Lt-Gen Ye Myint looks into agriculture service, roads, bridges, development tasks in Kachin State

NAY PYI TAW, 17 July — Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Ye Myint of the Ministry of Defence during his tour of Myitkyina of Kachin State together with Chairman of Kachin State PDC Commander of Northern Command Maj-Gen Ohn Myint, Minister for Communications, Posts and Telegraphs Brig-Gen Thein Zaw, heads of SPDC Office and departments arrived at Myataung village of Moguang, mile post No 35 of Myitkyina-Tanai Road on 14 July. Next, Lt-Gen Ye Myint and party attended a ceremony to grow monsoon paddy in the field of peasant Daw Hla Kyi. Moguang Township put 70,423 (See page 7)

Lt-Gen Kyaw Win inspects development tasks in Shan State (East)

NAY PYI TAW, 17 July — Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Kyaw Win of the Ministry of Defence, accompanied by Chairman of Shan State (East) Peace and Development Council Commander of Triangle Region Command Maj-Gen Min Aung Hlaing and departmental officials, inspected pilot plantation using new cultivation method in Triangle Region Command yesterday.

Lt-Gen Kyaw Win and party viewed demonstration of new cultivation method for growing paddy and inspected 10-acre monsoon paddy plantation of the command.

Lt-Gen Kyaw Win called on officials concerned to disseminate knowledge on new cultivation method to local farmers. (See page 7)

The National Convention delegates include representatives from official political parties, representatives-elect, national race delegates from states, divisions, districts and townships, peasants, workers, intellectuals and intelligentsia, State service personnel, other invited personnel (scholars, well-experienced retired diplomats, delegates from national race peace groups) and people from all walks of life. The delegates representing the entire people have discussed the future of the people and the nation and laid down the principles.
PERSPECTIVES

Wednesday, 18 July, 2007

Exert concerted efforts for the success of National Convention

Nowadays, the government is making all-out efforts for the emergence of a peaceful, modern, developed and discipline-flourishing democratic nation. As a constitution is indispensable for every independent nation the National Convention is being held for the drawing of the State constitution.

The National Convention was held in the years of 2004, 2005 and 2006. And detailed basic principles for the sharing of legislative, executive and judiciary powers to be included in the drawing of the State constitution have been laid down.

The National Convention, which was adjourned on 29 December 2006, is reconvened on 18 July 2007 (today). The delegates have discussed and unanimously laid down basic principles and detailed basic principles for eight chapter headings out of 15 to be included in the State constitution.

At the National Convention in session the delegates will be able to finalize the discussions on detailed basic principles for the remaining seven chapter headings.

The basic principles laid down by over 1,000 delegates putting national interest in the fore for the emergence of the State constitution will shape the future of the State and the people.

Thanks to concerted and well-coordinated efforts of the delegates and the respective sub-committees the State constitution will soon emerge shortly after the National Convention is completed.

Health knowledge and care provided to local people in N Okkalapa

YANGON, 15 July — Dr Lim Khin Hnin, Chairman of the Myanmar Computer Professionals Association (MCWA), in his capacity as Honorary Secretary General of the Myanmar Computer Professionals Association (MCPA), recently spoke on health knowledge and care provided to local people in N Okkalapa.

He said that the MCPA is working to promote the health of the local people through various activities.

Free medical treatment provided to members of the Sangha and nuns

YANGON, 16 July — Dr Leslie Lam, a heart specialist from Mount Elizabeth Hospital, Singapore, together with Dr Aung Kyaw Zaw of Pan Hlaing Hospital in Japan have provided free medical treatment to members of the Sangha and nuns at Jivitadana Sangha Hospital here this morning.

They examined seven members of the Sangha and a nun with the use of echo gram machine. Four members of the Sangha and a nun will be given treatment at the Pan Hlaing International Hospital.

Officials of MCPA leaves for Japan

YANGON, 17 July — Officials of the Myanmar Computer Professionals Association (MCPA) have left for Japan to attend the Information Technology Professional Examination Council (ITPEC) to be held from 18 July to 20 July at Japan Information Technology Engineers Examination Centre (JIITEC).

Heart Specialist Dr Leslie Lam gives treatment to a Sayadaw

YANGON, 16 July — Heart Specialist Dr Leslie Lam from Mount Elizabeth Hospital, Singapore, together with Dr Aung Kyaw Zaw of Pan Hlaing International Hospital gave free medical treatment to 15 members of the Sangha and six nuns at Jivitadana Sangha Hospital here this morning.

They examined seven members of the Sangha and a nun with the use of echo gram machine. Four members of the Sangha and a nun will be given treatment at the Pan Hlaing International Hospital.

Oppose those relying on external elements, acting as stooges, holding negative views

* Oppose those relying on external elements, acting as stooges, holding negative views
* Oppose foreign nations interfering in internal affairs of the State
* Oppose those trying to jeopardize stability of the State and progress of the nation
* Crush all internal and external destructive elements as the common enemy

In memory of late parents, Daw Huar Yin and siblings of Bahan Township donated K 100,000 to Hninzigon Home for the Aged through Joint Treasurer U Maung Maung Gyi recently. — H

Dr Than Oo of MMCWA donates medical equipment and medicines for delivery room.

MCWA

YANGON, 16 July — In-charge Dr Daw Khin Thaw Nwe and party of Diagnostic Clinic of Myanmar Maternal and Child Welfare Association led by CEC member Dr Than Oo, accompanied by member of Yangon Division MCW Supervisory Committee Dr Daw Khin Thet Myaung, gave talks on health knowledge, life of mother and facts about female reproductive cancer at MCWA Branch in Ward 12 of North Okkalapa Township on 14 July.

A total of 250 local people attended the talks. The CEC member presented pharmaceuticals and medical equipment worth K 1.5 million to the Chairperson of Yangon East District MCWSC.

