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BURMA PRESS SUMMARY

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Table of Contents

POLITICAL CRISIS

Slogans	2
Political Articles	2
Returnees from Bangladesh	2
Prisoners Released	3
Special Refresher Courses	3
USDA	3
Two Expatriates Return	3
Peace Call to KNU	4
Talks with National Race Leaders	5
NATIONAL CONVENTION	
National Convention Proceedings	5
Papers from Representatives-elect	5
Clarifications	13
Clarification by U Aung Toe	29
Final Compilation of Principles	40
Closing Speech by Lt-Gen. Myo Nyunt	45

DIPLOMATIC

Diplomatic Calls	48
New Ambassadors to Myanmar	48
New Myanmar Ambassadors	48
Myanmar Diplomats Exhorted	48

INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

Workshops	50
Foreign Donations	50
Border Demarcation News	51
FOREIGN VISITORS	
International Agency Visitors	51
Cultural and Medical Visitors	51
Business Visitors	51
Religious Delegations	51
Foreign Journalists	52
Malaysian Parliamentarians	52
German Parliamentarian	52
Philippine Foreign Secretary	52
Sacred Tooth	52
Indonesian Forestry Minister	53
Thai Foreign Minister	53
Singapore Tax Delegation	53
Japanese Parliamentarian	53

MYANMAR DELEGATIONS

Study Delegations	53
Religious Delegations	54
Delegations to Meetings & Events	54
Delegations Return	55
Delegation to GATT	55
Deputy Minister to Vietnam & Laos	55

MYANMAR GAZETTE

Probationary Appointments	56
Appointments Confirmed	56

GOVERNMENT

Citizens Investment Law	56
Gen. Than Shwe Visits Mandalay Area	56

SLORC Vice Chairman Named	56
Auditor-General Replaced	56
Education Minister Transferred	57
New Education Minister	57
Three New Deputy-Ministers	57
MILITARY	
Attacks by Armed Groups	57
Surrenders by Armed Group Members	57
Gen. Than Shwe Addresses Officers	57
ECONOMIC	
Economic Articles	58
Project Inaugurations	58
Advertisements	59
Joint Ventures & Foreign Investments	59
Myanmar Trade Fair 94	59
Gems	59
Tourism	60
Wages, Prices, and Corruption	60
Palm Oil Imports	60
Development in Sagaing Division	60
Railways	60
Rainfall in Yangon	60
SPORTS	
Sports Articles	61
Myanmar Teams and Delegations	61
Foreign Teams and Delegations	61
Martial Arts Institute	61
HEALTH	
Health Articles	61
Cholera	61
Phencodin Declared Narcotic	62
CULTURAL	
Cultural and Scientific Articles	62
Universities	62
Thingyan	62
Relics Recovered	63
Myanmar Computer Fonts	63
MISCELLANEOUS	
Sunday and Holiday Supplements	63
Crime	64
Anti-Narcotics Activities	64
Obituaries	64
Fires	64
Earthquake	64

-- Issues for April 15, 16, and 18 not received.

HIGHLIGHTS

-- National Convention Plenary Session heard final proposal papers from Representatives-elect delegates group [full text]. It reconvened Apr. 5 to hear "clarifications" from the Panel of Chairmen on the draft Constitutional chapters the State, State Structure, and Head of State [extended excerpts]. On Apr. 9 it heard extended "clarifications" on what had been decided by U Aung Toe, including a final listing of basic principles for the three Constitutional chapters [full text], and a concluding address by Lt-Gen. Myo Nyunt [full text], before adjourning to Sept. 2. [NATIONAL CONVENTION]

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.

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:

Apr. 1-2: Panditanan ca sevana, to associate with the wise; this is the way to auspiciousness.

Apr. 3-17: Puja ca pujaneyyanam, to honour those worthy of honour; this is the way to auspiciousness.

Apr. 18-30: Patirupadesavaso ca, to dwell in suitable locality; this is the way to auspiciousness.

Apr. 10: Senior General Than Shwe's good counsel:

p To make research to distribute the seed paddy practically beneficial and suited to geographical conditions of the country.

p To expand cultivation of cotton, and in doing so, to take care not to affect cultivation of other crops.

p To spread the year-round paddy cultivation system extensively among farmers.

p For the farmers to spend their increasing income properly and usefully.

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:

Apr. 22-25: Five tasks accomplished by National Convention, by Maung Kyi Lin. [(1) The National Convention, from Jan. 9, 1993-Apr. 9, 1994, has accomplished five tasks: allocation of Chapter Headings for the State Constitution, laid down principles as base for formulating State fundamental principles, and laid down "principles to serve as base" for the three chapters "The State", "The State Structure", and "The Head of State." These results spelled out in detail. Fundamental principles listed {Nos. 1-12}. (2) Fundamental principles continued {Nos. 13-32}. (3) Principles for "The State" and "The State Structure" chapters. (4) Principles for "The Head of State."]

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.]

Apr. 6: 177 persons from 40 households returned to Kanyinchaung camp on Apr. 4 "under the agreement reached between Myanmar and Bangladesh," bringing the total of persons returned since Sept. 22, 1992, to 53,586, from 12,030 households. (NLM 4/7)

Apr. 7: 75 persons from 17 households returned to Kanyinchaung camp on Apr. 6, bringing the total to 53,661. (NLM 4/8)

Apr. 11: 194 persons from 36 households returned to Kanyinchaung camp on Apr. 9, bringing the total to 53,855. (NLM 4/12)

Apr. 19: 289 persons from 57 households returned to Kanyinchaung camp on Apr. 12, bringing the total to 54,244. (NLM 4/20)

Apr. 21: 225 persons from 53 households returned to Kanyinchaung camp on Apr. 20, bringing the total to 54,571. (NLM 4/22)

Prisoners Released

Apr. 23: 33 inmates were released from Myaungmya Jail on Apr. 22, after their terms were reduced under SLORC Declaration No. 11/92. (NLM 4/24)

Apr. 26: 7 inmates were released from Insein Central Jail under Declaration No. 11/92.

Special Refresher Courses

Apr. 2: Special Refresher Course No. 7 for Senior Assistant Teachers and Junior Assistant Teachers ended with a speech by SLORC Secretary-1 Lt-Gen. Khin Nyunt. "He spoke of the persons thinking highly of foreigners, foreign literature, culture and arts and the persons willing to be lackeys of foreign organizations and attempts of neo-colonialist nations to penetrate into the nation with the use of political, economic and social weapons and said these are instances of moral degradation.... The duty of teachers is not enough just to teach but to guide their students to have proper behaviour, tell them about worldly ethics and religious teachings to rid them of vice and evil deeds. He spoke of fine traditions in Myanmar society such as cooperation and helpfulness in social and religious affairs, unity and harmony of communal living, being humble to seniors and respect to juniors, etc., especially still found in rural areas, of preserving cultural traditions and observing social code of conduct.... The Secretary-1 spoke of bad consequences of practice among some teachers who are organizing private tuition classes outside school hours, saying that such practice tends to breed divisions among students who attend private classes and who cannot afford such extra education, rivalry between teachers, contempt and inferiority complex felt by poor students. He reminded them that such bad practice of private tuition system is posing a threat to the entire education system as an endemic eroding the student-teacher-parent triangle stature, saying that overshadowing of private tuition on examination system is improper and contemptible. He said plans are under way for eradicating the extra-school education system through administration and cooperation and called on teachers to have goodwill, morals and righteousness over their students...." (NLM 4/3)

Apr. 25: Special Refresher Course No. 3/ 94 for Internal Revenue Department Officers opened, with 80 State/Division revenue officers attending the three-week course at the Internal Revenue Department training hall. Minister for Finance and Revenue Brig-Gen. Win Tin called on officers to check accounts of private entrepreneurs, explain to businessmen their duty to pay taxes, and avoid bribery. (NLM 4/26)

Apr. 28: Special Refresher Course No. 8 for Basic Education Teachers opened at the Central Institute of Civil Service, and was addressed by SLORC Secretary-1 Lt-Gen. Khin Nyunt. He said, inter alia, that political science and political history courses should deal with "the colonial government's enslavement, anti-imperialist movement of the people equipped with patriotism and Union spirit, interfering acts of neo-colonialists and the Tatmadaw's effective performance of historic duties." He reviewed the economic and political scene, and said Myanmar will in a few years be a modern, developed nation. 1,500 trainees are attending the 4-week course. (NLM 4/29)

USDA

Apr. 5: Trainees of Management Course No. 1/94 for Executive Committee members of Union Solidarity and Development Associations went on a study tour around Yangon. (NLM 4/6)

Two Expatriates Return

Apr. 1: Two expatriates from Sein Win's group returned to the legal fold. They are U Myint Maung, "agriculture, forestry and environmental conservation in-charge" of Sein Win's expatriate group (Hluttaw representative-elect from Einme Township Constituency 2), who returned via Kawthoung [Tanintharyi] on Mar. 26, and U Khaung Saw Tun, CEC member of the Arakan Liberation Party (ALP) and joint secretary of the information committee of the Democratic Alliance of Burma (DAB), who returned via Yangon on Mar. 29 [details]. (NLM 4/2)

Apr. 10: They gave a press conference. U Myint Maung said he "decided to surrender or return to the legal fold due to anger, depression and downheartedness felt in his jungle life." He told how

he had joined the National Coalition Government of the Union of Burma (NCGUB) following his arrival in Manerplaw, which eventually had eleven Ministers. During the past year, however, Ministers U Win Ko and U Hla Pe died and U Peter Limbin was dismissed, leaving eight-- Dr. Sein Win and U Bo Hla Tint in the USA, U Tun Oo, U Hla Oo, and U Thein Oo in Bangkok, Dr. San Aung in Chiangmai, and he and U Maung Maung Aye in Manerplaw. Although he was 57, six years older than Dr. Sein Win, he was forced to remain in Manerplaw, "suffering malaria and deficiency of food." When the National League for Democracy (Liberated Area) {NLD(LA)} was formed, members of the Central Organizing Committee (COC) were supposed to have been former state or division organizers. But Dr. San Aung, Ko Than Htut, Maung Maung Aye, and U Win Kywe were named despite not being organizers. At first there were 10 COCs; now there are only five: Chairman U Win Khet in the USA, and Secretary U Sein Aung, U Than Htut, U Han Saw Oo, and U Myint Aung in Manerplaw. As to the National Democratic Front (NDF), the Chairman in Nai Shwe Kyin of the New Mon State Party, who is over 80, and not active. At the DAB, Chairman Bo Mya had to run things because Chairman Brang Seng and Nai Shwe Kyin could not easily get to Manerplaw. The broadest organization was the National Council of Union of Burma (NCUB), formed of NDF, DAB, NCGUB, and NLD(LA). It had 72 members. There were four Chairmen: Nai Shwe Kyin, Brang Seng, Bo Mya, and Dr. Sein Win. Brang Seng is no longer there. There were four secretaries: U Tin Aung as secretary and P'doh Mehn Sha, U Thein Oo of NCGUB, and Dr. Tu Ja of KIO (who did not show up because "peace was restored with this side"). The DAB is in chaos. U Ye Kyaw Thu is in Chiangmai, and he does not know where U Tin Maung Win is. NGOs [Non Governmental Organizations--HCMacD.] provide all the money, about 1.5-1.7 million baht a year. The Thai authorities (second or third echelon) will not allow Dr. Sein Win and U Bo Hla Tint to return from America, unless they obtain non-Myanmar passports. Nai Shwe Kyin's New Mon State Party "has held talks with the [Myanmar] government once and is now preparing for their second." Top leaders in the KNU are Bo Mya, P'doh Ba Thin, P'dou San Lin, Bo Maung Maung, Bo Tablapaw, and U Tin Oo. They are willing to accept the Government's peace offer made by SLORC Secretary-1 Lt-Gen. Khin Nyunt, "but it is unknown when contact will be made with the government as it is a top secret." U Khaing Saw Tun told his story. (NLM 4/11)

Peace Call to KNU

Apr. 5: SLORC Secretary-1 Lt-Gen. Khin Nyunt visited the Hpa-an area of Kayin State, and met with village elders and others from Hpa-an and Kawkareik Districts. "He had been assigned duties in the area ten years ago, he said, and that it is deplorable to see that the area has not achieved any significant progress since then.

"Battles and skirmishes between the Tatmadaw and armed groups often occurred at villages in the area, in which both sides suffered casualties and wounded, he said, and added that the regional people became victims and their villages destroyed.

"More villages, he stated, are being deserted and destroyed as villagers abandon their villages and move to safer places, saying that due to armed groups active in the area the government cannot expedite Kayin State's development....

"{After reviewing peace agreements and negotiations with KIO, Shan State armed groups, and Kayah and Mon armed groups} he stated that KNU armed groups have never responded to the government's offer to negotiate for peace in the region....

"Armed struggling line used by armed groups in Kayin State for nearly 40 years only drags the state deeper and deeper into poverty and backwardness, he said.

"Now is the time all remaining armed groups, he pointed out, should understand the State's cetana and join hands with the government for the development of their respective regions, saying that high ranking authorities will tour their regions for close supervision of development activities that will be carried out there.

"With the conviction that they are responsible for striving intensively for their region's progress, for ensuring peace and tranquillity for their brethren, for re-establishing deserted villages, for ensuring peaceful pursuit of education for youths, they should return to the legal fold and join hands with the government for regional development, he said...." (NLM 4/6)

Talks with National Race Leaders

Apr. 24: A ministerial delegation led by SLORC Secretary-1 Lt-Gen. Khin Nyunt flew to Panhkam (Pangsan) to meet with Wa national leader U Pau Yu Chan and others, and visited development projects. (NLM 4/25)

Apr. 25: A TV retransmission station was commissioned at Laukkai on Apr. 24. Kokang national leader U Yang Moe Lian met with SLORC Secretary-1 Lt-Gen. Khin Nyunt and the ministers. The group then went to Mongmao and were welcomed by Wa national leader U Kyauk Nyi Lai. The next day they continued to Mangton, Namtu Township, and met with Palaung national leader U Aik Mon. They also inspected projects in Lashio before returning to Yangon. (NLM 4/26)

NATIONAL CONVENTION

National Convention Proceedings

Mar. 31: The Plenary Session continued, with 654 of 694 delegates present. Proposal papers were presented by members of the Representatives-elect Delegates Group, representing the National League for Democracy, Shan Nationalities League for Democracy, three independent Hluttaw representatives-elect [see full texts below]. The Alternate Chairman then "clarified future tasks," noting that 53 proposal papers dealing with the chapters the State, State Structure, and Head of State had been presented from Mar. 23-25 and Mar. 28-31. The Panel of Chairmen will "scrutinize and compile their suggestions" and "present clarification for easily understanding by all delegates." This clarification will be made on April 5, and the delegates will be informed when the Plenary Session will resume. (NLM 4/1)

Apr. 1: The Panel of Chairmen scrutinized the proposal papers submitted by delegate groups on the three chapters the State, State Structure and Head of State. (NLM 4/2)

Apr. 2: Scrutinization of proposal papers continued. (NLM 4/3)

Apr. 3: The Plenary Session will reconvene on Apr. 5. (NLM 4/4)

Apr. 4: Minister for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs Lt-Gen. Maung Thint, who is Vice-Chairman of the National Convention Convening Commission, met with the following "leaders of national groups": U Lu Kwe Shee of Special Region 1; U Aung Myint of Special Region 2; U Sai Nong of Special Region 3; U Sai Lin of Special Region 4; U Mahtu Naw of Special Region 5; U Aung Kham Hti of Special Region 6; U Ai Mong of Special Region 7; U Mangkyi Zawng Khawng of Kachin Special Region 1, and U Gabriel Byan of Kayan Organization. Scrutinization of proposal papers concluded. (NLM 4/5)

Apr. 5: The Plenary Session reconvened, with 645 of 693 delegates present. Members of the Panel Chairmen "appraised and clarified" on proposal papers [see texts below]. Note was taken of the death of Bago Division Divisional Judge U Khin Soe of the intelligentsia and intellectuals delegates group on Apr. 4 in Yangon General Hospital. (NLM 4/6)

Apr. 6: The Plenary Session met, with 648 of 693 delegates present, and heard further clarifications from the Panel of Chairmen [see below]. (NLM 4/7)

Apr. 7: The Plenary session met, with 641 of 693 delegates present, to hear further clarifications from the Panel of Chairmen [see below]. (NLM 4/8)

Apr. 8: The Plenary session met, with 643 of 693 delegates present, to hear further clarifications from the Panel of Chairmen [see below]. (NLM 4/9)

Apr. 9: The Plenary session, met, with 643 of 693 delegates present, to hear an extended "clarification" of what had been decided by Chairman of the Working Committee U Aung Toe [full text below], and a concluding address by Chairman of the Convening Commission Lt-Gen. Myo Nyunt [full text below]. The National Convention was then adjourned to Sept. 2, 1994. SLORC Secretary-1 Lt-Gen. Khin Nyunt hosted a dinner for the delegates. (NLM 4/10)

Papers from Representatives-elect

Mar. 31 [full text, as presented in NLM]: 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.

Representatives-elect of NLD

Dr. Thein Lwin, representative-elect of the National League for Democracy and delegate of the representatives-elect group, submitted the proposal paper on the chapters the State, State Structure and Head of State.

Dr. Thein Lwin:

[Definitions]

Regarding the chapter the State, he quoted Scientist Strong as stating: "A State is a society politically organized (and) a society may be defined as an association of human beings. The State exists for the society and not society for the State."

He also quoted Professor MacIver who said: "A State is the fundamental association for the maintenance and development of social order, and to this end its central institution is endowed with the united power of the community..."

According to Woodrow Wilson, "A State is a people organized for law within a definite territory", he said.

He also quoted Joshi, scholar in political science, as saying: "A State is a politically organized independent community occupying a certain territory. Internally its authority is supreme and externally it owes obedience to nobody."

The term "externally it owes obedience to nobody", is worthy of note, he said. These points are presented to describe the requirements in detail to become a State.

As regards the use of the term "Union", he said:

Myanmar is organized with numerous nationality groups and the State will be established under the Pyidaungsu (Union) system. Hence, the State should be called the Republic of the Union of Myanmar.

U Tun Aung (a) U Tun Tun Hein:

[Definitions]

U Tun Aung (a) U Tun Tun Hein, representative-elect of the NLD of the representatives-elect delegates group, submitted the paper dealing with the chapter State Structure.

He said: In drafting a constitution, a nation concerned has to observe and evaluate, in minute detail, pleasant and bitter experiences of the nation up to the time of drafting the constitution, present political, economic and social conditions, and the wishes, aspirations and the needs of the people.

I then quoted constitution expert Wheare as writing: "A constitution is the resultant of a parallelogram of forces -- political, economic and social which operate at the time of its adoption."

According to an expert in political science, "...To call a state a democratic state if the effective power in it is ultimately in the hands of its people...", he said.

Furthermore, he also quoted the expert as saying: "Democracy is more conducive to the enrichment of individual human personality, that ensures the higher measure of human dignity..."

The delegate cautioned that care must be taken to avoid disintegration into pieces as in the case of Yugoslavia in designating self-administered zones. He stressed the need to be in

accord with the wishes and aspirations of all the nationalities and the public of the areas concerned.

U Saw Oo Reh:

[Definitions]

U Saw Oo Reh, representative-elect of the NLD of the representatives-elect delegates group, continued to discuss the chapter State Structure.

He said: It will be objective method and in accordance with the democratic practices for the people to elect the executives of the nation freely and fairly.

He quoted a similar view of an expert in political science Arend Liphart: "...Divided societies...need peaceful coexistence among the contending ethnic groups. This requires conciliation and compromise, goals that in turn require the greatest possible inclusion of representatives of these groups in the decision-making process..."

He also quoted another expert as saying: "Everyone wants to participate in decisions that affect them, fewer and fewer people will accept decision dictated by someone else."

The delegate then cited the world's positive developments including direct negotiations among the warring factions such as three ethnic groups of Bosnia-Herzegovina, those of Palestine and Israel, those of Mozambique, Angola, South Africa and Mexico.

He then presented the remarks of the world leaders. He quoted British Prime Minister John Major as saying: "It is a victory for realism over extremism, for common sense over confrontation... Set an example in search of solutions to the most intractable conflicts..."

He then quoted former Prime Minister of Singapore Lee Kuan Yew as saying: "...The lesson is that there are no external hostilities..."

He also quoted Mexican President Mr. Carlos Salinas de Gortari as saying: "The will for peace and harmony overcomes even the oldest rivalries and conflicts. The fact that two people, separated for generations by an intense conflict and by the intense passions of diversity, can sit down to negotiate and successfully work out their disagreements in a civilized manner is without doubt a lesson for the rest of the world..."

The delegate said they were engaged in negotiations for attaining peace and for the progress and development of the nation and the people. In our nation too, he said, the government is holding talks with armed groups of the jungles in search of solutions for the nation's welfare. These are favourable conditions for internal peace. This is a practice of the world nations to solve internal or external problems through face-to-face negotiations. There is no other way to find a correct solution, he said.

He said the main foundation of democracy is the right to manage own affairs. In other words, he said, it is assigning of duty to the government of the people elected by the people.

He then quoted President Suharto of Indonesia. "President Suharto of Indonesia said at the Golkar Party's Congress held in October 1993 that ..."development must constitute activities that are initiated by the people and carried out by the people for their prosperity."

He quoted Joshi, an expert in political science, as saying: "To announce that democracy begins tomorrow is meaningless, if no attempt, however slight, is made today to bring it into being."

He quoted political analysts Jacobson and Lippman as saying that the electorate constitutes political sovereignty.

U Hla Min:

[One Vice-President enough]

U Hla Min, representative-elect of the NLD of the representatives-elect delegates group, next presented the paper on the State President.

He said: One Vice-President will be enough for Myanmar. Even developed nations, like the United States, have only one Vice-President.

Election of a President by electoral college, he said, will amount to election by people who have been authorized to do so on behalf of the people. It will be in accordance with democratic practices. The President elected and assigned by the Hluttaw has to take the oath of office before the Hluttaw, faces impeachment by the Hluttaw, has to prepare a list of his possessions with value stated and submit it to the leader of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw. He has to work in contact with the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw in attending to these matters. This is most appropriate and shows he is responsible to the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw.

The delegate said the NLD would like to note that the people of Myanmar have never experienced the presidential rule. They have experienced only the parliamentary democracy system and they have come to realize the advantages and disadvantages of that system. The nation will benefit if the advantages are taken and the disadvantages overcome. Care must be taken in the structure of the presidential rule right from the beginning.

He then singled out the main points namely, the nation's politics is to ensure its perpetuity and develop its economy, education, technology and so on; the nation's economy is to bring about equitable development; and to ensure social development of the nation and competence.

He emphasized that unity of the entire nation is indispensable for national development. At the same time there should be political stability, internal peace, the rule of law, advancement with added momentum based on economic stability and firm foundation, people's observance of discipline and performance of duties in unity. Above all, worldly and democratic values must flourish, he said.

Moreover, he said, it should be in accordance with the following: "Government is the sacred trust of the people, the authority for which is derived from the people, the powers of which are exercised by the representatives of the people. This is a universal principle of mankind..."

Finally, the delegate proposed that it should be in accordance with the wishes and aspirations of the entire national people and that all should not lose sight of points calling for flourishing of the genuine multiparty democracy and the worldly values such as justice, liberty and equality as contained in the objectives of the National Convention.

Representatives-elect of Shan NLD

[Self-administered areas scheme opposed; only one Vice-President; direct elections; eight state federal system]

U Sai Aung Hsi (a) U Nelson and U Sai Hpa (a) U Hla Pe, representatives-elect of the Shan Nationalities League for Democracy of the representatives-elect delegates group next presented the paper dealing with the State Structure. He said the basic principle in paragraph 5 namely, 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, is not in agreement with the proposal of the party.

He then discussed the matter as follows:

(a) In connection with the term "other than national races who have already got states," Shan State is not the one which has been granted statehood but it has been stood as a state; it has been incorporated into the Union according to the Panglong Agreement.

(b) In our opinion, although a national race has got a state it should be given the autonomous region and the right of administrative autonomy or should be given a national area and the right of cultural autonomy if it resides together in communities on the same common area of land in other state or division. It is proposed so because there are nationalities who meet the requirements mentioned.

(c) In reviewing the regions and states, it is found that Bamar national race is the only race that does not have a region or state of its own. According to the principles already laid down, it

is likely that future generations of Bamar national race may demand self-administered areas. A constitution should be vivid and the provisions contained in it should not be contrary to one another. If they are not clear and vivid at present they may be complicated in the future. A thorough study of this point indicates that this has been because no state has been established for the Bamar national race.

If the National Convention is to lay down the principles and act accordingly, it should base on facts that apply to all regardless of race or the area of residence. The term "other than national races who have already got states" should not include.

In other words, if it is considered that a specific area should be designated for Mro or Khami national race in Rakhine State, it will be necessary to designate a self-administered zone for delta Kayins in Ayeyarwady who are different from Kayins in the east. It is because Kayin population in the delta is more than that in Kayin State. Similarly, areas should be designated in western section of Magway Division and western part of Sagaing Division for Chin and Naga national races. In the same way, nationalities areas should be designated in Kayin State for Mon nationalities and for Kayin and Pa-O nationalities in Mon State. It will be especially necessary to designate the areas of upper Sagaing Division and lower Kachin State as the Tai-lai State or Tai-lai Autonomous Division.

In conclusion, the delegate summed up his proposal. The following are some points:

- (2) The term "Pyidaungsu" should not be only in name, but it should be in essence;
- (3) Only the elected people's representatives have the right to cast votes and decide in the affairs of three sovereign powers -- legislative, executive and judicial powers;
- (5) The Union of Myanmar is home to all national races living together;
- (6) The State should be constituted as a genuine Pyidaungsu (Union) system;
- (7) The Pyidaungsu (Union) should be constituted with eight States of equal status;
- (8) Member States of the Union shall enjoy full political autonomy;
- (9) Autonomous regions and national areas shall be designated in the States by voting of the local people after forming commissions;
- (12) Autonomous regions would not be given legislative powers;
- (13) Autonomous regions and national areas should not be designated at the National Convention without seeking the opinions and wishes of local people;
- (14) It will be necessary to write in the constitution the matter of re-demarcation of the national boundaries;
- (20) The Prime Minister is to lead the government of the parliamentary administrative system, if the system of administrative system headed by the President is to be practiced the President should be elected directly by the people;
- (21) The State President represents the State but the constitution should not prescribe him as the national leader;
- (24) There should be one President and one Vice-President.

