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BURMA PRESS SUMMARY

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 -- Issue for July 20 not received --

Readers will notice that this issue is printed in a new typeface (proportionately spaced 12 point Roman), thanks to your compiler's new computer and printer. We hope that this typeface will make the Summary more readable. It will also save something like 20 percent in space, which should please our publishers at the University of Illinois, though this unusually long issue (because of the National Convention meetings) is hardly a good example.

Your compiler suffered a detached retina on Aug. 17, and was successfully operated on the same day. This necessarily delayed work on this issue for several weeks, while his eye was recovering. We regret the delay, and hope to get back on track soon. HCMacDougall.

 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:

July 1-31: Virajam, be stainlessly pure; this is the way to auspiciousness.

Cartoons

Examples of the (very few this month) political cartoons:

July 16: Man with three burning cigarettes: "As I know cigarette smoking is not good for health, I'd like to throw them away. However, cigarette ads are so good that I'd like not only to smoke but to swallow them."

July 17: First Myanmar (examining document): "Hey! This

appointment of yours is a FAKE!" Second Myanmar: "That's right....but I had to invest a lot even to get a FAKE!"

July 23: Buildings crowded with "Tuition" signs emanating shouts of laughter. First Myanmar: "Where's that comedian from the theatre troupe gone? What's he doing nowadays? Second Myanmar: "Don't you know? He's become a private tuition teacher!"

July 26: First Myanmar: "Your stuff is genuine!" Second Myanmar: "Well! Isn't genuine stuff better than fraudulent imitation?" Comment: "We've become so accustomed to using imitations. Then we don't know how to use genuine stuff anymore!"

July 27: Signs on wall read: "Class"; "Beauty parlor training"; "Short-term classes"; "Correspondence courses"; "Language courses"; "Shorthand training"; "Training"; "Mechanic & Operator Training"; "Transport Course"; "Correspondence Training". First Myanmar: "Coming to town is all right, Pop. But what shall we do for a living?" Second Myanmar: "How about opening a class or a training course of some kind or another?"

July 28: Myanmar to man standing under sign reading "Language classes--Japanese Chinese English": "I don't know how well 'foreign-goers' are making out, but you seem to be doing pretty well!"

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:

July 11: Editorial: "Does Culture Matter?": ["How many are there among us dancing in the tunes of Westernized culture? How many mistakenly believe everything un-Myanmar is inescapably of higher order than everything Myanmar? How many of us are fooled by a good amount of novels and films which are relatively Western culture in clothing?... Some are in vision that to practise full democratic rights or somewhat to develop the cultural traits of the country necessity lies in need to adopt the cults of those nations which have got ahead of others in terms of the material quality of life. Video and cassette cultures, both all the rage today, are heroes of the young people. Tunes, songs and dances recorded on the tapes are everything ranging distorted culture and off-beat music to mindless romanticism. Both rural and urban people who are well off are vying with one another of the ownership of video or cassette recorder in each household are thus inviting the harm of video and cassette culture. Most of the films local or foreign which the youths absorb in reveal lavish amount to excitement through love, crime, violence and thaing. Some of or most all of them are far from artistic in form and realistic in content. Myanmars' politeness in treating strange girls like one's own sisters and smooth manners are washed away and taken place by rude manners and such an attitude to strike first at a time of quarrel.... In broadest and deepest sense of the word, we firmly believe, to educate not to form the activity in whose absence there is vacuum in the people's cultural life which invites undesirable or conducive to national development is a nation-wide concern. Withering away of the cultural traits, modes of dress and everything Myanmar can be brought back by means of self-expression and upholding cultural modes in the country."]

July 19: A conspiracy of internal treachery and alien perpetration, by An Observer. In commemoration of Arzani Day, the assassination of Bogyoke Aung San and his companions is reviewed. (WPD 7/19)

July 19: Arzani Day Articles. "Lest we forget" by Min Kyaw Min. "A wish on Martyr's Day" (poem) by Zawgyi. "Their example of sacrifice" by Maung Maung Aye. "Paying honest tribute to Arzanis" by Maung Dawna. "Our fallen national leaders" by Ko Soe. "Nurturing the Spirit of Patriotism and Nationalism" by Nanda Phyo Thu.

July 21: Paving the way to the National Convention, by An Observer. [Review of Steering Committee Chairman's speech. "Only

those who are free of party politics partiality, capable of serving the interests of general weal, and true peasant and worker representatives would be selected and invited.... If [armed terrorists] genuinely have a desire to attend the National Convention, it will be necessary for them to abandon their armed way resolutely and come into the legal fold...[where] they will get a suitable number of representation If...it turned out to be anything like trying to make some gain attacking from underground as well as from aboveground, from within the law as well as from outside the law, attempting with intention to disrupt the Convention, it could cause a great loss and harm for the entire people.... Those who genuinely desire the successful convening of the National Convention could in no way accept anything like underground-aboveground pincer attacks with evil intent on the organizing authorities"]

July 22,28: They kept our country's flag aloft, by Ivan King. [How sportsmen of an earlier day kept patriotism alive.]

July 22: Editorial: Public involvement. [The Peoples Police Force (PPF) "must...be impartial, must avoid getting corrupted and must try to bring out the truth.... There are frequent reports in the press about people being arrested for involvement in illegal exchange of foreign currency, burglary, corruption, theft, heroin trafficking, gambling and so on. But arrests are only part of story. It is equally important that the PPF is able to make the charges stick, and to ensure the accused are indeed convicted. This is welcomed by all law-abiding people and it will be more successful if and when society begins to participate effectively and practically in the mainstream for the maintenance of law and order.... The effectiveness of [the PPF]...can only be boosted when a major section of society becomes practically involved in the maintenance of law and order."]

July 23-24: Toward writing the Constitution of the future democratic state, by Shwe La Win. ["Problems of internal strife, spawned and whetted by foreign interests, still beset us.... It is in the long-term national interest to see to the emergence of a new national charter which will be free of the flaws previous attributed to various reasons.... Those on the side of the law are eligible to be invited to attend while those who have yet to come to the legal fold must do so, for only then will they be considered...."]

July 27: To ensure a better quality of life for the national races of the border areas, by Kyaw Thura. [Resume of SLORC Chairman General Than Shwe's remarks on border area development {see below, under Economy}.]

July 29: The door is open, by Maung Maung Aye. [Door is open to guerrillas to "return to the legal fold and participate in the endeavours for national and regional development...."]

July 30: Toward democracy, by Ko Soe. ["It is unnatural to invite persons who have no confidence in the Convention to attend it. If the armed terrorists are fully desirous of attending the National Convention, they ought to abandon the line of armed struggle. They should return to legal fold.... The public will not permit the National Convention being used as a forum for their political aims for instigating unrest and letting up [sic] national races against each other. If there is outright contravention of law, action will have to be taken in accordance with the law...."]

Myanmar-Bangladesh Border

July 17: "Five reception camps have been kept open since 15-5-92 for those who fled across the border into Bangladesh but the other country is still unable to send any back. Despite this, foreign broadcasting stations such as the VOA and the AIR as well as newspapers published in Pakistan and Malaysia reported as if Myanmar Naing-Ngan were ignoring negotiations for the return of those people." IMPD Director-General U Maung Aung said that on May 14 "the other country sent a list of 9,884 persons to be sent back" and on May 17 Myanmar "sent back a list of 6,400 persons to be accepted." The "other country also sent a list of 10,037 persons and that of 329 persons" on May 25 and June 8. On June 4, Myanmar "sent back a list

of 10,456 persons which included the last batch of 2,600 persons to be accepted." Nevertheless, although the reception camps are open, "the other country has not sent back a single person yet." On June 8, U Maung Aung met with Chittagong Commissioner Mr. Muhammad Omar Farooq and Relief and Resettlement Commissioner Mr. K.H. Shahidul Islam and inspected the Kanyin-chaung camp; the Bangladesh Counsellor [Consul??] in Sittway visited all the camps on June 15 and 16. BBC correspondent Roger Hearing visited two camps on June 8. "Foreign reports" claiming that Myanmar is ignoring the issue "are totally false and groundless," he explained. (WPD 7/17)

July 24: The Working People's Daily reprints an article from the July 21 "Arab News International" of Saudi Arabia, to the effect that "Bangladeshi officials say up to 2,000 pro-independence Burmese Muslim fighters, many of them armed, have infiltrated camps for Burmese refugees to recruit members and organize protests against repatriation plans." Specifically, the article says guerrillas from the Rohingya Solidarity Organization (RSO) and Arakan Rohingya Islamic Front (ARIF) have tried to take control of camps where nearly 300,000 refugees have fled from "Arakan state to escape military persecution." (WPD 7/24)

July 24: All-Myanmar Moulvis Headquarters General Secretary U Tint Swe told 350 Muslims at the Zafar Shah Mosque on Ziwaka Street, Dagon Twp. [Yangon] "that some big countries and certain news agencies are spreading fabricated and false reports that those who fled to Bangladesh are Muslim refugees; that men of other faiths were persecuted on religious grounds; that women were molested and mosques were destroyed.... He declared that those people fled to the other country not because they were persecuted in Myanmar Naing-Ngan but because of their economic and social problems and political beliefs. He added that newspapers have already reported about the systematic arrangements made to accept the returnees under the terms agreed between Myanmar Minister for Foreign Affairs and Bangladesh officials. He further said that though the people have not returned he believed that Myanmar Naing-Ngan has done its duty well on its part; the support given and measures taken by the government for promotion of Islam are to be appreciated and that he is in a position to speak on the real situation because he had seen it for himself...." (WPD 7/26)

July 27: Director-General U Maung Aung of the Immigration and Manpower Department [IMD], accompanied by Bangladesh "Counsellor" at Sittway, Mr. A.T.M. Mosha Rahman, visited the No. 3 Reception Camp at Pyinpyu and the No. 4 Camp at Kanyinchaung on July 24, and met with officials (all Muslims) administering them. (WPD 7/28)

July 27: A Seventh Meeting on repatriation was held in Maungdaw on July 23, between IMD Director-General U Maung Aung and Chittagong Commissioner Mr. Omar Farooq and Relief and Resettlement Commissioner Mr. K.H. Shahidul Islam. The Myanmar side reiterated that preparations had been made to receive returnees and send them back to their homes, where they were assured of religious freedom. (WPD 7/28)

Doctors Refresher Course

Aug. 17: The Special Refresher Course No. 1 for Doctors, held at the Central Institute of Public Services, was by SLORC Secretary-1 Maj-Gen. Khin Nyunt, who said the purpose of the course was "to keep the spirit of patriotism ever alive in them; to enable them to direct their efforts towards Our Three Main National Causes; and to have better management and discipline in dealing with public health affairs." He discussed the forthcoming National Convention, and "emphasized the fact that a Constitution compatible with the conditions of Myanmar Naing-Ngan should be drafted without outside interference and the dictates of other nations, as insitgations to cause the Union to disintegrate cannot in any way be accepted." He reiterated Maj-Gen. Myo Nyunt's statement to the Co-ordination Meeting [see below] that armed terrorist insurgents can only participate in the National Convention if they first abandon armed struggle and return to the legal fold. (WPD 7/18)

Colleges to Reopen in August

July 26: "Arrangements are to be made as preparation for resumption of peaceful pursuit of studies at institutions of higher learning as well as those under the Technical Agricultural and Vocational Education Department simultaneously within one month," announced Chairman of the the Education Committee SLORC Secretary-1 Maj-Gen. Khin Nyunt to Rectors and Principals of universities, institutes, and colleges. He told them that "the faculty members...held a series of coordinations and made arrangements for resumption of peaceful pursuit of studies...so that...incidents will not recur. He believed that preparations needed for peaceful studies have been completed cent per cent...[and] considered that universities and colleges are ready to be opened according to the wish of the majority of students who are desirous of peaceful pursuit of education" (WPD 7/27)

July 29: It was announced by the respective Ministries that universities, institutes, degree colleges, colleges, vocational institutes and schools, and institutes of medicine will all reopen on Aug. 24. (WPD 7/30)

NATIONAL CONVENTION

Second Day Co-ordination Session

June 30: The Co-ordination Meeting for the Convening of the National Convention, which held its first session on June 23, met again. Following a speech by Steering Committee Chairman Maj-Gen. Myo Nyunt, leaders of the eight political parties, and an independent Representative, made presentations. The meeting then adjourned until July 10.

:Chairman's Speech

In his speech, Maj-Gen. Myo Nyunt said [text]:

"May all your hearts be filled with peace and happiness! Thus I greet with 'Metta' all members of the Steering Committee and the Representatives of the Political Parties who are today attending the second day session of the Co-ordination Meeting for the convening of the National Convention.

"With the objective of convening a National Convention, I, on 23 June 1992, discussed in detail and solicited suggestions on the number of delegates from the various classes and strata who should be allowed to attend it.

"On this second day session, we hope that the elected representatives of the political parties as well as elected independent candidates will come forward with good and worthwhile proposals which would be conducive to the success of the National Convention without dwelling too much upon personal wishes and desires.

"This is because excessive bias leads to excessive Viriya (Diligence) and this in turn leads to Uddhacca (Restlessness). This, I am afraid, may result in failure to hit upon the truth. It is said that Sadi (Mindfulness), Panna (Wisdom), Saddha (Confidence), and Viriya should be balanced and be in harmony. I am saying this at this junction for all of us to embrace what Ashin Ananda practised and mentioned in the first Mahasingitakatha of Parajikaathakatha (Buddhist Text).

"There is the case of the Most Reverend Ashin Anada [sic], who, being too obsessed in his attempt to become an Arahant was unable to achieve his objective even though he meditated the entire night; it was only when dawn was about to break that his obsession weakened to the point where his concentration was liberated and he was suddenly able to achieve insight just at the moment when he was about to lie down to rest. It was then that he became an Arahant. With this analogy in mind I urge all representatives attending the Co-ordination Meeting for convening the National Convention to submit proposals for the well-being of the entire nation keeping in mind the three main

national causes of Non-disintegration of the Union; Non-disintegration of National Solidarity and the Preservation of National Sovereignty."

:Proposals by Political Parties

Steering Committee Maj-Gen. Myo Nyunt's June 30 speech at the Second Session was followed by prepared presentations from the Party leaders present [major excerpts]:

::National League for Democracy

U Aung Shwe (National League for Democracy) [full text]:

"Esteemed Chairman,

"With the permission of the Chairman, I will discuss points that the National League for Democracy has to present.

"Esteemed Chairman,

"The National League for Democracy wishes good health for the Chairman of the meeting, members of the Steering Committee, elected Representatives of political parties such as the Shan Nationalities League for Democracy, National Unity Party, Union Paoh National Organization, Mro or Khami National Solidarity Organization, Shan State Kokang Democratic Party, Lahu National Development Party and the elected independent Representative present at this Co-ordination Committee Meeting.

"The present meeting is the one that lays the foundation for the emergence of a constitution in accordance with the slogan "Emergence of the State Constitution is the duty of all citizens of Myanmar Naing-Ngan" and with the Noble Desire of the State Law and Order Restoration Council expressing the wish to retransfer State power to the people, in whom it was initially vested, through democratic means within the shortest time possible. So, the discussions are of special significance beneficial to the people and national racial groups and to democracy. The National League for Democracy being an organization formed for the national cause...views and suggestions of the National League for Democracy will be discussed here sincerely and frankly with seriousness.

"Esteemed Chairman,

"We attentively listened to the opening address of the meeting Chairman. We have studied some of the points in the address. He said that the Co-ordination Meeting was meant to open the door towards measures to be taken for convening a National Convention to lay down basic principles for the purpose of framing a firm Constitution essential for the emergence of a multi-party democracy system within the nation, that the constitution should be acceptable to the national people, that priority was to be given to national interest over party interest, as priority was given to party interest over personal interest, in discussing the framing of a firm constitution by establishing a national reconciliation for the future of the country and that the discussions should be constructive. The Meeting Chairman also spoke of the need for the political parties to work hand in hand with confidence with the State Law and Order Restoration Council till a national reconciliation is established and a firm constitution is adopted, with this in mind and with complete trust in one another, the national cause would be accomplished.

"With the growing awareness on national politics, the entire mass of the national people residing in Myanmar Naing-Ngan value and appreciate the national sovereignty they possess. This they have expressed most explicitly. They want to take hold of it. What is more, they are eager to have the right to make systematic use of it in the practical field. Food, clothing and shelter are the basic needs for every human being for his continued existence. Each and every person longs for enjoying these basic needs with dignity, pride and honour. With great expectations, they are waiting for the betterment of the political life, economic life and social relations related to those needs. In fact, these requirements could exist in the human society firmly. And they do exist. However, there could be shortcomings, if they are not in the interest of the people. So,

changes are to be made. And we are responsible for making such changes objectively, bravely and correctly. In this connection, the social system is the main driving force to meet those needs. This Co-ordination Meeting is therefore the one which initiates to fulfil those needs. This meeting, indeed, is one which will try to work for the welfare of the families residing in the country through collective efforts. The National League for Democracy therefore appreciates the Co-ordination Meeting very much.

"Esteemed Chairman,

"Those who are keeping watch on various situations include not only us who are attending this coordination meeting important for the country but also all nationals in entirety and other Pyithu Hluttaw Representatives. In this present world, a nation, though it may not be directly concerned with others, cannot stay aloof. It has to cooperate with other nations for matters of mutual interests. Myanmar Naing-Ngan is a nation that has adopted an independent and active foreign policy in accordance with the five principles of the Bandung Conference, and is a member of the United Nations.

"What we want to say is the nations of the world that are involved in one way or another with our country for bilateral matters will certainly be waiting for the outcome from the situations in this country.

