Table of Contents

POLITICAL CRISIS
Slogans 2
Cartoons 2
Official Books 5
Political Articles 5
Press Conference 7
Details of New Constitution 9
NLD Leaders Nabbed for Crimes 14
Maj-Gen. Myo Nyunt 14
Lt-Gen. Phone Myint 14
ABSDF & NLD Terrorists Arrested 15

ELECTIONS
Party Registration Changes 15
Hluttaw Members Ousted 16
NLD Hluttaw Member Resigns 16
Party Denounces Sein Win & U Nu 16

DIPLOMATIC
Diplomatic Calls 16
Cambodia Council Endorsed 17
Illegal Immigrants Returned 17
Ambassador to Australia Named 17
Ambassador to USA 17
Ambassador to Pakistan 17
Chilean Ambassador Approved 17
Ambassador to Viet Nam 18
Algerian Ambassador Approved 18

INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION
Workshops and Courses 18
UN Border Study Group 18
Foreign Donations 18
FOREIGN VISITORS
International Agency Visitors 19
Business Visitors 19
Academic and Non-Profit Visitors 19
Chinese Delegations 19
Thai Delegation 20
Malaysia Delegation 20
Russian Buddhist 20
MYANMAR DELEGATIONS
Study Delegations 20
Delegations to Meetings 21

MYANMAR GAZETTE
Probationary Appointments 23
Appointments Confirmed 23

GOVERNMENT
Subversion Law Strengthened 24

MILITARY
Insurgent Attacks 24
Insurgents Surrender 24
KNU Mine-layers Exposed 24

ECONOMIC
Economic Articles 24
Construction Projects 24
Joint Ventures 25
Training Courses 25
Basic Commodities 25
Yangon Water Supply 25
50-pya Revenue Stamp 26
Tradewinds Airlines Office 26
Oil Wells 26
Advertisements 26
Mon Chamber of Commerce 26
Yangon Industrial Exhibition 26
Rainfall in Yangon 26
HEALTH
Dangers of Adulteration 27
SPORTS
Sports Teams Abroad 27
Sports Delegations Abroad 28
Traditional Sports 28
CULTURAL
Literary and Cultural Articles 28
Role of the Sangha Reviewed 28
Shrine for Last Mogul 30
Poster Exhibition Continues 30
Motion Picture Asiayone 30
Cultists Arrested 30
MISCELLANEOUS
Crime News 31
Obituaries 33
Engagement & Marriage 33
Meiktila Fire Relief 33
Floods 34
Flood Relief 35
Earthquakes & Cyclone 35
Boat Capsizes 36
Siamese Twins 36
Narcotics Seized 36
Yangon Zoo 36

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NOTICE TO READERS
This issue, like that for July, is published out of order because of a temporary interruption in delivery of the Working People's Daily. The September issue will be out shortly, and the November and further issues will, we hope, appear on schedule. Thanks for your patience.--HCMacD.

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POLITICAL CRISIS

Slogans
The four political slogans launched in November 1988 appeared in most issues of The Working People's Daily throughout the month, as did the "Noble Desire" slogan begun in January 1990. We reprinted them in the January 1991 issue.

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Since April 1989 the The Working People's Daily has run a political (in recent months, Buddhist religious) slogan across the bottom of each front page; on Aug. 6, this was transferred to the top of the front page:

Aug. 1: Puja ca pujaneyyanam, to honour those worthy of honour; this is the way to auspiciousness.
Aug. 2-5: Patirupa desavaso ca, to dwell in suitable locality; this is the way to auspiciousness.
Aug. 6-9: Pubbe ca katapunnata, to be endowed with merits accrued in the past; this is the way to auspiciousness.
Aug. 10-14: Attasammapanidhi ca, to establish oneself rightfully; this is the way to auspiciousness.
Aug. 15-18: Bahusaccanca, to have immensity of knowledge; this is the way to auspiciousness.
Aug. 19-22: Sippanca, to acquire skill in sciences; this is the way to auspiciousness.
Aug. 23-30: Vinayo ca susikkhito, to be well-trained in discipline; this is the way to auspiciousness.
Aug. 31: Subhasita ca ya vaca, to speak good and unsinful words; this is the way to auspiciousness.

Since Jan. 3, 1991, most issues have also run the following slogan:
The interests of the State cannot be served and promoted by disturbances and instability. Join hands with the Tatmadaw in preventing disturbances and acts of instability.

Cartoons
There continued to be a number of political cartoons in each issue. E.g.:
July 31: 1st Myanmar: "Does the Myanmar Socialist Lanzin Party known as Ma-Hsa-La during the disturbances still exist?" 2nd Myanmar: "No, it doesn't anymore... It is according to the law of impermanence. But on the other hand, correlation of man and his environment continues to hold true." 3rd Myanmar: "Here, here ... Those who began all that... Those who signed all that are still alive ... There is also a summary of the Revolutionary Council's achievements till that's history... History. Don't forget!"
Aug. 4: 1st Myanmar: "They quoted Henry David Thoreau's words 'Oppose all authority...'" 2nd Myanmar: "They changed it into 'Defy all authority...'" 3rd Myanmar: "Don't be confused with this Thoreau or that Thoreau. The Duke of Wellington of Britain who was known to be noble and brilliant said that Martial Law is General's will, the Senior General's will. But law is fully respected. Hahahaha..."
Aug. 5: Sign: "5-7-89 press conference. "...I have to say what I don't like to say... Don't do it. Senior General Saw Maung." Myanmar: "That was said on 5-7-89. And on that very day 5-7-89...in spite of what's been said...." Ranting Myanmar woman: "Defy all authority..."

Aug. 8: Myanmar girl to mother: "I was missing and feeling sentimental for freedom, consideration, kindness of motherland, helpfulness among national races and affections of relatives very much." Mother: "When?" Girl: "When I was having troubles abroad where I went thinking highly of it."
Aug. 9: Miniskirted girl: "Your design is obsolete. Make new designs which will be popular in the new democratic era." Traditionally dressed girl: "Oh, it does not matter if it is unpopular. I take pride in being a decent citizen. Don't let me dress decadently like you do."
Aug. 9: 1st Myanmar: "The western european capitalist nations are making instigations to create disturbances with a view to making our country fall into servitude." 2nd Myanmar: "That's why in their nations they are suffering bad effects of their ill-wills...crimes, murders in the day-light, rape cases, assassinations in the streets are increasing more and more..."
Aug. 11: "There are many mouse-droppings in the alms rice."
"National League for Democracy--fake press conference No. 8" shudders as it hears on the radio: "Bogus party politics...egoistic and self-seeking party members and political charlatans...because of such frauds, make sure you elect within party organizations only those of integrity who will work for the interests of the nation."
measures." 1st Myanmar: "Vendors and shopkeepers are no longer arrogant towards customers." 2nd Myanmar: "No...they now talk politely with sweet smiling faces and use more short-weights than the past."

Aug. 14: "Some western nations": "Put pressure on Myanmar Naing-Ngan by undertaking economic blockade." "South East Asian nations": "Assistance and encouragement will be given for the development of Myanmar Naing-Ngan."

Aug. 14: 1st Myanmar: "We gladly welcome those who have given up the armed struggle line and returned to the legal fold." 2nd Myanmar: "It is also necessary to take severe action under Martial Law against those who returned with the aim of causing disturbances to break up the nation."

Aug. 15: Father (thinking): "Service personnel are to stay away from party politics." Mother: "Each and every person should economize." Son and daughter: "To pursue education peacefully. To dress oneself upholding our culture." All together: "Non-disintegration of the Union; Non-disintegration of National Solidarity; Perpetuation of National Sovereignty."

Aug. 15: 1st Myanmar: "Why was the communist party expelled from the AFPFL in 1946, Aba?" 2nd Myanmar: "Because letting the communist party remain in the AFPFL was like pouring water on the poison plant and having a snake in the fold of one's longyi."

Aug. 16: Myanmar to friend: "Bureaucracy, red-tapeism, capitalism were practised..." Onlooker: "He is recounting bitter experiences encountered during the parliamentary democracy era."

Aug. 19: "We love our nation." 1st Myanmar: "I don't want to stay abroad even though I could perhaps earn very well there." 2nd Myanmar: "Why?" 1st Myanmar: "I like only Myanmar fish-paste and Myanmar salads."

Aug. 19: "Requested songs." Radio: "This song is for Johnny Wa Toke, Robert Thargeet, Dephenie, Jessie, Peggy, Stella, Fresher, Alpha, Margaret, Sue, San... 'Oh, I'm tired.'" Listener: "Those who requested for this song may be ones who were born in Myanmar Naing-Ngan but very westernized."

Aug. 19: "Myanmar zat thabin." 1st Myanmar: "In the past, the theatrical artistes were honoured with Wunna-Kyaw-Htin and Alinga-Kyaw-Swa titles as they serve the nation with their arts full of Myanmar culture." 2nd Myanmar: "Nowadays, theatrical artistes seem they cannot perform if they have to avoid western dances, decadent dances, rock, etc."

Aug. 19: 1st Myanmar: "Friend, let me ask you. About the three communist parties. How did they come into being?" 2nd Myanmar: "Now take note. First Marxism came in... Then Gyisho came in... The other one is Brauderism [sic]. Read it in the history book." 1st Myanmar: "By the way, tell me in which book?" 2nd Myanmar: "The book which featured the perspective view of the road which is wide in the front and narrow in the rear, my lad. You search for it... OK... Hey..hey..hey."

Aug. 19: 1st Myanmar: "Ko Po Pyawt of our village worked 'shore job' abroad...and returned lamely." 2nd Myanmar (thinks): "AIDS"

Aug. 21: 1st Myanmar: "When the colonialists cannot harm us bodily, they attempted to harm us with materials, clothes and culture." 2nd Myanmar: "Now, the Myanmar pinni shirts, blouses and yaw, Mandalay Kyogyi-gyeik, hnittaya garments are substituted with foreign textiles. It is necessary to preserve and uphold our culture."

Aug. 23: "Today's Literary field." Myanmar looking at "Romantic Novels": "So many cliches of love for brothers, sisters, spouses and sweethearts. You should give love for the race, nation, parents and teachers, their turn."

Aug. 23: "Destructive elements of consecutive eras." 1st Myanmar: "The real enemy of the AFPFL has been found, it is said. Who? Communists. Those who tried to break up the Tatmadaw and pushed it towards the abyss of death were the Communists. Now, who are attempting to break up the Tatmadaw?" 2nd Myanmar: "The Communists."
Now the KNU insurgent terrorists, BCP UGs, internal axe-handles and the so-called parallel government are falling into BCP servitude.

Aug. 24: 1st Myanmar: "Having good neighbours is more safe than a fencing. Is it right, Aba?" 2nd Myanmar: "Yes, that's why our nation is ever trying to be a good neighbour and to have good neighbours."

Aug. 27: 1st Myanmar: "Making those from the same family attack one another is the loathsome habit of the imperialists." 2nd Myanmar: "Whom do you want it to be known, Aba?" 1st Myanmar: "Those traitors who are attempting to make trouble to our nation and the people."

Aug. 27: "Authorities, please take educative measures against shopkeepers." 1st Myanmar: "As the price tag says K 70 for a viss of chicken, I bought happily. but I took a viss at K 120. 2nd Myanmar: "Why?" 1st Myanmar: "They said the price tag was to show the authorities."

Aug. 28: "Some businessmen were given warning and action was taken against them as they are too self-seeking." 1st Myanmar: "Some of them are from political parties." 2nd Myanmar: "And they have only been allowed to run economic enterprises ... I dare not dream of what might happen if the entire country falls into their hands!"

Aug. 30: Myanmar to Westerners: "It was said that the people of your race keep promise firmly and respect the time. So, tell me, when will you give back the Ruby 'Nga-mauk' which you imperialists took away?"

Aug. 30: Myanmar to friends: "As I cannot substitute Myanmar fish paste and 'chinpaung' curry with chocolate and cheese, I returned to motherland."

Aug. 30: "If one loves the race, one must uphold the prestige of the race." Mother to daughters: "Daughters, uphold the prestige of your race by choosing husband from your own race. Don't marry a foreigner."

Aug. 31: Myanmar to Party Official: "Till today, they do not give up their bad characters and manners and they are still tricky and deliberately breaking the law. These political dead tigers coming alive is to make trouble for the nation and the people." Official: "Err...Err ..."

Official Books

Officially published books and periodicals are advertised or publicised regularly. These were featured this month:

When solving the problem of attaining internal peace by political means, by Ye Goung Kyaw Swa. Two volumes. History of insurgencies.

Myanmar History, by U Ba Than.

Book (in Burmese) on U Nu's activities as an expatriate.

Book (in Burmese) on "cruelties during 1988 disturbances."

1958-1962 Myanma Politics, by the History Department fo Yangon University. Four volumes. Available from Myawady Ltd., Sule Pagoda Road, at K70 per volume.

Book (in Burmese) on Myanmar History.

Book (in Burmese) on "Mirrors of an era"--"Facts on politics, economic, military, social affairs, culture and history are stated freely, frankly and vividly by the authors from their own angles and points of view."

Political Articles

Following the pattern begun in October 1988, each issue contains lengthy feature articles, translated from Burmese, designed to bolster government views and policies. Editorials sometimes touch on similar themes. We note them briefly, with excerpts of typical or particularly significant portions:


Aug. 1-3: Brave never die, by U Thet Shay. [Cont. (14-16)
Traditional tales about brave men.

Aug. 2: Exemplary role played by Wuntho Sawbwa U Aung Myat, by Swe Thant Ko. (Cont. A Shan who resisted British conquest in 1886. He died, aged 103.)

Aug. 3-6,8,17: A Concise History of Myanmar and the Tatmadaw Role (1948-1988), by A Tatmadaw Researcher. (Cont. {from July 7} (138-143) Tatmadaw operations against insurgency. From 1962-1974, the Tatmadaw lost 9,478 men killed; enemy losses were 21,640 killed and 48,039 captured or surrendered.)

Aug. 5-6: East and West, by Thukhi Aung. [(1-2) False Western foreign broadcasts accuse Myanmar of political repression and not suppressing narcotics; in contrast ASEAN is friendly.]

Aug. 6: Editorial: Teaching them young. "Myanmar society considers itself lucky in that this so-called 'generation gap' is not as great as ... in a lot of other countries, particularly those countries which have suffered much from an excessive measure of materialist-minded western influences passing themselves off as 'modern' or 'progressive' values. There is nothing wrong with the concept of modernity if it is simply synonymous with progress and development of immediate and long-term benefit to society as a whole. But there is much to be said against it if it brings about the disintegration of the established fabric of society and the existing cultural values which distinguish a nation and its people from others. For, the breakdown of traditional cultural values removes once and for all the identity of a nation and its peoples as a distinct entity."

