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BURMA PRESS SUMMARY
(from the WORKING PEOPLE'S DAILY)---Dec. 1987

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Note: Issues for December 26, 29 & 30 not received. We hope to have them for the next issue. HCMacD.

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DIPLOMATIC

Ambassador to Nepal Named

Dec. 14: President U San Yu named U Aye Pe, Burmese Ambassador to Egypt, to be Burmese Ambassador to Nepal. (WPD 12/14)

New Chilean Ambassador

Dec. 17: Rear-Admiral Sergio Fernando Cabezas Dufeu presented his credentials to President U San Yu as Chilean Ambassador to Burma. (WPD photo caption 12/18)

Belgian Ambassador Approved

Dec. 18: The Burmese government approved the nomination of Baron Olivier Gilles de Pelichy as Belgian Ambassador to Burma. He was born in 1945, joined the diplomatic service in 1971, and has been posted in Bangkok, Dakar, London, and Beijing. He will reside in Dhaka, where he will be concurrently accredited. (WPD 12/18)

New EEC Delegate

Dec. 18: Mr. Albert Maes presented credentials to President U San Yu as Head of the Delegation of the Commission of the European Communities for South-East Asia. (WPD photo caption 12/19)

Ambassador to Iran Named

Dec. 23: President U San Yu named Dr. Khin Maung Win as Burmese Ambassador to Iran. He is also accredited to India and is resident in New Delhi. (WPD 12/23)

FOREIGN RELATIONS

Ne Win Gives Buddha to King

Nov. 30: BSPP Chairman U Ne Win flew to Bangkok and presented Thai King Bhumibol Adulyadej with a Jade Image of Lord Buddha, on the occasion of the King's 60th birthday. The Chairman was accompanied by Council of State member Dr. Maung Maung, Foreign Minister U Ye Goung, and other officials. He returned to Rangoon in the afternoon. (WPD 12/1)

Soviet Book Exhibition Opens

Nov. 30: A Soviet book and photographic exhibition, "70 Years Along the Road of the Great October Revolution", sponsored by the Soviet Embassy, opened at Judson Hall on Prome Road. It will be open Mon.-Sat. from 9 am to 6 pm until Dec. 6. (WPD 12/1)

Search for Korean Airliner

Nov. 30: An intensive search for the South Korean airliner missing while "flying through Burma's airspace" on Nov. 29, is being conducted by the Ministry of Transport and Communications. The plane was reported over Urdis flight reporting point, 130 miles southwest of Rangoon and 154 miles northwest of Tavoy, at 11:31 am and was due over Tavoy airport at 11:52 am. An Airforce plane, naval units, a Burma Ports Corporation ship, and a BAA F-28 jet have been searching for the missing plane, as have army units and civilians. Relief camps in Bassein and Tavoy were opened. (WPD 12/1) - Dec. 1: The search continued. One Airforce plane searched over the ocean out of Tavoy, and another the area between Tavoy and the Thai border. (WPD 12/2) - Dec. 2: Korean Airways Company President Mr. Cho Choon Hoon arrived in Rangoon, and thanked Minister for Transport and Communications Thura U Saw Pru for the Ministry's efforts in searching for the missing KAL airliner. He asked permission for KAL to search in the Tavoy vicinity. (WPD 12/3) - Dec. 3: The KAL President visited the search area, and then called on Minister U Saw Pru. (WPD 12/4) - Dec. 14: KAL officials have chartered the Burmese Five Star Lines MV Haka and are searching for the missing KAL airliner near Narcondam Island in the Andaman Sea. Mr. C.K. Cho had sailed from Rangoon Dec. 12 after reports of wreckage being sighted. On Dec. 14 the ship was joined by an Air Force plane. (WPD 12/15) - Dec. 15: The MV Haka and a BAC search plane were withdrawn after a liferaft from the missing KAL plane was salvaged on Dec. 13, in lat. 14 deg. 51 min. N, long. 97 deg. 15 min. E, near Sinclair bank, 35 miles southwest of the mouth of the Ye River, by the Dagon 1 Schooner of the Rangoon Division Co-operative Society. (WPD 12/16).

Australian Tapes Donated

Dec. 4: Australian Ambassador Christopher Lamb donated tapes of the TV series, "Country Practice" to be used by the Myanma Television Programme. (WPD 12/5)

Soviet Gymnastic Team

Dec. 4: A 25-member Soviet gymnastic team will visit Burma, with performances Dec. 10, 12, and 13. Tickets are Ky 10. (WPD 12/5) - Dec. 8: The team, headed by Valentin M. Kiselev, Vice-Rector of the Byelorussian Institute of Sports and Physical Education, arrived. Special bus service will be provided by the All-Private Bus Lines Control Committee from Aung San Stadium and Maha Bandoola Park. (WPD 12/9) - Dec. 10: The first performance was given. (WPD 12/11) - Dec. 12: The second performance was given, with 37 items. (WPD 12/13) - Dec. 13: The third performance was given. (WPD 12/14) - Dec. 16: The team departed. (WPD 12/17)

Chinese Education Delegation

Dec. 4: A six-member Chinese education delegation, headed by Deputy Minister of the State Education Commission Zhou Shiyan, currently on a study tour in Burma, met with Deputy Education Minister Dr. Maung Di, who hosted a dinner in the evening. In addition to meeting Education officials, the delegation visited Rangoon University and the Universities Central Library. (WPD 12/5) - Dec. 8: The delegation toured Mandalay from Dec. 6-8, visiting the University and various schools, and then returned to Rangoon. (WPD 12/9) - Dec. 9: The delegation visited the Technical, Agricultural and Vocational Department, the Institute of Foreign Languages, the Rangoon Institute of Technology, and the Insein Technical Institute. (WPD 12/10) - Dec. 10: The delegation visited the Latha Township No. 2 Basic Education High School, the Institute of Medicine 1, and the Medical and Basic Education Departments. (WPD 12/11) - Dec. 11: The

delegation left Burma. (WPD 12/12)

Norwegian Health Minister

Dec. 5. Norwegian Minister for Health and Social Welfare Mrs. Tove Astrid Strand Gerhardsen arrived with aides to study drug abuse control in Burma, at the invitation of the Central Commission for Drug Abuse Control. She was met by the Commission Chairman, Deputy Minister for Home and Religious Affairs Col. Khin Maung Win, and UNDP Drug Control advisor Mr. Odd Arild Halhjem. (WPD 12/6) - Dec. 6: The Norwegian Minister visited the Shwedagon Pagoda and was shown around the National Museum by Director General of the Department of Cultural Institute Dr. Ye Htut. (WPD 12/7) - Dec. 7: The Minister called on Minister for Home and Religious Affairs U Min Gaung, who hosted a dinner for her, and on Foreign Minister U Ye Goung. (WPD 12/8) - Dec. 8: The Minister called on Minister for Social Welfare and for Labour U Ohn Kyaw and on Minister for Health U Tun Wai. She visited the Kaba-Aye Training School for Boys, and the Psychiatric Hospital where drug addicts are treated. (WPD 12/9) -

Dec. 12: The Norwegian Minister departed, after giving a dinner at the Karaweik Hall on Dec. 11 for Home and Religious Affairs Minister U Min Gaung. On Dec. 9-10 she visited the Phaungdaw-U Pagoda in Inle Lake, was briefed by Shan State police on drug control in Taunggyi, visited the Pindaya Cave and viewed crop substitution in Taungpawgyi Village-tract, before returning to Rangoon. On Dec. 11, she visited the Women's Home of the Social Welfare Department on Wingaba Road, and the Buddhist museum on Kaba Aye Hill. (WPD 12/13)

