/Xinhua

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**Deaths in three sailors in Iraq brings Friday’s toll to nine**

Baghdad, 8 July — Three US sailors supporting Operation Iraqi Freedom died Friday as “a result of enemy action” near Baghdad, the Department of Defense said Saturday. The sailors were assigned to an East Coast-based SEAL team, the DOD said. The three deaths brings July’s death toll for US troops in Iraq to 27.

In the 4-year-old conflict, 3,605 US troops have been killed, according to a CNN count.

Earlier on Saturday, the US military announced the Friday deaths of two Task Force Marne soldiers who were killed in a roadside bombing south of Baghdad.

Other deaths from Friday are: Two soldiers were killed when a homemade bomb exploded near their combat patrol in eastern Baghdad. The military said soldiers from the unit have recently arrested a number of suspected guerrillas.

One soldier was killed, along with an Iraqi interpreter, when an “explosively formed penetrator” exploded near their patrol in southeastern Baghdad. Three soldiers were wounded.

A soldier died of non-battle-related cause, which the military said it is investigating. No further details were provided.

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**Rains maroon thousands in eastern India**

Kolkata (India), 7 July — Thousands of people in eastern India were marooned for a fourth straight day on Friday as torrential rains hampered relief work, while in neighbouring Bangladesh two people were killed by landslides.

Close to 700 people have died in South Asia due to heavy rains and storms over the past fortnight. While the situation in Pakistan and Afghanistan has eased, parts of India and Bangladesh continued to suffer downpours.

Several thousand people in the Indian state of West Bengal remained cut off from the rest of the country after surging rivers, triggered by an overnight storm, broke through mud embankments and submerged villages.

Civic authorities have been completely overwhelmed with relief work and faced public ire in many places.

In Bangladesh’s southeastern Cox’s Bazar area, landslides triggered by heavy rain killed at least two people and injured 11, police said. Rescuers were searching for more people at several other sites where hills collapsed, burying homes.

Heavy rains continued to fall in and around the area on Friday, slowing rescue efforts.

In Kolkata, east India’s biggest commercial city and the capital of West Bengal, health workers travelling in boats to distribute medicine to the affected people.

Residents held angry protests, demanding clean drinking water.

“The water lines are underwater and dirty water has seeped into them leaving us no choice,” said businessman Rajesh Dubey.

Many residents were seen cooking in knee-deep water in their kitchens in east and south Kolkata.

The congested city faced the prospect of more rains as a storm hovered 50 kilometres (30 miles) to its north, threatening to burst over the city, weather officials warned.

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**Two British soldier deaths reported in Iraq**

Baghdad, 8 July — The British Defence Ministry on Saturday reported two British troop deaths in Iraq.

A British soldier was killed on Saturday in a bomb explosion in the southern Iraqi city of Basra during a “very large” operation staged overnight by British forces. Three soldiers were wounded — one seriously — when troops encountered small arms fire and homemade bombs while operating in Basra’s Jumhuriya district, the ministry said.

The operation yielded “very important finds,” such as weapons and munitions, a ministry spokesman told CNN.

Another soldier died on Friday at the Basra Palace base in Basra city centre.

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Children play with a ball during a “STOP CO2! 1.5 degrees DOWN” event in front of the city hall in Seoul on 7 July, 2007. — Internet

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Australian singer and actress Toni Collette performs on stage at the Australian Live Earth Concert at Aussie Stadium in Sydney on 7 July, 2007. — Xinhua
**Dengue fever cases increase in Thailand**

Bangkok, 7 July — More than 21,000 patients suffering from dengue fever have been treated in Thailand during the first half of this year, including 17 persons dying from the rainy season disease, a senior public health ministry official said on Saturday. Bureau of Vector-Borne Diseases director Wichai Satimai said a total of 21,251 dengue fever patients were identified during the first six months of 2007, representing a 36 percent increase from the corresponding period of last year. Seventeen Thai victims died during the period. The sharp increase in the number of patients during the period was attributed to the early onset of the rainy season in Thailand, causing the quick breeding of dengue-carrying striped mosquitoes, said Wichai.

The incidence of dengue has been significantly on the rise in other Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) member countries including Cambodia, Indonesia, Malaysia, Myanmar, the Philippines, Vietnam, and Singapore, during the period, he added. Earlier this week Cambodia reported 132 deaths from dengue fever in June alone, and asked patients were identified of 21,251 dengue fever patients were identified during the first six months of 2007, representing a 36 percent increase from the corresponding period of last year. Seventeen Thai victims died during the period. The sharp increase in the number of patients during the period was attributed to the early onset of the rainy season in Thailand, causing the quick breeding of dengue-carrying striped mosquitoes, said Wichai.

**Toll in Iraq bombings could surpass 150**

Baghdad, 8 July — A flurry of bombings in Baghdad killed 26 people Sunday, and officials said the death toll from a giant suicide truck blast that devastated the market of a Shiite town north of the capital a day earlier could be more than 130.

Officials earlier said Saturday's bombing in the town of Armiil killed 115 people, one of the deadliest attacks in Iraq in months. The blast suggested Sunni insurgents are moving further north to strike in less protected regions beyond the US security crackdown in Baghdad and on the capital's northern doorstep.

The string of attacks Sunday morning in Baghdad made clear that extremists can still unleash organized strikes in the capital despite a relative lull in violence there in past weeks amid the US offensives. Two car bombs detonated nearly simultaneously in Baghdad's mostly Shiite Karrada district, killing eight people. The first hit at 10:30 am, near a closed restaurant, destroying stalls and soft drink stands. Two passers-by were killed and eight wounded, a police official said. The area is near the offices of the Supreme Islamic Council in Iraq, the biggest Shiite party in parliament, and is believed to be among the most protected parts of the city.

About five minutes later, the second car exploded about a mile away, hitting shops selling leather jackets and shoes. Six people were killed and seven wounded, said the official, who spoke on condition of anonymity because he was not authorized to talk to the media.

**Cold weather kills 55 children in Peru**

Lima, 7 July — Peru's Health Minister Carlos Vallejos said on Friday that a wave of cold snaps has hit most parts of the country and killed 55 children under the age of five. Plateau regions across the provinces of Puno, Apurimac, Ancash, Cajamarca, and Cusco are among the worst-hit in the country, which have seen extreme cold weather of -20 degrees Celsius, the minister said.

About 6300 people have also caught pneumonia as a result of the cold weather, the minister said.

