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HIGHLIGHTS

- "Whither KNU?" series concludes account of KNU rise and fall [POLITICAL]
- Peasants Day Message [GOVERNMENT]
- SLORC Chairman pays official visit to Vietnam [MYANMAR DELEGATIONS]
- Bangladesh Trade Exhibition [ECONOMIC]
- U Tin Oo and U Kyi Maung and others released from jail; other terms reduced [POLITICAL: Prisoners Released]
- "Letter from a Myanmar American" [POLITICAL]
- SLORC Chairman Sen-Gen. Than Shwe discusses the aims of the USDA [POLITICAL]
- Communicable Diseases Law [GOVERNMENT]
- Supplementary Budget Law, 1995 [GOVERNMENT]

-- 1995 State Budget Law [GOVERNMENT]
-- Armed Forces Day Address by SLORC Chairman Sen-Gen. Than Shwe [GOVERNMENT]
-- Khun Sa's drug traffickers attack Tachilek; Myanmar accuses Thailand and Western bloc of protecting them [MILITARY]
-- National Convention Plenary Session resumes: Papers on Self-Administered Areas; Delegates from Special Regions [ex-insurgents] continue to call for self-administrative areas going beyond criteria previously laid down. [NATIONAL CONVENTION]

POLITICAL

Slogans

The bottom of each front page continues to bear the slogan: Emergence of the State Constitution is the duty of all citizens of Myanmar Naing-Ngan [reverted back from "Union of Myanmar."

The top of each back page bears the slogan:

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.

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

Mar. 1: Santutthi ca, contentment; this is the way to auspiciousness.

Mar 2-17: Katannuta, gratitude toward the gratifying; this is the way to auspiciousness.

Mar. 18-31: Kalena dhammasavanam, timely audition of the doctrines; this is the way to auspiciousness.

Political Articles

Mar. 3: Editorial: Past glory, present pride. ["It was in mid 18th Century that a strong personality had emerged from Mokehsobo.... He successfully led the country to regain unity, which had dwindled since the demise of the great King Bayintnaung, the founder of the Second Myanmar Empire. U Aung Zeya, who is also widely known as Alaungphaya, emerged at a critical period of Myanmar history when two dominant powers, Mons and Bamars, were vying with each other to govern the country.... The colonialists sold arms and ammunition to the two to reap profits.... Emergence of a strong character like Alaungphaya shattered all their hopes to take Myanmar, only to witness the entire nationalities firmly united among themselves under Alaungphaya's leadership in just a couple of years.... Myanmar under the leadership of Alaungphaya became the mighty regional power, must respected by all its neighbours and no colonialists dared to interfere in its affairs. Its people fully enjoyed freedom, their rights fully recognized.... The monuments built by our ancestors should be repaired, preserved and rebuilt as symbols of the past and the pride of the present and for revitalizing nationalist fervour of today's youths. Thus, rebuilding the Shwebon Yadana Palace and other palaces of renowned kings carries political essence, helping exhort people to uphold national prestige and to love and cherish the motherland."]

Mar. 5: Myanmar has been striving consistently and obtaining good results in her national anti-drug campaign, by Shwe La Win. [Review of Myanmar cooperation with other countries in anti-narcotics activities.]

Mar. 8: Myanmar women and International Women's Day, by Dr. Win May. ["One can see how favourable the status of Myanmar women is. Myanmar women have equal pay and conditions for work of comparable value. They enjoy six weeks parental (maternity) leave before delivery and six weeks leave after delivery. Occupational health care is provided for those working in state-owned factories and work-places. Child care facilities are available for working mothers.

Myanmar women, from time immemorial, have had access to land, capital and credit. They have the right to independently own, inherit, buy, sell and manage property and other resources. They have access to maternal and child health care and birth-spacing, and these programmes are being further strengthened.... In the area of education and training, women are beginning to outnumber men in secondary as well as in tertiary education. Women are not lagging behind men in the field of science and technology and the stereotyped view that science and technology were more a 'male' area has never been prevalent in Myanmar.... Myanmar women have been enjoying equal rights with men since the beginning of Myanmar civilization and...they enjoy both equal status and equal rights...."]

Mar. 10: Golden gate opened, silver bridge laid to cement everlasting friendship, by Pyinmana Myint Hlaing. [Account of visit to Thailand in February by Chief of Staff (Army) Lt-Gen. Tin Oo.]

Mar. 12: The victorious anti-fascist revolution of national people, by Chan Mya Aung. [Lists of members of national races who rose against the Japanese in 1994, including leaders from Kayahs, Kayins, Chins, Shans, and Rakhines. The Japanese "suffered over 20,000 casualties at the hands of Myanmar indigenous revolutionaries and lost many more as prisoners. All important officers from the 54th Division were eliminated, among them being one lieutenant-general and two major-generals."]

Mar. 13: Thura Ma Chit Po of Pyin-Oo-Lwin, by Khin Maung Maung (BE). [Heroine who fought Kayin insurgency and was executed by KNDO on Apr. 8, 1949.]

Mar. 16: Contributing Labour in honour of the Golden Jubilee Armed Forces Day, by Pyin-Oo-Lwin Chit Swe. [How 3000 Palaung and Shan nationals "shouting slogans" worked on 5 miles of the Kyaukme-Mailon road in Kyaukme Township.]

Mar. 18: Combatting Narcotic Drugs in National Perspective, by Ah-htet Minhla Nyunt Aung. [Review of visit by Myanmar-US Joint Narcotic Drug Prevention Programme team in February.]

Mar. 21: Marco Polo account of old Myanmar armed forces, by Dr. Khin Maung Nyunt. [Marco Polo came to Myanmar in AD 1217 with the troops of Mongolian Emperor Kublai Khan, and described the battle at Nga Saung Gyan near Bamaw. Some scholars say Marco Polo did not actually come to Myanmar, but heard about the battle at the Mongolian Court. Description by Marco Polo of the army of "The king of Mien (Myanmar)." According to Myanmar chronicles, it was Commander Anantapyitsi, not King Narathipate, who led the Myanmar forces to defeat. At college I heard explanations of the Myanmar defeat from Professors U Pe Maung Tin, Mr. G.H. Luce, U Ba Nyunt, and Shwepyi U Ba Tin. "Bagan of Narathipate's time was a waning power. The fact that the Myanmar forces of waning Bagan dared face the might of the Mongol Tartars on the battlefield and got defeated by them was a moral victory for the Myanmar nation...."]

Mar. 22: Tatmadaw and the Chin Youth, by Tekkatho Nay Win. [Information about Chin participation in World War II, gathered from Bo Linn, who served in the BIA, the BDA, and the PBF, and was known to Bogyoke Aung San. In 1942, Bogyoke Aung San sent Chin officer Bo Linn to Kalaywa to train young Chins. They were collected by U Vum Co Hau (later Chin Affairs Minister in Bogyoke Aung San's Cabinet, and Ambassador to the Czechoslovakia). He signed the Pinlon Agreement only on Mar. 17, 1947, not on Feb. 12. He was late in signing it, because the British would not let him resign. Other Chin signers of the Pinlon Agreement were U Hlu Hmon (Falam), U Thawng Zarkhok (Tiddim), and U Kiyomarn (Hakha).

U Bo Linn's real name was U Ning Ling. He, with Bo Kyaw U, raised 70 Chin nationals in an anti-fascist force.

"Young Chin nationals trained by Bo Linn in Kalewa fought resolutely against the retreating British forces inflicting casualties among White Face officers and men. Some Chinese nationals chased the fleeing British forces so earnestly that they had eventually found themselves in Ukrul near Imphal in Indian territory.

"Some of the comrades trained by Bo Linn were (1) Bo Tual Kam

(leader), (2) Bo Thang Zarhawk (Tukhlai), (3) Bo Htarlon (Taikchun), (4) Bo Ngo Cin Pau (Loope), (5) Bo Thaug Cin Hawk (Har-o-pee), (6) Bo Wy Hkolian (KhWarsat), (7) Bo Zarlat (Zalan) and (8) Bo Sint Co Zam (Tiddim).

"They organised themselves in four columns and captured Falam, Hakha, Fort White (Thuklai) and Tiddim towns. Bo Ngaw Khin Pau, mentioned in the above list {sic}, after the war secured a BSc (Geology) Degree.... After the war the British "took vengeance" on the Chins, and imprisoned them. "U Vum Co Hau represented this matter to Bogyoke Aung San at Pinlon and {he}...pardoned them all and also terminated the services of the White Face deputy Commissioner De Glanville within five days after the conclusion of Pinlon Conference

"It must be put on record that Chin political leader U Vum Thu Maung organized 370 Chin young men and enrolled them in the BIA. It will also be necessary to record that U Vum Co Hau (later Ambassador) and U On Ngin (retired Tatmadaw major) and their revolutionary comrades raided Japanese camps located around Siyin area and along the Lethar Mountain range....]

Mar. 23: Military strength of Hamsavadi as described by European travellers, by Dr. Khin Maung Nyunt. [Descriptions of Myanmar during the Taungoo period (1486-1599) by Manuel Faria Y Sousa (Asia Portugasia) and Caesar Frederick.]

Mar. 26: Myanma Army of Kon-baung Period as described by a missionary, by Dr. Khin Maung Nyunt. [Excerpt from Father Sangermano, The Burmese Empire {1833}, Chapter 13.]

Mar. 19: English Envoy's account of Myanmar military establishment, by Dr. Khin Maung Nyunt. [Excerpt from Michael Symes, An account of an Embassy to the Kingdom of Ava in the year 1795 {1800}, Chapter 14.]

:"Whither KNU?"

Feb. 28, Mar. 1-10: "Whither KNU?" by A Resident of Kayin State. [Continued

[24:

History of KNU. "Nga Mya's consistent First Programme had completely destroyed the KNU. What are the KNU Central Committee members going to do now? They have scheduled 27 February 1995 for a meeting to seek an answer."

[25:

How Nga Mya rose to power in the KNU. Black-marketing. "Economic progress of the other country had depended on procurement in black market of Myanmar resources smuggled out of Myanmar. And it would not be wrong to say that a majority of rich persons in the other country amassed wealth thanks to Khun Sa and Nga Mya of Myanmar. Meanwhile, KNU followers ate and lived frugally and died fighting for the welfare of the Kayin...."

In 1988, Nga Mya sought to liquidate the New Mon State Party and "kept trying to wipe Mons from the face of the earth." Other groups joined KNU: ABSDF, DAB, NCGUB.

[26:

"Nga Mya was sorely dejected when Kawmura fell. His very 'throne' had begun to totter. Nevertheless, he did not fail to plan making capital out of its loss.

"'The enemy used poison bombs in Kawmura battle, did they not?'

"Htaw Hla answered this question by shaking his head and Nga Mya grimaced.

"'Maybe, you didn't know. The enemy used poison bombs. We have passed word that the enemy was using poison bombs and the radios have begun to bombard the Na Wa Ta.'

"'No so, General. Bombs the enemy used were not poison bombs, they were smoke bombs. They laid a smoke screen just before their entry into the camp. The smoke choked our comrades. Not one comrade showed any symptom of being poisoned.'

"'It doesn't matter. Even they didn't, we must still say they did.'

"Htaw Hla dared not make any more rebuttal and kept quiet....

"Nga Mya had to keep concocting news for the West bloc media. But he really needed to do very little: the Western media were already experts in calling a bed-bug a tortoise....

"To confirm reports of the use of poison bombs at Kawmura, doctors from the other country examined KNUs. They discovered no symptoms of poisoning of the KNUs who maintained that they began to suffocate and their eyes began to smart because of the smoke. when military officers and doctors of the other country told newsmen that no chemical bombs were used in Kawmura, Nga Mya fumed secretly.

"'These fellows don't know anything. Isn't smoke a chemical product? Hopeless fellows....'

Nga Mya "cleverly won over Htaw Hla as his stooge" by threatening to have him executed for cowardice in evacuating Kawmura, even though he did so under orders from Lt-Gen. Tamla Baw.

Law Wadi told Nga Mya the KNU had faked news that Na Wa Ta {SLORC} troops had attacked Karseehtar and Maipawluhtu {Refugee?} Camps inside "the other country." He said demonstrators led by Sein Win had demonstrated at the Thai Embassy in Washington, on behalf of 23 groups including the NCGUB, ABSDF, and CRDB, with a 5-point demand: 1) help refugees fleeing Myanmar; 2) help refugees wanting to go to America or other third countries; 3) help stop the Na Wa Ta border offensive; 4) allow the UNHCR and other NGOs to visit refugee camps and provide help; and 5) for ASEAN to take action against the Na Wa Ta.

"Johnny" asked Brigade Commander Htain Maung for a 107mm launcher in order to attack towns from a distance.

"As the KNU entered its final chapter diverse influences gathered in the other country for more intrigues. Former American Military Attaches Robert Helvey and Michael Mitchell came right up to the other bank of Taungyin and lectured the KNU on means of survival. They fomented accelerated strike urging guerilla attacks and other violent attacks.

"Three representatives of the Norwegian Burma Council, Moreen {sic} Aung Thwin of an American human rights NGO and some schemers from Australia came to Bangkok and had discussions with NCGUB Minister San Aung and an ousted Hluttaw Deputy, Maung Maung Lat. They left a few dollars for the use of San Aung and Maung Maung Lat. The KNU was not pleased with this. The KNU felt that the two of them had played a one-up-manship. The KNU had regarded San Aung as being a son of scion of a big humbug.

"Robert Helvey and Michael Mitchell came to stay at Khwaykalok Refugee Camp in the other country where the KNU armed personnel used to gather. A so-called NGO going under the name of Republican International Organization also came to offer encouragement....

"By then, Phan Nwee of DKBA had come on to Johnny's scent. And soon, a violent clash erupted."

[27:

"Johnny is said to have ordered his men to shoot down four KNU men, who, under a white flag, went over to the DKBA lines during the battle of Manerplaw. He then made wireless contact with the DKBA and offered to join it. Next, he tried to trap and annihilate the DKBA who went to the rendezvous to welcome him.... Lt-Col. Johnny, second in command of 22nd Battalion and also combat commander, was a fighter heavily relied upon by Nga Mya and Htain Maung.... He...was a debaucher. The type of crime Johnny most frequently committed was rape. He abused school girls who absconded into the jungles in the aftermath of 1988 riots and sold them in the other country...."

Anecdotes of Johnny firing on Kawkareik on Feb. 14, and subsequent fleeing from DKBA. Anecdote of KNU men refusing to obey orders from veteran KNU leader Maung Tun.

Following the fall of Kawmura, "Nga Mya and Phado Ba Tinn had to get into 6th Brigade area and settled in Kanailay." Others could not find a place to go to. "Tin Aung's group from the National League for Democracy (Liberated Area) was in the worst plight. They went from one refugee camp to another such as Hwekalok, Bekalaw, Shokatho,

Bawnaw, and Salaisalu camp close to Methawaw hill. KNU refugee camps would not accept them. They starved. They had no place to sleep. Nga Mya did not call them to him.... For the KNU the DKBA had become a snake and the NLD(LA) had become a scorpion."

[28:

How the Ariya Weizza group (known as the White Head Missionary Group), led by a bogus monk, Nai Maung Hla, recruited prostitutes as infiltrators. At a KNU Central Committee meeting on Feb. 27, held in Kanailay camp in New Wawle area of the 6th Brigade, Nga Mya rebuffed suggestions that he be replaced after the loss of Manerplaw and Kawmura. Various plans offered for KNU's next steps. "The KNU leaders were able to make only two decisions. The first was to continue talking about peace and the second was to attack and capture either Paya Thonzu or Kya-inn/Seikkyi as soon as possible and thereby launch a counter-offensive. The decision to make peace and the decision to launch a counter-offensive were of course contradictory."

[29:

KNUs have long sheltered in refugee camps in "the other country." They hid their weapons when the camps were visited by police or foreigners. "Guests also turned a blind eye." Following the fall of Manerplaw, some refugee families returned to the Myainggying area. Nga Mya and the KNU tried to stop it. "They were unable to lose the goose that had laid golden eggs for them for a decade." On Feb. 25 they began to move refugees out of reach of the DKBA.

When the Army and Border Police "of the other country" started to disarm KNUs posing as refugees. Many had lost their weapons anyway, and other submitted, but Saw Solomon of the KNU 102nd Battalion shot a Border Policeman and fled. The Border Police surrounded the Battalion and demanded that its Commander, Hla Shwe, surrender the culprit. They refused to accept his story that Saw Solomon belonged to the DKBA. On Feb. 28, a DKBA group clashed with KNUs in the Bawnaw Refugee Camp; the KNU tried unsuccessfully to tell the Border Police that it was a Tatmadaw intrusion.

On Mar. 2, the DKBA enticed KNU leader Kyaw Hlwai from a refugee camp. Myanmar and Thai top military leaders exchanged visits. Nga Mya had no one to turn to except Khun Sa, who had once given him a million dollars worth of heroin in lieu of cash. "Nga Mya had to keep praying to God so that Khun Sa and his Loimaw opium smuggling group may remain healthy and wealthy, producing more heroin and be able to help him."

[30:

"The two decisions of the KNU Central Committee Kanailay meeting stupefied KNU followers. The leaders ordered troops to stand by for an attack on Paya Thonzu." They could not understand why the KNU was simultaneously ordering an attack and talking peace. Long extract of quotations, presumably from intercepted radio communications, expressing doubts.

"Under Nga Mya's orders, the KNU HQ had to collect about 300 men from 1st Brigade, 3rd Brigade and 7th Brigade to plan a battle." The 1st Brigade was to "operate in Thaton, Belin and Papun on the west bank of Thanlwin." But most of its troops had deserted to the DKBA. Brigade Commander Kyaw Lin was with KNU HQ, and Ye Din and Myint Thein were awaiting his orders. The 3rd Brigade was to "operate in Shwegyin and Kyaukkyi areas on the east bank of the Sittaung, with its base on the Eastern Yoma." But its contact with HQ was poor and its troops were starving. The 7th Brigade had been "trounced in battles."

Meanwhile, "Masses from Papun and Kammamaung began to ask the Tatmadaw to issue them arms or else to clear up the KNUs. The Tatmadaw used to declare publicly that it always complies with the wishes of the people. And it also honours this pledge." The 2nd Brigade, "operating in Thandaung area in the far north of Kayin State bordering Kayah State" was down to 50 men, and discriminated against by Nga Mya on the grounds that it had Kayah sympathies. Nga Mya had lost control of the 6th Brigade, which ignored him, and of the 4th Brigade, which had been defeated by the Tatmadaw and was now in

border refugee camps. There were reports that the 2nd and 3rd Brigades were going to form a Christian Force and join the Tatmadaw. "Nga Mya raged and raved like a mad man surrounded by fire."

[31:

The KNU HQ and the KNU war office issued the following statement "directed against the DKBA" {full text as published}:

"Statement of the Kayin National Liberation Army for those who are about to follow a wrong path contrary to Kayin Revolution. To those being led astray by the gang of non-meat eaters called DKBA:

"All that you have done do not serve the interests of Kayin nationals and other national races of Burma. They are reactionary counter-revolutionary activities opposed to our national revolution and national races of Burma. They serve the interests only of the Greater Burma chauvinistic Na Wa Ta {SLORC} military dictatorship government. You must seriously consider this matter.

"The cunning Na Wa Ta military dictatorship is presently giving you favours, speaking to you cordially and providing you with special cash and other material support. This is merely to prolong their evil and reactionary power and wage war against you. Karen nationals, and other fellow innocent persons, arrest them and kill them.

"Only you are being made to give up your lives in frontlines for the sake of unjust activities of the Na Wa Ta. The Na Wa Ta is supporting you only as a temporary measure. You should remember that once the Na Wa Ta has achieved its reactionary political objectives it will definitely destroy you as they usually destroy the scaffolding they used in building a pagoda.

"The KNLA will not take any action against you nor punish you for what you have done while you were deceived. The Kayin National Revolution, now being waged, serves the interest not only of Kayin nationals but also of all national races living in Burma.

"You must consider this matter very seriously and return to the side of the Revolution. You are the children of KNLA and no action will be taken against you. The KNU, representing the entire mass of Kayin nationals, leading the national liberation struggle and acting as your mother organization, will keep waiting for your return with great expectations. We will warmly and lovingly welcome you back.

"We appeal to you to return to the side of the Revolution and continue to serve the cause of Kayin nationals and other national races. Your getting deceived only damages the Kayin Revolution and the peoples' movement for genuine democracy. It is time you cease your anti-people and anti-revolution activities. Stop them. We invite you to return to the side of truth.

"With great expectations
General Staff Headquarters
Kayin National Liberation Army
Dated: 5-3-95."

However, things had already gone too far for a reconciliation. On Feb. 27, 7th Brigade troops attacked a DKBA unit in Taunglongyaw, inflicting casualties. On the same day, 300 KNUs led by Johnny, Johnphyu and Kholar attacked Ale Botai between Kawkareik and Thingan Nyinaung, firing nine mortar shells on the market and killing two civilians and wounding two others.

KNUs continued to live in refugee camps "in the other country." On Feb. 28 Phado San Tun Khine, Hlaingbwe Township Judicial Member, "was called away" from the Bawmaw Refugee Camp, and on Mar. 3, Col. George Lai (Kyaw Lwai) was called away from Bailukho Refugee camp. A DKBA effort to "fetch the families left behind" in refugee camps was repelled by the KNU 7th Brigade on Mar. 2. A KNU radio report said "Keep them as hostages. General Mya has ordered to gun down anyone trying to escape." Further confusion among KNU units described.

[32:

Timber smuggling by KNU described at length; "the round logs smuggled out by the KNUs have been over tens and hundred thousands of logs." Inhabitants of refugee camps crossed into Myanmar daily to cut and smuggle logs, returning to the camps at night. "Nga Mya and his comrades are the real culprits of denuding the forests along the

border areas. They not only felled and sold teak, pyinkado and other hardwoods but also the other types of wood." "The STB owned by Po Lian Swan bought timber from the KNUs at a price offered for stolen property and manipulated it. All the logs felled were owned by the STB company." The company sought to collect logs already paid for, but abandoned by the KNU in territory now controlled by the DKBA. The DKBA said the logs belonged to Myanmar; but offered to exchange them for the 123 KNU cars on the other bank, plus the KNUs arms and ammunition. Phado Kalo Htoo, KNU Minister for Finance and Revenue, had used "the bulk" of the timber advances to construct Nga Mya's house in Chiangmai.

On Feb. 25, KNU troops under Capt. Daung Nyo fired off their guns, wasting ammunition. 6th Division Commander Shwe Sai called on him to explain. Capt. Daung Nyo responded:

"1. After Na Wa Ta Senior General Than Shwe's exhortation to the students of the University for Development of National Races at 8 pm on 23-2-95, I felt disgruntled with the KNU leadership.

"2. The points in Senior General Than Shwe's speech proved that Na Wa Ta did as it spoke, not the way it is in the KNU and I felt disgruntled.

"3. We believe the Na Wa Ta's programmes reflect it as acting with true goodwill for the benefit of the people.

"4. We feel disgruntled about having our 16th Battalion put as cannon fodder in the frontline at Kawmura.

"5. We felt disgruntled about the blame being shifted on our 16th Battalion for the fall of Kawmura.

"6. I will settle the matter peacefully with the leaders till it is solved and will explain it to the wavering troops till they understand."

[33:

The 16th Battalion, in effect, mutinied, but the 6th Brigade took no effective action. The Battalion listened to SLORC Chairman Senior General Than Shwe's Feb. 23 address to students from the University for Development of National Races, outlining SLORC's conciliatory policies. Excerpts.

On Mar. 3, Capt. Ngwe Maung and Capt. Tha Htway of KNU HQ defected to the Tatmadaw.

"An objective appraisal of the situation of the KNU and the KNLA will reveal the following:

(a) They have suffered an attrition under the Tatmadaw and the DKBO attacks.

(b) Men are deserting and going to the Tatmadaw.

(c) They are joining ranks with the DKBO in a steady stream.

(d) Follower dissatisfied with leaders are defying {sic}.

(e) There are elders who want to make peace.

(f) There are elders who desire abandoning the Kayin Revolution live in peace {sic}.

(g) Nga Mya and not more than ten accomplices are depending on the West Bloc and forcing their men to go on fighting."]

:Letter from a Myanmar American

Mar. 18 [full text, transcribed as printed]: Dated: 7 March, 1995

Dear Editor

I am back in Yangon again and I have noticed since the beginning of this year, there has been some very significant events that have taken place in Myanmar.

The visits of the American WW II veterans, the Merrill Marauders and the OSS-101 detachment commemorating the 50th anniversary of the end of WW II were the most significant events. The two separate visits by the American War veterans could be seen as a prelude to a better and improved relations between the two peoples of the United States and Myanmar. As an Myanmar American I am optimistic that the two countries will be in close cooperation of mutual interest in the near future.

Another event that is worth mentioning is the announcement

prescribing specifically the acceptable dress code for entertainers, especially to those who perform in public events. I am encouraged and at the same time sadden by the announcement. I am encouraged that such a "public decency" act is being introduced by the State Law and Order Restoration Council in the interest of curbing the proliferation of tacky and inappropriate fashions which has become a standard uniform among entertainers.

I am sadden by the fact that such unsavoury acts went out-of-control beyond the normal entertainment code of conduct that it required the government to step in and finally put an end to it. Some entertainers might find it hard to accept it, but I believe it is a very small prize to pay in maintaining a cultural heritage before it reaches a point of no return. It is also an indication that there are many who are native to make a prudent decision which is appropriate or inappropriate in emulating other forms of cultures.

Since my article appeared in all three newspapers on January 6, 1995, I have received interesting and favourable reactions from various sources in Myanmar and from Myanmar Americans. As much as I am overwhelmed by the support, I am also very much disturbed by the fact that some of the comments made by wrong-headed critics. As usual they assumed that my article was a "SLORC's Editorial" disguised under the pretence of a real writer. Many thought it was fake and that there is no such thing as an Myanmar American forming an opinion about Myanmar. I am sorry to disappoint these critics. I am very much alive and well. Let it be known that as an Myanmar American I am willing and able to lock horns with anyone on issues that concerns Myanmar and American. When it comes to defending either the cultural or moral values of both the countries, I will do so with no reservations. I have no problem of defending and explaining what is un-American what is un-Myanmar. Having lived in the United States for more than two-third of my life, in a way I have an moral obligation to share my experience and knowledge. My previous article highlights the fact that there are substantial changes in Myanmar and that the country deserves to enjoy the fruits of progress denied. I also emphasized my displeasure regarding young women of Myanmar aping foreign Fashions and the abusive behaviour of "Ugly Visitors" in Myanmar. I regard these issues as serious enough to effect the image of the country and its people. Whether here at home in Myanmar or abroad in the United States. People in Myanmar must stop believing that the social and cultural problems come about solely by the rise of economic progress. Adjusting to economic changes can be painful and confusing; but acknowledging the existence of problems and trying to solve them collectively is essential not only for all of us, but for the future of Myanmar. This article and my previous one is not meant to be a statement nor an exercise of egoism. It is an wake up call to all the people of Myanmar. The government can only open avenues of opportunities and implement law safeguarding national interest that will lead the country to progress. But to make progress a reality requires exercising responsibility, honesty, integrity, trust, and openness. It is imperative for both the public and for the business community to understand in maintaining the goodness of the Myanmar culture and not emulate someone's ill-conceived ideas of modernity, we prevent the country from becoming a mockery in the world arena. For instance, customers who patronize night club style restaurants must understand that going out for dinner does not entitle them to illicit activities as either as an Hors D'oeuvre or desert. At the same time business owners should stop enticing customers by paddling the "COME ON" by having young women parade up and down the stage dressed in a style of the infamous red light district of another country which is one of the breeding grounds for AIDS. If Myanmar is to recover from economic deprivation to a state of economic progress, many of us will have to recover a vision with men bearing inherent moral values. It must consist of more than simply professing; it must habituate in idealism and spirit, one of respect and responsibility. The very essence of the good society is in which large majority of adults and the young must be capable of

self governance and be prepared to display regard for others.

Maintaining cultural integrity and common decency is not opposed to economic advancement. Quite the contrary. Allowing and enticing the youth of Myanmar to become obscene caricatures will only destroy respect for our country, destroy our respect for ourselves, and destroy Myanmar's future. Myanmar can learn from the best in the other cultures, as they can learn from Myanmar. This is the formula for success in both the cultural and economic universe. Myanmar can have the "BEST OF BOTH WORLDS".

A Myanmar American

(NLM 3/18)

Aftermath of Manerplaw Capture

Mar. 2: Following the Democratic Kayin Buddhist Army (DKBA) capture of Manerplaw and Kamura, "peace and security have been restored in Manerplaw area." Kayins who had fled to the other country "because of KNU atrocities" and people from the "so-called refugee camps of the KNU" have returned to Myanmar "group by group." To date, a total of 9,495 persons from 1,880 households have returned. Of these, 2,497 persons from 400 households have returned from 18 villages, plus 6,998 persons from 1,440 households who are "family members of Kayin nationals" [details]. Officials at Myainggyingyu Village have built temporary huts for the returnees, and provided medical treatment and opened shops selling essential commodities. The Ministry of Progress of Border Areas and Development Affairs is building a dispensary and school. (NLM 3/3)

Mar. 7: SLORC Secretary-2 Lt-Gen. Tin Oo, accompanied by several Ministers, visited Hpa-an for talks on development of Kayin State, and then flew by helicopter to Myainggyingyu village to pay homage to Myainggyingyu Sayadaw U Thuzana at the Bayme Tawya NanU Kyaungtaik and meet with Commander Brig-Gen. Tin Htut of the Forward No. 33 Light Infantry Division. (NLM 3/8)

Mar. 8: Director Dr. Wan Maung of the Health Department and other medical specialists arrived in Myainggyingyu region "where the families who have returned from other country will be settled, on 4 March." They treated 301 patients, including Myainggyingyu Sayadaw, treated eye disease in 101 adults and 89 children, and sold eyeglasses to patients who need them. They also coordinated sanitation, water supply, and construction of a hospital. (NLM 3/9)

Mar. 11: About 10,000 families have returned from "so-called refugee camps in the other country" to Myainggyingyu region. (NLM 3/12)

Mar. 23: Commander Brig-Gen. Tin Htut of the No. 33 Light Infantry Division, accompanied by Kayin State LORC Chairman Col. Sein Win, "oversaw development of Myainggyingyu region on 20 and 21 March." (NLM 3/24)

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, and, indeed, returns have increasingly been skipped, as the discrepancy between specific reports and the totals indicate.]