Chinese Radio Delegation

Dec. 6: A Chinese broadcasting journalist delegation headed by Mr. Zhang Shuyi, Director of the Beijing Radio Broadcasting Department, which arrived in Rangoon Dec. 4, called on Minister for Information and Culture U Aung Kyaw Myint at the Myanma Athan (BBS) on Prome Road. The other members of the delegation are Mr. Zhong Guohong and Mr. Wang Xiangnian, also of the Broadcasting Department. They then visited the National Indoor Stadium 1 in Thuwunna. On Dec. 5, they visited the National Museum and the Rangoon-Syriam Bridge site. They will be in Burma until Dec. 18. (WPD 12/7)

Burmese Ramayana Troupe

Dec. 7: A 20-member Burmese Ramayana Troupe, led by Manager of the Theatre Division of the Fine Arts Department U Myat Kyaw, left for Bangkok to give a week of performances at the opening ceremony of the Thai Cultural Institute in commemoration of the Thai King's 60th birthday. (WPD 12/8) - Dec. 12: "Our musicians and artistes ...are in a position to be proud of their well-accepted programmes.... It is no small matter to boast of the fact that some two thousand different elements are contained in Burmese dances. Graceful dances, very rhythmic and some rather acrobatic ones as well as scenes originating from puppet theatre traditions in Burma have been major attractions of the foreign stage enthusiasts." (WPD Editorial 12/12) - Dec. 14: The troupe returned, after performing on Dec. 10 and 11 in the Fine Arts Department Cultural Institute Theatre in Bangkok, and giving demonstrations on Dec. 12. (WPD 12/15)

U.S. Sports Book Exhibit

Dec. 7: U.S. Ambassador Burton Levin presented 122 books on sports and physical education to Director of Sports and Physical Education U Aung Nyein. The books, together with prize winning photographs, are in an exhibit at Aung San Gymnasium, which was opened by Director-General of Sports and Physical Education U Aung Din, and will remain open until Dec. 10. (WPD 12/8)

Korean Airways Official

Dec. 8: Sung Joo Jin, Vice President of the Operations Department, Korean Airlines Company, who arrived in Rangoon with KAL President Cho Choon Hoon on Dec. 7, visited the Civil Aviation

Department to express thanks to Director-General Col. Tha Tun Aye for Burma's help in the search for the missing Korean airliner. Permission was granted to fly 270 family members from Bangkok along the route of the downed aircraft to Urdis flight reporting point to pray for those who went down. Burma continues to search for the missing plane. The delegation will leave Dec. 9. (WPD 12/9)

Korean Asst. Foreign Minister

Dec. 9: Assistant Foreign Minister of the Republic of Korea, Mr. Hong Soon Young, called on Minister for Transport and Communications Thura U Saw Pru, to thank Burma for its search for the missing KAL airliner. Later he called on Minister for Home and Religious Affairs U Min Gaung, and on Foreign Minister U Ye Goung. (WPD 12/10)

Indian Prime Minister's Visit

Dec. 10: Indian Prime Minister Shri Rajiv Gandhi will pay an official visit to Burma in the near future. (WPD 12/10) - Dec. 15: Profile of Rajiv Gandhi, and Editorial noting that "In view of geographical proximity and age-old contacts...both nations have no sensible alternative but to live as good neighbours.... Under the able leadership of Mr Rajiv Gandhi India has maintained its prestigious position respected by nations big and small." (WPD 12/15)

Dec. 15: Arrival: Indian Prime Minister Shri Rajiv Gandhi arrived by special aircraft, accompanied by a 15-person official party including Mrs. Gandhi, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Mr. Natwar Singh, Foreign Secretary Mr. K.P.S. Menon, and Information Advisor to the Prime Minister Mr. H.Y. Shrada Prasad. He was met at the airport with full honors, including a 19-gun salute, by Prime Minister U Maung Maung Kha, top Burmese cabinet officers, and the diplomatic corps. In the afternoon he was received by BSPP Chairman U Ne Win and Burmese President U San Yu at the Credentials Hall of the Pyithu Hluttaw. Prime Minister Gandhi presented Chairman U Ne Win with an original palm-leaf manuscript of Burmese General Maha Bandoola [hero of the first Anglo-Burmese War in 1826], which had been preserved in the Victoria Museum in New Delhi. Mrs. Shrimati Sonia Gandhi visited the National Museum and the Myanma Gems Corporation.

In the evening, Prime Minister Maung Maung Kha hosted a dinner at the Pyithu Hluttaw banquet hall, where speeches were exchanged [full texts published].

Prime Minister Gandhi said that "Burma and India have been close friends and companions in their journey through history." He noted that the last Mughal Emperor, Bahadur Shah Zafar, died in exile and was buried in Burma after the "Uprising of 1857," so that Burma had "given shelter all these years to the symbol and rallying point of our first War of Independence." Lokmanya Tilak, "our great patriot," was imprisoned for six years in Mandalay. Burmese were associated with the Congress Party in the fight for freedom, and Nehru condemned the suppression of the [Saya San] rebellion in 1930-31.

The Prime Minister went on to praise Burma and to discuss the mutual task of development, though "modernization must not lead to the uprooting of our spiritual and cultural traditions." He sought cooperation in South Asia, whose "natural...frontiers extend from Afghanistan...to Burma...." The philosophy of non-alignment is beginning to extend beyond the NAM to influence "even the major nuclear weapon powers." The lamp of peace lit by Reagan and Gorbachev draws its flame "in a deeper sense" from that kindled by the Buddha. Prime Minister Gandhi closed by praising "Burma's sense of independence, its pride in itself and its fidelity to traditional values," and offered increasing technical cooperation since "our interaction so far has not been as extensive as our proximity warrants."

Prime Minister Maung Maung Kha, in reply, extended a warm welcome to the leader of a "friendly neighbouring country with which we share

deep-rooted and historic ties." He noted visits from other Indian Prime Ministers, and Chairman U Ne Win's visits to India. He reviewed international political and economic problems, and reiterated Burmese adherence to the five principles of nonalignment and to the UN Charter, and its preference for conciliation rather than confrontation. (WPD 12/16)

Dec. 15: The Indian Prime Minister visited the Shwedagon Pagoda, making a donation of Ky 250,000, and the tomb of King Zafar Shah, where he donated Ky 200,000 and carpets to the Dargah. He then called on the Burmese Prime Minister for talks. He was seen off at 12:30 pm with full honors by Prime Minister U Maung Maung Kha, top Burmese Cabinet Officers, and the diplomatic corps.

UNICEF Report

Dec. 11: Mr. Antonio A. Hidalgo, Resident Representative of UNICEF in Burma, gave a press conference on the UNICEF Annual Report for 1988. (WPD 12/12)

Burmese Badminton Team

Dec. 17: A Burmese badminton team led by U Maung Maung (Customs) left to participate in the 1987 Asian Badminton Championship to be held in Semarang, Indonesia, Dec. 19-23. Other members are Win Tun Thein, Myo Thant, and Myint Han. Burma will take part in the Championship with Malaysia, Pakistan, and India, which are in the same group. (WPD 12/18) - Dec. 21: On the third day, in Division D, India beat Burma 3-2, and Malaysia beat Burma 5-0. The two Burmese victories were: Maung Maung vs. Rajeev Bagga, 15-8, 15-3; and Maung Maung-Win Tun Thein vs. Sanjay Sharma-Rajeev Bagga, 6-16, 15-13, 18-15. (WPD 12/23)

British Books Presented

Dec. 18: British Cultural Attach, Mr. T White presented 155 books of teaching aid to nursing to Dr. Tin Oo, Director General of the Department of Health. (WPD 12/19)

West German Aid Agreement

Dec. 22: West German Ambassador Dr. Walther Freiherr von Marschall and Deputy Minister for Planning and Finance U Nyunt Maung exchanged four diplomatic notes concerning the grant to Burma of DM 9.5 million (Ky 35.6 million) to be used for "procurement of machinery, equipment and technical assistance for projects such as project for planning consultancy on raw materials for cement production; project for basic and further training of electronic technicians (Rangoon); project for promotion for the development of the radio broadcasting network; and replacement for short-term experts assistance." (WPD 12/23)

UNGA Delegation Returns

Dec. 23: The Burmese delegation to the 42nd United Nations General Assembly returned to Rangoon via Singapore. It included Dr. Hla Bu (Pyithu Hluttaw, Tatkon 1), U Sein Maung (Pyithu Hluttaw, Thegon 1), U Aung Thant (Director General, International Organizations and Economic Department, Foreign Ministry), and Foreign Ministry Assistant Directors U Aung Swe and U Kyaw Nyunt. (WPD 12/24)

BURMA GAZETTE

Probationary Appointments

Dec. 12: The Council of State made the following probationary appointments:

U Aung Min, Director (Works), to be Managing Director, Myanma Oil Corporation, Ministry of Energy.