**A spectacular rainbow has graced Beijing's sky following a flash rainstorm, which started around 6:30 pm on 7 July, 2007, plunging the heavens into darkness. After 20 minutes, the rains eased and the weather returned to normal. — Xinhua**

**Asian pop singer Tata Young performs in the rain during opening ceremonies at the Asian Cup on 7 July, 2007, in Bangkok, Thailand. — Internet**

**309 Chinese killed in natural disasters in June**

Beijing, 7 July — Natural disasters in China last month killed 309 people and left another 48 missing, the Ministry of Civil Affairs said in a report released on Thursday. More than 96.61 million Chinese were affected by natural disasters in June and local governments have evacuated or resettled 1.81 million people, according to the report.

Natural disasters, mainly floods, landslides, mud-rock flows, earthquake, drought and hailstorms hit 12.922 million hectares of farmland and destroyed more than 280,000 houses, causing direct economic losses of 23.26 billion yuan (about 3.06 billion US dollars). — MNA/Xinhua

**Two NATO soldiers killed in E Afghanistan**

Kabul, 7 July — Two soldiers of the NATO-led International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) were killed and several others injured by militants in eastern Afghanistan Thursday, an ISAF statement said Friday. The casualties occurred during an operation on Thursday, the statement said, adding the wounded included ISAF and Afghan soldiers as well as a civilian contractor. The brief statement did not say which province the incident occurred.

In accordance with NATO policy, ISAF also does not release a casualty’s nationality prior to the relevant national authority doing so. However, the majority of ISAF troops operating in eastern Afghanistan are Americans. — MNA/Xinhua

**Two killed in Bangladesh landslides**

Cox’s Bazar (Bangladesh), 7 July — Landslides triggered by heavy rain killed at least two people and injured 11 in Bangladesh’s southeastern Cox’s Bazar area on Friday, police said.

They said rescuers were looking for more people at several other sites where hills collapsed, burying homes.

Heavy rains continued to fall in and around the seaside resort on Friday, slowing rescue efforts.

Last month, at least 128 people were killed and dozens injured when a series of rain-triggered landslides knocked down hillside homes in Chittagong City, officials said. The government blamed the landslides mainly on indiscriminate felling of trees and construction of apartment buildings on hillsides. — MNA/Reuters
**ECONOMIC NEWS**

**Zambia’s trade surplus expected to reach $1.2b**

*Luwaka, 7 July—* Commerce, Trade and Industry Minister Felix Mutati has said Zambia’s trade surplus this year expected to reach over $1.2 billion US dollars, Daily Mail reported on Thursday.

The growth, according to Mutati, would be fuelled by the favourable macroeconomic environment which has seen the local economy strengthening, with lower inflation rates and an estimated GDP increase of 7 per cent.

Mutati said the increase in copper production, which was expected to reach more than 600,000 tons in 2007 compared to 500,000 last year coupled with increasing production in the non-traditional export category, would also drive the growth.

Zambia recorded a trade surplus of 1.178.4 million dollars in 2006 due to the soaring copper price in the international market and the buoyant growth in copper exports.

The minister, however, said the weak infrastructural capacity in the country was hindering further growth in the country’s economy.

“Obviously, the area of infrastructure needs to be looked at. Infrastructure, telecommunication, transport, electricity hasn’t improved to march the economic growth,” Mutati said. MNA/Xinhua

**Dubai investment firm buys 3.12% of stake in EADS**

*Abu Dhabi, 7 July—* An investment fund founded by Dubai International Capital LLC (DIC) announced on Thursday that it has bought 3.12 per cent of the outstanding share capital of the European Aeronautic Defence and Space Company (EADS).

The acquisition by DIC’s Global Strategic Equities Fund (GSEF) allows it to become one of the largest institutional shareholders of EADS, a Press release by DIC said.

DIC said it will not seek a board seat or take an active role in EADS, but will seek to build a strategic relationship with the company’s management and shareholders.

DIC believed that EADS’ superior product offering, comprehensive restructuring programme and committed management represent a strong accordance with GSEF’s investment strategy, the company’s CEO Sameer Al Ansari said.

“Whilst we believe that the value of EADS’ other commercial assets are underestimated, we are supportive of EADS management’s announced steps to regain investor confidence by delivering the envisaged recovery plan at its Airbus subsidiary,” he added.

Established in 2004, DIC is a Dubai-based international investment company. It is a wholly owned subsidiary of Dubai Holding, a holding company owned by the Dubai Government. MNA/Xinhua

**Russia, Vietnam complete WTO entry talks**

*Moscow, 7 July—* Russia and Vietnam have successfully completed bilateral talks on Russia’s accession to the World Trade Organization, the Russian Ministry for Economic Development and Trade said Friday.

The negotiations on the mutual access to domestic markets between Russia and Vietnam had been completed, the ministry said in a statement.

Russian Deputy Economy Minister Vitaly Savelyev and his Vietnamese counterpart Nguyen Cam Tu signed the document to conclude the talks, which started in March 2007, the ITAR-TASS news agency reported, quoting the Press service of the ministry.

According to the ministry, the WTO agreement regulates all bilateral issues regarding access to the markets, including tariffs, technical barriers, sanitary and veterinary restrictions.

The agreement liberalizes access to the Russian market of such goods from Vietnam as seafood, fruits, spices, silk fabrics and shoes. This will increase trade between the two countries.

At the same time, the necessary protection for Russian producers remains in place, the ministry said.

Vietnam, which became a member of the working group on Russia’s accession to WTO in January 2007, has actively and constructively held negotiations, the Press service said. Both sides highly appraised the result of the talks that lay a solid basis for the broadening of trade and economic contacts between Russia and Vietnam, it said. MNA/Xinhua

**Oil hits 11-month high above $76 per barrel**

*New York, 7 July—* Oil surged to an 11-month high above 76 US dollars a barrel on Friday, closing in on the all-time record as Nigerian disruptions and OPEC output cuts stirred supply concerns amid rising US refiner demand.

London Brent crude, currently seen as a better indicator of the global market, settled up 87 cents at 75.62 US dollars a barrel, after touching a session high of 76.01, US dollars its highest since August 2006. The rise put Brent within striking distance of the record 78.65 US dollars struck last August.

US crude gained 1.00 US dollars to 72.81, US dollars the highest settlement since 22 August, 2006.

“The global oil price is fairly tight in terms of supply and demand growth,” said Harry Tchilinguirian, senior oil market analyst at BNP Paribas.

Global oil demand growth is increasing faster than non-OPEC supply in the second half of 2007 while OPEC has met most of its supply cuts and Nigeria’s output is being disrupted.

