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BURMA PRESS SUMMARY

(from the WORKING PEOPLE'S DAILY)

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This issue includes the WPD for Dec. 25, 29, and 30, 1987, received too late for inclusion in the December issue.

With the beginning of Vol. II, we are refining our categories slightly. FOREIGN AFFAIRS has been divided into INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION, FOREIGN VISITORS, AND BURMESE DELEGATIONS. LABOR,

HEALTH, and SPORTS (which will include international sports activity) have been added.

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DIPLOMATIC

Spanish Ambassador Visits

Jan. 1: Spanish Ambassador Carlos Raparaz paid a courtesy call on Minister for Education U Kyaw Nyein. (WPD 1/2)

Ambassadors' Messages

Jan. 4: On the 40th Anniversary of Independence Day, messages of congratulations were received from the following Ambassadors and Chargs d'Affaires accredited in Rangoon (in order of printing):

Chi Owyang (Singapore); Tongchang Jotikasthira (Thailand); Saly Khamsy (Laos); Mahmoud Ismaiel Sayed A. Issa (Egypt); Mohd Amir Jaafar (Malaysia); Pierfranco Signorini (Italy); Mrs. Olga Chamero Trias (Cuba); Soeharto Partoatmodjo (Indonesia); Dr. Ebrahim Behnam Dehkordy (Iran); Sergei P. Pavlov (USSR); Dr. Baron von Marschall (West Germany); Dr. Indu Prakash Singh (India); Anthony Gustave Vincent (Canada); Dr. Dibya Deo Bhatt (Nepal); Halit Guvener (Turkey); Arnold Peter van Walsum (Netherlands); Branko Vuletic (Yugoslavia); W.K.M. de Silva (Sri Lanka); Julio C. Ferrari (Argentina); Martin R. Morland (UK); Alfredo L. Almendrala Jr. (Philippines); Christopher Leslie Lamb (Australia); Jozsef Olah (Hungary); Benjamin Bassin (Finland); Jens Otterbach (Norway); Frederik Otto Liebe Kier (Denmark); Jaroslav Richter (Czechoslovakia); Olov Ternstrom (Sweden); Nguyen Hoa (Vietnam); Hiroshi Ohtaka (Japan); Byong Hyon Kwon (Republic of Korea); Burton Levin (USA); Georges Sidre (France); Menashe Zipori (Israel); Cheng Ruisheng (China); A.Z.M. Enayetullah Khan (Bangladesh); Rear Admiral Sergio Fernando Cabezus Defeu (Chile); Albert Maes (Commission of the European Communities for South-East Asia); Hans Laabs (Charg,, East Germany); Constantin Popescu (Charg,, Romania); Salahuddin Choudhury (Charg,, Pakistan); Bjorn Carlson (Resident Representative, a.i., UNDP). (WPD 1/4-7)

New Polish Ambassador

Jan. 12: Ambassador Lucjan Mieczkowski presented his credentials to President U San Yu as Polish Ambassador to Burma. (WPD photo caption 1/13)

INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

Soviet Books Presented

Dec. 24: Soviet Ambassador Sergei P. Pavlov presented 155 books to U Ohn Gyaw, Director-General of the Political Department, Ministry of Foreign Affairs. (WPD 12/25)

Jan. 18: Ambassador Pavlov presented 410 books to Foreign Ministry Director-General U Shwe Zin, for distribution to the Rangoon Institute of Technology, and the Ministries of Information and Education. (WPD 1/19)

U.S. Books Presented

Jan. 19: American Ambassador Burton Levin presented 2,323 books to Foreign Ministry Director-General U Shwe Zin, for distribution to the Medical Research Department of the Ministry of Health and to the Universities Central Library. (WPD 1/20)

Japanese Fishing Workshop

Jan. 18: A ceremony was held to inaugurate the Fishing Boat Repairshop, at Gyaungwaing on the western bank of the Hlaing River, Kemmendine Township, Rangoon Division, constructed with assistance from the Japanese International Co-Operation Agency. Present were the Minister for Livestock and Fisheries and the Japanese Ambassador. Begun in 1985-86 with Yen 2.041 million from Japan and Ky 22.12 million from the Burma Government, the shop will repair fish and

prawn trawlers of the Fisheries Corporation. (WPD 1/29)

FOREIGN VISITORS

Danish Foreign Minister

Jan. 7: Danish Foreign Minister Uffe Ellemann-Jensen arrived in Rangoon, accompanied by his wife, Foreign Affairs Undersecretary Kristian Lund-Jensen, and Ambassador to Burma Frederik Otto Liebe Kier. He was welcomed by Foreign Minister U Ye Goung, and later called on President U San Yu and visited a Danish-built fishery inspection vessel at Nanthida Jetty. In the evening, Foreign Minister U Ye Goung hosted a dinner at the Karaweik Hall. (WPD 1/8) // Jan. 8: He called on Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Planning and Finance Thura U Tun Tin. Also present were Minister for Co-operatives U Than Hlaing, Minister for Livestock and Fisheries U Maung Maung Win, and Deputy Minister for Planning and Finance U Nyunt Maung. Later the Danish party toured the Shwedagon. (WPD 1/9) // Jan. 10: The Danish Foreign Minister and his party left Burma, after visiting the Fisheries Corporation cold storage facilities at Kyaukpyu, Rakhine State, on Jan. 8, and Pagan-Nyaung-U on Jan. 9. (WPD 1/11)

Japanese Parliamentarian

Jan. 13: Tadashi Kuranari, former Japanese Foreign Minister and Member of the Japanese House of Representatives arrived on a visit, accompanied by his wife, and later called on Prime Minister Maung Maung Kha. Present were Foreign Minister U Ye Goung and Japanese Ambassador Hiroshi Ohtaka. (WPD 1/14) // Jan. 14: He was received by Deputy Prime Minister Thura U Tun Tin, and visited the National Museum. After a lunch given by Foreign Minister U Ye Goung, he visited the Myanma Gems Corporation and the New Rangoon General Hospital. (WPD 1/15) // Jan. 15: He left Rangoon, after visiting Pegu and the Hlegu Central Agricultural Development Training School. (WPD 1/16)

Hungarian Deputy Minister

Jan. 13: Hungarian Deputy Foreign Minister Dr. Gabor Nagy and party arrived and was greeted by Deputy Foreign Minister U Saw Hlaing. (WPD 1/14) // Jan. 14: He called on Foreign Minister U Ye Goung, and later held talks with U Saw Hlaing, with Deputy Minister for Trade U Yan Naung Soe, and with Deputy Minister for Industry 1 U Khin Maung Maung. He visited the Shwedagon Pagoda, and was given a dinner by U Saw Hlaing. (WPD 1/15) // Jan. 15: He was received by Prime Minister U Maung Maung Kha. Later he called on Deputy Prime Minister Thura U Tun Tin and on Deputy Minister for Agriculture and Forests U Hlaing Mying. A lunch was given by Foreign Minister U Ye Goung. The Hungarian official left Burma in the evening. (WPD 1/16)

Chinese Entertainers

Jan. 14: A Chinese traditional music and magic troupe headed by Deputy Leader of the Central Indigenous Music Committee Zhao Yong Shan, which arrived Jan. 13, called on Minister for Culture and for Information U Aung Kyaw Myint. The troupe will perform at Aung San Gymnasium from Jan. 14-21. (WPD 1/15) // Jan. 17: Minister U Aung Kyaw Myint hosted a lunch for the troupe in the Shwewa Room of the Karaweik Hall. (WPD 1/18) // Jan. 19: The performances have been extended to Jan. 22. (WPD 1/20)

Mauritius Trade Delegation

Jan. 19: A Mauritius Trade Delegation, composed of Minister for Trade and Shipping D. Gungah and three members, arrived to discuss trade affairs. It was welcomed by Minister for Trade U Khin Maung Gyi, and will stay until Jan. 19. (WPD 1/20) // Jan. 21: The delegation left. (WPD 1/22)

U.S. Congress Delegation

Jan. 20: An American Congressional delegation, headed by Rep. Charles B. Rangel, Chairman of the House of Representatives Select Committee on Narcotic and Drug Abuse, visited Burma by special aircraft. He called on Foreign Minister U Ye Goung and Minister for Home and Religious Affairs U Min Gaung, and was briefed on Burmese narcotics drug abuse control by Deputy Minister for Home and Religious Affairs Col. Khin Maung Win, who also hosted a lunch at the Inya Lake Hotel. (WPD 1/21)

Soviet Composers Visit

Jan. 20: Two Soviet composers, Alexandre Pavlovitch Uteshev and Yuliyus Rostislavovitch Andreevas, visiting Burma under the bilateral cultural exchange program, called on Minister for Culture and for Information U Aung Kyaw Myint. They will stay in Burma until Jan. 27. (WPD 1/21) // Jan. 24: Minister for Culture and for Information U Aung Kyaw Myint gave them a lunch. (WPD 1/25)

Australian Police Visitors

Jan. 25: Australian Federal Police Liaison Officers Colin Mcevoy and Bernie Doyle, accompanied by Australian Ambassador Christopher Leslie Lamb, called on Minister for Home and Religious Affairs U Min Gaung. (WPD 1/26)

BURMESE DELEGATIONS

[No items this month. -- HCM]

BURMA GAZETTE

Probationary Appointments

Jan. 9: The Council of State made the following probationary appointments:

U Shwe Kyi, Deputy Director, Ceramics Industries Corporation, to be Director-General, Project Appraisal and Progress Reporting Department, Ministry of Planning and Finance.