Col. Tun Oo, Director, to be Director-General, Social Welfare Department, Ministry of Social Welfare. (WPD 12/12)

Appointment Confirmed

Dec. 12: The Council of State confirmed the appointment, after one year, of:

U Ohn Kyaw as Director-General, Political Department, Ministry of Foreign Affairs. (WPD 12/12)

GOVERNMENT

Bar Council Elections

Nov. 30: The Bar Council, Central Court, Rangoon, in an advertisement, announced the following candidates proposed for election to the Bar Council on Dec. 18: U.T.P. Wan; U Ohn Maung, U Win Kyi, Mr. Augustine Gale, U Ko Yu, and U Mya Thein, all advocates. Only advocates whose annual subscriptions are paid up may vote. Signed by Daw Myint Myint Khin, Honorary Secretary. (WPD 12/2) - Dec. 18: Elected were: U Ohn Maung, U Mya Thein, U Ko Yu, U Win Kyi, and U.T.P. Wan. List certified by U Ba Maw, President; Dr. Mehn Thet San, member; and U Win Maung (2), member. (WPD 12/24)

Peasants Asiayone Meeting

Dec. 2: The third meeting of the Peasants Asiayone Central Body began in Rangoon. 236 out of the 241 eligible members (97.93%) attended.

In his opening speech, Chairman U Than Nyunt (Minister for Agriculture and Forests) said that one new Township Organizing Committee and 5 new Village-tract Asiayones had been formed, with over 26,000 members. However, of the more than 7.8 million Asiayone members only 110,000 are BSPP members. Co-operative societies produced over Ky 520 million of meat and fish last year. Farmers are encouraged to increase crops and quality in all areas of agriculture, livestock, and forestry.

The report of the Central Executive Committee was presented, and discussed by 14 members. The 1988-89 budget was submitted and approved. Certain rule amendments were proposed and approved. (WPD 12/3)

On the second day of the meeting, Central Body Secretary U San Tun replied to the discussion of the Executive Committee report. In response to various suggestions he said, among other things: multiplier livestock breeding courses would be held in 110 townships; teachers were being appointed to make one teacher available for every 40 students throughout the country; 45 anti-malarial personnel have been appointed, and anti-malarial drugs are being distributed, in Karen State; the annual period for agricultural coordination work at the basic level has been increased from three to four months; educational measures will seek to reverse the fall in the production rate of oil-seed crops; the Central Agricultural Farm in Sittwe will annually distribute 2,000 baskets of quality grade (1) paddy to improve quality in Rakhine State; 4,000 baskets of high yield Ekayi maize is being distributed in Shan state and monsoon groundnut cultivation is being organized; seeds are being delivered for 1,300 acres of groundnuts, to produce 59,000 baskets, in Irrawaddy Division, to counteract the decrease in acreage there in 1986-87; arrangements are being made for goods contracted for from co-operative societies to be bought in full by factories, trade corporations, etc., although the value of such contracts is down; the Ministry of Commerce is trying to purchase parts for damaged tractors and water pumps; directives have been given to distribute only hardwood to peasants for agricultural purposes; a new kind of sesame is being developed for Magwe Division; preventive veterinary medicines are being produced locally, and curative medicines are "bought according to our financial situation." One member suggested that more draught animal loans be made to townships which repaid loans regularly, and that loans be extended to townships not yet covered.

In his closing speech, Chairman U Than Nyunt said cultivated acreage is 20.5 million acres, and there are 20.9 million acres of cultivatable virgin land and 4.3 million acres of fallow land which

should be reclaimed. Of the Ky 1,314 million disbursed in 1986-87 loans for monsoon paddy and crops and winter crops, 90% has been recovered. The target for 1987-88 is Ky 1.344 million; this year loans will be collected from individual farmers through the village bank committees. (WPD 12/4)

Labour Funds Donated

Dec. 9: A total of Ky 1,236,745.78 contributed by 193 Township Workers Asiayones in the 14 States and Divisions to the Workers Asiayone Central Body was received at Saya San Hall in Rangoon's Kyaikkasan Grounds. The donations came as follows: Kachin State 18,525.92 kyat; Kayah State 11,979 kyat; Karen State 19,148.75 kyat; Chin State 26,718 kyat; Sagaing Division 93,748.03 kyat; Tenasserim Division 25,943.11 kyat; Pegu Division 127,528.96 kyat; Magwe Division 67,503.37 kyat; Mandalay Division 288,481.47 kyat; Mon State 115,660.96 kyat; Rakhine State 31,406.35 kyat; Rangoon Division 302,512.69 kyat; Shan State 46,638.89 kyat; Irrawaddy Division 61,220.28 kyat. (WPD 12/10) - Dec. 10: An additional Ky 91,653.30 from 19 Townships in six States and Divisions was received. (WPD 12/11) - Dec. 11: An additional Ky 1,250.00 was received from 3 townships, bringing the total to Ky 1,329,649.68. (WPD 12/12)

Workers Asiayone Meeting

Dec. 10: The third meeting of the Third Workers Asiayone Conference Central Body opened in Saya San Hall at Rangoon's Kyaikkasan Grounds. In his opening speech, Chairman U Ohn Kyaw [Minister for Labour] said membership had reached 2,037,122, up 75,991 from last year. A draft amendment to the basic organizational rules will be submitted for approval by the Central Body at this meeting, and will then be acted on by the Fourth Conference. Continued efforts are being made to raise the qualifications of Asiayone members. Only 159 townships had established the workers welfare bodies called for last year. The health project has been extended to 390 factories and mills.

U Aung Than was elected member of the Central Executive Committee to fill a vacancy. The report of the Central Executive Committee was made and discussed favorably by 14 members. (WPD 12/11)

Dec. 11: The meeting concluded. Executive Committee Secretary U Nyunt Thein responded to the discussion on the report. He said workers of State-owned livestock breeding enterprises are eligible to become Workers Asiayone members, while workers of State-owned plantations, Central Agricultural Farm, seed farms, and Working People's Settlement-owned farms should be allowed to join the Peasants Asiayone; elected members of the Asiayone may resign "on careful scrutiny on the basis of the level of duties."

He reviewed policy on the transfer of public services personnel serving on the Asiayone, as laid down by the BSPP Central Committee in March 1978:

The authorities "are:

"1) not to transfer, if possible, the departmental personnel during the tenure of the Asiayone;

"2) to give promotion in the township if there is a post there and to transfer to other townships only if there is no such post;

"3) to co-ordinate with the Asiayones concerned in transferring the public services personnel to other townships not to affect the work of the Asiayone."