Feb. 28: 842 persons from 161 households returned to Taungbyo and Kanyinchaung reception camps on Feb. 27, bringing the total to 167,120. (NLM 3/1)

Mar. 8: 679 persons from 110 households returned to various camps on Mar. 3, bringing the total to 167,799. (NLM 3/9)

Mar. 10: 2,065 persons from 403 households returned to the reception camps on Mar. 7-9, bringing the total to 169,864. (NLM 3/11)

Mar. 17: 1,692 persons from 301 households returned to various camps on Mar. 14-15, bringing the total to 173,382. (NLM 3/18)

Mar. 21: 1,544 persons from 284 households returned to Kanyinchaung Camp on Mar. 16-17, bringing the total to 174,926. (NLM 3/22)

Mar. 23: 660 persons from 127 households returned to

Kanyinchaung camp on Mar. 21, bringing the total to 176,583. (NLM 3/24)

Special Refresher Courses

Mar. 6: Special Refresher Course No. 15 for Teachers of the Basic Education Department opened, and was addressed by SLORC Secretary-1 Lt-Gen. Khin Nyunt. After outlining current government programs, "He spoke of the need for all to guard against internal and external destructionists and neo-colonialists who are trying to belittle the success being achieved...by spreading all sorts of fabricated news and malicious rumours and inciting the people. Some neo-colonial countries which have failed in their bid to be influential over Myanmar Naing-Ngan and to turn it into a slavedom by resorting to various means are now increasingly resorting to concoctions about Myanmar in order to discredit it and diminish its dignity and for nations to isolate it, he said. He also spoke of the need for them to also beware of their evil acts of encouraging their traitorous cohorts and their minions to undermine peace and tranquillity in the country, to drive a wedge between the national races so that suspicions will exist among them..." He reviewed the capture of Manerplaw and Kawmura by the DKBO, saying that though the KNU and its masters attribute the capture to divisions between Christians and Buddhists, it is really due to a conflict between KNU leaders and their "followers at lower levels and junior leaders which surfaced and exploded..." He also reviewed Myanmar activities against narcotic drugs. (NLM 3/7)

Prisoners Released

Mar. 15: 31 prisoners were released under Section 401(1) of the Penal Code, in honour of Golden Jubilee Armed Forces Day, including U Tin Oo and U Kyi Maung. Two were released from Insein Jail, 3 from Mandalay jail, 25 from Thayawady Jail, and 1 from Toungoo Jail. (NLM 3/16)

Mar. 25: Ministry of Home Affairs Order of Mar. 25, 1995, reads [full text]:

1. Altogether 23,901 yebets of regional development work camps and work camps covered by projects under the Prisons Department are diligently contributing their volunteer labour at these camps for nation-building, faithfully joining hands with the Tatmadaw.

2. As a gesture hailing the Golden Jubilee Armed Forces Day, one-third of their sentences under Section 401(a) of the Penal Code has been reduced. Lt-Gen. Mya Thin

Minister

(NLM 3/26)

Mar. 26: 2,874 yebets, one third of whose sentences has been reduced, were released from regional development work camps this morning. "The yebets who are valid under the Order [above] will also be released soon." (NLM 3/27)

Mar. 27: 1,164 yebets, one third of whose sentences has been reduced, were released on Mar. 25. More yebets will be released soon. (NLM 3/28)

National Races

Feb. 28: The study group of the Hsibu Thekyeit region from Kayah, led by U Aik Pha Yin, continued its excursion, visiting the Hmawby Central Farm and the Hmawby Noodle and Biscuit Branch. (NLM 3/1) // Mar. 1: They visited the National Indoor Stadium (where demonstrations were performed for them), the Thuwunna Youth Training Centre, Myanma Radio and Television Department, and Myanma Pharmaceutical Industries. (NLM 3/2)

Feb. 28: Wa national leader U Chao Nyi Lian met Feb. 27 with SLORC Secretary-1 Lt-Gen. Khin Nyunt, who was touring Shan State (North), in Namtip, Hopang Township. (NLM 3/1)

Mar. 23: Measures on drafting "main projects for development of Kachin Special Region-2" were held at the Kachin LORC on Mar. 20.

(NLM 3/24)

"Unocal Defends Myanmar"

Mar. 6: Staff writer Evelyn Iritani wrote a piece in the February 20 issue of the Los Angeles Times reporting the defence of Myanmar's gas pipeline deal by President John F. Imle Jr. of Unocal. Unocal's pipeline project will enrich the military regime and endanger Myanmar's rainforest, "the writer contends." However, Mr. Imle sees a good return for his stockholders and a better life for Myanmar's 43 million people. Human rights and environmental groups will begin contacting Unocal's 1,400 gas station managers asking them to "express concern about the pipeline project." Next week the Berkeley City Council will consider a measure banning dealings with companies involved in Myanmar, and Massachusetts and Washington are said to "plan similar moves." Reaction vary. Levi Strauss withdrew from Myanmar in 1992 and from China in 1993. Eddie Bauer also withdrew. US companies doing business in Myanmar include Texaco Inc., Pepsico, Inc. and Los Angeles-based Arco. "Imle said Unocal's operation will be closely supervised by pipeline representatives stationed in Myanmar to ensure no forced labour or other human rights abuses take place. 'We have nothing to hid,' he is quoted as saying." (NLM 3/7)

Police Reform

Mar. 16: A fifth meeting to coordinate reform of the People's Police Force (PPF) was held at the Ministry for Home Affairs, and was addressed by SLORC Secretary-1 Lt-Gen. Khin Nyunt, who said that "success has been achieved to some extent in improving PPF's morale and their observance of discipline...." (NLM 3/17)

Mar. 17: Editorial: Retooling the PPF. ["Call it retooling or use any other suitable description, The People's Police Force is being made worthy of the public faith and trusts it must win to do its job efficiently and effectively without incurring displeasure. To do that legislation is also being drafted to ensure that nothing is amiss where discipline is concerned.... The police are to be regarded as the public's best friend. This regard that the public reserve for them must not in any way be trampled upon at any time, for to do it would harm their reputation. By tradition, there have been many occasions when their services are quietly appreciated but there have been times when their trivial acts run afoul of the law and are loudly lamented.... All officers of the law and their subordinates must win public faith and trust. To do so, they must prove themselves trustworthy be they in the traffic police or any other branch, for their honesty is subject to proof."]

KNPP Ends Armed Struggle

Mar. 21: At a ceremony in Loikaw Town Hall, in the presence of SLORC Secretary-1 Lt-Gen. Khin Nyunt and many other top officials, a ceremony was held "at which the Kayinni National Progressive Party abandoned its line of armed struggle and returned to the legal fold and to join hands with the Government in implementing regional development tasks...."

Chairman of the meeting, Regional Control Command Commander Brig-Gen. Maung Kyi, reviewed "the reason the Kayinni National Progressive Party returned to the legal fold." He said Lt-Gen. Khin Nyunt and ministers had visited Loikaw on Nov. 17, 1993, Bawlake on Nov. 18, 1993, and Pekin village on May 8, 1994, and held discussions with officials, town leaders, and the people, extending an invitation to armed groups in the jungle to return to the legal fold.

"He said according to the olive branch extended to the armed groups in the jungles the Kayin Regional Progressive Organization led by U Gabriel Byan, the Kayinni People's National Liberation Front led by U Tun Kyaw and the Kayin Pyithit Party led by U Than Soe Naing abandoned their line of armed resistance and returned to the legal fold. Now the only armed group remaining in Kayah State, the Kayinni National Progressive Party, realizing the genuine goodwill of the

government placed on the national races and understanding its true attitude, held negotiation time and again with the result that it came to realize the goodwill of the State Law and Order Restoration Council and came to have faith on it and thus the rays of peace is now glimmering brightly in the entire Kayah State, he said....

"The taking of oath here today by the Kayinni National Progressive Party to join hands with the Government...is a thing of joy for the people of Kayah State and the entire people and the State are highly honoured and are warmly welcoming them, he said...."

Vice-Chairman of the Kayinni National Progressive Party U Khudhe Buphe "handed the lists of men, arms and ammunition brought along in returning to the legal fold to Brig-Gen. Maung Kyi.... He recounted that seven months after the country regained its independence, the Kayinni National Progressive Party, due to the instigation of the colonialists, launched armed resistance against the AFPFL Government which was in power on 9 August 1948. It is now 47 years, he said.

"Due to the instigation and incitement of the colonialists, suspicions grew between the national brethren and they began to launch attacks against one another, causing disunity among the national races and thus the country lagged behind in development of all aspects, he said....

"He disclosed that the reason the Kayinni National Progressive Party waged armed resistance was not to secede from the Union but due to political aim to a certain extent. They will always oppose the matter of seceding from the Union, he pointed out. He said their aim and attitude was identical to Our Three Main National Causes of the [SLORC]. He pointed out that they closely watched the efforts by the [SLORC] in ceasing armed offensives against the national armed groups and striving for development of regions.... He said the role played by officials of both sides, monks and clergymen of various religions, Sayadaws and peace negotiators to achieve success in gaining peace is very great and they would like to thank all of them for their efforts...."

"After the ceremony, Secretary-1 Lt-Gen. Khin Nyunt cordially greeted Vice-Chairman of the Kayinni National Progressive Party U Khudhe Buphe and members, Christian priests of various churches and those present at the ceremony.

"The total strength of the KNPP which returned to the legal fold today is 7,790, and 23 numbers of 60 mm mortars, six 81 mm mortars, five 82 mm mortars, ten 82 mm recoilless rifles, ten 107 mm recoilless rifles, three 120 mm mortars, three 75 mm recoilless rifles, three 57 mm recoilless rifles, four 62 mm rocket launchers, three .5 heavy machine-guns, numbering 8,939 heavy and small arms, it is reported."

A dinner was then held, at which the KNPP Vice-Chairman "presented a frog-drum to the Secretary-1." [Half page of photos] (NLM 3/22)

Sen-Gen. Than Shwe Addresses USDA

Mar. 24: SLORC Chairman Senior General Than Shwe addressed the opening of the Management Course No. 5/95 for Union Solidarity and Development Association (USDA) Executives, in the presence of Vice-Chairman of the State Law and Order Restoration Council Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) Gen. Maung Aye, SLORC Secretary-1 Lt-Gen. Khin Nyunt, SLORC Secretary-2 Lt-Gen. Tin Oo, and other officials.

He reviewed the five aims of the USDA: the first three are Our Three Main National Causes, which he spelled out.

The fourth is "promotion and vitalization of national pride.... If national pride is promoted and cultural heritage preserved, Myanmar will exist with Myanma culture. Only when patriotism is alive and dynamic, with the spirit to bravely safeguard the nation not to fall into servitude again be promoted. Therefore we are holding Myanma Traditional Regatta Festival, Myanma Traditional Performing Arts Festival, Myanma Traditional Bullock-Cart Race and Cattle Show

and Equestrian Festival on grand scales for promoting love of cultural traditions and revitalization of patriotism. You know that in addition to these, cultural religious edifices ranging from monasteries and pagodas to palace walls, moats and palaces are renovated, reconstructed and preserved."

The fifth is the "emergence of a prosperous, peaceful and modern Union." Essential is "prevalence of law and order and maintenance of peace and tranquillity We invited the armed groups to return to the legal fold.... There are now altogether 14 armed groups who realized our goodwill. Among these, there are strong racial groups as well as those which uprooted the militarily strong BCP and made peace...."

"There are also some organizations which do not realize our goodwill and hold on to their narrow racism and want to profit by political means. These groups are acting against the wishes of the national people, divergent from the peaceful path. Due to these acts, there are conflicts in their group. There was reason to attack them, as lives and property of the public were threatened. Whatever the reason, if there is no hindrance toward maintenance of peace and tranquillity and national interest, we always extend the olive branch with magnanimity to those armed groups as well as political groups aboveground. And we always invite them to carry out tasks for national interest in harmony and unison."

He went on to discuss the emergence of a new Constitution which "should be harmony with the new State and is essential to be firm and to be accepted by all Union nationals." The government is "also striving for easing food, clothing and shelter needs which are basic rights of the people After fulfilling the basic rights, there will be no difficulty to provide other rights. Basic rights and democracy must be in harmony with the nature of the country and the people, economy, society, culture and religion and cannot be copied from others by any means. There were instances that even the developed countries fell into trouble as they made carbon-copies of other people's ideas, let alone a developing country like ours. Thus we are giving priority to create firm infrastructure of basic rights such as food, clothing and shelter needs. As long as the infrastructure has become firm, superstructure of human rights will be built up stage by stage...." (NLM 3/25)

NATIONAL CONVENTION

National Convention Working Sessions

[News stories sometimes list speakers, and often note when the next meetings are due, but very little of substance is included.]

Feb. 28: Two groups met. Political parties: papers on Judiciary were presented. Representatives-elect: papers on Judiciary were presented. (NLM 3/1)

Mar. 1: Two groups met. Political parties: the Panel of Chairmen scrutinized proposal papers on Judiciary. Representatives-elect: the Panel of Chairmen scrutinized proposal papers on Judiciary. (NLM 3/2)

Mar. 3: Two groups met. Political parties: papers on Judiciary were presented. Representatives-elect: papers on Judiciary were presented. (NLM 3/4)

Mar. 6: One group met. Political parties: the Panel of Chairmen scrutinized various papers on Judiciary. (NLM 3/7)

Mar. 7: One group met. Representatives-elect: the Panel of Chairmen scrutinized proposal papers on Judiciary. (NLM 3/8)

Mar. 8: Two groups met. Political parties: papers on Judiciary were presented. Representatives-elect: papers on Judiciary were presented. (NLM 3/9)

Mar. 17: It is announced that National Convention delegates who have returned home on leave are to return to attend the National Convention Plenary Session not later than Mar. 28, 1995. (NLM 3/18)

Plenary Session

Mar. 29: The National Convention Plenary Session commenced at 9 am in the Central Conference Hall of the President's Residence Compound on Ahlon Road, attended by Chairman of the National Convention Convening Commission Lt-Gen. Myo Nyunt, Vice Chairmen Lt-Gen. Maung Thint and Brig-Gen. Myo Thant, Chairman of the National Convention Convening Work Committee U Aung Toe, Vice-Chairman U That Tun, and others.

633 of the 683 delegates were present. [see below for proposal papers read]

Opening Remarks

Alternate Chairman Dr. Thaug Myint opened the session with the following remarks [full text]:

"Esteemed Chairman of National Convention Convening Commission and members, Chairman of the Work Committee and members and delegates,

"I would like first of all wish all those present at the Plenary Session of the National Convention to be blessed with auspiciousness.

"The National Convention is being held to lay down fundamental principles for drafting of an enduring State Constitution. Accordingly, the National Convention delegates of the respective delegate groups have frankly and thoroughly discussed and compiled proposal papers on prescribing self-administered divisions or self-administered zones in order to lay down detailed fundamental principles on the chapter State Structure and have submitted them.

"The various delegate groups will now begin presenting their respective proposal papers at the Plenary Session. The proposal papers on prescribing self-administered divisions and self-administered zones in the chapter State Structure contain important points for laying down detailed basic principles and therefore the delegates are requested to seriously study and take note of them." (NLM 3/30)

Mar. 30: The Plenary Session continued, with 639 of the 683 delegates present [see below for proposal papers read]. (NLM 3/31)

:Proposal Papers Read

Mar. 29 [full text]: The following is a translation of salient points from proposal papers on fundamental principles to form as base in the chapter heading State Structure submitted by delegates groups to the Plenary Session of the National Convention today:

Paper by Peasants Delegates Group

Esteemed Chairman and members of the Panel of Chairmen, Chairman of National Convention Convening Commission and members, Chairman of the Work Committee and members and delegates.

I am U Mya Thaug, member of peasants delegates group. I would like to first of all express my pleasure at having the opportunity to submit the proposal paper compiled by the peasants delegates group. Esteemed Chairman,

It is the time when the need of a Constitution based on national solidarity will enable our country to exist perpetually and which will serve the interest of the State and the citizenry. Only when a Constitution, which can really serve the interest of the national races and the entire people, emerges will there be unity and peace in the country and will enable an affluent democratic State to come into being.

Therefore, we must seriously consider the six objectives of the National Convention and submit suggestions which are in accord with the 104 fundamental principles and take care not to undermine the good foundation of unity which exists between the national races and submit the proposals accordingly.

[Kokang Zone Recommended]

Esteemed Chairman,

Three Shan national delegates and one from Shan State (North) Special Region 7 have suggested that the Palaung villages in Namkham Township, Kutkai Township, Namtu Township, Namhsan Township, Kyaukme Township, western and northern sectors of Hsipaw Township, Mongton

Myothit, Mongngaw Myothit and Mongmit Township in Shan State and Mogok Township in Mandalay Division should be organized and designated as a self-administered zone.

Esteemed Chairman,

A delegate from Shan State (North) Special Region 1 has suggested that Kunlong, Konkyan, Kutkai and Muse Townships should be organized together and designated a self-administered zone for Kokang nationals.

A delegate from Shan State Kokang Democratic Party suggested that Kunlong and Konkyan Townships should be organized, two national races delegates from Shan State and one delegate of Kokang Democracy and Unity Party have suggested that the townships in Shan State (North) Special Region 1 should be organized together and designated as self-administered division for Kokang nationals.

Of the townships in Shan State where the majority of the people in each township are Kokang nationals and the townships where more than half the total population is made up of Kokang nationals, there are only Konkyan and Laukkai Townships. Therefore, it is to be proposed that Konkyan and Laukkai Townships should be organized and designated as self-administered zone for Kokang nationals.

[Wa Division Recommended]

Esteemed Chairman,

One delegate of national races of Shan State has suggested that Mongmao Township, Pangwaing Township, Hopang Township, Panyang Township, Narphan Township, Manphant Township, Tangyang Township, Mongyang Township, Monghsu Township, Mongpyin Township, Mongkhat Township, Kengtung Township, Mongyawng Township, Mongphyat Township, Tachilek Township, Mongton Township, Monghsat Township and Mongkyet and Mongyaw village-tracts in Lashio Township in Shan State should be organized together and designated as self-administered division for Wa nationals. One delegate from Shan State (North) Special Region 2 and one delegate on behalf of the Wa National Development Party have suggested that a Wa State or self-administered division should be designated.

Of the townships in Shan State where the majority of the people in each township are Wa nationals and the townships where more than half the total population is made up of Wa nationals, there are only Hopang, Mongmao, Pangwaing, Narphan, Manphant and Panyang Townships.

These townships are in a same stretch, therefore, Hopang, Mongmao, Pangwaing, Narphan, Manphant and Panyang Townships have the condition to be designated as self-administered area for Wa nationals. It is to be suggested that as these townships have two districts they should be designated as self-administered division.

Esteemed Chairman,

I have submitted the first part of the proposal paper presented by the Peasants delegates group. The remaining part of the proposal paper will be submitted by U Tin Shein, peasant delegates group member.

Esteemed Chairman and delegates,

I am U Tin Shein, peasants delegates group member of Chaungzon Township of Mon State. I will now submit the second part of the proposal paper.

[Kayah Zone Rejected]

Esteemed Chairman,

It is seen that delegates from some of the delegates groups have suggested that Pekhön Township, the extreme northern sector of Pinlaung Township in Shan State, Loikaw Township in the north-western sector of Kayah State, Dimawhso Township, northern sector of Thandaung Township in Kayin State and hill regions in the eastern sector of Pyinmana Township in Mandalay Division should be organized together and designated as self-administered zone for Kayan nationals.

According to the basic principles laid down, the existing seven divisions are designated seven regions and the existing seven states are designated seven states. Self-administered divisions and self-administered zones should be in one of the regions or one of the

states.

It is seen that according to the suggestion made a self-administered zone is to be designated for Kayan nationals in three states and one division. Of the townships with Kayan nationals as the majority in population it is seen that there are only one township in Shan State and one in Kayah State and there is no condition to organize together the areas in Shan State, Kayah State and Mandalay Division and designated as the self-administered zone for Kayan nationals.

However, the population of Kayah nationals in Shan State stands at over 48,000 and if this is an appropriate number to be included in legislature and executive of Shan State, hence, representative of Kayan nationals should be included as representatives of Kayan national affairs in legislature and administration of Shan State.
[Akha Zone Rejected]

It is found that the population of Akha nationals is not in the majority in any townships in Shan State. Therefore, there is no condition to designate a self-administered zone for the Akha.

However, the population of Akha townships in Shan State is over 100,000 and this number is quite appropriate for Akha nationals to represent the Akha national affairs in legislature and administration of Shan State.

[Shan Zone in Kachin Rejected]
Esteemed Chairman,

Similarly, in Kachin State, there is no condition for Shan nationals to get a self-administered zone. However, it is seen that the population of Shan nationals in Kachin State stands at over 260,000 and that in Sagaing Division is stands at over 200,000. As the numbers are appropriate for Shan nationals to participate in legislature and administration in the region or state, it is to be suggested that representatives of Shan nationals should be permitted to take part in Shan national affairs in Kachin State and Sagaing Region [sic].

[Putao Zone Rejected]
Esteemed Chairman,

It is seen that some delegates of one delegates group have suggested that Putao should be designated as self-administered zone for Lisu, Rawang and Tai Hktamti nationals in Kachin State. According to the basic principle for designating a self-administered division or self-administered zone, it prescribes for only one national race and not for three or four national groups as suggested, it is found that the condition is such that self-administered divisions or self-administered zones cannot be designated.

[Paletwa Hill Region Rejected]

It is found that a delegate from a delegates group has suggested that Paletwa Township in Chin State should be designated as the Paletwa Hill self-administered region for Khumi nationals. To be designated as self-administered region it is necessary for the region to have at least four townships. Moreover, according to the clarification made by the Chairman Work Committee at the Plenary Session held on 2 September 1994, it is learnt that there is no township in Chin State where the Khumi nationals make up the majority of the population. Therefore, it is to be suggested that there is no condition for Paletwa Hill region to be designated as self-administered region.

Esteemed Chairman,

I will now present a summary of the suggestions made by our Peasants delegates group as follows: --

[Naga, Danu, Pa-O, Palaung, and Kokang Zones Recommended]

- (a) self-administered zones should be designated as follows --
-- Namyun Township, Lahe Township and Leshi Township in Sagaing Division should be organized together and designated as self-administered zone for Naga nationals,
-- Ywangan Township and Pindaya Township in Shan State should be organized together and designated as self-administered zone for Danu nationals,

-- Hopong Township, Hsihseng Township and Pinlaung Township in Shan State should be organized together and designated as self-administered zone for Pa-O nationals,

-- Namhsan Township and Mongton Township in Shan State should be organized together and designated as self-administered zone for Palaung nationals,

-- Konkyan Township and Laukkai Township in Shan State should be organized together and designated as self-administered zone for Kokang nationals;

[Wa Division Recommended]

(b) self-administered divisions should be designated as follows --

-- Hopang Township, Mongmao Township, Pangwaing Township, Narphant Township, Manphant Township and Panyang Township should be organized together and designated as self-administered division for Wa nationals;

[Other Groups]

(c) It is to be suggested that for national races which have no self-administered divisions or self-administered zones and their population is not sufficient enough to get self-administered division or self-administered zone but sufficient enough to participate in judiciary and administration they should be given the right for representative of the national races to be included in the national races affairs in the judiciary and administration of the regions or states.

Esteemed Chairman and delegates,

I will now conclude by mentioning that the delegates of our peasants delegates group have put forward our suggestions with a pure heart, without any regionalism or racism but based on Union spirit and by holding in high esteem the national duty and with a view for national races to live together in unity and harmony for ever.

Paper by Workers Delegates Group

Esteemed Chairman, members of the Panel of Chairmen, Chairman of the National Convention Convening Commission and members, Chairman of the Work Committee and members and delegates,

I am U Thein Aung, member of the Workers delegate group of Minbu-Sagu Township in Magway Division.

I will discuss and give suggestions on the proposals made in connection with the designating self-administered division or self-administered zone on behalf of workers delegates group.

Esteemed Chairman,

Our workers delegates group seriously accepts that the matter of designating self-administered division or self-administered zone is of vital importance for the national races as well as for the establishing of peaceful, prosperous and modern democratic State. It is to be proposed that self-administered division or self-administered zone should be designated in Chapter 6 of the State Structure as follows: --

[Naga, Danu, Pa-O, Palaung, and Kokang Zones and Wa Division Recommended]

1. In Sagaing Division

The following townships should be organized together for the Naga nationals and designated as self-administered zone of Naga nationals --

- (a) Namyun Township
- (b) Lahe Township
- (c) Leshi Township

2. In Shan State

The following townships should be organized together for Danu nationals and designated as self-administered zone of Danu nationals --

- (a) Ywangan Township
- (b) Pindaya Township

3. In Shan State

The following townships should be organized together for Pa-O nationals and designated as self-administered zone of Pa-O

nationals --

- (a) Hopong Township
- (b) Hsihseng Township
- (c) Pinlaung Township

4. In Shan State

The following townships should be organized together for Palaung nationals and designated as self-administered zone of Palaung nationals --

- (a) Namhsan Township
- (b) Mangton Township

5. In Shan State

The following townships should be organized together for Kokang nationals and designated as self-administered zone of Kokang nationals --

- (a) Konkyan Township
- (b) Laukkai Township

6. In Shan State

The following townships should be organized together for Wa nationals and designated as self-administered division for Wa nationals --

- (a) Hopang Township
- (b) Mongmao Township
- (c) Pangwaing Township
- (d) Narphan Township
- (e) Manphant Township
- (f) Panyang Township

and I, on behalf of the workers delegates group propose that detailed basic principles on self-administered division or self-administered zones for national races should be laid down.

[No Areas for National Groups Already Having States or Regions]
Esteemed Chairman,

On behalf of Union Kayin League U Saw Than Aung has proposed that out of the seven fundamental principles to be taken as base for the State Structure, in the No. 5 fundamental principle -- "in regions or states, self-administered areas are to be prescribed for national races, other than national races who have already got regions or states" the following should be added -- "exclusive of Kayin State and prescribing self-administered areas for Pa-O, Palaung, Danu, Lahu, Akha, Wa, Kokang, Mro or Khami, Naga and Lisu national races and other national races who are entitled. As the No. 5 fundamental principal is connected with all the national races, exceptions cannot be added. In connection with the matter of designating self-administered divisions or self-administered zones for national races who are entitled have already been discussed by the national races concerned and therefore, this matter need not be submitted again.

[Proposals for Participation by National Races]
Esteemed Chairman,

What I would like to propose in connection with self-administered divisions or self-administered zones is as follows: --

1. for national races who have got self-administered zones of their own, if their population is 0.1 per cent of the total population of the respective region or state then they are to participate in legislature and administration as representatives of the national races to carry out affairs of the respective national races.

2. If in the self-administered areas of a particular national race, the population of another national race is not less than 10,000, representatives of this national race should be entitled to become members of the leading bodies of the self-administered zones.

3. Hence, for national races who have submitted proposals to get self-administered divisions or self-administered zones but could not get as they do not meet the requirements, self-administered divisions or self-administered zones should be designated at a time later on when the situation is such that they are able to meet the

requirements.

Esteemed Chairman and delegates,

In connection with laying down of basic principles on designating of self-administered divisions or self-administered zones, the representatives of workers delegation group have submitted proposals on designating of self-administered divisions or self-administered zones, the participation of national races as representatives of the national races affairs in judiciary and administration and for enjoying the rights by national races at a time later on when they come to meet the requirements, in accordance with suggestions made by the Chairman of the Work Committee, the findings of the representatives of the workers delegates group, the six objectives of the National Convention and the fundamental principles which have been laid down, I, on behalf of the workers delegates group, would also like to wish the national brethren to live together in unity and friendship and work together for the perpetuation of the Union and for the emergence of a peaceful, prosperous and modern nation.

Paper Jointly Submitted by Two Workers Delegates of Myitkyina and Mindat

Esteemed Chairman,

I wish the Esteemed Chairman, members of the Panel of Chairmen and delegates health and happiness. I am, U Gei Khui Shing, workers delegates group member of Chin State. I will submit the proposal paper on prescribing of self-administered areas jointly compiled by workers delegates group members U Sum Lut Naw of Myitkyina, Kachin State, and U Gei Khui Shing of Mindat Township, Chin State. I will discuss two points within the framework of Our Three Main National Causes and the six objectives of the National Convention. The first point is in connection with the definition of prescribing self-administered areas and the second point is in connection with population.

[Need for Accurate Population Data]

Esteemed Chairman,

In connection with the sixth point of the seven points to be taken as base on chapter State Structure, it mentions that "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". As for the National Convention Convening Work Committee it has mentioned that is prescribing self-administered divisions or self-administered zones, it should be discussed whether it is appropriate or not for the National Convention to prescribe at once the rights to be enjoyed by the national brethren so that they will be able to enjoy them quickly. In doing so it will be rather very difficult to know and determine the facts regarding the national races who ask for self-administered divisions or self-administered zones. Hence it will be difficult for the National Convention to prescribe self-administered divisions or self-administered zones at once.

