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HIGHLIGHTS

- Statement on "Radio Free Asia" [DIPLOMATIC]
- Lt-Gen. Khin Nyunt Accused Police of Corruption [POLITICAL CRISIS]
- National Convention Plenary Session: Proposal Papers from different delegate groups [we transcribe them in full, as presented in NLM]. Nationalities group delegates demanded self-administered areas. Delegates from "Special Regions" [ex-insurgent areas] described their areas and ethnic groups in some detail; most asked some degree of autonomy. Other delegates generally endorsed government proposals. [POLITICAL CRISIS]
- Senior General Than Shwe addressed the Armed Forces Day parade [full text]. [GOVERNMENT]
- 1993 Supplementary Appropriation Law and 1994 State Budget Law [GOVERNMENT]

POLITICAL CRISIS

Slogans

Recurrent Slogans: The bottom of each front page continues to bear the slogan: Emergence of the State Constitution is the duty of all citizens of the Union of Myanmar [changed from Myanmar Naing-Ngan].

Other slogans run frequently are:

The Tatmadaw has been sacrificing much of its blood and sweat to prevent disintegration of the Union. All nationalities of the Union are urged to give all co-operation and assistance in this great task.

National Convention is genuine national politics.

Variable Slogans: Since August 1991, each issue has included a changing religious slogan at the top of each front page:

Mar. 1-15: Asevana ca balanam, not to associate with the foolish; this is the way to auspiciousness.

Mar. 16-31: Panditanan ca sevana, to associate with the wise; this is the way to auspiciousness.

Political Articles

Following the pattern begun in October 1988, many issues contain 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 portion:

Mar. 6: Tatmadaw is the Defender & Protector of National Interests, by Naing Aung Swe. ["To sum up, the Tatmadaw is an institution that possesses a strong and noble tradition of being loyal to the country and the people since then time of struggles for national freedom till now. The Tatmadaw is a force that consistently pursues the line of national politics and that consistently protects and safeguards, national interests and all this have to be said in honour of the 49th Tatmadaw Day Celebrations."]

Mar. 7: Grand project, by Yebaw Thit Maung. [Irrigation to help bring paddy production up to the 800,000,000 basket target.]

Mar. 31: A Museum to Remember, by Moe Moe. [Letter to "Daw Mee Mee" in London: Visit to the Armed Forces Day Exhibition at the Defence Services Historical Museum; Myanmar economic growth.]

Returnees from Bangladesh

[Articles reporting the return of refugees from Bangladesh list the cumulative total since Sept. 22, 1992. Not all returns are reported in NLM.]

Mar. 1: 104 persons from 25 households returned to Kanyinchaung camp on Feb. 26, "under the agreement reached between Myanmar and Bangladesh," bringing the total since Sept. 22, 1992 to 52,959. (NLM 3/2)

Mar. 6: 18 persons from 4 households returned to Kanyinchaung camp on Mar. 5, bringing the total to 52,971. (NLM 3/7)

Mar. 11: 58 persons from 14 households returned to Kanyinchaung camp on Mar. 9, bringing the total to 52,029. (NLM 3/12)

Mar. 22: 88 persons from 18 households returned to Kanyinchaung camp on Mar. 21, bringing the total to 53,118. (NLM 3/23)

Mar. 29: 124 persons from 29 households returned to Kanyinchaung camp on Mar. 27, bringing the total to 53,348. (NLM 3/30)

Special Refresher Courses

Mar. 5: Special Refresher Course No. 2 for General Administration Department Officers ended, and was addressed by Minister for Home Affairs Lt-Gen. Mya Thin. (NLM 3/6)

Warning Against Subversion

Mar. 2: Speaking to officers planning the Armed Forces Day Parade, Yangon Commander Lt-Gen. Myo Nyunt said, inter alia, "that

some political groups with tendencies towards foreign powers and some groups in the jungles taking up arms against the State would not like to appreciate construction activities of the Tatmadaw, endeavours made for the benefit of the entire mass of the people including the peasantry, the works and the intellectuals and intelligentsia, and the success of the National Convention. Instead, he said, they are attempting to cause disintegration of the Tatmadaw. At a press conference in Bangkok on 16 February 1994, American Congressman Mr. Bill Richardson said Myanmar, not outsiders, should settle Myanmar issue. The Commander quoted the Congressman as saying that he was not an expert on Myanmar. Nonetheless he was involved in Human Rights in Myanmar for some time, offering several years ago, amendment that provided financial assistance to some of the Myanmar dissident groups. The Commander spoke of the need to expose who those dissident groups are [He] also cited the attempts of certain groups which would not like to see the 49th Anniversary Armed Forces Day ceremony...to proceed. He said they are instigating those aboveground, tampering with the rice market and destabilizing the commodity prices with ill intent to harm the consumers. He said that they will apply political means legal or otherwise or with the help of armed groups in the jungles, and instigate, with the help of foreign broadcasts and those aboveground who think highly of the aliens, the Tatmadaw members of the Military Commands and LIDs who will be marching.... As they did in the past, he went on to say, they are planning to do the same. The Commander said that they will apply all means, peaceful or violent, and the Tatmadaw members are therefore to stay firm and be alert with political, military, administrative and economic outlooks. He urged all to keep in mind that the strength of the nation lies within and forge the strength of the members of the USDA." (NLM 3/3)

USDA

Mar. 4: Members of State/Division Union Solidarity and Development Association members arrived to attend Course No. 1/94 for Executive Committee Members of USDA. (NLM 3/5)

Mar. 7: SLORC Chairman Senior General Than Shwe gave guidance to the 404 EC members attending the USDA Management Course No. 1/94:

"The Senior General then elaborated why the USDA has been formed extensively and firmly. He said national solidarity in the country had slackened and the main aim of forming the USDA is to overcome this by organizing the patriotic youths including the trainees.

"He said if one recalls the state of affairs at the time of the 1988 incident, one will remember numerous gangs and groups in all strata and among the youths. National solidarity was jeopardized, he said.

"The spirit of one's love for the country and patriotic spirit was found to be on the wane, he said. There were people who wrapped their legs in the State Flag and there were those who hoisted the State Flag upside down. Some cursed out the Tatmadaw which is defending the nation at the risk of lives. Finally, there were attempts to cause disintegration of the Tatmadaw itself.

"As thinking power and morale deteriorated, national solidarity was at the lowest ebb, he said.

"He noted that this became quite evident when political parties were permitted to be formed. In a small nation, he said, as many as 235 parties were formed. Each and everyone of them tried to become leading organizations in their own way, he said.

"Moreover, he said, there were people who could not wait for paving of the way stage by stage and systematically for the establishment of the multiparty democracy system, and chose the line of armed struggle to usurp power.

"Instead of seeking solutions within the country among ourselves with patience, he said, some ignored the National Convention, thought highly of the aliens and took refuge among them. They are even prepared to comply with whatever is dictated to them

and are dancing to the tunes from abroad, he said.

"They echoed criticisms and allegations from outside that Myanmar democracy is non-existent, human rights are violated and so forth.

"These instances are indeed deteriorating signs of national solidarity and patriotism, he said.

"Anarchistic acts were widespread during the 1988 incidents, he said. Such acts must be avoided in future, he added. The USDA, he said, is formed to organize the people in disarray in order to recoup the number of law-abiding people.

"He pointed out that the long-term objective of the association is the five aims and they are to perform their duties holding Our Three Main National Causes in the fore.... The five aims will remain ever correct and firm in spite of political and economic changes, he added....

"He said armed groups will be allowed to carry out tasks in accordance with democratic practices and political means within the framework of law if they establish a national consolidation. He said the Government has invited them to give them the right to do so.

"He said a number of groups have joined hands with the State. He said offers are also extended to groups like KNU, Mon and Kayinni (Kayah). In some cases, only dialogues are going on....

"While offers are extended to armed groups in the jungles, efforts are being made to organize parties above-ground....

"These organizations are to coordinate for drafting the Constitution, he said. He made it clear that the old situation has ceased to exist....

"The National Convention, therefore, is taking care of two major political tasks--to invite armed groups in the jungles to allow them to carry on peacefully and in accordance with democratic practices, and to draft a Constitution for building a new nation, he said....

"As all are aware, he said, market-oriented economic system is being established. Opportunities are provided to enable people to enjoy the fruits in accordance with their physical and intellectual efforts.

"With the creation of new job opportunities there has been a decrease in the number of unemployed, and increase in commodity production and active and dynamic trading, he said....

"The Government is building a peaceful, prosperous and modern nation. It is doing so with good intention and sincere good-will, he said. It is carrying out asks for the emergence of such a nation, he added"

(NLM 3/8)

Lt-Gen. Khin Nyunt Accuses Police

Mar. 14: SLORC Secretary-1 Lt-Gen. Khin Nyunt addressed police officers at the Ministry of Home Affairs, in the presence of Minister for Home Affairs Lt-Gen. Mya Thin, Chief Justice U Aung Toe, Attorney-General U Tha Tun, and other high officials.

"He said the meeting was called to tell the PPF officers the plans to be able to effectively carry out the main duties of the PPF such as ensuring the rule of law and prevalence of peace and tranquillity and to be able to efficiently safeguard public life and property and improve PPF management....

Role of Police

"He observed that in every nation, the police force is organized to maintain law and order and to help and protect the public. However, he said, history shows that the police in Myanmar had no lofty aims when it came into being. He recalled how the colonialists organized the police to suppress the patriotic Myanmar heroes who had risen against them throughout the country.

"The Secretary-1 pointed out that the colonialists brought in Sepoy forces after waging the first war. He also related how the colonialists took steps to introduce the Indian Police Act for the Sepoys. In 1887, some time after annexation of Myanmar, Myanmar

nationals were recruited into the police force, he said. With the intention of crushing Myanmar, Myanmar rogues were recruited, he said. Myanmar were dealt with crime while Indians were responsible for security, he added. Officers were none other than the colonialists themselves, he said....

"The Myanmar Police Act of 1945 remains the same to this day and the police force is run according to the Act.

"A study of work done by the police will show that it abides by the Police Act, Police Manual and Procedures of the colonialist era in helping and protecting the public and in serving public interests. So, he said, bad habits and behaviour of the colonial era persist in the discharge of duties.

He noted that the main duties and objectives of the PPF are: taking preventive measures against crimes, for the rule of law and prevalence of peace and tranquillity; to bring to light criminal cases, apprehend the culprits and take action against them; send the offenders to trial together with complete evidence in order that appropriate punishment may be meted out; and to take measures for regional security.

Public protection

In connection with protecting public life and property, he said, the police are responsible for deterring criminal acts and preventing acts disturbing the public, conducting smooth flow of all traffic on public roads and streets and removing obstacles from roads; ensuring modesty and decency at public places and functions are not disturbed; taking care of property found and finding the owner; helping and protecting the people and their property in times of fire-outbreaks; and preventing public property from loss and damage.

He said it is time for the PPF officials to find out whether they have actually and effectively carried out these duties.

Collusion

He disclosed that nowadays gambling, numbers game bookies, brothels and guest houses engaged in illegal acts are doing brisk business and active but they are ignored by the police. This is nothing strange for the police, he said.

News reports are rampant in different regions that the police who are responsible for suppressing criminal acts are taking fees or monthly payments from the wrongdoers, he said. When the higher authorities are going to take action, the police informed them in advance. As a result, he said, no evidence is found on investigation. This happens quite often, he added.

He said now is the time to see that the entire public including the youths are morally straight and their patriotic spirit vitalized. The PPF therefore plays a vital role to do away with criminal acts which can harm the sound spirit, economy, health and social affairs of the people.

He disclosed that the PPF continues to use rogues, thieves and notorious criminals as informers as in the colonial era. In addition to taking fees from the rogues, thieves and pickpockets, the police use them as informers and give them protection, he said. The public, however, suffer much. He then discouraged the practice which adversely affect the poor public. He warned them to stop the practice.

Duties

He pointed out that prosecuting an offender and sending him to court is one of the duties of the PPF....

He then reiterated points to be observed by the PPF officers: to build firm cases and ensure that correct cases are not quashed at the court; to involve in administration of justice keeping themselves free from malpractices; and to avoid practices such as concealing the witnesses, making witnesses commit perjury and failure to investigate with diligence since they constitute dereliction of duty.

Irregularities

The Secretary-1 then cited points he had already told them as to be avoided. In spite of repeated instructions, he said,

shortcomings, failures and irregularities continued to exist in investigation and prosecution. He then disclosed attempts to continue to keep in custody the accused without showing sufficient causes during the prescribed period; sending to court with insufficient evidence and making the court wait till sufficient evidence is submitted; keeping no complete records on the accused; failure to take deterrent action against habitual offenders due to haphazardness in the handling of police records and court records regarding past offences of the accused; seizure of evidence not in accordance with law leading to the release of actual offenders; the seizure by the prosecuting officer of materials which cannot be regarded as evidence; failure to call the important witness as in the rape cases, without submitting complete evidence and failure to submit important witnesses; replacement of evidence at court, and prosecuting without following legal procedures.

Moreover, he said, the police, judicial officers and lawyers are collaborating to do certain illegal acts threatening the collapse of administration of justice.

News is rampant about the police, lawyers and judicial officers collaborating like crime brokers around the courts and pass judgement in the cases in favour of their clients, he said.

Not only the police but also some service personnel who have to deal with the majority of the public are involved in such corrupt practices, he observed.

He noted the reason for occurrence of such corrupt practices [is] that the people who are involved in crime cases and those who have to deal with certain departments and enterprises willingly bribed the personnel and officials concerned to succeed what they do.

Bribery, he said, has tainted the life and reputation of service personnel. It is now essential for the personnel to avoid taking bribes and live up to their reputation as they are provided relevant pay and necessities, and high-ranking officials at all levels themselves have to do away with bribery and supervise their subordinates, he added....

The State Law and Order Restoration Council has, therefore, formed the committee for reformation of management and administration of PPF.... He said the aims of the committee are to assess PPF's present management, intelligence and legal affairs, to analyse PPF training system, to recheck the acts of the police to earn public respect and to do away with corruption and graft, and to promulgate laws, rules and regulations on PPF management and administration and make certain reforms in conformity with the changing situation...." (NLM 3/15)

Mar. 15: Editorial: Police must change. ["Secretary-1 Lt-Gen. Khin Nyunt scored a bull's-eye in hitting out at the errant among {the police}, and the public, hearing the naked truth on radio and TV, applauded. For again, it was the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth that the Secretary-1 has revealed in ticking off police malpractices, misconduct and a few other things which make the whole boatload stink.... The Secretary-1, speaking on the Government's behalf, and, understandably, on behalf of the public who sometimes get mistreated and cannot afford to look the other way, pointed out the glaring defects which plague the PPF. When police flout the very tenets they are expected to promote and the very rules which help them stand up to be counted among the honest and trustworthy, any chance of winning public trust, if not respect, would be scarce.... We must go beyond applauding the harpooning the errant among the police earned so lavishly and see that the PPF...mend their ways.... His peptalk is long overdue, to say the least and it applies equally to the khaki-clad PPF members as well as the traffic police, specially in Yangon, for what they sometimes do is transparently atrocious.... And, change they must."]

Talks with Kachins

Mar. 22: SLORC Secretary-1 Lt-Gen. Khin Nyunt and other high officials flew to Myitkyina on Mar. 21 and met with Kachin

Independence Organization (KIO) leaders U Lamung Tu Jai, U Gawri Zau Seng, Dr. La Ja, U Zau Phan, and U Khun Naw to discuss "regional development affairs in Kachin State."

Lt-Gen. Khin Nyunt "said if there exists armed conflict in Kachin State then the development will be retarded. He said when he called for peace negotiations he mentioned that once armed conflicts cease to exist and peace reigns in Kachin State, the Government will join hands with the regional people and made efforts to bring about rapid development of Kachin State. He said due to such invitations, the KIO came to fully understand the goodwill of the Government and returned to the legal fold. Hence the entire Kachin State is now peaceful and pleasant.... He said if the rest of the armed groups who had taken to the jungles made similar efforts, the entire Union will become peaceful and pleasant and achieve progress and development without fail.... He said, he learnt that the Command Commander and the KIO have coordinated in advance the developmental tasks to be implemented in Kachin State...."

Next, Kachin nationals leader U Lamung Tu Jai "explained measures to be taken in building new roads and bridges and repairing old ones, finding sources for producing hydro-electric powers, extending the cultivation of sugarcane, building of new dams, reclaiming more land and educating and organization the regional people to cooperate in implementing development tasks."

Command Commander Maj-Gen. Saw Lwin discussed repairing of the Myitkyina-Shwebo-Mandalay, Bhamo-Myitkyina, Putao-Myitkyina, Myitkyina-Tanai-Ledo, Mogaung-Karmaing-Phakant, and Hoping-Lonton roads, "building new roads and bridges and repairing old ones, resettlement of ruined villages, education and health affairs, setting up of more power plants and making sugarcane available for Namti Sugar Mill."

The Secretary-1 and party visited various development sites before returning to Yangon. (NLM 3/23)

NATIONAL CONVENTION

National Convention Proceedings

[During the earlier part of the month, delegate groups from the National Convention met to discuss the Constitutional headings "The State," "State Structure," and "Head of State." Reports list major speakers or presenters of paper proposals, but without further details. We note speakers only when their identity seems of special interest.]

Feb. 28: The National Convention Convening Work Committee met, chaired by Chief Justice U Aung Toe. (NLM 3/1)

Mar. 3: Two groups met. National Races: Will resume Mar. 4. Other Invited Delegates: heard proposal papers from U Le Kyu Lei (a) U Aung Myint of Shan State (North) Special Region 2. Papers were received from U Jaing Phaw Naw (Shan State {North} Special Region 5), U Sai Naung (Shan State {North} Special Region 3) and others. (NLM 3/4)

Mar. 4: Three groups met. National Races: Will resume Mar. 8. Intelligentsia and Intellectuals: Will resume Mar. 11. State Service Personnel. (NLM 3/5)

Mar. 7: Three groups met. Workers. State Service Personnel. Other Invited Delegates. (NLM 3/8)

Mar. 8: Four groups met. National Races: Will resume Mar. 9. Intelligentsia and Intellectuals. State Service Personnel. Other Invited Delegates. (NLM 3/9)

Mar. 9: Two groups met. National Races. State Service Personnel. (NLM 3/10)

Mar. 10: Three groups met. Other Invited Delegates: will resume Mar. 11. Representatives-elect. Nationalities. (NLM 3/11)

Mar. 11: Two groups met. Other Invited Delegates. State Service Personnel. (NLM 3/ 12)

Mar. 14: Four groups met. National Races. Workers. Intelligentsia and Intellectuals. Other Invited Delegates. (NLM 3/15)

Mar. 16: A plenary session of the National Convention will begin March 23, "to be able to submit proposal papers in connection with chapter headings on the State, the State Structure and the Head of State which have been compiled by various delegate groups and which should be taken as base in laying down the fundamental principles, it was announced by the authorities concerned." Four groups met. State Service Personnel: heard several papers. National Races. Peasants. Intelligentsia and Intellectuals. (NLM 3/17)

Mar. 17: Two groups met. Other Invited Delegates: will resume Mar. 18. National Races. (NLM 3/18)

Mar. 18: Four groups met. National Races: approved a paper to be read at the Plenary Session. Peasants: approved a paper to be read at the Plenary Session. Workers: approved a paper to be read at the Plenary Session. Other Invited Delegates: will resume Mar. 19 and 20. (NLM 3/19)

Mar. 21: Two groups met. Intelligentsia and Intellectuals: approved a paper to be read at the plenary session. Other Invited Delegates: approved a paper to be read at the plenary session. (NLM 3/22)

Mar. 23: The Plenary Session of the National Convention convened, with 666 of 694 delegates present. In his opening address, Alternate Chairman Dr. Than Nyunt said "delegates would be submitting their proposal papers expressing their opinions on the details of the respective chapters in connection with principles to serve as basis for the three chapters 'the State, State Structure and Head of State' which will be included in writing the State Constitution." The proposal papers of the Nationalities Delegates Group were presented [see texts below]. (NLM 3/24)

Mar. 24: The Plenary Session continued, with 663 of 694 delegates present. The proposal papers of the Peasants, Workers, Intelligentsia and Intellectuals, and State Service Personnel Delegates Groups were presented [see texts below]. (NLM 3/25)

Mar. 25: The Plenary Session continued, with 663 of 694 delegates present. Proposal papers were presented by members of the Other Invited Delegates Group, including "Special Regions" Nos. 1-5. (NLM 3/26)

Mar. 28: The Plenary Session continued, with 659 of 694 delegates present. Proposal papers were presented by members of the Other Invited Delegates Group ("Special Regions" Nos. 6-7 and two individuals), and by the Political Parties Group (National Unity Party, Union Pa-O National Organization, Shan State Kokang Democratic Party, and Mro or Khami National Solidarity Organization). (NLM 3/29)

Mar. 29: The Plenary Session continued, with 650 of 694 delegates present. Proposal papers were presented by members of the Political Parties Group (Lahu National Development Party, Union Kayin League, Kokang Democracy and Unity Party, Wa National Development Party, and National League for Democracy). In the evening, Minister for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs Lt-Gen. Maung Thint hosted a dinner for "nationalities leaders and members" attending the National Convention. (NLM 3/30)

Mar. 30: The Plenary Session continued, with 655 of 694 delegates present. Proposal papers were presented by members of the Political Parties Group (Shan Nationalities League for Democracy) and Representatives-elect Group (National Unity Party, Union Pa-O National Organization, Kokang Democratic Party, two independent representatives-elect, Mro or Khami National Solidarity Organization).

Papers of Nationalities Delegates

Mar. 23 [full text, transcribed as printed]: The following is a translation of salient points from proposal papers on fundamental principles to form as base in the chapter headings State, State Structure and Head of State submitted by delegates of the nationalities' delegates group to the plenary session of the National Convention today:
Proposal by three delegates

U Haran Leun of Thantlang Township, Chin State, U Kyaw Pan Tha of Minbya Township, Rakhine State, and U Than Shwe of Yenangyoung Township, Magway Division submitted the proposal papers on basic principles to be included in the chapters "The State, State Structure and Head of State" to the National Convention.

U Haran Leun of Thantlang, Chin State
[Definitions of State proposed]

U Haran Leun submitted the first part of the paper on the chapter "The State". He said:

The Union of Myanmar is home to different nationalities who have been residing in the Union for many years in friendship and in weal or woe. They are determined to do so till eternity. In addition to the anti-imperialist, anti-fascist and independence struggles throughout the history of the Union of Myanmar they have fine traditions of working together in nation-building tasks.

A basic principle stating that the Union of Myanmar is a nation where different nationalities reside together is to be added to reflect that the cause of nationalities is the cause of the Union of Myanmar, and that nationalities stand firmly together.

He then proposed to include in the State Chapter the following five basic principles:

- (1) Myanmar is sovereign independent nation,
- (2) The nation shall be called the Republic of the Union of Myanmar,
- (3) The national sovereignty shall reside in the people and in the entire State,
- (4) The territory of the State shall be that which exists on the day the Constitution comes into effect,
- (5) The Union of Myanmar is a nation where different nationalities reside.

U Kyaw Pan Tha of Minbya, Rakhine State
[Various self-administered areas proposed]

Next, U Kyaw Pan Tha, a nationalities delegate of Minbya Township, Rakhine State, submitted the paper. He said:

How self-administered divisions and self-administered zones should be designated is to be proposed now.

As legislative powers, executive powers and judicial powers will be delegated to the self-administered divisions, it is proposed that there should be districts and townships in a self-administered division. The self-administered division should not be as high in status as the Region or State but it should be higher in status than the district in the Region or State.

Self-administered zones are not as high in status as self-administered divisions. But they should not be lower in status than districts. Self-administered zones should be designated for nationalities residing close together on the same stretches of land.

In connection with the commission to be formed by the State for designating self-administered divisions and self-administered zones, he said:

A commission is the one which has been assigned to carry out a specific duty. According to experiences, matters carried out by a commission usually take time and all kinds of accusations against the commission may emerge.

All the delegates of the National Convention are responsible for enabling the national brethren to enjoy their rights of management, the delegates themselves should discuss and coordinate who should get self-administered divisions and who should get self-administered zones and finally designate the specific areas for them, instead of assigning to a commission by the State.

The nationalities delegates group wishes to give full support to the proposals of the national brethren if they conform to the prescribed principles. In accordance with the para 32 of the National Convention procedures, the following principles have been approved, through the panel of chairmen of the nationalities group delegates, to be presented to the National Convention Plenary Session:

1. to designate Naga Hill Region as self-administered

division or self-administered zone,

2. to designate Pa-Oh nationals self-administered division,
3. to designate Danu nationals self-administered division or self-administered zone.

4. to designate Ta-ang (Palaung) nationals self-administered division,

5. to designate Kokang nationals self-administered division,

6. to designate A Kha nationals self-administered zone,

7. to designate the self administered zone for Kayan nationals,

8. to upgrade Panglong to township status and place it under direct administration of the President of the State designating it as a Union territory,

9. to designate Innlay as self-administered special region of Intha nationals or a Union territory under direct administration of the State,

10. to designate self-administered division for Wa nationals,

11. to designate Paletwa area as Paletwa Hills Self-Administered Division,

12. Proposal of the four Kachin nationals delegates and other separate proposals are:

13. separate proposals of eight Shan national delegates of Shan State and

14. Kachin national delegate U Zok Dawng of Lashio Township in northern Shan State:

U Than Shwe of Yenangyoung, Magway Division

[Qualifications for Presidency]

U Than Shwe of Yenangyoung Township, Magway Division, submitted the proposal paper:

He quoted the address of the Chairman of the National Convening Commission delivered on 18 January 1994 as saying that specifically, the future administrative system needs to be advanced and dynamic for perpetuating national sovereignty, safe-guarding integrity of territorial land, sea and air space and preventing any harm to national interests and national integrity. He continued to quote the Commission Chairman as saying that as it is highly necessary for a system of executive headed by the President to be active and dynamic, to be able to safeguard the nation in accord with rapid changes in international situation, we Tatmadaw representatives too will be doing our best helping carrying out duties that befit us in electing the President of the Union.

He observed that the idea is most appropriate. He was convinced the Commission Chairman did not cite deteriorating economic and social conditions resulting from political instability in nations far and near where the executive is headed by the Prime Minister as he would not like to cite them.

He said Myanmar had been enslaved by the British colonialists for more than 100 years because of the traitors. The people had had to suffer bitter experiences. Even after regaining of national independence, because of traitors like that, conditions had worsened almost to the point of losing independence and sovereignty and the country had had to be safeguarded by the Tatmadaw in time, such instances being prominently visible. The President who is to serve as the Head of State and the national leader, should especially be loyal to the State and citizens. Moreover, in order that the people can have complete trust and confidence, without so much as a doubt, in the President of the Union, not only the President but also members of the President's family must most necessarily be ones loyal to the State and the citizens.

He also said: For a person to be qualified for election to the office of the President of the Union, it is most necessary that this person, parents, spouse, children and their spouses do not owe allegiance to foreign power, must not be subject or citizen of foreign power, must not be persons entitled to the rights and privileges of a subject or citizen of a foreign power.

As a safeguard against any external intervention in the

internal affairs of the State, it was prescribed in Section 74, Sub-section (1)(i) of the 1947 Constitution that any person who is under any acknowledgement of allegiance or adherence to a foreign power, or is a subject or citizen or entitled to the rights and privileges of a subject or a citizen of a foreign power shall be disqualified for being chosen as and for being a member of either Chamber.

A similar provision is also found in Section 10, Sub-section (e) of the Pyithu Hluttaw Election Law enacted in 1989. So, a basic principle should be laid down to stipulate as presented above as a qualification in election of the President of the Union.

Papers by two delegates of Naga Hills

[Naga self-administered area proposed]

A proposal paper on the chapter headings the State, State Structure and Head of State compiled by two delegates of the nationalities delegates group U Hla Pe (a) U Kam Yam of Hkamti Township, Sagaing Division, and U Khaw Lat Saw of Leshi Township, Khamti District, Naga Hill regions in Sagaing Division, was submitted by one of them, U Khaw Lat Saw.

He proposed that Hkamti District in the Naga hill region be designated as Naga Self-Administered Division or Naga Self-Administered Zone.

Speaking of the origin of Naga, he said Naga nationals are of Mongoloid stock and the former inhabitants of Mongol hill region migrated into Myanmar in three groups. Of them it was in Tibeto-Myanmar group in which --

1. Naga
2. Myanmar
3. Thet
4. Kachin
5. Chin and
6. Lolomuso sub-groups were included.

He said the Naga nationals have settled in the far north-west of Myanmar, to the east of India in a community.

The territory of Naga Hill region is bounded by Kachin State in the north-west and north-east, Naga and Assam States of India in the west, Katha District in the south-east and Kalay District in the south.

The area of the district is 13,789 sq-miles and according to Encyclopaedia Myanmarica Volume V, it is 8,479 sq-miles, he said.

He said the region is populated by more than 300,000 people including about 200,000 Naga nationals. In the book "Shwepyidaw Hmyaw Mawaypyimoh" published in October, 1993, it is described according to the latest census estimates that Naga nationals account for 0.18 per cent of the total population of Myanmar, Kayah 0.16 per cent and Kokang 0.19 per cent.

According to the latest census estimates, the Naga population is much less than actual for the population, calculated in 0.18 per cent, will only be not more than 100,000, he said.

In the years past, as villages mainly inhabited by Nagas are far from towns and for security reasons, census enumerators could not have access to them, and so their estimates are not correct and the figures he presented above are nearest estimation.

At the plenary session of the National Convention held in the Central Meeting Hall in the compound of the President's Residence on 18 January 1994, National Convention Work Committee Chairman U Aung Toe said in connection with the designation of self-administered divisions and self-administered zones, "The State's setting up a commission for prescribing self-administered divisions and self-administered zones is a procedural matter. The will to act for the national brethren to get their due rights expeditiously is bound to be unanimous in all the delegates to the National Convention.

"Accordingly, if the National Convention delegates themselves discuss and prescribe right away as to which national races should get self-administered divisions and which should get self-administered zones, which areas should be designated for which national races, in connection with national races who deserve self-

administered divisions or self-administered zones, instead of having the State set up a commission to do so, the nationals concerned will be pleased and it will further consolidate national unity."

The delegate said for the progress of a less-development region, just as the State has to provide it with funds and technical assistance, active participation of the local people having rights to manage their own region is necessary for development services to be fully implemented. And then, national unity will be further strengthened and consolidated.

So, he proposed that five townships in the Naga hill region, Hkamti District -- Hkamti, Homalin, Leshi, Lahe and Namyun be organized into a self-administered division or a self-administered zone under the heading State Structure in the Constitution to be drawn up.

Paper by two Danu national delegates

[Danu self-administered division proposed]

A proposal paper on the chapter heading, State Structure, compiled by two Danu national delegates group was submitted by one of them, U Kyaw Zaw.

He said he is a Danu national delegate U Kyaw Zaw of Lawksawk Township, Shan State, submitting the proposal compiled by U Mya Than of Ywangan, Shan State, and himself.

He spoke of submitting their paper specially on the affairs of Danu nationals despite other papers by nationalities delegates of Shan State, saying there may be some national brethren who have not known of the "Danu national".

After speaking favourably of the seven basic principles under the State Structure approved at the 16 September 1993 session, he said he would discuss the affairs of the Danu nationals in accordance with the six objectives of the National Convention and fundamental principles already approved.

He said Danu nationals, Tibeto-Myanmar descendents, live in regions between Shan State and the central plains. Mandalay and Maymyo Districts and Kyauknitwin region in upper Myanmar and Monglon and Lawksawk in Shan State and Pindaya, Pwayhla, Ywangan and Maw in the western central land are regions inhabited by the majority. Danu nationals are also found in the towns of Aungban, Kalaw and Taunggyi, he said quoting an extract from the book "Cultural traditions and customs (Shan) of the nationalities of the Union of Myanmar" published by Sarpay Beikman in 1968.

Regions thus expressed now exist as the townships of Ywangan, Pindaya, Kalaw, Lawksawk, Taunggyi, Nawngkhio, Hsipaw and Kyaukme in Shan State and Maymyo in Mandalay Division, where Danu nationals have lived from generation to generation. Danu nationals account for 50 per cent of the total population of Ywangan, Pindaya, Kalaw, Lawksawk, Nawngkhio and Taunggyi Townships according to the census taken in 1892, expressed in Volume 1 to 5 of Upper Myanmar and Shan States Gazetteer published by the Government Press of Yangon in 1901, he said, enunciating figures of population and villages in each of the townships.

He said Danu nationals have their own culture and customs and creeds based on Buddhism. It is learnt that Danus speak ancient Bamar. Although Danu nationals speak Bamar language in a different manner, they cannot be defined as Bamar, he said giving an example of Americans, Canadians and Australians whose national languages are English but who cannot be defined as English and another example of the peoples of Latin America like Argentines, Chileans, Peruvians, Colombians, Venezuelans and Cubans who speak the common language of Spanish but cannot be defined as Spaniards.

He said there are national races who speak different Bamar dialects such as Danu, Taungyo, Inntha, Zamein, Yaw and Rakhine nationals and residents of Ramree, Dawei and Myeik, and it is described in "Myanmar Myochit Ponyeik Myar". He stressed the fact that Danus are a different race that speak a different Bamar dialect.

If the Danu nationals return home without presenting the affairs of Danu nationals while the National Convention is providing

the national brethren with opportunities in accord with the noblest and worthiest of worldly values and with goodwill and wishes, they will not be deemed dutiful.

Danu nationals in the region would like to see their return home like the way parents would to their son return home with good luck and fortunes, he said. He cited an English saying "A little bird wants a little nest" by which he referred to Danu nationals who have not had their own Region or State, he said.

Citing eight townships and adjoining villages where Danu population is more than 220,000, he requested that 57 wards and 769 villages in the townships be organized into village-tracts, townships and districts and the whole region be designated as a Self-Administered Division.

Included in the region he suggested for designation as a self-administered divisions are:

In Shan State --

1. Ywangan Township
2. Pindaya Township
3. Kalaw Township
4. Lawksawk Township
5. Nawngkhio Township
6. Three village-tracts of Taunglaylon, Kyaukni and Bannkan in Taunggyi Township adjoining Lawksawk and Kalaw Townships,
7. Monglon Region in Kyaukme Township, and
8. Six villages in Kyaungsoegon Village-tract and four villages in Legaung Village-tract in Thazi Township in Mandalay Division adjoining Ywangan and Kalaw Townships.

Paper by Pa-O national delegates

[Pa-O self-administered division proposed]

A proposal paper on fundamental principles concerning designation of self-administered areas compiled by Pa-O national delegates--U Khun Myint Thein of Pinlaung Township, U Khun Kyaw Thu of Kalaw Township, U Khun Ko Maung of Hopong Township in southern Shan State and U Khun Win Naung of Hpa-an Township in Kayin State was submitted by U Khun Kyaw Thu.

He said that Pa-O nationals have lived together with other national races in amity, weal or woe, in Shan, Kayah, Kayin and Mon States and Bago Division.

Pa-O nationals took part in unity with other national races in anti-imperialist and anti-fascist struggles. U Hla Pe, representing the Pa-O nationals, attended the Panglong Conference held from 3 to 13 February, 1947 and U Hein Ti Tun (Taunggyi), U Htwet Aung (Sangaw), U Aung Tha, U Hein Maung, U Shwe (Taunggyi) and Saya Min (Taunggyi) led the Pa-O nationals in struggles for independence, he said.

He said U Tun Yin Law participated in the struggles as a Pa-O youth leader. Pa-O national U Phyu, on behalf of the Hsiseng Sawbwa, signed the Panglong Agreement.

For these facts, Pa-O nationals wish to serve the welfare of State doubling their efforts together with other nationals and accordingly, they should have self-administration for their regions.

He requested that a self-administered division be designated for Pa-O nationals, and cited the Pa-O population and regions inhabited in majority.

The districts and townships mainly populated by Pa-O nationals are:

Seven townships in Taunggyi District --

- (a) Taunggyi,
- (b) Hopong.
- (c) Hsiseng,
- (d) Nyaungshwe,
- (e) Kalaw,
- (f) Pinlaung, and
- (g) Lawksawk and

Eight townships in Loilem District --

- (a) Loilem,

- (b) Namhsan,
- (c) Mohnai,
- (d) Maukme,
- (e) Langhko,
- (f) Mongpan,
- (g) Laikha and
- (h) Mongkai.

The total population of Pa-O nationals in all these townships is more than 600,000.