“Together, these elements are very supportive of prices,” Tchilinguirian said. MNA/Reuters
32 bodies recovered from bus buried by landslide in Mexico

MEXICO CITY, 7 July — A total of 32 bodies have been recovered from the bus buried by a landslide on Wednesday in the mountain town of Eloxochitlan in Mexico’s Puebla state, authorities said Friday. Puebla’s Interior Secretary Javier Lopez Zavala said 30 of the 32 bodies have already been identified by relatives.

Thunderstorm kills six in E China province

Nanjing, 7 July — Six were killed and two others injured in thunderstorms that hit east China’s Jiangsu Province in the last week of June, local government said on Saturday. Lightning strikes killed five farmers in a crop field and a child under a tree, it said. In Gaoyou City, a strong tornado on 3 July killed seven and injured 53 people, 12 of them under serious conditions. Nationwide, floods in south and central China regions had caused over 200 deaths and destroyed 120,000 houses, while droughts in the north had left more than seven million people short of drinking water by Friday, according to the state flood and drought prevention headquarters.

Experts say use of mobile phones and metal tools in thunderstorms may cause injury or death. They warn people to stay away from trees, metal material buildings and pools in the bad weather.

Iraqi doctor appears in court over bomb plots in Britain

LONDON, 7 July — An Iraqi doctor charged with conspiracy to cause explosions at the Glasgow airport appeared in court Saturday and was remanded in custody, according the Sky News. At City of Westminster Magistrates’ Court in central London, Bilal Abdallah, 27, spoke only to give his name and to confirm his date of birth. No application was made for bail, and Abdallah will return to court on 27 July.

He was arrested on 30 June after a flaming Jeep smashed into the doors of the main terminal hall at the airport of Glasgow, Scotland. Before his arrest, Abdallah had been working at the Royal Alexandra Hospital in Paisley, Scotland. And police are holding six other people in Britain and one in Australia as part of the investigation into 3 failed car bombing incidents in London and Glasgow one week ago.

Colombia’s highest court rules against US treasure hunters

BOGOTA, 7 July — Colombia’s Supreme Court on Friday rejected demands by US treasure hunters for half of the estimated 2 billion dollars worth of gold, silver and emeralds from the 1708 shipwreck of the Spanish galleon San Jose. Referring to the shipwreck as Colombia’s historical heritage, the court said the US treasure hunters’ demand was unreasonable and excessive, and none of those treasures should become private property.

Sea Search Armada, a Seattle-based US company who claimed to have discovered the shipwreck in 1982, signed a deal with the Colombian Government, granting the company exclusive rights to search for the San Jose and 50 per cent of whatever was recovered from her.

Laden with treasures taken from the Americas, the San Jose, one of the largest cargo ships in the Spanish fleet, sank off Colombia’s Caribbean coast in a battle with British warships on its way to Spain on 7 June, 1708.

Hong Kong tourist missing in DR Congo

KINSHASA, 7 July — A tourist from Hong Kong is missing after she fell into a volcano in the eastern region of the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), the Chinese Embassy here said on Saturday. The tourist, identified as Cecilia Cheng Siu-yan, 34, slipped into the crater of Nyiragongo volcano, located near Goma, regional capital of Northern Kivu province, on Friday, embassy officials said.

The UN Mission in the DRC (MONUC) said UN helicopters flew to the site to search for the tourist after she was reported missing but failed to find her due to low visibility. Rescuers planned to resume the search on Saturday, the MONUC said. Embassy officials said they would stay in touch with the UN mission and continue working to find Zheng.

Nyiragongo, an active volcano, is considered one of the most dangerous in Africa. Its crater is about 2,000 meters wide and 240 meters deep. It erupted in January 2002, forcing 100,000 people to flee their homes.
In an endeavour to catch up with the Knowledge Age, the government has been working hard to achieve the lofty aim of uplift of the education standard of the entire nation for parallel education improvement in all regions, producing qualified human resources, and technological advancement across the nation.

Now, universities, colleges and schools in states and divisions are conducting IT courses.

The Myanmar Women’s Affairs Federation launched May Myanmar Website on 3 July 2005 for improving and protecting the life of women who make up more than 50 per cent of the nation’s population, and for national development.

The launch is aimed at enabling enthusiasts at home and abroad to know the objectives and principles of the MWAF; to make Myanmar women’s culture, traditions, customs, rights and activities known; to achieve improvement in living conditions and education and health sectors and disseminate knowledge information programmes; to highlight the role women are playing in national development tasks and nation-building tasks; and to broadcast programmes through Website as multimedia in addition to ordinary media such as radio, TV, newspaper, journal and magazine to refute the groundless accusations against the State. Now, the MWAF has launched Printed Media May Myanmar Journal and Internet Media May Myanmar Website.

As Media sector, May Myanmar Website carries the programmes implemented in the past two years for enhancing the intellectual power of Myanmar women, announcements, notifications, articles and papers designed to rebut the accusations made by anti-government groups.

The programmes posted on May Myanmar Website are maps, facts about national races, gems, the nation’s historical background; economic, social and activities news in the information sector; objectives, principles, organizational set-up, activities, annual general meeting and future plans in the women’s affairs sector; the work done by MWAF in the states and divisions in the activities sector; articles, short stories, poems, cartoons, magazines and newsletters in the health, interview and knowledge sector; questions and answers in the counselling and discussion sector; Myanmar traditional dances, musical instruments and songs in the fine arts sector; religious affairs, festivals held in the 12 Myanmar months, fashion, costumes and traditional food in the cultural sector; and historical heritage and edifices, roads, bridges and irrigation facilities in the development sector.

The federation conducted Web Content Management System (Web CMS) and basic journalism and news featuring course to enable the states and divisions to take part in the May Myanmar Website programmes.

Web Content Management System (Web CMS) course also covers the CMS on journal and information technology to collect and write news stories for Website Upgrading. And states and divisions have an opportunity to upgrade their news, and as a result, the Website becomes more effective.

Myanmar women and people can enjoy opportunities to present the activities of respective states and divisions. Therefore, it is fair to say that Web CMS course makes significant contributions towards the plans for development of the nation, Internet technology improvement of states and divisions, and media of the federation.

Myanmar women and people can enjoy opportunities to present the activities of respective states and divisions. Therefore, it is fair to say that Web CMS course makes significant contributions towards the plans for development of the nation, Internet technology improvement of states and divisions, and media of the federation.

Moreover, Myanmar women can present the activities of the MWAF to the people with the use of information technology.

In its bid to serve the interests of the State, the Myanmar Women’s Affairs Federation is conducting Web CMS Course on Information Technology for improving the life and broadening the horizons of Myanmar women, a strong force of the nation.

