YANGON, 6 Oct— At the invitation of President of the Republic of Indonesia Madame Megawati Soekarnoputri, Prime Minister of the Union of Myanmar General Khin Nyunt left here by special aircraft for Indonesia to attend the 9th ASEAN Summit, Summits of the ASEAN Heads of State/ Government and Heads of State/Government of the People’s Republic of China, Japan and the Republic of Korea and ASEAN-India Summit to be held in Danpasa, Bali, Indonesia from 6 to 8 October 2003.

Myanmar delegation was seen off at the airport by Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Than Shwe, Vice-Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) Vice-Senior General Maung Aye, wife of Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt Dr Daw Khin Win Shwe, member of the State Peace and Development Council General Thura Shwe Mann, Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Soe Win’s wife Daw Than Than Shwe, Secretary-2 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thein Sein, members of the State Peace and Development Council, the Commander-in-Chief (Navy), the Commander-in-Chief (Air), Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command, the ministers, senior military officers, Dean of Diplomatic Corps Ambassador of Singapore Mr Simon Tensing de Cruz and heads of foreign missions in Yangon, acting coordinator of the UN Agencies, Charge d’ Affairs ai of Embassy of Indonesia, Mr Yamastia Lahay and embassy staff and heads of departments.

The Prime Minister was accompanied by Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Soe Win, Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs U Khin Maung Win and heads of department.

Minister for Foreign Affairs U Win Aung and Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs U Kyaw Thu left in advance for Bali on 4 October to attend the meetings of ASEAN Foreign Ministers and ASEAN Economic Ministers prior to the ASEAN Summit.
Minister inspects information tasks in Magway, Bago divisions

YANGON, 6 Oct —Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan visited Magway Sub-printing Press in Magway on 4 October morning and inspected printing processes. He gave instructions on good impression of dailies and timely distribution of papers to the public and maintenance tasks for the printing machines.

Afterwards, the minister met with staff at the hall there and made a speech. He said staff are to be skilful and carry out the tasks dutifully with goodwill and make the public know the policy and long-term and short-term tasks of the State. As the media service is delicate and wide, it is needed to minimize weaknesses in discharging duties. Efforts for betterment not only in form but also in essence of dailies have been made. Only when the staff cooperate in the tasks, will the dailies be good ones not only in form but in essence. So, staff are needed to discharge duties assigned to them very well.

On 5 October morning, the minister arrived at Magway District Information and Public Relations Department and met with staff of divisional level and township level at the hall there and made a speech. He then visited the Shwelamin Cinema in Taungbyngyi and gave instructions on maintenance and prevention of loss. At the hall of Pyay District IPRD, he met with staff. After hearing report by officials on tasks being carried out and distribution of dailies, he made a speech.

At 6 pm, he arrived at Thayawady District IPRD and met with the staff there. He spoke of the need to make the media effective and qualified.

In so doing, the procedures and policies of the ministry are to be followed with goodwill. He called for making available new monthly books at the reading rooms, and organizing tasks at wards, schools and villages. Then, he looked around the office and gave necessary instructions.

MNA

Cash and kind donated to Ministry of Religious Affairs

YANGON, 6 Oct —Religious organizations in Myanmar donated cash and kind to the Ministry of Religious Affairs at the meeting hall of the ministry on Kaba Ayeyawady Road this afternoon. Minister for Religious Affairs Brig-Gen Thura Myint Maung attended the ceremony and made a speech on the occasion. He accepted documents of office facilities and cash and presented certificates of honour to the wellwishers.

Present on the occasion were Deputy Minister for Religious Affairs Brig-Gen Thura Aung Ko, Director-General of Religious Affairs Department Dr Myo Myint, Director-General of Department for Promotion and Propagation of the Sasana U Sanh Lwin, Pro-Rector Dr Hla Pe of International Theravada Buddhist Missionary University, officials of the RAO, officials of Hindus Religious Affairs Organization, Buddhist Missionary University, Christian Religious Affairs Organization, Islamic Religious Affairs Organization, Chinese Religious Affairs Organization and wellwishers.

Next, wellwishers of the various religious organizations donated office automatic machine and cash for the ministry. The minister and the deputy minister accepted the donations. Afterwards, personnel of the respective religious organizations spoke of the purpose of the donation. After that, the minister spoke words of thanks.

MNA

Heroin, raw opium seized in Namkhham

YANGON, 6 Oct —Members of national races of No 3 Special Region, Shan State (North) on 4 September, stopped and searched suspects Phu Hua Sein and Sin Pan Kyaw with 1.2 kgs of heroin in 20 soup cases and 4.8 kgs of raw opium in four packets. In connection with the case, action was taken against the Shan Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law by Myanmar Police Force concerned on 7 September.—MNA

Phu Hua Sein and Sin Pan Kyaw seen with seized narcotic drugs on 4 September.—MNA

Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan inspects Shwelamin cinema hall in Taungbyngyi. — MNA

Minister Brign-Gen Thura Myint Maung thanks religious organizations for donating cash and kind to the Ministry of Religious Affairs.— MNA

PERSPECTIVES

Tuesday, 7 October, 2003

For emergence of talented human resources

In Myanmar society, teachers are as highly respected as parents. And parents entrust the task of taking care of their children to teachers, believing that the latter can educate and train the children in such a way as to become good and able citizens of society.

Therefore, teachers are highly respected role models in Myanmar society and they have great influence not only in schools but also in the community.

It is an age-old tradition in Myanmar society to pay respects to teachers as we do to the Buddha, Damma, Sangha and parents at the end of the Buddhist Lent. The World Teachers’ Day commemorative ceremony was held at the Diamond Jubilee Hall on Pyay Road in Yangon on the morning of 5 October and Chairman of Myanmar Education Committee Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt attended the ceremony.

On the occasion, the Prime Minister said that teaching is a noble profession in Myanmar society where teachers are highly respected and regarded, that they are carrying out their duty with goodwill and in accordance with their dignity and that the role of teachers cannot be overemphasized at a time like this when the Government is trying to turn out a civilized, educated young generation with high morality for the sake of the future of the nation.

Myanmar expressed its noble tradition by celebrating the World Teachers’ Day together with the international community.

Now is the time when Myanmar is striving with its national strength and inputs for the emergence of a modern and developed nation and trying to implement the national education development plan by nurturing talented human resources. In this period of focusing mainly on national education development plan, the importance of the role of teachers is at the forefront.

We would like to call upon parents and teachers to collaborate with one another and share responsibilities in nurturing their children, the future of the nation, to become good and able citizens who can serve the best interests of their motherland.
To promote the interests of all States the United Nations and the multilateral institutions must facilitate creation of new opportunities for economic development

Where real concerns, including injustice and abuses of human rights, underscored the need to strengthen multilateralism and to restore confidence in the United Nations system. In that regard, he emphasized that multilateralism must be equitable, democratic, principled and effective.

To promote the interests of all States he continued, the United Nations and the multilateral institutions must facilitate the creation of new opportunities for economic development through the expansion of trade and investment flows, as well as technical cooperation assistance. Strengthening multilateralism required United Nations reform in areas such as development cooperation, humanitarian affairs and disarmament. No one could dispute the urgency to alter the design and function of the Security Council so it could meet objectives in today’s world.

The reform must extend beyond composition and geographical balance. “The time has come to cut the talk and walk the walk.” In addition, the Assembly needed to be revitalized and to assert its role as the principal organ of the United Nations.

Percival James Patierson, Prime Minister and Minister of Defence of Jamaica

Recent events, though complicated and troubling, provided a good opportunity to consolidate the principles of the Charter, renounce the use of force, and raise the pillars of international legitimacy.

Failing to confront the “excessive” trend of resorting to unilateral action in the United Nations, on the basis of self-defense, to deal with terrorism and weapons proliferation, the world had witnessed a worrying escalation of confrontation and conflict, as well as new doctrines and policies that threatened peace everywhere.

The realization of the United Nations’ objectives in terms of development, security and stability hinged upon the Organization’s capacity, in handling the threat of terrorism, nuclear proliferation, and environmental issues. Indeed, the situation in Iraq, though complicated and troubling, provided a good opportunity to consolidate the principles of the Charter, renounce the use of force, and raise the pillars of international legitimacy.