Furthermore, they provide health care services and medical check-up to 224 women. In addition, they explained use of condom to 85 men. Next, they held a discussion on health knowledge and presented 720 condoms to local men. — MNA
More Britons killed in Iraq than Americans proportionally

LONDON, 16 July—British soldiers serving in Iraq are being killed at a proportionally greater rate than their American counterparts for the first time since the start of the war, the Sunday Telegraph reported.

As attacks surged in Basra, southern Iraq, the death rate of British troops has now surpassed that of Americans, marking a “watershed” for British involvement in the conflict, which in turn leads to calls for the government to set an immediate timetable for withdrawal from the war-torn country, said the report. It cited an analysis by Professor Sheila Bird, vice-president of the Royal Statistical Society, on British and American fatalities from May 2006 to June 2007. Britain has 5,500 troops serving in Iraq, and suffered 23 fatalities between 5 February and 24 June, whereas the United States has 165,000, and lost 463 over the same period, according of Bird’s analysis.

The newspaper quoted a very senior commander from the Army as saying that the war in Iraq was now regarded by political and military chiefs within the Ministry of Defence as “a lost cause”.

The commander urged that both Britain and America to accept they were facing the possibility of “strategic failure” in Iraq. A think tank on Iraq suggest Britain should cease “offensive military operations” in Iraq and concentrate on training Iraqi security forces.

Two US soldiers killed in bomb attacks in Iraq

BAGHDAD, 16 July—Two US soldiers were killed in bomb attacks in Iraq on Saturday, the US military said in a brief statement without saying where the incident took place.

Separately, another soldier was killed when a landmine detonated near his foot patrol, the military said in a brief statement without saying where the incident took place.

EFP, also known as explosively-formed projectile, is a shaped charge explosive designed to penetrate armor effectively. They were first developed during World War II.

Oil up near $78, sets fresh 11-month high

LONDON, 17 July — Oil edged higher near 78 US dollars a barrel on Monday, driven towards an all-time high by an influx of speculative fund money and tightening crude supplies from the North Sea.

London Brent climbed to a fresh 11-month high of 78.40 US dollars in earlier trade, just 25 cents shy of the record peak reached last August. By 1326 GMT, the benchmark was trading up 14 cents at 77.71 US dollars. US crude rose three cents to 73.96 US dollars a barrel.

Seasonal maintenance on North Sea oilfields, coupled with unanticipated outages, has helped extend oil’s near three-week rally, lifting Brent by more than 7 US dollars since late June.

“The markets will remain focused on North Sea production problems and refinery outages in the week ahead. These factors will continue to support prices at the current levels,” said David Moore at Commonwealth Bank of Australia.

Speculative flows into commodities have also fuelled the run-up, led in part by fears a rush by US refiners to produce enough gasoline this summer will leave them short of heating fuel in the winter.

Typhoon “Man-yi” hits central Japan, three dead

TOKYO, 16 July—Typhoon Man-yi killed three people and injured more than 70 in Japan but weakened to a tropical storm on Sunday as it moved across the country’s central region bringing heavy rain, strong winds and landslides.

Man-yi was moving east-northeast at 35 kilometres per hour (22 mph) as it reached the Tokai Region after ripping through the southernmost main island of Kyushu on Saturday, the Meteorological Agency said.

The storm was weakening with winds of up to 162 kilometres per hour (101 mph), but forecasters still warned of flooding and landslides as it looked to brush by Tokyo later in the day.

Man-yi, which approached Japan’s southern Okinawa Islands late last week, has killed three people, including an 11-year-old boy swept away by a fast-moving river on Saturday while trying to pick up a ball.

One man was missing and 73 were injured, NHK television said. Man-yi was classified as a tropical storm by British-based website Tropical Storm Risk (www.tropicalstormrisk.com), down from a Category 1 typhoon on Saturday and Category 4 on Friday.

Chinese students walk past sculpture depicting soldiers performing flood control measures at the opening of an exhibition to mark China’s military achievements in Beijing, China, on 16 July, 2007. — INTERNET
Marines testify in court over killing of Iraqi civilian

LOS ANGELES, 16 July — A fellow squad member of a Marine corporal on trial for the murder of an Iraqi civilian testified in court on Saturday that the Marines were prodded by their superiors to be cruel to Iraqis.

Saul Lopez-Romo testified in a Los Angeles court that he became more aggressive in dealing with suspected Iraqi insurgents after being accused by superiors of being “soft”.

The Marines felt the need to prove to the command they were not soft by stepping up violence against the alleged insurgents, Saul Lopez-Romo testified at the court-martial of corporal Trent Thomas.

“We beat people,” the corporal testified when asked how Marines “ramped up the shock effect on Iraqis,” as Lopez-Romo phrased it. He said he believed his platoon knew about the increased violence.

Lopez-Romo testified that the demeanor of squad members, including Thomas, changed after the comments from his superiors. “I saw people change that I never thought would change, their state of mind changed,” the corporal said.

JERUSALEM, 16 July— Shimon Peres was sworn in as Israel’s President on Sunday and pledged to seize the opportunity to encourage long-delayed efforts to achieve a diplomatic resolution to the conflict in the Middle East.

A former prime minister and Israel’s oldest statesman, Peres, 83 was elected by Parliament a month ago to the highly prestigious post. Though the job is largely ceremonial, past presidents have had substantial influence in Israeli politics.

“When the opportunity for peace is created, it must not be missed,” Peres said in his inaugural speech to Parliament, after taking the oath of office, in a ceremony interrupted briefly by the wails of his infant great-grandson, at which he smiled.

It is a president’s duty to “encourage peace processes at home, without neighbours and the entire region,” Peres added in his remarks to a House packed with Israeli well-wishers and dignitaries.

