

92-04

BURMA PRESS SUMMARY
(from THE WORKING PEOPLE'S DAILY)
Vol. VI, No. 4, April 1992

+--+--+--+

Table of Contents

Fifth Anniversary of B.P.S.	1
POLITICAL CRISIS	
Slogans	2
Cartoons	3
Political Articles	3
VOA Massacre Broadcast Denied	4
Thirteen NLD Hluttaws Ousted	5
Kachin Students' Seminar	5
Gen. Saw Maung on Medical Leave	5
Gen. Than Shwe SLORC Chairman	5
Gen. Than Shwe Prime Minister	6
Constitutional Convention Called	6
Gen. Than Shwe Comm.-in-Chief	6
Michael Aris May Visit Wife	6
38 Political Prisoners Released	6
ELECTIONS	
Party Registration Changes	7
Status of Elections	8
DIPLOMATIC	
Diplomatic Calls	8
New Myanmar Ambassadors	9
Diplomatic Trip to Rakhine	9
Border Negotiations	10
Thanbyuzayat Trip	10
INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION	
Workshops	10
Foreign Donations	10
Colombo Plan Meeting	11
International Animal Commission	11
Chinese Caustic Soda Plant Pact	11
FOREIGN VISITORS	
Business Visitors	11
International Agency Visitors	11
UN Under Secretary-General	11
MYANMAR DELEGATIONS	
Study Delegations	12
Delegations to Meetings & Events	13
Foreign Minister to Bangladesh	13
Delegations Return	13
MYANMAR GAZETTE	
Probationary Appointments	14
Appointments Confirmed	14
GOVERNMENT	
1992-93 Financial Targets	14
New Deputy Religion Minister	14
MILITARY	
Tatmadaw Military Operations	14
Insurgent Attacks	15
Insurgents Surrender	15
Kayin State Offensive Called Off	15
ECONOMIC	
Economic Articles	15
Construction & Other Projects	16
Joint Ventures	17
Import License Regulations	17
Postal News	17

Commerce and Banking	17
Timber Contract Expiry	18
Agriculture	18
Imports	18
Transportation News	18
Annual Economic Report Ready	19
Rainfall in Yangon	19
HEALTH	
Health Articles	19
Child Welfare Organizations	19
SPORTS	
Myanmar Teams & Delegations	20
National Sports Festival	20
CULTURAL	
Literary and Cultural Articles	20
Thingyan	21
Cultural Traditions	21
Higher Education	21
Manuscript Awards	22
Religion	23
Institute of Education	23
Rural Art Project	23
MISCELLANEOUS	
Crime News	23
Anti-Narcotics Activities	23
Obituaries	24
Fires	25
Environmentalists Sought	25
Earthquakes	25
PICTURES	26

--

Fifth Anniversary of B.P.S.

The first issue of the Burma Press Summary was for April 1987, covering the contents of the Rangoon Working People's Daily for that month. This issue, therefore, marks the completion of five years of the Summary and the beginning of the sixth. I should like, on this occasion, to address a personal message to my readers.

I lived in Burma from 1981-1984, assigned to the American Embassy in Rangoon as Counsellor for Political and Economic Affairs. Like many others, I fell in love with the country and its people. On my return to the United States I continued to receive the Rangoon Working People's Daily, at first through our Embassy, and, after my retirement from the Foreign Service in 1986, by direct airmail. After a while, as I got to know members of the Burma Studies Group of the Association of Asian Studies, I came to realize how few scholars in this country had access to the Working People's Daily, the only English-language newspaper in Burma and the principal record of official events and policy. I felt I should share my good fortune, and so the Burma Press Summary was born.

Five years and sixty issues later, I find I have written some 1,800 pages and perhaps 1,100,000 words. To accomplish this I have spent over 2,000 hours (250 8-hour days, or one year at 40 hours per week) of labor, all of it volunteered. Subscription prices, whether paid to me or--since January 1991--to the University of Illinois, have never done more than cover, partially, the out-of-pocket costs of reproduction and distribution.

The course of Burmese history in these five years has been momentous. What started as an effort to extract occasional nuggets of fact and policy from an obscure publication took on new significance with the events of 1988 and the coming of the SLORC government. Once eschewing commentary on foreign countries, and providing little information on domestic policy, the Working People's Daily began to comment extensively on both. In 1987 it was hard to find 10 pages of useful information in a single month's issues; now the Summary

averages over 30 pages and has reached a high of 44.

My basic aim has not changed, however. It remains that of providing as much useful information as possible from the Working People's Daily, of kinds which I believe will be of interest to scholars and others outside of Burma, and to do so objectively, reflecting as faithfully as possible the atmosphere of the newspaper and the views of its editors. So that the Summary can serve as a permanent record of events in Burma, I try to cover the same kinds of material in each issue; I rarely cut material to save space.

How can you, my readers, repay me for my efforts? Well, I should appreciate hearing from you, to find out whether and how the Burma Press Summary is of use to you. It can get lonely here in Central New York, working over a computer--often on weekends or late at night--to provide a service for people many of whom I do not know. Equally important, I should appreciate your views on how I can improve the Summary and make it more useful. And (now that each new copy does not mean more work for me in copying, stapling, and mailing) I should appreciate your letting others--individuals and libraries--know of the Burma Press Summary, so that the University of Illinois can build up its subscription list.

Let me hear from you!

Hugh C. MacDougall
32 Elm Street
Cooperstown, NY 13326

POLITICAL CRISIS

Slogans

Regular Slogans: See January 1992 issue.

Variable Slogans: Since August 1991, The Working People's Daily has run a changing religious slogan at the top of each front page:

Apr. 1-22: Brahmachariyanca, chastity; this is the way to auspiciousness.

Apr. 23-30: Ariyasaccana dassanam, to discern the noble truths; this is the way to auspiciousness.

Cartoons

There continued to be frequent (though fewer) political cartoons. E.g.:

Apr. 1: 1st Myanmar: "Friend... What is Rohingya?...and Mujahid? What is that?" 2nd Myanmar: "Ha! What difference is there?.... Rohingya and Mujahid are one and the same!"

Apr. 5: 1st Myanmar: "Service personnel are reminded again and again to stay away from party politics." 2nd Myanmar: "Of course. There are still some service personnel who are entangling with party politics."

Apr. 6: 1st insurgent: "I don't know how long we have to flee from the offensives of the Tatmadaw." 2nd insurgent: "As long as we continue to commit destructive activities."

Apr. 30: 1st Myanmar: "I didn't copy his video play and he didn't mine either." 2nd Myanmar: "Then why are they so similar?" 1st Myanmar: "Because we both copied the same movie."

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:

Apr. 1-2: Down with knaves, by Ratnabon Maung Hmat. [(1) Renegades common in Myanmar history. "There are still masses of people who are traitorous to their own people." Cases: Nga Zingar in 1610. (2) Min Htin Min Goung in 1826; Maung Myat Kyi in 1853. "Therefore, in our State of Myanmar, should there be any one who...are not chips of an old block, should not the patriotic masses...send them to Hell, on a way of no return? Am I not right?"]

Apr. 1-15: The significance of Senior General Saw Maung's Armed Forces Day (Resistance Day) Address, by Bo Thanmani. [(1-15) Address was "full of deep and significant thoughts and ideas as well as those from which lessons are to be drawn" Summary of speech, with excerpts.]

Apr. 6-8: Facts give the true story, by Kyaw Zeya. [(1) In 1979 "the armed Kalarsoes known as Rohingyas who wanted to make political profit out of the flight of such persons spread all sorts of rumours...in instigating and persuading the Muslims to flee to Bangladesh." (2) Sad anecdotes about the 1979 refugees. (3) It's happening again.]

Apr. 6: Evil lies are impediments to progress, by Shwe La Win. [Review of government statements on the Bangladesh refugee situation.]

Apr. 11: Come back to the warm embrace of Nawtarapalaw, by Saw Doe Htoo. [Appeal to villagers who fled under KNU pressure to return; all is well back at home.]

Apr. 13-17: We will never let ourselves be divided; we will always remain united, by A journalist. [(1-2) Visit of Naga nationals to attend Armed Forces Day in Yangon, including a meeting with State LORC Chairman Senior General Saw Maung. (3) BBC on Mar. 24 broadcast a false news story from India about "1,500 Rabujabars who had fled to the Nagaland of India," and been given asylum. (3-5) Nagas visitors to Yangon tell of their wonderful adventures in the big city.]

Apr. 14: Reminiscences of a retired village water-carrier, by Maung Udahari. [How wells were drilled in his village; wonders of Thingyan in Yangon; "May the Tatmadaw Asoya of the {SLORC} be blessed with all the Mangalas for making all this possible!"]

Apr. 17-18: The Papun area where Hpasi music soars, by Saw Doe Htoo. [Visit to beautiful Papun, Kayin State. The KNU terrorist leader Bo Mya was born in Hti-mu-khee village and brought up in Papun; he was a policeman who worked as a butler for an English deputy commissioner, for whom he procured Kayin and Shan women. Later he "had a hand" in KNU terrorist Lin Htin's seizing of young women and selling them to the KMT (White Chinese) troops. Now he is "just like the leader of a gang of dacoits." Those who have fled Papun to the KNU are urged to return.]

Apr. 19-20: KNU terrorist committing more atrocities, by Saw Doe Htoo. [Details of recent atrocities. The people are tired of KNU's senseless killing, and want peace. "The Tatmadaw today welcomes, like its own brothers, any terrorist organizations that wish to carry out regional development work and that want to make peace and come back to the legal fold."]

Apr. 21: The Oaths of the University for Development of National Races that should always be adhered to, by Khin Yar Nyunt. [Five daily oaths and seven oaths for graduates.]

Apr. 21-23: The Pledge made by the Pa-O Nationals, Nyi Nyi Maung. [The peace and progress since Pa-O national leader U Aung Khamti returned to the legal fold in Apr. 1991. New economic and social projects.]

Apr. 24-25: The tinkling of the bells from the pagoda on Dawna Taungdan, by Saw Doe Htoo. [Hoisting of the Htidaw (umbrella) on top of the Zina Thukha Zedi at point 5363, the Nawtara Hill. It was once the "ill-reputed blackmarket gate" called Mawphoke by the KNU, which "earned some 300,000 bahts in illegal taxes a day." KNU terrorists use lies to instigate Karens to "fear and hate the Tatmadawmen."]

Apr. 23: Experiences gained from the special refresher course No 2 for teachers of the institutions of higher learning, by Kyi Hla Nwe. ["I found that what I experienced...was contrary to what I had been worried about.... Rules and regulations are not more strict than those the teachers themselves observe at the institutions of higher learning.... {description of the course} I am writing this article so that those who will attend the course later on will have no worries at all in advance."]

Apr. 25: The Myanmar Territory, the Myanmar Flag and the Echoes of History, by Aung Myo Chit. [World has always respected Myanmar

glory and power; Myanmar has never mistreated prisoners.]

Apr. 29-30: Bilin, a town with famous ancient pagodas around, by Nyunt Aung (Upper Minhla). [(1-2) Description of Bilin, home of the Sugar Mill and Distillery, in Thaton Twp., Mon State. Economic and social progress.]

VOA Massacre Broadcast Denied

Apr. 9: [Text] "The VOA broadcasting station in its broadcast at 6 pm yesterday reported that Myanmar soldiers massacred about 200 Muslims at prayer in a mosque in Maungdaw, Rakhine State.