That might require a review of certain issues and United Nations procedures, he continued. If terrorism were selected as a starting point for such a review, he would stress the importance of condemning all its forms, as well as the need to address the root causes of the scourge.

Prince Saud Al-Faisal, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Saudi Arabia

One must not confuse terrorism with “certain legitimate acts inspired by the wish to break the shackles of occupation, domination and injustice”, nor define terrorism as the product of one specific culture or region.

Recent attempts to circumvent the United Nations belied the Organization’s importance, which, through commitment to the Charter and international law, provided a safety valve for the international community.

Moreover, the role of the United Nations could not be reduced to the Security Council alone. Its work was recognized as covering every element on a wide-ranging and complex agenda, including the fight against terrorism, drugs, HIV/AIDS, disarmament, the protection of the environment and the achievement of sustainable development.

Those common objectives could only be obtained through coordinated action in which all States, large and small, act in concert with a legitimate international framework.

Given the tragic events of recent years, he added, the need for a united front against terrorism was apparent. How- ever, in that fight, one must not confuse terrorism with “certain legitimate acts inspired by the wish to break the shackles of occupation, domination and injustice”, nor define terrorism as the product of one specific culture or region.

The fight against terrorism must not be restricted to a security or political perspective, but viewed as a multifaceted phenomenon requiring responses to all its political, economic, security, legal and psychological aspects. Furthermore, the call for an international conference to frame a document reflecting the international resolve to eradicate the scourge of terrorism, to restore peace, security, justice and stability, and to clarify the responsibility of each member of the international community should not be misconstrued as an opportunity for protracted polemics.

Ahmed Maher El Sayed, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Egypt

In Iraq, createTime a new government was welcomed; however, there was concern for the independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity of that country and the security of its people.

The development of terrorism required the stepping up of cooperation and coordination aimed at tackling and eradicating that scourge.

The realization of the United Nations’ objectives in terms of development, security and stability hinged upon the Organization’s capacity in handling the threat of terrorism, nuclear proliferation, and environmental issues. That phenomenon must be recognized, with an intellectual and cultural dimension based upon complementarity and an absolute rejection of differentiated treatment.

Furthermore, it should be recognized that the disparity in levels of development and wealth among nations played a role, and poverty and underdevelopment were among the primary causes of tension. For those reasons, the Organization’s role should be strengthened and international law buttressed.

In Iraq, the creation of a new government was welcomed; however, there was concern for the independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity of that country and the security of its people.

Mohamed Ould Tolba, Minister for Foreign Affairs and Cooperation of Mauritania

A terrorist onslaught could severely threaten even their sovereignty and independence

The Baghdad bombing and other violent eruptions elsewhere in the world served as a grim reminder that serious threats to world peace and security remained. The Maldives had been a victim of terrorist acts in 1988.

While it had tried on many occasions to impress upon the Assembly the threats posed to small States by international terrorism, a decade and a half later, “the heat of terrorism” was affecting all, irrespective of physical size, economic strength, political power or military might.

For small States, the danger was grave, as a terrorist onslaught could severely threaten even their sovereignty and independence. Therefore, he emphasized the importance of providing support and assistance to small States through the implementation of Security Council resolution 1373.

Fathulla Jameel, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Maldives
Germany sees more support if UN leads Iraq efforts

WASHINGTON, 6 October— The United States to move beyond their disagreement over Iraq, and helped deprive the United Nations backing for the invasion. The United States to become involved in Iraq," Schroeder said in an interview with Egypt’s semi-official al-Ahram daily ahead of a region tour.

 Schroeder reiterated Germany did not plan any military involvement in Iraq, but was willing to help train the Iraqi police and military. "By being present in Egypt, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates I will call for better international coordination in reconstruction. Particularly Arab neighbours can contribute a lot, not least because of their greater cultural proximity and closer regional ties," Schroeder said.

 Schroeder’s comments was obtained by Reuters. The chancellor is due to arrive in Egypt on Saturday.

 Germany, along with neighbour France, strongly opposed the US-led war against Iraq, and helped deprive UN backing for the invasion. The United States is now seeking to recruit more troops and money from UN members in exchange for an expanded — but not pivotal — UN role in Iraq.

 Schroeder met US President George W Bush in New York last month for the first time since their relationship soured over the German leader’s anti-Iraq war stance, and both said they wanted to put their differences behind them and look to the future.

 Schroeder also said al-Ahram it was time for Germany and the United States to move beyond their disagreement over Iraq. "Now we must look forwards. We are linked by mutual interest in stability and security in Iraq," he said.

 Close cooperation between the European Union and the United States is more important than ever. The joint will enable us to be able to master the challenges ahead, in particular regarding the battle against international terrorism."

 Schroeder’s regional tour, which will last until Thursday, is expected to focus on issues including Iraq the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, global trade and economic cooperation. — MNA/Reuters

HK’s amended copyright law to take effect in November

HONG KONG, 6 October— Hong Kong’s Copyright (Amendment) Ordinance 2003 is set to come into force on November 28, said a government notice Friday.

 The ordinance, after its commencement, will remove civil and criminal liabilities pertaining to parallel importation of and subsequent dealings in in most articles which have embodied in them a computer programme (commonly known as computer software products).

 The scope of liberalization, however, does not cover computer software products which contain a computer programme but the principal attraction of which is musical sound or visual recordings, movies, television dramas, e-books, or a combination of them. Under the existing copyright ordinance, it is a criminal offence to import or sell parallel-imported copies of a copyright work (including a computer software product) that has been published for less than 18 months in Hong Kong or elsewhere.

 The maximum penalties are 50,000 Hong Kong dollars (6,493 US dollars) per such copy and a four-year imprisonment. — MNA/Xinhua

Brunei joins fellow ASEAN members on info exchange

BANDAR SERI BEGawan—Brunei Sunday joined the ranks of five other fellow ASEAN members in accession to the agreement on Information Exchange and Establishment of Communication Procedures, which was initially signed on May 7, 2002.

 With the accession, Brunei agreed to facilitate coordination and collaboration during security or border incidents, transnational crimes and other illegal activities with Cambodia, Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines and Thailand.

 Foreign ministers of the five member countries of the Association of South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN) signed the protocol for Brunei’s accession here, the venue for the ninth ASEAN Summit that will be held on October 7-8.

 Meanwhile, Brunei Foreign Minister Pengiran Mohamed Bolkiah signed the Instrument of Accession to the Agreement, under which the six countries are obliged to cooperate in the issues of terrorism, money laundering, goods smuggling, piracy, hijacking, illegal entry, drug trafficking, theft of marine resources, marine pollution and illicit trafficking in arms.

 “The agreement reflects ASEAN’s strong commitment to combat terrorism. The information exchange agreement covers a wider range of issues, not only to deal with terrorism but also to support cooperation among countries to pursue smugglers,” Indonesian Foreign Minister Hassan Wirayuda told reporters after the signing ceremony.

 ASEAN groups Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam. — MNA/Xinhua

Hong Kong considers to establish SARS contingency fund

HONG KONG, 6 October— The Hong Kong Government was considering the establishment of a contingency fund to assist the families of deceased patients who died of SARS (severe acute respiratory syndrome) and patients who had recovered but might have long-term effects, said a Hong Kong health office here Saturday.

 Hong Kong’s Secretary for Health, Welfare and Food, Yeeoh Eng-Kiong, said the aim of the contingency fund for public relief was to help those in genuine need.

 Funding approval of the Finance Committee has to be sought for setting up the fund. — MNA/Xinhua

Nearly one-third of Mideast migrants in Australia jobless

CANSERIESI, 6 October— New migrants coming from North Africa and the Middle East to Australia have a jobless rate as high as 30.4 per cent, according to official figures released Friday.

 The participation rate for the same group is just 38.5 per cent, said the Australian Bureau of Statistics. Recent migrant populations with high levels of unemployment are from China, 15.8 per cent; southern and eastern Europe, 14.1 per cent; and north Asia, 13.8 per cent. Recent migrants are defined as those who have come to Australia since 1996. The bureau said the participation rate of recent migrants fell from 61 per cent to 57 per cent largely due to a sharp rise in the number of young migrants going to full-time education. — MNA/Xinhua

US says Iraqi oil could cover some rebuilding in 2005

WASHINGTON, 6 October— The United States expects Iraq to use four billion US dollars to five billion US dollars a year from oil revenues to finance the reconstruction of the country as early as 2005, a senior US official said on Thursday.

