

88-04

BURMA PRESS SUMMARY

(from the WORKING PEOPLE'S DAILY)

Vol.II, No. 4, April 1988

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DIPLOMATIC

Nigerian Ambassador Arrives

Apr. 5: Ambassador Musa M. Bello presented credentials to President U San Yu as Ambassador of Nigeria. (WPD 4/6)

New Zealand Ambassador Approved

Apr. 25: The Burmese Government has approved the nomination of Harle Freeman-Greene as Ambassdor of New Zealand to Burma, succeeding Mr. Bruce MacDonald Brown. Mr. Freeman-Greene was born in 1934 and entered the Foreign Ministry in 1958. He has served in London, Apia, Bangkok, and the New Zealand Consulate-General in New York. He was Ambassador to Peking in 1979 and High Commissioner in Kuala Lumpur in 1982, and is now an Assistant Secretary in the Foreign Ministry. He will reside in Bangkok, where he is concurrently accredited. (WPD 4/25)

INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

Nepalese Wood Carvings

Apr. 2: Twelve carved wood panels, 6'x4'x4", carved of sisso wood at the Royal Nepal Academy, were delivered by the King and Queen of Nepal as a gift to the Maha Wizaya Zedi. They depict events in the life of the Buddha. Four more are to come. (WPD 4/3)

Japanese Aid Approved

Apr. 11: Deputy Minister for Planning & Finance U Nyunt Maung and Japanese Ambassador Hiroshi Ohtaka exchanged and signed Notes concerning a grant of Yen 1,100 million (Ky 53.49 million) to be provided by Japan for fiscal year 1987-88. It will be used for procurement of steel bars, galvanized iron sheets, angle irons, and steel sheets for the construction of schools, hospitals, bridges, low rent housing, etc., as well as for distribution to cooperatives and disaster victims. (WPD 4/12)

Chinese Sports Equipment

Apr. 25: Chinese Ambassador Cheng Rui-sheng handed over sports equipment presented to Burma by the Chinese Sports and Physical Education Commission. (WPD 4/26)

East German Photographs

Apr. 26: An exhibition of East German photographs called "Our Daily Life in Photo" was opened by Charge d'Affaires a.i. Hans Laabs at the Ministry of Information Exhibition Hall at 22-23 Pansodan Street. It will remain open until Apr. 29. (WPD 4/27)

FOREIGN VISITORS

Chinese Journalists

Apr. 1: The Chinese journalists delegation headed by Liang Nianzhi visited Pagan, Mandalay, Maymyo, Sagaing, and Taunggyi from Mar. 29-31 and returned to Rangoon. (WPD 4/2) // Apr. 2: It visited the National Indoor Stadium 1, and the 100-ton capacity rice mill at Pazundaung. (WPD 4/3) // Apr. 3: It visited Pegu. (WPD 4/4) // Apr. 5: It visited the Rangoon zoo, natural history museum, and aquarium. (WPD 4/6) // Apr. 6: The delegation departed. (WPD 4/7)

Thai Military Chief

Apr. 21: General Chavalit Yongchaiyudh, Supreme Commander of the Royal Thai Forces and Commander in Chief (Royal Thai Army) arrived on a good will visit, and was welcomed by Deputy Minister for Defense and Chief of Staff of the Defence Services General Saw Maung. General Chavalit was accompanied by Thai Naval Commander Admiral Prapat Krisnachan, Thai Air Force Commander Chief Marshal Voranat Apichari, Thai Army Chief of Staff General Sunthorn Kongsompong, Permanent Foreign Ministry Secretary Mr. Kosol Sinthuwanon, Thai Ambassador to Burma Mr. Tongchan Jotikasthira, and a 150 member delegation.

Later, General Chavalit called on Prime Minister U Maung Maung Kha, and on General Saw Maung, and there were talks between members of the Thai delegation and Burmese officials. The delegation visited the Shwedagon Pagoda and in the afternoon returned to Bangkok. (WPD 4/22)

U.S. Energy Secretary

Apr. 21: United States Secretary for Energy John S. Herriton, accompanied by his wife and by Assistant Secretary of Energy for International Affairs David B. Waller, arrived and was welcomed by Minister for Energy U Sein Tun, who hosted a dinner at the guest house of the Syriam Oil Refinery. (WPD 4/22) // Apr. 22: He met with Foreign Minister U Ye Goung, toured the Shwedagon Pagoda and National Museum, and departed in the evening. (WPD 4/23)

Australian Veterans

Apr. 22: A ten-member delegation from the War Veterans Organization of Australia, accompanied by Australian Ambassador Christopher Leslie Lamb, called on U Myint Maung, Chairman of the Burma War Veterans Organization. (WPD 4/23)

Bangladesh President

Apr. 26: Bangladesh President Hussain Muhammad Ershad arrived on a State Visit, accompanied by his wife and by Foreign Minister Humayun Rasheed Chowdhury, Minister for Shipping A.K.M. Mayeedul Islam, Members of Parliament Mohammad Korban Ali and Mahumdul Islam Chowdhury, Ambassador to Burma A.Z.M. Enayetulla Khan, Mr. K.M. Rabbani, Secretary, Ministry of Commerce, Mr. A.K.M. Mosharraf Hossain, Secretary, Ministry of Industries, and Foreign Ministry Director-General Mabbubul Huq. They were met at the airport by President U San Yu and other Burmese officials.

Later President Ershad called on President U San Yu, who hosted a dinner in his honor where speeches were exchanged.

President U San Yu welcomed President Ershad warmly, expressing the hope that the visit "will serve to further strengthen and enhance the traditional and friendly relations happily existing between us, leading to wider co-operation between our two countries."

President Ershad recalled his visit five years ago, and noted that the two countries "are bound by immutable ties of geography." He remembered the visits to Bangladesh by U Ne Win in April 1974 and May

1979, and President U San Yu's visit in Nov. 1986. He took the occasion "to pay my special tribute to the elder statesman and great leader Chairman U Ne Win for his outstanding contributions to the ... promotion...of friendship, goodwill, and cooperation between our two neighbourly countries," and lauded the efforts of the BSPP "to bring about an all-round socio-economic development in Burma."

On the international scene, he cited Bangladesh's cooperation in the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) launched in Dec. 1985.

Begum Raushan Ershad, the President Ershad's wife, called on Daw Than Shein, wife of President U San Yu. The Bangladesh Minister of Shipping called on Minister for Transport and Communications U Sein Ya. (WPD 4/27)

Apr. 27: The two Presidents held talks, and President Ershad visited the Shwedagon Pagoda (donating US\$2,000 and four carpets) and the Central Agricultural Development Training Center at Zayatkwinn village, Hlegu Township. In the evening the Bangladesh Ambassador gave a dinner. Begum Raushan Ershad visited the Residential Nursery and Girls Training School on Dubern Road.