Six Filipinos injured in booby-trap grenade blast

MANILA, 16 July— At least six people were injured in a booby-trap grenade explosion Saturday night in a poor and crowded neighbourhood in Makati, Metro Manila, police said.

Police remained clueless on the identities of people responsible for the explosion as people in the neighbourhood refused to provide any cooperation.

The grenade firing pin was tied to a tripwire connected to a metal drainage canal cover on a road. A tricycle hit the tripwire, causing the grenade to explode, according to police.

State railways worker shot dead in Thai south

BANGKOK, 16 July— A 52-year-old Thai State Railways worker was shot dead while driving his pickup truck to work at Ban Salobukit Yuerae train station in southern Thailand’s province of Narathiwat Sunday morning.

Abdullah Watae was on his way to work a day shift when he was shot by two gunmen riding a motorcycle, according to the Thai News Agency.

Police were quoted as saying that the gunmen used automatic weapons in the attack before fleeing the scene. Narathiwat is one of three provinces most affected by insurgent unrest that has claimed more than 2,400 lives during the past three years. The other two provinces are Yala and Pattani.

Three immigrants found dead in truck in Italy

VENICE (Italy), 16 July— The bodies of three men apparently trying to enter Western Europe illegally were found in a refrigerated truck near Venice on Saturday, police said.

A fourth man also hidden in the truck, which had arrived in Italy by ferry from Greece and was bound for Germany, was taken to hospital and was in critical condition.

The bodies and survivor were discovered when the driver heard noises from inside the truck and stopped at a filling station near Venice to investigate, police said. The men were believed to be of Middle Eastern origin, they added.
ECONOMIC NEWS

Mauritian PM winds up China visit

BEIJING, 17 July—Mauritian Prime Minister Navincha Ramgoolam left east China's Zhejiang Province Saturday afternoon and wrapped up his six-day China visit.

Zhejiang Province is the fourth leg of Ramgoolam's six-day official visit to China from 9 to 14 July at the invitation of Premier Wen Jiabao. Prior to it, he also visited Beijing, Shanghai Municipal and Anhui Province in east China.

During his stay in Beijing, Ramgoolam had meetings with President Hu Jintao and Wen respectively.

In China's economic hub Shanghai, Ramgoolam attended a Mauritian—Shanghai trade forum, saying Mauritius wants stronger cooperation with Shanghai in trade, manufacturing, tourism and fisheries.

Ramgoolam also met with provincial leaders of Anhui and Zhejiang Provinces and discussed cooperation.

Corn won’t be used for bio-fuel in five years

BEIJING, 17 July—China will shift its dependence from corn to sorghum, cassava and sweet potato plants to make bio-fuel in the next five years.

Part of the government’s efforts to develop bio-fuel without harming general food supply and security, the shift will ensure a healthy supply of corn both as food and fodder.

Cassava and sweet potato both are high-yield plants, and though edible, they are not used as staple food. So their use as raw material, as opposed to that of corn, won’t create any artificial shortage of food products.

Xiong Bilin, deputy director of the National Development and Reform Commission’s (NDRC) industry department, told China Daily that the conversion of the four major ethanol production centers, which have a combined output of 1 million tons, will neither be too complicated nor costly. —Internet

Oil slick reaches waters of Ibiza nature reserve

MADRID, 16 July—An oil slick from a ship that sank near the port of Ibiza has reached the waters of a nature reserve on the southern coast of the holiday island, a Spanish Government minister said on Saturday.

Clean up crews have been at work since Wednesday when the Don Pedro merchant ship sank off the port of Ibiza, releasing 150 tons of fuel oil into the Mediterranean sea.

Three beaches on the popular resort island have been closed and the slick is now threatening the Ses Salines nature reserve, Environment Minister Cristina Narbona said.

“The reserve comprises land and sea, obviously there is pollution in the sea, we are trying to make sure it doesn’t get to the beaches of the reserve,” Narbona told a news conference.

Authorities have contracted a Dutch salvage vessel to remove the remaining fuel out of the sunken ship, the minister said. Divers discovered new leaks in the ship on Saturday, releasing fuel and hydraulic oil into the sea.

Crews are working to clean up the oil directly from the sea and remove polluted sand and have erected floating barriers to protect beaches from the oil leak.

The European Union has set the bar high by offering 100 per cent tariff-free market access for Korean exporters to the EU market if Korea makes a similarly ambitious offer,” the European executive Commission said in a statement. “The EU seeks new access for EU investors in Korea, including the removal of restrictions on EU investment,” it said, adding it was a crucial area for Europe.

The European Commission said it would also look for substantial new access to South Korean market in automobiles, manufactured goods and business services, as well as focus on eliminating non-tariff barriers.

EU offers to cut import duties from South Korea

BRUSSELS, 16 July—The European Union has offered to cut all its import duties on goods from South Korea as part of a free trade deal on condition that Seoul opens its economy to European investments, the EU executive said on Sunday.

“The EU has set the bar high by offering 100 per cent tariff-free market access for Korean exporters to the EU market if Korea makes a similarly ambitious offer,” the European executive Commission said in a statement. “The EU seeks new access for EU investors in Korea, including the removal of restrictions on EU investment,” it said, adding it was a crucial area for Europe.

The European Commission said the EU would also look for substantial new access to South Korean market in automobiles, manufactured goods and business services, as well as focus on eliminating non-tariff barriers.

Internet
China says climate change drying up major rivers

BEIJING, 16 July — Chinese scientists have warned that rising temperatures are draining wetlands at the head of the country’s two longest rivers, choking their flow and imperiling water supplies to hundreds of millions of people.

The warning occurs as millions of people along central China’s flood-ravaged Huai River, a major tributary of the Yangtze River, are bracing for more heavy rains this week.