Aug. 7-10,12,14-15,21-22,25-26: Towards building up a genuine democratic state, by Maung Kyi Lin. [(1-11) Evils of 1988. "The fumes of politics that overwhelmed the people... included UG fumes, BBC fumes, VOA fumes, AIR fumes, Ba Ba Gyi fumes, Thameedaw (daughter) fumes, Buyo fumes.... They confused many people." Acts of SLORC reviewed. Of 945 current Laws, 305 date from 1826-1947 (70 date from before 1890; the oldest is the State Prisoners Regulation of 1818); 325 from 1948-1962; 140 from 1962-1974; 102 from 1974-1988; 73 since 1988. Enemies of the laws are enemies of the State. Tatmadaw wants "a genuine democratic state as early as possible." Law Scrutiny Central Body will examine obsolete laws. Laws must be obeyed and will be enforced. Role of Martial Law. "Genuine democracy, in fact, is a practice of cultured peoples who are pure at heart."]

Aug. 11: The Tatmadaw's business is peace and tranquillity, by Pha Tha Oah. [Tatmadaw always rescues the nation.]

Aug. 11,13: Why did Myanmar Naing-Ngan withdraw from Sterling Area? What repercussions did it cause?, by Bo Thanmani. [Cont. {from July 31} (12) 1966 withdrawal, with facsimiles, photos, and texts of documents.]

Aug. 12: The attitude towards the Japanese and the British mentioned in Bogyoke Aung San's speech at Thayetchaung village, by Bo Thanmani. [Background and text of May 10, 1945 speech--"Although the Japanese (xxxxxxx) us... it was not that bad as they used 'oil' (lubricants). When the British come, they will (xxxx) us without even using 'oil'."]

Aug. 13: Expeditious and correct disposal of cases, by KMO. [Stop delaying court cases.]

Aug. 15-17: When Aung Ba Lauk was interviewed by the BBC, by Maung Myo Sit. [(1) "The BBC is a hanging dog of the neo-colonialists. Look at the persons serving with the BBC; they are the next of kin and relatives of the expatriates..." On July 26 the BBC interviewed Maung Thaung (a) Aung Bala, on a visit to London, who said "Since more persons have been arrested in Yangon, Myanmar Naing-Ngan, it can be assumed that the military government has become weaker. They are getting worried and making more arrests because they are not sure of their own perpetuity." This is wrong, "the Tatmadaw is one with the people..." Maung Thaung (Aung Bala) said, "The main reason is that they do not want to return State power to the hands of the people. The desire not to return State power to the hands of the people is, however, not that of the entire Tatmadaw; it is the desire..."]
of just a handful of leaders. Again, if one looks at the main reason of this, one will find that it is concerned with economy. They will be able to make money by various illegal means only if they are in power." This is also a blunder, since it is "time and time again mentioned" in the press that "the Tatmadaw does not want to hold on to power...." In Myanmar "no persons...have been arrested or detained for their carrying out political work," but only for crime.

(2) Racism and crime in "in the Western countries where Maung Thaung (a) Aung Bala is serving their interests like a parasite to earn his livelihood." Aung Bala is trying to "sow disunity and discord within the Tatmadaw." In his book From The Bama Khit to The Kyemon we find that Maung Thaung "was a cadre of the Burma Communist Party" who sided with the Red Flag Communist Party when the Party split. U Nyo Mya's forward to the book chided The Kyemon for its partiality. "When the leftists were popular and when it became a fashion to be a leftist, Aung Bala became a leftist. Then he made money working in collaboration with the rightists. He became 'friendly', flirted with the embassies of the Western Bloc (rightist). He got many 'rewards' from those Western Bloc embassies including their used cars. Aung Bala never failed in his duty to 'cling' to the prime minister and the ministers during the period when the AFPFL was in power."

(3) In 1963 Aung Bala gave Thakin Soe equipment worth K7,000. He was arrested and detained in 1964. When released he got an Information Ministry job despite the protests of U Htoon Pe, and "went on flirting with the rightist embassies." He left Myanmar in 1978, and got a job on a Missouri newspaper where, and in the Readers Digest he attacked and slandered Myanmar. He even came to the border with Tin Maung Win and Ye Kyaw Thu, and wrote in the expatriate 'sarsaungs' (pamphlets). "He has become a traitor to Myanmar. ... [and] also a lackey of the BBC. He has written under various pen names such as Aung Bala, Aung Ba Le, Aunb Ba Lein, Aung Ba Laung--but he should be named 'Aung Ba Lauk.' He does not care whom he hurts; in 1956 the Bama Khit published seventh standard exam questions, and a student (Harry Tan) was killed in the protest that followed. "Aung Bala is a man who went so far as to getting his men in other presses cause break-downs of forms so that his newspaper alone carried the 'scoop' in its next day issue."


Aug. 19: The Myanmar people know best what is best in their country's interest, by Thura Thamein. [Despite "sabotage aimed at creating both economic and political instability," the Myanmar people want peace and tranquillity.]

Aug. 24: Editorial: Warning against national AIDS. ["The only answer [to AIDS]...is to avoid like the plague...all known ways of becoming infected. The needle, blood transfusion, main-lining of drugs and of course direct intimate contact with known carriers are all to be avoided.... It is in effect a biological Trojan horse of the highest sophistication....

["There is a question to be asked ...of a particular variety of corrupt public servant who have been... indulging in graft to turn foreigners into Myanmar citizens.... They are in fact public enemies whose corruption allows foreigners onto our soil ... to live and to multiply and eventually break down the fabric of Myanmar culture much in the same way that AIDS infects a healthy human body and eventually causes death.

["Those who are allowing foreigners of alien cultural groups to sneak into and settle down in the Union of Myanmar are in effect permitting agents which could undermine our immune system of nationalism, traditional cultural heritage and patriotism."

["The affect [sic] may not be immediately detectable. But in the long run, it bears immense threat. If allowed to continue unattended, the national AIDS which would surely develop, would spell the death knell of the Myanmar peoples as a distinct entity...."]
Aug. 29-31: We have friends, by Kyaw Thura. [China. "We have friends, those on whom we can count, and those who can count on us, whenever needed.... Events have proved China's helmsmen to be fully in touch with what should be the best for their people.... Both China and Myanmar have staunchly withstood any attempt at undermining what we have been striving to achieve. Equally, both have gone through a period of political turmoil made more complicated by those who keep striving to interfere in our internal affairs. However, such attempts only further strengthen our resolve to carry on the good work we are doing...."]

Press Conference
Aug. 19: At the 111th State LORC Press Conference, spokesmen said:
-- Minister for Planning & Finance and for Trade Brig-Gen. Abel discussed the "spreading of rumours that K 200 and K 90 notes would be demonetized...and unscrupulous elements are engaged in exchanging currencies and manipulating prices of commodities, based on the rumour." As announced in 1989 and clarified at many Press Conferences, "the government would not demonetize any currency note and...the rumour is incorrect." [Details]
-- "Another point I would like to present concerns BCCI.... In July 1991 issue of the Hong Kong Standard it is stated, 'Burma has links with the BCCI's Hong Kong branch through the country's State-run bank; the BCCI was used by the Myanmar Foreign Trade Bank to handle international transfers from Hong Kong to Rangoon....' I would like to present facts in detail. Myanmar...made contacts with the BCCI in January, 1984, and opened accounts at BCCI in London.... At the counsel of the BCCI, Myanmar...transferred its accounts to BCCI (Hong Kong)...."

[Table from Minister's Remarks]

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Withdrawals</th>
<th>Deposits</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1985</td>
<td>$ 2,700,000</td>
<td>$ 2,500,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>1986</td>
<td>12,910,000</td>
<td>13,170,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>1987</td>
<td>13,520,000</td>
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<td>1988</td>
<td>3,820,000</td>
<td>3,740,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>1989</td>
<td>200,000</td>
<td>270,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>1990</td>
<td>200,000</td>
<td>98,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

"These withdrawals and deposits are normal banking service. These are only small amounts. The balanced account of our country in BCCI (Hong Kong) is only over 100,000 dollars. As it is a legally undertaken service, we have officially written to the bank for solving the matter legally. I can say for sure that Myanmar Naing-Ngan has no other relations except normal banking with the BCCI. The State also takes responsibility for the matter. I would like to declare that Myanmar Naing-Ngan has no involvement with laundering black money...." In 1984 Penny Lernoux published "In Banks we Trust," about money laundering. "It is surprising that the big nations and banks have come to know about the BCCI scandal only by now."

-- "Another matter concerning trade is rice. As paddy fields in some places were inundated, the public are anxious about rice supply and rice prices." But only 250,000 acres out of 12,500,000 acres of cultivated land have been damaged, and "as there is an annual damage of from 300,000 to 500,000 acres, this cannot affect the rice supply. The State keeps rice supply in reserve annually. The reserved rice is for emergency use, and there is no need to have any anxiety on the part of the public. Even if paddy cannot be recultivated on flood-hit fields, bumper crop is expected for winter cultivation."

-- "There are cases of irregularities, manipulation of prices and hoarding edible oil, in connection with the shortage of edible oil. A total of 36,000 tons of edible oil were imported between 1 April and 30 June.... Over 150,000 tons of edible oil was imported the previous year by private and joint-venture enterprises and the State. In the first quarter of this year, 36,000 tons were imported. As I have stated these facts, you are to draw conclusions for
yourselves on the problems of soaring prices and scarcity of edible oil."

-- In reply to questions, the Minister said: Groundnut [peanut] oil production was low because of drought in central Myanmar, and there is no seed surplus; oil cannot be produced from monsoon groundnut. Yangon Division consumes 30,000 viss of edible oil per day. The newly allowed private banks would have to get deposits of K60 million before applying for a license to operate. Under the Foreign Investment Law it is planned to invest over K800 million for oil, K300 million for forestry, K200 million for fishery, K100 million for industry--totalling K1.5 billion.

-- Col. Than Tun said that, in connection with the July 18 operation in Rakhine State to "expose, arrest and take action against some unscrupulous persons who were causing economic irregularities in the border areas," foreign media had stated:

   BBC said July 31 that 50 Muslims had been arrested, and over
500 people arrested and were in detention at Sittway jail.

   VOA said Aug. 1 that Myanmar had "arrested 466 Muslims of the
opposition group."

   Bangkok Post said Aug. 1 that "Burma arrests 466 Muslims in new
crackdown."

   The Nation said Aug. 1 that 500 Muslims had been arrested in a
crackdown on "activities opposing the Government."

These rumours were not correct, Col. Than Tun said, and had been aired "to incite and create racial/religious problems. He said that in reality it is the matter of merely calling them up temporarily and interrogating them in connection with economic irregularities in Sittway, Buthidaung and Maungdaw in Rakhine State." The facts had been covered in the Myanmar press on Aug. 7. The operation was "to do away with black-marketeering of goods...and to stabilize and bring down the prices of goods and stabilize monetary situation."

-- Illegal practices included, the Colonel said:

   "Huge quantities of foodstuffs and personal goods" were sent from Yangon, purportedly for use in Rakhine State, but actually for smuggling out of the country at Maungdaw.

   The money obtained was "illegally transacted into the currency used in the other country and then into dollars." The dollars were either sent to Yangon, or sent "via the other country" into foreign bank accounts. [Details] The transactions caused fluctuations in the exchange rates with the other country."

-- As a result, the Colonel said, 136 people were questioned, 25 "sent back," and "action was taken against the remaining...111 persons." Action was taken against 66 persons (57 Bengalis and 9 Rakhine nationals) for illegal economic activities, and against 53 Bengalis under the Immigration Law. Seized were K12 million, 1,470 Bangladesh Takis, 22 ticals of gold, K4.5 million of foodstuffs, and 16 sampans [details].

-- 58 sealed go-downs were inspected from Aug. 9-13, and "restricted goods and goods which, though they were not restricted, were in a large quantity to be illegally sold were seized," and will be sold to bring down prices [details].

-- The person "mainly responsible" for illegal exchange is "a broker in Singapore" with agents in Yangon, Sittway, Buthidaung, Maungdaw, and Bangladesh [extensive details of operation]. "In Rakhine State, Yangon and other parts those engaged in the business were mostly Bengalis." The system used hundi [chits] to transfer funds.

-- However, these operations are "in no way connected with social and religious matters.... Those who break the law under cover of religion will not get impunity. All will remember that some of the monks who violated the law were firmly dealt with in Mandalay in October 1990."

-- In response to questions, Col. Than Tun said: All 111 persons arrested were from Rakhine State; only 10 persons were being questioned in Yangon. No American dollars were seized, as the system used "hundi." There is no formal border trade with Bangladesh.
Details of New Constitution

Aug. 7-10: A four-part article, What should be the form of the State of the future?, by "A high-ranking Tatmadaw Officer" considers Myanmar's future constitutional arrangements [full text]:

What should be the form of State of a nation depends much on the living together as well as the spread of the national races in a country. The living together and spread of the national races in that country, their development, the population and matters relating to their concepts are all involved in this.

"A national race is a national race"

Nowadays, the term "ethnic group" or "minority" has no longer any serious meaning. It is found that the concept "a national race is a national race" has come to have more and greater influence over the concept of "an ethnic group which is a component part of a national race". The people's coming to hold firm to the `concept of rights' to the effect that every national race has the right to govern itself reflects the advancement and development of the political thought and knowledge of the people.

The old theory fading away

The current course of history has clearly shown that the theory that there are eight national races in Myanmar Naing-Ngan which can be termed "big races" has been fading away from day to day. If they had accepted that the Shan national race consists of all the other racial groups that have been living in the Shan State from generation to generation, there would have been only one Shan insurgent group and there would not have been such multi-coloured insurgents as Pa-O, Palaung, Wa, Lahu insurgent groups in Shan State. In the same way there would have been only one Kachin insurgent group in Kachin State and there would have been no need for the Nagas to object to their being included in the Chin national race. But, this has not been so now.

"Unity within Unity within Unity"

The fact that there are 135 national races living in Myanmar Naing-Ngan is a hindrance to the idea of drafting a constitution based on "the big race concept". If the State is to be constituted on the basis of "the big race concept", the matter of putting an end to the armed insurrections within the country will not be possible and this may even cause worse racial disturbances. We will be able to gradually reduce and finally put an end to the problems only if the State is constituted on the basis of the concept of "self-administration of all the national races". In other words we must establish the kind of unity known as "Unity within Unity within Unity". All the national races belonging to the race `Myanmar' are to establish self-administrative entities depending on the race and area, then to go one step higher forming self-administrative districts (township zones) and then the self-governing districts are to form the State governing body. Only this kind of formation will enable the nation to overcome the problem of having to decide whether the Unitary Principle or the Federal Principle is suitable for the State.