As there was some weakness in enforcing these policies, seven other principles were added: 1) to notify the Asiayone of the transfer of personnel serving the Asiayone part time; 2) to seek approval from Central Organizations concerned for the transfer of personnel serving full time; 3) to coordinate terms of office with elected terms in the Asiayones; 4) normally to allow services personnel only one term in an Asiayone; 5) not to make Asiayone service affect promotions; 6) not to discriminate in awards, including sending state scholars abroad; 7) fully to record responsibilities in Asiayones assumed by services personnel.

The Amendment of the Basic Organizing Rules was approved by the Central Body by vote, for submission to the next Workers Asiayone Conference.

Chairman U Ohn Kyaw delivered the closing address, encouraging greater efficiency, increased leadership qualifications, better enforcement of discipline, better implementation of economic plans, more research, and "workers enjoyment as early as possible, [of] the rights granted by law, prevention from occupational hazards, implementation of the health work effectively and carrying out welfare work." (WPD 12/12-13)

Law and Justice

Dec. 14: A feature article so entitled by Maung Maung Than discusses Burmese justice. The Council of People's Justices is the highest judicial organ of the state. Administration of justice is by each judicial organ. Military justice is administered in accordance with the law by a collective organ or a single judge. Justice is based on the following principles, from Article 101 of the Constitution:

"(1) to protect and safeguard the Socialist System; (2) to protect and safeguard the interest of the working people; (3) to administer justice independently according to law; (4) to educate the public to understand and abide by the law; (5) to work within the framework of law as far as possible for the settlement of cases between members of the public; (6) to dispense justice in open court unless otherwise prohibited by law; (7) to guarantee in all cases the right of defence and the right of appeal under law; (8) to aim at reforming moral character in meting out punishment to offenders."

Law Officers, Law Advisors, and Advocates play important roles. Law Officers are ex-officio Public Prosecutors. "The duty of prosecution is to assist the court in arriving at the truth, and not to secure conviction" It must place all evidence before the court. In criminal cases, moral certainty beyond doubt is necessary. Advocates are officers of the court.

Burmese legal principles are similar to those of some Socialist countries [outlined], as explained by retired Director of the Central Law Office U Maung Maung Kyi in his "A New Approach to Law and Life [in] Burma", and "Law and Custom in Burma and Burmese Family." (WPD 12/14)

Model Workers Honored

Dec. 14: Minister for Social Welfare and for Labour U Ohn Kyaw presented medals to Model Workers at a dinner in Pyidaungsu Hall, Kyaikkasan Grounds. He said that 633 work establishments had participated in the 1986-87 socialist emulation, 13 more than in the previous year. 15,357 more workers were covered by the Model Workers Scheme, for a total of 277,883. Of these, 6811 had been forwarded for consideration, leading to the selection of 729 Model Workers, or an increase of 75. (WPD 12/15)

In the weeks following the presentation, groups of Model Workers travelled all over Burma, for State-paid vacations at the Ngapali Shwewagyaing Recreation Camp at Sandoway (Rakhine State), the Ramayana Setse Camp near Thanbyuzayat (Mon State), the Moulmein University Camp (Mon State), the Mount Popa Recreation Camp near Kyaukpadaung (Mandalay Division), the Kyaikkasan Recreation Camp (Rangoon). From these camps they made study tours of nearby cultural, agricultural and industrial establishments. (WPD, various issues)

Rakhine State Day

Dec. 15: The 13th Anniversary of Rakhine State Day was celebrated by a mass rally in Sittwe, presided over by Rakhine State Party Regional Committee Chairman and Commander of the Western Command Brig-Gen. Mya Thinn. (WPD 12/16)

Karen New Year Day

Dec. 20: Karen New Year Day for the year 2727 was celebrated at the Ahlone Township (Rangoon) No. 1 High School sports ground. At 6 am the State Flag and Karen national flag were hoisted and saluted; ceremony chairman U Saw Taing Lon Kyaw Mya and vice-chairman Saw Bonny Tun read out the New Year Day message. Similar ceremonies were held in Insein Township (Rangoon), in the No. 1 High School sports ground and the Arlein Ngazint Swewingaba Kyaung compound, and in North Okkalapa Township at the Nweni Street sports ground. In Karen State there were ceremonies in Pa-An at the Karen State People's Council office compound, presided over by BSPP Regional Secretary U Saw Nay Wai Htoo, and in Kawkareik, Kya-in-seikkyi, Papun, Myawaddy, Hlaingbwe, and Thandaung. (WPD 12/21)

National Heritage

Dec. 28: A feature article entitled "Most precious national heritage" by Myint Thein Aung reviews Burmese nationalist history from the last Anglo-Burmese War, through the 1908 Young Men's Buddhist Association, the 1920 Student Boycott, the Thakin movement, the Burma Independence Army, and the martyrdom of Bogoyoke Aung San, to Independence in 1948. (WPD 12/28)

Narcotics Problem Reviewed

Dec. 31: A feature article entitled "Multi-faceted measures against drug menace" by S. T. Aung, discusses Burmese measures against narcotics since the 1974 Narcotics Drug Law was passed. In 1986-87, 40,225.20 acres of poppies were destroyed (22,630 by aerial spraying and 17,595.20 manually), under operations Taung Yan Shin (Phase 3) and Ngayepan (Phase 7), in Shan State from June 1-30. An additional 122.97 acres were destroyed in Chin State and Sagaing and Magwe Divisions. There have been many recent seizures of heroin and acetic anhydride.

Supervisory Boards for the Registration and Treatment of Drug Addicts have been formed in 182 townships. As of June 30, 1987 there were 30 treatment centers for detoxification and medical rehabilitation of drug users. The Thayet Prison has been redesigned into a 300 bed hospital for addicts, and as of June 30 2,860 persons had received treatment. Of these, 2,699 have been given training at the Wettigan agricultural and livestock breeding farm. There is a similar Kathegwin farm and No. 1 Model Camp in Pekhon Township, Shan State. Township Drug Abuse Control Committees, and others, plus volunteer supervisors, help former drug abusers readjust to drug-free social life. To educate youth, essay, poem, and painting competitions are held at school, township, and State/Division levels. But the menace still exists. (WPD 12/31)

MILITARY

Ma-Da-Ta Denounced

Dec. 4: A feature article entitled "Ma-Da-Ta: spreader of falsehood" by Myat Shwe Aung consists of a conversation between Yebaw Labang Aung and Yebaw Saw Le Mu, agreeing that the Ma-Da-Ta (NDF) are only trying to restore feudalism, and are really "committing much lawlessness" and "spreading misinformation about 'Civil War' being conducted by the government...so that other countries will mistakenly believe that...a civil war is actually going on in Burma." (WPD 12/5).

Insurgents Surrender

Dec. 8: 13 insurgents gave themselves up, with their arms, during November 1987. (WPD 12/9) [names and details given]

Shan Insurgents

Dec. 19: A feature article entitled "Untenable predicament of Shan insurgents," by Khin Maung Myint, reviews the history of Shan insurgency.

In the 60,000 square miles of Shan State live a plethora of ethnic

groups, including the Danu, Intha, Kachin, Kayan, Kokang, Lahu, Maungtha, Muhso, Pa-O, Palaung, Shan, Taung-yo, Wa, and Yin-kya, plus of course the Burmans. Agriculture includes rice, wheat, corn, beans and pulses, potatoes, and tea leaves. Forest products include the renowned Burma teak (*Tectona grandis*), pyinkadoe, padauk, and other hardwoods, plus pine-wood. Minerals include lead, silver, tin, copper, nickel, antimony, tungsten, zinc, and iron.