Aerial photos and satellite images had shown wetlands on the frigid Qinghai-Tibet plateau, which feed the Yangtze and Yellow rivers, had shrunk more than 10 per cent over the past four decades, the China Daily said on Monday, citing the Chinese Academy of Sciences, a key government think-tank.

“The wetlands at the origin of the Yangtze have suffered the most, contracting by 29 per cent,” the paper said.

Wang Xugen, a CAS researcher, said the wetlands played a key role in regulating the flow of the rivers, which provide water for hundreds of millions of people and nearly half the country’s farmland.

“The shrinking of the wetland on the plateau is closely connected with the global warming,” the paper quoted Wang as saying.

INTERNET

Flood death toll rises to 30 in Anhui Province

HEFEI, 16 July — Disaster relief authority in east China’s Anhui Province announced Sunday that floods have killed 30 people and affected more than 15 million residents in 15 cities of the province.

Consistent rainfalls started to pour down Saturday in the south western Anhui and northern part of the Huaihe River, with precipitation in 30 townships exceeding 100 millimeters.

By 8:00 am Sunday, 60,000 houses have collapsed, and 585,000 people have been forced to relocate. A total of 300,000 people are suffering from drinking water shortage. Total economic losses have reached 9.17 billion yuan (about 120 million US dollars), latest statistics from the provincial disaster relief show.

The provincial civil affairs department has allocated 5.3 million yuan for the disaster relief work.

INTERNET

Death toll rises to 9 in Japan earthquake, some 930 injured

TOKYO, 17 July — The death toll in a major earthquake that rocked Niigata prefecture of central western Japan and surrounding areas Monday rose to nine early Tuesday. Around 930 people were injured.

All nine victims were from the most heavily hit city of Kashiwazaki in Niigata. They were in their 70s or 80s. Most of them died after being buried under flattened houses, Kyodo News said, quoting government officials.

A man was still missing and over 12,000 people spent the night in shelters in Kashiwazaki and other cities in Niigata.

Some 60 elementary, junior and senior high schools in Niigata Prefecture will be closed Tuesday due to the quake.

INTERNET

Two villagers shot dead in Thai south

BANGKOK, 16 July — An unknown number of presumed insurgents killed two villagers in southern Thailand’s province of Songkhla early Saturday, according to local media.

Malaseng Hadlo and Muhammad Meesee were ambushed by unidentified gunmen as they were riding a motorcycle home in Saba Yoi District, the Thai News Agency said. Police inspecting the crime scene Saturday morning were impeded as spikes were strewn on road to prevent pursuit.

INTERNET

Theory: transformed vertebra why humans walk upright

BEIJING, 16 July — A new theory about how humans evolved into upright walking creatures with a predilection for upright walking creatures, according to a spine specialist at Cedars Sinai Medical Center in Los Angeles.

A major change in the vertebra allowed this pre-human to stand and carry things, but also made it easier to crush and strain the spongy discs between each vertebra, said Dr. Aaron Filler, a medical doctor with a doctorate in anthropology.

Filler, writing in the journal Neurosurgical Focus on Sunday, said the main clue was a bone feature called the transverse process, which sticks out from the side of the hollow, round vertebral body, Filler said in a telephone interview.

This is where muscles attach to the spine.

“The vertebra is transformed in a way that literally reverses the mechanics of the spine,” Filler said.

“The bone lever of the vertebrae gets switched from bending the spine forward to bending the spine back.”

INTERNET

A tourist is sprayed with water in front of a restaurant at Prague’s Old Town Square on 16 July, 2007 as a heat wave hits the Czech Republic, breaking records with temperatures of over 35 degrees Celsius (95 degrees Fahrenheit), — INTERNET

Bikers ride their Harley-Davidsons as they attend the final parade through Hamburg during the “Hamburg Harley Days 2007” on 15 July, 2007 — XINHUA
Lt-Gen Ye Myint looks into... (from page 1) acres under monsoon paddy in 2006-2007 and has already put 37,303 acres under monsoon paddy against the target of 80,000 in 2007-2008. Lt-Gen Ye Myint gave instructions on transformation from manual farming into mechanized farming, boosting per acre yield, regional rice security, use of fertilizer and striving for carrying out agricultural services. Afterwards, Lt-Gen Ye Myint and party inspected Siyanti-Myi Kyina road repair at mile post No 36/8 and the commander gave a supplementary report.

Upon arrival at Danban bridge in Phakant Township, Lt-Gen Ye Myint and party looked into durability of the bridge and condition of flow of water under the bridge. The bridge is 216 feet long and 16 feet and 6 inches wide. Its clearance is 8 feet and it can withstand 25 tons.

At the briefing hall of Hnaungmi farm land reclamation project, Brig-Gen Khin Maung Aye of Tanai Station briefed Lt-Gen Ye Myint and party on arrangements to be made for growing of 2,238 acres of monsoon paddy in the project area in 2007-2008 and Commander Maj-Gen Oha Myint gave a supplementary report.

On arrival at Yuzana’s farm land reclamation project, Lt-Gen Ye Myint and party looked into thriving monsoon paddy and arrival of heavy machinery. Chairman of Yuzana Company U Huy Myint briefed Lt-Gen Ye Myint and party on project tasks.

Next, Lt-Gen Ye Myint and party inspected milling of paddy at 40 ton rice mill of Yuzana company, tapioca and sugarcane plantations. The company has got a land permit of 250,000 acres to carry out agricultural services and will cultivate industrial crops. It has already put 1,240 acres under sugarcane, 580 acres under tapioca and 600 acres under paddy this year. It will continue to grow 2,000 acres of corn and 2,000 acres of pulses and beans.