U Tin Latt, General Manager, to be Managing Director, Road Transport Corporation, Ministry of Transport and Communications. (WPD 1/9)

Transfers

Jan. 9: The Council of State made the following transfers and appointments:

U Maung Maung Aye, Managing Director, Hotel and Tourist Corporation, to be Managing Director, Paper, Stationary, Printed Matter and Photographic Stores Trade Corporation, Ministry of Trade.

U Thaw Dar Sein, [to exchange positions with U Maung Maung Aye].

U Maung Maung Han, Managing Director, Myanma Economic Bank, to be Chairman, Union of Burma Bank, Ministry of Planning and Finance. (WPD 1/9)

Appointments Confirmed

Jan. 9: The Council of State confirmed the probationary appointments, after one year, of:

U Ko Ko Gyi as Managing Director, Myanma Insurance Corporation, Ministry of Planning and Finance.

U Khin Kyaw as Director-General, Revenue Appellate Tribunal, Ministry of Planning and Finance. (WPD 1/9)

Jan. 23: The Council of State confirmed the probationary appointments, after one year, of:

U Tin Hla as Director-General, General Affairs Department, Ministry of Home and Religious Affairs.

U Saw Vawter Loo as Director-General, Irrigation Department, Ministry of Agriculture and Forests.

U Hla Pe as Managing Director, Timber Corporation, Ministry of Agriculture and Forests.

Col. Win Sein as Managing Director, Burma Railways Corporation, Ministry of Transport and Communications.

U Thaung Sein as Director-General, Waterways Department, Ministry of Transport and Communications.

GOVERNMENT

Law Course Ends

Dec. 29: The in-service Legal Affairs and Management Training Course No. 29 concluded. The seven week course was attended by 67 law officers. (WPD 12/30)

New Legal Precedent Set

Dec. 31: Overruling a Pegu Division Court decision based on English Law, that a minor daughter cannot seek a maintenance allowance from her father, the Central Court ruled that English law should not be applicable, and that the case should rather be based on justice, equity, and good conscience in terms of Lawkapala Taya (Principles upholding the Universe) and Burmese customary law. Since a father is responsible for maintaining a child, the minor has a right to file suit against a father who has failed in his duties. The Pegu Court decree is set aside and the case of Ma Aye Ti Nyein reopened. (WPD 1/1)

Constitution Day Observed

Jan. 3: Today is the 14th Anniversary of the adoption of the Constitution of the Socialist Republic of the Union of Burma in 1974. The Constitution was approved by 90% of the 14 million people who voted in the referendum held Dec. 15-31, 1973. "For the first time in our history, a socialist democratic State of peasants, workers and the working people came to be firmly constituted. (WPD Editorial, 2/3)

Independence Day Celebrated

Jan. 4: The three political objectives laid down by the BSPP for the 40th Anniversary of Independence Day are: "for every citizen to collectively defend and safeguard the independence and sovereignty of the State to ensure their perpetuity; for all the citizens to strive for further economic development of the State; and to eliminate the destructive elements by the strength of the people." They should be implemented simultaneously. (WPD Editorial, 1/4) // Jan. 4: BSPP Chairman U Ne Win and his wife Daw Ni Ni Myint attended the 40th Anniversary dinner hosted by President U San Yu and his wife Daw Than Shein. Present, with their wives, were all top Burmese officials and the Diplomatic Corps and Military Attach,s. (WPD 1/5)

Religious Titles Conferred

Jan. 4: Council of State Notification No. 1/88 conferred the title of Abhidhaja Maha Rattha Guru on Bhaddanta Janeyabuddhi, Maha Withokdayon Taikthit, Mandalay South-West Township, Mandalay Division. The Title of Agga Maha Pandita was conferred on five sayadaws. (WPD 1/4)

Titles Conferred

Jan. 4: Council of State Notification No. 2/88 conferred the title of Naing-Ngant Gon-Yi Class I on U Maung Maung Win and U Than Nyunt. (WPD 1/4)

Hero Titles and Medals

Jan. 4: Council of State Notification No. 3/88 conferred the title of Thura on Maj. Sein Win (BC 12086, No. 12 Burma Regiment) and on Quartermaster Sergeant Khin Maung (No. 319156, No. 12 Burma Regiment). The Gallantry Medal was conferred on 154 soldiers [names and regiments given]; the Medal (Second Class) for Excellent Performance in the Social Field on 5 civilians; the Medal (Third Class) for Excellent Performance in the Social Field on 27 civilians; the Ye Thiha Medal on 3 policemen; the Ye Thura Medal on 3 policemen; the Ye Bala Medal on 5 policemen; the Ye Kyaw Swa Title on one

policeman; and the Ye Kyawthu Medal on 2 policemen [names given]. Notification No. 4/88 conferred the Military Good Service Medal on 59 soldiers and 38 retired soldiers. Notification No. 5/88 conferred Good PPF Service Medals on 23 policemen and 10 retired. Notification No. 6/88 conferred Good Public Service Medals on 204 public service personnel and 132 retired. Notification No. 7/88 conferred Public Service Medals on 17,065 public service personnel and 921 retired; and the Law and Order and Rule of Law Medals on 35,673 public service personnel and 1,413 retired. Notification No. 8/88 conferred PPF Public Service Medals on 720 policemen and 28 retired. Notification No. 9/88 conferred PPF Joint Operation Medals on 392 policemen and 17 retired. (WPD 2/4)

Peasant Revolt Honored

Jan. 4: Council of Ministers Notification No. 1/88 awarded a lump sum of Ky 10,000 and a monthly pension of Ky 200 to U Tun Maung-Paukaung, for participation in the [1930's] Saya San movement. (WPD 1/4)

Education Minister Resigns

Jan. 8: U Kyaw Nyein, Minister for Education and Pyithu Hluttaw member for Mandalay North-West Township (1), was permitted to resign effective Jan. 8 under Section 4 of the Resignations and Replacements Law. (WPD 1/9)

By-Elections Held

Jan. 9: By-elections were held in Rangoon Division to fill 15 vacant seats in Township People's Councils, and 59 in Ward/Village-tract Councils. (WPD 1/10)

Kachin State Day

Jan. 10: The 40th Anniversary of Kachin State Day was celebrated in Myitkyina, as 20,000 people from 17 wards and 6 surrounding villages converged on the Kachin State People's Council House. Presiding was Kachin State People's Council Chairman Lt. Col. M. Zau Yaw, and Executive Committee member U Satnwe Hsataw was Master of Ceremonies. (WPD 1/14)

Kayah State Day

Jan. 15: The 36th Anniversary of Kayah State Day was celebrated at the Independence Monument Grounds in Loikaw. Present was Kayah State Party Regional Committee Chairman U Tha Shim, and over 11,450 working people. (WPD 1/16) // Jan. 20: Kayah State has 4,530 square miles and a population of 184,000. The Lawpita Hydroelectricity Plant provides industrial and domestic power. The Loikaw Marble Factory produces marble tiles. Mawchi Mines has rich mineral reserves that earn increasing amounts of foreign exchange. Ngwedaung Dam and other irrigation networks help towards achieving or exceeding local needs. 40 crops are grown, and teak and hardwoods are found in the forests. (WPD editorial, 1/20)

Union Flag Journey

Jan. 22: The Union Flag, which has been in Rangoon City Hall during the year, was moved to a silver bowl on the dais in Maha Bandoola Park, [as the beginning of its annual journey through the 14 States and Divisions, culminating in its arrival at the Kyaikkasan Fairgrounds in Rangoon for the annual Union Day celebrations on Feb. 12]. It was then carried through Rangoon, and by navy vessel down the Rangoon River and Twante Canal to overnight at Shwelaung in Irrawaddy Division. (WPD 1/23)

The Flag arrived in Wakema (Jan. 23); Bassein (Jan. 24); Henzada (Jan. 25); Okshitpin, Padaung Township, Pegu Division (Jan. 26); Mindon, Magwe Division (Jan. 27); Kyaukpyu, Rakine State (Jan. 28); Matupi, Chin State (Jan. 29); Mindat (Jan. 30). Everywhere there were elaborate ceremonies [described in detail]. (WPD various dates)

Throughout the month, short articles described how workers and

peasants contributed voluntary labor or paid land revenues "as a gesture hailing the 41st Anniversary of Union Day."

Pyithu Hluttaw Vacancy

Jan. 22: Council of State Notification No. 14/88 states that the Pyithu Hluttaw seat of the Matupi Township (2) constituency, Chin State, has fallen vacant with the death of member U He Ha on Dec. 23, 1987. (WPD 1/23)

Ne Win Visits Northwest

Jan. 27: BSPP Chairman U Ne Win, accompanied by Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Defense Thura U Kyaw Htin, Minister for Industry 1 U Tint Swe, Minister for Mines U Than Tin, Chief of Staff Gen. Saw Maung, and numerous other officials, toured the North-West Command Area from Jan. 23-27.

On Jan. 23 they arrived in Mandalay, and after meeting regional officials, visited the Mandalay Indigenous Medical Institute and the People's Hospital (Indigenous Medicine). On Jan. 24, Chairman U Ne Win met with local officials and peasant leaders from Mandalay and Sagaing Divisions at the Yadanabon Yeiktha meeting hall in Nanmyo Palace Grounds, and later visited the Maya Lawkamarazein Kuthodaw Pagoda at the foot of Mandalay Hill. On Jan. 25, the Chairman visited, by helicopter, the Ela Metallurgical Research and Development Centre Project, and heard reports. The next day he visited the project. He returned to Rangoon on Jan. 27. (WPD 1/28)

LABOR

Shwewamye Columns

Dec. 28: The fourth batch of Shwewamye military and police volunteers, totalling 1,500, left for five townships in Rangoon Division to assist agricultural workers from Dec. 28-Jan. 8. The third batch worked with 20,732 farmers from Dec. 14-27. (WPD 12/29)

Peasants Day Committee

Jan. 26: The 1988 Peasants Day Observance Central Committee held its first meeting, and was addressed by BSPP General Secretary U Aye Ko.