"What lies before the current co-ordination meeting is not the future of Myanmar Naing-Ngan alone but it also concerns programmes to be laid down for our relations in the family of the world nations.

"Today, we can see problems arising in some nations of Easter Europe which at one time followed Communism and the one-party system. Their people today are confronted with all kinds of evils. Destruction of lives as well as goods and materials, the nations too are being split apart. We can see all this and we must draw lessons from their experience.

"That is why we must constantly swear allegiance to the nation and to the people and we must be faithful in all aspects and carry out our responsibilities conscientiously. What is more we have vowed that we would work hand in hand with those people who are desirous of establishing a democratic state on the basis of a democratic constitution as well as market-oriented economy. This is a short gists [sic] of ideals and convictions of our League. After this we will submit our proposals concerning future programmes for the convening of a National Convention. The most important point to be discussed for the holding of the Convention is which national racial groups and which citizens under what law are to be invited. A National Convention concerns the entire nationals to entity [sic]. This being so, it is particularly necessary that the representatives should be courageous and honest and full of integrity in promoting the welfare of the entire nation and the people. There should not arise any instinct which is likely to lead [to] misunderstandings for one reason or another. There have been many bitter experiences in the past. lessons should be drawn from these experiences. And all national racial groups without exception should adopt with noble dedication a desire to always exist together through weal and woe and furthermore, to work hand in hand in consultation and discussion to find the right answer. The expression to live forever without letting go overhands [sic] has become more or less cliché; and for this reason we do not believe that it expresses the true spirit. Born on the same land, drinking the same water, all the national races and national racial groups are all members of the family of Myanmar Naing-Ngan. Whatever dialogue there is should be in the nature of frank and open consultations and coordinations for the welfare of the entire family.

"What remains to be done is to seek fair and just answer acceptable to all to live together in harmony and unity.

"Esteemed Chairman,

"With these objectives in mind we shall propose those delegates who should be invited to the National Convention. In considering the matter of 'Kwai Shan' of Mongyang delegates, we should allow only

those organizations who would constructively discuss the matters of national welfare at the convention.

"We propose that two delegates each, from each Central organization, and one delegate each from State/Division and township organizations if they still exist should be invited. If we are to submit our proposal regarding elected Representatives we wish to say that those Hluttaw Representatives who have been elected have been so elected in accordance with the Pyithu Hluttaw Election law by the electorate.

"In other countries the elections are recognized as being free and fair. In this country, the election was dubbed as being free and fair. For this reason, the country has gained considerable prestige. What is more, Para 20 of the State Law and Order Restoration Council Declaration No 1/90, clearly and unequivocally defines that the Representatives who have been elected under present circumstances are vested with the responsibility of drawing up a constitution for the future democratic State. For this reason, we propose that all the Hluttaw Representatives who have been elected be chosen as delegates to the National Convention.

"It is estimated that there remains about 377 Hluttaw Representatives. Delegates who represent the national races refer to those who represent the various national groups living within the seven States and seven Divisions. We propose that if there is no nationalities delegates in a constituency, two delegates from each township be chosen as nationalities delegates. If on the other hand a Hluttaw representative has already been elected for that constituency he should function both as a Hluttaw representatives and as delegate to the National Convention.

"Another point is that there are some towns within the seven divisions where a large number of national racial groups live. We proposed that two delegates should be chosen for the National Convention from each of such townships. If [the] Hluttaw Representative of that constituency happens to belong to a national racial group, he should function both as a Hluttaw Representative as well as nationality delegate to the National Convention. When such nationalities delegates are chosen, they should be individually acceptable to the respective national racial group. Regarding the selection of Convention delegates to represent the peasantry it is to be remembered that the peasantry represents about 80 per cent of the population and that they are a class engaged in agriculture as livelihood. The entire country is dependent upon the crops they grow. What is more, the national economy itself is essentially an agro-economy. Hence we believe that it would be suitable to select as National Convention delegates one from each township. If, however, the Pyithu Hluttaw Representative who has been elected happens to be a peasant he should be designated both as Hluttaw Representative and as a delegate to the National Convention.

"Regarding the selection of National Convention delegates from among the workers, the majority of workers are mostly civil servants serving in urban areas, and what is more, they are under the supervision of the Ministry of Labour. That's why we believe it will be best for the Ministry of Labour to do the needful in the selection of worker delegates for the National Convention. We propose that roughly speaking about 30 worker delegates would be sufficient.

"Next, we propose a number of delegates from among intelligentsia and technocrats.

"Today there are a number of organizations such as for the doctors, for the dental surgeons, for the literary workers, for the movie artistes, for the music artistes, for the 'Thabin' artistes, for the lawyers, for the painting and sculpture artistes, for the traditional medicine practitioners and for nurses etc. etc. On the basis of such organizations, we propose that two delegates from each be invited to the National Convention. Besides this, other intelligentsia such [as] University professors should also be considered. We may get a lot of good ideas conducive to the welfare of the nation from such people. That is why professors from all

universities or heads of department, including those who are retired, and also medical specialists should all be invited; this is our proposal.

"In addition to this, there are also people who do not belong to mass organizations; these may constitute senior teachers both male and female from high schools, universities and colleges, engineers, doctors, veterinary surgeons, scientists and well-known writers and authors. We propose that such people should also be chosen as delegates for the National Convention. We propose that about 50 delegates from this category be chosen.

"Next, we wish to propose the following regarding the selection of government servants as delegates. We believe that selection made on the basis of the governmental ministries, Supreme Court, Central Law Office, Auditor-General's Office would be the most appropriate. However, not all ministries are the same, there may be slight differences. In the defence Ministry, the Infantry, the Navy and the Air Force, the Defence Service units are also widely dispersed throughout the country and the Commands and the Divisions are carrying out national duty. There are also such organizations as the People's Police under the Ministry of Home Affairs. Including these organizations of such disparity and other Ministries and offices, we propose that the number of 'Wundan' (government servants) delegates to the National Convention should roughly be about 200.

"There are also other individuals who ought to be invited to the National Convention. Categorically, this should include veteran Tatmadawmen who have participated and striven in Myanmar Naing-Ngan's struggle for Independence; such individuals from State organizations; individuals of experience in know-how in the fields of politics, economics, administration, international relations, education and other affairs; members of the Thirty Comrades; those who had participated in the Panglong Conference; individuals who are capable of providing good and worthy ideas and suggestions for the welfare of the nation; individuals who had once led the nation; individuals who had been prominent in the political history of Myanmar; individuals who had participated in either laying down the principles for the drawing of 1947 and 1974 Constitutions or in the framing of the two constitutions; and prominent individuals who had gained the confidence of the people in their respective regions. We propose that about 50 delegates in this category ought to be chosen as delegates to the National Convention.

"Esteemed Chairman,

"Everything should turn out smoothly in selecting delegates to the National Convention today. Specially, goodwill must be shown in order that we may tread the future path unhindered. Therefore, I suggest all organizations concerned, including State organization, should discuss and coordinate matters with one another positively.

"Esteemed Chairman,

"For a nation to have a secure future, there should be such objectives as non-disintegration of the Union; non-disintegration of national unity, preservations of sovereignty, the flourishing of democracy, flourishing of social system that caters for people's wellbeing, as leaders of tomorrow. Women and youths should be given representation of two each State/Division-wise. There have been women and youths in political organizations, in the women's and youth's wings. Therefore, we suggest representation from them should also be selected.

"Then, students past 18 years must also be taken into consideration. Because they can gain experience in national politics, because it could be a form of training in national politics, because they are capable of taking part in the discussions at the Convention, we suggest about 30 of them should be selected as delegates.

"Moreover, those from War Veterans Organization should also be invited, because they not only took part in the Anti-Colonial Resistance, the Anti-Fascist Resistance and the National Liberation Struggle but also took the forefront, sacrificing their lives in national construction, national unity and national defence duties.

Therefore, we suggest inviting five of their representatives to attend.

"Then, there are women and youths. We would like to put those between 21 and 30 years as youths. Their representation should be separately considered, because women are fully capable of taking part in national politics and youths who are going to shoulder national responsibilities in various capacities can emerge all-round development and undertaking of national security by all [sic]. For obtaining these objectives, such principles as national unity, frank and honest dealings and mutual respect and nation reconsolidation for the successful holding of the National Convention and the successful establishment of a new democratic state, use of peaceful process, general harmony free [from ??] prejudice, mutual regard, mutual cooperation, and mutual understanding are essential. If these principles are upheld and if all nationals adhere to the saying unity is strength, and live in harmony and peace, work together, the nation will thrive as a democratic state, the public will prosper, and all will inevitably be able to enjoy better living standards. Every citizen, every national group is imbued with national awareness. In contemporary history in Myanmar the people find that independence was regained with the leadership of the Architect of Freedom, Martyr National Leader and Father of the Tatmadaw Bogyoke Aung San and the national unity. The strength of that unity is well known by all. We have suffered evils existence in the country and learned lessons.

"Then, all citizens are aware of geopolitics. Therefore, if all concerned work with the noble spirit of goodwill for the benefit of the nation, if all citizens regardless of race, religion, walth, poverty, or occupation make positive contributions, the market economy system entwined with democracy which we cherish will actually emerge and all will be able to enjoy the benefits of development.

"From the holding of the Co-ordination Meeting to the holding of the National Convention and the writing of the State Constitution are of great importance to the nation.

"However, in seeking a solution, it is necessary that one's conviction does not harm any part of another's and vice-versa, and due goodwill, understanding and regard are forthcoming. Specially, because we are all nationals of various racial stock born in this single nation, a proper solution will be found if we work for the materialization of the firm conviction.

"Esteemed Chairman,

"We are embarked on the initial step for national stability and for the mental and physical wellbeing of all nationals. It is essential that opportunities are required specially for the creation of pleasant and clean conditions, for future national politics, and for all citizens including us. In conclusion, we would like to urge you to make necessary preparations in consonance with the peaceful national situation to make such opportunities possible."

::Shan Nat'l League for Demo.

U Hkun Tun Oo (Shan Nationalities League for Democracy) said [major excerpts]:

"The following three points...in the speech of the Chairman...are of prime importance:... (a) The reconstruction of national solidarity...; (b) Holding the National Convention on the basis of national consolidation; and (c) Approving basic principles by the National Convention for framing a firm constitution....

"What I would like to propose now is for approving a National Objective for holding the National Convention....: 'Framing a firm constitution and constructing national unity, based on national reunification'....

"We would like to propose...that scrutinization be made so that the delegates who truly represent the entire peoples attend the forthcoming National Convention.... There are two essential points.

"The first point is there exist strata of people in our country. If we are to elect representatives from these all strata [sic], there must primarily be organizations that have been formed

such as political parties, mass and class organizations, workers
Thamaggas, personnel Thamaggas, organizations of national races,
organizations of youths students and women, that underscore the
progress of life, and technological and art organizations....

"Representatives of peasants cannot be scrutinized without any
of the organizations that represent about 30 million of peasants. The
same applies to workers that numbers about three million....
Systematic scrutinization for representation to the National
Convention cannot be made without any of the organizations from other
strata of people. This is an essential point.

"The second point is that there have still been armed movements
in this country since independence was regained.

"Although it has become less in number of them owing to the
efforts of the successive governments, there are still some with
their own strength, their people and their respective areas. This is
an indication of the collapse of national unity in the political
trend. At present, military offensives in some regions have been
unilaterally suspended for national consolidation. A landmark has
been set up in history with the drawing of a new constitution, based
on unity. This is the assumption of our party that this problem
should be resolved by some means or other for successfully holding
the National Convention....

"If we would discuss the number of delegates to be invited to
the National Convention:

(a) We propose that all the patrons and Central Executive
Committee members of the political parties that legally exist should
be invited;

(b) All legally standing Hluttaw representatives should be
invited as they all have been freely and fairly elected by the entire
nationals [sic].

(c) Concerning the representation of national races, I suggest
that scrutinization should be made on the following three methods:

[1] As the first method, representatives for the eight
races should be selected in consultation with the respective races
and regional administrative authorities concerned as follows:

Kachin	15 or	10
Kayah	5 or	10
Kayin	15 or	10
Chin	10 or	10
Bamar	30 or	10
Mon	10 or	10
Rakhine	10 or	10
Shan	20 or	10

The estimated number of representatives of the major eight races will
be 115 or 80.

[2] As the second method, representatives of national
groups which are said to be 135 groups should be included in the
number of the said major national races and to be invited as the
combined representation for each major national race.

[3] As the third method, the respective national groups
are to select the representatives of their own. That is, national
groups residing and living together in unity at different places are
to choose their own representatives. For instance, national groups
such as Tainglai, Taingne and Taingkhamti residing in Kachin State
and Sagaing Division are to choose their own representatives. Each
national group should send three representatives.

Now I would like to present matters relating to stipulating the
number of

- (d) representatives of peasants,
- (e) representatives of workers,
- (f) representatives of intelligentsia and technocrats, and
- (g) representatives of public servants....

We notice that there include peasants, workers, intelligentsia
and technocrats among the elected representatives of the Pyithu
Hluttaw... elected by the entire public comprising the peasants,
workers, intelligentsia, technocrats and public servants Hence,

it is hard to stipulate the number of representatives as the basic principle is not clearly known.

(h) In connection with the number of other representatives...our suggestion is that the number should not be stipulated but basic points for those to be invited should only be prescribed....[to] include:

- (a) members of the Thirty Comrades of the Independence Struggle and prominent resistance leaders,
- (b) signatories of the historic Panglong Agreement,
- (c) advisers to the drafting of the 1947 Constitution,
- (d) delegates who attended the National Conference held in Taunggyi in 1961,
- (e) members of the 33-member Advisory Body,
- (f) Cabinet members of the successive governments of the Myanmar Naing-Ngan,
- (g) members of the Council of State,
- (h) members of the State Law and Order Restoration Council, and
- (i) prominent leaders as desired by the public....

"As stated above it should be extensive and profound to be in accord with the prestigious National Convention. It is necessary for all the brethren of the country to discuss in unity, ways and means for national development. We have no objection to any political or military organizations which the present government wishes to invite for internal peace, national solidarity and national reconciliation which it is for the peace, solidarity and national reconciliation.

"Esteemed Chairman,

"We would like to ask points which are not clear to us and those which we would like to know. Will there be the right to discuss freely and publish freely at the National Convention?

"Will there be any announcement stating that there will be no suits, no action and no investigations in connection with discussions and publications during the National Convention?

"We would like to know how the decision is to be made on the agreement based on the discussion of the Convention delegates.

"We want you to clarify these points.

"Esteemed Chairman,

"We would like to suggest that the proceedings of the National Convention to be broadcast live on the radio and television from the beginning to the end to keep the public informed of the fact that the National Convention, as in the Pyithu Hluttaw election, is free and fair"

::National Unity Party

U M Sin Sar (National Unity Party) said [excerpts]:

"We welcome and endorse [the remarks of Chairman Maj-Gen. Myo Nyunt] In the course of discussions, it is necessary to avoid dogmatism, stance of mutual distrust and exploitation of one's weakness by another. Discussions should be in the spirit of mutual trust, openness, honesty and friendliness.

"Moreover, the fact that the strength of the nation lies within, and that discussions and seeking of solutions are best only when there is not foreign intervention and no foreign influence and when there is mutual understanding, must be unanimously accepted by all.

"Our National Unity Party has seriously accepted the holding of the National Convention and the emergency of the new Constitution as a national duty and we are making endeavours in the spirit of duty.

"We are prepared to welcome differing opinions and thoughts seriously and weigh them in the broader sense and discuss them. We believe a correct solution will be obtained if the national cause is placed forefront and patriotism forms the basis of discussions....

"We believe the State Law and Order Restoration Council (Tatmadaw) which has the innate historic tradition of sacrificing life and limb for the interests of the nation and nationals dutifully taking up national politics will also lend leadership in the task of

holding the National Convention.

"Esteemed Chairman,

"Next, I would like to present the matter of invitees to the National Convention.... Special care needs to be taken so that those who will hinder the national interest, those who head for disintegration of the Union are not included. Specially, those under foreign influence should not be included. For example, those prescribed under Section 10 of the Election Law and those convicted of treason should not be included....

"Since basic classes such as peasants and workers are specially included under those to be invited other than the national peoples for the sake of national unity, the National Unity Party seriously welcomes and endorses it.

"Esteemed Chairman,

"In considering the number of delegates, the two extremes of inviting too many because too many would not achieve much and inviting too few because it would fall short of extensive representation should be avoided. Since it is a Constitution which will implement the multiparty democracy system, it is necessary to allow class leaders who can explain concerning a democratic state which defends the basic classes to fully attend....

"Everyone is aware that there exist today 10 lawful political parties. It is found that from among the 10, seven have their representatives selected and three not.

"Moreover, while there are among the 10, parties which can organize and be active nationwide, there are also some who base their basic organization and movement on the region, a section of the region or on a racial group.

"Here, instead of arguing which party is better than which on the basis of organizational work, we would like to suggest two major parties which are active on the national scale should be given equal representation. For the remaining eight parties, we suggest due consideration to proportional representation on the basis of their differences in organization and activities.

"Hence, in precise numerical terms regarding Political parties and organizations, the number of delegates for example should be prescribed as about 50 for the National Unity Party and the National League for Democracy, both of which have been formed nationwide, and if the eight parties which have been formed according to racial categories within specific regional or area limitations, are prescribed an overall total of 50 delegates according to suitable ratios, we come up with a total of 150 delegates for all the political parties that we feel would be a suitable number of delegates to be prescribed.