"Separation of power"

In Myanmar Naing-Ngan it will be convenient if 'decentralization' which ensures freedom is established in the national races level self-administration and if 'centralization' which consolidates unity and makes it more compact is established in the State government level. Every national race will be able to fulfil its desires by exercising the legislative, executive and judiciary powers in the areas where it is in the majority. In the State level the three `powers' (legislative, executive and judiciary) are to be separated and exercised by separate sectors. For example, the legislative power will be the concern of the Pyithu Hluttaw. The judiciary power will be exercised by the Supreme Court. The executive power will be exercised by the Head of State and the government to which the Head of State delegates part of the executive power. Only
then will the system of the separation of powers be balanced and harmonious and will contribute towards consolidation and strengthening of solidarity at the State level. The Head of State, the Hluttaw and the Supreme Court will be able to bring about the solidarity and unity of all the national races on the basis of the unity of the areas through practising the system of the national races' self-administration.

Head of State must be responsible to the people

In a nation like ours where many national races live together, the person who will serve as Head of State should be one who can be accepted by the majority of the citizens. The person who will serve as Head of State should get the trust and support of the majority of those who have the right to vote. Only then will the Head of State be able to represent the entire State and effectively govern the nation. As he is the one who represents the majority of the people, he must observe the desires and aspirations of the people and he must be responsible to the people. The Pyithu Hluttaw and the Supreme Court will be able to guide the Head of State from legal and judicial sectors.

Just as the Head of State who will govern the State is to be directly elected by the popular vote of the people, so also those who will be on the local administrative bodies and legislative bodies should be elected by the people of the areas concerned. The same should be applied in the self-administrative areas of the races—the second level which covers the township level. (WPD 8/7)

Form of State

As regards the form and structure of State it is stated in (chapter 1) the Constitution of 1947 that Burma is a Sovereign Independent Republic to be known as "the Union of Burma" and that the sovereignty of the Union resides in the people. The Constitution of 1974 states that the State shall be known as "the Socialist Republic of the Union of Burma" and that the Socialist Republic of the Union of Burma is a nation where various races reside. The presidential form of administration

The forms of State mentioned in both the constitutions are 'unions' formed on the basis of the concept of 'big national races'. There were dissatisfactions of the national races in the forms of State mentioned in both the constitutions. Therefore as many of the national races today want self-administration, I would like to suggest establishment of the presidential form of administration which ensures compact and consolidated solidarity and unity in the State level and which is based on the self-administration areas brought into being according to the objective conditions such as the concentration and spread of the national races. This, in my opinion, is the most suitable for new democratic age of today.

A bad situation

The danger of the disintegration of national solidarity consequently causing the disintegration of the State is always present in a multi-racial society like Myanmar Naing-Ngan where many national races as well as other nationals not belonging to the national races live together and this is a bad situation. In such a situation the Head of State must take the responsibility for national solidarity of the State; only then will the State be able to defend and protect itself from this danger. This form of State can be seen in the constitutions of many nations of the world. For instance, it is stated in the Constitution of Thailand that the King is the symbol of Unity. Similarly, the constitutions of India and Pakistan state that the Presidents represent national solidarity and unity and defend, protect and safeguard it.

Special powers

Therefore such Heads of State are endowed with special powers and rights. For example, the King of Thailand is endowed with the power of dissolving the Legislative Assembly and of appointing the
There must be basic principles

There must be basic principles for a constitution. Only then will the aims and objectives of the constitution become effective and dynamic. The basic principles are concerned with the political system which the people desire as well as with the basic political theories that will shape up that political system. For instance, the objective of the 1974 Constitution is to build up a socialist social system. The basic principle that will give it its life and soul is "the Correlation of Man and His Environment". As a matter of fact, when the Constitution of 1947 was drawn up, the desire and aspirations of the people were to build up a socialist society, but the Constitution drawn up was not designed to lead to building up a socialist society which was the objective of the State because of various limitations that existed then. This happened so because the Constitution drawn up did not contain an adequate number of basic principles for the establishment of a socialist system.

The basic principles mentioned in the Constitution of 1974

The basic principles are mentioned in Chapter 2 of the Constitution of 1974. The basic principles mentioned include ones such as "The objective of the State is a Socialist Society", "The economic system of the State is the Socialist Economic System", "The form of State is one based on socialist democracy" and "There shall not be any form of exploitation of man by man and of one race by another." (WPD 8/8)

Moreover, also included in Chapter 2 of the Constitution of 1974 are... the matter of which class interests are given top priority, to which organization the three powers (legislative, executive and judiciary powers) belong, what the rights and duties of citizens are; what should be the qualifications and abilities required by those who can become members of the State organs of power; who owns the natural resources of the nation and who can manage them, the clarifications on the fundamental principles of equality.

The desire for equality

At present there have appeared in the minds of people of Myanmar Naing-Ngan the desire for equality. These desires are mentioned in chapter 2 under the heading "Fundamental rights" of the Constitution of 1947. When a new constitution is drawn up, we can gain good benefit if we draw it after studying the chapters (2) of both the Constitution of 1947 and the Constitution of 1974.

An important point

The qualifications and abilities which should be possessed by those who have the right to become members of the central organs of power, especially the organs that are to exercise the legislative, executive and judiciary powers, should be included in the chapter containing provisions on the Fundamental Principles.

To protect ourselves from foreign interference

There are some countries like ours which lie between powerful countries and which are weak and in which many national races live together and it is important for such weak nations to defend and protect themselves from foreign interference and from the expansion of the sphere of influence of the powerful nations. Therefore, we must take measures to see that those who can fall under the influence and sway of aliens, those whose sense of patriotism is weak and those who are also weak in upholding the honour and dignity of our own race cannot get to the positions of authority and influence that can have great effect in making decisions for the good or bad of the nation. How the State is to be organized

The people of our country have had very bitter experiences of the bureaucratic administrative system and it would amount to our being naive and stupid if we thought of going back to that system.
The chapter 3 on the formation of the State of the Constitution of 1974 states that the system of the central level giving leadership and the regional levels managing their own affairs is practised. It is natural that there can be weaknesses in public affairs management work under the circumstances which allow only the existence of one political party.

The essence of self-administration

The right of the respective regions to manage their own affairs themselves reflects the theory of self-administration and as such the essence of self-administration can be realized by the persons elected by the people of a region managing the affairs of the region themselves.

How to practise self-administration

According to the provisions of the Constitution of 1974 the administrative regions of the nation are divided into four levels. The experiences gained taught us that there were conditions which required one more level between the township-level and the State/Division-level. The State/Division level found that there were too many townships under it of it to manage them effectively and so there should be another level such as township zone or district placed between the State/Division level and township level. However, this sort of arrangement will weaken the self-administrative theory as there will be many national races taking part in the State/Division level in practising the self-administrative system by the national races. Therefore, it will be more feasible and convenient if the central government controls the township zones/district administrative bodies to which the powers formerly exercised by the State/Division level administrative bodies have been transferred. The theory of regional and self-administration will become effective and meet with success by allowing the township zone/division level to exercise the three powers (legislative, executive and judiciary) to a certain extent depending upon the local conditions.

The desires of the national races will be fulfilled

In Myanmar Naing-Ngan there are a considerable number of national races each of which has a considerable number of people. It is found that they live as a majority in areas covering from two to three to five to six townships. Take the ‘Wa’ and Pa-O national races as an example. If such a national race forms a township zone level with the townships where the majority of its people live and turns it into a self-administrative region, the desires and aspirations of that national race will be fulfilled. (WPD 8/9)

The form and method of exercising the legislative, executive and judiciary powers

The form and method of exercising the legislative, executive and judicial powers in that region can be prescribed with certain limits in a suitable manner. The executive and regional legislative bodies of the township zones brought into being in this way can be formed with persons chosen by means of an election.

Administration of Justice

In the administration of justice sector the State/Division level judicial officers can administer justice in the township zones and deal with cases till they are disposed of. When the township zone level administrative bodies and township regional legislative bodies are formed, the heads of Division level departmental officials can be included in them as members. The desires and wishes of the people of the townships concerned can be ascertained and the population figures of the national races in the townships are to be taken into account in designating a region as a township zone self-administrative region.

State Government, the central level

At the stage above the township zone self-administrative regions is the Government of the State only. The racial problems and the legislative problems of the township self-administrative regions can be supervised and guided by having two houses of the Pyithu
Hluttaw established at the central level. Either the election system or the system of representation can be applied in choosing members of both the houses of the Pyithu Hluttaw.

Main duties of the Hluttaw--

- to make laws

The principle duties and responsibilities of the Pyithu Hluttaw should be legislative ones--to make laws. However, the Pyithu Hluttaw representatives (elected by the people) should have the right to be included in the Council of Ministers formed by the Prime Minister appointed by the President, who is the Head of State of the nation. I think that matters which should be decided upon by ballot at the joint sitting of the two houses of the Pyithu Hluttaw as well as those which each house has the right to decide are to be clearly defined and prescribed.

Not all things should be forgotten

The majority of people are saying that we should all forget what happened in the past in the nation's changing over from one age to another and from one social system to another, but I am of the opinion that there are some things that ought not to be forgotten at all. That is why I am presenting to the people of all the national races of the Union of Myanmar the fact that the high-ranking officers of the Tatmadaw that has taken over the duties and responsibilities of State know the history of the past and the historical process, the addresses made by the leaders of the past, the historical and legal aspects and that the things which the youths of today do not know once took place in Myanmar Naing-Ngan.

There is a Myanmar saying "One enjoys or suffers from the consequences of one's own action." I would like to conclude my article wishing everybody would be able to serve the interests of our nation Myanmar Naing-Ngan with cetana and with heart and soul.

(Translation by UND)

NLD Leaders Nabbed for Crimes

Aug. 7: Action is being taken against Oktwin Township [Bago] National League for Democracy (NLD) Chairman U Khin Maung Win, the elected Pyithu Hluttaw representative from Oktwin-2, "for he has been found with 'che-hti' books and 'che-hti' receipts" after his house was raided July 22. "U Khin Maung Win confessed that he sold 'che-hti' tickets to make a living, it is learnt." He and two others will also be "interrogated in connection with the anti-government speeches made on the Arzani Day and action will be taken against them." (WPD 8/8)

Aug. 18: Alon Twp. [Yangon] police on Aug. 16 seized che-hti gambling documents and K9,361 at the house of U Thein Naing, Executive Committee member of the Alon Township National League for Democracy. Action will be taken under the gambling law. (WPD 8/19)

Aug. 20: Kyimyindine Twp. [Yangon] police on Aug. 17 seized 13 bottles of illicit liquor and 1 bottle of BEDC liquor from U Pan Tin, Organizer (Youth) of the Kyimyindine Twp. National League for Democracy. (WPD 8/21)

Maj-Gen. Myo Nyunt

Aug. 13: Speaking to local officials, Yangon Commander Maj-Gen. Myo Nyunt said: "I would like to tell you about the rumours that are spreading currently among the people [sic]. According to the rumours, currency notes such as K 90 and K 200 would be devalued and then the value of K 90 will be reduced to K 70. It was said that money is being exchanged at the rate equivalent to K 180 for a K 200 currency note.... There appear another rumour that currency notes such as K 10 and K 5 will be declared illegal as the word 'Union of Burma' is written on such notes and this usage is not in conformity with the new term Myanmar Naing-Ngan." These rumours are unfounded, and the SLORC has "no plan to demonetize currencies" while it is in power.

"Furthermore, the Commander explained the rumours that are spreading as a result of floods which took place in the delta area. He reminded
that there is no need to store rice. Unscrupulous persons are spreading rumours for their own selfish ends. It is necessary to expose those who spread rumours so as to enable the State to take action against them, he added." (WPD 8/14)

Lt-Gen. Phone Myint

Aug. 15: The first biannual coordination meeting for 1991 of the Bureau of Special Investigations was addressed by Minister for Home & Religious Affairs and for Information and for Culture Lt-Gen. Phone Myint. "He said that when he studied political and economic conditions of the country he found political conditions had gradually stabilized. But, he said, economic undertakings got destabilized due to unscrupulous businessmen and destructive elements. All the service personnel of the BST, he continued, would have to suppress such persons. The Minister went on to say that the nation-building tasks would not be accomplished if the service personnel had no love for the race. The present period, he said, was a revolutionary one and the service personnel should be party to the revolution. they would have to strive for public interest in order that what they did might also benefit them, he added." (WPD 8/16)

Aug. 22: Addressing the Immigration and Manpower Department, Minister for Home & Religious Affairs and for Information and for Culture Lt-Gen. Phone Myint "said...there...existed practices of bribery and corruption in certain areas... The current period being undertaken by the Tatmadaw is a revolutionary one. The responsible personnel themselves should be free from such malpractices.... In certain areas, he said, there were instances in which personnel took bribes from foreigners and made them citizens...." (WPD 8/23)

ABSDF & NLD Terrorists Arrested

Aug. 28: The Defence Services Intelligence between July 30-Aug. 6 exposed and arrested nine "destructive elements sent by ABSDF terrorist group to carry out destructive activities in Yangon, Waw [Bago] and Pyawbwe [Mandalay] areas" and their contacts [names and details of their activities]. [photos of nine persons arrested, grenades and demolition equipment, and "propaganda"]

Aug. 29: Between Aug. 5-15 the Defence Services Intelligence exposed and arrested 14 "youths sent by ABSDF terrorist group No 207 battalion...to carry out sabotage and destructive activities in Yangon," following the surrender of ABSDF Private Aung Thu in Mandalay, with TNT and other demolition equipment [names and details]. [photos of 14 persons arrested, equipment and literature] (WPD 8/30)

Aug. 30: Between Aug. 20-15 the Defence Services Intelligence exposed and arrested 16 "destructive terrorist elements and their hardcores and contacts. The youths sent by the National League for Democracy (liberated areas) group and Sein Win's underground parallel government which has joined forces with the KNU terrorists were to carry out organization, propagation and agitation activities in Bago, Kyauktaga, Penwgon and Nyaunglebin areas with the aim of causing disturbances" [names and details]. [photos of 16 persons arrested and propaganda cassettes] (WPD 8/31)

ELECTIONS

Party Registration Changes

Party registration changes announced by the General Election Commission [recorded by Party as in previous issues].