Finally, the delegate said that the Shan Nationalities League for Democracy accepts that members of the organs of power that will govern the people should be those who have been elected and appointed by the people themselves.

Independent Hluttaw representative Lt-Col. Hla Maung (Retd)

[All 14 regions to be states; no military participation in electoral college; only one Vice-President]

I am Lt-Col. Hla Maung (Retd), independent Hluttaw representative of Kya-in-Seikkyi Constituency 1, Kayin State.

Among the basic principles laid down in connection with the Chapter the State Structure:-- the State is constituted by Pyidaungsu system and I fully support this.

The existing seven divisions and seven states are designated as 14 regions of equal status and authority. This is also very appropriate. However, as there is difference in calling the seven divisions seven regions and the seven states seven states the tendency of the past such as differentiating the mainland from hill regions and Bamar from national races of the hill regions will still remain. Therefore, it is feared that this will cause hindrance in bringing into effect the two objectives -- non-disintegration of the Union and non-disintegration of national solidarity -- out of the six objectives of the National Convention. Then again, division is the name given to a region and state is also the name given to a region and therefore both the names are identical. Hence I would like to suggest that it will be more appropriate for all the 14 regions be known as "states".

I would like to present matters in connection with the chapter Head of State.

The Head of State is the President of the Union and he shall be elected by presidential electoral college. These two basic principles can be accepted by the entire country. However, I would like to offer suggestions on definition and responsibilities are regards the President. I have already mentioned the 12 main pillars of democracy and out of them if we study the first one -- the sovereign power of the State is derived from the citizens and the tenth, the government is to be placed under the control of the constitution -- there no longer exist monarchism and autocracy and the government is to be formed by the representatives elected by the people themselves through free and fair election. In other words it is the electorate who have elected their representatives and bestowed power on them to act on their behalf and say and implement tasks. This way the Hluttaw is an organization on which the sovereign power of the State resides and represents the entire State. That is the electorate themselves are taking part in the affairs of the State and is a democratic State.

It is to be suggested that the presidential electoral college should be formed with elected Hluttaw representatives in the Hluttaw with equal numbers of representatives elected from regions and states, and Hluttaw representatives elected on the basis of population, that is with all the representatives of the two Hluttaws. The two presidential candidates nominated by the two Hluttaws are to be elected by the electoral college by vote and the candidate with the higher number of votes is to be appointed President and the one who gets the less number is to be appointed Vice-President.

I conclude my presentation with my conviction and views aimed at the emergence of the Constitution in accordance with objectives of the State and which will guarantee a bright prospect for the State. I will also continue to take part in discussing the chapters which follow.

Independent Hluttaw Representative U Tun Hlaing
[Parliamentary executive; if a President, he should have University degree]

A proposal paper on basic principles suitable to be included in the chapters the State, State Structure and Head of State of the Constitution to be drawn up was submitted by independent Hluttaw representative-elect U Tun Hlaing of Bahan Constituency 1, Yangon Division.

He said there are chapters the State, State Structure and the Head of State to be discussed. Of them, under the chapter the State, most people are mixed up in their mind between the words 'the State' and 'the Government'.

The State, he said, is referred to a sovereign territory which has its own government, law, culture, literature, language, religion and citizens who make it their home.

The government, he said, is an organization which from time to time administers the affairs of the State.

There is no change in the State which permanently exists, but there are changes in government from time to time.

He said the State power resides in all citizens and so, all citizens are those who originally wield the State power. All the citizens who reside on the land of the State and enjoy fruits of the State have to benefit the State and must not go against or betray it.

The Government vested with powers by the citizens is an organization which has to strive for the progress and prosperity of the State from time to time. Concerning the policy of the State, there may be likes or dislikes which can be expressed, published and demonstrated in accordance with democratic practices. The kind of government which does not conform to the desire of the majority of citizens does not have genuine power.

He said only if these basic ideas be clearly understood, will the basic principles to form as base in the Constitution be laid down correctly.

He continued to speak of the following basic principles--

- (a) Myanmar Naing-Ngan is a sovereign, independent State,
- (b) Sovereign power of the State resides in the citizens,
- (c) All powers of the State shall be derived from the citizens,
- (d) All citizens, irrespective of race, religion, sex and status, shall be equal before the law and enjoy equally in social relations, justice, freedom of thoughts and innovations, freedom to express their convictions and opinions, freedom of faith, freedom to profess their religion, freedom to worship, freedom to earn their livelihood, freedom to organize and freedom of behaviour.

Regarding the chapter the Head of the State, he said he had proposed in his previous paper that the Head of State most appropriate to the State should be the Prime Minister. He does not believe that the kind of President who will exercise full executive power is the best nor does he like the system of electing the President by the electoral college.

However, if the majority accept the kind of President who exercises full executive power, he will follow suit in accord with democratic practices, he said, and continued to discuss matters as to the election of the President and the prescription of his qualifications.

He is of the opinion that it is suitable to form the electoral college, as suggested by the Work Committee Chairman, with group 1 with Hluttaw representatives in the Hluttaw with equal numbers of Hluttaw representatives elected from regions and states and group 2 with Hluttaw representatives in the Hluttaw elected on the basis of population.

All the national races participate in the construction of the nation, he said. The Tatmadaw should come in in a worsening situation but it should not be included as a basic principle in the Constitution, he suggested.

He said that when the nation was in servitude under the British imperialists, Myanmar nationals were in poverty, individually not independent and under oppression and they had thought that they would be prosperous and enjoy personal freedom when the independence was regained.

So, he said, the two Hluttaws not including Tatmadaw member Hluttaw representatives will be more appropriate to elect the President.

In addition to the qualifications which a person standing for the election to the Presidency should have, the following should be prescribed in addition--

The person standing for the election to presidency must,

- (1) in education, be a holder of a university degree.
- (2) as the Head of the State, who has to face ploys and tactics in international circle, be versed in politics and international law.
- (3) be one in whom the public have respect.

This prescription of the qualifications is regarded as best for the nation and the people, he said.

Independent Hluttaw Representative U Tun Kyaw

[Self-administered area for Ta-angs (Palaungs); one Vice-President to represent minority national races; another to represent non-Bamars]

A proposal paper 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 was submitted by independent Hluttaw representative-elect U Tun Kyaw of Namhsan Constituency, northern Shan State.

In his proposal for the chapter the State, he said Myanmar Naing-Ngan is home to various national races since ancient times and so, just by reading the beginning of the chapter, it can be easily realized that it is a nation wherein various national races reside.

So, he proposed that the following should be more appropriate to be laid down as a basic principle --

Pyidaungsu Thamada Myanmar Naing-Ngan-Daw is a nation wherein various national races reside together.

Regarding the chapter State Structure, he quoted an extract from Frontier Areas Committee of Enquiry 1947, Part II as saying that when the Frontier Areas Committee of Enquiry formed under para 8(d) of the Aung San-Attlee Agreement, was in its process, U Nwe and U Pwint, two Palaung or Ta-ang national delegates, expressed their wish for having the right to create their own nationals' destiny.

The fact expressly demonstrated the wish of the Ta-ang nationals, since before the regaining of independence, for residing in the future Myanmar Naing with freedom in accord with their own customs and traditions, he said.

In the post-independence period, they were faced with monarchic rule, inequalities of social life under the government of ruling political party, lack of rights for the minority under the one-party government despite thorough provision of the rights of minorities in the Constitution.

So, he said, the nationals led by advanced Ta-ang youths, took to the jungles in 1958 and since then, have constantly demanded equality, freedom, justice and the right for creating the nationals' own destiny.

Under the Government of the State Law and Order Restoration Council, they returned to the legal fold renouncing the armed struggle line after making peace with the government on 3 May 1993 and are engaged in regional development services such as construction of roads, bridges, hospitals and clinics and schools, he said.

He said the local national leaders are now earnestly participating in the National Convention at this time, too, with full of hopes and the Ta-ang nationals and the people welcome and honour the Convention.

Similarly, there are nine national groups who have made peace with government and are now engaged in activities for their regional development and it is also learnt there are favourable conditions for the remaining armed groups to renounce their armed struggle line and make peace.

In designation of self-administered areas, which has been approved as a basic principle, all the national races who have got their own regions or states or other national brethren who have not got so, are to cooperate and assist one another, he said.

National races who have not got regions and states but reside together in a community have other national races living mixed up together with them. So, all the national races mixing up together in a region to be designated a self-administered division or self-administered zone for a particular national race should have magnanimity and cooperation, he said.

He spoke of some characteristics which he said are to be taken into account for the Ta-ang nationals to have a self-administered division. He proposed that the Ta-ang Self-Administered Division be designated organizing together Namhsan Township in the northern Shan State at the centre, Namtu Township in the east, Kutkai and Namhkam Townships in the north, western sector of Hsipaw Township and Kyaukme Township in the south and Mogok Township in Mandalay Division and eastern sector of Momeik Township in the west and forming two

districts with Kyaukme Township where former assistant township officers had their offices, Mongngaw sub-Township and Namtu Township and Mangton sub-Township. The sub-townships are to be upgraded to township level.

Regarding the chapter the Head of State he recited two basic principles which have been already laid down--

1. The Head of State is the President of the Union.
2. The President of the Union shall be elected by electoral college.

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

He proposed a basic principle to be laid down -- of the three Vice-Presidents, one is to be elected from among the Hluttaw representatives belonging to minority national races and another one of the three is to be elected from among the Hluttaw representatives in the upper Hluttaw with equal numbers of Hluttaw representatives elected from regions and states and belonging to other national races who are non-Bamar. This is to be in accord with the noblest and worthiest of worldly values of liberty, equality and justice. There will be Bamars in majority in the lower Hluttaw constituted with Hluttaw representatives elected on the basis of population. Only then will the minority national races have the opportunity of serving as a Vice-President.

Independent Hluttaw representative U Aung Thein

[Self-administered area for Danus; only one Vice-President]

U Aung Thein, independent Hluttaw representative-elect of Ywangan Township in southern Shan State of representatives-elect delegates group, submitted a proposal paper on the chapters the State, State Structure and Head of State.

He said: It is proposed to add two basic principles under the State chapter namely, -- The Republic of the Union of Myanmar is a genuine democratic State, and the Republic of the Union of Myanmar is a social State.

In connection with designation and demarcation of zones, he discussed as follows:

If the National Convention is to designate and demarcate the self-administered divisions and self-administered zones, it is proposed that the area covering Kalaw, Pindaya, Ywangan and Lawksawk Townships in southern Shan State and Nawngkhio Township in northern Shan State should be designated as Danu Self-Administered Zone. Although the whole area falls in southern and northern Shan State, Lawksawk Township in southern Shan State and Nawngkhio Township in northern Shan State are on the same common area of land. In those five townships, Danu nationals live close together in communities on the same area of land. It is stated on page 65 in the Cultural Traditions and Customs (Shan) of the Union of Myanmar published by the Burma Socialist Programme Party: (Danu nationals reside in areas between Shan State and Myanmar mainland. They mostly live in Mandalay District, Maymyo sub-district and Kyauk-ni-dwin area in upper Myanmar, in Monglon and Lawksawk in Shan State and in Pindaya, Pwehla and Yengan (Ywangan) Maw in central area. Danu nationals are also found in Aungban, Kalaw and Taunggyi.)

He then discussed the Head of State chapter. As the President of the State will be exercising full executive powers, the two Vice-Presidents will be only nominal. He cautioned the greater number of persons may be ineffective. Instead of performing State duties competently they may be burdensome for the State, he said. He proposed that representatives elected by the electoral college consisting three groups should be called (presidential candidates) instead of Vice-Presidents, and that out of the three presidential candidates the one who wins the highest number of votes should be

designated as the President and the other who wins the second highest number of votes as the Vice-President. This would be more appropriate for the country, he said.

He noted that election of the President by representatives who have been elected by the majority of the people would be in accordance with democratic practices and it would amount to respecting the majority of the people. Therefore, he said, the presidential candidates or Vice-Presidents should be elected out of the Hluttaw representatives and that they should be made to resign from Hluttaw representatives after being elected as the President or the Vice-President.

He proposed the following to be laid down as basic principles in the Head of State chapter:

- (1) The Head of State is the President of the Union,
- (2) The President of the State shall exercise full executive powers,
- (3) The President of the Union shall be elected by the electoral college,
- (4) The electoral college shall be formed with all the representatives of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw,
- (5) Relevant laws shall be promulgated for the election of the President of the Union,
- (6) The President of the Union shall be a person who was born of parents, both of whom are citizens, born in the territory under the powers of the State,
- (7) The President shall meet the prescribed requirements for the presidency and shall be a Hluttaw representative,
- (8) Hluttaw representatives who are serving as the President or the Vice-President shall be deemed to have resigned their seats in the Hluttaw from the day they are elected for the posts concerned,
- (9) If the President or the Vice-President happens to be member of a political party, the person shall not participate in activities of the party organization from the date of such election, during the term of office,
- (10) 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,
- (11) The President of the Union, the parents, the spouse, children and their spouses shall not owe allegiance to a foreign power, must not be subject or citizen of a foreign power, must not be persons entitled to the rights and privileges of a subject or citizen of a foreign power,

He concluded that his proposal based on the six objectives of the National Convention and 104 basic principles laid down, was submitted on the basic principles that should be included in the chapters the State, State Structure and Head of State in the long-term interests of the State. (NLM 4/1)

Clarifications

Apr. 5 [substantive excerpts, omitting boiler plate and formal repetition. Portions of text separated by "xxxxxxx" are omissions made by NLD]: Clarifications made by members of the Panel of Chairmen.

"It has been seen that the majority of the proposals made are in accordance with the six objectives of the National Convention:--

The National Convention delegates must abide by the rules prescribed in Article 25 of the National Convention Convening procedures. The rules prescribed are:--
Esteemed delegates,

The proposal papers submitted by the respective delegates groups are:--

- (a) 15 proposal papers by the nationalities delegates group;
- (b) one proposal paper by the peasant delegates group;
- (c) two proposal papers by the worker delegates group;
- (d) one proposal paper by the intelligentsia and intellectuals delegates group;

- (e) one proposal paper by the State service personnel delegates group;
- (f) 12 proposal papers by the other invited delegates groups;
- (g) 10 proposal papers by the political parties delegates group; and
- (h) 11 proposal papers by representative-elect delegates group, totalling 53 proposal papers were submitted.

As all these proposal papers have been submitted at the Plenary Session of the National Convention, all the delegates have heard them. Chapterwise appraisal of the proposal papers on the fundamental principles which have been laid down and should contain in the Chapters the State, State Structure and Head of State, as well as new proposals to be added will be given. In making appraisals thus, it will be seen that as there were approvals given on the clarifications made by the Chairman of the Work Committee on 18 January 1994, so also there were additional proposals made by some of the delegates. As there were some who presented new proposals, there were some who presented proposals which were completely different from the basic principles which have been laid down and there were also some who did not discuss at all.

The proposals made by the respective delegates in a free manner will be appraised and presented objectively.

["The State" Chapter]

Esteemed delegates,

The basic principles laid down in connection with the chapter the State are:--

- (a) Myanmar Naing-Ngan is a sovereign, independent nation;
- (b) the State shall be known as Pyidaungsu Thamada Myanmar Naing-Ngan-Daw;
- (c) sovereign power of the State is derived from the citizens and is in force in the whole country;
- (d) the territorial boundary of the state is as it is on the day the State Constitution comes into force.

Chairman of the National Convention Convening Work Committee Chairman U Aung Toe in his clarifications made on 18 January 1994 said -- "the basic principles laid down in connection with the State will be included in the chapter the State. If, in addition to these, there are more basic principles to be included in detail, they are to be further discussed and proposed by the delegates".

xxxxxxx

[Definition of national territory]

Esteemed delegates,

If an overall appraisal of the proposals by National Convention delegates groups, political parties and delegates is made, then the respective delegates groups have proposed that the fundamental principles laid down by the National Convention, which are:--

- (1) Myanmar Naing-Ngan is a sovereign, independent nation;
 - (2) the State shall be known as Pyidaungsu Thamada Myanmar Naing-Ngan-Daw;
 - (3) sovereign power of the State is derived from the citizens and is in force in the whole country; and
 - (4) the territorial boundary of the State is as it is on the day this Constitution comes into force;
- should be included under the chapter 'the State'.

However, the National Unity Party and the Shan Nationalities League for Democracy which are included in the political parties delegates group, the National Unity Party and the Shan Nationalities League for Democracy which are included in the representatives-elect delegates group, the representatives of Shan State Kokang Democratic Party and Independent delegates Dr. Hmu Than and U Htaung Kho Thang, proposed that the following should be added in above-mentioned paragraph 4 "the territorial boundary of the State shall be the land, sea and airspace which constitutes its territory on the day this Constitution comes into force". Such kind of wording as suggested is found in Article 3 of the State Constitution of 1974. In making such additions it not only does not effect [sic] its meaning but makes it

more complete and therefore, it is appraised that it should be added.
[Multiple races living together]

Esteemed delegates,

It has been proposed by the nationalities delegates group, worker delegates group, other invited delegates group, U Sai Nong of Shan State (North) Special Region 3 which is included in that group; the National Unity Party, Mro or Khami National Solidarity Organization, Lahu National Development Party, National League for Democracy and the Shan Nationalities League for Democracy included in the political parties delegates group; the representative of the National Unity Party, Mro or Khami National Solidarity Organization, the National League for Democracy, the Shan Nationalities League for Democracy and U Tun Kyaw and U Aung Thein of Independent representatives-elect included in the representatives-elect delegates group that a basic principle -- "The Republic of the Union of Myanmar is a nation where various national races live together in unity", should be laid down.

[Final principles adopted on "the State"]

Esteemed delegates,

According to the above mentioned appraisal, the chapter "the State" should include the basic principles as follows:--

- (1) Myanmar Naing-Ngan is a sovereign, independent nation;
- (2) the State is a nation where various national races live together in unity;
- (3) the state shall be known as the Republic of the Union of Myanmar;
- (4) sovereign power of the State is derived from the citizens and is in force in the whole country;
- (5) the territorial boundary of the State shall be the land, sea and airspace which constitutes its territory on the day this State Constitution comes into force.

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["State Structure" Chapter]

["Pyidaungsu" system]

Esteemed delegates,

The proposals submitted by the various delegates groups on fundamental principles in connection with the State Structure have been appraised and it is seen that almost all have agreed that the basic principle-- "the State is constituted by the Pyidaungsu (Union) system" should be laid down as the fundamental principle under the Chapter State Structure.

Hence, it is to be appraised that the fundamental principle-- "the State is constituted by "Pyidaungsu (Union) system" should be included in the Chapter State Structure.

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[Regions and states]

Esteemed delegates,

If an overall appraisal is to be made in connection with the proposals submitted by National Convention delegates groups, political parties and delegates, it is seen that they have proposed that the basic principles laid down in connection with the State Structure:--

- (1) the State is constituted by Pyidaungsu (Union) system,
- (2) the existing seven divisions are designated as seven regions and the existing seven states are designated as seven states. Those seven regions and seven states are equal in status and authority;
- (3) the names of those seven regions and seven states are retained as they are at present shall be included in the chapter the State Structure. In connection with these three principles, the second principle for the seven regions and the seven states to retain the names as they are at present, all, including the representatives of political parties, with the exception of some political parties included in the delegates groups and the representatives of some of the special regions included in other invited delegates group, have agreed in accordance with the clarification made by Chairman of the

National Convention Convening Work Committee.

Hence, the basic principles in connection with these three fundamental principles to be included in the chapter State Structure are:--

(1) the State is constituted by Pyidaungsu (Union) system;
(2) the state shall be designated into seven regions and seven groups as follows:--

- 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;

(3) the seven regions and seven states are of equal status and authority.

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[Renaming regions and states]

Esteemed delegates,

It is seen that almost all delegates groups have again given approval on the basic principle that if it is desired to change the name of a region or state, it shall be done so after seeking the wishes of the citizens residing in that region or state and enacting a law.

However, representatives of the State service personnel delegates groups have proposed that in order that it will become more complete and there may not be any arguments in connection with its meaning in the future, instead of citizens the words "citizens who are eligible to vote" should be added. Serious consideration should be made in connection with this.

By adding the words citizens who are eligible to vote instead of only citizens, the meaning will not be changed but it will become more complete and effective.

Hence it is to be appraised that in connection with this basic principle that if it is desired to change the name of a region or a state, it shall be done so only after seeking the wishes of the citizens who are eligible to vote residing in that region or state and enacting a law.

(NLM 4/6)

Apr. 6 [full text]: The following is a translation of clarifications given by members of the Panel of Chairmen of the National Convention Plenary Session on appraisal of proposal papers at the Plenary Session today.

[Self-administered divisions and zones]

Esteemed delegates,

The appraisal on the proposal papers submitted by the various delegates groups in connection with designating of self-administered divisions and self-administered zones have been given appropriately.

It is seen that some political parties and representatives have described and proposed the areas according to their wishes for designating of self-administered divisions or self-administered zones. It is found that some areas proposed by one delegate are identical to the areas proposed by another. These proposals are submitted by individual political parties, individual delegates or collectively by delegates who are close together.

Some delegates have mentioned that as they do not know the population or the size of the area and the living together of people in communities, it is difficult for them to make proposals.

Some delegates have proposed that since there are some

delegates at the National Convention who are well experienced, measures should be taken expeditiously to enable their national brethren to enjoy their rights. In taking such steps, a certain national race which has an appropriate population but live a distance apart in two townships, then they should be brought together through management means. As the capitals of regions or states is the concern of all the nationals residing in these regions or states, they should not be placed under self-administered divisions or self-administered zones.

Some have made proposals not to base on race but only on the area, while others have made proposals to delete the wordings "other than national races who have already got regions or states" which is contrary to the basic principle which has already been laid down.

Some have submitted their proposals that in prescribing self-administered divisions or self-administered zones, the following steps must be taken:--

(1) for the National Convention to prescribe straight away self-administered division or self-administered zones for national races which are entitled to get;

(2) commission is to be formed for carrying out necessary study and scrutiny and submitting reports to the National Convention for prescribing self-administered divisions or zones;

(3) for forming a commission without mentioning the time of forming such a commission and to study and scrutinize and submit reports for prescribing self-administered division or self-administered zone, etc., according to their desires.

Esteemed delegates,

In connection with the prescribing of self-administered division or self-administered zone, as the proposals are varied, it is to be appraised that time should be taken to lay down a principle to be taken as base.

[No secession]

Esteemed Chairman,

The Chairman of the National Convention Convening Work Committee said-- "It has been prescribed that no part of the territory of the Union, namely, regions, states and self-administered areas etc., shall ever secede from the Union". "It should be included and prescribed in the chapter the State Structure according to this basic principle".

It is seen that the various delegates groups have proposed that the above-mentioned basic principle as stated by the Chairman of the National Convention Convening Work Committee, should be included in the chapter the State Structure.

Therefore, it is to be appraised that the basic 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 included as a basic principle in the chapter the State Structure.

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[Territorial units]

It is to be appraised that in connection with the consolidation of the State, fundamental principle to be taken as base in the chapter the State Structure should be laid as follows:--

- the villages are to be organized as village-tracts;
- wards are to be organized as towns or townships;
- village-tracts and wards or towns to be organized as townships;
- townships to be organized as districts;
- districts to be organized as regions or states;
- townships in self-administered areas to be organized as self-administered areas;
- townships in self-administered region to be organized into districts and the districts to be organized as self-administered divisions
- if there self-administered divisions or self-administered

zones in regions or states, then the self-administered divisions or self-administered zones and districts are to be organized as regions or states;

-- the regions and states are to be organized as the Union.

However, the delegates have also heard the proposals submitted by the various delegates groups in connection with structuring the Union. If there is need for laying down basic principles in designating the territories of the Union it should be included in State Structure. Therefore, it is appraised that a basic principle should be prescribed in designating the territories of the Union and "regions, states and Union territories should be included straight away as the State".

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[Re-delineating national boundaries]

Esteemed delegates,

Almost all delegates groups have submitted proposals in support of the clarification made by the Chairman of the National Convention Convening Work Committee for laying down basic principles to be included and prescribed in the State Constitution in connection with how to proceed if it becomes necessary to re-delineate the territorial boundary of the Union.

The Shan Nationalities League for Democracy, which is included in the political parties delegates group proposed that as it is not necessary to re-delineate the territorial boundaries of the Union it should not be included and prescribed in the State Constitution. If there arises the need then it is the work of the legislature and the Hluttaw and it is up to the Hluttaw representatives to take appropriate steps.

It is seen that the method clarified by the Chairman of the National Convention Convening Work Committee is for the representatives of the two Hluttaws of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw to take steps if there arises need to re-delineate the territorial boundary of the Union. Moreover, Hluttaw representatives of respective regions or states which are included in the territories under the two Hluttaws have the right to express their opinion separately and therefore, it is more complete and will also assist in strengthening national unity.

The delegates group of intelligentsia and technocrats delegates group proposed that-- "with the approval of three-fourths and upwards of the total number of Hluttaw representatives of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw, the President can re-delineate the territorial boundaries of the Union."

In this connection, the opinion is that if there arises the need to re-delineate the territorial boundary of the Union only one method should be practised.

Re-delineation of the territorial boundary of the Union, cannot be done by the country alone. Mutual agreement should be obtained first with the countries which have a common border with the territory which is to be re-delineated. Steps are to be taken in accordance with the provisions of the State Constitution for years. Therefore, the principles to be taken as base in re-delineating the territorial boundary of the Union to be included in Chapter State Structure are as follows:

(1) if there arises need to re-delineate the territorial boundary of the Union, first of all the President of the State should inform the head of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw on the matter of re-delineating the territorial boundary of the State.