"Esteemed Chairman,

"We shall propose how the number of elected representatives should be prescribed. This, we believe should be based upon the ratio currently attending this Co-ordination meeting. This ratio represents a very fair decision on the part of the Steering Committee. The present ratio should be tripled for the Convention.

"Esteemed Chairman,

"I shall make further proposals regarding the national races to be invited.... In order to make it possible for the national races to be widely and extensively represented, proportional representation on the basis of the populations of the major national races including established leaders of the respective national races, should be adopted.

"There should be four groups categorized according to population.

[1] The first group which constitutes the Barmans with the largest population may be calculated at the rate of one delegate for every 150,000 persons.

[2] The second group which comprises the Kayin, Rakhine and Shan national races may be calculated at the rate of one delegate for every 75,000 persons.

[3] The third group which comprises Kachin, Chin and Mon

national races may be calculated at the rate of one delegate for every 50,000 persons.

[4] The fourth group which comprise the Kayan national race may be calculated at the rate of one delegate for every 25,000 persons.

"Similar suitable ratios should be used to calculate the representation of the remaining national groups. The intention is to expedite fair representation for those national racial groups having relatively smaller populations. Hence, the number of delegates proposed is...[see table]:

Kachin	9
Chin	15
Bamar	150
Mon	17
Rakhine	21
Shan	40
Others	27
Total	315

"The peasantry represent the largest single most important force in the country. Population-wise there is known to be about eight million. That is why we propose that the number of peasant delegates should be about 120....

"We understand that Civil servants or State employees apply to all those who enjoy salaries or remuneration from the State for services rendered. They may be roughly divided into Tatmadaw, People's Police and Civil Servants. We also understand that the term workers in general apply to all kinds of workers exclusive of those who are in State employment; meaning workers employed at private mills and factories, hawkers and vendors as well as piecerate workers. Hence...we propose that there should be 40 delegates for workers and 100 delegates for State employees made up of 40 delegates for the Tatmadaw, 20 delegates for the People's Police Force and 40 delegates for Civil servants.

"As for intelligentsia and technocrats, they have already been included in the parties, Hluttaw Representatives and civil servants, and we believe that about 30 delegates would be sufficient to represent their interests.

"Regarding others who ought to be invited, we feel that if the Steering Committee does the needful, the problem of prescribing how many should be invited to the National Convention would be conveniently resolved. Summing it up, we wish to say that about 850 delegates should attend the National Convention....

"We shall also carefully study and weigh in all consideration the proposals submitted by other esteemed Representatives, and if we find proposals of merit which would be conducive to the realization of the objectives [of] the National Convention, we shall accept and carry them out according to majority decision.

"Esteemed Chairman,

"In conclusion, we wish to submit a most important point for consideration. An endeavour carried out for the welfare of all nationals in entirety after multi-faceted consideration ought to be successfully concluded in political significance.

"Hence just as the opinions of representatives of all strata and classes and national racial groups are taken into consideration in laying down basic principles for drawing a firm Constitution, we propose in conclusion that the opinion of the people be solicited in drawing up the Constitution on the basis of the principles laid down at the National Convention and that a National Referendum also be conducted after the Constitution had been drawn up."

:::Other Parties

Union Paoh National Organization: Representative U San Hla said [excerpts]:

"Co-ordinations were carried out only with Shan, Chin and Kachin nationals at the Panglong Conference and there were no co-ordinations held with Kayin, Kayah, Mon, Rakhine and other national races. I would like to suggest that as the national races residing in

Myanmar Naing-Ngan have become politically awakened, it is necessary to solicit their opinion in the framing of a firm Constitution and enacting it....

"Our discussions on the number of delegates to the National Convention...are as follows:

(a) to invite from five to seven delegates from each of the legally existing political parties;

(b) to invite proportionally the delegates from the political parties that won in the General Election;

(c) to invite from one to five delegates from each of the national races;

(d) to invite from five to ten delegates from the peasants State and Division-wise;

(e) to invite from five to ten delegates from the workers Ministry-wise;

(f) to invite a suitable number of delegates from the retired and in-service historians and law experts;

(g) to invite a suitable number of Tatmadaw officers in the level of the Light Infantry Commander and the Command Commander and the retired Tatmadaw officers;

(h) to invite from three to five delegates from each of the nationalities groups that have returned to the legal fold;

(i) Other personalities who should be invited to the National Convention are the persons who are signatories to the Panglong Agreement, persons who took part in the drawing up of the 1947 Constitution, and the persons who served at the Minister level and above and the Ministers of States in the period after the independence was gained...."

Mro or Khami National Solidarity Organization: Representative U San Tha Aung said [excerpts]:

"As I am the representative of the Mro or Khami National Solidarity Organization, I would like to talk about Rakhine State where we live. There are altogether seven national groups in Rakhine State, viz, (1) Rakhine, (2) Mro or Khami, (3) Dainet, (4) Thet, (5) Maramakye, (6) Kaman and (7) Chin:

(1) Rakhine national representatives....

(A) there are national groups in Rakhine State; and I would like to state that about two representatives from each national group should be invited to the National Convention.

(B) Some political parties in which some candidates have been elected as Hluttaw representatives were cancelled. It is learnt that representatives-elect from those cancelled political parties can stand as independent representatives-elect. I now would like to present my suggestion that those independent representatives-elect should be invited to the National Convention.

(C) None of the candidates of some political parties were elected in the General Election. I would like to say that delegates representing each of these political parties should be selected to attend the National Convention.

(2) Mro or Khami national group:...

(a) The sub-groups are (1) Parkin or Warkon or Mro, (2) Owakhami or Awakhami, (3) Aphyakhami, (4) Chaungphyakhami, (5) Anu, (6) Khaunso, (7) Akelaung and so on I would like to present my suggestions that about 11 delegates from Mro or Khami national group should be allowed to attend the National Convention.

(b) Similarly, three delegates from the representatives of the Mro or Khami National Solidarity Organization should be selected.

(3) Dainet national group and Maramakye national group:...

Four representatives from Dainet national group...[and] two representatives from Maramakye and two from Kaman should be allowed to attend the National Convention.

(4) Thet and Asho Chin: So also, from small Thet national group like Dainet [sic] national group [Asho Chin intended??], two representatives should be admitted....

(5) Others who should be invited to the National Convention:

Those from the following organizations and following officials must be necessarily invited to the National Convention.

(a) Members of the State Law and Order Restoration Council, Ministers, Command Commanders; (b) Attorney-General and Deputy Attorney-General; (c) Chief Justice and Deputy Chief Justice); (d) Directors-General and Managing Directors of the Departments and Enterprises, two from each department or enterprise; (e) a peasant representative from each township; and (f) a worker representative from each township.

(6) Others who should be invited to the National Convention: The following are the persons who have much experience in Myanmar Naing-Ngan politics and the world politics; with genuine cetana (goodwill) I would like to present my suggestion to invite those persons with the intention of gaining advice from them: Experienced veteran politicians: (a) U Ne Win, (b) Dr. Maung Maung, (c) Bohmu Aung, (d) Widura Thakhin Chit Maung, (e) U Thu Wai, and (f) members of the Election Commission...."

Shan State Kokang Democratic Party: Representative U Yan Khin Maw said, through an interpreter [excerpt]:

"The following should be present at the National Convention:

- (i) From one to five persons who have had political experience of pre-independence days;
- (ii) From one to five persons who have had political experience of AFPFL and Pa-Hta-Sa period;
- (iii) From one to five persons who have had political experience during the Revolutionary Council Period;
- (iv) From one to five persons who have had political experience during the Burma Socialist Programme Party period;
- (v) From one to five persons from the State Law and Order Restoration Council;
- (vi) All elected Representatives except those against whom action was taken;
- (vii) Five persons from each party leader [sic] of 93 political parties which contested the election;
- (viii) Ten persons each from one [sic] national race who have high standard of morality, who are selfless and who win the trust of the people;
- (ix) Ten persons each from organizations which are in armed movement for various reasons;
- (x) Five persons each from mass and class organizations;
- (xi) Thirty youth political leaders;
- (xii) Twenty members of intelligentsia and technocrats who are patriotic.

"We do not believe that the Tatmadaw suspended its offenses in Kayin State due to its political, economic or military stringency. We are of the opinion that it was aimed at strengthening national unity and holding peace talks among national races. It is important for us to understand that. We would like to present the following suggestions for the successful holding of the National Convention:

(a) For the Government to suspend all its offensives in the whole country in showing its magnanimity as it has done in Kayin State;

(b) To give amnesty to all persons against whom action has been taken for political reasons...."

Lahu National Development Party: Representative Daniel Aung said [excerpt]:

"The speech delivered by the Chairman...paves the way to convening the National Convention. I would like to simply denote that to open the gate wider, general amnesty should be declared after taking necessary measures for convening the National Convention. Declaring the general amnesty, even those within and without the country having different political views according to the existing laws and those, because of politics, standing in different layers of lives would get a chance to attend the National Convention if they truly love mother country and have genuine cetana for the State Now is the time 'to forgive and forget' and to take steps for

pleasant future life....

"Concerning the delegates who are to attend the National Convention, I would like to present the following suggestions:

(1) Three delegates from each political party should be allowed to attend the National Convention;

(2) I am in vision that the Representatives-elect in the general election who are legally standing should be allowed to attend the National Convention;

(3) I would like to suggest that...one national race each from each township should be permitted to attend. I would like to...permit the lawfully existing parties formed based on the national races to select their own national race as representatives. This is the desire of Wa and Lahu nationals. Although the Akhar nationals could not form their own political party... they are members of the Lahu National Development Party. I would like to request that the [LNDP] be given permission to select Akhar national representative through the Akhar Cultural group;

(4) In selecting the peasants representatives...permission should be given to select one national race each from each township and the procedure for selecting should be the same as that mentioned in paragraph No 3;

(5) Workers;

(6) Intelligentsia and technocrats;

(7) I think that in stipulating the number and selecting representatives of service personnel, it will not be appropriate for State Government to take the responsibility;

(8) I think that number of other appropriate personnel to be invited to attend should be fixed and selected by the State Law and Order Restoration Council. With this I conclude. Thank you."

Independent: Dr. Hmuh Thang, independent Hluttaw Representative, said [excerpts]:

"Our Chin nationals consider Chin for Democracy and National Equality to be a matter of high priority. We believe our other national brethren the Kachin, the Kayah, the Kayin, the Mon, the Bamar, the Shan and the Rakhine too will place much worth on such value.... These national races are composed of their own respective national groups. For example in the Bamar national race, there are also the Dawei, Yaw, the Kadu and also the Kanan; in the same way, the Chin national races there are Tongzang, the Tiddim, the Falam, the Haka, Than Tlang, the Matupi, the Mindat, the Kanpetlet, the Paletwa Townships and in some of the plains regions there are Htadoe, the Hsaingzan, the Taichun, the Zarhaung, the Laing, the Zopei, the Mra, the Matu, the Zothunmon, the Yaungtuyaung, the U-pu, the Khu-mi, the Anu, the Asho etc. constituting over 50 national racial groups.

"But no matter what the national racial groups, a Chin is still a Chin, Bamar is still a Bamar, a Kachin is still a Kachin. Ans so also the Kayin, the Kayan, the Mon, the Rakhine similarly of their own kind. It is said that a race will not become extinct because it is swallowed by the earth, but on the other hand a race can become extinct if swallowed (absorbed) by man. This saying is very true. In order to prevent this happening the national brethren ought to help one another as true brothers and refrain from any activity in which a larger group is likely to overwhelm a smaller group. It is very important that we establish a Union of Myanmar which is free from either benign or malignant chauvinism and narrow-minded racism....

"I propose the following should be allowed to attend the National Convention:

(1) A delegate each from political parties that contested the election, and a delegate each from 93 political parties that won or did not win in the election and were abolished;

(2) All the elected Representatives in the election;

(3) Delegates of the national races, they ought to be one delegate from each region elected by the respective national groups themselves;

(4) One peasant delegate for each township to be selected township-wise;

(5) One worker delegate for each township to be selected township-wise;

[6] One delegate each from the intelligentsia, technocrats, legal experts, artistes, writers, artists and sculptors, 'thabin' artistes, nurses, doctors, and engineers;

[7] Government servants, Directors-General, Managing Directors and Rectors Ministry-wise; Principals of the Institutes and Colleges; Command Commanders who are not members of the State Law and Order Restoration Council; the People's Police Force Director-General;

[8] others who ought to be included: (a) all members of the State Law and Order Restoration Council; (b) Cabinet members; (c) all members of the Steering Committee for Holding Co-ordination Meeting for the Convening of the National Convention; (d) the Chief Justice and Justices of the Supreme Court; (e) the Attorney-General and the Deputy Attorney-General; (f) the Auditor-General and the Deputy Auditor-General; (g) former leaders of the nation such as former Prime Minister U Nu, former President U Ne Win, Dr. Maung Maung, Senior General Saw Maung; (h) veteran politicians such as Vidura Thakin Chit Maung, Bohmu Aung and veteran politicians respected among Kachin, Kayah, Kayin, Chin, Mon, Bamar, Rakhine and Shan national races, all members of the Multiparty Democracy General Election Commission; (i) to allow, if it is possible, KNU, KIA and organizations in the jungle to take part in the discussions based on the results of the talks held by the government aimed at national solidarity" (WPD 7/1)

Third Day Co-ordination Session

July 10: The Third-day session of the Co-ordination Meeting for Convening National Convention was attended by the Party Representatives and Steering Committee members. Following an opening address by Steering Committee Chairman Maj-Gen. Myo Nyunt, six of the Party Representatives "presented discussions." Then Steering Committee Secretary Brig-Gen. Aung thein "resentd the programmed to be carried out by the Steering Committee with regard to the discussions...." The Chairman then delivered a closing speech.

:Chairman's Opening Speech

"Esteemed Representatives,

"Today, the discussions of the Representatives on the second-day session with emphasis on 'Our Three Main National Causes' will be deliberated further and I had already said on the first-day session that the Co-ordination Meeting opened the door for convening the National Convention in order to lay down the basic principles prior to framing a constitution.

"Representatives present at this meeting being responsible for framing a constitution of the future democratic State, all of us are to discuss the question of those to be invited to the National Convention with magnanimity and metta in continuing our discussions of the second-day meeting.

"In holding discussions today with the aim of convening the National Convention with emphasis on laying down basic principles for framing a firm consitutions for generations to come, bias and prejudice should be avoided and talks carried out with a spirit of fairness and balance. I urge you to submit worthy proposals and ideas keeping in mind the well-being of all the nationalities in their entirety."

:Party Discussions

National League for Democracy: NLD Representative U Aung Shwe said [full text]:

"Esteemed Chairman,

"With the permission of the Meeting Chairman, the National League for Democracy would like to discuss some more.

"I wish the Meeting Chairman, Steering Committee members, elected Representatives of political parties and the elected

independent Representative in good health and happiness.

"I noted at the Co-ordination Meeting session on 30 June 1992 that further presentations will be allowed at the session today.

"My presentations on behalf of the National League for Democracy on that day were reported in the 1 July issue of the Loktha Pyithu Nezin. But some points were reported incorrectly. Through the Meeting Chairman I would like to request correction of the following points.

"Replace 'law' with 'the number' on the 54th line of the 4th column on page A of the Loktha Pyithu Nezin supplement;

"Replace 'Kwai Shan of Mongyang delegates' with 'representatives of political organizations' on the 24th line of the 5th column on page A of the supplement;

"Replace 'recognized' with 'rarely recognized' on the 50th line of the 5th column on page A;

"Replace 'respectively' with 'large and small' on the 54th line of the 7th column on page A;

"Replace 'State organization' with 'political organization' on the 78th line of the 7th column of page A; and

"Replace 'youth means those within the 21 and 30 age group' with 'youth means those within the 21 and 31 age group' on the 35th line of the 1st column on page B.

"In connection with inviting National Convention delegates, political organizations have their own procedures, principles and rules under which organization work is carried out township-wise and State/ Division-wise on the basis of wards and villages. In nominating delegates to the Convention, however, it will be just and appropriate to take into consideration those of the Township and State/Division organizations. It is therefore proposed again that delegates to the National Convention should be nominated from of [sic] the townships and State/Division organizations.

"In connection with the elected Representatives, the voters or the public have elected them out of their own volition to represent them in accordance with the Pyithu Hluttaw Election Law promulgated by the Government; accomplishment of a national cause calls for public participation; and hence we would like to further suggest that all the Hluttaw representatives should be invited as delegates to the National Convention.

"As regards nominating delegates from the national races, we would like to restate that delegates should be chosen among the national racial groups on the basis of constituencies instead of townships.

"On the selection of worker delegates, the workers comprise blue collar and white collar workers. So, selection of delegates should be made to represent all workers engaged in the respective trades and skills.

"Another point is that student delegates should include those who have matriculated but have not entered universities, colleges and institutes.

"A new democratic State, a national objectives, will emerge if all the people of the nation make concerted efforts with the determination and strong will to accomplish the writing of a constitution; and if there emerge changes in harmony with the present peaceful conditions in the country."

Shan Nationalities League for Democracy: Representative Hkun Tun Oo said [major excerpts]:

"The National Convention delegates who represent the peasants, workers, technocrats and intelligentsia and public servants must convey the wishes and aspirations of the people they represent to the Convention. For instance, it is very important that those representing State employees are able to convey their wishes and aspirations.