Esteemed Chairman,

Whether the prescribing of self-administered divisions or self-administered zones is done by forming commissions or at once by the National Convention for the national races to enjoy the right quickly, it is necessary to take measures for them to enjoy the rights they are entitled to. Then only will the national races be pleased and become happy. Moreover, fruits of politics such as further strengthening of national solidarity, flourishing of the three worldly values of justice, liberty and equality and consolidation of unity among the national races will be enjoyed.

Esteemed Chairman,

In conclusion, I would like to mention that --

(a) steps should be taken first to practically implement the policy of prescribing self-administered area which has been approved by the National Convention and defined by the National Convention Convening

Work Committee and for the Plenary Session to unanimously approve it.

(b) steps should first be taken to get the correct population figures of the respective national races. This should be done by forming population scrutinization groups with suitable personnel of the respective national races at the National Convention in progress now.

(c) the National Convention is then to give appropriate decisions based on findings and appraisals made and reports submitted by the population scrutinization groups.

Paper by Intellectuals and Intelligentsia Delegates Group

Esteemed Convention Convening Commission Chairman and members, Work Committee Chairmen and members and delegates.

I am Dr. May Win Aung Khin, Professor of Pharmacology, Institute of Medicine (2), a delegate from the intellectuals and intelligentsia delegates group.

First of all I would like to extend greetings with best wishes for well-being of the delegates to the National Convention.

Esteemed Chairman and delegates,

In our Myanmar Naing-Ngan, there are many brethren national races and they have their own distinct cultures. As Myanmar Naing-Ngan is like a garden of different kinds of flora, it gives immense pride to all of us and it also gives rise to a great responsibility to endeavour for the flourishing of all the flowers forever.

From the clarification given by the Chairman of the Work Committee, it has been learnt that a self-administered zone is prescribed even if there are only two townships and that a self-administered division is prescribed even if there are only two districts, each having at least two townships. This is because of prescribing only two as the barest minimum to meet the lowest requirement of plural terms "districts" and "townships" contained in the basic principle on constituting self-administered areas. It is seen as a move to give self-administered areas to nationals as much as they deserve to get as much as possible.

Another requirement to qualify to get a self-administered area of nationals is "appropriate size of population". To get a self-administered area, the population of nationals in each township must be higher than that of other nationals. It is stated in the clarification of Chairman of the Work Committee that there must at least be more than half the total population of townships where there are the highest populations of nationals seeking a self-administered area. It means that consideration is given to nationals whose population may not exceed 50 per cent of the total population in each township but is higher than the populations of other nationals. However the population of nationals seeking self-administered areas has to exceed 50 per cent of the total population of townships to be included in the self-administered area. Thus, the clarification of the Chairman of the Work Committee for laying down detailed basic principles in connection with the term "appropriate size of population" is understood and appreciated as a point that shows utmost consideration is given to the interest of the national races.

It is stated in the clarification of the Chairman of the Work Commission that, in cases where the population of nationals seeking a self-administered area is quite large but there is some non-conformity with principles laid down to prescribe a self-administered area, the size of population should serve as basis in deciding to grant permission to participate in the legislature and the executive of the region or the state. It is also stated in the clarification that it should be permitted for a national representative to participate in affairs of the nationals, if there is an appropriate size of population.

That is a special right that has never been given before for nationals. Also for national brethren who do not have the minimum required population, they will still have the right to present their affairs through Hluttaw representatives they will have elected.

Esteemed Chairman,

We the delegates in the intellectuals and intelligentsia group have discussed the affairs of the national brethren of the Union such a prescribing of self-administered areas and inclusion of national affairs representatives, with the spirit of Union family, the spirit of kinship, the objective of national solidarity and pure goodwill. We rejoice every time the national brethren feel joyous.

So I would like to conclude, stating the intellectuals and intelligentsia delegates group recommends that the points included in the clarification of the Chairman of the Work Committee in connection with matters of prescribing self-administered areas for national brethren and enabling participation of national races affairs representatives should be laid down as basic principles.

Paper by State Service Personnel Delegates Group

Esteemed Chairman, members of the Panel of Chairmen and National Convention delegates.

I am Col. Sein Win, a delegate from the State service personnel delegates group. On behalf of the group, I would like to discuss the matter of prescribing self-administered division or self-administered zone, which was left to be discussed in the chapter on State Structure.

It has been proposed for the Convention delegates to prescribe self-administered divisions or self-administered zones forthwith, so that our national brethren may enjoy the rights they deserve promptly without delay, instead of going about it by forming a commission to prescribe self-administered divisions or self-administered zones. [Existing Population Figures Accurate and Unbiased; No Need to Collect New Ones]

With reference to the presentation on 2 September 1994 by the Chairman of the National Convention Convening Work Committee, the point "appropriate size of population" apparently is an important factor in prescribing self-administered division or self-administered zone. In connection with that factor, our group conducted studies to see whether the population figures worked out basically are firm or not. We find that population figures of a country are based on census figures from the Immigration and Manpower Department of that country. We find that the population figures are based on 1973 and 1983 nationwide systematically collected census figures, 1991 population change and fertility survey, and basic population figures collected by the townships. Compilation of population figures involves basic methods of calculation of birth rates, death rates, population growth rates and population movement rates. These methods are internationally accepted and practiced methods of demography. As it is found that the population figures of Myanmar are those compiled in accord with internationally accepted and practised methods by the Immigration and Manpower Department, the census figures of the Immigration and Manpower Department are basic figures we must truly accept. Another point we would like to study and present is a perception of possible outcome of forming a commission and collecting data to determine the accuracy or otherwise of population figures calculated as basis in prescribing self-administered divisions or self-administered zones now. What we have to remember is that the population figures already at hand are those compiled as they really are, without any thought of prescribing self-administered divisions or self-administered zones. In other words, these figures are free of bias. If, only now, we are to collect population figures for purposes of prescribing self-administered divisions or self-administered zones, there could arise controversy due to unforeseen internal and external influence of one kind or the other. If so, there is cause for apprehension about possible harm to "non-disintegration of national solidarity" that is the second of the six objectives of the National Convention. So it is found that there is scarcely a situation to go about it by forming a commission, while proceeding in accord with the six objectives of the Convention. So, in consideration of all that, we are of the view that the population figures of the Immigration and Manpower Department, as clarified by

the Chairman of the Work Committee, are systematic ones we should truly adhere to as basis, and we recommend that it is appropriate to base on these figures.

Moreover, it will take very long to go about it forming a commission. If it is done while the Convention is still going on, the Convention will be prolonged more than it is necessary. If it is to be done only when the Convention is over, nationals who have not yet attained self-administered areas will remain unable to enjoy the essential opportunities given by the Constitution for sometime, while some nationals will be able to do so ahead of them. In our country there had already been past instance of assigning an inquiry commission for prescribing local self-administration. A local self-administration inquiry commission was formed in 1948 but it was only in 1952 that it could submit its report. It had taken more than four years.

If it is to be done with formation of a commission only after the convention is over, it will take long as explained above, and in the meantime, instigation by ill-willing elements inside and outside the country could harm national solidarity and there could also come about unforeseeable undesirable consequences. We all know that ill-willing elements are endeavouring to disrupt national solidarity of our nation whenever they could.

[Wa Division and Naga, Danu, Pa-O, Palaung, and Kokang Zones Recommended]

To sum it all, the following are recommended to be added as detailed basic principles, in connection with self-administered areas:

(1) Prescribing self-administered division: In Shan State, Hopang Township, Mongmao Township, Pangwaing Township, Narphan Township, Manphant Township, Panyang Township, are formed as two districts and prescribed Wa National Self-Administered Division.

(2) Prescribing self-administered zones:

(a) In Sagaing Division, Namyun Township, Lahe Township, Leshi Township are grouped together and prescribed as Naga National Self-Administered Zone.

(b) In Shan State, Ywangan Township and Pindaya Township are grouped together and prescribed as Danu National Self-Administered Zone.

(c) In Shan State, Hopong Township, Hsiseng Township and Pinlaung Township are grouped together and prescribed as Pa-O National Self-Administered Zone.

(d) In Shan State, Namhsan Township, Mongton Township are grouped together and prescribed as Palaung National Self-Administered Zone.

(e) In Shan State, Konkyan Township, Laukkai Township are grouped together and prescribed as Kokang National Self-Administered Zone.

(3) Self-Administered Division and Self-Administered Zone are of equal status.

(4) In a Region or a State, national races who have not got any self-administered division or self-administered zone have the right of participation as national race affairs representative in that Region or State Legislature and Executive, provided their population is 0.1 per cent or above that, of the entire population of the country.

(5) In a self-administered division or a self-administered zone, if there is a national race with a population of ten thousand or above, it has the right of participation as a national race representative member of the leading bodies of the self-administered division or the self-administered zone.

Esteemed Chairman,

In conclusion, I would like to state the group's recommendation of these five points as detailed basic principles, as they are in keeping with Myanmar's objective conditions, Myanmar's historical reality of Our Three Main National Causes and the Six Objectives of

the National Convention.
(NLM 3/30)

Mar. 30 [full text]: The following is a continuation of a translation of salient points from proposal papers on fundamental principles to form as base in the chapter heading State Structure submitted by delegates groups to the Plenary Session of the National Convention.

Paper by Other Invited Delegates Group
Esteemed Chairman and delegates,

I would like to express my best wishes for well-being of all in body and mind.

I am Daw Kyan, member of the Myanmar Language Commission, a delegate to the National Convention, in the other invited delegates group.

This paper is compiled on the basis of guidance given by Lt-Gen. Myo Nyunt, Chairman of the National Convention Convening Commission, and the clarification given by U Aung Toe, Chairman of the Work Committee at the Plenary Session of the National Convention held on 2 September 1994.

First I would like to say our Union of Myanmar has a specific characteristic. It is the unique fact that, in our Union of Myanmar, national races have been living unitedly together through weal and woe, as eggs in a nest unbroken, since time immemorial right up to the present times.

Throughout the history of Myanmar, too, there have been instances when the national races had striven together for perpetuation of national sovereignty and independent nationhood. When the nation fell under servitude, the national races unitedly fought together to get free from servitude and won back national independence, regaining global recognition as a sovereign, independent nation. From then on, all our national races have been endeavouring with the objectives of non-disintegration of the Union, non-disintegration of national solidarity and perpetuation of sovereignty.

All national races living in the Union of Myanmar need to be loyal to the State. It is also vital for them to be able to live together in equality among all national races. It is also essential for them to endeavour in their own roles to continue to safeguard independence of the nation.

Moreover, it is necessary to have an enduring and firm Constitution, the most vital organ of the State. Emergence of such an enduring and firm Constitution is a great responsibility of every citizen.

We have already obtained in coordination 104 basic principles necessary for formulating and enduring State Constitution. We are carrying on with our coordination today to find answers in the matter of prescribing self-administered division or self-administered zone. We believe that this matter is of great importance for the national races. Accordingly, we have taken time and held thorough coordination and discussion.

National races living in this Union need to have specific self-administered divisions or self-administered zones in their areas. When it is so, we deeply believe, national races will feel satisfied and joyous and carry on with the Three Main National Causes of the Union with all might and main.

So it is recommended that the following basic principles be laid down in connection with the matter of prescribing self-administered areas:

1. For prescribing self-administered zone in a Region or State, there must be at least two townships where people of the national race concerned live and moreover those two townships must be territorially contiguous, with conditions to be in one stretch.

2. For prescribing self-administered zones, people of the national race concerned must live closely together in those townships, they must be the most populous in each township, and they must make up more than half of the total population of those

townships.

3. For prescribing self-administered division in Region or State, there must be at least two districts where people of the national race concerned live, and moreover those districts must be territorially contiguous with conditions to be in one stretch.

4. For prescribing self-administered division, people of the national race concerned must live closely together in those districts, they must be the most populous in each district, and they must make up more than half of the total population of those districts.

5. In prescribing self-administered division in Region or State, a minimum of two townships where people of the national race concerned live closely together, with territorial contiguity and conditions to be in one stretch, may be formed as a district.

6. In Region or State, a minimum of two districts where people of the national race concerned live, with territorial contiguity and conditions to be in one stretch, may be grouped together and formed as self-administered division.
[Naga, Danu, Pa-O, Palaung, and Kokang Zones, and Wa Division, Recommended]

On the basis of the above basic principles and population figures compiled by Immigration and Manpower Department in the list dated 15 August 1994, it is submitted that the following areas be prescribed as self-administered division or self-administered zone:

1. In Sagaing Region, Namyun Township, Lahe Township, Leshi Township together as Naga Nationals Self-Administered Zone.

2. In Shan State, Ywargon Township, and Pindaya Township together as Danu Nationals Self-Administered Zone.

3. In Shan State, Hopong Township, Hsihseng Township and Pinlaung Township together as Pa-O Nationals Self-Administered Zone.

4. In Shan State, Namhsan Township and Mangton Township together as Palaung Nationals Self-Administered Zone.

5. In Shan State, Konkyan Township and Laukki Township together as Kokang Nationals Self-Administered Zone.

6. In Shan State, Hopang Township, Mongmao Township, Pangwaing Township, Narphan Township, Manphant Township and Pangyang Township -- six townships to be formed into two districts, together as Wa Nationals Self-Administered Division.
Esteemed Chairman,

It is proposed a basic principle to be laid down for people of national races not in a position to get a self-administered zone to have the right to participate as national race affairs representatives in the local legislature and executive concerned, provided they have appropriate populations, so that they do not lose rights.

Esteemed Chairman and delegates,

In the first part, I have presented points agreed on by all delegates in the group in connection with the matter of prescribing self-administered division or self-administered zone under the chapter heading "State Structure". In the second part are original versions of proposals of seven delegates with particularities. Papers of the remaining four out of the nine special area groups will be read out to the plenary session of the National Convention. With this I conclude.

Paper by U Gabriel Byan

Esteemed Chairman and delegates,

I would like to present the matter of Kayan nationals which is still unfinished and misunderstood in the chapter on State Structure in drafting the State Constitution. I am U Gabriel Byan, of the other invited delegates group, speaking on behalf of the Kayan Region Development Organization.

Generally we welcome and support the clarification of the Chairman of the National Convention Convening Work Committee in connection with the matter of prescribing self-administered divisions or self-administered zones in the chapter on State Structure as

presented at the Plenary Session of the National Convention held on 2 September 1994. It was very encouraging as the work of the Work Committee Chairman's clarification was an appraisal of all presentations of the national brethren delegates and a statement of the most possible and the best for the future. After having appraised the Work Committee Chairman's presentation, that was most complete and most possible, I would like to discuss again a still misunderstood matter of vital importance to Kayan nationals, although it may be trivial for the whole country.

[Plea for Enlarged Kayah State]

Esteemed Chairman and delegates,

It is only our weakness that we have not been able to get the national brethren delegates to clearly understand the wishes of Kayan nationals -- whether it is mainly to get a self-administered area of our own or whether it is merely to have all Kayan nationals closely together in Kayah State. Now again, I will try and present it the best I could.

In prescribing self-administered division or self-administered zone for suitable national brethren, we feel happy for the national brethren to have it decided after thorough coordination at the Convention rather than to have it handled through formation of a commission. Likewise, we Kayan nationals would feel most joyous if the delegates all discuss, coordinate and decide to integrate the truly objective grouping of Kayan nationals -- who have been closely together and contiguous from the very outset -- with Kayah State -- that is the closest and the most convenient to get in touch -- for establishment under the new State Constitution.

If I am to present my view on the matter of changing the boundaries of some Divisions and States, as will be necessary to constitutionally establish the already closely linked Kayan nationals,

(1) these boundaries are not in conjunction with the border of any foreign country; so there is absolutely nothing to be settled with any other country;

(2) these boundaries are only in the interior of the country and it can so be settled completely through coordination and resolution of our citizens by themselves;

(3) to have this matter -- which can be settled by decisions of our citizens -- coordinated and settled at this Convention, the most comprehensive and most representative of all national brethren, all classes and strata of people and organizations and departments from all over the country, is the sole aspiration of our Kayan nationals.

Esteemed Chairman and delegates,

If it is not decided by this Convention to integrate areas of Kayan nationals in other Divisions and States into Kayah State for the sake of the entire future of the life of Kayan nationals who have all along been closely and contiguously together, I believe, from our bitter past experiences, that, no matter how it is provided to permit changing of boundaries of divisions and states in the new emerging Constitution, it will be extremely difficult in reality to transfer a township or an area of a division or state into another.

Esteemed Chairman and delegates,

Asking for integration of the area we live in into Kayah State for smoothness of the life of Kayan nationals is not because of narrow racialism or regionalism. It is asking for a real need to smooth the daily life of Kayan nationals, with administration that will be within reach and effective.

After having renounced the line of armed resistance and come into the legal fold, we are carrying out development works hand in hand with the Tatmadaw. We are working under the supervision and guidance of Regional Control Command at Loikaw, Kayah State.

Of all capitals of divisions and states, Loikaw is the nearest, the most accessible, for us. For development of our area, close supervision and guidance of the Regional Control Command at Loikaw is so convenient for us.

The State Law and Order Restoration Council's, in other words, the Tatmadaw's placing of our area under the administration of Loikaw, Kayah State, is conducive to convenience all round and expeditious effectiveness in implementation of regional development works.

To make it permanent, and official in the new Constitution to be drawn now, we would like to have it resolved unanimously by the national brethren delegates.

As the nation marches on into the future with the new Constitution, we Kayan nationals want it to be peaceful and smooth. Under the administration of the State Law and Order Restoration Council (Tatmadaw), control of the Regional Control Command, Loikaw, can reach our Kayan area. It is close. It is convenient. If no change is made even at some little places on boundaries of divisions and states, some of our Kayan areas will get far away from administrative centre, with resultant ineffectiveness and inconveniences, once the administrative power is transferred from the Tatmadaw to civil side.

So, for us, it would be the best and the most convenient to impose a sort of perpetual emergency situation in Kayan nationals' areas outside Kayah State, for the Tatmadaw to carry on supervision and administration, rather than having the same boundaries and civil administration. It is because Tatmadaw's administration functions with its base in Loikaw and therefore can know our situation, good or bad, in time and reach out to do what is best.

Esteemed Chairman and delegates,

Through this Convention, I ask openly:

1. Integrate Kayan areas outside Kayah State into Kayah State so as to formalize the already practically grouped Kayan nationals.

2. Make changes to division and state boundaries as necessary for such integration.

3. If it is too difficult administratively to change all boundaries concerned, at least integrate into Kayah State Pehkon Township of Shan State where there is a large number of Kayan nationals.

Esteemed Chairman and delegates,

-- We would like to be free of a life where we have always been left behind.

-- To get a self-administered area is not primary for us.

-- Our wish is to live in such an area as is within reach of administration.

-- We would like to be placed as convenient for us in Kayah State.

-- We will always further the Three Main National causes namely:

-- non-disintegration of the Union

-- non-disintegration of national solidarity

-- perpetuation of sovereignty.

With this I conclude.

Paper by Shan State North Special Region 1 of Other Invited Delegates Group

Esteemed Chairman and members of the Panel of Chairmen, Delegates to the National Convention and observer guests,

I am specially delighted at having an opportunity to meet all the delegates in good health on this auspicious occasion. I would also like to wish you perpetual peace of mind and pleasure.

I am U Yang Kyar Kwe, a Kokang national delegate of Shan State North Special Administrative Region 1. On behalf of U Yang Moe An, leader of the Kokang national delegates, I will submit the group's proposals on designation of the self-administered area.

[Plea for Enlarged Kokang Zone]

Esteemed Chairman,

When chapter headings to be included in writing the new Constitution were discussed, the Shan State North Special Administrative Region 1 put forward three points of standing of the

nationals in the region with a request for emphasis with special consideration of them. The No. 2 point was "Designation as a self-administered zone of all the areas delineated at present as Shan State North Special Administrative Region 1". If the Kokang nationals' self-administered zone is designated according to the clarification of the Work Committee Chairman, it is in such a situation that Kunlong, significant as the capital of Kokang region in successive eras, would be in complete separation from its mother region of Kokang. When discussions on designation of self-administered areas were held, our group proposed Muse, Kutkai, Kunlong and Konkyan Townships be collectively designated as Kokang self-administered zone.

We submitted our proposal based on national races living together in a community in the region, their populations and geographical conditions and in accordance with the six objectives of the National Convention. By Muse Township and Kutkai Township, we mean village-tracts in them at present under the Shan State North Special Administrative Region 1. They are Mongkoe Village-tract, Mongkoe Myoma and Mongpaw Village-tract in Muse Township and Monghau and Mongsu Village-tracts in Kutkai Township.

Our assemblage here is for the emergence of an enduring Constitution. We are to put forward the best of ideas and opinions from our own points of view and experience for the welfare of our future Pyidaungsu State. These ideas and opinions are to create the nation's history. In submitting so, all the delegates should have serious consideration of others' proposals with mutual respect, enduring and magnanimity in the fore. We should not forget that the nation suffered losses in making endeavours to forge national solidarity due to the previous Constitutions practised after being written without serious consideration on the practicability of the proposals submitted with sole wish that had come out of the then circumstances.

The present National Convention should straighten out differences that arose among national races in the past on territorial delineation, by making appropriate redesignations. Similarly, it would be appropriate not to redesignate areas which cause no differences in idea at present and leave them as they were formerly delineated.

On this auspicious occasion when we are winning resounding victories in further strengthening of national solidarity and national reconciliation, magnanimous and just decision on the designation of self-administered areas and affairs of national races would be what all the nationals have been earnestly looking forward to with trust and reliance.

Papers by Shan State North Special Region 2 of Other Invited Delegates Group

Esteemed Chairman and members of the Panel of Chairmen, Delegates to the National Convention and observer guests,

I would like to wish all the delegates good health and happiness and also that all your wishes be fulfilled.

I am U Aung Myint, a Wa national delegate of Shan State North Special Region 2. On behalf of U Kyauk Nyi Lai, Wa national leader, I will submit the proposal on designation of self-administered areas to be included in the Constitution.

[Plea for Self-Administered Areas]

Esteemed Chairman, Esteemed Delegates,

We have widely studied and seriously discussed designation of the self-administered area. Designation of self-administered areas should be the granting of appropriate rights that should be enjoyed by the national races in their growing political, economic and social awareness and that are appreciated by the National Convention in conformity with the tendency of the present era. This would be the first step towards solving the racial conflicts that have long existed in the nation and should be put on record as a progressive

revolution in the nation's history. We also accept that this would also be a demonstration of pure goodwill and magnanimity by the leaders of the State and the esteemed delegates to the National Convention.

Esteemed Chairman, Esteemed delegates,

We would like to discuss designation of self-administered areas. As you know, the national races for which the National Convention has designated self-administered areas are only those of border areas and hills and not of the plains. In designating self-administered areas for the national races of border areas and hills, the following points should be taken into consideration:

Due to various objective situations, national races resident in border areas and on hills lagged in social standard and regional development behind nationals of other developing areas. With development of areas of other nationals set as norms, we will be striving earnestly for the progress of the nationals and border areas and hill regions. In designating so, areas which will be contributory or important or beneficial to the development of an entire region should be viewed highly and not be excluded from being part of a self-administered area. We have noticed that designating such areas in a self-administered area will bring about welfare of the State and the respective region and long-term interest to the national races.

Esteemed Chairman, Esteemed delegates,

We will go on to put forward our view on designation of self-administered areas. As discussed above, designation of self-administered areas in writing a new Constitution is not a casual matter at this National Convention. Current of the present era, rich knowledge and high political and national awareness of the national leaders and noble goodwill of the National Convention delegates, a new Constitution will be emerging for our motherland. As it will be a new Constitution, some persons are spreading propaganda with inappropriate comparisons and this has spawned suspicions and doubts among some persons and groups who are suffering a kind of illness. We would like to reiterate that our proposal at this National Convention for extended formation of a state is not demanding for secession from the nation.

Esteemed Chairman, Esteemed delegates,

We would be frank in expressing our support to the proposal by the Shan State North Special Region 7 for designation of Palaung self-administered division including five townships and to proposals of other national races for designation of self-administered areas.

Esteemed Chairman, Esteemed delegates,

We would like to request with respect for discussion by the National Convention of our proposals. If the National Convention cannot reach a decision, we would like to honestly and candidly propose that a commission including national leaders of respective region as members be formed and wishes of the nationals in the respective region be ascertained on field tours, in accordance with the motto "The National Convention is the people's forum".

Paper by Shan State East Special Region 4 of Other Invited Delegates Group

Esteemed Chairman and members of the Panel of Chairmen, Delegates to the National Convention and observer guests,

First of all, I would like to wish that all be blessed with physical and spiritual wellbeing and all kinds of auspiciousness.

I am U Min Ein, a National Convention delegate of Shan State East Special Region 4.

On assignment of U Sai Lin, leader of the delegate group of the Shan State East Special Region 4, I will submit the proposal of Shan, Akha and Lwe nationals of the Special Region 4.

[Plea for a Wa State]

Esteemed Chairman,

In submitting our proposal, we have thoroughly studied historical changes of the national races and their present situations.

Especially, Wa State has existed beforehand in history. In addition, it is said in history that Wa nationals established a city in the place known as Kengtung.

So, we are proposing with sources and evidence for designation of a state including national races we have nominated.

In practical situation, most of the area is occupied by armed groups who have made peace. Included as one condition in peace-making is for the groups to continue to protect the area.

Tatmadaw member delegates nominated by the Commander-in-Chief of the Defence Services will also take part in the administration of the proposed self-administered state jointly with the national races.

Designation of the self-administered state proposed by the peace groups and the national races they represent is in essence stretching one step forward and portrays progress and positive nature.

Esteemed Chairman,

Matters such as designation or reorganization of administrative units or areas and extended organization of Regions or States are usually included in writing or amending a new Constitution.

At this time too, extended organization of new States that reflects history and practical life is a motivation for national reconciliation and national solidarity. This will eventually contribute towards bringing about national equality. This will also contribute to appropriate, peaceful, stable and fair solving of subsequent problems left from periods of armed strife.

Esteemed Chairman,

What we would like to emphasize is the proposed, self-administered state in which national races will include is a part inseparable from the Union of Myanmar. It will be a member of the Myanmar household.

The new state will respect, adhere to and safeguard the new Constitution.

It will obey the united leadership of the Central Government.

It will exercise the executive power vested in it under the Constitution.

It will assume as a noble duty to strive for the causes of unity of the motherland, perpetuation of sovereignty and territorial integrity.

It will adhere to the principle of peaceful co-existence among nations and the foreign policy. Under the united leadership of the Central Government, it will maintain friendly relations and cooperate with contiguous neighbouring countries in economy and technology for mutual benefit.

In brief, organization of a new state including national races will contribute to promotion of internal peace, national equality, solidarity of the Union and practice of democracy politics.

Esteemed Chairman,

Our Shan State East Special Region 4 will include in the new state as a special administrative region (in short, special region).

To be included in our special region are Mongla, Hsilu and Nampan Townships and the special region will exercise the executive power granted in it under law.

We in all seriousness believe that the emerging self-administered state will set an example in solving internal racial problems and striving for the unity of the nation and perpetuation of peace.

Paper by Union Pa-O National Organization

First I would like to express my regards for the chairman of the session, members of the Panel of Chairmen, National Convention Convening Commission Chairman and members, National Convention Convening Work Committee Chairman and members and National Convention delegates. I am U Aung Khin, a delegate from Union Pa-O National Organization. I feel honoured and pleased to have this opportunity to make my presentation here.

Making all-round appraisal of the objective conditions in the

Union of Myanmar, the conditions of the racial groups, geographical situation, road links and communication situation and administrative conditions and making provisions for enjoyment of the right of equality in status and opportunities is so well. Maintaining relations of equality and mutual respect among racial groups and helping to provide necessary features to racial groups that do not have them serves to further strengthen solidarity.

We heartily welcome and endorse the National Convention coordinating and striving to achieve the most possible best, with goodwill, loving kindness and compassion, free of bias for or against any group, but on the basis of the situation of each township and racial groupwise population figures.
[Plea for Expanded Pa-O Area]

We are fully convinced that the aim is to promote the interests of the majority of national races concerned in prescribing self-administered division and self-administered zones. I would like to emphatically propose for all to reconsider a situation in which only the minority of 180,000 out of a total of 450,000 Pa-O nationals is getting the right of self-administration while the remaining majority is outside the self-administered area.
Esteemed Chairman,

At the plenary session on 2-9-94 National Convention Convening Commission Chairman had said "a point to be specially heeded is that it is necessary to discuss matters with care not to harm the good foundations of national solidarity that have been the results of the endeavours of the State Law and Order Restoration Council.

Kyauktalone area in Taunggyi Township is a pivotal area of Pa-O nationals and is also a true vital peace area to be built up by the State and Pa-O National Organization (PNO) forever together. Growing from a village of non-entity to an area fully endowed with features of a town, Kyauktalone should specially be prescribed as a new town, a new township, I would like to propose.

Pa-O National Organization (PNO) based in Loilem area, Taunggyi area, was one of the organizations that started and came into the fold of law, appreciating the true goodwill and the true objectives of the State, thanks to magnanimous and patient organizational endeavours of the State Law and Order Restoration Council. We, the Union Pa-O National Organization, are only presenting ideas and views that are consistent with the six objectives of the National Convention. We are presenting the objective truth that is truly desirable, consistent and compatible with the real area situation.

The summary of what we delegates from Union Pa-O National Organization would like to specially propose in connection with self-administered division and self-administered zone is

(1) To include Loilem Township and Taunggyi Township in Pa-Oo Self-Administered Area.

(2) If it cannot be done for various reasons,

(a) to take 17 village tracts except Loilem Township together and newly form Pinlon Township.