(12) National Peace and Democracy Party. CEC members Dr. Sein Win, U Thein Hlaing, and U Kyaw Min Naing have resigned. (WPD 8/8)


(52) Naga Hills Progressive Party. CEC members U Hla Aung, U Saw Hla, U Ba Thin, and U Yin Mann have resigned. (WPD 8/8)

(56) Youth Unity Organization. New address is 53/61 Plot No. 14 (G), Theinbyu St., Botahtaung Twp., Yangon. (WPD 8/23)
Workers' Unity Organization. CEC member U Nyunt Thein has resigned. (WPD 8/31)

Kachin State National Congress for Democracy. CEC members U Laman Htein Nang and U Maruwan have resigned. (WPD 8/8)

National Democratic Party for Human Rights. Patron Dr. Anwar Hussein and JGS U Yunnoos have resigned. (WPD 8/23)

Shan State Kokang Democracy Party. Patrons U Yan Win Pyaung, U Li Hau Te, U Kyu Kyein Saiq, U Toeyon Hua; CEC members U Yan Kyu Sho, U Char Chon Sho, U Yan Tin Shwe, U Yan Lauk Yuan, U Hpon Wu, U Li Win Kyone, U Fu Kwe Kyin, Maung Maung Kyaw, Maung Tun Aung, Maung Lauk Wa, Maung Kau Lyan, Aung Sam Am, Maung Kyaw Thu, Maung Sein, Maung Soe Maung, Maung Win, Maung San Lwin, Kyan Wi Tin, Maung Win Ko, Maung Maung, Maung Shauk Wa, Maung Mya Maung, Lu Han Yon, Kyan Shin Che, Maui Al San, Maung Tun Win, and Maung Laktu have resigned. CEC members U Kau Htaing Lon, U Si Hon Hpu, U Ho Yon Hua, U Kyu Yon Hua, and U Chin Htin Hau have been expelled. (WPD 8/23)

Peasants' Development Party. VCh. U Tin Aung, U Kyaw Myint; and CEC member U Ba Shein have resigned. (WPD 8/8)

People's Pioneer Party. New address is 427 Thitsa St., Aung San Ward, Insein Twp., Yangon. (WPD 8/31)

Democracy Organization for Kayan National Unity. JSec. U Khun John; CEC members U Maung Di and U David Nay Htoo have resigned. (WPD 8/31)

Amyothar Party. Sec. Daw Aye Tint; CEC member U Soe Tin has resigned. New Sec. is U Kyaw Soe. (WPD 8/31)

Wa National Development Party. Sec. U Ai Paung has resigned. (WPD 8/31)

Lisu National Solidarity. CEC member U Alobar has resigned. (WPD 8/31)

Rakhine National Humanitarian Development Organization. CEC member U Tha Doe (Minbya) (Maramagy) has resigned. (WPD 8/8)

Hluttaw Members Ousted

Aug. 14: Election Commission Announcement No. 956 of Aug. 14 declares that U Maung Maung Kyaw (Botataung) is disqualified, and may not stand for election again for 10 years, because he "was convicted of committing an offence relating to moral turpitude...under Section 417 of the Criminal Procedure Code for cheating," and has thus infringed Sections 11(j) and 80(B) of the Election Law (as retroactively amended in July--HCMacD.). (WPD 8/15)

Aug. 16: Election Commission Announcement No. 958 of Aug. 16 declares that U David Hla Myint (Ngapudaw-1) is disqualified, and may not stand for election again for 10 years, because he "was convicted of committing an offence relating to moral turpitude...under Section 6 of the State Flag Law and has thus infringed Sections 11(j) and 80 (B) of the Election Law. (WPD 8/17)

NLD Hluttaw Member Resigns

Aug. 28: Election Commission Announcement No. 961 of Aug. 28 authorizes NLD Pyithu Hluttaw member U Khin Maung Aye (South Okkalapa 2) to resign since "he found that the National League for Democracy could not solve the problems among the older members and youth members, that there were personal attacks for gaining positions that contrary to democratic practices, that some members looked forward to master and sycophant systems, that members did not adhere to provisions contained in the book on organization and formation issued in November 1989 and practised centralism that caused disintegration of the unity among members of the league, that the League reconstituted Township Organizing Committee by the wishes of the Divisional [O] and, without adhering to democratic practices, abolished Township organizations formed at Township conferences." (WPD 8/29)

Party Denounces Sein Win & U Nu

Aug. 29: Election Commission Press Release No. 25/91 of Aug. 29 quotes repudiations of the parallel governments of U Nu and Sein Win
by a political party:
(59) All Myanmar National Progressive Democracy Party. (WPD 8/30)

DIPLOMATIC

Diplomatic Calls
The following calls were paid on Burmese officials by foreign Embassy or UN officials accredited to Burma.


Aug. 2: Laotian Ambassador Kydeng Thammavong on Minister for Industry 1 and for Industry 2 Lt-Gen. Sein Aung. (WPD 8/3)

Aug. 5: The Laotian Ambassador on Chief Justice U Aung Toe. \ Chinese Ambassador Liang Feng on State LORC Secretary (1) Maj-Gen. Khin Nyunt. (WPD 8/6)

Aug. 6: The Laotian Ambassador on Minister for Construction and for Co-operatives Lt-Gen. Aung Ye Kyaw, and on Minister for Health and for Education and Chief Commanding Officer of the Universities Training Corps Col. Pe Thein. \ Philippine Ambassador Ms. Rosalinda V. Tirona on State LORC Secretary (1) Maj-Gen. Khin Nyunt. (WPD 8/7)

Aug. 7: The Laotian Ambassador on Minister for Planning & Finance and for Trade Brig-Gen. Abel, and on members of the Election Commission. (WPD 8/8)

Aug. 8: The Laotian Ambassador on Minister for Livestock Breeding & Fisheries and for Agriculture & Forests Lt-Gen. Chit Swe. \ UNDP Resident Representative Gerd Merrem on Minister for Construction and for Co-operatives Lt-Gen. Aung Ye Kyaw. (WPD 8/9)

Aug. 9: Philippine Ambassador Ms. Rosalinda V. Tirona on Minister for Planning & Finance and for Trade Brig-Gen. Abel. \ Chinese Ambassador Liang Feng on Minister for Home & Religious Affairs and for Information and for Culture Lt-Gen. Phone Myint. (WPD 8/10)


Aug. 16: Sri Lanka Ambassador S.W. Alawathuwala on Minister for Home & Religious Affairs and for Information and for Culture Lt-Gen. Phone Myint. \ Singapore Charge d'Affaires Lam Peck Heng on Minister for Planning & Finance and for Trade Brig-Gen. Abel. (WPD 8/17)

Aug. 23: Soviet Charge d'Affaires Dr. Artour I. Rozenband, accompanied by Commercial Counsellor Dr. Serguei A. Birguinevitch, on Minister for Livestock Breeding & Fisheries and for Agriculture & Forests Lt-Gen. Chit Swe. (WPD 8/24)


Cambodia Council Endorsed
July 31: Foreign Ministry Press Release [text]:
The Union of Myanmar has enjoyed friendly ties with Cambodia for many years and has always supported efforts for the peaceful and lasting settlement of the Cambodian situation. The Government of the Union of Myanmar therefore welcomes the successful formation of the Cambodia Supreme National Council (SNC) and its initiatives towards the achievement of the above goal.

It is with this view of bringing the hostilities to an end and of establishing peace, stability and progress in the region that
Myanmar has consistently fulfilled its international duties and obligations and will continue to do so in the future. (WPD 8/1)

Illegal Immigrants Returned
Aug. 2: On July 31 a further 530 illegal emigrants to Thailand (including 91 women), who returned to Kawthoung to avoid arrest by Thai authorities, were returned from Kawthoung from Mawlamyine, Myeik [Mergui], and Dawei [Tavoy]. A further 64 (including 20 women) were returned home on Aug. 2. Altogether, 2,434 people have been returned since July 7. Local authorities will take action against them. (WPD 8/3)

Aug. 4: A "sixth batch" of 125 people (including 30 women) were sent back from Kawthoung to Mawlamyine on Aug. 3, for a total of 2,608. As usual they were given HIV blood tests and it was determined that "they were not absconders and had no connections with terrorist organizations and they were only casual workers, the unemployed and destitutes." Local authorities will take action against them. (WPD 8/5)

Ambassador to Australia Named
Aug. 7: State LORC Chairman Senior General Saw Maung has named U Saw Tun as Myanmar Ambassador to Australia. (WPD 8/7)

Ambassador to USA
Aug. 8: U Thaung on Aug. 6 presented credentials in Washington to President George Bush as Myanmar Ambassador to the United States of America. (WPD 8/8)

Ambassador to Pakistan
Aug. 15: U Pe Thein Tin, Myanmar Ambassador to Pakistan, left for his post. (WPD 8/16)

Chilean Ambassador Approved
Aug. 19: The Myanmar government has approved the nomination of Mr. Fernando Gamboa Serazzi as Chilean Ambassador to Myanmar. He was born Feb. 15, 1931 and graduated from Law School at the Universidad de Chile. From 1965-1983 he served as First Secretary, Counsellor, Consul-General, and Minister Counsellor at Chilean Embassies in the Netherlands, Argentina, Geneva, Ecuador, Venezuela, France, and Brazil. From 1985-1989 he was Director for Special Political Affairs at the Foreign Ministry, and from 1986-1988 Ambassador to the Dominican Republic. He is currently Ambassador to Thailand where he is also accredited, and resides in Bangkok. He is married with two daughters. (WPD 8/19)

Ambassador to Viet Nam
Aug. 22: U Win Shein, Myanmar Ambassador to Viet Nam, left for his post. (WPD 8/23)

Algerian Ambassador Approved
Aug. 23: The Myanmar government has approved the nomination of Mr. Lamari Mohamed as Algerian Ambassador to Myanmar. Ambassador Mohamed was born on July 4, 1940 and studied Law. He was Deputy Minister of Trade from 1971-1975, and after joining the diplomatic service has served in various capacities in the Ministry. He is concurrently accredited to Viet Nam with residence in Hanoi. He is married with three children. (WPD 8/23)

INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION
Workshops and Courses
Aug. 2: The on-the-spot course on cattle milk production, jointly sponsored by the Livestock, Feedstuff and Milk Products Enterprise and the Israeli Government, concluded. 40 trainees attended the course, which began July 15. (WPD 8/3)

Aug. 3: A seminar on health systems research topics for general
practices, co-sponsored by the Medical Association, the Health Planning and Statistics Department, and UNICEF, was held. (WPD 8/4)


Aug. 12: A 5-day Seminar on Export Marketing Management and Techniques co-sponsored by the Ministry of Trade, UNDP, and International Trade Centre (ITC) opened with 60 participants. ITC personnel Mr. Jason Spencer-Cooke and Mr. Aroon Siriraks spoke. (WPD 8/13)


UN Border Study Group

Aug. 3: Representatives of UNDP, UNICEF, FAO, and UNV headed by Mr. Roy Sethna, led by Lt-Col. Thein Han of the Border Area Work Committee, left for Kengtung July 27 "to study progress of border areas development activities. They visited Mongma, Lashio, Kunglong, Namtip village in the Wa region, Chinshwehaw and the Myanmar-China border in the Kokang area, and Mandalay, before returning to Yangon Aug. 2. (WPD 8/4)

Foreign Donations

Aug. 6: Managing Director Mr. Surarub Chaisri of Sridenchai Supmanburo Ltd. of Thailand donated equipment worth US$60,000 to Tatmadaw hospitals. (WPD 8/7)

Aug. 7: Daw Sandar Phone Win, representing Sridenchai Suphanburi Ltd. of Thailand, donated US$20,000 to the Director General of Health "for purchase of medicines and medical equipment" in Health Department hospitals. (WPD 8/8)

Aug. 14: Sports equipment from the Asian Volleyball Federation was handed over to the Sports and Physical Education Department. (WPD 8/15)

Aug. 20: The JV Ocean Co. of Bangkok donated paik-kyaw-chinlons to the Sports and Physical Education Department. (WPD 8/21)

Aug. 27: Chairman Mr. Tay Thuan Boon and his son of Boon & Company (PTE) Ltd. donated a US$18,000 diathermy set and suction machine to No. 2 Military Hospital. (WPD 8/28)

Aug. 28: Managing Director Mr. Kowit Jaewecharoen of Bangsaphan Lenya Co. Ltd. of Thailand donated US$10,000 for purchasing hospital equipment to the Department of Health. (WPD 8/29)

FOREIGN VISITORS

International Agency Visitors

Aug. 6: Director Mr. Klaus Bahr and Consultant Mr. Richard Sack of UNESCO called on Minister for Health and for Education and Chief Commanding Officer of the Universities Training Corps Col. Pe Thein to discuss the "Education Sector Study and Strengthening the Institute of Economics being implemented by UNESCO programme." (WPD 8/7)

Aug. 14: WHO consultants for Tropical Diseases Research Mr. J.A. Hashmi and Dr. Molineaux called on Minister for Health and for Education and Chief Commanding Officer of the Universities Training Corps Col. Pe Thein. (WPD 8/15)

Aug. 27: Director Ms. Sabiha Syed of the United Nations Population Fund called on Minister for Health and for Education and Chief Commanding Officer of the Universities Training Corps Col. Pe
UNESCO Director Mr. K. Bahr, from Paris, and UNDP Advisor Mr. John Lawrence, from New York, also called on Minister Col. Pe Thein to discuss UNDP-assisted educational work. (WPD 8/28)

Business Visitors
Aug. 9: Managing Director Li Shanghui and Project Manager Xu Wen of China National Aero-Technology Import and Export Corporation called on Minister for Transport & Communications and for Social Welfare and for Labour Lt-Gen. Tin Tun to discuss "aviation, sale of Y-8 aircraft and hire of aircraft." (WPD 8/10)
Aug. 13: A Singapore trade delegation led by Mr. Tay Yew Chye of the Association of Small and Medium Enterprises (ASME) called on Minister for Planning & Finance and for Trade Brig-Gen. Abel. (WPD 8/14)

Academic and Non-Profit Visitors
Aug. 2: Prof. Raphael Sharon of Israel, an adviser on upgrading blood banks, met with Minister for Health and for Education and Chief Commanding Officer of the Universities Training Corps Col. Pe Thein. (WPD 8/3)
Aug. 6: Deputy Director-General Dr. F.A. Barnardo of the International Rice Research Institute called on Minister for Livestock Breeding & Fisheries and for Agriculture & Forests Lt-Gen. Chit Swe. He is in Yangon to attend the Asian Rice Farming Systems Network Rainfed Lowland Rice Farming Systems Research Planning Meeting jointly sponsored by IRRI and the Myanmar Agricultural Service. (WPD 8/7)
Aug. 9: Chairman Dr. Tsunehiko Hirata from the National Institute for Leprosy Research of Japan, accompanied by Health Department Deputy Director (Leprosy) Dr. Tin Myint, called on Minister for Health and for Education and Chief Commanding Officer of the Universities Training Corps Col. Pe Thein concerning "the condition, treatment and prevention of leprosy." (WPD 8/10)
Aug. 27: President Mr. Robert Allen Seipler of World Vision International, accompanied by Mr. Jack Peter Deboer and party, called on Minister for Health and for Education and Chief Commanding Officer of the Universities Training Corps Col. Pe Thein. They donated medical supplies for the flooded areas. (WPD 8/28)

Chinese Delegations
July 31: The Yunnan Province agricultural delegation headed by Yunnan Deputy General Secretary Mr. Huang Renyue, which arrived July 17, departed for home. On July 31 it "signed notes on cotton cultivation and production on experimental basis, construction of dam, breeding of fresh water prawn and production of medicines for animals." (WPD 8/1)

Thai Delegation
July 31: A 17-member Thai delegation headed by Deputy Minister for Agriculture and Co-operatives Dr. Ajva Taulananda, arrived. // Aug. 1: It called on Minister for Livestock Breeding & Fisheries and for Agriculture & Forests Lt-Gen. Chit Swe. (WPD 8/2) // Aug. 3: The delegation left. (WPD 8/4)