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Myanmar War Veterans Organization Central Organizing Committee…

(from page 1)

and improving social standards and high level education standard are requisites for the perpetuation of democracy.

The Tatmadaw government has been striving night and day to lay the firm foundations. In this regard, MWVO is urged to lend a helping hand to the government together with other organizations.

The MWVO while increasing its membership and consolidating its strength should give priority to running training programmes to enhance the qualification and morale of the members.

Also present at the meeting were Commander of Nay Pyi Taw Command Maj-Gen Wai Lwin, vice-chairmen of MWVO/COC/Vice-Admiral Kyi Min (Rtd) and Minister for Construction Maj-Gen Saw Tun, MWVO/COC members, and the head of department of MWVO and officials.

Secretary of the Central Organizing Committee Deputy Minister for Home Affairs Brig-Gen Phone Swe read out the minutes of the meeting 2006 of Myanmar War Veterans Organization Central Organizing Committee, accomplishments and the report of the Myanmar War Veterans Organization Headquaters.

Group leaders of the five tasks of the COC reported, the progress of their tasks. Leaders of the organizing work groups also reported on their respective sectors.

Vice-Chairman Vice-Admiral Kyi Min (Rtd)

Discussed undertakings of five tasks in States and Divisions.

Members of the Central Organizing Committee took part in the discussions on organizational set up and strengths of the organization, forming of War Veterans Organizations at different levels, progress in construction of war veterans villages and settlement of the WVO members, providing assistance for the WVO members, agriculture and economic tasks and businesses of WVO and participation of WVO members in public welfare tasks.

After reviewing the reports, Chairman of MWVO/COC Secretary-1 Adjutant-General Lt-Gen Thein Sein gave concluding remarks.

MNA

Day meal offered to members of Sangha of SPSU (Yangon)

YANGON, 8 July — Under the patronage of the Minister of Finance and Revenue Maj-Gen Hla Tun and wife Daw Khin Than Win, the Ministry of Finance and Revenue offered a day meal to a total of 422 members of the Sangha from the State Pariyatti Sasana University (Yangon) at Mogokswansar Kyaungthaung on Kaba Aye Hill this morning.

Deputy Minister Col Hla Thein Swe and wife Daw Thida Win, the Vice-Governor of Central Bank of Myanmar, managing-directors, directors-general and their wives and staff families donated alms to members of the Sangha.

First, the congregation opened the ceremony with three-time recitation of Namo Tassa and received the Five Precepts from Agga Maha Gandhavacaka Pandita Bhaddanta Sagarañana of State Pariyatti Sasana University (Yangon). Next, the Deputy Minister and wife and heads of department donated alms to members of the Sangha. Afterwards, Assistant Director U Myint Zaw Win of Department for Promotion and Propagation of the Sasana accepted a day’s meal worth K 335,000 presented by the Deputy Minister.

After that, the congregation shared merits gained. — MNA

Functions of dry day inspection teams supervised

YANGON, 8 July — Members of Dry Day Supervisory Committee together with departmental officials supervised the functions of dry day inspections teams at the main points of downtown Yangon today.

MNA
YANGON, 8 July — Member U Khin Thein of Pyay Township National League for Democracy (West) resigned from the party of his own volition, sending his resignation letter to NLD Headquarters and local authorities concerned on 20 June.

In his resignation letter sent to Pyay Township Multi-party Democracy General Election Subcommission, he said that he has no longer wished to stand as a party member. He has a strong desire to participate in nation-building endeavours in cooperation with the people. That was why, he resigned from the party of his own accord, he said. — MNA

Lt-Gen Myint Swe inspects health care…

(from page 16)

hygienic plans at schools. With regard to providing health care services, Yangon Division USDA is ready to donate blood to the hospitals.

Aftewards, Lt-Gen Myint Swe inspected patient wards, intensive care unit, emergency and out-patient department. Lt-Gen Myint Swe comforted child patients and their parents.

Next, he inspected the site for construction of the three-storey building and other patient wards.

Accompanied by Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Hla Hlay Win, YCDC member U Kyaw Soe, Secretary of Yangon Division PDC U Hla Soe, Medical Superintendent Dr Chit Ko Tin of North Okkalapa General Hospital and officials, Lt-Gen Myint Swe visited emergency unit, patient wards, ICU and teaching room at North Okkalapa General Hospital.

At the office of the medical superintendent, Lt-Gen Myint Swe gave instructions on carrying out sanitation, providing of medications, setting up of medical funds and making contacts with Yangon Division USDA to take emergency blood, and fulfilled the requirements of the task. — MNA

Floods in some townships

YANGON, 8 July — Torrential rain caused floods in some states and divisions on 4 and 5 July. Some schools were closed temporarily in Thakayta, Hlegu, Hmaukby and Taikkyi Townships in Yangon Division. Officials concerned and wellwishers provided the flood victims with food and other supplies.

Creeks flooded the floors of some houses in Ye and Thaton Townships in Mon State. Flood victims were accommodated at the relief camps.

Similar incidents occurred in some wards and villages in Tharrawaddy Township, Rakhine State and Kyangin, Hinthada, Ngathabinggyaung and Laymyethna Townships in Ayeyawady Division.

On 6 July, a tornado ravaged houses in some villages in Taikkyi Township. Altogether 80 households were homeless. Four people were injured in the tornado that hit some villages in the township. The injured are undergoing treatment at the Township People’s Hospital. — MNA

One resigns from Pyay NLD with the intention of participating in nation-building endeavours in cooperation with the people

YANGON, 8 July — A ceremony to open No 004 CNG Filling Station (Kyaikkalo) of Myanma Oil and Gas Enterprise under the Ministry of Energy was held in front of the station on Yangon-Pyay Road in Mingaladon Township, Yangon Division this afternoon.

It was attended by Minister for Energy Brig-Gen Lun Thi, Deputy Commander of Yangon Command Col Kyaw Kyaw Tun, departmental officials and members of social organizations and guests. First, General Manager of MOGE U Thein Htay reported on the salient points of the CNG Station.

Next, Deputy Commander of Yangon Command Col Kyaw Kyaw Tun formally opened the station and Minister for Energy Brig-Gen Lun Thi unveiled the signboard of the station.

After that, the deputy commander and guests inspected the station and greeted drivers who have their vehicles filled with gas.

At present, the number of CNG stations in Yangon area has increased to 29 including the newly opened No 004 CNG Filling Station (Kyaikkalo). — MNA

First round matches of 1st Nay Pyi Taw…

(from page 16)

Similarly, Ministry of Education defeated Supreme Court with 6-0 in the group-G in Lewe Sports Ground this evening.