Salient points in the proposal paper he submitted were the essence of extracts from the speech of the National Convention Convening Commission Chairman and clarifications of Work Committee Chairman, a brief history of customs, traditions, literature and culture of Pa-O nationals, participation of Pa-O nationals in anti-imperialist and anti-fascist struggles, characteristics to be regarded as norms in designating the self-administered division, the origin of Pa-Os as Mongoloid stock and the non-secession of any territory from the Union.

He requested the delegates to the National Convention, while aiming towards emergence of a new Constitution in conformity with the six objectives of the National Convention, to strive for the Pa-O nationals to have a self-administered division, saying that the Pa-O nationals would accept the decision of the National Convention.

Paper by delegate U Sai Ohn Myint of Loilem
[Panglong to be Union territory]

A proposal paper on the chapter heading State Structure was submitted by U Sai Ohn Myint of nationalities delegates group, of Loilem Township.

Concerning the heading State Structure, he quoted the clarifications of National Convention Convening Work Committee Chairman U Aung Toe on 18 January, 1994, as saying "In international practice, the city where the Central Government is based is designated as the State Capital and in some nations it is under direct administration of the President or the Central Government. In Myanmar Naing-Ngan, too, if Yangon is to be designated as the State Capital, the delegates are to discuss and propose whether or not to lay down a basic principle to designate Yangon a Union territory under the administration of the President and not under control of Yangon Region".

Then, he quoted the clarifications of Work Committee Chairman U Aung Toe on 11 January, 1993, as saying, "The population of Shan State is more than 4,250,000 and the national races each of which has a population of more than 50,000 are --

1. Kayan
 2. Kokang
 3. Danu
 4. Inn
 5. Akha
 6. Lahu
 7. Palaung
 8. Wa
 9. Pa-O and
 10. Lisu, and there are other national races, the total population of which is 410,000. Together with national races --
1. Kachin
 2. Kayin
 3. Bamar and
 4. Shan from States and Divisions, there are altogether 14 national races.

"These national races, in collaboration with Kayah, Mon, Chin and Rakhine nationals, signed the Panglong Agreement for regaining independence of Myanmar".

For this, if the town, Panglong, is reorganized as a township as well as a Union territory under the administration of the President of the Union, national unity will become more shining like the sun and the moon and it will be in consonant with the six

objectives of the National Convention.

So, he requested the Chairman of the session to place serious consideration on the matter he submitted.

Paper by three Ta-ang (Palaung) national delegates
[Ta-ang self-administered division proposed]

A proposal paper on the chapter headings State, State Structure and Head of State compiled by three Ta-ang (Palaung) national delegates of nationalities delegates group -- U Nyunt Maung of Namhsan Township, northern Shan State, U Aung Hsi of Kutkai Township and U Shwe Maung of Namhkam Township, was submitted by one of them, U Shwe Maung.

Concerning the State Structure, he quoted the speech of Work Committee Chairman U Aung Toe at the 7 June 1993 plenary session as saying "Hence, we have now reached the stage in which we should seriously consider territorial designation of the country with a total of 14 States and Divisions of equal status constituting the major regions; within the major regions there may perhaps be certain "Self-Administered Areas".

He expressed belief that such clarification is spotlighting our historical trend not to let it swerve and said all know that our historical trend is on the progress and for the present, all the finer conditions have been brought about and outmoded, unfitting characteristics discarded in the State.

He said there have been rapid changes and development at present time, especially marked progress has been achieved in States and hill regions.

Formerly, nationals in hill regions had to earn their livelihood, full of concern, not sure of their fate day and night but now, they, free of such miserable conditions, are in a peaceful, pleasant life in a new world un-hoped for in the past, he noted.

While progress and development are gained, a new Constitution is about to be drawn up with fresh views and assessment and accordingly, all national races also would like to express their wishes for having rights to shape their own destiny in accord with time and system, he said.

He proposed that a self-administered division be designated for Ta-ang (Palaung) nationals organizing the following townships into districts as appropriate.

The townships he suggested are:

1. Namhkam
2. Kutkai
3. Namtu
4. Namhsan
5. Kyaukme
6. Hsipaw (West and North sectors)
7. Manton (New town)
8. Mongngaw (New town)
9. Momeik and
10. Ta-ang (Palaung) village-tracts in Mogok.

It is evident historically or geographically that Ta-ang (Palaung) nationals should have the right to a self-administered division if viewed in accord with the characteristics of the basic principles laid down by the National Convention or points in the guiding speech of the National Convention Convening Commission or clarifications of the National Convention Convening Work Committee.

He proposed to the National Convention through the chairman of the session that cooperation be made between the delegates for the Ta-ang nationals to have the right to a self-administered division. Paper by Kayan national delegate U J Hla Moe of Pehkon
[Expansion of Kayah State proposed]

A proposal on the fundamental principles to be incorporated into the Constitution to be drawn up was submitted by U J Hla Moe, a Kayan national delegate of nationalities delegates group, of Warisupalai Village, Moby Village-tract, Pehkon Township, southern Shan State.

He spoke of five regions --

1. Paunglaung region in Pinlaung Township in Shan State,
2. south-eastern hills in Pyinmana, Mandalay Division,
3. northern region in Thandaung, Kayin State,
4. west and north-west regions in Kayah and
5. Moby region or Pehkon Township, the total population more than 160,000 or nearly 170,000.

Formerly Kayan nationals lived together on the same stretch of land but due to the division of British imperialists, the nationals have spread to regions in three States and one Division, he said and as the first point, he proposed for designation of a self-administered zone for Kayan nationals.

He said these five regions are on the same stretch of land and expressed concern about the disappearance of the Kayan national race if it continues to be distributed on the three States and one Division.

So, he said, it is needed for the Kayans to have their special self-administered zone despite narrow area and small population.

He said sizes of population and area will become smaller in the respective States and Division due to the designation of a Kayan self-administered zone but he expressed belief that they in full democratic conscience will be magnanimous to the case.

He likened the demarcation of a new Kayan self-administered territory to formation of a compartment of a house, saying all will realize and accept it.

As the second point, he further proposed that a fundamental principle, that will enable such a designated area to be in the Kayah State, be formulated for the following reasons:

- (a) Of the regions where Kayan nationals live,
 - (1) the northern region of Thandaung Township is contiguous to western part of Pruhso Township in Kayah State,
 - (2) the south-east hill region of Pyinmana and central part of Pehkon Township are contiguous to the west and north-western parts of Dimawhso Township in Kayah State,
 - (3) Paunglaung region of Pinlaung and northern Pehkon are contiguous to north-west part of Loikaw in Kayah State and so, Kayah State is surrounded on the north and north-west by areas of Kayan nationals.
- (b) As stated above, a fair number of Kayans already dwell in parts of the townships in Kayah State -- Pruhso, Diamwhso and Loikaw -- which are contiguous to surrounding areas inhabited by Kayah nationals.
- (c) Race, language, culture and customs between Kayah and Kayan are so identical as not to be easily differentiated. Dissimilarities exist among other national races.
- (d) As Loikaw, as the capital of Kayah State, is in contiguity to Kayan regions, it plays an important part in communications for the nationals. Capitals of other States and Divisions are far off and so, the capital of Kayan nationals, together with Kayah nationals, should be Loikaw which will provide smooth and regular services.

(e) Pages in history are evident to endeavours made in cooperation, of one mind, by Kayah and Kayan nationals, elders, leaders and youths, in political, social and economic fields and every existing veteran politician has witnessed them.

All the Kayan nationals, he said, will be much delighted if the kind of a fundamental principle creating conditions for the so designated region to be in Kayah State, not like the provisions under Section 182 of the 1947 Constitution, be formulated.

He further proposed that a fundamental principle that will provide opportunities for services under special projects for the relatively less-developed Kayan regions be formulated for the following reasons:

- (a) As almost all the regions of Kayan nationals are hills and mountain ridges, cultivation has not been successful due to steep land and poor soil.
- (b) Agricultural and livestock breeding techniques could not

be applied due to less educated persons and lack of knowledge of most Kayan families.

(c) Not to speak of motor roads, access from one village to another is difficult.

(d) Education, health and social standards are much lower in comparison.

(e) As the regions are covered with mountains and forests, there are more or less natural resources but they cannot be extracted because communications are difficult and they are geographically at far distance from the reach of local administration.

Citing the above reasons, he said special projects for all-round development of Kayan nationals should be laid down.

He said that concerning the proposal submitted on behalf of all the Kayan families, he would absolutely accept the encouragement of other delegates, assistance of the panel of chairmen, guidance and supervision of the Work Committee and decision of the Commission.

Proposal paper by two Kokang national delegates
[Kokang self-administered division proposed]

U Chit Swe, Kokang national delegate of Lashio Township in northern Shan State submitted the proposal paper.

He said:

Fellow delegates of the national brethren have already discussed comprehensively the chapters "The State and Head of State" out of "The State, State Structure and Head of State" to be included in writing the Constitution as clarified by Chairman of the National Convention Convening Work Committee at the Plenary Session on 18 January 1994. Kokang nationals, therefore, have no objection to them as they conform to the wishes of the majority, to the democratic practices and to the six objectives of the National Convention.

In connection with the State Structure, he elaborated on the movement of the Kokang nationals in the country. He said Kokang nationals moved to different areas of the country in 1967 because of different conditions. About 30 per cent of the population made up of poor people remained in the area as they could not move away. Statistics of the Immigration and Manpower Department show that the population of Kokang nationals stands at just over 70,000. This means that one zero is missing compared with actual number of the population, he said.

He then quoted the 1947 Constitution in which it was stated that Shan State has special features, the Kokang region was included in North Hsenwi region in the distant past, and that after World War II it has become a separate region up to this day.

He said it is evident that Kokang region has significant boundaries and regional features. With own dialect, culture and literature, majority Kokang nationals live together. Other nationals in the minority who live in the region speak Kokang dialect. Besides tangible historical evidence, he said, Kokang nationals have unforgettable historical evidence in current historical trend and their remarkable political performance.

He said that it will be most appropriate to manage the social, economic and management affairs of the Kokang region by the Kokang nationals themselves who are well acquainted with the geographical conditions, traditions, religion and customs of Kokang nationals and the matter is submitted to the National Convention.

He then sought the opinion of the National Convention to designate the Special Region 1 (Kokang) in northern Shan State where Kokang nationals live close together on the same stretches of land as the self-administered division for Kokang nationals within the framework of the State Constitution, in accordance with the developing historical trend and with the support of the delegates of Shan State given at 8 am on 17 February 1994.

Proposal paper of seven Shan national delegates

[Boundary or name changes to be approved by inhabitants]

U Sai Ba Nyan, delegate of Hsipaw Township in northern Shan State, discussed the State Structure Chapter on behalf of Shan national delegates: U Sein Nyunt of Tangyan Township in Shan State

(north), U Hkun Lu, delegate of Kyaukme Township, U Sai Hkam Hmat of Lashio Township, U Than of Maukmai Township in Shan State, U Sai Ohn Myint of Loilem Township, U Saing Kyauk (a) U Hsaing Kyauk Zin and U Sai Non of Kengtung Township in Shan State (east) and himself.

He said: If there arises the need for changes in boundaries, organization or name of villages, village-tracts, wards, towns, townships and districts within a Region, State, Self-administered Division or Self-administered Zone, the authorities of the Region or State are to seek the opinion of the people residing within the boundaries of the area concerned first. Changes should not be made whatsoever unless more than half of the voters resident in the area for at least 20 years support. The authorities of the Region or State are to forward the matter to the President of the State if more than half of the eligible voters give their support for a change in boundaries. This should be laid down as a basic principle.

In connection with demarcating the self-administered areas for the national brethren residing close together in a common stretches of land with appropriate number of population, he discussed thus:

Geographically, the Union of Myanmar is such that it is surrounded by some populous nations sharing borders with them. It is necessary to prevent complications from arising as a result of the inflow and outflow of the races for various reasons. The Union of Myanmar will last long only if national races of the Union last long. Concerning the matter to designate specific areas as self-administered divisions or self-administered zones for specific national brethren, the State will have to form a commission, let it first seek, in accordance with the procedures, the opinion of the people residing in the area concerned and act accordingly that the National Convention may decide the matter. This will make it evident that sovereign powers of the State reside in the people. This is the most appropriate method for all parties involved.

Proposal by Wa national delegate

[Wa self-administered State proposed]

Wa national delegate U Hseng Pao Nat of Lashio in northern Shan State submitted a paper on the chapters, "The State, State Structure and Head of State" to the National Convention.

He said:

At the turn of the Lanzin Party era in 1973-74, social, educational and health activities which started during the time of the Revolutionary Council era continued in the accessible areas.

Youths of those areas had then taken interest in education. The attended high schools, the Academy for the Development of National Groups in Sagaing, agriculture schools, nurses training schools and other vocational training schools. Those who had attended classes or who had left school half way served in political field or at departments. Wa nationals also served with armed services such as the Tatmadaw or the People's Police Force or in the management. However, Wa nationals who were under the BCP domination had had to suffer bitter experiences in abject poverty.

In the midst of political changes in Myanmar there occurred anarchistic acts and on 18 September 1988, the State Law and Order Restoration Council (Tatmadaw) had had to assume State power and brought political stability to the country. The Government (Tatmadaw) then carried on to restore law and order, ensure peace and tranquility, provide smooth and secure transportation, and ease the basic needs of the people with sincerity and goodwill while keeping in the fore Our Three Main National Causes. Armed groups of the nationalities who had followed the line of armed struggle had growing confidence in the Government and wished to rely on it. They began to return to the legal fold and joined hands with the Government (Tatmadaw) in carrying out development projects of the respective regions. Similarly, Wa national leaders U Kyauk Nyi Lai (a) Ta Nyi Lai and U Pao Yo Chang (a) Ta Lok Pang were desirous of improving the status of Wa region and standard of living of Wa nationals in a gaining pace. To be able to work in cooperation in the legal fold for regional development with trust in and reliance on the Government

(Tatmadaw), they led armed groups under their command and local people against the BCPs and leaders of the BCP Buro at Pangsan on 17 April 1989 and drove them out thereby ending the BCP terrorist activities. U Kyauk Nyi Lai (a) Ta Nyi Lai and U Pao Yo Chang (a) Ta Lok Pang then immediately called leaders of the armed groups under their command to the Pangsan Headquarters for a meeting.

The delegate then quoted speeches made by U Khauk Nyi Lai (a) Ta Nyi Lai and U Pao Yo Chang (a) Ta Lok Pang.

He quoted U Kyauk Nyi Lai as saying: Wa armed groups followed the line of armed struggle under the influence of the BCP with the objectives: (1) flourishing of democratic way of life, (2) for enjoying equal rights, (3) for regional development, (4) to do away with exploitation, and (5) to have the right to exercise self-determination. The programme proved to be unproductive but there had been bloodshed instead among the national brethren. Twenty years of war benefited none. There were grave consequences. The right of self-determination and regional development could now be achieved through cooperation with the State Law and Order Restoration Council (Tatmadaw).

He then quoted U Pao Yo Chang (a) Ta Lok Pang as saying: Wa ancestors told their compatriots that Wa and Myanmar nationals were blood brothers. Up to the present day they have been residing together in weal or woe. As stated by U Kyauk Nyi Lai, all the Wa nationals are to always join hands with the State Law and Order Restoration Council and take part in projects for the development of the region.

The delegate then said: All the Wa nationals under the leadership of the two leaders returned to the legal fold, joined hands with the State Law and Order Restoration Council and carried out regional development. During the four or five years, border development projects implemented with a sincere goodwill by the State Law and Order Restoration Council have benefited the people of Wa region. At wards/villages and in townships, children are learning at schools which were non-existent in the past. In every township, there are hospitals and dispensaries. A TV re-transmitting station was opened in Pangsan region for economic, social and intellectual development of the local people. Moreover, a hydel power generating plant is being established in Mongmao Township and roads and bridges are being constructed where necessary. To help the local people implement the regional projects themselves in a short period, special programmes are being arranged to enable them to attend courses of education and health. The people of the region are much pleased to see development in Wa region in a short period. With the goodwill of the State Law and Order Restoration Council, the leadership of the Committee for the Development of Border Areas and National Races and participation of the Wa populace, Wa region will be the same level as some already developed regions in Myanmar in not too distant a future.

Summing up, Wa national delegate U Hseng Pao Nat said:

Wa region has appropriate number of population residing close together on the same stretches of land. There also exist forces capable of working for regional development. It is therefore proposed to include in a basic principle under the chapter of the State Structure in the Constitution, designating the Wa Self-administered State covering Mongmao, Pangyan, Kengtung, Mongpyin and Mongphyat districts and townships of these districts namely, Mongmao, Panwaing, Hopang, Pangyan, Naphan, Manphant, Tangyang, Mongshu, Mongpyin, Mongkhat, Kengtung, Mongyawn, Mongphyat, Tachilek, Mongton and Monghsat Townships as well as Mongkyat and Mongyao village-tracts of Lashio Township. If the National Convention delegates designate Wa region as the Wa Self-administered State in the basic principle under the State Structure Chapter of the Constitution as proposed by Wa nationals, it will be in accordance with the aspirations of the Wa nationals.

If the National Convention delegates, after realistically taking into consideration, decide inappropriate and impracticable, it

is proposed to designate as the Wa Self-administered Division the five districts and 17 townships therein in the basic principle under the State Structure of the Constitution.

Paper by Kachin national delegate U Zok Dawng
[Self-administered area for Kachins in Shan State proposed]

A proposal paper on the chapter heading State Structure was submitted by a Kachin national delegate of the nationalities group U Zok Dawng, of Lashio, northern Shan State.

He said it is sure that most national races will be pleased with the inclusion in the fundamental principles of designation of self-administered areas for them and nationals of each wish to have rights to manage their own regions.

No foreigner will have goodwill on our State and the people without having his own profits and so, it constitutes a noble fundamental principle, he noted.

Concerning the designation of self-administered areas prescribed as a fundamental principle in para 5 under the heading State Structure, he said, despite the fact that Kachin nationals have already had Kachin State, the Kachin nationals who have resided in Shan State for generations were in a state of being delighted or sorry.

He said there are historical facts that Kachin nationals in Shan State have continually served for the welfare of the State, Shan State and the people. If a self-administered area be designated for them, national unity will become more consolidated and the region will gain more development and the Kachin nationals concerned will be much delighted and obliged to the National Convention Convening Commission, Work Committee and the delegates. For that, he seriously proposed the matter.

He said Kachin Sub-state, that formerly emerged as the region under the administration of Kachin elders in northern Shan State, had significantly participated in the Union affairs and there is a tradition that Kachin nationals have managed their affairs in accord with their own customs and traditions.

So, he said, if the Kachin region in northern Shan State be designated as a self-administered area under Shan State, there will not only be improvement in regional security, economic development and national unity, entries of foreigners, as it is a border area, will also be effectively deterred.

He said should the Kachin region in Shan State not be designated as a self-administered area and any other national race put forward such a proposal for designation, controversies can emerge. So, he suggested that should the Kachin region in Shan State not be designated so, it be placed under the administration of Shan State.

Paper by two Akhar national delegates
[Akhar self-administered zone proposed]

U Peter Thaung Sein, Akhar national delegate of Kengtung Township in Eastern Shan State, submitted the proposal paper compiled by U Azi of Tachilek Township and himself to the National Convention to designate the Akhar Administered Zone.

He said:

Nationalities delegates of Shan State have repeatedly discussed and coordinated extensively and in detail principles already laid down. All the delegates have unanimously agreed to the proposal that the Akhar Administered Zone is to be designated. All have also agreed to the formation of a commission while the National Convention is in session so that the National Convention can work out plans for designating and demarcating the area.

This proposal paper is submitted to the National Convention as nationalities delegates of Shan State have unanimously decided that the respective nationalities can submit papers on designating the self-administered divisions or self-administered zones mentioning particular areas.

According to the 1992 census, Akhar nationals numbered more than 100,000 scattered in the ten townships of eastern Shan State of

the Union of Myanmar--Kengtung, Mongkhat, Mongyang, Nongphyat, Mongyawng, Tachilek, Monghsat, Mongton, Mongpyin and Metman townships. Any Akhar national hardly resides in the remaining regions and states. Out of those scattering in the ten townships, they rarely reside in the urban areas. The mostly live in the village-tracts instead. Appropriate numbers of Akhar nationals live in each township but they are not found to be residing close together on the same stretches of land. Hence, there is no favourable conditions to designate the Akhar Administered Zone based on the above-mentioned ten townships.

However, there is an area with special characteristics in the east of Kengtung Township; the area had been about 20 years under the influence of the BCP (Burma Communist Party). The area is now known as No 4 Special Region made up of Mongma and Mongla region. An appreciable number of Akhar nationals reside close together on the same stretches of land.

It is therefore proposed to designate villages and village-tracts in the No 4 Special Region centred on Mongma and Mongla region in the east of Kengtung Township as the Akhar Administered Zone. Paper by two Inntha national delegates
[Inntha self-administered area proposed]

U Ba Than, Inntha national delegate of Taunggyi Township in Shan State submitted a proposal paper compiled by U San Tun Maung of Innlay region in Nyaungshwe Township, southern Shan State, and himself.

He said:

Principles to serve as basis in drafting the Constitution have already been laid down that self-administered divisions and self-administered zones are to be prescribed based on population of the national races concerned and on the same stretches of land.

Inntha nationals reside mainly in Nyaungshwe and Taunggyi Townships in southern Shan State and some scattered throughout the Union of Myanmar. Out of the total population of 122,000 in Innlay region in Nyaungshwe Township, over 80 per cent are Inntha nationals. Shan, Danu, Taungyo, Pa-Oh and other nationalities reside in the hill regions of the area.

There is historical evidence that Inntha nationals have been residing unitedly in the Innlay region of the Union of Myanmar together with other national brethren of the Union for thousands of years.

Inntha nationals, as all are aware, are people of special characteristics who build houses and take up farming in water. He then requests the National Convention, through the Esteemed Chairman, to lay down the principle that the Innlay Lake in Yawngshwe Township which is home to over 100,000 as the self-administered special region of Inntha nationals or as the Union territory under direct administration of the State.

Paper compiled by Khumi national delegate U Htat Lai and submitted by U Kyaw Sein

[Paletwa Hills self-administered division proposed]

A proposal paper on chapters the State, State Structure and Head of State, compiled by Thiripyanchi U Htat Lai (Ngaing-Ngant Gonyi Medal Grade I), a Khumi national delegate of the nationalities delegates group, of Paletwa Township, Chin State, was submitted by delegate U Kyaw Sein.

He expressed support of clarifications by Work Committee Chairman Chief Justice U Aung Toe at the National Convention session on 18 January 1994 concerning the basic principles already formulated to be framed in the Constitution to be drawn up.

He also expressed belief that guideline as to demarcation of the self-administered division or self-administered zone, as mentioned in para 6 of the heading State Structure, is necessary in consideration of geographical conditions of the State, formation of national races and culture, customs and traditions of each.

He suggested in granting self-administration, self-administered divisions or self-administered zone so designated should be under the

supervision and guidance of the Ministry for Self-Administered Areas formed accordingly in central level.

He said Chin State has not achieved regional development due to wide area of land and difficult communications.

He suggested that Paletwa Township be divided it into five townships -- Shinletwa, Taron-ai, Paletwa, Hsami and Thandaung -- which are to be collectively redesignated as Paletwa Hills Self-Administered Division. Shinletwa, Taron-ai and Paletwa Townships should be formed into Paletwa District and Hsami and Thandaung Townships into Hsami District.

The area of Chin State is 13,920 sq-miles and that of Paletwa area is 3,543 sq-miles. The population of Paletwa area is more than 100,000 including more than 60,000 Khumi nationals. Khumi language is spoken by the majority of national races in the area and its written characters have also been devised. Other national races -- Lakher or Mara, Lushai, Chaws or Pawnsau, Mros or Awa Khami, Lemros, Ahnoo, Khaungrso, Lenkri, Taung-Mro and Lesunghu have traditional customs and cultures related to each other except Chaungthar or Rakhine which has slight differences from others.

He said these national races, the population of which more than 10,000, have lived together in the region and so, proposed that Paletwa area be redesignated as Paletwa Hills Self-Administered Division in the Constitution to be drawn up.

Proposal paper of four Kachin national delegates

[Shan and Lisu self-administered areas proposed for Kachin State]

On behalf of four delegates of Mohnyin, Mogaung and Putao Townships in Kachin State, Kachin national delegate U Kyaw Soe Lay of Mohnyin Township submitted the proposal paper on the State Structure Chapter. He said:

Majority of national races residing in the plains of Myitkyina District and Bhamo District are Tainglon, Tainglian, Tainglei and Taing Hkamti. They are of Shan origin in the plains of Kachin State. They live together in friendship with Kachin nationals throughout history.

Those nationals of Shan origin in the plains are residing close together in Mohnyin, Mogaung, Kamaing, Bhamo, Shwegu and Mansi Townships which are on the same stretches of land. The population stood at 203,315, according to 1992 census.

It is therefore proposed that Mohnyin, Mogaung, Kamaing, Bhamo, Shwegu and Mansi Townships should be designated as the self-administered zone of the plains of Kachin State.

Putao area of Kachin State should be designated as a self-administered zone. It is located in the far north of Myanmar and communications to the area is difficult. There has been slow economic progress and backwardness in regional development. Majority of nationals residing in Putao area are Lisu, Rawan and Taing Hkamti. They are residing close together in Putao, Machanbaw, Nogmong, Khawbude and Sum Prabum Townships which are on the common stretches of land. The population stood at 104,145, according to 1992 census.

It will be flawless, precise and firm if the State forms a commission to work for the National Convention while it is in session so that it can decide the self-administered divisions or self-administered zones as asked in accordance with the basic principles laid down by the National Convention. The proposal of Kachin State asking for self-administered zones is not that it is to be designated without fail. The National Convention is to make appropriate arrangements.

Then only will a modern, firm and developed nation be organized and established systematically. The basic needs of the people will then be attended to the highest degree.

(NLM 3/24)

Papers of Peasants, Workers, Intelligentsia and Intellectuals, and State Service Personnel Delegates

Mar. 24 [full text, transcribed as printed]:

The following is a translation of salient points from proposal

papers on fundamental principles to form as base in the chapters the State, the State Structure and Head of State submitted by delegates groups to the plenary session of the National Convention today.

Peasants delegates group

[U Shwe Hla]

[Presidentially administered areas]

U Shwe Hla of An Township, Rakhine State, submitted the first part of the paper on the chapters "The State, State Structure and Head of State". He said:

I am U Shwe Hla of An Township, Rakhine State, a delegate of peasants delegate group.

When there arises a state of emergency in a certain part of the State or the entire State or in the Capital of the State the power to be exercised by the President of the State will become more important. As the President is bestowed with the highest executive power, the President shall give a close supervision to all Ministries opened in Yangon City, all highest administrative departments and offices and all organizations and department connected with national defence and security affairs.

Therefore, it is to be proposed that a fundamental principle should be laid down so that Yangon City shall be designated as the Capital of the State. There is also the point that as Yangon City is to be administered with the powers of the President of the State it needs to have more administrative power than a region or a state and it is a region which also has other significant aspects of national defence and security, economy and international relations, it should not come under the administration of any region or state but as a separate Union territory placed under the direct administration of the President of the State.

As stated above, it is to be proposed that a fundamental principle should also be laid down for Cocogyun Township, which also has a significant situation to be designated as the Union territory and placed under the direct administration of the President and also other regions which have significant aspects of national defence and security, administration and economy by promulgating laws if necessary and placed under the direct administration of the President.

Summary of the above-mentioned proposals are:--

(1) Yangon should be designated as the Capital of the State and a Union territory and placed under the direct administration of the President of the State,

(2) regions such as Cocogyun Township, which have significant aspects should be designated as the Union territory and placed under the direct administration of the President,

(3) regions which have significant aspects of national defence and security, administration and economy should be designated as Union territories by promulgating laws if necessary and should be placed under the direct administration of the President.

U Kyaw Aye of Kawkareik

[Electoral college]

U Kyaw Aye of Kawkareik Township, Kayin State, submitted the second part of the paper on the chapters "The State, State Structure and Head of State". He said:

I am U Kyaw Aye of Kawkareik Township, Kayin State, a delegate of the peasants delegates group. I will present the second part of the paper.

The main quality of the President of the State is to be ever faithful to serve the interests of the State and the people. It is necessary for a person to be a citizen to become a State leader. Moreover, only a person of pure race can be a patriot, only patriotic persons can be loyal and only when a person is loyal will he serve the interests of the State and the people. As it is necessary for the President to be a citizen born of parents both of whom are also citizens and loyal to the State, so also he must be of matured age at which he can differentiate things and make decisions.

I will now submit matters in connection with the Presidential

Electoral College and the part for electing the President.

As the Head of State of a country becomes a main power of a State, it is necessary to elect him systematically. By prescribing the qualifications of a State leader the faith and trust in him by the people will be enhanced. As much as the electoral college eligible to elect the State leader to do so as precisely as possible a good leader for the people will emerge. Hence, the electing of the President of State by the Presidential Electoral College will be more natural and appropriate. All Hluttaw representatives of the Union Hluttaw should be prescribed as members of the Presidential Electoral College and to form three electoral groups.

Group 1 should be formed with elected Hluttaw representatives in the Hluttaws regions with equal numbers of elected Hluttaw representatives from regions and states,

Group 2 should be formed with elected Hluttaw representatives in the Hluttaws elected on the basis of population,

Group 3 should be formed with the Hluttaw representatives who are Tatmadawmen nominated as such by the Commander-in-Chief of the Defence Services for the said two Hluttaws.

Our peasants delegates group of the National Convention has presented in detail the fundamental principles to form the base in the chapter the State, State Structure and Head of State. In submitting thus, we have based our deliberations on the 104 fundamental principles which have been thoroughly discussed and also on the clarifications made at the Plenary session held on 18 January 1994 by the Chairman of the National Convention Convening Commission and the Chairman of the National Convention Convening Work Committee. The presentation has been made in the interests of the State and all its citizens. In conclusion it is to be mentioned that our National Convention peasants delegates group, in accordance with democratic practises will seriously study, note down and follow the wishes and aspirations of the majority.

Workers delegates group

Three delegates of the workers group submitted proposal papers on the chapters the State, State Structure and Head of State to the National Convention.

U Kyaw Win Tun

[National territory]

U Kyaw Win Tun, delegate of the Kyaukpadaung Township, Mandalay Division, submitted the paper. He said:

Based on the experiences of our nation after regaining of the Independence, in future there should be political stability coupled with qualified and able leadership. Hence, a dignitary of high ability and rich experience winning the trust and confidence of the entire nation is to lead as the President and manage the affairs of the State.

Regarding the territory of the State, he discussed as follows:

As a sovereign and independent nation, the Union of Myanmar has the land, sea and air space as the territory of the State. Our nation has existed with its specific territory for thousands of years. In it's history, there had been three periods in which its territory was larger than the present under able leadership as all the citizens well defended their territory. It is also evident that attainment as a powerful nation was due not only to the high ability and courage of the leaders but also to the love for the country and vitalized patriotism of all the national races. To be able to safeguard own territories, the territory of the State should be delineated clearly and precisely. Then only, will there be good relations with neighbouring countries.

Today, the State Law and Order Restoration Council is leading the nation and defending it to ensure that no territory is lost. It is doing so risking many lives and much blood. Moreover, it maintains friendly relations with neighbouring nations and works with them to delineate the boundaries of the State precisely and correctly. Hence, for lasting existence of the territory of the State, it should be laid down under the chapter "the State" as follows:

4. The territory of the State shall be as it is on the day the State Constitution comes into effect.

U Kyi Myint

[Self-administered areas]

U Kyi Myint, workers delegate of Thayarwady Township in Bago Division discussed points covered by the State Structure chapter. He said:

It is important that the nation can carry on the fine political, economic and social traditions and historic values to be able to stand tall among the family of nations. If the nation is to ensure its perpetuation and preserve its sovereignty, the State Structure should be firm and consolidated, be in accordance with the wishes of all the national races, and be able to bring about amity and prosperity of the nation.

The delegate expressed the belief of the workers delegates group that if the National Convention could contribute towards designating the self-administered divisions and self-administered zones the respective nationalities would get realistic, precise and correct territorial zones thereby managing the affairs of the nationalities most fairly.

U Aung San

[Electoral college]

U Aung San, workers delegate of Pakokku Township in Magway Division, discussed points on the Head of State chapter. He said:

The presidential electoral college should not be elected separately for the election of the President who has to carry out heavy responsibilities as the national leader, Head of State and Chief of the Executive. Instead, all representatives of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw should be designated as members of the presidential electoral college and organized into three groups-- one group should be formed with elected Hluttaw representatives in the Hluttaw with equal numbers of representatives elected from regions and states, the second group should be formed with elected Hluttaw representatives in the Hluttaw elected on the basis of population, and the third group should be formed with the Tatmadaw member Hluttaw representatives nominated as such by the Commander-in-Chief of the Defence Services for the said two Hluttaws.

Since not only the representatives of national races but also the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw made up of representatives of all strata are to elect the President with special characteristics capable of serving the interests of the nation most effectively, delegates of the workers delegate group submit the proposal for the emergence of the ablest and most competent leader of the State.

U Sum Lut Naw of Myitkyina, Kachin State

[Convention should not prescribe self-administered areas; there should be only one Vice-President, and no separate Tatmadaw electoral college body]

U Sum Lut Naw of Myitkyina Township, Kachin State submitted the proposal paper on the basic principles to be included in the chapters the State, State Structure and Head of State to the plenary session of the National Convention.

I am U Sum Lut Naw, workers delegate to the National Convention from Myitkyina Township, Kachin State.

Chairman of the National Convention Work Committee U Aung Toe in clarifying matters on 18 January 1994 and I quote "...in Regions or States, in addition to national races who have got their own Regions or State, there are other national races as well. So the delegates are to discuss and give their suggestions whether or not it will be appropriate to determine right away where self-administered divisions or self-administered zones should be prescribe in which regions or states for the national races, who conform to the basic principles already laid down, from among the national races other than those who already have regions or states."

I suggest this is not appropriate. The reason is that according to the basic principle laid down unanimously by the Convention delegates, it is prescribed that in regions or states, self-

administered areas are to be prescribed for national races on the same common areas of land in appropriate sizes of population. In prescribing thus, it is to be based on size of population and the size of the areas of land and to give them self-administered division or self-administered zones as appropriate.

In the basic principle on self-administered zones laid down unanimously by the National Convention delegates, it includes two important points for prescribing the self-administered divisions or zones. They are--first, the requirement for an appropriate size of population and second the requirement for national races to reside together in communities on the same common area.

Regarding the appropriate sizes of population, the Convention delegates have no idea on what size is appropriate size of the population and decisions cannot be laid down also. Moreover, the National Convention delegates also do not know which national races have asked for which particular self-administered divisions or zones, and also do not know which national races out of 135 national races want self-administered division or zones.

No Convention delegates know the matter regarding the requirement of residing together in communities on the same common stretches of land nor its geographical situation and the size of land. It is believed therefore, we should know the two points first before prescribing self-administered divisions or zones. Hence, according to the principle laid down by the Convention delegates, it is more appropriate for the State to form a commission to take necessary steps.

In reality, it is important and we need urgent attention to include in the basic principle the designation of different self-administered division or self-administered zones to different national races. It is to be urged that the State should quickly form the Commission for designating self-administered regions in accordance with the basic principles laid down by the National Convention. This Commission is to study and make reports with remarks to the National Convention. By doing so, the Convention will be able to designate correct and precise self-administered divisions and zones in uniformity. The national races concerned will also become very happy about it.

These 104 fundamental principles have been accepted and unanimously approved by the National Convention. The mass rallies of the Union Solidarity and Development Association held throughout Myanmar Naing-Ngan have warmly hailed and supported these 104 fundamental principles. They are now well-known not only in the country but the world over. At present it is necessary to maintain them and the Convention is also responsible to do so. Hence, these 104 basic principles should be prescribed as the fundamental principles for formulating the State Constitution which is being drawn up by the National Convention.

Even in major countries of the world there is only one President and one Vice-President each. Union of Myanmar is not so big a country as its population is not very big and the area is not very large. Therefore, there should not be two Vice-Presidents but only one President and one Vice-President and there should be only two electoral colleges for electing the President of the State. Instead of keeping a presidential electoral college to be formed with Tatmadawmen Hluttaw members nominated by the Commander-in-Chief of the Defence Services for the two Hluttaws, two Vice-Presidents should be elected by the two presidential electoral colleges to be formed, one each in the two Hluttaws. Tatmadaw Hluttaw representatives nominated by the Commander-in-Chief of the Defence Services are already included in the two Hluttaws.