"The Ministry of Information said that such broadcasts intended to create undue consequences among the Muslims in Myanmar Naing-Ngan and in the world and that the report was totally false.

"The VOA has always been fabricating false news with intent to cause destruction of Myanmar Naing-Ngan. The latest report too is totally groundless and one-sided.

"Foreign broadcasting stations including the VOA have repeatedly invented reports to synchronize with events taking place in Myanmar Naing-Ngan to cause destruction of the country. They have been doing so since the days prior to the 1988 disturbances.

"Similarly, they broadcast in February 1992 fabricated news about the situation at the Bangladesh border thereby causing misunderstanding among nations of certain regions, in some Western nations and international organizations.

"A trip was arranged for the Ambassadors, Military Attaches and local and foreign correspondents to the villages at the border with Bangladesh on 29 March to see for themselves and to meet the local people.

"The United Nations Under Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs Mr Jan Eliasson and party also studied the true situation at the Myanmar-Bangladesh border on 3 April.

"Hence news reports about Myanmar Naing-Ngan broadcast by some foreign broadcasting stations including the VOA, were invented stories with much ill-intent to cause disintegration of Myanmar Naing-Ngan." (WPD 4/10)

Thirteen NLD Hluttaws Ousted

Apr. 9: Election Commission Announcement No. 1016 of Apr. 9 cancels the mandates of four NLD Hluttaw Representatives elected May 27, 1990, for violation of Sections 5(a), (b), and (j) of the Emergency Provisions Act, 1950:

- U Saw Chit Than (Hpa-an-1)
- U Hla Pe (Launglon-1)
- U Tin Aye (Mandalay NE-2)
- U Khin Maung Tun (Hmawby-2)

They are barred from running for office for ten years. (WPD 4/10)

Apr. 11: Election Commission Announcement No. 1017 of Apr. 10 cancels the mandates of four NLD Hluttaw Representatives elected May 27, 1990, for violation of Section 5(a), (b), and (j) of the Emergency Provisions Law, 1950:

- Col. Thiha Thura Soe Thein (Rtd) (Sagaing-1)
- U Khin Maung Win (Ottwin-2)
- U Ohn Maung (Yawngwe-2)
- U Maung Maung (Yekyi-2)

They are barred from running for office for ten years. (WPD 4/11)

Apr. 22: Election Commission Announcement No. 1018 of Apr. 21 cancels the mandates of five NLD Hluttaw Representatives elected May 27, 1990, because they "maintained contacts or collaborated with armed terrorists organizations rising against the Government or with members of those organizations," in violation of Section 11(g) of the Election Law:

- U Ma Phan Hsin (Khawbude)
- U Yao Hsi (Putao)
- U N Nan Gum (Machanbaw)
- U Kyaw Maung (Mohnyin-1)
- U Kya Mya (Mohnyin-2)

They are barred from running for office for ten years. (WPD 4/22)

Kachin Students' Seminar

Apr. 15: The Kachin State Students' Seminar was held in Myitkyina from Apr. 8-10 under the leadership of the Kachin State LORC. It was attended by officials, by 5,218 teachers and students from 18 Kachin townships, and by over 10,000 people. The participants adopted eight "future tasks":

-- to ensure non-disintegration of the Union, non-disintegration of national solidarity and perpetuation of national sovereignty;

-- to keep patriotism alive and dynamic;

-- to preserve traditions and culture;

-- for the students to observe discipline and rules;

-- to educate youths on the danger of narcotic drugs and to take measures for AIDS control;

-- to adopt education system which will contribute towards national economy;

-- to promote the sports standard; and

-- to annihilate destructive elements to ensure peaceful pursuit of education. (WPD 4/16)

Gen. Saw Maung on Medical Leave

Apr. 23: SLORC Declaration No. 9/ 92 of Apr. 23 reads [full text]:

1. As the medical condition of Senior General Saw Maung has become severely impaired by the stress of work and heavy responsibilities of the State, it is the opinion of medical specialists that he urgently needs rest and it was recommended that the Senior General takes leave from his official duties till he is medically fit again.

2. The aforesaid recommendation of the medical specialists was submitted to the meeting of the [SLORC] and it is hereby declared that it was decided to give leave to Senior General Saw Maung.

(Sd) Than Shwe, General Chairman, [SLORC] (WPD 4/24)

Gen. Than Shwe SLORC Chairman

Apr. 23: SLORC Declaration No. 9/ 92 of Apr. 23 reads [text]:

It is hereby declared that the responsibility of Chairman, [SLORC] of Senior General Saw Maung, who has taken leave due to medical grounds has been handed over to General Than Shwe, who will henceforth continue to discharge the responsibility.

By Order, (Sd) Khin Nyunt, Major-General Secretary (1) The [SLORC]. (WPD 4/24)

Gen. Than Shwe Prime Minister

Apr. 24: SLORC Declaration No. 10/ 92 of Apr. 24 reads [text]:

It is hereby declared that General Than Shwe, Chairman, the [SLORC], has also undertaken the responsibility of the Prime Minister with effect from 23rd April, 1992, in addition to the responsibility of the Minister, Ministry of Defence in the Government.

By Order, (Sd) Khin Nyunt.... (WPD 4/25)

Constitutional Convention Called

Apr. 24: SLORC Declaration No. 11/92 of Apr. 24, Convening of the National Convention, reads [text]:

1. It is hereby declared that the [SLORC], depending on the general situation of the country, will presently carry out the following measures:

(a) Of the persons arrested and detained politically, those for whom there are no reasons to endanger the security of the State, will be released promptly;

(b) It accordance with the [SLORC] Declaration No 1/90, dated the 27th July, 1990, the [SLORC] will, in respect of the convening of the National Convention, meet and co-ordinate, within two months, with the leaders of the Hluttaw Representatives of

political parties existing lawfully and individual Hluttaw Representatives;

(c) The [SLORC] will convene the National Convention within six months in order to lay down the basic principles for the drafting of a firm and stable Constitution, after meeting and co-ordinating as mentioned in sub-clause (b) above;

2. The [SLORC] will declare further future programmes in accordance with the basic principles laid down at the National Convention.

By Order, (Sd) Khin Nyunt.... (WPD 4/25)

Gen. Than Shwe Comm.-in-Chief

Apr. 25: [SLORC] Notification No. 39/92 of Apr. 25, Appointment of Defence Services Commander-in Chief, reads [text]:

The [SLORC] has appointed Defence Services Deputy Commander-in-Chief (Army) of the Office of the Commander-in-Chief of the Ministry of Defence, General Than Shwe (BC 6710) as Defence Services Commander-in-Chief with effect from 23 April, 1992.

By Order, (Sd) Khin Nyunt.... (WPD 4/26)

Michael Aris May Visit Wife

Apr. 25: [text] "Daw Aung San Suu Kyi's family to be given permission to enter country to meet her. British citizen Mr Michael Viallancourt Aris, husband of Daw Aung San Suu Kyi, elder son Alexander John Christopher Aris and the younger son Dannian Kim Arundel Aris will be given permission to enter Myanmar Naing-Ngan to enable the family to meet together, according to reports received from responsible officials." (WPD 4/26)

38 Political Prisoners Released

Apr. 25: Under SLORC Declaration No. 11/92 authorities "went to the respective houses this afternoon and told U Nu and his group, who had not tendered their resignation from the parallel government, that the restrictions imposed upon them were withdrawn and that they, U Nu, Bohmu Aung, U Than Sein, U Ba Swe and Thakin Khin Aung were free." (WPD 4/26)

Apr. 25: Seven persons from the Patriotic Old Comrades League "who had been arrested and against whom action had been taken according to the existing laws and imprisoned" were released from Insein Central Jail in accordance with SLORC Declaration No. 11/92 of April 24. They are: U Shwe, Thiha Thura U Soe Thein, U Hla Pe, U Khin Maung Tun, U Myo Aung, U Si Vint Khu, and U Ba Htwe. After having the reduction of their jail terms explained to them, they were "then allowed to meet their family members and released." [photo] (WPD 4/26)

Apr. 26: Seven more prisoners were released: U Chit Khaing, National League for Democracy Central Executive Committee member convicted May 15, 1991; U Maung Maung, U Ohn Maung, U Saw Chit Than, and U Tin Aye, members of the NLD Central Body convicted Jan. 30, 1992; Ma Theingyi, Personal Secretary to Daw Aung San Suu Kyi, convicted Mar. 3, 1992; and Ma Nita (a) Ma Yin Yin May, a local employee of the British Embassy convicted Nov. 19, 1990. They were briefed by Lt-Col. Than Tun of the DSI and then "permitted to meet their family members and were released from jail." [full page of photos] (WPD 4/27)

Apr. 27: Eight more prisoners were released: U Po Aung, CEC member of the Union Nationals Democracy Party, and U Htein Lin, Patron of the Youth Solidarity Front, convicted May 1991; U Aung Zay (a) Tawpaya Lay, Patron of the National Politics Front, and Dr. Maung Maung Kyaw, Patron of the Society for International Friendship, convicted July 1989; and four youths (Maung Kyaw Thura Ko Ko, Maung Myo Kywe, Maung Moe Myat Thu, and Maung Maw Min Lwin), who "acted as close aides to Daw Suu Kyi" and were convicted July 20, 1989. [full page of photos] (WPD 4/28)

Apr. 29: Eleven more prisoners were released: Daw Cho Cho Kyaw Nyein (a) Ma Tu, General Secretary of the Union of Myanmar (Main)

Anti-Fascist People's Freedom League and Chairman of the AFPFL Youth (HQ), convicted May 1991; U Soe Thein (a) Maung Wuntha, National League for Democracy Central Body member, convicted Nov. 1990; Daw San May (a) Shwegu May Hnin, convicted Aug. 1991; Mahn Nyunt Maung (a) Maung Sin Kyai, General Secretary, and Saw Win Bat, Joint General Secretary, Union Karen League, convicted Oct. 1991; were released from Insein Central Jail.

U Saw Lwin, Joint General Secretary of the (Main) AFPFL (HQ), convicted May 1991, was released from Thayetmyo prison.

Also released from Insein Jail were "five girl students from Yangon University" convicted Dec. 1991. [full page of photos] (WPD 4/30)

ELECTIONS

Party Registration Changes

Party registration changes announced by the General Election Commission [in order of Party].

(2) National League for Democracy. The Kunhing, Htilin, Bokeyyin, Momauk, Thandaung, Bago, Paungde, Lashio, and Hsipaw Township branches have ceased to exist. (WPD 4/9) Hluttaw Representative U Aye (Thegon) has resigned NLD party positions in Thegon Township and Bago Division. The NLD has expelled Hluttaw Representative U Tin Shwe (Waw-1) from the party. (WPD 4/10) Hluttaw Representative U Mya Aye (Pinlebu) has resigned from the Party. (WPD 4/21) Ousted Hluttaw Representatives U Saw Chit Than (Hpa-an-1), U Hla Pe (Launglon-1), U Tin Aye (Mandalay NE-2), U Khin Maung Tun (Hmawby-2), Col. Thiha Thura Soe Thein (Rtd) (Sagaing-1), U Khin Maung Win (Oktwin-2), U Ohn Maung (Yawngwe-2), U Maung Maung (Yekyi-2) have been purged from the Party. (WPD 4/ 25)

(13) Union Karen League. New officers are GS Saw Maung Thein; JGS Saw Daniel, Mahn Tin Maung (a) Mahn Myo Nyunt. (WPD 4/10)

(17) National Unity Party. CEC member U Sai Aung Tun has resigned from the Party. (WPD 4/21)

(45) Shan Nationalities League for Democracy. The Lawksawk and Mongton Township branches have ceased to exist. (WPD 4/9) CEC member and treasurer Sai Myo Myint has resigned from the Party. (WPD 4/10)

(85) Union Paoh National Organization. Patron U Kyaw Thein has died. (WPD 4/10)

(134) Shan State Kokang Democratic Party. New address is 40th St., Aungmingala Ward 5, Lashio [Shan]. (WPD 4/10)

(170) Mro or Khami National Solidarity Organization. CEC member U Ni Hla Phyu has died; JGS U Than Hlaing has been expelled. (WPD 4/21) New address is U San Tha Aung's compound, No. 194 U Ottama St., Pyidawtha Ward, Kyauktaw, Rakhine State. (WPD 4/25)

(207) Lahu National Development Party (LNDP). The Mongton Township branch has ceased to exist. (WPD 4/ 9)

[According to the Election Commission, there are now only 10 legally registered parties--HCMacD.]