Afterwards, Lt-Gen Ye Myint and party met with departmental officials, members of social organizations and townswelders and discussed with them regional development tasks in Tanai. Lt-Gen Ye Myint presented medical supplies to Head of Township Health Department Dr Yi Yi Thwe and clothed to members of social organizations, and Commander Maj-Gen Oha Myint and Minister Brig-Gen Then Zaw, clothes, exercise books and refreshments to members of social organizations.

Next, Lt-Gen Ye Myint and party oversaw durability of Tanai bridge and flow of water under it. The bridge is 942 feet long and 10 feet wide. Its clearance is 10 feet and 8 inches. It can withstand 20 tons. After that, they viewed surgical ward and X-ray room at Tanai Township Hospital and provided the patients with cash assistance.

Lt-Gen Ye Myint and party then met with officers, other ranks and families at Tanai Station and Lt-Gen Ye Myint urged them to participate in the growing of physic nut plants and regional development tasks joining hands with the local people and presented them clothes and souvenirs. — MNA

Lt-Gen Kyaw Win inspects... (from page 1) Shan State (East) sets its target to grow 390,000 acres of paddy in 2007-2008 rainy season, and so far, 294,360 acres have been put under paddy. Afterwards, Lt-Gen Kyaw Win and party went to the Agricultural Research Department’s plantation of high-yield strains of groundnut. At the plantation, officials concerned and Commander Maj-Gen Min Aung Hlaing reported to Lt-Gen Kyaw Win on condition of the plantation and acre yield.

After hearing reports, Lt-Gen Kyaw Win urged officials concerned to demonstrate on thriving groundnut plantation and distribute quality strains of groundnut to local farmers. Despite its target set to grow 6,506 acres of groundnut, Shan State (East) has grown groundnut on 6,620 acres during this season.

Afterwards, Lt-Gen Kyaw Win and party went to physic nut nursery of Triangle Region Command and about 100,000 physic nut saplings are being cultivated at the nursery. Officials concerned reported on condition of physic nut plantation and arrangements for exceeding the target of physic nut plantation in the command and townships.

After hearing reports, Lt-Gen Kyaw Win urged officials concerned to supervise physic nut plantations and inspected thriving plantations.

Physic nut plants were put on 32,068 acres in Shan State (East) in 2006. Shan State (East) sets a target to grow 150,000 acres of physic nut this year, and so far, 10,598 acres have been put under physic nut this year.

Afterwards, Lt-Gen Kyaw Win and party visited the physic nut oil factory and inspected physic nut oil and bio-diesel extracted from physic nut oil.

During the tour of Shan State (East), Lt-Gen Kyaw Win and party also visited physic nut and rubber plantation of local battalion and called for extended cultivation of physic nut and rubber.

They went to Wonpon Bridge on Kengtung-Mongkhat Road and inspected maintenance of the bridge.

The bridge is 140 ft long and 12.5 ft wide and can withstand 13 tons of load.

They also inspected road works on Kengtung-Mongkhat-Mongyan Road and construction of bridges and drains on the road.

On his trip to Kengtung, Lt-Gen Kyaw Win met with Chairman of Shan State Peace and Development Council Commander of Eastern Command Maj-Gen Thaung Aye at Heho Airport in Taunggyi, Shan State (South) on 15 July.

At the meeting, they discussed regional development tasks in Shan State (South).

Lt-Gen Kyaw Win called for timely completion of the road and urged officials concerned to upgrade the road to become an all-weather facility.

During his inspection tour, Lt-Gen Kyaw Win inspected road works on Kengtung-Mongkhat-Mongyan Road and construction of bridges and drains on the road.

At the briefing hall, Lt-Col Aye Lin of the factory reported on production process of bio-diesel extracted from physic nut oil.

At the briefing hall of Hnaungmi farm land reclamation project, Brig-Gen Khin Maung Aye of Tanai Station briefed Lt-Gen Ye Myint and party on arrangements to be made for growing of 2,238 acres of monsoon paddy in the project area in 2007-2008 and Commander Maj-Gen Oha Myint gave a supplementary report.

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Energy Deputy Minister donates cash to Myanmar Township Association (Yangon) YANGON, 17 July — CEC member of Union Solidarity and Development Association Deputy Minister for Energy Brig-Gen Than Htay donated cash to Myanmar Township Association (Yangon) and fulfilled the requirement of the association today.

He made cash donation during his meeting with the chairman and executives of the association in Lanmadaw Township today.

At the meeting, Chairman U Aye Ko of the association briefed the deputy minister on the organizational set-up and the funds of the association, contributions toward education, health and social welfare sectors and future tasks.— MNA

Deputy Minister for Energy Brig-Gen Than Htay meeting with officials of Myanmar Township Association. — MNA
Accomplishment of National Convention delegates at Nyaunghnapin Camp

I have participated in the National Convention since January 1993. The delegates to the National Convention that will go down to the annals of history held discussions group-wise. Their findings were presented to the plenary session of National Convention. The plenary session laid down principles in line with the wishes of the delegates. To be able to hold the discussions the delegates studied the trend of Myanmar politics (history), the background of constitutions and the constitutions of the global nations. They discussed their findings among them time and again. During their discussions they found proper ways and were able to make an assessment. We have been able to exercise democracy practices.

A constitution drawn and approved by someone could not be an enduring one representing the people. The participation of the people is a must in the drafting of a constitution. Priority is to be given to national interest in drawing a constitution. Only then, will it be in conformity with the people’s desires. There are various kinds of constitutions drawn by a certain authority, approved by a party or a group or approved by the Hluttaws (Parliaments) or approved by a referendum. The new State constitution that will soon emerge will be approved by a referendum. It will become the one that is formulated according to democratic practices.

As far as the State constitution is concerned a large number of writers including me have already written about it. And many books on the constitution have been published. Myanmar people have gained much experience on the constitution. The 1947 Constitution of the Union of Myanmar was drawn hastily in order to regain independence as soon as possible. It was drawn by a commission made up of some 100 persons and approved by the Pyithu Hluttaw’s meeting on 4 January 1948. The article that there could be secession in accord with the law ten years after the independence happened to be included in the constitution.