(2) when intimations have been received from the President for the purpose of re-delineating the territorial boundary of the Union, the head of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw should seek the wishes of Hluttaw representatives as follows:--

(a) assenting votes of more than half the total number of representatives included in the Hluttaw with equal number of representatives elected from regions and states,

(b) assenting votes of more than half the total number of representatives included in the Hluttaw elected on the basis of

population,

(c) assenting votes of more than half the number of representatives from the region or state involving the boundary concerned in the two Hluttaws,

(d) after obtaining the votes as mentioned above, the head of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw is to inform the President to re-delineate the territorial boundary as required;

(3) If a territorial boundary is re-delineated in accordance with the above-mentioned procedures and if one of the Hluttaws or the representatives from the region or state involving the boundary concerned in the two Hluttaws return a negative decision, then the decision of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw is to be sought. If three-fourths and upwards of the total number of representatives of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw support it, the head of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw is to inform the President of the State to re-delineate the territorial boundary as required;

(4) when the approval of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw is obtained, the President of the State is to re-delineate the territorial boundary of the Union as deemed necessary.

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[Changing local boundaries]

Esteemed delegates,

It is seen that the majority of delegates groups have proposed that basic principles should be laid down in accordance with the procedures as clarified by the Chairman of the National Convention Convening Work Committee that if there arises need to re-delineate the territorial boundary of any region or state.

However, the representative of Kayan group proposed that instead of "the voters residing in the region involving the boundary concerned", it is necessary to explicitly express as "only the voters residing in the area involving the boundary concerned", when there arises need to re-delineate the territorial boundary in any region or state. The proposal made by this delegate should be taken into serious consideration. By merely expressing the region involved, different meanings can be taken, so also, if it is expressed as "the voters residing in the area when there arises the need to re-delineate the territorial boundary in any region or division" different meanings can still be taken. By naming that particular area then there is still the possibility to consider whether the area involves the village-tract, whether the township which is involved and so on. Therefore, in order not to effect the essence of the principle laid down and to be in accord with it and to be specific in verifying the area, it should be described as the voters residing in the "township included in the area involved" instead of the "area" involved as this will be sufficient and precise.

It is seen that when there arises need to re-delineate the territorial boundary of a region or a state, it cannot be carried out only with the decision of the region or the state concerned. It is to be regarded that when need arises to re-delineate the territorial boundary then at least another region or state which has a common boundary with the particular region or state should also take part in the matter. If one side agrees and the other side does not, then appropriate ways must be sought to solve the matter. Therefore, it is to be appraised that it will be more complete to lay down basic principles to be incorporated as fundamental principles in the State Constitution to find ways in solving the matter in which there arises need to re-delineate the territorial boundary of a region or state.

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It is appraised that in the chapter State Structure, the following principle should be laid down in connection with changes in boundary, organization or name of village, village-tract, ward, town, township and district within a region, state, self-administered division, or self-administered zone:--

If occasion arises to make changes in boundary, organization or name of village, village-tract, ward, town and township within a region, state, self-administered division, or self-administered zone,

the region or state executive authority shall submit its recommendation to the President of the Union for him to act as necessary.

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[Changing region/state names]

Esteemed delegates,

The delegates groups have approved and proposed that the fundamental principle "if it is desired to change the name of a region or state, it shall be done with enactment of law after ascertaining the wishes of citizens residing in the region or state concerned" should be included in the chapter State Structure, and that if it is desired to change the name of a self-administered division or a self-administered zone, the principle should be laid down to be able to do so in accordance with the above-said procedure.

The State service personnel delegates group has proposed that "citizens eligible to vote" should be used in place of "citizens" in the above-mentioned fundamental principle. Their proposal should be considered emphatically as it tends to be more precise and they have approved and proposed it to be more complete.

Using "citizens eligible to vote" does not affect the essence of the principle. It is therefore appraised that the principle should be:--

If it is desired to change the name of a self-administered division or self-administered zone, it shall be done in the same procedure as in changing the name of a region or state.

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[Union territories]

Esteemed delegates,

With regard to designating Union territories, it is appraised that the following delegates groups and delegates agree to the suggestions of the National Convention Convening Work Committee Chairman to place Yangon under direct administration of the President of the Union, to prescribe strategic areas like Cocogyun Township as Union territories under the direct administration of the President of the Union, and to prescribe these strategic areas 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. These delegates groups and delegates are:--

- (1) Nationalities delegates group,
- (2) Peasants delegates group,
- (3) Workers delegates group,
- (4) Intelligentsia and intellectuals delegates group,
- (5) State service personnel delegates group,
- (6) Out of other invited persons,
 - delegate from Kachin State Special Region 1,
 - delegate from Shan State (North) Special Region 1,
 - delegate from Shan State (North) Special Region 2,
 - delegate from Shan State (North) Special Region 3,
 - delegate from Shan State (North) Special Region 4,
 - delegate from Shan State (North) Special Region 5,
 - delegate from Shan State (North) Special Region 6,
 - delegate from Shan State (North) Special Region 7,
- (7) Out of political parties delegates,
 - National Unity Party,
 - Union Pa-O National Organization,
 - Mro or Khami National Solidarity Organization,
 - Union Kayin League,
- (8) Out of representative-elect delegates,
 - delegates of National Unity Party,
 - delegate of Union Pa-) National Organization, and,
 - delegate of Mro or Khami National Solidarity

Organization.

[NOTE: Hereafter, we will omit lists of delegate groups (including invited guests from Special Regions), and political parties and representatives-elect who approve the proposals of the Chairman of

the National Convention Convening Work Committee. Hence, groups not listed as suggesting modifications can be assumed to have approved the Chairman's proposals.---HCMacD.]

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In connection with designating Union territories under the direct administration of the President of the Union, it is appraised that the fundamental principles should be laid down as follows:--

- The State Capital Yangon shall be designated Union territory under the direct administration of the President of the Union;

- Cocogyun Township which is a strategic area shall be designated Union territory under the direct administration of the President of the Union;

- The strategic areas in connection with defence and security, administration and economy of the whole Union shall be prescribed as Union territories under direct administration of the President, enacting laws if necessary in future.

(NLM 4/7)

Apr. 7 [substantive segments, as above]:

[President as national leader not needed]

Esteemed delegates,

The principle, the Head of State is the President of the Union, which should be taken as the basic principle has been laid down. Moreover, the delegates groups have presented proposals in support of the following as basic principles:--

-- the President of the Union represents the nation,

-- the President of the Union is the national leader of all citizenry,

-- the President of the Union occupies a position of highest honour in the whole of the Union of Myanmar.

In appraising the basic principle, the President of the Union is the national leader of all the citizens, some delegates groups have proposed that the basic principles, the Head of State is the President of the Union, the President of the Union represents the nation and occupies a position of highest honour in the whole of the Union of Myanmar, if laid down is complete and therefore the basic principle the President of the Union is the national leader of all citizenry is not appropriate to be included in the Constitution and is seriously considered.

It has been appraised that as the basic principles--the President of the Union occupies a position of highest honour in the Union and is the Head of State--have been laid down, it is not necessary to lay down the basic principle, the President of the Union is the national leader of all citizenry.

Hence, it is to be appraised that the following basic principles should be laid down:--

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

(2) the President of the Union represents the nation,

(3) the President of the Union occupies a position of highest honour in the Union.

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[Presidential qualifications--ability]

Esteemed delegates,

I will continue to clarify the proposals made by the delegates groups in connection with prescribing the qualifications of the President of the Union. The delegates groups have proposed that a President must be a person who can skilfully, effectively and resolutely manage affairs of the State, political, administrative, economic and military, etc....

One of the delegate groups, the peasants delegates group, proposed that it is necessary for the President to be an experienced person in affairs of the State, political, administrative, economic and military, etc. and must be able to skilfully, effectively and resolutely manage those affairs. As regards the matter of having military experience, he added that although one may not be practically engaged in military leadership role oneself, it is

necessary for one to possess national defence outlook, military awareness and security awareness.

The Wa National Development Party...proposed that when a person, who has the qualifications to service as President of the Union is elected by the people, that person is to be accepted as President of the Union and the National League for Democracy proposed that the above-mentioned qualifications should not be included in the qualifications for a President, but it will be more appropriate to issue guiding principles when electing the President of the Union for the electoral college to elect persons who have all the above-mentioned qualifications as far as possible as presidential candidates.

The delegates of the National League for Democracy of the representative-elect delegates group proposed accordingly to the proposals made by the National League for Democracy which is included in the political parties delegates group.

The representative of the Shan State Kokang Democratic Party and two independent representatives proposed that anyone in whom the people have faith and trust and accept can become the President of the Union.

An independent representative of Ywangan Township Constituency, Shan State, proposed that in order to verify whether or not a person has the qualifications to become President a commission should be formed with appropriate persons by the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw to study and scrutinize and submit a report to the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw before hand.

In studying and scrutinizing the proposals of various delegates groups and representatives, it is seen that they are of the opinion that qualifications for the President to be a person who can skilfully, effectively and resolutely manage the affairs of the State, political, administrative, economic and military, etc., should be prescribed.

Therefore, in the Chapter Head of State, a basic principle should be laid down for the President of the Union to be knowledgeable in the affairs of the State, political, administrative, economic, military, etc.

[Presidential qualifications-loyalty]

Esteemed delegates,

The Chairman of the National Convention Convening Work Committee at the National Convention Plenary Session held on 18 January 1994 gave clarification as follows:--

"The President of the Union, as one to lead the State, needs to be loyal to the State and the citizenry. Therefore, a basic principle should be laid down to include a necessary qualification that the President of the Union shall be a person who is loyal to the State and the citizenry."

....

The representative of the Shan State Kokang Democratic Party and independent representatives Dr. Hmu Thang and U Htaung Kho Thaing who are included in this delegates group proposed that:--

"being loyal to the State and the citizenry depends on individual persons."

Hence, in the Chapter the Head of State in connection with the qualification of the President of the Union, it is appraised that the basic principle the President of the Union must be loyal to the State and the citizenry should also be laid down.

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[Presidential qualifications-citizenry]

Esteemed delegates,

The delegates groups which proposed that a basic principle be laid down that "the President of the Union must be a citizen of Myanmar who was, and both of whose parents were, born in the territory under the powers of the State, belonging to the nationality of Myanmar", are:--....

The Shan State Kokang Democratic Party...proposed that the President of the Union must himself be a person born of parents who

are both citizens.

Hence, it is to be appraised that a basic principle should be laid down under the Chapter the Head of State that "the President of the Union must be a citizen of Myanmar who was, and both of whose parents were, born in the territory under the powers of the State, belonging to the nationality of Myanmar.

[Presidential qualifications-age]

Esteemed delegates,

The Chairman of the National Convention Convening Work Committee made a following clarification at the National Convention Plenary Session held on 18 January 1994:--

"As the President of the Union should be a person rich in political, administrative, economic and military experiences of our country, it is found that one elected as the President of the Union should be at least 45 years of age. So it is to be discussed and proposed whether or not a basic principle should be laid down that the age of one elected the President of the Union of our country must be at least fully 45 years old."

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Esteemed delegates,

In studying the proposals submitted by the delegates groups and representatives, it is appraised that a basic principle should be laid down that one elected as the President of the Union should be at least 45 years of age.

[Presidential qualifications-special]

Esteemed delegates,

At the National Convention Plenary Session held on 18 January 1994, the Chairman of the National Convention Convening Work Committee gave a following clarification:--

"The President of the Union should be a person who possesses qualifications specifically for the office, in addition to the qualifications required to stand for election to the Hluttaw."

The proposals made by the various delegate groups in connection with the clarification made by the Chairman of the National Convention Convening Work Committee will be mentioned.

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It is appraised that the proposals made by the various delegates groups have been studied and scrutinized and the basic principle, "the President of the Union should be a person who possesses qualifications prescribed specifically for the office, in addition to the qualifications required to stand for election to the Hluttaw", should be laid down.

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[Presidential qualifications-20 years residence]

Esteemed delegates,

In connection with the basic principle that 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:--....

In connection with the President of the Union shall be a person who had been residing continuously in the country for a certain number of years up to the time of election, the representative of the Shan State (North) Special Region 2 included in the other invited delegates group proposed as 15 years, the Shan State Kokang Democratic Party...proposed as 15 years, the Wa National Development Party proposed as 12 years, the National League for Democracy proposed as 10 years, the representative of the National League for Democracy...proposed as 10 years and the independent representative of Namhsan Constituency of Shan state proposed as 10 years respectively.

The representative of the Shan State Kokang Democratic Party and an independent representative proposed that it should depend on loyalty towards the State and the people, to possess patriotism and the goodwill towards the State.

Based on the above-mentioned proposals it is to be appraised that a basic principle should be laid down that 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.

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[Qualifications for Presidency-citizenship of Presidential family members]

Esteemed delegates,

It has been proposed that a basic principle should be laid down that for a person to be qualified for election to the office of President of the Union, it is most necessary that this person, his 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 a citizen of a foreign power, by:--....

The State service personnel delegates group also proposed in support of this basic principle and also proposed that instead of using the word "a citizen of foreign government", the word should be a citizen of foreign country.

The Lahu National Development Party... proposed that a person to be qualified for election to the office of the President of the Union must not only be loyal to the State and the citizens but must not be loyal to or owe allegiance to any other country. However, as regards the conditions connected with that persons spouse and children, it is difficult to give an opinion and therefore, his party would accept the wishes of the majority.

The delegates of the Shan National League for Democracy political parties delegates group and the representatives-elect delegates group have proposed that a basic principle should be laid down that "A person standing for election to the Presidency of Myanmar shall be a citizen of Myanmar both of whose parents belong to any of the nationalities of Myanmar and is qualified for election if the person is within the prescribed age limit" and there should not be any other qualifications.

The delegate of the Shan State Kokang Democratic Party and two independent representatives-elect have suggested that a basic principle should be laid down as "The President of the Union shall not owe allegiance to a foreign power and must not be subject of a foreign power". The independent representative-elect of Namhsan Constituency proposed that the principle should be "The President of the Union shall not be a subject of a foreign power".

Regarding the wording "citizens of that government" included in the proposal paper of the delegates of the service personnel delegates group, it is appraised that all know "citizen" in their proposal means a citizen of a country, not the citizen of the State. The meaning will be more clear if "citizen of a foreign country" in place of "citizen of that government". It is appraised that using "citizen of a foreign country" does not affect the fundamental proposal.

In overall appraisal of the proposals and suggestions, the principle should be laid down as-- "The President of the Union, the parents, the spouse, children and their spouses shall not owe allegiance to a foreign power, must not be subjects or citizens of a foreign power and must not be persons entitled to the rights and privileges of subjects or citizens of a foreign power."

[Qualifications of Vice-Presidents]

Esteemed delegates,

...The delegates suggested and proposed that the Heads of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw and the two Hluttaws shall scrutinize the Vice-Presidents whether or not they meet the qualifications prescribed for the President of the Union. In harmony with these proposals, the Vice-Presidents must meet the qualifications prescribed for the President of the Union. It is therefore appraised a principle to be observed should be "The Vice-Presidents shall possess qualifications prescribed for the President of the Union".

[Electoral College]

Esteemed delegates,

In connection with election of the President and the Vice-Presidents, it is appraised that the following are proposed:--

(a) Three presidential electoral college groups of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw representatives are to be formed as follows:

(1) the group formed with elected Hluttaw representatives in the Hluttaw with equal numbers of representatives elected from regions and states;

(2) the group formed with elected Hluttaw representatives in the Hluttaw elected on the basis of population; and,

(3) the group formed with the Tatmadaw Hluttaw representatives nominated as such by the Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services for the said two Hluttaws;

(b) To elect a Vice-President each from those three groups;

(c) A group made up of the Heads and the Deputy Heads of the two Hluttaws of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw shall scrutinize the Vice-Presidents whether or not they meet the qualifications prescribed for the President of the Union;

(d) For all Pyidaungsu Hluttaw representatives to elect the President out of the three presidential candidate Vice-Presidents by vote;

(e) To promulgate necessary law in connection with election of the President.

...

Shan State Kokang Democratic Party... has proposed that it is suitable to elect the President through democratic means from among the Hluttaw representatives delegating the entire mass of people and political forces and the qualified person from among the masses of people.

As all esteemed delegates know Wa National Development Party has proposed that a President of the Union and a Vice-President should be elected from the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw.

The delegates of National League for Democracy in the political parties...and the representatives-elect delegates group have approved and proposed that three groups of the presidential electoral college should be:-- (1) the group formed with elected Hluttaw representatives elected from regions and states; (2) the group formed with elected Hluttaw representatives in the Hluttaw elected on the basis of population; and (3) the group formed with the Hluttaw representatives of the Hluttaws of respective regions, states and self-administered areas elected by the people, that each group must nominate a presidential candidate and that out of these presidential candidates, the President should be elected by secret vote and the one who gets the second highest votes should become the Vice-President.

The delegates of Shan State Nationalities League for Democracy in the political parties...and representatives-elect group, have proposed that there should be a Vice-President in the State in addition to the President of the Union, that the political parties must nominate and submit the names of candidates for election of the President and the Vice-President and that the President who will administer the public affairs directly should be elected by vote of the people themselves in accord with their wishes.

All esteemed delegates know the proposals and suggestions of the remaining delegates. In overall appraisal of the proposals and suggestions, the following should be laid down to be incorporated into the chapter Head of State:--

(a) The presidential electoral college shall be formed with three groups of Hluttaw representatives as follows:

- the group formed with elected Hluttaw representatives in the Hluttaw with equal numbers of representatives elected from regions and states;

- the group formed with elected Hluttaw representatives in the Hluttaw elected on the basis of population; and,

- the group formed with the Tatmadaw member Hluttaw representatives nominated as such by the Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services for the said two Hluttaws;

(b) To elect a Vice-President each out of Hluttaw representatives or non-Hluttaw representatives from these groups;

(c) For a group made up of the Heads and Deputy Heads of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw and the two Hluttaws of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw to scrutinize the Vice-Presidents whether or not they meet the qualifications prescribed for the President of the Union;

(d) For all Pyidaungsu Hluttaw representatives to elect by the vote the President of the Union out of the three presidential candidate Vice-Presidents; and,

(e) To promulgate necessary law in connection with the presidential election.

(NLM 4/8)

Apr. 8 [substantial excerpts]:

[Presidential term of office]

Esteemed delegates,

The various delegates groups have presented proposals on the term of office of the President and how many terms he is to service in office.

In connection with the term of office of the President and Vice-President to be prescribed as five years, and that the President and Vice-President to carry on in office till the time the new President and Vice-President are duly elected, after expiry of incumbent terms, and no right to serve in the office of President for more than two terms, the following delegates groups have presented proposals....[list].

The State service personnel delegates group...also made a proposal that a basic principle should be laid down that if for some reason the post of the President is filled by some one then the term of office should not be prescribed as one term of office of the President.

The Shan State Kokang Democratic Party, the Mro or Khami National Solidarity Organization, the Kokang Democracy and Unity Party and the Shan Nationalities League for Democracy...proposed that the term of office of the President should be prescribed as only four years and not to stand for election more than twice. The National League for Democracy proposed that the term of office of the President and the Vice-President should be prescribed as five years and not to permit them to stand for election on expiry of that term....

The delegate of the Shan State Kokang Democratic Party and two independent representatives-elect...proposed that a basic principle be laid down that the term of office of the President should be the same as that of the Hluttaw and that there shall be no right to service in the office for more than two terms.

The independent representative-elect of Kya-in-Seikkyi Constituency 1 of Kayin State...proposed that the term of office of the President should be the same as the Hluttaw and the independent representative-elect of Ywangan Constituency of Shan State proposed that the term of office of the President and Vice-President should be the same as the Hluttaw and there shall be no right for them to serve in the office for more than two terms and a basic principle should be laid down in this respect.

Esteemed delegates,

It is to be appraised that if for some reason the President or the Vice-President cannot continue to serve in the office of the President then a new President or Vice-President should be elected to fill the vacancy. There is a point to be considered as to whether or not it will be appropriate to prescribe the term of office of that person as one term. If so, then that term or period can either be long or short.

Therefore, it is appraised that it is not appropriate to prescribe this interim term as one term.

Hence, it is appraised that basic principles should be laid down for--

-- prescribing the term of office of the President and Vice-President as five years,

-- the President and Vice-President to carry on in office till the time the new President and Vice-President are duly elected,

after expiry of incumbent term,

-- the President and Vice-President shall have no right to serve in office for more than two terms,

-- the period of office of the President or Vice-President who are elected to fill the vacancy should not be prescribed as one term.

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[Vacancies]

Esteemed delegates,

...delegates [have supported]...that if for some reason the post of President or Vice-President becomes vacant, and some one is elected to fill the vacancy, the term of office of that person shall be only up to the end of the original term of office. The National Unity Party...also discussed in support of this. Moreover, they also discussed that if the term of office of the President or Vice-President falls vacant when there is only three months or under three months left of the expiry of incumbent term, then the vacancy should not be filled with another person. If it is the post of the President, then the Vice-President is to fill the vacancy as acting President and if it is the post of Vice-President then the vacancy is to be filled up by one of the Vice-Presidents. If both the posts of the two Vice-Presidents fall vacant then the President should carry on with their duties. These proposals are to be taken into consideration. If the expiry of the term left is only three months or under three months and if someone is elected to fill the vacancy, then as the term is not much, the President or the Vice-President who is elected to fill the vacancy will not have enough time and condition to shoulder their responsibilities.

However, it is appraised that the points proposed by the National Unity Party...will be included in detail in the law necessary for the matter of electing the President of the Union. Therefore, it is appraised that... if for some reason the post of President or Vice-President becomes vacant, then a basic principle on the term of office of someone who is elected to fill the vacancy is to be laid down as follows:--

"If for some reason the post of President or Vice-President becomes vacant, and someone is elected to fill the vacancy, the term of office of the new President or Vice-President shall be only up to the end of the original term office."

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[Political activities by President]

Esteemed delegates,

...

In connection with...[the] basic principle ...that if the person elected President or Vice-President happens to be a member of a political party, he shall not participate in party activities of that party organization, from the date of such election, during the term of office, the Wa National Development Party proposed that if they are members of a party, then they should resign from the party. As the President or Vice-Presidents are national leaders, they should during their term of office strive for national politics, instead of party politics. So if they are members of a political party and if they are restricted from participating in respective party activities, then the objective contained in the basic principle which is to be laid down will be realized. As resigning or not resigning from the political party as its member is his own right, he should be given the privilege to do so as he wishes.

It is seen that the State service personnel delegates group has made a new proposal that a basic principle should be laid down that, if the President or Vice-Presidents are members of a social organization or a religious association, then they should not take part in the activities of such organizations and associations during the term of office from the date they are elected President or Vice-Presidents.

Serious consideration should be made regarding this proposal. It is considered that it will not be proper to impose too much

restriction on the President or Vice-Presidents. As the President and Vice-Presidents are persons leading the State, they should be given the liberty to reason and act on their own in the activities of the social organizations and religious associations of which they are members.

Hence, according to the proposals of the delegates groups, political parties and delegates it is to be appraised that a basic principle should be laid down as follows:--

-- the President and Vice-President shall not be representative of any Hluttaw,

-- if a Hluttaw representative is elected President or Vice-President, this person shall be deemed to have resigned from his seat in the Hluttaw, and if a service personnel be elected President or Vice-President, the person shall be deemed to have retired from the date of such election,

-- if a person elected President or Vice-President happens to be member of a political party, this person shall not participate in activities of that party organization, from the date of such election, during the term of office.

[Oaths of office]

Esteemed delegates,

It is seen that almost all of the delegates groups have proposed in support of the basic principle that the President or Vice-Presidents have to take the oaths of office before they take up their positions and responsibilities.

[list of delegate groups]...have submitted proposals on the points to be included on how the President and Vice-Presidents should take the oath of office.

In making an overall appraisal of the proposals, the main points proposed are as follows:--

(a) to abide by, and protect the Constitution of the State,

(b) to uphold the laws of the state,

(c) to work for non-disintegration of the Union, non-disintegration of national solidarity and perpetuation of sovereignty.

(d) to shoulder the duties and responsibilities bestowed by the State Constitution with righteousness and correctly and to stay free from bribery and corruption,

(e) to work for further flourishing of the noblest and worthiest of worldly values such as justice, liberty and equality,

Therefore, it is appraised that a basic principle should be laid down on how the oaths should be taken including the following ideas:--

-- to be loyal to the Union of Myanmar and the citizenry;

-- to ever hold in high esteem non-disintegration of the Union, non-disintegration of national solidarity and perpetuity of sovereignty,

-- to abide by, uphold and protect the State Constitution and the laws of the state,

-- to make utmost efforts in shouldering one's duties and responsibilities righteously and correctly,

-- to work for further flourishing of the noblest and worthiest of worldly values such as justice, liberty and equality,

-- to declare solemnly that he will owe his life and body to the state in the interests of the Union of Myanmar.

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[Other emoluments]

Esteemed delegates,

...all the delegates...have proposed that a basic principle should be laid down for the President of the Union and the Vice-Presidents not to accept any other office or position of emolument.

On studying the proposal made by the intelligentsia and intellectuals delegates group for laying down a basic principle that as the President of the Union is a person of high honour, it is not appropriate for the President to take part in party politics or accept any other office or position or emolument on retirement, the

President become an ordinary citizen again like he was before taking the position of a President and if restrictions are imposed on him not to take part in party political activities and avoid accepting other office or position of emolument it will amount to restricting his original rights.

Hence, it is appraised that a basic principle should be laid down for the President of the Union and Vice-Presidents not to accept any other office or position of emolument.

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[Lists of assets]

Esteemed delegates,

...all the delegates groups...discussed... that a basic principle should be laid down requiring the President of the Union and the Vice-Presidents to furnish lists of assets, namely family owned land, houses, buildings, businesses, savings and other valuables and stating their values, belonging to the respective families led by them and to send them to the leader of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw. However, it is seen that some delegates proposed that a period should be fixed to furnish the lists and to include them in the gazette to enable the public to know. These proposals are found to be procedural.