 Iraq could also start borrowing money for reconstruction in years after 2004, instead of receiving grants from the international community, the official told reporters from Madrid, where senior officials met this week to prepare for an Iraqi donors conference scheduled for October 23 and 24.

 International organizations estimate Iraq will need 55 billion for reconstruction over the next three years. President George W. Bush’s Administration has asked Congress to approve 20 billion US dollars.

 Members of Congress are balking at the unexpected price tag for the aftermath of the US invasion, forcing the Bush Administration to consider every means to raise money.

 The US official, who asked not to be identified, said Iraqi oil revenues in 2004 would all go toward current expenditure, so none would be available for reconstruction.

 But in 2005 there is the expectation that there could be a contribution from oil revenues to reconstruction and that could be in the order of four billion to five billion US dollars in 2005 and thereafter," he added. — MNA/Reuters

Internet

Stressed-out soldiers are a concern for the US military in Iraq — Internet

US report offered bleak outlook about Iraq oil

NEW YORK, 6 October— The Bush administration’s optimistic statements earlier this year that Iraq oil wealth, not US taxpayers, would cover most of the cost of rebuilding Iraq were at odds with a bleaker assessment of a government task force secretly established last fall to study Iraq’s oil industry, according to public records and government officials, the New York Times reported as it went to press Saturday.

 The task force, which was based at the Pentagon as part of the planning for the war, produced a book-length report that described the Iraqi oil industry as so badly damaged by a decade of trade embargoes that its production capacity had fallen by more than 25%, panel members have said, according to the Times report.

 Despite those findings, Deputy Defence Secretary Paul D. Wolfowitz told Congress during the war that “we are dealing with a country that can really finance its own reconstruction, and relatively soon,” the report said. — Internet
US UNDER INTENSIFIED IRAQ RESISTANCE

US soldiers detain one of a group of former Iraqi soldiers protesting in the capital Baghdad, on 5 October, 2003. Democrats on 4 Oct, criticized President George W Bush $87 billion spending request for Iraq, saying the cost of rebuilding the shattered country was draining resources from growing needs at home.—INTERNET

Democrats on 4 Oct, criticized President George W Bush $87 billion spending request for Iraq, saying the cost of rebuilding the shattered country was draining resources from growing needs at home. Capt. Hisham Halawi said the Basra protest broke out when ex-Iraqi soldiers acted on a false rumor that Saturday was the last day they would receive stipend payments. —INTERNET

British troops block the road during clashes in the southern Iraqi city of Basra Saturday on 4 October, 2003 where at least one protester was shot and killed by British forces. Capt. Hisham Halawi said the Basra protest broke out when ex-Iraqi soldiers acted on a false rumor that Saturday was the last day they would receive stipend payments. —INTERNET

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**Iraqi ex-soldiers clash again with occupying troops**

**BASRA, 6 Oct**—British and US troops clashed on Sunday with hundreds of former soldiers of Saddam Hussein’s army in a second day of violent confrontations which have left at least three Iraqis dead and scores wounded.

British soldiers fired rubber bullets to disperse hundreds of former Iraqi conscripts who hurled rocks and set tires ablaze in the southern city of Basra.

The protesters gathered early on Sunday after a former soldier shot dead an armed man in Basra the previous day during clashes with Iraqis who had gathered to collect redundancy payments for being laid off from the Iraqi army.

Ex-soldiers also clashed with US troops for a second day in Baghdad near a payment centre where they are given their $40 compensation for losing their jobs.

Around 200 Iraqi men confronted American soldiers, shouting and waving their fists, before being pushed back away from the area.

Violent protests erupted on Saturday at payment centres in Baghdad, Basra and the town of Hillah. Iraq’s US-led administration said supporters of Saddam fuelled the unrest by spreading rumours there was not enough money to pay everyone.

The US military said two Iraqis were believed to have been killed in the unrest in Baghdad on Saturday.

“Reports to us indicate that there were two killed in Baghdad, and that’s from the Iraqi police, not the coalition,” spokesman Lieutenant Colonel George Krivo said. Two US soldiers were also wounded, he said.

Localis in Basra said five people had been wounded on Sunday by rubber bullets. Iraqi police arrived to help quell the violence and fire in the air, but fled to a nearby university building after running out of bullets, chased by the crowd.

Mohammed Jasin Abboud, one of the protesters, said former soldiers needed jobs and money.

“We’ve had no wages for a while now,” he said. “We want our rights like everyone else.” — Internet

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**Minister says France cannot scrap 35-hour work all at once**

**PARIS, 6 Oct**—The French Labour Minister has said the country’s 35-hour work week, which applies across the board after being introduced five years ago, can only be abolished piecemeal.

“There will be no grand finale for the 35 hours,” Francois Fillon was quoted as saying in an interview with Sunday newspaper Le Monde. “The law... has implications so heavy that one cannot exit it except by business of business.”

The 35-hour week was introduced by left-wing former Prime Minister Lionel Jospin in the hope it would bring more jobs as well as extra leisure time.

But with unemployment at 9.6 per cent, France’s centre-right government has lost patience with the law.

Fillon said it had contributed to the budget deficit, which at a forecast 4 per cent of gross domestic product this year is well in excess of 3 per cent European Union ceiling.

**A US army soldier confronts a group of former Iraqi soldiers protesting in the capital Baghdad, on 5 October, 2003. British and US troops clashed with hundreds of former soldiers of Saddam Hussein’s army demanding compensation for loss of their jobs.** MNA/Reuters

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**Putin warns of long Iraq conflict**

**WASHINGTON, 6 Oct**—The United States faces the possibility of a prolonged, violent and ultimately futile war in Iraq like the one that mired the Soviet Union in Afghanistan, Russian President Vladimir Putin has warned.

In an interview to be published in The New York Times today, Putin said Iraq could “become a new centre, a new magnet for all destructive elements”.

He said in the three-hour exclusive interview in Moscow late on Saturday that “a great number of members of different terrorist organisations” had been drawn into the country since the fall of Saddam Hussein.

According to the Russian leader, the administration of US President George W Bush must now move quickly to restore sovereignty to Iraq and to secure a new United Nations resolution that would clearly define how long international forces remain there, the newspaper said.

“How would the local population treat forces whose official name is the occupying forces?” the paper quoted Putin as asking.

He suggested that further hostility to the United States was inevitable unless its occupation received the international legitimacy it now lacked, the report said.

Putin said Russia was prepared to offer partial relief on the $US8 billion ($118.8 billion) it owed by Iraq, but only in co-ordination with other main creditor nations in the Paris Club.

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**Venezuelan oil firm urges OPEC to further cut oil production**

**CARACAS, 6 Oct**—The world’s major oil producers could reach an accord on a new production cut to defend prices, the head of Venezuela’s state oil firm Petroleos de Venezuela said Friday.

In an interview broadcast by the state television, Ali Rodriguez said it seems that there exists a trend of production reduction so that members of the Organization of Petroleum-Exporting Countries (OPEC) and independent producers are not affected.

The former OPEC secretary-general said that in addition to OPEC, large independent producers such as Russia, Mexico and Norway will contribute once more to curbing the marked decrease in pricing.

**Regional countries interested in buying Iraqi lands**

**ANKARA, 6 Oct**—As Iraq strives against instability brought by US occupation, regional countries are busy purchasing Iraqi lands, reported Turkish daily Zaman on Saturday.

Iraqis busy lands in northern Iraq and Kuwait are interested in lands in Basra region near the border while Iranians are eying Iraq’s central parts belonging to Shiites, the report said, without elaborating.

Turkish Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Abdullah Gul on Friday brought the issue onto the agenda in a closed group meeting of the ruling Justice and Development Party, according to the report.

Gul warned, “We cannot remain indifferent to this. We think that it would cause very serious dangers if we fail to be there.” — MNA/Reuters

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**Democrats deride Bush on Iraq, CIA leak, economy**

**WASHINGTON, 6 Oct**—Democratic presidential hopefuls, bolstered by a new belief they can beat President George W Bush, teamed up on Saturday to attack the credibility of a White House under fire over the war in Iraq and an intelligence leak.