Shan State's "beauty has been marred and its wealth raped through unparalleled viciousness by the Burma Communist Party, the Shan insurgents, and other insurgent elements." The Shan insurgents "are a motley group consisting of such factions as the SSA, the SURA, and the SUA which is also known as the Loimaw insurgents." It began in 1959 when Shan insurgents went underground with slogans like "for the betterment of the Shan peoples; for the attainment of a (separate) Shan State." In 1960 it came apart into splinter-groups calling themselves the SSIA (Shan State Independence Army), the SNA (Shan National Army), the NSH (brave Shan youth organization), and the SURA (Shan United Revolutionary Army).

In 1964, the Maha Devi tried to bring them together, but only the SSIA and the SURA came together in the SSA (Shan State Army). In 1968 the SSA was infiltrated by the Burma Communist Party (BCP) and was divided into pro- and anti-BCP factions. The SURA faction headed by Moe Hein broke away from the SSA. Since then the SSA and SURA have been unreconcilable enemies. In 1975 Khun Kya Nu became chairman of the SSA and contacts with the BCP increased; the SSA faction came under BCP domination and fought alongside the BCP's "Battalion 4045". In 1975, a few leaders and 600 rank and file Shan insurgents went for training at the BCP centre. In 1976 Sai Hla Aung, San Main, and Ohn Main conferred with members of the BCP Central Committee.

In March 1978 BCP ties were a heated issue at the Shan insurgent "central committee". The faction headed by Khun Ohn Paung was in favor, and that headed by Sai Hla Aung was against. When Khun Ohn Paung fell in 1978, Sai Hla Aung assumed leadership of the SSA. Shan insurgent groups divided into "Division 1" under Sae Nun and Sai Laik, and "Division 2" under San Mai.

In 1982 SSA leaders went to Pang Sai to confer with the BCP, received a few arms, and began to implement the so-called "spirit of '75". Conflicts increased among SSA leaders such as Sai Hla Aung, Sai Laik, Sae Nun, and San Maing. On April 20, 1983 Sai Hla Aung surrendered. In Nov. 1982 Sae Nun died, and SSA leadership was "grabbed" by Sai Laik and San Maing.

Meanwhile, the SURA or Moe Hein faction and the Loimaw faction had joined forces for drug trafficking and jade smuggling. Moe Hein, alias Kwan Sein, was a BCP leader who surrendered to government forces in 1958, but he soon joined Shan insurgent Sao Nwe's group. He has also "demonstrated his ruthlessness and cruelty" with the KMT. Despite his "high-sounding aspirations...for...their Shan brethren" Moe Hein's group "has all along been waging...a vicious campaign of genocide against the Shan people.

The SSA faction under Sai Laik and San Maing was reorganized as "Brigade 1" and "Brigade 2", with Brigade 1 leader Sai Laik receiving BCP aid. In May 1984, San Maing's Brigade 2 broke away and joined Moe Hein's SURA. In April 1984 San Maing and Moe Hein formed the TRC (Shan Revolutionary Council), but it was soon split by rivalry between its leaders San Maing, Moe Hein, Kan Sit, and others.

The Loimaw insurgents have long been engaged in drug growing, refining, and trafficking under "opium king" Khun Sa in the Loi Lung region, the Maingmaw region, and the "golden triangle". Fortified in their Danyawaddy and Hsansu camps, they have long been engaged in the drug business.

Following Burma Army campaigns in early 1987, the BCP camps at Kyuhkok, Mentang, Namtao, Loiwing, Hsihsivan/Tapang, Mongpau, Nawngma, Kunghing, and Manhio fell and the BCP fled with much loss of life. The BCP and SSA then took over the Loimaw insurgents' opium fields and refineries.

In fact, the BCP, SSA, SURA, and Loimaw insurgents "are all after self-enrichment through the lucrative drug business." They "have now reached a totally untenable predicament" which will lead to "their bitter end." (WPD 12/19).

Anti-insurgents Armed

Dec. 18: On Dec. 17 a ceremony was held to present fire-arms to members of the anti-insurgent group of Charapatti Village, Tatkon Village-tract, Myitkyina Township. Officials and over 5,500 working people from Charappati, Saya-Kahtawng, Mansein, and Yayatakawng villages participated. (WPD 12/20) [this item selected as typical of many others of similar purport printed every month. HCMacD]

ECONOMIC

Shwewamye Columns

Nov. 30: The second batch of Shwewamye military and police volunteers, totalling 1,500, left for five townships in Rangoon division to help farmers from Nov. 30-Dec. 14. The first batch worked with 26,772 farmers from Nov. 16-29. (WPD 12/1) - Dec. 14: The third batch of 1,500 left for five townships in Rangoon division to work until Dec. 28. (WPD 12/15)

UNDP Computer Workshop

Dec. 1: The UNDP and Ministry of Construction opened a two week workshop of microcomputer applications in water supply and sanitation system designs, which is being attended by 12 trainees. (WPD 12/2)

Truck Transport

Dec. 4: The Petroleum Products Supply Corporation has opened 24-hour-service filling stations throughout the country, to fulfill the requirements of cargo trucks and passenger buses. Therefore private operators should reduce their charges, and stop dangerous overloading of vehicles. (WPD Editorial, Dec. 5)

Boat Licences Due

Dec. 9: An advertisement from the Burma Ports Corporation reminds that 1987 licences for river craft and passenger boats expire Dec. 31, and that 1988 licences may be obtained beginning Dec. 1, 1987. Tindals must also renew their certificates. (WPD 12/9)

Edible Oils

Dec. 23: Per capita consumption of cooking oil (hsee) has risen from 3.0 to 4.64 viss per year, and the population is growing. Farmers are growing more oil crops; in the up-country they are concentrating on the fast-maturing, "three-month" winter groundnut, and in paddy-growing areas on winter groundnut and sunflower. The Prisons Department has been planting oilpalms at Kawthaung since 1981-82; thousands of acres are doing well and 600 acres are ready for harvest. Increased production of cooking oil saves foreign exchange, and provides more animal food and industrial raw materials. (WPD Editorial, 12/23)

Land Revenues in Crops

Dec. 26: 580 farmers from Kanhla village-tract, Tatkon township, paid in 1,880 baskets of paddy as land revenues on Dec. 22 at the Myoma revenue collection centre. At the Khit Aye centre, farmers from Phyoke Khwe village-tract paid in 800 baskets of paddy, those from Nyaunglu 1,000 baskets, and those from Thitseinbin 200 baskets. (WPD 12/27) [Typical of almost daily items this month about farmers paying their land revenues in kind, under the new laws, rather than in cash.--HCMacD]

Rangoon Taxes

Dec. 26: The Assessors' Department of the Rangoon City Development Commission is taking measures to collect more taxes. The

Ky 3.8 million collected by the RCDC for the first quarter of 1987-88 is less than the target. The taxes go for such things as water supply, installing and maintaining lamp-posts, garbage collection and sewage disposal, and building bridges and pavements. (WPD 12/27)

Rainfall in Rangoon

Rainfall since January 1, 1987, in inches, at Rangoon's three weather stations of Rangoon Airport (RA), Kaba-Aye (KA), and Central Rangoon (CR) was:

As of		RA	KA	CR			
December 1		97.01	100.98	95.43	December 15		97.01 100.98
				95.43			
December 30		97.01	100.98	95.43			

CULTURAL

Indigenous Medicine

Dec. 2: The Institute of Indigenous Medicine opened in Mandalay in 1976, and each year 50 trainees complete its 3-year course. The Indigenous Medicine Hospital in Mandalay opened 8 months before the Institute was founded. There is growing appreciation of indigenous medicine among urban as well as rural people, and among practitioners of western medicine. The numerous contrasting schools of indigenous medicine should be integrated into a single school, and the traditional tendency to maintain secret formulas could well be eliminated. (WPD Editorial, 12/2)

Workers Radio Play

Dec. 2: A radio play entitled "Tay Thi Phwe Lo Gon Pyu Mai", sent by the Model Workers Scheme Central Body, was recorded at the Myanma Athan. Story by Loktha Kyemon Ko Ohn Kyaw and script by Cartoon Htin Lin. (WPD 12/3) - Dec. 8: It will be broadcast Dec. 12. (WPD 12/10)

Kachin Harvest Feast

Dec. 5: The 1987 traditional harvest feast of Kachin State was held on Nov. 28 at the middle school in Lonshayan Village-tract, Putao Township. (WPD 12/6)

Mandalay Pagoda Bells

Dec. 7: A feature article by Khin Maung Nyunt, entitled "The Bells of Maha Loka Yanthi (Ain Daw Ya) Pagoda", discusses the eight bells of the Pagoda in Mandalay, beginning with the first on the left as one leaves the Northern causeway. Bell No. 1 was cast in 1850, and is tuned in D. It has a ten line inscription, and was donated by Thado Mingyi Maha Min Hla Min Kyaw, lord of Myan Aung, and his wife; the inscription notes that the Ain-daw-ya pagoda is on the Min-te-kyun islet in the Thingaza River. Weight not legible.