(b) to take 20 villages of Taunggyi Township except Taunggyi Myoma and eight village tracts, together with six village tracts of east sector, Inlay area, Nyaungshwe Township, to form a new Kyauktalone Township.

Esteemed Chairman,

If the National Convention would coordinate and proceed on our presentation which is complete in respect of geographical conditions and inhabited population, all Pa-O nationals would feel most joyous. It has been learnt from experiences in the history of man that solidarity alone could bring good or bad to the destiny of a nation and a people. In conclusion, I would like to say it is necessary to build a new State of solidarity and burgeoning of the noblest and worthiest of worldly values namely justice, liberty and equality for all national races in the Union of Myanmar.

Paper by Shan State Kokang Democratic Party

Esteemed Chairman and members of the Panel of Chairmen,

National Convention Convening Commission Chairman and members, delegates from the various groups.

On this day of auspiciousness, I would like to extend on behalf of Shan State Kokang Democratic Party good wishes for well-being in body and mind of all.

I am, U Anthony Su (a) U La Yaung, delegate from Shan State Kokang Democratic Party.

[Plea for Expanded Kokang Zone]

In the clarification on 2-9-94 of the Chairman of the Work Committee, it is explained there is a situation to allow prescribing of a self-administered zone for Kokang nationals, with the grouping of Konkyan Township and Laukkai Township (not in existence before). As Kokang nationals, we are joyous and specially thankful for prescribing a self-administered zone for Kokang nationals. If the original Kokang areas along the northern bank of Namting River, namely, Kunlong, Kon Mee, Kon Kye, Kon Thaung, Sanpya, Nam Hu and Chin Shwe Haw villages are not included in the prescribed self-administered zone, I believe the zone would be faced with difficulties. If Kunlong ferry point, Chin Shwe Haw ferry point and Takyumkhup ferry point that could reach Hopang side are to be taken away from the original Kokang area and placed in any other area, the self-administered area to be prescribed for us can have difficulty in having links with the outside world. Thus, problems may arise in the life of the people and it may also come to harm peace, tranquillity and security of the area.

If there arises insurgency in any area of the Union, it can also harm the security of the entire Union as well. I would like to say it is even more important especially in areas close to the border like our Kokang area. So, on behalf of the Party, I would like to submit that the following points be considered in connection with the matter of prescribing self-administered division and self-administered zone.

(1) If there arises a situation to change the boundary of States, townships within States, or areas of racial groups of traditional inhabitation and administration from the very beginning in the States (for example, areas like the original area of Kokang nationals), the wishes of the majority of the entire people living in those States, the wishes of the majority of the entire people living in those townships, and the wishes of the majority of the entire people living in those areas must be sought without fail.

(2) In changing of any boundary it should be done in a democratic way with aims at non-disintegration of the Union, non-disintegration of national solidarity and perpetuation of sovereignty.

(3) It should be effected on principles of democracy and human rights.

(4) Konkyan Township, Laukkai Township and Kunlong Township should be grouped together and prescribed as Kokang Self-Administered Zone. The area so grouped as Kokang Self-Administered Zone should continue to be as it was during the time of the Lanzin Party government.

(5) In view of the fact that towns, villages and village-tracts south to north -- from areas on the north bank of Namting River from Kunlong to Chin Shwe Haw right up to Hon Aik and Monghtai in the north -- and west to east -- from the west bank of Thanlwin River to Yunnan border in the east -- are all territorially contiguous and the fact that the population of Kokang nationals living in that area is more than half of the total population, it is found the situation is such no area could be separated from the entirety of Kokang area. So, in conclusion, I would like to ask for careful consideration and study in prescribing the Kokang Self-Administered Zone.

(NLM 3/31)

DIPLOMATIC

Diplomatic Calls

[The following calls were paid on Burmese officials by foreign Embassy or UN officials accredited to Burma. Details of the meetings are rarely reported. Ambassadors generally accompany foreign visitors from their countries on official calls, and their presence is generally not noticed in this Summary. Newly arrived and departing Ambassadors generally make the rounds of Cabinet Ministers and other leading officials.]

Feb. 28: Thai Ambassador Poksak Nilubol called on Auditor-General U Aung Khin Tint. (NLM 3/1)

Mar. 3: Singapore Ambassador Calvin Eu Mun Hoo called on Minister for Hotels and Tourism Lt-Gen. Kyaw Ba. Pakistani Ambassador Abbas H. Mirza called on Minister for Forestry Lt-Gen. Chit Swe. (NLM 3/4)

Mar. 9: United Nations Drug Control Programme Office Resident Representative Mr. Gerald Moore called on Minister for Health Vice-Adm. Than Nyunt to discuss treatment and rehabilitation of drug addicts and anti-narcotics education. (NLM 3/10)

Mar. 10: Yugoslavian Charge d'Affaires Milos Beljic called on Deputy Prime Minister Vice-Adm. Maung Maung Khin. French Senior Economic Counsellor Mr. Xvez Cadilhon, based in the French Embassy in Bangkok, accompanied by Commercial Counsellor Robert Igier met with Minister for Health Vice-Adm. Than Nyunt to discuss scholarships and provision of medical equipment from France. (NLM 3/11)

Mar. 17: United Nations Drug Control Programme Office Director Mr. Gerald D. Moore called on Minister for Home Affairs Lt-Gen. Mya Thin. Japanese Ambassador Takashi Tajima called on Minister for National Planning and Economic Development Brig-Gen. Abel. (NLM 3/18)

Mar. 21: Bangladeshi Ambassador Brig. Chowdhury Khalequzzaman (Retd) called on Minister for Culture Lt-Gen. Aung Ye Kyaw. (NLM 3/22)

Mar. 22: United Nations Drug Control Programme Office Director Mr. Gerald D. Moore called on CCDAC Secretary Director-General Col. Soe Win of the People's Police Force. (NLM 3/24)

Mar. 24: FAO Resident Representative Abdul Wahid Jalil called on Minister for Livestock Breeding & Fisheries Brig-Gen. Maung Maung to discuss assistance for foot-and-mouth disease inoculation, fisheries projects, and prevention of throat disease. (NLM 3/25)

Mar. 28: United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees Office Director Mr. Denis McNamara called on Minister for Home Affairs Lt-Gen. Mya Thin, accompanied by Adviser Mr. Kenichiro Sasae. He said reception of those who had fled to Bangladesh was going 100 percent successfully. United Nations Drug Control Programme Office Director Mr. Gerald D. Moore called on Minister for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs Lt-Gen. Maung Thint to discuss "projects...on eradication of opium cultivation." (NLM 3/ 29)

New Ambassadors to Myanmar

Mar. 16: Mr. K.B. Fernando presented credentials to SLORC Chairman Senior General Than Shwe as new Ambassador of Sri Lanka to Myanmar. (NLM 3/17)

Mar. 29: The Government has agreed to the appointment of Dr. Benito Volpi as new Ambassador of Italy to Myanmar. Dr. Volpi was born Apr. 15, 1930, and graduated from the University of Naples in 1958. He entered the Foreign Ministry in 1964, and has served in Khartoum, Cairo, The Hague, Muscat, and Frankfurt. (NLM 3/30)

New Myanmar Ambassadors

Mar. 8: U Nyunt Tin, Myanmar Ambassador to France, was named concurrently as new Myanmar Ambassador to Algeria. (NLM 3/8)

Mar. 15: U San Thein was named new Myanmar Ambassador to the Philippines. (NLM 3/16)

Mar. 31: U Khin Nyein, Myanmar Ambassador to Italy, was named concurrently as new Myanmar Ambassador to Portugal. (NLM 3/31)

Chinese Ambassador's Message

Mar. 8: Chinese Ambassador Mrs. Chen Baoliu, "the first Chinese lady ever accredited as Ambassador to Myanmar," extended greeting to Myanmar women on the occasion of International Women's Day. She speaks fluent Myanmar and "is more popularly known in Myanmar official circles as Daw Nyunt Nyunt." (NLM 3/9)

Thai Fishermen Released

Mar. 25: 120 "Thai fishermen serving prison terms for poaching in Myanmar territorial waters were released from Insein Jail on Mar. 22 "as a gesture [of] the goodwill shared by the two countries." The release came "at the request of Assistant Commander-in-Chief of Royal Thai Army General Chetta Thanajaro, made while visiting Myanmar on Mar. 3, 1995. A special plane came to get the released fishermen. "Altogether 183 Thai fishermen have been released at the request of the Thai government in the time of the State Law and Order Restoration Council." (NLM 3/26)

INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

Joint Workshops & Projects

Feb. 28: A Workshop on World Summit for Social Development, sponsored by UNDP, was held at the Social Welfare Department, and was addressed by Deputy Education Minister Dr. Than Nyunt, WHO Resident Representative Dr. Klaus Wagner, and UNDP Consultant Mr. Jan Loubser. The Workshop will last until Mar. 1. (NLM 3/1)

Mar. 4: A Course on Dissemination of Red Cross Activities, jointly sponsored by the Myanmar Red Cross Society and the International Committee of the Red Cross, opened. (NLM 3/5)

Mar. 9: A Gender and Development Workshop, sponsored by UNDP in honor of International Women's Day, opened and was addressed by UNDP Resident Representative a.i. Ms. Monique Jaffeux. It was conducted by UNDCP Assistant Field Adviser Ms. Anna Deboer, a gender specialist. (NLM 3/10)

Mar. 23: A 2-day workshop on TB/HIV Surveillance in Myanmar began at the Institute of Learning, jointly sponsored by the Ministry of Health, the Research Institute of Tuberculosis (RIT), and the Japanese Foundation for AIDS Prevention. Deputy Minister for Health Col. Than Zin said Myanmar has over 80,000 TB patients, aged from 15-59, and the "disease is on the rise again in the world including Myanmar."

Mar. 28: A 2-day Teak Symposium, held under the Myanmar-Japan Technical Cooperation Programme, opened at the Central Forestry Development Training Centre in Hmawby Township, and was addressed by Minister for Forestry Lt-Gen. Chit Swe. Other speakers at the opening were Mr. Yoshio Yoshida, head of the Technical Cooperation Branch of Japan, and Mr. Tadashi Furumoto, leader of the Japanese experts. Six papers were read. (NLM 3/29)

Mar. 30: The 2-day Seminar on Forestry Research 1995 opened at the International Business Centre, and was addressed by Minister for Forestry Lt-Gen. Chit Swe. After discussing Myanmar's tradition of forest management, he stated: "We are well aware of the critical state that our forests are in now, due to excessive cuttings for agriculture, usually for shifting cultivation, and increased demand for fuelwood, timber and non-wood forest products resulting from ever increasing population. It is time to take a closer look at what can be done to improve the situation." He went on to discuss conservation of and substitutions for fuelwood, promotion of trading in finished products rather than raw timber, and promotion of lesser-known species. For all these, research is needed. Twelve papers will be presented at this Seminar. Among those present were FAO Resident Representative Abdul Wahid Jalil, Forestry Consultant Mr. Conrad Smith, Chief Adviser at Kinda Dam Watershed Control Pilot Project Mr. K.P. Upadhyay, Japanese Team Leader Mr. Furumoto and others. (NLM 3/31)

Donations from Abroad

[We report donations that apparently come from foreign sources. We do not normally report the numerous articles on donations by Burmese individuals inside Burma and Burmese companies to government, religious, and social organizations and charities.]

Mar. 1: Dr. Win Myint of Germany donated medicines to the Defence Services General Hospital and military band material in honor of the Golden Jubilee Armed Forces Day. (NLM 3/2)

Mar. 6: The Japanese government presented medical equipment worth US\$ 94,320 to the Sittway People's Hospital. (NLM 3/7)

Mar. 7: Mr. Yoshio Kimura and Mrs. Taeko Kimura of the Friendly Asians Home presented soap and other toiletries to the Tiger Parahita School for the Development of National Races. (NLM 3/8)

Mar. 7: Managing Director Mr. C.H. Kim of Daewoo Electronic Myanmar Co. Ltd. presented a 20-inch colour TV to the Lashio Rehabilitation Center for Drug Addicts. (NLM 3/8)

Mar. 7: The Japan Foundation donated books on Japan worth 300,000 to the libraries of the Foreign Ministry, Ministry of Culture, and Taunggyi University. (NLM 3/ 8)

Mar. 9: Japanese Charge d'Affaires Mr. Nobutake Odano signed a Memorandum of Understanding for granting US\$ 50,000 in construction assistance and supplies for the Tiger Parahita School for Development of National Races. (NLM 3/10)

Mar. 13: Mr. Charoenrath Vilailuck of Samart Co. of Thailand donated US\$ 1000 and equipment to the Union Solidarity and Development Association. (NLM 3/14)

Mar. 14: Eastbourne Chemical Industry Pte. Ltd. of Singapore donated K 2 million to the Ministry of Agriculture. (NLM 3/15)

Mar. 15: President Mr. Tsugio Iwata of Shippo Seed Co. Ltd. of Kagawa, Japan, touring in Myanmar, presented US\$ 1,500 to the Myanma Red Cross in memory of his older brother Mr. Shigeo Iwata, who was killed in Myanmar during World War II. (NLM 3/16)

Mar. 22: General Manager Mr. Gerard Soh of Yangon City Hotel donated \$1,000 in FECs to the Ministry of Hotels and Tourism. (NLM 3/23)

Mar. 22: General Manager Paul Mishuku of Nissin Denso Co. Ltd. donated a National telephone exchange and equipment worth 1.5 million to Myanma Railways. The presentation is sponsored by President Hifashi Ishida of Eveton Corporation and Yarthepan Co. (Myanmar). (NLM 3/23)

Mar. 24: Resident Representative U Win Te of Hana To Midori Ltd. donated a Nissan Sunny AD Van (1989) model for twin sisters Aye Aye Nyein and Ei Ei Nyein ["Siamese" twins successfully separated last year--HMacD.] (NLM 3/25)

Mar. 30: Mr. Tokuzo Yokohama of Saitama, Japan, donated used medical equipment to Yangon General Hospital. (NLM 3/31)

Border & Regional Affairs

Mar. 8: A Chinese delegation led by Ambassador Xu Wenyi of the Chinese Foreign Ministry arrived to attend the Fourth Session of the Joint Boundary Inspection Committee for the second joint inspection of the Myanmar-China boundary line. (NLM 3/9) // Mar. 15: The delegation departed, after signing Agreed Minutes of the meeting. (NLM 3/16)

Mar. 14: Regional-level officials of Myanmar and India held their fourth meeting Mar. 7-10 at the Monywa Town Hall, Sagaing Division. The Myanmar delegation was headed by Deputy Director U Ohn Han of the General Administration Department and the Indian delegation by Joint Secretary Mr. B.N. Tha of the Ministry of Home Affairs. They discussed "prevalence of peace, stability and law in border areas, eradication of illegal drug trafficking and promotion of border trade, exchange of culture, mutual understanding, friendship and bilateral cooperation." On Mar. 9, the Indians met with North-West Commander Maj-Gen. Hla Myint Swe, and visited Monywa and Mandalay. The next meeting will be in India. (NLM 3/15)

Mar. 28: A delegation led by Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs U Nyunt Swe left for Thailand to attend the Second Meeting of

the Myanmar-Thailand Joint Border Committee, where it will meet a Thai delegation headed by Deputy Foreign Minister Dr. Surin Pitsuwon. (NLM 3/29)

Social and Economic Cooperation

Mar. 7: The UNESCO Regional Office in Bangkok donated US\$ 20,000 to the Basic Education Department for construction of seven community learning centres in ChaungU, Kyaukpadaung, Magway, Ywangan, Nyaungshwe, Bogalay, and Labutta Townships. (NLM 3/8)

Mar. 22: A Memorandum of Understanding was signed between Japanese Ambassador Takashi Tajima and Minister for National Planning and Economic Development Brig-Gen. Abel, under which Japan will grant ♦ 1,000 million to Myanmar "for procurement of fertilizer and agricultural machinery for more food production in border areas." (NLM 3/23)

Mar. 22: An 8-member group from the Japan International Cooperation Agency led by Mr. Seiji Kaiho, accompanied by JICA Resident Representative Mr. Yoshio Yoshida, called on Minister for Health Vice-Adm. Than Nyunt to discuss "construction of an annexe at the Institute of Nursing." (NLM 3/23)

Mar. 28: A four-day seven-nation Regional Seminar on Education for All, jointly sponsored by UNICEF and the International Institute of Educational Planning [IIEP] of UNESCO, opened at Karaweik Hall, in the presence of SLORC Secretary-1 Lt-Gen. Khin Nyunt and other officials. Participants include Mr. Gabriel Carron of the IIEP, Ms. Fay Chung from UNICEF, and participants from Cambodia, Laos, Vietnam, Papua New Guinea, the Philippines, Thailand, and Myanmar. SLORC Secretary-1 Lt-Gen. Khin Nyunt addressed the opening session. In the course of describing Myanmar's educational projects, he touched on Monastic education: "There has been a tremendous expansion of the school system. Many new schools have been opened in remote areas. Monastic education, since the time of ancient Myanmar kings, has largely been responsible for the high literacy rate that presently exists in our country. Buddhist monasteries still continue to play a significant role in bringing primary education to children in rural areas. To this end, the Government has therefore adopted a programme to give necessary support to the Buddhist monasteries to enable them to carry out this noble endeavour effectively."

Narcotics Cooperation

Feb. 28: United Nations International Drug Control Programme Country Director Mr. Gerald Moore held a press conference to explain the 1994 Annual Report of the International Narcotics Control Board. (NLM 3/1)

FOREIGN VISITORS

International Agency Visitors

[Includes visitors from both governmental and non-governmental agencies]

Mar. 6: A Disaster Management Team from WHO and Japanese NGOs called on Minister for Health Vice-Adm. Than Nyunt. (NLM 3/7)

Mar. 7: Director Mr. Timothy Boakes of the UNICEF Office of Administrative Management in New York, accompanied by UNICEF Resident Representative Mr. Stephen H. Umemoto, called on Minister for National Planning and Economic Development Brig-Gen. Abel to discuss implementation of UNICEF projects. (NLM 3/8)

Mar. 9: Director Mr. Bouchenaki of the UNESCO Cultural Division arrived and called on Minister for Culture Lt-Gen. Aung Ye Kyaw. He will visit ancient cultural sites in Bagan, NyaungU, Mandalay, Pyay, and Bago, and discuss the Bagan Master Plan. (NLM 3/10)

Cultural Visitors

Feb. 28: The Laos cultural delegation led by Deputy Minister for Culture and Information Mr. Bouabane Vorakhoune completed its exchange visit in Myanmar and departed by air. (NLM 3/1)

Mar. 22: The Cultural Troupe of the Chinese People's Liberation Army, consisting of 46 members led by Sr-Col. Qu Zong arrived to honour the Golden Jubilee Armed Forces Day. Following its arrival, it flew to Mandalay to entertain troops and the public there; it will return to Yangon to perform on Mar. 27 at the National Theatre. (NLM 3/23) // Mar. 26: The troupe visited Mandalay from Mar. 23-25. It will entertain at the National Theatre on Mar. 27. (NLM 3/27) // Mar. 30: The troupe performed at the National Theatre. (NLM 3/31)

Mar. 22: A 6-member Chinese writers delegation led by Mr. Zang Kunhua of Yunnan Province arrived under the bilateral cultural exchange programme. (NLM 3/ 23) // Mar. 23: It called on Minister for Information Brig-Gen. Myo Thant, visited the Shwedagon Pagoda, and was given lunch by Chairman U Myo Thant (Maung Hsu Shin) of the Myanmar Writers and Journalists Organization. (NLM 3/24) // Mar. 25: The delegation called on Central Commander Maj-Gen. Kyaw Than in Mandalay. (NLM 3/26) // Mar. 29: The delegation visited Monywa [Sagaing] on Mar. 26, and Mandalay on Mar. 27. (NLM 3/30)

Medical Visitors

Mar. 2: Cardiac specialist Dr. Leslie Lam of Singapore called on SLORC Secretary-1 Lt-Gen. Khin Nyunt. (NLM 3/3)

Mar. 8: Professor of Surgery Dr. Marc Gignoux and Matron Mme. Murielle Morisson of Caen University, France, accompanied by French Cultural Attache M. Dadier Maule, called on Deputy Minister for Health Col. Than Zin, and presented an Olympus-type endoscope. (NLM 3/9)

Mar. 14: Surgery Specialist Dr. Timothy H. Walsh of St. Mary's Hospital, Isle of Wight, England will lecture on "Gastro-intestinal surgery" at the Myanmar Medical Association Auditorium on Mar. 16. (NLM 3/15) // Mar. 16: He gave the lecture. (NLM 3/17)

Business Visitors

Feb. 28: A group of British entrepreneurs met with Minister for National Planning and Economic Development Brig-Gen. Abel to discuss investment opportunities. (NLM 3/1)

Mar. 1: The Japanese delegation from the Society of Modernization led by former Deputy Finance Minister Mr. Tadao Chino [see February issue] called on Deputy Prime Minister Vice-Adm. Maung Khin, Chairman of the Myanmar Investment Commission, and Minister for National Planning and Economic Development Brig-Gen. Abel. (NLM 3/2) // Mar. 2: The delegation departed. (NLM 3/3)

Mar. 1: Yangzhou Deputy Mayor Mr. Huang Xueqi [see February issue] called on Yangon Mayor U Ko Lay. (NLM 3/2)

Mar. 1: Senior Vice-President Mr. Chong-Soon Lee of Hyundai Engineering and Construction Co. Ltd. of Korea called on Minister for Trade Lt-Gen. Tun Kyi to discuss investment opportunities in infrastructural development and heavy industry" of Myanmar. (NLM 3/2)

Mar. 3: A Japanese delegation led by Executive Vice-President Mr. Matoko Kuroda of the Mitsubishi Corporation (and former Deputy Minister for International Trade and Industry) called on Minister for Industry 1 Lt-Gen. Sein Aung, on Minister for Energy U Khin Maung Thein, on Minister for Forestry Lt-Gen. Chit Swe, on Minister for Trade Lt-Gen. Tun Kyi, and on Minister for National Planning and Economic Development Brig-Gen. Abel. (NLM 3/4) // Mar. 6: He called on SLORC Secretary-1 Lt-Gen. Khin Nyunt, Minister for National Planning and Economic Development Brig-Gen. Abel, Minister for Culture Lt-Gen. Aung Ye Kyaw, Minister for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs Lt-Gen. Maung Thint, Minister at the Prime Minister's Office Brig-Gen. Lun Maung, and Deputy Prime Minister Vice-Adm. Maung Maung Khin. Minister Abel and Mr. Kuroda signed a memorandum of understanding. (NLM 3/7) // Mar. 7: After calling on Yangon Mayor U Ko Lay, he departed. (NLM 3/8)

Mar. 3: Chairman Mr. PK. O'Ferrall, OBE, of Lloyd's Register (London), and party, called on Minister for Transport Lt-Gen. Thein Win to discuss increased Myanmar participation in the East Asia Lloyd's Committee. (NLM 3/4)

Mar. 3: A Japanese delegation led by General Manager Mr. Shuichi Morita of Tokyo Construction Co. Ltd. called on Minister for Hotels and Tourism Lt-Gen. Kyaw Ba. (NLM 3/4)

Mar. 6: A Japanese delegation led by Mr. Hideo Kawabuchi of Osaka-Myanmar Investment Commission Office called on Minister for National Planning and Economic Development Brig-Gen. Abel. (NLM 3/7)

Mar. 9: A Japanese trade delegation led by Special Advisor Mr. Noboru Hatakeyama of the Ministry of International Trade and Industry, former Deputy Minister, arrived to discuss economic cooperation. (NLM 3/ 10) // Mar. 10: He called on Deputy Prime Minister Vice-Adm. Maung Maung Khin, Chairman of the Myanmar Investment Commission, and Minister for Finance and Revenue Brig-Gen. Win Tin. (NLM 3/11) // Mar. 12: The delegation departed. (NLM 3/13)

Mar. 9: General Manager Mr. Shinji Kaku of Fujita Corp. of Japan called on Yangon Mayor U Ko Lay to discuss construction of the Business Centre Hotel and a world class golf course. (NLM 3/10)

Mar. 11: A Japanese delegation led by President Mr. Satoshi Kambe of Sanwa Trading Co. Ltd. called on Minister for Cooperatives U Than Aung. (NLM 3/12)

Mar. 16: General Manager Mr. Hajime Yosano of Industrial Bank of Japan called on Minister for Hotels and Tourism Lt-Gen. Kyaw Ba. (NLM 3/17)

Mar. 20: A Japanese delegation led by Chairman Mr. Koichi Yamada of Myanmar Okinawa Development Corp., called on Yangon Mayor U Ko Lay. (NLM 3/21)

Mar. 20: A Japanese delegation led by Mr. Gima Noriyoshi from the Naha Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Okinawa called on Minister for National Planning and Economic Development Brig-Gen. Abel. (NLM 3/21)

Mar. 20: A Japanese delegation led by Mr. Haneda Katsumi of Myanmar Development Association of Japan called on Minister for National Planning and Economic Development Brig-Gen. Abel. (NLM 3/21)

Mar. 24: Managing Director Mr. Cheong Choong Kong and party of Singapore International Airlines called on SLORC Secretary-1 Lt-Gen. Khin Nyunt. (NLM 3/25)

Religious Visitors

Feb. 28: The Korean Buddhist delegation led by Ven. Jeon Woon Duck of the Chun Tae Buddhist Sect [see February issue], called on Minister for Religious Affairs Lt-Gen. Myo Nyunt. They discussed the sending of two Myanmar Sangha members to "learn Pariyatti and the Daung Good Buddhist University" in the Republic of Korea. (NLM 3/1) // Mar. 1: The delegation departed. (NLM 3/2)

Mar. 10: A Chinese Buddhist mission led by Saydadaw U Naga held a reordination and donation ceremony in Naga Hlainggu Kalaywa Tawkyayung in Yangon. Five monks in the mission were reordained. The mission presented gifts to the Tiger Parahita School for the Development of National Races, the Sasana Hospital (Kaba Aye) of the Defence Services General Hospital, monks and novices from border areas residing at the Naga Hlainggu Monastic Education School, K 50,000 for the International Buddhist Tekkatho, and K 100,000 for the Ay Yeikmon Nun's Orphanage in Mandalay. (NLM 3/11) // Mar. 24: Chinese monk Sut Kun Shen and 146 members of the Chinese Buddhist mission donated K 200,000 to the Theravada Buddhism Missionary Tekkatho, and K 1 million to the Bago Kyakhatwaing Kyaungtaik. (NLM 3/25) // Mar. 30: The 85-member study mission of Chinese monks, nuns and lay disciples, left for home. During their visit, they offered soon and robes to 5,000 monks, visited religious edifices in Mandalay, Bagan, and Bago, and made donations of over K 8 million. (NLM 3/31)

Mar. 13: Sayadaws from the United States, India, and Malaysia, who will receive titles on Mar. 15, arrived via Bangkok. They are: Sayadaw Bhaddanta Candasiri of Taungpulu Kaba Aye Kyaungtaik, California, USA; Sayadaw Bhaddanta Gunavamsa of Molan Hkamti Kyaung, Assam State, India; and Sayadaw Bhaddanta Sumanacara of Dhammikayama

Myanmar Monastery, Penang, Malaysia. (NLM 3/14)

Mar. 20: A Thai Buddhist delegation led by Vice-Chairman Sayadaw Phrabhavanaviriyakuhn of the Dhammakaya Foundation arrived; it includes seven Sayadaws and six laypersons. (NLM 3/21) // Mar. 21: The delegation called on Deputy Minister for Religious Affairs Col. Aung Khin. (NLM 3/ 22) // Mar. 23: The delegation departed, after visiting the Shwedagon Pagoda in Yangon and pagodas in Bago. It donated 10 books on Pitakat Treatise in Thai to the Department for Promotion and Propagation of the Sasana. It also donated K 102,000 to various pagodas. (NLM 3/24)

Thai Assistant Army Commander

Mar. 3: A goodwill delegation led by Assistant Commander-in-Chief of the Royal Thai Army Gen. Chetta Thanajaro arrived by special flight and called on Vice-Chairman of the State Law and Order Restoration Council Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) Gen. Maung Aye. The delegation visited the Shwedagon Pagoda, and lunched at the People's Park Restaurant, hosted by Chief of Staff (Army) Lt-Gen. Tin Oo; at 2:30 pm the special flight returned to Bangkok. (NLM 3/4)

Beijing Vice-Mayor

Mar. 8: Vice-Mayor of Beijing Mr. Duan Qiang and delegation arrived, to sign an agreement on establishment of Myanmar Beijing Fisheries Co. Ltd. [see also under Joint Ventures], a joint venture between the Fishery Department and Beijing Fisheries Corp., authorized in January. He called on Minister for Livestock Breeding & Fisheries Brig-Gen. Maung Maung, and on Yangon Mayor U Ko Lay. Deputy Minister for Livestock Breeding and Fisheries U Aung Thein hosted a dinner. (NLM 3/9)

Mar. 9: A Memorandum of Understanding was signed between Director-General U Kyaw Lwin of Fisheries Department, and Director-General Mr. An Gang of the Chinese Department of Agriculture and Forestry, for bilateral cooperation "in establishment of an ice factory and a cold storage in Patheingyi Township, fishing prawn breeding, and distribution of marine products." Minister for Livestock Breeding & Fisheries Brig-Gen. Maung Maung and Beijing Vice-Mayor Duan Qiang. (NLM 3/10)

Mar. 10: He called on South-West Commander Maj-Gen. Tin Hla, Ayeyarwady Division LORC Chairman, on Mar. 9 to discuss "construction of an ice factory and cold storage." They broke ground for the factory. (NLM 3/11) // Mar. 11: He toured sights in Yangon, and was hosted at dinner by Yangon Mayor U Ko Lay. (NLM 3/12) // Mar. 12: He visited Thanlyin. (NLM 3/13) // Mar. 13: He departed. (NLM 3/14)