Malaysia Delegation
Aug. 14: Mrs. Natasha Poliakova, "the first Russian who converted to Theravada Buddhist" in the USSR, returned home after visiting Myanmar since July 30. She had been converted by the Myanmar Buddhist delegation during its recent visit to the USSR. On departure, she was given "a bronze Buddha image, 61 rosaries and books on Buddhism in English language." (WPD 8/15)

**MYANMAR DELEGATIONS**

**Study Delegations**

Aug. 1: A writers delegation, headed by Police Col. Khin Maung Tun (Khin Maung Tun–Lanmadaw) left for a two-week study tour of the Soviet Union. Other members are Daw Cho Cho Tin (Ma Sandar) and Editor-in-Charge of Sarpay Beikman U Win Pe (Monywa Win Pe). (WPD 8/2) // Aug. 15: The delegation returned. (WPD 8/16)

Aug. 1: Lab technician Daw Khin Khin Aye of the Medical Research Department left for the U.S. to attend a course on Heat treatment and adjuvanting purified Hbs Ag [sic] under UNDP auspices. (WPD 8/2)

Aug. 6: Lecturer U Zaw Win of the Agricultural Institute in Thahton left for Israel to attend an International Course on Industry in Rural Areas sponsored by the Israeli government. (WPD 8/7)

Aug 11: A two-member delegation led by U San Tun Aung, Editor of The Working People's Daily, left for Thailand to attend the Sub-Regional Seminar on Reading Animation in Bangkok, Aug. 12-17. The other member is Librarian Daw Nu Nu of Sarpay Beikman Library. (WPD 8/12) // Aug. 19: The delegation returned Aug. 18. (WPD 8/20)

Aug. 12: A delegation headed by Deputy Director U Myint Thein of the Relief and Resettlement Department left for Thailand to attend an Aug. 13-24 Workshop on Improving Cyclone Warning Response and Mitigation in Bangkok. Other members are Meteorological Assistant U Tin Shwe of the Meteorology and Hydrology Department and Assistant Secretary U Hla Myint of the Red Cross. (WPD 8/13)

Aug. 17: Staff Officer U Tin Tun of the Agricultural Mechanization Department left for China to attend a 2-month training course on invention and production of agricultural implements. A delegation headed by Deputy General Manager U Hla Yi of Myanmar Agricultural Produce Trading left for Thailand to study cargo inspection activities before loading onto vessels at Rice Engineering Supply Co. Ltd. in Bangkok for ten days. Other members are Project Manager U Than Aung, Deputy Project Director U Myint Win, Project Engineers U Than Myint and U Thet Win, Accounts Manager Daw San Kyi, and Division Engineer U Myint Lwin. (WPD 8/18)

Aug. 18: Assistant Supervisor U Aung Tun of Myanmar Agriculture Service left for Italy to attend an Aug. 19-Oct. 4 Course on Agricultural Technical Assistance. (WPD 8/19)

Aug. 19: Lecturer Daw Tin Sein of the Chemistry Department, Yangon University, left for Finland to attend a Training Course for Analytical Chemists under Finnish sponsorship. (WPD 8/20)

Aug. 21: A delegation headed by Division Manager of Myanmar Agricultural Produce Trading left for China to study the power tiller industry at Yunnan Provincial Import and Export Corp. in Kunming from Aug. 21-28. Other delegates are Senior Engineer U Kyaw Thaung, Assistant Engineer U Chit Chit, Deputy Assistant Engineers U Nyunt Yi and U Ko Ko Win, Accounts Manager Daw San San and Administrative Manager Daw Than Hnit. A delegation headed by Assistant Director U Saw Naing of Myanmar Farms Enterprise left for Germany to attend a one-month course on Ruminant Production in the Tropics. (WPD 8/22)


Aug. 24: A delegation left to study application of computers in Japan, Korea, Hong Kong, and Thailand for three weeks under the UNDP
project for developing computer application in the Central Statistical Organization (CSO). Members are Director-General Daw Khin Thaung Chit of the CSO, Managing Director Daw Yi Yi of the Myanmar Foreign Trade Bank, Director-General U Tin Maung of the Pension Department, Deputy General Manager U Thein Khang of the Myanmar Economic Bank, and Assistant Director U Hsaung Tin of the CSO. A delegation led by Managing Director U Nyunt Maung of Myanmar Farms Enterprise left for Korea for a study tour of mills and factories producing farm implements. Others are Deputy Director U Thaung Ngwe, Assistant Director U Thaung Nyunt, and Technicians U Saw Hla Than and U Myint Than. (WPD 8/25)

Aug. 29: Principal U Zaw Win of the Mandalay State School of Fine Arts and Instructor U Mya Aye of the Yangon State School of Fine Arts left for China for a year at the Chinese School of Fine Arts. (WPD 8/29)

Delegations to Meetings

Aug. 21: Yangon Mayor U Ko Lay left for Canada to attend the Aug. 25-28 World Cities and Their Environment Conference in Toronto. He was accompanied by Yangon City Development Committee Markets Department Head U Kyaw Shein. (WPD 8/22)

Myanmar-Thai Boundary Committee

Aug. 6: A Myanmar delegation headed by Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs U Ohn Gyaw left for Thailand to attend the 4th meeting of the Myanmar-Thai Mae Sai-Mae Hok boundary joint committee. With him were Director General U Aye Lwin of the Consular, International Law and Treaties and Research Department; Director-General U Mya Thein of the Survey Department; Naval Hydrographic Depot Commander Capt. Tun Aung; Lt-Col. Pe Nyein from the Office of the Commander-in-Chief (Army); Deputy Director-General U Than Myint of the Irrigation Department; Lt-Col. Thein Maung of the Shan State LORC; Director U Nyunt Maung Shein of the Boundary Division and Head of Branch 1 U Maung Wai of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. (WPD 8/7) // Aug. 11: The delegation returned. (WPD 8/12)

Gen. Saw Maung to China

Aug. 15: "At the invitation of His Excellency Yang Shangkun, President of the People's Republic of China, Senior General Saw Maung, Chairman of the State Law and Order Restoration Council, accompanied by Madame Saw Maung, will pay a goodwill visit to the People's Republic of China in the near future." (WPD 8/15)

Aug. 20: State LORC Chairman Senior General Saw Maung and his wife, Daw Aye Yee, left for China by special aircraft. He was accompanied by State LORC Secretary (1) Maj-Gen. Khin Nyunt and wife; Eastern Commander Maj-Gen. Maung Aye and wife; North-East Commander Maj-Gen. Maung Thint; Minister for Planning & Finance and for Trade Brig-Gen. Abel and wife; Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs U Ohn Gyaw; Chief of Staff (Navy) Rear-Adm. Than Nyunt; Chief of Staff (Air) Maj-Gen. Thein Win; No. 22 LID Commander Brig-Gen. Tin Hla; Director of Signals Brig-Gen. Myo Thant, "and the Directors-General and Directors." [photos] (WPD 8/21)

Aug. 21: On arrival in Kunming, where he was welcomed by Yunnan Governor H Zhiquiang, State LORC Chairman Senior General Saw Maung said his visit was to promote existing friendly relations with China, and that Myanmar was preserving its culture, traditions, and customs. "He said that although some countries regarded and treated them with a wrong opinion, yet they were always on the side of justice on their part." The Yunnan Governor replied that Myanmar "was regarded as a most trusting friend," and that although foreigners did not believe there was no problem on the Myanmar-China border, "they came to believe and accepted when they saw for themselves that everything was peaceful and pleasant there." The delegation then flew on to Beijing. (WPD 8/22)

Aug. 25: State LORC Chairman Senior General Saw Maung and his party returned to Yangon.
He and Chinese President Yang Shangkun met in Beijing on Aug. 20 and exchanged expressions of mutual friendship in the tradition of Sino-Myanmar pauk-phaw kinship; in the evening the Chinese president hosted a state banquet.

On Aug. 21, the Chairman visited the Beijing Agricultural and Industrial Corporation, modern plantations in Huaxiang Township, and the Beijing Television Factor.

Later, the Chairman held discussions with Chinese Premier Li Peng, where further mutual expressions of support and goodwill were exchanged.

Premier Li Peng said China still had a major population problem. In serious natural disasters the People's Liberation Army joins in rehabilitation. He said: "In...China political stability is needed to bring about economic development.... I share many of Chairman Senior General Saw Maung's views and there are also similar views.... In is necessary to nurture all the new undertakings in political and economic sectors etc. based on justice and peace. The most important in the field of international relations is non-interference in the internal affairs of one nation by another....

Senior General Saw Maung said in his reply: "The [SLORC]...has declared to continually practise independent and active foreign policy in international relations to ensure improvement. Myanmar...is accepting the UN leadership and continuing to adhere to the Five Principles of Peaceful Co-existence.... It has been over forty years that China and Myanmar have maintained pauk-phaw relationship.... During this period our two countries have enjoyed better understanding and greater co-operation and sympathy towards each other.... There are attacks on Myanmar Naing-Ngan by certain Western nations on human rights, environmental protection, narcotic drugs and economic development. We are rebutting those attacks by clarifying the facts. We understand that... China, too, is countering such attacks with facts. We will not bow to the pressure of any country or any bloc at the expense of our national cause.... "Border trade...is making progress and meeting with success. There have been similar progress and success in co-operative narcotic control measures. Furthermore, assistance provided by...China in bringing about economic development is highly appreciated. The Yangon-Tanyin Bridge Construction Project...The National Theatre...The National Indoor Stadium at Thuwunna...."

Aug. 26: On Aug. 23, State LORC Chairman Senior General Saw Maung met with Chinese Communist Party Secretary General Jiang Zemin. They exchanged mutual expressions of goodwill and support for the doctrine of non-intervention, and reviewed developmental and anti-narcotics activities in the two countries.

Meanwhile, On Aug. 22, Gen. and Mme. Saw Maung visited the Buddha's Tooth-Relic Pagoda, and invited Sayadaw Hai Yuan of Guang Ji Si Monastery to visit Myanmar and bring the Relic for the Myanmar people to pay homage to. Religious titles will be given to Chinese Sayadaws, Thai, and to Japanese Sayadaws. He then visited the Asian Games Village, and the Myanmar Embassy, which hosted a dinner. Mme. Saw Maung visited the Great Wall and the Summer Palace.

Other members of the delegation met with their Chinese opposite numbers, and two agreements were signed:

-- Construction of Television Station (CH-5 Project), signed by Director of Signals Brig-Gen. Myo Thant and Vice-Chairman of the CITIC Company Mr. Wang Jun.
-- Economic and Technical Co-operation, signed by Minister for Planning & Finance and for Trade Brig-Gen. Abel and Minister for Foreign Economic Relations and Trade Mr. Li Lauqing. Under it, China will grant interest-free loans totalling Yuan 50 million. [photos]
Aug. 27: On Aug. 24 State LORC Chairman Senior General Saw Maung and his party flew from Beijing to Kunming. There they toured the Kunming Electric Motor Works and the Kunming Cable Works, and were hosted at dinner by Yunnan Governor H Zhiqiang. On Aug. 25 they visited the Western Hills before returning to Yangon. [photos] (WPD 8/28)

Religion Minister to Thailand
Aug. 27: Minister for Home & Religious Affairs and for Information and for Culture Lt-Gen. Phone Myint left for Thailand to prepare the presentation of religious titles to Thai Sayadaws who were awarded them for 1991. He was accompanied by Director General U Kyaw Lwin and Assistant Director U Aung Thein Nyunt of the Department of Promotion and Propagation of the Sasana, Deputy Director U Myint Thein of the PPF Special Intelligence Department, and Personal Secretary Maj. Soe Win Kyaw. Others, led by Director General U Ant Maung of the Religious Affairs Department left for Thailand a few days ago to prepare the visit. (WPD 8/28)

Delegations Return
Return of delegations whose departure was announced in previous months:
Aug. 7: The youth delegation at the Aug. 1-6 youth get-together in Fukuoka, Japan, returned. (WPD 8/8)

Probationary Appointments
The SLORC made the following appointments, on probation:
Aug. 7: Col. Soe Myint (BC/10952), Tactical Operations Commander, Northern Command, Ministry of Defence to be Director-General, Geological Survey and Mineral Exploration Department, Ministry of Mines.
U Maung Aung, Deputy Director-General, to be Director-General, Immigration and Manpower Department, Ministry of Home & Religious Affairs. (WPD 8/8)
Aug. 14: Col. Win Sein (BC/8488), Ministry of Defence, to be Director-General, Information and Public Relations Department, Ministry of Information. (WPD 8/15, correction 8/16)

Appointments Confirmed
The SLORC confirmed the following appointments, after one year's probation:
Aug. 7: U Aung Myint as Director-General, Project Appraisal and Progress Reporting Department, Ministry of Planning & Finance.
U Hla Thein as Managing Director, Myanma Foreign Trade Bank, Ministry of Planning & Finance.
U Nyi Nyi Yin as Director-General, Revenue Appelate Tribunal, Ministry of Planning & Finance.
Dr. U Ko Lay as Rector, Insitute of Medicine-2, Yangon, Ministry of Health. (WPD 8/8)
Aug. 14: U Aye Lwin as Director-General, Consular, International Law and Treaties and Research Department, Ministry of Foreign Affairs.
U Kyi Lwin as Director-General, Myanma Television and Radio Department, Ministry of Information. (WPD 8/15)
Aug. 28: U Tin Aung as Director-General, Industrial Planning Department, Ministry of Industry-1. (WPD 8/29)

GOVERNMENT
Subversion Law Strengthened
Aug. 9: [SLORC] Law No 11/91 of Aug. 9, the Law Amending the Law Safeguarding the State from the Danger of Subversive Elements, provides:
“2. The expression ‘not exceeding one hundred and eighty days at a time, up to a total of 3 years’ contained in section 14...shall be substituted by the expression ‘not exceeding one year at a time, up to a total of 5 years.’

“3. The expression ‘under this Law’ contained in section 19...shall be substituted by the expression ‘under any order of the Central Body.’

“4. Section 21...shall be deleted.” (WPD 8/10)

MILITARY

Insurgent Attacks

Aug. 7: Ten KNU terrorists on July 28 seized three fishing boats off Linlun village, Kyunsu Twp. [Tanintharyi], tied up their crews and then shot them, killing 12 and seriously wounding two. (WPD 8/8)

Insurgents Surrender

Aug. 16: Between July 1-8, 22 terrorist insurgents surrendered [names and details]. (WPD 8/17)

Aug. 17: Between July 9-19, 27 terrorist insurgents, including family members, surrendered [names and details] (WPD 8/18)

Aug. 18: Between July 20-30, 23 terrorists surrendered [names and details]. (WPD 8/19)

KNU Mine-layers Exposed

Aug. 2: Four men “who assisted KNU terrorists to plant mines on the Yangon-Mandalay railway line near Yintaikkon village in Kyauktada on 15 May 1991 were exposed on July 26.” Explosives were seized [details and photos]. (WPD 8/3)

ECONOMIC

Economic Articles

Aug. 1: Biluchaung Hydel Power Project No. 2: Lawpita area which gives light to entire country, by Swe Oo Maung. [Cont. Description of an visit to the Lawpita power plant near Loikaw.]