The Shan Nationalities League for Democracy proposed that it should be carried out by enacting a separate law and should not be included in the Constitution. It is also found on studying the separate laws are enacted based on the principles contained in the Constitution.

Hence, according to the proposals submitted by the various delegates groups and delegates, it is appraised that a basic principle should be laid down for the President of the Union and the Vice-Presidents to furnish lists of assets namely family owned land, houses, buildings, businesses, savings and other valuables, stating their values belonging to the respective families led by them and to send them to the Head of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw.

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[Residences and pensions]

Esteemed delegates,

...the various delegates groups...have proposed that a basic principle should be laid that the President of the Union and the Vice-Presidents should be each entitled to enjoy the emoluments and facilities of office in accordance with law and each of them should be entitled to have a suitable residence.

Moreover, if the President of the Union and the Vice-Presidents have shouldered their responsibilities without any fault and when they go on retirement, an appropriate pension and gratuity should be given and this should be taken into serious consideration. This is carried out after enacting a law in accordance with the provisions of the Constitution and including in the law minute details. Hence, a basic principle should be laid down to be included in the Constitution that the President of the Union and the Vice-Presidents shall each enjoy pension and appropriate gratuity after retirement, with the exception of those impeached and removed from office.

Hence, the President of the Union and the Vice-Presidents should be each entitled to enjoy the emolument and facilities of office in accordance with law and each of them should also be entitled to have a suitable residence.

It is to be appraised that a basic principle should also be laid down that the President of the Union and the Vice-Presidents shall enjoy a pension and appropriate gratuity after retirement.

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[Responsibilities and duties]

Esteemed delegates,

In connection with the responsibilities and duties of the President of the Union and the Vice-Presidents...the political parties...and representatives of the various delegates groups...approve the laying down a basic principle for the President of the Union and the Vice-Presidents to exercise responsibilities and

rights assigned and vested by the Constitution and other laws. However, some political groups...proposed in detail the responsibilities of the President of the Union and the Vice-Presidents. It is seen that the proposals...are points to be included as basic principles in the respective chapters contained in the Constitution and in promulgating other laws. Therefore,...it is to be appraised that a basic principle should be laid down as follows:--

-- "the President of the Union and the Vice-Presidents are to exercise responsibilities and rights [sic] assigned and vested by the Constitution and other law."

[Impeachment]

Esteemed delegates,

...the delegates groups agree...that the basic principles should be laid down for impeachment of the President or Vice-President for any of the following:--

- Treason,
- Violation of the principles of State Constitution
- Misconduct.

In addition to these three offences to impeach the President or a Vice-President ...the intelligentsia and intellectuals delegates group has proposed that one more offence as "Nullity of the qualifications prescribed by the State Constitution for the President" should be laid down.

It is appraised that if one of the qualifications prescribed for the President in the State Constitution is found to be absent, it is a cause to impeach the President or a Vice-President as the President or a Vice-President shall not have the right to be in office. It is also appraised that all delegates groups agree...in connection with laying down principles with regard to the procedures and provisions for impeachment of the President or a Vice-President.

In connection with the offences, procedures and provisions to impeach the President or a Vice-President, it is appraised that the basic principles should be laid down as follows:--

(1) The President or a Vice-President can be impeached for any of the following offences:

- (a) Treason,
- (b) Violation of the provisions prescribed in the State Constitution.
- (c) Misconduct,
- (d) Nullity of the qualifications of the President or the Vice-President prescribed in the State Constitution.

(2) If it is necessary to impeach the President or a Vice-President, the proposal signed by not less than one fourth the total membership of any of the two Hluttaws included in the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw is to be submitted to the Head of the respective Hluttaw.

(3) Only when supported by not less than two-thirds the total membership of respective Hluttaw, further action shall be taken.

(4) When the charge has been pressed by one Hluttaw, the other Hluttaw shall investigate the charge or cause it to be investigated by a body.

(5) The President or a Vice-President shall have the right to appear or to be represented at the investigation of the charge and be given chance to refute it.

(6) If, as a result of the investigation, a resolution be passed, supported by not less than two-thirds of the total membership of the Hluttaw by which the charge was investigated or caused to be investigated, declaring that the charge has been sustained and that the offence, the subject of the charge, was such as to render the President or the Vice-President unfit to continue in office, that Hluttaw should submit it to the Head of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw to remove the President or the Vice-President from office.

(7) Immediately thereupon, the Head of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw shall proceed to proclaim removal of the President or the Vice-President from office.

[Vacancies]

Esteemed delegates,

...with regard to the matter of how to proceed if the post of the President or the Vice-Presidents falls vacant due to his resignation or any other reason, the delegates groups have approved...basic principles....

It is therefore appraised that if the post of the President or a Vice-President falls vacant during the term of office due to his resignation, death, inability to discharge the powers and duties of the office or any other cause, the basic principles should be laid down as:--

(1) The President or Vice-President shall have the right to resign from office of his own volition before the expiry of the term of office.

(2) One of the two Vice-Presidents who has won second highest votes in the presidential election shall serve as Acting President if the post of the President if the post of President falls vacant due to his resignation, death, inability to discharge the powers and duties of the office or any other cause before the expiry of the term of office.

(3) If the vacancy comes about while Pyidaungsu Hluttaw is in session, the Acting President shall promptly inform the Head of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw for filling it within seven days.

(4) On receipt of the information, the Head of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw shall move for electing a Vice-President by the electoral college which elected the Vice-President who got elected President but has vacated the Presidency.

(5) After election of a new Vice-President there will be altogether three Vice-Presidents out of which one shall be elected to the office of the President in accord with the wishes of the representatives of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw.

(6) If the vacancy comes about at a time when the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw is not in session, the Head of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw shall summon a Hluttaw session within 21 days of the date of receipt of the intimation from the Acting President, and carry on for filling the vacant Presidency in the way mentioned above.

I hereby conclude. (NLM 4/9)

Clarification by U Aung Toe

Apr. 9 [full text]: Chairman of the National Convention Convening Work Committee U Aung Toe clarified the matter of laying down principles to form basis for the chapters on the State the State Structure and the Head of State to be included in the drafting of the State Constitution at the Plenary Session of the National Convention today.

The following is a translation ["basic principles" in boldface--HCMacD.].

Esteemed delegates to the National Convention,

I extend my best wishes for wellbeing in mind and body and all auspiciousness for the delegates to the National Convention.

As known to the delegates, the principles to form basis in formulating State fundamental principles in drafting the State Constitution have already been laid down. It has also been discussed and agreed by the delegate groups that, from among these principles, those that should be included under the chapters on the State, the State Structure and the Head of State should be transferred thereunder. Moreover, it is found the delegate groups have openly expressed their views bringing out principles to be included in detail under these chapters.

It is also found that from among the proposals presented, relevant ones have been collected and objectively appraised by the Panel of Chairmen of the Plenary Session of the National Convention.

So, on the basis of the proposals of the delegates and the appraisals of the Panel of Chairmen, detailed principles that should be laid down, within the framework of the six objectives of the National Convention and the already adopted basic principles, were submitted by the National Convention Convening Work Committee to the National Convention Convening Commission. As the principles so

submitted have been approved by the National Convention Convening Commission, the basic principles to be laid down for the chapters of the State, the State Structure and the Head of State will now be presented and clarified.

[Chapter on "The State"]

In connection with the chapter on the State, the basic principles that have been already adopted are as follows:

- (1) Myanmar Naing-Ngan is a sovereign, independent nation;
- (2) The State shall be known as Pyidaungsu Thamada Myanmar Naing-Ngan-Daw;
- (3) Sovereign power of the State is derived from the citizens and is in force in the whole country;
- (4) The territory of the State is as it is on the day this Constitution is adopted.
[Land, sea and airspace]

In connection with the fourth principle, addition of the words "inclusive of the land, sea and airspace of the State" was proposed by the delegates concerned and also appraised as appropriate by the Panel of Chairmen. Such addition is not contrary to the already adopted basic principle but makes it more complete. So, with that addition, it is laid down that "the territorial boundary inclusive of the land, sea and airspace of the State is as it is on the day the State Constitution comes into force."

[A land of many national races]

Esteemed Chairman,

The delegate groups have pointed out that Myanmar is a nation inhabited by various national races collectively together since time immemorial, that there are slight variations in languages, cultures, topographical conditions of the lands of the nationals inhabiting the Myanmar Naing-Ngan but the very fact that all of the many nations have been living unitedly together is the beauty and splendour of Myanmar Naing-Ngan-Daw and its people, that a study of the chapter of the State in the State Constitution should right away make it clear that Myanmar Naing-Ngan is a nation inhabited by intermingling national races, and that, accordingly, it should be mentioned that the Pyidaungsu Thamada Myanmar Naing-Ngan-Daw is a nation collectively inhabited by various national races. The Panel of Chairmen too has appraised that these should be included as a basic principle in the chapter on the State.

So, in accord with the discussion by the delegates and the appraisal by the Panel of Chairmen, a basic principle is hereby laid down to the effect that "the Naing-Ngan-Daw is a nation collectively inhabited by various national races."

[Chapter on "The State Structure"]

Esteemed Chairman,

In connection with the State Structure, the already adopted basic principles are as follows:

- (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) the names of those seven regions and seven states are retained as they are at present.
- (4) if it is desired to change the name of a region or a state, it shall be done so with enactment of the 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 go regions or states;
- (6) depending on size of population and inhabited area, they are to be prescribed as self-administered divisions or self-administered zones as suitable. A commission responsible for prescribing so is to be formed by the State;

(7) no part of the territory of the Union, namely regions, states and self-administered areas etc. shall ever secede from the Union.

In my clarification at the Plenary Session of the National Convention held on 18 January 1994, I explained that, if there were principles that should be included in detail within the framework of the already adopted basic principles in the chapter on the State Structure, they be discussed and proposed by the delegates.
[Seven regions and seven states]

In the clarification, I also explained that in accord with the already adopted basic principles, a principle should additionally be laid down, as follows:

(1) The State is delineated and constituted with the seven regions and seven states as follows:

- 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

(2) Regions and States are of equal status and authority.
Esteemed Chairman,

It was proposed by the delegates and endorsed by the Panel of Chairmen that the basic principle "The State is constituted by the Pyidaungsu (Union) system" should be transferred to the chapter on the State Structure.

In connection with the principle "The existing seven regions are designated regions and the existing seven states are designated seven states. Those seven regions and seven states are of equal status and authority," it is found that my clarifications have been supported by the delegates groups and endorsed by the Panel of Chairmen. Those discussions were found to be in accord with the already adopted basic principles. so, in accord with the discussions of the delegates and appraisals of the Panel of Chairmen, principles to form basis are laid down as follows with the addition of names of regions and states.

(1) The State is delineated and constituted with the seven regions and seven states as follows:

- 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

(2) Regions and States are of equal status and authority.
[Name changes of regions or states]

Esteemed Chairman,

In connection with the already adopted principle "If it is necessary to change the name of a region or a state, it shall be done so with enactment of law after ascertaining the wishes of the citizens residing in the region or state concerned" it was proposed

by the delegates that it should be included in the chapter on the State Structure. It was appraised by the Panel of Chairmen that, to be more precise, the clause 'who have the right to vote' should be added to the term 'the citizens' as proposed by one delegate group. It is found to be appropriate.

So, the clause 'who have the right to vote' will be added and the principle "If it is desired to change the name of a region or a state, it shall be done after ascertaining the wishes of the citizens who have the right to vote and are residing in the region or state concerned" will be transferred to the chapter on the State Structure. [No secession]

Esteemed Chairman,

As proposed by the delegates and appraised by the Panel of Chairmen, the already adopted principle "no part of the territory of the Union, namely regions, states and self-administered areas etc. shall ever secede from the Union," will be transferred to the chapter on the State Structure.

[Self-administered areas; decisions deferred]

Esteemed Chairman,

Basic principles have been laid down to the effect that "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", "depending on size of population and inhabited area, they are to be prescribed as self-administered divisions or self-administered zones as suitable," and "a commission responsible for prescribing so is to be formed by the State".

In connection with this, I explained at the Plenary Session of the National Convention held on 18 January 1994 that the State's setting up a commission for prescribing self-administered divisions or self-administered zone was a procedural matter, that the will to act for the national brethren to get their due rights expeditiously was bound to be unanimous in all the delegates to the National Convention, and that, accordingly, if the National Convention delegates themselves discussed and prescribed 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 the 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 would be pleased and it would further consolidate national unity.

[Proposals for self-administered areas]

In connection with this, I will review some discussions of the delegates.

[Naga] A Naga national delegate in the national race delegates group proposed that Naga Hill Tract Hkamti District's Hkamti Township, Homalin Township, Leshi Township, Lahe Township and Namyun Township should be taken together and prescribed as self-administered division or self-administered zone for Naga nationals in this Constitution to be written.

[Danu] Danu national delegates in the national race delegates group proposed that Ywangan Township, Pindaya Township, Kalaw Township, Yaksauk Township, Nawngkhio Township, three village-tracts in Taunggyi Township, Monglon area in Kyaukme Township in Shan State, and some villages of two village-tracts in Thazi Township, Mandalay Division should be rendered contiguous and prescribed as self-administered division for Danu nationals.

[Pa-O] Pa-O national delegates in the national race delegates group proposed that Taunggyi Township, Hopong Township, Hsiseng Township, Yawnghwe Township, Kalaw Township, Pinlaung Township, Yaksauk Township, Loilem Township, Namhsan Township, Mongnai Township, Maukmai Township, Langhkio Township, Mongpan Township, Laicha Township, Mongkaing Township, etc. inhabited by Pa-O nationals mostly be prescribed as a self-administered division for Pa-O

nationals.

[Ta-Arng (Palaung)] Ta-Arng Palaung national delegates in the national race delegates group proposed that Namkham Township, Kutkai Township, Namtu Township, Namhsan Township, Kyaukme Township, Hsipaw Township west sector and north sector, Manton (new town), Mong Ngau (new town), Mongmit Township, and Mogok Township's Ta-Arn Palaung village-tracts should be taken together and prescribed as self-administered division for Ta-Arng (Palaung) nationals.

[Kayan] Kayan national delegates in the national race delegates group proposed inclusion of a constitutional provision that will make it possible to prescribe a self-administered zone for Kayan nationals who had been spread in three States and one Division because of the infamous division perpetrated by British colonialists, despite the fact that Kayan nationals had been living closely together previously.

[Kachin lowlanders/Putao] Four national delegates from Kachin State in the national race delegates group proposed on the basis of area that Mohnyin Township, Mogaung Township, Kamaing Township, Bhamo Township, Shwegu Township, Mansi Township be taken together and prescribed as Kachin State low land z self-administered zone and that Putao area of Kachin State be prescribed as a self-administered zone.

[Wa] Wa national delegate in the national race delegates group proposed inclusion of a basic principle in the chapter on the State Structure being written now for prescribing 17 townships in Mongmau District, Panyang District, Kengtung District, Mongping District and Monghpyak District as self-administered division for Wa nationals.

[Kachins in Shan] Kachin national delegate from Shan State (North) Lashio Township in the national race delegates group proposed, with reference to expanse of territory, that self-administered area be prescribed for Kachin nationals in Shan State (North) and if it cannot be done in any way the Kachin nationals in Shan State (North) be not included in any national race's self-administered zone but kept under the direct administration of Shan State.

[Akha] The national race delegate from Shan State (East) Kengtung Township in the national race delegates group proposed with references to territory, for prescribing self-administered zone for Akha nationals.

[Inntha] Two national race delegates from Shan State (South) in the national race delegates group proposed that the National Convention lay down principle to prescribe Inle area as self-administered special area for Inntha nationals or Union territory directly administered by the Union (central) government.

[Khami] Khami national delegate in the national race delegates group proposed that Paletwa area be prescribed as Paletwa Hill Tract self-administered division.

[Kayan] The Kayan delegate in the other invited persons' group proposed that some Division and State boundaries be redemarcated so as to constitutionally group together the Kayan nationals who are actually grouped together on contiguous areas and that the Kayan national area that would consequently come into existence be incorporated into Kayah State for utmost convenience.

[Kokang] The delegate from Shan State (North) special area (1) in the other invited persons' group proposed that the area inhabited by Kokang nationals be constituted as Shan State North No. (1) special administration area and that it would be more appropriate to proceed by forming a commission in connection with demarcation of territory.

[Wa] The delegate from Shan State (North) special area (2) proposed that the National Convention lay down as a principle to form basis in writing the new State Constitution, to prescribe for Wa nationals a self-administered division directly administered by the central government like the self-administered Chin Special Division pending attainment of Chin Statehood.

[Shans in Sagaing and Kachin] The delegate from Shan State (North) special area (3) proposed that it should be taken up to

consideration if there are proposals submitted to prescribe suitable self-administered divisions or self-administered areas also for Tailian, Tinay, Taihsa, Taihkamti, Taikadu, Taiganan, Taihkwam etc. that belong to Shan national race, who are closely together inhabiting upper Sagaing Division and lower Kachin State.

[Akha/Lwe] The delegate from Shan State (North) special area (4) proposed that the special area (4) be prescribed as self-administered division and that this division will have Akha self-administered district, Shan self-administered district and Lwe self-administered district set up within it.

[Kachins in Shan] A delegate from Shan State (North) special area (5) proposed that self-administered division of Kachin nationals under leadership and guidance of the Government of the Union be prescribed in Shan State (North) for Kachin nationals of special area (5) although they already have Kachin State.

[Pa-O] The delegate from Shan State (South) special area (6) proposed that self-administered division be prescribed for Pa-O nationals who have a sizeable population and contiguous area of inhabitation in Taunggyi District and Loilem District.

[Ta-Arng (Palaung)] The delegate from Shan State (North) special area (7) proposed that, as Ta-Arng (Palaung) are living in Mogok Township, Kyaukme Township, Hsipaw Township west sector and north sector, Namtu Township, Mongmit Township, Kutkai Township, Namhkam Township and Namhsan Township, closely together on contiguous areas of inhabitation, a self-administered division should be prescribed for Ta-Arng (Palaung) nationals, giving references to the expanse of territory.

[Kholon Lishaw] One delegate in the other invited persons' group proposed that it should be considered how it will be arranged if there is sizeable population and common area of inhabitation of Kholon Lishaw nationals who mostly live grouped together along Namhkam Kutkai hill tracts, if they do not qualify to have self-administered zone.

[Monwun] A delegate in the other invited persons' group proposed that the area of Monwun be so designated as in the case of other national groups and prescribed as of a suitable status.

The National Unity Party in the political parties delegates group stated that points submitted by the party were only for consideration in prescribing self-administered areas and demarcating boundaries and proposed that it would be more appropriate to prescribe them after scrutiny with broad participation of representatives of nationals of the areas concerned in practice.

[Pa-O] Union Pa-O National Organization specially requested National Convention delegates to help with amity and sympathy for prescribing self-administered divisions and self-administered zones for Pa-O and other national brethren.

[Kokang] Shan State Kokang Democratic Party proposed that self-administered division for Kokang nationals be prescribed openly and clearly in this State Constitution being written.

[Khami] Mro (or) Khami National Solidarity Organization proposed that some townships in Rakhine State north and Paletwa Township be joined and taken together and prescribed as self-administered division for Mro (or) Khami nationals.

[Lahu] Lahu National Development Party proposed that Mongping Township, Monghsat Township and Mongtong Township be grouped together and prescribed Lahu national autonomous zone and that the government set up a commission to do so.

[Kayin] Union Kayin League proposed that "exclusive of Kayin State" be added as an exception to the clause "other than national races who already got their regions or states" and that if Pa-O, Palaung, Danu, Lahu, Akha, Wa, Kokang, Mro (or) Khami, Naga, Lisu and other deserving races of their own will desire self-administration it should be granted as they desire.

[Kokang] Kokang Democracy and Unity Party said it submits a proposal to seek opinion openly and sincerely at the National Convention for prescribing Shan State special area (1) Kokang area as

self-administered area (division or zone) in the framework of the State Constitution in accord with the change and development of the course of history.

[Wa] Wa National Development Party submitted that whether Wa State or Wa region, areas are prescribed by the National Convention or by a commission as a state or only as a self-administered division for Wa nationals, they wanted direct access with the Union Government, and not through any Region or State Hluttaw, so as to get the right to shape their own destiny, within the framework of policies to be laid down by the State, for political, economic, social, administrative and regional development of their self-administered area.

National League for Democracy proposed emphatically that the Government of the Union work through formation of a commission for the matter of prescribing self-administered division or zone, and generally that the commission be formed with leaders of the country, national race leaders recognized by the national races residing in the areas concerned and experts.

Shan Nationalities League for Democracy submitted that the clause "other than national races who have already got states" should not be included, that if it is considered necessary to prescribe area for Mro (or) Khami in Rakhine State, it is necessary also to prescribe self-administered area for delta Kayins in Ayeyarwady Division, different from east Kayins because the population of delta Kayins is bigger than the population of Kayin State, and likewise, national areas should be prescribed for Chin nationals and Naga nationals in Magway Division west sector and Sagaing Division west sector, national group areas should be prescribed for Mon nationals in Kayin State, and it is specially necessary to prescribe state or self-administered division for Tailai nationals in upper Sagaing Division and lower Kachin State.

Shan State Kokang Democratic Party delegate and independent delegates in the representatives-elect group submitted that self-administered areas be prescribed for Kokang, Danu, Pa-O, Palaung, Bamar, Wa etc. nationals in Shan State, for Chin, Kuki Chin and Naga Chin nationals in Sagaing Division, and for Asho Chin and Mro nationals in Magway Division and Rakhine State.

The independent representative from Kya-in Seikkyi Constituency No. (1) and the independent representative from Ywangan Constituency submitted that a commission be formed in connection with the matter of prescribing self-administered division or self-administered zone. [Decisions postponed to next session]

Esteemed Chairman,

At the Plenary Session of the National Convention held on 18 January 1994, I explained that in regions or states, in addition to national races who have got Regions or States, there are other national races as well, that some national races have appropriate populations and are found to be residing close together on the same stretches of land, that self-administered division or self-administered zone is to be prescribed on the basis of size of population and area of land of those nationals, and that the National Convention delegates themselves were to discuss whether or not the National Convention should prescribe right away for the national brethren to get their due rights expeditiously.

I have now presented excerpts from discussion of delegate groups, political parties and some delegates in connection with adoption of principles to form basis in prescribed self-administered divisions or self-administered zones so that they may be seen all together.

In studying these discussions, it is seen that national races who have submitted proposals for prescribing self-administered divisions or self-administered zones are considerably numerous.

Moreover, it is seen that some areas submitted to be prescribed as self-administered divisions or self-administered zones of various national races are overlapping one another. Some have proposed that these self-administered divisions or self-administered zones be

placed under direct administration of the President of the Union or the central government. Some submitted for prescribing self-administered divisions or self-administered zones not on the basis of national race but on the basis of area of inhabitation. Some submitted proposal for formation of commission and conducting of studies while the National Convention is in progress. Some submitted proposal for formation of commission to proceed with the work. Moreover, some submitted proposal for making arrangements about affairs of national races in relation with the matter of prescribing self-administered divisions or self-administered zones.

The proposals made by the delegates as they spoke out their minds openly along with the clarifications of reasons are, as appraised by the Panel of Chairmen, so numerous and extensive it is necessary to take time to deal with them. It is also appraised that it is still necessary to take time and scrutinize the proposals on prescribing self-administered divisions or self-administered zones to see if they are in accord with the already adopted principles or not.

So I would like to submit that it is not yet appropriate to lay down principles to form basis in connection with prescribing self-administered divisions or self-administered zones at the current Plenary Session of the National Convention and in view of explanations given here the matter under discussion of laying down principles thereon will be discussed and coordinated in continuation at the National Convention session to be reconvened next time.

[Subdivisions of Union]

Esteemed Chairman,

In connection with the State Structure, the delegates in their discussions concurred that a basic principle should be laid down to constitute the Union, as in my clarification. In so doing the State service personnel group has proposed in addition to laying down a basic principle to the effect that Regions, States and Union territories shall be together constituted as the Union. The Panel of Chairmen too has appraised that it would be appropriate to lay down as proposed.

Accordingly, in connection with the State Structure, basic principles are laid down in constituting the Union as follows:

- villages are organized into village-tract,
- wards are organized into town or township,
- village-tracts and wards or towns are organized into township,
- townships are organized into district,
- districts are organized into region or state,
- in a self-administered zone townships therein are organized into the self-administered zone,
- in self-administered division townships therein are organized into district and districts are organized into the self-administered division,
- if there be self-administered division or self-administered zone in a region or a state, the self-administered division, self-administered zone and districts are organized into region or state,
- regions, states and Union territories are organized as the Union.

[Re-delineation of national territory]

Esteemed Chairman,

Based on the discussions of the National Convention delegates and appraisals of the Panel of Chairmen, principles to form basis in connection with re-delineation of the territorial boundary of the Union in the chapter on the State Structure are laid down as follows:

(1) if the need arises to re-delineate the territorial boundary of the Union, the President of the Union shall first inform the leader of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw and ask him to seek the opinion of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw,

(2) the leader of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw, after receiving the intimation of the President of the Union to re-delineate of the territorial boundary of the Union, shall seek the opinions of the Hluttaw representatives as follows:

- (a) assenting votes of more than half the total number of

representatives included in the Hluttaw with equal numbers of representatives elected from regions and states,

(b) assenting votes of more than half the total number of representatives included in the Hluttaw elected on the basis of population,

(c) assenting votes of more than half the number of representatives from the region or state involving the boundary concerned in the two Hluttaws,

(3) the leader of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw, after obtaining the assenting votes as mentioned above, shall inform the President of the Union for re-delineating the territorial boundary of the Union,

(4) if any Hluttaw or representative from the region or state involving the boundary concerned in the two Hluttaws, following the methods mentioned above, dissent in connection with the re-delineation of the territorial boundary of the Union, action shall be taken after obtaining the opinion of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw. If the three-fourths and upwards of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw representatives assent, the leader of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw shall inform the President of the Union for the re-delineation of the territorial boundary of the Union as necessary,

(5) the President of the Union shall take necessary measures for re-delineation of the territorial boundary after obtaining the opinions of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw.