Intelligentsia and intellectuals delegates group

A proposal paper on the chapters "The State, "State Structure" and "Head of State" compiled by intelligentsia and intellectuals delegates group was submitted by artist U Min Naing and composer U Myint Ngwe.

[U Min Naing]

[Nationalities; self-administered areas]

Artist U Min Naing submitted the first part of the proposal paper.

Extending his best wishes to the delegates to enjoy New Year Thingyan Festival with their families, he said:

According to politicians, the four basic principles laid down by the National Convention in connection with the chapter the State are regarded as the four indispensable factors for the State. As all know, Sovereignty, Government, Territory and Population are the major prerequisites for the State.

Nationalities have been residing in Myanmar for years. All nationals took part in anti-colonialist battles and national liberation struggles unitedly. This is our history as well as our nationals'.

That is why I propose one more fundamental principle to be incorporated into the chapter the State to reflect the background history of national consolidation.

He then proposed five fundamental principles to be included in the chapter the State:

- (1) Myanmar is sovereign independent nation,
- (2) The nation is home to national brethren who live in friendship and in weal or woe. The name Myanmar represents all Union nationals such as Kachin, Kayah, Kayin, Chin, Mon, Bamar, Rakhine, Shan,
- (3) The nation shall be called the Republic of the Union of Myanmar,
- (4) The national sovereignty shall reside in the people and in the entire State,
- (5) The territory of the State shall be that which exists on the day the Constitution comes into effect.

Regarding the chapter the State Structure, he said:

In designating self-administered divisions or self-administered zone, it is essential to be free from excessive racism and regionalism, and efforts must be directed towards emergence of a consolidated nation, keeping the balance between the benefit of the entire nation and that of each of the national races and regions. We have to be cautious not to be deviated from the objective for perpetuation of sovereignty.

In the current international affairs, disputes and crises have worsened owing to different views in racial affairs and external interferences, resulting in bloodsheds and undesirable circumstances in economic and social fields.

He said unity among all Union nationals will forge ahead toward emergence of a new State and it is time to strive untiringly and zealously for national progress and for the benefit of national races and respective regions joining hands among nationalities with Union spirit.

In accord with the basic principles laid down by the National Convention, there will be nationals who have got regions or states as well as self-administered areas. And there will also be nationals who have not got self-administered areas.

Whether a national race has got self-administered area or not, they shall enjoy rights to develop their own language, literature, culture and customs in accord with the law. Oppression and hindering the rights of a race by another shall be prohibited. Equal social status and unity must be developed.

Regions and states, self-administered divisions and self-administered zones, districts, townships, wards and villages are alike apartments of a home accommodated respectively.

Self-administered divisions and self-administered zones are organized into respective regions and states. In administration and management, the course of communication should be balanced and smooth. It is essential to have mutual respect between higher and lower levels of administrative organs.

He proposed self-administered divisions and self-administered zones be designated and confirmed at the National Convention through

coordinations of National Convention Work Committee and members of the Panel of Chairmen based upon the true situation of the State, developing and changing situation of national races and proposals of the National Convention delegates groups.

He suggested the following basic principles for designating self-administered divisions and self-administered zones:

(1) to designate the areas of nationals which have the following characteristics as self-administered areas:

- (a) national race which has not got a region or state,
- (b) having appropriate size of population,
- (c) residing close together on the same stretches of land for a number of years,
- (d) the national races concerned are desirous and are in the state to administer their area.

(2) to consider the situation of the entire nation, respective regions and states, and neighbouring countries that share common border,

(3) to consider matters relating to border areas and national races development project undertaken by the government,

(4) for national unity, not to designate the capital of a region or state as self-administered division or zone as it is the capital of the whole region or state,

(5) not to be named after the national race in connection with the names and designation of the self-administered division or self-administered zone,

(6) to organize appropriate districts and townships into self-administered division and to organize these self-administered divisions into region or state,

(7) to organize appropriate townships into self-administered zone and to organize these self-administered zones into region or state.

U Myint Ngwe

[Presidentially administered areas; electoral college]

U Myint Ngwe, delegate of intelligentsia and intellectuals delegates group discussed designating Union territory under the State Structure chapter. He said:

On the matter of whether to place Yangon, the State Capital, under direct administration of the President of the State without placing it under control of Yangon Region, it should be taken into account that Yangon City is the capital of the State and it is the seat of central organizations as well as the present conditions in which the Yangon City Development Committee has been formed as a separate high committee under direct supervision of the Chairman of the State Law and Order Restoration Council and the YCDC's undertaking of development activities. The Capital of the State should be the one for which the nation can be proud of and there should not be constraints over the management of development and security affairs of the capital. Similarly, other towns of significance in the State should also be taken into account as necessary.

Regarding certain areas like Cocogyun and others where population is sparse and communications difficult, they should be designated as Union territories for their development in the long run.

It should be accepted that designating the Union territory and placing under the direct administration of the President does not necessarily mean to impose the central government's constraints on it but in the interest of the nation and the area itself.

Hence, certain cities and areas may be designated as Union territories in the long run and some may be designated as Union territories temporarily depending on the special conditions in connection with the nation's defence, security, administrative, economic and cultural affairs.

Taking all these into consideration, the intelligentsia and intellectuals delegates group supports for designating Union territories and placing them under direct administration of the President of the State as necessary. The fundamental principles

should be laid down as follows:

- (1) Yangon City being the Capital of the State it shall be designated as Union territory,
- (2) Arrangements be made for designating parts of the State's territories with special conditions in connection with the nation's defence, security, administrative, economic and cultural affairs as Union territories as necessary.

In connection with election of the President and Vice-Presidents, the intelligentsia and intellectuals delegates group proposed as follows:

- (1) All the Hluttaw representatives in the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw are members of the electoral college;
- (2) Those representatives [form?] presidential electoral college groups as follows:
 - (a) the group formed with elected Hluttaw representatives in the Hluttaw with equal numbers of representatives elected from regions and states;
 - (b) the group formed with elected Hluttaw representatives in the Hluttaw elected on the basis of population;
 - (c) the group formed with the Tatmadaw member Hluttaw representatives nominated as such by the Commander-in-Chief of the Defence Services for the said two Hluttaws.
- (3) Those three groups are to elect a qualified citizen as the Vice-President from among the groups of Hluttaw representatives first or from among non-Hluttaw representatives by ballots;
- (4) A committee made up of the Head and Deputy Heads of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw shall be responsible for scrutinizing the Vice-President candidates of the groups whether they meet the prescribed qualifications;
- (5) The three Vice-Presidents elected groupwise shall be presidential candidates;
- (6) All the representatives of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw who are members of the electoral college shall elect the President by vote. The candidate who wins the largest number of votes becomes the President.
- (7) There shall be in the State one President and two Vice-Presidents.

After electing the President and Vice-Presidents, a principle should be laid down stating that the Vice-Presidents shall be responsible to the President to assist him to be able to carry out the administrative duties of the State most effectively.

To be free from complications in electing the President, a relevant law should be promulgated based on the above-mentioned principles.

It should also be provided in the proposed law that the presidential election shall be held in the last month of the third quarter of the fiscal year. This is proposed so because the President being the Head of the Executive shall be responsible for submitting the economic plans and budget statements and the President elected three months before the end of the fiscal year will get sufficient time to make proper arrangements for the forthcoming fiscal year. State service personnel delegates group

A proposal paper on fundamental principles to be incorporated into the chapters State, State Structure and Head of State was submitted by four delegates of the State service personnel delegates group.

U Maung Maung
[Sovereignty]

Proposals on the heading "the State" were submitted by delegate U Maung Maung.

First, he wished all the personalities involved in endeavours for the success of the National Convention good health and happiness.

Concerning the chapter the State, he said the statement "Myanmar Naing-Ngan is a sovereign nation" is a benefit for generations to come to be aware of the fact that Myanmar has the equality of status to have relations with other nations and holds

equal dignity and honour in international circle. Whichever government, elected by Myanmar nationals to manage the State affairs, is to safeguard national sovereignty and to be on guard against any interference in internal affairs, direct by external forces or infiltrating through their internal axe-handles or by enticement or intimidation.

He said the statement "Myanmar Naing-Ngan is an independent nation" not only reminds all of purity and nobility of independence and bitterness and debasement of servitude and but also of bitter, unfavourable and miserable events under the servitude, a condition brought about by the imperialists after occupying Myanmar with the three-M (mission, merchant and military) tactic and thus causing the nation to lose independence.

Ignorance may lead to the loss of independence in no time, he said. It is unforgettable fact that independence was regained after more than a hundred years but with the sacrificing of lives, blood and sweat. As man is born into a nation, its independence is the individual's fate in life. It can be assumed that the provision forms a reminder to all that there is absolute difference between one born as a master in an independent nation and that born as a servant in a nation with sovereignty lost. It also indicates the fact that all the citizens, from generation to generation, are to take the responsibility of protecting the nation to be perpetually independent.

So, he proposed that the statement combining the two points "Myanmar is a sovereign, independent nation" be designated as a fundamental principle to form basis in the chapter "the State".

U Yan Naing Aung

[Presidentially administered areas, self-administered areas]

U Yan Naing Aung of the service personnel delegates group continued to submit proposals on the heading "State Structure".

After proposing that Cocogyunn Township be designated as a Union territory under the direct administration of President, he said there may be other important areas like Cocogyunn which are significant in security, defence, administration and the economy. In view of the fact, it is assumed that it is necessary to lay down a basic principle to designate such areas to be under direct administration under the President.

He proposed that a basic principle be laid down to designate areas of special situation in connection with defence, security, administration and economy of the whole Union as Union territories under direct administration of the President, enacting laws if necessary in future.

In discussing a point which he said should be given notice regarding the national races that have got Region or State, he said that all nationals accept that, our nation being home to various national races, non-disintegration of national unity is an objective of the National Convention. It is assumed not proper for a national race, that has got its own State or Region, to ask for a self-administered division or a self-administered zone in another State or Region, he opined.

So, a basic principle should be laid down to designate that the right to a self-administered division or a self-administered zone shall be granted to a national race that has not got its own Region or State and it shall be entitled to only one right.

He said a basic principle has been laid down that "In regions or states, self-administered areas are to be prescribed for national races who reside together in communities on the same common stretch of land in appropriate sizes of population, other than national races who have already got regions or states".

He continued to discuss which areas are to be designated as self-administered divisions or self-administered zones in which Region or State and how the two kinds of area be designated in differentiation.

Concerning self-administered areas, he said districts and townships in designated self-administered divisions will have the

share of legislative, executive and judicial powers as prescribed in the Constitution. The self-administered division, though not as high in status as Region or State, will be higher than divisions in the Region or State concerned. So, a self-administered division should be organized with at least two districts each of which should be formed with at least two townships.

The self-administered zone, although not higher in status than division, is not lower in status than district and so it should be organized with at least two or three townships. It is to be considered in accordance with the wishes of the nationals concerned which areas are to be designated as self-administered divisions or self-administered zones in which Region or State.

The service personnel delegates group proposed that self-administered divisions and self-administered zones be designated in accord with characteristics as suggested above and the basic principle already laid down.

He said a certain national race having an appropriate size of population settling in two adjoining townships but in a slight gap of proximity should be taken into consideration for it not to lose its suitable rights.

It is also needed not to include the capitals of the Regions and States in organizing self-administered zones and self-administered divisions, he said.

A basic principle has been laid down at the National Convention Plenary Session on 16 September 1993 that "If it is desired to change the name of a region or a state, it shall be done so with enactment of law after ascertaining the wishes of citizens residing in the region or state concerned".

Concerning it, he suggested that the term 'citizen' should be supplemented as 'citizen eligible to vote'. In every nation, if a condition regarding national affairs arises to ascertain the wishes of citizens, decision is reached by vote of citizens with qualifications as to the right to vote as prescribed in rules and procedures of the nation concerned. Depending on conditions of the nation concerned, the fact is provided as a means of prevention against interference of unrelated persons and deterrent or destructive elements.

Dr. Kyaw Win

[Qualifications for Presidency]

Delegate Dr. Kyaw Win of the service personnel delegates group continued to submit proposals on the chapter Head of State.

Concerning the qualifications of a person to stand election to the office of the President of the Union, the delegate group proposed in addition to the basic principle:

"The President of the Union shall be a person who is loyal to the State and the citizenry", that "The person himself, parents, spouse, children and their spouses shall not owe allegiance to a foreign power or be subjects of a foreign power or citizens of a foreign country and must not be persons entitled to the rights and privileges of a subject of a foreign country or a citizen of a foreign country".

As a person to stand election to the office of the President of Union is needed to realize objective situations changing with time, it is necessary for the person's parents to be citizens belonging to the nationality of Myanmar born in the territory of the Union and for the person to have constant knowledge of every affair of the State. Only then, the person will be able to provide effective leadership to the State with correct thinking and foresight over a change of events in the past, present and future. So, he said, a basic principle concerning the citizenship of a person to stand election to the office of the President should be laid down that a person to stand for election to the office of the President of the Union and parents shall be citizens belonging to the nationality of Myanmar born in the territory of the Union.

He further proposed that persons born of parents who are citizens belonging to the nationality of Myanmar and are in a foreign

country on assignment by the State be regarded as those born in the territory of the Union.

He also proposed to designate that a person to be elected to the office of the President must have resided in the country for at least 20 years continuously up to the time of the election.

Lt-Col. Tin Kha
[Presidency]

Lt-Col. Tin Kha of the service personnel delegates group continued to submit basic principles collectively on the chapters State, State Structure and Head of State.

Points concerning the basic principles submitted exclusively by the service personnel delegates group are:

First, concerning the basic principle No. 7 (of the paper) on the citizenship of a person standing for election to the office of the President of the Union, the term "citizen of a foreign power" is to be substituted with "citizen of a foreign country".

Second, should a person serve as Acting President for some reason, the period is not to be deemed as a term of President for the respective person.

Third, concerning the basic principle No. 24 (of the paper), it is to be designated as a basic principle that if a person elected President or Vice-President happens to be a member of a social or religious association, the person shall not participate in activities of the association, from the date of such election, during the term of office.

Fourth, disqualification of President or Vice-President is to be in accord with provisions in the Constitution to be drawn up.

He said the delegates group had compiled the paper putting in the fore the aim for the Union of Myanmar to be able to stand tall in the world and be a modern, developed and strong nation and the main and foremost aim of the National Convention "to serve as best the interest of the State and the people". The group will continue to put in the fore the objectives and aims of the National Convention in future.

(NLM 3/25)

Papers of "Other Invited Delegates" (including "Special regions")

Mar. 25 [full text, transcribed as printed]: The following is a translation of salient points from proposal papers on fundamental principles to form as base in the chapters the State, State Structure and Head of State submitted by the other invited delegates groups to the plenary session of the National Convention today:

Other invited delegates group

A proposal paper on basic principles to be incorporated into the chapters the State, State Structure and the Head of State was compiled by other invited delegates group. The first part was submitted by delegate U Saw Hla Tun of Chaung-U Township, Sagaing Division.

U Saw Hla Tun

[Regions and States]

He said the delegates group had thoroughly discussed 31 papers altogether ten times for obtaining basic principles.

A point the delegates group wished to submit specially was about the nine groups of delegates from special regions who have made peace with the State and are engaged in services for regional development in great momentum, he said, speaking of them as "regal flowers on blue mountains". He said some proposals put forward by the nine peace groups regarding the designation of self-administered areas under the chapter State Structure of the three -- the State, State Structure and the Head of State have some more significant aspects than the basic principles already formulated by the National Convention.

He said the delegates group wants to fulfil the wishes of the delegates of the peace groups and also places emphasis on the words of National Convention Convening Work Committee Chairman U Aung Toe "to bring pleasure and delight to the national races concerned and to

further consolidate national unity".

The panel of chairmen had arranged under Para 32 of the National Convention Procedures for the papers of delegates of nine special regions and two delegates to be able to submit to the Plenary Session separately.

He said he would discuss basic principles suitable to be framed in the chapters the State, State Structure and the Head of State.

Concerning State Structure, he submitted the following basic principles:

1. The State is constituted by Pyidaungsu (Union) system.
2. The existing seven divisions are designated seven regions and the existing seven states are designated seven states. Those seven regions and seven states are of equal status and authority.

3. (a) The names of those seven regions and seven states are retained as they are at present.

- (b) The State is constituted with the following seven regions and seven states:

- Kachin State
- Kayah State
- Kayin State
- Chin State
- Sagaing Region
- Tanintharyi Region
- Bago Region
- Magway Region
- Mandalay Region
- Mon State
- Rakhine State
- Yangon Region
- Shan State
- Ayeyarwady Region

- (c) The regions and states are of equal status and authority.

4. If it is desired to change the name of a region or a state, it shall be done so with enactment of law after ascertaining the wishes of citizens residing in the region or state concerned.

5. In regions or states, self-administered areas are to be prescribed for national races who reside together in communities on the same common stretches of land in appropriate sizes of population, other than national races who have already got regions or states.

6. Depending on size of population and inhabited area, they are to be prescribed self-administered divisions or self-administered zones as suitable

In regions or states, self-administered divisions or self-administered zones are to be prescribed for national races having characteristics in accord with the basic principles laid down, other than national races who have already got regions or states.

7. No part of the territory of the State, namely regions, states and self-administered areas etc. shall ever secede from the State.

Dr. Han Saw

[Electoral college]

Dr. Han Saw of the other invited delegates group continued to submit basic principles to be framed in the chapter the Head of State.

He put forward in proposal No. 14, 15 and 16 regarding the chapter Head of State in the paper as follows:

14. (a) All representatives in the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw should be designated as members of the electoral college and organized into three groups.

- (b) Group 1 should be formed with elected Hluttaw representatives in the Hluttaw with equal numbers of representatives elected from regions and states; Group 2 should be formed with elected Hluttaw representatives elected on the basis of population; and Group 3 should be formed with Tatmadaw member Hluttaw representatives nominated as such by the Commander-in-Chief of the

Defence Services for the said two Hluttaws.

15. (a) Vice-Presidents should be elected to assist the President of the Union that is the head of executive of the Union.

(b) Each of the three groups of the electoral college is to elect a Vice-President from among Hluttaw representatives or from among persons who are not Hluttaw representatives.

(c) Vice-Presidents are candidates for the Presidency as well.

(d) Whether or not these Vice-Presidents possess the qualifications prescribed for the President of the Union should be scrutinized by a body that includes the leaders and the deputy leaders of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw and the two Hluttaws.

(e) All members of the electoral college, in other words, all Pyidaungsu Hluttaw representatives are to elect by vote any Vice-President of choice as the President of the Union.

(f) The Vice-President who obtains the highest number of votes is to be elected as the President of the Union.

(g) If the three Vice-Presidents obtain equal numbers of vote, the leader of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw is to elect the President from among the three by decision of vote.

16. Laws regarding the election of the President of the Union are to be enacted.

The delegate expressed belief that the 57 basic principles put forward by the delegates group will be of benefit to the Constitution to be drawn up and contribute to progress and development of the future State.

Kachin State Special Region 1

A proposal paper on basic principles to be incorporated into the three chapters, compiled by Kachin State Special Region 1, was submitted by delegate U Mangkyi Zawng Khawng of the other invited delegates group.

U Mangkyi Zawng Khawng

[Qualifications for President; Limited Electoral College of 47--14 from upper house, 26 from lower house, 7 from Tatmadaw members]

He said proposals of the group, based on the speech of National Convention Convening Commission Chairman Lt-Gen. Myo Nyunt and National Convention Convening Committee Chairman Chief Justice U Aung Toe at the Plenary Session on 18 January 1994, had been compiled in accordance with the six objectives of the National Convention.

He spoke of the group's agreement to most of the facts clarified by the Work Committee Chairman as they have been assessed after studies of various international constitutions and are reasonable and proper.

So, he said, he would like to submit some changes made on the clarified facts and some new facts.

He proposed 14 basic principles concerning the chapter State Structure.

Of them, No. 5 proposed was:

(5) The present special regions of peace groups in Myanmar shall be designated as Union territories.

His explanation on the proposal was:

Peace groups are positive forces of the Union striving at great momentum for perpetual peace, security and unity in their regions and carrying out regional development in cooperation with the State. Endeavours of peace groups in special regions not only benefit the regions on border but also bring about priceless benefits to the entire Union. So, from the positive symbol should be changed to multiplication symbol.

The group's No. 9 proposal was:

(9) No part of the territory of the State, namely regions, states and self-administered areas etc. shall ever secede from the State.

It was stated in Para (b) and (c) of No. 14 proposal:

(b) The group agrees to the basic principle "To prescribe areas of special situation in connection with defence and security, administration and economy of the whole Union as Union territories

under direct administration of the President, enacting laws if necessary in future.

(c) Moreover, the point he would like to specially and seriously propose is "to designate special regions of present peace groups striving at their best in cooperation with the State development services of the Union for the progress of border areas and national races as Union territories under direct administration of the President.

Regarding the chapter Head of State, he proposed six basic principles. Of them, he suggested qualifications of a person to stand for election to the office of the President in nine paragraphs in No. 2 proposal of the chapter. Of the nine paras, No. (e) and (f) paras are:

(e) The President of the Union shall be a person who has been residing continuously in the country (or) in a territory under the powers of the State for at least 20 years up to the time of the election.

(f) The President of the Union must be a person who is loyal to the State and the citizenry. In addition, the person himself, parents, spouse, children and their spouses shall not owe allegiance to a foreign power or be subjects or citizens of a foreign power.

In proposal No. 3 of the paper concerning the chapter Head of State,

(3) The President of the Union shall be elected by the electoral college.

(a) If all the elected Hluttaw representatives of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw are included in the formulation of the electoral college, difficulties may be encountered in managing other affairs of the State. Moreover, if the college is formed with many members, it is difficult to effectively and decisively carry out tasks concerning the election. So, the electoral college should be formed only with a fair number of members. The group assumes it appropriate to form the college with 47 members -- 14 elected Hluttaw members from the Hluttaw with equal numbers of representatives elected from regions and states; 26 elected Hluttaw representatives from the Hluttaw elected on the basis of population; and 7 Tatmadaw member Hluttaw representatives nominated as such by the Commander-in-Chief of the Defence Services for the said two Hluttaws or in other words Pyidaungsu Hluttaw.

The delegate said proposals submitted on the three chapters the State, State Structure and the Head of State were based on the clarifications of the Work Committee Chairman at the National Convention Plenary Session on 18 January 1994 and some basic principles were their exclusive proposals compiled in accord with the six objectives of the National Convention, the already formulated 104 basic principles and the National Convention procedures and with genuine goodwill in the interest of the future Union.

Kayan Group

A proposal paper on basic principles to be incorporated into the chapters the State, State Structure and the Head of State of the Constitution to be drawn up was compiled by Kayan group of other invited delegates group. It was submitted by delegate U Gabriel Byan. U Gabriel Byan

[Insurgency was against monarchism and bad administration, not the government; need for an expanded Kayan State]

He said:

At one time the activities regarding federal policy in Shan State and Kayah State were based on top strata of people and were not in the least the aspirations of the lower level mass of the people. The lower level people were merely their scapegoats and were made use of. The struggle for life of the lower level people in Shan and Kayan States stands proof of this. Similarly, in Shan State (South) where the majority of the people were Pa-O nationals, they also had to struggle hard to completely do away with monarchism in their regions.

However, in some of the states due to the influence of monarchists or incorrect system of designating administrative regions

and formation of regions, the administrative power of the Government became ineffective with the result that development could not be achieved proportionately and the life of some of the national races degraded to the lowest level. Some of the national races living in some of these states could not depend on the monarchies and they could not express their opinion to the government as the administrative region had been divided up and hindered them from reaching up to the government. Thus, some of the national races had to struggle hard on their own to bring development to their own race and their own region and at the same time oppose the federalism and in the process they unknowingly infringed some existing laws and became rebels opposing the government without realizing it. Some monarchists and politicians who wanted to gain power through short-cut started pointing accusing fingers at the people who had become rebels and they tricked people by making it look as though the rebels were dissatisfied with the government and not with them and once they gained power or had more power, the rebels would be satisfied and quiet.

In reality, the majority of the armed groups in the hill regions became so --

(1) while opposing monarchism; and

(2) due to faulty designation and division of administrative region, the administrative power of the government did not reach out to these regions and thus become ineffective and the national people in these regions had to struggle and depend on their own and in the process they infringed some of the existing laws and unknowingly became rebels.

The service personnel and the members of the Tatmadaw who have been to our region and who have been assigned duties there are fully aware of the problems and difficulties encountered and the loss suffered by us.

I would like to make a serious request to the National Convention to sympathise with the life of Kayan nationals, who had at one time resided together in a single community on the same common stretch of land but whose land was split into four portions, and to prescribe and designate the regions in such a way that some of natural administration region will become natural again and we will be able to live together in legal community. Here as it is necessary to re-delineate the areas of some of the states and divisions, and it is to be seriously requested that some of the people should not misinterpret the basic principles "no part of the territory of the Union, namely regions, states and self-administered zones shall ever secede from the Union" and draw the conclusion that which particular region or zone should not secede from which particular region or state. As for Kayan nationals we will (1) never secede from the Union and (2) we have opposed secession throughout the past and will continue to do so in the future.

What we Kayan nationals aspire for and want to request through the National Convention are:--

(1) to re-delineate some areas of the necessary division and state so that the Kayan nationals will be able to reside together in communities on the same common stretches of land so that they will be brought together legally in accordance with the Constitution.

(2) in order that the legally formed Kayan national region will be suitable it should be included in Kayan State.

(3) In order to make up for the drawback suffered by Kayan nationals for many years due to negligence and to catch up in development with other national brethren by prescribing a certain period of development tasks to be carried out on priority basis with the assistance of the State.

Whatever people may say, the national races in our country have known to live together in unity and harmony through thick and thin since ancient times. Although there may be minor disputes to a certain extent between one national race and another, no one can deny the fact that they cannot remain aloof with one another. If there are arguments between one national race and another, it is not based on

racial hatred but due to unnatural conditions of administration in some regions, or administration which cannot reach some areas and cannot be effectively carried out and arising out of dissatisfactions.

Therefore in writing and prescribing the different levels of State Structure, it is especially necessary to be natural and fair in dividing and prescribing the various administrative zones. This will assist the government in making its administration and management tasks more effective.

We believe that State Structure at different levels to be drawn up and included in the new Constitution will be equal and just for all the national races according to their original rights will be systematic, natural and convenient.

It is to be mentioned that -- non-disintegration of the Union, non-disintegration of national unity and perpetuation of sovereignty -- the Three Main National Causes are the causes of all of us.

Kokang national delegates

U Yang Kya Kwai (a) U Khin Maung San, delegate of Special Region-1 in northern Shan State, submitted the proposal paper of the Kokang national delegates on the chapters the State, State Structure and Head of State to the National Convention.

U Yang Kya Kwai (a) U Khin Maung San

[Kokang nationals. Special Regions for Peace; Tatmadaw role]

He said:

Our nation is home to various national races. According to experiences, nation-building and development tasks were hampered due to disunity among the national races. In terms of development, the nation could not keep abreast of the world nations. This we all know. National Unity, therefore, is important for national development.

Realizing this, leaders of the national races have joined hands with the State and are now engaged in regional development projects for the welfare of the local people. Special Regions of Peace then emerged.

Up to now, there are 10 such regions. More will emerge. Five years of experience shows that it is more effective and expeditious to implement the regional development projects in the regions of their own after designating Special Regions of Peace and providing opportunities to make direct contact with the Central Government and the Ministries concerned.

Such special regions should therefore continue to exist in areas where nationalities reside since regional projects implemented by themselves with the State's assistance have proved to be highly beneficial to national unity. With the designation of self-administered areas in the State Structure, regional development projects can be implemented with added momentum and regional peace and security could also be ensured. Existence of self-administered areas in the regions and states will contribute towards economic development, improvement in the standard of living and more speedy and effective implementation of construction projects in the state concerned. Mutual understanding will be promoted and unity consolidated among the nationalities. Establishment of self-administered areas will enable the people to understand the progress made in neighbouring major nations which are making progress through unity. Hence, national races who have already had regions or states of their own should accept with magnanimity the establishment of self-administered areas of other national races in their region or state and work together with them for the development of the region or state concerned.

In connection with the National Convention objective for the Tatmadaw to be able to participate in the national political leadership role of the future State, he discussed thus:

In September 1988, the Tatmadaw government took over administrative duties of the State. Now it has been more than five years. Endeavours made by the Tatmadaw government in a short period of some five years are worthy of putting on record. While restoring law and order in the country, it has been making relentless efforts

for peace and tranquillity, progress and secure and smooth transportation. It has begun restoring peace which has been non-existent in certain areas for more than four decades. The Tatmadaw leaders are implementing these projects with foresight and sincerity, with emphasis on welfare of the people of border areas and non-disintegration of the Union. Negotiations with armed groups of national races in a brotherly manner have led to a return to the legal fold of the 10 armed groups thereby restoring peace. The number is expected to rise. With magnanimity and sincerity, the Tatmadaw leaders have been able to accomplish this which no government could for more than four decades.

There were areas forgotten and ignored by the Union. The Tatmadaw leaders laid down projects and sent manpower and financial aid to the far flung areas to which access was difficult. Today, they can contact Yangon by phone and it takes a few days to get there, compared with months of travel previously. People can go to areas of their choice in the country to do business peacefully. The Tatmadaw members, in addition to their national defence duties, are taking part in nation-building tasks in major and small towns and villages for smooth transportation and for economic development of the people. They play whatever role they can for national development in the long run. Development projects are also being implemented with added momentum. To ensure that there is no let-up in this momentum, it is proposed that the Tatmadaw member delegates should play political leadership role in the future State. The Tatmadaw being an organization made up of different national races has served in different areas of the nation. They are acquainted with the traditions and customs of national races and understand them well. Starting from their junior years, leaders of the Tatmadaw have undergone training and are experienced in administrative, management and military affairs. Throughout Myanmar history, the Tatmadaw has had fine traditions. Giving the Tatmadaw an appropriate role in the political leadership will strengthen and consolidate the non-disintegration of the Union, perpetuation of sovereignty and non-disintegration of national solidarity and ensure internal peace.

In almost every nation of the world today, it will be seen that a considerable number of Tatmadaw leaders are taking part in the national political leadership role. In future Myanmar's national political leadership role too, the Tatmadaw representatives should be given an opportunity to play an appropriate role. With their participation, management of national defence, security, administrative, foreign relations and so on will be more effective and successful.

Regarding the conclusion of the tenure of the President or Vice-Presidents, he proposed that a principle should be laid down for them to enjoy rights after their official term of office, if they are not re-elected so that they will be able to live in comfort and in dignity during their retirement. (NLM 3/26)

Mar. 26 [full text]: The following is a translation of salient points from proposal papers on fundamental principles to form a base in the chapters the State, State Structure and Head of State submitted by the other invited delegates group to the plenary session of the National Convention yesterday.

U Aung Myint of Shan State (North) Special Region 2
[Wa nationals. Creation of Wa State]

U Aung Myint, delegate of Special Region-2 in northern Shan State, submitted a proposal paper to the National Convention on behalf of leader of Wa nationals U Kyauk Nyi Lai. He said.

Since ancient time, Wa nationals have been residing together along the valley of the Thanlwin River with own specific area, administration, dialect, cultural traditions and customs up to this day.

It is estimated that Wa population is more than one million, and over 700,000 are living along the valley and in the east of the Thanlwin River.

Namtit Creek lies in the north and Mongton Township in the

south. In the west, there lie Monkyet area, Nampan Creek, and along the Thanlwin River and in the east there lie borders with China, Laos and Thailand.

It is again proposed that Wa region in the east of Nampan Creek and Thanlwin River be designated as Wa state.

The Wa delegate declared that Wa nationals shall never secede from the Union whatever decision is finally made by the National Convention over the proposal of Wa nationals.

In connection with State Structure, he discussed as follows:

All the delegates had heard the proposals of the Wa nationals over establishment of new Wa state. The delegates would realize that the proposal differs from the clarification of Chairman of National Convention Convening Work Committee U Aung Toe on 18 January 1994. If the national brethren decide to designate either a state or self-administered division for Wa nationals, it openly proposed that Wa nationals would like to accept only direct administration of the Central Government of the Union of Myanmar. In other words, it is proposed that the National Convention is to lay down a principle to form basis in writing the Constitution stipulating that Wa self-administered division is to be placed under direct administration of Central Government similar to the Chin Special Division before attaining statehood or prior to the 1974 Constitution. It will also be necessary to provide constitutional access to statehood in future for Wa region.

The Wa delegate then reviewed the post-Independence period stretching more than four decades dividing it into three parts.

He said in the first 20 years, for various reasons successive governments ignored backwardness and the plight of the people of Wa region located in the far flung area.

During the next 20 years, he said, the BCPs took advantage of the above weaknesses, organized the Wa nationals and rose against the Government for more than 20 years. It could be described as a tragic incident. During the period of more than 20 years, the BCPs had not done much for the development of Wa nationals. Finally, Wa nationals had forsaken BCP leaders for not being able to provide political leadership, ease the basic needs of the people nor bring about regional development.

He said it has been some five years after securing peace with the State Law and Order Restoration Council. This period should be regarded as part three. The State, with sincerity and goodwill, energetically carried out regional development projects providing direct leadership, and local people, wishing to keep abreast of other national races in development, also made all-out efforts. In a short period of some five years there have been achievements which were absent in more than four decades.

In conclusion, the Wa delegate proposed:

- (a) to establish new Wa State,
- (b) to establish Wa self-administered division similar to Chin Special Division under direct administration of the Central Government prior to the 1974 Constitution if a new state cannot be established,
- (c) to provide constitutional access for the establishment in future of a new Wa State.

U Sai Nong of Shan State (North) Special Region 3

[Tainglian nationals. Having a designated State should not prevent nationals living elsewhere from having self-administered areas]

U Sai Nong, delegate of Special Region-3 in northern Shan State, submitted the proposal paper reflecting the opinions of the people of the Special Region-3.

In connection with the State Structure chapter, he said he would like to discuss amendments to be made to some of the basic principles of the chapter. He then discussed as follows:

A basic principle was laid down that "Other than the national races who have already had regions or the states..." but it should not be so. Instead, a national race who has already had a region or state should give other nationalities with appropriate population

residing in another region or state close together on the same area of land self-administered division or self-administered area. Then only will the nationalities who have had their own regions or states but are resident in other regions or states enjoy the rights like their fellow nationalities. If only the nationalities in the respective region or state are to enjoy the rights and even blood brothers living in the same nation are to lose such rights, it will be unrealistic and it can adversely affect national solidarity.

For instance...if it is proposed by nationalities of Shan origin residing close together in areas of upper Sagaing Division and lower Kachin State namely, Tainglian, Taingnay, Tainghsa, Taing Hkamti, Taing Katu, Taing Kanan, Taing Hkunt and so on to designate suitable self-administered division or self-administered area, they are the nationalities who, like ourselves, meet the conditions required for being granted the (self-administered division) or the (self-administered area). They are the nationalities with appropriate population residing close together on the same area of land. Their wish to manage their own affairs does not arise only on this day. When Myanmar was under the British rule, the area populated by Tainglian nationalities was designated in table (2) and the Kachin hill region in table (1) of an administrative law (1935). At the Panglong Conference it was demanded to designate the areas of Bhamo and Myitkyina districts including the area stated in table (2) as Kachin State. The Conference was almost disrupted since the demands did not conform to the 1935 law. It then happened that as the area stated in table (2) did not belong to Kachin nationals but to Tainglian nationals Bogoyoke Aung San totally disagreed with the demands. He even made plans to go back to Yangon. On 21-4-47, U Po Hti, U Saw Yi and U Ba Hsin who were chosen and sent by the plains of Bhamo district saw the hill region inquiry commission and told their opinions. They also gave a written statement to the commission chairman. The statement said that the people of Bhamo and those of 22 villages held a meeting, that the meeting denounced the secret plan of the British authorities to include the plains of Bhamo and Myitkyina in the new Kachin State, and that the people of the area would not accept nor agree to all proposals to carve out plain areas for the establishment of new Kachin State. The statement was signed by U Po Hti, U Saw Yi, U Ba Aung and U Ba Hsin. However, the 1947 Constitution promulgated on 24 September 1947 provided in the Section 6--The territories that were heretofore known as the Myitkyina and Bhamo Districts shall form a constituent unit of the Union of Burma and be hereafter known as "the Kachin State." In this way the Tainglian nationalities lost their rights.