14 Bangladeshis, held as illegal immigrants, were released and will be handed to their country on Apr. 28. (WPD 4/28)

Apr. 28: President Ershad and his entourage departed, after visiting the No. 3 Garment Factory and oil refinery in Syriam. Mrs. Ershad visited the Zoo. A joint communique said Bangladesh and Burma had agreed to exchange trade delegations, and to the exchange of scholars, students, and cultural teams. Meetings of the Burma-Bangladesh Maritime Boundary Delimitation "would be resumed as early as possible." U San Yu was invited to visit Bangladesh at a convenient time, and accepted. (WPD 4/29)

BURMESE DELEGATIONS

Back from India

Apr. 17: A Burmese Cultural Delegation that left for India on Apr. 2 returned. The delegation was led by Minister for Culture and for Information U Aung Kyaw Myint, accompanied by Deputy Minister for Home & Religious Affairs Col. Khin Maung Win, Director-General of the Cultural Instituted Department Dr. Ye Htut, Director-General of the Religious Affairs Department U Ant Maung, Director of the Information and Broadcasting Department U Myint Maung, Director of the Fine Arts Department U Khin Maung Thaug, Director of the People's Police Force Headquarters U Tin Tun, Deputy Director of Consular Affairs, Foreign Ministry, U Kyaw Myaing, Deputy Director of the Department of Archaeology U Sein Maung Oo, and Personal Secretary to the Minister U Sein Win. (WPD 4/18)

Mission to Japan

Apr. 18: Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Planning & Finance U Tun Tin, accompanied by aides, left for Japan for talks on economic cooperation. He will also attend the 21st annual meeting of the Asian Development Bank in Manila. (WPD 4/19)

WHO Delegation

Apr. 26: The Burmese delegation to the 41st World Health Organization Conference, led by Minister for Health U Tun Wai, left for Geneva. It included Deputy Director-General of the Health Department Dr U Kyaw, Director Dr. U Ba Tun, Professor of the Institute of Medicine 1 Dr. U Thein Nyunt, and the Minister's personal secretary U Tin Nyunt. (WPD 4/27)

BURMA GAZETTE

Probationary Appointments

Apr. 23: The Council of State made the following probationary appointments:

Col. Ket Sein (BC 9698), Tactical Operation Commander, South-East

Command, as Director-General, Office of the President.

Col. Khin Nyein (BC 8509), Pyithu Hluttaw Office, as Director-General, Pyithu Hluttaw Office. (WPD 4/23)

GOVERNMENT

Text of Narcotics Law

The translated text of the operative sections of the Act Amending the 1974 Narcotics Drug Law, Law No. 1 passed by the March 1988 session of the Pyithu Hluttaw, and signed March 22, 1988, is as follows (courtesy of Mr. L.E. Bagshawe):

"Section 2: In Section 2 of the 1974 Narcotics Drug Law [NDL], the following shall be substituted for Sub-section A:

A. Narcotic drugs are defined to be any of the following:

i. Poppy plants, coca leaves and cannabis in any form together with any manufactures thereof;

ii. Any preparations of poppy plants, coca leaves, or cannabis;

iii. Chemicals of properties similar to those of narcotic drugs or chemical compounds of narcotic drugs or other similar materials;

iv. Drugs or other materials declared to be narcotic drugs by the Minister responsible by notification from time to time.

"Section 3. In Section 2 of the NDL the following sub-section E shall be inserted after sub-section D:

E. Drug addicts are defined as persons who consume any one type of narcotic drug without a permit.

"Section 4. After Section 6 of the NDL the following section shall be inserted:

6A i. No person may possess any narcotic drug for purposes of sale;

ii. Any person infringing this section may be punished by imprisonment for a minimum term of ten years with no upper limit and a fine of up to fifty thousand kyats, or by death. In addition, any narcotic drugs concerned and any goods, materials, implements, vehicles, animals, land and buildings involved will be confiscated for the national treasury.

"Section 5. After Section 7 of the NDL the following section 7A shall be inserted:

7A i. No person shall transport any narcotic drug for the purpose of sale.

ii. [same as 6A ii]

"Section 6. In Section 14 of the NDL, the following shall be substituted for subsection A:

A. Habitual users of drugs must register themselves as a time and place to be ordered.

"Section 7. In Section 14 of the NDL, the following shall be substituted for subsection B:

B. The government may make arrangements at its pleasure for the treatment of habitual users who are registered under subsection A.

"Section 8. In Section 14 of the NDL the following Section 14A shall be inserted:

14A. Any person either in possession or transporting narcotic drugs named below in excess of the quantities named for each may be presumed to be in possession of or transporting them for purposes of sale within the meaning of subsections 6A and 7A:

i. White opium - 3 grams

ii. Morphine - 3 grams

iii. Monacetyl morphine - 3 grams

iv. Intoxicating drugs named in subsections A, B and C in total or in any mixture of two - 3 grams

v. Green opium or prepared opium or the two together - 100 grams

vi. Cannabis or cannabis resin or the two together - 25 grams

vii. Coca leaves - 100 grams

viii. Cocaine - 3 grams

ix. The responsible Minister may from time to time declare other materials to be narcotic drugs and prescribe limits of possession."

Text of Allowance Law

The translated text of the operative sections of the Act to Amend the People's Representation Allowance Law, Law 2 of 1988, signed March 22, 1988, is as follows (courtesy of Mr. L.E. Bagshawe):

"Section 2: The following shall be substituted for Section 33 of the People's Representation Allowance Law:

33. People's representatives who are entitled to receive an honorarium or allowances:

a. if they are removed from their responsibilities under any law or by-law, or if they cease to hold or resign from their position, will not be entitled to receive the honorarium or allowances;

b. if they are temporarily suspended from office, will be entitled to receive the honorarium and allowances at the rate of 50% for the period of suspension;

c. if their suspension ends with their return to their original duties, they will be entitled to receive the honorarium and allowances at the full rate for the period of suspension.

"Section 3. The following shall be substituted for Section 36 of the Peoples' Representation Allowances Law:

36. Those who have been appointed by the Council of State to act temporarily as People's Representatives will be entitled to receive an honorarium and allowances preportional to their period of office."

Allowance Law

Mar. 22: Secretary of the Council of State U Sein Lwin presented the Bill Amending the People's Representation Allowance Law to the Fourth Pyithu Hluttaw. Under present law, members of People's Councils or People's Council Organs continue to receive allowances and gratuities even though temporarily suspended, or temporarily assigned duties, by the Council of State. This is costing more and more money.

During the First [Pyithu Hluttaw] tenure, one State, 51 township and 7 ward/village-tract level people were suspended, and received over Ky 290,000 in allowances. During the Second, two state/division, 59 township, and 46 ward/village tract level people were suspended and received Ky 530,000. During the Third, 97 township and 173 ward/ village tract level people were suspended and received Ky 930,000. During the first two years of the Fourth, 1 state, 29 township, and 65 ward/village tract level people were suspended and received Ky 280,000. Periods of suspension have ranged from one month to three years and nine months.

Section 2 of the bill provides that:

--recalled, suspended, or resigned representatives shall not receive allowances and gratuities.

--temporarily suspended representatives shall receive 50%.

--if the suspension is voided, they shall receive allowances for the full period.