Indonesian Planning Minister

Mar. 30: Indonesian Minister of National Planning and Development Dr. and Mrs. Ginanjar Karasasmita, Chairman of the National Planning Development Board of Indonesia, and delegation arrived and met with Minister for National Planning and Economic Development Brig-Gen. Abel. (NLM 3/31)

Russian Parliamentarians

Mar. 30: A five-member delegation from the Russian State Duma led by Deputy Chairman Mr. A.D. Vengerovsky arrived from Singapore, and called on Minister for Foreign Affairs U Ohn Gyaw. (NLM 3/31)

MYANMAR DELEGATIONS

Study Delegations

Mar. 6: Assistant Lecturer of Physics Daw Onmar Win of Yangon University (Hline Campus) left for Thailand to attend a Mar. 6-Apr. 28 Interregional Training Course on Experimental Nuclear Spectroscopy, at the invitation of IATA. (NLM 3/7)

Mar. 6: Director Daw Hla Kyu of the Department of Higher Education left for Seoul on Mar. 4 to attend the Mar. 6-10

Information Seminar for New Secretaries and Officials of the Asia and Pacific National Commission for UNESCO, sponsored by the Korean UNESCO Commission. (NLM 3/7)

Mar. 9: An 8-member study group led by Assistant Lecturer Daw Khin Hta Myint of the Geography Department, Yangon Teachers Training Institute, left for Thailand to study school activities including lunch programmes and income-generation, under the UNDP rural education project. (NLM 3/ 10)

Mar. 13: Lecturer Dr. Khin Swe Myint of the Mandalay University Physics Department left for Tokyo Mar. 11 to attend the Mar. 15-18 23rd INS International Symposium on Nuclear and Particle Physics with Meson Beams in the 1 GE V/C Region, sponsored by the Institute for Nuclear Studies at the University of Tokyo. (NLM 3/14)

Mar. 14: Professor Daw Khin Htwe Yi of the International Relations Department of Mandalay University left Mar. 12 for the United States to take part in the International Visitor Project from Mar. 16-Apr. 12 sponsored by the US Government. (NLM 3/ 15)

Mar. 18: A delegation led by Assistant Director U Ohn Win of the Watershed Management for Three Critical Areas Project left for China to study land reclamation, forestry, and watershed conservation for two weeks, with UNDP and FAO sponsorship. Other members are Project Staff Officer U Zaw Win, Forester U Myint Oo, Nyaungshwe Township LORC member U Myint Nyein, and local farmers U Sein Paw, U Nyunt Tin, Than Aung, and U Nanda. (NLM 3/19)

Mar. 20: Lecturers U Tin Kyaing of the Institute of Agriculture, Myaungmya, and Daw Yin Yin Aye of the Institute of Agriculture, Thayarwady, left Mar. 18 for Sri Lanka to attend a 32-day Sub-Regional Course on Post-Harvest Technology in Agriculture Education, under the Colombo Plan. (NLM 3/21)

Mar. 26: Assistant Director U Kyaw Win of the Department of Labour left for Jakarta, Indonesia, to attend a Mar. 28-31 Asian and the Pacific Regional Seminar on Labour Norms. (NLM 3/27)

Mar. 30: Head of Section U Ko Ko Lay of the Trade Department left for Prague to attend the Apr. 3-May 31 Introductory Course in Market Economics and Financial Analysis. (NLM 3/31)

Delegations to Meetings & Events

Mar. 1: A delegation led by Deputy Minister for Hotels and Tourism Brig-Gen. Tin Aye left for Berlin to attend the International Tourism Bourse (ITB) and promote Myanmar tourism. Members are Deputy Director-General U Myo Min and Director Dr. Naw Angeline of the Directorate of Hotels and Tourism, and Head of Office U Than Nwe. With them is Daw Thein Thein Win who will demonstrate "the skill of chinlon." Director U Naing Bwa of the Directorate of Hotels and Tourism will leave Mar. 2 to join the delegation. (NLM 3/2) // Mar. 13: The delegation returned. (NLM 3/14)

Mar. 3: A Myanmar delegation led by Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Brig-Gen. Thaung Myint left for Copenhagen to attend the Mar. 6-12 World Summit for Social Development. Other members are Deputy Education Minister Dr. Than Nyunt, Director-General Dr. Hla Myint of the Department of Health, Director-General U Than Po of the Department of Social Welfare, and Staff Officer Capt. Tin Tun. (NLM 3/4) // Mar. 14: The delegation returned. (NLM 3/15)

Mar. 6: Director-General U Kyi Lwin of Myanmar TV and Radio Department left for Tokyo to attend the Mar. 8-20 Coordination Meeting on World-wide Satellite Telecasting. (NLM 3/7)

Mar. 14: A delegation led by Minister for Forestry Lt-Gen. Chit Swe left for Rome to attend the First Ministerial Level Forestry Meeting and the 12th Technical Meeting of Forestry Committee, sponsored by FAO. He was accompanied by Director-General U Myat Thin of the Planning and Statistics Department and PSO Capt. Than Aung. On Mar. 11 an advance delegation left, composed of Deputy General Manager U Myint Kyu Pe of Myanmar Timber Enterprise and Deputy Director U Than Swe of the Forest Department. (NLM 3/15) // Mar. 25: He returned. At the meeting, the Minister spoke [text in NLM],

reviewing Myanmar forestry and environmental policies. He noted that "Myanmar still has a long way to go. But the only support we have been receiving is limited UNDP funding, and FAO has been doing whatever it can to provide professional support. All other forms of assistance had been discontinued. We would like to call upon this esteemed forum to address such matters that contradict the ideals and spirit of the Earth Summit and the Forest Principles.... Environmental concerns should transcend politics and self interests. International donor and implementing agencies, especially those organizations under the United Nations umbrella should be above politics. Environmental conservation support should not have strings attached it should not be in the form that would belittle or undermine a Nation or its Government in any way; it should not be made to serve as a weapon for coercion; it should be rational and equitable, void of bias and free from the application of double standards.... With regards to 'proceeding towards a legally binding instrument on forestry', it would be very difficult to evolve a single instrument to bring about equitable applications to all situations. 'Legality' should not be in conflict with the ideals of national sovereignty." (NLM 3/26)

Religious Delegations

Mar. 2: A Myanmar Buddhist delegation led by Chief Patron Sayadaw of the State Pariyatti Sasana Tekkatho (Yangon Agga Maha Ganthavakaca Pandita Bhaddanta Panditabhivamsa) and Deputy Director U Maung Maung Lay of the Department for Promotion and Propagation of the Sasana left for Korea to attend the inauguration of the Lumbini Vipasana Centre in Pusan. (NLM 3/3)

Mar. 2: Myanmar pilgrims led by Sayadaw U Kovida of Sittway left for Sri Lanka to visit temples there. Another group of Myanmar pilgrims led by Wizitayon Khaungtaik Sayadaw Agga Maha Pandita Bhaddanta Vicarindabhivamsa of Mandalay and Maha Wizayaranthi Sarthintaik Sayadaw Bhaddanta Lakkhanha of Sagaing Taungyoe left for India at the invitation of Myanmar Sayadaw Agga Maha Pandita Bhaddanta Nyanissara of Kuthinayon, India; the group had donated over K 2 million for Kuthinayon Thonsettabon Chanthagyi Pagoda and hill missionary services. (NLM 3/3)

SLORC Chairman to Vietnam

Mar. 5: SLORC Chairman Senior General and Madame Than Shwe will pay an official friendly visit to Vietnam in the near future, at the invitation of Vietnam Prime Minister Mr. Vo Van Kiet. (NLM 3/5)

Mar. 9: SLORC Chairman and Prime Minister Senior General and Madame Than Shwe left for Vietnam by special flight, accompanied by SLORC Secretary-1 Lt-Gen. Khin Nyunt and wife Dr. Khin Win Shwe, Minister for Forestry Lt-Gen. Chit Swe, Minister for Transport Commander-in-Chief (Air) Lt-Gen. Thein Win, SLORC member Maj-Gen. Soe Myint, Minister for National Planning and Economic Development Brig-Gen. Abel, Minister for Forestry Lt-Gen. Chit Swe and wife Daw Khin Kyi, and other officials. On arrival in Hanoi, they were met by Vietnam Minister for Forestry Mr. Nguyen Quang Ha "who was attached to the Myanmar goodwill delegation and wife," and others.

The following Press Release was issued on arrival:

"At the invitation of His Excellency Mr. Vo Van Kiet, Prime Minister of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam and Madam Vo Van Kiet, His Excellency Senior General Than Shwe, Prime Minister of the Union of Myanmar and Madame Than Shwe, are presently in the Socialist Republic of Vietnam on an official friendly visit.

"The visit of Prime Minister of the Union of Myanmar His Excellency Senior General Than Shwe to the Socialist Republic of Vietnam is to further strengthen the traditional bonds of friendship and mutually beneficial cooperation existing between the two peoples of Myanmar and Vietnam.

"During the course of the friendly visit, Prime Minister Senior General Than Shwe will hold talks and exchange views with the leaders of Vietnam on bilateral matters and regional and international topics

of mutual interest. While in Vietnam, Prime Minister Senior General Than Shwe will also visit Ho Chi Minh City and places of historical cultural interest as well as economic centres." (NLM 3/10)

Mar. 13: SLORC Chairman Senior General Than Shwe and his delegation returned home. Following his arrival in Hanoi on Mar. 9, the final round of the First Meeting of the Myanmar-Vietnam Joint Commission for Bilateral Cooperation was held between officials led by Minister for Foreign Affairs U Ohn Gyaw and Vietnam Foreign Minister Mr. Nguyen Manh Cam. The two foreign ministers then exchanged views on bilateral and regional issues "in a cordial and frank atmosphere." Senior General and Mme. Than Shwe went to the Presidential Palace, and were welcomed by Prime Minister and Madame Vo Van Kiet, where talks were held [see communique].

"In international relations too, [Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet] commented the two countries have close views and said Vietnam assumes, as Myanmar, that perpetuation of independence and sovereignty is of primary importance. Regarding human rights, he said he appreciated discussions of the Senior General and they had concurrence of views...."

In the evening, Prime Minister and Madame Vo Van Kiet hosted a dinner for the Myanmar party, at which speeches and toasts were exchanged [full texts in NLM].

On the evening of Mar. 9, Madame Kyaing Kyaing, accompanied by other Myanmar ladies, visited the Vietnamese Women's Union.

On Mar. 10, the delegation visited Ba Dinh Square and laid wreaths at the Ho Chi Minh Mausoleum. It then visited Garment Factory No. 10. In the afternoon the delegation visited Da Ton Village, 19 kilometres south of Hanoi. In the evening, Myanmar Ambassador U Maung Maung hosted a dinner, after which the delegation were entertained with Vietnamese dances and songs at the Hanoi Theatre. Daw Kyaing Kyaing and the other ladies visited Quan Su Buddhist Temple, and were greeted by Abbot Rev. Thick Thanh Ta.

Minister for Forestry Lt-Gen. Chit Swe met with Vietnam Forestry Minister Mr. Nguyen Quang Ha. Minister for Transport Lt-Gen. Thein Win received Vietnam Transport and Communications Minister Mr. La Ngoc Khue, and discussed signing of a new aviation agreement, tourist exchange, and other matters. Minister for Transport Lt-Gen. Thein Win received Vietnam Deputy Commander-in-Chief of the Air Forces Maj-Gen. Nguyen Van Coc. Minister for National Planning and Economic Development Brig-Gen. Abel called on Minister-Chairman of the State Committee for Cooperation and Investment Mr. Dau Ngoc Xuan, and on Minister-Chairman of the State Planning Committee Mr. Do Quoc Sam.

On Mar. 11, the delegation visited the Defence Services Museum in Hanoi, and saw a documentary film on Dien Bien Phu Battle, and the Literature Temple. Daw Kyaing Kyaing and the ladies visited the Nguyen Dinh Chiue School for the Blind. In the afternoon, Minister for Foreign Affairs U Ohn Gyaw received a correspondent from Vietnam National TV, "and expressed Myanmar's support to Vietnam for its becoming an ASEAN member."

On Mar. 10, Senior General Than Shwe called on General Secretary Mr. Du Muoi of the Central Committee of the Vietnam Communist Party. SLORC Secretary-1 Lt-Gen. Khin Nyunt called on Vietnamese First Deputy Prime Minister Mr. Phan Van Khai. [Two pages of photos] (NLM 3/14)

Mar. 14: On Mar. 11, Senior General Than Shwe called on Vietnam President Le Duc Anh, and received a call Prime Minister and Madame Vo Van Kiet. Agreed Minutes and a Memorandum of Understanding were signed [see communique]. The delegation then flew to Ho Chi Minh City, where Chairman Truong Tan Sang of the Ho Chi Minh City People's Council hosted a dinner at Reunification Palace.

On Mar. 12, the delegation visited Cu Chi Province, 75 kilometers northwest of Ho Chi Minh City, and visited the underground tunnels used in the struggle for independence. Returning to Ho Chi Minh City, they visited the Lamson Company where Vietnamese lacquerware is produced, and toured the city.

On Mar. 13, following a call by Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet's daughter Madame Vo Hieu Dan and her spouse Mr. Hung, the delegation flew home to Yangon. [Two pages of photos] (NLM 3/15) [Further page of photos] (NLM 3/16)

:Joint Communique

Mar. 13: A Joint Communique was issued, as follows [full text]:

1. At the invitation of His Excellency Mr. Vo Van Kiet, Prime Minister of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, His Excellency Senior General Than Shwe, Prime Minister of the Union of Myanmar paid an official friendly visit to Vietnam from 9-13 March 1995.

2. His Excellency Prime Minister of the Union of Myanmar and Madame Than Shwe were accompanied by HE Lt-Gen. Khin Nyunt, Secretary-1 of the State Law and Order Restoration Council; HE Lt-Gen. Chit Swe, Minister for Forestry; HE Lt-Gen. Thein Win, Minister for Transport and Commander-in-Chief (Air); HE Maj-Gen. Soe Myint, Commander, Southern Command; HE Brig-Gen. Abel, Minister for National Planning and Economic Development; HE U Ohn Kyaw, Minister for Foreign Affairs; HE U Maung Maung Lay, Ambassador of Myanmar to Vietnam and other high-ranking officials of the Government of the Union of Myanmar.

3. HE Prime Minister Senior General Than Shwe and Madame and his entourage was accorded a warm welcome by leaders and the people of Vietnam, reflecting the traditional friendship and age-old ties between the two countries. His Excellency Prime Minister Senior General Than Shwe expressed his great pleasure to pay his first official visit to Vietnam and conveyed the cordial greetings and best wishes from the Myanmar people to the people of Vietnam.

4. During the visit, His Excellency Prime Minister Senior General Than Shwe and his entourage laid wreath at the President Ho Chi Minh Mausoleum, visited His Residence and Working Place; and visited places of cultural interest and economic enterprises in Hanoi and Ho Chi Minh City. They also had the opportunity to acquaint themselves with the national construction endeavours being made by the people of Vietnam.

5. During his stay in Vietnam, HE Prime Minister Senior General Than Shwe called on HE Mr. Do Muoi, General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Vietnam and HE Mr. Le Duc Anh, President of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam.

6. His Excellency Prime Minister Senior General Than Shwe and HE Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet had friendly and fruitful exchange of views on bilateral matters as well as regional and international issues of mutual interest.

During this talks, present on the Myanmar side were HE Lt-Gen. Khin Nyunt, Secretary-1 of the State Law and Order Restoration Council; HE Lt-Gen. Chit Swe, Minister of Forestry; HE Lt-Gen. Thein Win, Minister of Transportation and Commander-in-Chief (Air); HE Maj-Gen. Soe Myint, Commander, Southern Command; HE Brig-Gen. Abel, Minister for National Planning and Economic Development; HE O Ohn Gyaw, Minister for Foreign Affairs; HE U Maung Maung Lay, Myanmar Ambassador to the Socialist Republic of Vietnam and other high-ranking officials of the Myanmar Delegation.

Present on the Vietnamese side were HE Mr. Nguyen Mahn Cam, Minister for Foreign Affairs; HE Mr. Le Xuan Trinh, Minister-Chairman of the Government Office; HE Mr. Le Quang Ha, Minister of Forestry; HE Mr. Nguyen Thoi Bung, Deputy Minister of National Defence; HE Mr. Pham Tam Long, Deputy Minister for Home Affairs; HE Mr. Nguyen Dinh Bin, Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs; HE Mr. Vo Hong Phac, Vice-Chairman of the State Planning Committee; HE Mr. Tran Viet Tan, Ambassador of Vietnam to Myanmar and other high-ranking officials.

7. The Myanmar side acquainted the Vietnamese side with the national construction endeavours and far-reaching changes taking place in the country with regard to constitutional, political, economic, social affairs and with the efforts to achieve national reconciliation. The Myanmar side also re-affirmed its independent and active foreign policy based on Five Principles of Peaceful Co-

existence and its active participation in the Non-Aligned Movement.

The Vietnamese side highly appreciated the endeavours of the Government and people of Myanmar in their cause to achieve stability, development and prosperity in the country as well as in their pursuance of a foreign policy of friendship and cooperation and expressed the hope that those endeavours would yield successes.

8. The Vietnamese side informed the Myanmar side of the important achievements recorded by the Vietnamese people in their cause of comprehensive renovation as well as in the measures to bring the country to a new stage of development, gradually realizing industrialization and modernization. The Vietnamese side also reaffirmed its foreign policy of independence, openness, diversification and multilateralisation, attaching special importance to friendly relations and multi-sided cooperation with the countries in Southeast Asia on both bilateral and multilateral basis.

9. The Myanmar side congratulated the Vietnamese side on the rapid pace of success in the cause of comprehensive renovation and moving towards the goals of a prosperous people, strong nation, and a just and civilized society and wished Vietnam greater success.

10. The two sides reviewed the progress of bilateral relations between Myanmar and Vietnam and agreed to further enhance the existing bonds of friendship and cooperation between the two countries in the interest of the two peoples. In this spirit, the two sides welcomed the good results of the First Meeting of the Vietnam-Myanmar Joint Commission for Bilateral Cooperation as well as the documents signed on this occasion and expressed their confidence that such concrete measures will provide new momentum for further enhancement of the friendly relations and multi-sided cooperation between the two countries in the years to come.

11. During the visit, following documents were signed:

-- Agreed Minutes of the First Meeting of the Vietnam-Myanmar Joint Commission for Bilateral Cooperation.

-- Agreement for Mutual Cooperation in Drug Abuse Control.

-- Memorandum of Understanding on Forestry Cooperation.

12. The two sides noted with satisfaction that the trend of peace, stability and cooperation continues to develop in the region and expressed their determination to cooperate with each other as well as with other countries in the region to contribute actively to this trend. In this connection, the Vietnamese side informed that Vietnam is actively preparing to become a full member of ASEAN by July 1995.

The Myanmar side welcomed this development and considered it as a positive contribution to peace, stability and cooperation for development in Southeast Asia.

13. The two sides also expressed their appreciation at the planned signing of the Agreement on the Cooperation for the Sustainable Development of the Mekong River Basin in April 1995 and considered it a positive step towards strengthening the cooperation among the riparian countries.

14. The two sides expressed their satisfaction on the success of the visit which serves as a firm basis for the further consolidation of the existing friendly relations and cooperation between the two countries thus contributing towards promotion of regional peace and prosperity.

15. HE Prime Minister of the Union of Myanmar Senior General Than Shwe and Madame expressed their profound gratitude to the Government and people of Vietnam for the warm hospitality accorded to them and their entourage during the visit.

Hanoi, 13 March 1995

(NLM 3/14)

Delegations Return

[Return of delegations whose departure was noted in early issues, or whose departure NLM did not cover]

Mar. 5: The delegation led by Deputy Minister for Energy U Tin Tun returned from Paris from an Environmental Committee meeting on

the Yadana Natural Gas Field Development Project, which began Feb. 27.

Mar. 20: Director-General U Soe Myint of the Geological and Mineral Exploration Department, and Director U Soe Mya of No. 2 Mining Enterprise, returned from the Mar. 13-15 Pan Asian Mining Congress '95 in Singapore, sponsored by Australia. (NLM 3/ 21)

MYANMAR GAZETTE

Probationary Appointments

The SLORC appointed the following, on probation:

Mar. 8: Lt-Col. Win Maw (BC/113541), Officer on Special Duty of Agricultural Mechanization Department, to be Director-General, Agricultural Mechanization Department, Ministry of Agriculture. (NLM 3/9)

Appointments

The SLORC has transferred and appointed:

Mar. 8: U Ohn Myint, Director-General of Agricultural Mechanization Department, to be Director-General, Department of Water Resources, Ministry of Agriculture. (NLM 3/ 9)

GOVERNMENT

Legal Articles

[Articles, mostly dealing with narcotics law, reviewing statutes and recent court cases.]

Mar. 5: Legal aspect of the term "possession of narcotic drugs" elucidated by the Supreme Court, by KMO. [Defence that drugs found in defendant's father's house could not be linked to him, and that his approval of the search was given "for fear of ill-treatment and torture" rejected.]

Mar. 25: Failure to undergo compulsory treatment shall not be exempted from punishment, by KMO. [Supreme Court, on an appeal by the prosecution against an acquittal, held that a person running away from a drug treatment center may be sentenced to three years imprisonment.]

Peasants Day Message

Mar. 2: SLORC Chairman Senior General Than Shwe's Message on the occasion of 1995 Peasants Day [full text]:

All esteemed peasantry,

The 2nd of March 1995 being Peasants Day observed annually in honor of all the peasantry throughout the country is a day of auspiciousness. I wish the entire peasantry health and happiness and may you all achieve success in implementing tasks in agriculture.

The entire peasantry is the workforce which is engaged in producing food and serving the need of the entire Myanmar society. Food sufficiency is not only the vital need of a single person or human society, but is the most important and the most basic need of the entire living world.

As Myanmar Naing-Ngan is a country which mainly depends on agriculture, the efficiency of the peasantry plays a vital role in meeting the food sufficiency of the citizens as well as for the economic development of the State.

Hence, the peasantry was regarded as the main force of Myanmar society since the time of ancient Myanmar kings. Whenever there arose situations in which the country was faced with dangers posed by invading forces, the entire peasantry had a fine tradition to set aside their sickle and cane and take up the sword and spear and discharged their responsibility of defending the State most dutifully.

When Myanmar Naing-Ngan was a serfdom, the colonialist government did not have any consideration to see to the interest of the peasantry, who were producing paddy or the foodstock of the State. Nearly all the paddy grown and produced in the country was

exported unlawfully by the colonialists with the aim of serving their own selfish ends.

They brought in cheap farm labour from abroad en masse without any restrictions into Myanmar Naing-Ngan. They also gave out loans to aliens and permitted them to lend money to Myanmar peasants at high interest rates and thus created situation to suck the blood of the peasants.

The rice export was monopolized by big companies of the capitalists and they bought paddy from the peasants at very low prices and exported rice and gained huge profits through exploitation.

The colonialist government gave full protection to the interest of foreign capitalists and their minions and had no considerations at all for the Myanmar peasantry and collected capital tax, land tax and various other taxes by force.

As they could no longer bear the oppression and illtreatment of the colonialist government, they began to revolt against it and the peasant uprisings emerged. In the record compiled to suit the colonialists it is seen that the revolt was described as the uprisings of those who wished to become kings and those of extremists and written to ridicule them as rebels.

However, it is undeniable fact that the outstanding anti-colonialist armed struggles waged by the peasantry greatly shook the colonialists as can be vividly found in Myanma history.

This was especially so in 1930, when one of the leaders of nationalist (Wunthanu) group Saya San formed the Galon Tatphwe with the peasantry and revolted and attacked the colonialist government. This was a significant historical event.

After the 1930 peasant uprising, the peasants joined forces with other anti-colonialist forces and a patriotic force emerged. The Myanma Tatmadaw was formed and waged an armed resistance against the colonialists and drove them out of the country and it is seen that the entire peasantry constantly took active part throughout Myanmar's struggle for independence.

However, after Myanmar Naing-Ngan regained her independence the consequence of divide and rule and driving of wedge by the colonialist was that disturbances and internal strife broke out in the country and it is seen that the peasantry did not fully enjoy the fruits of independence.

From the time the State Law and Order Restoration Council assumed the duties of State, special emphasis is being given to boost production of crops, including paddy and industrial raw materials, with a view to serving the interest of the peasants. Measures are being taken to firmly establish the State based on agriculture and then making efforts for the country to become an industrialized nation.

In order to boost production of paddy, efforts are being made by employing different ways and means to extend the cultivated acreage, increasing per-acre yield and growing paddy in all seasons and it is seen that the cultivated acreage and the yield are increasing year by year.

As part of the measures to assist in agricultural tasks, fallow and virgin land are being reclaimed, dams and reservoirs built to make sufficient water available, steps taken to tap underground water resources and utilize river water, providing inputs such as quality strains, chemical fertilizers, cultivation techniques and farm machines and disbursing cultivation loans. Ways and means are being sought to assist the peasants variously.

The measures taken for greening of nine arid districts in central part of the country so as to have a balanced climate, to carry out soil conservation and to step up cultivation are all aimed at practically serving the interest of the people in the regions including the peasantry.

The State is also taking measures to help develop the education, health and social aspects of the citizens in such a way that they will also be effective in rural areas where the peasants

live and can enjoy them.

The National Convention where deliberations are being made for the future of the State is also being attended by representatives of peasants from all parts of the country. Discussions are being held on basic principles which will ensure the long-term interest of the peasantry.

All esteemed peasantry,

The State Law and Order Restoration Council is making allround efforts for the country to become a peaceful, prosperous and modern nation and achieve allround development.

The year 1994-95 was designated as Allround Development Year and efforts are being made in all economic sectors with added momentum to achieve development. Due to such efforts, it is encouraging to note that the energy sector and agriculture sector have achieved considerable progress.

It is fully believed and expected that the entire peasantry will make further efforts to intensify the progress achieved and will make energetic efforts to improve production in all sectors.

It is also necessary to step up production of other crops in addition to paddy and other industrial raw materials by linking agriculture to other economic sectors. Then only will we be able to move from the development of the agricultural sector to further efforts for achieving economic development of the State.

Concerted efforts are being made to achieve success in environment protection, greening of regions, soil conservation and forest conservation tasks which are linked to the agricultural sector.

All are specially urged to discharge the national duties to which they are assigned for national reconciliation and emergence of an enduring Constitution for which the State is making efforts so that Myanmar Naing-Ngan will exist perpetually in the comity of nations.

The entire Myanma peasantry has a fine tradition of repulsing all kinds of dangers faced by the country in times of emergency. In accordance with these fine traditions, they should never lose sight of and guard against the instigation, agitation and incitement of internal and external destructionists, who are trying to cause disturbances in the country and undermining national solidarity and are like obstacles lying on the path of the country's development.

All esteemed peasantry,

All are urged to hold in high esteem Our Three Main National Causes -- non-disintegration of the Union, non-disintegration of national solidarity and perpetuity of sovereignty -- which is the national policy of the Union of Myanmar and discharge the national duties unwaveringly with a view to serving the interest of the State. (NLM 3/2)

Armed Forces Day and Address

[Objectives of the Armed Forces Day Golden Jubilee, Mar. 27,

1995:

- to preserve the fine traditions of the Tatmadaw;
- to always strive for promoting unity and capabilities of the Tatmadaw;
- to safeguard Our Three Main National Causes;
- for Tatmadaw's participation in the national political leadership role of the Future State. (NLM 3/5, etc.)]

Mar. 11: Although 23 video and 5 film entries were received for the scrip competition sponsored by the Golden Jubilee Armed Forces Day Commemorative Literary and Photo Competitions Organizing Committee, "the scrutiny committee concluded that there was not an entry qualified for being awarded prize in the two competitions." (NLM 3/12)

Mar. 14: Prizes were announced in the painting and sculpture competitions. (NLM 3/15)

Mar. 26: The Golden Jubilee Armed Forces Day Exhibition opened at the Directorate of Defence Services Museum and Historical Research

Institute on Shwedagon Pagoda Road, attended by SLORC Secretary-2 Lt-Gen. Tin Oo and other high officials. There are exhibits from 27 Ministries, 10 Commands, 10 Ministry of Defence Directorates, and others, for a total of 52. (NLM 3/27)

Mar. 27: SLORC Notification No. 21/95 of Mar. 27 awards titles and medals of honour as follows:

Thiha Thura Title: 1 [named]

Thura Title: 149 [named]

(NLM 3/27)

Mar. 27: SLORC Notification No. 22/95 of Mar. 27 awards the Medal of the Armed Forces Golden Jubilee Year to 1,205 officers and 14,357 other ranks. (NLM 3/27)

Mar. 27: The Defence Services Commander-in-Chief has presented Certificates of Gallantry to 62 Tatmadawmen for "valiant performance of national defence duties regardless of their lives." (NLM 3/27)

Mar. 27: Armed Forces Day was celebrated with the traditional Parade, and SLORC Chairman Senior General and Madame Than Shwe hosted a commemorative reception and dinner for officials and diplomats. Photos show the Senior General greeting the Ambassadors of Malaysia and Egypt. [Three full pages of photos] (NLM 3/28) // Photos show the Senior General greeting the Ambassadors of Korea and Vietnam. [Two more full pages of photos] (NLM 3/29)

Mar. 29: Chief of Staff (Army) Lt-Gen. Tin Oo presented souvenirs to war veterans of the Minami-BIA group led by Mr. Tasuro Izumiya, who attended the Golden Jubilee Armed Forces Day Parade. Other members of the group were Mr. Hiroshi Tsutsui, Mr. Takayuki Takahashi, Mr. Masamitsu Araki, Mr. Akifumi Tanaka, Mr. Katsuhiko Funaki, and Mr. Tokuzo Yokoyama. [The Minami-BIA group was the Japanese intelligence unit responsible for training the "Thirty Comrades" and organizing the BIA under Bogyoke Aung San in 1941-42--HCMacD.] (NLM 3/30)

Sen-Gen. Than Shwe's Address

Mar. 27: SLORC Chairman Senior General Than Shwe made the following address to the Tatmadaw. [full text]:

Comrades

Today is a significant and auspicious day for our State and for our Tatmadaw, the Golden Jubilee Armed Forces Day. Today, just as the founding of our Tatmadaw completes a full fifty years, we can say that it is fifty years since we, with the cooperation of the people, waged the Anti-fascist Resistance.