He said the three political objectives for this year were: "(1) to strive to consolidate and extend the organizational setup and keep their leadership of the Peasants Asiayone at all levels dynamic; (2) for peasants to carry out agricultural production work with might and main for the successful implementation of the economic plan of the State; and (3) for peasants to constantly join hands with the Pyithu Tatmadaw for ensuring peace and tranquillity in the country."

More than 25 million acres are under cultivation, and 13% are irrigated. Crop production, including paddy, increased considerably in 1986-87, but further efforts are needed to meet domestic consumption, since with a population of 38 million and a growth rate of 2% there will be about 50 million people in the year 2000. However, "only after domestic consumption needs had been met would the surplus be exported."

U Aye Ko discussed the decontrol of most crops, and the need to pay land revenues and water and irrigation taxes with planned crops within the prescribed times.

Peasants should also join in the fight against insurgents, who are "disintegrating, deserting their headquarters, and running away in disarray." "Efforts must be made to prevent the insurgents from penetrating into consolidated areas and for the people to search them out and give information about them conscientiously to expose them." (WPD 1/27)

MILITARY

BCP Denounced

Jan. 2: In a feature article entitled "The demoniacal BCP",

Kunblai accuses the BCP of coercing enlistments, trafficking in narcotics, and liquidating opponents. Males from 30-40 are forced into BCP village militia, and those from 15-30 become BCP armed personnel. One in every two males in a family are forced into military service. BCP soldiers are paid only Ky 10 per month, and rice is rationed to 14 tins per day for 10 people; no curry is supplied. The BCP "are sending the youth to the death-trap." (WPD 1/2)

Insurgent Atrocities

Jan. 2: KNU insurgents from Brigade No. 6 on Dec. 14 entered Myauk-kya-in village in Kawkareik Township and wounded a monk and a woman, burned 54 houses and a co-op, valued at Ky 700,000. KIA insurgents on Dec. 15 entered Shan-tein village near Naphaw, Waingmaw Township, and destroyed 24 houses. KIA insurgents on Dec. 18 entered nearby Hsin-byaw-kataung and destroyed 7 houses. BCP insurgents on Dec. 16 entered Nant-khat village, Kengtung Township, killed 2 villagers and wounded one, and burned 55 houses. KNU Karen insurgents on Dec. 20 entered Khale village, Kha-in-seikkyi Township, and fired on the don dance contest, killing six and wounding 38. (WPD 2/3)

KNU Attack

Jan. 5: KNU insurgents fired launcher and small arms at a convoy of 3 cars travelling from Tavoy to Ye on Dec. 28, killing 3 passengers and wounding 9. The incident occurred at the 52 mile point, four furlongs from Kalein-Aung village. (WPD 1/6)

KIA Atrocities

Jan. 6: KIA insurgents on Dec. 29 entered Taungkham village in Kutkai Township and killed three villagers. (WPD 1/7)

Jan. 8: A KIA mine wounded 4 villagers near Inkharan village, Waingmaw Township, on Dec. 22. A student at the Handicraft School of the Christian Association, Kyaynan Ward, Momauk Township, was mutilated by a mine on Dec. 25. In the same area, three others were injured by two mine explosions on Dec. 26, one while entering church. (WPD 1/9)

Insurgents Surrender

Jan. 7: 23 insurgents surrendered, with their arms, from Dec. 1-23, 1987. (WPD 1/8) // Jan. 8: 26 insurgents surrendered from Dec. 24-31. (WPD 1/9) [names and details given]

Bomb Explosion

Jan. 10: Eight passengers were killed and 40 injured when a bomb exploded under a seat on a passenger train from Mandalay to Rangoon on Jan. 9. The explosion occurred at milestone 017 out of Rangoon's Pazundaung railway station. The explosion is believed to have been caused by KNU insurgents. Killed were Maung Myo Zaw (9) of Kyauktada Township; Daw Than Nwe (48), joint secretary of the Toungoo Township Lanzin Youth Organizing Committee; Maung Win Thein of Toungoo; Dr. Kyi Kyi Htwe (28) of Mandalay; U Tin Ngwe (42) of Sagaing; Maung Hsan Lin Myo (19) of Pabedan Township; Maung Tin Win of Toungoo; and an unidentified man. [name of another woman killed not given] (WPD 1/11)

KNU Attack

Jan. 12: On December 21 two vehicles returning from Baugali village in Thandaung Township ran over a KNU mine near Thandaung Myothit. Insurgents then opened fire, killing one Karen passenger and wounding another. (WPD 1/13)

Insurgent Activities

Jan. 16: A feature article entitled "Thieves who are shouting 'Stop Thief'" by Tun Zaw Htwe says that the Pyithu Tatmadaw [armed forces] "solemnly observes the Four Oaths, the Ten-Point Pledge and

the Sixty-point Code of Conduct" in addition to carrying out self-cultivation so as to be imbued with "such good traits as the Three Skills, Maturity of Socialist Consciousness, Excellent Discipline, Zeal and Perseverance and Dutifulness."

In contrast, the insurgents cause "destruction to the lives, limbs and properties of the people."

On Dec. 20, Deputy Company Commander Mahn San Thein of No. 4 Co., No. 6 Battalion, of the KNU Karen insurgents opened fire on the Karen New Year ceremony in Khale Tagundaing village, Kya-in-Seikkyi Township, killing six and wounding 38 others. On Dec. 14, KNU insurgents wounded a monk and a child, and burned down 52 houses in North Kya-in village, Kawkareik Township, for a loss of Ky 700,000.

On Dec. 15, KIA insurgents burned 24 houses in Shantaing village, Waingmaw Township. On Dec. 19 another KIA group burned 7 houses in Hsinbyawkataung village, Waingmaw Township.

On Dec. 10, a mine planted by the KNU in a passenger coach on the Mandalay-Rangoon Express killed 8 and wounded 40.

"Those who are supporting from outside the activities of the internal insurgents...include those who call themselves 'human rights organization.' Some insurgents... send false and distorted reports to these organizations to shed bad light on the Pyithu Tatmadaw. A group of people outside the country who call themselves 'human rights organization' think, on account of these false reports, that it is the Tatmadaw that is carrying out destructive activities. As a matter of fact, those who are carrying out atrocious acts...are the insurgents themselves who send false and fabricated reports to them."

"...it is not that the organizations outside the country do not know the true nature...of the insurgents..., they have complete knowledge of this; they know the ins and outs of the insurgents but it is not strange that they stand on the side of the insurgents who are doing harm to the State...and ...that they maliciously spread false rumours.... Some organizations which have no sense of justice at all take bribes from the insurgents and spread rumours making all sorts of noises."

The population is now 38.59 million and "the total number of those that...are carrying out destructive activities is about 20,000" or 0.05%. "They are getting desperate as their days are numbered." (WPD 1/16)

KNU Defector Talks

Jan. 15: KNU defector Saw Maung Goon, aged 21, of the special saboteurs company of the KNU central security unit, revealed that one Po Thingyan planted the mine on the Mandalay-Rangoon Express train Jan. 10 that killed 8 and wounded 40. They were among 17 people trained in sabotage at Noday camp by Capt. Wah and Sgt. Margun. When the course was completed Dec. 1, they were sent to Nyaunglebin, to plant bombs, blow up trains, and set Pegu on fire. Another part of the group led by Saw Chit Thu went to the Bilin area, to plant mines at the Bilin sugar mill, trains, and the Sittang bridge. They were given poison pills in case of capture. Saw Maung Goon's group had 2 TNT explosives, 3 time-bombs, 1 incendiary bomb, 2 American hand grenades, 1 9 mm. pistol, and 25 rounds of ammunition. He gave himself up in Kyauktada Township on Jan. 5. A search is on for Po Thingyan and Saw Chit Thu. (WPD 1/16)

Insurgent Leaders Denounced

Jan. 25: A feature article by Tun Zaw Htwe entitled "Three paper tigers" denounces BCP leader Ba Thein Tin, KNU Karen insurgent leader Nga Mya, and KIA Kachin insurgent leader Brang Seng.

Ba Thein Tin, "whose health is deteriorating seriously", is receiving medical treatment in a refuge in a border area. The BCP is now concentrating on the opium business; they "are now able to get heroin produced in the border areas" and are engaged in the "yellow opium" business.

Nga Mya lives in luxury on the border; he has US\$ 200 million and is getting richer. He has set up companies abroad with money

"obtained from robbing the people."

Brang Seng "is a devil incarnate." Even in school he misbehaved. In October 1987, he travelled to 3 Asian and 2 European countries on a false Taiwan passport. The [Japanese] Asahi newspaper quoted him as saying the KIA had 8,000 men (actually it is about 3,000). On Nov. 17, the English-language radio of a Western European country interviewed him, and he accused the Burma army of murders in both Kachin and Karen States; "That was just sheer propoganda." Some foreign correspondents "who knew of the true facts" contradicted him; "Thus Brang Seng's lies were laid bare." He stayed in a major Western European city for a week and tried to visit the United States. He was refused admission to the U.S. because of being a narcotics trafficker. He has sent his son "Seng Gu" to the United States.