Section 3 provides that representatives temporarily assigned duties shall receive allowances and gratuities. (WPD 4/1)

Political Courses

Apr. 8: Basic Political Course No. 58 concluded after 22 weeks at the Central Institute of Political Science; it was attended by 344 trainees from BSPP central and regional headquarters. Refresher Course No. 5 for judicial officers concluded after 12 weeks at the Central Court; it was attended by 36 Judicial Officers (Grade III). (WPD 4/9)

Apr. 29: Legal affairs and management course No. 30 concluded after seven weeks. It was attended by two Grade III law officers and

71 Grade IV law officers. (WPD 4/30)

Medals Presented

Apr. 9: President U San Yu presented "titles for valour and courage", awarded by the State in 1952, 1953, 1987 and 1988, at the Thabin Hall of the Pyithu Hluttaw building, including two Thiha Thura titles, eight Thura titles, two Thiha Bala titles, three Ye Thiha titles, four Ye Thura titles, and seven Ye Bala titles, for a total of 26. In addition, State/Division People's Council Chairmen were authorized to present 91 Medals for Excellent Performance in the Agricultural Field of Economy and the Social Field, awarded in 1987 and 1988. (WPD 4/10) // Apr. 12: Minister for Home and Religious Affairs U Min Gaung presented four Yethurein medals, four Yekyawswa medals, and 18 Yekyawthu medals and certificates to 26 policemen. (WPD 4/13)

Ne Win Goes Abroad

Apr. 11: BSPP Chairman U Ne Win "left on tour abroad," accompanied by his wife Daw Ni Ni Myint, Council of State members Dr. Maung Maung, U Thaung Tin, and U Ohn Kyi, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Defence Thura U Kyaw Htin, Council of People's Attorneys member U Lay Maung, Minister for Industry 2 U Maung Cho, and other officials. He was seen off at the airport by government and Party officials, and by The Dean of the Diplomatic Corps and the Ambassador of the Federal Republic of Germany. (WPD 4/12)

People's Council Book On Sale

Apr. 11: A book of legal extracts issued by the Office of the Council of State, on the rights of People's Councils at various levels, is on sale for Ky 11 at the Sarpay Beikman Bookshop. Authorization from government authorities is required to buy it. (WPD 4/12)

President Reports Back

Apr. 20: President U San Yu, Pyithu Hluttaw member for Bahan 1, reported back to his constituents on the last two Pyithu Hluttaw sessions. The following are highlights:

Energy: "...because of the fall in crude oil production year after year, machine oil cannot be supplied sufficiently.... As short-term measures, exploring...drilling ...and laying of pipe lines activities are being extended.... Natural gas is being used instead of petroleum. It is being turned into methanol and used. This year the production of gas increased and 78 percent of this volume could be used in place of machine oil. Crude oil will be imported with the surplus fund of projects being implemented with foreign loans.... As a long-term measure, the existing oil fields will be renovated and new oil fields will be explored with foreign loans and expertise."

Foreign Exchange: "This year commodities could not be exported as targeted and there has been decline in our foreign exchange earnings...this has affected domestic production due to inavailability of raw materials and spare parts.... To cover the reduced earnings in rice export, as domestic consumption is given priority, timber, minerals, fish, and prawns are being sold. Moreover, broken rice and pulse are also being sold."

Agricultural Decontrol: "With a view to increasing production...all crops, except some industrial raw materials, were decontrolled beginning with the 1987 harvest time. So, peasants and citizens who are private entrepreneurs can now trade freely in keeping with rules and regulations.... After crops including rice were decontrolled, we have created conditions permitting private entrepreneurs to engage in foreign trade."

BSPP General Secretary U Aye Ko, on behalf of the President, summarized the legislation passed by the October and March Pyithu Hluttaw sessions. Notably, he discussed the amendment of the Narcotics Drug Law, providing that possession of given quantities of drugs shall be considered as intent to sell, and providing increased

penalties.

U Aye Ko also summarized the annual economic and social report. On the international scene, he noted that: "Till last year Burma had regularly repaid foreign debts since it attained independence. This year, although the export incomes decreased, foreign debts are still being repaid but with much difficulty. For these reasons, Burma got itself listed as one of the least developed countries and arrangements have been made for dealing with most of the debts."

Questions were asked about the shortage of coins and One Kyat notes, and of textbooks.

Coins: U Aye Ko, speaking for the President, said that from 1984 to Feb. 1988, 22.6 million One Kyat coins, 172.56 million One Kyat notes, and 41.1 other coins had been issued. Steps have been taken to issue 1.5 million 50 pya and 1.5 million One Kyat coins in April, and equal numbers in May. 10,000 kyat in coins is being distributed daily by the Union of Burma Bank. "Besides this, K 15 worth of coins per person is being exchanged daily." The shortage "was caused by unscrupulous persons who use various means to cause difficulties even though small change is being distributed abundantly for the people's convenience."

Textbooks: U Aye Ko said "a co-ordination committee for printing and distributing textbooks has been formed...so that efforts can be made to get sufficient textbooks and stationery in time." Nevertheless, "students are faced with difficulties in buying textbooks. It has been learnt that textbooks are in the hands of black-marketeers and students have to pay exorbitant prices to buy them." (WPD 4/21)

Other Pyithu Hluttaw members, including BSPP General Secretary U Aye Ko, Chief of Staff General Saw Maung, and Prime Minister U Maung Maung Kha also reported back during the month, covering similar ground.

Pyithu Hluttaw Candidate

Apr. 23: Elections Commission Notification No. 242 announces U Khin Maung Yin as candidate for election to the Pyithu Hluttaw from Mandalay North-West Township in the by-elections to be held May 1-25. (WPD 4/24)

MILITARY

Cadets Graduate

Apr. 1: Chief of Staff General Saw Maung presided over the graduation of the 29th class at the Defence Services Academy in Maymyo. He said the cadets must "observe the traditions and customs of the indigenous people, [and] safeguard the lives and properties of the people always serving their interests." (WPD 4/2)

Insurgent Atrocities

Apr. 4: On Mar. 28, U Kyahe and his family, of No. 3 ward, Kungheng, were injured by a mine. On Mar. 27, Shan insurgents entered Pangnyaung Village, Hsipaw Township, killed two young men of Kyunyauktaung Village and stole 8 horses and goods. (WPD 4/5)

Apr. 5: On Apr. 1, KNU insurgents mined and destroyed the Melan Creek bridge in Melan-auk village, Bilan Township, and the Tanyinbin bridge. They also entered Sandaw Ywathitsu, burned 12 houses, killed one woman, and wounded two people. The bridges were repaired.

Also on Apr. 1, Mon insurgents fired at Phathein village from Ywathitkon in Kyaikmaraw Township, setting fire to 11 houses and killed three villagers. On Mar. 30, members of the BCP Insurgents No. 4046 Battalion entered Taungpyo village, Lawksauk Township, and extorted Ky 5,000; they then entered Satthay village, where they killed two villagers and captured three. (WPD 4/6)

Apr. 13: A woman was wounded by a mine at Thahtaygon village, Bilin Township, on Apr. 9. (WPD 4/16)

Apr. 18: KNU insurgents opened fire on three vehicles at

Thayagon Village on Apr. 10, killing three women and wounding seven other passengers. On Mar. 29 a villager travelling on motorcycle near Kyaukneik village was captured and killed by KNU insurgents, who stole his Ky 2,000. (WPD 4/19)

Apr. 22: Mon insurgents on Apr. 16 opened fire with mortars on Monhlaing village, Kawkareik Township, destroying 25 houses. On Apr. 10 One Kolapho, 35, of Naungkatoke village, Thaton Township, was injured by a mine while fishing near Kalukabachaung. On Apr. 11 U Sein Mya Maung, 40, of Kayinsu, Thayetkon village, Kya-in-Seikkyi Township, was seized and shot by Mon insurgents. (WPD 4/23)