On this very auspicious day, there are matters about which I would like to speak to you, Comrades, with special emphasis.

If you study the history of the Tatmadaw, you will find that it is interconnected with the contemporary history of our nation.

I would like to speak to you today briefly recounting the path of history that has seen the noble traditions of our Tatmadaw flourish.

To this day, our Tatmadaw, as the State Law and Order Restoration Council, is still discharging the duties of State. Therefore, I would like to dwell today in four different parts -- the chapter on our Tatmadaw, the chapter on the Tatmadaw's political undertakings, the chapter on the economy and the chapter on the social sector.

Our Tatmadaw

Comrades,

How did our Tatmadaw emerge?

What kind of situations did it have to pass through?

What kind of duties did it have to discharge for the nation?

What virtuous traditions is it imbued with?

If you study these, you will distinctly see that our Tatmadaw is not an ordinary Tatmadaw. In the history of our national struggle for freedom, you will find that patriotic Myanmar politicians strove to establish a Tatmadaw with the aim of wresting our nation free from colonial serfdom.

The Revolution of 1300 Myanmar Era which occurred from 1938 to 1939 was the most ardent political struggle waged against the

colonialist. However, freedom still remained distant. Patriotic leaders realized that only with an armed Tatmadaw would they be able to regain freedom. As our Tatmadaw was established on that objective, we must say that our Tatmadaw emerged for the nation and for the people.

Without selfish interest, the Thirty Comrades strove at the risk of their lives and on patriotic grounds to establish the Tatmadaw. They underwent military training on Hainan Island. When Japan entered World War II, they arrived in Bangkok together with the Japanese troops. On 26 December 1941, the Burma Independence Army known as the BIA, was formed. Although its strength then was over 200, it grew in number overnight as it marched into Myanmar along with the Japanese.

The BIA, together with the Japanese, fought the colonialist. There was also separate action by BIA units. Fully aware that they could not hope for salary, expense, facility, ration or any other rights, patriotic youths joined the BIA with the spirit of adventure and sacrifice in order that the nation may regain her independence. Within six months, the BIA's strength grew to 50,000. As it thus grew in strength, the fascists feared the BIA might rise against them in resistance and on 27 July 1942, caused it to be reorganized as the Burma Defence Army known as BDA, with a strength of about 3,000. It can, therefore, be said that the BIA and the BDA were the forefathers of the Tatmadaw.

The Tatmadaw had tried to launch the Anti-fascist Resistance since 1943. It organized Myanmar political forces to come together in the Resistance. That Tatmadaw headed the secretly-formed Anti-fascist League and strenuously prepared the Resistance.

On 27 March 1945, our Tatmadaw, together with the people, started the Anti-fascist Resistance which will remain perpetually significant in history. The Tatmadaw, established step by step through the BIA, BDA and PBF, had, through systematic organization and training, become capable and reached the stage where it could confront the enemy. At that time, with the participation of the whole country it became the Tatmadaw which represented the entire nation.

From the time it started the Anti-fascist Resistance, the Tatmadaw attained the status of a national army that represented the nation and all national peoples. As it was one with the people and enjoys the full backing and support of the people, it had also gained the status of the People's Army. On 27 March 1945, our Tatmadaw made its own decision and legitimately declared war and launched the Resistance. Therefore, this day was designated Armed Forces Day because it was the day attributes of a national army were attained and the Anti-fascist Resistance was launched.

We can say that the Tatmadaw has been a pivotal organization in the anti-colonialist and anti-fascist struggle. It is also an organization that has emerged due to the needs of the nation. I want you, Comrades, to understand that it is not the type of army formed just to have one.

Twelve Noble Traditions

If we look at the history of the Tatmadaw and the nation, you will clearly see that it is a patriotic Tatmadaw. If we examine its good attributes, you will also find that it possesses the Twelve Noble Traditions -- patriotic Tatmadaw, a disciplined Tatmadaw, a loyal Tatmadaw, a united Tatmadaw, an efficient Tatmadaw, a Tatmadaw which makes heroic sacrifices, a Tatmadaw which does not seek personal gains, a Tatmadaw of noble spirit and high morale, a Tatmadaw which possesses true quality of overcoming obstacles, a Tatmadaw which can endure hardship, a tenacious and persevering Tatmadaw, a Tatmadaw which always upholds Our Three Main National Causes.

You need to specially understand that our Tatmadaw is not the kind that ordinarily exists in a country but the Tatmadaw which possesses the historic Twelve Noble Traditions.

Just as the Tatmadaw, in concert with the people, regained the nation's independence, it is also duty-bound to continue to preserve

independence and sovereignty. I would like to say that with the changing situation in the international arena today, it is essential to remain ever vigilant and safeguard independence and sovereignty. Therefore, it has become necessary to build up the Tatmadaw to be modern and strong. Four structuring programmes have been laid down to build the Tatmadaw in consonance with national needs.

Modernization Programmes

Training is very important for us, Tatmadawmen. Therefore, training is laid as first item in the plans to structure the Tatmadaw. In order to enhance our individual qualities and for fulfillment of unitwise objectives, we must begin with training. So, it is necessary for you to individually strive to qualify in military science by working hard at training schools and in training at units. You, Comrades, must accept that training is your first matter.

Next in the process of structuring military establishments is administration, which involves the duties of the General Staff, the Adjutant-General's staff, and the Quartermaster-General's staff and their procedures. The functions of the G, A and Q staffs are in synchronous motion like three pinions. Only when there is smooth administration will Tatmadawmen be able to dutifully discharge whatever duties they are assigned. Therefore, I urge you to be adapt [sic] in administration.

Welfare is also important in structuring the forces for progress. Tatmadawmen go through hardship and have to sacrifice life and limb. They have to endure hardship always away from their families. For them, welfare services have to be provided as a special undertaking. We must be able to provide welfare not only for Tatmadawmen but also for their families. All commandants must be aware that weakness in welfare provision can adversely affect the way they discharge their duties.

Morale is also a very important factor in the service structure. You must already be aware that no matter how modern, how complete materially, nothing much can be achieved if morale is lacking. Material things such as arms and ammunition, equipment and ordnance are depletable, but the strength of morale is ever indepletable and can be utilised anytime. It is true material things are important, but morale is vital.

The Five Benefits

If we evaluate how much success is achieved, how effective it is in structuring the Tatmadaw units, we must see whether the five benefits are derived or not. The five benefits mean none other than the five basic qualities which each and every unit and every comrade must possess. These, which are morale, discipline, unity and the three capabilities. In structuring units, the four processes must be involved to attain high morale, good discipline, high degree of loyalty and strong unity. Consideration must also be given to see to what extent it can organize the public and how much military, organizational and administrative capabilities it possesses. These can be evaluated and must be evaluated with these five benefits.

Three Main Duties

I would like to tell you, Comrades, that there are three main duties of the Tatmadaw today.

National defence is the main and foremost initial duty of our Tatmadaw. The second is to constantly undergo training to enhance its capabilities so that the Tatmadaw will possess the ability to defend the State, serve the interest of the people and be the Tatmadaw on which the people can always rely. The final duty of the Tatmadaw is to perpetually serve the interest of the people.

The three main duties of the Tatmadaw which you, Comrades, must seriously accept, are: one - to defend the State, two - to train to enhance capabilities, and three - to perpetually serve the interest of the people.

Our Tatmadaw is not just an army which is formed conventionally to rely solely on its military skills and to merely fight. I would like to point you that ours is not a mercenary army. It is the Pyithu Tatmadaw born of patriotic spirit. Our Tatmadaw is one based on

patriotism and the love of our motherland. Hence, it is necessary for it to possess full military capabilities for defending the State based on patriotism. That is why it will be seen that the three main duties of our Tatmadaw are not just to defend the State and to train but also to discharge the national political duty of perpetually serving the interest of the people so that they may have a better life.

The belief and conviction of our Tatmadaw are Our Three Main National Causes -- non-disintegration of the Union, non-disintegration of national solidarity and perpetuation of sovereignty.

It can be said that the Tatmadaw is shouldering its three main duties by placing in the four Our Three Main National Causes. The Tatmadaw is duty-bound to defend the nation from internal and external dangers. It is responsible for protecting the life and property of the people. This is defence duty. In order to discharge its military duties, it has to train.

Discharging duties to raise the standard of living and serving the interest of the people include national development tasks, national construction tasks and the tasks for development of border areas and national races. These are the essence and duties of the patriotic Tatmadaw. Hence, the Tatmadaw must represent the entire mass of the people. Must serve the interest of the entire mass of the people. Our Tatmadaw, born of the people must be for the people.

Four Crises

Comrades,

If we review the history of the nation, it will be seen that it had to struggle very hard to regain its independence and, while safeguarding independence and national sovereignty after regaining of independence, it encountered four crises which could have brought the nation to total disintegration.

1948/49

The first national crisis was just after the regaining of independence in 1948/49 when the country faced internal insurgency.

During the country's struggle for independence, it encountered the problem of differences in political ideologies and disunity among the political forces in Myanmar due to the divide and rule policy of the colonialist. Therefore, there surfaced armed groups based on political ideology and on narrow racial outlook. Due to the multicoloured armed groups the country was put in disarray and faced the danger of total disintegration. Our Tatmadaw remained steadfast and loyal to the people and successfully shouldered the responsibility to defend the citizen and the State. At that time, the Chief of Staff of the Defence Services had to simultaneously discharge the duties of the Deputy Prime Minister and had to take part in the national political leadership role.

After the country was saved from the danger of total disintegration posed by the internal insurgency, the Tatmadaw continued to launch offensives against internal insurgents as well as external infiltrators and discharged national defence duties.

1958

The second crisis occurred in 1958. During that period, there was strife within the political party in power. Some political forces conspired to dismantle the Tatmadaw and to replace it with pocket armies. Some made arrangements to join forces with underground armed insurgent groups. The country was faced with the danger of disintegration and widespread bloodshed. Because of the political split, deep differences emerged within the people. The Tatmadaw at the request of the legal government, had to take charge as a Caretaker Government and discharge the national duties until the situation in the country improved.

1962

The third crisis was in 1962, when people with narrow racial outlook, taking advantage of the weakness in the Constitution of 1947 which was drawn up to please the colonialist, made efforts to secede from the Union. The secessionists not only joined up with internal

insurgents and foreign intruders but also sought help from the Western bloc. The political government in power at that time was not able to prevent foreign forces entering the country and prevent the nation from total disintegration. Therefore, the Tatmadaw had to step in to take over State power on 2 March 1962 and arrest the situation. It can be said that the Tatmadaw had to take the full national political leadership role of the State.

1988

The fourth and last crisis, as you, Comrades, are already aware was the disturbances in 1988. At that time, the forces which disliked the political ideology being practised by the State began to launch attacks on all sides from both aboveground and underground. The country could no longer bear the effects of evil influential attacks launched by aboveground and underground, leftists and rightists and internal and external elements. From the demands made for democracy, the situation developed to lawlessness and anarchism reigned. The disturbances swelled to enormous proportions and the administrative machinery faltered.

You, Comrades, will be aware of the fact that the Tatmadaw, seeing that the country was faced with the danger of disintegration, the danger of the undermining of national solidarity and the danger of losing national sovereignty, took over the responsibilities of the State on 18 September 1988 and saved the country from all dangers. If the Tatmadaw had neglected the country at that time, it would have fallen asunder like some East European countries which fell apart and bloodshed would have continued to the present.

Political Undertakings

Comrades,

After speaking about the Tatmadaw, I would like to talk about the political arena. Comrades, bear in mind that the Tatmadaw today is not without any belief and conviction and is not acting without direction.

The Tatmadaw is laying down firm objectives in political, economic and social sectors and implementing them systematically. You, Comrades, are fully aware that it is implementing the political tasks with goodwill towards the State and the people.

Peace and Stability

The Tatmadaw, since 1988 has been giving priority to implementing the tasks to bring peace and stability. Without peace and tranquillity in the country and without political stability, the life of the people will be full of anxiety. Most important is security of the people. Hence, priority was given to bring peace and tranquillity and to ensure rule of law in the country and stability. The Tatmadaw, as the State Law and Order Restoration Council, gave this due priority.

National Reconciliation

The second point is national reconciliation. In Myanmar Naing-Ngan armed struggles have been waged due to differences of opinion since the country regained its independence and it is now 47 years. During the different eras and different governments, the armed insurgency was dealt with through military means as well as political means. The military means was used by the Tatmadaw. In reality the armed groups in the jungle are the political forces of the country. If these political forces of the country are split, then steps taken to bring peace and tranquillity to the State and tasks undertaken to bring about development will be difficult to implement. Due to the disunity and internal strife, the country greatly lagged behind in development compared to other countries.

The State Law and Order Restoration Council realized that if such conditions continue, the country would not make any further progress from the existing state but would be dragged further down.

Therefore, the Tatmadaw became responsible to establish national reconciliation. Hence, the Tatmadaw with magnanimity made full concession. It will be seen that there are 14 armed national groups which have realized the goodwill of the Tatmadaw and its true attitude. Among the armed groups which have made peace and joined

hands with the Tatmadaw are some which fought and routed the Burma Communist Party which had the strongest force out of all armed groups at one time. They also include strong national groups. As these armed national groups have joined hands with the Tatmadaw, they are now intensively engaged in border area development tasks in their regions.

The Tatmadaw has always left its door open to welcome the remaining armed groups. It sopped offensives in Kayin State beginning 28 April 1992. This initiative was extended nationwide. Hence, the groups which made peace increased one by one. There are some groups which will come to join hands with the Tatmadaw in the future. I would like to confirm here once again that the Tatmadaw is always welcoming the armed groups in the jungles which are the political forces of Myanmar.

There are certain organizations which want to get political gain without realizing the Tatmadaw's genuine goodwill and believing in the external elements' flattery and instigation. Due to this, internal strife occurred within these organizations. There were also occasions when the Tatmadaw had to continue in accordance with the wishes of the people to suppress the enemy who were engaged in illegal armed opposition and pushing the people into the depths of misery. Whatever it was, I would like to say that our Tatmadaw has laid stress on national reconciliation for restoring perpetual peace.

Not only underground armed organizations but also certain aboveground political forces have been found to have opposed the Tatmadaw's programmes. I wish to say that there is no cause for the Tatmadaw to harbour grudge unless peace and tranquillity and national interest are affected. Aboveground political forces are also covered by the Tatmadaw's national reconciliation programmes. The Tatmadaw is constantly striving to be able to work for the welfare of the State, of rallying all the political forces together.

The Constitution
Comrades,

The situation is changing in all countries. Our country is also heading towards a new situation. It will be found that the State Law and Order Restoration Council is striving to build a stable, peaceful and prosperous and modern nation.

You will understand that the Constitution is essential to a nation. Needless to say, it must be a Constitution which is unanimously accepted by all nationals and which practically brings benefits to the nation. So, delegates of various political forces are making allout efforts at present at the National Convention for the emergence of a new, enduring Constitution. You should realize that our being able to convene the National Convention is a characteristic of national unity.

Being nationals, Tatmadaw members are also responsible for the emergence of the Constitution. In accord with the Constitution thus emerging, a duty to build our nation anew for its advancement and prosperity devolves on us. So, in essence the Tatmadaw should be able to participate, with genuine goodwill, in the national political leadership role of the future Myanmar.

The Economy
Comrades,

I would like to deal with the economic sector. When the Tatmadaw assumed duties in September 1988, the country was suffering economic ills. So were people. It was amidst difficulties that the Tatmadaw assumed duties as a government. However, the national economy has gradually taken an upward trend due to the Tatmadaw's endeavours.

Myanmar has an abundance of resources. It has wide stretches of land for cultivation. The climate is also suited to agriculture. So, the Tatmadaw has shaped the nation into an agro-based industrial one. It has also had to change over to an open-door, market-oriented economic system in conformity with multiparty democracy system. For transformation into a clear-cut market economy, expertise, technology and financial investments have been essential, So, the State Law and

Order Restoration Council, after adopting the open-door, market economic system, invited investments together with expertise and technology.

In inviting foreign investment, offers were carefully studied and assessed for obtaining cooperation on mutual benefit. The economy should mainly be in the hands of our citizens. It is important for the people to enjoy benefits from economic development. For this reason, the Tatmadaw is taking care not to lose sight of a situation in which economic forces should belong to private sector of nationals and cooperative and State sectors in a proper ratio. I would also like you to know that investment in irrigation networks form no small amount for the nation to become an agro-based industry. Towards longterm benefits and for bringing about amity among the national races and their progress and development of the entire national economy, roads and bridges, structures in water and air transport and telecommunications are being constructed at great expenditure.

The Social Sector

I would like to deal with the social sector. It is important for all nationals of a nation to possess improved moral character. If the morale of the people is high, the nation will prosper. Myanmar will perpetually exist together with its culture if national pride and honour is upheld and cultural mores are maintained. Only when patriotism is strong will everyone be imbued with fervour to defend the nation valiantly against falling into servitude again.

With this in mind, the State Law and Order Restoration Council has arranged for annually holding in pomp and grandeur the Myanma Traditional Regatta Festival, the Myanmar Traditional Performing Arts Competitions, the Myanma Traditional Cattle Show and Bullock Races and the Myanma Traditional Equestrian Festival in order to inculcate in the people love for culture and render patriotism dynamic. In addition, efforts are being made for constructing new buildings with features restored from ancient buildings and renovating ruined buildings for preservation of cultural heritage and for Myanmar culture to reappear significantly.

You will know that ongoing, balance efforts are being made in the social sector as in the political and economic sectors. It is internationally evident that the National Sports Festival, the Student Sports Festival and marathon races have been held for upgrading the health standard of entire nationals. With policies laid down, allout endeavours are being made in the education and health sectors. These show sincerity and goodwill towards the nation and the people as in the Four Oats reaffirmed every day by the Tatmadaw members. I would like to say that these are not meaningless squanderings.

Comrades,

The Tatmadaw had not faced good conditions when it began to discharge State duties on 18 September 1988. Owing to your endeavours, the then worst situation has improved into the present. The Tatmadaw has borne goodwill towards the people. Firm groundwork is also needed for the government that will take over the duty in accordance with the emerging Constitution. Only then will the nation continue to undergo the process of being built anew to be modern and prosperous. So, the Tatmadaw must strive to build up fine foundations for the future.

Today, the Tatmadaw has completed 50 years. It is evident in history that the Tatmadaw, born of the people, has stood for and served the people a full 50 years. It will go on striving allout for the nation with the cooperation of the people. I would also like to urge the people to cooperate as a national duty in the emergence of a modern and prosperous nation.

The Five Objectives

Comrades,

If we review the Five Objectives of the Golden Jubilee Armed Forces Day, you will be able to assess the importance of the national political duty you will have to discharge.

These objectives are:

1. To preserve noble, glorious historic traditions of the Tatmadaw;
2. To constantly strive towards the unity and dynamic capabilities of the Tatmadaw;
3. To uphold Our Three Main National Causes;
4. To join hands with the nationals for emergence of the Constitution; and
5. To participate in the national political leadership role of the future State.

Moreover, our target is for bringing about a prosperous, peaceful and modern nation.

I would like to urge you to strive allout for the nation and the people with the Five Objectives laid down for this auspicious Golden Jubilee Armed Forces Day in the fore. With this, I conclude. (NLM 28)

Communicable Diseases Law

Mar. 20: SLORC Law No. 1/95 of Mar. 20, 1995, the Prevention and Control of Communicable Diseases Law [full text in NLM] provides that:

Prevention: The Department of Health will implement immunization of children, and of adults when necessary, and carry out education activities concerning communicable disease. When a Principle Epidemic Disease (defined as Cholera, Plague, Dengue Haemorrhagic Fever {DHF}, Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome {AIDS}, or any disease prescribed by the Health Ministry) or a Notifiable Disease occurs, the Department of Health may prescribe immunization and other necessary measures, and the public must abide by them.

Health Officers: When a Principal Epidemic or Notifiable Disease occurs in an area, the Health Officer shall: inspect infected houses, food processing plants, workplaces, markets and shops, etc., and cause sanitation and other necessary measures to be carried out; cause disinfection of premises, clothes and other household effects, trains, ships, and other means of transport, and chlorination of wells and ponds; cause destruction of the vector; take precautions as to corpses; ban or destroy unfit food suspected of spreading disease; inspect water supplies and laundries, and close them if necessary.

Environmental Sanitation: The Health Officer shall organize the public, in order to prevent or control communicable disease, in carrying out: sanitation measures and cleanup; sanitation of wells, ponds and drainage; disposal and burning of refuse; construction and use of sanitary latrines; other needed measures.

Reporting: Any head of household must report: rat fall; outbreak of a Principal Epidemic Disease; outbreak of a Notifiable Disease. Doctors, health assistants, and traditional medicine practitioners shall also report such diseases.

Outbreak of Principal Epidemic Disease: In order to prevent or control them, the Health Officer may investigate any patient or other person; require medical examinations; cause lab exams of body fluids, etc.; cause "investigation by injection"; etc. He shall report promptly.

Quarantine: Any authorized officer may order quarantines within houses of patients and other people living in them, control access, Quarantine infected people on transportation, Quarantine or close fairs and festivals where disease breaks out.

Penalties: Fines, up to K 10,000, and imprisonment, up to six months, provided for various violations.

Repeals: The Epidemic Disease Act, 1897;
The Vaccination Act, 1909.

(NLM 3/21)

Supplementary Appropriations Law

Mar. 24: SLORC Law No. 2/95 of Mar. 24, the State Supplementary Appropriation Law, 1995, approves supplementary expenditures to the State Budget Law 1994 [see March 1994 BPS].

Schedules: Figures in kyats, by line number, with following

abbreviations: ordinary {Ord}; interest {Int}; contributions {Cont}; capital {Cap}; disbursement of loans {Loan}; repayment of loan {Repay}; investments {Inv}; savings {Sav}. [Line items from the State Budget Law, 1994]

Schedule I: SUPPLEMENTARY EXPENDITURES State LORC etc.

1/SLORC: Ord-12,926,000
3/Gov't: Cap-23,724,000
4/ChJust: Ord-950,000
5/Att.Gen: Ord-4,095,000
TOTALS: Ord-17,971,000; Cap-23,724,000

Schedule II: SUPPLEMENTARY EXPENDITURES Ministries and Departments

1/FonAff: Ord-10,248,000; Cont-298,000; Cap-4,443,000
2/Defence: Ord-1,362,873,000;
Cap-1,398,981,000
3/Prog.Bord.Areas&Nat.Races&Dev.Aff:
Ord-29,210,260; Cont-39,710,000;
Cap-307,234,760
4/Home.Aff: Ord-278,205,000;
Cont-53,000,000; Cap-49,522,000;
Repay-61,255,000
5/Rel.Aff: Ord-40,688,000; Cont-12,177,000; Cap-6,174,500
6/Soc.Wel,Rel.&Resett: Ord-24,573,000;
Cont-2,092,000; Cap-31,247,000
7/Info: Ord-4,727,000; Cap-5,226,000
8/Cult: Ord-14,045,000; Cont-10,000,000; Cap-113,417,000
9/Educ: Ord-209,006,000; Cap-320,917,000
10/Health: Ord-10,823,000; Cap-195,314,000
11/Labour: Ord-893,000; Cap-377,000
12/Forest: Ord-37,084,000; Cont-75,000;
Cap-62,422,000; Inv-50,000,000
13/Agric: Ord-321,060,000; Cap-1,369,357,000
(NLM 3/25)
14/Livest.&Fish: Ord-115,252,000;
Cap-6,820,000; Inv-7,328,000
15/Mines: Ord-1,665,000
18/Energy: Ord-253,000
19/Const: Ord-859,174,000; Cap-2,514,387,000
20/Trans: Ord-7,424,000; Cap-428,910,000
21/RailTrans: Ord-1,597,000
22/Comm.Post&Tel: Ord-788,000
23/Trade: Ord-5,886,000
25/Coops: Ord-3,842,000; Cap-19,334,200
26/Nat.Plan&Econ.Dev: Ord-3,409,000;
Cap-2,550,000
27/Fin&Rev: Ord-80,899,000; Int-760,000,000; Cont-747,768,000; Cap-19,650,000
TOTALS: Ord-3,423,624,260;
Int-760,000,000; Cont-865,120,800; Cap-6,856,283,460; Repay-61,255,000;
Inv-57,328,000

Schedule III - SUPPLEMENTARY EXPENDITURES State Economic Organizations

1/St.Econ.Org: Ord-22,395,885,850;
Cap-2,357,674,000; Loan-57,000,000;
Inv-23,970,000
(NLM 3/26)

1995 State Budget Law

Mar. 29: SLORC Law No. 3/95 of March 29, the State Budget Law, 1995, effective April 1, 1995, provides as follows:

Parts I-IV - General Provisions. General rules. Provision for Reserve Fund. Loans by the Government, covered by Security Bonds, may

not exceed K 30,000 million. State Economic Organizations are subject to the budget. Cantonment Municipalities shall "subsist on their own funds...." Income tax rates are set by Section (9) of this Law. Exemptions shall be 20% of each class of income, not to exceed K 6,000. Personal exemptions are K 2,500 for a wife, and for children K 500 (up to 5 years), K 600 (5-10 years), K 800 (10-15 years), K 1,000 (child above 15 years).
(NLM 3/30)

Schedules. Figures in kyat, by line number, with following abbreviations:

Receipts: taxes {Tax}; from State Economic Organizations {St}; other current {Cur}; interest {Int}; capital {Cap}; foreign aid {Aid}; recovery of loans {Recov}; drawal of loans {Loan}; investments {Inv}; savings {Sav}.

Expenditures: current {Cur}; interest {Int}; contributions {Cont}; capital expenditures {Cap}; disbursement of loans {Loan}; repayment of loans {Repay}; investments {Inv}; savings {Sav}.

Schedule I - RECEIPTS State LORC, Election Commission, Government, Chief Justice, Attorney-General, Auditor-General:
1/SLORC: Cur-5,937,400; Cap-15,000
2/Elect.Comm: Cur-300
3/Gov't: Cur-3,309,000; Cap-1,500;
Aid-438,000
4/Ch.Just: Cur-76,871,900
5/Att.Gen: Cur-96,000
6/Aud.Gen: Cur-2,505,000; Cap-5,000
TOTALS: Cur-88,719,000; Cap-21,500;
Aid-438,000

Schedule II - EXPENDITURES State LORC, etc.
1/SLORC: Cur-187,388,000; Cap-45,748,930
2/Elect.Comm: Cur-6,138,000; Cap-35,000
3/Gov't: Cur-125,491,000; Cont-11,678,000; Cap-201,077,040
4/Ch.Just: Cur-113,000,000; Cap-10,317,000
5/Att.Gen: Cur-52,500,000; Cap-8,528,560
6/Aud.Gen: Cur-115,350,000; Cap-8,808,220
TOTALS: Cur-599,867,000; Cont-11,678,000; Cap-274,514,750
(NLM 3/31)
[TO BE CONTINUED]

MILITARY

Insurgent Attacks

Mar. 1: 20 KNU terrorists shot dead a bus driver near Shwelin village on Feb. 18, and burned his bus. (NLM 3/2)

Mar. 7: KNU terrorists attacked shops in Ale Bote between Kawkareik and Thingan Nyinaung with nine mortar shells on Feb. 27, killing two shopkeepers and wounding two others. (NLM 3/8)

Mar. 21: A group of 60 Loimaw opium traffickers led by Sai Mon entered West Pon Htun Ward in Tachilek from "the other country" on Mar. 19; fighting started at 4.20 am on Mar. 20, and the armed group fled back across the border. Six were "captured dead" and Sai Mon was injured; 11 arms were seized. Two civilians were killed, 7 injured, and 12 houses destroyed. Tatmadaw losses were 2 officers killed and 5 soldiers slightly wounded. (NLM 3/22)

Mar. 23: According to the Mar. 21 Bangkok Post, 20 members of the group arrived back at Maesai, where the wounded were treated at Maesai hospital.

"When the members of the security units asked the authorities in Maesai to hand the members of the drug trafficking group who had brutally killed innocent people and destroyed their property to them, the refused to comply with the request and instead disarmed them and sent the members of the drug trafficking armed group back to their respective places, it is learnt.

"In view of existing friendly and amicable relations and mutual

respect between the two friendly neighbours, when members of the drug trafficking groups who brutally kill innocent people and set their dwellings in flames in the neighbouring country are caught, they should be handed back as a mark of respect for the sovereignty of each other's country, but instead refused to comply with the request and this has caused the authorities in Myanmar Naing-Ngan to be annoyed, according to the report received from an official." [photos] (NLM 3/24)

Mar. 28: At a press conference, Deputy Director Col. Kyaw Win of the Defence Services Intelligence "said Myanmar had already known that certain countries of the West have been associating with Khun Sa, adding such connections encourage his brazen acts.... Although anti-narcotic drug operations have been carried out at a cost of lives and blood of many Tatmadawmen, the Western bloc, based on their political views and brooding dissatisfaction over the country, has been launching propaganda campaigns to belittle the operations, he said.