Status of Elections

Apr. 6: Speaking to a coordination meeting of national and local election commissions, Election Commission Chairman U Ba Htay reviewed the status of the scrutinization of candidates' accounts [as reported previously], and made the following other main points:

-- He said that "scrutiny work was being carried out to find out that whether [sic] the elected Hluttaw representatives, who were to take part in framing a Democratic State Constitution in the future, acted in conformity with prescribed law or not."

-- He recalled reminders to service personnel to "remain clear of party politics during the time of the next government which would emerge according to the Constitution which would be promulgated in the future."

-- Noting that a record number of 235 political parties had been formed, many without any democratic procedures, he said "that in reality each political party must be according to what Senior General

Saw Maung said and must have its own 'Aism' which it accepts and practices; its own principle, ideology and own programme as well as its own by-laws, rules and procedures under democratic principles."

-- "He pointed out that of a total of 235 registered political parties, 225 parties were deregistered and there remained only 10 political parties as everybody was aware of." [Note: our latest count was 12-HCMacD.] (WPD 4/7)

DIPLOMATIC

Diplomatic Calls

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

Mar. 31: Thai Ambassador Virasakdi Futrakul on Attorney-General U Tha Tun. UNDP Representative Gerd Merrem, and Vietnam Ambassador Nguyen Van Tiep, on Minister for Culture Lt-Gen. Aung Ye Kyaw. Egyptian Ambassador Mohamad Hassan Ghanem, and Singapore Charge d'Affaires Lam Peck Heng, on Minister for Information Brig-Gen. Myo Thant. Russian Ambassador Vadim I. Chabaline, and Sri Lankan Ambassador S.W. Alawathuwala, on Minister for Construction U Khin Maung Yin. British Ambassador Hartland Swann on Minister for Energy U Khin Maung Thein. (WPD 4/1)

Apr. 1: The Sri Lankan Ambassador on Minister for Information Brig-Gen. Myo Thant. (WPD 4/2)

Apr. 2: The Sri Lankan Ambassador, and Vietnamese Ambassador Nguyen Van Tiep, on Minister for Rail Transportation U Win Sein. British Ambassador J.D.N. Hartland-Swann on Minister for Communications, Posts and Telegraphs U Soe Tha. Chinese Ambassador Liang Feng on Minister for Planning & Finance and for Trade Brig-Gen. Abel. (WPD 4/3)

Apr. 3: Thai Ambassador Virasakdi Futrakul on Minister for Communications, Posts and Telegraphs U Soe Tha. Egyptian Ambassador Mohamed Hassan Ghanem on Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Brig-Gen. Thaung Myint.

Apr. 6: The Thai Ambassador on Minister for Culture Lt-Gen. Aung Ye Kyaw. Japanese Ambassador Tomoya Kawamura on Minister for Co-operatives Maj-Gen. Mya Thinn. (WPD 4/7)

Apr. 7: Vietnamese Ambassador Nguyen Van Tiep on Minister for Forestry Lt-Gen. Chit Swe, and on Minister for Home Affairs Lt-Gen. Phone Myint. Philippine Ambassador Ms. Rosalinda V. Tirona on Minister for Co-operatives Maj-Gen. Mya Thinn. Thai Ambassador Virasakdi Futrakul on Minister for Planning & Finance and for Trade Brig-Gen. Abel, and on Minister for Industry-2 U Than Shwe. German Ambassador Dr. Baron Walther Von Marschall on Minister for Energy U Khin Maung Thein, and on Minister for Industry-2 U Than Shwe. Sri Lankan Ambassador S.W. Alawathuwala on Minister for Industry-2 U Than Shwe. (WPD 4/8)

Apr. 9: Egyptian Ambassador Mohamed Hassan Ghanem on Minister for Co-operatives Maj-Gen. Mya Thinn to discuss cooperative activities, trade, and the export of beans and pulses. Japanese Ambassador Tomoya Kawamura on Minister for Culture Lt-Gen. Aung Ye Kyaw. (WPD 4/10)

Apr. 20: Philippine Ambassador Ms. Rosalinda V. Tirona on Minister for Agriculture Maj-Gen. Myint Aung. (WPD 4/21)

Apr. 21: Thai Ambassador Virasakdi Futrakul on Minister for Livestock Breeding & Fisheries Brig-Gen. Maung Maung. Japanese Ambassador Tomoya Kawamura, and Korean Ambassador Han Kyung Kim, on Minister for Agriculture Maj-Gen. Myint Aung. The Korean Ambassador on Minister for Health and for Education Col. Pe Thein. (WPD 4/22)

Apr. 24: Thai Ambassador Virasakdi Futrakul on Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Brig-Gen. Thaung Myint. (WPD 4/25)

New Myanmar Ambassadors

Apr. 10: U Thein Toe on Apr. 7 presented credentials in Athens to President Konstantinos Karamanlis as Myanmar Ambassador to the

Hellenic Republic. (WPD 4/10)

Diplomatic Trip to Rakhine

Mar. 31-Apr. 2: Responding to questions from diplomats and others who accompanied his tour of the Rakhine border area on Mar. 29, Minister for Foreign Affairs U Ohn Gyaw provided the following information:

He told Egyptian Ambassador Mohamed Hassan Ghanem that there were no troops in the border area, in accordance with the 1989 agreement with Bangladesh.

He told Israeli Ambassador Ori Noy that foreign media, especially Asia Week and the Far Eastern Economic Review, had interviewed terrorists in their camps. The terrorists used to come to villages "to collect protection money, loot cattle and carry out propoganda work." There were about 10 camps, plus groups that called themselves Rohingyas.

Dr. Chan Tha told Korean Ambassador Hang Kyung Kim that about 2,000 villagers had fled across the border from Kyeinkyaung village, because they heard that "relief goods, supplies and food" could be obtained without working.

When Pakistan Ambassador Mohamed Qurban asked whether people had returned from Bangladesh, "it was also replied that according to the list sent from the other side four times, there were 20,000 persons who left. In these lists, the names of those who died were also mentioned."

The Minister told U Hla Htwe of Antara News Agency that when population growth is higher in one country than in its neighbour, "people from that country are likely to cross the border and work in another country and once some of them get married they fail to return to their own country." Because of Myanmar tolerance, "the Muslim population which entered from the other country has increased greatly and this shows that there is no religious persecution at all."
[photos] (WPD 4/1)

Minister for Foreign Affairs U Ohn Gyaw told Antara Correspondent U Hla Htwe that Myanmar had taken back 30,000 people in 1979 even though they had no documentation. This year, those with documentation would be accepted back.

Iman Husong, who had returned, told Xinhua Correspondent Mr. Duan Ting Chang that he came back because conditions in the camps in Bangladesh were difficult; but he had had to leave his wife and children behind because she had no documents.

The Minister told Egyptian Ambassador Mohamad Hassam Ghanem that whether Imam Husong's wife and children could return depended on whether they "had official documents and whether there had been registration of the marriage."

Iman Husong told UNDP Representative Gerd Merrem that he did not have to give reasons to be accepted in Bangladesh, but that supplies were scarce. He had left Myanmar because "he had a hard life to lead" but "he neither heard nor knew about persecutions."

Iman Husong told other questioners that he estimated that 50,000 people had fled to Bangladesh. [photos] (WPD 4/ 2)

Kyeinkyaung villagers told questioners that all personnel recruitment was voluntary, for building roads and bridges. People had not heard of any rape or persecution. A hospital in the area provided treatment and vaccinations.

Laing-thi village tract SLORC Chairman U Hla Maung, headman of Khamaungseik village, said that there were 535 Muslim families (5,289 people), 5 Hindu families (37 people), and 9 "Rakhine Buddhist" families (44 people) in the village. There was one elementary school with 100 pupils and an "Arabi" middle school. 1,000 villagers had fled to Bangladesh; none had returned.

Sulihi Islam, elder brother of ARIF terrorist Nar Islam, told the Japanese Ambassador that people fled "because destructive elements instigated them to do so." There are six mosques in the region; none have been closed or destroyed.

Villagers told the UNDP Representative that villagers had fled

in the 1970s during the Operation Naga Min and Hinthia Projects because "they did not dare face inspection by the Immigration and Manpower Department." Some of them returned in 1978. (WPD 4/3)

Border Negotiations

Apr. 9: Delegations of Myanmar, China, and Laos met at Kenghon, Yunnan Province, China, from Mar. 13-16 to discuss erecting boundary markers at the tripoint where the three countries meet. The Myanmar delegation was led by Capt. Tun Aung (Navy). It was agreed on Apr. 5 to erect No. 245 marker on the west bank of the Mekong River in Myanmar territory and No. 45 marker on the east bank for China and Laos. The two markers were ceremonially placed on Apr. 5-8. "Land maps will be jointly drawn and agreements on demarcating the Myanmar, PRC, and Lao border will be signed as a follow-up." (WPD 4/10)

Apr. 10: Kayin SLORC Chairman Col. Aung San met with officials from the Thai border area inspection camp at Paya Thonezu Myothit [Three Pagodas Pass New Town]. They agreed that there are no border problems between Myanmar and Thailand, and that minor matters are worked out by low-level discussion. (WPD 4/11)

Thanbyuzayat Trip

Apr. 29: Ambassadors and UN officials visited Mawlamyine, Thanbyuzayat, and Mudon Townships [Mon] on Apr. 27-28, visiting pagodas, economic projects, and the Commonwealth Cemetery at Thanbyuzayat [where allied victims of the World War II "River Kwai" Japanese Railway project are buried--HCMacD.] Mentioned as included were Pakistan Ambassador Mohammad Qurban, Dean of the Diplomatic Corps, Korean Ambassador Hang Kyung Kim, Italian Ambassador Dr. Giorgio Bosco, and Japanese Ambassador Tomoya Kawamura. (WPD 4/30)

INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

Workshops

Apr. 20: A joint Education Ministry, UNESCO, and UNDP workshop on materials development, educational technology and documentation for teacher education opened, and was addressed by Minister for Health and for Education Col. Pe Thein, who noted that nearly 2,000 teachers had participated in this series of workshops since it was launched in 1990. Also speaking were UNDP Assistant Representative Mr. Flavia M. Pansieri, UNESCO Consultant Dr. Nestor Balmores, and Teacher Education Project Chief Technical Adviser Dr. Rupert Maclean. (WPD 4/21)

Foreign Donations

Apr. 7: Korea donated 190 water pumps worth US\$140,127 for use in the border areas. (WPD 4/8)