Apr. 26: One villager was killed and another injured by a mine on Apr. 13 in Wangmai village, Kengtung Township. On Apr. 18, KNU insurgents from DO No. 2 battalion, coming from the east of Donthami Creek, kidnapped 17 young men from Peinnetaw and Min Lwin villages in Thaton Township. (WPD 4/27)

Pilots Graduated

Apr. 6: Sixteen air force cadets received their wings at the conclusion of Defence Services (Air) Pilot Training Course No. 49 at the Meiktila Air Force Training Base. Vice-Chief of Staff (Air) Major General Tin Tun presided. (WPD 4/7)

Insurgents Surrender

Apr. 6: 18 insurgents surrendered with their arms [dates not given, but presumably Mar. 1-16]. (WPD 4/7) // Apr. 7: 15 insurgents surrendered from Mar. 17-31. (WPD 4/8) [names and details given]

Opium Refineries Captured

Apr. 13: Operation Moe Hein Phase 12 has seized BCP and Wa opium refineries. BCP brigade 6, Wa, SSA, KIA, and Lahu insurgents formed an alliance to refine opium and smuggle heroin, blackmarketing and committing atrocities at San-chu, Danyawaddy, Lontawn, Naunle, Ma Khe-nu, Loi Manhtong, Loi Ma-un, Ma Hin Kao, Pang-tawn, Tak Ma-hin, Panpyet, and Pa-chi regions of Mongtung Township on the Thai border, and Loi Pan-phut and ta Malaing regions in Mong Hsat Township.

Beginning Mar. 19, columns of the No. 33 and 88 Light Infantry Divisions, and local units, attacked the enemy. Units led by the No. 33 LID captured the Ma Khe-nu, Ma Hin Kao, and Loi Ma-un camps of the Wa insurgents on Mar. 19; the Loi Man-Htong, Pang-Tawn and Tak Ma-hin camps and opium refineries on Mar. 20; the San Htamein camp and opium refineries on Mar. 21; the Point 4887 camp on Mar. 28; and the Wa insurgent headquarters Pa-chi camp on Mar. 29.

Units led by the No. 88 LID captured the BCP brigade 6 Point 6420 camp on Mar. 20; the Naung Le camp and opium refinery on Mar. 22; the Danyawaddy and Lontawn camps and opium refinery on Mar. 23; the Point 6990 and San-chu camps on Apr. 8; the Loi Pan-phut camp on Apr. 9; and the Ta Malaing camp on Apr. 10.

Large quantities of opium refining equipment and chemicals were seized at the San Htamein and Tak Ma-hin camps. At the Wa Pa-chi headquarters, two helicopter pads were discovered, as well as electricity and water lines being connected with the border area.

There were 11 major battles and 33 skirmishes, during which 27 Burma Army soldiers were killed and 73 wounded. 57 insurgents were "captured dead" and one alive.

Seized were 78 weapons including one 82 mm mortar and three 60 mm mortars, five telecommunications sets, one motorcycle, 52,173 rounds of small arms ammunition, 218 large calibre shells/bombs, 18 magazines, three hand grenades, 293 mines, 62 rocket shells, and five walkie-talkies.

Chemicals and paraphernalia seized included 1,284 gallons of acid and liquid chemicals, three tons of soda powder, four opium weighing machines, 84 mixing basins, two gas cylinders, three stoves, 136 containers, etc. [map and photos] (WPD 4/16)

Basic Military Training

Apr. 22: "National defence is the bounden duty of each and

everybody.... Recently youths including girls in Taunggyi Township completed a short-term basic military training course. This is one example among many.... In fact, military service is compulsory in many nations. The basic military training in itself has other virtues.... If we are to enjoy our fruits of labour, we must wipe out all covert and overt enemies. To realize this aim all must be prepared to work for security. Basic military training course will surely turn out persons who can shoulder national defence and security duties with the co-operation of the security personnel. (WPD editorial 4/22)

The Goat and the Dog

Apr. 22: In Mahawthahta Zat a goat and a dog once got along peacefully, writes Tun Zaw Htwe in a feature article. The goat stole meat for the dog from the royal kitchen, and the dog stole grass for the goat from the elephant shed. In the same way, the BCP (Burma Communist Party) and the Wa insurgents are on good terms.

Once the Wa and the BCP hated each other. The Kuomintang (sic) (KMT) dominated the Wa after 1942, and settled down in force in 1946, introducing poppy cultivation. They recruited some Wa as mercenaries. In 1953 the KMT retreated from the southern Wa area, leaving behind some small armed groups as their legacy. Groups have fought over the Wa area to dominate the growing of poppy.

In 1968 the BCP entered the north-east area and won over Phone Kya Shin and the underground Kokang karkweye groups; the Somkaramang and Panwaing groups from the Wa karkweye group fell under BCP sway. In 1970 the BCP moved into the Kokang area, and in 1971 expanded to the Wa area to the south, where they established their north-east military headquarters in 1972. The BCP launched large scale offensives against the Wa karkweye troupes, the KMT remnants and the opium gangs in order to take over the opium business.

Up to Dec. 1972 there were 121 clashes, and 152 Wa's and 396 BCP's were killed. 20 Wa leaders and over 300 Wa nationals were also tortured and killed, in an effort to exterminate the Wa. Over 8,000 Wa refugees fled to the western sector of the Salween and sought Burma Army protection.

In 1973 a group headed by Wa Karkweye leader Maha-San went underground and joined with KMT remnant opium gangs to enter the opium business and oppose the BCP. In 1973-74 the BCP attacked the KMT remnants and captured many of their camps. They engaged secretly in the opium trade.

BCP opium activity became an open secret in Dec. 1980 when BCP No. 083 looted 100 viss from the BCP No. 768 brigade in the Wangnaunggyi area. Lahu insurgent Aevi, under BCP leadership, had poppies cultivated in the Mong Hsat area.

The Wa insurgents formed the "Wa Amyotha Aphwe Gyoke" (WAAG) with Maha San as chairman. Aik Shauk Si led the "Wa National Revolutionary Council". In 1983 Wa nationals under the WAAG name joined the Ma Da Ta led by KNU Nga Mya.

In 1984 the Loimwe [Loimaw] insurgents led by Hkunsu [Khun Sa] attacked the KMT remnants camp. But after the BCP decision at the Third Congress in Pangsan in 1985, ordering all households in the Kokang, Mongmaw, Mawhpa, Momghkak, Mong Yawng, and Mangsat areas to grow opium poppies, the BCP attacked the Loimwe group of Hkunsu and thus helped the Wa insurgents, and the Loimwe insurgents retreated to an area near Lwelan in 1986.

Thus the BCP and Wa became allies. The BCP No. 6 brigade led by Deputy Brigade Commander Lay Kyaung, together with BCP Nos. 086, 087, and 927 battalions established footholds at the Musikwe, Tarmalaing, Lwepang, Hpat, Danyawaddy, and Sangsu camps in Mong Ton/Mong Hsat Township near the border. Now the Wa insurgents, "in consultation with the BCP", are engaged in the opium business in the Lwemanghtaung, Pantaung, Maheinkaung, Parchi, and Panhpyet areas and along the Kyethingathee Ridge.

Thus the Wa and the BCP are now friends like the goat and the dog. Together with the Wa they drove the Loimwe group led by Hkunsu from

the Parchi/Panhpyet area. The BCP sends to Sangsu opium both from the Wa area and elsewhere, where it is processed into heroin on a large scale. The KMT are selling the BCP opium abroad. BCP opium reaches the KMT through the Wa insurgents, and payment is in arms and ammunition needed by the BCP.