"For this reason, means should be created so that good and worthy ideas and suggestions regarding the Constitution may be drawn from all citizens at the National Convention. What we mean is that matters should be expedited so that all citizens may make proposals for the framing of the Constitution which concerns all citizens. For

this reason, we propose that all citizens such as peasants, workers, State employees etc, be permitted freedom of criticism, discussion and presentation regarding the Constitution for at least three months prior to the holding of the National Convention. Since such discussions concerning the Convention is not the concern of any single party but concerns only the Constitution, it absolutely should not be considered a matter of 'politicking'. It is only when this is allowed would 'Emergence of the Constitution is the duty of all citizens' be meaning fully and precisely implemented [sic]. Though the National Convention concerns all citizens, not everyone is likely to be able to attend and participate in the discussions. Hence, we wish to propose that due consideration be also given to ideas and suggestions sent in by interested citizens. What we are proposing is for appropriate democratic environment be created so that everyone may have freedom to make suggestions and freedom of discussions and consultation. This proposal is being made because of a sincere desire to see the successful attainment of all National Convention objectives.

"Esteemed Chairman,

"We are engaged in the discussions and co-ordination to bring about the emergence of a national political programme. It is a matter which concerns all nationals in the entirety. As such, we believe it appropriate to invite for peaceful round-table discussions all those who are in political opposition as well as those who are in military confrontation. This proposal is being made in the interests of a peaceful and tranquil union since there are already instances in which peace has been achieved with certain armed organizations. Ours is an auspicious time and occasion when goodwill and broad-mindedness can be demonstratively shown towards all our blood-brethren and citizens in accord with the national political programme. This is also the time when differences may be ironed out.

"In our opinion, the first step that should be taken is for confidence-building on a mutual basis between individuals as well as between organizations. We welcome the full coverage of news in the press and over the TV Myanmar of the Co-ordination Meeting proceedings of 30 June as positive steps begun by the State Law and Order Restoration Council for building mutual confidence.

"It would be necessary for both sides to take mutually confidence building steps. To establish, mutual confidence efforts are required to improve the political climate, in other words to further upgrade the democratic environment.

"Esteemed Chairman,

"We believe that there are two things which must be done at this Co-ordination Meeting to ensure the success of the National Convention. The first point concerns the principles to be laid down for selection of delegates, the number of delegates and how they are to be chosen. The second point the things that must be carried out prior to the convention to ensure the success of the National Convention to ensure that it is a comprehensive and all-embracing National Convention....

"Esteemed Chairman,

"Regarding the first point, we queried on the second day session of the Co-ordination Meeting as to the basic principles and criteria for selection of delegates from among the peasants, the workers, the intelligentsia and technocrats and the State employees. Although we still do not know the reply, the following are some points we wish to present--

(a) Peasant Delegates--

(1) For the State Law and Order Restoration Council to select four delegates from each State and Division

(2) For the Parties to select eight delegates from each State and Division

(b) Worker Delegates--

(1) For the [SLORC] to select two delegates from each State and Division

(2) For the Parties to select four delegates from each

State and Division

(c) Intelligentsia and Technocrat Delegates

(1) For one delegate to be selected from each of the legally-instituted organizations

(2) For the [SLORC] to select one delegate for intelligentsia and technocrats having no legally-instituted organizations and for political parties to select four delegates from each such group

(d) State employee delegates

For the respective Ministries to select two delegates each.

"In addition, we further propose that one delegate be selected from each university, institute and college to represent youths and students.

"Now that market economy is to be practised, representatives of entrepreneurs from among the nationalities, such as for instance, chambers of commerce and chambers of industry ought to be also represented; delegates numbering not more than five should also be invited to the National Convention.

"Esteemed Chairman,

"As the second point, our Shan Nationalities League for Democracy wishes to propose that permission be given for freedom of discussion and expression, initiation of round-table discussions to bring about peace and for the granting of general amnesty prior to the National Convention to create a good democratic environment and good political climate conducive to the success of the National Convention.

"Esteemed Chairman,

"Regarding measures to be taken for the success of the National Convention, we wish to propose that if a convening committee were to be formed, it should be made up of representatives of the State Law and Order Restoration Committee [sic], representatives of the elected Hluttaw Representatives and representatives of the Parties.

"Esteemed Chairman,

"We believe that the National Convention cannot be but successful if the right preconditions are created for a democratic environment and good political climate. By the same token, the principles laid down by the National Convention would also lend force to the realization of Our

Three National Causes, that of Non-disintegration of National Unity, Non-disintegration of the Union and the Preservation of National Sovereignty. With this proposal, I conclude."

National Unity Party: Representative U M Sin Sar said [excerpts]"

"The National Unity Party has already submitted the number of invitees in explicit terms for successful holding of the National Convention within the framework suggested by the meeting chairman. We would like to state that we do not expect the results to be in total agreement with our suggestions and we have no preconceived reservations about the presentations of other party organizations.... We are prepared to act in the interests of the country in accordance with the wishes of the majority.

"The present Co-ordination Meeting...is not the kind of meeting for passing resolutions and as such we understand that all the organizations involved presented their stance, opinions and convictions as suggestions. Matters to be discussed at the Co-ordination Meeting and those to be dealt with at the Convention will be of different entities.... Our party will present appropriate points in detail at the National Convention....

"The National Unity Party...is prepared to follow the the recommendations of the Steering Committee based on the suggestions of the Co-ordination Meeting...and resolutions of the State Law and Order Restoration Council...."

Union Paoh National Organization: Representative U San Hla said [excerpts]:

"What our [UPNO] would like to advise is to avoid the two

extremes of chauvinism and narrow racism in the selection of delegates.... The difference our party has found [with other parties] is in the numbers of delegates who should be invited to the National Convention. We would like to suggest tht the number of delegates in minimum and in maximum be included by the Steering Committee...as an object in the discussions of the Co-ordination Meeting...."

Mro or Khami National Solidarity Organization: Representative U San Tha Aung said [excerpts]:

"[SLORC] Chairman General Than Shwe [said on Mar. 5-6, 1991]... that the country is not inhabited by a single race but by several races together and that the constitution should be acceptable to all citizens. On hearing this reference and elaboration, joy and pleasure must have been aroused on the expectation that all this has opened the door to opportunities for the the entire people including ethnic minorities.

"Esteemed Chairman,

"I would like to further suggest:

1. In selecting delegates of national races to the National Convention

(a) the delegate be one selected in accordance with the wishes of the nationals.

(b) no restriction be placed on the region of residence of the delegates and that such selection be possible from whichever region they may reside in.

(c) State employees may also enjoy the right to be selected as delegates of national races.

2. Nomination of Chairman of National Convention

The formation of a Panel of Chairmen for the National Convention will be necessary. I should like to suggest that one each from the national races residing in the States and Divisions should be nominated by turn.

3. Nomination of delegates according to national races

(a) to allow suggest selection racial sub-groupwise in accord with the wishes of the majority in selecting delegates of the racial groups in order to accommodate participation populationwise representation of the 135 sub-groups residing in Myanmar Naing-Ngan.

(b) To exclude delegates of political parties from selection of national groups delegates and allow their separate selection....

"Esteemed Chairman,

"In the history of Myanmar Naing-Ngan, two constitutions have been written. However, an essence of unity of nationals in their entirety has been found lacking.

"Therefore, I conclude with the suggestion that repeated co-ordination be made for the emergence of a firm constitution which will involve views acceptable by all the people including the national sub-groups taking a broadbased, honest and patient stand in cognizance of the progress made by the changing political situation in Myanmar Naing-Ngan and in the world."

Independent: Independent Representative Dr. Hmu Htan said [excerpt]:

"Esteemed Chairman,

"It is essential that the National Convention be convened on the basis of peace and national reunification. This is a time, therefore, for parties, groups, and individuals to work hand-in-hand for the future wellbeing of the nation, free from grudge, suspicion, and noble aspirations [sic].... It is necessary that the Committee [for holding the National Convention] include members nominated by the Government and including elected representatives of political parties. I believe this has already been arranged by the Government. Holding a National Convention thus would improve our image both internally and externally.

"Esteemed Chairman,

"The National Convention should be free of control, interference, be fair and independent. The resolutions of the National Convention should not be those passed by vote but by consensus. As it is necessary to fulfil the aspirations of nationals,

it is very essential that free discussions be permitted townshipwise prior to the convention. I therefore make a special appeal that martial law be lifted...."

:Secretary Reviews Proposals

Steering Committee Secretary Brig-Gen. Aung Thein opened by noting the NLD Representatives suggested corrections of the record of the Second Day Session, as reported in the press. He said that "In fact, newspaper reports were based on the transcriptions of the recorded tapes. We study the written statement of representatives. We also record the points they discussed. The TV telecast what was recorded and the newspaper report was based on transcriptions of recordings. We will make necessary corrections in accordance with the wishes of the representative. We will publish a book of records only when corrections have been made."

Concerning the substantive discussions, he noted that eight categories of persons had been suggested for attendance at the National Convention: (1) Representatives of political parties; (2) Elected Representatives; (3) Representatives of national races; (4) Peasants; (5) Workers; (6) Members of intelligentsia and technocrats; (7) Service personnel; and (8) Others. Party representatives had made suggestions as to each of these categories:

(1) Political Parties:

ÄÄ NLD: 2 each from Central HQ and 1 each from State/Division and Township level. But it suggested today that only political parties from State/Divisions and townships should select delegates.

ÄÄ SNLD: all Patrons and CEC members from legal parties.

ÄÄ NUP: about 150 persons from 10 political parties.

ÄÄ UPNO: 5-7 persons from each legal party.

ÄÄ MKNSO: 1 from each party contesting election. But today it said that party representatives should not be included as national delegates but selected separately as party representatives.

ÄÄ SSKDP: 5 from each of the 93 parties that contested the election.

ÄÄ LNDP: 3 from each party.

ÄÄ Ind: 1 from each of the 93 contesting parties.

(2) Elected Representatives:

ÄÄ NLD and 5 others: all elected representatives.

ÄÄ Another: 3 times those present at the Co-ordination Meeting.

ÄÄ Another: as prescribed.

(3) National Races:

ÄÄ NLD: 2 from each township, unless already included. Today it said that the base should be constituency rather than township.

ÄÄ SNLD: either 80 (10 Bamar and 70 from the remaining 7 major groups) or 115 (30 Bamar and 85 from other groups).

ÄÄ NUP: 135--1 for each 150,000 Bamars; 1 for each 75,000 Kayins, Rakhines, and Shans; 1 for each 50,000 Kachins, Chins, and Mons; 1 for each 25,000 Kayahs; appropriate ratios for other sub-groups.

ÄÄ UPNO: 1-5 from each race.

ÄÄ MKNSO: 11 Mro or Khami and 10 each from other Rakhine races. The party added today that residence should not be a qualification for national race representatives, and that service personnel should qualify.

ÄÄ SSKDP: 10 from each race.

ÄÄ LNDP: 1 from each race in each township, with ethnic parties picking their own representatives.

ÄÄ Ind: 1 from each race, selected regional-wise.

(4) Peasants:

ÄÄ NLD: 1 from each township, unless elected representative already a farmer.

ÄÄ SNLD: 4 chosen by SLORC and 8 by parties for each State/Division.

ÄÄ NUP: about 120 persons.

ÄÄ UPNO: 5-10 from each State/Division.

ÄÄ MKNSO: 1 from each township.

ÄÄ SSKDP: 5 from each mass and class organization.

ÄÄ LNPD: 1 from each race from each township.

ÄÄ Ind: 1 from each township.

(5) Workers:

ÄÄ NLD: 30 chosen by Labour Ministry. Both blue-collar and white-collar workers to be included.

ÄÄ SNLD: 2 chosen by SLORC and 4 by political parties in each State/Division.

ÄÄ NUP: 40 delegates.

ÄÄ UPNO: 5-10 chosen ministry-wise.

ÄÄ MKNSO: 1 from each township.

ÄÄ SSKDP: 5 from each mass and class organization.

ÄÄ LNPD: chosen by Government.

ÄÄ Ind: 1 from each township.

(6) Intelligentsia and technocrats:

ÄÄ NLD: 20 from organizations and 50 from universities, institutes, and medicine.

ÄÄ SNLD: 1 from each legal organization, plus 1 chosen by SLORC and 4 by parties for persons without organizations.

ÄÄ NUP: about 30 persons.

ÄÄ UPNO: appropriate number from historians and lawyers, active or retired.

ÄÄ MKNSO: No suggestions.

ÄÄ SNLD: 20 persons "having national spirit".

ÄÄ LNPD: chosen by Government.

ÄÄ Ind: 1 per subject.

(7) Public servants:

ÄÄ NLD: about 200 from Ministries, Supreme Court, Attorney-General's and Auditor-General's Offices, Tatmadaw, and Peoples Police.

ÄÄ SNLD: 2 from each Ministry.

ÄÄ NUP: 40 from Tatmadaw; 20 from Police; 40 from public service.

ÄÄ UPNO: appropriate number of senior Tatmadaw officers in addition to those of Division Commander and Command Commander rank, and retired Tatmadawmen.

ÄÄ MKNSO: SLORC members, Command Commanders, Attorney-General and Deputy, Chief and Vice Chief Justices, directors-general and managing directors from each department.

ÄÄ SSKDP: No suggestions.

ÄÄ LNPD: State should decide.

ÄÄ Ind: Command Commanders, Police Director-General, directors-general and managing directors, rectors and college principals.

(8) Others:

NLD: 50, chosen from independence fighters, prominent politicians, scholars, 30 Comrades members, Panglong conference members, drafters of 1947 and 1974 constitutions. Also 5 from WVO, 2 women and youths (21-31) from each State/Division, 30 students over 18. It was added that those who have matriculated but not entered college should also be selected.

SNLD: 30 Comrades and prominent Resistance Fighters, signers of Panglong Agreement, drafters of 1947 Constitution, members of the Taunggyi National Convention of 1961, members of the 33 member Advisory Body, Ministers from all governments, members of Council of State, members of SLORC. Also 1 from each University, Institute, and College, and 5 from economic organizations.

NUP: as prescribed by Steering Committee.

UPNO: Signers of Panglong Agreement, drafters of 1947 and 1974 constitutions, Ministers, former State/Division Chairmen, 1-3 from each organization returned to the legal fold.

MKNSO: U Ne Win, Dr. Maung Maung, Bohmu Aung, Vidura Thakin Chit Maung, U Thu Wai and members of the Election Commission.

SSKDP: 1-5 pre-independence dignitaries, 1-5 AFPFL and Pa Hta Sa era dignitaries, 1-5 Revolutionary Council dignitaries, 1-5 SLORC leaders, and 30 youth politicians. Also 10 from each armed terrorist group, with general amnesty before the National Convention.

LNDP: SLORC should decide. Also a general amnesty to permit politicians from inside and outside the country, with different ideologies, to attend.

Ind: SLORC members, Ministers, Supreme Court members, Attorney-General and Deputy, Auditor-General and Deputy, former State Leaders U Ne Win, Dr. Maung Maung, Senior General Saw Maung, Vidura Thakin Chit Maung, Bohmu Aung, former ethnic politicians, Election Commission members, 30 students. KNU and KIA terrorist representatives.

"Esteemed Representatives,

"Our Steering Committee would submit a report to the State Law and Order Restoration Council in accordance with the duties assigned to it under Section 3 of Notification No 35/92 and Section 8(e) of the Order No 9/92 issued by the State Law and Order Restoration Council, dated 28 May, 1992, on the suggestions forwarded by the representatives at the present co-ordination meeting. Our Committee will also submit the report after studying from all angles the suggestions forwarded by the leaders of the representatives. We will also submit the report mentioning the administrative, management and logistic support contributing towards the smooth and successful convening of the National Convention."

:Closing Speech by Chairman

In his closing speech, Steering Committee Chairman Maj-Gen. Myo Nyunt said [excerpts]:

"It is...found that the representatives, as I have suggested, made constructive proposals in warm spirit. The Steering Committee is specially grateful to the representatives for their cetana and efforts. The Secretary...has clarified how the proposals of the elected party representatives and the elected independent representative come into view when charted out.... Differences are found in the proposals for the number of delegates in each of the types. It is reasonable in that stipulations for the numbers have been made on the basis of contrasting points of view.... It has been found that the representatives have put forward their proposals with genuine cetana. If I say of the similarity in the nature of putting forward these proposals, it is like at a ceremony of charity where collective donations are made. Each of the donors prepares a curry as he or she likes To get the right men, these curries must be brought together in right proportions... to be of varied and balanced taste and also to be wholesome and nutritious.

"In like manner, the proposals made with genuine cetana are to be synthesized into a suitable mixture to bring the best practical results and benefits.

"It is found that some representatives have made suggestions with thorough reviews on the matter of inviting delegates to the National Convention and some have focused on particular points. For instance, it is said in their reviews that there is difficulty in choosing delegates from peasants and workers as there are no such Thamaggas among these masses. If we are to say from our point of view, there is no difficulty in choosing...[because] there is unity in its origin among the peasants and workers for the time being.... [During the parliamentary period, there were numerous party-organized worker and peasant organizations that] led to worsening situation and clashes with rods and swords. Under the present circumstances, there are no such rivalries and factional strife among the intelligentsia, technocrats and youths and the two fundamental strata of workers and peasants. It is also a favourable period in which unity has shown itself among the masses who are engaged in their duties and services in the interests of the nation We would like to tell the representatives to feel assured in the matter of choosing delegates from peasants and workers.... True, impartial delegates who are competent to serve the interests of the general public will be chosen and invited to the Convention....

"What I would like to say further is of the internal terrorist insurgents. There are proposals of some representatives that have

suggested giving opportunity to armed terrorist insurgents to enable them to attend the National Convention.... The [SLORC] earnestly wishes for national consolidation and and up to this day it has been extending opportunities to armed terrorists regardless of past history. As announced on 28 of last April, the Tatmadaw suspended its offensives in Kayin State. At the same time, offensives against other armed terrorists have also been suspended up to this time....