No. 2 was cast in 1850 and is tuned in D flat. It has an 18 line inscription by Maha Min Htin Kyaw Swa saying the bell was struck by King Pagan. The bell weighs 67,000 ticals (670 viss), and is 3 ft. high, 2 ft. 7 in. at the mouth, and 3.10 inches in thickness.

No. 3 was cast in 1854 and tuned in D. It is named Maha Vira Makuta Ganta Raja ("Great Heroic Crowned King of the Bells"), and has an 18 line inscription noting King Mindon's genealogy, capitals, and accession date. The bell weighs 60,000 ticals (600 viss); its casting was supervised by the Mayor of Bhamo, Atwin Wun, Maha Minhla Sithu and the inscription was by Min Htin Sithu.

No. 4 was cast in 1921 and tuned in C. It has a 13 line inscription identifying its donors as Daw San, owner of Zeya Thiyain rice mill, her daughter Me Mi, and grandson Mang Thet Tin of Daung Yoe Quarter, Thirihay Mar, Mandalay. The bell was cast on the 1st waxing day of Nadaw, BE 1283. (WPD 11/7)

Dec. 8: Bell No. 5 was cast in 1911 and is tuned in A flat. It has a 6 line inscription, stating that it was recast in 1911 by the Pagoda trustees at a cost of Rs 45/- and weighs 100 viss. King

Pagan's ancestry is noted.

No. 6 was cast in 1850 and is tuned in B. It has a 12 line inscription identifying the donor as Thado Mingyi Maha Min Khaung Min Htin, Minister in charge of the King's elephants, who started as a page boy but was promoted for his knowledge of literature and medicine. His merits are listed including an ordination hall, a causeway, a hti for the pagoda, a devotional hall, a rest-house, a monastery, and water tanks and wells. The bell weighs 68,000 ticals (680 viss).

No. 7 was cast in 1931 and is tuned in E flat. It has 7 lines of inscription, identifying the donors as two elderly ladies, Daw Daw Gyi and Daw Daw Pway of Pansodan Quarter, Mandalay, who bear the titles of "Kyaung Amagyi" (builder of monastery). The bell weighs 75 viss, and a 5 viss brass gong was also given. It was cast by Ko Kyaw and his wife Ma Bwin, Kyithun Khat Tan (Brass Smiths' quarter), Mandalay.

No. 8 was cast in 1889 and tuned in G flat. 6 lines of inscription give its donors as Phayadaga Saya Zan and Phayadaga Me Po, of Chan Aye Tha Zan Quarter, West Mandalay.

The Ain-daw-ya Pagoda played a role in Burmese nationalism. Its "Set-lay-khan zayat" in the northwest corner of the precinct was the venue of the great General Strike of 1938. (WPD 12/8)

Toungoo Period Writers

Dec. 7: The sixth in the series by Aung Moe discusses "Zeya Rantameik of Ketumady" (1578-1638), and the history of Taungoo kings. The poet was appointed Commander of Kaung Sit troops, and was also known as "Kaung Sit Daing Hmu Min Zeya Rantameik." He composed ratu, and in 1605 composed an e-chin in honor of Minre Nara, grandson of the Lord of Toungoo, painting twelve word pictures of life in Kentumady (Toungoo), one for each month. In 1610 he was captured and taken to Ava, where he composed ratus in honor of his new master and a mawgun in honor of the Royal elephant Phon Tun Pa. (WPD 12/7).

Dec. 14: The seventh article discusses "Shin Than Kho, Shin Twe, & Shin Myat Khaung." When King Anaukpetlun of Ava carried away poets from Taungoo in 1610, he also took the 12-year old Shin Than Kho (1598-1638), the son of Rantameik's sister. Shin Than Kho was named Receiver of Presents, and composed a politically ambiguous ratu which almost got him executed. Later he wrote a highly-rated e-chin in honor of the King's son Minre Deibba, and a mawgun in honor of the King's elephant Ratna Pyaung Mon.

A third abducted poet was Yawe Shin Twe (1568-1618) who, as maid of honor in the Toungoo court, had composed an-chins and ratus. Her best-known work, written in Ava, was the an-chin on the 55 court ladies' hair styles of the Pagan period, a valuable reference work. One of these styles, the hsabinsuly (now called kyettaungsi), is still seen on young girls.

Shin Myat Khaung (1538-1588), known as "Pe Thu Nge Sar Shin Myat Khaung", served under King Bayin Naung in the court of Hanthawaddy, and in 1574 composed the "Thakin Gyi E-chin" in honor of Princess Thakin Gyi, daughter of the Lord of Sagaing and granddaughter of the King. (WPD 12/14)

Dec. 21: The eighth in this series discusses "Raza Dhatu Kalyar" (1559-1602), a daughter of King Bayin Naung who led a tumultuous personal and political life, but was a gifted poet and wrote many ratus. (WPD 12/21)

Dec. 28: The ninth in this series is about "Nat Shin Maung" (1578-1623), "the most colourful character in all Burmese history." Grandson of King Bayin Naung, he had a career as musician (player of harp and the hnyin), poet ("the king of romantic ratus"), sportsman (polo), lover (he wooed his much older aunt), valient fighter (he saved Hanthawaddy from Ayuthia after the Crown Prince was killed, spiteful (he betrayed King Anaukpetlun of Ava), sentimental (in his old age he became a Christian), and faithful to his friends (including the Portuguese De Brito). Of his love ratus it has been said that "they flowed not from his brain but from his breast." But

he also wrote ratus on polo, military exercises, and tatooning! (WPD 12/28)

Water Colour Exhibition

Dec. 9: The sixth Chindwin water colour exhibition, sponsored by the Monywa Township Traditional Artists and Artisans Council Organizing Committee, is open Dec. 7-12 in the Council gallery in the east wing of Bogyoke [Scott] Market, Rangoon. There are 102 paintings by Lu Tin, U Than, Hla Tin Tun, Maung Win, Nyo Thein, Tin Aung Htaik, Aung Maung, Than Kywe, Ye Myint, Thein Zaw, Khin Maung Nyo, Maung Maung Sann, Pe Khin Oo, Than Saing, Than Aung, and Maung Tin. (WPD 12/9) - Dec. 11: Prices range from Ky 400 to Ky 4,000. "Obviously quicker turnover could result in the artists being able to demand less." The Committee "has been publishing a magazine to promote Burmese arts and sculptures." (WPD Editorial 12/11)

Tipitakadhara Exams

Dec. 9: The 40th Tipitakadhara Examinations will be held at the Phanyin Dhammayon of the Sasana Yeiktha, Rangoon, from Dec. 27-Jan. 28. 160 members of the Sangha will appear for the exams; 76 for the orals and 84 for the written. (WPD 12/10) - Dec. 27: The examinations began. (WPD 12/28)