[The remainder of the article reviews Operation Mohein Phase 12.]
(WPD 4/22)

Karenni Insurgents Denounced

Apr. 23: A feature article entitled "Those giving trouble to people in Kayah State," by Nang Shin Htwe, discusses Karenni insurgents who, instigated by the KNDO, have been carrying out destructive activities in Kayah State. On Dec. 15, 1987, Karenni insurgents threatened road builders repairing the Dimawhao-Dawtamagyi Motor Road, near Htipokalo village, burnt down wooden bridges along the Loikaw-Mawchi Road, and destroyed the Bailey iron bridge. They planted mines in Pasawng and Bawlake Townships, and on Dec. 27 Ma Aye Myint, 17, lost her leg to one.

The insurgents forceably recruited youths in Dimawhso and Phruhso Townships, demanding one per village on pain of a Ky 10,000 fine. Villages also had to pay Ky 750 and provide 20 baskets of paddy for each recruit taken away.

On Jan. 1, 1988, Ti Ren, alias Ti Ri, who "had returned to the legal fold", was killed after refusing to pay Ky 10,000 in Htipawso village, Phruhso Township.

On Dec. 11, 1987, the Burma Army captured the Karenni Megahta camp near Hojitkarin village, Pasawng Township, killing four and capturing four rifles. Today the Karenni insurgents "are fleeing in disarray" and have turned to heroin processing near the Hwayum Creek, 10 miles north of Wan Ponglan. "If they keep on carrying out destructive acts, there is only one way for the Karenni insurgents to follow and this would ultimately bring about their doom." (WPD 4/23)

ECONOMIC

Co-op Contracts Signed

Mar. 31: Industrial and trade corporations signed contracts with eight State/Division Syndicates of Township Co-operatives in lower Burma, 140 Township Co-operative Societies, and 36 Station/In-service Co-operative Societies. (WPD 4/1)

Apr. 7: Contracts were signed for the 51st time between Co-operative Societies in Upper Burma and mills, factories, and trade corporations. (WPD 4/8)

Crop Substitution

Apr. 1: UNFDAC and the Burma Programme for Drug Abuse Control are working together to retrain former poppy growers in the cultivation of substitute crops. The program is divided into three five-year phases, which began in 1976 and will end in 1991. Six base stations, 11 forward stations, and two multisectorial farms were established in Shan, Kachin, and Chin States during the first and second phases. Two small forward stations have been promoted to Base Station status in Shan State in the third phase. They serve as demonstration sites, and grow seeds and seedlings for distribution.

In 28 out of Shan State's 52 townships, annual crops such as paddy, wheat, corn, groundnut, sesamum, potato, soyabean, and oil crops, and perennial crops such as coffee, tea, and oranges have been distributed, and over 22,000 acres have been developed. (WPD Editorial 4/1)

Telephone Service

Apr. 2: The telephone was first introduced to Burma in 1884, eight years after it was invented. In 1958 automatic service was made available, and in May 1978 communication by satellite was implemented. With the installation of an automatic exchange in Syriam, there are now 24 towns where contact can be made by direct

dialing, and there are over 61,000 telephone units in the country. Problems are that people talk too long, and make illicit trunk calls on office telephones. (WPD Editorical 4/2)

Accounts Officers Exam

Apr. 6: Written examinations will be held on Apr. 28-29 for the post of Accounts Officer, News and Periodicals Corporation (pay scale 450-25-750). Paper I is English and General Knowledge; Paper II is Ideology and Burmese. (WPD 4/7)

Tourist Statistics

Apr. 17: The number of tourists visiting Burma was:

1984-29,590 1986-40,300

1985-33,711 1987-42,175

Monthly figures for 1987 were: Jan. 4,864; Feb. 4,559; Mar. 4,245; Apr. 3,244; May 1,678; June 1,641; July 4,478; Aug. 1,649; Sept. 2,072; Oct. 3,520; Nov. 4,914; Dec. 5,311.

[Note: this totals 44,162]. (WPD 4/18)

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			
April 1		0.08	0.00	0.00	April 15	0.08	0.00
0.00							
April 30		0.39	0.71	1.30			

HEALTH

Smoking--The Bad Habit

Apr. 18: "Smoking involves both health and financial problems. Hard facts of smoking should be known to all--both smokers and non-smokers. Non-smokers ought to show every sign of opposition to smoking. Growing opposition and enhanced awareness will be effective in curbing or breaking the habit." (WPD editorial 4/18)

CULTURAL

Books and Magazines

Apr. 1: Cover of "Hnin-set Khwa-nyu La-pyi-wun", a book of poems published by the Mandalay South-East Township Literary Workers Organization. (WPD photo caption 4/1)

Moumein University Graduation

Apr. 1: Moulmein University held its first convocation at the Myaing Nanttha Garden on campus, and Pro-rector U Khin Maung presented degree certificates to 1,446 graduates. (WPD 4/2)

Bells of Burma

Apr. 4: The sixth in Khin Maung Nyunt's series tells "The Story behind King Tharrawaddy's Bell." The second largest bell in Burma, it stands on a raised brick platform in the north-east corner of Rangoon's Shwedagon Pagoda. Iron posts support a three-tiered roof, with a gold gilt finial and a two-tier portico shading a flight of steps. The bell hangs on iron beams buttressed by two massive lotus-crowned poles in the center of the hall.

Known as the "King Tharrawaddy' Bell", its official title is "Maha Ti Satta Ghanda", or "The Bell which produces a great sound." Cast in 1204 BE (AD 1824), the bell weighs 25,940 viss, 49 ticals (about 49 tons). It is 24' 1 1/2" in circumference, 7'8" in diameter at the mouth, 8' high, and 1'5" thick. (The Mingun Bell weighs 90 tons). In good condition, the bell produces a solemn but pleasant sound.

King Tharawaddy (1837-46) is referred to in the Chronicles as Shwebo Min; before becoming King he was called Tharrawaddy Myosa,

after his fief in Tharrawaddy, and was called by foreigners Tharrawaddy Min although his regnal title was "Siri pavaraditya Lokadhipati Vijaya Maha Dhamma Rajadhiraja."

After discussing in detail the early history of King Tharrawaddy, the article describes his efforts to build a new city at Rangoon, farther from the river than that of Alaungpaya, in what is now Dagon Township. The new town was officially named "Aung Mye Yan Hnin" but was commonly called "Ukkalapa". A main road from the shore to the palace was, and is, called "Lan ma daw" or Royal Main Road. The Palace, on the present Maidan Ground, faced east and was called the "Mye Nan Aung Char." Northeast of the palace was the Maha Dhamma Yanthi (Ain daw ya pagoda) of Prince Pagan. Troops, monasteries, ordination halls and water tanks surrounded the palace.