[State/Region boundaries]

Esteemed Chairman,

Based on the discussions of the National Convention delegates and appraisals of the Panel of Chairmen on the methods that should be applied if there arises the need to re-delineate the territorial boundary of a region or a state, the following basic principles are laid down to be stated in the chapter on the State Structure:

(1) if there arises cause to re-delineate the boundary of a region or a state, first of all the wishes of persons with voting rights residing in the township involved in the re-delineation of the boundary shall be sought,

(2) re-delineation of the territorial boundary shall not be effected at all without supporting vote of more than half the total number of eligible voters residing in the township involved in the re-delineation of the boundary,

(3) if more than half the number of eligible voters in the township concerned vote in support of the re-delineation of the boundary, the wishes of the involved region or state Hluttaw representatives shall be sought,

(4) the President of the Union, with the approval of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw, shall re-delineate the territorial boundary of a region or state, after getting the supporting vote of three-fourths and upwards of the total number of involved region or state Hluttaw representatives,

(5) the decision of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw shall be sought if an involved region or state Hluttaw passes a decision against re-delineation of the boundary,

(6) the President of the Union shall re-delineate the boundary of the region or state as necessary if it supported by three-fourths and upwards of the total number of representatives in the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw.

[Local boundary or name changes]

Esteemed Chairman,

Based on the discussions and proposals of the National Convention delegates and appraisals of the Panel of Chairmen in connection with re-delineation of the boundary, organization and change of name of a village, village-tract, ward, town, township and district in a region, state, self-administered division or self-administered zone, the following basic principle is laid down to be stated in the chapter on the State Structure:

If occasion arises to make changes in the boundary, organization or name of a village, village-tract, ward, town, township or district in a region, state, self-administered division

or self-administered zone, the region or state executive authority concerned shall submit recommendations to the President of the Union, and the President of the Union shall then act accordingly.

[Self-administered area names]

Esteemed Chairman,

Based on the discussions and proposals of the delegate groups and appraisals of the Panel of Chairmen in connection with the methods to be applied if it is desired to change the name of a self-administered division or self-administered zone, a basic principle is laid down as follows and it will be stated in the chapter on the State Structure:

If it is desired to change the name of a self-administered division or self-administered zone, the same methods shall be applied as in the case of a change of name of the region or state.

[Union territories]

Esteemed Chairman,

Based on the discussion of the National Convention delegates and appraisals of the Panel of Chairmen in connection with designating Union territories to be placed under the direct administration of the President of the Union, the following basic principles are laid down:

(1) Yangon City, that is the Capital of the Union, is designated as Union territory under direct administration of the President of the Union,

(2) Cocogyun Township which has a special situation is designated as Union territory and under direct administration of the President of the Union,

(3) if the need arises to designate areas that have special situation in connection with national defence, security, administration and economy etc. as Union territories they may be so designated as Union territories under direct administration of the President of the Union after enacting laws.

The principles will be stated in the chapter on the State Structure. Where I have earlier presented the principle "The Union shall be delineated and constituted with seven regions and seven states", the Union territories to be placed under direct administration of the Union" will be added as necessary, to read "The Union shall be delineated and constituted with seven regions, seven states and Union territories."

[Chapter on "The Head of State"]

[Role of President]

Esteemed Chairman,

The principles that will form basis in the chapter on the Head of State shall now be presented. The basic principle "The Head of State is the President of the Union" has already been laid down. Moreover, the delegates have discussed and proposed that the following principles to form basis should be laid down:

(1) the President of the Union represents the nation,

(2) the President of the Union is national leader of all the citizenry,

(3) the President of the Union occupies a position of the highest honour in the whole of the Union of Myanmar.

However, some delegates have discussed and suggested that it would not be appropriate to state in the Constitution that the President of the Union is the national leader of all the citizenry. The Panel of Chairmen has taken into account of these discussions with seriousness and then appraised that the principle, "The President of the Union is the national leader of all the citizenry" should not be laid down to form basis. Based on the discussions of the delegates and appraisals of the Panel of Chairmen, the following principles to form basis are laid down:

(1) the President of the Union represents the nation,

(2) the President of the Union occupies a position of the highest honour in the whole of the Union of Myanmar.

In addition to the principle, "The Head of State is the President of the Union" which has already been laid down, the two principles just laid down will be stated in the chapter on the Head of State.

[Qualifications of President and Vice-Presidents]

Esteemed Chairman,

Qualifications of the President and the Vice-Presidents to be stated in the chapter on the Head of State will now be presented.

Based on the discussions and proposals of the National Convention delegates and appraisals of the Panel of Chairmen, the following principles to form basis are laid down in connection with qualifications of the President of the Union and Vice-Presidents in the chapter on the Head of State:

(1) the President of the Union shall be loyal to the Union and the citizenry,

(2) the President of the Union must be a citizen of Myanmar who was, and both of whose parents were, born in the territory under the jurisdiction of the State, belonging to the nationality of Myanmar,

(3) the elected President of the Union shall be a person who has fully attained the age of 45,

(4) the President of the Union shall be well acquainted with affairs of State such as political, administrative, economic and military affairs,

(5) 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,

(6) the President of the Union himself, parents, spouse, children and their spouses shall not owe allegiance to a foreign power, shall not be subject of a foreign power or citizen of a foreign country. They shall not be persons entitled to the rights and privileges of a subject or citizen of a foreign country.

(7) the President of the Union shall possess specific qualifications required of the President in addition to qualifications required to stand for election to the Hluttaw,

(8) the Vice-President shall possess qualifications required of the President.

[Electoral college]

Esteemed Chairman,

All the National Convention delegates have already heard the discussions of the various delegate groups and appraisals of the Panel of Chairmen in connection with the election of the President and the Vice-Presidents. Based on the proposals of the National Convention delegates and appraisals of the Panel of Chairmen, the following principles to form basis are laid down in connection with the formation of the presidential electoral college, election of the President and Vice-Presidents and promulgation of the law for presidential election to be stated in the chapter on the Head of State:

(1) the President of the Union shall be elected by the presidential electoral college,

(2) the presidential electoral college shall be organized with three groups of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw representatives as follows:

(a) Group formed with elected Hluttaw representatives in the Hluttaw with equal numbers of representatives elected from regions and states,

(b) Group formed with elected Hluttaw representatives in the Hluttaw elected on basis of population,

(c) Group formed with Tatmadaw member Hluttaw representatives nominated as such by the Commander-in-Chief of the Defence Services for the said two Hluttaws,

(3) each group shall elect a Vice-President from among Hluttaw representatives or from among persons who are not Hluttaw representatives,

(4) a body comprising the leaders and deputy leaders of the

two Hluttaws in the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw shall scrutinize whether or not the Vice-President possess the qualifications prescribed for the President,

(5) the presidential electoral college made up of all the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw representatives shall vote one of the three Vice-Presidents who are presidential candidates, as the President of the Union,

(6) law shall be enacted as required for presidential election.

[Presidential term and re-election]

Esteemed Chairman,

Based on the discussions and proposals of the National Convention delegates and appraisals of the Panel of Chairmen in connection with designating the duration of the term and the number of terms for the President of the Union, the following principles to form basis are laid down and to be stated in the chapter on the Head of State:

(1) the term of office of the President or the Vice-Presidents is five years,

(2) after expiry of incumbent term, the President and Vice-Presidents shall carry on in office till the time the new President and Vice President are duly elected,

(3) the President and Vice-Presidents shall not serve more than two terms,

(4) an interim period to serve as the President or Vice-President shall not be counted as one term of office,

(5) if a vacancy is filled for the presidency or vice-presidency for any reason, the term of office of the President or the Vice-President shall be up to the end of the original term of office.

[Activities of President or Vice-Presidents]

Esteemed Chairman,

Based on the discussions of the National Convention delegates and appraisals of the Panel of Chairmen, the following principles to form basis are laid down to be stated in connection with the President and Vice-Presidents in the chapter on the Head of State:

(1) the President or the Vice-Presidents shall not be representatives of any Hluttaw,

(2) if a Hluttaw representative be elected President or Vice-President, this person shall be deemed to have resigned from his seat in the Hluttaw, and if a service personnel be elected President or Vice-President, the persons shall be deemed to have resigned or retired from the date of such election,

(3) if a person elected President or Vice-President happens to be member of a political party, this person shall not participate in party activities of that party organization, from the date of such election, during the term of office.

[Oath of office]

Esteemed Chairman,

Before assuming responsibilities, the President or the Vice-Presidents have to take oath of office. The President and the Vice-Presidents of our nation, too, should begin carrying out their respective duties only after taking oath of office before the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw representatives.

As to how they should take the oaths of office is usually prescribed in the Constitution. So, based on the appraisals of the National Convention delegates and the Panel of Chairmen in connection with the taking of oaths of office of the President and Vice-Presidents, the basic principle should be laid down to include the following points in taking of oaths of office by the President and the Vice-Presidents:

(1) to be loyal to the Union of Myanmar and the citizenry,

(2) to hold always in esteem non-disintegration of the Union, non-disintegration of national solidarity and perpetuation of sovereignty,

(3) to uphold and abide by the State Constitution and to abide by laws of the State,

(4) to carry out the responsibilities uprightly to the best of one's ability,

(5) to strive for further flourishing of worldly values such as justice, liberty and equality,

(6) to solemnly declare and pledge dedication of life and person to the service of the Union of Myanmar.

[Responsibilities, rights, and privileges]

Esteemed Chairman,

Based on the proposals of the National Convention delegates and appraisals of the Panel of Chairmen on the exercise of responsibilities, rights and privileges of the President and the Vice-Presidents, the following principles to form basis are laid down:

(1) the President or the Vice-Presidents shall exercise responsibilities and rights assigned and vested by the Constitution and other laws,

(2) the President and the Vice-Presidents shall not accept any other office or position of emolument,

(3) the President and the Vice-Presidents shall furnish lists of assets namely family owned land, houses, buildings, businesses, 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,

(4) the President and the Vice-Presidents shall be entitled to enjoy the emolument and facilities of office, in accord with law. Each shall also be entitled to have a suitable residence,

(5) except in the case of removal from office following impeachment, the President and the Vice-Presidents shall enjoy pension and appropriate allowances on retirement after expiry of the term of office.

[Impeachment]

Esteemed Chairman,

Based on the proposals of the National Convention delegates and appraisals of the Panel of Chairmen in connection with methods to be applied in impeachment of the President or the Vice-President, the following principles to form basis are laid down in the chapter on the Head of State:

(1) the President or any Vice-President shall be impeached for one of the following reasons:

(a) treason,

(b) violation of the provisions of the Constitution,

(c) misconduct,

(d) being disqualified for the Presidency or Vice-Presidency under the Constitution,

(2) if it is desired to impeach the President or any Vice-President, not less than one-fourth of the total membership of any of the two Hluttaws included in the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw is to sign a charge and submit it to the leader of the Hluttaw concerned,

(3) further action shall be taken if not less than two-thirds of the total membership of the Hluttaw concerned support the charge,

(4) if one Hluttaw supports to take action in connection with the charge, the other Hluttaw shall investigate the charge or form a body to investigate the charge,

(5) the President or the Vice-President shall have the right to refute the charge personally or through a representative when it is investigated,

(6) if not less than two-thirds of the total membership of the Hluttaw by which the charge was investigated or caused to be investigated, declares after the investigation that the charge has been sustained and then decides that the offence, the subject of the charge, is such as to render the President or the Vice-President unfit to continue in office, that Hluttaw shall submit it to the leader of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw to remove the President or Vice-President from office,

(7) the leader of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw shall proclaim removal of the President or Vice-President immediately after the

receipt of the information.

[Resignation or vacancy]

Esteemed Chairman,

Based on the discussions of the National Convention delegates and appraisals of the Panel of Chairmen on the methods to be applied if the post of the President or Vice-President falls vacant before the expiry of the term of office due to resignation, death, permanent disability to discharge duties or any other cause, the following principles to form basis are laid down in the chapter on the Head of State:

(1) the President or the Vice-President shall be allowed to resign from office of his own volition before the expiry of the term of office,

(2) one of the two Vice-Presidents who has own the second highest votes in the presidential election shall serve as Acting President if the post of the President falls vacant due to his resignation, death, permanent disability or any other cause,

(3) if the vacancy of the President comes about while the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw is in session, the Acting President shall promptly inform the lead of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw for filling it within seven days,

(4) on receipt of the intimation, the leader of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw shall move for electing of a Vice-President by the representatives group which had elected the Vice-President who later got elected President but who vacated the Presidency,

(5) after the representatives group concerned has elected a Vice-President, the electoral college made up of all the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw representatives shall elect the President of the Union out of three Vice-Presidents,

(6) if the vacancy comes about when the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw is not in session, the leader of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw shall summon a Pyidaungsu Hluttaw session within 21 days from the date of receipt of the intimation from the Acting President, and carry on for filling the vacant presidency in the way stated above,

(7) if the post of a Vice-President falls vacant due to resignation, death, permanent disability or any other cause while the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw is in session, the President shall promptly inform the leader of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw to enable the Hluttaw representatives group which has elected the just vacated Vice-President to elect a new Vice-President within seven days,

(8) if the vacancy comes about when the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw is not in session, the leader of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw shall summon the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw session within 21 days, and carry on for the filling of the Vice-Presidency by the Hluttaw representatives group in the prescribed method.

:Final Compilation of Principles

[Final compiled list of basic principles]

Out of the basic principles to form basis already laid down in connection with the chapter headings on the State, the State Structure and the Head of State, those to be transferred to the relevant chapter, those added to them and detailed principles of the respective chapters shall be presented.

[THE STATE]

Principles to form basis in connection with the chapter on the State are--

(1) Myanmar Naing-Ngan is a sovereign, independent nation;

(2) The State shall be known as Pyidaungsu Thamada Myanmar Naing-Ngan-Daw;

(3) The Naing-Ngan-Daw is a nation collectively inhabited by various national races together;

(4) Sovereign power of the State is derived from the citizens and is in force in the whole country;

(5) the territorial boundary inclusive of the land, sea and airspace of the State is as it is on the day the State Constitution

comes into force.

[THE STATE STRUCTURE]

Principles to form basis in connection with the chapter in the State Structure are--

(1) The State is constituted by Pyidaungsu (Union) system;
(2) The State is delineated and constituted with the seven regions, seven states and Union territories as follows:

- 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

(3) 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 after ascertaining the wishes of the citizens who have the right to vote and residing in the region or state concerned;
(5) No part of the territory of the Union, namely regions, states, Union territories and self-administered areas etc. shall ever secede from the Union;

(6) In organizing the Union --
-- villages are organized into village-tract,
-- wards are organized into town or township,
-- village-tracts and wards or towns are organized into township,
-- townships are organized into district,
-- districts are organized into region or state,
-- in a self-administered zone townships therein are organized into the self-administered zone,
-- in self-administered division, townships therein are organized into district and districts are organized into the self-administered division,
-- if there be self-administered division or self-administered zone in a region or a state, the self-administered division, self-administered zone and districts are organized into region or state,
-- regions, states and Union territories are organized as the Union.

(7) In connection with re-delineation for the territorial boundary of the Union--

(a) If the need arises to re-delineate the territorial boundary of the Union, the President of the Union shall first inform the leader of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw and ask him to seek the opinion of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw.

(b) The leader of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw, after receiving the intimation of the President of the Union to re-delineate of the territorial boundary of the Union, shall seek the opinions of the Hluttaw representatives as follows:

(1) assenting votes of more than half the total number of representatives included in the Hluttaw with equal numbers of representatives elected from regions and states,

(2) assenting votes of more than half the total number of representatives included in the Hluttaw elected on the basis of population,

(3) assenting votes of more than half the number of representatives from the region or state involving the boundary concerned in the two Hluttaws.

(c) The leader of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw, after obtaining the assenting votes as mentioned above, shall inform the President of the Union for re-delineating the territorial boundary of the Union.

(d) If any Hluttaw or representative from the region or state involving the boundary concerned in the two Hluttaws, following the methods mentioned above, dissent in connection with the re-delineation of the territorial boundary of the Union, action shall be taken after obtaining the opinion of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw. If the three-fourths and upwards of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw representatives assent, the leader of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw shall inform the President of the Union for the re-delineation of the territorial boundary of the Union as necessary.

(e) The President of the Union shall take necessary measures for re-delineation of the territorial boundary after obtaining the opinions of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw.

(8) In connection with re-delineation of the territorial boundaries of a region or a state--

(a) If there arises cause to re-delineate the boundary of a region or a state, first of all the wishes of persons with voting rights residing in the township involved in the re-delineation of the boundary shall be sought.

(b) Re-delineation of the territorial boundary shall not be effected at all without supporting vote of more than half the total number of eligible voters residing in the township involved in the re-delineation of the boundary.

(c) If more than half the number of eligible voters in the township concerned vote in support of the re-delineation of the boundary, the wishes of the involved region or state Hluttaw representatives shall be sought.

(d) The President of the Union, with the approval of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw, shall re-delineate the territorial boundary of a region or state, after getting the supporting vote of three-fourths and upwards of the total number of involved region or state Hluttaw representatives.

(e) The decision of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw shall be sought if an involved region or state Hluttaw passes a decision against re-delineation of the boundary.

(f) The President of the Union shall re-delineate the boundary of the region or state as necessary if it supported by three-fourths and upwards of the total number of representatives in the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw.

(9) If occasion arises to make changes in the boundary, organization or name of a village, village-tract, ward, town, township or district in a region, state, self-administered division or self-administered zone, the region or state executive authority concerned shall submit recommendations to the President of the Union, and the President of the Union shall then act accordingly.

(10) If it is desired to change the name of a self-administered division or self-administered zone, the same methods shall be applied as in the case of a change of name of the region or state.

(11) In connection with designating Union territories--

(a) Yangon City, that is the Capital of the Union, is designated as Union territory under direct administration of the President of the Union,

(2) Cocogyun Township which has a special situation is designated as Union territory and under direct administration of the President of the Union,

(3) if the need arises to designate areas that have special situation in connection with national defence, security, administration and economy etc. as Union territories they may be so designated as Union territories under direct administration of the President of the Union after enacting laws.

[THE HEAD OF STATE]

Principles to form basis in connection with the chapter on the Head of State--

- (1) The Head of State is the President of the Union.
- (2) The President of the Union represents the nation.
- (3) The President of the Union occupies a position of the highest honour in the whole of the Union of Myanmar.
- (4) In connection with qualifications of the President and Vice-Presidents--
 - (a) The President of the Union shall be loyal to the Union and the citizenry,
 - (b) The President of the Union must be a citizen of Myanmar who was, and both of whose parents were, born in the territory under the jurisdiction of the State, belonging to the nationality of Myanmar,
 - (c) The elected President of the Union shall be a person who has fully attained the age of 45,
 - (d) The President of the Union shall be well acquainted with affairs of State such as political, administrative, economic and military affairs,
 - (e) 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,
 - (f) The President of the Union himself, parents, spouse, children and their spouses shall not owe allegiance to a foreign power, shall not be subject of a foreign power or citizen of a foreign country. They shall not be persons entitled to the rights and privileges of a subject or citizen of a foreign country,
 - (g) The President of the Union shall possess specific qualifications required of the President in addition to qualifications required to stand for election to the Hluttaw,
 - (h) The Vice-President shall possess qualifications required of the President.
- (5) In connection with the election of the President and the Vice-Presidents--
 - (a) The President of the Union shall be elected by the presidential electoral college,
 - (b) The presidential electoral college shall be organized with three groups of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw representatives as follows:
 - (1) Group formed with elected Hluttaw representatives in the Hluttaw with equal numbers of representatives elected from regions and states,
 - (2) Group formed with elected Hluttaw representatives in the Hluttaw elected on basis of population,
 - (3) Group formed with Tatmadaw member Hluttaw representatives nominated as such by the Commander-in-Chief of the Defence Services for the said two Hluttaws,
 - (c) Each group shall elect a Vice-President from among Hluttaw representatives or from among persons who are not Hluttaw representatives,
 - (d) A body comprising the leaders and deputy leaders of the two Hluttaws in the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw shall scrutinize whether or not the Vice-President possess the qualifications prescribed for the President,
 - (e) The presidential electoral college made up of all the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw representatives shall vote one of the three Vice-Presidents who are presidential candidates, as the President of the Union,
 - (f) Law shall be enacted as required for presidential election.
- (6) In connection with the terms of office of the President of the Union or Vice-Presidents--
 - (a) The term of office of the President or the Vice-Presidents is five years,
 - (b) After expiry of incumbent term, the President and Vice-Presidents shall carry on in office till the time the new President and Vice President are duly elected,
 - (c) The President and Vice-Presidents shall not serve more

than two terms,

(d) An interim period to serve as the President or Vice-President shall not be counted as one term of office,

(e) If a vacancy is filled for the presidency or vice-presidency for any reason, the term of office of the President or the Vice-President shall be up to the end of the original term of office.

(7) The President or the Vice-Presidents shall not be representatives of any Hluttaw,

(8) If a Hluttaw representative be elected President or Vice-President, this person shall be deemed to have resigned from his seat in the Hluttaw, and if a service personnel be elected President or Vice-President, the persons shall be deemed to have resigned or retired from the date of such election,

(9) If a person elected President or Vice-President happens to be member of a political party, this person shall not participate in party activities of that party organization, from the date of such election, during the term of office,

(10) In taking oath of office by the President and Vice-Presidents, the following points are to be included:

(a) to be loyal to the Union of Myanmar and the citizenry,

(b) to hold always in esteem non-disintegration of the Union, non-disintegration of national solidarity and perpetuation of sovereignty,

(c) to uphold and abide by the State Constitution and to abide by laws of the State,

(d) to carry out the responsibilities uprightly to the best of one's ability,

(e) to strive for further flourishing of worldly values such as justice, liberty and equality,

(f) to solemnly declare and pledge dedication of life and person to the service of the Union of Myanmar,

(11) The President or the Vice-Presidents shall exercise responsibilities and rights assigned and vested by the Constitution and other laws,

(12) The President and the Vice-Presidents shall not accept any other office or position of emolument,

(13) The President and the Vice-Presidents shall furnish lists of assets namely family owned land, houses, buildings, businesses, 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,

(14) The President and the Vice-Presidents shall be entitled to enjoy the emolument and facilities of office, in accord with law. Each shall also be entitled to have a suitable residence,

(15) Except in the case of removal from office following impeachment, the President and the Vice-Presidents shall enjoy pension and appropriate allowances on retirement after expiry of the term of office.

(16) In connection with methods to be applied in impeachment of the President or the Vice-President--

(a) The President or any Vice-President shall be impeached for one of the following reasons:

(1) treason,

(2) violation of the provisions of the Constitution,

(3) misconduct,

(4) being disqualified for the Presidency or Vice-Presidency under the Constitution,

(b) If it is desired to impeach the President or any Vice-President, not less than one-fourth of the total membership of any of the two Hluttaws included in the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw is to sign a charge and submit it to the leader of the Hluttaw concerned,

(c) Further action shall be taken if not less than two-thirds of the total membership of the Hluttaw concerned support the charge,

(d) If one Hluttaw supports to take action in connection with the charge, the other Hluttaw shall investigate the charge or form a body to investigate the charge,

(e) The President or the Vice-President shall have the right to refute the charge personally or through a representative when it is investigated,

(f) If not less than two-thirds of the total membership of the Hluttaw by which the charge was investigated or caused to be investigated, declares after the investigation that the charge has been sustained and then decides that the offence, the subject of the charge, is such as to render the President or the Vice-President unfit to continue in office, that Hluttaw shall submit it to the leader of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw to remove the President or Vice-President from office,

(g) The leader of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw shall proclaim removal of the President or Vice-President immediately after the receipt of the information.

(17) The President or the Vice-President shall be allowed to resign from office of his own volition before the expiry of the term of office,

(18) In connection with the methods to be applied if the post of the President or Vice-Presidents falls vacant--

(a) one of the two Vice-Presidents who has won the second highest votes in the presidential election shall serve as Acting President if the post of the President falls vacant due to his resignation, death, permanent disability or any other cause,

(b) if the vacancy of the President comes about while the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw is in session, the Acting President shall promptly inform the leader of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw for filling it within seven days,

(c) on receipt of the intimation, the leader of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw shall move for electing of a Vice-President by the representatives group which had elected the Vice-President who later got elected President but who vacated the Presidency,

(d) after the representatives group concerned has elected a Vice-President, the electoral college made up of all the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw representatives shall elect the President of the Union out of three Vice-Presidents,

(e) if the vacancy comes about when the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw is not in session, the leader of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw shall summon a Pyidaungsu Hluttaw session within 21 days from the date of receipt of the intimation from the Acting President, and carry on for filling the vacant presidency in the way stated above,

(f) if the post of a Vice-President falls vacant due to resignation, death, permanent disability or any other cause while the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw is in session, the President shall promptly inform the leader of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw to enable the Hluttaw representatives group which has elected the just vacated Vice-President to elect a new Vice-President within seven days,

(g) if the vacancy comes about when the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw is not in session, the leader of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw shall summon the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw session within 21 days, and carry on for the filling of the Vice-Presidency by the Hluttaw representatives group in the prescribed method.

Now, as principles to form basis for the chapters on the State, the State Structure and the Head of State to be included in the State Constitution have been successfully laid down, I would like to express thanks to all the Convention delegates and the Panel of Chairmen who had collected and appraised the discussions by the Convention delegates.

As I have explained earlier about the manner of laying down principles to form basis for prescribing self-administered divisions and self-administered zones, as it is still under discussion, it is to be further discussed in continuation at the National Convention when it reconvenes next time. With this I conclude.