In brief speeches at the Democratic National Committee’s fall meeting, four of the party’s 10 contenders for the 2004 nomination skewed Bush for dishonesty and incompetence on everything from the US economy to the exposure of an undercover CIA officer. Six others took their shots on Friday.

Florida Senator Bob Graham, lagging in the polls and struggling to raise money, made no mention of reports earlier this week he was about to drop out of the race. With surveys showing Bush’s approval ratings slipping, Graham, civil rights activist Al Sharpton, Missouri Representative Dick Gephardt and North Carolina Senator John Edwards, blamed the President for a host of recent ills, including rising poverty levels, fewer Americans with health insurance, the escalating cost of Iraqi reconstruction and the CIA leak.

“We see an administration moonwalking on trying to come to who is guilty of the leaks that risked security for Americans,” Sharpton said. “Where is Ken Starr when we need you?”

Edwards derided Bush’s request for 87 billion US dollars for military operations and reconstruction in Iraq as “billion-dollar give-away” that would be better spent at home.

“We will not give this President a blank cheque, we will not give this President a free ride and we will not give this President four more years,” he said. — MNA/Reuters

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**Thailand, France to forget closer ties in media**

**BANGKOK, 6 Oct**—The Mass Communication Organization of Thailand (MCOT) has signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with France’s French television channel, France International AL (CFI) to provide news materials to each other for free of charge, said the report.

The two sides agreed to step up cooperation in news coverage and production activities upon the other’s request so as to convey to each other’s audience the most extensive coverage possible on political, economical and social circumstances of the countries concerned. They also agreed to exchange expertise in the media and technical fields through visits of each other’s delegations to get better acquainted with both organizations’ processes of work.—MNA/Xinhua

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**Regional countries interested in buying Iraqi lands**

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Gul warned, “We cannot remain indifferent to this. We think that it would cause very serious dangers if we fail to be there.” — MNA/Reuters
Lt-Gen Aung Htwe attends opening of 25-ton Shweli Yadana Oil Mill in Lashio

Yangon, 6 Oct — The opening ceremony of 25-ton Shweli Yadana Oil Mill of North-East Command was held in Lashio yesterday morning.

Present were members of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Aung Htwe, Chairman of Shan State Peace and Development Council (North) Commander of North-East Command Maj-Gen Myint Hlaing, Deputy Commander Brig-Gen Hla Myint, senior officers and Tatmadaw members of Lashio Station, members of cultural troupe and national races.

Deputy Commander Brig-Gen Hla Myint reported facts about the oil mill and presented cash award to U Tha Shi who installed machines at the mill.

Lt-Gen Aung Htwe and the commander formally opened the oil mill and pressed buttons to start operation. They then inspected the operation at the mill.

The mill with four 25-HP machines produces 110 viss of groundnut oil by milling 300 viss of groundnut. Lt-Gen Aung Htwe and party inspected wheat and sunflower plantations by the Mandalay-Lashio Road. Lt-Gen Aung Htwe fulfilled the requirements and gave instructions.

They also inspected soyabean and sunflower plantations of Lashio District Union Solidarity and Development Association. Lt-Gen Aung Htwe gave instructions on cultivation of cold season crops after monsoon cultivation for food sufficiency.

Lt-Gen Aung Htwe went to feedstuff factory being built by Kukong national race cultural troupe. Vice-Chairman U Lawk Khan Yi reported on construction of feedstuff factory and collection of raw materials. Lt-Gen Aung Htwe fulfilled the requirements. The factory will be built at a cost of K 100 million. Lt-Gen Aung Htwe and party went to 50-ton Pwa Aung feedstuff factory and attended the opening ceremony. Manager U Myo Naing reported on the factory.

Next, Commander Maj-Gen Myint Hlaing and officials formally opened the factory. Lt-Gen Aung Htwe formally unveiled the signboard of the factory. Lt-Gen Aung Htwe and party inspected the factory built at a cost of K 450 million.

On 4 October, Lt-Gen Aung Htwe inspected integrated agriculture and livestock breeding farm of the North-East Command and Hsinshweli bio-fertilizer factory. They arrived back here yesterday. —MNA

Lt-Gen Aung Htwe inspects agriculture and livestock breeding farm of the North-East Command. —MNA

Lt-Gen Maung Bo attends ceremony to hand over BEPS in Kyaiymaw Township, inspect development tasks in Mon State

Yangon, 6 Oct — Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Maung Bo and Commander of the South-East Command Brig-Gen Thura Myint Aung, together with officials concerned, on 4 October morning attended the ceremony to hand over a new school building held at Shan swayawalay Village Basic Education Primary School in Kyaiymaw Township, Mon State.

First, on behalf of Sayaday U Labba, the donor of the school building, Lt-Gen Maung Bo and the commander paid reverence to Sayaday U Labba.

Afterwards, Lt-Gen Maung Bo and party inspected renovation of Hsutaungpyi Pagoda in Kyaiymaw Township. Next, they proceeded to Arman Fertilizer Factory in Mawlamyine and inspected the production progress and packaging of fertilizer.

Lt-Gen Maung Bo urged the officials to make efforts for boosting quality fertilizer production.

The factory targets to produce 150 tons of natural fertilizer in third four-month period for 2003 and 500 viss each in first, second, third four-month periods for 2004.

The compound fertilizer produced by the factory comprises excretion of animals, gypsum, soil, urea and other uses, and it is used to make plants and vegetables more successfully and to substitute chemical fertilizer.

Afterwards, Lt-Gen Maung Bo and party inspected renovation of Lawka Ubaung Pagoda, Lawka Hmanku Pagoda and Taunbayaung Pagoda in Mawlamyine.
Going into the darkness from the light

Akkho Bhini

(Continued from yesterday)

Offering help to modernize the Thai Armed Forces through military assistance, to grant US$ 50 million loan to Pakistan for import of wheat and economic development, to grant US$ 100 million loan to India for industrial development, he persuaded the countries, urged Afghanistan, New Zealand, the Philippines, and South Korea to contribute troops to the war waged by the US. Indian Prime Min-

ister Indira Gandhi reported to the Parliament on the Assam situation and that Afghanistan wanted India to support the war. But, she said in Parliament on 22 February, India would never take a stand that would tarnish national integrity and national pres-
tige.

All the facts about the inhumane cruelties, the use of modern weapons, gas, poison, and dropping of thousands of tons of bombs by the American troops were recorded in history. In the Watergate Scandal, President Nixon had been infamous and known to be the most wicked president in American history, and had to resign from office. After getting US$ 100 million from US, Nicaragua secretly sold weapons to smaller countries by interfering in the internal affairs and fostering lackeys in them. They have sold sophisticated weapons to clients all over the world legally and illegally. For example, in 1980s, the CIA-trained Contra rebel group that was raised in the wake of Nicaragua gained financial assistance and weapons to him. Now, they are hunting Bin Laden. It is assumed that Bin Laden is still alive, but Afghanistan has been pounded like a testing ground of American weapons.

Again, they, using various excuses, launched a limited war against Iraq using the most sophisticated weapons, machinery and technologies. All the people of the world had witnessed how many missiles were fired by US Navy, how many of them exploded in Iraq, how many were fired and how many hit the targets. Scenes of Iraq were filled with marching military columns, fighter planes in operation over the country, explosions, sufferings of Iraqi people, and the cruelties of the US. The US is threatening peace and stability of the world and its people despite the protests of the international community and prohibitions of the UN.

Now, it is time for American government and people to know that the truth cannot be concealed for long. Toppling a government they dislike, demanding UN and international community to participate in re-
construction and restoring stability and rule of law only after waging war encroaching the sovereignty and in-
sulting the people of the nation, and organizing other countries by providing a lot of money, all constitute dou-
bly insults to the world and the UN.

Vietnam and Afghanistan now. Recently the US President said that they would ask the Congress US$ 8,700 million for future spending for wars in Iraq and Afghanistan. Out of the money, US$ 6,600 million will be spent on military and intelligence agencies and US$ 2000 on reconstruction.

Iraq and Afghanistan under US occupation are still facing the shortages of electricity and water. The amount of money they have spent on military affairs would enable a developing country to make a marked progress. The money come from the taxes they levied on American people. The Americans are asking the allied countries to send troops and to help them. Disputes are still emerging between the allied governments and these peoples who do not want to be involved in the unjust cause. These indicate that the US is poisoning not only Afghanistan and Iraq but also the world.