In connection with the formation of a commission by the State to designate self-administered areas, the delegate said it would be most appropriate to carry out the task with the formation of a commission. If the matter is decided immediately, could there be happiness as desired when all the national races were not satisfied. Hence, first of all the correct figures of the population of the respective townships and areas and the names of nationalities are to be obtained. Secondly, the genuine aspirations of the local people are to be sought. And finally, the remarks of the commission are to be obtained. Only after all these, the nationalities and specific areas could be designated correctly with the appreciation of the nationalities thereby consolidating and strengthening national unity.

The delegate said he had nothing to discuss the Head of State chapter.

U Min Ein of Shan State (East) Special Region 4

[Akhar (and Lwe) nationals; wants 'special' self-administered status]

U Min Ein of Shan State (East) Special Region 4 submitted the proposal paper. He said:

I wish everybody good health and happiness.

I am U Min Ein, National Convention delegate from Shan State (East) Special Region 4. I will present matters on behalf of the entire national races of Shan State (East) Special Region 4.

I would like to present matters regarding our region. Our

region is situated in the Shan State (East) and has common borders with Kengtung, Mongyawng and Mongyan Townships. There are also the China and Laos borders on one side. Ahkar, Shan and Lwe national races reside in the region.

The Ahkar nationals are also known as Kaw. The Ahkar nationals, since the time of our ancestors were born and bred and have lived in our region successively.

We Ahkar nationals, like our brethren Wa nationals lagged behind in development through different eras.

As fighting raged in our region and the people suffered a great deal from the effects of the war, some Ahkar nationals had no other alternative but to leave the region and live elsewhere.

At one time, our region was a black area for the State. It was a consolidated area for the BCPs who influenced the region and posed danger and distraction to the State.

It was only in 1989 that the regional people awoke from darkness and achieving development they began to oppose the BCPs and drove them out of the region. Once the region was rid of the BCPs, leaders of our national race formed the "military and regional administrative committee" and obtained peace with the State and the Tatmadaw.

The entire mass of the people in the region and regional troops were organized and persuaded to enable them to return to the legal fold and live in peace and tranquillity. We had to pass through anxieties, evil influences, distractions and obstacles which had to be solved and some are still being solved.

The government designated our region as the Shan State (East) Special Region 4 and the status of a division. The troops were also designated as police force and provided assistance by giving salaries.

Within five years of obtaining peace, our region has achieved considerable progress and development. Comparing the situation of the region with that of the period of the BCPs, there is a vast difference and the region has attained a new appearance.

The progress and development achieved in our region is due to the genuine goodwill of the State leaders placed upon our region and national races in our region and utmost and concerted efforts made and close supervision given and assistance provided.

Similarly, it is also the result of the active and enthusiastic participation by a group of our regional leaders, their earnest efforts and contributing funds as much as possible by us in addition to the development funds provided by the State as the development tasks were being implemented for our own region and our own people.

I would like to request that our Special Region be designated as special self-administered division. It is expected that the esteemed delegates will discuss and coordinate in this respect.

The reason for requesting for a division status is the State has designated our Special Region 4 as a division.

In our self-administered division, the Ahkar self-administered district, Shan self-administered district and Lwe self-administered districts will be formed.

It is to enable the national races residing in our region to represent their own national race and to carry out administration in their own area and this is also very suitable to our region.

Our region should be designated not only as an ordinary self-administered division but should add the word 'special' and designated as a special self-administered division. The reason is because it has a special historical background, situated in special region, has special aspects in national defence and security matters and economic and political significance and the tendency to become a significant region.

In order that our region and our people, having lagged behind in development, may achieve rapid progress and have promote and effective contacts with the Government, it is necessary for the region to be given not an ordinary status but the privilege to make contacts directly with the central.

This is not because we do not want to join together with any other national race or stay under any state, but because our region has special significance and we want to implement all-round development tasks speedily and to reduce the level between the Central and our region as much as possible and also because some tasks cannot be effectively carried out at state level.

Hence, all are requested to coordinate and discuss so that our Special Region 4 will be designated as special self-administered division so as to enable the entire national races in our region to remain within the legal fold in peace and to see and enjoy the full generosity of the State.

I will continue presenting matters in connection with Head of State. We fully appreciate and agree with the clarification made by Chairman of the Work Committee on 18 January 1994 in connection the electing of President and Vice-President. We fully believe that we will get a President who will be able to work according to our Three Main National Causes and make the country become developed and prosperous and we fully support this.

U Mahtu Naw of Shan State (North) Special Region 5

[Kachin nationals; wants Kachin Self-Administered Division covering northern Shan State, directly under Central Government]

I am U Mahtu Naw, Kachin national leader of Shan State (North) Special Region 5.

In connection with the formation of self-administered division and self-administered zone, although we Kachin nationals of Shan State (North) Special Region 5, have got Kachin State, we are nationals who have been administering and managing the affairs in Shan State (North) in succession since ancient times, and as it is designated as the Special Region 5 by the State Law and Order Restoration Council and remains so, we would like to ask that the Shan State (North) be designated as Kachin Nationals Self-administered Division and remain under the leadership of the State Government. Historical evidence for requesting the Kachin National Self-Administered Division will be given.

Due to the arrangement by the government since the ancient times, we were given the right to self-administer the regions. Myanmar King Alaungmindayagyi gave administrative powers to Kachin National leaders, Muse Township Manhunt Duwa and Kutkai Township Mongsu Duwa to administer their own regions and there still remain stone carvings of them.

The leaders of the Kachin nationals of Shan State (North) during the colonial era were given the right to administer 99 village circles under the Hsenwi Sawbwa.

Together with the independence of the Union of Myanmar, an agreement was signed between the Hsenwi Sawbwa of Shan State (North) and the Kachin national leaders on 9 December 1947 and the Kachin Sub-state under the administration of Kachin nationals was recognized.

The Kachin Sub-state existed since the time Myanmar Naing-Ngan regained its independence up to 1962 when the Revolutionary Council emerged. This Kachin Sub-state was under the administration of Kachin Sub-state Council. The Kachin Sub-state Council office building still stands in Ward No. 4 in Kutkai. It is now being used as the Township Development Committee office.

During the time of the State Law and Order Restoration Council the region was designated as the Special Region 5 and is under the direct control of the Government during the five-year period of the State Law and Order Restoration Council, the unprecedented tasks for development of border areas and national races are being implemented. The border areas and special regions are now achieving progress and development as can be seen by everybody. The development being achieved thus is due to the direct administration by the Central Government and the special regions have been given the right to present reports direct to the Central. Hence it is to be presented that as the Special Region 5 is under the direct administration of the Central, the self-administered division of Kachin nationals which

we have asked for should come under the direct control system of the Central with no middle level control in-between.

By having direct contacts with the Central, the administrative machinery of the Government can be operated more effectively and swiftly, national security tasks can be carried out more effectively in cooperation with the Tatmadaw and tasks for regional development and ensuring peace and tranquillity to assist the Government can be carried out more effectively.

The regions to be designated for the Self-administered Division of Kachin nationals are:--Western sector of Lashio along the rail-line up to Namtu, from there along the Manton Motor Road including Kaungkat village, Loimawmein Hill, Hsingaung Hill (Mahohant), Kayun, Namngon, Namlet, Maptar, Huri, Namkhine up to Mongyu, from there along the strategic road including Panngu, Hsinkyaing, Kaungwaing, Kawri (Kachin), the upper reaches of Shweli River including Manhong (Shanywa), along the north-western bank of Shweli River north-west of Namkham, the Namsa Rubyland area, Lathsin, Mawtawng, Yanwu, Kyankar, Kakyit, Kinhsaw, Tonhon, Lwe-hsaing, Lwe-hsaung, up to Je-Oh, Panhone Hill, Lwelan Hill and along the Namhswe creek east of Lashio up to Hsa-Hlian ferry jetty at Thanlwin River, from there northward along the Thanlwin River and all the area on the western sector of the Thanlwin River. It is to be presented that all these regions are to be approved and designated. The map showing the area under the Kachin village-circle headmen of 1947 or the map showing the Self-Administered Division of Kachin nationals is attached together with this proposal paper.

In connection with the chapter on Head of State --

(1) the Head of State is the President of the State,

(2) the President of the State shall be elected by electoral college.

Members of the electoral college should be organized into three groups.

Group 1 should be formed with elected Hluttaw representatives in the Hluttaw with equal numbers of representatives elected from regions and states,

Group 2 should be formed with elected Hluttaw representatives in the Hluttaw elected on the basis of population,

Group 3 should be formed with Tatmadaw member Hluttaw representatives nominated as such by the Commander-in-Chief of the Defence Services for the said Hluttaws.

If we review some of the history of the Union of Myanmar in the past it will be seen that

1. The internal insurgency which emerged together with the independence of Myanmar Naing-Ngan led the country to near disintegration. At the time it was only the Tatmadaw which protected and salvaged the country from disaster.

2. During the post independence period of the political party government or the Parliamentary Democracy Government, there were difference of policies between the political parties and country headed towards disintegration and the Tatmadaw stepped in to save the situation in 1962 by forming the Revolutionary Council Government and protected the State.

3. Then again in 1988, disturbances broke out in the entire country with the excuse of flourishing multiparty democracy in the country and the State was in disarray and on the verge of total disintegration. It was only the Tatmadaw which brought the situation under control and has preserved the perpetuity of the Union up to this day.

4. From 1988 up to this day, due to the magnanimity, far-sightedness and goodwill of the State Law and Order Restoration Council towards the national races, it has invited armed groups with patience and brought about internal peace. Today, peace and tranquillity reigns in the country due to the efforts made by the Government. The armed groups after obtaining peace have been given special regions by the State Law and Order Restoration Council and is implementing regional development tasks. Moreover, it is also

implementing development tasks in the border areas and other regions.

5. As it is the Tatmadaw which only knows the condition and events of the special regions, the development tasks which are to be implemented with uninterrupted momentum in the border areas, special regions and self-administered divisions which we have asked for, cannot be implemented without the leadership, genuine goodwill and efforts of the Tatmadaw. Therefore, it is to be proposed that a basic principle should be laid down so that the Presidential candidate or Vice-Presidential candidate shall be nominated by the Tatmadaw.

I conclude by wishing the Esteemed Chairman, members of the Panel of Chairmen and all National Convention delegates good health and happiness.

(NLM 3/27)

Mar. 28 [full text]: The following is a translation of salient points from proposal papers on fundamental principles to form as base in the chapters the State, State Structure and Head of State submitted by the other invited delegates group and political parties to the plenary session of the National Convention today.

[Shan State (South) Special Region 6]

[Pa-O nationals; Presidential system endorsed]

Proposal paper submitted by delegate of the other invited delegates group National Convention delegate U Aung Hkam Ti of the Shan State (South) Special Region 6 at the Plenary Session.

U Aung Hkam Ti

I am National Convention delegate U Aung Hkam Ti, Pa-O national leader of Shan State (South) Special Region 6.

At this opportune moment, I would like to present a little about Pa-O nationals. We Pa-O nationals are included in the Kayin group of the Tibeto-Myanmar stock. We came down from the Mongolian Plateau, passed along the Mekong River and Shweli River from China to Kutkai Plateau then through the Kyukok valley, crossed the Lashio mountain range and settled in Taunggyi and Loilem Districts.

Language is one of the characteristics of a race and Pa-O language is a language separate from the Kayin. There are eight sounds in Pa-O language and is quite different from Myanmar language.

As the majority of the national races have their own literature, the Pa-O nationals also have their own separate literature. Due to the belief in Theravada Buddhism and based on it Buddhistic writings flourished. Hence the Pa-O nationals since ancient times had their own literature together with Buddhism.

I will now continue to present matters in connection with the basic principle -- "no part of the territory of the Union, namely regions, states and self-administered areas shall ever secede from the Union".

In Section 19, Chapter II of the Constitution of the Soviet Union, the right to secede has been given. Due to the weakness of the Constitution the Soviet Union is now seen that the Soviet Union [sic] has split up into fractions and many difficulties are being encountered. In some East European countries it is seen in newspapers that there is war going on between ethnic groups and making efforts to secede from the respective country.

In the original Constitution of the United States of America there are no restriction for the states to secede and therefore it means that the states can secede if they desire to do so. In 1861 in the Southern States, due to the difference in opinion between some states regarding slavery civil war broke out in the country. This civil war which broke out due to the matter of seceding took place after 85 years of independence of the United States.

Regarding this point legal expert Dr. Maung Maung has mentioned in his State Constitution written in English in connection with the matter of seceding from the Union giving a serious warning citing the United States as an example.

It is quite obvious that weaknesses and shortcomings in the State Constitution can bring about the disintegration of the Union and therefore, it is necessary to have complete facts from all angles. It is especially necessary to contain points in the new State

Constitution in order to deter the right to secede which can lead to war breaking out among the national races and bring about disintegration of the Union.

It is to be seriously proposed that the fundamental principle "no part of the territory of the Union, namely regions, states and self-administered areas, etc. shall ever secede from the Union" should be explicitly prescribed.

If the political history of Myanmar Naing-Ngan is reviewed, it will be seen that the system of bestowing full power to only the Prime Minister is being practised. In practising this system the Prime Minister has to take the responsibility of managing the Hluttaw and has [to] take into consideration the opinion of the majority of Hluttaw members. If the Prime Minister goes against the wishes of Hluttaw members and cannot effectively bring about development to the State and if the strength of members of the Prime Minister's party within the Hluttaw is weak, it has to go into coalition with other parties and form a coalition government and thus becomes ineffective in implementing the vital tasks of the State. Also due to the right of non-confidence vote by Hluttaw members, the Prime Minister can often lose his seat and changes in government can take place resulting in political instability in the country from time to time; and there are many weaknesses as the Prime Minister, facing a no confidence vote has to agree to changes in the policy of his government or his party for his party to win and to gain more votes.

If we study the countries where the system of giving sovereign powers of the State to the Prime Minister is practised, it will be seen that due to the above-mentioned weaknesses, the change in government takes place quite often in these countries. Moreover, it takes quite a lot of time for a policy to come into effect or tasks to be implemented. In one of the neighbouring countries, it is seen that the change of government took place many times in a single year and the king himself had to step in to settle the matter.

In majority of the countries of the world where the President is given the full sovereign powers of the State, there is political stability and domestic and foreign affairs can be carried out easily and expeditiously.

At a time when market economy is being practised in our country and steps are being taken intensively and steady pace to bring about economic development, the system of giving full power to the President is most appropriate, then only will he be able to concentrate on bringing about development with a firm footing rather than spending his time in politics in order to remain in power.

Therefore, it is to be proposed that the Head of State in our country should be the President on whom full executive power is to be bestowed.

It is especially necessary to prescribe beforehand the qualifications of the President so that no traitors or foreign interferences can be present in the leadership role of the State. It is to be proposed that the qualifications of the President should be as follows--

It is necessary for the President himself, either parents, and spouse not to owe allegiance to a foreign power, be subject or citizen of foreign power and be persons entitled to the rights and privileges of a subject or citizen of a foreign power.

It is to be proposed that as a policy has been laid down by the Plenary Session of the National Convention that the President should be elected by electoral college, the President should be elected only by the electoral college.

In electing the presidential electoral college it is seen that it is done in conformity with our country's history, political conditions and other situations. According to the political situation in our country the presidential electoral college should be elected separately but all representatives in the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw should be designated as members of the presidential electoral college.

Group 1 should be formed with elected Hluttaw representatives in the Nationalities Hluttaw and Upper Hluttaw with equal numbers of

representatives elected from regions or states; Group 2 should be formed with elected Hluttaw representatives in the Lower Hluttaw elected on the basis of population; and Group 3 should be formed with Tatmadaw member Hluttaw representatives nominated as such by the Commander-in-Chief of the Defence Services.

Therefore, I hope that other delegates groups will make proposals on facts which are more complete and good for the emergence of the State Constitution which is very good and the foundation of the State and with this I conclude our proposal.

[Shan State (North) Special Region 7]

[Ta-Arng (Palaung) nationals. Call for self-administered division]

Proposal paper submitted by delegate U Ai Mong from Shan State (North) Special Region 7 of the other delegates group at the National Convention Plenary Session.

U Ai Mong of Shan State (North) Special Region 7:

I am U Ai Mong, group leader of Shan State (North) Special Region 7. I would like to present a proposal to the National Convention the various aspects of the Ta-Arng (Palaung) from Special Region 7. We Ta-Arng (Palaung) nationals are one of the national groups of the Mon-Khmer which entered into Myanmar Naing-Ngan first as all National Delegates are already aware of.

The chief livelihood of our Ta-Arng (Palaung) nationals is growing tea leaves and agriculture. We are producing about 95 per cent of tea leaves produced in the country. We are of the Buddhist faith and we have our own literature and culture and our own language, mode of dress and traditions which we have preserved and we live in a community on the same stretch of land.

We Ta-Arng (Palaung) nationals love to be called Ta-Arng. The approximate area where we live in communities on the same stretch of land are:--

- (1) in the vicinity of Mogok and Mogok Township in Mandalay Division;
- (2) in Kyaukme Township, 60 per cent of the population in Kyaukme Township and its suburbs;
- (3) in the western and northern sectors of Hsipaw Township;
- (4) representing 70 per cent of the population in Namtu Township;
- (5) representing 40 per cent of the population in Mongmit Township;
- (6) representing 55 per cent of Kutkai Township;
- (7) in Namhkam suburbs and in Namhkam Township representing 70 per cent of the township;
- (8) representing 95 per cent of the population in Namhsan (Shan State, North) and our total population is about 600,000 and we live in communities.

Moreover, we also live scattered in Lashio, Tangyang, Muse and Monghsu in Shan State (North), in Kalaw and Aunban, Lawksawk and Ywangan Townships in Shan State (South); and Kengtung, Monghkat, Monghsat and Mongpyin Townships in Shan State (East).

In consideration of having our language, literature, culture, mode of dress and customs and traditions and the desire to live peacefully, I would like to propose the following:--

- (a) to prescribe the Ta-Arng Self-administered Division for Ta-Arng nationals;
- (b) to call us Ta-Arng nationals instead of Palaung nationals;
- (c) to upgrade and form Manton area into a new township and Mong-ngaw area into a New Mong-ngaw township.

We hope and desire for the perpetuity of the Union of Myanmar, for all the national races to be united and live amicably, perpetuity of the sovereignty and for stepping up the tasks of bringing peace and development to the border areas being implemented by the state. I wish to present seriously to the National Convention to prescribe a Self-Administered Division for the Ta-Arng (Palaung) nationals so that the entire mass of the Ta-Arng (Palaung) nationals can contribute towards bringing peace and tranquillity and development to

the region. We also wish that other national brethren will also get self-administered division according to the prescribed population and geographical (same stretch of land) situation.

I fully believe that the members of the Panel of Chairmen and all National Convention delegates will patiently ponder over and deliberate upon the proposal and suggestions made by me. I conclude by wishing all delegates success in discussing and deliberating matters according to their aspiration.

U Kyaw Myint (a) U Win Maung (Namhkam):

[Lisu nationals; call for a self-administered zone]

I am U Kyaw Myint, National Convention delegate of other invited delegates group.

I, as Chairman of the Cultural Affairs League of Kholon Lishaw nationals would like to present matters at this opportune moment in connection with the affairs of national races as regards the prescribing of self-administered division or zones for suitable national races. The correct name of our national race is Lisu. There are two national groups among the Lisu Kholo Lisu and Kpha Lisu.

To state as an evidence, in Volume 12 of the Encyclopaedia Myanmarica from page 16 to 18 published in 1972 facts relating to Lisu nationals have been written. In that book the correct name of Lisu is written. In that book it is mentioned that we are Tibeto-Myanmar stock of Muso group. Lisu people can be found in Shan State and Kachin State. The Shans and Myanmars call us Lishaw and some national races call us Liso. In Putao region we are called Yawyin and those in Shan State are also called Lisaw. Besides the Putao Lisu, there are three kinds of Lisu namely, Kengtung Lisu, Bhamo Lisu and Loilem Lisu. There are two kinds of Lisu among those in Shan State, the Kholon Lisu and Lipha Lisu. It is also written that Kholon Lisu is none other than Kholon Lishaw. It is estimated that there are about 20,000 Lisu people in Shan State.

The majority of Kholo Lisu or Kholon Lisu are found at Shan State (North). Due to the dangers posed by armed groups the Lisu people are scattered in all parts of Myanmar but the majority are in Namhkam and Namhkam mountain range in Kutkai mountain regions. It is to be assumed that there are about 70,000 Kholo Lisu (a) Kholon Lishaw scattered in all parts of the country. There are about 40,000 living on Namhkam mountain range. We Kholo Lisu (a) Kholon Lishaw are honest and peaceful people and Buddhist nationals and we live in a friendly manner amidst all national races whatever the circumstances. Moreover, like other national races of the Union we have lived in Myanmar Naing-Ngan since ancient times sharing joy and sorrow through weal and woe.

I would like to make a request to take into consideration whether or not Namhkam, Kutkai and Namhkam Mountain region in Kutkai where the majority of the Kholon Lishaw nationals live together in communities can be designated as self-administered zone. If it cannot be designated a self-administered zone then what steps will be taken if this national group's population in a certain region is quite considerable. I will strictly abide by the fundamental principles laid down by the National Convention.

I honestly say that I have no idea if the facts I have presented are directly connected and in conformity with the chapter on State Structure. If they are not in accord with the chapter then to put them on record or to put them under some other appropriate chapter.

U Myint Lwin (a) U Wam Kwaita

[Monwun nationals; call for recognition]

U Myint Lwin (a) U Wam Kwaita, delegate of Monwun region in the north-east of Myanmar from the other invited delegates group, submitted the proposal paper on the chapters the State, State Structure and Head of State.

The delegate elaborated in the proposal paper on the loyalty and performance of duties for successive periods by the Monwun nationals at the risk of their lives claiming that those incidents have been put on record. The delegate said he had attached the

documentary evidence of those events in detail.

He noted that Monwun nationals at present time are carrying out whatever duties are assigned to them together with the Tatmadaw with the ultimate aim of safeguarding Our Three Main National Causes-- non-disintegration of the Union, non-disintegration of national solidarity and perpetuation of sovereignty.

In accordance with the traditions of risking the very lives for the service of the nation, they will continue to work firmly together with national brethren for lasting existence of Myanmar.

He said as Monwun nationals have been loyal to the Union of Myanmar throughout history, they will be so in future. They will continue to live always together with the national brethren.

They will also strive for progress and prosperity of the Union in future joining hands with the national brethren of the Union in weal or woe.

The delegate welcomed the recognition as a national race of the Union of Myanmar extended to Kokang national brethren as they meet the requirements.

Similarly, he said, the Monwun nationals also feel themselves as a full-fledged national race since they have joined hands with the fellow national races of the Union in amity for more than 400 years in the history sharing all the adversities and encountering together all dangers.

The delegate then proposed to include the Monwun nationals in the list of the national races in writing and promulgating the Constitution of the Union of Myanmar.

He reiterated that any decision to be passed by the National Convention will be respected and complied.
(NLM 3/29)

Papers of Political Parties Delegates

National Unity Party

[Self-administered areas for Wa, Kokang, Pa-O, Palaung, and Naga nationals]

U Tun Yi and U Khin Maung Gyi, delegates of the National Unity Party submitted the proposal paper of the party. He said:

The National Convention has already laid down four fundamental principles on the chapter the State. The National Convention Convening Commission Chairman and the Work Committee Chairman have also called for discussions on the principles. The National Unity Party welcomes this.

There are most basic points in a constitution. They are: the State concerned, the nature of the State, the name, demarcation of territorial boundaries, the State Structure and where the sovereign powers lie and exercise of such powers. In fact, the State chapter is the Definitive Chapter of that State. The State Chapter makes the State itself known to the world and inclusion of this chapter meets one of the characteristics of a constitution.

It is therefore proposed in connection with the State chapter for vividness in usage.

As the first point, it should be initially stated in writing the Constitution "Myanmar is a sovereign independent democratic State."

As the second point, it should be written: "The State shall be called the Republic of the Union of Myanmar."

As the third point, the following should be added: "The Republic of the Union of Myanmar is a nation where various national races of equal status live together in amity."

As the fourth point, writing "National sovereignty derives from the citizens and resides in the entire State" is most appropriate.

As the fifth point, the following should be added in this chapter: "Legislative power, executive power and judicial power derive from the citizens and organs of the State power formed under this Constitution shall exercise these powers on behalf of the citizens according to law."

As the sixth point, changes should be made as follows: "The

territory of the State encompassing the land, sea and air space shall be as it is on the day the Constitution comes into effect."

In connection with designating self-administered divisions or self-administered zones under State Structure Chapter it is proposed as follows:

(1) Self-administered divisions should be designated if the following conditions are met:

- (a) a national race who does not have a region or state yet,
- (b) having an appropriate number of population,
- (c) residing close together on the same area of land,
- (d) having townships of its own at present with which at least two districts can be formed;

(2) Self-administered zones should be designated if the following conditions are met:

- (a) a national race who does not have a region or a state yet,
- (b) having an appropriate number of population,
- (c) residing close together on the same area of land,
- (d) having an area which is not sufficient to be designated as a self-administered division.

These are the points to form base in designating the self-administered divisions and self-administered zones. This is a basis which can be put to use in practice after a study objectively of various national races residing close together in Myanmar. Internal forces in the country will have to keep free the practices of oppression by majority races against minority ones, give various national races the right to continue to exist and develop and enable them to manage internal affairs with family spirit, patience, perseverance and in proper order through peaceful means. This being a racial matter it is delicate and all should take care to be able to carry out the task in the absence of narrow racialism, suspicions and prejudices but in the presence of mutual friendship, cooperation and racial amity. In coordinating this matter there are points to be taken into account in a broad sense. They are: favourable grounds for administration, economic viability, the ability to manage urban and rural affairs, proper transport and communications in the region, race, religion, dialect, cultural traditions and customs.

The political party went on to recommend on designating right away the self-administered divisions or self-administered zones in suitable areas.

Designating the self-administered divisions or self-administered zones is too delicate a matter. The party finds it difficult to propose most comprehensively in a short period where to designate the self-administered areas. It will be more precise and correct to decide where to designate such areas after taking into consideration the wishes and opinions of the national races and delegate groups attending the National Convention. The party will present basic principles so that the National Convention Plenary Session can dwell upon.

In Shan State, population of the Wa nationals stands over 90,000. Wa nationals are known to be residing close together on the same area of land in Panlon, Panwaing, Mongmao, Manphant, Naphan and Panyang Townships. It is observed that the Wa region has been divided since ancient times into southern and northern Wa regions.

Population of Kokang nationals in Shan State is known to have stood over 70,000. They concentrate in Konkyan, Chin Shwe Haw and Tar Shwe Htaw which are adjoining areas.

Pa-O population in Shan State is over 450,000 in Shan State. They are residing close together in Hopong, Hsihseng and Pinlaung Townships which are on the same area of land.

Palaung nationals are over 300,000 in Shan State. They concentrate on Namhsan Township and on Palaung mountain range which adjoins the Namhsan Township.

In Sagaing Region, there are more than 70,000 Naga nationals. They reside close together mainly in Namyam, Lahe and Leshe Townships which are on the same area of land.

The political party recommends that the areas mentioned are to be accepted as self-administered areas. The party just presents what it has studied for designating self-administered areas for specific nationalities and demarcating their boundaries.

The National Unity Party has now submitted its proposals and recommendations to form base in considering points to write the Constitution in detail, its opinions and attitudes in three sections namely, the State, State Structure and Head of State chapters. In conclusion, the party expresses its stand that it will continue to work with mutual trust and respect for the success of the National Convention, promoting the spirit of negotiations, coordination and cooperation and reaching a general consensus.

Union Pa-O National Organization

[Wants Pa-O self-administered division]

U Aung Khin, delegate to the National Convention, of Union Pa-O National Organization submitted a proposal paper on basic principles to be incorporated into the chapters the State, State Structure and the Head of State of the Constitution to be drawn up.

Concerning the chapter State Structure, he said it is most appropriate to prescribe granting of self-administration to the national races in the new Constitution.

He said as it is realized from historical experience that unity is important for the fate of a nation, it is high time for self-administered divisions and self-administered zones to be designated in the regions or states concerned for national races who have not got states and who reside together in communities on the same common stretches of land in appropriate sizes of population.

Pa-O nationals have larger population than national races of some states and reside in Taunggyi and Loilem Districts in southern Shan State on the same stretch of land, he said. For these characteristics, he proposed that a self-administered division be designated for them, adding that such designation be made for other national races having proper characteristics in other regions and states.

He noted that Myanmar has to strive at its best for regional peace and development, perpetuation of sovereignty and national progress depend on the unity of all national races and accordingly, prevalence of peace and tranquillity and economic development in the entire Union depend on granting of self-administration, proposing again for designation of self-administered areas for Pa-O nationals and other national brethren.

It can be clearly seen that the Constitution must be thoroughly drawn up as the nation is liable to disintegrate if there are more or less loopholes in it. It is specially important that care must be taken in drawing up the new Constitution so that the kind of secession leading to disintegration of the Union and outbreak of wars among the national races might be deterred beforehand, he said.

So, he proposed a basic principle to designate that no part of the territory of the State, namely regions, states, self-administered divisions, self-administered areas etc. shall ever secede from the State.

Concerning the election of the President of the Union, he said the electoral college should be organized with three groups-- group 1 is to be formed with representatives in the Lemyosu Hluttaw or Upper House with equal numbers of representatives elected from regions and states; group 2 is to be formed with representatives in the Lower House with representatives elected on the basis of population; and group 3 is to be formed with Tatmadaw member Hluttaw representatives nominated as such by the Commander-in-Chief of the Defence Services for the said two Hluttaws.

He said each of the three groups of the electoral college is to elect a Vice-President from among Hluttaw representatives or from persons who are not Hluttaw representatives and suggested that the electoral college elect any Vice-President of choice who obtains the highest number of votes as the President of the Union and the remaining two Vice-Presidents continue to be in the vice-presidency.

Only then will the affairs of the State be properly be managed by the one President and the two Vice-Presidents elected.

He said the Union Pa-O National Organization compiled at its best the paper on basic principle suitable to be included the chapters the State, State Structure and the Head of State and there might be weaknesses and loopholes in it.

He expressed hope that other delegates would put forward proposals, perfect and proper, to the National Convention so that a Constitution of utmost importance will emerge as the firm foundation of the State.

Shan State Kokang Democratic Party

[Wants autonomous Kokang self-administered division; incorporation of insurgent armed units]

U Ti Daung Wai, delegate to the National Convention, of Shan State Kokang Democratic Party submitted a proposal paper on basic principles to be incorporated into the chapters the State, State Structure and the Head of State of the Constitution to be drawn up.

After speaking of characteristics of the Kokang region, he said Kokang nationals wish to live with their own literature, language, culture, customs and traditions in a legally recognized self-administered division under a democratic system which provides full human rights or under a stable political system which guarantees independent, peaceful life.

So, he proposed that designation of the Kokang region as a self-administered division be clearly provided in the new Constitution, saying that the original territory, to be designated so, according to the former Constitution, is the combined region of Kunlon and Konkyan Townships.

Concerning the designation of self-administered divisions or self-administered zones, he said the following basic principles should be laid down:

1. A self-administered area, in areas which are not under direct administration of the Union of Myanmar and states in the Union, shall have the right to separately and independently manage the affairs in its own administered area.

2. A self-administered area shall have its own constitution which is compatible with its characteristics and conditions and in accord with the Constitution of the Union of Myanmar and those of the states in the Union.

3. A self-administered area shall have the right to take part in making decisions by the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw and organs of State powers and the highest administration on matters under the administration of the Union of Myanmar and the states in the Union.

4. A self-administered area shall provide supervision over matters under its administration in coordination with departments and establishments under the Union of Myanmar and the states in the Union.

5. The highest organ of power in a self-administered area shall be the leading body. The leading body shall be organized in accord with democratic means and wishes of the people in the area.

6. The leading body elected in accordance with the wishes of the people shall have the right to form an Executive Committee.

Regarding the self-administered areas, he put forward the group's opinion that a self-administered division or a self-administered zone should be designated for a national race, like the Kachin nationals in Shan State, which has got a state but is residing in a community in another region or state.

A self-administered division or a self-administered zone should also be designated for any of the other national races such as Kokang, Wa, Pa-O, Mro or Khami, Palaung, Lisu, Naga, Lahu and Akha which has come forward to propose for such a designation, he suggested on behalf of Shan State Kokang Democratic Party.

Only then, Our Three Main National Causes--non-disintegration of the Union, non-disintegration of national unity and perpetuation of sovereignty--will be firmly upheld and the State will be a perpetual, prosperous Union nation, he said.

Concerning peace units, he proposed a basic principle to be laid down that:

Such armed organizations should be recognized as public peace-keeping legal armed units for--

1. safeguarding the security of the State,
2. safeguarding the security of the respective self-administered division or self-administered zone,
3. constantly protecting the lives and property of the people,
4. safeguarding the democratic system.

In conclusion, he said weaknesses might have slipped into the group's paper which might also have advantageous points. He called on the Chairman of the Plenary Session, the Panel of Chairmen and the delegates to put forward constructive opinions on the paper.

Mro or Khami National Solidarity Organization
[Wants self-administered area]

Delegate U Tha Ban Aung of Buthidaung Township, Rakhine State, of Mro or Khami National Solidarity Organization submitted a proposal paper on basic principles suitable for inclusion in the chapters the State, State Structure and the Head of State of the Constitution to be drawn up.

He said the population of Myanmar is 41,200,000 and there are 35 national races each having a population of more than 10,000, and it will be proper if self-administered areas be designated for them.

If such a provision were in the 1947 Constitution that an admission is to be made of the group of people that accounts for one-tenth of the total population of a constituent unit or the entire country, the affairs of the nationalities will gradually diminish and disappear without taking on any particular changes.

He opined that granting self-administered divisions or self-administered zones should not be based only on the size of population and the width of area. Regardless of population and area, their history in which they have existed as the national races since ancient times and their struggles for independence should be assessed and recognized and self-administered areas be designated based on their present conditions.

He said Mro or Khami has a population of 150,000 and the nationals reside on the same stretch of land in Pauktaw, Ponnagyunn, Mrauk-U, Buthidaung, Maungtaw, Rathedaung and Kyauktaw Townships in northern Rakhine State and Paletwa Township in Chin State.

He spoke of the nationals' wish to live together in a community on the same stretch of land as in former times and proposed that these townships in northern Rakhine State and Paletwa Township be organized into a self-administered division.

In so designating, the self-administered divisions and self-administered zones need to possess fitting characteristics and it has become necessary to extend the townships concerned into new townships, he said.

He propose a basic principle to be laid down that townships as necessary for the self-administered divisions or self-administered zones be extended and constructed.

He said the electoral college should not be exclusively elected and if it should be formed with all Hluttaw representatives in the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw as members including three groups -- group 1 is to be formed with elected Hluttaw representatives in the Hluttaw with equal numbers of representatives elected from regions and states, group 2 is to be formed with elected Hluttaw representatives in the Hluttaw elected on the basis of population and group 3 is to be formed with Tatmadaw member Hluttaw representatives nominated as such by the Commander-in-Chief of the Defence Services for the said two Hluttaws.

He also proposed that the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw should elect three Vice-Presidents and afterwards, elect by vote any Vice-President of choice, who obtains the highest number of votes, as the President of the Union.

He said the President of the Union is the Head of State who is

to exercise full rights and the Vice-Presidents are persons who have to discharge duties of utmost importance in the State. The President or the Vice-Presidents, each of them should compile a list of the family-owned estate, investments in economic undertakings and other valuables, together with their values, and send it to the head of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw.

He proposed to lay down a basic principle that the President and the Vice-Presidents shall enjoy emoluments and allowances, fitting privileges and a fitting residence prescribed by promulgation of law.

(NLM 3/29)

Mar. 29 [full text]: The following is a translation of salient points from proposal papers on fundamental principles to form base in the chapters the State, State Structure and Head of State submitted by political parties to the plenary session of the National Convention today.

Lahu National Development Party

[Statehood or autonomy for Lahus; autonomy for states, regions, and self-administered divisions; no Union territories; only one Vice-President]

U Kyar Ha Shel, delegate of the Lahu National Development Party submitted the proposal of the party on chapters the State, State Structure and Head of State.

The delegate said he would like to add some points to the basic principles laid down for the State Structure chapter of the Constitution to be written.