Brang Seng still hopes to visit the United States, and "he has a tricky plan." He claimed to be able to send back the remains of U.S. airmen from a C-47 that had crashed in what is now KIA territory during World War II. He arrived back at Hweponlaung camp on Dec. 14, where Ma Da Ta chairman Saw Maurel was staying, and ordered his men to search for the plane. But KIA military leader Zaw Maing said they had no time to search for it. "Brang Seng's trip round the world to deceive others into helping him by covering up his treacherous acts is shameful."

The three insurgents are "paper tigers who are trying to get foreign help to enable them to continue to carry out their destructive activities." (WPD 1/25)

KIA Atrocities

Jan. 26: A group from No. 1 company, No. 8 battalion, of the KIA insurgents on Jan. 15 killed one and wounded one villager at Mawtauk village, Namtu Township. (WPD 1/17)

Diplomats Visit Kachin State

Jan. 29: BSPP officials, foreign diplomats and military attach ,s, and journalists toured the Northern Command area Jan. 28-29, escorted by Colonel General Staff Col. Tin Oo and Director of Defense Services Intelligence Col. Khin Nyunt. At Myitkyina they were briefed, and Col. Khin Nyunt said the tour had been arranged "so as to dissipate the doubts that might be caused by the fabrications and propoganda of the insurgents and the false reports and slanderous writings by some foreign journals, newspapers, and magazines.

Lt. Col. M. Zau Yaw, Kachin State People's Council Chairman briefed the visitors on Kachin State. There are 18 townships, 85 wards, and 614 village tracts, and as of October 1986-87 the population was 969,000 (481,000 males and 488,000 females). Kachins, Shans, Nagas, and Burmans live in Kachin State. The Kachin race is composed of Jingphaw, Laowo, Lachik, Rawang, Lisu, and Zaiwa. They profess Buddhism, Christianity and other religious beliefs, and earn their livelihood by farming, slash-and-burn cultivation, gardening and livestock breeding, etc.

Among the people's representatives, 20 Pyithu Hluttaw members are from Kachin State, and there are 51 Kachin State People's Council memers, 723 Township Council members, and 4,737 Ward/Village-tract Council members. He (Col. M. Zau Yaw) himself is a Kachin national and the majority of People's Council members are Kachin nationals so that "the residents of Kachin State are now in a position to shape their own destiny."

In industry, the State-owned Namti Sugar Mill, using sugarcane mainly from Myitkyina, Mogaung, and Mohnyin townships, has a capacity of 1,000 tons per day. Since Mar. 2, 1985 a small hydroelectric power plant has functioned on Manhtun stream in Putao Township. More will be built. The Washaung, Kalakone, and Myothitgalay dams are already in service. World-famous jade is found only in Kachin State, from Kamaing and Mohnyin townships.

There are 30 high schools, 68 middle schools, and 1,080 primary schools where 456 SAT's, 1,408 JAT's, and 2,938 PAT's are employed.

There are 5,463 high school students, 33,225 middle school students, and 156,526 primary students. There is a Degree College and a Teachers' Training School in Myitkyina, and a Technical High School, an Agricultural High School, and a School of Home Sciences in Kachin State.

There are one division-level hospital, 16 township hospitals, 15 station hospitals, two drug dependency treatment hospitals, 18 maternity and child health care units, two school health teams, four indigenous medicine clinics, 38 rural health centers, and 38 disease control teams. There are 13 medical specialists, 101 assistant surgeons, one matron, 13 sisters, 53 staff nurses, 121 nurses, 39 health assistants, 53 public health department doctors, 277 midwives, and 23 public health inspectors.

The KIA insurgents number about 3,000, or 0.3% of the Kachin States population of about 900,000. They are terrorizing the populace, using blackmail, looting, and extortion. In recent military operations over 100,000 local people joined the army in "wiping out the KIA destructive elements." The KIA's are engaged in processing and trafficking narcotics drugs, "which pose a danger not only to Burma but also to countries the world over which are fighting against it."

The party then flew by helicopter to Naphaw Camp where they were briefed by the Commander of the Northern Command Brig.Gen. Kyaw Ba.

There are three groups of insurgents in the area: 600 Burma Communist Party (BCP) insurgents; 3,000 Kachin insurgents; and 500 Naga insurgents. The KIA mines railways, and in a four-month period "blasted bombs" twice in Myitkyina and five times in Momauk, and once in Mogaung, Namti, and Mohnyin.

The KIA started dealing in drugs in 1975 and carried narcotics to the border areas. In early 1986 they started refining and trafficking in heroin. In the Homwe/Timar areas of Muse/Namhkam regions in the North-east Command area, they collaborated with the BCP in producing Chu-hna-kaung Gabalon brand heroin, 6 kilos of which were seized when the KIA Putao Headquarters was captured. On Oct. 21, 1987, KIA Captain Wa Sinwa Naw was captured in Hoping Township with five kilos of heroin. The KIA opened the Leefa jade trading center, and later the Hipley jade trading center in Pajao.

Beginning May 1987, three Burma Army columns attacked the KIA. They captured the Pajao/Naphaw headquarters camp May 29, the Jabu camp of the KIA No. 253 battalion and the Namsangyang camp of the No. 254 battalion, and seized 123 weapons, ammunition and communication sets, 2,700 viss of jade, 81 viss of opium, 6 kilos of heroin, etc. Company-level camps such as Sama, Jahpukawn, Alawbon, and Khaibang were captured, and KIA No. 3 brigade's Lweyinhing camp on July 27. "As the camps up to Lweje were captured, the camps of the KIA in the eastern sector of Myitkyina and Bhamo had been captured and destroyed." 250 acres of opium poppy were destroyed near Pajao/Naphaw and in eastern Bhamo.

On Aug. 15, the Army captured the BCP No. 101 group headquarters camp at Kambaiti, capturing 114 weapons; the enemy fled to the Panwa region.

After meeting with nationals of Naphaw and visiting the area, the visitors overflew Putao by helicopter and returned to Myitkyina. In the evening they were shown traditional songs and dances.

The next morning the visitors toured the Myitkyina Drug Dependency Hospital and were briefed on addict treatment by Dr. Kyaw Kyaw, head of the Kachin State Health Department, and hospital head Dr. Ba Thaug. The visitors donated Ky 4,025 to the hospital. After touring Myitkyina, they returned to Rangoon. (WPD 1/30)

Brang Seng

A feature article entitled "Brang Seng, the wizard" by Kunblai discusses KIA leader Brang Seng's recent foreign visit. At the 33rd meeting of the Asia-Pacific anti-communist organization "held in a country in Asia," Brang Seng called for an end to foreign aid to the Burmese Government. "What a deceitful man this Brang Seng is!"

[outline of Brang Seng's BCP connections]

"Brang Seng...is in fact a disciple of the BCP.... [He] has tried to keep this a secret but it is like covering the dead body of an elephant with the hide of a goat." He became a KIA leader only after former KIA leaders Zau Seng, Zau Tu, and Ponshwe Zau Seng, also engaged in narcotics trafficking and smuggling, were killed "in the other country" on Aug. 10, 1975.

Brang Seng is in charge of heroin and jade smuggling; he has contacts with the Nagas and sells heroin through them. The KIA has 700 acres of poppies between Mansi Township and the Shan State, and 400 acres in the valley between Inbarpar and Lweja. On Aug. 11, 1986, the Army found 72 viss of opium in a boat belonging to KIA No. 254 battalion commander La Zein Bauk that was captured in the Mogaung chaung in the Talaw area of Mogaung Township.

On July 16, 1987 Brang Seng said in a border area that the jade business was here to stay. He has contacts with one Lu Yon Phan to sell jade; he also trades jade for arms, and is planning to sell Kachin State gold, silver, copper and iron. (WPD 1/30)

ECONOMIC

Bio-Gas Endorsed

Jan. 10: The first of 15 bio-gas tanks was inaugurated in Danubyu Township. Over 110 are already in use in Irrawaddy Division. "Extensive use of bio-gas will contribute much towards improving the social and economic standing of the people in the countryside." (WPD Editorial, 1/10)

Commuters' Woes

Jan. 13: "The existing number of passenger transport vehicles are too few for the growing number of commuters.... Transport vehicles try to violate the rules; failure to ply the full length of the prescribed route and overcharging are most common today." The Rangoon City Passenger Transport Services Supervision Central Work Committee has again met and passed resolutions calling for "enforcement of discipline and taking of action against violators." Past efforts have only worked for a few days or weeks. "We are afraid the latest arrangements may meet the same end." (WPD editorial 1/13)

New Mandalay Express

Jan. 12: Beginning Jan. 16, a new Night Express Train will begin daily service. Train No. 11 will leave Rangoon at 8:15 pm and arrive at Mandalay at 10:35 am; Train No. 12 will leave Mandalay at 8 pm and arrive in Rangoon at 10:25 am. There will be slight changes in other schedules. (WPD 1/13)

Building Survey

Jan. 15: In accordance with the Law on Restriction of Transfer of Immovable Property, an Enquiry Committee investigated land and buildings in Pabedan Township, Rangoon, beginning Jan. 12, and found that "in some cases owners did not live in their places; that their addresses were not correct, and that relevant documents could not be produced." All such owners must produce documentation in full within 21 days or "the buildings will be designated as ownerless." (WPD 1/16)

Signboard Taxes Due

Jan. 19: Under the 1922 Municipal Law section 163, Rule 19, and section 163, revenues due to the Township Development Committee Office's Engineering (Building) Department for signboards and awnings, and brickwork stairs, are due between Feb. 1-10. Violators will be prosecuted. (WPD 1/20)