Ministry of Transport will meet Ministry of Industry-1 in the group-A in Paunglong Sports Ground at 7.30 am tomorrow. Ministry of Industry-2 will face Ministry of Cooperatives in Paunglong Sports Ground at 4 pm tomorrow in the group-A and Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries will take on Ministry of Immigration and Population in the group-B in Lewe Sports Ground at 4 pm tomorrow. — MNA

The injured are undergoing treatment at the Township People’s Hospital. — MNA

A ceremony to open No 004 CNG Filling Station (Kyaikkalo)
The XXIV South-East Asian Games are not far off. Indeed, the Games will commence at Pattaya Beach and Nakhon Ratchasima in Thailand on 6 December 2007, and it will last up to 15 December. As part of the efforts to achieve success in the Games, Myanmar sports teams are trying their best in the respective training programmes.

Myanmar Taekwondo Team, part of the training programmes.

Their best in the respective sports teams are trying efforts to achieve success in international competitions upholding the directives of the Minister for Sports and with the assistance and encouragement of President of MTF U Htay Myint (Yuzana). He also expressed that all are trying hard to bring honour to the State.

President of Myanmar Taekwondo Federation U Htay Myint (Yuzana) undergoes training to take part in the Thai SEA Games. Korean Coach Mr Yu Ung Cho supervises training of tentatively selected Myanmar Taekwondo athletes.

Myanmar Taekwondo Contingent, has started the camp since 15 February. Altogether 11 men and seven women tentatively selected athletes of the team have been in practice, and they set the plan to go to the Republic of Korea in July for taking a joint training with the aim of bringing honour to the State.

In an interview, General Secretary U Tin Win of Myanmar Taekwondo Federation explained training and preparations of Myanmar Taekwondo Team for the competitions. He said that a total of 18 tentatively selected athletes are under training to take part in the Thai SEA Games. Among them, nine athletes, who had participated in the previous Philippine SEA Games, were picked out again for the Thai SEA Games. Athletes of the Myanmar Taekwondo Team bagged one silver and four bronze medals in the XXIII Philippine SEA Games. Among them, silver medalist Soe Soe Myar, bronze medalist Soe Moi Lwin and other athletes Thiri Tint Lwin and San Ngw Wah Su from the previous team are trying to take part in the Thai SEA Games in October. He disclosed that players of the Taekwondo Team are exerting utmost efforts in the training to gain success in the XXIV South-East Asian Games. Among them, silver medalist Soe Soe Myar, bronze medalist Soe Moi Lwin and other athletes Thiri Tint Lwin and San Ngw Wah Su from the previous team are trying hard to bring honour to the State.

K 100,000 each is being given to Manager U Mya Thein of the men’s team, the Korean Coach and Coach U Kyaw Than Oo, K 70,000 each to Manager Daw Wah Wah Tun of the women’s team and Coach U Ba Thaung Chay, K 70,000 each to experienced athletes of the tentatively selected team and K 50,000 each to new ones.

In the interview, Korean Coach Mr Yu Ung Cho, who arrived in Myanmar in 2004, said that Myanmar athletes were working hard in the training although they were very tired. There were no differences between Myanmar and Korean athletes; however, Myanmar athletes have less speed and power than the Koreans, he revealed. He said that during over three-year period, he could improve the skills of Myanmar athletes to a certain degree. In addition, players of Myanmar Taekwondo Team have less experience of the international competitions than those from ASEAN region. He said that he was providing training to Myanmar athletes with a view to securing gold medals in all events at the Thai SEA Games. He expressed his aim that he would like to enhance capabilities of Myanmar Taekwondo sport to gain greater success not only in the SEA region but also in Asia and the world.


By making strenuous efforts in providing training for the athletes, Myanmar Taekwondo Federation concentrates on achieving greater success in the XXIV SEA Games.
China spends $52.6m on reconstruction in quake-hit Yunnan

KUNMING, 8 July — The Chinese central government has allocated funding of 400 million yuan ($52.6 million US dollars) for reconstruction in the earthquake-hit Ning’er County in southwest China’s Yunnan Province, Yunnan Governor Qin Guangrong said on Friday.

Together with local government’s 230 million yuan ($30.2 million US dollars), all the funds will be mainly used to rebuild schools, residential buildings, hospitals and utilities destroyed by earthquakes.

According to a post-disaster reconstruction plan, people whose houses were destroyed in the quake will move into new residential buildings by early 2008. All the public and infrastructure facilities in the county will be reconstructed and put into operation by the end of 2008.

“Projects in dire need, such as houses, schools and hospitals, must be given top priority,” said the governor.

An earthquake measuring 6.4 on the Richter Scale struck the capital of Guangxi, Vietnam at 8 pm, affecting over one million people after it slammed into the southern coast of Beihai, Qinzhou, Chongzuo and Nanning, of Beihai, Qinzhou, Chongzuo and Nanning, people were evacuated to safe places amid the rains and winds. Toraji also damaged 1,300 houses and caused an economic loss of 73.6 million yuan (about 9.7 million US dollars).— MNA/Xinhua

Mali diplomat appointed as top UN envoy for poorest countries

UNITED NATIONS, 8 July — The United Nations appointed Malian diplomat Cheick Sidi Diarra on Friday as its top envoy for the world’s poorest countries and for small islands, many of them environmentally threatened.

Diarra, 50, who is currently Mali’s Ambassador to the world body, succeeds Anwarul Chowdhury of Bangladesh as High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States.

The United Nations classifies 50 states as “least developed countries”, 34 of them in Africa. The definition is based on criteria including per capita income, economic vulnerability, health, education and adult literacy levels.

A woman wears a flower wreath during Ivan Kupala celebrations, a pagan holiday marking summer solstice, in the village of Sengelyeveskoye about 30 km (18.6 miles) from the southern Russian city of Stavropol on 7 July, 2007.

INTERNET

Three-legged Sumatran tiger photographed in Indonesian wildlife

JAKARTA, 7 July — An endangered Sumatran tiger that lost one of its paws, probably while trying to escape from a snare, has been photographed in an Indonesian wildlife park, global conservation group WWF said on Friday.

The Sumatran tiger is on the verge of extinction because of illegal poaching and a shrinking habitat, with fewer than 400 left in the world, WWF data shows.

The tiger was captured twice on camera — once in March and again in May — roaming the forests of the Tesso Nilo national park on Sumatra Island with the lower half of his right front leg missing, said a WWF official, Sunarto.

“We suspect it to be the same tiger who reportedly was caught in a snare in November last year, but cut its paw off to escape, leaving that part of the leg in the scene,” Sunarto told Reuters.