Aug. 4: Secure and smooth transportation by means of waterway, by Myint Swe. [Cont. (3) History and description of inland water transport in Myanmar.]

Aug. 16-19,21,23-24,28,30: The Regions of our Brethren: Where the State Law and Order Restoration Council's Goodwill Blossoms Forth, by Ngwe Kalaung. [Cont (from July 29) Pacification and Development in the Wa and Kokang regions, and other Border areas.]

Aug. 19,22: The Records of the Construction of Roads and Bridges during the time of the State Law and Order Restoration Council, by Mya Kalaung. [Record of recent projects; including Dagon Myothit (4 pp.); others.]

Aug. 23-26,29: Border Region Development: UN agencies see for themselves, by Maung Yin Swe. [July 27-31 UN study tour of border development.]

Construction Projects

Aug. 7: A K1.3 million telephone exchange and building was inaugurated Aug. 3 in Theinzayat village tract, Kyaikhto Twp. [Mon]. (WPD 8/8)

Aug. 14: The Maw Shweli Hotel was inaugurated Aug. 7 in Lashio. Built by the Township Co-operative Society at a cost of K7.4 million, it has 27 single rooms (ordinary), 6 singles (special), 6 doubles (ordinary), and 4 suites, and can accommodate 64 persons. (WPD 8/15)

Aug. 15: the Yadana Hlaingthit Restaurant of the Bago Twp. Co-operative Society opened. (WPD 8/16)

Aug. 18: A new K580,000 Township Sports Ground was opened Aug. 15 at Chaung-U [Sagaing]. (WPD 8/19)

Aug. 22: The North Okkalapa [Yangon] regional telegraph office was inaugurated Aug. 20, and will serve the public of Waibargi
Myothit, Shwe Paukkan Myothit, and North Okkalapa. (WPD 8/23)


Aug. 23: No. 88 L.I.D. Commander Brig-Gen. Hla Myint Swe visited the Waba Dam Project site near Thaton [Mon]. It will provide 2 million gallons of water to residents in Thaton and Thudhammawady Myothit (which will suffice for 20 years) and irrigate 2,400 acres east of the Yangon-Moktama road. Construction will take three years and cost K52.13 million. [map] (WPD 8/24)

Aug. 24: The Launglon Twp. [Tanintharyi] sports ground was dedicated on Aug. 20. (WPD 8/25)

Aug. 28: A new high school was inaugurated in Lawksawk Twp. [Shan] on Aug. 25. (WPD 8/29)

Joint Ventures

Aug. 5: Myanmar Inotech Limited, a joint venture of Construction and Electrical Stores Trading, Vehicles, Machinery and Equipment Trading, and Inotech Industries Pte. Ltd. of Singapore, opened a salesroom at 63 9th St., Lanmadaw Twp., Yangon, in the presence of Inotech Managing Director Mr. Ong Siew Poh. Initially, electrical appliances, paints, sanitation and communications equipment, pumps and motor cycles will be sold, and construction equipment like bulldozers, cranes and concrete mixers will be sold or rented in kyats or in foreign exchange. (WPD 8/6)

Training Courses

Aug. 5: Opening Course No. 1/90 [sic] for Myanma Economic Bank Assistant Managers, Minister for Planning & Finance and for Trade Brig-Gen. Abel "said that it was rumoured currencies would be demonetized and currencies would be devalued. The rumours, he said, were fabricated by a group of businessmen for their self-interest; the destructive act of politicians. It had repeatedly been said that the currency notes would be neither demonetized nor devalued. Rumour mongers would be tolerated to some extent; firm and effective action would be taken; and the authorities concerned would have to keep an eye on the matter, he said." (WPD 8/6)

Aug. 10: Workshop No. 2/91 on Trade Matters for Private Entrepreneurs concluded. The four-week workshop was attended by 81 trainees. As of July 31, 5,417 private entrepreneurs have been "permitted registration." (WPD 8/11)

Basic Commodities

Aug. 4: State LORC Secretary (2) Maj-Gen. Tin Oo said that "the rise in the price of commodities...was due to a widening gap between production and demand." He called on Yangon authorities "to discuss the programmes for direct distribution to the consumers of meat, fish and green grocery produced by the Tatmadaw regiments and units." (WPD 8/5)

Aug. 14: A crime article on the arrest of palm-oil horders in Yangon notes that "Cooking oil is scarce these days due to malpractices of such unscrupulous elements in spite of proper arrangements by the authorities concerned and wholesale merchants, it is learnt." (WPD 8/15)

Aug. 27: Beginning Aug. 11, regiments under the No. 11 Light Infantry Division are selling "their produce" in eleven Yangon markets [listed] at prices 25% "cheaper than the current ones." They realized K150,000. (WPD 8/28)

Yangon Water Supply

Aug. 5: Members of the Yangon City Development Committee met with Mr. Hubert Broux of M/S Degremount of France to explore new water sources for Yangon. Consideration is being given to treatment of Hline River water. The Beture Setame Co. and the Degremount [Co.] from France will jointly carry out survey work. The project would add
50 million gallons per day to Yangon's water supply, bringing it to 120 million gallons per day. (WPD 8/6)

50-pya Revenue Stamp
Aug. 5: The Stamp Revenue and Goods and Services Tax Division of the Internal Revenue Department has issued a 50-pya revenue stamp for use on cash receipts for more than K20 and receipts for any article worth more than K20. It shows a Chinthe (lion) and will replace postage stamps previously used. [Addresses where stamps can be bought] (WPD 8/6)

Tradewinds Airlines Office
Aug. 6: Tradewinds Airlines opened an office at Myanma Airways, 537/539 Merchant St., Kyauktada Twp., Yangon, in the presence of Office Manager (Myanmar) Mr. Ng Chin Hwee. (WPD 8/7)

Oil Wells
Aug. 16: According to Minister for Energy and for Mines Vice-Adm. Maung Maung Khin, Test Well No. 1 in Pyay Taungdan Oilfield was launched on Feb. 4, 1965 and has reached 5,850 feet. 20 barrels per day (BPD) were extracted at 2,040 feet, and it became No. 1 Camp, Pyay Oilfield (Northern) region. Test Well No. 2, 11 1/2 miles South, reached 9,000 feet and since Feb. 1966 165 BPD has been extracted at 4,200 feet, and it has become No. 2 Camp, Pyay Taungdan Oilfield (Southern) region. During July 1991, an average of 158 BPD and 11,32 million cubic feet of gas was extracted before Test Well No. 105 was introduced. Maximum extraction in Pyay Oilfield was in March 1970 with daily yield of 2,435 BPD and 8.48 million cubic feet of gas. There are a total of 119 wells, including one under drilling and one under test. Of these, 16 are producing oil and 27 gas. Test Well No. 105 was begun Apr. 3, 1991, using a National 55 No. 7 drilling machine; crude oil extraction began Aug. 6, 1991 at 5,650 feet. (WPD 8/17)

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(WPD 8/21)

News and Views from the United States
[pictures of magazines]
The United States Information Service, Yangon is pleased to announce that limited copies of our Myanmar language bi-monthly magazine "Lin Yaung Chi,USA," the English language "American Weekly Newsletter," and the monthly "American Mosaic" for English learners are still available.
Interested persons may call 75724 or write to USIS, 549 Merchant Street, Yangon for subscription information.
(WPD 8/25)

Mon Chamber of Commerce
Aug. 22: The Mon State Chamber of Commerce and Industry was formed in Mawlamyine on Aug. 22, and elected a 15-member Executive Committee with U Tun Hla as Chairman. (WPD 8/23)
Yangon Industrial Exhibition

Aug. 24: The Exhibition of Yangon Division Domestic Industrial Products opened in Tatmadaw Hall on U Wisara Road. State LORC Secretary (2) Maj-Gen. Tin Oo said the "exhibition was being held to enable private entrepreneurs to share their experiences among themselves" and co-ordinate with Government officials to improve quality. (WPD 8/25)

Rainfall in Yangon

Rainfall since January 1, 1990, in inches, at Yangon's three weather stations of Yangon Airport (YA), Kaba-Aye (KA), and Central Yangon (CY) was:

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<th>As of</th>
<th>YA</th>
<th>KA</th>
<th>CY</th>
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<td>69.17</td>
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<td>August 30</td>
<td>78.66</td>
<td>72.13</td>
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Aug. 12: "The 24 hours rainfall of 10 inches collected at Kyaukpyu [Rakhine], at 0930 hours MST today, is the heaviest rainfall record of August during the past 30 years." (WPD 8/13)

HEALTH

Dangers of Adulteration

Aug. 16: Editorial: Food adulteration, a public threat. ["[There] is deliberate adulteration of foods and foodstuffs by unscrupulous producers, vendors as well as middle-men ..... This is particularly so in the case of commodities which are in the form of ground powders, liquids or in malleable forms. In most cases, the adulterants used are harmless ....

["But adulteration may not always be harmless as the case of the adulterated moonshine which occurred some time ago, has proved. Quite a number ended up in hospital and quite a number died after imbibing it....

["Among all kinds of food adulteration known, the adulteration of cooking or 'eating' oil holds the biggest threat. Most people assume that all vegetable oils are harmless to human beings.

["But it is now become known that certain kinds of vegetable oils can be harmful to human health. However, even worse than this is the fact that some vegetable oils not specially produced and refined for human consumption may contain certain toxins capable of causing direct and immediate harm to the consumer... rang[ing] from outright death to life-long paralysis.

["So far our consumers have been lucky in this respect.... But... judging by the number of unscrupulous profiteering being constantly exposed, food adulteration as a cause to public safety is very much a matter for anxiety [sic]."]

Aug. 20: Counterfeit medicines, grave threat to human life, by Khin Maung Aye. ["In Myanmar, scores of villagers may have perished after taking spurious copies of a drug meant to combat malarial fever." Problem is a world-wide one (details). Drugs imported into Myanmar are checked and tested by the Drug Advisory Committee before importation is permitted. "However, in border trade where goods can be imported after due tax has been levied, necessary checks as mentioned above cannot be carried out." More supervision is needed under the Food and Drugs Control Order, and the public should be aware that controls are for ensuring safety and not intended to obstruct the market economy.]

SPORTS

Sports Teams Abroad

Aug. 1: Weightlifting and boxing teams left for the Soviet Union to take part in good will matches. The weightlifting team is led by Weightlifting Federation President U Myo Nyunt, and includes Kyaw Thet, Myo Myint, and Myint Naing Oo. The boxing team is led by Boxing Federation Vice-President Lt-Cmd. Kyaw Myint (Navy) and
includes San Hla Lay, Myint Soe Lay, and Thaung Tun. Three Soviet instructors of weightlifting, volleyball, and boxing left together with the teams. (WPD 8/2) // Aug. 13: The teams returned. (WPD 8/14)

Aug. 8: A five-member team led by Sports Officer U Thaung Tun (manager-cum-coach) left for Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, to compete in the 1991 Postal Invitational Walking Race on Aug. 11. (WPD 8/8) // Aug. 14: The team returned. Chit Hlaing won a silver and Apparau a bronze in the men’s 20-kilometer race; Ma Kyin Lwan won a silver and Cho Chot Thet came in 5th in the women’s 10-kilometre race. (WPD 8/15)

Aug. 9: A 10-member team of disabled, headed by Deputy Director Maj. Nyan Tun of the Immigration and Manpower Department, left for Hong Kong to participate in the Aug. 10-14 third skill contest. They will compete in sewing, carpentry, caneware-making, and photography. (WPD 8/10) // Aug. 16: The team returned. Ma Nyunt Nyunt Win stood third and Maung Myint Aung won a special prize. (WPD 8/17)

Aug. 10: The golf team returned from the 31st South-East Asia Putra Cup Amateur Team Championships in Bangkok, Aug. 6-9. In the tournament, Soe Soe had 298 strokes, Myint Thaung 305, Thein Pe 308, and Win Aung 311. Preecha Senaprom of Thailand won with 277 strokes. Federation President Lt-Col. Maung Maung Lay "stood first" in the "special tournament for personalities, managers and coaches." (WPD 8/11)

Aug. 20: A track and field team led by Track and Field Federation Secretary U Saw Yan Ni left for Tokyo to participate in the third World Track and Field Championships beginning Aug. 24. The track team includes Myint Kan (PPF) and Khin Khin (Public Works). (WPD 8/21)

Sports Delegations Abroad
July 31: The sports delegation headed by Col. Win Hlaing returned from China. (WPD 8/1)

Traditional Sports
Aug. 9: The finals of the Yangon Division Inter-township Paik-Kyaw-Chin Tournament were held at the Kyaikkasan Gymnasium. Alon Twp. won, and No. Okkalapa Twp. was runner-up. (WPD 8/10)

Aug. 12: The 1st Inter-State/Division Paikkyaw-chin Tourney will begin Aug. 15, with 10 teams. (WPD 8/13)

CULTURAL

Literary and Cultural Articles
Aug. 4,11,18,25: Foundations of Myanmar Culture: Myanmar Literature & the ten major jatakas, by Hnaphet Hla. [Cont. (54-57).]
Aug. 4,11,18,25: 20th Century Myanmar Poets & Poems, by Htila Sithu. [Cont. (93-95) (8-10) "Poet Naung & his poems." (96) "Poet Naung: Thirteen selected poems."]
Aug. 4,11,18,25: Dhanu Poet U Ywai, by Daw Khin Nyunt (Innlay). [Cont. (5) "Juxtaposed with other pyos with same opening." (6) "Verses on the eight conquests in the full-length preface." (7) "Rhymes in Dhanu accent." (8) "Contribution to literary research."]
Aug. 4,11,18,25: Short Stories. [(1) Cont. "His world, his life" by Pe Than. (1-4) Cont. (4-7) "Shwe chit, Nhwe chit" by Tint De. (2-3) "A piece of land" by Pe Than. (4) "Vocal Art" by Pe Than.]

Role of the Sangha Reviewed
Aug. 24: A ceremony of the Yangon Division All Orders Divisional Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee was held on Aug. 10, to explain State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee Directive No. 83, issued July 13, 1991.
Aggamahapandita Baddhanta Vannasiri, gave an Ovadikatha [full text published]:
The brief outline of the Directive No (83) is that bhikkus and samaneras are prohibited to deal with party politics ...."

Point (1): There are over 300,000 bhikkhu samghas of Theravada Buddhism in Myanmar. "Different levels of Samgha Organizations from nine Sects of All Orders were unanimously organized after the First Congregation of the Samgha of All Orders, that all of them are shouldering the duty of purification, perpetuation and propagation of the Sasana." This means that:

-- "Any samgha sect or Samgha Organization, apart from the aforesaid nine sects, must not be formed."
-- "The holy persons, Bhikkus and Samaneras are allowed to carry out only the duty of purification, perpetuation and propagation of the Sasana."