Suburban Wholesalers

Jan. 21: There are many brokerage houses and wholesale shops

in urban markets, but there should be some in suitable suburban markets as well, so "retailers will be relieved of the burden of going to downtown Rangoon." Who will open them? "No doubt, experienced businessmen only will be able to do the job. They must be made aware of the fact that the aim is to bring down commodity prices.... Brokerage houses and wholesale shops stand a good chance to earn profits and to better serve the interests of the consumers." (WPD editorial 1/21)

Rail-Truck Transport

Jan. 20: The Burma Railways Corporation experiment with rail-trucks on short routes has been successful. At present, BRC uses 17 TE(21) models, two Cargo (MY (34) models, one KM (300) model, and one TE(11) model of rail-trucks on the Insein/Letpadan, Letpadan/ Prome, Rangoon/Pegu, Pegu/Pyuntaza, Pyuntaza/Madauk, Pyuntaza/Taungoo, Moulmein/Thanbyuzayat, Thazi/Mandalay, and Mandalay/Monywa routes, as well as to carry workers from Ywahtaung to Myitnge. Construction and renovation of rail-trucks is being carried out by 40 workers at the Pazundaung rail-trucks construction workshop. (WPD 1/21)

Bee-Keeping in Burma

Jan. 21: The Bee-keeping Department of the Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries encourages farmers to keep bees so as to produce more crops. It disseminates modern technology, distributes scientifically constructed beehives, carries out research, promotes bee-keeping as a substitute for opium poppy growing, and promotes the use of honey and bee products.

From 1979-80 to 1987-88, this work has been carried out from 50 bee-keeping stations in Mandalay, Sagain, Rangoon, Magwe, and Pegu Divisions and Karen State, and there are more than 3,000 colonies of European and local bees. To promote pollination, the method of shifting bees was successfully used on over 300,000 acres of oil-seed crops in 1986-87 and 400,000 acres in 1987-88. 935 short courses in bee-keeping for farmers have been held since 1985-86. In 1986-87, 48,000 pounds of honey was produced, against a target of 20,000 pounds. In 1987-88 the target is 34,000 pounds; 36,000 pounds have already been produced and the total is expected to exceed 50,000 pounds.

The Bee-Keeping Department sells products such as Satumadu, garlic honey, ginger honey, cookies made of honey, honey bread, honey pudding, and concentrated honey wine, at the Diplomatic Stores, Department Stores, and the fish and meat stalls of the Livestock Breeding Corporation. (WPD 1/22)

Jerry-Built Condominiums

Jan. 24: An increasing number of private contractors are building jerry-built condominiums, because of the housing shortage. "The use of shoddy materials, substandard specifications and minimum amount of cement in the concrete not to mention the obviously illegal inclusion of htat-kho, which literally means 'stolen storeys' (a building which appears to be three storeys from outside may actually be four or even five storeys inside) are all factors which give rise to our anxiety." "New condominiums or apartment buildings are only to be welcomed. But jerry-built condominiums? How safe? and for how long?" (WPD editorial, 1/24)

Diesel Locomotive Repair

Jan. 26: The Insein Locomotive Workshop of the Burma Railways Corporation was targetted to repair 18 big-size and 6 medium-size diesel locomotives during 1987-88, and already 12 big and 9 medium locomotives have been repaired. In addition, four 1,600 HP and four 1,200 HP diesel locomotives have been fitted with new RVR diesel engines.

Beginning in 1981-82 the Workshop began saving foreign exchange by repairing locomotives. In Sept. 1982, 12 locomotives were improved. In 1983-84 four diesel-electric locomotives were rebuilt and five

others given mid-life maintenance. In 1984-85 five locomotives were given maintenance. After August 1986 the Workshop began to assemble five 500 HP shunting locomotives imported from Japan, and completed them in 1987.

From 1988-89 to 1990-91, the Workshop is scheduled to perform maintenance on 24 locomotives, and in 1988-89 major repairs will be carried out on 27 locomotives.

At present, Burma Railways uses 149 Alsthom diesel electric locomotives, 63 Krupps diesel hydraulic locomotives, 5 Hitachi diesel hydraulic locomotives, and 45 "KSK" and Kawasaki diesel hydraulic locomotives, for a total of 262. (WPD 1/27)

Accounts Officers Wanted

Jan. 28: The News and Periodicals Corporation is seeking two Accounts Officers (pay-scale 450-25-700). (WPD 1/29)

Vaccination and Insemination

Jan. 28: The Livestock Breeding and Veterinary Department of the Ministry of Livestock Breeding and Fisheries carries out vaccinations and artificial insemination. From 1976-87, 514,025 cows were artificially inseminated and 147,766 calves produced, and from 1981-87 14,527 pigs were inseminated. Free vaccines are distributed; vaccines were produced in 1987-88 to inoculate 12 million head of cattle against haemorrhagic septicaemia, 4 million against anthrax (which has to be inoculated twice a year), and 4 million against black quarter. Vaccines are also produced for pigs, and Semple's Rabies Vaccine against rabies. The Vaccine Production Laboratory dates from 1928. Rinderpest was eradicated for good in 1957. "The laboratory succeeded in producing Avirulent Living Hemorrhagic Septicemia Vaccine which is more effective than the present vaccine for the prevention of haemorrhagic septicaemia. (WPD 1/29)

Mini-Hydro Station

Jan. 30: On Jan. 29, a 100 kw mini hydro-electric station was opened on the Whay-ka-bu creek in Pasawng Township, Kayah State. (WPD 1/31)

Land Revenues Paid

Numerous short articles announce that farmers from various villages have paid in so many baskets of paddy as land revenues to local land revenues collection centers "as a gesture of hailing the 41st Anniversary Union Day." (WPD, various dates)

Rainfall in Rangoon

Rainfall since January 1, 1988, 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				
January	1	0.00	0.00	0.00	January	15	0.00	0.00
0.00								
January	30	0.00	0.00	0.00				

HEALTH

Hospital Opened

Dec. 24: A 25 bed hospital was opened in Thaketa Township, Rangoon. Built on a self-help basis, it cost Ky 2,524,000. (WPD 12/25)

Medical Conference

Jan. 14: The 35th Burma Medical Conference opened in Rangoon. The Burma Medical Association (Central) Executive Committee elected the Executive Committee for 1988, with Director-General of the Health Department Dr. Tin Oo as President, Assistant Director (Health Education) Dr. Aung Khin Sint as Secretary, and Paediatrician Dr.

Thein Aung as Treasurer. The meeting will last until Jan. 18. (WPD 1/15)

Drug Education Workshop

Jan. 17: A Training Workshop on the Production of Audio-Visual Materials for Drug Education, sponsored by the Drug Education Committee for Students and Youths, opened in Botataung Township, Rangoon. It will last until Jan. 20. (WPD 1/18)

Medical Technology Seminar

Jan. 18: A Seminar on Modern Technology of Medical Instruments is being held Jan. 18-19, sponsored by the Burma Medical Association, by M/S Progress Instruments (Pte) Ltd. of Singapore. (WPD 1/19)

Sanitary Workshop

Jan. 30: A workshop on the conversion of insanitary latrines into sanitary latrines in the peri-urban area concluded in Rangoon. Present was WHO short-term consultant H. S. Chourasia. (WPD 1/31)
CULTURAL

Chinese Association

Dec. 25: The 89th Annual Meeting of the Chinese Merited Association, 75/77 Lammadaw St., Rangoon, will be held Dec. 27. (WPD 12/25)

Cultural Paper Reading

Dec. 29: A cultural paper reading, of the Fine Arts Research Body, Nationalities' Culture and Culture-related Subjects Research Body, and the Architectural Research Body, sponsored by the Culture Committee of the Research Policy Directions Board, opened at the Sarpay Beikman Hall.

Papers read for the Fine Arts Research Body included "Music, Songs and Dances of the Pagan Era" by U Thein Than Tun; "Anyein Dance" by Daw Yin Yin (Saw Mon Hnyin), and "Ten 'Pan' Artists of the Pagan Era" by Daw Khin Nyunt (Inle Thanda Kin).

Papers read for the Nationalities Research Body included "The Traditional Customs of Tiddim Chin" by Daw Nwe Nwe, and "A Study on Chin Customary Law" by Dr. Tin Aung Aye and researchers. (WPD 12/29)

Dec. 29: Further fine arts papers read were "A Study in Bonkyithan Songs" by U Win Pe (Maung Swan Yi), "Burmese Xylophone" by U Myo Nyunt and U Aung Thwin, and "Study of the Burmese Oboe (hnai) by Daw Khin Than Win (Kyu Kyu Thin) and party. A nationalities paper was "British Military Administration in Burma (1-1-1944 to 16-10-1945) by U Ye Naing. An archaeological paper was "Preliminary Excavation on the Ancient City of Kyaikkatha and its Results" by U Ko Ko. (WPD 12/30) [see also WPD 12/30 in BPS, Vol.I, No.9]

Reward for Antiquities

Dec. 31: U Soe Myint, an oil field worker from Kwema Village in Shwedaung Township, was on Dec. 24 paid Ky 18,390 (Ky 15,350 for intrinsic value and Ky 3,040 for ancient craftsmanship) for delivering to the Department of Archaeology 27 items of silverware from the Konbaung Era, including lime pots, bowls, betel boxes, bangles and anklets, plus three glass plates, found on the river near his village on August 12. [photo] (WPD 1/1)

Religious Book

Jan. 1: The Message of Satipattana, by Nyaung Kan Aye Sayadaw (Ashin Eindaka), translated by U Thaung Lwin and U Aye Maung, is available from Nyaung Kan Aye Sasana Yeiktha, No. 6, Insein Road, Gyogone, Rangoon, for Ky 15. (WPD 1/1)