Tesso Nilo is one of 45 protected areas in Indonesia, among the few countries in the world that still has vast swathes of tropical rainforests left.

Sunarto said snares represent a big threat to tigers and elephants in the national park.

INTERNET

Tropical storm “Toraji” affects millions in S China

NANNING, 8 July — Tropical storm Toraji has affected over one million people after it slammed into the southern coast of Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region on Thursday, local civil affairs department said on Friday.

Toraji struck Dongxing City at 2:50 pm on Thursday at a speed of 33 metres per second, reaching force 12 on the Beaufort Scale. It swept over Guangxi for five hours and moved into Vietnam at 8 pm, according to local meteorological station.

The tropical storm brought strong winds and heavy rainfall to the cities of Beihai, Qinzhou, Chongzuo and Nanning, capital of Guangxi, affecting 1.11 million people and 7,500 hectares of cropland.

More than 147,000 people were evacuated to safe places amid the rains and winds. Toraji also damaged 3,300 houses and caused an economic loss of 73.6 million yuan (about 9.7 million US dollars).— MNA/Xinhua

INTERNET

British soldiers block the road leading to a suicide blast site outside Kabul, on 6 July, 2007. —INTERNET
TRADENAME CAUTION

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Yangon 9 July 2007

THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNION OF MYANMAR
MINISTRY OF RAIL TRANSPORTATION
MYANMA RAILWAYS

INVITATION TO SEALED TENDER

1. Sealed Tenders are invited by Myanma Railways, for supply of the follow-
ing Stores which will be purchased in Euro and Myanmar Kyat;

Tender No. -12(T) 6 to 16/MR(ML)2007-2008
-14(T)1/MR(S&T)2007-2008

Sr.No. Description Quantity Closing Date Currency

i. CAT Engine 3508 B Complete 3 Sets 23/8/07 Euro
ii. Steel Plates, Pipes & Angles 27 Items 23/8/07 Euro
iii. Special Size Steel Plates & Beams 5 Items 23/8/07 Euro
iv. Locomotive Equipments; Alternators, Traction Motors, Compressors, Bogies, Electrical Panels & Cables, etc. 47 Items 23/8/07 Euro
v. 40 Ton Over Head Travelling Crane 2 Sets 24/8/07 Euro
vi. Diesel Electric Locomotive Spares; (Engine, Pneumatic, Cooling, Flexible Cables) 19 Items 24/8/07 Euro
vii. Diesel Hydraulic locomotive Spares (DD 51); Transmission, Engine, Bogie, Cooling Auxiliary and Electric) 7 Items 24/8/07 Euro
viii. Locomotive Traction Motor Roller Bearings, Reversers & Switches 18 Items 9/8/07 Euro/Kyat
ix. SACM Engine Cylinder Liner 60 Nos 9/8/07 Euro
xi. Magneto Telephone, GI Wire 2 Items 9/8/07 Euro
xii. (Dog Spike) 1500000 Nos 24/7/07 Euro

2. Tender documents are available at the office of the Deputy General Manager (Supply), Myanma Railways, Corner of 51st Street and Merchant Street, Botahtaung, Yangon starting from 9.7.2007 during the office hours.

3. For further details please call: 01-29182, 291985, 291988(201555 Ext 601,602,605,612)

Deputy General Manager
Supply Department, Myanma Railways, Botahtaung, Yangon

People carry flowers during a commemoration of the July 7 bombings at King’s Cross railway station in London on 7 July, 2007. — Xinhua

Flood claims hitting 1.5b pounds

LONDON, 7 July — Last week’s floods could cost insurers 1.5 billion pounds, the Association of British Insurers said on Friday as the government defended its response to the deluge.

Prime Minister Gordon Brown pledged help for flood victims, who are still clearing up after torrential rain hit Humberside, Yorkshire and the Midlands.

Many say the government has been slow to react to the chaos as flood waters continue to swirl around thousands of homes and businesses.—MNA/Reuters

A delegate walks past a billboard of a woman exhaling tobacco smoke during a Framework convention alliance building support for global tobacco control in Bangkok on 2 July, 2007. — Xinhua

Wedding Announcement

Vikas Kumar Bajoria (BBA)
Son of Sushil Kumar Bajoria & Premlata Bajoria
& Arainar @ Arainar Kedia
Daughter of Narendra Kumar Kedia & Lalita Devi Kedia
Saturday, 7th July, 2007
at “Panchayatibari Bhawan”, No-82, 31st Street, Yangon,
according to Hindu Customs & Rights.

President & Executive Members.
All Myanmar Hindu Central Council.
No.77, Shwebontha Street, Pabedan Tsp, Yangon.

Tobacco control convention to work on protocol combating illicit tobacco trade

BANGKOK, 7 July — A total of 146 parties to the World Health Organization Framework Convention on Tobacco Control (WHO FCTC) concluded here a 7-day conference on Friday. President of the Conference Juan Martabit expressed satisfaction on the productive results produced throughout the conference, which opened in Bangkok last Saturday.

In one of the two key resolutions passed during the conference, the parties unanimously adopted guidelines on protection from second-hand tobacco smoke by stipulating 100 percent smoke-free internal workplaces and public places and public transportation means. — Xinhua

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Hotels, Supermarkts and Shopping Malls in Yangon.
Charles Kennedy rapped for smoking on train

London, 7 July — Former Liberal Democrat leader Charles Kennedy was ticked off by police on Friday for smoking out of a train window.

Kennedy, 47, who resigned as party chief last year after admitting that he had a drug problem, was reported by train staff who saw him light up. Officers met him on the platform when the train arrived at Plymouth and reminded him that smoking is banned on public transport.

A British Transport Police (BTP) said the matter had been "resolved informally".

"He basically said he thought it was OK came into force in England last weekend. Anyone caught smoking illegally can be fined up to 200 pounds. Many trains were already smoke-free.

Kennedy has repeatedly said in interviews that he wants to cut down or give up smoking.

Chinese People’s Liberation Army (PLA).

The series, consisting of 40 volumes on biographies of 375 senior Army officers, will be published within next two years. The first batch of 12 published volumes contains biographies of 90 most renowned senior Army generals.

This is part of China’s activities to celebrate the 80th anniversary of the founding of its Armed Forces. Those involved in the series had made great contributions to the establishment and development of the PLA and to the prosperity of New China, said Guo Boxiong, vice-chairman of the Central Military Commission, at a meeting marking the publication of the series held in Beijing on Thursday.

"They are worth remembered, and their life stories are helpful for today’s officers," he said.