Here, I would like to cite a point in the Puggala Sutta from the teachings of the Buddha. It was stated in Puggala Sutta that some are wealthy and of high social standard. They have abun-
dant supply of food and shelter. They have money that can last beyond their lives. They have fair personalities and all the fine features. But, they entertain evil in their mind, tell lies, and do misdeeds.

They are going into the darkness from the light.

Their lives are in decline, from the place of higher position to the lower positions stage by stage whereby going into darkness from the light.

The US Administration entertains evil deeds in mind, speaks lies, and does misdeeds. It is going into darkness from the light and poisonous to the people of the world.

(Translation: MWT)

Efficient use of electricity

* Use daylight as the main source of light
* Use the least possible amount of electricity only if there is not enough natural light
* Use the least possible amount of electricity required in production and service enter-
prises
* Preventing waste of electricity benefits the user and others

There are about 500,000 households using electricity in Yangon. Thus, saving a four-foot fluorescent lamp every day by each household amounts to saving power that is equal to the capacity a 20-megawatt power station can supply.

Efficient use of fuel

* Saving one gallon of fuel per car per month will save the nation one US dollar
* Thus, a total of 455,822 cars in Myanmar will save the nation US$ 2.2 million in a year
* The amount, US $ 5.5 million, can build a major bridge across Ayeyawady River

All this needs to be known

* Do not be frightened whenever intimidated
* Do not be bolstered whenever flattered
* Do not be softened whenever appeased

Shanghai to limit high-rises

Shanghai, 6 Oct — The number of skyscrapers in this east China metropolis will be slashed to make way for more public spaces, said a spokesperson for the Shanghai Municipal Government on Sunday.

The country’s most modernized city is now home to over 3,000 high-rises with 18 floors or more, which are blamed for causing the city to sink some 1.5 centimetres annu-
ally.

The Lujiazui Financial District, one of the city’s most bustling areas with densely located skyscrapers, sank three centimetres in 2002. A survey conducted by the Shanghai Geological Research Institute showed that although over-exploitation of underground water is the main cause for a sinking city, high-rise buildings also contributed significa-
tantly to the sinking.

In addition, highly concentrated sky-
scrapers not only hinder the flow of wind but also make the already densely populated city even more crowded and oppressive.

Statistics show that population density in Shanghai’s city proper is three times and 1.74 times that of Tokyo and Paris respec-
tively.

MNA/Xinhua
Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than inspects...

(from page 16)
Land and inspected coffee plantation and mix-crop cultivation of macadamia and banana. Next, they proceeded to Myayar Village together with Commander of the Western Command Maj-Gen Maung Do and officials. At the briefing hall of the Public Works in the village, responsible officials reported on renovation work of Padaung-Taungup road which is 43 miles and two furlongs long from mile post 500 to 102/2 and condition of machinery and needs. Next, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than fulfilled the requirements. Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than and party also inspected 540-foot-long Kaingshe Bridge on Tanlwe Creek and 600-foot-long Thanlwin Bridge on Thanlwin Creek and 200-foot-long Sarpyin Bridge, a wooden bridge across Sarpyin Creek. Later, they arrived at No 1 Basic Education High School (Branch) in Lamumaw Village in Taungup Township, Thandwe District and viewed Lamumaw Village in School (Branch) in 1 Basic Education High School. At the bridge across Sarpyin Creek, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than and party also inspected Sarpyin Bridge, a wooden bridge across Sarpyin Creek and 200-foot-long Sarpyin Bridge, a wooden bridge across Sarpyin Creek. They inspected progress in construction of the affiliated school building.

Next, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than went to Lamu Creek Bridge and inspected renovation of the bridge which is being upgraded to concrete one. The bridge spanning Lamu Creek is 500 feet long. Similarly, they inspected Maes Creek Bridge at the border of Taungup Township and An Township.

They, later, arrived at Maes-Kyuakphya Road Construction Project. At the briefing hall, Superintendent Engineer U Than Nysunt and U Ohn Lin reported on construction of the road. Next, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than gave instruction on timely completion of work. — MNA

Lt-Gen Maung Bo inspects...

(from page 16)
He called on local residents to participate in regional development projects. He presented cash assistance of K 10,000 to U Hauk Shwe, an 88-year-old village elder. They inspected progress in construction of the affiliated school building. At The-in village rural health care centre, Township Health Officer Dr Tin Win Kyaw reported to Lt-Gen Maung Bo on health care services for the public. Next, Lt-Gen Maung Bo gave instructions. Afterwards, Chairman of The-in village Peace and Development Council U Maung Chaw accepted K 100,000 donated by Thaton District Peace and Development Council for the rural health care centre. On arrival at milepost No 152/4 on Yangon-Mottamae Section, the Director of Irrigation Department reported to Lt-Gen Maung Bo on the salient points of Wapa Dam in Thaton Township.

Next, Lt-Gen Maung Bo and party inspected burning paddy in Naungkala, Naungbo, Thineiseik, Anangong, Taungam and Mayangon villages in Thaton District.
Next, they met with departmental officials and local peasants in Naungkala Village in Thatan Township and gave instructions on regional development. Officials reported on cultivation of monsoon paddy, summer paddy and pulses and beans, cold season crops and measures being taken for availability of water for agriculture purposes.

Next, Lt-Gen Maung Bo gave necessary instructions to officials. Afterwards, Lt-Gen Maung Bo and party went to Hinpuale by train. They left Hinpuale by car and arrived back here in the evening. — MNA

Kwkeu-Kyaukphya Bridge construction inspected

Yangon, 6 Oct — Deputy Minister for Construction Brig-Gen Myint Thein on 1 October morning, together with Commander of the Coastal Region Command Brig-Gen Ohn Myint, inspected Kwkeu-Kyaukphya bridge in Myeik and attended to the needs. At the bridge construction site, an official reported on finishing touches of the bridge including approach road construction.
They saw over progress in construction of the bypass of Myeik the next day. On 3 October, they went to Bokpyin and inspected Laynyar Road Section and Laynyar-Mandaing Bridge. During his tour on 4 October, the deputy minister also inspected progress in construction of Myeik University. — MNA

Shwesaryan Open Golf Championship to be held

Yangon, 6 Oct — Organized by Central Command, Myanmar Golf Federation and Myanmar PGA, Shwesaryan Open Golf Championship as second round of the Myanmar Golf Tour-2003 will be held on a grand scale at Shwesaryan Golf Course in Mandalay from 16 to 19 October.
Only amateur golfers (men) with 0 to 10 handicap are allowed to take part in the second event together with professional golfers and those under 18 are not allowed. The championship is mainly sponsored by Rothmans of Pall Mall Myanmar Pte Ltd together with Htoo Trading Co Ltd, Nadi Myanmar Hotel, Air Mandalay, Grand Slam (Munsing Wear), Alpine, Homma and Wilson, Canon and UPG. Htoo Trading will present prizes to hole-in-one winners.
Golfers are to enlist at Shwesaryan Golf Course Office and Mandalay Golf Club Ph-02-64583 not later than 14 October. — MNA

Meeting of Leading Committee for Organizing Fourth Myanmar Traditional Medicine Practitioners’ Conference and Traditional Medicine and Medical Equipment Exhibition held

Yangon, 6 Oct — The meeting of Leading Committee for Organizing Fourth Myanmar Traditional Medicine Practitioners’ Conference and Traditional Medicine and Medical Equipment Exhibition was held at the Ministry of Health on Pyidaungsu Yeikthar Road here this afternoon, with an address by Chairman of the Leading Committee Minister for Health Dr Kyaw Myint. Also present on the occasion were members of the National Health Committee, ministers of the Leading Committee ministers and deputy ministers and directors-general under the Ministry of Health and other ministries and officials. First, Chairman of the Leading Committee Minister for Health Dr Kyaw Myint made a speech on the occasion. Afterwards, Secretary of the Leading Committee Deputy Minister for Health Dr Myo Oo reported on arrangements being made. Next, Director-General of Traditional Medicine Department Dr Thein Swe reported on arrangements being made on organizing the Myanmar Traditional Medicine Practitioners’ Conference and Traditional Medicine and Medical Equipment Exhibition. This was followed by a general round of discussions. The meeting ended with the concluding remarks by Minister Dr Kyaw Myint. — MNA
Projects for full water supply to Kyaukse Township put into action

Kyaukse is on Yangon-Mandalay Highway, and a district town of Mandalay Division. It is a district town of the town in April 2003. Over 125,000 gallons were supplied to five wards of the town a day. Water is being pumped from Minye Canal and south of the town. At present, a total of 860,000 gallons of water are supplied to 11 wards of the town a day as the new water supply project was completed. The water supply is now well enough for 7,274 households in 11 wards. Altogether 12 public water tanks each holding 3,000 gallons were constructed in Kyaukse and arrangements are being made for construction of water taps for individuals. The Development Affairs Committee has spent K 315.823 million on the new water supply project.