"Now, we would discuss the matters of whether the representatives of the existing armed terrorist insurgents should attend or not. It would be unnatural to invite persons who have no confidence in the Convention to attend it. If the armed terrorists are truly desirous of attending the National Convention they ought to abandon the line of armed struggle. They will have to return to the legal fold after abandoning the armed struggle. After they return to the legal fold, they, like other members of the public, will be able to attend the National Convention by obtaining suitable number of delegates. It is quite clear that the armed terrorists in the jungle today have no other way to attend the National Convention except the one I have just explained....

"The National Convention...should be attended by those who are loyal and faithful. If the armed terrorists return to the legal fold and their delegates attend the National Convention, they will have to hold in esteem faithfulness and loyalty while acting in good faith. On the other hand, if there is collaboration between the underground and above-ground, through unlawful means or otherwise to sabotage the National Convention for their selfish gains, the entire mass of the people are to suffer a great loss; this should be noted.

"I will now explain some measures taken in accordance with the Declaration No 11/92 ...as they are related to discussions of some representatives. As all are aware, we have amnestied a considerable number of politicians serving prison sentences according to law, for establishing national consolidation. With due scrutiny, those who are believed to be of no threat to national security will continue to be released. Those who pose a threat to national security will remain.

"Esteemed Representatives,

"As regards the query concerning the right to freely discuss and make written statements, I want you to consider how we are conducting this coordination meeting, and you will know how much freedom you have, how much we are doing to let the general public know comprehensively what they should know. You are witness to this. If all concerned take a positive stand as you do now, I can say there will be no reason for any problem to crop up. It may clearly be seen that the public will not permit the National Convention being used as a forum for political capital, for instigating unrest, national races being set against each other through opposition and hatred, be that perpetrated by an individual or an organization. If there is outright contravention of the law, then action will be taken according to law....

Whatever it is, the national mass of people, we and the lawfully existing political parties must, as a matter of priority, ensure that the forthcoming National Convention is successful. If there should occur, from within this nation or without, those who would work to endanger this noble task of ours, we will have to prevent such danger according to law, working hand-in-hand with the people....

"Esteemed Representatives,

"Although I made it clear from the outset, before the discussions started, that discussions would have to be directed at holding of the National Convention, I noticed that some of the representatives overstepped the bounds and discussed international issues.

"Although we do not wish to discuss any international issues, we would like to proceed with discussion of internal issues. When it concerns the strengthening of sovereignty, it is most important that you realize there must be greater strengthening of the solidarity of all nationals, and the unity of all classes of people which

constitute the strength of the nation....

"As regards discussion concerning 'lessons have been learnt from having experienced the evils which occurred in the country', it must be added that the anarchy and evils which we experience in 1988 must be taken as lessons and their recurrence must be prevented....

"We have taken careful note of your suggestions. On the basis of your suggestions, we will have to make careful consideration to come as close to them as possible, to make them as practicable as possible employing various ways and means. The Steering Committee will be submitting to the State Law and Order Restoration Council within a month all these suggestions....

"We believe those who honestly desire the holding of the National Convention successfully, with the State maintaining a peaceful situation and working for the true emergence of a multi-party democracy system will never accept above-ground and under-ground elements working in collusion and working against us with evil intent...." (WPD 7/11)

DIPLOMATIC

Diplomatic Calls

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

July 1: Thai Ambassador Virasakdi Futrakul on Minister for Health and for Education Col. Pe Thein. (WPD 7/ 2)

July 2: New Zealand Ambassador Phillip Henry Gibson on Minister for Planning & Finance Brig-Gen. Abel. (WPD 7/3)

July 3: UNICEF Resident Representative Rolf C. Carriere on Minister for Health and for Education Col. Pe Thein to discuss "maternal and child health care" and "education for all." (WPD 7/4)

July 7: Singapore Charge d'Affaires Lam Peng Heck on Deputy Minister for Health Col. Than Zin. (WPD 7/8)

July 8: Pakistani Ambassador Mohammad Qurban on Minister for Agriculture Maj-Gen. Myint Aung. Austrian Ambassador Dr. Erich Binder on Minister for Energy U Khin Maung Thein. (WPD 7/9)

July 9: The Austrian Ambassador on Minister for Planning & Finance Brig-Gen. Abel. Malaysian Ambassador John Tenewi Nuek on SLORC Secretary-1 Maj-Gen. Khin Nyunt. Thai Ambassador Virasakdi Futrakul, and Chinese Ambassador Liang Feng, on Deputy Minister for Health Col. Than Zin. (WPD 7/10)

July 13: Czech and Slovak Commercial Counsellor A. Koncal, who has completed his duties in Myanmar, accompanied by the new Commercial Counsellor Mr. P. Cihak, on Minister for Construction U Khin Maung Yin.

July 15: Egyptian Ambassador Mohamed Hassan Ghanem on Deputy Minister for Religious Affairs U Kyaw Aye. (WPD 7/16)

July 17: Malaysian Ambassador John Tenewi Nuek on Minister for Transport and for Labour Lt-Gen. Tin Tun to discuss aviation and water transportation, and Malaysia's need for nurses. (WPD 7/18)

July 20: The Malaysian Ambassador, and Japanese Ambassador Tomoya Kawamura, on Minister for Communications, Posts & Telegraphs U Soe Tha. German Ambassador Dr. Baron Walther von Marschall on Minister for Agriculture Maj-Gen. Myint Aung. (WPD 7/ 21)

July 21: The Malaysian Ambassador on Minister for Mines Vice-Adm. Maung Maung Khin, and on Minister for Energy U Khin Maung Thein. Sri Lankan Ambassador S. Wijesinghe Alawathuwala on Minister for Information Brig-Gen. Myo Thant. Chinese Ambassador Liang Feng on Minister for Home Affairs Lt-Gen. Phone Myint. (WPD 7/22)

July 22: Romanian Ambassador Petre Alexe Mateescu on Minister for Planning & Finance Brig-Gen. Abel. (WPD 7/23)

July 23: Malaysian Ambassador John Tenewi Nuek on Minister for Construction U Khin Maung Yin. Departing American Air Attache Lt-Col. James C. Clem presented his successor, Lt-Col. Michael F. McCarthy, to Commander-in-Chief (Air) Maj-Gen. Thein Win. (WPD 7/24)

July 24: Departing Chinese Defence Attache Col. Liu Huangpu presented his successor, Col. Wu Huachang, to SLORC Chairman General

Than Shwe. (WPD 7/25)

July 28: German Ambassador Dr. Baron Von Marschall on Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Brig-Gen. Thaung Myint. (WPD 7/29)

July 30: UNDP Assistant Resident Representative Ms. Monina S. Magallane on Deputy Minister for Information U Soe Nyunt. Japanese Ambassador Tomoya Kawamura on Minister for Planning & Finance Brig-Gen. Abel. (WPD 7/31)

New Ambassadors to Myanmar

July 2: Mr. Phillip Henry Gibson presented credentials to SLORC Chairman General Than Shwe as new New Zealand Ambassador to Myanmar. (WPD 7/3)

July 7: Dr. Erich Binder presented credentials to SLORC Chairman General Than Shwe as new Austrian Ambassador to Myanmar. (WPD 7/8)

July 13: The Government has agreed to the appointment of Dr. Thakkan Mallik as new Nepalese Ambassador to Myanmar. Ambassador Mallik was born Oct. 9, 1936. In 1955 he became a senior teacher, and was lecturer, and Assistant Dean at the Institute of Agriculture and Animal Science, Rampur, from 1974-1988. In 1985 he earned a Ph.D. from the Indian Agricultural Research Institute in New Delhi. He served as Reader of Agricultural Statistics, Institute of Agricultural and Animal Science, and Dean of the same department from 1988-1990. Since 1990 he has been Professor of Agricultural Statistics at Tribhuvan University, Rampur. He is married, with two children. (WPD 7/12)

July 21: Mr. Petre Alexe Mateescu presented credentials to SLORC Chairman General Than Shwe as new Romanian Ambassador to Myanmar. (WPD 7/22)

New Myanmar Ambassadors

July 2: Myanmar Ambassador to Indonesia U Nyunt Tin left by air for Indonesia. (WPD 7/3)

July 26: U Hla Maung on July 21 presented credentials to Queen Elizabeth II in London as new Myanmar Ambassador to the United Kingdom. (WPD 7/27)

INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

Workshops

July 6: A Workshop on Educational Techniques and Documentations of the Strengthening and Upgrading of Teacher Training Colleges and Schools Project was held in Mandalay under the joint sponsorship of the Department of Basic Education, UNESCO, UNDP, and UNICEF. 67 trainees are attending the Workshop, which will last until July 25. (WPD 7/7)

July 13: A 5-day Workshop on Communication Skills, jointly sponsored by the Health Manpower Department and WHO, opened. Minister for Health and for Education Col. Pe Thein said health personnel "must possess the skill of not only to be able to communicate precise and correct facts to the people, but also to make them believe in and accept the facts and act according to them. He pointed out that in communicating with the people it was necessary to talk less and to be effective in whatever they say." (WPD 7/14)

July 16: A two-week Workshop on Teacher Education via Distance Education opened at the Teachers Training Institute, co-sponsored by the Ministry of Education, UNESCO, UNDP, and UNICEF. Minister for Health and for Education Col. Pe Thein explained "that Correspondence Education was first introduced in 1728 [sic] and that though the name has changed to Correspondence Study, Open University, External Studies and Distance Education the function hardly differed." (WPD 7/17)

Foreign Donations

July 8: Korean Ambassador Hang Kyung Kim, on behalf of the

Multigate Corporation, presented 100 taekwando uniforms to the Sports and Physical Education Department. (WPD 7/9)

July 9: U Tin Tun, Counsellor of Embassy at the Myanmar Embassy in Bangkok, donated \$1,000 worth of hospital equipment to the 500-bed No. 2 Military Hospital. (WPD 7/ 10)

July 10: Myanmar monk Saddhama Jotikadhaja Ashin Kondanna of the Wat Makadhat Monastery in Thailand donated surgery equipment worth 6,000 baht to the Department of Health. (WPD 7/11)

July 12: Mr. James Patrick Steward Ross, an American currently in Yangon, donated US\$200 to the Religious Affairs department for studying ancient Buddhist literature and Pali texts. (WPD 7/13)

July 17: The Japan Foundation donated 69 books to the International Relations and Administration Department of Yangon University. (WPD 7/18)

FOREIGN VISITORS

International Agency Visitors

July 11: Dr. Ko Ko, WHO Regional Director for South East Asia, arrived to discuss health services and activities, and was greeted by Minister for Health and for Education Col. Pe Thein. (WPD 7/ 12) //

July 13: He called on Minister for Health and for Education Col. Pe Thein to discuss WHO projects in Myanmar. (WPD 7/14) //

July 15: He called on SLORC Secretary-1 Maj-Gen. Khin Nyunt. (WPD 7/16)

July 22: Mr. David Clark, head of a UNICEF delegation, called on Deputy Minister for Home Affairs Lt-Col. Than Nyunt to discuss the rights of the child; Director-General of the Prison Department

Police Maj-Gen. San Thein was present. (WPD 7/ 23)

Academic Visitors

July 6: Mr. Tomoo Takashara, President of Century Research Centre of Japan, and Prof. Minoru Kiryu of Chubu University called on SLORC Secretary-1 Maj-Gen. Khin Nyunt. (WPD 7/7)

Business Visitors

July 15: Mr. Wang Guiyi, Senior Adviser of the China National Machinery Import Export Corporation arrived with a delegation to "conduct feasibility studies and discuss cooperation in mining and industries" during a two-week stay. He called on Minister for Planning & Finance Brig-Gen. Abel. (WPD 7/16) //

July 16: He called on Minister for Mines Vice-Adm. Maung Maung Khin. (WPD 7/17) //

July 17: He called on Minister for Industry-1 Lt-Gen. Sein Aung, and later visited the Steel Mill at Ywama. (WPD 7/18)

July 16: M/S Bell Helicopter Asia (Pte) Ltd., Singapore, presented a demonstration flight of its 'Bell Model 206 L-3 Long Ranger III' helicopter. The single-engine helicopter can carry 4,150 pounds and fly at a minimum altitude [sic] of 14,000 feet and a maximum altitude of 18,000. feet. It can carry a pilot and 6 passengers, or two pilots and 5 passengers, and fly for 3 1/2 hours. Pilot Mr. Donald Key explained the helicopter to officials. (WPD 7/16)

July 28: Australian Ambassador Geoffery Charles Allen called on Minister for Livestock and Fisheries Brig-Gen. Maung Maung, accompanied by President Mr. Theo Kailis of New Fishing Australia Pte. Ltd. (WPD 7/29)

Thai Delegation

July 1: A delegation led by Mr. Sawanit Kongsiri, Director-General of the Department of Economic Affairs of the Thai Ministry of Foreign Affairs, called on Minister for Agriculture Maj-Gen. Myint Aung. (WPD 7/2) //

July 2: The delegation called on Minister for Livestock and Fisheries Brig-Gen. Maung Maung, and on Minister for Health and for Education Col. Pe Thein. (WPD 7/3) //

July 4: The delegation left. (WPD 7/5)

German Parliamentary Delegation

July 10: A four-member delegation from the German Federal Parliament's Committee on Economic Cooperation, led by Mr. Dieter Schanz, called on Minister for Planning & Finance Brig-Gen. Abel, Minister for Health and for Education Col. Pe Thein, and Minister for Foreign Affairs U Ohn Gyaw, to discuss economic aid, health care activities, and universities and institutes in Myanmar. The delegation arrived July 9 for a 5-day visit. (WPD 7/11)

July 13: It called on Chief Justice U Aung Toe. (WPD 7/14)

July 14: The delegation left. (WPD 7/15)

Japanese Parliamentary Delegation

July 12: Mr. Koji Kakizawa, Parliamentary Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs of Japan, with a two-man delegation, arrived at the invitation of Minister for Foreign Affairs U Ohn Gyaw. (WPD 7/13)

July 13: He called on Minister for Foreign Affairs U Ohn Gyaw, on SLORC Secretary-1 Maj-Gen. Khin Nyunt, and on Minister for Planning & Finance Brig-Gen. Abel, and visited the Shwedagon Pagoda and the Japanese School on Thantamin Street. (WPD 7/14)

July 14: The delegation left. (WPD 7/15)

Australian Senator

July 28: Australian Senator Christopher Schacht called on Minister for Foreign Affairs U Ohn Gyaw. He is Chairman of the Joint Parliamentary Committee on Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade. (WPD 7/29) // July 29: He called on Chairman U Ba Htay and members of the Election Commission, and on Minister for Planning & Finance Brig-Gen. Abel. (WPD 7/30)

MYANMAR DELEGATIONS

Study Delegations

July 5: Managing Director U Soe Thein of Myanma Agricultural Produce Trading left for Bangkok to attend the July 6-10 Regional Workshop on Marketing Credit. (WPD 7/6)

July 11: Manager U Kyaw Dun of Stationery, Printing and Photographic Stores Trading and Assistant Manager Daw Thin Htut Thida of Inspection and Agency Services left for India to attend a one-year Post Graduate Diploma Programme in International Trade. (WPD 7/12)

July 21: A 5-member delegation headed by Director-General U Kyi Lwin of Myanma Television and Radio Department (MTRD) left for Thailand to visit TV and radio departments from July 21-28 at the invitation of Pine Avenue Trading (Thailand) Co., Ltd. Other members are Deputy Chief Engineer of MTRD U Win Naing, Secretary of Delegation, Assistant Director U Win Kyi and U Tin Aye and Staff Officer U Myat Thein. (WPD 7/22) // July 29: The delegation returned. (WPD 7/30)

July 22: A 6-member delegation headed by Minister for Rail Transportation U Win Sein left for China to study rail transport for two weeks. Members are Managing Director of Myanma Railways U Kyaw Myint, Col. Aung Thein of the Ministry of Rail Transportation, Deputy Chief Engineer U Myint Maung Htwe and Deputy Chief Mechanical Engineer U Tun Aye of Myanma Railways, and the Minister's PA U Myint Wai. (WPD 7/23)

July 25: Deputy Supervisor Daw Aye Aye Swe of Myanma Travels and Tours, Ministry of Trade, left for Israel to attend a four-week International Course on Tourism Management and Development. (WPD 7/26)

Delegations to Meetings & Events

July 22: Rector of the Institute of Education U Han Tin left for Bangkok to participate in the July 23-27 Third Meeting for Regional Co-ordination of Asia-Pacific Programme of Education for All, sponsored by UNESCO. (WPD 7/23)

Delegations Return

[Return of Delegations that departed in previous months.]

July 2: The education delegation led by Deputy Minister for Education Col. Kyi Maung returned from Thailand. (WPD 7/3).

July 8: The delegation led by Dr. Khin Maung Nyunt, member of the Committee for Compiling Authentic Facts on Myanmar History, returned from a two-week visit to China, where they discussed Myanmar literature and translation with writers in Beijing, Shanghai, Guangdong, and Kunming. (WPD 7/9)

July 10: The two-man journalist delegation of U Tin Hlaing and U Aung Thura returned from a two-week visit to Singapore. (WPD 7/11)

MYANMAR GAZETTE

Probationary Appointments

The SLORC made the following appointments, on probation:

July 8: U Thein Aung Lwin, Deputy Director-General, to be Director-General, Foreign Economic Relations Department, Ministry of Planning & Finance.

Daw Yi Yi Thwe, Deputy Director-General, to be Director-General, Planning Department, Ministry of Planning & Finance.