(NLM 4/10)

Closing Speech by Lt-Gen. Myo Nyunt

Apr. 9 [full text]: The following is a translation of the

address delivered by Chairman of the National Convention Convening Commission Lt-Gen. Myo Nyunt at the Plenary Session of the National Convention today.

Esteemed delegates to the National Convention,

I extend the best wishes for the well-being of the delegates in body and mind.

We are coordinating and discussing matters to seek ideas to obtain principles to form basis in writing an enduring State Constitution that is in need for motherland.

At the National Convention reconvened on 18 January 1994, three of the chapter headings, namely those of the State, the State Structure and the Head of State, have been discussed and coordinated in respective delegates' groups with cordiality to full satisfaction and proposal papers have been prepared by these groups and also by some individual delegates, and thereafter, their papers--altogether 53 of them in 1,532 pages--have been presented at the Plenary Session of the National Convention held from 23 to 31 March.

The 53 proposal papers so presented have been summarized and appraisals in respect to each of the basic principles have been prepared by the Panel of Chairmen comprehensively in 864 pages and it has been presented at the Plenary Session of the National Convention from 5 to 8 April.

And, in connection with the detailed principles that should be laid down within the framework of the six objectives of the National Convention and the already adopted basic principles, the National Convention Convening Work Committee submitted to the National Convention Convening Commission the principles that should be laid down on the basis of proposals of the delegates and appraisals of the Panel of Chairmen. These principles were approved by the National Convention Convening Commission. Principles to be laid down in connection with the chapters on the State, the State Structure and the Head of State have just a while ago been presented and explained by the Chairman of the National Convention Convening Work Committee.

At the Plenary Session of the National Convention, the opinions of the groups and individual delegates have been heard by all the delegates. Moreover, the appraisal of the Panel of Chairmen and the points laid down by the National Convention Convening Work Committee in connection with principles to form basis have been made known comprehensively and clearly.

One remarkable point about the National Convention is repletion of points of views in coordinating and bringing out principles to form basis, that are indispensably needed for emergence of a State Constitution, that is the great national political task.

Among the delegates, just as there are representatives of political parties, there are also representatives-elect. And these persons possess different kinds of experience and knowledge. Some are persons who have taken part in political activities since the times of the struggle for independence.

Moreover, there are also national races' delegates, peasant delegates, worker delegates and intellectual and intelligentsia delegates. It is noted that generally, they are persons rich in experience in administrative, economic and social spheres.

Likewise among the State service personnel delegates, just as there are persons well versed in administrative, economic, social and legal fields, there are senior army, navy and air force officers of the Tatmadaw who have for a long time been carrying out the duties of the State loyally and dutifully.

Also in the group of other invited persons, it is seen, there are national race leaders from respective special regions. These persons have been taking part in discussions and presenting proposals enthusiastically in amity at the National Convention.

Many delegates at the National Convention are persons who had mature and varied experiences accumulated throughout their lives, encountering and overcoming all sorts of problems. They are also ones who become adept through personal struggle and experience of highly valuable lessons taught by the great institution of learning that is

Myanmar human society.

We realize and understand that some delegates, because of limitations in experiences in life they have come across, are to some extent wanting in complete and correct perception and appraisal in some matters.

Be as it may, I would like to say that we appreciate and respect the delegates' discussing matters and making proposals centred on the six objectives to obtain the required basic principles, on the basis of lessons learnt through service in close conjunction with the life of the nation and the people.
Esteemed delegates,

We aspire for the emergence of a new State in future, and we aspire for the new State to be a developed and modernised one replete with the burgeoning of the noblest and worthiest of worldly values and prevalence of peace and harmony. We are convinced that the delegates too have this aspiration.

So, we need to be broadminded and far-sighted in laying down principles to form basis to build new State of the future, without centring on self-interest, without attaching interest of one's group or faction, without adopting narrow outlooks for one's own race to get more opportunities.

Just as we have seriously coordinated for obtaining chapter headings, we have also coordinated and brought out principles to form basis in laying down State fundamental principles and obtained basic principles desired by most.

We all have worked in all seriousness for obtaining such headings and basic principles, expending a great deal of time and efforts and incurring monetary expense to the nation.

So with due regard of time, we need to carry on, state by state, for achieving steady progress. If matters concerning the chapters ahead were to be taken up unnecessarily for discussion now, it will slow down progress and realization of the objectives of the National Convention.

If there is talk, not free of infliction [sic], about other alien ideas inappropriate with the six objectives and the basic principles already laid down, instead of carrying on with discussions for step-by-step, steady progress, it will amount to wasting valuable time of the delegates.

So, it is requested for all of us to make it worthwhile and make progress without contradicting or deviating from the essence of the already obtained basic principles with due respect to the procedures of the National Convention, and not to bring up the already presented matters again and again.

It is necessary for all to cooperate straightforwardly and unitedly, within a due course of time, to completely obtain detailed basic principles that reflect the interest of the nation and the people to the highest degree--free of error, any fault or any deviation--in what we have to do.

Esteemed delegates,

To say clearly and candidly, the main objective of wanting the Tatmadaw representatives' participation in the national political leadership role in future so as to always safeguard national interest. The Tatmadaw's endeavours for peace, stability, unity and progress must be safeguarded and the momentum of economic and social progress must be maintained. It is also the desire of the Tatmadaw to strive with pure goodwill to enable any government that emerges in future to function stably.

Moreover, the aim is for the Tatmadaw to be able to safeguard on the long term the results of endeavours made to bring about national unity and harmony after internal insurgency that had persisted all along in the post-Independence years, in other words, after long deterioration of national solidarity, the results of endeavours that had won confidence and cooperation of organizations of national brethren who have fostered amity again and come to join hands now, has to be upheld.

There is no reason for the Tatmadaw to take a risk so much as

to permit a deterioration once again of the situation of stability, peace and tranquillity so achieved in the country. When governments concerned could not solve arising political problems through political means, the Tatmadaw had to intervene high [sic] the three national causes to bring about stability and tranquillity in the country. In such a move, confrontation amongst ourselves is unavoidable and there arose cause for the Tatmadaw to feel hurt. From inherent goodwill not to have such a state of affairs going on for long springs the noble aim for the Tatmadaw to participate as a force in the future national leadership role.

Among various concepts of ways to strive for betterment in affairs of the nation, those which are suitable and beneficial to our nation are to be accepted. All matters should be guided by sensibility and mindfulness to achieve compatibility with the objective situation prevailing in the country.

We have already agreed basically on constituting the existing seven Divisions and seven States as the seven Regions and seven States of equal status and authority, delegating the sovereign powers--legislative, executive and judicial powers--also to them, and constituting the self-administered divisions or self-administered zone for national races who have not get regions or states on the basis of stipulations about there having to be appropriate sizes of population and contiguous areas of inhabitation.

As we have reached this stage, presentation of thoughts that should be no more among our national brethren, concepts that smack of total strangers, and negative pessimistic ideas in the way of harmony among the national races should be avoided.

Esteemed delegates,

At this Plenary Session of the National Convention, it was seen that the delegates with keen interest submitted proposals in connection with designating self-administered divisions and self-administered zones. As explained by the Chairman of the National Convention Convening Work Committee, in connection with the matter of designating self-administered divisions and self-administered zones, the matter will be taken up in continuation when the National Convention reconvenes next time.

Esteemed delegates,

You have been carrying out National Convention duties away from your families and your respective duties for a long time. As the New Year Thingyan Festival sacred to Myanmar is now approaching, we have arranged so that you can go back home for some rest.

We would also like to urge you to make the most of opportunity available, during the recess of the National Convention, to conduct studies so that you will be able to offer good advice and suggestions in connection with the chapter headings legislative, executive and judicial matters along with the matter of designating self-administered divisions and self-administered zones.

Esteemed delegates,

The National Convention will go into recess beginning 10 April 1994. It will be reconvened on 2 September 1994.

I conclude with wishes to meet again with all delegates in good health and happiness.

(NLM 4/10)

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.

Apr. 4: Netherlands Honorary Consul Mr. H.J. Stevens (of Stevens Paper and Board B/V) called on Minister for Information Brig-Gen. Myo Thant, and gave him a Rissograph copying machine. (NLM 4/5)

Apr. 5: Russian Ambassador Valeri Vartanovich Nazarov and Commercial Counsellor Serguei A. Briguinevitch (resident in Bangkok)

called on Minister for Trade Lt-Gen. Tun Kyi. Netherlands Honorary Consul Mr. H.J. Stevens presented a computer to Director General U Myo Myint of the Department for Myanmar Missions Abroad, and called on Yangon Mayor U Ko Lay. FAO Resident Representative Abdul Wahid Jalil called on Minister for Forestry Lt-Gen. Chit Swe. (NLM 4/6)

Apr. 6: Indian Ambassador G. Parthasarathy called on Minister for Trade Lt-Gen. Tun Kyi. (NLM 4/7)

Apr. 7: Indonesian Ambassador Mochamad Sanoesi called on Minister for Information Brig-Gen. Myo Thant. (NLM 4/8)

Apr. 25: French Ambassador Alain Briottet called on Minister for Forestry Lt-Gen. Chit Swe. (NLM 4/26)

Apr. 26: FAO Resident Representative Abdul Wahid Jalil met with Minister for Agriculture Lt-Gen. Myint Aung. (NLM 4/27)

Apr. 29: Bangladeshi Ambassador Brig. Chowdhury Khalequzzaman (Retd) called on SLORC Secretary-1 Lt-Gen. Khin Nyunt. Vietnamese Ambassador Tran Viet Tan called on Minister for National Planning and Economic Development Brig-Gen. Abel. (NLM 4/30)

New Ambassadors to Myanmar

Apr. 4: The Government has approved the appointment of Dr. Nikolaus Scherk and new Austrian Ambassador to Myanmar. Ambassador Scherk was born on May 21, 1942 and studied Jurisprudence at the University of Vienna. He entered the Foreign Service in 1968 and has served at various missions. He is concurrently accredited to Myanmar and Thailand, with residence in Bangkok. He is married with three children. (NLM 4/4)

Apr. 27: Ambassador Tran Viet Tun presented credentials to SLORC Chairman Senior General Than Shwe as new Vietnamese Ambassador to Myanmar. (NLM 4/28)

New Myanmar Ambassadors

Apr. 4: SLORC Chairman Senior General Than Shwe appointed U Aung Gyi, Myanmar Ambassador to Egypt, to serve concurrently as new Myanmar Ambassador to Turkey. (NLM 4/4)

Apr. 13: SLORC Chairman Senior General Than Shwe appointed U Aung Gyi, Myanmar Ambassador to Egypt, to serve concurrently as new Myanmar Ambassador to Morocco. (NLM 4/13)

Apr. 27: SLORC Chairman Senior General Than Shwe appointed U Lu Maw as new Myanmar Ambassador to Israel. (NLM 4/27)

Myanmar Diplomats Exhorted

Apr. 26: SLORC Secretary-1 Lt-Gen. Khin Nyunt, Chairman of the SLORC Foreign Affairs Committee, reviewed Myanmar foreign policy with officials of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. He reviewed Myanmar's independent foreign policy, as stated in SLORC Declaration No. 3/88 of Sept. 18, 1988, and Myanmar's adherence to the Five Principles on Peaceful Coexistence. Myanmar has diplomatic relations with 70 countries, is a party to the Vienna Convention on diplomatic relations, and an adherent of various international accords, including the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (Non-Proliferation Treaty), Chemical Weapons Convention, and four Geneva Conventions and the Declaration on the Rights of the Child.

[Human rights] "In human rights, it is cooperating with the respective UN agencies concerned. It also replies promptly and respectfully to the questions raised by the UN Human Rights Commission and the bodies under it. When the Commission appointed Professor Yozo Yokota once as an independent expert and twice as a special person for submitting a report, Myanmar accepted him to come and study in the country three times, he said.

"He said in connection with those who left Myanmar Naing-Ngan and illegally entered the other country Under-Secretary for Social Affairs of the UN Mr. Jean Eliasson came once and his representative Mr. Michael Prislav came once to Myanmar as guest of the Minister for Foreign Affairs and were permitted to go and study in the border areas.

"He said Myanmar Naing-Ngan always opposed the false

accusations made against its human rights which accusers measured with their own yardsticks not taking into account historical, cultural and religious characteristics of the country.

"He said the Myanmar people feel it is noble to contribute voluntary labour with sweat and that it is charity whereas the Westerners maintain that not getting wages for the labour contributed amounts to loss of human rights.

"However, he said, in order to show Myanmar's goodwill to cooperate with international organizations, it is carrying its tasks in cooperation with UN human rights organizations. The UN High Commissioner for Refugees Madame Sadako Ogata came to Myanmar as a guest of Minister for Foreign Affairs and coordinated measures for cooperating and assisting in development tasks in Rakhine State. Now officials of the UNHCR Office are joining hands with the Myanmar Government in carrying out development tasks in Rakhine State, he said."

He reviewed Myanmar's good relations with its neighbours, and the joint boundary commissions formed with Thailand, China, Laos, India, and Bangladesh.

"He said despite the efforts made by some countries and some organizations under the influence to try to remove Myanmar from the family of nations by spreading fabricated news about it and discrediting it, efforts must be made to strengthen its international image. For this reason, it is necessary for service personnel to play their important role in foreign relations, he said."

[Narcotics] He reviewed Myanmar's anti-narcotic efforts, including its adherence to the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs, 1961, and its promulgation of the Narcotic Drugs Law in 1974 and formation of the Central Committee for Drug Abuse Control. Under the SLORC, Myanmar enacted the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law and became a party to the UN Convention Against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988. Myanmar is cooperating with the UN and with Thailand, China, Laos, and India.

[Environment] A National Commission for Environmental Affairs has been formed, and a project document signed by it with the UNDP. Myanmar attended the UN Conference on Environment and Development in 1992 and has signed the UN Framework Convention on Climatic Change and the Convention on Biological Diversity.

"He said by making known internationally the right and correct tasks carried out by Myanmar in such matters as human rights, drug abuse control and environmental protection, the conspiracies made and falsehood spread to discredit and undermine the dignity of Myanmar will be removed."

The Secretary-1 reviewed the progress of the National Convention for the emergence of a State Convention.

[Economy and foreign relations] He outlined in great detail the economic progress of the country, citing extensive statistics.

"Realizing this, he said, they will dispel their tendencies to think little of own nation and think highly of foreign nations. Instead, he said, they will be motivated to love own nation and uphold the dignity of own race.... He said the personnel of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs are mainly responsible for informing the world that Myanmar, as a member of the family of nations, is discharging its duties, that changes are being made in Myanmar and foreign relations are being expanded based on these changes, and they are vital for success of tasks being undertaken through international relations...."

[Personnel policy] "He then dwelt on how matters involving service personnel of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs are tackled. The precedence of not assigning duties to women in other nations has been revised, he said. Allowances have been increased for those serving abroad. Salary raises enable those serving abroad to draw the increase in foreign exchange, he said."

He noted the establishment of the Myanmar Institute of International Strategic Studies to study matters concerned with foreign policy and submit them to higher authorities, as well as to

organize "discussions, talks, paper reading sessions and training of service personnel."

[Insurgents and its foreign supporters] The Secretary-1 reviewed negotiations that have led ten armed groups to return to the legal fold, but said "certain groups have ignored the government's offer and instead they are bent on creating difficulties for the State.

"He said those groups accept assistance of organizations that receive handouts from some nations which are attempting to influence Myanmar and attempt to discredit Myanmar in the world. They are laying down plans to create difficulties for Myanmar, put pressure, impose political and economic sanctions and finally isolate Myanmar from international circles approaching foreign governments, non-governmental organizations and international organizations giving them fabricated reports.

"With massive financial assistance and support, they are found to be approaching international organizations. They also approach organizations that organize lectures, discussions, presentation of prizes in the university scholars circles abroad as well as international organizations. At present, he said, they highlight the topic of human rights in their organizational activities."

Myanmar is using correct diplomatic means to counter these efforts, including a special mission last year that visited several countries and met with "responsible personnel, congressmen and journalists of many nations and explained to them objective conditions of Myanmar." Similar missions will be sent in future.

[Ministry performance criticized] He said personnel are to "understand and accept the national political objectives, aims and convictions" of the Union Solidarity and Development Association. Turning to current internal conditions in the Ministry, "he said he has heard laxity in unity, rivalry and attempts to win over one another. There has been some success in overall performance of the Ministry in international relations but its performance in cooperation with other ministries and foreign organizations has been weak.... In conclusion, he urged them to follow diplomatic practices, try to keep the world informed of the objectives and performance of the nation, refrain from words and deeds that will bring dishonour to the nation, uphold Myanmar cultural traditions and be always patriotic, be loyal to the nation and the people and promote Myanmar's image in the world, perform their national duties through abiding by civil service rules and serve the interests of the nation and the people through unity within departments. (NLM 4/27)

INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

Workshops

Apr. 2: Prizes were presented for winners who passed the Facts for Life maternal and child health education examination jointly sponsored by UNICEF and the Young Men's Buddhist Association. (NLM 4/3)

Apr. 5: A workshop on Undertakings of Myanma Railways and Action Oriented Assistance to Myanma Railways Project, implemented with the assistance of UNDP and the World Bank, was held at Insein Locomotive Shed. Minister for Rail Transportation U Win Sein spoke, and there was a presentation by Mr. Meert of Transurb Consult. (NLM 4/6)

Apr. 23: A Seminar on Livestock Development sponsored by the Livestock Breeding and Veterinary Department in cooperation with Sanofi Co., Thailand, was held, with talks by Myanmar officials, and by Dr. Daniel A. Rodriguez of Sanofi Co. on poultry diseases and control. (NLM 4/24)

Apr. 25: A Country Workshop on Disaster Management Training Programme, jointly sponsored by the UNDP and UN Department of Humanitarian Affairs. Speeches were given by Programme representative Mr. Hamilton and others. The Apr. 25-29 workshop is being attended by 42 delegates from various Ministries. (NLM 4/26)

Foreign Donations

Apr. 4: Mr. Lee Pit Teong of Book Promotion and Service, which runs the Innwa Bookshop, donated 500 copies of Webster's New World Dictionary to the Ministry of Education. (NLM 4/5)

Apr. 6: Seafood Traders of Australia, represented by Managing Director Mr. Noel A. Gallaghex [sic] and Business Manager Mr. Barry I. Gallaghex, and Sunthit Co. of Myanmar, represented by U Aung Thein Han, presented K100,000 to the Yenatha Leprosy Hospital of Mandalay. (NLM 4/7)

Apr. 7: Chairman Mr. Suzuki of Daiko Trading Co. Ltd. of Japan donated a 100-ton air blast cold storage freezer worth US\$35,000 and K300,000 for social welfare. (NLM 4/8)

Apr. 21: World Vision--United Kingdom, represented by Project Director Mr. Allan Francis Whaites, delivered relief goods worth K2 million to the Dawbon Township Red Cross. A fire on Feb. 4 left 629 people from 113 households homeless. (NLM 4/22)

Border Demarcation News

Apr. 3: The 7-member Myanmar delegation led by Director-General Capt. (Navy) Tun Aung of the Survey Department returned from the 3rd meeting of the Joint Boundary Inspection Committee for the second Myanmar-China Joint Boundary Inspection, held in Beijing from Mar. 23-Apr. 1. An agreement was signed Apr. 1. (NLM 4/4)

Apr. 8: An Agreement between Myanmar, China, and Laos on Demarcation of the Trijunction Point of the Common Boundary was signed at the Foreign Ministry by Director-General U Aye Lwin of the Consular, International Law and Treaties and Research Department of the Foreign Ministry, Chinese Ambassador Liang Feng, and Laotian Ambassador Kideng Thammavong. (NLM 4/9)

Apr. 25: A 22-member delegation led by South-East Commander Maj-Gen. Ket Sein, including Eastern Commander Maj-Gen. Saw Tun, left for Thailand to attend the Ninth Regular Meeting of the Myanmar-Thailand Regional Border Committee. (NLM 4/26) // Apr. 29: The delegation returned. (NLM 4/30)

FOREIGN VISITORS

International Agency Visitors

Apr. 28: Mr. Floyd Barnaby, International Red Cross and Red Crescent Asian and Pacific Region head, accompanied by Resident Representative Mr. Chris Cosgrove, called on Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Brig-Gen. Thaung Myint to discuss disaster preparedness and mitigation. (NLM 4/29)

Cultural and Medical Visitors

Apr. 4: Course Director Dr. M. Mosleh Uddin of the Statistical Institute for Asia and the Pacific (SIAP), based in Tokyo, currently in Yangon to conduct a course on Socio-economic Surveys, called on Minister for National Planning and Economic Development Brig-Gen. Abel. (NLM 4/5)

Apr. 6: Dr. Robert Bauze, executive member of the Western Pacific Orthopaedic Association (WPOA) and the Australian Orthopaedic Association will speak Apr. 7 on "Recent Advances in Trauma Care" at the MMA Hall, 249 Theinbyu Road. All interested are invited to attend. He arrived Apr. 5, and will remain until Apr. 9. (NLM 4/7)

Business Visitors

Apr. 8: Mr. Raymond J. Capdevila, Chief Executive Director of ACCOR (Asia Pacific), a hotel company with 2,200 hotels in 140 countries, called on Minister for Hotels and Tourism Lt-Gen. Kyaw Ba to discuss the construction by Sofitel, a branch of the company, of "a hotel of international standard in Yangon and Yadanabone Novotel in Mandalay." (NLM 4/9)

Apr. 9: Mr. Tan Hong Lee, Chairman of Indo Energy Group Ltd. and party called on Minister for Progress of Border Areas and

National Races and Development Affairs Lt-Gen. Maung Thint. (NLM 4/10)

Apr. 21: Myanmar Daewoo International Limited and Daewoo Electronics Myanmar Co. Ltd. will hold the Lamy Make-up Show at the Ruby Room of the Inya Lake Hotel on Apr. 27 and 29. Korean make-up artists Miss Sun-ja Choi and Miss Hae-won Shin will demonstrate skin care and make-up for various activities. Lamy cosmetics will be sold at discount. (NLM 4/22) // Apr. 29: The show was held, with a speech by Chairman Mr. C.P. Suh of Daewoo Corporation. (NLM 4/30)

Apr. 22: Chairperson Ms. Mary Fong Lee of the Emerald Rose Garden Co. Ltd. of Hong Kong hosted a dinner to celebrate groundbreaking for a 500-room hotel on the corner of Upper Pansodan Street and Bo Min Gaung Road. (NLM 4/23)

Apr. 23: Chairman Mr. Arsa Sarasin of Padaeng Industry Co. called on Minister for Mines Lt-Gen. Kyaw Min. (NLM 4/24)

Apr. 26: A delegation of seven Japanese entrepreneurs led by Dr. Hirohide Uozumi called on Minister for Education Col. Pe Thein to discuss technological cooperation with Kumamoto Institute of Technology in Japan. (NLM 4/27) // Apr. 27: Dr. Uozumi, ex-Parliamentary Vice Minister of Defence, called on Minister for Information Brig-Gen. Myo Thant. (NLM 4/28)

Religious Delegations

Apr. 4: 103 Buddhist disciples of Sayadaw Agga Maha Pandita Bhaddanta Panyavamsa of Sasana Ranthi Myanmar Buddhist Monastery, Singapore, returned home. \ Previousy, they had visited Bagan-Nyaung-U, Mandalay, and Sagaing from Mar. 29-Apr. 2, and Kyaikhto on Apr. 3. (NLM 4/5)

Apr. 27: Chairman Mr. Choi Gye Wool of Devotees of Nirvana Order in Buddhism of Korea, called on Minister for Religious Affairs Lt-Gen. Myo Nyunt. (NLM 4/28)

Apr. 28: A ceremony was held to pay obeisance to Singapore Sasanayanthi Myanmar Buddhist Monastery Sayadaw U Pyinnyavamsa, who has been awarded the Agga Maha Pandita title. (NLM 4/29)

Foreign Journalists

Apr. 4: A crew from Amrita Bazar Patrika TV of India, headed by Associate Editor Mr. Indranil Banerjee, called on Minister for National Planning and Economic Development Brig-Gen. Abel. (NLM 4/5) // Apr. 5: It called on Joint Secretary Police Col. Ngwe Soe Tun of the Central Committee for Drug Abuse Control. (NLM 4/6)

Malaysian Parliamentarians

Mar. 31: Malaysian Members of Parliament Dr. Goh Cheng Teik and Mr. Mohd Bin Haji Ismail, members of the Penang State Government, called on Minister for Home Affairs Lt-Gen. Mya Thin. They are visiting at the invitation of Minister for Trade Lt-Gen. Tun Kyi. (NLM 4/1) // Apr. 1: They called on Minister for Livestock Breeding & Fisheries Brig-Gen. Maung Maung. (NLM 4/2)

German Parliamentarian

Apr. 1: German Parliament member Dr. Dietrich Mahlo called on SLORC Secretary-1 Lt-Gen. Khin Nyunt. (NLM 4/2)

Philippine Foreign Secretary

Apr. 1: Philippine Secretary of Foreign Affairs Roberto R. Romulo will visit Myanmar in the near future, at the invitation of Minister for Foreign Affairs U Ohn Gyaw. (NLM 4/2)

Apr. 6: Foreign Secretary Romulo arrived with a delegation, including Mrs. Romulo, and was received by Minister for Foreign Affairs U Ohn Gyaw. Later he was received by Minister for Forestry Lt-Gen. Chit Swe. (NLM 4/7)

Apr. 7: The Foreign Secretary called on Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) General Maung Aye. He also went sightseeing in Yangon. (NLM 4/8)

Apr. 8: The Foreign Secretary departed, after meeting with

Minister for Trade Lt-Gen. Tun Kyi, SLORC Secretary-1 Lt-Gen. Khin Nyunt, and Deputy Prime Minister Lt-Gen. Tin Tun. (NLM 4/9)

Sacred Tooth

Apr. 1: A meeting was held to coordinate the "conveying of Buddha's Tooth Relic" from China, beginning Apr. 20. (NLM 4/2)
Apr. 13: The schedule for the tooth visit will be:
Apr. 20: arrival in Yangon from China and royal procession.
Apr. 21-May 4: residence at the Maha Pasana Cave at Kaba Aye in Yangon.
May 5: Yangon-Bago-Nyaunglebin.
May 6: Nyaunglebin-Pyu-Toungoo.
May 7: Toungoo-Yedashe/Swa-Pyinmana.
May 8: Pyinmana-Yamethin-Meiktila.
May 9: Meiktila-Kyaukse-Mandalay.
May 10-18: residence in Mandalay.
May 19: Mandalay-Yangon.
May 19-June 4: residence in Yangon.
June 5: Return to China.