On the 10th waxing day of Thadingyut, BE 1203 (October 1841), an earth mould was made for casting the bell. On Feb. 22, 1841, the King left Rangoon to return to his capital in the north, travelling on the Royal barge "Yatana Yin Mun." The casting of the bell was done on the 5th waning of Tabodwe, BE 1204 (1843), but because of a cholera epidemic the King did not return to see it. (WPD 4/4)

Apr. 11: The continuation of the article on King Tharrawaddy's Bell describes its 100 lines of inscriptions in Burmese and Pali, divided into four pages. Most of them concern the life of Lord Buddha. Others are historical, including the following excerpts:

"In the 1380th year after the Demise of Lord Buddha, in the year 1198 Burmese Era 6th waxing day of Kason, King of the Kings ([line] 61) ruled the Kingdom where Buddha Sasana flourished, where seven rivers Thalawaddy, Duhtawaddy, Irrawaddy, Zawgyi, Makhayar, Sampa and Panlong flow, to which Thunaparanta, Tampadipa and Camboza (62) pay tributes, Zeyapura, Ratanapura and Amarapura merged into a union which His Majesty reigns like sun (63)..."

"At this capital of Amarapura (71) in the Buddhist year 2385 in the Burmese year 1203 on Monday 7th waning moon of Tawthalin at over 1 pm (72) the most auspicious hour with Chinese, Tartars, Manipuris, Assamese, Indians, Siamese, Linzinese etc. paying supplications to his Majesty, the King and his royal family made a great progress to three Kingdoms of Ramanya Desa (73) The King and the royal family were carried on the royal barge 'Pyigyi Mun'. The Court and the retinue followed with their boats and ships via the Irrawaddy river. To the west of Tampaguta Hill, on which is the Pagoda in which were enshrined sacred hairs brought by the two merchant brothers, (74) at a place 300 tars (measurement of land) away was the Palace constructed. The King and the royal family resided at this palace. In the year 1203 on Saturday the 3rd waxing moon of Tazaungmon, at 1 am began the spade work of the sounding [founding?] of a new town. It covered an area of 1800 tars. 3200 ticals of pure gold (75) were beaten to gilt the Shwe Dagon Pagoda from the bottom to the top canopy." [The moulding and casting of the bell are described, under the supervision of Wun Mingyi Maha Sithu and Mingyi Maha Min Kyaw Thinkhayar, the Minister of Bronze Smithy and Arsenal.] (WPD 4/11)

Konbaung Period Writers

Apr. 4: The eighth in Aung Moe's series considers "The Reverend Rectors;" monks who contributed to literature in the early Konbaung Period.

Shin Atula Yatha was born Maung Pan Twe in Okshit village, and became thathanabaing primate under King Alaungpaya, at the age of 38. An anecdote is told of his chastising another monk for giving the King a formula for ink, saying that palm leaf manuscripts do not last and are liable to be misread. He was forced to revert to laity at the age of 70, in King Bodawpaya's reign.

Second Kyaw Aung San Htar Sayadaw, a native of Ngazinyaing village, was a disciple of the First, and took charge of the monastery when the latter died in 1753. He wrote three major works: the "Wawharata Pakathani", a major encyclopedia of the Burmese language which has become a handbook for all serious scholars; an elaboration of a magadhan dictionary compiled in Pali by Caturingabala; and a treatise

on versification in Pali called "Sunn Kyann", written in 1789 at the age of 70.

Taungdwin Sayadaw Khingyi Hpyaw was very erudite and wrote 37 works in his life of 40 years. They covered astrology, alchemy, chemistry, pharmacology, meteorology, anthropology, cosmology, mythology, and scriptures and linguistics. Born Maung Hpyaw, of U Po Pye and Daw Kyar, in Padigon village, near Myo Lulin in Taungdwingyi township, he was a child prodigy who later studied at Pagan. He came to Sagaing in 1753 at the invitation of Crown Prince Naung Daw Gyi, and died there in 1762 at the age of 40. He wrote the "Min Letwe Nawrahta Shaukton", or answers to questions posed by Min Letwe Nawrahta on diverse subjects. He was also a musical prodigy. (WPD 4/4)

Apr. 11: The 9th article discusses "The Eminent Educators", specifically:

Sarit Sayadaw was a disciple of Kyet Thun Khinn Sayadaw, and was 54 when Alaungpaya became King and raised him to the rank of raza guru, in charge of the annual patamabyan scriptural examinations. At the age of 72 he was offered the office of thathanabaing primate. He was an outspoken man, who disliked being a king's teacher.

Tantabin Sayadaw was Shin Nanda Marlal, a native of Setoktara, who became thathanabaing during the reign of Hsinbyu Shin. He was also known as Tilawka Guru Sayadaw, and wrote two treatises for students taking the patamabyan examinations.

Min O Sayadaw was a native of Pettaw, aged 45 when Alaungpaya became King. He educated many who later became thathanabaings. He died at 83.

Manle Sayadaw was 39 at the beginning of the dynasty and a native of Tasbe Manle, born Maung Tha Gyi. He became raza guru in the reign of Singu Min, and during his tenure a plenary congregation of sayadaws decided that monks should wrap themselves in their robes when leaving a monastery, rather than merely putting a folded robe on their bare shoulders. He was a disciplinarian who became thathanabaing in King Bodawpaya's reign, and died in 1807 at the age of 93. There was a second famous Manle Sayadaw during the Konbaung Period.

Sonta Sayadaw was 35 when Alaungpaya became King, a native of Sonta village born Maung San Belu. Before moving to the capital, he worked in Bankyi circle, Hsinbyugyun and Salin areas, persuading local monks not to travel in ox-drawn carriages or use umbrellas. He was responsible for the decision on wearing robes outside the monastery, and wrote nine scriptural works before dying at the age of 75.

Minywa Sayadaw came from Wayindok village in Madaya township, and was called Shin Zargara. He became Singu Min's guru at the age of 30, and later thathanabaing under King Bodawpaya. He followed the vinaya law to the letter, never wearing slippers or carrying an umbrella, and collecting daily alms until he was over 70. He died in 1804 at the age of 81. (WPD 4/11)

Apr. 18: The tenth in the series on Konbaung Period Writers tells of Wetmasoot Nawade (Poet Laureate) under King Bodawpaya. He was born U Nu, headman of Ywawe village, north of Sagaing. Named Achidaw Wun (in charge of nursing) to a daughter of the Prince of Prome in 1788, he composed the "Hsinbyu Shin Mai E-chin" in honor of his ward. In 1796 he wrote a mawgun in honor of the dredging of Lake Meiktila, and in 1798 a paik-son on the marriage of the Prince of Pakhan and the Princess of Shwegu. Later he wrote ratus for all ceremonial occasions, and was named Nawade, with Wetmasoot as his fief, in 1806. He was given additional honors and titles, and died in 1842 at the age of 84. Among the mawguns ascribed to him are those concerning: Meiktila Lake; Sanda Muni; Conquest of Rakhine; Conquest of Assam; Arrival of Chinese Embassy; Bagyidaw's Coronation; Vilathini; Lawkavidu; Bavari; Thamondrika; Mingun Palace; Eiahangu; Conquest of Tavoy; and Muni Shit Su. (WPD 4/18)

Apr. 25: The 11th in Aung Moe's series is entitled "Writers from Shwebo" and concerns poets from that town.

U Toe was a monk who served Kings Hsinbyu Shin and Singu as a composer of songs and saungbas, that may be translated as "essays,

news-letters and belles-lettres." When Bodawpaya became King, U Toe was 31 years old and entered the Crown Prince's service, writing an e-chin in honor of his son. During the 1784 campaign against Myohaung, U Toe sent the Prince kye-say ratus. On his return U Toe wrote a rakan on the Ramayana, gaining his place in literature. Another poet, U Lann, composed a rakan making fun of it, but was suppressed. Later, U Toe compiled an erudite key to one of Nat Shin Naung's ratus. He died in 1796 at the age of 45.