U Aye, Deputy-Director, to be Director-General, Political Department, Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

U Myo Nyunt, Rector of the Institute of Education, to be Rector of Distant University [sic], Ministry of Education. (WPD 7/9)

July 15: Capt. Kyaw Myint (Navy 1067), Chief Technical Staff Officer, Ministry of Defence, to be Managing Director, Inspection and Agency Services, Ministry of Trade.

U Han Tin, Pro-Rector, University of Yangon, to be Rector, Institute of Education, Higher Education Department, Ministry of Education.

U Htay Aung, General Manager, to be Managing Director, Myanma Posts and Telecommunications, Ministry of Communications, Posts and Telegraphs. (WPD 7/16)

July 22: U Myat Thinn, Director, to be Director-General, Planning and Statistics Department, Ministry of Forestry. (WPD 7/ 23)

July 29: U Khin Oo, Director, to be Managing Director, Myanma Gems Enterprise, Ministry of Mines.

U Mya Soe, Director, to be Managing Director, No. 3 Mining Enterprise, Ministry of Mines.

Col. Than Po (BC/11034), Tactical Operation Commander, No. 33 Light Infantry Division, Ministry of Defence, to be Director-General, Social Welfare Department, Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement.

Lt-Col. Myint Thein Lwin (BC/10201), Factory Manager, No. 6 Factory, Myanma Heavy Industries, to be Managing Director, Myanma Heavy Industries, Ministry of Industry 2.

Dr. Tha Hla Shwe, Deputy Director-General, Health Manpower Department, to be Rector, Institute of Medicine 2, Ministry of Health. (WPD 7/30)

Appointments Confirmed

The SLORC confirmed the following appointments, on the expiry of the one year probationary period:

July 8: U Aye Thwin as Rector, University for the Development of National Races. [probation length not specified] (WPD 7/9)

July 29: U Myo Nyunt as Rector, University of Distance Education, Ministry of Education.

U Kyi Aye as Managing Director, Myanma Economic Bank, Ministry of Planning and Finance.

U Soe Thein as Managing Director, Myanma Agricultural Produce Trading, Ministry of Trade.

U Aung Thein as Director-General, General Administration Department, Ministry of Home Affairs.

Dr. Mya Oo as Rector, Institute of Medicine 1, Ministry of Health.

Dr. Zaw Win as Rector, Institute of Medicine, Mandalay, Ministry of Health. (WPD 7/ 30)

Appointments

The SLORC made the following direct appointments:

July 22: U Than Maung, Director-General, Department of Archaeology, Ministry of Culture to be Managing Director, News and Periodicals Enterprise, Ministry of Information.

U Thawda Sein, attached to Ministers Office, Ministry of Trade, to be Director-General, Department of Archaeology, Ministry of Culture. (WPD 7/23)

GOVERNMENT

New Border Areas Committee

July 29: SLORC Notification No. 44/92 of July 29 reconstitutes the Central Committee for Development of Border Areas and National Races, adding the Navy and Air Force Commanders, as follows:

(1) Chairman: General Than Shwe, Defence Services Commander-in-Chief

(2) Member: Vice Admiral Maung Maung Khin

(3) Member: Lt-Gen. Tin Tun

(4) Secretary-1: Maj-Gen. Khin Nyunt, Secretary-1 of the State Law and Order Restoration Council

(5) Secretary-2: Maj-Gen. Tin Oo, Secretary-2 of the State Law and Order Restoration Council

(6) Member: Rear Admiral Than Nyunt, Commander-in-Chief (Navy) [New Member]

(7) Member: Maj-Gen. Thein Win, Commander-in-Chief (Air) [New Member] (WPD 7/30)

MILITARY

Tatmadaw Actions

July 2: "Tatmadaw columns, which are always protecting the lives and property of the people, marched and attacked Namyun and Pansaung camp and recaptured Namyun on 13 June, 1992 and Pansaung today from the KIA terrorists. The KIA terrorists, taking advantage of the suspension of offensives by the Tatmadaw, stealthily, attacked Namyun and Pansaung camp on 5 June, 1992. The Tatmadaw columns are carrying out mopping up operations in the area and in hot pursuit of the fleeing KIA terrorists, it is learnt." (WPD 7/3)

Insurgent Attacks

July 2: A KIA mine on June 23 wounded two brothers (12 and 16) at the motorcycle parking lot near the 9th hole of the Mohnyin golf course. (WPD 7/3)

July 13 A KIA mine on June 24 killed one person and wounded another in Pintha village, Mogaung Twp. [Kachin]. (WPD 7/14)

Insurgents Surrender

July 14: 17 terrorists surrendered, with their arms, between June 1-19 [names and details]. (WPD 7/15)

July 17: 33 terrorists surrendered, with their arms, between June 22-30 [names and details]. (WPD 7/19)

Anti-aircraft Missile Seized

July 21: The July 20 issue of the Bangkok Post states that Thai police near Chiang Mai arrested a police captain and two other men July 18 on "charges of attempting to smuggle a Russian-made anti-aircraft missile into Burma allegedly to sell to Burmese rebels." It was a SAM-7 missile worth baht 1 million in Cambodia. Arrested was Police Lt. Chaithong Kam-ai, deputy inspector of Muang District police. (WPD 7/21)

ECONOMIC

Economic Articles

July 1-18,22,25-27,30-31: Construction of Roads and Bridges during the time of the State Law and Order Restoration Council, by Mya Kalaung. [Cont. Record of recent projects.]

July 2: Editorial: Paper-work vs. Efficiency. ["Written records, memos, accounts and what not, all using paper and pen, did in their day fulfil a very important role in human society's attempts to bring more system.... The coming of the typewriter and the adding machine followed first by the mimeographic 'Gestetner' and later by the now ubiquitous copier brought along an avalanche of documentation under which offices became literally buried in paper-work. However, the apparent efficiency which meticulous record-keeping and documentation can help to promote can become self-defeating when it becomes an obsession.... There is a well-known saying in the Myanmar language which says to the effect that the cost of the spiked staff used to control the elephant should not be greater than the cost of the elephant itself.... The trick is to determine the minimum of paper-work deemed necessary for the required amount of efficiency, and no more. For, whatever has to be done in excess can only be considered a sheer waste of time...."]

July 10: Editorial: Better and more efficient communications service. ["Myanma Posts and Telecommunications...issued a circular, sometime in the middle of last month, that 'The Myanma Posts and Telecommunications has begun faster package service since 1 April, 1992, in Yangon and Mandalay. It gives assurances that a package sent from Yangon will arrive in Mandalay the next day. Documents, foodstuff, personal goods and others can be sent through the service. Service charge is 50 kyats for the first 500 grammes and 15 more for every other 500 grammes. Packages up to 10 kilogrammes are accepted.'... Letters should arrive in given time, telephone sound should be clear with no buzzing and that messages reach the dialed numbers. It should not happen that letters sent are lost on the way and telegrams arrive later than those who sent them...."]

July 13: Editorial: A global issue. ["It can be clearly seen that a growing population anywhere in the world means greater need for land, food and work when it gets out of control.... There are still vast stretches of virgin and fallow land in Myanmar in addition to mineral resources. However, what we should be aware of is that we may encounter unbalanced population growth if we neglect systematic programmes in this regard. The population issue is not to be taken lightly, judging from the fact that population boom in certain countries is beginning to present problems which should provide lessons for others."]

Construction & Other Projects

July 1: A new high school was inaugurated June 15 in Htilon village, Hlaingbwe Twp. [Kayin]. (WPD 7/2)

July 4: The Samon Dam was completed June 30 in Meiktila Twp. [Mandalay], at a cost of K55 million, and will irrigate 12,000 acres. \\ The Dawtacha diversion dam of the No. 1 Hydel Power Station of Baluchaung, in Lawpita, Loikaw Twp. [Kayah] was inaugurated July 1. Begun in 1987, the project includes a 36 foot high, 1,736 foot long earth dam, a four mile long, 22 foot high, 15 foot wide concrete canal, 6,647 feet of 13 foot steel pipes and 527 feet of 6-12 foot steel pipes, and two 14-megawatt power engines. The new power station will produce 28 megawatts of electricity. \\ A new telephone auto-exchange was inaugurated in Dagon Myothit [Yangon], completing the installation of new exchanges in the country. Seven exchanges were constructed, in Hmawby, Htaukkant, Inndaing, Kyauktan, Kengtung, Kalay, and Dagon Myothit. (WPD 7/5)

July 5: An Abbot Training School was inaugurated July 3 in Lashio [Shan]. It cost K3.9 million and will accommodate 27 Sangha members. (WPD 7/6)

July 9: A new K 4.9 million fire station was inaugurated July 5 in Mandalay SE Township. (WPD 7/10)

July 10: Two vessels, the Yadanathit-4 and Yadanathit-5, constructed by Myanma Dockyards for Veneer and Plywood Factory-2,

Monywa, were handed over. Each is 145 feet long, 33 feet wide, 5.5 feet high, with a draught of 3.6 feet. Each has a 300 HP engine and can carry 250 tons of lumber. Each cost K6.9 million. (WPD 7/11)

July 12: The cornerstone was laid for a new Ministry of Foreign Affairs building, on the premises of the Ministry. (WPD 7/13)

July 14: The Yedagonnge Chaung hydel power station was opened in Mali Island, Palaw Twp. [Tanintharyi] on July 12. It can generate 192 KW and cost K6 million. (WPD 7/14)

July 15: A 40-bed, two-storey ward at the Mandalay Sasana Hospital, for treating eye, ear, nose, throat, tooth, heart, and oral diseases, was opened; it cost K1,820,000. The Abbot Training School of Bago Division was inaugurated July 13; the cost is K3.48 million and K3.98 has already been contributed. (WPD 7/16)

July 16: The Bilin-Zokethoke-Taungzin Road in Bilin Twp. [Mon], which has been "turned into a metalled road," was inaugurated. (WPD 7/17)

July 17: An elevator for Mandalay Hill was inaugurated July 14. Construction had begun Oct. 1, 1991 and cost K10 million. (WPP 7/19)

July 25: The news sports stadium of Dagon Myothit (North) [Yangon] was inaugurated. (WPD 7/26)

July 28: A new 1 mile road between Thinban, Gaungkwe, and Kudoseik villages in Tada-U Twp. [Mandalay] was inaugurated. A new Mayangonn Twp. [Yangon] Court and Township Law Office Building was inaugurated by Chief Justice U Aung Toe; it cost K 4.3 million. (WPD 7/29)

July 30: The Tatmadaw Garment Factory (Hinethaya Branch) was inaugurated. It has six buildings, and employees 600 persons, with 550 sewing machines, 10 "sewing machines driven with motor," 12 buttoning machines, and 2 cloth cutting machines. (WPD 7/31)

Companies and Joint Ventures

July 9: Myanma Oil and Gas Enterprise signed a Production Sharing Contract for oil and gas exploration at Mottama [Martaban] Offshore with Total Myanmar Exploration and Production of France, represented by President Mr. T. Desmarest. (WPD 7/10)

July 30: Ministry of Trade Notification No. 11/92 of July 30 announced the formation of Myanmar Seal Limited. (WPD 7/31)

Transportation

July 1: Forty more commuter buses arrived on the MV Mawlamyine for the Yangon Division All Private Bus Lines Control Committee. (WPD 7/2)

July 3: The Dalla Dockyards [Yangon] can repair 80 vessels a year. Inland Water Transport vessels in 1991-92 carried 33.98 million passengers and 2.63 million tons of goods, earning K306.37 million. Diesel engines are being fitted to steam-engine vessels, so that 1,000 to 1,400 tons of goods could be transported. (WPD 7/4)

July 20: Rails worth US\$1.5 million, purchased from China, arrived from Nanking. The shipment totalled 3,000 tons at US\$518 per ton, and will be used on the new Aungban-Loikaw Rail Track. A first shipment of 4,000 tons arrived in April. (WPD 7/21)

July 25: Editorial: Be polite, be patient: ["The rush hour is experienced by every passenger and all of them know how difficult to get on a bus. Off and on or almost everyday or everywhere, when two persons or two service personnel have a chance to talk a lot about the rush hour they grumble out long tales on how troublesome the rush hour is or how they got back home all in by a crowded bus. With breath-taking sighs, they usually go on talking how the rough-tongued conductors treat them, how they are refused to accept the coupons, or even how they are charged for the bus fares more than the normal rates, late comings back home due to waiting for the bus long, etc., etc. Conductors who are mostly close to the passengers rather than the drivers are termed as the 'rough-tongued' persons or even the 'sour-faced' ones. Moody passengers' criticism does not excuse the drivers for high speed or somewhat slow speed. There are always two sides to every story. Conductors who are tied to all days' work

hanging at the back or at the side of the bus and calling out for the customers may have experienced the passengers like those who ignore to pay the fares, drunkards, or those who are even more rough-tongued than they really are. No doubts there are everyday heated arguments between passengers, who are anxious to get back home early after piles of work all day at offices or factories or work sites, and the conductors who are fed up with all day's tiresome hanging along.... We are in vision that full of understanding between the two parties will lead to smooth transportation and cordial relationship. Even a rough-tongued passenger may enjoy the politeness of the conductor; even the patient passenger may sympathize the moody conductor."]

July 28: Seven computers were introduced at the Road Transport Head Office. (WPD 7/29)

July 28: A brake van and five passenger coaches of the Pyay-Yangon No. 72 Down Train jumped the rails at Milepost No. 43 between Thanatchaung Bridge and Taikkyi Railway Station, Taikkyi Twp. One railway employee was slightly injured. (WPD 7/29)

July 29: "Myanma Petroleum Enterprise is selling lubricating oils, greases and brake fluids manufactured by Castrol, Falcon, Esso, Unocal, Trane & Caltex companies on a consignment basis. Persons who hold legitimate foreign exchange can buy them. Those who wish to purchase the lubricants are to enquire at lubricants section of MPPE Head Office at 74/80 Minye Kyawawa Road, Yangon." (WPD 7/30)

Food and Agriculture

July 3: Speaking to personnel in Insein Twp. [Yangon], Minister for Livestock and Fisheries Brig-Gen. Maung Maung said that "just as the out-breaks of cattle-pox in Myanmar have been completely eradicated, hoof-and-mouth disease and oral diseases also need to be wiped out through plans." Vaccine is being distributed "at reasonable prices" for chickens, ducks, and pigs, and inoculation of cattle is being carried out "free of charge." Some locally-produced vaccines "have reached the export standards and can be produced as much as needed." (WPD 7/4)

July 6: A course in Rice Milling Technology Training for Mill Tindale (Head Operator) of private-owned rice mills began under the auspices of Myanma Agricultural Produce Trading. The two-week course is being attended by 35 trainees from rice mills in Yangon, Bago, and Ayeyarwady Divisions. (WPD 7/7)

July 8: The Yangon Division Branch of the Myanmar Naing-Ngan Rice Wholesale Traders Association opened a new rice shop near the Dagon Myothit (North) Market. "Rice is available at the shop two kyats cheaper per pyi than the prevailing price. It opens daily from 7 am to 4 pm." Further rice shops will be opened in Dagon Myothit Township (South) and Shwepyitha, Dalla, and Thanlyin Townships. (WPD 7/9) // July 22: The same organization opened a rice shop in Shwepyitha, where "rice is available...at prices four kyats cheaper than market price per pyi." (WPD 7/23) // July 23: It opened another rice shop, at the Myoma market in Thanlyin, where "rice is available...K 2 cheaper than market price per pyi." (WPD 7/24) // July 29: It opened another rice shop on Laydauntkan Main Road, Thinganghyunn Twp. "The shop is selling Emahta at a rate K 4 less than the market price." Arrangements are under way for rice shops to be opened in Insein, Pazundaung, North Okkalapa, and Tharketa Twps. (WPD 7/30)

Environmental News

July 9: Minister for Forestry Lt-Gen. Chit Swe said that most deforestation took place in Magway Division, but that it is planned to plant 2,500,00 trees in this Division this year. Overall, the Ministry has increased its tree-planting target from 4,500,000 to 11,000,000. Moreover, "rare animals such as Cervus Eldi thamin are to be protected from generation to generation." (WPD 7/10)

Gemstone Mining

July 16: Ministry of Mines Notification No. 62/92 of July 16,

Determination of the Monghsu Stone Tract [text printed], demarcates an area around the junction of the Namsa Stream and the Thanlwin [Salween] River, near the village of Wansanhkam, in which extraction, cutting, ownership for trade purposes, purchase or sale, and transport of precious stones is prohibited without "approval of the authorities concerned." The one square mile block of the Saihlian deposit is located Monghsu Twp. [Shan-South]. Private entrepreneurs and joint ventures will be authorized. Rubies extracted to date total over 1,000 carats [details]. (WPD 7/18)

July 29: The Ministry of Mines signed "contracts permitting joint venture mining of gems" for the third time. Acting Managing Director U Khin Oo of the Myanma Gems Enterprise said that on the first signing in 1990-91 1,011 private entrepreneurs were registered on 218 blocks. The second time, 525 entrepreneurs were registered on 327 blocks. There have been discussions with "some foreign nations" for mining of gems in Mogok and of jade in Longkhin and Phakant areas, but "such officers of foreign nations were not accepted yet in the interest of citizens." At the present signing, 47 blocks would be opened, and ground survey is under way for more than 200 blocks. For the first time, some contracts had been signed for one more year "after due scrutiny." (WPD 7/30)