Tounggoo Period Writers

Jan. 4: In the 10th and last in his series on the Tounggoo Period Writers, under the title of "The Curtain", Aung Moe notes that all the writers discussed were courtiers, because Tho Han Bwa had

killed all eminent monks and destroyed monastery manuscripts during his rule over Ava. The poems were odes; no more religious pyos. After the fall of Nanda Bayin, there were a series of petty states. Then the Second Ava Period began when Anaukpetlun, son of the Lord of Ava, conquered Upper Burma, Prome (1607), Toungoo (1610), Thanlyin and Muktama (1612). A new series on the writers of the Second Ava Period will follow. (WPD 1/4)

Exam Timetables Set

Jan. 6: The Timetable for the Basic Education Eighth Standard Examination will be: Mar. 25 (9-11 am)-Burmese; Mar. 26 (9-11)-English; Mar. 28 (9-10)-Math, Pt. I; (10:10-12:10)-Math, Pt. II; Mar. 29 (9-9:20)-Geography, Pt. I; (9:30-11:10)-Geography, Pt. II; Mar. 30 (9-9:20)-History, Pt. I; (9:30-11:10)-History, Pt. II; Mar. 31 (9-11)-General Science; Apr. 1 (9-11)-Prevocational subject (agriculture, technical, handcraft, and domestic science). (WPD 1/7)

Jan. 7: The Timetable for the Basic Education High School Examination will be: Apr. 4 (9-12)-Burmese; Apr. 5 (9-12)-English; Apr. 6 (9-12)-Mathematics and Optional Burmese; Apr. 7 (9-12)-Chemistry and Geography; Apr. 8 (9-12) Physics and History; Apr. 9 (9-12) Biology, Economics and Additional English. (WPD 1/8)

Burmese Bells

Jan. 9-10: In the third of his series on notable Burmese bells, Khin Maung Nyunt writes of the "Maha Meru Makutaghanda Raja" bell in the Pahtodawgyi pagoda in Amarapura. The Pali name means "Great Mountainous Crowned King of Bells." The bell weighs 150,000 ticals or 15,000 viss, and measures 10'7" high, 17'6" in circumference and 7'4" in diameter at the mouth, and 8" thick. It was cast in 1827, and is hung high on an iron bar held by two brick pillars; its inscriptions and "the two brass statuettes of lions that adorn the hook shaped like a curled lobster" are thus intact. The bell was donated by King Bagyidaw (1819-1837), for the pagoda he had built in 1820. The 24 line inscription notes (a) the death of King Bodawpaya; (b) the removal of the capital from Amarapura to Ava; (c) visiting Ambassadors from Cambodia, Annam-Tonkin, Assam, Jaintia, and Manipur; (d) the casting of the brass Maha Thetkya Thiha Buddha in 1825 (now in Mandalay, and considered artistically superb but unlucky), by Nay Myo Nanda Kyaw Thu, Minister of brass smithery; (e) the construction of the Maha Aung Mye Bone San Royal Monastery near the Htilo Shin Pagoda on the Minwun Range; and (f) the casting and donation of the bell by Nay Myo Nanda Kyaw. The rebuilding of the city of Ava is described in detail. It had a building with a spire 131 spans (arms' length) high. There were 1,250 buildings constructed in the Inner City, including the Jetavan Hall, 131 spans in dimensions, with 3 tiers of roofs, 9 doors, and 34 cardinal apartments. The outer city had 37 buildings and 16 gates, and covered 2,440 tar. There were two Royal Parks, Thiri Nandawun and Maha Nandawun, in the Outer City. (WPD 1/9-10)

Jan. 31: The fourth in the series discusses "The Bells of Sule Pagoda." Sule Pagoda was made the center of Rangoon by Lt. A. Fraser of the Bengali Engineers, but its origin is legendary. One story is that an assembly was held on the site by King Ukkalapa to discuss the location of Singuttara Hill [the site of the Shwedagon Pagoda] and it was called "Su way" or "get together for meeting" hill. Another says the pagoda was originally called the Kyaik Athoke because it was built by a Mon noble named Athoke, but that it later was overgrown with "su le" or wild brambles. The best version is that Sule derives from two Pali words, Cula and Ceti meaning "small" and "pagoda." In any case, Sule Pagoda was enlarged by Queen Shin Sawbu (1453-1472). It is a Mon ceti, octagonal in shape, with each side 24 feet long and the height 144 feet, 9 1/2 inches. Except for the ceti itself nothing at the pagoda is more than a little over a century old.

Around the ceti are ten bells of various sizes and ages. They are bronze, inscribed, and hung on iron bars supported by concrete posts. The article treats of them counter-clockwise, starting with the

eastern Devotional Hall.

No. 1 was cast in 1956 and is 3' high, 4'8" in circumference, 1'6" in diameter at the mouth, and 1 1/2" thick. It weighs 52 viss. The simple inscription dedicates the bell to U Soe Gaung, mother Daw Su, U Pe Htwe and Daw Thein Kywe of 4th ward, Letpandan, and it was donated on 14th waxing Tabaung (March) BE 1317 (Sunday, 25th March 1956) by Daw Thein Thein and Daw Than Than of 101 Lower 37th St., Rangoon. The bell was sold by U Daw and sons, Eastern Causeway, Shwedagon Pagoda.

No. 2 was cast in 1884 and is 2' 2 1/2" high, 6' 7 1/2" in circumference, 1'9" in diameter at the mouth, and 2" thick. It weighs "over 100 viss." Its damaged inscriptions identify the donor as Ko Ko Thit, head clerk, of Ukkalapa (Rangoon). It was donated in winter on Thursday, Pyatho (January), BE 1245 (AD 1884).

No. 3 was cast in 1892 and is 4' high, 5'10" in circumference, 3'4" in diameter at the mouth, and 1" thick. It weighs 120 viss. It was donated by Ko Maung Gyi and Ma Phu Zar, husband and wife, of the Sarsodan quarter of Rangoon.

No. 4 was cast in 1890 and is 2' 6 1/2" high, 4'1" in circumference, 1' 3 1/2" in diameter at the mouth, and 1" thick. It weighs 34 1/3 viss. It was donated by the public on Wednesday, 1st waning of Tagu (April) in BE 1251 (AD 1890).

No. 5 was cast in 1911, and is 2' 4 1/2" high, 4' 8 1/2" in circumference, 1'6" in diameter at the mouth, and 1 1/2" thick. [Its weight is not indicated] It was donated by Ma Myit and daughters Ma Thin, Ma Yin, Ma Kin, Ma Thein, Ma Kyaw, and Ma Aye, of Upper Pe Nga Se quarter, Rangoon on 13 waning Tawthalin (September), BE 1272 (AD 1911). (to be continued). (WPD 1/31)

Second Ava Period Writers

Jan. 11: The first in a new series by Aung Moe is entitled "A New Generation of Sayadaws" discusses writers under the kings who reigned in Ava from 1628 until 1752, when the last Ava king was captured by the King of Hanthawaddy.

Waraby Thanga Narhta Sayadaw (1558-1618) composed the "Mani Kondala Wuttu" in 1605, relating in prose the Maha Thutathawma Jataka. He was a much respected Sayadaw monk.

Shin Kumara Katthapa (ca.1588-1638) composed the "Dhamma Rathi Pyo" in 1625. A native of Pakhangyi, he also composed the now-lost "Dhama Ratha Pyo".

Shin Muneinda Gawtha (1578-1651), was a native of Prome. At the age of 15 he wrote the "Wethandara Pyo", a poetic version of the Vessantara Jataka, and in 1608 was invited to move to Ava. In 1621 the Lord of Salin donated a monastery in Sagaing to Sayadaw Muneinda Gawtha, where he wrote the "Yatha Wuttana Wuttu." He was given the title of Tipitaka Linkara. In 1638, at the age of 60, he went into seclusion in a glen near Taung Phi Lar Hill in the Minwun mountain range, and became known as Taung Phi Lar Sayadaw. In 1638 he found Buddha's footprints at the lost Shwesettaw shrine. Other written works of his were the "Amedawpon" or answers given to Kings on questions of religion and state, the "Vinaya Linkara Tika" and several metta-sars, somma-sars, and ratus. (WPD 1/11)

Jan. 18: The second in the series, entitled "Scholars on scriptures," discusses some less well known poetic monks of this period.

Shin Karavika (1588-1648) composed a chronicle mawgun on the four-story monastery in Sagaing built for Taung Phi Lar Sayadaw. For the king he composed a paikson ratu that was the king's favorite.

Shwe U Min Sayadaw (Pagan) was Shin Zambu Dhaza, who lived in Pakhangyi in the Shwe U Min Monastery, and compiled what is still a standard treatise on the Five Vinayas. King Tha Lun gave him the title of "Zambu Dipa Dhaza" for his Pali treatises.

Nan Kyaung Sayadaw Agga Dhamma Linkara compiled nearly a dozen treatises on scriptures including the "Razawin Choke" history. King Pye Min built him a monastery with timber from his palace, which became known as the Northern Palace Monastery.

Tilawka Guru Sayadaw compiled four tikas or commentaries during the reign of King Narawara. A native of Seik Sinn village, near Pakhangyi, he decided not to return to lay life and moved to Ponnya Hill in the Sagaing Hills, where the King built him a monastery and gave him the title of "Tilawka Guru."

Kyet Thun Khinn Sayadaw Shin Parthantha (1693-1775) lived in the Kyet Thun Khinn monastery west of Ava, where he compiled a work explaining the Ekekara Kawtha.