Thar-chin Saya U Tha Aung came from Myedu village. He became a Court Bard and Herald, under the title of Min Zeya Rantameik. He composed the "Utema Thar-chin", the "Padar Sari Thar-chin" and the "Zeinza Marna Thar-chin."

Eh-chin Saya U Yar revived the eh-chin form of compositions read in chorus or a peculiar guttural voice, beginning every stanza with an address to a particular person. Originally an attendant to one of Singu Min's queens, Bodawpaya appointed him attendant to the Pindale Prince and later bearer of the betel-box and water flagon to the Consort of the Crown Prince. He later became wun of Muktama (Martaban) where he died in 1785. He composed eh-chins and also ratus, pyos, and lootars. Only his lootar on the Twelve Seasons, and four eh-chins on the first through fourth Buddhist Synods survive. (WPD 4/25)

Literary Workers' Meeting

Apr. 5: The Third Central General Meeting of the Literary Workers Organization of Burma opened, with 611 of the 633 eligible present. A 14-member Panel of Chairmen was elected, as follows: U Tin Tun (Tin Tun-Mann Sargon) from Myitkyina Township, Kachin State; U Aung Kyaw (Maung Pyi Kyaw) Loikaw, Kayah; U Saw San Tin (San Tin), Pa-an, Karen; U Chit Maung Oo (Budalin Chit Lay), Monywa, Sagaing; U Kyin Sein (Tavoy Kyin Sein), Tavoy, Tenasserim; U Sein Hlaing (Sein Hlaing Bo), Pegu, Pegu; U Kyaw Win (Maung Ni Win-Pakokku), Pakokku, Magwe; U Nyan Win (Budalin Chit Win) Mandalay North-East, Mandalay; U Wan Htain (Wan Htain), Thanbyuzayat, Mon; U Hla Kyaw (Bagyi Kwaw-Sittwe), Sittwe, Rakhine; U Kyaw Myint Lwin (Kyaw Myint Lwin), Mayangon, Rangoon; Dr. Khin Maung Nyunt (Dr. Khin Maung Nyunt), Bahan, Rangoon; U Thein Than Tun (Thein Than Tun), Lawksawk, Shan; and U Tin Aung (Nay Lin Tun-Panmawaddy), Myanaung, Irrawaddy.

In his opening speech, LWO Chairman U Win Pe (Mya Zin) said that there were now 3,425 writers and 806 journalists, for a total of 4,231, in 136 Township Literary Workers Organizations and 24 Township Literary Workers Organizing Committees. He said that BSPP policy on literature and journalism "underscored the need to bring out literature which systematically combined the national style and socialist essence."

A report, and an organizational and a financial amendment were presented and "discussed in support" by 19 delegates.

LWO Vice Chairman U Khin Maung Aye, in response, called for improvement in the LWO quarterly Sarpay Loktha Magazine. He said a shop would be opened in the front row of the Bogyoke Market "as soon as possible", and that financial aid during bereavements had been doubled in 1987 and would be increased as funds permitted. As to Burmese literature, "only the literature which is of benefit to the reader public should be published and those which would be harmful to the readers should not be published." The organizational amendment was approved. (WPD 4/6)

Apr. 6: On the second day, the LWO elected 100 members (list printed) to its Central Body. Other amendments were passed. (WPD 4/7)

Apr. 7: The General Meeting concluded, following a speech by the new Chairman, U Win Pe (Mya Zin) and the shouting of slogans.

The new Central Committee was elected, as follows:

--Chairman: U Win Pe (Mya Zin)

--Vice Chairmen: U Khin Maung Aye (Khin Maung Aye-Mandalay) and U Than Tut (Taik Soe)

--Secretary: U Myo Thant (Maung Hsu Shin)

--Joint Secretary: U Hla Tun (Hla Tun-Twante)
--Treasurer: U Mya Thein (Mya Thein)
--Members: U Htin Gyi (Tetkatho Htin Gyi); U Kyaw Swe (Min Kyaw); U Soe Nyunt (Htilar Sitthu); Daw Yin Yin (Saw Mon Hnyin); U Htin Fatt (Maung Htin); U Soe Myint (Soe Myint); U Ye Tint (Ye Tint); Daw Yi Kyain (Daw Yi Kyain); U Tin Soe (Thagadoe); U Ko Ko Lay (Tho Han); and U Kyaw Min (Min Kyaw Min).

An Audit Body was elected, as follows:

--Leader: U Thein Sein (Thein Sein)
--Members: U Hla Myaing (Ko Hsaung); U Ky Nyunt (Chit-kyi-ye Kyi Nyunt); U Thaung Tin (Kyatkale); U Thein Dan (Maubin Lwin Oo).

Medical Manuscripts Given

Apr. 6: Children of indigenous medical practitioner Saya Nyan donated 21 ancient palm-leaf medical treatises in a ceremony on Mar. 31 at the Monywa Township Party Unit. (WPD 4/7)

Thingyan

Apr. 12: The Mayor of Rangoon Maha Thingyan Pandal Water Festival and Entertainment (1349-50 BE) began, and other pandals opened. (WPD 4/13) // Apr. 14: Foreign Diplomats and their families were entertained at the Rangoon pandal. (WPD 4/16) // Apr. 15: The Thingyan festival concluded. (WPD 4/16)

Apr. 16: Burmese New Year's Day was marked by many meritorious actions, and offerings in pagodas and monasteries. Homage was paid to old people. 200 students and faculty from Rangoon University performed meritorious deeds such as shampooing and manicuring at the Hnizigon Home for the Aged. Animals and birds were freed; working people in Ward 6, Lanmadaw Township freed 16 head of cattle, two goats, nine chickens, four ducks, two rabbits, and 25,000 sparrows, worth Ky 84,000 at the Hmawbi Sathwargon Monastery. Working people in Ward 3 freed 23 cattle, 55 goats, nine sheep, 55 viss of fish, 2,750 crabs, 9,000 sparrows, 18 ducks, ten rabbits, 43 chickens and two crows at the Taikkyi Sanctuary. [other examples cited] (WPD 4/17)

Burmese Calendar

Apr. 16: A feature article by Tint Lwin discusses "The Burmese calendar," and its relation to the Sanskrit lunar and solar calendars. (WPD 4/16)

Photo Exhibit

Apr. 18: The 25th All-Burma Photo Exhibition and Contest was opened at No. 62, Pansodan Street, Rangoon, by U Mya Sein, Chairman of the Burma Photographic Society. The 411 entries were inspected by the Libraries, Museums and Exhibition Supervision Committee, and will be on display until Apr. 22. (WPD 4/19) // Apr. 21: Prizes were given. (WPD 4/22) // Apr. 23: The 38th annual meeting of the Burma Photographic Society was held, and U Maung Maung Gyi was elected Chairman for 1988-89. (WPD 4/24)

Burmese Wins WHO Photo Prize

Apr. 24: U San Win (Marga San Win-Katha) was one of six winners of the WHO-International Federation of Photographic Art competition commemorating the 40th anniversary of the World Health Organization. He received his prize on Apr. 7 in Geneva. 1,725 photographers from 127 countries had submitted 11,500 entries in the competition. The other five winners were from the USA, Mexico, China, the USSR, and Hungary. (WPD 4/25)

Parabaik Desk Donated

Apr. 28: A Konbaung era parabaik desk, and an ancient parabaik writing shelf, were donated to the Universities Central Library by Sayadaw U Pinnya Thami from Kan-swai Kyaungtaik of Chaunkwa village, Tada-U Township. The desk is a replica. (WPD 4/29)

SPORTS

Soccer Tournament Prizes

Mar. 31: Prizes were given for the 1987-88 First Division League Soccer Tournaments. Victorious teams were:

Youth: Ministry of Transport and Communications (Marine), First; Ministry of Planning & Finance, Second.