Co-operatives

July 20: Minister for Planning & Finance Brig-Gen. Abel addressed the inauguration of Yangon Co-operative Stores No. 1 Ltd., at 218 Pansodan St., Kyauktada Twp., Yangon. "The Minister declared that its members are already in the business field and that they are ready to put in their time and energy in the work and expressed his hope that it will grow through the efforts and management of its members and without much guidance and supervision from the government." The Board of Directors includes U Tin Yu as Chairman, Daw Kywe Kywe and U Tin Oo as Vice-chairmen, Daw Paik Paik as Managing Director, U Mya Han as Secretary, and U Win Kyi, U Hla Myint, U Aung Than and U Mahn Aye as members. It will be open daily from 8 am to noon and 12:30 pm to 5 pm. (WPD 7/21)

July 23: The Cooperative Bank Limited will open next month on the ground floor of the Central Cooperative Society building on Strand Road [Yangon]. Others will be opened in the States and Divisions. "Shares are invited for the bank.... Those wishing to put shares in the State/Division Cooperative Banks my contact" local cooperative officials for more information. (WPD 7/24)

July 28: The Ministry of Co-operatives is reconstituting Co-operative Societies formed under the 1970 Co-operative Plan to enable them "to do any kind of business freely, give priority to commodity production, concentrate on export items, find new markets for old and new export items, form co-operative societies of service personnel in the States and Divisions, open Co-operative Stores Ltd there, establish Co-operative Banks Ltd in the States and Divisions, form wholesale co-operative societies and open co-operative colleges within the framework of law." (WPD 7/29)

July 29: No. 1 Co-operative Society of Yangon Division Service Personnel was formed, with Chairman U Ko Ko Aung, Secretary U Kyaw Myint, and 210 members. Ministry of Co-operatives personnel numbering 4,058 put up K 2,029,000 for shares in the society, which will open Shops, selling clothes and sports equipment, at No. 259/263 Seikkantha Street and No. 104/112 Anawratha Street, Yangon. (WPD 7/30)

New Lottery Rules

July 20: Effective Aug. 3, Lottery books worth more than K50,000 to be purchased from the Aungbarlay Lottery Division, Internal Revenue Department, must be purchased through payment orders. "It is necessary to open current accounts at Myanma Economic Banks for purchasing payment orders. If there is sufficient money deposited...the bank...will issue the payment order within 30 minutes. No questions as to where and how the money was obtained will

be asked...." Books worth K50,000 or under may still be purchased in payment order or in cash. (WPD 7/21)

Border Development

July 24: SLORC Chairman General Than Shwe summarized border development in a meeting with the Central Command. Details were then spelled out by SLORC Secretary-1 Maj-Gen. Khin Nyunt for ten border development regions:

Kachin State (North): 74 miles of dirt road, 44 miles of gravel road, and 4 miles of bituminous road paved and 413 miles of road improved. 23 schools, 3 hospitals, and 12 dispensaries built. 6 electric generators installed, and a hydel power station is under construction. State expenditures are K 13.09 million. 131 service personnel are serving in the area.

Kokang Region: 74 miles dirt road, 34 miles gravel road, and 9 miles bituminous road built; 99 miles of road improved. 11 primary schools, 3 hospitals, and 7 dispensaries built. Electricity supplied to Laukkai and Chinshwehaw. Parkyethaw hydel power commissioned Feb. 13, 1992, and survey work under way for another hydel station. State expenditures: K 77.93 million. Work, carried out jointly with UNDP, for development of Chinshwehaw and Karmaing villages has begun. 112 personnel are serving in the area.

Wa Region: 150 miles of dirt road and 21 miles of gravel road built; 152 miles of road maintained. The main bridge between Wa and Kokang Regions built. 17 primary schools, 4 hospitals, and 7 dispensaries built. 4 electric generators built. State expenditures: K 81.99 million. Work, with UNDP, for development of Namtit and Panglon villages begun. 73 service personnel in area.

Shan Region: 17 miles of existing road tarred. 5 primary schools, 2 hospitals, and 6 dispensaries built. 10 power generators. There are 2 radio telephone stations, 2 "places for internal exchange," 2 telegraph offices, 1 carrier machine, and 1 TV transmission station. 26,053 carats of rubies have been extracted. K 10.56 million "donated to national people in Shan for expenditure in religious affairs." State expenditures: K 19.53 million. 42 service personnel in area.

Northeast (Kachin) Area: 10 miles of new roads and 4 small bridges built. 2 temporary primary schools and 3 dispensaries built. Generator established in Kaungkha area. 4 farms, 1 tractor station, and 1 forest nursery established. 32,247 carats of rubies extracted. K 10.79 million "including foodstuffs and household goods were supplied to nationals in the area." State expenditures: K 13.58 million.

Palaung Area: 65 miles of road repaired. 26 primary schools, 4 hospitals, and 2 temporary dispensaries opened. A generator in the Mangton area. 11 farms and one dam; 1 livestock breeding farm "and area development work is being carried out with the help of two mules [sic--mule breeding stations???"]. 1 radio telephone station, one "exchange in town," and 1 satellite station. K 4.75 million "for religious affairs" and 12,700 bags of rice supplied to "nationals in the Palaung area." State expenditures: K 9.74 million. 11 service personnel in the area.

Kengtung (east) Area: 238 miles of [dirt] roads, 142 miles of gravel roads, and 5 miles of tar roads repaired. 6 big and 24 small bridges constructed. 22 primary schools and 16 temporary primary school buildings, 6 hospitals, 8 temporary dispensary buildings, and 6 clinics opened. 14 electric generators. Hydel electric power stations opened Jan. 19, 1992, in Hsilu and Mongla area; small hydroelectric power stations opened in Kengtung and Namlat on Jan. 28, 1992. A survey is being carried out to supply power in Mongyu and Loimwe areas. 10 farms, 17 dams, 1 tractor station; 3 forest reserves, 9 saw mills, and 4 forestry nurseries, 4 livestock breeding arms, 4 fish breeding stations, 44 fish breeding ponds, and 1 mule breeding station. 3 post offices, 9 radio telephone stations, 8 exchange places in towns, 10 telegraph offices, 2 satellite stations, and 1 TV transmission station. 393 pieces of sapphire extracted. K

19.9 million in cash, plus household goods, Buddha stone statues and "other aids for religious affairs" supplied to nationals in the Kengtung area. State expenditure: K 113.38 million. 202 service personnel in area.

Mawpha Area: Old roads repaired. 1 primary school and 11 temporary primary school buildings, constructed for 493 students in health education; 1 hospital, 1 temporary hospital building, and 7 dispensary buildings. 10 electric generators. 3 farms, 1 dam, 1 livestock breeding farm, 1 fish breeding station, 1 fish breeding ponds. 1 post office and 1 telegraph office. K 1.60 million in cash for "religious affairs and other aids" supplied to the population. State expenditures: K 12.07 million. 110 service personnel assigned.

Pa-0 Region: 13 miles of old road tarred and 11 bridges built. 24 primary schools opened in temporary buildings for 3,130 pupils. 1 hospital opened. 5 electric generators. 11 agricultural farms, 2 tractor stations, and 1 mule breeding farm set up. Rice and cash worth K 2.87 million distributed. State expenditure: K10.69 million.

Kayah Region: 223 miles of old road renovated and a bridge built. 2 temporary primary schools and 1 temporary clinic opened. 5 generators provide electricity to Mesei, Ywathit, and Namman. 4 agricultural farms, 3 dams, and 1 tractor station set up. 1 post office and 1 telegraph office opened. K 660,000 in cash distributed. State expenditure: K 2.40 million. 223 service personnel in area.

Rakhine Region: 94 miles of dirt road and 8 miles of gravel road paved, and 84 small bridges built. 12 primary schools opened in temporary buildings for 253 pupils. 2 hospitals, 1 clinic, and 2 temporary clinics opened. 2 generators for electric power in Aungthabyay village. 11 agricultural farms and 3 livestock breeding farms set up. K 500,000 in household goods, religious and other provisions, distributed. State expenditure: K 19.06 million. 50 service personnel assigned.

Chin Region: 122 miles of old road renovated and 6 small bridges built. 1 temporary primary school and 1 hospital opened. 3 radio telephone stations, 1 telegraph station, and 1 satellite station set up. State expenditure: K 2.7 million, including K 500,000 for "religious provisions."

Naga Region in Sagaing Division: 185 miles of new road paved and 1,204 miles of old road renovated; 1 big and 6 small bridges constructed. 1 temporary primary school and 1 hospital opened. Power made available in Namyun and Kabaw Valley region. 4 agricultural farms and 3 dams constructed. 1 radio telephone stations, 3 telephone exchanges, 3 telegraph offices, 2 satellite stations, and 1 TV re-transmitting station set up. 2 tractors, household commodities and religious and other provisions worth K 630,000 distributed to Naga nationals. State expenditure: K 3.24 million in Naga region and K 9.66 million in Kabaw Valley region.

Sector Breakdowns: The Secretary went on to break down border expenditures by sector:

-- Roads: K 69.81 million from Border Areas Development Funds (BADF) and K 210.50 million from the Ministries--total K 280.31 million. 825 miles of dirt road, 276 miles of gravel road, and 15 miles of tar road built. 3,058 miles of old road renovated. 11 big and 208 small bridges built. 45 machines, 13 vehicles including quarry trucks, and 199,000 gallons of machine oil were used for roads.

-- Education: K 53.77 million from BADF and K 7.57 million from Ministries--total K 61.34 million. 174 primary schools opened. 301 teachers with Special Primary Teachership Training now serving in border regions. Magazines, pamphlets, school uniforms, and exercise books distributed free of charge in border areas.

-- Health: K 59.06 million from BADF and K 3.64 million from Ministries--total K 62.70 million. 29 hospitals and 64 clinics opened. 17 trainees from border areas sent to midwifery and birth attendant courses. Courses opened with WHO aid at Kungon People's Hospital.

-- Energy: K 19.90 million from BADF and K 16.50 from

Ministries--total K 36.40 million. 64 generators.

-- Agriculture and Forestry: K 8.11 million from BADF and K 42.23 from Ministries--total K 50.34 million. 73 agricultural farms, 37 dams, 1 drainage canal, 10 tractor stations, 5 reserved forests, 12 saw mills, and 10 forest nurseries established.

-- Livestock Breeding: K 11.45 million from BADF and K 34.06 million from Ministries--total K 45.51 million. 14 livestock breeding farms and 6 fish breeding camps set up; 54 fish ponds dug. An agreement signed with FAO for US\$ 118,000 for Small Scale Pig and Poultry Production.

-- Telecommunications: K 9.55 million from BADF and K 105.92 million from Ministries--total K 115.47 million. 6 post offices, 24 radio telephone stations, 22 telephone exchanges, 137 miles of trunk call lines, 4 carriers, 17 telegraph stations, 9 satellite stations, 11 communications offices, and 3 TV re-transmission stations established.

-- Mining: K 15.32 million from Ministry of Mines. 38,300 carats of rubies extracted from Namhsakha in Mansi Township and the Pyinlon Stone Tract in Namkham. 393 star sapphires from Kengtung east region. "Charcoal and other precious minerals are economically produced on joint-venture basis."

-- Personnel: 660 men and 314 women service personnel "worked energetically in the border areas keeping the genuine cetana in the forefront." Of this total of 974, 660 (394 men and 226 women) "earned monthly salary of twice the amount of the normal rate."

-- State expenditure: K 72.37 million in 1989-90; K 113.59 million in 1990-91; K 195.07 million in 1991-92; K 22.41 million (up to June 30) in 1992-93. Total: K 920.28 million, of which K 403.44 million from BADF and K 516.84 from Ministries. The State has further allocated K 174.27 million for 1992-93; K 177.09 million for 1993-94; K 184.10 million for 1994-95; and K 191.64 million for 1995-96 [table breaking down future allotments by general category].

-- Religious Activities: 49 Buddha images furnished to Kokang and Wa regions, after consecration at the Shwedagon Pagoda in Yangon. 1,149 Buddha images, gathered all over the country, are to be sent to the border areas. "Books on Buddhism containing 38 blessings written in four languages, in Pali, Myanmar, Kachin, and Chinese" have been distributed. General renovation of monasteries and pagodas, and distribution of materials for the construction of new monasteries, is being carried out.

-- Students in Training: 139, to be increased to 300. By nationality: Bamar 30, Akha 27, Pa-O 18, Palaung 17, Lahu 16, Shan 9, Kachin 8, Wa 6, Kayin 2, Chin 2, Lwela 2, Rakhine 2. [Other details on students].

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:			
July 1	20.32	29.65	27.09
July 15	32.17	42.68	41.61
July 30	42.48	52.64	50.75

HEALTH

Blood Needed

July 1: "Blood Wanted. Well-wishers may donate blood at the National Blood Bank, Yangon General Hospital, as it is urgently needed for YGH and other hospitals in Yangon." (WPD 7/2)

No-Tobacco Prize Awarded

July 7: Dr. U Aung, Head of the Cardiac Unit, Yangon General Hospital, was presented with the WHO Tobacco or Health Prize for South East Asia, the second Myanmar to receive it. Theikpan Hmu Tin had been the recipient in 1991. In making the presentation, Minister for Health and for Education Col. Pe Thein noted that May 31 has been designated "No Tobacco Day, as part of the No Tobacco Decade. (WPD 7/8)

AIDS

July 9: Articles in the July 9 issues of the Bangkok Post and The Nation in Thailand [texts reproduced] tell how police on July 7 rescued 79 Burmese girls and women from five brothels--the Wam Phen, Naree, Victoria, Honey, and Suk Somboon Hotels--in Ranong's Muang District [details]. A complaint had been filed with police by a private Swiss child protection agency, saying that "many girls were lured from Burma to work in the brothels where torture is commonly practised. Some of them were said to have been killed after they were discovered to be infected with the Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) which leads to AIDS." Two brothel operators were arrested. "The raid yesterday netted the largest number of Burmese girls every found in Thai brothels." In another raid on a brothel in the Tha Muang District of Kanchanaburi, 32 women were rescued. but the pimps and brothel operators "fled the scene before the pre-dawn police operation." (WPD 7/10)

July 12: Editorial: Fighting a killer. ["AIDS cases were detected among intravenous drug addicts in Myanmar Naing-Ngan and some HIV cases have been detected among women who have been forced into the flesh trade across the border. Although the AIDS crisis is obvious in the neighbouring country they are reluctant to crack down on the illegal flesh trade for their own reasons. The bad news is that those in that business are recruiting girls from our country and our neighbour to the north to replace theirs. [Articles from Thai newspapers--see above--cited.] What is more dangerous than AIDS itself is public ignorance of the disease, its causes and how to protect themselves. Education and prevention are the only answers to prevent the spread of this dread disease.... Several suitable education packages should be designed for all levels of society including those in the rural areas. A survey on the knowledge, attitudes and practice of all the levels and groups in society should be carried out to augment the education packages and preventive strategies which must suit the psyche of a particular society...."]

July 29: A meeting on Indigenous Medicine and AIDS, jointly sponsored by the Indigenous Medicine Department and the Health Department, with assistance from UNDP and WHO, was held July 29-30. (WPD 7/30)

SPORTS

Myanmar Teams & Delegations

July 11: A 35-member shooting and judo team going to Yunnan Province, China, and a delegation leaving for Mahidol University in Thailand to study sports medicine, were addressed by Vice-Chairman of the Myanmar Olympic Committee U Aung Din. (WPD 7/ 12)

July 13: The 34-member [sic] Myanmar shooting and judo team left for Mandalay by train, from where it will go on to Yunnan Province, China, via Lashio. Team leader Shooting Federation President Brig-Gen. Thein Tun and party will fly to Yunnan on July 15. (WPD 7/14)

Hole in One

July 13: Kyaw Than scored an ace at the 158-yard 11th hole of the Yangon Golf Course, using a No. 4 iron and a Top Flite No. 1 plus 2 ball. (WPD 7/14)

Myanmar at the Olympics

July 21: A nine-member sports contingent left for Barcelona to participate in the XXV Olympic Games. Accompanying the athletes were Olympic Committee President Minister for Agriculture Maj-Gen. Myint Aung, Olympic Committee Secretary Director of Sports and Physical Education Department U Kyaw Mra, and the Minister's personal assistant Capt. Si Aung. (WPD 7/22)

CULTURAL

Literary and Cultural Articles

July 5,12,26: Foundations of Myanmar Culture: Myanmar literature and the ten major jatakas, by Hnaphet Hla. [Cont. (102-104)]

July 5,12,26: Poems (in English and Burmese). [(1) Cont. "Let's string flowers" by Naung. (1) "The goodwill song" by Maung Kyin Nwe. (2) "Goodwill variety show" by Maung Kyin Nwe. (3) "Essence of Poetry" by Thiha Aung.]

July 5,12,26: Nationalist Poetry, by Htila Sithu. [Cont. (17-19) Nationalist poetry since 1885.]

July 5,12,26: Short Stories. [Cont. (23-25) "Our Mother" by Maha Swe. Cont. (22-24) "Dar" by Min Swe. (1) "Fate" by Pe Than. (2-3) "Double trick" by Pe Than.]

July 29: University of Distance Education, by A Researcher (UDE). [History of correspondence education in Myanmar and outline of the new University of Distance Education established July 9, 1992. Making use of printed and audio/visual materials, as well as radio/television programmes, and with local and regional learning centres, the University will award B.A. degrees in Myanmar, History, Geography, Philosophy, and Psychology; B.Sc. degrees in Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry, Zoology, and Botany; a B.A. (Eco) degree in Economics; and an LL.B. degree in Law. It will admit students who have successfully completed the Basic Education High School Examination in the "A" list. Degrees will carry equal value with those from other institutions of higher learning, and curricula, examinations, etc. will be maintained with that end. "It is hoped that the University of Distance Education will become more flexible and diversified and will mature into an 'Open University' offering graduate courses based on the qualifications of the individual students rather than on a fixed standard of admission." {chart}]

Religious Affairs

[Throughout the month, there were continued frequent articles on religious construction and repair projects, homage to Sayadaws given by high officials, etc. There were also continued mass novitiations of children as monks.]