Therefore, the Revolutionary Council abolished the 1947 Constitution on 2 March 1962. Seeking ideas from the people the 97-member constitution drafting commission drew a draft constitution three times, sought opinions from the people three times and showed it to the people two times. In the third time, the draft constitution was approved by a referendum. At that time the Union of Myanmar was (See page 9)
Accomplishment of National Convention delegates at Nyaunghnapin Camp

Tekkatho Myat Thu

The entire mass of people are in support of the National Convention. Their voices in favour of the NC have overwhelmed the slanderous accusations of lackeys of neo-colonialist nations. The success of the National Convention is just around the corner. So, the nearer the goal we reach, the more diligently we will have to work.

All the delegates are getting ready to attend the National Convention again. Filled with enthusiasm, they will march towards the Nyaunghnapin Camp to achieve the goal.

The people will have to elect those who will be responsible for the legislative sector and those who will be responsible for the judicial sector through voting. Elected Members of Parliament, government and administrative machinery have no right to do anything as they wish. They must act in accord with rules and regulations and laws prescribed by the people. Laying down principles and disciplines for the persons from legislative and executive fields means writing a constitution. The constitution is the most fundamental and the most important of any other laws. Therefore, a constitution is essential for every independent nation. As the delegates of the National Convention who uphold national interest lay down principles to draft a constitution, the role of the NC therefore is very important.

The entire mass of people are in support of the National Convention. Their voices in favour of the NC have overwhelmed the slanderous accusations of lackeys of neo-colonialist nations. The success of the National Convention is just around the corner. So, the nearer the goal we reach, the more diligently we will have to work.

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Translation: NY+TS+ST
Myanma Alin & Kyemon
17-7-2007
Computer and English course opens

YANGON, 16 July — Jointly organized by Yangon East District Maternal and Child Welfare Supervisory Committee and ILBC, computer and English course (3/2007) opened at the training hall of ILBC on Laydaunkkan Street in Tamway Township here this morning.

At the course opening ceremony, Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Hla Htay Win made an opening speech and accepted K 500,000 each donated by Win Myanmar Automobile Industry, Hlinethit Automobile Industry and San Pwint Automobile Industry. Managing Director U Tin Maung Win explained facts about the course.

Later, the commander and wife and party viewed two-seated EV-9 electric battery cars invented by Science and Research Department of ILBC. — MNA

Health Minister meets WHO’s Regional Director

YANGON, 16 July — Minister for Health Dr Kyaw Myint received WHO’s Regional Director for South-East Asia Dr Samlee Plianbangchang, Director Dr Myint Hwwe and Resident Representative Professor Adik Wibowo at the meeting hall of the University of Medicine-1 (Yangon) this morning. They held discussions on health care services in Myanmar, development and academic matters.

Present also at the call were Deputy Ministers Dr Mya Oo and Dr Paing Soe, Director-General Dr Than Myint of Medical Science Department and Rector Dr Aye Maung Han of University of Medicine-1 (Yangon). — MNA

4665 lots of jade, gem and pearl sold at Jade, Gems and Pearl Special Sales

YANGON, 16 July — Patron of Organizing Myanma Gem Emporium Central Committee Minister for Mines Brig-Gen Ohn Myint presented certificate of honour and souvenirs to Mr Nyan Shi Ki of jade & Jewellery Co, who bought the jade lots with highest price at Jade, Gems and Pearl Special Sales for 2007 at Myanmar Convention Centre on Mindhamma Road in Mayangon Township this evening.

The jade, Gem and Pearl Special Sales for 2007 continued at MCC. The local and foreign merchants bought a total of 67 jade lots through competitive bidding today.

A total of 4665 jade, gem and pearl lots were sold at the sales through tender and competitive bidding. A total of 4093 merchants— 1656 at home and 2437 abroad visited the special sales. — MNA

Talks on new and renewable energy given

YANGON, 17 July — Organized by New and Renewable Energy Group (NREG) of the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry, a talk was given under the title of ‘New and Renewable Energy’ at UMFCCI office Tower in Minye Kyawswa Road, Lannmadaw Township here this morning with an address by Patron Dr Kyaw Tint of Myanmar Industrialists Association and NREG. Next, Vice-President U Zaw Min Win of UMFCCI and Myanmar Industrialists Association explained the formation of NREG. President U Paw Hein of MIA and NREG spoke about the importance of new and renewable energy and environmental conservation.

Later, Vice-President U Soe Myint of NREG, Managing Director U Zarni Aung of Hein Engineering Co, Ltd, CEC U Tin Win of NREG and U Thein Lwin of NREG discussed matters related to the energy sector. — MNA

Vice-President U Zaw Min Win of UMFCCI briefs on the formation of NREG. — UMFCCI
MMCWA conducts multiplier course for providing health care services to aged persons


First, CEC member Daw Htwe Htwe Nyunt of MMCWA delivered an opening address and CEC member Daw Khin Nwe Nwe briefed on the project to-door health care service at Takkon Township township-level multiplier course for providing door- and Child Welfare Association conducted a

Strikers of Ministry of PBANRDA Team fight for the ball with players of Ministry of Industry-1 Team. — MNA

Lt-Gen Maung Bo inspects regional…

(from page 16) and Township War Veterans Organization.

The commander and Chairman Brig-Gen Zaw Min also presented saplings to officials concerned.

Next, Lt-Gen Maung Bo planted a teak sapling and the commander and Chairman Brig-Gen Zaw Min pyinkadoe and padauk saplings respectively.

Lt-Gen Maung Bo cordially greeted those who participated in the tree-growing ceremony.

Altogether 1,080 saplings of various kinds were grown.