"Khun Sa's drug trafficker terrorists crossed the border from Thailand, entered Tachilek and launched ugly attacks on residential buildings, killing and wounding innocent people, he said. When they exited into Thailand, they were allowed to return to their respective place although the Thai officials had captured them together with arms, he added.

"In Col. Kyaw Win's assessment, such acts encouraged Khun Sa's terrorism drug trafficking group...." (NLM 3/29)

Surrenders by Armed Group Members

Feb. 28: Between Jan. 22-31, 15 members of various armed groups returned to the legal fold [names and details], bringing the total for January to 67. (NLM 3/1)

Mar. 1: Seven members of the BCP armed group returned to the legal fold in Tanintharyi District on Feb. 19 [names and details]. (NLM 3/2)

Mar. 21: Two members of the SURA armed group returned to the legal fold, with their arms, on Mar. 15 at Namsang Township Camp. (NLM 3/22)

Mar. 29: Between Feb. 1-5, 23 members of various armed groups returned to legal fold [names and details]. (NLM 3/30)

ECONOMIC

Economic Articles

Mar. 3: Catering for Shared Prosperity Through Trade, by T. Htut. [The Myanmar Trade Fair. "It is true that many foreign businessmen can sense Myanmar's capacity for bringing about mutual benefits with them. Mr. Lim Teck Nam, Managing Director of Fiat International Pte. Ltd. of Singapore said, 'Its economic revival of Myanmar {sic}. Like Vietnam, Myanmar is very favourable to invest. I believe Myanmar has vast potential to attract foreign investment.'"]

Mar. 10: Vegetable, Fruit and Flower Show, by Ah-htet Minhla Nyunt Aung. [Account of annual horticulture exhibition sponsored by the Agriculture Ministry.]

Mar. 11: Thirty-second Gems Emporium, by Soe Naung. [Preview of forthcoming Emporium.]

Mar. 12: A Historical Background of Myanmar Jade, by U Nyan Thin. [Jade in Myanmar from the Pyu period until the British conquest in 1885.]

Mar. 16: Glittering array of gems, jade and pearls for world jewellers, by T. Htut. [Visit to Emporium. U Khin Oo of the Myanma Gems Enterprise said: "'When our enterprise was established in April 1976, the strength was 1121 employees -- 94 officers and 1027 staff members. Now we have only 1067 employees -- 111 officers and 956 staff members. We have insufficient strength and we are striving hard for success. We need to mobilize more strength.'"]

Mar. 17: Myanmar-Japan economic co-operation to develop, by Myo Chit Thu. [Text of BBC broadcast by Philip Short on the Memorandum of

Understanding signed between Myanmar and the Japanese Marubeni Corporation. "However, the Marubeni Corporation would not have signed a politically sensitive agreement with a controversial government like the Na Wa Ta without first having verified clearly the attitude of the Japanese government."

Mar. 17: To promote trade ties with Bangladesh, A staffer's report. [Need for increased trade with Bangladesh.]

Mar. 19: Tasks being implemented for economic development of Myanmar Naing-Ngan, by N. Tin Maung. [General economic survey.]

Mar. 23: An auspicious ceremony on an auspicious day, by Maung Maung Myaing. [Launching of the double-decker Maykha built at Dalla Shipyards.]

Inauguration of Projects

Mar. 5: The Union Solidarity and Development Association (Central) inaugurated the Aye Yeiktha Restaurant in People's Park, Yangon. "The dining rooms are air-conditioned and flowers are grown on the grounds. It serves beverage, Chinese and European dishes from 7 am to 10 pm daily." (NLM 3/6)

Mar. 6: The Citizen Sales and Service Centre of Peninsular Enterprise Ltd. of Citizen Watch (HK) Ltd. opened at 418 Theinbyu Road. "It sells Citizen watches, table and wall clocks in kyats and also runs servicing with ultra-modern electronic equipment." (NLM 3/7)

Mar. 10: The Volvo Service Centre, jointly sponsored by Myanma Heavy Industries and Allied Motor Corp. Pte. Ltd. of Singapore, represented by Vice-President Mr. George Yin Soon, opened at No. 1 Industry. "Spare parts are to be sold in US dollars and service charges to be paid in kyats. Details may be obtained by dialling 63645." (NLM 3/11)

Mar. 11: The salesroom of Tong Tah Co. Ltd. was inaugurated at the corner of Kyongyi and Shwetaungdan Streets, in the presence of President Mr. Peter Loh of Tong Tah Co. Ltd. (Singapore Head Office) and other officials. "It will sell 'Roma' brand ceramic tiles, formica and adhesive ..., 'Oci' brand super glue..., handles and locks, diesel generators, car engines, 'My Shaldan' brand air freshener, and ribbons." (NLM 3/12)

Mar. 11: The Yawai Hotel opened at 19 7th Mile, Pyay Road. It has "eight air-conditioned doubles, each equipped with telephone, satellite TV and other modern amenities." A 90-room hotel is planned. (NLM 3/12)

Mar. 11: The Living Colour Boutique was inaugurated by the Lawkayaungchi General Trading Cooperatives Ltd. at Bogyoke Aung San Market. "Personal goods such as dresses, toys, boots and cosmetics are sold and a coffee bar is also opened." (NLM 3/12)

Mar. 18: A 230 KV, 33 KV, and 60,000 KV Bago subpower station was inaugurated Mar. 17. (NLM 3/19)

Mar. 19: The Myosoe-Zeebya section of the Pakokku-Gangaw-Kalaw Railroad was inaugurated Mar. 18 by Minister for Rail Transportation U Win Sein and others. (NLM 3/20)

Mar. 26: The Ngamoeyeik Reservoir and waterworks, in Hlegu Township, was inaugurated in the presences of SLORC Chairman Senior General Than Shwe. It will irrigate over 125,000 acres, prevent floods, and help provide 90 million gallons of water per day to Yangon. "Ngamoeyeik Dam is so far the largest irrigation project in the administration of State Law and Order Restoration Council. The work was undertaken solely with the State funds without any financial loan or aid from abroad. Furthermore, the work was undertaken wholly by Myanmar engineers with no participation of foreign personnel. Ngamoeyeik earth dam is 75 feet high and 15,500 feet long with a storage capacity of 180,000 acre-feet. In the construction, 87 million cubic feet of earth and 1.4 million cubic feet of rock were used. The length of the distribution canals is 242 miles and for this 120 million cubic feet of earth were dug. Moreover 304 irrigation structures were constructed. Eleven thousand three hundred tons of cement and 2,400 tons of steel round bars were used; 142 heavy earth

moving equipment consumed 2.4 million gallons of diesel oil." [two pages of photos] (NLM 3/27)

Joint Ventures

Mar. 5: Ministry of National Planning and Economic Development Notification No. 12/95 of Mar. 3 establishes the Myanmar Beijing Fisheries Co. Ltd., a joint-venture company "for the purpose of promoting the fishing industry of Myanmar, expansion of the exports of fresh water and marine fish, prawns and other aquatic products," with an authorized capital of K 25 million, divided into 25,000 shares of K 1,000 each, of which 10,000 are held by the Department of Fisheries, represented by Director-General U Kyaw Lwin, and 15,000 by the Beijing Fisheries Corp. represented by Managing Director Mr. Liu Xing Ya, #A1, Sidaokou Road, Haidian District, Beijing. (NLM 3/ 5)

Mar. 8: Ministry of National Planning and Development Notification No. 11/95 of March 3, 1995 establishes the Myanmar GJM International Ltd., a joint-venture company "for the purpose of manufacturing and marketing of apparel," with an authorized capital of K 1,050,000 divided into 105,000 shares of K 10 each, of which 42,000 are subscribed in Kyats (in case or in kind) by the Union of Myanmar Economic Holdings Ltd., represented by Director Lt-Col. Ba Myint, and 63,000 in US Dollars (in cash or in kind) by the GJM Manufacturing Ltd. of British Virgin Islands, represented by Chairman Glynn Manson, P.O. Box 71, Craigmuir Chambers, Road Town, Tortola, British Virgin Islands. (NLM 3/8)

Mar. 13: A dinner was hosted to mark formation of the Myanmar ONK Fisheries Joint Venture Co. Ltd. The Contract was signed between the Fisheries Department, represented by Director-General U Kyaw Lwin, and ONK Mining and Construction Co. Ltd. of Thailand, represented by President Mr. Karin Tong Patchote. The company "deals in cold storage, ice factory, canning, fish powder and fishing in Yangon and Myeik." (NLM 3/14)

Mar. 30: A dinner was held to mark formation of the Myanmar Narong Fisheries Industries Ltd. with the cooperation of the Fisheries Department and NCC Asian Fisheries Industries Co. Ltd. of Thailand. The joint venture will deal in "fisheries, cold storage and ice factory, canning factory, fish powder factory, marketing of fish and prawn and prawn breeding in Myeik Township. (NLM 3/31)

Advertisements

Mar. 3: Full page advertisement for Sony portable cassette players. (NLM 3/3)

Mar. 10,17,24: Half page advertisement by Ambur International Co. Ltd. for JVC video recorders, TVs, and compact hi-fi system. (NLM 3/10,17,24)

Mar. 11,28: Full page advertisement for SONY video recorders. (NLM 3/11,28)

Mar. 13: Full page advertisement for SONY TV sets. (NLM 3/13)

Mar. 15: One-third page advertisement from Biman Bangladesh Airways, "Your home in the air," in honor of the First Bangladesh Single Country Trade Exhibition. (NLM 3/15)

Mar. 24: Quarter page advertisement for "Big Sale" at Daewoo Mart. // Full page advertisement for Sony portable cassette players. (NLM 3/24)

Mar. 27: Full page advertisement from Myanmar Airways International, honouring Armed Forces Day. Similar half-page advertisements from the Summit Parkview and Yangon Hotels. Page and a half of advertisements from various companies honouring Armed Forces Day. (NLM 3/27)

SPECIAL SALE

SPECIAL SALE

ONE WEEK ONLY (3-9.4.95)

FOR THOSE WHO WANT TO BE ELEGANT AND CONSPICUOUS,
BUY

GENUINE LEVI'S 501
SALE KS 3200/0 ONLY SALE
AVAILABLE AT

1. GEC THEINBYU BAZAAR, YANGON.
2. EAGLE CAFE SHOP NO. 12, PARAMIE RD, YANGON.
3. CO.OP STORE 35 HLEDAN RD, YANGON.
4. 87, HLAING RIVER RD, INSEIN.
5. SAGAWAR CO.OP STORE, MYOPATT ST. MINGALADON BAZAAR
(NLM 3/31)

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KINGFISHER PREMIUM LAGER BEER

Now in Myanmar
Tel: 01-24132, 24170
(NLM 3/31)

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International Business Projects

Feb. 28: Chairman Mr. Edwin Stoyale of Pacific Arc Exploration Co. of Australia and Managing Director U Tin Win of No. 2 Mining Enterprise signed a production sharing contract for exploration of alluvial gold deposits in Mansi. A dinner was hosted by Deputy Prime Minister Vice-Adm. Maung Maung Khin, Deputy Prime Minister Lt-Gen. Tin Tun, Minister for Mines Lt-Gen. Kyaw Min, Minister at the Prime Minister's Office Brig-Gen. Lun Maung, and others. (NLM 3/1)

Feb. 28: An agreement was signed making Barcelona Myanmar Co. Ltd., represented by Managing Director U Kyaw Myint, sole agents in Myanmar of Palin Industries Sdn. Bhd. of Malaysia, represented by Export Manager Mr. Lee Yan Wai. (NLM 3/1)

Mar. 6: A Production Sharing Contract for Taninthayi Offshore Block M-10 was signed between Myanma Oil and Gas Enterprise and Texaco Exploration Myanmar II Inc., represented by Regional Director Mr. Patrick E. McGuire. Contracts for Blocks M-13 and M-14 were amended. Present also were Commercial Manager (Far East) Mr. Tim Mitchell of Premier Oil Pacific Ltd., Managing Director Mr. Toshisugu Konishi of Nippon Oil Exploration (Myanmar) Ltd., and United States Charge d'Affaires Ms. Marilyn Meyers. Minister for Energy U Khin Maung Thein "said it was the first time for Texaco to sign as the contractor and the fourth for the trio Texaco, Premier and Nippon Oil. He said Texaco made efforts with added momentum as a result Yedagun Gas Field was explored, noting that according to the estimate by Texaco, there were satisfactory results and high potential for exploration of oil and gas at Block M-13 and M-14." (NLM 3/7) // Mar. 7: Mr. McGuire called on Minister for National Planning and Economic Development Brig-Gen. Abel. (NLM 3/8)

Business Courses

Mar. 8: Seminar on Business Education No. 27 was held at the Ministry of Trade. Dr. Myo Thant Tin, Chief Editor of Khattiya Applied Science and Technology Journal, lectured on "Requirements for Starting Private Manufacturing Enterprises." (NLM 3/9)

Mar. 14: A two-year course in Master of Business Education will open at the Institute of Economics in Yangon this June; any university graduate may apply, with forms due between Mar. 20 and Apr. 7. (NLM 3/ 15)

Mar. 22: The Hotel Management Courses of the Educational Institute of American Hotel and Motel Association will begin, under the sponsorship of Classic International, said its Managing Director U Win Htain. (NLM 3/23)

Mar. 22: Seminar on Business Education No. 28 was held at the Ministry of Trade, with Dr. Ohn Tin lecturing on "Industry and Trade Interrelationship." (NLM 3/23)

Banking

Feb. 28: The Central Bank of Myanmar on Feb. 23 issued licences to The Bank of Tokyo Ltd., Japan, Standard Chartered Bank, UK, and Aba Amro Bank NV, Netherlands, to open representative offices in

Yangon. Up to then, licenses had been issued to 21 foreign banks (Thailand-6; Singapore-5; Malaysian-3; France-3; Indonesia-1; Cambodia-1; Hong Kong-1; and Bangladesh-1). (NLM 3/1)

Transport

Feb. 28: The Yunnan Machinery Import & Export Corporation, represented by Vice-Chairman Mr. Yang Guo Xiang, handed over 42 rail coaches, including passenger coaches, to the Myanma Railways in Yangon. (NLM 3/1)

Mar. 16: The triple-decker Pyigyimon was launched in Mandalay, for service on the Mandalay-Pyay route. It is one of 5 shallow-draft vessels constructed under the contract between Inland Water Transport and the Yunnan Machinery Import-Export Corp. It is 48 metres long, with two 296 KW engines, and has 10 first class (air-conditioners and private bath) rooms, 10 second-class rooms, and three third-class, plus space for 374 passengers and 30 tons of freight. (NLM 3/17)

Mar. 19: The Yangon City Development Committee announced that it will "issue licenses for two trailers for each truck" beginning Apr. 1. A registration station will be established on Botahtaung Market Street, and the trucks will be checked on Sandagu Street. They will not be permitted in Yangon City area without registration. (NLM 3/20)

Mar. 20: The double-decker Maykha was launched at Dalla Shipyards, with a speech by SLORC Secretary-1 Lt-Gen. Khin Nyunt. "Within two years, he said, the IWT purchased 42 vessels including cargo barges at a cost of 30 million US dollars interest-free from the People's Republic of China and another 30 vessels were also purchased at a cost of 40 million US dollars, and built together 73 vessels including present one."

Myanma Trade Fair

Feb. 28: The Fair continued for its fourth day. (NLM 3/1)

Mar. 1: Mme. Than Shwe visited the Trade Fair. (NLM 3/2)

Mar. 2: The Fair continued for its sixth day. "A total of 100 foreign companies such as Fiat International Pte. Ltd., Lotte Gum and Confectionery Corp., Tong Yang Confectionery, Ciba Fair Deal Co., Advance Myanmar Carlsburg Beer, Yosogo Stationeries, Natray Co. Ltd., Federal Paint and others set up booths in Hall Nos. 3 and 4 on the second floor of the building." (NLM 3/3)

Mar. 3: The Fair concluded with an address by Minister for Trade Lt-Gen. Tun Kyi. He said that 100 foreign companies from 11 countries had displayed their wares in 134 booths. There were 140,000 local and foreign visitors to the Fair.

"Although the number of foreign visitors to the fair is less than the last year, the volume of sales this year is more than double." Sales contracts totalled US\$ 34 million and Memorandums of Understanding totalled US\$ 3.5 million.

Commenting on foreign criticism of human rights in Myanmar, he told the foreign visitors: "By looking at the faces of the visitors coming to the Trade Fair, you might have noticed that the people of Myanmar are living happily under the freedom, human rights and democracy. they are free from suppression of any kind. You may not find among the visitors to the Fair who seem to be drug addicts [sic]. Compared to other countries drug addicts in Myanmar are very few, and these few addicts are in the border areas where the drug is readily available, and the rule of law is weak. I would like to say with full confidence that we have had a very stable government and the safety standard of the country is not inferior to that of developed nations."

He apologized for "some shortcomings and inconvenience during the fair" and promised to improve them in future. Finally, he invited all to participate in Myanmar Trade Fair '96. (NLM 3/4)

Tourism

Mar. 2: 56 tourists arrived on a charter flight arranged by the

Hapag Lloyd Co. of Germany, visited sights in Yangon, and departed in the afternoon. (NLM 3/3)

Mar. 5: The Royal Viking Sun with 374 tourists will arrive on Mar. 6; 315 of them will go sightseeing in Yangon and depart in the evening. The package tour was arranged with Cunard Ships Hotel Resorts Co. of the United States. (NLM 3/6) // Mar. 7: 321 tourists from the m/s Royal Viking Sun, which anchored at the mouth of Yangon River, were ferried to Yangon Mar. 5 on the m/v Haka of Myanma Five Star Line; they visited the Shwedagon Pagoda and other sights in Yangon, before departing in the evening. (NLM 3/8)

Mar. 10: 230 tourists will arrive Mar. 13 on the cruiseliner m/v Arkona, cosponsored by Myanma Hotels and Tourism Services and the See Tours Co. of Germany. They will visit Yangon and Bago on Mar. 13-15. (NLM 3/11) // Mar. 13: The ship arrived, with 305 tourists. (NLM 3/14) // Mar. 14: 169 tourists visited the Htaukkyant Commonwealth War Cemetery, the Vegetable and Fruit Research Development Centre at Hlegu, and pagodas in Bago. (NLM 3/15) // Mar. 15: 190 tourists visited sights in Yangon, and toured the Gems Emporium. (NLM 3/16)

Mar. 10: 43 trainees completed six-week basic hotel courses (25 hotel reception; 18 room keeping) jointly conducted by the Directorate of Hotels and Tourism and Baiyoke Kandawgyi Hotel Co. Ltd. received diplomas. (NLM 3/11)

Mar. 18: 264 tourists arrived on the mv Daphne Round the World, on a visit sponsored by Myanma Hotels and Tourism Services and Orient Tours of Bangkok. They visited sights in Yangon, including the Gems Emporium. (NLM 3/19)

Mar. 24: A ceremony, attended by SLORC Secretary-2 Lt-Gen. Tin Oo, numerous high officials, diplomats, and others, was held to inaugurate Kannthaya Beach Resort in Gwa Township. Minister for Hotels and Tourism Lt-Gen. Kyaw Ba and Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Brig-Gen. Thaung Myint spoke. The latter noted that "this resort as a safe shore slope, clear blue water and silver sands, and the shoreline is 8,000 yards, a golf course has been added, there are palm groves all along the shore, and, being just 174 miles from Yangon, it is about eight hours drive -- attributes which make it preferable to others." He went on to say that eleven blocks are marked off for private entrepreneurs who would like to invest (blocks defined). The resort being developed will have 23 buildings accommodating a total of 114 vacationers. (NLM 3/25)

Mar. 28: An agreement on assistance programme for tourists, covering health and accidents of tourists during Visit Myanmar Year 1996, as well as foreign businessmen and Embassy staff in Myanmar, was signed between Director-General Dr. Hla Myint of the Health Department and Dr. Pascal Rey Herme of AEA International Pte. Ltd. of Singapore. (NLM 3/29)

Gems

Mar. 3: SLORC Secretary-1 Lt-Gen. Khin Nyunt inspected the Myanma Gems Museum construction project, and attended a meeting to coordinate "establishment of a new gems market."

He said "the meeting is called to coordinate establishment of a new gems market, based on situation of Mongshu Gemland, which has been significantly developing and changing within two years.

"He said Myanmar gains only little benefit from the gemland although other countries are profiting much from selling gems mined from the area, revealing introduction of a new gem marketing system to fully benefit local gem merchants.

"Under the new system, gems mined from the area will be conveyed to Myanmar Gems Enterprise to classify the stones, he said, adding the high quality stones will be sold at gems emporiums and the lower grade will be sold at Panglong Gems Market.

"Officials, he said, had already arranged safety and smooth transportation system in conveying gems from the area to Yangon.

"Foreign gem merchants will be permitted to freely take part in the business in the market and after paying the taxes, they will be

allowed to carry their stones freely at will, he said, stressing the need to invite them.

"Pinlon Yadana Market is only a temporary market, he said, adding after completion of Gems Trading Centre, priority will be given to entrepreneurs who are mining gems under joint venture system at Mongshu in allotted shops there. The remaining shops will be allotted to other gem merchants, he said...." (NLM 3/4)

Mar. 7: SLORC Chairman Senior General Than Shwe and Daw Kyaing Kyaing previewed the 32nd Myanma Gems Emporium at the Myanma Gems Emporium Hall.

Mar. 8: Diplomats previewed the Emporium. So did newsmen. Myanma Gems Emporium Central Committee Member U Win Pe said the following would be sold:

130 gem lots (value US\$ 1,994,370) (MGE)
137 jade lots (US\$ 1,047,800) (MGE)
120 pearl lots (US\$ 2,248,700) (MGE)
45 gem lots (US\$ 3,258,650) (joint ventures)
164 gem lots (US\$ 1,605,140) (private entrepreneurs)
245 jade lots (US\$ 3,476,300) (private entrepreneurs)

Total: US\$ 18,601,960. (NLM 3/9)

Mar. 10: 225 merchants from 97 companies in 10 countries inspected the gems. More are expected. Minister for Mines Lt-Gen. Kyaw Min inspected the Emporium. (NLM 3/11)

Mar. 11: 461 merchants from 195 companies in 10 countries are at the Emporium. (NLM 3/12)

Mar. 12: 54 jade lots were auctioned for US\$ 572,278, and jewellery was sold for US\$ 217,569. 528 merchants from 225 companies in 11 countries are now present. (NLM 3/13)

Mar. 13: 61 jade lots brought US\$ 907,420, and jewellery was sold for US\$ 141,033. 551 merchants from 236 companies in 12 countries are now present. (NLM 3/ 14)

Mar. 14: 87 jade lots brought US\$ 2.55 million, and jewellery was sold for US\$ 11,153. There are now 570 merchants from 245 companies in 13 countries. (NLM 3/15)

Mar. 15: 30 jade lots brought US\$ 1,341,546, and jewellery was sold for US\$ 87,729. There are now 575 merchants from 247 companies in 13 countries. A dinner was held to honor the gems merchants, with gifts to merchants who had attended 32, 20, 15, and 10 times consecutively. (NLM 3/16)

Mar. 16: 36 pearl lots brought US\$ 546,505, and jewellery brought US\$ 86,635. (NLM 3/17)

Mar. 17: 53 gems lots brought US\$ 725,734, and jewellery brought US\$ 50,955. Diplomats visited the Emporium, and purchased jewellery and jade carvings. (NLM 3/18)

Mar. 18: The Gems Emporium concluded. A total of K 41,423,374.08 (US\$ 7,191,558) was realized from the sale of jade, pearl and gem lots through competitive bidding, and jewellery and jade carvings sold at fixed prices. A total of 627 gems merchants from 227 companies in 15 countries attended. (NLM 3/19)

Bangladesh Trade Exhibition

Mar. 10: Advertisement:
Trade for mutual benefit and prosperity
come and visit

First Bangladesh Trade Exhibition

March 15 to 21, 1995

Time: 9 am to 6 pm

Venue: Inspection and Agency Services

504-506 Konthe (Merchant) Street, Yangon.

Display Profile: *Pharmaceuticals *Electric Goods *Iron & Steel
Products *Plastic, Leather & Jute Goods *Porcelain & Melamine
Tableware *Cosmetics & Toiletries *Energy Meter & Cables etc*
(NLM 3/10)

Mar. 13: Bangladesh Minister for Commerce and for Information Mr. M. Shamsul Islam and party arrived. (NLM 3/14)

Mar. 14: The Minister called on Minister for Information Brig-Gen. Myo Thant, who later hosted a dinner for him, and on Deputy Prime Minister Vice-Adm. Maung Maung Khin, Chairman of the Myanmar Investment Commission. (NLM 3/15)

Mar. 14: The Mar. 15-21 Single Country Exhibition of Bangladesh opened at the Inspection and Agency Services, in the presence of Minister for Trade Lt-Gen. Tun Kyi, Minister for Foreign Affairs U Ohn Gyaw, Minister for Communications, Posts & Telegraphs U Soe Tha, and visiting Bangladesh Minister for Commerce and for Information M. Shamsul Islam. Minister for Trade Lt-Gen. Tun Kyi spoke, reviewing the history of Myanmar-Bangladesh economic relations since 1972, and calling for joint efforts to increase trade, which has diminished substantially in the 1980s. The visiting Bangladesh Minister also spoke, noting that an agreement on border trade has been signed. "Despite this initiative and friendliness," he said, "we must confess that the volume of trade between the two countries still remains at a very low level and it is characterised by heavy commodity concentration. Export of chemical fertilizer plays the major role in tilting the trade balance in favour of Bangladesh. Import of rice, on the other hand, made the balance favourable to Myanmar, whenever it occurred." He expressed hope that the Exhibition would lead to increase bilateral trade. On display are "cosmetics, clothing, jute products, electric wire, ceramics, medicines, construction materials, plastics goods and leather of 22 companies in Bangladesh...." (NLM 3/15)

Mar. 16: the Bangladesh Minister departed. (NLM 3/17)

Energy

Mar. 11: Test Well No. 1 at East Phayonkakyun in Rakhine State, a joint venture of Myanma Oil and Gas Enterprise and South Pacific Co. Ltd. of Australia, represented by Mr. B.A. Genke and Mr. Antonio, began drilling. (NLM 3/12)

New Stamp and Banknote

Mar. 13: The Central Bank of Myanmar has issued a new K 50 note "bearing the watermark of the lion head with the new watermark "50" [in Myanmar] underneath beginning 1 March 1995." Both old and new K 50 notes remain valid. This makes the K 50 note similar to the other notes issued in March 1994, which have watermarks both of the lion head and of the denomination amount. (NLM 3/14)

Mar. 17: A new 50-pya stamp will be issued Mar. 27 to commemorate Golden Jubilee Armed Forces Day. [photo] (NLM 3/18)

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	120.16	120.94	117.36
1995			

as of:

March 30: 0.00 0.00 0.00

Mar. 29 [full text]: New Rainfall Record. The 24 rainfall recorded at 09:30 hours MST observation today of Kawthoung 4.88 inches is the heaviest rainfall record of the March during the past 86 years. (NLM 3/30)

SPORTS

Sports Articles

Mar. 20: Myanma boxing goes to France, by Kyaw Soe Myint (Ahrkar). [Profile of Myanmar boxer Maung Maung Myint (aka Nilar Win), who fights in French Thai-rules boxing competitions, and also coaches.]

Myanmar Teams and Officials

Mar. 1: Referees U Zaw Myint and U Tin Aye of the Myanma Cycling Federation left for Thailand to attend the referee course for the XVIII SEA Games. (NLM 3/2)

Foreign Teams and Officials

Mar. 6: China-Myanmar friendly soccer matches will be held at Aung San Stadium on Mar. 9 and 11, with tickets at K 100 for first class and K 50 for ordinary. The Chinese Olympic team will arrive Mar. 8. (NLM 3/7) // Mar. 8: The team arrived, led by Mr. Li Chuan Qi. The team includes a deputy team leader, a chief-coach, three managers, and 20 footballers. (NLM 3/9) // Mar. 9: The first game, attended by SLORC Secretary-1 Lt-Gen. Khin Nyunt, was a 1-1 tie. (NLM 3/10) // Mar. 11: China beat Myanmar 4-0. (NLM 3/12) // Mar. 15: China beat Myanmar 3-1 in Mandalay. (NLM 3/16)

Mar. 15: Treasurer Santijparb Te Java-Nija of the Asian Olympic Council called on Minister at the Prime Minister's Office Brig-Gen. Lun Maung, President of the Myanmar Olympic Committee. (NLM 3/16)

Hole-in-one

Mar. 4: Brig-Gen. Kyaw Tint (Retd.) scored an ace on the 16th hole of the City Golf Resort, while playing with U Kyaw Htoo, Mr. Fujiwada, and Mr. Odama. (NLM 3/5)

Sports Miscellany

Mar. 20: Awards for the Best Man and Woman Athlete of the Year for 1994, sponsored by Country Manager Mr. Steven Woon of the Asia Pacific Breweries (Singapore) Pte. Ltd., were presented by President of the National Olympic Council Minister at the Prime Minister's Office Brig-Gen. Lun Maung to Than Toe Aung (Football) and Ma Win Win Maw (Weightlifting). Each received K 250,000 and a trophy. (NLM 3/21)

Mar. 20: The Sixth Student Sports Festival will be held in Loikaw, "in view of the dawning of peace all over Kayah State." (NLM 3/21)

CULTURAL

Cultural and Scientific Articles

Mar. 6: Editorial: Harken the koel. [Children preparing for exams traditionally "harken the koel {bird} in the morning" as a harbinger of good luck. "It is no denying the fact that today's school children carry a heavier load of lessons, have to learn more and do more sums than even their brothers and sisters of half a decade ago.... However, it is for their own good that the system has had to be restructured, forcing the children to pull their socks up.... Over three decades ago, the teaching of English was relaxed in the hope that those with a proper grounding in Myanmar grammar could comparatively catch up. Later, that was found to have slackened learning even to the extent that it caused alarm. Then, the teaching of English as a second language had to be given greater attention. What had happened could not be properly redressed and witness some of them who majored in the subject saying 'Please explain me' without the 'to' and pulling similar gaffes.... The new curriculum may seem tough, or may even be termed harsh by some, but that is intended for the pupils' own good.... Do your best, we urge them. The koel's plaintive call and your worries will soon be behind you."]