First, he proposed that with the exception of the national races who have already got regions or states of their own, statehood should be granted right away to the deserving national races out of the remaining national races; or if it is early for the measure a special division should be established, and it should be allowed to make direct contact with the Central.

Secondly, he said the regions and states which are members of the Union are to have their own Hluttaws and introduce appropriate laws, rules and acts. He then proposed that the right of self-administration and self-determination be given to the regions and states to enable them to manage their own affairs freely. In other words, they should have the right of self-determination.

Thirdly, as an exceptional case a national race with appropriate size of population residing close together in communities on the same area of land in the states other than their own should be granted a self-administered area such as self-administered zone or township although it has already got the region or state of its own. For instance, he said, a Bamar village is to be under the charge of Bamar headman.

Stating the attitude of the Lahu National Development Party, he said the delegates should discuss and consult the matter with magnanimity and patience and finally grant self-administered areas to those befitting national races. What is important is that the delegates are to keep in the fore national unity with living kindness. He said the national races are national brethren and they live together. But they should refrain from demanding self-administered areas in areas where one's national race resides, he cautioned. One should not demand what one wants but do what one deserves, he added. What is to be kept in mind is that fellow national brethren too will want this. The national brethren who have already got states will have to oblige with family spirit and magnanimity, he said.

He said Lahu nationals scatter in some townships of northern Shan State. They live especially in the areas in the east of the Thanlwin River. They mostly mingle with Shan, Akhar, Wa and nationals of Wa origin. He then proposed, on behalf of Lisu nationals, that the present Mongpyin District made up of Mongpyin, Monghsat and Mongton Townships be designated as the Lahu National Autonomous Zone for easier communications, better administration and conforming to the basic principles already laid down.

The Lahu National Development Party delegate expressed the party's belief that the Lahu National Autonomous Zone should be placed in the Wa State or in the Wa special division in accordance with the pledges of Lahu ancestors.

He then discussed the matter of designating the capital of the State.

If Yangon is to be designated as the capital, there will be different levels of administration in Yangon namely, wards, townships, and districts. They should be placed under direct administration of the region. It is inappropriate to place it under direct administration of the President who is concerned with the Central Government offices. Similarly, he said, areas special characteristics such as Cocogyun Township should not be designated Union territories but they should be placed under the respective regions or states allowing them to freely manage their affairs.

Regarding the Head of State, the delegate said the President is national leader as well as the chief of the executive and he has to carry out heavy responsibilities. He proposed that one Vice-President should be elected to assist the President.

In conclusion, the Lahu National Development Party delegate wished all in good health and happiness.

Union Kayin League

[Kayin self-administered areas outside Kayin State; Ministry of National Races Affairs; Kayin Affairs Council and Department]

U Saw Than Aung, delegate of the Union Kayin League, said there was one point which was very important for the Kayin national race. He said in connection with the fifth basic principle of the seven principles laid down in the State Structure chapter, the term "with the exception of Kayin State" should be added to "in regions or states, self-administered areas are to be prescribed for national races who reside together...other than national races who have already got regions or state". He said it was because population of Kayin nationals residing in Kayin State constitutes only one-fifth of the total Kayin population and the remaining four-fifths of the Kayin population lives in other regions and states or in five different locations. He said other national races too are residing in different locations apart from their own regions or states and proposed that necessary conditions be added to the fifth principle in order that such national races may not lose their rights.

He said according to the Work Committee's instructions, various commissions are to be set up to work out, designate and carry on with the type and status of the self-administered areas composed of present districts and townships and those which are not lower in status than districts; a complicated matter is to be dealt with without fail.

Continuing, the delegate said, all the delegates had been urged to designate the self-administered areas for the respective national brethren while the National Convention is in session without waiting for the introduction of relevant procedures. Then the nationalities who had been granted self-administered areas would be pleased. Accordingly, he said, the Union Kayin League proposed to designate such areas for different population sizes of between some 100,000 to some 500,000 to fulfil the wishes of national brethren though full data could not be gathered. Moreover, he said, those nationalities were previously under the respective regions or states but those areas of self-determination and self-administration are to make direct contact with the Central Government. This should be taken care of without harming national unity, he said.

The Union Kayin League proposed that the following nationalities be given self-administered areas:

- (1) Pa-O
- (2) Palaung
- (3) Danu
- (4) Lahu
- (5) Akha
- (6) Wa

- (7) Kokang
- (8) Mro or Khami
- (9) Naga
- (10) Lisu

and other deserving nationalities for whom self-administered areas should be given according to their wishes and aspirations.

The delegate said if the population of Kayin nationals in Kayin State stands at about one million, those living outside Kayin State will be seven million. The problem with this race has been there for nearly a century. Kayin nationals, in spite of their special characteristics, do not have the right to establish self-administered areas in other regions or states because they have got their own State. To be able to solve the problem of Kayin nationals once and for all and to help solve other matters involving the remaining national races, it is proposed that "The Ministry of National Races Affairs" be created in the Central Government. In essence, the Ministry will be responsible for solving the problems of nationalities apart from those who have already got regions, states or self-administered areas.

It is therefore proposed that it should be provided in the constitution for the creation of the Ministry of National Races Affairs under the chapter the State Structure, he said.

He also proposed that it should be provided in the constitution or stated in relevant chapters to have the right to form a "Kayin Affairs Council" composed of Kayin representatives of Kayin State and those of regions and states to be able to collectively solve the matter of Kayin nationals.

He further proposed that it should also be provided in the constitution or stated in relevant chapters to have the right to establish a "Kayin Affairs Department" to be able to take care of the matter of Kayin nationals with the leadership of the Kayin Affairs Council.

He said a basic principle had been laid down that the President is to be elected by the electoral college. In connection with formation and electing the electoral college, he said:

As the President is to be elected in conformity with the historical trend and political and other conditions of the nation and with the six objectives of the National Convention, all the Hluttaw representatives in the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw should be designated as members of the electoral college formed with three different groups, without separately electing the electoral college.

He said group (1) should be formed with elected Hluttaw representatives in the Hluttaw with equal numbers of representatives elected from regions and states, group (2) should be formed with elected Hluttaw representatives in the Hluttaw elected on the basis of population, and group (3) should be formed with Tatmadaw member Hluttaw representatives nominated as such by the Commander-in-Chief of the Defence Services for the said two Hluttaws.

In the event of the post of Vice-President falling vacant when the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw is not in session, the leader of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw, after receiving the intimation of the President, is to call the Phithu [sic] Hluttaw meeting within 21 days and proceed to elect a Vice-President through the electoral college. This should be laid down in the basic principle, he said.

Kokang Democracy and Unity Party
[Kokang Self-administered area]

Delegate U Phu Kwai Hsi of the Kokang Democracy and Unity Party submitted a proposal paper on basic principles to be framed in the chapters the State, State Structure and the Head of State of the Constitution to be drawn up.

Concerning State Structure, he said there is a piece of historical evidence that cannot be set aside to be forgotten about critical performance of Kokang nationals if it is said under current conditions and political trends in addition to evident historical facts.

He said he would like to submit to the National Convention that

it will be most appropriate to manage social, economic and administrative affairs of Kokang nationals by themselves who have stood as a national race in their region which is significant in terms of geographical conditions, traditions, religion and customs.

So he proposed to the National Convention for designation of their region as Shan State (North) Special Region 1 Kokang Self-Administered Area (division or zone) in conformity with changing historical trend in the framework of the State Constitution.

Concerning the chapter the Head of State, he spoke of the basic principles which have been laid down.

Regarding the qualifications of the President, he proposed four basic principles one of which is:

-- in connection with the election of the President, it is needed to form the electoral college in conformity with the nation's history, political and other conditions.

Such organization as the electoral college must be formed with:

1. elected Hluttaw representatives in the Hluttaw with equal numbers of representatives elected from regions and states,
2. elected Hluttaw representatives in the Hluttaw elected on the basis of population, and
3. Tatmadaw member Hluttaw representatives nominated as such by the Commander-in-Chief of the Defence Services for the said two Hluttaws.

The system of election is--each of the three groups is to elect a Vice-President. Vice-Presidents are candidates for the Presidency. The Pyidaungsu Hluttaw made up of all Hluttaw representatives is to elect the President from among the three Vice-Presidents by vote. The Vice-President who obtains the highest number of votes is to be elected the President of the Union. The one President and two Vice-Presidents must be able to carry out their tasks and functions skilfully.

If the office of the President or those of the Vice-Presidents fall vacant for any reason, the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw is to elect one of the Vice-Presidents to the office of the President of the Union not to have interruption in respective functions. If the vacancy be that of one of the Vice-Presidents, the electoral college concerned is to fill the post.

Wa National Development Party

[United Wa State; commissions to determine self-administered areas]

Proposal paper on chapters the State, State Structure and Head of State was submitted by Wa National Development Party at the Plenary Session by U Marcos (a) U Sai Lone.

I am U Marcos (a) U Sai Lone National Convention delegate of the Wa National Development Party.

I would like to submit a proposal for prescribing a fundamental principle so that Wa region may be designated as Pyidaungsu Wa State in accordance with wishes of the Wa nationals and other nationals residing in the region as shown in the map attached. This should be done due to changes and improvement in the situations and with new political and economic outlook and concepts.

It is to be proposed that in view of the changes taking place and improvements made, the are in which Wa national groups, members of Wa national groups like Wa Ennin, Palaung, Hsamtau, Hsamkyin, Lwelawa and other national groups and citizens reside such as Tangyang Township, Monghsu Township, the area of Mongton and Monghsat Township from southern end of Namting Creek to the eastern bank of Thanlwin River, to coordinate and prescribe and designate in accordance with the State Constitution the Wa region as Pyidaungsu Wa State.

It is to be suggested that in accordance with the changes and improvements made by national groups, rights of self-administration and self-determination should be given in the new Pyidaungsu states, self-administered divisions and zones. This is being proposed so that all national races and all citizens shall enjoy equal rights to shape their own destiny and for the respective national races to participate and cooperate in bringing about development of their

respective regions with assistance provided by the State.

It is to be proposed that as the divisions and states will have own Hluttaw and legislative powers, executive powers and judicial powers, it is to be prescribed that self-administered divisions which are higher in status than self-administered districts and self-administered zones should be given the right to exercise the three powers and the right to make direct contacts with the Central Pyidaungsu Government within the bounds of law.

It is to be suggested that in prescribing and forming new states, self-administered divisions, self-administered regions and self-administered zones in the divisions and states, it will be more appropriate to form commissions with experts and leaders of the respective national races, rather than determining right away at the National Convention.

It is to be proposed that the right to shape our own destiny should be given to the self-administered regions in political, economic, social, administrative, management and regional development affairs in accordance with the policies and guidelines to be prescribed by the State and not through any division or state Hluttaws but by making direct contacts with the Central Pyidaungsu Government.

A proposal is to be made that no division, state, self-administered division and self-administered zones be prescribed as a special Union territory under the direct administration of the President of the Union by enacting laws without any cause, except when there is external threat of undermining State sovereignty and independence or when there is reason for disintegration of national unity or when there arises a situation which undermines the defence and security of the State, affects enforcing of the rule of law and order and administration and affects State's economy.

It is to be suggested that a State Government and State leaders capable of administering and running the State machinery smoothly and efficiently are to be elected and formed in accordance with law and procedures. Similarly, a President and a Vice-President should be elected by the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw as State leaders.

A request is to be made to forgive us if this proposal paper, compiled by our Wa National Development Party, unintentionally contains anything which could affect any particular organization or any individual person and with this I conclude my presentation.
National League for Democracy

The proposal paper on chapters the State, State Structure and Head of State presented by U Khin Maung (Panglong), U Nyunt Wai, U Lwin and U Aung Shwe of the National League for Democracy at the Plenary Session of the National Convention.

U Khin Maung (Panglong)
[Statement on Motherland]

I am U Khin Maung (Panglong).

The present time is such that there should be no suspicions between one member of the family and another and one national race and another but it is time to solve the affairs of a family in family spirit with patience and tolerance and coordinate among themselves. It is important that the entire nationals should accept things in a satisfactory manner and fly the banner of friendship and march in unity and harmony towards the establishment of a new democratic State.

The four points on the Chapter the State clarified by the Chairman of the National Convention Convening Work Committee are very good and appropriate. However, if the under-mentioned fact is added the essence will become more complete and all the national races will gladly accept it with pleasure.

"Myanmar Naing-Ngan is a motherland wherein all the national races live together".

The reason for making this suggestion is that as everybody is aware that Myanmar Naing-Ngan is a country where different national races live together. All the national races have descended from a single race and came to the motherland together to settle down. This

land is the motherland, native to all the national races. The perpetuity of the motherland depends on the unity of all national races. As a token of recognizing this fact, if it is included in the chapter the State, the slogan on consolidating national unity will have more impact.

In fact, the Union of Myanmar is a motherland which is jointly owned by the national races who are members of families. Hence, there are no reasons for the national races to be divided and to secede.

U Nyunt Wai:

[Commission to determine self-administered areas; no Union status for Yangon]

I am U Nyunt Wai, Pyithu Hluttaw representative of National League for Democracy of Toungoo Constituency 2, Bago Division.

In designating the self-administered areas, it is necessary to be cautious and take great care so that the country may not split up into fractions and get into a similar situation as that of Yugoslavia. Hence, all the national races of the respective regions and the people should work with the same mind and same desire in full agreement with one another.

As regards the designating of self-administered divisions or self-administered zones which is to be done straight away after due consideration rather than the formation of commission, this will make the national races happy and forge national unity. Although this aim is good and proper, yet it will not be appropriate to make a decision at once without obtaining full facts and figures as it is difficult in practice to determine which national races live in which region and to know the population and the population density of the regions. Decisions cannot turn out to be correct if they are made at one sitting.

The prevailing situation in economic and social affairs and consolidation of national unity if carried out under the political condition waver then it can undermine national unity. It is to be regarded that if measures are taken appropriately only after systematic scrutiny and after all agree and accept, then it will be better. Hence, it is to be strongly proposed that the State should form a commission and take appropriate measures.

It is to be suggested that the commission should be formed with State leaders, leaders of national races of the respective regions whom the national races accept and those who are experts.

It will be more convenient from the administrative point of view if Yangon City remains as it is. From the security point of view also, as it can easily come into contact with the Central when there are separate arrangements to be made and so it should remain as it is.

As for Cocogyun Township and areas of special situation, defence and security points of view should be taken into consideration. Hence, it is to be proposed that such areas should be placed under the direct administration of the Central.

U Lwin:

[A federal system; Hluttaw representatives should be elected by the people]

I am U Lwin, Secretary of the National League for Democracy. I will present matters on the remaining part of the chapter on State Structure.

It is the attitude of the National League for Democracy to establish the State under the federal system and bestow the three powers to different levels of the organs of power.

In connection with the matter of state/ division and self-administered areas, the attitude of the National League for Democracy is as already mentioned in the proposal paper on basic principles which has been submitted. "The Democratic State shall be constituted according to the policy on respecting the democratic rights of the citizens," and according to the policy on administrative system, the State shall be based on democratic administrative system.

I would like to make suggestions in connection with the formation of organs of power in states, divisions and self-

administered areas.

In formation of organs of power (in other words Hluttaws) in states, divisions and self-administered areas, it shall be based not only on democratic administrative system, but the electorate themselves, using their sovereign rights may elect by secret vote the representatives whom they wish to represent them and give them the mandate. This is the essence of democracy. Otherwise, it will be like abandoning democracy and will not amount to genuine democracy. Moreover, it is to be feared that they themselves will be the cause of disrupting the aim of flourishing of the multiparty democracy system and neglecting it. That is why, political scientists Jacobson and Lippman say "the electorate constitutes popular sovereignty."

Hence, Hluttaw representatives should be representatives of the people who are elected by the people themselves.

U Aung Shwe:

[Presidency should not require military experience, or women will be excluded; replace military Hluttaw electoral college group with elected regional Hluttaw members; secret vote]

I am U Aung Shwe. I will present matters in connection with the Chapter the Head of State.

I will present matters on the qualifications of the President.

A person who will take up the duties of a President must be one who possesses the qualifications according to clarification made by the Chairman of the National Convention Convening Work Committee, a person who can achieve success in striving for non-disintegration of the Union, non-disintegration of national solidarity and perpetuity of sovereignty and progress and prosperity of the nation and this accepted. It is also necessary for the President to be a person who can skilfully, effectively and resolutely manage affairs of the State, political, administrative, economic, military, etc. It is also true for the President to be loyal to the State and the people. However, it is necessary to ponder over whether it will be practical to regard these as qualifications. If only person who possess such qualification is to be elected there is likelihood of meeting with difficulties. Then again, if that person must be skilled in military affairs then the restrictions will become too narrow. If so, then women who were given equal rights and who took part in tasks on equal footing with men through generations and through different historical eras will be denied the right to stand for Presidents. This is because the qualifications include military skills. If the person possesses all the qualifications prescribed for a President then he or she has the right to stand for it. Mankind is born free.

It should not be included in the qualification but guidance should be given to electoral college which will practically select candidates who comply with the qualifications as far as possible when the time comes to elect a President and this will be more appropriate and more practical.

As regards the clarification made by the Work Committee Chairman for the President to be also in conformity with the six objectives of the National Convention, the National League for Democracy will make suggestions objectively by taking into consideration the affairs of the State and citizens, flourishing of multiparty democratic system, democratic practises, flourishing of worldly values, national unity, etc.

Then again, in the clarification made by the Work Committee Chairman, it is mentioned that "...without separately electing the electoral college, all representatives in Pyidaungsu Hluttaw should be designated as members of the electoral college and organized into three groups". The Pyidaungsu Hluttaw has the mandate bestowed upon it by the people themselves and thus, it amounts to the people electing the President and bestowing power on him. It will also be the same as the sovereign power of the State handed down by the people and which remains in the entire country.

In order that the sovereign powers of the people be used in electing the President and for all the national races to take part on a nation wide scale and also to be within the bounds of democracy and

based on the above-mentioned principles, group 1 should be formed with elected Hluttaw representatives in the Hluttaw with equal number of representatives elected from divisions and states, group 2 should be formed with elected Hluttaw representatives in the Hluttaw elected on the basis of population and group 3 should be formed with the Hluttaw representatives of the Hluttaws of states, divisions and self-administered areas elected by the people of the respective areas. There should be only one Hluttaw each in states and divisions. The National League for Democracy has taken into consideration the six objectives of the National Convention.

After that, each group must nominate a presidential candidate from among the Hluttaw representatives or an outsider and the qualifications of these candidates must be scrutinized by a presidential candidate scrutiny body formed with leaders of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw to see whether they conform with the qualifications required by a president. If the candidates selected do not conform with the required qualifications, then the candidacy shall be cancelled and another candidate nominated. Once candidates are approved then the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw should elect a person of choice as President by secret vote. The person who gets the second highest votes will be the Vice-President.

Hence, it is to be seriously proposed to work without losing sight of the aspiration of the entire people and in accordance with the objectives of the National Convention for the genuine multiparty democracy system to flourish and further burgeoning the noblest and worthiest of worldly values namely justice, liberty and equality in the State. With this I conclude my presentation. (NLM 3/30)

Mar. 30 [full text]: The following is a translation of salient points from proposal papers on fundamental principles to form base in the chapters the State, State Structure and Head of State submitted by Hluttaw Representatives-elect delegates group to the plenary session of the National Convention today.

Shan Nationalities League for Democracy

Delegate U Sai Soe Nyunt submitted a proposal paper compiled by Shan Nationalities League for Democracy on basic principles suitable to be included in the chapters the State, State Structure and the Head of State of the Constitution to be drawn up.

U Sai Soe Nyunt:

[Revised administrative division; only one Bamar state; call for Tai-lai self-administered division; no legislatures for self-administered areas; executive should be parliamentary, with figurehead Presidency; direct election of President]

He said Shan NLD proposed to the National Convention Plenary Session on 13 August 1993 a basic principle --

"This nation is a nation constituted with the Kachin, Kayah, Kayin, Chin, Bamar, Mon, Rakhine and Shan national states of equal status and authority." In other words, the Union is to be constituted with the eight states. So, the basic principle the Work Committee Chairman clarified, "The existing seven divisions are designated seven regions and the existing seven states are designated seven states. Those seven regions and states are of equal status and authority" is found to be of different opinion from the party's.

Some expressions the party wishes to change in conformity with the present time are:

1. National state instead of Union state
2. Autonomous region instead of self-administered state
3. National area instead of national state.

He said constituent units of the Union are to be organized into above three groups.

Concerning the distribution of power, he said:

1. Political autonomy shall be granted to Union states. However, the states are not allowed to exercise sovereign power.
2. Administrative autonomy shall be granted to autonomous regions.
3. Cultural autonomy shall be granted to national areas.

Speaking of the Panglong Agreement, he put forward three points

of which the party discussed two points -- first, integration of mainland with hill regions in equal rights and status and second, full political autonomy given to states.

The two points, he said, should not be excluded for they constitute heart and soul of the Union and hardcore and essence of Panglong spirit. So, he said, whenever the Union is spoken of, it has become necessary to constantly make assessment based on the norm of Panglong spirit.

He said the Panglong Agreement was signed by Chin, Kachin, Shan, and the Government of Myanmar, for which Bogyoke Aung San represented, each as a unit.

In the constitution of the two Hluttaws in the essence of having mutual check and balance, it is necessary to organize the seven regions into the state of Bamar nationals. Only then, will the two Hluttaws have mutual check and balance and will the kind of law acceptable to all as beneficial to the State be enacted, he said.

In connection with designation of self-administered areas, he said some national races may be granted self-administered areas and some may not and especially, some national races, having their own histories, identities, literatures, cultures and languages, might have been neglected, designation of self-administered areas may not be a good sign for the Union.

He said it is certainly to be alleged that divide-and-rule tactic was practised by the British imperialists and separate-and-rule tactic is practised in this era. So, he suggested that self-administered areas be designated fair and square in accord with a common basic norm.

He said care is to be taken in drawing up the Constitution so that it might not come to the same condition of overlooking the affairs of some national races for three times -- in the 1947 and 1974 Constitutions and the present. Affairs of some national races have also to be taken into consideration so that there may not be neglect despite proposals submitted. Such national races, he said, are of Tai-lai stock such as Tai-lai, Tai-nei, Tai-mawn, Tai-Hsa, Tai-hkamti, Tai-kadu, Tai-kanan, Tai-hkum, etc.

The Tai-lai national races are at present under a condition of being lost as anonymous ones being recognized as non-Kachins. Similarly, they, inhabiting areas along railways linking Sagaing Division and Kachin State commonly known as a Shan-Bamar race, are in danger of losing their original name Tai-lai. Wherever they reside, they are Tai-lai nationals.

So, it is important that the affairs of Tai-lai and Tai stock nationals, who have been in a state of negligence for not less than 40 years, should not be overlooked at this time of drawing up a new Constitution. They are not only qualified with characteristics for obtaining the status of a Union state but are loyal to and have constantly defended the Union. So, Tai-lai nationals should be given first priority in consideration of granting self-administered areas.

If the Tai-lai self-administered division be designated, the areas to be organized into it are plains in the townships in Bhamo District -- Bhamo, Momauk, Mansi, and Shwegu, plains in the townships in Myitkyina District -- Myitkyina, Waingmaw, Mogaung, Mohnyin, Kamaing, Mainghkum or Tanai, the Wuntho Sawbwa areas -- Katha, Inn-daw, Htigyaint, Banmauk, Kawlin, Wuntho and Pinlebu Townships in Katha District and Kalay, Phaungbyin, Tamu, Kalaywa, Mawlaik and Meinkang regions in Kalay District and the Sinkalein and Khamti Sawbwas' areas -- Khamti, Homalin and Namyun regions in Khamti District.

So, it is needed in this respect to form a commission with righteous, impartial persons as members and to ascertain wishes of the people in the region concerned to find out their common desire and only then, will the self-administered areas be properly designated.

Concerning legislature, he said if the self-administered division is to exercise legislative power, a legislative Hluttaw has to be constituted for the legislative power can be wielded by the

legislative Hluttaw. Then, many legislative Hluttaws will emerge and this will not conform to the basic principle laid down by the Work Committee Chairman in Para 7(c) "There will be a Region Hluttaw in each of the seven regions and a State Hluttaw in each of the seven States". So, he proposed that legislative power should not be given to self-administered areas.

Regarding the chapter the Head of State, he said the party agrees to the basic principle "The Head of State is the President of the Union". The party is of different opinion as to how the President will be vested with powers. He said the party wishes for the President to be as a figure head as in the 1947 Constitution and the government is to be formed with the Premier as the head under the parliamentary executive system.

He said that if the presidential executive system be regarded as most appropriate under conditions in the country, the President should be elected direct by the public as in the United States and the Philippines.

Regarding the qualifications of the President, the party proposed that a basic principle to be laid down as "A person standing for election to the Presidency of the Union shall be a citizen of Myanmar both of whose parents belong to any of the nationalities of Myanmar and is qualified for the election if the person is within the prescribed age limit."

Submitting the opinion of Shan Nationalities League for Democracy, he said the party seriously believes that members of the organs of power which will administer the public affairs should be persons who have been elected by vote of the people themselves in accord with their wishes.

National Unity Party

Delegate U Thein Tun submitted a proposal paper compiled by National Unity Party on basic principles suitable to be included in the chapters the State, State Structure and the Head of State in the Constitution to be drawn up.

U Thein Tun:

[Definitions; five groups should get self-administered areas; Union territory status for Yangon, etc.; Presidential financial statements]

In connection with the chapter the State, the party proposed the following basic principles be laid down --

(a) Myanmar Naing-Ngan is a sovereign, independent democratic republic.

(b) The State shall be known as Pyidaungsu Thamada Myanmar Naing-Ngan-Daw.

(c) The Pyidaungsu Thamada Myanmar Naing-Ngan-Daw is a State wherein various national races of equal rights and status reside together in perpetual unity.

(d) National sovereignty is derived from the citizens and shall reside in the entire State.

(e) All powers, legislative, executive and judicial, are derived from the people and are exercisable on their behalf in accordance with law by organs of the State constituted and authorized under this Constitution. Public service establishments or individual public servants to whom the powers are transmitted shall exercise these powers in accordance with law.

(f) The territory of the Pyidaungsu Thamada Myanmar Naing-Ngan-Daw shall be the land, sea and airspace which constitute its territory on the day this Constitution is adopted.

Concerning the chapter State Structure, he proposed the following characteristics which a national race should possess for being granted a self-administered area --

1. For being granted a self-administered division, a national race should

(aa) be a national race which has not got a region or state,

(bb) have an appropriate size of population,

(cc) reside together in a community on the same stretch

of land,

(dd) have an inhabited area which must not only include already recognized townships but must be an areas where at least two districts can be formed.

2. For being granted a self-administered zone, a national race should

(aa) be a national race which has not got a region or state,

(bb) have an appropriate size of population,

(cc) reside together in a community on the same stretch of land,

(dd) have an inhabited areas which is not as wide as to be designated as a self-administered division.

Concerning the matter, he said precise, correct decision on the designation of the self-administered areas will be reached only when the wishes of the various national races and delegates groups attending the National Convention are taken into overall consideration and submitted the following national races suitable to be so granted:

(a) Wa nationals, the population of which in Shan State is more than 90,000, reside on the same stretch of land in Panlon, Panwaing, Maingmaw, Manpant, Narphant and Panyang Townships. It is learnt that there were in former times southern Wa region and northern Wa region.

(b) Kokang nationals, the population of which in Shan State is more than 70,000, reside in a community in Konkyang, Chinshwehaw and Tarshwehtan regions which are contiguous to each other.

(c) Pa-O nationals, the population of which in Shan State is more than 450,000, reside on the same stretch of land in a community in Hopong, Hsiseng and Pinlaung Townships.

(d) Palaung nationals, the population of which in Shan State is more than 300,000, and reside on the same stretch of land in a community in Namhsan Township and Palaung hills in its contiguity.

(e) Naga nationals, the population of which in Sagaing Division is more than 70,000, reside in the same stretch of land in a community in Namyun, Lahe and Leshi Townships.

He proposed to lay down as a basic principle that Yangon, if it is designated as the State Capital, should be designated a Union territory under direct administration of the President of the Union and not under control of Yangon Region.

He said the State Capital is the territory which is concerned with the entire Union, and so he further proposed a basic principle to be laid down that such a Union territory should be placed under direct administration of the President of the Union who is the Head of State as well as the national leader of the entire nationals and Yangon City Law should be enacted so as to be able to implement plans necessary for the capital to have fitting characteristics.

He expressed the party's support for the basic principle that areas having special situations in connection with defence, security, administration and economy of the whole Union and for which intensive, effective measures should be carried out with the whole strength of the Union for the welfare of the whole Union should be prescribed as Union territories under direct administration of the President, enacting laws if necessary in future.

He said it is believed that prescribing a Union territory after enacting laws is to be made as necessary only when it is actually needed. Such a prescription can be under an emergency state or in accord with a long-term aim, and it can also be both a provisional period and of permanent nature. He said the party is of the opinion that a Union territory should be prescribed under prevailing conditions and in a limited period.

He expressed the party's support for procedures in presidential election included in the clarifications of the Work Committee Chairman and further put forward basic principles to be laid down as follows --

-- The President or the Vice-Presidents, unless

disqualified, shall have after the first term the right to stand for the election for the second term.

-- The President and the Vice-Presidents shall not accept any other position with emoluments and allowances and shall not be involved nominally or by contributing shares in any local or foreign economic organization or economic undertaking.

-- The President or the Vice-Presidents should complete once a year lists of assets namely, family-owned land, houses, buildings, savings and other valuables -- stating their values -- belonging to the respective families led by them and send them to the leader of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw. Lists thus sent are to be included in the State Gazette for public information.

In conclusion, he said the party will continue to stand on the basis of magnanimity and mutual trust and respect for the success of the National Convention, for displaying the spirit of coordination and cooperation and for achieving common desire.

Papers of Representatives-elect Group Union Pa-O National Organization

U San Hla, representative-elect of the Pa-O National Organization and delegate of the representatives-elect delegates group, submitted his proposal paper on the chapters the State, State Structure and Head of State.

U San Hla:

[Wants Pa-O self-administered division; Union territory status for Yangon, etc.; qualifications of President]

He said:

In observing the world's political situation today it is found that the check and balance of the world's political powers has disappeared. Under the circumstances, powerful nations are in an advantageous position to impose political, military and economic restrictions on the weak nations. At present, major nations are found to be attempting to do so. And as far as the world's political situation is concerned there have been rapid changes on a day-to-day basis. At this juncture, we will have to try to become a nation which is firm and united, able to stand on its own feet and keep free from restrictions and constraints imposed by powerful nations. Hence, Myanmar should be constituted as a Pyidaungsu to ensure unity and strength in accordance with the rapid changes in the world's political conditions.

In connection with the Pa-O nationals, he said Pa-O nationals are of Kayin group descended from Tibeto-Myanmar sub-stock. From the plains of Mongolian highlands, they came along the Mekong River and the Shweli River through Kyukok Pass of Kutkai Hills in China. They crossed the Lashio Mountain Range and finally settled in Taunggyi and Loilem districts.

The dialect is one of the characteristics of a race. The Pa-O dialect is different as it is included in the Kayin sub-region. Unlike Myanmar language, Pa-O dialect has eight kinds of sound.

Like many other national races residing in Myanmar, Pa-O nationals have their own literature. They profess Theravada Buddhism and Buddhist literature has flourished. Pa-O nationals, therefore, have existed as a national race since ancient time with Buddhism as its religion and with its own literature.

Dialect, literature, mode of dress, religious faith, music and art and customs all constitute culture. Pa-O nationals profess Buddhism and Pa-O culture is based firmly on Buddhist culture.

Population of Pa-O nationals is more than that of certain States. They live close together in communities in the same area of land in Taunggyi and Loilem districts. And they have appropriate size of population thereby meeting the requirements. It is therefore proposed that a self-administered division should be designated for Pa-O nationals and similar measures taken for fellow national brethren who reside in other regions and states meeting the requirements.

Regarding the matter of placing the national capital under

direct administration of the President, he said;

There exist numerous significant conditions in the capital Yangon such as dense population, existence of a large number of economic enterprises and embassies of the United Nations member nations, active inflow and outflow of foreigners and possibility in the outbreaks of riots and disturbances. It is proposed, therefore, that Yangon, the capital, be designated as Union territory and placed under direct administration of the President in order that different situations may be dealt with promptly and easily.

It will also be suitable to prescribe areas of significant conditions in the Union of Myanmar like Cocogyun Township as Union territories and place them under direct administration of the President. It is also proposed that relevant laws should be promulgated for areas of significance in national defence and security, administration and economy as may be necessary in future and they should be placed under direct administration of the President and designated as Union territories.

The President is an elected ruler or a constitutionally elected chief. Today, nations in the world have monarchs or presidents as their heads of State. In some nations, however, the President is elected honorary Head of State and in others the President is to serve as the honorary Head of State and the Chief Executive. In the two previous constitutions of the Union of Myanmar, the President was only the honorary Head of State. It is now to take into account whether the President in the new constitution is a symbolic Head of State or the Chief Executive with full powers. A study of Myanmar history will show that only the Prime Minister was given full executive powers. As the Prime Minister was responsible to the Hluttaw, he had to rely on the wishes of the majority of representatives in the Hluttaw. The Prime Minister was in no position to go against the wishes of the Hluttaw representatives to work for the progress of the nation; he had to compromise with other parties to form a government if his party was weak and he then found it difficult to carry on important tasks of the State; and he was liable to lose his job very often because of the rights of the Hluttaw representatives to tender no-confidence motions, thereby resulting in frequent government changes and political instability. The Prime Minister had many weak points as he had to make compromises to ensure his party's victory and winning more votes.

The delegate also proposed that the President should be a person who had been residing continuously in the country for at least 20 years up to the time of the election. He said that the President who has to serve as the Head of State and national leader should be especially loyal to the State and citizens. Moreover, family members of the President should also be loyal to the State and citizens, he said.

In connection with electing the President, he said:

The nations of the world apply one of the two systems to elect the President -- direct election by the public and election through the electoral college. As the National Convention has already laid down the basic principle that the President should be elected by the electoral college, it is proposed that the President should be elected by the electoral college.

It is found that the electoral college is formed in accordance with the historical trend of the nation concerned, and with political and other considerations. Considering the political conditions of the country at present, all the Hluttaw representatives should be designated as members of the electoral college instead of applying the method of direct election.

There should be three groups -- group-1 must be formed with elected Hluttaw representatives in the Hluttaw with equal numbers of representatives elected from regions and states, group-2 with elected Hluttaw representative from the Hluttaw elected on the basis of population, and group-3 with Tatmadaw members Hluttaw representatives nominated as such by the Commander-in-Chief of the Defence Services for the said two Hluttaws.

The delegate said the proposal of the Union Pa-O National Organization would not be complete and there would be loopholes and weaknesses. He said he hoped other delegate groups would discuss better and finer points more comprehensively.

Hluttaw representatives-elect delegates

A proposal paper compiled by delegate U Yan Kyin Maw of Kamlon, of Shan State Kokang Democratic Party, and independent Hluttaw representatives-elect Dr. Hmu Thang of Thangtlan, Chin State, and U Htaung Kho Thang, of Tamu Township, Sagaing Division, on chapters the State, State Structure and Head of State was submitted by two of them U Htaung Kho Thang and Dr. Hmu Thang

U Htaung Kho Thang and Dr. Hmu Thang

[Should be 14 States; self-administered areas for nationals living outside their states; Union territory status for Yangon City, with elected executive; President need not be called "national leader" nor have 20 years residence; women should be practically eligible for Presidency; rotation of national groups in leadership]

I will present matters briefly in connection with the Chapter the State.

It is noted that the persons who drafted the Constitution of the United States of America kept in their minds four points which are as follows:--

- (1) for the people to own the sovereign powers of the State;
- (2) full equal rights for all the citizens;
- (3) to protect against wresting of power by the administrative body through unlawful means and misuse of power;
- (4) to protect the rights of the states against interference by the Central Federal Government.

It is necessary to bear in mind these four points in writing the Constitution of the State.

In a democratic State which we are going to establish, it is necessary to prescribe basic principles preventing unlawful influence as regards race and religion. It is also necessary to give serious consideration to majority rule and minority rights which is a democratic essence. Politics and religions should also be completely separated and prescribed. Religions is a matter for the future and it is vital that politics should not be mingled in the least with religious matters. It should be explicitly prescribed to forbid religious hatred, turning religious matters into political form and to make use of its to serve one's own interest.