Members of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Ye Myint and Li-Gen Maung Bo, and Minister Col Thein Nyunt inspect drinking water supply in Kyemon Ward, Kyaukse.

Megawati opens ASEAN business, investment summit

BALI, 6 Oct — Indonesian President Megawati Soekarnoputri opened Sunday the Association of South-East Asian Nations Business and Investment Summit (ASEAN-BIS) prior to the ninth ASEAN summit.

"As a trade and investment area, ASEAN has demonstrated an exceedingly dynamic, integrated and competitive development," Megawati said in her opening address. "Through the ASEAN-BIS, we hope that the ASEAN business sector will be able to take a tremendous advantage from the future potential of the increasingly developing ASEAN economic market," the President said.

Megawati also expressed the hope that the business sector in this region will receive a wider room for movement, and develop opportunities to contribute in a more substantial manner to the realization of an integrated trade and investment area in the region.

According to the ASEAN-BIS organiser, over 700 business people from all over the world are participating in the three-day summit, during which business representatives from the 10 ASEAN members will also exchange views with their counterparts from ASEAN business partners, such as China, Japan, South Korea, the European Union and United States.

"We come here to tell that our economy is very open to the world," Suon Sophal, a deputy director with the Cambodian Investment Board, told Xinhua. "Foreigners can own one hundred per cent share of a Cambodian company and the government implements an open-sky policy to attract more tourists to visit our country," he said.

"We hope by the end of the summit, there will be business agreements, deals and networking," the organizing committee's chairman Tanti Abeng of Indonesia said. "The ASEAN-BIS is being held in conjunction with the Ninth ASEAN Summit, and the summit meetings between ASEAN and China, Japan, South Korea and India to be held from October 7 and 8. ASEAN groups Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam. — MNA/Xinhua

ASEAN FM's gather for summit meeting preparations

BALI (Indonesia), 6 Oct — The foreign ministers of the Association of South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN) member countries gathered here Sunday, focusing their deliberations over preparations for the 9th ASEAN Summit and its related meetings.

Indonesian Foreign Minister Hasan Wirayuda, who chaired the meeting, said: "It is our fervent hope that these on-going meetings in Bali, the venue of the First ASEAN Summit in 1976, will deliver a bold impetus to our efforts in realizing the ASEAN Vision 2020." He recalled that the first ASEAN summit meeting adopted two historic documents, namely, the Declaration of ASEAN Concord, known as the Bali Concord, and the Treaty of Amity and Cooperation in Southeast Asia (TAC).

"We are heartened to witness that, by 2000, every ASEAN member country has become a party to the TAC, plus Papua New Guinea, and at this Bali summit we will witness China and India, two important Asian countries beyond Southeast Asia, accede to the Treaty," he said.

This means that China and India are willing to accept the TAC as the code of conduct in governing their relationships with the ASEAN countries and, consequently, ensuring further peace and stability in the region, Wirayuda added. — MNA/Xinhua
Implementation of projects for socio-economic development of all regions in the country

With the aim of supplying electricity to Taunggyi District in Shan State, the Ministry of Electric Power built Hydel Power Plant across Zawgyi River in Yaksauk Township. PHOTO: MNA

Thanks to the Zwebat Sluice Gate in Waw Township, Bago Division, farm-lands in its vicinity are now safe from floods and sea water. PHOTO: MNA

Wakema Bridge links Ywale Ward on the eastern bank of Wakema River in Wakema and Htawkanut Ward on the western bank of the town. Aerial view of 3020 feet long Wakema Bridge which was opened on 5-1-2003 in Ayeyawady Division. PHOTO: MNA
Augest heatwave may have killed 2,000 in Britain

LONDON, 6 Oct — More than 2,000 people may have died in Britain because of the August heatwave, according to the official statistics released Friday.

There were 2,045 more deaths than usual from August 4 to 13 during which temperatures were above 30 degrees Centigrade, the British Office for National Statistics said.

And on 11 August, the day after records were broken as the mercury hit 37.8 degrees, 1,691 died, 36 more than the average, the data showed.

However, the office said that the figures can vary from year to year, and not all deaths might be due to the weather.

The situation in Britain was not nearly as serious as that in many European countries such as France where almost 15,000 people died during August when temperatures remained above 40 degrees for several days.

"What happened in Britain was nowhere near that scale (in France) but it is very suggestive that there is a link between this very hot weather and the rise in the number of deaths," said the office's spokesman David Marder.

There were an estimated 187 deaths over the hot test 10 days in August and 40 per cent of them were in London, the east of England and the South East, where temperatures were consistently highest.

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Shanghai to limit high-rises

SHANGHAI, 6 Oct — The number of skyscrapers in this east China metropolis will be slashed to make way for more public spaces, said a spokesperson for the Shanghai Municipal Government on Sunday.

The country’s most modernized city is now home to over 3,000 high-rises with 18 floors or more, which are blamed for causing the city to sink some 1.5 centimetres annually.

The Lujiangui Financial District, one of the city's most bustling areas with densely located skyscrapers, sank three centimetres in 2003.

A survey conducted by the Shanghai Geological Research Institute showed that although exploitation of groundwater is the main cause for the sinking city, high-rise buildings also contributed significantly to the sinking.

In addition, highly concentrated skyscrapers not only hinder the flow of wind but also make the already densely populated city even more crowded and oppressive.

Statistics show that population density in Shanghai’s city proper is three times and 1.74 times that of Tokyo and Paris respectively.

In fact, Shanghai Municipal Government has noticed the dangers caused by a high concentration of skyscrapers and decided to prevent the number of high-rises from increasing further.

According to spokesperson Jiang Lan, a specific plan on limiting the height of buildings and reducing the number of skyscrapers will be created at an upcoming meeting on urban planning.

Jiang said that local urban construction will mainly focus on providing more public spaces and green belts in the future instead of building more high towers, which used to be regarded as a sign of modernization.

Professor Tang Zilai, from Shanghai-based Tongji University, said as more environmental-friendly buildings are constructed, the concept of modernization will also change.

Shanghai had its first high-rise, the 82-metre-high International Hotel, in 1934. Some 650 high buildings were built in the 1980s. In the 1990s, over 2,000 skyscrapers emerged in the municipality.

Magician critical after tiger mauling

LAS VEGAS, 6 Oct — Famous Las Vegas magician Roy Horn of the “Siegfried and Roy” duo remained in critical but stable condition on Saturday after being mauled by a white tiger during a performance at the Mirage hotel-casino.

The seven-year-old male tiger, named Monteiro, did not respond to Horn’s calls and then grabbed the performer’s arm and dragged him on the floor.

The animal’s owner, Roy Horn, said that local urban construction will mainly focus on providing more public spaces and green belts in the future instead of building more high towers, which used to be regarded as a sign of modernization.

“Just sad and extremely unfortunate. The doctors are encouraged that he will recover, but it will be several days until the full extent of his injury is known,” said Dave Kirvin, a spokesman for Roy Horn.

Horn, 59, was rushed to University Medical Centre, where he underwent about two hours of surgery.

"It’s just sad and extremely unfortunate. The doctors are encouraged that he will recover, but it will be several days until the full extent of his injury is known," said Dave Kirvin, a spokesman for Roy Horn.

"What happened in Britain was nowhere near that scale (in France) but it is very suggestive that there is a link between this very hot weather and the rise in the number of deaths," said the office’s spokesman David Marder.

There were an estimated 187 deaths over the hot test 10 days in August and 40 per cent of them were in London, the east of England and the South East, where temperatures were consistently highest.