(NLM 4/13)

Apr. 18: Minister for Religious Affairs Lt-Gen. Myo Nyunt left for China to escort the Tooth. He was accompanied by Director-General of Protocol Thura U Aung Htet of the Foreign Ministry. An advance team led by Director-General U Arnt Maung of the Religious Affairs Department had left on Apr. 15. (NLM 4/19)

Apr. 19: The delegation arrived in Beijing on Apr. 18. (NLM 4/20)

Apr. 20: The Sacred Tooth arrived and was given a "majestic welcome" by top government and Buddhist leaders, led by Chairman of the Leading Committee for Conveying the Tooth Relic SLORC Secretary-1 Lt-Gen. Khin Nyunt." It was transported before large crowds on a float pulled by an elephant to its temporary resting place at the Maha Pasana Cave at Kaba Aye, where it was placed adjacent to the "ancient Emerald Statue" [see under Cultural articles, below]. There SLORC Chairman Senior General Than Shwe paid homage. [2 pages of photos] \\ While in China, Minister for Religious Affairs Lt-Gen. Myo Nyunt called on State Councillor and Secretary of State of the Office of the Chinese State Council Mr. Luogan, and attended consecration of the Tooth Relic. He said "Permission of the PRC Government to convey the Tooth Relic to Myanmar signifies lasting friendship between the leaders of the two countries and that the two are very close neighbours." (NLM 4/21)

Apr. 21: SLORC Secretary-1 Lt-Gen. Khin Nyunt paid obeisance to Buddha's Tooth Relic. 14,063 persons have paid obeisance, and K1.45 million has been donated. Chinese Buddhist monks (Mahayana, Lama, and Theravada), led by Sayadaw Ming Yang, and laity led by Deputy Director Mr. Luo Sang China of the Chinese Bureau for Religious Affairs, accompanied by Chinese Embassy Cultural Counsellor Mr. Lin Chaozhong, toured famous pagodas in Yangon. (NLM 4/22)

Apr. 22: The Chinese monks visited the Yangon-Thanyin Bridge and the Thuwunna Indoor Stadium-1, built with Chinese aid. (NLM 4/23)

Apr. 23: The Kung Ingsi Buddhist Temple offered soon to the Chinese monks. The monks then left for Bagan-Nyaung-U. 22,800 paid obeisance and total donations exceed K3.6 million. (NLM 4/24)

Apr. 24: Total donations are nearly K5 million. (NLM 4/25)

Apr. 25: The Chinese monks visited pagodas in Bagan. Donations exceed K6.48 million. (NLM 4/26)

Apr. 26: The Chinese monks visited pagodas in Mandalay and Sagaing. Others paid homage to the Tooth Relic in Yangon. Donations exceed K8.1 million. (NLM 4/27)

Apr. 27: Deputy Minister for Religious Affairs Col. Aung Khin paid respects to the Chinese monks. Afterwards, the Chinese monks returned to China. (NLM 4/28)

Apr. 28: SLORC Secretary-1 Lt-Gen. Khin Nyunt and SLORC Secretary-2 Lt-Gen. Tin Oo paid obeisance to the Tooth Relic. Donations exceed K11.8 million. (NLM 4/29)

Apr. 29: Donations exceed K14.2 million, including a collection of 50-pya and 1-kyat coins, totalling K313.50, which were the 30-year savings of Daw Aung May Sein, aged 80. (NLM 4/30)

Indonesian Forestry Minister

Apr. 7: Indonesian Forestry Minister Mr. Djamaludin and delegation arrived at the invitation of Minister for Forestry Lt-Gen. Chit Swe, who hosted a dinner for him. (NLM 4/8)

Apr. 8: He called on SLORC Secretary-1 Lt-Gen. Khin Nyunt, and visited Myanmar Trade Fair 94. (NLM 4/9)

Apr. 9: He called on SLORC Chairman Senior General Than Shwe. (NLM 4/10)

Apr. 10: After calling on SLORC Chairman Senior General Than Shwe in Mandalay, he departed. During his visit he visited Bagan Apr. 8-9, before going on to Mandalay and Toungoo. (NLM 4/11)

Thai Foreign Minister

Apr. 19: Thai Foreign Minister Squadron Leader Prasong Soonsiri, Chairman of the ASEAN Standing Committee, and delegation arrived, and was received by SLORC Chairman Senior General Than Shwe, and by SLORC Secretary-1 Lt-Gen. Khin Nyunt. Talks with Minister for Foreign Affairs U Ohn Gyaw were followed by a dinner at the People's Park Restaurant. (NLM 4/20)

Apr. 20: After sightseeing in Bago, the Minister departed for home. (NLM 4/21)

Singapore Tax Delegation

Apr. 21: A delegation from Singapore, headed by Commissioner Mr. Koh Yong Guan of the Inland Revenue Authority, met with a Myanmar delegation headed by Director-General Lt-Col. Than Nyunt of the Internal Revenue Department to "facilitate increasing investments by Singapore in Myanmar, sharing of technical know-how, easing of tariffs and stepping up trade relations" from Apr. 18-20. Other Singapore participants were Divisional Director of Technical Services Mr. Ng Keat Seng, Head of Goods and Services Tax (Legislation) Mr. Leung Yew Kwong, Deputy Director of Corporate and International Taxation Mr. Then Chee Tat, and Senior Interpretations and Treaties Officer Miss Yeh Chin Feng. (NLM 4/22)

Japanese Parliamentarian

Apr. 27: Mr. Shingo Nishimura, member of the Lower House of the Japanese Diet, and party, called on Minister for Forestry Lt-Gen. Chit Swe. (NLM 4/28)

Apr. 28: He called on SLORC Secretary-1 Lt-Gen. Khin Nyunt. (NLM 4/29)

MYANMAR DELEGATIONS

Study Delegations

Mar. 31: A delegation headed by Minister for Finance and Revenue Brig-Gen. Win Tin left for Thailand to attend a Seminar on Indochina Capital Management being held in Bangkok on Apr. 1. The Minister is accompanied by Deputy Director U Than Lwin of the Central Bank of Myanmar. (NLM 4/1) // Apr. 6: He visited Bangkok from Mar. 31-Apr. 5, and read a paper on Financial Development in Myanmar. 100 business delegates attended. (NLM 4/7) // Apr. 7: While in Thailand, he called on Thai Minister for Finance Mr. Tarin Nima Nhamin, visited the Bank of Thailand, and called on Police Maj-Gen. Bhithop Naranong to discuss credit cards and financial and related crimes. He then met with President Mr. Aran Thammano of Krung Thai Bank to discuss computerized banking systems and the ATM system. He also met with officials of the Siam City Bank, Thai Farmers Bank, and Thai Military Bank. (NLM 4/8)

Apr. 5: Assistant Lecturer U Cho Oo of the Agriculture Department, Yangon Institute of Technology, left for Japan to attend a Master in Architecture course, under Japanese Government auspices.

Similarly, Tutor Daw Thin Thin Naing of the Economics Department, Institute of Education, left to attend a Ph.D. course in Economics; Assistant Lecturer Daw Mya Mya Aye of the Law Department, Yangon University, to attend a Ph.D. course in Law; Assistant Lecturer Daw Aye Aye Tun of the Chemistry Department, Yangon University, to attend a Ph.D. course in Chemistry; and Assistant Lecturer U Khin Maung Oo of the Zoology Department, Magway Degree College, to attend a Ph.D. course in Zoology. (NLM 4/6)

Apr. 9: A delegation led by Deputy Minister for Health Col. Than Zin left for Kuala Lumpur to attend an Apr. 11-13 workshop on management of anti-AIDS in South East Asia. He was accompanied by Director-General Dr. Hla Myint and Assistant Director Dr. Bo Kywe of the Health Department. (NLM 4/10)

Apr. 11: Assistant Engineer (Civil) U Kyaw Shwe of the Myanma Port Authority left for Thailand Apr. 9 to attend a Regional Short Course on Analysis for the Formulation and Implementation of Coastal Development Plans, at the invitation of the Thai government. (NLM 4/12)

Apr. 18: Assistant Director (Planning) Dr. Than Than Zin of the Basic Education Department and Deputy Planning Officer (Statistics) Daw Kyu Kyu Win left for Dhaka to attend an Apr. 18-22 Workshop on Regional Technical Assistance (RETA) Study: Dropout of Primary Students in South Asia. (NLM 4/19)

Apr. 18: Lecturer Daw Sann Sann Htay of the Chemistry Department, Mandalay University, left for Germany for research on chemistry, under the "programme of the re-invitation for former DAAD scholars." (NLM 4/19)

Apr. 23: A 7-member delegation led by Director-General Lt-Col. Thein Han of the Work Committee Office for Development of Border Areas and National Races left to study Community Development Projects in the Philippines from Apr. 24-30 and Indonesia from May 1-5. Other members are Director (Admin) Maj. Htay Myint of the Work Committee Office, Executive Engineer U Soe Myint of the Ministry of Energy, Assistant Manager U Tin Win of Myanma Agricultural Service, Assistant Manager U Tin Aung Myint of the Ministry of Livestock Breeding and Fisheries, Headmaster U Nyan Thain of the Mongla Village Primary School, and Assistant Director Dr. Nyunt Win Myint of the Health Department as secretary. (NLM 4/24)

Apr. 29: Lecturer U Win of the Botany Department, Mawlamyine University, left for Germany for research in botany under the Study Visit for Foreign Researchers at the invitation of DAAD. (NLM 4/30)

Religious Delegations

Apr. 23: A mission led by world missionary Sayadaw Agga Maha Saddhamma Jotikadhaja Bhaddanta Pannadipa left for Thailand to give talks on Pariyat and Patipat practices of Theravada Buddhism at an Apr. 25-29 Conference of Buddhists and Christians at Pattaya. Other members are Sayadaw U Narada of Theingi-U Kyaung, Chaukhtatgyi Kyaungtaik; Had of Department of Abhidhamma of State Pariyatti Sasana Tekkatho Sayadaw U Gandamabhivamsa; Advisor to the Religious Affairs Department Dhammacariya U Htay Hlaing; a disciple member of the Sangha; and a lay disciple. (NLM 4/24)

Delegations to Meetings & Events

Mar. 31: A 20-member cultural delegation led by Director (Production) U Tin Aung of the Fine Arts Department left for Bangkok to take part in the Ninth National Cultural Festival in Udon Thani Province. (NLM 4/1) // Apr. 12: He returned. (NLM 4/13)

Apr. 1: Director-General U Tun Shwe of the Labour Department left for New York to attend the Apr. 4-22 third preparatory meeting of the International Population Conference. (NLM 4/2) // Apr. 28: He returned. (NLM 4/29)

Apr. 8: Director-General Dr. Myint Lwin of the Medical Research Department left for Indonesia to attend the Apr. 11-15 20th session of the WHO South-East Asia Advisory Committee on Health Research. (NLM 4/9)

Apr. 11: A delegation led by Deputy Minister for Trade Col. Aung Thaung left of Hong Kong to attend the 75th Chinese Export Commodities Fair (Spring) to be held from Apr. 15-30 in Quangzhou, and the Chinese Machinery, Electronic Instrument Commodities Fair, 94, to be held Apr. 18-24 in Shenkiang. Other members are Managing Director U Thaung Sein of Myanma Export and Import Services, Deputy Director Maj. Bo Bo of the Directorate of Trade, and Assistant General Manager U Nay Dun of Vehicles, Machinery and Equipment Trading. They will be joined in Hong Kong by Consul-General U Soe Win. (NLM 4/12) // Apr. 24: The delegation returned. (NLM 4/25)

Apr. 29: Minister for Finance and Revenue Brig-Gen. Win Tin left for Nice, France, to attend 27th Annual Meeting of the Asian Development Bank, beginning May 3. He was accompanied by Director-General U Thein Aung Lwin of the Foreign Economic Relations Department. (NLM 4/30)

Delegations Return

[Return of delegations whose departures and membership was reported in earlier months]

Mar. 31: A Myanmar Buddhist Delegation returned from Kusinaraga region in India, where it began a 162-foot pagoda on a 40-acre plot "owned by a Myanmar Buddhist monk in the region." The cornerstone of the Thonse-tabon Chanthargyi Pagoda was laid on Mar. 13, under the aegis of Kusinaraga Sayadaw Agga Maha Pandita Bhaddanta Nyanisara. (NLM 4/1)

Apr. 1: Chief Editor U Ye Tint of The Kyemon Daily returned from a journalists seminar in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. (NLM 4/2)

Apr. 5: Minister for Finance and Revenue Brig-Gen. Win Tin and his delegation returned from the Apr. 1 meeting on Indochina Capital Management in Bangkok. (NLM 4/6)

Apr. 12: The five-member delegation led by Agriculture Deputy Minister U Tin Hlaing returned from studying rubber and palm oil production in Thailand and flower and fruit preservation in Malaysia. (NLM 4/13)

Delegation to GATT

Apr. 5: A delegation led by Minister for National Planning and Economic Development Brig-Gen. Abel left to attend the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) Ministerial Meeting on the Uruguay Round Final Agreement, being held in Morocco. Other members are Director U Maung Maung Yi of the Directorate of Investments and Companies. Second Secretary U Tun On of the Myanmar UN Mission in Geneva will also attend. On his way back, the Minister will attend a Ministerial Level Meeting on Subregion Economic Cooperation among Cambodia, China, Laos, Myanmar, Thailand and Vietnam, co-sponsored by the State Planning Committee and the Asian Development Bank, to be held in Hanoi. This meeting will also be attended by Director-General U Thein Tun and Director U Thein Lwin of the Energy Planning Department, Deputy Director-General U San Din of the Labour Department, Director U Thaung Tun of the Foreign Ministry, General Manager U Tun Aung of Public Works, General Manager U Shwe of Myanma Railways, Director U Htay Aung of the Directorate of Hotels and Tourism Services, Directors U Maung Maung Yi and Daw Si Si Win of the Directorate of Investment and Companies, and Assistant Director U Tin Maung Thein of the Foreign Economic Relations Department. (NLM 4/6)

Apr. 15: The Minister addressed the GATT session on Apr. 12. Text published in NLM. (NLM 4/16 [issue not received])

Apr. 24: The Minister returned, after signing the final treaty of the Uruguay Round and topical agreements, and addressing the meeting. (NLM 4/25)

Apr. 26: Myanmar signed the final agreement and the agreement establishing the World Trade Organization. On Apr. 7, the Minister met with 300 Thai businessmen at the Bangkok Hilton Hotel, in a meeting on investment opportunities sponsored by the Board of Investment (BOI) and Advance Communications Company, and lunched with 20 businessmen. On Apr. 8, the Minister met with over 200 Singapore

businessmen at the Shangrila Hotel in Singapore, sponsored by the Applied Investment Company, and lunched with 9 businessmen. On Aug. 9 he called on Singapore Minister for Trade and Industry Yeo Cheow Tong and met with Chairman Alan Yeo of the Trade Development Board. On Apr. 18, the Minister met with 30 French businessmen in Bangkok; business delegations will arrive in May. (NLM 4/27)

Deputy Minister to Vietnam & Laos

Apr. 20: Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs U Nyunt Swe left for official visits to Vietnam and Laos. He was accompanied by Deputy Director-General U Khin Maung Win and Deputy Directors U Ba Cho and U Kyaw Nyunt Hman of the Foreign Ministry. (NLM 4/21) // Apr. 28: The delegation returned. He visited Vietnam Apr. 21-24, and on Apr. 22 met with Vietnamese Vice Foreign Minister Mr. Vu Khoan, and was received by Foreign Minister Mr. Nguyen Manh Cam and Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet. He visited Laos Apr. 24-27, and was received by President Nouhak Phoumsavanh and Foreign Minister Sonsavath Lengsavath, and had talks with Deputy Foreign Minister Phongsavath Boup. (NLM 4/29)

MYANMAR GAZETTE

Probationary Appointments

The SLORC appointed the following, on probation:

Apr. 19: U Shwe, General Manager, Myanma Railways, to be Director-General, Transport Planning Department, Ministry of Rail Transportation. (NLM 4/20)

Apr. 27: Lt-Col. Tun Chun, Commandant of Central Intelligence Unit, Ministry of Defence, to be Director-General, Customs Department, Ministry of Finance and Revenue. (NLM 4/28)

Appointments Confirmed

The SLORC confirmed the following, after one year of probation:

Apr. 27: U Sann Lwin as Director-General, Department for Promotion and Propagation of the Sasana, Ministry of Religious Affairs.

U Aung Than as Director-General, Revenue Appellate Tribunal, Ministry of Finance and Revenue.

U Thein Myint as Managing Director, Myanma Agriculture Produce Trading, Ministry of Trade.

U Ohn Myint as Managing Director, Road Transport, Ministry of Rail Transportation.

U Kyin Soe as Rector, Yangon Institute of Technology, Ministry of Education. (NLM 4/28)

GOVERNMENT

Citizens Investment Law

Mar. 31: SLORC Law No. 4/94 of Mar. 31, the Myanmar Citizens Investment Law, establishes the Myanmar Citizens Investment Commission, under the Ministry of National Planning and Economic Development, to issue permits to persons "desirous of making an investment to operate and economic investment," on the basis of whether the proposed economic enterprise is in conformity with the law and policy, financially and economically credible, appropriate in technology, and "contributes to the economic development of the State." Approved investments can be exempted from income tax for three years, and granted other fiscal, exchange, and customs exemptions, and are exempt from nationalization. (NLM 4/1)

Gen. Than Shwe Visits Mandalay Area

Apr. 5: SLORC Chairman Senior General Than Shwe visited military and economic sites in Meiktila. (NLM 4/6) // Apr. 6: He visited agricultural and religious sites in Bagan and Nyaung-U on Apr. 5, and a reservoir in Taungtha Township on Apr. 6. (NLM 4/7) // Apr. 7: He visited religious sites in Mandalay, and the University

for Development of National Races in Ywathitgya, Sagaing. // Apr. 8: He addressed the graduating class of the Defence Services Academy in Pyin-Oo-Lwin [Maymyo] [see below, under MILITARY]. (NLM 4/9) // Apr. 9: He received the visiting Indonesian Forestry Minister and toured religious and economic sites in Pyin-Oo-Lwin. (NLM 4/10) // Apr. 10: He visited economic sites in Mandalay. (NLM 4/11) // Apr. 11: He toured mining sites in Sagaing. (NLM 4/12) // Apr. 12: He visited irrigation sites in Monywa. (NLM 4/13). // Apr. 13: He visited Monywa projects. (NLM 4/14) // Apr. 16: He visited Pakokku in Apr. 15 and other projects, and returned to Yangon on Apr. 16. (NLM 4/17)

SLORC Vice Chairman Named

Apr. 27: SLORC Declaration No. 2/94 of Apr. 27, Assigning of duties as Vice-Chairman of the State Law and Order Restoration Council provides [full text]:

The State Law and Order Restoration Council has assigned duties to Member of the State Law and Order Restoration Council Deputy Commander-in-Chief of the Defence Services and Commander-in-Chief (Army) General Maung Aye as Vice-Chairman of the s Deputy Commander-in-Chief of the Defence Services and Commander-in-Chief (Army) General Maung Aye as Vice-Chairman of the State Law and Order Restoration Council. (NLM 4/28)

Auditor-General Replaced

Apr. 27: SLORC Order No. 1/94 of Apr. 27, Permission to retirement, provides [full text]:

The State Law and Order Restoration Council has permitted Auditor-General U Khin Zaw to retire on health grounds effective today.

SLORC Order No. 2/94 of Apr. 27, Appointment of Auditor-General, provides [full text]:

The State Law and Order Restoration Council has appointed U Aung Khin Tint as Auditor-General effective today. (NLM 4/28)

Education Minister Transferred

Apr. 27: SLORC Declaration No. 3/94 of Apr. 27, Reassigning of Portfolio for Minister, provides [full text]:

The State Law and Order Restoration Council has reassigned the portfolio of Minister for Education Col. Pe Thein as Minister at the Prime Minister's Office. (NLM 4/28)

New Education Minister

Apr. 27: SLORC Declaration No. 4/94 of Apr. 27, Appointment of Minister, provides [full text]:

The State Law and Order Restoration Council has appointed and assigned duties to U Pan Aung as Minister for Education. (NLM 4/28)

Three New Deputy-Ministers

Apr. 27: SLORC Notification No. 23/94 of Apr. 27, Assignment of Deputy Ministers, provides [full text]:

The State Law and Order Restoration Council has assigned duties to the following persons as Deputy Ministers of the respective Ministries as shown:

(1) Dr. Than Nyunt Ministry of Education
(2) U Aung Thein Ministry of Livestock Breeding and
Fisheries

(3) Col. Aung San Ministry of Construction
(NLM 4/28)

MILITARY

Attacks by Armed Groups

Mar. 31: A 20-member Kayin armed group attacked a bus between Thingannyingaung and Kawkareik on Mar. 12, wounding 4. (NLM 4/1)

Surrenders by Armed Group Members

Apr. 2: A platoon commander of a Muslim armed group "returned to the legal fold" on Mar. 13" [name and details]. (NLM 4/3)

Apr. 9: Two members of the BCP Chit Sein armed group surrendered, with their weapons, at the Kanma Security camp in Tanintharyi on Mar. 7. (NLM 4/10)

Apr. 13: Two members of the ABSDF surrendered with weapons on Mar. 31 [names and details]. (NLM 4/14)

Apr. 19: Between Mar. 1-6, 21 armed group members returned to the legal fold, with their weapons [names and details]. (NLM 4/20)

Apr. 20: Between Mar. 7-19, 21 armed group members returned to the legal fold, with their weapons [names and details]. (NLM 4/21)

Apr. 22: Between Mar. 21-31, 20 armed group members returned to the legal fold, with their weapons [names and details]. (NLM 4/23)

Gen. Than Shwe Addresses Officers

Apr. 8: SLORC Chairman Senior General Than Shwe addressed the graduating class at the Defence Services Academy [excerpts]:

"Looking back throughout the Tatmadaw's history, we have always striven to repel dangers whenever they imperil the country, disregarding our lives. During the 1948-49 period widespread insurgency erupted throughout the country due to racism and dogmatism. We were called the Yangon Government because only Yangon was left to us. Big towns such as Pyay, Toungoo, Mandalay and Mawlamyine fell to the insurgents. At that time our Tatmadaw had only several regiments. Soon after regaining our Independence, the situation was likened to 'A young nation in a raging storm', and our Tatmadaw had to protect our country disregarding our lives so that our recently regained Independence might not be lost.

"In 1958 there were splits in the ruling political parties and because of fierce infighting between these groups the people also became divided as they chose the party they liked. At that time our Tatmadaw magnanimously again had to intercede and calm down the situation. From 1958 to 1960 as caretaker government, we had to protect our country and after holding general elections in 1960, we put the country again on the path of multi-democracy.

"In 1962, a pure federal scheme, which would lead to the disintegration of the Union emerged and the situation edged toward that end. Antagonisms became rife between national brethren and as bloodshed became imminent our Tatmadaw had again to take over control in the nick of time.

"You have seen for yourselves the situation in 1988 when anarchism reigned and people were beheaded with blunt knives in broad daylight at road intersections. In factories and workshops, roofs or floors were taken apart and there was widespread looting. The situation was such the whole country was on the verge of being set ablaze and destroyed. Our Tatmadaw, loyal and duty conscious, had to take up duties of State. We did this not because we covet or crave for power....

"We are now performing two main duties for the emergence of a new, peaceful and modern state. One is the task of bringing about national reconciliation for the unity of all national brethren. The other is for the emergence of a new Constitution...." (NLM 4/9)

Apr. 9: Degrees were conferred on 97 science and 33 arts graduates by Commandant Col. Soe Win Maung. (NLM 4/10)

ECONOMIC

Economic Articles

Apr. 2: Cruise touches Myanmar shore with pleasure!, by Nyunt Wai. [Feature on visit of M/S Pearl.]

Apr. 11: To flush the land with water, by Mya Than San. [Irrigation near Yezin.]

Apr. 11: Mon Chaung Dam will develop national economy, by Ah-htet Minhla Nyunt Aung. [Irrigation project in Tatkon Township.]

Apr. 14: Out of the desert into an oasis, by Mya Than San. [Visit to dry area with Gen. Than Shwe.]

Apr. 17: A house on the Chin Hills that is bright with electric lights, by Mya Than San. [With Gen. Than Shwe to a newly electrified area in Chin State.]

Apr. 19: 'Moan', we can't hate you, by Mya Than San. [Visit to Moan Chaung irrigation dam in Minbu District, Mandalay. "Moan", in Myanmar, means "hate."]