Myawaddy Photo Awards

Dec. 14: Director (News) U Hla Tun of Myawaddy Magazine presented its 1987 annual photographic awards to Capt. Tin Myint (1st - Ky 3,000), Thabawa Maung Thaung (Mandalay) (2nd - Ky 1,500) and Maung Maung Hla Tint (Mandalay University) (Consolation - Ky 750). (WPD 12/15)

Rakhine Magazine

Dec. 16: "Cover of the the 'Rammawaddy' magazine published by the Ramtree Township People's Council." (WPD photo caption 12/16)

Origin of the word "Pali"

Dec. 21: Lengthy historico-linguistic article by Tint Lwin on the etymology of the word pali, the language of Burmese Buddhism. (WPD 12/21)

Folk-tales Session

Dec. 21-23: A Paper-reading Session on folk tales, sponsored by the Sarpay Beikman Board, was held from Dec. 21-23. Papers included one on the definition of folk tales by U Tin Hla (Maung Myanma), "International Folk Tales" by U Kyaw Aung, "Burmese Folk Tales" by U Kyi Aye (Sinpyhukyun Aung Thein), and "Folk Tales of Indigenous Peoples" by U Min Naing. (WPD 12/22-24)

Cultural Paper Reading

Dec. 30: Paper readings, sponsored by the Culture Committee of the Research Policy Direction Board, continued. At the Fine Arts Research Body session in Sarpay Beikman Hall, papers were read by U Hla Tin (Hla Thamein) on "Burmese Ramayana", U Chit San (Chin San Win) on "Study of current situation of Burmese puppetry," and U Soe Tint on "Study of sculpture in the Pyu Era." At the Nationalities' Culture and Culture-related Subjects Research Body, at the Dept. of Archaeology, a paper was read by Archaeological Chemist U Ba Tint on "Preservation of Mural paintings and Stucco carvings in Myinkaba Kubyaukkyi Temple". (WPD 12/31)

MISCELLANEOUS

Obituaries

Dec. 6: U Ba Swe (Tavoy), Ex-Prime Minister, Naing Ngant Gon-Yi Title Class (1), Ex-Chairman of TUCB, died at 84 Innis Road aged 73. Funeral on Dec. 8. (WPD 12/7)

Dec. 6: The Most Reverend Saw Gregory Hla Gyaw, Archbishop of

the Church of the Province of Burma [Anglican], died in Rangoon aged 55. Funeral at the Cathedral of the Holy Trinity, Dec. 9. Survived by his widow, Naw Wynn Kyi [Joan], and children Muriel Mu Yeh Htoo, Margarita Mu Yeh Hpeh, Juliana Mu Yeh Phaw, Saw Richard Willoughby Way Mu, and Judaline Mu Yeh Khi La. (WPD 12/8)

Dec. 7: Mrs. K.T. Leong, wife of Capt. K.T. Leong (Ex-Chief Pilot and Operations Manager of U.B.A.) died in Rangoon, aged 63. Service at Fatima's Church on Dec. 9. (WPD 12/9)

Dec. 11: State Ovadacariya Sayadaw Bhaddanta Indaca, leading Sayadaw of the Yadama Kan-U Kyaungtaik, Kyaikto Township, Mon State, vasa 82, died at the age of 102. (WPD 12/12)

Dec. 15: Daw Mah Mah (a) Sarah Bi, widow of Barrister-at-law U Thein Maung (a) Khan Sahib Mr. M. Eusoof of Moulmein, died in Moulmein, aged 91. (WPD 12/16)

Dec. 15: U Win Kyi, Foreign Relations Officer, Sports and Physical Education Dept., husband of Daw Hut Lome (Lilian), died in Rangoon, aged 50. (WPD 12/16)

Dec. 19: U Khant (Pantanaw), former MP, Journalist/Writer (Proprietor of Gandalawka and Sarsodaw Magazines), husband of Daw Saw Yin, younger brother of the late U Thant [United Nations Secretary General], died in Rangoon, aged 77. (WPD 12/21)

Dec. 22: Sayamagyi Daw Thit (United Christian High School), State High School (4), Ahlone, wife of the late Maj. T. Po Gyaw, mother of Dr. Cherry Po Gyaw (U.S.A.), etc., died in Rangoon, aged 80. Funeral at Christ Church, Dec. 24. (WPD 12/23),

Crime News

Dec. 7: Seven persons were arrested for che-hti gambling in Hlaing, Dawbon, and Mayangon Townships, Rangoon, together with documents and Ky 10,739 in stakes. (WPD 12/8)

Dec. 11: The Insein police in a Dec. 9 raid on the Aung Wire-mesh factory in Yankin township, Rangoon, and the home of its owner U Win Aung, arrested 23 people for "Lay-gaung-gyin" gambling and showing uncensored videotapes. Seized were Ky 120,895 in stakes, a TV set and video deck, X-rated and other videotapes, a Toyota Publica vehicle, a Nissan Sunny Pick-up truck, and a motor-cycle. [photos] (WPD 12/12)

Dec. 17: Police from the Kamayut Station in Rangoon raided a house on Dec. 5, arrested nine persons for che-hti gambling, and seized materials and Ky 10,205 in stakes. (WPD 12/18)

Dec. 18: Following a Departmental inquiry, six Posts and Telecommunications Corporation technicians in Rangoon were dismissed for illegally installing telephones and cheating those concerned of Ky 75,000. They have been booked under Sections 420/468 of the Penal Code. (WPD 12/19)

Dec. 21: Hlaing Township (Rangoon) police on Dec. 15 raided two houses and arrested two che-hti gamblers, seizing a total of Ky 47,080 in stakes and gambling documents. (WPD 12/22)

Fire Destroys 130 Houses

Dec. 7: A fire in Nanwington Ward of Thingangyun Township, Rangoon, destroyed 130 houses, and left 992 people from 177 households homeless. It broke out at the house of Daw Mae and No. 70, 5th Lane, Nanwington Ward, and destroyed 90 houses in 5th and 6th Lanes and 40 houses in Thumingala Ward. Director General of the Fire Services Department Col. Zaw Min and 38 fire engines fought the fire for about 45 minutes. The homeless are being accommodated in the Payathonsu compound, Nandayama monastery, and Mawlamyaing monastery. (WPD 12/8)

Fire Destroys 180 Houses

Dec. 9: A fire in Ward 3 of Hlaing Township, Rangoon, destroyed 180 houses, leaving 2,514 people from 383 households homeless. One child was killed. Loss is estimated at Ky 1.55 million. The fire broke out at No. 816, Settwin St., Ward 3, and spread to other houses in the western part of 16th-19th Sts., Settwin St., and Setphyat St.,

and the southern part of Hlaing River St. Three empty godowns of the Agricultural and Farm Produce Trade Corporation, and Primary School No. 27, were gutted. A relief camp has been opened at the Khaing-hon-li rice mill compound. (WPD 12/10)

Motor Launches Collide

Dec. 10: Two private-owned motor launches collided in the Twante Canal near milepost 14. The Htay Htay Win, headed from Rangoon to Kyonpyaw, sank; 52 of its 80 passengers have been rescued, and five bodies recovered. (WPD 12/11)

Sports News

Dec. 2: The 1987 Burma Golf Federation President's Cup Championships were won by Zaw Moe (155 strokes in two days), Khin Maung Myint (159) and Myo Win (159). (WPD 12/3)

Dec. 4: The 1987 National Badminton Championship concluded. In men's singles, Win Tun Thein (Customs) defeated Aung Thet Soe (RIT) 15-8, 15-6. In women's singles, Nang Htwe Kham (IWTC) beat Mar Lar Myint (Customs) 11-4, 11-5.