The country also made a series of TV documentaries based on the biographies of Mao Zedong, Zhou Enlai, Deng Xiaoping and other Army generals.

Elton John wins damages over fake statues

Paris, 7 July — Elton John has won 116,000 euros (157,700 US dollars) in damages and costs from a Paris art dealer who sold him sculptures apparently dating from the 18th century that turned out to be fake, according to court papers.

In a judgement issued on 26 June, the dealer, Jean Renoncourt, was ordered to pay the singer the purchase price of 360,000 US dollars plus interest from the time the statues were sold in 1996. He was also ordered to take back the statues.

The four statues, representing figures from Greek mythology, were sold as the work of the Italian sculptor Luigi Grossi, who died in 1795.

According to an expert judgment commissioned by the court, the sculptures were determined to date from the late 20th century. The judgment comes after a long legal battle by the singer, who discovered the forgery when he had the statues assessed for insurance purposes.

British jazz singer George Melly dies at 80

London, 7 July — British jazz singer and author George Melly died on Thursday at the age of 80, his wife Diana said in a statement.

Melly had been suffering from lung cancer but refused all treatment. He also developed dementia. His last appearance was a performance in June at London’s renowned 100 Club in aid of a dementia charity. His wife said in a statement: “For 60 years he has been an acclaimed, popular and much-loved performer.”

Melly, wit, raconteur and writer as well as jazz singer, was the author of three acclaimed volumes of autobiography in which he wrote frankly about his bisexuality and heavy drinking.

The latest volume, published as he approached his 80th birthday, was called Slowing Down.

India have left nearly a million people stranded, authorities said, as the nationwide death toll from torrential monsoon rains hit 655. — Internet
Forlan double helps Uruguay oust hosts Venezuela

SAN CRISTOBAL (Venezuela), 8 July — Striker Diego Forlan scored twice as Uruguay knocked hosts Venezuela out of the Copa America with a 4-1 win in their quarterfinal on Saturday.

Pablo Garcia and Cristian Rodriguez scored Uruguay’s other goals. Juan Arango replied for Venezuela, who fell apart in the last five minutes.

“We represented the country with dignity but I’m disappointed because we could have done more,” said Venezuela midfielder Ricardo Paez, whose side had got past the group stage for the first time.

Uruguay had qualified as one of the best third-placed teams and scored only one goal in three matches in the group stages.

But they looked a different team on Saturday and went ahead in the 38th minute when a long ball from Maximiliano Pereira caught Venezuela’s Alejandro Cichero out of position and fell into the path of Forlan.

Woods rues missed opportunities

BETHESDA (Maryland), 8 July — Tiger Woods was grumbling about missed opportunities after carding a one-under 69 to sit seven strokes off the pace at the Congressional Country Club on Saturday.

The world number one birdied the opening hole and appeared ready to make a charge for the top of the leaderboard. But over the next few holes, the 31-year-old had several birdie putts lip out of the cup or stop within inches of their mark. Woods enters Sunday’s final round tied for eighth place, seven strokes off the pace set by Australian Stuart Appleby.

“I birdied one,” he said. “I just barely missed at two and lipped out at three and lipped out at four. So realistically, I should be three or four under par through four and I was only one.”

Federer storms into fifth Wimbledon final

LONDON, 8 July — Roger Federer stormed into his fifth successive Wimbledon final with a 7-5, 6-3, 6-4 humbling of France’s Richard Gasquet on Saturday.

The four-times defending champion overwhelmed his 21-year-old opponent in a display of sheer brilliance before a mesmerized Centre Court crowd. After unleashing 20 aces and a series of scorching passing shots, Federer clinched victory after one hour 44 minutes with a forehand winner into the corner of the court.

The Swiss will face Spanish second seed Rafael Nadal in Sunday’s final after Serbian Novak Djokovic retired hurt with the Spaniard leading their semifinal 3-6, 6-1, 4-1.

Nadal reaches final after Djokovic retires

LONDON, 8 July — Second seed Rafael Nadal reached the Wimbledon final on Saturday after Serb Novak Djokovic retired hurt with the Spaniard leading their semifinal 3-6, 6-1, 4-1.

Nadal will play top seed Roger Federer in Sunday’s final. Djokovic called the trainer at the end of the second set to receive treatment on his toe.

After being broken twice in the third set following a series of fluffed shots and looking increasingly uncomfortable, the Serb recalled the trainer but then decided he could not continue.

He is the first player to retire hurt from a men’s semifinal at Wimbledon in the professional era.

Answers to yesterday’s Crossword Puzzle

French soccer legend Zinedine Zidane kicked a ball around with the Indonesian President on the lawns of the presidential palace in Jakarta on Friday cheered on by hundreds of enthusiastic officials and other fans.

Sweden’s Pelle Edberg hits a iron shot onto the 8th green during the 3rd round of The European Open, at the K Club, in Straffan, Ireland, on 7 July, 2007. — INTERNET

Indonesia’s Budi Sudarsono (R) fights for the ball with Richardo Salumepessy (C) and Syamsul Bachr during a training session in preparation for the upcoming 2007 AFC Asian Cup soccer tournament in Jakarta on 7 July, 2007. — INTERNET

Bellamy set for $15.08m

West Ham move

LONDON, 8 July — Wales captain Craig Bellamy has passed a medical and agreed personal terms for a move to West Ham United but his 7.5-million-pound (£15.08-million-US-dollar) transfer from Premier League rivals Liverpool has been delayed. The east London club said on Saturday that a private contractual issue between Bellamy and Liverpool had to be resolved before any transfer could be completed.

“The player is due to meet with Liverpool on Monday morning, and we expect to complete the transfer soon after,” said a statement on West Ham’s website (www.whufc.com).

After Liverpool’s 3-2 win over West Ham in a friendly on Saturday, manager Rafa Benitez told reporters: “He (Bellamy) has signed with West Ham. It’s done. It’s a good move for him.” — MNA/Reuters

Forlan double helps Uruguay oust hosts Venezuela

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The Swiss will face Spanish second seed Rafael Nadal in Sunday’s final after Serbian Novak Djokovic withdrew with an injury during the other semifinal.

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Chengdu, 8 July — Floods and landslides triggered by heavy rains have killed at least 26 people and left 17 missing in southwest China’s Sichuan Province since Monday night, the local government said on Saturday.

The disaster has affected 18.18 million people in 43 cities and counties across the province, it said.

Over the past week, more than 44 reported rainfall volume exceeding 100 millimeters, with Nanjiang County the highest at 542 millimeters. In Guanzhao, a city in eastern Sichuan, the rain volume topped 200 millimeters, swelled local rivers and caused flooding of urban areas.