Shin Thaddhama Linkara Sayadaw wrote the "Rama Kara Wuttu", one of several well-known prose stories of the period. He lived at the Shwe Zigon Monastery in Pinya.

Neyin Pobbaryon Sayadaw Shin Thara Darthi (1703-1773) compiled nine treatises on Buddhist Scriptures. He was a native of Neyin village near Pakhangyi. (WPD 1/18)

Jan. 25: The third article, entitled "The First Kyaw Aung San Htar Sayadaw" notes that the power of the Ava kings declined, but literature and art flourished.

The First Kyaw Aung San Htar Sayadaw Nyarna Wara (1705-1753) was a native of Paik Thin village in Pakhangyi township. In 1723 he moved to Ava and became a disciple of Aung Myue San Lut Mohti Sayadaw; at 19 he passed the Patamagyaw examination. He wrote many scriptural works and some on matters of state. Most valuable was his "Elaboration of Magdhan Dictionary" composed at age 41. He then retired to Nyaunggan village in Alon township where he died.

Shin Oggantha Marlar (1668-1738) was a native of Shwe Yin Hmyaw village. Attributed to him are an orthography known as "Wunna Bodana That Inn", "Kawi Kanda Partha Linga," "Toungoo Min Ratu" and a series of commentaries on matters of state and literature.

Shin Sanda Mizzutha was of Pakhangyi; he composed the "Yathawdara Kadawgan Pyo."

Neyin Mani Ratna Sayadaw Ariya Linkara wrote 18 treatises on scriptures, always writing directly on palm leaves with a stylus.

Shwe U Min Sayadaw (1713-1773) was the second of that name, and came from Tatha village near Ava. He wrote an elaboration on the "Buridat Zatpaunggan Pyo" originally written about 1496 by Shin Maha Rattathara. He was given the title of "Tilawka Linkara."

Shin Karavika (1708-1768) was born in Kye Paik Thin village in Pakhangyi, and was credited with writing "Min Hla Yin Nu Pyo", an adaptation of Ballatiya Jataka, the "Narapati Yelar", a narration of a river voyage, and a lootar about Pagan. (WPD 1/25)

Cartoon Exhibition

Jan. 11: The Vitamin Cartoon Exhibition, sponsored by young cartoonists under the supervision of the Artists and Artisans Council Organizing Committee (Central) opened in the East Wing of Bogyoke Aung San Market. The 154 cartoons will be on exhibition until Jan. 16. (WPD 1/12)

Prome Magazine

Jan. 15: Cover of the 1986-87 issue of the annual magazine of Prome College. (WPD photo caption 1/15)

Universities to Reopen

Jan. 15: All classes of Universities, Degree Colleges and Colleges will reopen for the 1987-88 academic year on Jan. 25. (WPD 1/16) // Jan. 20: All classes of the Technical Institutes under the Ministry of Health will reopen on Jan. 25. (WPD 1/21)

Pali Examination Prizes

Jan. 19: Ceremonies to present certificates and prizes to 316 members of the sangha who passed the 1987 Pali Pathamabyan Examination was held at the cooperative tazaung on Kaba Aye Hill. Certificates and prizes were also given to 826 students who passed the Buddhist cultural examination. (WPD 1/20)

Palm Manuscripts Donated

Jan. 20: U Jagara, Gukyaung Sayadaw of Nyaung-U, donated a palm leaf manuscript believed to date from the later Pagan Period (12th or 13th century AD) to the National Museum on Jan. 17. U Keseva, Minkyaung Sayadaw of Myinkaba Ward, Pagan, donated three packets of ancient palm leaf manuscripts to the National Library on Jan. 18. The manuscripts were accepted by Director-General of the Department of Cultural Institute Dr. Ye Htut. (WPD 1/21)

Kyaikhtiyo Museum

Jan. 21: The new Kyaikhtiyo Museum, built at a cost of Ky 3.5 million, was opened near the Rangoon-Martaban Road, Gangaw ward, Kyaikto, on Jan. 17 by Chairman of the Pagoda Board of Trustees U Maung Tun. The foundation had been laid Nov. 26, 1982. (WPD 1/22)

Documents Discovered

Jan. 21: Documents dating from the 1880's were found in a bottle on the bank of the Rangoon River between Bo Aung Kyaw and Theinbyu Streets, on Dec. 30, during the course of excavations. A brick foundation 6'x4'x2' was unearthed, and the bottle was found in a cemented stone near a stone marked "GS Datum 23.27 circle mark below this BM". The documents, which are being turned over to the National Archives, include a drawing of a launching bridge and pontoon; correspondence from Port Engineer Graham Smith to the Rangoon Port Trust dated January 1883; Particulars of Experience by the Port Engineer; a paper on The Status and Prospects of Engineers by Graham Smith, 1880; newspaper extracts from the Rangoon Times, Jan. 5, 1883; diagram to illustrate improvements to the Port of Rangoon to accompany the Port Engineer's Report; and handwritten correspondence to Col. A.G. Duff, Commissioner, Tenasserim Division. [photos] (WPD 1/22)

'Htamane' Festival

Jan. 21: The Htamane (glutinous rice) Preparing Sub-Committee of the Central Committee for Holding the Third Buddha Pujaniya Festival of the Maha Wizaya Pagoda Zedi, on the Fullmoon of Tabodwe, 1349 BE, held a meeting at the Inle Dhammanayon on Shwedagon Pagoda Road. (WPD 1/22)

Ordination Hall Case Heard

Jan. 27: State Special Court of Vinayadharas No. 9 began hearing the case of the vada of promulgation of ordination hall at Aparagoyana Hall on Kaba Aye hill. It is chaired by Bhaddanta Tissa (Agga Maha Pandita) of Kyaikthimon monastery, Bahan Township, Rangoon, with four other members Sayadaws [names and titles listed]. [Complainant Sayadaws listed] The defendant Sayadaw is Bhaddanta Punnyacara, Yadanamanaung Ywaoorkyaung Sayadaw at Shansugyi village, Twante Township, Rangoon Division. (WPD 1/28)

Silk Longyis Donated

Jan. 28: On Jan. 22 retired headmistress Daw Khin Khin Myo donated two silk longyis of the Yadanabon era to the National Museum. They had been worn by Yinmarchaung Myoza Thuthiri Ghandaw Daw Khin Lay, wife of Sardawhpat U Maung Kywe of King Thibaw's period, grandmother of the donor. (WPD 1/29)

Writers Meetings

Articles throughout the month have reported donations from the townships for the Literary Workers Organization Third Central General Meeting, generally of Ky 10-20,000 per township. Other articles report meetings and elections by Township Literary Workers Organizations. (WPD, various dates)

SPORTS

ISD Track & Field Meet

Jan. 1: In the 26th Inter-State and Division Track & Field

Meet, the women's 10,000 meter event was won by 12-year old Hla Hla Mu of Pegu. Other winners were Than Lwin (Sagaing) in men's 3,000 meter steeplechase; Aye Aye Mar (Pegu) in women's javelin; Tin Tin Yi (Sagaing) in women's 5-kilo meter walking; Khin Moe Moe (Magwe) in women's 100 meter hurdles; Hla Myint Swe (Mon) in men's 800 meter. (WPD 2/2)

Jan. 2: More winners: Tun Tin (Rangoon) in men's 20-kilometer; Wai Wai Lwin (Rangoon) in women's long jump; Kan Nyunt (Magwe) in men's shot-put; Zaw Min (Kayah) in men's high-jump; Mying Aung (Rangoon) in men's 10,000 meter; Khin Hla Hla Kyaw (Sagaing) in women's 1,500 meter; Nay Soe (Rangoon) in men's decathlon. (WPD 1/3)

Jan. 3: More winners: Aye Aye Nwe (Mon) in women's discus (an ISD record of 39.23 meters, 0.59 better than the record she set in 1987).

Jan 4: More winners: Tun Tin (Rangoon) in men's 10-kilometer walk; Kyaw Than Yin (Irrawaddy) in men's pole vault; Aye Aye Nwe (Mon) in women's shot-put; Myo Thein (Rakhine) in men's 400 meter hurdles; Khin Moh Moh (Magwe) in women's 400 meter hurdles; Myo Swe (Kayah) in men's 5,000 meter; Ngai Ngai Hlaing (Rangoon) in women's heptathlon; Zaw Naing (Rangoon) in men's 100 meter; Htay Htay Yi (Rangoon) in women's 200 meter. (WPD 1/5)

National Boxing Championship

Jan. 5: In the finals of the National Boxing Championships, the following were winners: Pinweight: Maung Maung Aye (PPF); Light Flyweight: Soe Nyein (LID-99); Flyweight: Myint Soe Lay (PPF); Bantamweight: Saw Than Hlaing (Navy); Featherweight: Zaw Win Naing (PPF); Lightweight: Hlaing Swe (CMTB); Light Welterweight: Myo Kyaw (95 Burma Regiment); Welterweight: Aung Win (Navy). Soe Nyein won the Best Boxer Award. (WPD 1/6)

Golf Amateur Open

Jan. 8: Nay Win Myint (Construction Corp.) successfully defended his Burma Amateur Open Title for the fifth consecutive year, in a sudden-death playoff against Thein Pe of Bassein. The two were tied with scores of 301 for the series. (WPD 1/9)

American Golf Clinics

Jan. 16: Golf instructor Chris Harney, son of US golf champion Paul Harney, is holding golf clinics at the Rangoon Golf Course. He arrived Jan. 13, under the U.S.-Burma Cultural Exchange Program, and will remain until March 9, giving clinics at the Tatmadaw and Burma Golf Courses in Rangoon, and in Bassein, Maymyo, Mandalay, Taunggyi, and Moulmein. (WPD 1/17)