Point (2): Bhikkhus and samaneras "should...only learn and...teach Pitaka scriptures (Ganthadhura) and...practise meditation (Vipassanadhura), but they should avoid indulging in party political affairs...."

Point (3): If bhikkus and samaneras are involved in party politics:

-- "They have to be acclaimed as teachers and regarded as followers."
-- "They cannot perform the two [proper] duties as they are busy with political activities."
-- "There may arise dissent among the members of Bhikkus Samgha."
-- "The unity of the Samgha Order...may be ruined."
-- "The different levels of Samgha Organization will be destroyed."

This occurred in English Colonial times. Because members were involved in party politics, there arose dissent, and they could not go together for Buddhist rites and rituals of the Samgha.

Point (4): "Samgha affairs should be performed only by the members of the Samgha...." Thus:

-- "Bogus Arahantas and unlawful beliefs in Theravada Buddhism were [sic] crushed."
-- Every bhikkhu and samanera should strengthen the unity of All Orders, or the unity will be ruined.

Point (5): Party politics concerns only lay-people and not bhikkus and samaneras, who "should seek for the help of authorized government, which is given in accordance with Dhamma," and "should safeguard the Sasana."

"No one can deny...that the government of today, the [SLORC], following good examples of ancient royal rulers, supports the Sasana in cash and kinds or by means of material values or spiritual values." Since it is unsure that this will last, "Make hay while the sun shines." Recently, I visited Thailand, India, Nepal, Sri Lanka, Japan, Singapore, South Korea, and Soviet "and it is found that Theravada Buddhism is mostly prosperous only in Myanmar."

"Now, our foes are trying to crush the unity of Myanmar; by way of consanguinity; they are also trying to overpower the community of Myanmar. And then, they are endeavouring for the disintegration of the Sasana. They use different ways and means, for the damage of Myanmar, Myanmar nationality, and Myanmar Sasana. Therefore, be careful: be united; If not so, we would have to encounter with suffering in near future. Who are the foes? Please by wise and thoughtful in search of the foes."

"In conclusion, I would like to urge you all to think and search of the foes by hearing of the following Myanmar Poem for the glorious future of Myanmar and Sasana, and to fight against them with the help of the [SLORC]:-

[Poem]
A Nationality cannot be buried by earth,
But it can be ruined by another;
And be afraid of impurity by blood.
---
Be the spirit of Nationality,
Safeguard the Sasana and Myanmar;  
Be a patriot to protect the FATHER  
from becoming a slavery State.  
---  
Taking away treasure and men;  
And leading them to slavery blood;  
This is a hundred year's emblem,  
Like a gold lotus in grey mud.  
---  
Like the sun we are in glory;  
Expose our spirit of Nationality;  
Be united when in an emergency.  
---  
Don't be buried by earth;  
Don't be mixed by consanguinity;  
Let it shed then and there,  
By blood if it is impure.  
(Maung Kyin Nwe)  
Myawady Magazine, Vo. 39, No. 7  
May, 1991  
(WPD 8/24)

Aug. 25: Yangon Commander Maj-Gen. Myo Nyunt also spoke on Directive 83 at the Aug. 10 meeting [full text published]:
  "...[If] members of the samgha organize and definitely launch election campaigns in favour of their desired parties...there will be no doubt conflicts among them. In this way, they will not carry out their duties of Ganthadhura and Vipassanadhura and will be absorbed surely in life-circle of politics.... If so happens the samgha organizations... will surely be destroyed, consequently the Samgha organizations depending on political parties will do whatever they want and the Sasana will be sunk in shallow waters...." (WPD 8/25)

Aug. 28-29,31: At the Aug. 10 meeting, Bhaddanta Kosalla gave the opening speech [text published]. He reviewed all the Laws and Regulations on the Sangha issued since 1980, and said "For the good sake of perpetuation of Theravada Buddha Sasana, all these above-mentioned rules and regulations have been issued by the authorities; it is necessary to support the Dhammic power by way of the assistance of the State authority.... The Buddha proclaimed Sikkhapadas not to be engaged in social, political and economical affairs of lay people; a sort of line between Bhikkhu Samgha and lay-people was distinctly demarcated; and thus the facts mentioned in the Directives are in conformity with Buddhist Texts and reasons...."

"In the Union of Myanmar there are different kinds of religious followers, Buddhists, Christians, Muslims and Hindus and others. Everyone in this country regardless of their nationality has a right to follow what they believe.... As the members of Bhikku Samgha have to stay in unison with the rules and regulations of Vinaya, so also Buddhist lay-men have to follow the teachings of the Buddha. The other believers, too, have to follow the teachings of their respective religions. Moreover, lay-people, apart from following the teachings of religion, have to abide by the prescribed worldly laws, rules, regulations, directives, declarations...."

"While we were striving for purification, perpetuation and propagation of the Sasana, with the help of Dhammic power and State authority, some of the members of Samgha organized Young Monks Samgha Association in Mandalay with the help of political parties and they created strikes and riots violently. Then, it spread from Mandalay to Yangon.... The Government issued Orders Nos. (6/90) and (7/90) and proclaimed Samgha Organization Law No (20/90) and settled down all riots and strikes of the members of Samgha. I would like to supplicate your Venerable Sayadaws that Samgha movements will not be allowed to do so in future and necessary actions will be taken in accordance with the above-mentioned Orders and Law." (WPD 8/28-29,31)

Shrine for Last Mogul  
Aug. 2: "An elaborate Meditation Hall Structure...is being
erected in honour of the Late Hazarat Abu Zafar Serajuddin Mohammed Bahadur Shah, the last Emperor of India (Demised in 1862.) The structure is for the convenience and comfort of all visitors paying respect to the Dargah irrespective of classes, creed and colours."

[sketch] Donations are solicited. [Bahadur Shah died in exile and is buried in Yangon--HCMacD.] (WPD 8/2)

Poster Exhibition Continues
Aug. 2: The "Exhibition on Posters and Sculptures with the theme 'Making patriotism alive and dynamic'" continued in its 94th day at Tatmadaw Hall, U Wisara Road, and will remain open until Aug. 8. (WPD 8/3)

Aug. 8: Prizes were awarded. (WPD 8/9)

Motion Picture Asiayone
Aug. 10: The Myanmar Motion Picture Asiayone held an emergency meeting. It then elected "the representatives from four basic committees," namely U Hla Myo, U Arnt Kyaw, Daw Ei Ei Khaing, and U Tin Myint. (WPD 8/11)

Cultists Arrested
Aug. 28: "Members of a religious sect that professed beliefs contrary to Buddhism and did sacrilegious acts disrespectful to Buddhist Images have been arrested...on the night of 17 July, 1991."
The group, led by U Sein Maung and including 15 households in Shawkah extension ward, Monywa, "worshipped a figure of a person named Thakadagam Saya Ba." Saya Ba, who died in 1970, was a disciple of the Ledi Sayadaw.

U Sein Maung preached in Baungya and Khintha villages in Ayadaw Twp. "Especially, he admonished the rude villagers. And when the rude ones became gentle, their families regarded U Sein Maung as their mentor." Later, he persuaded them "not to pay homage to Buddha images and sacred relics, not to offer 'soon' to members of Sangha, not to visit pagodas and monasteries and not to hold funeral rites."

They called themselves the Htanaung Sect, and put portraits of Saya Ba and U Sein Maung on their altars. When U Phi tried to investigate in 1983, he was beaten to death by two sect members. When Htanaung Sect member Maung Myint died in 1986, he was buried beneath the cemetery Zayat without Buddhist rites; 17 sect members were therefore sentenced to 18 months imprisonment.

On their release in 1987, the sect moved to Monywa and grew to 114 houses. U Sein Maung "visited the houses of other members' wives frequently and he had affairs with some married women," unbeknownst to their husbands.

"As U Sein Maung, household leader of the Htanaung sect, and other 15 members who professed wrong beliefs, and made efforts to blemish the Sasana, action will be taken against them, it is learnt." (WPD 8/29)

MISCELLANEOUS

Crime News
Names and addresses of culprits generally included.

July 31: Five persons involved in a passport forgery ring were arrested July 12. The passports were purchased for K4,500-5,500 and taken to Thailand to be sold for 5,000-5,500 bahts. They also forged fake job letters from abroad, such as for the for the "Good Hill Co." of the U.S. offering jobs at US$400 per month. Such letters were sold for K200-400. [details] \" Railway Police Constable Aung Kyi Win was promoted to L/Cpl. and given K6,500 for having on Dec. 11, 1990, seized 68 bottles of comethazine worth K14,000 from Nyunt Maung Ko, who "gave K6,500 in bribes to the policeman who refused and carried out his duty." (WPD 8/1)

Aug. 1: Four persons forging degree certificates and BEHS [high school] pass certificates and selling them for K3,000 each have been exposed by the National Intelligence Bureau, and equipment seized
Aug. 3: Win Kyaw Oo "who cheated people out of their money" claiming to be a relative of Yangon Commander Maj-Gen. Myo Nyunt. was arrested in Kyauktada Twp. [Yangon] on June 24. He got K23,835 out of various people by claiming to his wife was Maj-Gen. Myo Nyunt's niece and that he could have criminal charges against them quashed [details]. \ Two men who on July 4 robbed a train passenger at knifepoint of K1,212 near Nyaunglebin Station were arrested. (WPD 8/4)

Aug. 6: 130 men and 6 women from Sittway, Buthidaung and Maungdaw Twps. [Rakhine] were questioned by the National Intelligence Bureau for "illegal economic practices" of illegal commodity transactions, evading taxes, and foreign exchange crimes "in order to cause a rise in commodity prices and to destabilize monetary situation in the border areas"and "K11,003,027 in black money, 1,470 takas in foreign currency, gold ingots weighing about 22 ticals, 10 food items worth K4.5 million and 16 sampans including three powered vessels" were seized. Of the 136 persons, 24 men and one woman were released; 42 men and 3 women will have action taken against them under the Immigration Act; and action will be taken against 57 Bengalis and 9 Rakhine nationals, totalling 64 men and 2 women, for "illegal transaction of dollars and consumer goods and foodstuffs." The food (3,400 viss of chillis, 1,400 viss of onions, 33,540 viss of pulses, 800 viss of groundnuts, 10,740 viss of saffron, 39,680 viss of salt, 2,400 viss of fennel seed, 10,860 viss of betel nuts, and 2,500 viss of coriander) "will be sold at reasonable prices to the consumers." [photos] (WPD 8/7)

Aug. 6,13: The Pathein anti-drug squad and Maubin Twp. police on July 29 seized illegal country spirit and distilling paraphernalia. 12 persons are being prosecuted. (WPD 8/8,14)

Aug. 7: Nawngkhio Customs [Shan] on May 24 seized 2.7 kilos of heroin from a vehicle travelling from Muse to Mandalay. (WPD 8/9)

Aug. 8: Nine persons "who purchased and sold chicken and ducks under the counter" were arrested in Yangon. Although the fixed purchase price for chicken is K75 and sale price K79 per viss, they purchased chickens at K80-90 and sold them at K83-100, and falsified the receipts. Others were warned in early June. (WPD 8/9)

Aug. 9: Two co-operative employees in Kyimyindine Twp. [Yangon] were fired on July 25 for "sale of edible palm oil to a private merchant," and will be prosecuted. They sold 2 drums on July 20 and 1 on July 22 to "outside merchant U Aye Thein" and falsified documents to indicate a sale to consumers. (WPD 8/10)

Aug. 10: Nyaunglebin [Bago] police on July 18 seized 2.9 kilos of marijuana at the railway station, and subsequently another 19.6 kilos was found in Kyauktada Twp. [Yangon]. (WPD 8/11)

Aug. 12: Toungoo Railway Police on July 24 seized 5.7 kilos of marijuana on a Down Mail train at Bago station. (WPD 8/13)

Aug. 14: Mandalay police on Aug. 2 rounded up 15 gamblers and K94,611 in stakes. \ Insein [Yangon] police on July 25 arrested four watchmen and security men who in February stole 230 bottles of Fansimef from the warehouse of the Malaria Control Unit at West Gyogon. \ Yangon police on Aug. 8 "investigated and exposed five...persons who had hoarded palm oil...." They bought oil at K 67 per viss in Yangon, and took it to Hlegu and Bago to sell for K 75 per viss. (WPD 8/15)

Aug. 15: The Mandalay anti-drug squad on Aug. 12 seized 7.2 kilos of heroin under a house in Mandalay NW Twp. (WPD 8/16)

Aug. 18: The Kale [Sagaing] anti-drug squad on Aug. 11 seized 7.8 kilos of raw opium in Thayagon Village. \ Four people who stole K400,000 in a passenger's handbag on June 6 at the Shan Taungdan bus in Mandalay NW Twp. were arrested in July. K211,695, and K79,420 in clothes and gold bought with the stolen money, were recovered. (WPD 8/17)

Aug. 17: Yangon Railway police on July 22 seized 2.6 kilos of marijuana from the Mandalay-Yangon train at Nyaunghsayduauk station. (WPD 8/18)
Aug. 18: A Pyu Twp. [Bago] security unit on July 24 seized 13.1 kilos of marijunana from a boat at the mouth of the Sittaung River, and on July 28 seized another 5.3 kilos at the Pyu railway station. (WPD 8/19)


Aug. 26: Taunggyi security personnel on Aug. 23 seized 11.5 kilos of opium. (WPD 8/27)

Aug. 27: A Military Tribunal on Aug. 23 sentenced U Tin Maung Lwin (a) Lin Maung to 15 years rigorous imprisonment for keeping a brothel at his Lay-aye-tha Rest House at 698/701 (2nd fl.) Merchant St., Yangon. Manager U Aung Kyaw got 10 years and workman Dev Anand 5 years. Seven police officers (including 3 Superintendents) were given 7 years each, and seven policemen 5 years each. Pabedan Town Clerk Than Naing was dismissed for tipping off the brothel about investigations, and the Chairman and two members of the Pabedan Township LORC were terminated for covering up the matter. A pick-up truck used to transport the prostitutes was confiscated. (WPD 8/28)

Aug. 28: Sixteen members of a gang producing forged ID cards and video show permits were arrested by the Defence Services Intelligence in the Yangon area. Blank NRC cards were purchased at K50 and sold with forged entries for K200; blank Citizenship Scrutiny Cards were bought for K100 and sold for about K300 (K25 per signature and K50 per seal). The blanks were bought from corrupt Immigration officials in Mingala Taungnyunt and Tharkayta Twps. Fake Video Censor Board permits were produced at K6 each. Full bench of the Myanmar Supreme Court ruled on Aug. 23 confiscating five motor vehicles used in "illegally trafficking cattle" and seized in Kalaw Twp. on Oct. 24, 1990. "The men were sentenced to six months each but the vehicles were returned to the owners. The full bench ruled, however, that it was evident the vehicles were used for smuggling the cattle across the border and as such deserved to be dealt with firmly." Mandalay Railway Police on Aug. 4 seized 0.05 kilos of heroin in the panties of a passenger. (WPD 8/29)

Aug. 29: Mandalay police on Aug. 15 arrested 8 che-hti gamblers and seized K45,597 in stake money in Mandalay SW Twp. (WPD 8/30)

Obituaries

[English language obituaries only; there are occasional obituaries in Burmese as well.]