In Qianxian County, two-thirds of its districts were flooded, cutting water, electricity and gas supply for 183,000 downtown households. So far, 320,000 people in the flood-hit areas have been evacuated to safe places and the rescue and relief work are still underway.

The flood also destroyed 20,000 houses and 3.6 million mu (240,000 hectares) crop land. Meanwhile, traffic was cut on 76 highways and 441 kilometres of electricity supply lines were damaged.

The total economic loss is estimated at three billion yuan (395 million US dollars).

Alarm as dengue cases rise in S-E Asia

HANOI, 8 July — Vietnam and Malaysia have raised concerns over the spread of dengue fever, which has killed hundreds in Southeast Asia and infected tens of thousands this year.

Warmer weather and heavy rains have helped the mosquito-borne virus spread through the region, with a Malaysian official saying the epidemic could get worse because of global warming.

“It is partly due to global warming. We are going to see a rise in vector-borne and water-borne diseases,” Ramlee Rahmat, deputy director-general of health, was quoted as saying in the New Straits Times on Saturday.

Vietnam’s health minister said he was worried about the spreading outbreak, citing 27 deaths this year and a jump in the number of cases.

“The risk of the dengue epidemic outbreak in southern and central provinces is very high in the coming time,” Health Minister Tran Thi Trung Chien told the Thanh Nien (Young People) newspaper.

Some experts have said 2007 could be the worst year on record for the disease, which is transmitted by the Aedes aegypti mosquito.

Minister Tran Thi Trung Chien told the Thanh Nien (Young People) newspaper.

Sunday, 8 July 2007
Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST: During the past 24 hours, weather has been partly cloudy in lower Sagaing Division, rain have been isolated in Magway Division, scattered in Mandalay Division and Kayah State, fairly widespread in Shan State, upper Sagaing and Bago Divisions and widespread in the remaining areas with locally heavyfall in Rakhine State and isolated heavyfalls in Ayeyawady and Taninthayi Divisions. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Maungtaw (4.77) inches, Sittwe (4.25) inches, Pathein (4.21) inches, Kawthong (3.46) inches, Hkamti (4.21) inches, and Gwa (2.33) inches each.

Maximum temperature on 7-7-2007 was 82°F. Minimum temperature on 8-7-2007 was 71°F. Relative humidity at 09:30 hours MST on 8-7-2007 was 92%. Total sunshine hours on 7-7-2007 was (Nil).

Rainfall on 8-7-2007 was (0.71) inch at Mandalay, (1.26) inches at Kaba-Aye, (1.65) inches at Central Yangon, (0.77) inches at Mandalay, (7.38) inches at Kaba-Aye and (7.02) inches at Central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (16) mph from South at (14:30) hours MST on 7-7-2007.

Bay influence: Monsoon is moderate to strong in the Andaman Sea and Bay of Bengal.

Forecast valid until evening of 8-7-2007: Rain will be widespread in Rakhine, Mon and Kayin States, Yangon, Bago, Ayeyawady and Taninthayi Divisions, fairly widespread in Kachin, Chin, Shan and Kayah States and upper Sagaing Division and isolated to scattered in the remaining areas with isolated heavyfalls in Ayeyawady, Yangon and Taninthayi Divisions. Degree of certainty is (80%).

State of the sea: Squalls with moderate to rough sea are likely at times off and along Myanmar Coast. Surface wind speed in squalls may reach (35-40) mps.

Outlook for subsequent two days: Generally strong Monsoon.

Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring areas for 9-7-2007: Isolated rain. Degree of certainty is (80%).

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring areas for 9-7-2007: Some rain which may be heavy at times. Degree of certainty is (80%).

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring areas for 9-7-2007: Isolated rain. Degree of certainty is (80%).
Lt-Gen Myint Swe inspects health care services at Yangon Children’s Hospital, North Okkalapa General Hospital

YANGON, 8 July — Lt-Gen Myint Swe of the Ministry of Defence inspected medical treatment and health care services being provided at Yangon Children’s Hospital and North Okkalapa General Hospital here, this morning.

At Yangon Children’s Hospital, Medical Superintendent Dr Aung Kyi Win reported on matters related to the hospital, learning of students from University of Medicine-1 at the hospital and medical treatment.

Head of Yangon Division Health Department Dr Hla Myint submitted the report on sanitation and health care services being undertaken in Yangon Division.

CEC member of USDA Chairman of Yangon City Development Committee Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin presented reports on arrangements of Yangon Division USDA for donating blood to the hospital and cash donation for purchasing pharmaceuticals.

Speaking on the occasion, Lt-Gen Myint Swe said that YCDC, social organizations, people and officials are joining hands in keeping Yangon City clean and pleasant to possess the characteristics of a city. Officials are to cooperate with social organizations to disseminate health knowledge to the people and take preventive measures against common diseases.

He stressed the need to make concerted efforts for gaining greater success in implementing four.

1,630 jade lots, 27 gem lots sold at special sales

YANGON, 8 July — Patron of Central Committee of Myanma Gems Emporium Minister for Mines Brig-Gen Ohn Myint visited Jade, Gems and Pearl Special Sales for 2007 held at Myanma Gems Mart on Kaba Aye Pagoda Road here this morning. First, the minister together with Managing Director U Thein Swe of Myanma Gems Enterprise and central committee members viewed the sale of gem lots through tender system and competitive bidding and greeted local and foreign gem merchants.

Gem merchants bought 27 lots of gems today.

Deputy Director U Tun Latt of Myanma Gems Enterprise conducted the minister and party round.

First round matches of 1st Nay Pyi Taw Inter-Ministry Football Tournament continue

NAY PYI TAW, 8 July — The first round matches of the 1st Nay Pyi Taw Inter-Ministry Football Tournament for 2007 continued at Paunglong and Lewe Sports Grounds in the morning and in the evening today.

Among the spectators were Minister for Education Dr Chan Nyein, Deputy Ministers U Myo Nyunt and Brig-Gen Aung Myo Min, Deputy Minister for National Planning and Economic Development Col Thu Thaung Zaw, heads of departments, officers and staff and families and fans.

In the group-H, A&I routed Construction with 8-0 at Paunglong Sports Ground in the morning.

In the group-G, Ministry of Culture won over Ministry of National Planning and Economic Development at Paunglong Sports Ground.

Flood Bulletin

(issued at 12:50 hr MST on 8-7-2007)

According to the (06:30) hr MST observation today, the water level of Bago river at Bago is (934) cm. It may remain above its danger level (910) cm during the next (48) hrs commencing noon today.