According to the clarification made by the Chairman of the Work Committee basic principles laid down for the existing seven divisions to be designated as seven regions and seven divisions [sic] as seven states and they are of equal status and it is feared that there will be difference of attitudes such as mainland attitude and state attitude. If the states and divisions are called Kachin State, Kayah State, Kayin State, Chin State, Sagaing State, Tanintharyi State, Bago State, Magway State, Mandalay State, Mon State, Rakhine State, Yangon State, Shan State, and Ayeyarwady State, then there will no longer be the mainland and state attitudes left and this will help to strengthen national unity and our group humbly believes this. Hence it is to be suggested that the division name should not be kept but all states and division should be known as states.

All national races have been known to have fought against the colonialists in a scattered form. By taking into consideration their historical background and as they have the same culture and historical traditions, and considerable numbers of populations who reside together on the same common stretches of land in communities and if they wish to live in a particular area as members of Pyidaungsu of a separate region, self-administered divisions or self-administered zones should be prescribed for them.

Hence it is necessary to prescribe self-administered areas for Kokang, Danu, Pa-O, Palaung, Bamar and Wa nations who live in Shan State; for Chin, Kuki Chin and Naga Chin nationals who live in Sagaing Division and for Asho Chin and Mro nationals who live in Magway Division and Rakhine State. Similarly, the same should be done

for other national groups residing in other states and divisions. Hence, the wordings "Other than the national races who have already got regions or states", should not be included but instead "Other national races who are different from those living in the states and divisions" should be included and if this is to be taken into consideration it will be more appropriate.

After agreeing on the policy for designating self-administered areas, a commission should be formed and assigned duties to study and find out facts. These commissions are to submit reports on their findings and appraisals and the Hluttaw is to act based on the report filed and this is the best method.

The capital of Union of Myanmar is also the capital of all the national races residing in the Union of Myanmar and so also the capital of all the states and not the capital of Yangon State only. Therefore, it should not be under the administration of Yangon State, or under the direct administration of the President. The Yangon capital should be constituted with Sangyoung, Bahan, Kyimyindine, Hline, Insein, Mingaladon, Dawbon, Yankin, Tarmway, Tharketa, Thingangyun, South Okkalapa, North Okkalapa, Mayangon, Ahlon, Pazundaung, Kyauktada, Mingala Taungnyunt, Dagon, Lanmadaw, Pabedan, Botahtaung, Latha, Seikkan and Kamaryut Townships and should be under the administration of the City Administrative Officer who is to be elected by the people residing in these townships and designated as the Union territory.

If the Union of Myanmar is to practise the presidential executive system, then the President will be the Head of State and Head of the executive body.

It is to be humbly stated that a basic principle should not be laid down recognizing the President as the national leader of all the national races. The reason is because this title should not be given to anyone who becomes a president. A national leader is one who makes bold sacrifices for the sake of the country and the people even at the cost of his own life. This makes it possible for the entire people to automatically recognize him as a national hero and honour him with the title of national leader.

Similarly, we believe that it is not appropriate to lay down a basic principle "the President of the Union shall be a person who has been residing continuously in the country for at least 20 years up to the time of the election". At present mass communications can be made between one place and another in no time. Therefore, in order to know about the political, administrative, economic, social and national affairs of Myanmar Naing-Ngan, a person need not stay in the country for years to know about them. The only essential thing is for that person to be loyal to the state and the people, to be patriotic and based on placing goodwill towards the State.

Moreover, if we study the situation in the world today, women are coming up abreast with the men and in some countries it is seen that the state leaders are women. If the qualification for President is prescribed beforehand as mentioned above, it will amount to stopping the rights of over 20 million Myanmar women. It can cause the Myanmar women to never take part in national politics as long as the world exists or as long as Myanmar Naing-Ngan exists. Moreover, by prescribing the qualifications in advance, then all service personnel including the Tatmadawmen, intelligentsia and technocrats, peasants and the workers will be denied their rights.

I would like to present briefly as regards the election of Vice President or Presidential candidate. Our Union of Myanmar is constituted with Kachin, Kayah, Kayin, Chin, Bamar, Mon, Rakhine and Shan nationals based on freedom, equality and equal rights. Therefore, as a mark of showing that all live together on equal basis, a system should be practised in which a presidential candidate or vice-president is to be nominated in turn from among the Kachins, Kayahs, Kayins, Chins, Bamars, Mons, Rakhines, and Shans who are elected Hluttaw representatives in the Hluttaw with equal number of representatives elected from among regions and states. Then only will it amount to the national races living together on equal basis.

Mro or Khami National Solidarity Organization
[self-administered division for Mro/Khami and 11 other ethnic groups]

A proposal paper compiled by Mro or Khami National Solidarity Organization was put on record as U San Tha Aung, Hluttaw representative of Kyauktaw Township Constituency-2 in Rakhine State, the delegate who was to have submitted the paper was acting as a member of the alternate panel of chairmen during the National Plenary session today.

Salient points from the paper are as follows:

Union of Myanmar is a country where various national races live together. Therefore, it is to be proposed that the wordings "Republic of the Union of a Myanmar is a State wherein the various national races live together," should be added to the Chapter the State.

It is realized that in prescribing self-administered divisions or self-administered zones for national races in addition to national races who have got their own regions or states, it should not be based on size of population and area of land of those nationals. The size of population and area of land should not be taken as the basic factor, but to study, review and recognize the historical trend of the national races who had lived in the country since ancient times and the history of their struggle for independence and to base on the prevailing situation and then prescribe self-administered areas.

The national races who have the right to get self-administered divisions are:--

- (1) Wa national group
- (2) Pa-O national group
- (3) Palaung national group
- (4) Mro (or) Khami national group
- (5) Kokang national group
- (6) Lahu national group
- (7) Naga national group
- (8) Rawan national group
- (9) Kayan national group
- (10) Akar national group
- (11) Lisu national group
- (12) Danu national group

We, Mro or Khami nationals live in the townships in northern Rakhine State such as Pauktaw, Ponnagyun, Mrauk-Oo, Buthidaung, Maungtaw, Rathedaung and Kyauktaw and in Paletwa Township in southern Chin State. We have lived together in a continuous stretch of land in communities and our population is about 150,000.

Hence, we Mro or Khami nationals wish to stay in continuous stretch of land together in communities like in ancient times as such a time as this when there is opportunity to do so. Therefore, we would like to make a request to prescribe some townships in northern Rakhine State and Paletwa Township as Self-Administered Division for Mro or Khami nationals.

The Chairman of the National Convention Convening Work Committee clarified that instead of forming a commission by the State to determine which areas and which regions should be designated, it will be more convenient if the National Convention delegates coordinate and prescribe at once and the national races will be very pleased and happy about it and in turn strengthen national solidarity. It is to be mentioned that if measures are taken according to what Work Committee Chairman U Aung Toe has clarified, then all the nationals will get the areas which they are entitled to expeditiously and they will be very pleased about it and will also strengthen national unity and therefore, it is very appropriate.

It is to be proposed that the electoral college should not be elected separately but all representatives in the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw should be designated as members of the electoral college and organized into three groups. Group 1 should be formed with elected Hluttaw representatives in the Hluttaw with equal numbers of representatives elected from regions and states. Group 2 should be formed with elected Hluttaw representatives in the Hluttaw elected on the basis of population and Group 3 should be formed with Tatmadaw

member Hluttaw representatives nominated as such by the Commander-in-Chief of the Defence Services for the said two Hluttaws.

It is to be proposed that in electing the President, the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw should nominate three Vice-Presidents and elect by vote and the Vice-President who gets the highest number of votes is elected the President of the State. (NLM 3/31)

DIPLOMATIC

Diplomatic Calls

The following calls were paid on Burmese officials by foreign Embassy or UN officials accredited to Burma. Ambassadors generally accompany foreign visitors from their countries on official calls, and their presence is generally not noticed in this Summary.

Feb. 28: Egyptian Ambassador Mohamad Hassem Ghanem called on Minister for Agriculture Lt-Gen. Myint Aung. Vietnamese Ambassador Nguyen Van Tiep, who has completed his tour of duties in Myanmar, called on Deputy Prime Minister Vice-Adm. Maung Maung Khin, and on Minister for Agriculture Lt-Gen. Myint Aung. (NLM 3/1)

Mar. 1: Indian Military, Naval and Air Attache Col. A.K. Chopra, who has completed his tour of duty, called on Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) Lt-Gen. Maung Aye, and presented his successor Col. P Bhardwaj. Korean Ambassador Jung Hwan Kim, and Vietnamese Ambassador Nguyen Van Tiep, called on Minister for Mines Lt-Gen. Kyaw Min. Israeli Ambassador Mordechay Karni called on Minister for Communications, Posts & Telegraphs U Soe Tha. (NLM 3/2)

Mar. 2: Vietnamese Ambassador Nguyen Van Tiep called on Minister for Religious Affairs Lt-Gen. Myo Nyunt. (NLM 3/3)

Mar. 3: The Vietnamese Ambassador called on SLORC Chairman Senior General Than Shwe. (NLM 3/4)

Mar. 4: Israeli Ambassador Mordechay Karni called on Minister for Home Affairs Lt-Gen. Mya Thin. Vietnamese Ambassador Nguyen Van Tiep called on Minister for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs Lt-Gen. Maung Thint. (NLM 3/5)

Mar. 10: Korean Ambassador Jung Hwan Kim called on Minister for Labour Lt-Gen. Aye Thoung. Singapore Ambassador Brig-Gen. Chin Siat Yoon called on Minister for National Planning and Economic Development Brig-Gen. Abel, and on Minister for Trade Lt-Gen. Tun Kyi, to introduce the new Singapore Charge d'Affaires ai Mr. Calvin Eu-Mun-Hoo. U.S. Counsellor for Political and Economic Affairs Mr. Angus T. Simons [sic], accompanied by Consul Miss Laura Kirk Connel, called on Agriculture Deputy Minister U Tin Hlaing to discuss irrigation projects in Myanmar. (NLM 3/11)

Mar. 17: Singapore Charge d'Affaires Calvin Eu Mun Hoo called on SLORC Secretary-1 Lt-Gen. Khin Nyunt. (NLM 3/18)

Mar. 30: Netherlands Ambassador Georges Albert Marie Wehry called on Minister for National Planning and Economic Development Brig-Gen. Abel. (NLM 3/31)

New Ambassadors to Myanmar

Mar. 7: The Government has approved the appointment of Mr. Stavros A. Epaminondas as new Ambassador of Cyprus to Myanmar. Ambassador Epaminondas was born Sept. 7, 1952 in Nicosia. He joined the Foreign Service in 1979 and has served in Canberra, London, and Thessaloniki, Greece. He is presently High Commissioner to India. He is married with two children. (NLM 3/7)

Mar. 9: Mr. Jannis Fotopoulos presented credentials to SLORC Chairman Senior General Than Shwe as new Ambassador of Greece to Myanmar. (NLM 3/10)

New Myanmar Ambassadors

Mar. 26: SLORC Chairman Senior General Than Shwe has named U Nyunt Tin, Ambassador to Indonesia, to be the new Myanmar Ambassador to France. (NLM 3/26)

Mar. 29: SLORC Chairman Senior General Than Shwe has named U

Khin Maung Ohn as new Myanmar Ambassador to Nepal. (NLM 3/30)

Statements on Radio Free Asia

Mar. 10 [full text]: "Myanmar's view regarding establishment of 'Radio Free Asia'.

"The United States Senate on 2 February 1994 passed a bill authorizing establishment of 'Radio Free Asia', a broadcasting station to target the People's Republic of China, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Cambodia, Myanmar, Laos and Vietnam.

"In this regard, the Director-General of the Political Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs invited the Charge d'Affaires of the United States Embassy to the Ministry and conveyed Myanmar's deep regret that such a decision had been taken.

"The Director-General pointed out that the creation of the surrogate broadcasting service was unjustifiable as there already existed a plethora of broadcasting services in the Asian region.

"In Myanmar, accurate and timely information is available to the public from a variety of domestic and foreign sources including the VOA. Interested persons also had the possibility to tune in to radio and television broadcasts of their choice via satellite receivers.

"He stated that in reality the Myanmar public was quite well informed and was aware of the latest foreign and domestic news.

"He stressed that if 'Radio Free Asia' should become operational and Myanmar is targeted, it could in no way be considered constructive or promoting the development of good relations between Myanmar and the United States, it is learnt." (NLM 3/11)

Mar. 12: Editorial [full text]: ["It ain't funny...

"In one of these columns is a story that provides a quote concerning human frailty and how you might look at it. It is about a probe of a scandal that seems to have dominated the domestic media and had overflowed externally. Coming out of testimony, the person remarked being really encouraged to have participated in something where the finding of fact is important, as opposed to innuendo and rumour-mongering and gossip and sensationalism.

"In whatever is done on a personal or other level, there has to be a fairly healthy respect for others even if there should be emotions played up to get persons embroiled. When too much muck is raked up, or when there is reason to believe there could be undue muck-ranking [sic], there is good reason to speak up.

"In this paper yesterday, there was a piece of news that reflected badly on the intent behind a disclosure that the US Senate had passed a bill authorizing the establishment of 'Radio Free Asia', a broadcasting service to target the People's Republic of China, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Cambodia, Myanmar, Laos and Vietnam.

"Concerned that such an act might harm friendly relations, the Director-General of the Political Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs had invited the Charge d'Affaires of the US Embassy to the Ministry and conveyed Myanmar's deep regret that such a decision had been taken.

"The D-G pointed out that the creation of the surrogate broadcasting service was unjustifiable as there already existed a plethora of radio stations in the Asian region, even pointing out that our listeners are adequately served by foreign sources even including the Voice of America.

"The D-G made it plain that if 'Radio Free Asia' should become operational and Myanmar is targeted, it could in no way be considered constructive or promoting the development of good relations between Myanmar and the United States.

"We would venture to add that should that radio station materialize and should Myanmar be targeted, we might have to borrow one of the American jingles and say 'It ain't funny, but sure is corny'. Let us hope we do not have to do that. We are equally opposed to innuendo and rumour-mongering and gossip and sensationalism."]

Diplomats visit Ayeyarwady

Mar. 11: A study group of UN Representatives and Diplomats in Myanmar toured agricultural projects in Ayeyarwady Division. The group included Korean Ambassador Jung Hwan Kim, Indonesian Ambassador Mochamed Sanoesi, Japanese Deputy Chief of Mission Nobutake Odano, Australian First Secretary Jonathan Hugh Philp, German Deputy Head of Mission Rolf Saligmann, WHO Resident Representative Dr. Klaus Wagner, UNDP Deputy Resident Representative Nam Ngo, FAO representatives A.W. Jilil and Dr. S.K. Choi, Project Adviser Akio Takahashi, and others. They visited projects in Pyapon and Maubin Townships. (NLM 3/12)

South African Sanctions Lifted

Mar. 31: Press Communique on South Africa [full text]:

The Government of the Union of Myanmar, pursuant to the political and constitutional processes in South Africa which have ensured the elimination of apartheid and, in compliance with the United Nations General Assembly resolution lifting economic sanctions against that country, has decided to end the economic restrictions and prohibitions it had hitherto imposed on South Africa with effect from 23 March 1994. (NLM 3/31)

INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

Workshops

Mar. 7: Workshop No. 2 on A Safer Workplace and Higher Productivity in Small and Medium Enterprises, jointly sponsored by the Ministry of Labour, UNDP, and ILO, was opened by Minister for Labour Lt-Gen. Aye Thoung. There are 40 participants from joint ventures, coops, and private firms at the 5-day workshop. Also speaking were Assistant UNDP Resident Representative Ms. Paik Choo Phuah and ILO Consultant Dr. S.G. Jalali Naini. (NLM 3/8)

Mar. 16: A 2-day Workshop on Foreign Exchange and Money Markets, jointly sponsored by the Central Bank of Myanmar and Banque Indosuez of Singapore, represented by Regional Treasurer Mr. Marc Mouscadet, opened with 33 participants from State and private banks. (NLM 3/17)

Foreign Donations

Mar. 1: Manager Mr. Bertrand Blazy of the Sanofi Company donated US\$15,000 to the Director of Medical Services, Department of Defence. (NLM 3/2)

Mar. 2: President Mr. Andrew Ferriar of Grandtake Co. Ltd. presented golf clubs to the winner of a tournament jointly sponsored by the Company and by the Myanmar Golf Club. (NLM photo caption 3/3)

Mar. 3: Deputy Resident Representative Mr. Takehiko Nakai of the Japan Overseas Development Corporation (JODC) Bangkok office presented 19 JIS Handbooks to the Central Research Organization. (NLM 3/4)

Mar. 9: Thai Industrial Connection Co. Ltd. donated K500,000 to the Contagious Diseases Hospital. (NLM 3/10)

Mar. 12: Managing Director Mr. Shamshudeen of Atlantic Outline Myanmar Ltd., which is building a resort hotel on Salonkyun near Kawthoung [Tanintharyi], donated K3 million for a Kawthoung water supply. (NLM 3/13)

Mar. 16: The Yangon Garment Factory Company Ltd., represented by Mr. Wong Kauk Ling Bruce, a joint venture between Myanma Textile Industries and Yangon Industries Ltd. of Hong Kong, donated washing and dryer machines worth US\$5,631 to the Defence Services General Hospital. (NLM 3/17)

Mar. 21: President Ken Ko Tam of Ken Co. Ltd. donated K100,000 to the Myanmar Tennis Federation. (NLM 3/22)

Myanmar-China Boundary Talks

Mar. 4: An 8-member Chinese delegation headed by Division Chief Mr. Zhao Manjian of the Department of Survey, Chinese Ministry of Defence, departed after attending the Fourth Meeting of the Surveying

and Mapping Experts for the Second Joint Inspection of the Myanmar-China Boundary held in Yangon Feb. 23-Mar. 3, 1994. (NLM 3/5)

Mar. 23: A 7-member delegation led by Capt. Tun Aung (Navy), Director-General of the Survey Department, Ministry of Forestry, left for Beijing to attend the third meeting of the Myanmar-China Joint Boundary Inspection Committee. Other members are Lt-Col. Htwe Maung, Office of the Commander-in-Chief (Army), Directors U Mya Maung and U Aung Than of the Survey Department, and Adviser U Maung Maung, Deputy Director U Ba Cho, and Head of Branch U Khin Maung Win of the Foreign Ministry. (NLM 3/24)

Myanmar-India Anti-Drug Talks

Mar. 4: A basic level meeting on Myanmar-India border anti-drug action was held Feb. 28-Mar. 1 at Tamu in Sagaing Division, with delegations led by Police Col. Saw Myint of the Sagaing Division PPF and Chief Police Officer M.D. Sharma of Manipur State in India. They discussed "illegal smuggling of narcotic drugs and precursor chemicals used in refining drugs at the border, exchange of information, wireless communications, regular holding of monthly basic level bilateral meetings and holding of four-monthly meeting of regional level officers." (NLM 3/5)

Bagan Preservation Project

Mar. 7: UNDP Resident Representative Jehan Raheen called on Minister for Culture Lt-Gen. Aung Ye Kyaw. "A plan on preservation of historical cultural heritage in Bagan with the cooperation of the Archaeology Department and UNESCO has now reached the final stage. The second volume of architectural record on Bagan ancient structures was handed. The book is written by UNESCO and UNDP Adviser Dr. Perry Pichet with the cooperation of the Archaeology Department. Most of the ancient edifices in Bagan were destroyed by the earthquake on 7 July 1975. The renovation began soon after. Volume One was handed to the Minister on 29 September 1993. The book is to be published to nine volumes. Present on the occasion were Deputy Minister for Culture U Soe Nyunt, Director-General of Archaeology Department Dr. Ye Tut, Director-General of Fine Arts Department U Tin Htoo and Head of Office U Tun Zaw." (NLM 3/8)

Narcotics Study Group

Mar. 9: A team of officials from local and foreign anti-narcotics organizations toured Shan State, and the Wa region, on Mar. 7-9. At Pankham they met with 2,000 Wa nationals headed by leader U Kyauk Nyi Hlaing. They visited and "set fire to" an old heroin refinery camp. In the study group were Police Col. Hla Myint, UNDCP Southeast Region Director Mr. William Beachner, officials of the US Drug Enforcement Agency, the Defence Attache and official-in-charge of narcotic affairs of the Japanese Embassy, an NHK TV crew, and a freelancing TV feature producer. (NLM 3/ 10)

Myanmar-India Border Affairs

Mar. 10: A 16-member delegation led by Director-General U Aung Thein of the General Administration Department met in Imphal, Manipur, India from Mar. 7-9 with a 30-member Indian delegation led by Secretary-General Mr. H.B. Viraswani of Manipur Province and Joint Secretary Mr. B.N. Gha of the Ministry of Home Affairs to discuss "measures for India-Myanmar border." (NLM 3/11)

Tropical Cyclone Panel

Mar. 16: The 21st Session of the WMO/ ESCAP Panel on Tropical Cyclones for the Arabian Sea and the Bay of Bengal opened at the Communications Training School, Pazundaung, Yangon, with delegates from Bangladesh, India, Myanmar, Maldives, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, and Thailand. The technical sessions will last until Mar. 22. Speeches were given by Minister for Communications, Posts & Telegraphs U Soe Tha, ESCAP Executive Secretary Mr. Rafeeuddin Ahmed, UNDP Acting Resident Representative Mr. Gardner, and WMO Representatives Mr. Abe

and Ms. Kootval. (NLM 3/17) // Mar. 17: The sessions opened, with 17 foreign and 13 local participants from WMO, ESCAP, the Asian Disaster Preparedness Centre (ADPC), Bangladesh, India, Myanmar, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, and Thailand. (NLM 3/18) // Mar. 22: The panel ended. The next session will be held in 1995 in Sri Lanka. (NLM 3/23)

China Light Industry Fair '94

Mar. 17: It was announced that the China Light Industry and Machinery Fair '94 Yangon will be held at the Tatmadaw Hall on U Wisara Road from May 7-13, jointly sponsored by the Ministry of Trade, Myanmar, Aviation Industries of China (AVIC), and Pioneer Myanmar Holdings Ltd. and organized by the China Committee for the Promotion of International Trade (CCPIT)--Sub-Council of Aviation Industry, Qingdao Zhongfu Economic Development Co. Ltd., the Civil Product Information Centre of China Aerospace Corporation, and Kimway International Trading Ltd. 500 items will be shown, including motorcycles, light automobiles, diesel engines, refrigerating machines, medical apparatus, rubber machinery, chemical products, metal tools, family appliances, sports products, and handicrafts. (NLM 3/ 18)

FOREIGN VISITORS

International Agency Visitors

Mar. 11: Agricultural Engineer Dr. Graeme R. Quick and Yangon Resident Representative Dr. Arnulfo G. Garcia of the International Rice Research Institute (IRRI) called on Minister for Agriculture Lt-Gen. Myint Aung to discuss IRRI assistance in producing farm machines, with German government aid. They will make field trips to Ayeyarwady Division and central Myanmar from Mar. 9-20 to study the use of farm machines by farmers, production, etc. (NLM 3/12)

Mar. 15: Mr. Mario Bettati and two members of the International Civil Service Commission, currently in Myanmar under a UNDP program, called on Minister for Health Vice-Adm. Than Nyunt. (NLM 3/16)

Mar. 15: Executive Secretary Mr. Rafeeuddin Ahmed of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP), and his wife, arrived at the invitation of Minister for Construction U Khin Maung Yin. (NLM 3/16) // Mar. 16: He called on SLORC Secretary-1 Lt-Gen. Khin Nyunt, accompanied by Dr. Myint, and on Minister for National Planning and Economic Development Brig-Gen. Abel. (NLM 3/17) // Mar. 17: He visited the Bayintnaung Bridge Construction Project and the Aye-yeik-mun Housing Project. Minister for Communications, Posts & Telegraphs U Soe Tha hosted a dinner. (NLM 3/18) // Mar. 19: After visiting Bagan-Nyaung-U, Mandalay, and Innlay Lake, the ESCAP Executive Secretary returned to Yangon, where Minister for National Planning and Economic Development Brig-Gen. Abel hosted a dinner for him. (NLM 3/20) // Mar. 20: He departed for home, after visiting Dagon University, the Myanma Gems Emporium, and the Bahadur Shah Zafar Dargah. (NLM 3/ 21)

Mar. 20: Regional Director for South-East Asia Dr. Uton Mutchar Rafei of the World Health Agency arrived on a four-day official visit. (NLM 3/21) // Mar. 21: He called on Minister for National Planning and Economic Development Brig-Gen. Abel. (NLM 3/22) // Mar. 22: He called on Yangon Mayor U Ko Lay. In the evening Minister for Health Vice-Adm. Than Nyunt hosted a dinner for him. (NLM 3/23) // Mar. 23: He called on Minister for Education Col. Pe Thein, and on SLORC Secretary-1 Lt-Gen. Khin Nyunt. (NLM 3/24)

Cultural and Medical Visitors

Mar. 9: Dr. Pierre Foldes, Coordinator in Charge for Asia of Medicin du Monde, called on Minister for Health Vice-Adm. Than Nyunt, accompanied by French Ambassador Alain Briottet. He donated anaesthetic and respiration equipment worth US\$300,000 to the Ministry. (NLM 3/10)

Mar. 9: Director Mr. M. Rajarethnam of the Singapore Institute of International Affairs (SIIA) and a delegation called on Minister

for Foreign Affairs U Ohn Gyaw to discuss strengthening relations with the Myanmar Institute of Strategic and International Studies. An informal round table was held Mar. 8. (NLM 3/10) // Mar. 11: The delegation called on Minister for National Planning and Economic Development Brig-Gen. Abel. (NLM 3/12)

Mar. 10: Chief Veterinarian Dr. Michael Schmidt of the Washington Zoo called on Minister for Education Col. Pe Thein to brief him on "artificial insemination of elephants at timber extraction depots." (NLM 3/11)

Mar. 14: Consultant Psychiatrist Dr. Wong Yip Chong of Adam Road Hospital, Singapore, gave a lecture at the Myanmar Medical Association Auditorium. (NLM 3/15)

Mar. 17: Directors Messieurs Lombard and Souyri of the French Institute of Oriental Studies called on Minister for Culture Lt-Gen. Aung Ye Kyaw, and on Minister for Education Col. Pe Thein. (NLM 3/18)

Mar. 18: President and Executive Director Mr. Oliver Foot of Orbis International arrived to discuss further cooperation. (NLM 3/19)

Mar. 29: A six-member delegation of Chinese engineers led by Mr. Cai Zhizou, in Yangon to study the National Theatre, called on Minister for Culture Lt-Gen. Aung Ye Kyaw. (NLM 3/30)

Business Visitors

Mar. 2: Chairman Dr. Sim Jatusipitak of the Siam City Bank Ltd., President of the Thai Bankers Association, called on Minister for Finance and Revenue Brig-Gen. Win Tin. (NLM 3/2)

Mar. 9: Chairman Mr. Bon Moo Koo of the Lucky Goldstar Group of Korea, and party, arrived at the invitation of Minister for Trade Lt-Gen. Tun Kyi, who hosted a dinner for him. (NLM 3/10) // Mar. 10: He called on SLORC Chairman Senior General Than Shwe. The delegation also met with Minister for Trade Lt-Gen. Tun Kyi. (NLM 3/11) // May 11: The delegation called on Yangon Mayor U Ko Lay. (NLM 3/12)

Mar. 14: Chairman Shen Jue Ren of China Resources (Holding) Co. Ltd. and a study delegation called on Minister for Trade Lt-Gen. Tun Kyi. (NLM 3/15)

Mar. 15: Senior Manager Mr. Alastair Cooke of the Hong Kong and Shanghai Banking Corporation called on Minister for Finance and Revenue Brig-Gen. Win Tin. (NLM 3/16)

Mar. 16: Representative Director Mr. In-Mo Yang of Anam Engineering and Construction Co. Ltd. of Korea called on Yangon Mayor U Ko Lay. (NLM 3/18)

Mar. 17: A delegation of Singapore bankers and businessmen, led by Chairman Mr. Sim Kee Boon of Kepple Corporation, called on SLORC Secretary-1 Lt-Gen. Khin Nyunt, and on Minister for Finance and Revenue Brig-Gen. Win Tin. (NLM 3/18)

Mar. 25: Under Secretary Mr. Jahara Bin Mat of the Ministry of Primary Industries of Malaysia, with officials of palm oil companies, called on Minister for Trade Lt-Gen. Tun Kyi. Group Marketing Manager Mr. Cheang Kwan Chow of Pasir Gudang Edible Oils SDN BHD, and General Manager Mr. Othman Yusoff of Felda Marketing Corp. signed long-term contracts for the purchase of palm oil with Director-General Lt-Col. Kyaw Myint of the Trade Department. (NLM 3/26)

Religious Delegations

Mar. 15: Preparations were made for the reception of Buddhist pilgrims from Singapore, Malaysia and the United States who will accompany the title-holder Sayadaw of Singapore. "The Sayadaws carrying out missionary duties abroad will be able to improve their performance after visiting and witnessing Myanmar where Theravada Buddhism flourishes..." (NLM 3/16) // Mar. 22: Sayadaw U Sumanacara of Myanmar Buddhist Monastery in Penang, Malaysia, and 115 Buddhist laypersons from foreign countries arrived. The Sayadaw is a disciple of Sayadaw Bhaddanta Panyavamsa of Sasana Ranthi Myanmar Buddhist Monastery, Singapore, on whom the SLORC will confer the Agga Maha Pandita Title. (NLM 3/23) // Mar. 24: Four more Sayadaws arrived: Bhaddanta Panyavamsa of Singapore, and Bhaddanta Neminda, Bhaddanta

Kovida, and Bhaddanta Nyaninda of India. (NLM 3/25) // Mar. 26: Religious titles were presented to 126 Sayadaws. The Agga Maha Pandita Title was given to Sayadaw Bhaddanta Pannavamsa of Sasanaramsi Myanmar Buddhist Temple, Singapore, and his law disciples, pilgrims from Penang, presented robes and offertories to members of the State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee and others. (NLM 3/27)

Mar. 15: A Laotian Buddhist delegation led by Chairman Sayadaw Phra Vichit Singharaj of the Laos Buddhist Organization, with four Sayadaws and a layman, arrived on a one-week visit. (NLM 3/16) // Mar. 16: The delegation paid respects to the Sayadaws of the State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee, and called on Minister for Religious Affairs Lt-Gen. Myo Nyunt. (NLM 3/17) // Mar. 17: The delegation visited pagodas in Bagan-Nyaung-U. (NLM 3/18) // Mar. 20: The delegation visited pagodas in Sagaing and Amarapura on Mar. 19, before returning to Yangon. (NLM 3/21) // Mar. 21: The delegation departed. (NLM 3/22)

Mar. 16: Thai Buddhist pilgrims led by Venerable Mettanando Bhikhu of the Dhammakara Foundation of Thailand paid respects to the State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee Sayadaws and donated K30,000 in cash. (NLM 3/17)

Mar. 23: Mr. Shigeki Moti of Agon Shu Buddhist Association of Japan called on Minister for Religious Affairs Lt-Gen. Myo Nyunt. (NLM 3/24)

Foreign Journalists

Mar. 6: Bangkok-based correspondent Mr. Philip Shenon of The New York Times, accompanied by photographer Mr. Peter Charlesworth, called on SLORC Secretary-1 Lt-Gen. Khin Nyunt. (NLM 3/7)

Mar. 14: Bangkok-based correspondent Mr. Evan Williams of the Australian Broadcasting Corporation called on Joint Secretary Police Col. Ngwe Soe Tun of the CCDAC. (NLM 3/15)

Thai Princess

Mar. 5: Her Royal Highness Princess Maha Chakri Sirindhorn of Thailand visited pagodas and the Kengtung Hot Springs Resort at Kengtung [Shan]. Greeting her were Eastern Commander Brig-Gen. Saw Tun, Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs U Nyunt Swe, and others. (NLM 3/6)

Cuban Foreign Minister

Mar. 8: Cuban Foreign Minister Roberto Robaina Gonzalez will visit Myanmar at the invitation of Minister for Foreign Affairs U Ohn Gyaw from Mar. 12-14. (NLM 3/9)

Mar. 12: He arrived with a seven-member delegation, and was hosted at dinner by Minister for Foreign Affairs U Ohn Gyaw. (NLM 3/13)

Mar. 13: The delegation toured Yangon, including the Shwedagon Pagoda, the Arzani Mausoleum, Dagon University, Myanma Timber Enterprise, the National Stadium, and the Gems Emporium. A dinner was hosted by Minister for Forestry Lt-Gen. Chit Swe. (NLM 3/14)

Mar. 14: He was received by SLORC Chairman Senior General Than Shwe, and called on Deputy Prime Minister Vice-Adm. Maung Maung Khin. After calling on Minister for Trade Lt-Gen. Tun Kyi, and meeting businessmen from the Myanmar Chamber of Commerce and Industry, the delegation departed. Prior to arriving in Myanmar, it had visited Indonesia and Laos. (NLM 3/15)

US Library of Congress

Mar. 9: U.S. Library of Congress Field Directors Mrs. Lygia Maria Ballantyne and Mrs. Mya Thanda Poe, from New Delhi and Karachi, called on Deputy Minister for Information U Thein Sein, accompanied by Library of Congress Resident Representative Daw Mamie Sein, to discuss "libraries, national book depository, maintenance of published books, and exchange of information." They also called on Minister for Education Col. Pe Thein. (NLM 3/10)

Vietnam Minorities Minister

Mar. 11: Minister-Chairman Mr. Hoang Duc Nghi of the Vietnam Committee for Ethnic Minorities and Mountainous Areas will visit Myanmar Mar. 15-21 at the invitation of Minister for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs Lt-Gen. Maung Thint. (NLM 3/12)

Mar. 15: The Minister-Chairman and his delegation arrived. (NLM 3/16) // Mar. 16: He called on Minister for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs Lt-Gen. Maung Thint, and visited the Shwedagon Pagoda. (NLM 3/17) // Mar. 18: He toured Lashio on Mar. 16 and Mandalay the next day. (NLM 3/19) // Mar. 19: He visited Mandalay and Bagan-Nyaung-U. (NLM 3/20) // Mar. 20: He discussed anti-drug activities with members of the CCDAC, and toured Yangon, including Dagon Myothit and Dagon University, the Yangon-Thanlyin Bridge, and the Myanmar Gems Emporium. (NLM 3/21) // Mar. 21: He called on Deputy Prime Minister Vice-Adm. Maung Maung Khin. Later he departed. (NLM 3/22)

Singapore Prime Minister

Mar. 23: Singapore Prime Minister Goh Chok Tong will visit Myanmar soon at the invitation of SLORC Chairman Senior General Than Shwe. (NLM 3/23)

Mar. 28: The Singapore Prime Minister arrives today (photograph and official biography) (NLM 3/28)

Mar. 28: The Singapore Prime Minister arrived by special aircraft, and was greeted at the airport by SLORC Chairman Senior General Than Shwe. A 29-member delegation includes Minister for Foreign Affairs Prof. S. Jayakumar, Minister for Trade and Industry Mr. Yeo Cheow Tong, Minister for Labour and Deputy Minister for Defence Dr. Lee Boon Yang and 25 businessmen headed by Mr. Alan Yeo.

Minister Yeo Cheow Tong called on Minister for National Planning and Economic Development Brig-Gen. Abel, accompanied by Acting Minister for National Development and Senior Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Mr. Lim Hng Kiang, and Chief Executive Officer Mr. Barry Desker of the Trade Development Board. A Memorandum of Understanding for economic cooperation was signed by Chairman Mr. Chandra Das of the NTUC Fairprice International Cooperative Ltd. and Chairman Minister Brig-Gen. Abel of Myanma Economic Holdings Ltd.

Mr. Alan Yeo and 21 Singapore businessmen called on Minister for Trade Lt-Gen. Tun Kyi.

The Prime Minister called on SLORC Chairman Senior General Than Shwe, who hosted a banquet at which speeches were exchanged.

In his address SLORC Chairman Senior General Than Shwe said Myanmar needs friends, and "we are particularly most appreciative of the deep understanding shown to us by Singapore and the leadership of Singapore in time of need. My expression will not be complete if I do not put on record the most constructive vision and pragmatic advice of Senior Minister Mr. Lee Kuan Yew, in providing an atmosphere of mutual confidence between our two countries...."

In his reply Singapore Prime Minister Mr. Goh Chok Tong said the two countries were "now entering a new phase of bilateral relations. Last year, Myanmar-Singapore trade reached S\$720 million, Singapore investments in Myanmar exceeded S\$135 million.... Myanmar is potentially and attractive location for foreign investments. Your tourism potential is tremendous and largely untapped.... Singapore is willing to help Myanmar to open up its economy. Singapore wants to help Myanmar society to progress, return to normalcy and succeed like the countries of ASEAN...."