MNA/Xinhua

Storms hover off Mexico, two oil ports shut

MEXICO, 6 Oct — Tropical Storm Larry dumped 26 cm of rain heavy on Mexico’s eastern coast on Saturday and two oil shipping ports in the Gulf of Mexico remained shut as it threatened to turn into a hurricane.

In the Pacific, Tropical Storm Nora became a hurricane overnight and was grinding some 430 miles south-southeast of the popular tourist resort Cabo San Lucas, in Baja California, while another tropical depression, Ofal, hovered off Acapulco.

Neither Noral nor Ofal was expected to make landfall soon. On the Gulf coast, authorities set up evacuation shelters and readied relief supplies in coastal states as Larry churned south, possibly hitting land by Sunday, according to forecasters.

MNA/Reuters
Shanghai schools try out “bilingual education”

SHANGHAI, 6 Oct— Shanghai, China’s promising economic, business and trade centre, is actively promoting “bilingual teaching” among its elementary and high schools in the new semester beginning early September.

Around 30,000 school kids, scattered in 19 urban districts and suburban counties, are benefiting from the programme, a local source said Saturday.

The so-called “bilingual teaching” means the use of two different languages in teaching, which is adopted in many countries around the globe including Canada and the United States, as well as in Europe.

Quite a number of Asian countries including China, too, are exploring the bilingual teaching system, mostly using English as the second teaching language besides their mother tongue.

Wang Wenlong, principal of a bilingual school attached to the Shanghai Foreign Studies University, which is run jointly by the university and the education department in the Yangpu District, said: “to popularize English is the basis for bilingual education, while bilingual education promotes effectively and extensively the use of English.”

His school has increased the number of English classes and organized a range of outdoor activities to enhance the students’ English listening and speaking skills.

Shanghai’s New Huaguang Experimental School has been offering bilingual teaching for six straight years, covering such courses as Popular Science, English, Chemistry, Mathematics, Geography, Life Science and Information Science.

The efforts will not only imbue the students with enthusiasm in learning English and train their writing ability, but help them speak more and practise more, overcoming the so-called “dummy English”, teachers said.

Singapore develops flu detection chip

SINGAPORE, 6 Oct— Singapore is developing an electronic chip that can pinpoint almost instantaneously whether a patient has flu, dengue fever, SARS or other respiratory illnesses, a local newspaper reported on Sunday.

The government-run Genome Institute of Singapore said it hoped to launch the respiratory pathogens detection chip, about the size of a 50-cent coin, as early as January, the Sunday Times reported.

Sputum or nasal fluid from an infected person is dropped on to the chip and its detection probes then diagnose the pathogen. The institute said it was working with a major US medical devices company to test the chip soon, but declined to name the party.

“Patients who have flu, dengue fever or SARS all exhibit similar symptoms in the early stages of infection. The chip will be able to test for all this at once, identify if it’s one or the other, and doctors will have a clear picture from the start,” Ren Eze, the institute’s deputy director, told the paper.

Medical experts have repeatedly warned that the virus could re-emerge in the northern hemisphere winter months and that existing tests were not entirely reliable.

One killed, other injured in north London shooting

LONDON, 6 Oct— One man was killed and another injured in a shooting in Hertfordshire to the north of London on Friday.

“The first victim was taken away immediately. The second was given an IV (intra-venous) and taken away on a stretcher,” police said.

“We heard shots in quick succession like an automatic weapon,” a witness told Sky News. “The first victim was taken away immediately. The second was given an IV (intra-venous) and taken away on a stretcher.”

A protester holds pickets in front of lines of riot police officers near US Embassy in Seoul during a rally to oppose the possible dispatch of South Korean troops to Iraq on 6 October, 2003. — Internet

British, Norwegian sign gas supply pact

Sweden’s new Foreign Minister

STOCKHOLM, 6 Oct— Prime Minister Goran Persson on Sunday appointed Laila Freivelt as Sweden’s new Foreign Minister on Friday to replace Anna Lindh, who was stabbed to death last month while out shopping in central Stockholm.

Born in 1942 in Riga, Freivelt had been justice minister in 1988-1991 and 1994-2000. A lawyer by education, she is married and has a teenage daughter.

She was forced to step down from her post in 2000 after controversy over her purchase of a municipal apartment which she had been renting in Stockholm — a deal which did not contravene the law but which went against her Social Democratic Party’s guiding principles.

“Laila is an experienced politician,” Persson told a news conference. “She is also the sort who reconciled Swedish domestic politics with the European Union.”

Her experience with EU cooperation and the tough questions that are coming up this autumn, convergence issues in particular, are arguments which make believe she will be a brilliant foreign minister,” Persson said.

Swedish PM sworn in

NATO Secretary General to visit Brussels for talks

Moscow has asked for more funding to help with the cost of launching the ISS while the US shuttles are out of action, but US officials complain Russia failed to carry out all agreed launches last year and should make up the shortfall.

The Progress M1-10, which went up to the International Space Station in June, splashed into the water at 1212 GMT after controllo rs had initiated its descent.

The space cargo ship had been in orbit since September 4 when it uncou pled from the station manned by an American and a Russian.

“Everything went as planned. Progress M1-10 has finished its work and no longer exists,” the spokesman said. “It entered the atmosphere and started burning and then at 1612 (1212 GMT) whatever was left of it hit the water.”

A new crew is scheduled to blast off in a Soyuz spacecraft from Kazakhstan to the orbiting platform on October 18 to replace the present team who have been in space since April.

Russia has launched all rockets to the space station since February when the United States grounded its shuttles after its Columbia craft disintegrated over Texas, killing all seven astronauts on board.

Moscow has asked Washington for more funding to help with the cost of launching the ISS while the US shuttles are out of action, but US officials complain Russia failed to carry out all agreed launches last year and should make up the shortfall.

Russian space ship ends supply run, splashes down

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Russian space ship ends supply run, splashes down

MNA/Xinhua

30 kilos of morphine seized at Manila airport

MNL, 6 Oct— Customs authorities have seized more than 30 kilos of morphine, a highly addictive narcotic, from a shipment at the international airport in Manila, a newspaper reported Sunday.

Custards police found the morphine shipment, worth 127,270 US dollars, packed in tin cans during routine cargo screening shortly after it arrived Saturday on board a jet from St Louis, the United States, the Manila Bulletin reported.

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MNA/Xinhua

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THE NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR  Tuesday, 7 October, 2003

A Chinese tourist walks a path near a rock formation inside the one-kilometre-deep limestone Yaolin Cave in Tongha county, some 96 kilometres (60 miles) from Hanzhong in China’s western Shaanxi province on 3 October, 2003. — Xinhua

A protestor holds pickets in front of lines of riot police officers near US Embassy in Seoul during a rally to oppose the possible dispatch of South Korean troops to Iraq on 6 October, 2003. — Internet

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MNA/Xinhua
**Bayern hammer Hertha to close Bundesliga gap**

**BERLIN, 5 Oct—** Champions Bayern Munich closed the gap on Bundesliga leaders VfB Stuttgart to one point by crushing struggling Hertha Berlin 4-1 on Saturday.

First-half goals from Dutch striker Roy Makaay and playmaker Michael Ballack, followed by two more after the break from midfielders Bastian Schweinsteiger and Hasan Samati, helped the Bavarian club climb two points into second.

New signing Makaay, who fired home to open the scoring on 22 minutes before setting up Ballack for Bayern’s second goal, is getting better every match and was instrumental in a convincing victory.

“We were very efficient and I’m pleased with that,” said Bayern coach Ottmar Hitzfeld. “We’re not where we want to be yet but we’re in the right direction.”

Hitzfeld paid tribute to Ballack, who insists on playing despite a sore ankle.

“The fact that he was in pain and still wanted to play speaks for his character and proves he’s a true leader,” Hitzfeld said. Hertha, still chasing their first victory of the season, were 3-0 down when midfielder Niko Kovac pulled one goal back, but the capital club club drop to third from bottom in the standings.

Stuttgart were held to a 0-0 draw by bottom-placed Cologne, but extended their unbeaten run to eight matches as their goalkeeper made Bundesliga history.

“Tim Hildebrand has now gone 825 minutes without conceding a goal, breaking the previous record of 802 minutes set last season by Bayer’s Oliver Kahn,” said Goetze.