Burma Open Golf Championship

Jan. 22: Title Holder U Myint Thaung won the Burma Open Golf Championship with a total score of 300. Other best-ten scores were Thein Pe (301), Win Aung (Moulmein) (302), Soe Myint Lay (303), Win Naing Tun (305), Soe Thein (306), Nay Win Myint (306), Myint Swe (307), Myo Win (308), and Zaw Moe (312). Prizes were distributed by Burma Golf Federation President U Tun Aung and visiting U.S. pro Chris Harner, son of Paul Harner, "who is a great friend of Burmese golf." (WPD 1/23)

MISCELLANEOUS

Obituaries

Dec. 23: Daw Aye Yin, Retired Trade Corporation 9, wife of U Tet Moe, died in Rangoon, aged 69. (WPD 12/25)

Dec. 23: U Yauk Phee (a) U Myint Thein, (Kyaikkaw, Thaton) husband of Daw Chun Yinn, died in San Francisco, aged 61. (WPD 12/29)

Dec. 28: U Kyaw Nyun (a) Kyaw Kyaw, B.A., B.L., (BC. 5868) (Akyab), husband of Dr. Khin Saw Khine, father of U Tha Aung Nyun, Foreign Ministry, etc., died in Rangoon, aged 68. (WPD 12/29)

Dec. 31: Daw Yin Yin, retired Post Master, wife of U Pu, died in Rangoon, aged 68. Funeral at Kyauk Kone Baptist Church, Jan. 1.

(WPD 1/1)

Jan. 1: State Ovadacariya Sayadaw Bonpyan Sayadaw Bhaddanta Pannasami of Kyaunggyitaik, Bonpyan Kyaung, Kemmendine Township, Rangoon, vassa 62, died in Rangoon aged 82. (WPD 1/2)

Jan. 11: Daw Ngai Yee, wife of the late U Yee (Customs), died in Rangoon, aged 62. (WPD 1/12)

Jan. 11: State Ovadacariya Sayadaw Agga Maha Pandita Baddhanta Dhamma Cakka Maha Thera, leading Nayaka of Taikthit Kyaungtaik, Pyapon Township, Irrawaddy Division, vassa 71, died at the age of 91. (WPD 1/12)

Jan. 17: U Saw Truman, 3rd Engineer, 9-MRS R.T, husband of Daw Nan Aye Aye Khaing, died in Rangoon, aged 39. Funeral at U Naw Memorial Baptist Church. (WPD 1/19)

Jan. 17: State Ovadacariya Sayadaw Bhaddanta Ponna Mahathera of Mandalay Taikthit, Ngamyargyi village, Ngazun Township, Sagaing Division, vassa 69, died at the age of 89. (WPD 1/20)

Jan. 19: Dr. Daw Than Yi (Myitkyina), widow of Major C. B. Dawson, died at No. 1 BMH Rangoon, aged 72. (WPD 1/20)

Jan. 19: Johnny Thwein Lwin (D'CASTRO), Pan American Airways Station Manager, died aged 64. Funeral at St. Mary's Cathedral. (WPD 1/20)

Jan. 23: Daw Khin Hla (Akyab), wife of Dr. Aung Zan (Ret. Lt-Col, B.A., M) died in Rangoon, aged 69. (WPD 1/25)

Jan. 30: Sao Sai Noi Mengrai (Kengtung), son of the late Saophalong Sao Kong Tai and Mahadevi Sao Kyar Nyunt, Kengtung, brother of Saophalong Sao Sai Long Mengrai (Nang San Kyio), husband of Nang Seng Noan, died at No. 5 A, Martin Avenue, 5 1/2 miles, Prom Road, Rangoon, aged 56.

Bad Drivers Assailed

Dec. 30: The number of motor vehicles is rising by 8,000 per year, and accidents are increasing. A disproportionate number in Rangoon are caused by professional taxi, bus, and truck drivers, and are too predictable to be called "accidents". If the laws are not sufficient to deter negligence and recklessness, "it is clearly time for a serious review of the matter." (WPD Editorial, 12/30)

Crime News

Dec. 29: Kawhmu Township judicial body No. 1 on Dec. 28 sentenced four persons to 10 years imprisonment under Section (1) of the Law Authorizing Establishment of Socialist Economy, 1965, for trying to smuggle eight oxen out of the country by schooner. The boatman was sentenced to five years, and the oxen were confiscated. The crime was committed Nov. 21, 1986. (WPD 12/30)

Jan. 5: Rangoon Police on Dec. 11 arrested four thieves for stealing 16 rail springs from the Mahlwagon rail car compound. On Dec. 19, in a follow-up, a house raid discovered 19 stolen iron rails. (WPD 1/6)

Jan. 6: Rangoon police on Dec. 31 raided an Insein che-hti gambler and his sub-agents around Rangoon, seizing a total of Ky 658,824 in stakes and a Mazda car. (WPD 1/7)

Jan. 13: On Jan. 11 Rangoon police searched the Thein-than-wai vessel at Nyaungdan jetty and seized 1,050 gallons of diesel oil. On the Htein-win-maw vessel they found 650 gallons. The men in charge were arrested under Section 15(e) of the Law Authorizing the Establishment of the Socialist Economic System. (WPD 1/14)

Jan. 27: Bahan Township police, Rangoon, on Jan. 25 raided the shop of Hla Myint (a) Mooni Ramthee and seized four dodge car loads of wires and underground cables of the Electric Power Corporation and Posts and Telecommunications Corporation. In his house they found seven Ranger cars of wires, and in the same compound six Ranger cars of wires. Hla Myint bought them from employees of the corporations. Prosecutions are being made under Sec. 3 of the 1963 Public Property Protection Law. (WPD 1/28)

Jan. 30: Rangoon police on Jan. 26 arrested Tun Tun of Pazundaung Township, and three others for stealing a foreign-made 7.5

HP motor from the Burma Railways Rail-truck Workshop in Pazundaung on Jan. 19. [photo] (WPD 1/31)

Marriages

Aug. 23, 1987: Maung Maung Htike, son of U Nu and Daw Mya Yi of No. 42, Pyidaungsu Lane (Goodliffe), Rangoon, married Ma May Thazin Than, daughter of U Tin Maung Than and Daw Myat Kyi of No. 28, Aung Min Gaung, Pagoda Road (Windermere), Rangoon, in Washington, D, U.S.A. (WPD 1/26)

Jan. 1: The marriage (nikah) ceremony of Mohamed Aslam (a) Maung Tin Shwe, son of Haji U Khin Maung Hla (Metro Furniture Mart) and Hajeema Daw Khin Kyu Khu, to Khairun Bi (a) Ma Khin Mar Zin, daughter of the late U Tin Nwe and of Daw Khin Win, will take place Jan. 1 at the Surti Sunni Jame Masjid (Shwebontha Street). (WPD 1/1)

Jan. 4: Ma Khin May Htwe (Tammy) (B.Ed), daughter of Dr. Khin Maung Nyein (retired Director-General of Health Services) married Maung Kyaw Swa Thein (Member of IISS) (BBC, London), son of retired Ambassador U Thein Doke, in London. (WPD 1/7)

New Radio Transmitters

Jan. 1: Effective Jan. 4, the Myanma Athin of the Information and Broadcasting Department, Ministry of Information, will broadcast with new transmitters. Broadcasts will be on 314 meters (954 khz) as well as 520 meters (576 khz) medium-wave. (WPD 1/2)

Taunggyi TV Station

Jan. 1: Effective Jan. 4, the Myanma Television Transmission will be retransmitted from the new retransmitting station in Taunggyi, Shan State, and can be received within a 50 mile radius of Taunggyi, including Loikaw and Dimawhso in Kayah State. (WPD 1/2)

Fire-Fighting Courses

Jan. 22: A recent four-week course in fire-fighting, sponsored by the Lanzin Youth Central Organizing Committee (LYCOC), was attended by 100 trainees from 47 townships. Since 1976, there have been over 30,000 graduates of such courses, who are engaged in fire prevention in their respective townships. Over 80% of fires occur because of negligence and ignorance. (WPD editorial, 1/22)

Fires

Jan. 22: A fire broke out at the Japanmae Moe Moe noodle, chili-sauce, soy sauce, and candle factory at No. 1 (C) Prome Road, Ward 10, Hlaing Township, Rangoon, causing Ky 1.5 lakh in losses. It also gutted the Sanyeiktha ladies boarding house nearby. Action is being taken against Ma Khin Soe Win, daughter-in-law of factory proprietress Daw Than Myint. (WPD 1/23)

Jan. 23: A fire broke out in Compound No. 20, Thazinban St., Yakhaingzu, Ward Kagyee, Thingangyun Township, Rangoon, destroying over 30 houses and leaving 400 persons from 80 households homeless. (WPD 1/24)

Boat Capsizes

Jan. 27: The powered boat "Yanshin Aung" plying between Rangoon and Kawhmu Township capsized in the Toksun waters off the Thamada shore. Of the 50 passengers, 6 died (5 women and a man), 17 (13 men and 4 women) reported to the authorities, and 12 returned home on their own. The dead include Ma Hla Hla Htay and Daw Htwe Myint of Konwaing village, Daw Khway Ma of Kyondayai village, and Ma Than Than of Tartaik village. Action is being taken against the helmsman, etc. (WPD 1/28)

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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 28 in 6 countries. Write or telephone me at (607) 547-2118. Hugh C. MacDougall