Apr. 22: Korean Buddhists donated US\$10,186.30 to the Department for the Promotion and Propagation of the Sasana. Venerable Seo Awang Ryong and party of the Chogye Korean Buddhist sect visited Myanmar in February and promised to give US\$30,000 on their return. The first installment of US\$20,000 was given April 7. (WPD 4/23)

Colombo Plan Meeting

Apr. 6: The third meeting of the Central Organizing Committee for holding the 32th Colombo Plan Consultative Committee meeting in Myanmar, under its Chairman Minister for Planning & Finance and for Trade Brig-Gen. Abel, was held at the Ministry of Trade. The Colombo Plan session is scheduled for Nov. 26-Dec. 2, 1992. (WPD 4/7)

International Animal Commission

Apr. 8. The 44th Executive Committee meeting of the FAO Animal Production and Health Commission for Asia and the Pacific (APHCA) was opened by Minister for Livestock Breeding & Fisheries Brig-Gen. Maung Maung and FAO Representative Mr. Oscar J.S. Lazo. Attending are representatives of the Philippines, Australia, Thailand, and Myanmar, and the APHCA Secretariat in Bangkok. (WPD 4/8) // Apr. 9: Minister

for Livestock Breeding & Fisheries Brig-Gen. Maung Maung hosted a dinner for the delegates at the Karaweik Hall. (WPD 4/10)

Chinese Caustic Soda Plant Pact

Apr. 22: Myanma Paper and Chemical Industries and Yunnan Provincial Chemicals Import and Export Corporation signed a contract for a caustic soda plant. The original memorandum was signed Dec. 5, 1989. The US\$6 million plant will produce 5,000 tons of caustic soda per year, plus, as by-products, 1,000 tons of chlorine, 5,000 tons of hydrochloric acid, 2,000 tons of bleaching powder, and 33,000 tons of bleaching solution. The caustic soda will be used to produce paper and soap, textiles, foodstuffs, and personal goods. The by-products will be used in foodstuff industries, purifying water, and bleaching. (WPD 4/23)

FOREIGN VISITORS

Business Visitors

Apr. 9: Mr. An Kun and Mr. Lin Jia Rong of the Ministry of Construction of China called on Minister for Transport and for Labour Lt-Gen. Tin Tun to discuss "construction of an airport hotel and aviation facilities." (WPD 4/10)

Apr. 23: A Chinese business delegation composed of Director Mr. Yang Shu Wei of Bureau of Machine Building Industry of Yunnan Province, Chairman Mr. Lin Zaiyou of Yunnan Machinery and Equipment Import & Export Corporation, and Manager Mr. Yang Fu of Huaxia Hainan Development Construction and Business Company, met with Minister for Rail Transportation U Win Sein to discuss Myanmar purchase of locomotives, coaches, rails and other equipment with loans provided by China. (WPD 4/24) // Apr. 24: They signed an agreement with Myanma Railways for an interest-free US\$20 million loan with a grace period of three years. (WPD 4/25)

Apr. 24: KLM Vice Chairman Mr. B. Tenbroek called on Deputy Minister for Transport U San Wai. (WPD 4/25)

Apr. 28: A Seminar on Polystyrene Resin was held, jointly sponsored by Inspection and Agency Services, Petrochemicals (Malaysia), represented by General Manager Mr. Tan Chai Puan and Technical General Manager Mr. T. Mizobe, SDN, BHD, Sumimoto Corp. (Kuala Lumpur), Shwe Thazio Syndicate Ltd., and Shwe Myanmar International Co., Ltd. (WPD 4/29)

International Agency Visitors

Apr. 28: Mr. Klaus Bahr of UNESCO Headquarters, currently in Yangon, called on Minister for Health and for Education Col. Pe Thein. (WPD 4/ 29)

UN Under Secretary-General

Apr. 2: United Nations Under Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs Mr. Jan Eliasson arrived, at the invitation of Minister for Foreign Affairs U Ohn Gyaw. He is accompanied by Political Affairs Officer Ms. Linda Hazou and UNHCR representative Mr. Somapala S. Wijeratne. (WPD 4/3)

Apr. 4: Mr. Eliasson flew to Sittway on Apr. 3, accompanied by Minister for Foreign Affairs U Ohn Gyaw, and visited Khamaungseik village in Maungdaw Twp., where he was briefed by village head U Hla Maung. He observed Muslims saying prayers at the Mosque. Village leaders told him that "there have been no restrictions to religion," and that it is not true that their mosques were burnt down or that Muslim women were raped and persecuted. Those who fled "were ones who have no land and who were daily-wage labourers" who fled hoping to receive relief goods and who are now coming back. "Those who do not want the unity and consolidation of the area are still trying to cause disunity and division."

The UN Study Group then went on to Taungbazar village in Buthidaung Twp. High School Headmaster U Ba Saw told them "We have been living in Myanmar Naing-Ngan since the time of our ancestors. We

were born and brought up in Myanmar Naing-Ngan. Everybody has to respect and abide by the laws of the country where he or she lives. He must be loyal to that country. In muslim villages, there are those who are organizing ignorant persons by doing propaganda work. Talks are being held urging village people not to believe that."

After inspecting "propaganda documents and papers published by RSO, ARIF, RPS who are Rohinja terrorists and relief goods which were obtained from those who returned from the relief camps in other country" the group returned to Sittway for the night, and came back to Yangon Apr. 4. (WPD 4/5)

Apr. 5: The UN Delegation visited the Shwedagon Pagoda and Dagon Myothit. (WPD 4/6)

Apr. 6: Under Secretary-General Jan Eliasson called on on State LORC Secretary (1) Maj-Gen. Khin Nyunt prior to his departure from Myanmar. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs issued the following press release:

"At the invitation of the Minister for Foreign Affairs U Ohn Gyaw, the United Nations Under Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs Mr Jan Eliasson visited Myanmar from 2 to 6 April 1992.

"During the course of the stay, the Under Secretary-General made a trip to the Myanmar-Bangladesh border, to observe the situation there, and also visited various human development projects, including the New Dagon Satellite Town, in Yangon.

"In the discussions, priority was given to resolving bilaterally the immigration issue where abscondee from the Myanmar side crossed the border into Bangladesh, where they sheltered in camps with international assistance. Myanmar informed the Under Secretary-General that it had already decided to solve the current issue bilaterally.

"The Under Secretary-General was received by Secretary-1 of the State Law and Order Restoration Council, Major-General Khin Nyunt, on 6 April 1992, at the Dagon House, and after careful discussion and consideration of the matter presented by Mr Eliasson, he was informed that a delegation led by the Myanmar Foreign Minister would be leaving for Bangladesh to meet with his counterpart at a mutually convenient date during this month." (WPD 4/7)

MYANMAR DELEGATIONS

Study Delegations

Apr. 3: Daw Khin Thet Shay of the Industrial Training Centre (Sinde), Myanmar Heavy Industries, left for Germany to attend a course on Theory Teacher (Electro-Works). (WPD 4/4)

Apr. 16: U Nyi Nyi, Deputy Chief Editor of the Working People's Daily, left for Malaysia for 10 days to study political, economic, and social developments. (WPD 4/17) // Apr. 27: He returned. (WPD 4/28)

Apr. 20: Lecturers Daw Mya Mya Win of Thayarwady Agricultural Institute and Daw Mya Cho of Thaton Agricultural Institute left for Manila Apr. 18 to attend a subregional course on farm planning and agricultural institute management organized by the Colombo Plan Staff College for Technician Education. \\ Scientists U Kyi Shwe and U Aung Khaing of the Central Research Organization left for an Apr. 21-28 Regional Workshop and Study on the Taxonomy, Ecology and Processing of Commercially Important Red Seaweed in Thailand. (WPD 4/21)

Apr. 24: Lecturer Dr. Cho Cho Myint of the Agriculture Chemistry Department, Yezin Agricultural Institute, left for Saraburi, Thailand, to supervise a five-day course on Natural Agricultural Network sponsored by the Asia-Pacific Natural Agricultural Network. (WPD 4/25)

Delegations to Meetings & Events

Apr. 11: Minister for Planning & Finance and for Trade Brig-Gen. Abel left for China to attend the 48th annual meeting of the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP). He was accompanied by Director of the Planning

Department Daw Mya Mya Kyi, Director of the Foreign Economic Relations Department Daw Yin Yin Thwe, Director of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs Daw Win Win May, U Aye Ko of the Ministry of Planning & Finance, and U Tin Maung Htay of the Ministry of Trade. Myanmar Ambassador to China U Tin Aung Tun and Myanmar Ambassador to Thailand U Nyunt Swe will also attend the meeting, which will take place in Beijing from Apr. 14-23. (WPD 4/12) // Apr. 29: Minister for Planning & Finance and for Trade Brig-Gen. Abel and delegation returned. On Apr. 16 he gave a general survey of Myanmar economic policies [text published in WPD]. (WPD 4/30)

Apr. 11: Dr. Kyaw Moe, Head of Virology Research Division, Medical Research Department, left for Britain to attend the Conference on Vaccine for Enteric Diseases sponsored by WHO. (WPD 4/12)

Apr. 13: A trade delegation led by U Win Kyi, Managing Director of Myanma Export and Import Services, left for Quangzhou (Canton) to attend the Apr. 15-30 71st Spring Fair. Other members are Brig-Gen. Tha Htay, Director of Supply and Transport, Ministry of Defence; U Zaw Sein Win, Director of Myanma Pharmaceutical Industries; U Yu Wai, Director of Agricultural Mechanization Department; and U Nyunt Aye, Deputy General Manager, Myanma Export and Import Services as secretary. (WPD 4/14)

Foreign Minister to Bangladesh

Apr. 20: [text] "A Myanmar delegation, led by HE U Ohn Gyaw, Minister for Foreign Affairs, will pay an official visit to the People's Republic of Bangladesh in the near future." (WPD 4/21)

Apr. 23: A delegation led by Minister for Foreign Affairs U Ohn Gyaw and Minister for Information Brig-Gen. Myo Thant left for Bangladesh "to hold discussions of mutual interest." In the delegation are Director-General U Aye of the Foreign Ministry Political Department, Director-General U Maung Aung of the Immigration and Manpower Department, Director-General U Saw Thein of the Relief and Resettlement Department, Directors U Nyunt Maung Shein and U Tint Deir of the Foreign Ministry, Director Dr. Tun Shin of the Attorney-General's Office, Col. Kyar Nyo Chit Pe, Lt-Col. Thein Han, and Lt-Col. Kyaw Thein of the Defence Ministry, personal secretaries Daw Moe Thuzar and Capt. Thein Win, and Delegation Secretary U Thit Lwin. (WPD 4/24)

Apr. 25: Talks "on the future of people who have crossed over from Myanmar to Bangladesh" began, aboard "a state-owned luxury steam boat cruising along Buriganga River near the capital." An official, speaking on condition of anonymity, said "The foreign ministers reiterated their conviction and desire to resolve the issue in a spirit of cooperation and mutual trust," and said they had directed their subordinates to work out a "framework to resolve the problem." (WPD 4/27)

Apr. 29: Minister for Foreign Affairs U Ohn Gyaw and his delegation returned from Bangladesh. (WPD 4/30)

Delegations Return

[Delegations which left in previous months.]