July 7: Myanmar Hajis returned from Mecca. They had left May 28-29. (WPD 7/8). // July 8: SLORC Chairman General Than Shwe issued a message honouring the Haj pilgrims, read at a ceremony at Kandawgyi, saying: "I would like to send my warm greetings and blessings, with cetana and metta, to all those present at the ceremony at which Hajis are honoured and which represents a prominent event in the history of those of the Islamic faith of Myanmar Naing-Ngan, for their well-being, health and happiness. I need not mention the fact that the people of Myanmar Naing-Ngan have enjoyed religious freedom as an inalienable right since the time of their forefathers and so the peoples of different faiths have been living in unity here because every citizen realizes this very well. Every religion teaches mankind to be cultured and civilized and each of them emerged to bring peace and well-being for entire mankind; this calls for all the peoples of the world to live in unity and peace. I would like to send my warm greetings to those of the Islamic faith so that they will work hand-in-hand in the interests of the Union, adhering to the teachings of Allah and without placing too much emphasis upon religious differences." (WPD 7/9) // July 9: At a second ceremony, SLORC Chairman General Than Shwe sent the following message: "I would like to wish good health and happiness to all those persons today at

the ceremony at which Myanmar Hajis are being honoured. It is known to all Myanmar Hajis and of Islamic faith present at the ceremony that an adherent of Islam who has visited Saudi Arabia and fulfilled the Haj obligations would feel honoured for life as he has become fully qualified to deserve the honorific of 'Haji'. Myanmar history shows that all nationals in Myanmar have lived together in weal and woe and enjoyed freedom in the profession of whatever religious faith he or she believes. I would like to extend my greetings to all those of the Islamic faith with cetana and metta that they, living together in harmony and unity with all those in the Union of their own brothers and sisters, may redouble their efforts in the interests of the Union, adhering to the teachings of Allah, as can be seen in the Myanmar historical traditions." (WPD 7/10)

July 12: SLORC Chairman General Than Shwe and Daw Kyaing Kyaing joined families of Defence Services Intelligence in offering Waso robes to the Sangha on Kaba Aye Hill. (WPD 7/13) // Bhaddanta Vicittasarabhivamsa (Tipitakadhara Dhammabhandagarika Abhidhajamaharatthaguru Abhidhajaaggamahasaddhammajotika) gave a sermon on charity [full text printed in WPD]. (WPD 7/14) [There were numerous other articles on Waso robe offering ceremonies carried out by officials.]

July 14: The Shwedagon Pagoda Museum, Library and Archives was opened. The building is situated between the western and northern entrances of the Pagoda. It took 2 years 9 months to build and cost K29.2 million plus 210,000 Singapore dollars. The building will be open daily except Monday and Friday from 9am-noon and 1pm to 4pm. (WPD 7/15)

Educational Affairs

July 9: A sign marking the Distant [sic] University was erected on Inya Road, with Rector of Distant University U Myo Nyunt and others present. [Note: This is the new name of the External Studies programs of Yangon University, which were scheduled to be raised to university status-HCMacD.] (WPD 7/10)

July 22: "Classes of the Distance University for the 1991-92 academic year will open on 10 August (Monday) 1992, it is learnt." (WPD 7/23)

July 28: The Distance University announced that all students studying in the 1991-92 academic year courses of the University Correspondence Course are students of the Distance University. (WPD 7/29) [See also under Cultural Articles, above].

Literary Prizes Given

July 11: Prizes in the Literary Contest for Keeping Patriotism Alive and Dynamic (1992) were distributed by SLORC Secretary-1 Maj-Gen. Khin Nyunt. First prize winners were: U Tint Naing (writer Thu Thein) (novel), Maung Kyaw Shin (Treatise), Ko Nay (short stories collection), and Win Nwe (Thit-taw) (poems collection). Maj-Gen. Khin Nyunt "elaborated on the importance of patriotism among Myanmar people.... He also stated that while waging struggle against colonialists on one hand, personnel in the field of literature joined hands with the people and wrote poems, songs and articles which contributed much towards the measures for keeping patriotism alive and dynamic. This patriotism had resulted in regaining independence finally. He urged those in the literary world to strive to achieve success in their endeavours for keeping patriotism alive and dynamic among the people for ever." (WPD 7/12)

Traditional Fine Arts

July 18: Speaking to officials of the Myanmar Naing-Ngan Traditional Artists and Artisans Asiayone, SLORC Secretary-1 Maj-Gen. Khin Nyunt said that "Everybody... does not know in detail about ten kinds of traditional fine arts. Every Myanmar citizen is required to know in detail the Myanmar traditional cultural heritage...[but] there are now [only] a few persons who know these fine arts and so these arts are likely to disappear." He said that under colonialism

"a lot of Myanmar fine arts were lost because of the colonialists who stole, looted and destroyed them." And today "there are some unscrupulous persons who sold out or smuggled Myanmar artifacts out of the country with a view to earning dollars only." Noting that "if literature, culture and fine arts are lost, the race will disappear surely," he "called for efforts in cooperating with the government in making literature, culture and fine art every active and dynamic." (WPD 7/19)

MISCELLANEOUS

Crime and Judicial News

June 29: The Supreme Court on June 24 overturned a Township Court's acquittal and sentenced U Tun Lin and U Kyaw Aung of Yangon to six months imprisonment each for illegal money exchange under Sections 5(1) and 24(10) of the Foreign Exchange Regulation Act. U Tun Lin bought US\$692 from U Kyaw Aung at the rate of K48 to the dollar, and planned to send them to Bangkok through Flight Attendant U Aye Thein, from whom the Bureau of Special Investigation seized the money. "Regarding U Aung Kyaw's retraction of his confession, Supreme Court Justice turned down his argument as the confession was obtained according to due process of law and therefore it was admissible." (WPD 7/7)

July 3: From Dec. 1989 through May 1992, K55,636,555 in fines was collected for traffic violations in Yangon City. 132,385 cars, 48,900 trishaws (side-cars), 12,022 bicycles, and 25,128 pedestrians were cited for traffic rule infringements. (WPD 7/4)

July 13: Security personnel at No. 5 Sule Gate on July 2 seized 44 car parts from a departing employee of No. 6 warehouse, which led to the roundup of 7 warehouse thieves. "Car importers often have to buy car parts on open market at exorbitant price because they have been stolen from their newly imported cars." (WPD 7/14)

July 15: A "mysterious fire" in the Department of Internal Revenue storeroom on 35th St., Kyauktada Twp. [Yangon] destroyed "some important documents and files and office furniture." Arson is suspected. (WPD 7/16) // July 20: The mystery is "de-mystified." The fire was in a garage room used by a retired driver where no records were stored "and there was positively no loss of either State-owned documents or properties and no loss whatsoever was incurred by the State." (WPD 7/21)

July 16: The Supreme Court on June 30 overruled the Myaing Township Court's acquittal of a driver charged with death by negligence in causing the death of four passengers when his truck overturned. The driver knew that a steering nut was loose but had not repaired it; he was sentenced to three years. \\ DSI personnel on July 4 and 7 seized five persons for crimes committed with a stolen pistol obtained from a Tatmadaw deserter. (WPD 7/16)

July 17: The Supreme Court on July 6 overruled the Nawngkhio Township Court's acquittal of a man charged with outraging woman's modesty and sentenced him to a fine of K1,700 or 6 months prison. The Supreme Court "concluded that despite the lack of witness as the act took place in the jungle, there was sufficient cause to believe from the circumstances and the evidence that the incident did indeed take place." (WPD 7/17)

July 17: A gang of six burglars was arrested for stealing a video camera worth K150,000, four video recorders, tapes and other equipment burgled May 20 from the Managing Director's Office and meeting room of the Motion Picture Enterprise Head Office. Most of the property was recovered, but two absconders are still being sought. (WPD 7/19)

July 15: The Supreme Court on July 8 overturned a Myingyan Township Court decision acquitting a 'che-hti' gambler, stating that "the search of the house of the accused was made before the witnesses and due process of law." The accused was sentenced to one year imprisonment. (WPD 7/21)

July 22: Yangon police in July 11-12 arrested 12 persons "who

smuggled out rice, rice products and various pulses and beans from the warehouses of the Myanma Agricultural Produce Trading in Alon and Kyimyindine" and 11 buyers and sellers of the smuggled products. (WPD 7/23)

Anti-Narcotics Activities

July 2: Defence Services Intelligences (DSI) seized 12.3 viss of raw opium near the Loikaw [Kayah] golf course on June 22. (WPD 7/2)

July 3: DSI seized 8.7 kilos of raw opium on June 30 in Pankaw village-tract, Loikaw [Kayah]. (WPD 7/4)

July 4: The Sittway [Rakhine] anti-drug squad on Apr. 7 seized 16 bottles of phensedyl. (WPD 7/5)

July 8: The Katha [Saaing] anti-drug squad on June 20 seized 1.1 kilos of heroin from a car going from Bhamo to Naba. (WPD 7/9)

July 11: Bhamo customs officials on May 26 seized 1.7 kilos of heroin hidden in a jeep. (WPD 7/12)

July 12: DSI and police on July 4 seized 11 kilos of opium on the Waingmaw-Myitkyina ferry. \ Pyu Police [Bago] have seized 2.5 kilos of marijuana in Kokkodan Ward, Pyu. (WPD 7/13)

July 13: South Okkalapa [Yangon] police on July 11 seized 306 grams of heroin. (WPD 7/14)

July 13: DSI and police in Namhkam on June 17 seized 0.6 kilos of heroin. (WPD 7/ 15)

July 14: The Supreme Court has upheld the conviction of a drug-trafficker to 10 years imprisonment plus a K50,000 fine, or 13 years in default of payment, under Section 6-a(b) of the Narcotics Drug Law. It commented "that testimony from Satta was obtained according to due process of law and that Satta signed the search warrent." (WPD 7/14)

July 14: The Katha anti-drug squad on June 13 seized 40 bottles of phensedyl in Kawlin. (WPD 7/15)

July 15: The Tatmadaw and Kutkai Twp. [Shan] police on July 6 seized 1064 kilos of raw opium in Pantawmaw village, Namngon village tract. (WPD 7/16)

July 16: Tachilek [Shan] authorities on June 8 seized 3.5 kilos of heroin. Railway police on June 24 seized 5.6 kilos of marijuana at Pyu Station. (WPD 7/17)

July 18: Tachilek [Shan] Tatmadawmen on June 23 seized 0.7 kilo of heroin in Wainaung village, Mongphone area. (WPD 7/19)

July 20: The North Okkalapa [Yangon] police on July 12 seized 5.4 kilos of marijuana. A Tatmadaw column on July 6 seized 134.1 kilos of raw opium in the Mongsenale area of Kutkai Twp. [Shan]. (WPD 7/21)

July 21: The Myeik [Tanintharyi] anti-drug squad on July 8 and 13 seized 7.9 litres of phensedyl. The Mandalay anti-drug squad on July 12 seized 1.2 litres and 70 bottles of phensedyl. (WPD 7/22)

July 22: South Okkalapa [Yangon] police on July 11 seized 306 grams of heroin. (WPD 7/23)

July 22: An anti-drug squad seized 70 bottles of phensedyl in Maukthayet village, Yinmabin Twp. [Sagaing] on July 7. Kawthaung [Tanintharyi] police on May 25 seized 8.5 litres of phensedyl. (WPD 7/25)

July 23: North Okkalapa police on July 12 seized 5.4 kilos of marijuana. The Namtu [Shan] police on May 28 seized 10.4 kilos of raw opium from a passenger leaving for Lashio. The Supreme Court on July 8 overruled the Mawlamyine Township Court ruling which condemned a man on one charge of failure to register for drug treatment and acquitted him on a second charge of possession of heroin; instead, the court confirmed the sentence of three years on the first count and added a consecutive sentence of five years on the second; it held that evidence of narrow pupils and other symptoms was sufficient to convict for possession. (WPD 7/24)

July 24: The Mandalay anti-drug squad and police in Thazi seized 0.08 kilo of marijuana and 0.004 kilo of opium in Thazi on July 14. (WPD 7/25)

July 24: The Supreme Court on July 22 acquitted a woman sentenced by Yangon Division Court to ten years' imprisonment and K 50,000 fine for possession of 2.5 grammes of marijuana found in her kitchen. Her son was sentenced to the same penalty for possession of 101 grammes of marijuana. The court noted that "Daw Ni had also testified that she had already expelled her son from the house well before the incident and that at the time of search, she was scolding her son because he had come to the house while she was away at the market." The son said all the marijuana was his. (WPD 7/26)

July 25: Police and DSI personnel seized 1.4 kilos of heroin at the Mansi checkpoint in Kachin State on July 20. (WPD 7/26)

July 26: The Myitkyina anti-drug squad on July 19 seized 5.1 kilos of raw opium. (WPD 7/27)

July 27: The Lashio anti-drug squad on July 2 seized 0.6 kilo of heroin from a vehicle travelling from Kutkai to Mandalay. The Myitkyina anti-drug squad on July 19 seized 5.6 kilos of raw opium. (WPD 7/28)

July 28: The Pyu Twp. police on July 3 seized 14.7 kilos of marijuana near the Zeyawaddy Railway Station. (WPD 7/29)

July 29: The Taunggyi anti-drug squad on July 16 seized 0.8 kilo of heroin. The Mandalay anti-drug squad on July 26 seized 9 bottles of phensedyl. The Myeik anti-drug squad and police on July 27 seized 160 bottles (20 litres) of phensedyl. (WPD 7/30)

July 30: Police seized 8.9 kilos of raw opium on the Mandalay-Myitkyina up train on July 17. The Taunggyi anti-drug squad seized 0.8 kilo of heroin on July 16. The Mandalay anti-drug squad seized 36 grams of heroin on July 25, and 9 bottles of phensedyl on July 26. Police seized 50.7 kilos of dried opium in Wai[ng]maw Twp. [Kachin]. (WPD 7/31)

Obituaries

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

June 30: Mg Than Aung (a) Arthur, son of U Gyaw Pyu Aung and Mrs. June Aung (nee Gordon Snadden), died in Yangon, aged 25. [Christian] (WPD 7/2)

July 3: Dr. Franco Tin {M.B.B.S., DPTM, M.Sc. (London)}, Deputy Director (Malaria), Department of Health, husband of Naw Octavia, died in Mayangon [Yangon], aged 53. [Baptist] (WPD 7/4)

July 8: Haji Hashim E Dawoodjee (a) U Thein Htun, husband of Rasul Bibi, died in Yangon, aged 66. [Muslim] (WPD 7/14)

July 11: Daw Khin Hla, Pyin Oo Lwin, died in Pyin Oo Lwin, aged 54. [Muslim] (WPD 7/12)

July 18: Daw Khin Khin, widow of U Tun Yin, died in Yangon, aged 86. (WPD 7/19)

Unauthorized Lofts

July 1: "Licenced engineers are visiting premises where lofts are being built without permission and measuring the rooms and drawing up room plans for them, but there are some unscrupulous persons posing as licenced engineers and squeezing money out of the people." The Yangon City Development Committee is sending authorized engineers to check; they have ID cards and charge K 1 per square foot for floorplans. The K500 fee should only be paid when owners submit the plans to the YCDC Engineering (Building) Department for a permit. (WPD 7/2)

Economic Statistics in Print

July 6: The Review of the Financial, Economic and Social Conditions of the Union of Myanmar for 1992-93 (English version) is on sale at K80 per copy from the Sarpay Beikman Bookshop, 529 Merchant St., Yangon. (WPD 7/7)

Earthquake

July 8: An earthquake of moderate intensity (5.2 Richter) was reported at 16:40:50 local time, with epicenter 80 miles NE of

Sittway. (WPD 7/9)

Storms

July 9: Eleven students died and 47 others were injured when the Primary School at Ngakhuzu village, Pyagadat village tract, Hinthada Twp. [Ayeyarwady] collapsed July 8 "as strong winds lashed the area." The victims ranged from 7 to 14 years old. (WPD 7/10) // July 10: Donations of K71,400 have been contributed by local authorities for tornado victims in Hinthada. (WPD 7/12) // July 21: The Red Cross donated 24 dozen pencils, 20 dozen rulers, and 200 erasers for the Primary School. (WPD 7/22)

July 14: Heavy rains flooded roads in low-lying areas of some Yangon townships, bringing traffic to a halt [photo]. (WPD 7/ 15)

July 27: A Storm Warning was issued for a depression 300 miles west of Sittway, expected to move west-northwest with rough seas and winds up to 50 mph. (WPD 7/27) // July 28: It crossed the Orissa coast of India. (WPD 7/28)

Thai Trawler Seized

July 18: A Thai trawler fishing in Myanmar waters was seized by the Burma Navy July 17 10 miles west of Ohnkyun village, Ngapudaw Twp. [Ayeyarwady], with a crew of 8 Thais and 15 Myanmar posing as Thais. A second trawler escaped. Trawlers have been illegally entering this area since June 25, illegally using the Myanmar flag and joint venture numbers. (WPD 7/19)

No Food in Cinemas

July 29: Effective August 1, "the taking of food into cinemas is not allowed," according to a directive of the Motion Picture Enterprise (Head Office). Food taken into cinemas "has affected the cleanliness of cinemas and the health of the people." (WPD 7/30)

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