"The changes in the geopolitical environment have already broken down the barriers that separated ASEAN from its neighbours in Cambodia, Laos and Vietnam. I look forward to the day when Myanmar can take its place in the regional community. There have been improvements in the domestic political situation in Myanmar. I am encouraged by the positive changes which have taken place. I am hopeful that Myanmar will build on these improvements as it prepares

for an orderly progression to an open economy and an open government. This will ease Myanmar's entry into the regional and international community.

"Myanmar is on the verge of a new chapter in its history. The leaders and people of Myanmar have much to do to prepare for their new future. Myanmar has to create confidence and encourage growth. I am confident that you will succeed in this venture. The international community must in turn respond and encourage Myanmar so that the needs of its people are met and their well-being assured...."

Three Memorandums of Understanding were signed between the Directorate of Hotels and Tourism and Singapore companies for the construction of three international class hotels in Yangon and Mandalay. Kuok (Singapore) Ltd., represented by Chairman Mr. Kuok Khoon Ean, will build a 400-room hotel on Sule Pagoda Road, Yangon, on the site of the former People's Patisserie, Pa Pa Win and Gon Cinemas, and a similar 700-room hotel at Kandawgyi Dobi Line, at a total investment of US\$150 million. The Straits Steamship Land Limited (SSL), represented by Regional Director Mr. Tay Boon Seng of Shangri-la International, will build a 300-room hotel at the junction of 26th and 66th Streets in Mandalay. (NLM 3/29)

Mar. 29: Premier Goh Chok Tong received calls from Deputy Prime Minister Vice-Adm. Maung Maung Khin, Deputy Prime Minister Lt-Gen. Tin Tun, SLORC Secretary-1 Lt-Gen. Khin Nyunt. The Premier played golf with Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) Gen. Maung Aye and others. In the evening he attended a reception honoring the opening of a Development Bank of Singapore office at 108A Inya Road, chaired by bank Chairman Mr. Ngiam Tong Dow. The Bank has offices in Bombay, New York, Los Angeles, London, Tokyo, Osaka, Seoul, Taipei, Beijing, Hong Kong, Bangkok, and Jakarta.

Singapore Minister for Labour and Second Minister for Defence Dr. Lee Boon Yang called on Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) Gen. Maung Aye, and on Minister for Labour Lt-Gen. Aye Thounng.

The business delegation headed by Mr. Alan Yeo called on Minister for Industry 1 Lt-Gen. Sein Aung, Minister for Industry-2 U Than Shwe, Minister for Hotels and Tourism Lt-Gen. Kyaw Ba, and Minister for Finance and Revenue Brig-Gen. Win Tin. Singapore Minister for Trade and Industry Mr. Yeo Cheow Tong, accompanied by the business delegation, visited the Thilawa Jetty and were briefed on "construction of industrial zone for development of Thanlyin and Kyauktan region," and called on Minister for Trade Lt-Gen. Tun Kyi, and on Minister for Labour Lt-Gen. Aye Thounng. (NLM 3/30)

Mar. 30: The Prime Minister previewed the Myanmar Trade Fair, was briefed on Myanmar development by Minister for National Planning and Economic Development Brig-Gen. Abel, and gave a press conference. He said, inter alia, that "Investors wanted to know the stability of the country in the years to come before they build hotels, offices or factories. He said it is important that the investors assess for themselves and he for himself at first hand as to what the situation would be like in Myanmar. He said he had not discussed the question of Myanmar's entry into the ASEAN and that it was premature. He said Thailand as host country could invite Myanmar to the ASEAN Ministerial Meeting in July. He said there has been an emerging consensus among ASEAN countries on this point. The Prime Minister said Myanmar has some delicate issues, which are economic and political. The Myanmar authorities, he said, would want to draw more tourists and foreign investors. The Myanmar Government understands it needs investments. As investments increase, there will be political benefits. On the political side, the Myanmar Government has been seeking national reconciliation with the ethnic groups. The National Convention is being held as an effort and he has discussed this to some extent. He said he understands the Government has some problems. He has also heard attempts are being made to improve the situation and believes these will be in accordance with the situation. The Prime Minister said he had not discussed human rights. He said he had

extensively discussed the political situation with the Prime Minister Senior General Than Shwe and also with Secretary-1 Lt-Gen. Khin Nyunt, including Daw Aung San Suu Kyi's status. However, he said these were private talks and he did not want to reveal them.... The Myanmar Bank has given a practical solution to the exchange rate concerns of the investors. Investors know what to do. In a way the Myanmar Bank is aware the official exchange rate is overvalued. The FEC rate of exchange is a free market rate and as such cannot be called black market.... [He] believes ASEAN's constructive engagement is the right policy. Myanmar had remained isolated for a long time. However, it has opened its economy and the international community can help Myanmar by engaging in constructive dialogues with Myanmar. As Myanmar had chosen to isolate itself for a long time, the policy of isolating Myanmar has not worked. To further isolate it will not bring any results, he said. Due to these reasons, he said, he has come to see Myanmar leaders. There are many areas discussed, he said, some of which are delicate and cannot be revealed. He has expressed his views and has urged certain measures be taken...."

The business delegation led by Mr. Alan Yeo, called on Minister for Transport Lt-Gen. Thein Win. A business delegation led by Managing Director Mr. Dominic Ong of S & O Holding Private Limited called on Minister for Finance and Revenue Brig-Gen. Win Tin.

The Singapore Prime Minister and party left by special plane in the afternoon. (NLM 3/31)

Russian Diplomat

Mar. 24: Senior Adviser Mr. Valeri V. Nazarov of the Foreign Cultural Exchange Department, Russian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, called on Deputy Minister for Culture U Soe Nyunt to discuss cultural exchange programs. (NLM 3/25)

MYANMAR DELEGATIONS

Study Delegations

Mar. 8: A delegation from Joint Venture Corporation No. 2 Ltd. headed by Director U Thein Zan of the Directorate of Trade left for India at the invitation of R. Piyarelall Company. Other members are Manager Capt. Than Tun of Construction and Electrical Stores Trading, and JVC No. 2 Directors U Shein, U Han Tin, and U Aung Lwin.

Similarly, a delegation also left from Joint Venture Corporation No. 4, headed by Vice-Chairman U Tun Hsaing. Other members are General Manager U Maung Maung Aye of Myanma Agricultural Produce Trading and JVC No. 4 Directors U Kyaw Than, U Kyaw Thaung, U Ohn Khin, and U Sein Htay. (NLM 3/9)

Mar. 19: Chief Editor U Ye Tint of Kyemon left for Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, to attend a seminar of journalists. (NLM 3/20)

Mar. 21: Lecturer Daw Khin Su Su Hlaing of the English Department, Institute of Foreign Language, and Tutor U Aung Win Naing of the Myanmarsar Department, Bago Degree College, left for Korea to attend Korean Language Training under Korean Government auspices. (NLM 3/22)

Mar. 29: A five-member delegation led by Agriculture Deputy Minister U Tin Hlaing left for Thailand and Malaysia to study agriculture. (NLM 3/30)

Mar. 30: Director U Aung Kyi of the Cottage Industries Department, Ministry of Cooperatives, left for Hanoi Mar. 28 to attend a regional workshop on small-scale and medium-scale goods production, which will last until Apr. 1. (NLM 3/31)

Religious Delegations

Mar. 11: A 62-man mission led by U Aye of Myanma Agriculture Service, who is Chairman of the Association for the Promotion and Propagation of the Kusinaraga Theravada Buddhism, left for India to arrange construction of a 162-foot pagoda on a 40-acre plot allotted to Myanmar in Kusinaraga region. The cornerstone of the Thonseta-bon Chanthagyi Pagoda will be laid at 10.10 am on Mar. 13, and it will be

constructed by Myanmar masons. Afterwards, the mission will study pagoda architecture and buildings of Myanmar monasteries in Nepal, Sri Lanka, Thailand, and Singapore. (NLM 3/12)

Delegations to Meetings & Events

Mar. 2: A delegation led by Minister for Forestry Lt-Gen. Chit Swe left for New Delhi, India, to attend the first Ministerial-Level Meeting on Tigers of the World. He was accompanied by Deputy Directors U Aung Than and U Kyaw Nyunt Lwin of the Forest Department and his PSO Capt. Aung Lay Htut. After the meeting, the Minister will visit the United States at the invitation of Senator Richard Shelby, where he will be accompanied by Adviser U Soe Kyi, Lt-Col. Khin Maung Thein of the Ministry of Defence, Director U Maung Nyein of the Planning and Statistics Department, General Manager U Myint Than of Myanma Timber Enterprise, and his PSO. (NLM 3/2) // Mar. 12: He attended the Mar. 3-4 meeting, and described the 16 wildlife sanctuaries and 3 wildlife parks in Myanmar, and said there is no danger of tigers becoming extinct at present. On Mar. 5 he flew to Bangkok, and then on to the United States; the other delegation members returned to Yangon. (NLM 3/13) // Mar. 22: Minister for Forestry Lt-Gen. Chit Swe returned home from the United States, via Tokyo and Bangkok. (NLM 3/23)

Mar. 22: Deputy Minister for Transport U San Wai left for Singapore, at the invitation of the Port Authority of Singapore, to attend the International Maritime Conference and Exhibition in Singapore, Mar. 22-25. (NLM 3/23)

Song and Dance Group to Laos

Mar. 15: A 20-member song and dance ensemble led by Deputy Director U Aung Thwin of the Fine Arts Department left for Laos for a series of performances under the bilateral cultural exchange programme. (NLM 3/16) // Mar. 21: The ensemble returned. (NLM 3/22)

MYANMAR GAZETTE

Probationary Appointments

The SLORC appointed the following, on probation:

Mar. 3: Col. Tin Win (BC/9820), Ministry of Defence, to be Director-General, Factories and General Labour Laws Inspection Department, Ministry of Labour.

U Aung Shwe, Deputy Director-General, General Administration Department, Ministry of Home Affairs, to be Director-General, Department of Development Affairs, Ministry of Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs. (NLM 3/4)

Mar. 23: U Hla Pe, Pro-rector, to be Rector, Mawlamyine University, Higher Education Department, Ministry of Education.

Dr. Kyaw Thein, Pro-Rector, to be Rector, Institute of Computer Science and Technology, Higher Education Department, Ministry of Education.

U Mehm Than Thaung, Director, Higher Education Department, to be Rector, University of Distance Education, Higher Education Department, Ministry of Education. (NLM 3/24)

Appointments

The SLORC appointed the following:

Mar. 3: U Khin Myint, Managing Director, Livestock, Feedstuff and Milk Products Enterprise, to be Director-General, Livestock Breeding and Veterinary Department, Ministry of Livestock Breeding and Fisheries.

U Tin Maung Myint, Director-General, Planning and Statistics Department, to be Managing Director, Livestock, Feedstuff and Milk Products Enterprise, Ministry of Livestock Breeding and Fisheries. (NLM 3/ 4)

Appointments Confirmed

The SLORC confirmed the following appointments, after one

year's probation:

Mar. 9: U Mya Soe as Managing Director, No. 3 Mining Enterprise, Ministry of Mines.

U Khin Oo as Managing Director, Myanma Gems Enterprise, Ministry of Mines.

U Ko Ko as Managing Director, No. 1 Mining Enterprise, Ministry of Mines.

Thura U Aung Tun as Chairman, Myanmar Board of Examinations, Ministry of Education. (NLM 3/10)

GOVERNMENT

Peasants Day Message

Mar. 2: The following is the message of SLORC Chairman Senior General Than Shwe on the occasion of 1994 Peasants Day [full text]:
To all the esteemed peasantry,

The 2nd of March 1994 being Peasants Day observed annually in honour of all the peasantry throughout the country, I wish you good health and happiness for providing food and other produce for the entire Myanmar society.

The peasants are engaged in a noble profession daily producing various crops exerting their efforts for the people.

As peasants are boosting the yield of various crops including paddy every year, the State has been able to feed ever increasing population year by year.

According to the teachings of the Buddha, food sufficiency is the very basic and most important necessity for human society. The peasantry are therefore urged to further boost the yield of crops including paddy.

It is also necessary to produce more industrial raw material crops such as cotton, jute, sugar-cane and rubber.

Only after production of industrial raw material crops abundantly can factories and mills be fully operational depending on the available industrial raw material crops. Then only will the needs of the people be met and more jobs created as a result of mills and factories in full operation. Producing industrial raw material crops constitutes serving the interests of the nation.

Today, the State Law and Order Restoration Council Government is implementing many major projects for the direct benefit of the peasantry.

Various projects are being implemented and arrangements being made as much as possible through different ways and means wherever possible to supply water which is vital for agriculture. Out of these arrangements, dams, irrigation networks and embankments are being constructed at great cost for the direct benefit of the peasantry.

Altogether 12 new dams and embankments are to be constructed. They are eight projects in Mandalay Division, two in Magway Division and one each in Ayeyarwady and Bago Divisions.

Just as dams and embankments are important, the greening project in the nine arid districts is being implemented for the benefit of the peasants and the people residing there.

In conclusion, I urge the entire peasantry to try their utmost to meet the target of 800 million baskets of paddy as set by the State while enjoying the whole-hearted support and encouragement of the State, and to play appropriate roles in all the tasks of national interest such as the greening and conservation of fertile top-soil and forests.

(NLM 3/2)

Accountancy Council Law

Mar. 8: SLORC Law No. 1/94 of March 8, the Myanmar Accountancy Council Law [full text published in NLM], establishes a Council headed by the Auditor-General to supervise accountancy training, register and supervise accountants, and enforce a code of professional ethics for accountants. (NLM 3/9)

New Townships Planned in Yangon

Mar. 19: Speaking at Dagon University, SLORC Secretary-1 Lt-Gen. Khin Nyunt said that Dagon Myothit Township will be divided into four townships. A 50,000-70,000 seat stadium is planned. (NLM 3/20)

Supplementary Appropriation Law

Mar. 24: SLORC Law No. 2/94 of Mar. 24, The State Supplementary Appropriation Law, 1994, approves supplementary expenditures to the State Budget Law 1993 [see March 1993 BPS]:

Schedules: Figures in kyats, by line number, with following abbreviations: ordinary {Ord}; interest {Int}; contributions {Cont}; capital {Cap}; disbursement of loans {Loan}; repayment of loan {Repay}; investments {Inv}; savings {Sav}. [Line numbers from the State Budget Law, 1993]

Schedule I - SUPPLEMENTARY EXPENDITURES State LORC

1/SLORC: Ord-22,384,700; Cap-17,500
3/Gov't: Ord-14,390,000; Cont-2,750,000;
Cap-22,420,000
4/ChJust: Ord-14,230,000
5/Att.Gen: Ord-7,973,100
6/Aud.Gen: Ord-12,198,000
TOTALS: Ord-71,175,800; Cont-2,750,000;
Cap-22,437,000

Schedule II - SUPPLEMENTARY EXPENDITURES Ministries and

Departments

1/Fon.Aff: Ord-7,462,000; Cont-259,000;
Cap-558,000
2/Defence: Ord-1,720,879,000;
Cap-2,225,906,000; Inv-30,000,000
3/Prog.Bord.Areas&Nat.Races&Dev.Aff:
Ord-402,940; Cap-129,101,900
4/Home.Aff: Ord-194,662,000;
Cont-38,300,000; Cap-6,840,000
5/Rel: Ord-8,470,000; Cap-1,217,100
6/Soc.Wel,Rel.&Resett: Ord-23,958,000;
Cont-1,131,000; Cap-3,009,000
7/Info: Ord-7,684,000; Cap-1,516,000
8/Cult: Ord-22,339,250; Cap-27,375,000
9/Educ: Ord-872,267,000; Cap-115,153,000
10/Health: Ord-99,015,000; Cont-331,000;
Cap-43,806,000
11/Labour: Ord-5,070,000; Cap-1,339,000
12/Forest: Ord-49,643,000; Cont-126,000;
Cap-57,738,000
13/Agric: Ord-275,394,000; Cont-367,000;
Cap-491,702,300
14/Livest.&Fish: Ord-9,173,000
15/Mines: Ord-4,116,000
16/Ind(1): Ord-2,132,000
19/Const: Ord-123,206,000; Cap-499,021,000
20/Trans: Ord-8,057,000; Cap-363,336,000
21/RailTrans: Ord-5,324,000
22/Comm,Post&Tel: Ord-1,904,000;
Cap-350,000
23/Trade: Ord-3,384,000
25/Coops: Ord-18,461,000
26/Nat.Plan&Econ.Dev: Ord-15,258,000;
Cap-2,435,000
27/Fin&Rev: Ord-27,590,000;
Int-1,110,829,000; Cont-906,230,000;
Cap-2,895,000; Loan-100,000,000
TOTALS: Ord-3,505,851,190;
Int-1,110,829,000; Cont-946,744,000;
Cap-3,973,358,300; Loan-100,000,000

Schedule III - SUPPLEMENTARY EXPENDITURES State Economic Organizations
1/St.Econ.Org: Ord-14,612,589,700;
Cap-977,753,500; Inv-60,575,000
(NLM 3/25)

Armed Forces Day

Mar. 27: The 49th Armed Forces day was celebrated as usual, with a major parade and other events. SLORC Chairman Senior General Than Shwe addressed the troops [see full text below]. In the evening Senior General and Madame Than Shwe held the traditional Armed Forces Day reception and dinner, including a broad spectrum of officials, including the local Diplomatic Corps and Military Attaches. Photographs show Senior General Than Shwe shaking hands with the Ambassadors from China (currently Dean of the local Corps) and Egypt. Prizes were given to winners of literary, art, and photographic contests.

SLORC Chairman Senior General Than Shwe gave the following address at the 49th Anniversary Armed Forces Day (Resistance Day) Parade [full text]:
Comrades

Today is the 49th Anniversary of the Armed Forces Day (Resistance Day). It is an auspicious day for the country and the Tatmadaw. At this significant Armed Forces Day Parade, what I would like to emphatically tell you are:

-- The traditions of our Tatmadaw which had emerged with the struggle for Independence.

-- The political, economic and social conditions are creating in aspiration towards a new peaceful nation.

-- The endeavours to enhance the efficiency of our Tatmadaw in defence of our country.

You Comrades already know that our country was in servitude for over a century. Our people were forfeit of their political, economic and social rights under subjugation. National pride and prestige diminished. Exactly 49 years ago on 27 March 1945, in order to regain political, economic and social rights of our people, our Tatmadaw, taking up whatever arms they could lay hands on, together with the people waged the Resistance sacrificing much life and blood. It is 49 years now that we have annually held the Armed Forces Day (Resistance Day) in our country to honour and commemorate it.

Our Tatmadaw is one which was established with the full backing of the entire people while we were fighting colonialists to wrest our nation, which we cherish as much as our lives, free from servitude and to attain sovereignty. Since the founding of our Tatmadaw in December 1941 to date, the basic spirit and concept we have adopted for all these years has been to sacrifice our lives in safeguarding our motherland and citizens and to work perpetually towards that end. As this spirit and attitude has been the most basic quality inherent in our Tatmadaw, you must take it up as our Tatmadaw's noble tradition.

Comrades,

It is now over 40 years since we regained our independence. Insurgency came into being simultaneously with independence and the people were in dire consequences for over 40 years now. Our country has not developed and have been backward due to this infliction. The people had fallen into poverty. Our country has good climate and environment. Natural resources such as flora and fauna and minerals abound. It is because of internal unrest and insurgency that our country is poor although we have the essentials to be a rich country. If we strive in peace and unity, our country will surely become a developed and modern State.

Historic Duty

Our Tatmadaw had to take over the duties of the State as a historic duty on 18 September 1988. Widespread instability reigned throughout the country and as the danger of the nation disintegrating

was imminent our Tatmadaw, with loyalty and conscious of our duty again had to take up responsibility, as all the citizens know. The duty to construct the nation into a peaceful, stable and modern State is now upon us in addition to our main duty of national defence and security, and you all know that all of us have gone full swing irrespective of day or night with full cetana to attain the best for our country in our time. Due to this endeavour, you can now see the improvements in political, economic and social conditions.

But our country's situation today is at the crossroads. Although the old system of our country had ceased, the new system has not quite yet fully taken on. Two main tasks toward a new, peaceful and modern State that we must presently perform are upon us today. One is the task of National Reconciliation and the other is for the emergence of a new State Constitution.

As regards National Reconciliation, there has been disunity among us for an entire period of over 40 years since we regained our independence. We've had enough of these killings and bloodshed between kinfolk and nationals. It is now time to face reality. Wrongs ought to be righted now. Historic debts should now be repaid to our country and people. We understand that because of disunity and enmity between our own selves we have been poor although our country possesses the essentials of wealth, and so, while we hold the State responsibility we have, with cetana to unitedly and peacefully build a modern, developed State, invited groups which have taken to the jungles to return to the legal fold and hold talks with us. Recognizing our sincerity and goodwill, ten groups which have taken to the jungles have returned to the peaceful political realm and are now striving together with us bringing about success in regional development. Some armed groups are presently holding talks with us. Some have not understood our sincerity, goodwill and initiative. They are trying to take advantage of it, both in the political and military aspects, by suggesting that we are offering peace because we have political problems and because we are weak. These groups, dogmatically clinging to obsolete political concepts, are keeping a blind eye toward national development and only looking in the interests of their party and group. We have to be patient with them. I want you to understand that we are endeavouring for peace not because our strength has dwindled or because we have political problems, but because National Reconciliation is an absolute necessity. This duty is not only the Tatmadaw's but also the historic duty of all nationals that must be performed today by all nationals, not just the Tatmadaw alone.

Constitution

The next task is the endeavour to write a Constitution. Just as national unity is indispensable for a new stable developed State, so is a Constitution. Therefore, as we are extending our hand toward groups which have taken to the jungles on one hand, we on the other are organizing representatives of political parties within the country and class and mass groups such as workers, farmers and intelligentsia and coordinating with them toward the successful writing of the Constitution through the National Convention, as you all know. Today, the National Convention has been able to lay down the basic principles for the Constitution and is now continuing its task with added momentum. I want you all not to forget the duty that we have to strive hard with true cetana to the point where groups and organizations can rule the national peacefully in accordance with the provisions of the new Constitution.

Tasks

Comrades,

Just as we are discharging two political tasks on the one hand, we are having to work for the improvement of the people's economic life, for their food, clothing and shelter needs on the other hand. From what was once centrally planned socialist economy, we are changing to market economy today. We have allowed freedom of trade, commerce, transactions and production. We have allowed our nationals today to trade and do business freely, to earn their livelihood

according to their ability. We have allowed freedom to do business that does not run counter to the law, or which is not against the interests of the State or the majority. These are bringing about transitional changes in the economy so that it will be in consonance with the new nation which will emerge in the future. Just as political change is being brought about on one side we are also bringing about economic change on the other. In economic reform, the private sector is playing its part and the State sector is also creating conditions conducive to economic development. Today, the nation is in a position where it has to take agriculture as basis. We inevitably have to use agriculture as basis and work for development. That is why you Comrades are personally taking part in irrigation through dams, creeks, lakes and canals to facilitate the livelihood of the people based on agriculture and for the economic development of the country. Our nation must work steadily toward development of the other sector based upon agriculture which already is firmly founded. Before we can transform our country into an industrial nation to make it more modern and rich, we must steadily work towards the stage of industrial progress based upon agriculture which today is to our advantage. That is why you Comrades must put in all your strength in participating in agriculture, which is the basis of our economy, and in other tasks of national construction.

Only after we have laid good political and economic foundations will the people of the future obtain good foundations for building a pleasant, affluent and modern nation. You Comrades must understand that it is because of the Tatmadaw's noble tradition that we are, from right now, working day and night with complete cetana, in the period of transition so that our nation will not befall political and economic instability repeatedly and suffer and so that the future government, whoever takes charge, may lead a politically and economically stable nation in peace.

Perpetuate sovereignty
Comrades,

you are already aware that we are building our nation to be modern and developed. In order to defend our nation and safeguard and perpetuate our sovereignty eternally, it is essential that we build our Tatmadaw to be strong and efficient. Building up our Tatmadaw to be strong for national security and for defence is our bounden duty. Just as material inputs are essential for Tatmadaw to be strong, morale is also most important. Morale and discipline are the life-blood of the Tatmadaw. The invincible spirit of fighting to the last is the kind of spirit you must possess. Non-disintegration of the national unity and perpetuation of sovereignty constitute the Tatmadaw's belief and concept. This, our Tatmadaw must hold uppermost. For the Tatmadaw to be strong and qualified, we must keep working on the four basic tasks of training, administration, welfare and morale. Only then will all units and all troops possess the five qualities of morale, discipline, loyalty, unity and the three capabilities. Don't forget that we will be able to defend our nation only if we possess these qualities.

Comrades,

Let me conclude on these points--

- Uphold the good traditions of our Tatmadaw,
- Be thorough in the discharge of duties in national politics, which are currently ours,
- Assist in working for our nation's all-round development,
- True to the motto "The nation is strong only when the Tatmadaw is strong" strive to build our Tatmadaw to be strong and efficient,
- Always uphold the soldier's code of conduct.

(NLM 3/28)

1994 State Budget Law

Mar. 28: SLORC Law No. 3/94 of March 28, the State Budget Law, 1994, effective April 1, 1994, provides as follows:
Parts I-IV - General Provisions.

Schedules. Figures in kyat, by line number, with following abbreviations:

Receipts: taxes {Tax}; from State Economic Organizations {St}); other current {Cur}; interest {Int}; capital {Cap}; foreign aid {Aid}; recovery of loans {Recov}; drawal of loans {Loan}; investments {Inv}; savings {Sav}.

Expenditures: current {Cur}; interest {Int}; contributions {Cont}; capital expenditures {Cap}; disbursement of loans {Loan}; repayment of loans {Repay}; investments {Inv}; savings {Sav}.

Schedule I - RECEIPTS State LORC, Election Commission, Government, Chief Justice, Attorney-General, Auditor General:

1/SLORC: Cur-4,269,400; Cap-15,000
2/Elect.Comm: Cur-300
3/Gov't: Cur-3,986,000; Cap-1,500;
AID-590,800
4/Ch.Just: Cur-203,500
5/Att.Gen: Cur-70,600
6/Aud.Gen: Cur-667,000; Cap-5,000
TOTALS: Cur-85,196,800; Cap-21,500;
AID-590,800
(NLM 3/29)

Schedule II - EXPENDITURES State LORC, etc.:

1/SLORC: Cur-181,321,000; Cap-423,865,600
2/Elect.Comm: Cur-5,940,000; Cap-150,000
3/Gov't: Cur-122,298,000; Cont-11,278,000;
Cap-117,524,500
4/Ch.Just: Cur-108,502,000; Cap-6,200,520
5/Att.Gen: Cur-49,982,000; Cap-6,359,970
6/Aud.Gen: Cur-112,049,000; Cap-4,843,850
TOTALS: Cur-580,192,000; Cont-11,278,000;
Cap-558,944,440

Schedule III - RECEIPTS - Ministries and Departments

1/Taxes on inland productions and public consumption {Tax}:
1-1 Excise duty: 51,440,000
1-2 Commercial tax: 4,312,232,000
1-3 Import licenses: 210,000,000
1-4 State lottery: 1,300,000,000
1-5 Transport taxes: 58,804,000
1-6 Stamp sales: 233,681,000
(TOTAL - 6,166,157,000)
2/Taxes on income and ownership {Tax}:
2-1 Income tax: 2,316,274,000
2-2 Profit tax: 1,068,369,000
(TOTAL - 3,384,643,000)
3/Customs duties {Tax}:
3-1 Customs duties: 2,100,000,000
(TOTAL - 2,100,000,000)
4/Taxes on utility of State owned properties {Tax}:
4-1 Land rev. taxes: 46,813,000
4-2 Water & embank: 19,041,000
4-3 Forest prod: 500,994,000
4-4 Minerals tax: 6,374,000
4-5 Fisheries tax: 300,569,000
4-6 Rubber tax: ---
(TOTAL - 873,791,000)
5/Receipts from State Economic Organizations {St}: 5,332,011,000
(NLM 3/30)
6/For.Aff: Cur-2,255,000; Cap-500,000
7/Defence: Cur-103,628,000
8/Prog.Bord.Areas&Nat.Races&Dev.Aff:
Cur-30,000, Aid-1,260,000
9/HomeAff: Cur-63,759,800; Cap-2,000,000;
Aid-9,499,000

10/Rel.Aff: Cur-12,414,000
 11/Soc.Wel,Rel&Resett: Cur-2,229,000;
 Aid-12,000
 12/Info: Cur-37,461,000
 13/Cult: Cur-5,540,000
 14/Educ: Cur-483,318,320; Aid-6,542,000
 15/Health: Cur-34,600,000; Cap-5,180,000;
 Aid-27,082,000
 16/Labour: Cur-17,510; Cap-1,000;
 Aid-562,000
 17/Forest: Cur-115,326,200; Aid-4,983,000
 18/Agric: Cur-664,252,730; Cap-6,000,000;
 Aid-23,119,000
 19/Livest.&Fish: Cur-76,173,220
 20/Mines: Cur-5,050,000; Cap-50,000
 21/Ind(1): Cur-17,090,680; Cap-50,000
 22/Ind(2): Cur-75,000
 23/Energy: Aid-200,000
 24/Const: Cur-51,520,600; Int-110,500;
 Cap-500,000,000; Aid-40,000;
 Recov-1,000,000; Loan-4,044,000
 25/Trans: Cur-110,739,350; Loan-3,410,000
 26/RailTrans: Cur-55,034,000
 27/Comm,Posts&Tel: Cur-45,116,800;
 Aid-700,000
 28/Trade: Cur-42,001,000
 29/Hotels&Tour.Serv: Cur-1,000
 30/Coops: Cur- 11,586,800
 31/Nat.Plan.&Econ.Dev: Cur-17,777,000;
 Cap-110,000
 32/Fin.&Rev: Cur-121,214,000;
 Int-232,238,000; Cap-50,000;
 Aid-600,000,000; Recov-286,456,000
 33/Pens.&Gratuities: Cur-301,500
 TOTALS: Tax-12,525,283,000;
 St-5,332,011,000; Cur-2,078,514,110;
 Int-232,348,500; Cap-513,941,000;
 Aid-673,999,000; Recov-287,456,000;
 Loan-49,316,000

Schedule IV - EXPENDITURES Ministries and Departments

1/For.Aff: Cur-87,135,000; Cont-652,000;
 Cap-14,108,220
 2/Defence: Cur-7,837,118,000;
 Cap-3,534,133,000; Inv-50,000,000
 3/Prog.Bord.Areas&Nat.Races&Dev.Aff:
 Cur-54,790,000; Cont-85,500,000;
 Cap-285,494,250
 4/HomeAff: Cur-1,536,321,000;
 Cont-125,224,670; Cap-234,650,790
 5/Rel.Aff: Cur-45,293,000; Cont-2,654,950;
 Cap-15,634,520
 6/Soc.Wel,Rel.&Resett: Cur-96,220,000;
 Cont-18,300,000; Cap-35,989,070
 7/Info: Cur-185,550,000; Cap-75,943,370
 8/Cult: Cur-36,618,000; Cont-45,000;
 Cap-249,019,660
 9/Educ: Cur-4,244,220,000; Cont-590,000;
 Cap-929,878,020
 10/Health: Cur-913,600,000; Cont-2,645,100,
 Cap-745,536,700
 11/Labour: Cur-32,262,000; Cont-950,000;
 Cap-6,945,110
 12/Forest: Cur-270,497,500; Cont-396,500;
 Cap-96,572,760
 13/Agric: Cur-1,352,270,000; Cont-6,434,500;

Cap-1,032,967,400
14/Livest.&Fish: Cur-100,800,000;
Cap-36,311,740
15/Mines: Cur-47,603,000; Cap-6,784,610
16/Ind(1): Cur-26,594,000; Cap-13,002,000
17/Ind(2): Cur-940,000; Cap-372,000
18/Energy: Cur-4,283,500; Cap-4,199,440
19/Const: Cur-959,920,000; Cap-1,458,831,410
20/Trans: Cur-86,857,000; Int-333,800;
Cont-630,000; Cap-296,378,380;
Repay-1,980,000
21/RailTrans: Cur-36,134,000; Cap-2,251,700
22/Comm,Posts&Tel: Cur-23,640,000;
Cont-859,000; Cap-18,127,490
23/Trade: Cur-16,900,000; Cap-1,381,540
24/Hotels&Tour.Serv: Cur-896,000;
Cap-631,000
25/Coop: Cur-243,824,000; Cap-8,630,000
26/Nat.Plan&Econ.Dev: Cur-61,928,000;
Cont-11,476,000; Cap-23,044,000
27/Fin.&Rev: Cur-229,958,000;
Int-1,504,009,000; Cont-138,559,000;
Cap-83,743,020; Repay-589,879,000;
Inv-237,632,000; Sav-300,000
28/Pens.&Gratuities: Cur-1,062,598,000
29/Grat.&Commut.Pens: Cur-253,750,000
30/Reserve Fund: Res-100,000,000
TOTALS: Cur-19,848,530,000;
Int-1,504,342,000; Cont-394,906,720;
Cap-9,210,561,420; Repay-591,859,000; Inv-287,632,000; Sav-300,000;
Res-100,000,000
(NLM 3/31)

Schedule V - RECEIPTS - State Economic Organizations

1/St.Econ.Org: Cur-67,374,001,000;
Cap-348,805,000; Aid-58,043,000;
Recov-16,055,000; Loan-350,561,000;
Inv-220,000,000

Schedule VI - EXPENDITURES - State Economic Organizations

1/St.Econ.Org: Cur-65,428,730,000;
Cap-3,795,548,180; Loan-11,507,000;
Repay-1,049,792,000; Inv-233,915,000

Schedule VII - RECEIPTS - Cantonment Municipalities under
Ministry of Defence

1/Cant.Mun: Tax-41,400; Cur-12,258,700

Schedule VIII - EXPENDITURES - Cantonment Municipalities under
Ministry of Defence

1/Cant.Mun: Cur-10,464,500; Cap-2,212,910
(NLM 4/1)

MILITARY

Armed Group Attacks

Mar. 3: A Mon armed group threw grenades at the Shwehsandaw
Pagoda Pujaniya (festival) in Ye Twp. [Mon], injuring 12 men and 10
women. (NLM 3/5)

Mar. 18: A Kayin land mine on Mar. 13 destroyed a car
travelling from Papun, between Wintapa and Laykay villages, killing a
Sayadaw and wounding the driver. (NLM 3/19)

Members of Armed Groups Surrender

Mar. 18: Four armed group members returned to legal fold, with
their weapons, on Mar. 2 and 4 [names and details]. (NLM 3/19)

Mar. 18: Commanding Officer Gon Ein (a) Kya Lay of the 203 ABSDF Battalion, with his wife Ma Yee Yee Aye and daughter Ma Sabai Thin, returned to legal fold through the Myanmar Embassy in Bangkok on Mar. 9. He "resigned because of his strained relations with members of the camp supervisory group." (NLM 3/19)

Mar. 21: Between February 1-13, 27 members of armed groups returned to legal fold, with their weapons [names and details]. (NLM 3/22)

Mar. 22: Between February 14-28, 54 members of armed groups returned to legal fold, with their weapons [names and details]. (NLM 3/23)

ECONOMIC

Economic Articles

Mar. 14: Myittha Bridge will be the Golden Gate to Yaw Region, by Swe Thant Ko. [680 foot bridge to be constructed over the Myittha River near Kanywar in Gangaw Twp., Magway.]

Mar. 18: Efforts made in pest management, by Kyaw Nyunt Yi. [FAO Senior Integrated Pest Management Expert Mr. Badar Munir is teaching the subject in Myanmar, as the new Pesticide Law is implemented.]

Mar. 22: Weilaung dam designed to help in reforesting the nine districts, by Ah-htet Minhla Nyunt Aung. [The 3,200 foot dam in Taungtha Township will irrigate 1,500 acres.]

Mar. 27: Hotel fever, by Dr. Naw Angelene. [Tourism is the "hottest business" in Myanmar today. Nine hotel projects reviewed.]