Lt-Gen Maung Bo and party inspected the construction of 100-bed District Hospital. Lt-Gen Maung Bo gave instructions on completion of the hospital in time.— MNA

Minister inspects winnowing of paddy, paddy fields

NAY PYI TAW, 17 July — Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation Maj-Gen Htay Oo together with Chairman of Magway Division Peace and Development Council Col Phone Maw Shwe and departmental officials inspected winnowing of paddy by the use of machines in the summer paddy fields of Aung Chantha village, Tawseik village-tract, Salin Township in Magway Division and held a discussion with peasants, departmental officials and members of township and village Union Solidarity and Development Association on boosting production of paddy on 8 July.

Next, he looked into cultivation of 3 acres of physic nut plants in No 69 Power Tiller Station of Agricultural Mechanization Department in Sinbyu gyun Township and gave instructions on use of farm equipment and machines.

Next, the minister and party looked into Tanyaung river water pumping station on the west bank of Ayeyawady River and main canal.

Upon arrival at Lawkananda river water pumping project in NyaungU of Mandalay Division, Assistant Director U Maung Maung Lwin briefed the minister on water supply tasks for cultivation of 3400 acres of monsoon paddy.

Next, the minister and party inspected thriving date palm plantation of Myanmar Agriculture Service in NyaungU and Kyetmakaung dam in Kyaukpadau Township. Kyetmakaung dam supplied water for cultivation of 1600 acres of summer paddy last year, and 3786 summer paddy and 2008 acres of sesame this year.

Afterwards, the minister inspected inflow of water into the dam and storage of water. Director U Myo Tun of Construction Group-7 of Irrigation Department briefed the minister on water supply tasks to grow monsoon paddy in Natmauk in Magway Division. — MNA

Industry-1 and PBANRDA held 3-3 draw

NAY PYI TAW, 17 July — The second round of First Inter-Ministry Football Tournament continued today at Paunglaung Sports Ground in Pyinmana.

The match of Ministry of Industry-1 Team and Ministry of Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs Team ended with 3-3 draw today.

Among the spectators were Deputy Minister for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs Col Tin Ngwe, departmental officials and officials of Myanmar Olympic Committee and Myanmar Football Federation.

Han Nyunt Naing scored 2 goals and Myo Thanl 1 goal for PBANRDA and Zaw Lin Oo, Zaw Naing Oo and Soe Wai Lin scored one goal each for Ministry of Industry-1.

Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries Team will meet Ministry of Communications, Posts and Telegraphs Team tomorrow. — MNA

43 quit Kangyidaunt Township NLD

YANGON, 17 July — 43 members including U Myint Soe, U Saw Htoo, U Than Kywe, U Mya Lwin and U Hla Che of Kangyidaunt Township National League for Democracy, Ayeyawady Division, resigned from the party of their own accord sending their letters of resignation to NLD Headquarters and authorities concerned on 6 July.

In their letters sent to Kangyidaunt Township Multiparty Democracy General Election Subcommission, they said they no longer had trust and faith in the NLD party and they quit the party of their own volition as they wanted to participate in national development work by doing their bit. — MNA

Council, departmental officials, district/township MCWA members and others.— MNA

38 7-07NL
A D V E R T I S E M E N T S

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV KOTA TERAJU VOY NO (245)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV KOTA TERAJU VOY NO (245) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 18.7.2007 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.T.T where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm up to Claims Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the vessel.

No claims against this vessel will be admitted after the Claims Day.

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: MS ADVANCE CONTAINER LINES PTE LTD
Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

—

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV MARINA STAR-2 VOY NO (712)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV MARINA STAR-2 VOY NO (712) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 18.7.2007 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.T.T where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm up to Claims Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the vessel.

No claims against this vessel will be admitted after the Claims Day.

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: MS EAGLE SHIPPING CO., LTD
Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

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TRADEMARK CAUTION
Nippon Menard Cosmetics Co., Ltd. of No.130, Tomi-cho, Nishi-ku, Nagoya-shi, Aichi-ken, Japan is the Owner and Sole Proprieter of the following trademark:

RYOKUEI

(Reg. No. 17286/2004)
used in respect of - Intl Class 3: "Household antiseptic agents, household degreasing agents, rust removing preparations, stain removing benzene, laundry softener, laundry bleaches, adhesives for affixing false hair, adhesives for affixing false eyelashes, laundry starches, seaweed gelatin used for washing and stretching clothes, paint stripping preparations, shoe creams and boot creams, shoe polishers, polishing preparations, soaps, detergents, cosmetics, perfumery and fragrances, abrasive papers, abrasive cloths, abrasive sands, artificial sponges, polishing papers, false nails, false eyelashes".

L’ eau de RYOKUEI

(Reg. No. 17289/2004)
used in respect of - Intl Class 3: "Cosmetics, soaps, perfumery and fragrances, dentifrices, false nails, false eyelashes".

FRAUDULENT IMITATION OR UNAUTHORIZED USE OF THE SAID TRADEMARK WILL BE DEALT WITH ACCORDING TO LAW.

TRADEMARK CAUTION
LG CHEM., LTD., a Company incorporated in Republic of Korea, of 26, Yoido-dong, Youngdong-gu, Seoul, Republic of Korea, is the Owner of the following Trade Marks-

TERART

Reg. No. 3532/2007
in respect of "inorganic tiles for use in decorating wall".

FRAUDULENT IMITATION OR UNAUTHORIZED USE OF THE SAID TRADEMARK WILL BE DEALT WITH ACCORDING TO LAW.

TRADEMARK CAUTION
General Electric Company, a Corporation of the State of New York, of One River Road, Schenectady, New York, U.S.A is the Owner and Sole Proprietor of the following trademark-

GTX

Reg. No. 2/3561/1991
used in respect of - "Thermoplastic resin useful in manufacturing".