Project Inaugurations

Apr. 1: The newly-paved 28-mile Gwa-Ngathaingchaung Road in Rakhine State was commissioned Mar. 30. The 2,000 foot Gandama Road in Mayangon Township (Yangon), linking Kaba Aye Pagoda Road and South-North Okkalapa Road was commissioned. (NLM 4/2)

Apr. 4: A TV Relay Station was inaugurated Mar. 29 in Putao Township (Kachin). (NLM 4/5)

Apr. 7: The Shwe Myanmar Shopping Plaza opened on the first floor of the Theingyizay Complex on Shwedagon Road. Myanma Heavy Industries, Daewoo Electronic Myanmar Co. Ltd., Myanmar Fritz Werner Industries Co. Ltd., Yadanar Theingi Co. Ltd., Arthawadi Supermarket Ltd., Myitmakha International Ltd. and Myanmar Daewoo International Ltd. have shops in the plaza. (NLM 4/8)

Apr. 9: The Badamya Ngamauk Motel, built by the Mogok Township Cooperatives Society, was inaugurated in Mandalay. The Laibar Hydro-electric Power Plant, with two 300-kilowatt generators, was inaugurated Apr. 6 in Hakha [Chin]. A TV retransmission station was inaugurated Mar. 27 in Bokpyin [Tanintharyi]. (NLM 4/10)

Apr. 18: A 276-foot Bailey bridge across the Einme River at Einme, Myaungmya District, Ayeyarwady Division was inaugurated on Apr. 17. (NLM 4/19)

Apr. 19: The Sales Centre of the Myanmar Borneo Company Ltd. opened at 447/ 449 Merchant Street, Yangon. Products include medicines and medical equipment, computers, air conditioners, duplicating machines, and personal goods. Minister for Trade Lt-Gen. Tun Kyi spoke of the need to modernize Myanmar offices, public and private, with modern equipment and computers. Managing Director Mr. H.K. Han of Myanmar Borneo Company also spoke, and donated a Compaq Computer to the Minister. (NLM 4/20)

Apr. 22: The Namhmyaw Hydel Power Plant was inaugurated by SLORC Secretary-1 Lt-Gen. Khin Nyunt in Lashio Township, Shan State. It cost K95.2 million (K53 million from Myanma Electric Power Enterprise and K42 from "public contributions"), and will produce 24 million KWH per year. (NLM 4/23)

Apr. 26: A 40 metre Z-craft (Z-117), which can carry 150 tons and has a draft of only two feet, was launched at Ahlon Shipyards. It will ply between Nyaungdon and Setkaw across the Nyaungdon River. (NLM 4/27)

Apr. 28: A Satellite Ground Station was inaugurated in Tamu on Apr. 26. (NLM 4/29)

Apr. 29: The Suzuki Motor Corporation, Japan, and Thai Suzuki Motor Co. Ltd., in cooperation with SPA Motorcycle Ltd., opened the Suzuki Showroom and Service Centre at 401/407 Maha Bandoola Road, Yangon. Speakers included Chairman Mr. Serge Pun of SPA Motorcycles Ltd., Managing Director Mr. Kenji Yamamoto of Suzuki (Thai) Ltd., and others. (NLM 4/30)

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(NLM 4/7)

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Apr. 21: A giant neon SONY sign was erected by the TMW Enterprise Ltd. on the Myawady Press building on Sule Pagoda Road. Present from Sony Singapore Pte. Ltd. General Manager Mr. Kazuo Nakai and Managing Director Mr. Sng Sze Hiang. (NLM 4/22)

Joint Ventures & Foreign Investments

Apr. 1: Mandalay Mayor U Tun Kyi on Mar. 29 negotiated the lease of high-class hotels in Mandalay with Managing Director Mr. Lextsak of L.P. Holdings Co., Ltd. of Bangkok. (NLM 4/2)

Apr. 3: Joint Venture Corporation No. 6, represented by Managing Director U Tin Maung So, on Apr. 1 signed an agreement with Macau Frozen Food Co. Ltd. of Hong Kong, represented by Managing Director Mr. Thomas Ho to sell 200 tons of prawns worth US\$1.2 million this year and 600 tons in fiscal year 1994-95. It signed an agreement with Butterworth Co. Ltd. of Malaysia, represented by Director Mr. Saw Han Earn, to sell 30 tons of prawns worth US\$500,000. (NLM 4/4)

Apr. 22: Minister for Industry Lt-Gen. Sein Aung inspected a test run at the Caustic Soda Factory in Sittaung, Mon State, built as a joint venture of Myanmar Paper and Chemical Industries and Yunnan Province Chemicals Export and Import Corporation of China, with an investment of K220.9 million including US\$6.6 million. It will manufacture caustic soda, chlorine fluid, hydrochloric acid, and bleaching powder and fluid. (NLM 4/23)

Apr. 29: Ground was broken for a new Myanmar Railways (MR) head office building at 357 Merchant Street; the current MR building will be renovated into an international level hotel by Meeyahta International Hotel Ltd. under a 30 year lease signed Aug. 13, 1993, which is a joint venture between First Myanmar Investment Co. Ltd., Serge Pun and Associates (Myanmar), and Serge Pun and Associates Ltd., Hong Kong. They will also build the new US\$2.5 million MR office building. Minister for Rail Transportation U Win Sein "thanked Mr. Serge Pun for his role as a main investor in this business and invited Myanmar residents in foreign countries to invest here." (NLM 4/30)

Myanmar Trade Fair 94

Mar. 31: SLORC Chairman Senior General Than Shwe previewed the Fair at Myanmar Department Stores on Shwedagon Pagoda Road. (NLM 4/1)

Apr. 1: The Trade Fair opened, "graced by Secretary-2 of the State Law and Order Restoration Council Lt-Gen. Tin Oo." Minister for Trade Lt-Gen. Tun Kyi extended greetings, saying the Fair had four objectives: "promotion and diversification of export; introduction of Myanmar non-traditional quality products to new markets; development of import-substitution production; and attraction and acquisition of foreign investment and hi-tech for national economic development." He noted that since adoption of the market-oriented economic system, the private sector had accounted for over 50% of total export volume. (NLM 4/2)

Apr. 10: There are 36 cooperatives and 69 entrepreneurs exhibiting. (NLM 4/11)

Apr. 24: The Fair concluded. Local products fetched over K24 million and US\$17.71 million. (NLM 4/25)

Gems

Apr. 2: On an inspection tour, Minister for Mines Lt-Gen. Kyaw Min spoke in Muse (Shan): "Pointing out to them gem smuggling in border towns, the Minister stated measures to prevent it and allow legal and free gem trade. He said a mission will be sent to Muse commencing from 1 May to supervise legal and free gem trade as well as to help negotiate deals between local merchants and foreign

traders. Out of the proceeds, he said, 15 per cent will be taxed and current accounts for the remaining 85 per cent will be opened at the Myanma Foreign Trade Bank. He then chose the sites for offices of border region gem trade supervisory mission...." (NLM 4/2)

Tourism

Apr. 2: 360 French tourists arrived on the M/S Pearl; some toured Yangon and others flew to Bagan-Nyaung-U and Innlay. They will leave Apr. 5 for Maungmakan Beach and Dawei [Tavoy]. (NLM 4/3) // Apr. 3: 120 went to Bagan; 120 to Heho; and 113 toured Yangon. (NLM 4/4) // Apr. 5: the M/S Pearl departed. It will stop at Maungmagan on Apr. 6 so that tourists can visit Maungmagan Beach and Dawei. (NLM 4/6)

Wages, Prices, and Corruption

Apr. 8: Speaking to Police office officials in Patheingyi, Minister for Home Affairs Lt-Gen. Mya Thin said that "as service personnel are to participate in the leading role of the future State, they should stay clean of from [sic] bribery, should be upright and should also be loyal to the State The current government...has twice enhanced the pay scale of service personnel, has formed GECs, is also distributing rice to them at reasonable prices and extending social services. He urged them to conduct collective farming to earn extra income as monthly salary alone cannot fully feed a family due to high commodity prices. He also warned them to stay away from earning extra income by unfair means...." (NLM 4/9)

Palm Oil Imports

Apr. 18: Minister for Trade Lt-Gen. Tun Kyi inspected [palm] oil storage tanks in Yangon, and was told by Managing Director U Thein Tun of General Merchandise Trading that "palm oil purchased from Malaysia arrived by mv Guryev on 16 April and all of it has been transferred to tanks this morning. Necessary checks had been conducted regarding quality of the oil.... More oil will arrive by mv Mandalay soon." The Minister "said it is essential to distribute the oil speedily, the imported oil will be sold at lowest prices in consultation with the Oil Merchants Association and that prevailing oil prices in the market should be reported...." At a later meeting, the Minister "said that General Merchandise Trading has made arrangements to ensure monthly flow of oil purchased from abroad, that oil which arrived in the last shipment had been stored in the Ahlon tanks, that oil will be distributed to government employees through the GEC shops and to the public through cooperative societies and the Oil Merchants Association.... He noted that steps are being taken for the shipment of oil purchased from abroad on schedule and that the oil will continuously be sold to the consumers as much as they need at lower prices." (NLM 4/19)

Apr. 20: Minister for Trade Lt-Gen. Tun Kyi visited the General Merchandise Trading palm oil storage depot, where "oil from four 1,000-ton capacity tanks was transferred into barrels of the cooperative societies. Over 1,000 barrels of oil has been distributed to the societies since the 18th of April and work is being intensified for timely distribution." (NLM 4/21)

Development in Sagaing Division

Apr. 21: At a coordination meeting for development in Mawlaik and Kalay Districts of Sagaing Division, SLORC Secretary-1 Lt-Gen. Khin Nyunt noted that SLORC Chairman Senior General Than Shwe had visited Mawlaik and Kalay Districts, and "after finding vast stretches of virgin and fallow land gave guidance for reclaiming virgin and fallow land and greening of the area...." The Secretary said that the Ministry of Agriculture was taking steps for this new development. "He said new houses are being built and new villages are being established to enable families to go and reside there. He said the State is providing land and farm implements, supplying foodstuff and is giving other assistance to the people there." (NLM 4/22)

Railways

Apr. 27: In 1993-94 Myanma Railways carried 37,850,000 passengers and 3,300,000 tons of freight, earning K1,350,100,000, an increase over the previous year. (NLM 4/28)

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:			
April 1	4.49	5.43	5.28
April 15	4.49	5.43	5.28
April 30	4.49	5.55	5.28

SPORTS

Sports Articles

Apr. 2: Hockey Tournament of Second National Sports Festival, by Tin Win. [Cont. (2) Account of Festival.]

Myanmar Teams and Delegations

Apr. 2: Moe Thu Aung won gold in the age 11-12 100-metre free-style swimming event at the 21st South-East Asia Swimming Contest in Singapore, with a time of 1:12.62. Ei Wai Wai Kyaw and Ei Ei Han took silver and bronze in the age 9-10 100-metre breaststroke event. (NLM 4/3) // Apr. 3: Moe Thu Aung won gold in the girls 11-12 50-metre free style event, and silver in the 50-metre butterfly event. The Myanmar team won bronze in girls 11-12 individual medley and under 10 individual medley. (NLM 4/4) // Apr. 7: The team returned, with three gold, three silver, and four bronze medals. (NLM 4/8)

Apr. 4: A cycling team left for Thailand to compete in the Apr. 6-11 Tour of Thailand 1994 invitational race. It was led by Cycling Federation President U Nay Soe Naing, with Federation officials U Myint Han, U Myo Aung, and U Soe Myint as team managers, and cyclists Maung Maung Soe, Thet Naing Oo, Myint Lwin, and Naing Win. The 897 kilometre race is from Bangkok to Maesai in the Golden Triangle. (NLM 4/5) // Apr. 9: Myanmar took fourth place in the 132 kilometre Nakhon Sawan-Pitsanulok race, and sixth place in the 125-kilometre Lobburi-Nakhon Sawan race. 227 athletes from Myanmar, Malaysia, Singapore, Hong Kong, Thailand, Vietnam, Laos, and China are competing. (NLM 4/10)

Apr. 28: A youth soccer team led by Deputy Director-General Lt-Col. Thein Aung of the Sports and Physical Education Department left for Thailand to participate in the May 1-5 29th Asian Youth Soccer Tournament for under-19. (NLM 4/29)

Foreign Teams and Delegations

Mar. 31: A Japanese Universities Soccer Team will play the youth team of the Myanmar Football Federation on Apr. 1. (NLM 4/1) // Apr. 1: Japan and Myanmar played to a 0-0 tie. (NLM 4/2)

Apr. 21: Friendly Myanmar-Macau soccer matches scheduled for Apr. 24-26 have been cancelled, because the Macau team cannot arrive on time. (NLM 4/22)

Martial Arts Institute

Apr. 22: 157 trainees completed Course No. 1 at the Tatmadaw Martial Arts and Sports Institute at Yemun Tatmyo. Awards were presented in athletics, military skills, Myanmar Traditional thaing,

karatedo, judo, taekwondo, boxing, gymnastics, sepak takraw, volleyball, football, basketball, shooting, and other sports. (NLM 4/23)

HEALTH

Health Articles

Apr. 7: World Health Day 1994 and the Year of Oral Health, by Dr. Kyaw Sein (Pabedan). [Oral effects of AIDS, etc.]

Apr. 8: "1994, The Year for Dentistry", by Dr. Tin Maung Aung. [Need for more dentists. Myanmar has only 1,000 registered dental surgeons, a "grotesquely inadequate" number for a nation of over 42 million. The number in government service is only a few hundred. "A modern new dental school is being considered for construction--one in Yangon and another in Mandalay. The school dental nurse's programme has been revived and the school for dental technicians has been reopened.... A post-graduate Master's degree programme has also be established.... The oral and dental health law has been enacted and a ten-member Myanmar Dental Council has been formed to develop, guide and maintain the ethical standards of oral and dental health practitioners."]

Cholera

Apr. 18: A meeting to "discuss the threat of cholera in Yangon Division" was held at the Department of Health. Minister for Health Vice-Adm. Than Nyunt "said all the departments concerned are to make concerted efforts for control of cholera outbreaks in Yangon Division, that control measures already taken are satisfactory and that experts concerned will have to undertake the responsibilities collectively. The Minister also spoke of the importance of health education and the need to educate individual doctors concerning treatment." Director (Disease Control) Dr. Aye Kyu "reported on the threat of cholera in the division and control measures being taken." (NLM 4/19)

Apr. 21: At a coordination meeting between Health officials and officials of the 12 affected townships in Yangon, it was said that "Although the outbreak of the disease was under control, the Health Department and the YCDC are jointly taking measures to eliminate it. Measures to carry out sanitation work at market places, inspect restaurants and food stalls, and encourage construction of fly-proof latrines and systematic disposal of garbage were then discussed." (NLM 4/22)

Apr. 23: A workshop on cholera was held in Thingangyun Township, Yangon. (NLM 4/24)

Apr. 27: Speaking to a cholera coordination meeting, Deputy Minister for Health Col. Than Zin "said although there have been cases of dysentery, cases of cholera virus detection have been decreasing. He said that he has heard that similar incidences are taking place in some townships of other States and Deivisions.... He noted that as he has heard of cases of dengue haemorrhagic fever and encephalitis in addition to cholera, steps are to be taken to see that the incidence does not become an epidemic. He disclosed that the WHO and non-governmental organizations are providing assistance. He said disease control measures are under way along the route of the Tooth Relic's journey to Mandalay, where there will be public gatherings...." (NLM 4/28)

Phencodin Declared Narcotic

Apr. 21: Ministry of Health Notification of Apr. 21, 1994, acting under Section 30(b) of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law, "hereby declares that cough elixir Phencodin is designated a narcotic drug." (NLM 4/22)

CULTURAL

Cultural and Scientific Articles

Apr. 3,10,17,24: The Cat Family, by Colonel Hla Aung (Rtd).
[Cont. (9)- Habits of lions. (10-11) Mythical lions. The Chinthe.
(12) Leopards.]

Apr. 14: Buddha's Sacred Tooth in Myanmar History, by Dr. Khin Maung Nyunt. [Buddhist pagodas and their relics in Myanmar history.]

Apr. 21: Buddha's Sacred Tooth Relic and King Anawrahta, by Dr. Khin Maung Nyunt. [A duplicate of the Tooth Relic, the original of which is in Sri Lanka, was brought to Myanmar by King Anawrahta in 1071 AD and enshrined at the Shwezigon Pagoda in Bagan; additional Teeth "miraculously reproduced from the China tooth" were enshrined at the Lawkananda Pagoda and several others; that at the Lawkananda Pagoda, in its gold casket after the 1975 earthquake, and was displayed for two years before being re-enshrined in the renovated Pagoda. The Tooth sent to Myanmar was "a duplicate of the sacred Tooth, for as in the case of China, Sri Lanka was the country where the lower left eye-tooth of the Lord Buddha was divinely ordained to reside for the Buddha Sasana period of 5000 years." King Anawrahta had previously gone to China to ask to borrow the Tooth ordained to reside in China, but was instead given "an emerald (green jade) Buddha image 'which had come into contact with the Tooth.'"]

Universities

Apr. 2: Yangon University began its 69th Convocation. Rector Dr. Tun Maung conferred the following degrees: LL.B. (430), B.A. (395), B.Sc. (558). (NLM 4/3)

Apr. 20: The Institute of Nursing (Yangon) held its first Convocation. Rector Dr. Win May conferred degrees on 74 graduates. (NLM 4/21)

Apr. 23: The Institute of Medicine 2, Yangon, held its 21st Convocation. Rector Dr. Tha Hla Shwe conferred 26 M.Med.Sc. and 92 MBBS degrees. (NLM 4/24)

Thingyan

Apr. 3: Preventive measures necessary for deterring acts which disturb public order, by K M O. ["Readers...might recall the loathsome incidents in which some people suffered injuries and had to be hospitalised caused by some unscrupulous revellers who threw ice-packs, water-bags, and water balloons during last Thingyan Water Festival...." Example of one man who threw a tin of acid and was sentenced to five years in prison.]

Apr. 4: "Effective action will be taken by special courts against those who throw ice-packs and water balloons during 1994 Maha Thingyan Festival, announced authorities concerned. Those caught with ice-packs and water balloons in hand will be given to one year, ice-pack throwers and sellers three years and five years in jail. Rewards will be given to those furnishing information on sellers." Speaking at City Hall, Yangon Mayor U Ko Lay "underscored the need for the officials concerned to take deterrent measures against throwing ice-packs, ice-water in plastic bags, rubber balloons and other dangerous fluids and materials...." (NLM 4/5)

Apr. 5: A Special Court will hear Thingyan cases. (NLM 4/6)

Apr. 10: Yangon Commander Lt-Gen. Myo Nyunt told officials that: "Twenty-one special courts under two Magistrates vested with special powers have been formed to conduct summary trials against throwers and sellers of water balloons and icepacks during the Thingyan festival. Those who make these have been warned of arrest, action and seizure of property to be disposed of so that rewards can be extended to persons who give information." (NLM 4/11)

Apr. 13: Thingyan (water festival) celebrations began. (NLM 4/14) [Heavy coverage for several days]

Relics Recovered

Apr. 9: A 5-inch ancient bronze Buddha statue and a 6-inch miniature bronze pagoda (both 12th Century) were smuggled into Mesai "across the border" but recovered on Mar. 20. [photos] (NLM 4/10)

Apr. 19: Two ancient Buddha statues smuggled to Chiangmai for

sale were returned on Apr. 7. One, 11.5 inches high, was cast in 1304 AD; the other, 7.8 inches high, dates from the Innwa period of the early 14th or 15th century. Both are in the Pala Period style of India. (NLM 4/20)

Myanmar Computer Fonts

Apr. 19 [full text]: MCC presents Win-Myanmar software to organizations and departments. The Myanma Computer Co. Ltd. presented Win-Myanmar software for use in computers to various departments at the Karaweik Hall today. Present were personnel of the State Law and Order Restoration Council Office, the President's Office, Pyithu Hluttaw Office, ministries, departments and enterprises, officers of the Ministry of Defence, Chairman of the MCC U Thein Tun, Managing Director U Tin Win Aung and guests. U Thein Tun delivered and introductory speech. U Tin Win Aung then explained the objective of presenting the software invented by MCC. Next, inventor of the Myanmar fonts U Zaw Htut explained facts about the Win-Myanmar software. Myanmar fonts were then presented to personnel of the various departments." (NLM 4/20)

MISCELLANEOUS

Sunday and Holiday Supplements

Apr. 1: Special 8 page supplement of advertisements honoring the Myanma Trade Fair 94.

Apr. 3,17,24: Let us rally around the Tatmadaw, build and defend the country, by Minye Kaungbon. [Cont. (33) "In writing histories on Myanmar, English historiographers, were incapable of seeing the might and glory of Myanmar and maliciously denigrated Myanmar qualities and vilely deduced wrong conclusions.... {They} altogether dismissed pre-Anawrahta period historical episodes as recorded in ancient histories, as legends and fables...." (34) "The most notorious and the most brazen of imperialists...were the British." Account of the occupation of Thanlyin [Syriam] by the Portuguese adventurer Felipe de Brito (Nga Zingar) from 1600-13 AD. First Anglo-Myanmar War of 1824. (35) Kayin resistance to British in 1853 and later.]

Apr. 3: -- Regenerate firewood forests to refoliate the dry zone and prevent soil erosion, by Khin Maung Than (Sethmu). [Benefits of firewood forests.]

-- Thamekku dam project for economic and social progress, by Ahtet Minhla Nyunt Aung. [5,000 foot earth dam to be built in Myingyan District, Mandalay; will irrigate 3,000 acres and cost K45 million.]

-- The changing scenes of Wa region, by Kyaw Zeya. [Modernization.]

-- Ngamoyeik Dam, fourth biggest dam construction project, by Reporter Thant Zin. [6,100 foot earth dam in Hlegu Township; 13 villages and 1,468 houses being relocated.]

-- One of the scenes of Summer paddy, by Thein Mya Lwin. [Tatmadaw cultivating summer paddy in Mingaladon Township.]

Apr. 17: -- The low-land ground-driven rotary tiller, by Shwe Nagar Tin Win. [A simple agricultural tool.]

-- The Pinn Chaung Dam to boost agrinomy [sic], by Ahtet Minhla Nyunt Aung. [A dam project in Kyaukpadaung Township, Mandalay.]

-- The Hlaingdet Canning Factory, by Khin Maung Than (Sethmu). [Cannery in Thazi Township, Mandalay, producing 1712 metric tons of jam, fruit drinks, fruit concentrates, dehydrated vegetables, etc.]

-- Summer paddy increased eight-fold in Mawgyun, by Mawgyun Myint Aung. [Agricultural progress in Ayeyarwady Division.]

-- Minye Dam construction project, by Reporter Tin Ohn Maung. 1,775 foot earthen dam in Oktwin Township, Bago, that will irrigate 1,000 acres and prevent flooding of the Yangon-Mandalay railroad and highway.]

Apr. 24: -- Small is beautiful, by Shwe Nagar Tin Win. [Dr. Schumacher's famous books and Myanmar opportunities for local industry.]

-- Thaketa six-lane circular road, by Ahtet Minhla Nyunt Aung. [Visit around commuter circular highway in Yangon.]

-- Myanmar jewellery selling briskly in world market, by Kyaw Sein. [Successes of Myanmar-VES Joint Venture Co. Ltd., between Myanmar Gems Enterprise and VES Company of Thailand, in selling Myanmar gems.]

-- Zaungtu hydro-electric power project, by Ye Myint Pe. [Project 36 miles northwest of Bago, formerly infested with malaria. It will have a capacity of 9 megawatts and cost K580 million.]

-- Cultivation of summer paddy in Pyapon District, by Reporter Aung Win. [Progress in Ayeyarwady Division.]

-- Pesticide plant of Myanma Agricultural Service, by Kayan Soe Myint. [Advantages of plant, which opened in 1990.]

Crime

Mar. 31: Three men from Kawhmu Township were arrested Mar. 2-3 for possession of 3 "Zin Chaw" tortoises in a reserve. (NLM 4/1)

Apr. 1: Two men were arrested for throwing stones at a Yangon-Mandalay train on Mar. 27, injuring a 12-year old boy. (NLM 4/2)

Apr. 11: Four met were arrested Apr. 7 for stealing 480 feet of electric cable in Mingaladon Township, Yangon. Fisheries officials on Apr. 6 seized 1,086 turtles, 8 boa constrictors, and 4 otters being brought to Yangon from a motorboat in Nyaungdon Township. (NLM 4/12)

Anti-Narcotics Activities

Apr. 6: 4.5 kilos of heroin were seized Apr. 3 in Lashio. (NLM 4/7)

Apr. 12: 2.2 kilos of Chu-hnit-kaung Gabalon brand heroin were seized Apr. 8 in Phekho [Shan]. 78 bottles of Phensedyl were seized in Mandalay on Mar. 7, 508 bottles of Phensedyl in Monywa on Mar. 8. (NLM 4/13)

Apr. 18: 216 bottles of Phensedyl were seized Apr. 7 in Mandalay. (NLM 4/19)

Apr. 21: 57 bottles of Phensedyl were seized Mar. 30 in Mandalay. (NLM 4/22)

Apr. 27: 1.35 kilos of Double Lion-Globe brand heroin were seized Apr. 23 in Taunggyi and Hopang [Shan]. 8 kilos of marijuana were seized Apr. 22 in Yangon. (NLM 4/28)

Obituaries

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

Apr. 4: Noreen Hla Kyaw, wife of Saw Rance Kittim Ku (Chief Engineer Myanmar Five Star Line), died in Yangon, aged 43. [Christian] (NLM 4/6)

Apr. 21: Margaret Williams, relict of Aloysius Williams, died in Yangon, aged 65. [Christian] (NLM 4/23)

Fires

Mar. 31: During February 1994, there were 209 fires in Myanmar, which destroyed 590 houses, 2 mills, 5 godowns, and left 2,886 homeless. Damage was K19.27 million. 83% of the fires were due to negligence. (NLM 4/1)

Apr. 4: K5,000 was donated for Myingyan fire victims, bringing the total to K1,717,219. (NLM 4/5)

Apr. 6: A fire in Chanayethazan Township, Mandalay, on Apr. 5, destroyed 400 houses and left 2,500 persons from 670 households homeless. Damage was nearly K17 million. Also gutted were a mosque, a cooperative shop, a social welfare office, and a truck. Another fire in Aungmyethazan Township on the same day left 23 homeless. (NLM 4/7)

Apr. 28: During March 1994, there were 201 fires, which destroyed 2,886 buildings, 64 work establishments, and 5 godowns, leaving 14,183 people homeless. Damage was K120.85 million. (NLM

4/29)

Earthquake

Apr. 6: An earthquake of moderate intensity (6.2 Richter) was recorded at 13:37:10 local time, with epicenter 963 miles NE of Yangon. (NLM 4/7)

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