Apr. 19: Police Col. Maj-Gen. San Thein, Secretary of the CCDAC, returned from the Apr. 6-15 35th Meeting of the Narcotic Drugs Commission in Vienna. (WPD 4/21)

Apr. 28: A 22-member Myanmar traditional music and cultural troupe headed by Director of Fine Arts Department U Tin Htoo returned from a tour of Japan. (WPD 4/29)

MYANMAR GAZETTE

Probationary Appointments

The SLORC made the following appointments, on probation:

Apr. 11: General Staff Officer Lt-Col. Pe Nyein (BC 9800), Administration Division, Office of the Commander-in-Chief (Army), Ministry of Defence to be Director-General, State Law and Order

Restoration Council Office. (WPD 4/11)

Apr. 22: Dr. Kyaw Win, Director (Treatment), to be Director-General, Health Department, Ministry of Health.

Dr. Myint Lwin, Deputy Director-General, to be Director-General, Department of Medical Research, Ministry of Health. (WPD 4/23)

Appointments Confirmed

The SLORC confirmed the following appointments, after one year's probation:

Apr. 11: U Myint Thein as Director-General, Public Services Selection and Training Board Department.

U Khin Maung Myint as Director-General, Public Services Affairs Department. (WPD 4/11)

GOVERNMENT

1992-93 Financial Targets

Mar. 31: The Planning Department of the Ministry of Planning & Finance announced "the objectives and targets for 1992-93 financial year," specifically:

"To revitalize export industry and to increase foreign exchange, to export not only traditional items but also new ones; to take measures for obtaining foreign exchange through services too; to fully utilize productive forces of the country; to increase economic efficiency and labour productivity in State, co-operative and private enterprises; to significantly reduce misappropriation and self-appropriation in State, co-operative and private enterprises and to pave the way in anticipation of the forthcoming Constitution."

The SLORC has designated this year as the "Economic Year."

Specific targets:

Gross Domestic Product (GDP): GDP (in 1985-86 constant prices) was K50,902 million (provisional) in 1991-92. The 1992-93 target is K53,866 million, or 5.8% growth (agricultural sector 5.9%; livestock and fisheries 9.3%; forestry 0.9%; mining 14.9%; industry 11.0%).

Ownership: The shares of the economy should change as follows:

State Sector: from 22.9% to 22.3%

Co-ops Sector: 2.7% (no change)

Private Sector: from 74.4% to 75%

Per Capita Statistics: Net output K1,272 (up 3.0%); national income K1.192 (up 3.7%); consumption K1,055 (up 3.7%); workers' output K3,264 (up 2.6%).

Export-Import: Exports K4,236 million; imports K5,748 million. "It has also been planned to invest based on availability of internal and external financial resources; to increase tax revenues and to bring about surplus in balance of payments." (WPD 4/1)

The statement then outlines, at length but in general terms, the measures to be taken to achieve the targets. (WPD 4/2)

New Deputy Religion Minister

Apr. 10: SLORC Notification No. 27/92 of Apr. 10, Appointment of Deputy Minister, names SLORC Office Director General U Kyaw Aye to be Deputy Minister for Religious Affairs. (WPD 4/11)

MILITARY

Tatmadaw Military Operations

Apr. 9: The Tatmadaw launched an attack Apr. 3 against KIA No. 3 Brigade in the eastern section of Momauk Twp. [Kachin], fighting 16 skirmishes and 12 major battles. They captured the Jekau and Lawhkun camps on Apr. 7, and the Hkaibang and Khindit camps and No. 3 Brigade's headquarters at Loilungbum camp on Apr. 9. 23 KIA were killed and 10 weapons and various equipment captured [details]. Tatmadaw losses were 10 killed and 15 wounded. [map] (WPD 4/10)

Apr. 11: An Eastern Command Tatmadaw column on Apr. 4 clashed with SUA terrorists near Namkhat village, Monghsat Twp. [Shan]. Four

SUA were killed, and a weapon, equipment [details], and 9.8 kilos of raw opium were captured. [map] (WPD 4/12)

Insurgent Attacks

Apr. 10: Six KIA terrorists on Apr. 8 entered Mansi [Kachin] and burned 15 houses, leaving 105 people homeless; damage is K600,000. Six KIA terrorists on Apr. 9 entered Alinkaung and Kyenan wards in Momauk [Kachin] and burned 37 houses, leaving 214 people homeless; damage is K740,000. (WPD 4/11)

Apr. 14: KNU terrorists on Apr. 9 fired on Danyingon village, Bilin Twp. [Mon], killing a husband and wife and seriously wounding their 1-year old daughter. [photo] \ KNU terrorists have been forcibly abducting teenagers to fill their depleted ranks. Fifteen were abducted from Taungpyagyi village on Mar. 23; 6 from Thanthit village on Mar. 26; 5 from Naungkatoke village on Apr. 6; 12 from Htitamubayingyikone and Htitamuywagyi villages in Thaton Twp. [Mon] on Apr. 7. Two youngsters from Mizu village and 4 from Htitamu village, who escaped from the KNU, were novices-to-be. (WPD 4/15)

Apr. 24: KIA terrorists on Apr. 21 burned down the Manpon village primary school, Kyangin village middle school, and the Dunan Ward high school, in Momauk Twp. [Kachin]. Loss was K3.63 million. On Apr. 21 they also set fire to the Khokyin, Mankhun, and Manpha village primary schools in Bhamo Twp. [Kachin]. Loss was K980,000. (WPD 4/25)

Insurgents Surrender

Apr. 8: Nai Pan Tha, aged 71, of the NMSP Mon terrorist group, surrendered at the Myanmar Embassy in Bangkok. He had served as NMSP Executive Committee member, Military Committee Secretary, Central Executive Committee member, and in-charge of Administrative Affairs. Myo Myint Lwin, 27, a private in the NMSP No. 333 Battalion, "returned to the legal fold" with him. Both were flown back to Yangon on Mar. 18. [Biographic details and photo]. (WPD 4/9)

Apr. 12: Between Mar. 1-13, 13 terrorists surrendered, with their arms [names and details]. (WPD 4/13)

Apr. 17: Between Mar. 16-22, 11 terrorists surrendered, with their arms [names and details]. (WPD 4/18)

Apr. 18: On Apr. 17, seven terrorists from the KIA No. 254 battalion returned to the legal fold [names]. (WPD 4/19)

Apr. 20: Between Mar. 23-28, 13 terrorists surrendered, with their arms [names and details]. The month's total was 37. (WPD 4/21)

Kayin State Offensive Called Off

Apr. 28: [text] "Chief of the Military Operations Control Command Maj-Gen. Maung Hla held a military operations co-ordination meeting in the Military Operations Hall in Hpa-an with LID Commanders today and told them that the present offensive in Kayin State would be stopped to expedite attainment of amity among all national races for national unity with a view to strengthening national solidarity, it is learnt." (WPD 4/29)

ECONOMIC

Economic Articles

Apr. 3,20-23: Good prospects for private cultivators to grow oil-palm and cashews, by Kyaw Sein. [(1) Discussion, with statistics, of oil palm and cashew industries. People need 4.8 viss of edible oil; so Myanmar needs 324,000 tons per year now and will need 385,000 in 2000. Main sources of edible oil are groundnut, sesamum, sunflower, mustard, and oil-palm. Edible oil production in 1988-89 was 0.24 [million] tons from 5.5 million acres, so 20,000 tons had to be imported. Total oil-palm acreage is 18,000, of which 6,000 is plantations of the Prisons Department in southern Tanintharyi. (2) Palm Oil cultivation and production. Other oil crops. Oil palm provides the most product per acre (622 viss). (3-5) Visit to oil palm plantations.]

Apr. 25 (4p.),28: The Records of the Construction of Roads and Bridges during the time of the State Law and Order Restoration Council, by Mya Kalaung. [Cont. {from Mar. 4} Record of recent projects.]

Apr. 26: New Maha Bandoola Overpass in Thingangyunn, by Myint Lwin. [Account of and visit to the 742 foot, K64.8 million bridge "to be formally inaugurated" April 26.]

Construction & Other Projects

Mar. 31: Long distance bus service was inaugurated between Loikaw and Mandalay. The fare is K60. \\ A 25-bed hospital was inaugurated Mar. 27 in Oktwin [Bago]. (WPD 4/1)

Apr. 2: A new Military hospital for the No. 9 Medical Battalion was inaugurated Mar. 27. (WPD 4/3)

Apr. 3: The Central Command department store in Mandalay was inaugurated by SLORC Vice-Chairman Gen. Than Shwe on Apr. 2; it cost K24 million and will house a stock worth K50 million. \\ A station hospital costing K4 million was inaugurated Mar. 30 in Ywakhainggyi village, Myittha Twp. [Mandalay]. \\ The K300,000 Thandwe-Taungup all-weather road was inaugurated Mar. 27 in Thandwe [Sandoway] Twp. [Rakhine]. \\ Daily distribution of 300,000 gallons of water to residential wards of Lashio began Mar. 26. (WPD 4/4)

Apr. 4: The new Kawthoung [Tanintharyi] airfield building, costing K3.65 million, was inaugurated Apr. 3. (WPD 4/5)

Apr. 6: The Kengtung [Shan] automatic telephone exchange, built (with buildings) at a cost of K199.5 million [sic], was inaugurated Apr. 5. (WPD 4/7)

Apr. 8: A new 270-ft. Bailey bridge across Namlwe Creek in Monghkat Twp. was inaugurated Mar. 31. \\ The Nan Okkala middle school building was inaugurated Apr. 5 at Middle School No. 8, South Okkalapa Twp. [Yangon]; it cost K2.2 million. (WPD 4/9)

Apr. 10: The 300-foot long, 10-foot wide Yarphi Kanthayar bridge in Monywa [Sagaing] was inaugurated Apr. 7. It was built by the Chindwin Motor Association at a cost of K1 million. (WPD 4/11)

Apr. 11: A [telephone] auto exchange and UHF radio line were inaugurated at Indaing [Yangon]. (WPD 4/12)

Apr. 12: A K250,000 dispensary was inaugurated in Namkai village, Tachilek Twp. [Shan] on Mar. 27.