In men's doubles, Win Tun Thein and Myo Than (Customs) defeated Maung Maung and Mying Han (Customs-IWTC) 15-10, 18-15. In women's doubles, Nang Htwe Kham and Mya Lei Sein (IWTC) downed Kyaw Kyaw and Mat Lar Myint (Customs) 2-0 [games?]. In mixed doubles, Win Tun Thein and Kyaw Kyaw (Customs) beat Myint Han and Nang Htwe Kham (IWTC) 15-6, 15-5. (WPD 12/5)

Dec. 6: North-West Command won the National Water-polo Championship. In the national swimming championships, North-West Command won the men's senior division, Linyon the men's junior, and Kokkhine the men's junior junior. Tamwe won the women's senior, Linyon the women's junior, and Linyon the women's junior junior. (WPD 12/7)

Dec. 7: Zaw Moe, of the Putra cup team, won the 36-hole Rangoon Golf Club scratch Gold medal after a sudden-death playoff with N'kru Khin Maung Myint, after the two tied at 159 in the morning and afternoon rounds. (WPD 12/8)

Dec. 9: Defending champion Customs retained the National Chinlon Championship title by defeating Tatmadaw by 1308-1225 points at Aung San Stadium. Transport & Communications and Industry (1) were joint third. In the women's division, Industry (1) won the championship, with Sagaing Division second and Khaing Sabei third. Burma Chinlon Federation President Dr. Khin Maung Win presented the prizes. (WPD 12/10)

Dec. 14: 2,500 trainees are attending the basic and advanced winter sports training courses at Aung San Stadium. (WPD Editorial, 12/14)

Dec. 14: In the Inter-State and Division Thaing Contest, Rangoon won 1st, Mandalay 2nd, and Mon 3rd in the sword-combat thaing contest. Kachin and Rangoon were joint 1st, Shan 2nd, and Mandalay 3rd in the thaing skill contest. Kyaw Lin (Shan) beat Win Aung (Mandalay) in the men's (senior) single-sword combat, and Khin Maung Win (Mandalay) beat Thein Htay (Mon) in the double-sword. San San Maw (Mon) defeated Le Le Win (Mandalay) in the women's (senior) single-sword combat, and Aye Aye Mar (Rangoon) downed Khin Swe Oo (Irrawaddy) in the double-sword. (WPD 12/15)

Dec. 19: The Defence Services Chief of Staff's trophy was awarded to defending champion Rangoon Command in the Third Tatmadaw (Army, Navy and Air Force) Soccer Tournament. Rangoon defeated Central Command by 1-0. (WPD 12/20)

Dec. 26: The 13th Team Championships Golf Tournament (1987) for the Council of State Golf Club was won by the Ministry of Defence (773 total). Runners up were Ministry of Planning and Finance (802) and Ministry of Agriculture and Forests (816). In individual scratch play, U Tun Nyunt (Trade) was first with 154 strokes, followed by Thura U Kyaw Htin (Defence) with 155 and Capt. Tin Maung Tun (Defence) with 157. In the individual handicap event, Maj. Gen. Sein Aung (Defence) was first with 122, followed by U Tun Nyunt (Trade)

with 122 and Lt. Col. Khin Maung Htay (Defence) with 125. (WPD 12/27)

Dec. 30: Judo championships were won as follows:

Men: 60-65 kilos: Kyaw Sein Oo (LID99); 55-60: Khin Maung Htwe (Rangoon); 50-55: Aung Myint (LID99); 45-50: Kyaw Kyaw Naing (Rangoon); 40-45: Tin Maung Latt (Rangoon); 35-40: Kyi Win (Myaungmya); 30-35: Zar Ni Win (Myaungmya); 25-30: Okkar Aye Min (PPF); open (novice): Saw Tun Lwin (PPF).

Women: 50-55 kilos: Mi Mi Tun (PPF); 45-50: Thein Su Myo (Rangoon); 40-45: May May Than (Rangoon); open: Tin Tin Maw (PPF). Prizes were presented by Burma Judo Federation President Maj. Thura Myint Shwe. (WPD 12/31)

Horse Show

Dec. 27: A horse show, sponsored by the Rangoon Riding Club, was held at the Theinbyu Sports Ground, under the direction of Club President Dr. Hla Pe. Overall winner was "Theingi Shwe" from Chauk. (WPD 12/28)

ODDS AND ENDS

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MOTION PICTURE CORPORATION (Foreign Films) --Dec. 14, 1987--

YEYINT, BAYINT, THIHA: BETAAB (1st week)

GON: TORA-SAN'S FORBIDDEN LOVE (2nd week)

THAMADA: MAD MONKEY KUNG FU (9th week)

PAPAWIN: MAD MISSION (4th week)

WIZAYA: FLASH CHALLENGER (1st week)

SANTHIRI: HERO (1st week)

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TV PROGRAMME--Monday, 14-12-87

7:00 pm: (a) Burmese for the Primary Level: (b) Mathematics for the Primary Level

7:30 pm: 1. Song Variety (The BBS Modern Music Troupe)

7:47 pm: 2. Cartoon: (a) Bunco Busters (b) Bedtime bedlam

8:00 pm: 3. News and Weather Report

8:39 pm: 4. "Hla Myo Ta Yar Pann Wai Sar" - A Special Programme For Model Workers

8:46 pm: 5. Battlestar Galactica: "Galactica Discovers Earth" (Part Two)

9:33 pm: 6. The Next Day's Programme

9:34 pm: 7. Close Down

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Working People's Daily "masthead"

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[Full text of Editorial, Dec. 27]

Folk tales for the people

Children are often likened to malleable material such as wax that can easily be shaped into forms of our choice. But such malleability decreases with age. So it is important to mold them when they are still young. One of the most effective methods to nurture a right way of thinking and build up character is through the use of parables which are plentiful in traditional [folk tales].

In every society there happens to be many folk tales handed down from generation to generation by word of mouth. They are well appreciated to this day by all ages. But we cannot say for sure how many such tales especially the fine ones have left us due to lack of records.

The Lanzin Party has encouraged writers to contribute fine

works for the children. The definition for this may be found in the Lanzin Party's policy on literature and journalistic activities which includes one point: "To turn out educative literature by extracting points from the jataka, folk tales and historical records from which lessons can be drawn, which arouse nationalism and which are in line with the socialist revolution."

Every society has its own social values. Folk tales vividly reflect such values. We can learn more about a society after reading its folk tales which serve as a bridge between societies, peoples and countries in promoting mutual understanding.

On reviewing children's literature being published today we will find that there are many works translated into Burmese. But the number of topics translated into foreign languages is negligible. We have our own folk tales with wisdom and enjoyment in them.

The Sarpay Beikman Board of the Ministry of Information has been conducting paper reading sessions since 1965. The recently-concluded session highlighted folk tales. No doubt, new findings and suggestions in the four papers will be beneficial to the literati who bring out children's literature. But new findings and suggestions contained in the papers are known to a limited number of persons. How nice it will be if we are able to publish the sets of papers for the writers and literary enthusiasts as well.

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Policy: The items summarized are those which seem most likely to be of interest outside Burma, including official appointments, foreign travel and visits, economic statistics, military communiqu,s, narcotics, and cultural information. Except for quoted passages, stories are paraphrased in the interests of brevity, but every effort is made to be faithful to the intent of the original. HCMacD.

To Readers: Your comments and suggestions for the Burma Press Summary are most welcome. So is your assistance in increasing our paid circulation, which at present is 25. Write or telephone me at (607) 547-2118.

Hugh C. MacDougall Burma Press Summary No. 9, Dec. 1987