Aug. 11: Mrs. Blanche Vardon, widow of Victor Vardon, died in Yangon, aged 75. [Christian] (WPD 8/12)

Aug. 14: Daw Than Tin, Toungoo, relict of Judge U Thaung Pe, died in Yangon, aged 86. (WPD 8/15)

Aug. 16: Pee Pee Aye Say, widow of U Aung Hla, mother of...Saw Aung Kyi (U.S. Embassy)-Mary Wilbur (U.S. Embassy) died in Yangon, aged 98. [Christian] (WPD 8/17)

Aug. 19: A-Rham Yi (Adam), Korean, son of Woo Taik Yi (Secretary-General, Myanmar Concord Development Organization) and Koo-Im Yi Kim, died in Yangon, aged 7 months and 4 days. [Catholic] (WPD 8/20)

Aug. 23: Mrs. Subbama, Mawlamyine, widow of Mr. M. Narayana Swamy, died in Mawlamyine, aged 95. (WPD 8/25)

Aug. 24: Ko Khin Maung Cho (a) Salman Khan, son of the late U Khin Maung Latt, former Minister of Health and Judicial Affairs, died in Yangon, aged 41. [Muslim] (WPD 8/25)

Aug. 28: The Most Reverend Bhaddanta Ardiccaramsi, leading Padhana Nayaka of Chaukhtatgyi Payagy Taik in Bahann Twp., Ovadacariya Sayadaw of Shwedagon Pagoda, and Vice-Chairman Sayadaw of the State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee died in Yangon, aged 81 years, vassa 61. (WPD 8/29)
Engagement & Marriage

July 20: Thida, daughter of U Robert and Daw June Po Yein became engaged to Nicky Din, son of U San Din and Daw Kayra. (WPD 8/1)

Aug. 25: Jacqueline Ann Khin (a) Khin Mie Mie Min, daughter of U Tin Maung Khin (Chubby) and Wendy Khin of 53-02, 207th St. Bayside, New York, married Moe Kyaw Phyu, son of U Myint Tin and Daw Htwe Htwe of Yangon, at St. Robert Bellarmine R Church, Bayside, New York. (WPD 8/26)

Meiktila Fire Relief

Throughout the month there were more articles on donations for Meiktila fire relief by Myanmar nationals and groups.

July 31: Foreign military attaches in Myanmar, represented by Malaysian Defence Adviser Lt-Col. Mushardin bin Mohd Said, delivered K17,735 to Defence Services Intelligence Deputy Director Col. Than Tun. Also present were Bangladesh Defence Attache Brig. Sk abu Bakr, and American Defence Attache Col. David G. Dauglass [sic]. [photo] (WPD 8/1)

Aug. 1: 1,180 bags of cement worth K33,453, donated by UNDP, arrived in Meiktila. (WPD 8/2)

Aug. 10: At a dinner for artistes who had raised K3.6 million for Meiktila fire relief through benefit performances, State LORC Secretary (1) Maj-Gen. Khin Nyunt noted that the fire had destroyed 3,166 houses and 10 monasteries, left over 30,000 people from 5,295 households homeless, and caused damage of over K695.6 million. He said that the State had donated K10 million in cash, the people K26 million, and "well-wishers and organizations from inside and outside the country" K14 million. (WPD 8/11)

Aug. 30: The Meiktila Fire Relief and Resettlement Central Committee held its final meeting; remaining activities will be taken over by Township Zone and Township LORCs and Government Departments. Minister for Transport & Communications and for Social Welfare and for Labour Lt-Gen. Tin Tun reported that activities were completed Aug. 3. "Meiktila has now come to possess characters of a town. Those who became homeless have now got their dwellings. Those who did not have houses of their own now live in their homes." Over 50,000 people were made homeless. Each household got K2,000, rice, etc.; aid in kind worth K3,412,540 was given to 5,298 households. Of the State's allotment of 667 million, K6.7 million went for "construction of temporary schools and reclamation of land for housing." Donations as of Aug. 27 totalled K29,804,748 and US$76,564. Donations were received in many other currencies. [Tables of Government relief activities.] (WPD 8/31)

Floods

Flood Warnings: During the month there were repeated Flood Bulletins and Flood Warnings of expected flood crests at danger levels on major Myanmar rivers.

Aug. 2: The flood level at Hkamti [Sagaing] rose to 1771 cm. by July 24 (danger level is 1360 cm.), and 17,570 people from 3,212 households in 3 wards and 15 village-tracts were evacuated to nine camps on higher ground. 240 houses have been swept away; 72 head of cattle and 26 pigs are missing. The flood receded to the danger level on July 24, leaving 3-6 feet of silt. Loss is estimated at K15 million, and relief measures are under way. (WPD 8/3)

Aug. 6: South-West Commander Maj-Gen. Myint Aung visited flood sites in Ayeyarwady Division Aug. 3-4. The Ayeyarwady and Ngawun Rivers have burst their banks and inundated some townships. Moreover, the Htein-ngu and Yay-le embankments in Laymyethnar and the Ma Mya Chaung embankment were breached, flooding seven townships, despite being reinforced with sandbags by 30,000 volunteers. Floodwater entered Laymyethnar and Hinthada Twps. on July 28-29. On Aug. 2 the Htein-ngu breach widened, flooding Kyonpyaw, Yekyl, Kyaungon, and Pathein East Twps. (WPD 8/7)

Aug. 9: 2,200 local people are working on reinforcing broken
embankments in Laymyethna Twp., and digging up drainage canals in Laymyethna and Ingapu Twps. (WPD 8/10)

Aug. 11: To date 21 wards in towns, 201 village-tracts, and 1,038 villages in Hinthada, Laymyethna, Kyonpyaw, Yekyi, Kyaukgyi, Pathein-East, and Ingapu Twps. [Ayeyarwady] have been flooded, and 281,096 people from 63,057 households have become flood victims. Relief supplies [details] are being sent in. (WPD 8/12)

Aug. 12: In Yekyi Twp., 127 villages were inundated by Aug. 5, rendering 49,275 people from 11,635 households homeless. 43,000 acres of paddy out of 78,000 are affected, and in Ngathiengaung 456 acres of jute out of 471 were flooded. Stored fertilizer and rice have been destroyed. In Kyonpyaw Twp., 378 villages have been inundated, and 2 persons drowned. 47,000 acres of paddy and 11,000 acres of other crops have been affected, and 29,354 people from 5,897 households relocated in relief camps. (WPD 8/13)

Aug. 14: The Hteinngupan Embankment in Laymyethnar Twp., which was breached on July 28, is being temporarily repaired. 2,000 volunteers are digging a 2,100 foot diversion canal, 20' wide and 10' deep, and the work should be completed Aug. 25. (WPD 8/15)

Aug. 15: In Hinthada Twp., due to the breach in the Hteingnu embankment on July 28, floods in 124 villages inundated 7,043 houses, leaving 32,465 people from 7,139 households homeless, and inundating 11,000 cattle and 374 pigs. 28,754 acres out of 55,458 acres of cultivated land, and 69 acres of jute were inundated. In Laymyethna Twp., due the breach of the Hteingnu embankment, floods in 129 villages inundated 9,181 houses, leaving 41,752 people from 9,193 households homeless, and flooding 21,000 acres of cultivated land. (WPD 8/16)

Aug. 17: In Hpa-an, Papun, Hlaingbwe, and Myawady Twps. [Kayin], 4,673 homes have been inundated and 29,674 persons made homeless. In Hpa-an, Hlaingbwe, Thandaung, Papun, Kawkareik, Kya-in-Seikkyi, and Myawady Twps., 87 village-tracts and 18,017 acres of fields have been flooded. (WPD 8/18)

Aug. 18: In Kyaunggon Twp. [Ayeyarwady), the Daka River rose to 19'6" on Aug. 7, flooding 7 wards in town and 42 village-tracts, and "also hit 2,846 houses, 13,849 people from 2,849 households, and 4,800 head of cattle." The Meiktila Bridge on the Yekyi-Pathein road was hit by the floods and damaged on Aug. 14. Pathein-Yekyi rail service, which had been interrupted July 30, was restored Aug. 17. (WPD 8/19)

Aug. 29: Minister for Transport & Communications and for Social Welfare and for Labour Lt-Gen. Tin Tun, Minister for Livestock Breeding & Fisheries and for Agriculture & Forests Lt-Gen. Chit Swe, and State LORC Secretary (2) Maj-Gen. Tin Oo visited the flood-stricken areas of Ayeyarwady Division, accompanied by other high Myanmar officials and UN personnel.

Property loss is estimated at K290 million. 208 villages of 80 village-tracts, in Laymyethna, Hinthada, Yekyi, Kyonpyaw, and Kyaunggon Townships are inundated, and over 180,000 cultivated acres are under water. 478 schools have been closed. 375,285 cultivated acres have been flooded, and there is damage on 183,306 acres. There is additional damage in the four indirectly-affected Townships of Ingapu, Einme, Pathein East, and Thabaung, and "the loss may be much greater than estimated." State LORC Secretary (2) Maj-Gen. Tin Oo said that "according to the statements over 400,000 cultivated acres were under water and over 280,000 people were affected."

In Yekyi Twp., 44,918 persons were affected and over 60,000 cultivated acres destroyed. In Laymyethna Twp., over 31,000 people were affected and 28,000 cultivated acres destroyed. (WPD 8/30)

Flood Relief

Aug. 2: UNDP will provide US$ 50,000 in emergency relief goods to flood victims. (WPD 8/3)

Aug. 14: WHO donated emergency supplies. (WPD 8/15)

Aug. 27: Mr. and Mrs. Jack Peter Deboer donated medical
supplies on behalf of World Vision International. (WPD 8/28)

Aug. 29: Mr. Robert Walker of World Vision and Mr. K. Ray of
UNICEF donated medical supplies in Yekyi Twp. (WPD 8/30)

Aug. 30: SLORC Notification No. 37/91 of Aug. 30 establishes
the Ayeyarwady Division Flood Relief and Resettlement Central
Committee under the Chairmanship of Minister for Transport &
Communications and for Social Welfare and for Labour Lt-Gen. Tin Tun
(other members are six other Ministers, South-West Commander Maj-Gen.
Myint Aung, SLORC Office officials, and SLORC Secretaries 1 and 2).
The Committee is to:
(a) send relief goods in time; provide monetary assistance and
medicine; take preventive measures against outbreak of epidemics;
make clean water available; and take measures for re-cultivation and
livestock breeding;
(b) collect a correct and precise list of households that
suffered losses in floods;
(c) lay down programmes to reinforce embankments under long-
term and short-term projects;
(d) coordinate relief and rehabilitation.
It will present a final report to the SLORC.
At the Committee's first meeting, it was announced that K30
million had been allotted by the State for relief and rehabilitation,
and that private collection centers would be opened in Yangon and
Pathein. (WPD 8/31)

There were, in addition, a number of news reports of Myanmar
donations to Ayeyarwady flood relief.

Earthquakes & Cyclone
Aug. 4: An earthquake of an intensity of 6 (Richter scale) was
reported at 19:12:20 Myanmar time with epicentre about 150 miles E of
Putao. (WPD 8/5)

Aug. 6: An earthquake of strong intensity (6.7 Richter) was
reported at 08:50:34 Myanmar time with epicentre about 1,170 miles
SSW of Yangon. (WPD 8/7)

Aug. 12: "Strong winds accompanied by a cyclonic wind"
destroyed 6 monasteries and 30 houses in Ward 12, Dagon Myothit
(North) Twp. [Yangon] on Aug. 11. One person was injured and 18 monks
and 262 people were left homeless. (WPD 8/13)

Boat Capsizes
Aug. 7: A twin-engine powered boat plying between Yesagyo and
Malakarchan village [Magway] capsized in a storm July 28, and 9
passengers are missing. (WPD 8/8)

Siamese Twins
Aug. 14: Daw Hla Kyin, 40, gave birth to Siamese twins at Bilin
on Aug. 4. The twin sisters are joined at the abdomen; arrangements
are under way for a further operation at the Children's Hospital.
(WPD 8/15)

Narcotics Seized
Aug. 8: A Tatmadaw column in Mongton Twp. [Shan] on July 27
seized 101 kilos of opium hidden by SUA terrorists in an old barn.
(WPD 8/9)

Aug. 15: From Jan. 1-June 30 the Tatmadaw seized 10 kilos of
heroin, 146 kilos of raw opium, and 8 kilos of marijuana worth K
161,252,528 or US$ 25,195,708.
The Police seized 46 kilos of heroin (in 800 cases); 385 kilos
of raw opium (330 cases); 438 kilos of marijuana (352 cases); 661
litres of phensedyl (95 cases); 11 bottles of cough linctus (5
cases); 107 bottles of comethazine (5 cases); 5 kilos of raw opium
powder (3 cases); there were 2,730 other drug-related cases. In a
total of 2,743 drug cases, action was taken against 4,001 persons,
and drugs were seized by the Police worth K738,849,535 or
US$115,445,239.
Total seizures in the first six months of 1991 totalled
Aug. 27: A group from the Kachin National Organization (North-east area) headed by U Mahtu Naw, which returned to the legal fold, seized a morphine base refinery at U-124959, old Hwedaung village, Loitauk area, Haewti Twp. [Shan], and found 6 kilos of morphine base powder, 119 kilos of raw opium, chemicals and equipment. U Mahtu Naw turned them over to the Tatmadaw on Aug. 21. [map and photos] (WPD 8/28)

Aug. 29: A Tatmadaw column at map reference point T-106507, Mong Pan Taungchun, Mong Pan Twp. [Shan] on Aug. 15 seized 224 gallons of acetic anhydride [used in refining heroin]. map and photos] (WPD 8/30)

Yangon Zoo

Aug. 18: State LORC Secretary (2) Maj-Gen. Tin Oo visited the Yangon Zoological Gardens. He was told that the Zoo was built in 1901 and that K15,000 per day is spent on animal feed for 27,000 animals of 200 varieties. The Zoo was built for "providing rest and recreation to the public and knowledge to students who are studying Zoology and Botany. Various kinds of animals are exhibited and it has been created into a botanical garden with flower trees, stuffed animals, fossils and forest resources." Daily feeding costs K11 for a deer, K45 for an ostrich, K63 for a hippopotamus, K84 for a giraffe, and K264 for a tiger. (WPD 8/19)