Apr. 16: A K3.8 million water-slide was inaugurated Apr. 11 at the foot of Mandalay Hill. (WPD 4/18)

Apr. 17: A K2.5 million hospital was inaugurated Apr. 13 in Lonban village, Falam Twp. [Chin]. (WPD 4/ 18)

Apr. 18: The Shwe-nan-daw Cultural Museum (formerly Hman-nan-saung Museum of Mandalay Nan Myo) was re-opened Mar. 25. A new K792,000 children's ward was inaugurated at Loikaw hospital [Kayah] on Apr. 12. The new K6 million Hleseik Bridge at Milepost No. 31/5 on the Yangon-Pathein Road was inaugurated Apr. 17. (WPD 4/19)

Apr. 19: A K250,000 pre-primary school was inaugurated Apr. 17 in Dedaye [Ayeyarwady]. (WPD 4/20)

Apr. 20: A 3,520 foot, K1 million, Shindatwei Pagoda road and pagoda archway were dedicated in Maungmaishaung village, Dawei Twp. [Tanintharyi] on Apr. 5. (WPD 4/21)

Apr. 21: On Mar. 3 the YCDC allotted 200 shops in the basement of the new Theingyizay "D" Market Complex; 56 of them have now opened, selling such things as nylon ropes, fishing nets, candles, incense sticks, indigenous medicines, and "green grocery." (WPD 4/22)

Apr. 25: Five bridges on the Kyondo-Gyaing road were inaugurated Apr. 8 in Kawkareik Twp. [Kayin]. (WPD 4/ 26)

Apr. 26: The Maha Bandoola Railway Overhead Bridge on Waizayanta Road in Thingangyunn Twp. [Yangon] was inaugurated by State LORC Secretary (1) Maj-Gen. Khin Nyunt. 749 feet long, plus 321 feet of approach roads, and 79 feet wide, the bridge was begun Nov. 17, 1991. It will save motorists 80 4-minute delays per day at the former grade crossing. (WPD 4/27)

Joint Ventures

Apr. 8: Ministry of Trade Notification No. 4/92 of April 8 announces the formation of the Myanmar Winner Garment Manufacturing Co., Ltd., a private joint venture "for manufacturing and marketing of garments," with an authorized capital of K10,400,000 divided into 1040 shares, of which Myanma Textile Industries, represented by its Managing Director, holds 624, and Winner Company (Garments) Ltd., represented by its Director, Mr. Yue Kwok Hung, 2nd floor, East Ocean Centre, 98 Granville Road, Kowloon, Hong Kong, holds 416; both to be subscribed in currency or in kind as specified in the agreement. (WPD 4/9) // Apr. 23: An agreement setting up the joint venture was signed. Myanma Textile Industries will put up K6.24 million of machinery, buildings, furniture and office equipment, and will keep 60% of the profits; Winner Co. (Garments) Ltd. will provide machinery, motor vehicles, and office equipment worth US\$650,000 (K4.16 million), and will keep 40% of the profits. The joint venture firm will be opened at Garment Factory No. 2, 7 1/2 Miles, Mayangonn Twp. [Yangon], and will make shirts and other garments. (WPD 4/24)

Import License Regulations

Mar. 30: Ministry of Trade Import Licence Fees Amendment Order No. 3/92 of Mar. 29 provides that import license fees must be deposited direct into the Ministry of Trade account at the Myanma Economic Bank No. 3. Detailed procedures are contained in the Ministry's Announcement No. 2/92 of Mar. 30. Both documents will be published in a special issue of the TIS News, dated Mar. 31, 1992. (WPD 4/1)

Postal News

Mar. 31: Beginning April 1, Myanma Posts and Telecommunications will introduce expedited mail service, with next day delivery, within 18 townships in Yangon and 4 in Mandalay. Maximum weight is 10 kilos. For information, telephone 80108 (Head Office), 74840 (GPO), or 27755 (Mandalay PO). (WPD 4/1) // Apr. 1: The service was inaugurated. It will be extended to other Townships. (WPD 4/ 2)

Apr. 3: A new 50-pya postage stamp will be issued in commemoration of the National Sports Festival, bearing the Festival's emblem. (WPD 4/4) // Apr. 8: It will be issued Apr. 10. [photo] (WPD 4/9)

Commerce and Banking

Apr. 1: The Gestetner Sales & Service Centre, jointly sponsored by the Central Co-operative Society and J K Private Ltd., Singapore, opened at 134 Sule Pagoda Road [Yangon]. It "will provide repair and maintenance service for the equipment purchased at the centre." (WPD 4/2)

A 1/3 page advertisement reads:

In honour of Economic Year 1992

Congratulations

Central Co-operative Society

on

Grand Official Opening

Gestetner Sales and Service Centre

* Stencil Duplicators * Practical Copiers * Master Scanners

* Binding Machines

134, Sule Pagoda Road. Tel: 78858

(WPD 4/1)

Apr. 1: Tourism Advertisement:

RUBYLAND TOURISM SERVICES

COMPANY LIMITED

MANDALAY WATER FESTIVAL TOUR

6 days/5 nights (leaves Yangon on 11/4 and returns on 16/4) package tour to enjoy Thingyan (Water Festival) in Mandalay and relax in Maymyo.

* Comfortable air-con coaches.

* Accommodation at first class hotels.

* All meals inclusive.

- * Special pavillion to participate in water throwing.
- * Tours to Sagaing, Inwa and Mingoan.
- * Special arrangment for FOREIGNERS.
- * Special arrangement for local also.
- * Special Group Tour can be also arranged.
- * Car Hiring Service also available.

*** Special Thingyan Holiday Tour (11/4/92-22/4/92) to Lashio, Mu-Se [Myanmar/China Border] for locals only.

RUBYLAND TOURISM SERVICES

90, Upper Pansodan Street, Kandawgalay, Yangon. Phone-
81219/82464
(WPD 4/2)

Apr. 1: The Myanmar Rice Engineering Co., Ltd., opened its office at 350 Strand Road [Yangon], in the presence of Managing Director Mr. Pornchai Tantivirasut of Rice Engineering Supply Co., Ltd., Thailand. The new company will "produce rice milling machines with the co-operation of Myanmar and Thai technicians and export or sell them in the country in kyat." (WPD 4/3)

Apr. 2: Minister for Rail Transportation U Win Sein told Road Transport officials "that the Road Transport had adopted the system of hiring out its buses to individuals so as to further strengthen transportations in Yangon...." He reminded them to "avoid unfair means in seeking profits and take into consideration the benefit of the nation, the public and themselves." One major purpose of the system "was to enable the public to travel during the night up to the designated time." The Road Transport has hired out 358 buses to individuals and the service will be extended "depending on its viability." (WPD 4/3)

Apr. 28: Deputy Minister for Planning & Finance Brig-Gen. Win Tin, opening the Myanma Economic Branch Bank No. 1 at 43/45 Pansodan St, Yangon, said "It is not true that scrutiny is done when drawing money out of the banks and that questions are asked from where the money was obtained. Only identification checks are made to protect client's interest." He said that "banks are carrying out banking work by protecting their client's money as well as keeping information about it a secret and hence public could deposit their money at banks with confidence." He noted that "at present K 500,000 out of the savings at bank could be taken out once a week...", and that "there were arrangements to promulgate the new Savings Bank Act which would be more to the liking of the public." (WPD 4/29)

Timber Contract Expiry

Apr. 7: Speaking to officials, Minister for Forestry Lt-Gen. Chit Swe noted that Myanmar was still 50% forested. However, "he said that as soon as the contract date expires, timber extraction work at extraction camps in the border areas would be stopped." (WPD 4/8)

Agriculture

Apr. 9: Minister for Agriculture Maj-Gen. Myint Aung told workers at the Department of Agricultural Mechanization "to raise the rate of repairing the machines 50 per cent more than the previous year," and stressed "the importance of the workshop in substitution of tractors in harrowing land under double cropping, where the toil of cattle is not sufficient." (WPD 4/10)

Apr. 27: Minister for Agriculture Maj-Gen. Myint Aung told officials at the Myanma Farms Enterprise Head Office to stress expansion of cultivated acreage. Myanmar has only 20 million acres under crops. There is need for organizations to support "extensive cultivation of palm oil and for setting up more plantations by private individuals." (WPD 4/28)

Imports

Apr. 18: 10,700 tons of cargo arrived on the MV Pathein, including 4,014 tons of rails from China and 1,620 tons of bogies and parts for upper class rail coaches from Korea. 12 mini-buses from Hong Kong were also aboard. The rails are for the Aungban-Loikaw

railroad. (WPD 4/19)

Apr. 26: Minister for Rail Transportation U Win Sein inspected 40 Daewoo buses being unloaded from the MV Mandalay. They are the third consignment of a total of 200 imported by the Road Transport. (WPD 4/27)

Transportation News

Apr. 20: SLORC work on transportation in Yangon includes the following:

-- Between Jan. 14-Mar. 25, using 14,000 people in day and night shifts, the Kaba Aye Pagoda Road in front of the Hninzigon Home for the Aged was widened to 100 feet, dual lane [actually, from photo, eight lanes with landscaped median strip-HCMacD.].

-- The Kyaukyaydwin-Airport Road, begun in November with a budget of K25 million, is 95% completed. It is 9,000 feet long and 36 feet wide, asphalted, and 400 workers are working on it. Completion is due at the end of this April.

-- The Setyon Road on the border of Tarmway and Mingala Taungnyunt Townships was begun Jan. 20, and has four phases: Section 1 from Kan Road to Banya Dalla Road is being widened from 22 to 66 feet; Section 2 from Banya Dalla Road to Amezay is being widened to 80 feet; Section 3 from Amezay to Shin Ardiccavamsa Kyaung is being widened from 22 to 66 feet; Section 4 from Shin Ardiccavamsa Kyaung to the Pazundaung Railway Overpass is being widened to 44 feet. 1,000 workers, in two shifts, are engaged in this 3,100 foot long project, which will cost K11.8 million.

Apr. 28: Myanmar Railways earned K207 million more than its targeted K750 million in 1991-92, and K122 million more than the previous year. (WPD 4/29)

Annual Economic Report Ready

Apr. 26: "Copies of report on financial, economic and social conditions of the Union of Myanmar for 1992-93 in Myanmar language are available at the Sarpay Beikman Bookshop at No 529, Merchant Street, here. The price is K 52 per copy, it is learnt." (WPD 4/27)

Rainfall in Yangon

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

	YA	KA	CY
1987	97.01	100.98	95.43
1988	99.17	100.00	107.76
1989	96.22	100.59	102.76
1990	118.35	109.92	122.84
1991	91.81	83.78	96.65
1992, as of:			
April 27	00.00	00.00	00.00
April 30	00.08	00.00	00.20

HEALTH

Health Articles

Apr. 27: Protect yourself from the danger caused by heat, by Dr. Thet Lwin. [Protection against heat waves, such as that which killed 222 people in Pakokku in May 1986. This year the temperature in Pakokku has gone up to 109 degrees since Mar. 23 and poses a health hazard.]

Child Welfare Organizations

Apr. 2: Speaking at the first conference of the Myanmar Maternal and Child Welfare Association, State LORC Secretary (1) Maj-Gen. Khin Nyunt said that before World War II and during the parliamentary era there had been Maternal and Child Welfare Associations in various townships, but "as they were not duly formed in accordance with laws and rules, political parties made use of them in their organizational activities. As the associations were

influenced by political parties their objectives were not fully realized owing to differences of opinions within the associations and instances of reorganizations." Under the 1974 Constitution activities of associations were restricted.

Thus, the SLORC's enactment of the Myanmar Maternal and Child Welfare Association Law on Nov. 9, 1990 and its implementation on Apr. 30, 1991, was a "milestone in the history of Myanmar Naing-Ngan." Under the Central Council, 284 township associations and 95 branches at ward and village level have been formed.

He called on the associations to help mothers "become typical Myanmar mothers upholding Myanmar traditions and Myanmar culture."

Turning to AIDS, he said that "the disease spread from certain nations where there was improper social relationship and Myanmar Naing-Ngan like other nations was being threatened by the disease. He called on every father and mother to take preventive measures with seriousness," and for the Associations to "make concerted efforts to take preventive measures in accordance with the directives of the National Health Committee."

He called on them "to be free from party politics" and support "Our Three Main National Causes." (WPD 4/ 3)

SPORTS

Myanmar Teams & Delegations

Apr. 21: Sao Ohn Sai won the gold medal in the boy's (11-12 age group) 100-metre breast stroke event at the 19th South-East Asia Team Swimming Championships held Apr. 17-19 in Singapore. Moe Thu Aung came in fourth in 200-metre freestyle, 100-metre butterfly, 200-metre individual medley, and 100-metre freestyle (under 10 age group). Myanmar women came in fourth in 4x100 metre medley relay. Six countries took part in the Championships. (WPD 4/22) // Apr. 23: The team returned. (WPD 4/24)

National Sports Festival

Numerous articles throughout the month on preparations for the May National Sports Festival.