Project Inaugurations

Mar. 3: The Nikko General Trading Centre of the Kyauktada Cooperative Store No. 18 was opened by Patron U Pa Pait, Director U Win Sein, and Chairman Mr. Low Kim Yong of Golden Glory Co., Singapore. (NLM 3/4)

Mar 4: A new 107-channel Satellite Ground Station was commissioned by SLORC Secretary-1 Lt-Gen. Khin Nyunt in Thanlyin [Syriam]. Speaking on the occasion Minister for Communications, Posts & Telegraphs U Soe Tha said that when the SLORC assumed State responsibilities in 1988 there were only 25 channels for overseas calls, using Satellite Ground Station B. In November 1991 this was expanded to 58 channels. Today, Satellite Ground Station A and International Digital Electronic Exchange are being inaugurated, allowing IDD calls between Myanmar and 40 other countries. New satellite stations will be commissioned in Tamu and Buthidaung. (NLM 3/5)

Mar. 5: An 8,174 ft. by 32 ft. paved street was commissioned Mar. 3 in Magway. (NLM 3/6)

Mar. 7: A Toshiba Salesroom of Myanma Export and Import Services opened at the corner of 26th and 84th Streets, Mandalay, on Mar. 6, in the presence of Central Commander Maj-Gen. Kyaw Than and Managing Director Mr. Toshihide Yasul of Singapore Toshiba. (NLM 3/9)

Mar. 24: The Defence Services Museum was inaugurated on Shwedagon Pagoda Road, with a speech by the Director of the Defence Services Museum and Historical Research Institute Col. Ye Htut who "said Myanmar Naing-Ngan has existed as a civilized and independent nation for thousands of years between the two big countries...." (NLM 3/25)

Mar. 26: A regulating dam of the South Nawin Dam Construction Project was inaugurated. A 290 foot bridge over the Bago River was opened. (NLM 3/27)

Mar. 30: The Laikha-Panglong telephone trunk-line was inaugurated Mar. 27. (NLM 3/31)

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(NLM 3/27)

Joint Ventures & Foreign Investments

Feb. 28: Ministry of National Planning and Economic Development Notification No. 8/94 of Feb. 28, Formation of the Rothmans of Pall Mall Myanmar Private Limited, establishes a Joint-Venture Company "for the purpose of manufacturing and sale of cigarettes," with authorized capital of K63 million, divided into 63,800 shares of K1,000, of which 25,200 are held by the Union of Myanmar Economic Holdings Limited, represented by its Managing Director, and 37,800 by Rothmann Myanmar Holdings Private Limited of Singapore, represented by its Chairman, Mr. Graham Macdonald Bell, Virginia Park, 905 Buki Timah Road, Singapore 2158. (NLM 3/1)

Mar. 4: The Directorate of Hotels and Tourism signed a Memorandum of Understanding with Thai Industrial Connection Co. Ltd. (TICON), represented by Managing Director Mr. Wei Cheng Matthew Kuan, to construct a 200 room modern hotel at the corner of Natmauk Road and Po Sein Road at Kandawgyi within the next three years. It will cost US\$15, and the company will run it for 30 years, after which it will be transferred to the state. (NLM 3/5)

Mar. 12: Globe Myanmar Resources Co. Ltd. of Singapore will construct a 10-storey mixed commercial complex on the site of the present Iron Market, corner of Maha Bandoola Street and Lanmadaw Street, Yangon. 800 shops in the market will be relocated to the basement and first four floors of the complex, its first phase. Later, there will be other shops, office rooms, and a hotel. The company will have a 30 year lease. (NLM 3/13)

Mar. 15: A contract was signed between Myanma Posts and Telecommunications and Daewoo Corporation of Korea, represented by President Chai Pili Suh, and Daewoo Telecom Ltd., represented by President Sung Kyou Park, to install 2,000 digital line telephone exchanges in Taunggyi and Dawei [Tavoy], and a 3,000 line exchange in Bago, within 14 months. (NLM 3/16)

Mar. 25: Myanma Fisheries Enterprise, represented by Managing Director U Kyaw Lwin, and P.L. International (Pte) Ltd (Singapore), represented by Managing Director U Kyan Gin, formed a joint venture company, Myanmar Seafoods Limited, to deal in "production and sale of fish, prawn and marine products." (NLM 3/26)

Mar. 25: An Agreement for the Feasibility Study of Developing, Mining and Processing Mineral Resource within the Monywa Cooper Complex was signed between No. 1 Mining Enterprise, represented by Managing Director U Ko Ko, and Ivanhoe Myanmar Holdings Ltd., represented by Chairman Mr. Robert M. Friedland. Speaking on the occasion, Minister for Mines Lt-Gen. Kyaw Min "said Copper deposits at Sabetaung, Sabetaung South, Kyisintaung and Letpandaung in Sagaing Division...are substantial and major deposits of considerable size in our country. The No. 1 Mining Enterprise had implemented the No. 1 Copper Project at Sabetaund and Kyisintaung in 1973 with suppliers credit assistance from Invest Import Company, Yugoslavia. A floatation complex was built which could produce 60,000 tons of copper concentrates per year and the No. 1 Mining Enterprise with its own engineers have also built a small copper smelting and refining pilot plant to produce cathode copper. The deposit at Letpandaung has been partially explored and we have been looking for foreign partners to develop and mine the deposit. It is known that the deposit contain about 180 million tons of copper ore with copper content of 0.66 per

cent.... Ivanhoe came up with their proposal...to develop the cooper deposits, using the Solvent Extraction, Electro-winning route to produce cathode copper. Negotiations started about one and half years ago culminating in today's signing of the contract. We consider the SX-EW Process to be not environmentally harmful and would be best suited for the Monywa Area...." (NLM 3/26)

New Banknotes Issued

Mar. 3: At a special Press Conference Minister for Finance and Revenue Brig-Gen. Win Tin announced "that the Central Bank of Myanmar will put into circulation new King Lion series notes with a view to furthering the economic reform process in line with the market economy and for easier handling of paper money. He said the new currency notes in denominations of 500 kyats, 100 kyats, 50 kyats, 20 kyats, and 50 pyas which have high quality security status will be put into circulation beginning 27 March 1994.... He said the currency notes and coins in circulation will continue to be legal tender."

He said that the Central Bank is destroying old notes and replacing them with new notes of the same denomination. Old notes will also be exchanged without any restrictions at special exchange counters opened at the Central Bank and Government treasuries.

Description of the new notes is as follows

Kyat values:

Obverses: Inscriptions in Myanmar and a "majestic King Lion in Myanmar artistic style." Denomination in Myanmar and English numerals; serial number in Myanmar and English numerals. Watermark of King Lion. Imbedded security thread.

Reverses: "Central Bank of Myanmar" and written denomination in English.

Characteristics of specific values:

K 500: 16.7 x 8 cm. Brown. Myanmar traditional casting, working on the Maha Bandoola statue.

K 100: 14.6 x 7 cm. Blue. Traditional decorative stuccowork.

K 50: 14.6 x 7 cm. Brown. Traditional lacquerware industry.

K 20: 14.6 x 7 cm. Green. People's Park fountain propped up by elephants.

50 pya value: 11 x 5.5 cm. Violet obverse; pink reverse.

Obverse: Traditional harp.

[photos] (NLM 3/4)

Gems Emporium

Mar. 4: Minister for Mines Lt-Gen. Kyaw Min previewed the 31st Myanma Gems Emporium, which will be held Mar. 10-18 at the Myanma Gems Emporium Hall on Kaba Aye Pagoda Road. (NLM 3/5)

Mar. 7: The Emporium was previewed by SLORC Chairman Senior General Than Shwe, and also by Madame Than Shwe and wives of SLORC members. (NLM 3/8)

Mar. 8: Diplomats and journalists previewed the Emporium. 651 jade lots valued at US\$9,392,000 will be sold by competitive bidding Mar. 12-15; 128 lots worth US\$966,650 at fixed prices, and 10,356 jade figures worth US\$582,273 will be sold. 124 pearl lots worth US\$2,376,540 will be sold through competitive bidding on Mar. 16. 371 gems lots worth US\$6,186,540 will be sold through competitive bidding on Mar. 17-18, 251 lots worth US\$472,785 at fixed prices, and 5,336 pieces of jewellery worth US\$4,585,890. Total value of gems, jade, and pearls is K150,709,221 or US\$24,563,078. Private entrepreneurs will get 75% of the proceeds of their merchandise. Jewellery will be sold to diplomats in Myanmar on Mar. 17-18. (NLM 3/9)

Mar. 9: 101 gems merchants from 45 companies in 8 countries have arrived for the Emporium. (NLM 3/10)

Mar. 10: A total of 217 merchants from 98 companies in 14 countries have now arrived. (NLM 3/11)

Mar. 12: US\$1,192,392 was realized in jade sales on the first day of the 31st Gems Emporium. There are now 530 merchants from 233 companies in 17 countries. (NLM 3/13)

Mar. 13: US\$1,970,290 was realized in jade sales on the second day. (NLM 3/14)

Mar. 14: US\$2,181,814 was realized in jade sales on the third day. 476 [sic] merchants from 249 companies in 17 countries have arrived so far. (NLM 3/15)

Mar. 15: A dinner was held for the merchants attending the Emporium, hosted by Deputy Prime Minister Vice-Adm. Maung Maung Khin and Minister for Mines Lt-Gen. Kyaw Min. Gems merchants Mr. B. Zalcmann of M/s Samourai SA of Switzerland, and Mr. L.P. Roberts of M/s Benj. Warwick of the United Kingdom, who have attended 31 successive Emporiums, were given jade figurines as mementos, as were Mr. Chung Ha of Kowloon, Hong Kong and Mr. Liu Wing Chung of M/s Tai Tung Jewellery of Hong Kong (25 years), Mr. Domenico Zonno of M/s Zonno SA of Switzerland (20) years and other long term clients, including Mr. Yiu Fatyam of M/s Fock Po Jade Co. of Hong Kong. (NLM 3/16)

Mar. 16: US\$492,811 was realized for pearls, jade figurines, and jewellery. (NLM 3/17)

Mar. 17: US\$1,110,740 was realized for gems, jewellery, and jade figurines. (NLM 3/18)

Mar. 18: US\$900,163 was realized on the closing day for gems, jade figurines, and jewellery. Total sale proceeds for the 31st Gems Emporium was K51,977,514.10 or US\$8,471,464. M/s Cho Tai Fook Jewellery Company of Hong Kong won the prize for buying the most valuable gems, and M/s Niino International Company of Japan for buying the most valuable pearls. (NLM 3/ 19)

Private Banks Licenced

Mar. 18: The Central Bank of Myanmar on Mar. 17 issued licences to Myanmar May Flower Bank Limited, the Prime Commercial Bank Limited, and the Asian Yangon International Bank Limited under Section 57 of the Central Bank of Myanmar Law. Previously, licences had been issued to Myanmar Citizens Bank Ltd., First Private Bank Ltd., Cooperative Bank Ltd., Yadanabon Bank Ltd., Mandalay Myawaddy Bank Ltd., Yoma Bank Ltd., and Myanmar Oriental Bank Ltd. "which are now functioning banking successfully. Eleven banking licences had been issued to the Myanmar national private banks to date." (NLM 3/19)

Four-week Tourist Visas

Mar. 26 [full text]: Entry visa for tourists visiting Myanmar has been extended from two weeks to four weeks and the amount of exchange for Foreign Exchange Certificates (FECs) has been designated US\$300 instead of \$200, both effective 14 March, the Directorate of Hotels and Tourism announced in a circular today.

The changes are aimed at bringing about increase in foreign visitors to Myanmar rich in cultural heritage and scenes of natural beauty.

The Ministry of Hotels and Tourism is seeking means to promote its services with added momentum and to contribute to development of national economy. (NLM 3/27)

Miscellany

Mar. 4: Speaking at the Einme Bridge construction site in Ayeyarwady Division, SLORC Chairman Senior General Than Shwe "pointed out that 1994-95 is designated as the All-round Development Year and tasks are being implemented accordingly."

Mar. 9: Minister for Trade Lt-Gen. Tun Kyi met with the Organizing Committee for the Myanma Trade Fair, which will be held April 1-12. He urged the Committee to attract a large number of foreign visitors. The motto of the Fair is "Growth in exports, strength of the nation." (NLM 3/10)

Mar. 19: Myanma Shipyards in Sinmalaik are building nine 800-ton vessels with a US\$30 million loan from Yunnan Province Import and Export Corporation of China. (NLM 3/20)

Mar. 20: As part of the All-round Development Year, said

Minister for Agriculture Lt-Gen. Myint Aung, "plans are to be made for the nation-wide yield of more than 900 million baskets of paddy this year and in the rainy season, the average per-acre yield is to be increased by two baskets more than the previous year." (NLM 3/21)

Mar. 21: A groundbreaking ceremony was held to mark the commencement of Mandalay International Airport, attended by SLORC Secretary-1 Lt-Gen. Khin Nyunt, and half-a-dozen cabinet ministers, officials, and 100,000 spectators. Similarly, a groundbreaking ceremony was held for Hanthawady International Airport, west of Bago, in the presence of SLORC Secretary-2 Lt-Gen. Tin Oo, cabinet ministers, and over 100,000 spectators. (NLM 3/22)

Mar. 21: The Central Research Organization is compiling data for Household Consumption and Social Census in five townships of the Mandalay city area, collecting data through random sampling on 91 items of food and beverages, 139 non-food items, and family statistics from 750 households in Aungmyethazan, Chanayethazan, Maha Aungmye, Chanmyathazi, and Pyigyitagun townships. The survey will last until Mar. 25. A similar survey was conducted in February in Yangon. (NLM 3/22)

Mar. 25: Six diesel engines, jointly overhauled by Myanma Railways and GEC Alsthom of France at the Insein Locomotive Shed, were commissioned. The cost was over 24 million francs. The engines, which can now run at 55 MPH, will be used on the Yangon City circular [commuter] lines. (NLM 3/24)

Mar. 26: The Cruise Vessel MS Pearl arrived, for the third time, with 362 passengers, mostly Americans. They will visit Bago and Bagan on Mar. 27-28, and will depart Mar. 29. (NLM 3/27) // Mar. 29: The ship left. It will return on April 2. (NLM 3/30)

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	81.34	96.02	95.98
1993	82.64	111.18	95.12
1994, as of:			
March 1	00.00	00.00	00.00
March 15	00.00	00.00	00.00
March 30	4.49	5.43	5.28

SPORTS

Sports Articles

Mar. 5, 11: Records tumble at Second National Sports Festival, by N Tin Maung. [Account of the Festival.]

Mar. 26: Hockey Tournament of Second National Sports Festival, by Tin Win (Myanmar Hockey Federation). [It was a great success.]

Foreign Teams and Delegations

Mar. 24: A Japanese university soccer team will play friendly matches in Myanmar on Mar. 30 and April 1. Admission is K60 per head and K30 per head respectively. (NLM 3/25) // Mar. 29: The 34-member team arrived, led by Mr. Muneharu Kusaba. (NLM 3/30) // Mar. 30: Japan beat Myanmar, 4-2. (NLM 3/31)

Hole-in-One

Mar. 4: U Myo Sein scored a hole-in-one Feb. 26 on the Par-3 second hole of the Myanmar Golf Club, using a No. 3 wood. At 70, he is the oldest player to score a hole-in-one on at the Myanmar Golf Club. (NLM 3/5)

HEALTH

Health Articles

Mar. 14: Editorial: It will kill you. ["It will kill you. It is the crusader's message for the careless. Just as hard drugs kill and AIDS kills, there is something else that will kill you. That, of course, is tobacco, whatever form it may take. Teevee watchers were last treated to a rare clip via the satellite in which it was revealed that Western cigarette manufacturers are today known to be shunting out and flooding overseas markets, specially in the developing countries, with their products, much to the detriment of those at the receiving end.... Much has been written about it and a local crusader has even earned himself a UN agency's award for having consistently kept at it, without let-up, educating thousands on the hazards of smoking, and, perhaps saving many.... Even the cheroot which a foreigner was heard to remark as having 'firewood' in it and should not be too dangerous is harmful if you look at it from the doctor's point of view...."]

Mar. 16: Tobacco--The Pernicious Weed, by Dr. Nyunt Nyunt Sein. ["The terrible consequences of smoking are manifold.... The confirmed smoker has a very strong emotional dependence. The physical dependence is negligible. So, to give up tobacco becomes a question of will power."]

Military Medical Conference

Mar. 1: The Fourth annual Myanmar Military Medical Conference began at the Defence Services Orthopaedic and Reconstructive Surgery Hospital in Mingaladon. Adjutant-General Lt-Gen. Myint Aung said "research being carried out by the [Military Technology Development] committee includes all-round research on malaria, research on protecting Tatmadawmen against contagious diseases, research on finding ways and means to enable wounded Tatmadawmen for recovering speedily, research on finding methods to rehabilitate amputees their limbs and research on nutrients for Tatmadawmen." 40 papers will be read at the conference, which will last until Mar. 4. (NLM 3/2)

Mar. 4: The Conference concluded, after hearing 33 papers. (NLM 3/5)

Child Law Cases

Mar. 10: The National Committee on the Rights of the Child held its Meeting No. 1/94 under the Chairmanship of Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Brig-Gen. Thaung Myint, who reviewed past activities. Under the Child Law of July 14, 1993, he said, 105 trainees have attended three courses, and the Social Welfare Department has dealt with 334 out of 339 child cases. (NLM 3/11)

Iodine Deficiency

Mar. 16: Addressing the National Health Committee, Chairman SLORC Secretary-1 Lt-Gen. Khin Nyunt "noted that cases of iodine deficiency were previously confined to the hill regions but they have spread to the plains. He underscored that it is necessary to make efforts for the promulgation of a law in consultation with the departments concerned so that preventive and control measures could be taken. He said Myanmar today is short of doctors and nurses...." (NLM 3/17)

CULTURAL

Cultural and Scientific Articles

Mar. 6,13,20,27: The Cat Family, by Colonel Hla Aung (Rtd). [Cont. (5)-(8) Habits of lions.]

Mar. 10: The Most Effective MASCOT Instrument, by Thukhi Aung. [Mass communications, including movies and music, can serve religion.]

Mar. 23: "Observing the Weather and Climate" by Daw Yi Yi Win. [Activities of the WMO.]

Mar. 26: Tabaung, the month of Sand Pagoda Festival, by Dr. Khin Maung Nyunt. [Tradition of constructing sand pagodas, lasting only a year, during Tabaung; now largely replaced by Pagoda Festivals.]

Publications

Mar. 23: Today: The Magazine on Tourism and Business in Myanmar, March 1994. Cover picture of Strand Hotel, with caption "The Strand Hotel (Myanmar), Managed by Amanresorts." [photograph of cover] (NLM 3/23)

Education

Mar. 7: The 1994 Basic Education High School Examinations began at 824 centres in States and Divisions and 21 centres abroad.

Attending are:

State	Centers	Candidates
Kayah	17	7,192
Kayin	12	4,962
Chin	10	4,647
Sagaing	62	36,378
Tanintharyi	16	5,806
Bago	84	37,592
Magway	62	35,012
Mandalay	108	61,709
Mon	29	16,768
Rakhine	42	13,929
Yangon	239	100,678
Shan	59	18,986
Ayeyarwady	80	39,031

(NLM 3/8)

Mar. 18: The State School of Fine Arts, and the State School of Music and Drama, closed their 1993-94 academic years at the National Theatre. Three year certificates were issued to 47 students; 27 in Fine Arts and 20 who attended Music and Drama. (NLM 3/19)

Mar. 22: the University for Development of National Races (UDNR) held its third convocation at Ywathitkyi, Sagaing Division. UDNR Council Chairman Maj-Gen. Hla Myit Swe conferred MA (Philosophy) degrees on two graduates, and BEd degrees on 28. (NLM 3/23)

Mar. 24: Addressing the Myanmar Education Committee, Chairman SLORC Secretary-1 Lt-Gen. Khin Nyunt said "Today's education sector...is being swallowed and overshadowed by the world of tuitions due to over-selfishness of certain education personnel. The Ministry of Education should find proper means to stop education staff from opening tuition courses, he said.... The remedy for the problem of tuitions will be found as he has received basic points regarding the case at the meeting. Tuition, he singled out, is the main obstacle hindering the education sector's progress. He stressed the need to organize parents not to rely on tuitions for their children's education. A project, he said, should be laid down to eliminate the practice of opening tuition classes. He also urged the Ministry to issue directives warning education staff to stay away from opening tuition classes and that effective action will be taken against them if any problems occurred due to tuitions. He urged personnel concerned to prevent distribution of exam tips at will...." (NLM 3/25)

Buddhism

Feb. 28: The Sacred Tooth of Buddha, now in China, will be brought to Myanmar in March. (NLM 3/1) // Mar. 5: "The tooth will arrive here next month under the friendship and cooperation programme between" China and Myanmar. (NLM 3/6) Mar. 8: At a coordination meeting on the visit of the Sacred Tooth, SLORC Secretary-1 Lt-Gen. Khin Nyunt "said it is an auspicious opportunity to pay obeisance to the Tooth Relic from the PRC and it is the second time to convey it here. He said the occasion will coincide with the presentation of religious titles." There were reports on paying respects to the Tooth

Relic at the airport and conveying it to the reliquary; on elephants to be used; on caparisons for the elephants; on construction and decoration of the reliquary; on messing; on invitations and accommodations; on public donations; on transportation; on information; on health; and on security. (NLM 3/9)

Mar. 10: Donations for buildings to be erected by Myanmar in Lumbini Park, Nepal, the birthplace of the Buddha, total K17,787,827, US\$36,235, DM6,204, ø339, Can\$1,500, SwFr2,025, A\$3,831, and Nepal Rupees 28,500. (NLM 3/11)

Entertainment

Feb. 28: The Pa Pa Win and Gon Cinemas on Sule Pagoda Road, Yangon, suspended showings on Feb. 18. "Hotels of international standard are to be built at the sites." (NLM 3/1)

Mar. 6: Myanmar Ramayana: "Snippets from audience's remarks":

* The performance is very nice and vivid. It is easily understandable and it belongs to the real interesting cultural events. I recommend to edit in pictured programme for foreigners.

Dr. Mullhius Buur, Austria

* This is a very well produced, spectacular programme. It is good that we can see the entire Ramayana in performance, usually it is possible only to see portions of the story. It is especially interesting to be able to compare the Myanmar interpretation in dance with interpretations in India, Thailand and Indonesia.

Dr. Roger Minch, USA

* Such wonderful acting, direction and music making this familiar story easy to follow, exciting and enjoyable.

Lowis Hargan, USA

* Wonderful performance? We had a very nice time, looking at the costumes, the acting and even more with the dancing. Wonderful as well as being able to understand the story although we cannot speak Myanmar language. A peak thank to whole troupe.

Francis & Herve

(NLM 3/6)

TV & VCP Licence Renewals

Mar. 18: Licences for Television Sets and Video Cassette Players must be obtained or renewed within 30 days after expiry or possession, at K120 for TV sets and K60 for VCPs. Holders of licences issued since April 1986 are to renew them in March and April. (NLM 3/19)

Sasana Working Committee

Mar. 22: Addressing the fifth meeting of the Third State Central Working Committee of Sangha, Minister for Religious Affairs Lt-Gen. Myo Nyunt noted that SLORC Law No. 20/90 "will ensure lasting existence of Sangha organization at different levels and protect them against all destructive attempts. He then supplicated on all positive endeavours made for the promotion of the Sasana and introduction of monastic education in more than 100 townships. He elaborated on the steps taken to perform Buddhist missionary duties and success achieved. The Minister also informed progress in the general renovation of the Maha Wizaya Pagoda. (NLM 3/23)

Mar. 23: The following were elected to officers of the State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee:

Chairman Sayadaw: Myingyan Koesaungtaik Sayadaw Bhaddanta Sobhita

Vice-Chairman Sayadaw: Bahan Aungmyebonsan Kyaungtaik Sayadaw Agga

Maha Pandita Bhaddanta Panyindabhivamsa

Secretary Sayadaw: Thanlyin Minkyaung Pathamabyan Sarthintaik Sayadaw

Agga Maha Pandita Bhaddanta Vannasiri

Joint Secretary Sayadaw: Nyaungdon Punnama Yama Zaykyangtaik Sayadaw

Agga Maha Pandita Bhaddanta Osadhabhivamsa.

(NLM 3/24)

Mar. 24: As the session concluded, the following were elected members of the Committee:

Sayadaw Agga Maha Pandita Bhaddanta Panya Thiha of Yadana

Manaung Kyaung of Pyin-Oo-Lwin;

Maha Ganthavasaca Pandita Bhaddanta Uyadhamma. (NLM 3/25)

MISCELLANEOUS

Sunday and Holiday Supplements

Mar. 6,13,20: Let us rally around the Tatmadaw, build and defend the country, by Minye Kaungbon. [Cont. (30) British ultimatum of 1885. (31) British exploitation of oil and minerals. (32) British exploitation of transport.]

Mar. 6: Pumping up river water for agriculture, by Shwe Nagar Tin Win. [Design for an irrigation pump.]

-- Striving to develop Wa area in Mongmo region: Feasibility of hydel power plans under study, by Yarzar Nyein Chan. [Visit to area.]

-- Tabuhla (Okkan) reservoir dam designed to irrigate 52,000 acres, by Ahtet Minhla Nyunt Aung. [Project in Taikkyi Twp. {Yangon}.]

-- Power tillers to benefit multiple cropping of paddy, by Reporter Thant Zin. [Introduction of hand-guided power tillers.]

-- From Popa to all parts of the country, by Than Saung (Myanma Agricultural Service). ["Greening" projects in arid areas.]

Mar. 13: -- Unusual spectacle at Twantay fish-ponds, by Myint Thura. [A 3,000 gallons per minute pump.]

-- The Mongmo primary school under the flag of the Union of Myanmar, by Yarzar Nyein Chan. [Symbolic meaning of the Myanmar flag.]

-- A tumultuous labour contribution programme, by Ahtet Minhla Nyunt Aung. [Voluntary labour building a dam in Taikkyi Township.]

-- Gyogon irrigation canal, by Myint Lwin Thein (Pyawbwe). [Voluntary labour digging the canal.]

-- Dams and reservoirs in eastern sector of Thalwin, by Taungdwin Bo Thein. [More dams.]

Mar. 20: -- Soonloon Dam will re-forest Central Myanmar dry zone, by Khin Maung Than (Sethmu). [3,100 foot irrigation dam project near Myingyan.]

-- Let us burn reeds and brushwood into charcoal and reclaim land, by Shwe Nagar Tin Win. [Save forests, by using paddy-husk burners developed by IRRI.]

-- Taungnyo reservoir dam in another special construction project, by Ahtet Minhla Nyunt Aung. [2,700 foot dam project in Nattalin Twp., Bago Division, that will irrigate 50,000 acres.]

-- Paddy sold en masse in Wetlet, by Tin Win Shwe. [Gesture hailing the Union Solidarity and Development Association.]

-- Success achieved by Yangon Garment Factory, by Tekkatho Chit Swe. [Joint venture that has produced 766,485 garments valued at US\$8 million, with a profit of \$555,000.]

-- Minimizing loss and wastage of paddy, by Ko Ko Oo. [Importance of timing, care in transport, etc.]

Mar. 27 [Tatmadaw Day]: -- Importance of the Tatmadaw in future Myanmar, by Hnin Kethara. ["Our Myanmar Tatmadaw differs from Tatmadaws of many other countries. It is an audacious and selfless Tatmadaw born of the blood of generations of heroes who had waged armed revolutions for 124 years from 1924 till 1948. And also during the 46 years from 1948 to 1994, our Tatmadaw has won outstanding victories in defence of independence and national sovereignty (e.g. anti-KMT campaigns), and in the war against insurgency (e.g. Sisiwan-Tarpan-Point 6041-Mongyang campaign, Methawaw campaign, etc)."]

-- More and more success being achieved by Tatmadaw and people, by Ko Soe. [Objectives of Tatmadaw Day: (1) to preserve noble and glorious traditions of the Tatmadaw; (2) to uphold Our Three Main National Causes; (3) to strive for emergency of the State Constitution; and (4) to participate in the national political leadership role of the future State.]

-- The People's Tatmadaw, by Maung Dawna. [History of the Tatmadaw.]
-- Preserving the glorious and noble traditions of Tatmadaw, by Thein Htut. ["It is necessary on the part of the people to render all-out assistance to the Tatmadaw in performing its tasks.]
-- Valiant Tatmadaw shouldering dual responsibilities, by Min Kyaw Min. [Military and governmental.]

Crime

Mar. 9: Five men were arrested Jan. 8 for stealing and illegally selling Buddha statues and artifacts from pagodas in Bagan-Nyaung-U Township. Stolen were a 13th century 6 inch bronze Buddha from Ashemyauk-daunk Pagoda on the premises of the Mingalzedi Pagoda, sold Dec. 20 for K40,000; a 4« inch Bagan era bronze Pyinsalawka Buddha, sold for K170,000, and an 11 inch Inwa era bronze statue, sold for K80,000, on Dec. 31; a wooden hintha bird figure from the Ashemyaukdaunk Pagoda sold for K10,000, etc. Many statues and artifacts were lost from Bagan-Nyaung-U in 1993, and 50 percent of the cases involved Sayadaw U Kesava (a) Khin Lat of Minkyaung, Myinkaba Village, where 78 artifacts and 10 statues were found. The stolen statues were smuggled out of Myanmar along the Mandalay-Meiktila-Taunggyi-Kengtung-Tachilek Road, with the illegal business centered in Mandalay and Taunggyi. (NLM 3/10)

Anti-Narcotics Activities

Mar. 1: 7.4 kilos of opium were seized Feb. 16 in Namhkam Twp. [Shan]. 2.0 kilos of heroin were seized Feb. 17 in a jeep between Namhkam and Bhamo. (NLM 3/2)
Mar. 2: In February the Tatmadaw and others destroyed 110.5 acres of opium fields in North-East, Eastern, and North-West Commands [details]. 16.5 kilos of opium were seized Feb. 23 on a boat in Bhamo, as it was leaving for Mandalay. (NLM 3/3)
Mar. 4: 58.6 kilos of opium was seized Feb. 23-24 in Mohnyin [Kachin]. (NLM 3/5)
Mar. 5: 2.9 litres of Phencodyl were seized Mar. 1 in Taunggyi. (NLM 3/6)
Mar. 6: The Tatmadaw seized 126 kilos of opium in Pinlaung on Feb. 18. (NLM 3/7)
Mar. 7: The Tatmadaw on Feb. 21 seized 238 bottles of Phensedyl in Muse. (NLM 3/ 8)
Mar. 9: Drug-related offences vs the value of testimony of co-accused, by KMO. [Summary of recent anti-narcotics activity. Survey of legal cases on the topic, to the effect that "an accused could be convicted on the testimony of co-accused worthy of credit."]
Mar. 10: Poppy substitution crops of sugarcane, beans and pulses, chillies, and sesamum are to be grown on 2,000 acres in Kokang and Wa regions of Shan State (North). (NLM 3/11)
Mar. 11: 16.5 kilos of raw opium were seized Feb. 23 in Bhamo, on a boat about to leave for Mandalay. 8.2 kilos of raw opium were seized Feb. 24 in Mohnyin. (NLM 3/12)
Mar. 14: 2.3 kilos of opium were seized Feb. 6 at the Mandalay Railway Station. (NLM 3/15)
Mar. 15: The term "possession of narcotic drugs" defined by Full Bench of the Supreme Court, by KMO. [When is knowledge of drugs on the premises to be presumed.]
Mar. 17: 122 bottles of Phensedyl were seized Mar. 5 in Mandalay. 7.8 kilos of raw opium were seized Feb. 25 in Mohnyin Twp. [Kachin]. (NLM 3/18)
Mar. 18: 5.7 kilos of opium was seized in Mandalay Railway Station on Feb. 27. (NLM 3/19)
Mar. 19: 15.1 kilos of raw opium were seized Mar. 7 in Mohnyin. (NLM 3/20)
Mar. 21: During February 1994, the Tatmadaw seized 1.4 kilos of heroin, 143.3 kilos of opium, 0.0002 kilo of marijuana, and 59.5 litres of Phensedyl. The Police seized 22.8 kilos of heroin (175

cases), 157.1 kilos of opium (53 cases), 39.7 kilos of marijuana (30 cases), 160.4 litres of Phensedyl (17 cases), 92.3 litres of Phencodine (2 cases), 0.03 litre of Mesadine (1 case), and 0.2 kilo of heavy opium (2 cases). There were 90 cases of failure to register for treatment and 8 other drug-related cases. The police took action against 523 people in 385 drug-related cases. (NLM 3/22)

Mar. 29: The Tatmadaw on Mar. 25 seized 10 packets of Kyet-hnit-Kaung Kabalone brand heroin, 13.4 kilos of Chinthe brand heroin block, and 77.6 kilos of raw opium in Tachilek. (NLM 3/30)

Obituaries

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

Jan. 15: Daw Khin Htwa (Lucy), wife of the late U Tun Nyein (a) Gunner, died in her home in N. Carolina, U.S.A., aged 71. (NLM 3/9)

Mar. 1: U Saw Aung, Sittwe, Retired Managing Director, Printing and Publishing Enterprise, died in Yangon, aged 78. (NLM 3/2)

Mar. 5: Daw Rahimabi (a) Daw Hla Yee, wife of the late Hajee U Nyi Nyi, died in Yangon, aged 60. [Muslim] (NLM 3/8)

No date: Daw Khin Khin Ni, died in Yangon, aged 69. [Message of Thanks to Hospital] (NLM 3/9)

Mar. 10: State Ovacariya Abhidhaja Maha Ratta Guru Joint Shwekyin Sasanapaing Pyay Withokdayon Bayanathi Kyaungtaik Sayadaw Bhaddanta Ananda Panditabhivamsa died at Masoeyein Shwekyin Kyaungtaik. [article] (NLM 3/12)

Mar. 11: Syed Wazir Ahmed (a) U Ba Tun (Thayet), Chief Cashier (Branch Bank 2) Cooperative Bank Ltd., husband of Daw Than Kyi, died in Yangon, aged 68. [Muslim] (NLM 3/13)

Mar. 14: Thettawshay Sayadaw Abaya Thukha Kyaungtaik Sayadaw Bhaddanta Arindama, vassa 94, of Kyaukkyi [Bago], died in Yangon, aged 115. [article] (NLM 3/ 16)

Mar. 27: Mr. V.D. Taylor, DTM (Rtd) MR, husband of Mrs. H. Taylor (a) Daw Khin Htay, died in Yangon, aged 75. [Anglican] (NLM 3/28)

Mar. 28: Mr. C. Haslam (Mr. Shorty), Retd. Aviation Supdt (MPPE), husband of Daw Saw Nu, died in Sittwe, aged 74. (NLM 3/29)

Mar. 30: Lillian Thwin (a) Khin Lay Thwin, (2nd S.E.A.P. Gold Medalist {Swimming}), died in Yangon, aged 49. (NLM 3/31)

Earthquake and Fire

Mar. 10: An earthquake of moderate intensity (5.9 Richter) was reported at 06:16:16 local time, with epicenter 963 miles NW of Yangon. (NLM 3/11)

Mar. 12: Fire destroyed 21 houses in Waingmaw Twp. [Kachin] on Feb. 26. (NLM 3/13)

Miscellany

Mar. 17: The Myanmar Atomic Energy Committee held its Meeting No. 1/94 at the Central Research Organization. Committee Patron Minister for Education Col. Pe Thein spoke. Chairman Deputy Education Minister Col. Kyi Maung said 19 atomic experts were sent abroad in 1993 "so that they may be able to handle and make use of equipment related to atomic energy most effectively," in collaboration with the IAEA. "He said efforts are being made to draw up an atomic energy law like the Drug Law and Electricity Law, as it is necessary for such a law to exist so that atomic energy equipment could be obtained, safely maintained, transported and made use of and disposed of." (NLM 3/18)

Mar. 18: Theingi Chit (Sweetie), daughter of U Chit Hoe and Daw Thawda Thin (June), married Maung Pe Tun (Andy), son of Dr. Pe Nyun and Daw Kyi Kyi Nyun, at North York City Courts, Toronto, Canada, on 18 March 1994. (NLM 3/19)

Mar. 19: The Myanmar Pepsi Fashion Competition was held, jointly sponsored by the Myanmar Women's Sports Federation and Pepsi Cola Products Myanmar Ltd., at National Stadium No. 1. "Those taking part in the competitions wore fashionable Myanmar dresses made of

local materials and in accordance with Myanmar culture." Chosen as Pepsi Fashion Queen was Malar Oo, who also won K30,000. (NLM 3/20)

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EDITORIAL CORRESPONDENCE

Editorial correspondence, and requests for full texts of articles, should be sent to:

Hugh C. MacDougall

32 Elm Street

Cooperstown, NY 13326