Coach Magath’s men could not repeat their brilliant performance in a 2-1 Champions League win over Manchester United on Wednesday but might have picked up three points if German striker Kevin Kuranyi had not missed two great chances.

“We can live with a draw from this,” said Magath. “It was rather a good game from us given the fact that Cologne concentrated on trying not to concede a goal.”

Six-time German champions Borussia Dortmund recorded their first away win of the season by beating Eintracht Frankfurt 1-0 courtesy of a first-half goal from striker Giuseppe Reina. The 1997 Champions League winners remain fifth but are now just two points behind the leaders.

Werder Bremen and Bayer Leverkusen, also two points off the pace in third and fourth place, are in action on Sunday against VfL Wolfsburg and Hansa Rostock respectively.

Either club can capture the Bundesliga lead if they win. —MNA/Reuters

**Pandioli strikes again as Deportivo move top**

**MADRID, 6 Oct—** Walter Pandiani continued his run of scoring in every game this season as Deportivo Coruna returned to the top of the Primera Liga standings with a 5-1 win at home to Atletico Madrid on Saturday.

After early goals from Fran for Depor and Matias Lequi for Atletico, the home side took control with an Enrique Romero strike, deflected in off Lequi, and Sergio’s long-range belter.

Pandioli, recalled from a loan spell at Real Mallorca to replace Roy Makaay following the Dutchman’s move to Bayern Munich, fired in from the edge of the box after 57 minutes and a late strike from Lionel Scaloni wrapped up the win.

It was a sixth goal in six games for Uruguayan striker Pandiani, who has also scored in each of his side’s Champions League games this term.

“The first half was even, with Atletico playing well,” Deportivo coach Javier Irureta said. “We were on target with our long-range shooting in the second half and that helped make the difference.”

Deportivo’s comfortable victory gave them 15 points from six games and took them two points clear of Valencia, who can reclaim top spot if they win away at Barce- lona on Sunday.

**England injury scare as Owen limps off**

**LIVERPOOL, 6 Oct—** England striker Michael Owen limped out of Liverpool’s 2-1 Premier League defeat by Arsenal on Saturday, just seven days before the national team’s decisive Euro 2004 qualifier against Turkey.

Owen, England’s leading forward, fell awkwardly on his ankle in the second half of the game at Anfield and was later substituted.

Liverpool manager Gerard Houllier, speaking on Sky Sports, said an X-ray had revealed no bone damage but that Owen would undergo a scan on Sunday.

“It’s too early to say whether he will be fit for England,” Houllier said. “It could be nothing, it could be something more serious, but I will say that Michael is usually a quick healer.”

—MNA/Reuters

**Pires keeps Arsenal clear of Man United**

**LONDON, 5 Oct—** Arsenal overcame injury problems and the concession of an early goal to beat Liverpool 2-1 and stay top of the Premier League on Saturday.

A stunning strike by Robert Pires in an early kick-off at Anfield extended Arsenal’s lead in the standings before Manchester United closed the gap back to one point with a comfortable 3-0 home victory over Birmingham City.

Big-spending Chelsea will move level with United on 19 points if they beat Mid- dlesbrough on Sunday in the first of their two games in hand.

Fallah for whom Luis Boa Morte scored both goals in a 2-0 win over Leicester City, moved up to fourth with 14 points.

Arsenal, without injured captain Patrick Vieira and Frederik Ljungberg, were out- played for long periods but showed their best battling qualities to record only their second victory at Anfield in 11 Premier League matches. Harry Kewell gave Liverpool a deserved 14th-minute lead with a low left-foot shot from the edge of the area before brigade.

“By the time they scored I had already decided on whether to play Pires in the left or centre of midfield,” said an X-ray had revealed no bone damage but that Owen would undergo a scan on Sunday.

“It’s too early to say whether he will be fit for England,” Houllier said. “It could be nothing, it could be something more serious, but I will say that Michael is usually a quick healer.”

—MNA/Reuters

**Attack is the best form of defence for Eriksson**

**LONDON, 6 Oct—** England coach Sven-Goran Eriksson says his biggest dilemma before next week’s decisive Euro 2004 qualifier against Turkey in Istanbul is choosing his attack.

England need just a point to win Group Seven and guarantee a place in next year’s finals in Portugal, a similar situation to that in Rome in 1997.

Hoddle employed a defensive formation using just one striker, a ploy that worked to prove he’s a true leader,” Hitzfeld said. Hertha, still chasing their first victory of the season, were 3-0 down when midfielder Niko Kovac pulled one goal back, but the capital club club drop to third from bottom in the standings.

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—MNA/Reuters

**Second division Istres finally lose unbeaten record**

**PARIS, 6 Oct—** Istres, surprise leaders of the French Second Division, lost their unbeaten record on Saturday when they were beaten 1-0 at Angers.

Istres, a club from west of Marseille who were on target with an enormous equaliser.

They got one back for the goal but a second-half strike from the brothers许可, who have experienced no major problems hanging over them following incidents dur- ing the penalty past replacement keeper Ian Scholes.

Rooney, as he demonstrated in Eng- land’s 2-0 home victory over Turkey, can provide the moments of magic to unlock a stubborn defence.

“His (Rooney’s) biggest examination so far was the home match against Turkey and he did very well,” said Eriksson.

“Of course Turkey will know all about him now but I don’t think they will try and single him out. Anyway Rooney is tough, he doesn’t have a problem with nerves and is mature enough. But that’s not to say he will play.”

Eriksson, unsurprisingly, is keen to play down the hype in the build-up to the match that has resulted in frothy exchanges between the English FA and their Turkish counterparts.—MNA/Reuters

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Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than inspects bridge, road construction in Rakhine State

Yangon, 6 Oct — Members of the State Peace and Development Council and the Ministry of Defence and former special envoy to the Karen National Union U Khin Maung Than and officials arrived to Thanlwin Bridge (Mawlamyine). An official of Myanmar Agricultural Service reported on progress of 367 acres of coffee plantation, out of 500 acres of the plantation targeted for 2003-2004, cultivation and distribution of coffee saplings. Afterwards, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than attended to the needs. A total of 2,500 acres of land have been reclaimed in Nyaunggyo Region in Bago Division (West) and will be put under coffee plantation in five years.

Afterwards, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than and party arrived at the Golden Coffee (See page 9) where U Aung Htet and party visited and inspected construction of Thanlwin Bridge (Mawlamyine) Construction Project site on 5 October morning.

Lt-Gen Maung Bo inspects construction of Thanlwin Bridge (Mawlamyine)

Yangon, 6 Oct — Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Maung Bo who gave necessary instructions to officials the construction of the bridge has been completed 68 per cent.

The 11,575 feet long bridge can withstand 60 tons of loads on completion and it will be completed in December 2004. Afterwards, Lt-Gen Maung Bo and party arrived at Mottama bank in Paung Township. Deputy Superintendent Engineers U Ohn Han and U Myo Chit reported on progress of work on Mawlamyine bank and Mottama bank and work to be carried out.

Lt-Gen Maung Bo gave instructions, saying that Thanlwin bridge is on Kawthoung-Myeik-Dawei-Mawlamyine-Yangon Union highway. It is the biggest one through which vehicles and trains could pass. On completion of the bridge transport to Taninthayi Division, Kayin State, Mon State and Bago Division will be easier. He called for earlier completion, meeting set standard, minimizing loss and wastage and ensuring work site safety.

They proceeded to the Than-Nyaunggyo section of Yangon-Myeik Road Construction Project. Officials reported on work progress. Lt-Gen Maung Bo left necessary instructions.

Next, Lt-Gen Maung Bo looked into The-ein village affiliated basic education high school, saying that agriculture, education, health and social requirements of the village will be provided.

Lt-Gen Aung Htwe attends Hsinshweli paddy harvesting ceremony in Hsenwi Township

Yangon, 6 Oct — State Peace and Development Council member Lt-Gen Aung Htwe accompanied by Shan State (North) Peace and Development Council Chairman North-East Command Commander Maj-Gen Myint Hlaing, Deputy Commander Brig-Gen Hla Myint and senior military officers, national race leaders of special regions in Shan State (North) and officials, on 4 October morning arrived at Bonmon farm and bee-keeping camp of Hsinshweli village in Hsenwi Township in Lashio District, donated by Asia World Co Ltd and inspected completion of construction tasks for new schools building.

(See page 7)