Apr. 2: "Local and foreign well-wishers" gave K1 million to the Festival, bringing total donations to K22.7 million. (WPD 4/3)

Apr. 10: Addressing Festival officials, State LORC Secretary (1) Maj-Gen. Khin Nyunt said "the main objective of holding the festival is to make preparations for turning out new generation of outstanding athletes who will be of equal standard with those of other countries." (WPD 4/11)

Apr. 18-20: The significance of the National Sports Festival to be held, by Myint Swe. [22 types of athletic competition to be held. Seven objectives of Festival. Run-up athletic activities described.]

Apr. 18: Those wishing to use still or video cameras at the Festival must obtain permits. Fees are, for video cameras: K3,000 for Departments, K7,000 for private individuals, US\$1,000 for foreigners. For still cameras: K1,000 for Departments, K3,000 for individuals, US\$500 for foreigners. Permit holders will be issued ID cards. (WPD 4/ 19)

Apr. 22: The National Sports Festival that will turn out able and outstanding athletes, by Kyaw Swe Aung. [All should contribute towards the objective "Myanmar Sports...the World to Conquer."]

Apr. 23: Local and foreign well-wishers gave K1.4 million to the Festival, bringing total donations to K25.3 million. (WPD 4/3)

Apr. 27: Talent, practice and the strong will to win, by Tin Hlaing Nyunt. [Objectives for the National Sports Festival in May.]

Apr. 28: From the heritage of Myanmar sports to greater success, by Kyaw Phone Myint (Chemistry). [U Zaw Weik was a pioneer of Myanmar sports when Myanmar was a colony and "the British imperialists took every measure to systematically suppress the Myanmar mentality, the Myanmar nationalism and patriotism as well as to obliterate the Myanmar culture, traditions and customs." He and Tin Aung "a representative of the younger generation," will open the

Festival."]

CULTURAL

Literary and Cultural Articles

Apr. 5,12,19,26: Foundations of Myanmar Culture: Myanmar literature and the ten major jatakas, by Hnaphet Hla. [Cont. (89-92)]

Apr. 5,12,19,26: Poems (in English and Burmese). [(1-3) Cont. "Poems on a journey to Yunnan" by Htila Sithu. (1) "Myanma courageous philosophy" by Thiha Aung. (2) "Firm patriotic pride" by Thiha Aung. (3) "From Pagan" by Tekkatho Maung Thu Hlaung. (4) "The flower bed" by Nu Yin.]

Apr. 5,12,19,26: Nationalist Poetry, by Htila Sithu. [Cont. (4-7) Nationalist poetry since 1885.]

Apr. 5,12,19,26: Short Stories. [(1-4) (10-13) Cont. "Our Mother" by Maha Shwe. (1-4) (9-12) Cont. "Dar" by Min Swe. (2) "What's in a name" by Pe Than. (3-4) "The missing beauty" by Pe Than.]

Apr. 5,12,19: Ancient Myanmar Military Terms, by U Thein Than Tun. [Cont. (7-9) Terms from old inscriptions defined and dated.]

Thingyan

Apr. 1: Yangon Commander Maj-Gen. Myo Nyunt told officials that "the Government would not accept the Thingyan festival or Myanmar New Year festival to be used by political party organizations as a political forum. He also said that authorities were to see that the Declaration No. 8/88 prohibiting activities to cause disintegration of the Tatmadaw was strictly adhered to. He stressed the need for preventing acts critical of one another as well as for scrutinizing songs and thingyans." (WPD 4/2)

Apr. 12: Editorial: Untainted cultural tradition. ["One important point which each and every Myanmar citizen should not forget is the essence underlying the celebration of the festival--to mark the inauguration of a new year, with the symbolic gesture of pouring water, accompanied by deeds of merit. In so doing, what remains essential for every Myanmar citizen is to guard against the intrusion of alien cultures. Let's be merry together, but let not the cultural traits of this auspicious festival be tainted with impurities."]

Apr. 12: Motorists are urged to drive carefully during Thingyan. Last year there were 21 accidents in Yangon, killing 8 and injuring 17 others. Police "will take action against drunken driving, driving with excessive number of passengers, driving at high speed and reckless driving as well as against erratic passengers and road users." (WPD 4/13) // Apr. 24: This year there were only 9 accidents in Yangon, killing two and injuring 15. Of these "only two took place due to water-throwing and the other seven were normal traffic accidents." (WPD 4/25)

Apr. 13: A watery festival bathed in gold, by Thura Thamein. [Tribute to Thingyan water festival.]

Apr. 13: Thingyan was celebrated around Myanmar. The SLORC had its own mandat at U Wisara Road and Panwa Street, with entertainment by nationally know artistes. Ministers, senior military officers, and foreign Military attaches were invited to the festivities, both at the SLORC mandat and at festivities hosted by Defence Services Intelligence. [photos] (WPD 4/14)

Apr. 14: Diplomats, headed by Diplomatic Corps Dean German Ambassador Dr. Baron Walther Von Marschall, visited the SLORC mandat, and were entertained at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Other Thingyan festivities continued around the country. [photos] (WPD 4/15)

Apr. 15: A festival reflecting Myanmar mentality-love, cetana, peace, charity, by Maung Aye Nyein. [Thingyan fun.]

Apr. 15: Festivities continued, with State LORC Secretary (1) Maj-Gen. Khin Nyunt leading government Ministers on tours of the Ministerial mandats. Festivities everywhere in the country. [photos]

(WPD 4/16)

Apr. 16-17: Welcome to 1354 Myanmar era, by Tharn Tarn.
["Except perhaps in the case of of incorrigible cynics and confirmed misanthropes whom even the King of the Devas would find hard to please, practically all strata of society are of the opinion that it had indeed been a most satisfying Maha Thingyan, enjoyed by all regardless of creed or color." The Year 1353 has been a year of great progress.]

Apr. 16: Meritorious deeds performed by high and low. [photos]
(WPD 4/17)

Cultural Traditions

Apr. 3: Minister for Religious Affairs Maj-Gen. Myo Nyunt addressed graduates of the Dagon Township Buddhist Culture Course, and inter alia "reminded that a race can become extinct only through assimilation of one race by others, and said it is the duty of every woman to uphold the cultural traditions handed down by their ancestors. He advised teachers and parents to guide their children not to let them [be] misled by wrongfully taking pride in associating with foreigners." (WPD 4/4)

Higher Education

Apr. 4: State LORC Secretary (1) Maj-Gen. Khin Nyunt told graduates of the No. 2 Special Refresher Course for faculty members "that some underground and above-ground destructive elements...and some big countries that wanted to plunge the country into servitude are still manoeuvring to put Myanmar Naing-Ngan into a tight corner, to create unstable conditions and to prevent it from achieving economic and social progress.... Members of Sangha and students were made use of for destabilizing the country.... Some nations were making use of some of the broadcasting stations...and were spreading rumours and skyful of lies just to bring instability to the country, encouraging politicians who want to gain power through short-cut means and made use of would-be politicians and opportunists to serve their own purpose....

"He mentioned that [on the Bangladesh border]...foreigners had illegally entered the country...and then fled across the border when they dared not face scrutinization.... Some foreign countries...with malicious intent, fabricated news...that ...Myanmar Naing-Ngan was carrying out religious persecution and falsely termed those who fled 'refugees' They were spreading false rumours that the soldiers were torturing and killing the menfolk and seducing the women and that there was religious persecution.... They repeatedly spread rumours and propaganda news that those who illegally entered Myanmar Naing-Ngan were citizens and they were Rohingyas and that about 5,000 people had crossed over from Myanmar side.... He said that there are altogether 135 national races and that the Rohingya is not included and at no time did they exist....

"Some big nations...were broadcasting false propaganda ploys to the effect that Kayins and Kachins, the pure national races of Myanmar Naing-Ngan, are decendants of the Caucasian race and that their aim was to disintegrate the Union....

"The Myanmar Tatmadawmen were waging a just war...crushing the KNU and KIA terrorists by launching military offensives. He said it was heard that some traitorous cohorts within and without the country were spreading rumours and making accusations that the just war waged by the Tatmadaw was the bullying of smaller races by a big race....
(WPD 4/5)

Apr. 5: The 58th Convocation of Yangon University was held. Pro-rector U Hla Pe distributed MA, MSc. and diploma certificates to the graduates of the 1983-84 academic year. (WPD 4/6)

Apr. 7: Addressing meeting No. 1/ 92 of the Myanmar Naing-Ngan Education Committee, which was formed Sept. 2, 1991, State LORC Secretary (1) Maj-Gen. Khin Nyunt told it to make suggestions to the Government for new education laws, and to draft "comprehensive programmes for reopening of universities and colleges and for timely

preparations to implement the programmes." Other speakers also discussed the "work being carried out for reopening of universities and colleges." In closing, the Secretary-1 said officials "were taking preparatory measures for ensuring students' peaceful pursuit of education when the institutions were reopened," and that there was need for "prior arrangements so that faculty members would be able to take charge of emergency cases." (WPD 4/ 8)

Apr. 23: Minister for Health and for Education Col. Pe Thein opened the Special Refresher Course No. 3 for faculty members of Universities and Colleges. The four week course is being attended by 1,986 trainees (37 associate professors, 250 lecturers, 428 assistant lecturers, and 1,271 demonstrators). (WPD 4/24)

Manuscript Awards

Apr. 9: Three short stories by Jack London have been prescribed for the translation category of the 1991 Sarpay Beikman Manuscript Awards, with entries due July 20. Manuscripts have been submitted in the following other categories: novels (19), short stories (21), general knowledge (arts) (12), general knowledge (science) 10, belles-lettres (14), culture (6), children's literature (8), youth literature (11), plays (1), and political literature (1). Winners will be announced on Sarsodaw Day in 1992 with awards of K25,000, K20,000, and K15,000 for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd prizes. (WPD 4/10)

Religion

[During the month there were many news stories on Buddhism, including accounts of "mass novitiations" of children, repairs to pagodas, government offerings to Sayadaws, public homage to Buddhist relics and images, continued Buddhist culture courses, etc.]

Apr. 17: Persons wishing to go on the Haj pilgrimage [to Mecca] should apply not later than Apr. 25 at Religious Affairs offices. (WPD 4/18)

Institute of Education

Apr. 17: Intensive courses and exams for the students of the Institute of Education Correspondence Course for the 1991-92 academic year will be held May 4-28, for both the first year students (No. 10 batch) and second year students (No. 9 batch). Candidates must report by May 3. (WPD 4/18)

Rural Art Project

Apr. 22: The Myanmar Traditional Rural Art Exhibition Leading Committee met under its Chairman Minister for Information Brig-Gen. Myo Thant. It "will be held with the three objectives of safeguarding national unity, preserving national culture and keeping patriotism alive and dynamic." (WPD 4/23)

MISCELLANEOUS

Crime News

[Culprits, with names and addresses, generally included in WPD story, but we mention them only when there is special reason to.- HCMacD.]