Mar. 14: Welcome and Congratulate the Fourth Congregation of the Sangha of All Orders, by Ba Sein (Religious Affairs). [Welcome to the fourth Congregation, held every five years, on Mar. 11-13.]

Mar. 15: Editorial: For perpetuation of Sangha. ["Recently, the Fourth Coordination Meeting of members of Sangha of All Ganas was held and the State Central Working Committee of the Sangha reorganized for the fourth five-year term. The Committee's accomplishments, though with some difficulties encountered during its last five-year term, in vinicchaya, religious and academic affairs have brought about satisfactory results and an encouraging future. Most noteworthy among the Committee's achievements is that the number of candidates of the Sangha has increased in every examination and the Nikaya Examination could be held successfully beginning 1992. Promotion of the Sangha can also be gauged by the increase of novices and monks, those who passed various religious examinations and coming into existence of new religious buildings all over the country, local and foreign Buddhist missionaries, development of monastic education, and most significantly, conveyance of the Sacred Tooth Relic from the People's Republic of China...."]

Mar. 24: Centenary of Rontgen's Discovery (1895-1995), by Khin Maung Tin (Radiation Health). [Wilhelm Conrad Rontgen, discoverer of the X-ray, remembered.]

Publications

Feb. 28: The first issue of Welcome to Myanmar handbooks has been distributed free to tourists. It is published quarterly by the Information Subcommittee of the Tourism Development Committee, and features "places of tourist attraction, traditional culture and customs and facts on foreign investment in Myanmar." (NLM 3/1; photo of cover 3/9)

Mar. 10: Statistical Yearbook 1993 Available at Sarpay Beikman Bookshop and Central Statistical Organization. "Includes time series (1984-1993) on varied economic and social aspects of Myanmar. Reliable data book for decision-makers, planners, business entrepreneurs and foreign investors doing business in Myanmar." (NLM advertisement 3/10)

Mar. 10: The third annual University for Development of National Races Magazine (in Myanmar) was issued. (NLM 3/11)

Mar. 10: Myanmar Business and Economic Review is published in English every two months by the Ministry of Trade. (NLM 3/ 11)

Mar. 11: History of the Tatmadaw (1945-1948), Vol. III. "Orders can be placed now." [in Myanmar] (advertisement NLM 3/11)

Mar. 14: The next issue of Myanmar Magazine, honoring the Golden Jubilee Armed Forces Day, will be the largest in history, with 530 pages (52 in colour), and will be available after Mar. 27 for K 200; a 10% discount is offered to agents. (NLM 3/ 15)

Universities

Mar. 5: The Defence Services Institute of Medicine held its First Convocation, with Principal Col. Kyi Thwin conferring the following degrees: M.Med.Sc. (Pharmacology) (2); M.Med.Sc. (Orthopaedics) (1); M.Med.Sc. (Radiography) (7); M.Med.Sc. (Anaesthetics) (5); and M.Med.Sc. (Pathology) (5). (NLM 3/ 6)

Mar. 10: The Magway Degree College was upgraded Mar. 9 to University level, with a ceremony attended by Minister for Education U Pan Aung, Principal U Sein Lin, and other officials. A foundation for the Magway University Convocation Hall was laid. (NLM 3/11)

Mar. 11: The 27th Convocation of the Yangon Institute of Technology was held; Rector U Kyin Soe conferred degrees on 596 graduates, and 65 more were given in absentia. (NLM 3/12)

Mar. 23: The 76th Convocation of Yangon University was held, beginning Mar. 22 [not mentioned in 3/23 NLM]. Rector Dr. Tun Maung conferred the following degrees: BA (Hons) 100; BSc (Hons) 81; BSc 1451. (NLM 3/24)

Environment

Feb. 28: Minister for Forestry Lt-Gen. Chit Swe toured Kachin State and upper Sagaing Division Feb. 24-27. He visited "Pitaung Forest Reserve, famous for the roaming large herds of elephants,

rhinos, gaurs and other animals there in the past. Minister Lt-Gen. Chit Swe urged officials for re-establishing of the reserve, which has been dwindling due to certain reasons, adding correct and systematic methods should be applied in re-greening the area" At Lonton in Inndawgyi region, he discussed "building a ring road for promoting conservation of Lake Inndawgyi's watershed areas.... Logging, he stated, will be prohibited up to 25 miles in length of forest area encircling the lake to prevent it from silting, adding an ecotourism area will be established there and Inndaw-Hopang road will be upgraded." Visiting Shwegu Township, he said the forest reserve areas there will be increased from the present 15% to 25% of the land. (NLM 3/1)

Buddhist Groups & Activities

Feb. 28: A ceremony was held to commemorate donations coming in for the Fourth Congregation of the Sangha of All Ganas, which is held every five years. (NLM 3/1) // Mar 1: Over 1,700 Sanghas will attend the congregation, which will be held with Religious Title Presentation Ceremony. (NLM 3/2) // Mar. 11: Meeting began at Kaba Aye, and was addressed by Minister for Religious Affairs Lt-Gen. Myo Nyunt. (NLM 3/12) // With 1,365 of 1,439 representative Sayadaws present, the meeting continued. (NLM 3/13)

Mar. 6: The 16th Plenary Meeting of the 47-member Third State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee opened, led by Chairman Myingyan Koehsaung Kyaungtaik Sayadaw Abhidaja Maha Rattna Guru Abhidaja Agga Maha Saddhamajotika Bhaddanta Sobhita. (NLM 3/7) // Mar. 7: "Two persons begged forgiveness...for making false accusations on two Sayadaws of the committee. U Saing Tin...and his daughter...had made false accusations on the two Sayadaws, mentioning them as 'Thinganwut,' person in a robe, and Thawnouktara Mokhso, a cruel monster from one of the Ten Jattakas. The two begged forgiveness, withdrawing their accusations and pledging not to repeat such acts in the future." (NLM 3/8) // Mar. 9: The meeting concluded. (NLM 3/10)

Mar. 12: The first meeting of the Fourth State Central Working Committee of the Sanga was held, with all 299 members present. The following officers were elected:

Chairman: Myingyan Koesaung Kyaungtaik Sayadaw Abhidhaja Maha Ratha Guru Abhidhaja Agga Maha Sadhamma Jotika Bhaddanta Sobhita.

Vice Chairmen: Salin Maha Visutarama Taik Sayadaw Agga Maha Pandita Bhaddanta Kitti, Bahan Maha Aungmye Bonsan Kyaungtaik Sayadaw Agga Maha Pandita Bhaddanta Pannindabhivamsa, Hinthada Ledikyaung Sayadaw Abhidhaja Maha Ratha Guru Bhaddanta Khamavudha, Mawlamyine Sein Ma Ma Kyaungtaik Sayadaw Agga Maha Pandita Bhaddanta Suriyabhivamsa, Chanayethazan Mogaungtaik Lecturer Sayadaw Abhidhaja Maha Rahta Guru Bhaddanta Nanabhivamsa, and Mawlamyinegyun Maha Wuthutukan Kyaung Sayadaw Agga Maha Pandita Bhaddanta Kusalasami.

Secretary: Magway Maha Visutarama Taikthit Sayadaw Agga Maha Pandita Bhaddanta Kumara.

Joint Secretaries: Meiktila Pahtamagyaw Dhammacariya Taikthit Sayadaw Agga Maha Pandita Bhaddanta Candima, Pyin-Oo-Lwin Yadana Manaung Kyaungtaik Sayadaw Agga Maha Pandita Bhaddanta Pannasita, Hinthada Yadana Beikmankyaung Sayadaw Agga Maha Pandita Bhaddanta Labhasami, Nyaungdon Ponnarama Zay Kyaung Sayadaw Agga Maha Pandita Bhaddanta Osadhabhivamsa, and Thayet Aungmingala Sarthintaik Sayadaw Agga Maha Pandita Bhaddanta Kesara. (NLM 3/13)

Mar. 15: Religious titles (as provided by SLORC Notification No. 1/95 of January 4--see January Burma Press Summary) were issued to over 130 "learned Sayadaws, nuns, laymen." Dry rations and alms valued at K 33.9 million were presented. [page of photos] (NLM 3/16) // Mar. 16: The recipients were honoured. [full page of photos] (NLM 3/17) // Mar. 19: Sayadaw Bhaddanta Candasiri of California, who was awarded the Agga Maha Saddhama Jotikadhaja Title, was honoured in a ceremony at Taungpulu Kyaungtaik on University Avenue. Other title recipients were also honored in various ceremonies. (NLM 3/20)

Mar. 22: "Organization of an international Theravada Buddhist Mission is required to extend missionary services abroad, said

Minister for Religious Affairs Lt-Gen. Myo Nyunt.... Wider participation and concerted efforts by all concerned will lead to achieving further success in carrying out missionary work abroad, he said, inviting suggestions." A report on the project was presented by Director-General U Arnt Maung of the Religious Affairs Department. (NLM 3/23)

Mar. 30: Speaking at a meeting of the Committee for General Renovation of the Shwedagon Pagoda, Patron SLORC Secretary-1 Lt-Gen. Khin Nyunt "emphasized the need to implement the tasks on priority basis.... He underlined the task to renovate the four stairways as the first priority.... In ancient times, there existed genuine Myanmar artifacts at the Shwedagon, and in the colonial era, some damaged tazeungs and stairways were replaced with those reflecting the colonial era, he said. It is found that certain works replaced in the colonial era were created imitating genuine Myanmar artifacts and some mixed up with the designs of Indian origin, he observed. He exhorted religious committees, experts, construction groups and members of the Board of Trustees to look into restoring and renovating with genuine Myanmar works of art. He noted that it will be a long-term project...." The Secretary-1 then inspected renovations of the southern and eastern stairways. (NLM 3/31)

Education

Mar. 7: The 1995 Basic Education High School Examinations began Mar. 6. 388,869 candidates enrolled nationwide are taking the tests at 855 examination centers, including 21 foreign examination centers. In Yangon Division, 100,692 candidates are enrolled at 239 centers. (NLM 3/8)

Mar. 10: A five-episode teleplay, Say it in English, aimed at eight-to-twelve year olds, will be telecast beginning at 6.30 pm on Mar. 11 (Monday) and succeeding Mondays, with a repeat on Friday. It is produced with the support of the Rector of the Institute of Education, professors of English and other officials. (NLM 3/11)

Myanmar Computer Font

Mar. 15: Editor U Myint Thu of Computer Journal presented M-Myanmar Computer Fonts, which he developed, to the State, represented by SLORC Secretary-2 Lt-Gen. Tin Oo. (NLM 3/16)

Warnings on Cultural Misdeeds

Mar. 17 [full text]: Public urged to help uncover acts counter to Myanmar culture.

Authorities concerned today issued a warning that effective legal action will be taken against those who are organizing the kind of entertainment not in conformity with Myanmar culture and customs and that deserving awards will be given to those who can tip off on such acts.

It is found that there are those who are opening dance courses in some townships and wards that pander to a certain class of people of the West, those who are organizing rowdy birthday parties and receptions with small bands, and there are those who are still indulging in acts bordering on indecency at karaoke clubs and wedding receptions turning a deaf ear to the norms of decorum prescribed for stage, movie and video performers.

Ministers met thabin, music, movie and video (basic) association artistes, music bands and owners of karaoke clubs at the City Hall on 23 for promotion and preservation of Myanmar culture and also laid down the rules to be observed for decorum.

The warning says that while promotion of cultural heritage and preservation of cultural traits are being carried out as a national duty, effective legal action will be taken against offenders.

As a national duty, the public is urged to inform respective District and Township Law and Order Restoration Councils and police stations about such offenders.

If the departments concerned do not take necessary action, the public is urged to contact Yangon Division Law and Order Restoration

Council by dialing 82076 and 77587. Effective legal action will also be taken against those who do not take action against the offenders. (NLM 3/18)

Mar. 22: Yangon Mayor U Ko Lay said that "effective action will be taken against those who throw ice-packets and water balloons or unruly throw water during 1995 Maha Thingyan Festival.... Those who produce or sell ice-packets and water balloons will also face severe punishment, he added. He warned artistes against decadent dress, saying they must wear clothes in accord with the norms laid down by ministers for Culture, Home Affairs and Information on 24 last month." (NLM 3/23)

Mandalay Moat Project Celebrated

Mar. 18: Mandalay celebrated completion of the renovation of the Mandalay moat, and construction of a two-lane moat-ring road, completed in February. Originally estimated at K 302 million, it cost only K 26.4 million thanks to contributed money and labour. The celebration was attended by Vice-Chairman of the State Law and Order Restoration Council Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) Gen. Maung Aye and SLORC Secretary-2 Lt-Gen. Tin Oo, among others. There were also exhibitions by various agencies and a fun fair. [Full page of photos] (NLM 3/19) [Full page of photos] (NLM 3/20)

Mar. 23: The sluice-gate near Mingala Nadi in Aungmyethazan Township was opened Mar. 22, filling the Mandalay moat. (NLM 3/24)

New TV Station

Mar. 20: TV Myawady will go on the air Mar. 27, telecast via satellite in NTSC between VHF 198 and 204 Mhz on Channel 10. TV Myawady is 19 miles north of Yangon; regular programming will be telecast daily beginning at 7 am from Mar. 28. Advertisers may contact TV Myawady (Advertisement), Hmawby, by dialing 48270. (NLM 3/21) // Mar. 27: TV Myawady went into service on Channel 10, in the presence of Vice-Chairman of the State Law and Order Restoration Council Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) Gen. Maung Aye. (NLM 3/28)

MISCELLANEOUS

Sunday and Holiday Supplements

Mar 5,12,19,27: Text of "Our Three Main National Causes. List of Special Projects (6 bridges and 12 dams). Further List of Special Projects (11). For texts see January issue.

Mar. 5,12: Towards a modern nation through all-round development, by Warazein. [Cont. (30-31) The important Ministry of Communications, Posts & Telegraphs. (i) Work of Myanma Communications Enterprise. Postal Service: Between 1990 and 1994, the number of post offices increased from 1,134 to 1,166 and of full-fledged post offices from 540 to 610; value of mail handled increased from K 58 million to K 75 million, and of money orders from K 246 million to K 603 million. Foreign mail grew from 56,084 sacks to 167,601 sacks, and air parcels from 440 to 8,663. Mail delivery in Yangon was increased to twice a day, plus Saturday.

Commemorative stamps were issued as follows:

4-1-92: On Patriotism. 6 million (value K 7.5 million)

10-4-92: National Sports. 1 million (value K 500,000)

1-12-92: AIDS. 3 million (value K 1.5 million)

5-12-92: World Conference on Nutrition. 4.5 million (value K 3.75 million)

1-1-93: National Convention. 2.5 million (value 3.75 million)

23-10-93: Equestrian Festival. 700,000 (value 2.1 million)

[(ii) Telegraph: beginning in 1992, old teleprinters began to be replaced with personal computers equipped with Myanmar fonts; in Yangon and Mandalay on Apr. 1, 1993, Taunggyi on Feb. 5, 1994, and Mawlamyine on Feb. 16, 1994. Fax: domestic fax service introduced

Sept. 1, 1992. Toshiba TF 251 Fax equipment installed between Yangon, Mandalay, Sittway, Patheingyi, Magway, Mawlamyine, Taunggyi, and Tachilek. Faxes sent increased from 1,011 (K 48,120) in 1992-93 to 1,437 in 1992-93 (K 155,215). Overseas fax service inaugurated July 1, 1991; 578 fax machines with 1,139 registered users installed, communicating with 40 countries. Messages: 1992-92 8,875 in (K 0.4 million) and 12,528 out (K 4.0 million); 1993-94 10,138 in (K 0.4 million) and 21,558 out (K 6.6 million). Telex: users increased from 1,213 at the end of 1990-91 to 2,054 at present; usage was 68,000 incoming (K 6.6 million) in 1991-92 and 75,195 (K 6.7 million) in 1993-94. Telephone: offices (phone and radio) were as follows in 1991 (1994): Kachin 20 (23); Kayah 6 (8); Kayin 8 (8); Chin 10 (11); Sagaing 34 (42); Tanintharyi 11 (10); Bago 33 (35); Magway 29 (32); Mandalay 37 (39); Mon 16 (16); Rakhine 20 (22); Yangon 37 (44); Shan 54 (62); Ayeyarwady 32 (32); Nationwide 347 (384). Exchanges were extended and upgraded. Telephone installation increased from 8,504 (1991-92) to 14,486 (1992-93) to 18,913 (1993-94).]

Mar. 5: -- New techniques for Myanmar sugarcane planters, by Khin Maung Than. [Survey of improvements.]

-- Broadening road junctions and roads, by Myawgyun Soe Myint. [Various improvements noted.]

-- Rapidly developing Phaunggyi area, by Ahtet Minhla Nyunt Aung. [Survey of progress.]

-- Warpar Reservoir to benefit Thaton region, by Lwin Hein Aung (Pa-O). [Will provide water to Thaton's population of 100,000 {in year 2000} at 20 gal. per day per head, plus irrigation for 1,200 acres.]

-- A visit to pedisein township, by Reporter Thein Win Gyi. [Increased bean produced in Thongwa Township {Yangon}.]

-- Efforts made to supply water for national people, by Reporter Mya Thein. [Water for a monastery in Aungban {Shan}.]

Mar. 12: -- Combatting drug menace with peoples' might, by Than Myint. [Survey of anti-narcotics activities.]

-- Yadana deluxe condominium, by Winb Myint (Insein). [Modern facility on Pyay Road at 9th Mile, completed Jan. 29, 1995, with 32 residential apartments (prayer room, 4 bedrooms, drawing room, two baths, kitchen), 8 office rooms, and 16 sales rooms. 40,000 gallon water tank; private standby power, free parking, etc. Apartments to be sold at prices from K 3 to K 5.5 million. Sales rooms from K 3.25 to K 6 million. Office rooms from K 5.5 to K 6 million.]

-- Fruits of awareness and diligence, by Ahtet Minhla Nyunt Aung. [Visit to Kayan Township {Yangon}.]

-- Kindat Divergent Dam, by Tin Win Shwe (Shwepangon). [Dam project in Taze Township {Sagaing}.]

Mar. 19: -- Ayeyarwady Division: Myanmar's special economic zone, by Tekkatho Hla Kywe. [Survey of development projects.]

-- A new knowledge factory in Pakokku, by Maung Hsu Shin. [A new library, with a K 4.2 million building contributed by U Ohn Pe of the Thein Tayar Tobacco Curing Works, and 8,000 volumes.]

-- A repeat success at Aphyauk natural gas fields, by Mawgyun Soe Myint. [Another commercially viable well has been drilled.]

-- Aryon-Oo co-operative poultry farm, by Ahtet Minhla Nyunt Aung. [History of co-op in Kayan Township which now has 34,000 layers and produces 5,382,000 eggs per year.]

-- Kanthaya Beach Resort in Gwa Township, by Kyaw Zeya. [New Rakhine resort, where the government is now building 20 rest houses on a 91 acre beach.]

-- Rays of development glimmering, by Aung Myat Kyaw. [Pakokku-Gangaw-Kalay Railroad project.]

-- Shinmataung Hill to become lush and verdant, by Tin Win (Yesagyo). [Reforestation project.]

Mar. 27 [Armed Forces Day]: -- Page of photographs of 1994 ceremonies.

-- Noble traditions of the Tatmadaw, by T. Htut. [List of

the "12 traditions."]

-- Only when the Tatmadaw is strong the nation will remain strong, by Pe Than. [Without an army, a country is subject to attack, and there are still neo-colonialists. "In such a case, a weak nation would certainly fall prey to the hegemony of a big one which usually happens to be a super power."]

-- The Tatmadaw is ever ready to sacrifice life, blood and sweat for the country, by Soe Naung. [History of Tatmadaw reviewed. "In some instances, the Tatmadaw had to take resolute action against incidents such as the September 1958 political storm, the December 1974 incident and the August and September 1988 disturbances."]

-- The Pyithu Tatmadaw, by Maung Dawna. ["Being a Pyithu Tatmadaw born of the people, it is one with the people and is always seen to serve the interests of the State and the people."]

-- Our Worthy Sons, by Min Kyaw Min. ["Today, we laud our worthy sons, Tatmadawmen, from the Senior General right down to the rank-and-file. May they win a thousand victories."]

Crime

Mar. 25: Six drunken youths were arrested after they "assaulted members of a security team who were on duty at the entrance to the Shwedagon Pagoda in Phayagyi Ward, Dagon Township. There car had reportedly bumped into another, and when the security men stopped it at 0.30 am, "the six drunken youths talked back to them and attempted to speed off. They cursed, fisted and beat the security men who stopped them from getting away." Their names are Bo Bo, Thant Zin Oo, Win Thant, Win Zaw, Aung Naing Oo, and Saw Naung. (NLM 3/26)

Anti-Narcotics Activities

Feb. 28: 88 125-ml bottles of Phensedyl and 0.05 kilo of heroin were seized in Karmaing Township [Kachin], Feb. 20. 0.03 kilo of heroin and 0.001 kilo of raw opium were seized Feb. 17 near Tachilek. 250 bottles of Phensedyl were seized Feb. 18 in Kalay Township. (NLM 3/1)

Mar. 14: 1.05 kilos of heroin were seized Mar. 6 from two cars in Momauk. (NLM 3/ 15)

Mar. 17: Five members of Khun Sa's Mong Tai Army (MTA) drug trafficking group, trying to extort money from entrepreneurs, were arrested in Taunggyi on Mar. 10, along with weapons and money. (NLM 3/18)

Mar. 20: 2.9 kilos of marijuana were seized this afternoon at Yangon Railway Station. (NLM 3/21)

Mar. 22: 120 bottles of Phensedyl were seized Feb. 4 in Kalaywa. (NLM 3/23)

Mar. 29: 330 bottles of Phensedyl were seized Mar. 6 near Tamu. (NLM 3/30)

Narcotics Destruction Exhibition

Mar. 3: The ninth Exhibition to Destroy Seized Narcotic Drugs was held at Ye Yeiktha on Kyaikwain Pagoda, Mayangon Township [Yangon], in the presence of SLORC Secretary-1 Lt-Gen. Khin Nyunt, Minister for Home Affairs Lt-Gen. Mya Thin, diplomats, journalists, and others. PPF Director (Narcotics Division) Police Col. Ngwe Soe Tun, Joint Secretary of the Central Committee for Drug Abuse Control, reviewed Myanmar's anti-narcotics activities since September 1988.

From Sept. 18, 1988-Feb. 15, 1995, the following narcotics were seized: 12,498 kilos of opium, 1,526 kilos of heroin, 126 kilos of morphine, 49.9 kilos of opium oil, 86.5 kilos of liquid opium, 5,445 kilos of marijuana, 27,524 litres of Phensedyl, 3,535 gallons of acetic anhydride, and 1,722 kilos of precursor chemicals. 50,670 persons were convicted in 23,888 drug offences. Destroyed were 23,702 acres of opium poppy fields and 20 opium refineries. During 823 engagements with drug traffickers, 16 officers and 567 other Tatmadaw ranks were killed, 55 officers and 1,744 men were wounded, and 153 weapons were lost. Enemy casualties were 720 killed (actual body count), 118 captured, 221 surrendered, and 708 weapons seized.

From 1989 through Feb. 1995, K 2.5 billion has been spent for border area development, and 18 subcommittees are implementing target plans. The CCDAC has allotted K 5.8 million to the Myanmar/Thai/UNDCP joint programme in Tachilek; K 37.9 million to the Myanmar/China/UNDCP joint programme in Mongyang, Silu, and Pangkai, and K 2.06 million for development in the Wa and Kokang regions. An 11-year long term programme for border area development was approved June 23, 1994.

He reviewed various international agreements signed by Myanmar.

Police Col. Maung Maung Than then listed the narcotics to be destroyed at this Ninth Exhibition: 1,455 kilos of opium, 144 kilos of heroin, 1.7 kilos of opium oil, 0.9 kilo of liquid opium, 312.2 kilos of marijuana, 3,434 litres of Phensedyl, 383.7 litres of cough mixtures with Codeine, 2.1 litres of Codeine, 593 ampoules of Pathedine injection, and 210 ampoules of Morphine injection.

Answering questions, Minister for Foreign Affairs U Ohn Gyaw told Italian Ambassador Giorgio Bosco that all seized drugs were destroyed, even those like Morphine that might have legitimate use. Lt-Col. Kyaw Thein discussed discrepancies in reported opium production in Myanmar, noting that some maps produced "through random satellite imaging" show Taunggyi as a "dark" area even though no poppy is cultivated within a 10 mile radius of it. Though this "respective department" calculated opium cultivation in Myanmar at 2,000-2,500 tons per year, the Report of the International Narcotics Control Board lists it as "only over 1,000 metric tons per year." He said that "it is heard that drug warlord Khun Sa's drug trafficking group is moving around in southern Shan State's Homong area on Thai-Myanmar border" but that there is no plan to talk with Khun Sa and he will be attacked when opportune.

29,244 bottles of narcotics were then crushed with a road roller, and a bonfire to destroy the other narcotics was lit jointly by Russian Ambassador Valeri V. Nazarov, Italian Ambassador Giorgio Bosco, Malaysian Ambassador Datuk John Tenewi Nuek, and Indian Ambassador Gopalaswami Parthasarathy. [full page of photos] (NLM 3/4)

Obituaries

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

Feb. 28: Pa Kam Khen Thang, BA (Hist), died, aged 42 [most of obituary in Burmese]. (NLM 3/3)

Mar. 3: Peng Nawi (Myanmar American Fisheries Company), son of U Van Duh and Daw Dawt Sung, died in Yangon, aged 22. [Christian] (NLM 3/5)

Mar. 3: U Hla Nyunt (Reggie Thompson), husband of Daw Ni, died in Yangon, aged 63. [Christian] (NLM 3/5)

Mar. 6: Khulsum Bi (a) Daw Khin Kyi (Ivy), wife of U Tun Lin, died in Yangon, aged 69. [Muslim] (NLM 3/7)

Mar. 6: Teacher Daw Nilar (a) Daw Mya Shwe (Ex Teacher, St. Anthony's), wife of the late A. Melcheo, died in Yangon, aged 58. [Christian] (NLM 3/8)

Mar. 6: Elsie Thwin (a) Khin Aye Thwin, retired Tutor, History Department (RASU), wife of the late U Khin Maung Win, died in Yangon, aged 54. (NLM 3/8)

Mar. 8: Rev. Saw Bellay, Kayin Baptist Church, Insein, The University College, First Eleven Captain 1933, husband of Naw Dah Wah, died in Yangon, aged 86. [Baptist] (NLM 3/9)

Mar. 12: Laxmi Rao (a) Daw Ngwe Kyi, (Mawlamyine), widow of Shri B.S. Rao (a) U Tin Nyunt, died in Yangon, aged 56. [Hindu] (NLM 3/13)

Mar. 18: Dr. Khin Mg Win, (Former MO SECD, MO UNV (Lesotho), husband of Daw Aye Kywe, died in Yangon, aged 60. (NLM 3/20)

Mar. 20: Daw Ma Ma Gyi (a) Mrs. Irene Nelson, wife of the late Mr. C. Nelson, died in Yangon, aged 84. [Baptist] (NLM 3/21)

Roof Collapse

Mar. 11: A roof collapsed as a two-storey building was being

pulled down at 247 Anawrawhta St., Pabedan Township, killing a young woman and seriously injuring six other people. (NLM 3/12)

Fires

Mar. 12: Deputy Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement U Win Naing on Mar. 10 surveyed relief measures at Meiktila, where a fire razed Wanzin and Yan Myo Aung Wards on Mar. 5. (NLM 3/13)

Mar. 17: Deputy Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement U Win Naing on Mar. 14 visited "Aunglan where a fire broke out on 12 March." He also "went to fire relief camps in Uyinkyit Village, Pyintbyu Township, and 36 villages in Yenangyaung Township, on 15 and 16 March" to encourage fire victims. (NLM 3/ 18)

Mar. 22: WHO Resident Representative Dr. Klaus Wagner presented medicines "for fire victims in Aunglan." (NLM 3/23)

Betel Nut Banned in Yangon

Mar. 17: Despite efforts by the Yangon City Development Committee to beautify the city, "roads, pavements, offices and overpasses in some wards and townships are dirty with betel juice which tarnishes the beauty of the city. Therefore, betel will not be allowed to be sold in six townships in central Yangon commencing on 1 April 1995 as a first stage. The six townships are Pazundaung, Botahtaung, Kyauktada, Pabedan, Latha and Lanmadaw Townships. Action will be taken against those who disobey the existing laws of the YCDC. The YCDC also requests people who chew betel on their way not to spit the juice near traffic lights, on the roads and pavements, at the corner of offices and on the ladders of public places except in spittoons." (NLM 3/18)

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ATT: Burma Press Summary
Center for East Asian & Pacific Studies
University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign
230 International Studies Building
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Champaign, IL 61820

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EDITORIAL CORRESPONDENCE

Editorial correspondence, and requests for full texts of articles, should be sent to:

Hugh C. MacDougall
32 Elm Street
Cooperstown, NY 13326

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