Junior: Ministry of Construction, and Tatmadaw (Navy).

Senior: Ministry of Planning & Finance, and Ministry of Transports and Communications (Marine). (WPD 4/1)

Rowing Team to Hong Kong

Apr. 18: A seven member Rangoon Universities Boat Club team left for Hong Kong to participate in the 10th Hong Kong Rowing Championship and the 23rd Far East Amateur Rowing Association Regatta. The team is headed by Professor of Economics Dr. Than Nyunt, with Assistant Surgeon Dr. Thit Lwin as manager-cum-coach and five student rowers. (WPD 4/19)

Soccer Team to Thailand

Apr. 18: A 21 member youth team headed by Burma Football Federation Secretary U Than Lwin left for Thailand to play goodwill matches. (WPD 4/19) // Apr. 28: The team returned. (WPD 4/29)

Chess

Apr. 24: Rangoon Division won the traditional chess championship title with 2 1/2 points, defeating Irrawaddy and Magwe, in the 14th Inter-State and Division International and Traditional Chess Tournament. Best player awards were won by Aye Lwin (Rangoon), Ohn Kyaw (Irrawaddy), Khin Soe (Irrawaddy), and Myo Nyunt (Rangoon). (WPD 4/25) // Apr. 27: Rangoon won the international chess championship, defeating Sagaing. In the under-20 division, winners were Aung Aung (Mandalay), Kyaw Kyaw Soe (Rangoon University-Main), and Aung Hlaing Oo (Rangoon University-Main). In the under-16 division, winners were Zaw Win Aung (Kunchangone), Maung Maung Win (Lanmadaw), with Ye Win Aung (Lanmadaw) and Thurein Win (Yankin) tied for third. In the women division, Khin Pyu Win shared the title with Sanda Win, and May Mya Aung was third. (WPD 4/28) // Apr. 28: Ohn Kyaw (Irrawaddy) won the traditional chess title, with Khin Soe (Irrawaddy) second and Myint Thein (Irrawaddy) third. (WPD 4/29)

MISCELLANEOUS

Obituaries

Apr. 1: Daw Kyi Kyi Sein, Pyithu Hluttaw member for Thingangyun Township, Rangoon Division, died, leaving her seat vacant (Council of State Notification No. 56/88). (WPD 4/22)

Apr. 4: Leading Nayaka Sayadaw of the Mogaung Kyaungtaik, Kanbalu Township, Sagaing Division, State Ovadacariya Sayadaw Bhaddanta Narinda Maha Thera, vassa 81, died at the age of 100. (WPD 4/9)

Apr. 14: U Hla Kyaw Sein (Gordon), Ex-comdr. Burma Navy 3130, husband of Daw Than Than (Alice), died in Rangoon, aged 62, and will be buried in Tamwe Cemetery. (WPD 4/16)

Apr. 19: Ex-Brigadier Aung Thin, D.S.O., (B.A. Cantab.), widower of Daw Tin Nyunt, of 2/2 Gyogon Housing Estate, died in Rangoon, aged 86. (WPD 4/21)

Apr. 18: Daw Khin Htwe, wife of U Khin Maung Oo, died at Apt. 21, Block No. 10, Hpa Sa Pala Or, aged 55, and was buried at Kandawgale Muslim Cemetery. (WPD 4/23)

Apr. 24: Daw Saw Kye, wife of U Tun Aung (a) Tan Tong Aung, died in Rangoon, aged 81, and will be buried in Nanattaw Cemetery. (WPD 4/25)

Apr. 27: U Pyi Soe, Barrister at Law, Middle Temple (London), husband of Daw Khin Khin Min, brother of U Shwe Thwin (University of

Hawaii), died in Rangoon, aged 49. (WPD 4/28)

Apr. 28: Daw Than Nwe, S.M.S. (5) Yankin, daughter of the late U Chwan Hoe and Daw Oun Nya died in Rangoon, aged 51. (WPD 4/29)

Aid for Lashio Fire Victims

Various foreign countries provided aid for victims of the Lashio fire:

Apr. 6: United States Ambassador Burton Levin gave a check for US\$ 25,000 (Ky 155,200). [photo] (WPD 4/7) // Apr. 12: China gave US\$ 10,000. Japan gave medicine worth Yen 9,301,300 and 2,000 blankets worth Yen 4,298,000. [photos] (WPD 4/13)

Apr. 21: Australia will give relief goods valued at A\$ 75,000. (WPD 4/22)

Riot Enquiry Commission

Apr. 8: According to Council of State Notification No. 50/88, the deadline for the report of the Enquiry Commission charged with investigating the "clash between some students of the Rangoon Institute of Technology and some residents from Gyogon West Ward" has been extended from Apr. 17 to May 17, 1988. (WPD 4/9)

Fire in Pegu

Apr. 10: A fire broke out in Sein Tun Ward in Pegu, gutting dwellings. (WPD photo caption 4/12)

Thingyan Warning

Apr. 11: "It has been requested to refrain from throwing water on postmen who will be delivering letters on the Thingyan Athet Day (15-4-88) and on those who will be delivering telegrams during the Thingyan festival days." (WPD 4/12)

Social Welfare Benefits Raised

Apr. 22: The Social Security Board held its meeting No. 1/88, attended by its Chairman Deputy minister for Labour and for Social Welfare U Pau Khan Thang. It increased the cash provided for funeral expenses from Ky 200 to Ky 500, and raised lump sum compensations for occupational accidents. (WPD 4/23)

Bird Identification

Apr. 24: A two-part article by Hmugyi Hla Aung discusses bird identification, using as a test case a strange bird which arrived at the Rangoon Zoological Gardens on Jan. 14. The bird, a vulture or hawk, was one of four signed in Mawlamyainggyun Township on Dec. 27, 1987, and captured in Mai-ta-laing village. (WPD 4/24) // Apr. 25: After examining the bird and descriptions of vultures, Hmugyi Hla Aung concludes that it is a Cinereous or European Black Vulture (*Aegyptus monachus*). He ends with a story from Volume II of U Kala Mahayazawingyi, telling how a message on the death of Minye-Kyawzwa of Dallah was sent to Ava by a tame vulture belonging to Pinle-kye Thinga-rajaja, which covered the distance of 400 miles in nine hours. (WPD 4/25)

Hlawga Gardens Opened

Apr. 24: The Rangoon City Development Committee announced the opening to the public, on April 30, of the Hlawga Gardens beside the Promenade Road 16 miles away from Rangoon. It has restaurants, drinking water, benches and latrines for visitors. "The authorities have reminded the public to keep the pleasantness of the Gardens and to take measures for prevention of fire and the cleanliness of the Hlawga Lake. Those who will visit the Hlawga Gardens can also worship the Thadukan Pagoda." (WPD 4/25)

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