Apr. 4: Coastal security guards in Sittway [Rakhine] on Mar. 29 seized a 45-foot powerboat with fishing equipment 2 1/2 miles offshore in territorial waters. When fired on, "those on board escaped by jumping into the water and ran away using their life-save equipment." (WPD 4/ 6)

Apr. 6: Police at the Nyaungbinlay Market, Lanmadaw Twp. [Yangon] on Mar. 29 arrested two men for Che-hti gambling and seized K86,940. (WPD 4/ 7)

Apr. 8: Two persons in Yangon were arrested Apr. 1 for making imitation Pepsi Cola. (WPD 4/8)

Apr. 14: Police in Maungdaw Twp. [Rakhine] on Apr. 13 chased and seized a 40-foot powerboat attempting to smuggle rice and paddy out of the country; the crew "jumped overboard and escaped." (WPD

4/15)

Apr. 19: The National Investigation Bureau (NIB) has arrested three people for forging Marine Workshop documents, thus enabling unqualified persons to sit for marine license examinations. They charged K3,000-K20,000 per document. (WPD 4/21)

Apr. 24: One Maung Maung, 46, was arrested by "shocked bystanders" in an Insein Restaurant [Yangon] on Apr. 7 when he got drunk and wiped his shoes [sic] with a State Flag taken from his bag. He is being prosecuted for desecrating the flag. (WPD 4/25)

Apr. 28: Two con-men were arrested; on Dec. 9, 1991, they took K450,000 of jewels to sell on consignment and then pretended they had lost them to a pickpocket on a bus [details]. (WPD 4/29)

Anti-Narcotics Activities

Mar. 31: The Katha anti-drug squad on Mar. 9 seized 80 bottles of phensedyl and K35,865 at the Pinlebu bus terminal in Kawlin. (WPD 4/1)

Apr. 1: The Yawnghwe police [Shan] on Mar. 4 seized 3.8 kilos of raw opium. (WPD 4/2)

Apr. 2: During February, the Tatmadaw seized 10.9 kilos of opium; the Customs seized 1.4 kilos of heroin (1 case) and 38 litres of phensedyl (1 case). Police seized 68.7 kilos of opium (50 cases), 20.9 kilos of heroin (149 cases), 0.0048 kilo of opium oil (2 cases), 16.9 kilos of marijuana (53 cases), 41 litres of phensedyl (13 cases), 530 Chinese cough tablets (1 case), and handled 100 cases of failure to register and 4 other cases. Police took action against 548 people in 372 cases. (WPD 4/3)

Apr. 6: During March the Tatmadaw destroyed 888.09 acres of opium poppy. 818 acres were destroyed in operations against the SUA terrorists in Mongma, Monkaung, Monvin, Mankat Narnaing Montaw regions in Mongyant Twp. [Shan], the Lwesi mountains in Nawgkaing, Pangwo and Mongkawng region in Tangyang Twp. [Shan], and in the valleys of Mongtan village. 62.7 acres were destroyed in Usha region in Namhkam Twp. and the northern sector of Namphekkar in Muse Twp. [Shan]. 0.25 acre was destroyed near Namhaing village in Namtu Twp. [Shan]. 7.14 acres were destroyed in the Lwesamsit mountain range in Hsihseng Twp. [Shan]. (WPD 4/7)

Apr. 9: Mandalay Police and members of DSI on Apr. 7-8 seized 11.7 kilos of heroin. (WPD 4/10)

Apr. 9: CCDAC Joint Secretary Police Col. Ngwe Soe Tun, UNDCP Project Adviser Mr. Massey, and other officials collected data "for the sub-regional drug control program" in Eastern Shan State from Mar. 30-Apr. 9. They visited Hsilu and Pansai areas in Mongyan Twp., and Ardee and Hsanlu areas in Tachilek Twp. [Shan], met with local officials, and discussed drug abuse control, drug treatment, economic development, etc. The program is being implemented "in co-operation between Myanmar and PRC, Myanmar and Thailand and UNDCP branch offices." (WPD 4/11).

Apr. 12: The Mandalay anti-drug squad on Apr. 9 seized 8.6 kilos of opium in Mandalay SW Twp., as well as opium equipment and counterfeit 15 kyat notes. (WPD 4/13)

Apr. 16: Kokang anti-drug squads on Mar. 2 seized 6.6 kilos of "ownerless" heroin in Laukkai village [Shan]. (WPD 4/17)

Apr. 17: DSI and the Lashio anti-drug squad on Apr. 10-11 seized 5.1 kilos of heroin in Lashio. (WPD 4/ 18)

Apr. 21: The Mandalay anti-drug squad on Apr. 1 seized 1.3 kilos of heroin in Mandalay SE Twp. (WPD 4/ 22)

Apr. 21: During March 1992, the Tatmadaw seized 26.3 kilos of opium. The Police seized 59.9 kilos of opium (45 cases), 9.7 kilos of heroin (155 cases), 65.8 kilos of marijuana (59 cases), 229.5 litres of phensedyl (29 cases), .024 kilo of opium oil (4 cases). Action was taken in 134 cases of failure to register and 3 other drug-related cases. (WPD 4/ 22)

Apr. 25: The Kale [Sagaing] anti-drug squad on Apr. 7 seized 416 bottles of phensedyl. (WPD 4/26)

Obituaries

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

Aug. 21, 1991: Daw Aye Myint (a) Daw Aye Hlaing, Dawei, widow of the late school teacher U Tha Zan, died in Sydney, Australia, aged 86. (WPD 4/29)

Mar. 26: Daw Mya Than, widow of U Po Zon, mother of Daw Aye Aye Khaing (Mabel) and U Soe Myat (Harry), United Nations, died in New York, aged 77. (WPD 4/1)

Mar. 28: Daw Ah Mar Lay, Retired Supervisor (Transit exchange, Myanmar Posts and Telecommunications), widow of U Sein Myint, died in Yangon, aged 63. (WPD 4/1)

Apr. 3: Daw Hla Kywe, wife of U Aye Maung (Myanma Railways), died in Yangon, aged 77. (WPD 4/4)

Apr. 4: In Memorium: The Most Rev. Friedrich V. Lustig (1912-1989). "In ineffable memory of my dear beloved Guru, the late Buddhist Archbishop of Latvia, who passed away on this day, April 4, three years ago. Aung Khin (Popa)." (WPD 4/4)

Apr. 8: Agnes Daw Pan, widow of Sayagyi U Ba Yin (Sower), died in Yangon, aged 86. [Christian] (WPD 4 /9)

Apr. 10: Aggamaha Pandita Bhaddanta Kumarabhivamsa (Shwe Sayadaw), State Sangha Maha Nayaka Commission Joint Secretary Sayadaw, Leading Nayaka Sayadaw of Shwe Pariyati Sarthintaik, Mawlamyine, Vassa 55, died in the Defence Services Hospital, Yangon, aged 72. (WPD 4/11)

Apr. 10: Mr. Esoof Cassim Dooply (a) U Chotoo Dooply, International Football Referee, husband of Daw Mya Mya Kyi (a) Daw Rahima Bi Bi Azan Mohamed Nacoda (a) Daw Ruby, died in Yangon, aged 66. [Muslim] (WPD 4/17)

Apr. 18: Daw Nellie Htin (Daw Hla Tin), daughter of the late U Ba Htin and Daw Mya Htin, died in Yangon, aged 74. [Christian] (WPD 4/19)

Apr. 18?: Vincent D'Paul Francis (a) U Khin Maung, Supervisor, Myanmar Investment and Commercial Bank, died in Yangon, aged 56. [Christian] (WPD 4/19)

Apr. 18: U Lu Gyi (BPM), Dawei, retired District Superintendent of Police, husband of Daw Tin Tin Kyi, died in Yangon, aged 94. He donated his body to the Institute of Medicine (1). (WPD 4/22)

Apr. 22: Bhaddanta Suvanna, vassa 60, Leading Nayaka of of Zay Khaungtaik, Mogok [Mandalay], died. (WPD 4/24)

Fires

Mar. 31: During February 1992 there were 239 fires in Myanmar, which destroyed 846 houses, 5 mills or factories, and 5 go-downs. 10 people were killed, 24 wounded, and 3,410 left homeless. 4,676 animals were killed. Total damage was K23.53 million. 203 fires were due to kitchen fires or negligence, 18 to short circuits, 10 to arson, 5 forest fires, and two cases caused by terrorists. (WPD 4/1)

Apr. 1: A fire in Hsa/Ka Ward, Thingangyunn Twp. [Yangon] destroyed 20 houses, and left 154 persons from 30 households homeless. Damage was estimated at K50,000. (WPD 4/2)

Apr. 2: The Red Cross donated 2,000 blankets and 3,000 yards of plastic sheeting, valued at K150,000, to victims of the North Okkalapa fire. (WPD 4/4)

Apr. 10: A fire in Seikphyu [Magway] on Apr. 9 destroyed 1,120 buildings, leaving 2,492 people from 523 households homeless; damage is K74,498,530. In addition to homes, the fire destroyed township office buildings, two saw mills, three oil mills, two monasteries, and a primary school. (WPD 4/11) // Apr. 11: Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Brig-Gen. Thaung Myint visited the fire scene. K200,000 for rice, K250 per household in building supplies, and other relief goods will be given as fire relief. (WPD 4/12)

Apr. 19: A fire in Ywatha-aye village, Pakokku Twp. [Magway] in Apr. 17 destroyed 180 houses, leaving 1,086 people from 225 households homeless; damage was K7.2 million. (WPD 4/21)

Environmentalists Sought

Apr. 9: "The Public Services Selection and Training Board will put in advertisements in the Myanmar and English language newspapers beginning 10 April, for the 14 posts of head of branch (pay scale K1250-K25-K1350) at the Office of the National Commission for Environmental Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs. For more information please contact the PSSTB or call 78163." (WPD 4/11)

Earthquakes

Apr. 10: An earthquake (5.2 Richter scale) was recorded at 17:51:22 local time, with epicentre at a border point with India, 475 miles NW of Yangon. (WPD 4/11)

Apr. 15: An earthquake of moderate intensity (5.1 Richter) was recorded at 08:03:22 local time, with epicenter about 70 miles NE of Kalewa. (WPD 4/16)

Apr. 18: An earthquake of strong intensity (6.3 Richter) was recorded at 15:15:38 local time, with epicentre about 1721 miles ENE of Dawei [Tavoy]. (WPD 4/19)

Apr. 23: Two earthquakes of moderate intensity (5.4 Richter) were recorded at 20:51:20 and 22:05:10 local time, with epicenter about 90 miles NE of Mandalay. (WPD 4/25)

Apr. 24: Two earthquakes of moderate intensity (5.7 Richter) were recorded at 23:46:16 April 23 and 00:48:40 April 14 local time, with epicenter about 200 miles NE of Mandalay. (WPD 4/25)

Apr. 29: An earthquake of slight intensity (4.6 Richter) was recorded at 03:34:06 local time, with epicenter about 70 miles NE of Kengtung. (WPD 4/30)

SUBSCRIPTIONS & RENEWALS

ATT: Burma Press Summary
The Center for East Asian & Pacific Studies
University of Illinois
910 South Fifth Street, RM 230
Champaign, IL 61820

Annual Subscriptions: US\$50.00

Add Postal surcharge for

Canada - US\$ 2.00

Foreign (surface) - US\$ 2.00

Europe (air) - US\$ 20.00

Asia (air) - US \$ 25.00

[additional charge for US\$ check on foreign bank - \$5.00]

NOTE: Checks should be payable to:
University of Illinois, with "Burma Press Summary" annotated on check.

EDITORIAL CORRESPONDENCE

Editorial correspondence, requests for full copies of articles, and requests for back issues before January 1991 should be sent to:

Hugh C. MacDougall
32 Elm Street
Cooperstown, NY 13326

PICTURES

Burma Press Summary No. 62, Apr. 1992
Hugh C. MacDougall