FRAUDULENT IMITATION OR UNAUTHORIZED USE OF ANY OTHER INFRINGEMENT WHATSOEVER OF THIS TRADEMARK WILL BE DEALT WITH ACCORDING TO LAW.

MHA/Lawyer

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FRAUDULENT IMITATION OR UNAUTHORIZED USE OF ANY OTHER INFRINGEMENT WHATSOEVER OF THIS TRADEMARK WILL BE DEALT WITH ACCORDING TO LAW.

More than 2,000 rivers, mountain torrents and rainstorms since June, which have triggered floods in thousands of lakes, has experienced six major flood attacks in the upper reaches of these rivers and two provinces, which could inflame sectarian violence between Sunni and Shiite Muslims, Iraq’s national security chief was quoted as saying on Wednesday. Iraq has long complained that fellow Arab countries are not doing enough to help end sectarian violence there—a complaint backed by Washington. Sunni Muslim insurgents fighting the US-backed Iraqi government and US forces regularly attack Shiite targets. Some of the insurgents have been Saudis whose al-Qaeda radical Sunni ideology despises Shiites. In turn, Shiite militias attack Sunni targets.

MNA/Reuters

Floods leave 68 dead, 25 missing in Hubei Province

WUHAN, 16 July—The rainstorm and floods have killed 68 people and 25 others were missing in central China’s Hubei Province since the flood season began in June, according to local government.

Another 402,000 people have been evacuated from affected areas, said Liu Hui, deputy head of the disaster relief office under the provincial civil affairs department at a Press conference on Sunday afternoon.

Hubei, which is also called “the province of lakes”, has experienced six major flood attacks in the upper reaches of these rivers and two provinces, which could inflame sectarian violence between Sunni and Shiite Muslims, Iraq’s national security chief was quoted as saying on Wednesday. Iraq has long complained that fellow Arab countries are not doing enough to help end sectarian violence there—a complaint backed by Washington. Sunni Muslim insurgents fighting the US-backed Iraqi government and US forces regularly attack Shiite targets. Some of the insurgents have been Saudis whose al-Qaeda radical Sunni ideology despises Shiites. In turn, Shiite militias attack Sunni targets.

MNA/Reuters

Nearly 10 mln in central China affected by rainstorms

BEIJING, 16 July—Rainstorms continued to hit central China’s Henan and Hubei provinces, with nearly 10 million people affected in the two provinces, said the Ministry of Civil Affairs on Sunday.

Since 7 July, nine people were killed and two missing in Hubei Province, and 100,710 persons were evacuated, according to the ministry.

MNA/Xinhua

MNA/Reuters

Iraq, Saudi Arabia agree to monitor sectarian fatwas

RIYADH, 16 July—Iraq and Saudi Arabia have agreed to monitor sectarian fatwas from clerics which could inflame violence between Sunni and Shiite Muslims, Iraq’s national security chief was quoted as saying on Wednesday. Iraq has long complained that fellow Arab countries are not doing enough to help end sectarian violence there—a complaint backed by Washington. Sunni Muslim insurgents fighting the US-backed Iraqi government and US forces regularly attack Shiite targets. Some of the insurgents have been Saudis whose al-Qaeda radical Sunni ideology despises Shiites. In turn, Shiite militias attack Sunni targets.

MNA/Reuters
Weight lifting can help heart disease patients

Mark A. Williams. — INTERNET

BEIJING, 17 July — Weight lifting, also known as resistance training, can provide multiple benefits for patients with heart disease and can be safely performed if certain guidelines are followed, according to an article by the American Heart Association (AHA) in the Wednesday, 17 July edition of the AHA’s online publication, Heart Advisor.

Just like we once learned that people with heart disease benefited from aerobic exercise, we are now learning that guided, moderate weight training also has significant benefits,” said Dr. Mark A. Williams, chair of the AHA writing group, “Resistance training helps people perform daily activities, including lifting sacks of groceries.”

Resistance training is also associated with improvements in quality of life and reduced disability in people with and without heart disease, according to the AHA report.

The report also describes the appropriate resistance or weight load for patients initiating resistance training. For instance, the initial load should allow healthy sedentary adults to perform 8 to 12 repetitions per set. The emphasis at the early stage of training is to allow time for the muscles to adapt and to practice good technique, thus reducing the potential for excessive muscle soreness and injury,” Williams explained.

The report cited a study of a 10-week period of resistance training among nursing home residents with an average age of 87 that resulted in improvements in strength and stair-climbing power.

In another study of older women who were heart failure patients, 10 weeks of resistance training resulted in a 43 percent increase in muscle strength and a 49 percent increase in the distance covered in a six-minute walk.

DiCaprio, Discovery building “Eco-Town”

Leonardo DiCaprio

BEIJING, 16 July — Discovery Communications has partnered with actor Leonardo DiCaprio on an environment-focused series that will help launch the company’s Planet Green channel. The 13-part series, “Eco-Town,” will chronicle the rebuilding of the small town of Greensburg, Kansas, which was devastated by a tornado on 4 May.

The town, which has more than 1,500 residents, will be rebuilt as a “sustainable model of eco-living and one that will save it from future environmental catastrophes.”

“The centerpiece of the launch of Planet Green is going to be our effort to help the governor of Kansas and the town of Greensburg, Kansas, to rebuild that town green,” Discovery Communications president and CEO David Zaslav said, adding that the environment has been a focus of Discovery since its inception. “It’s not just about entertainment; we’re going to put our resources into Greensburg and Planet Green and try to make a difference.”

“A new series, ‘It’s Not Rocket Science,’ will premiere on Science Channel in the fall. During the session, Discovery Channel also spotlighted new programming including “Storm Chasers,” debutting 16 October, and “OC-ean of Fear: The Worst Shark Attack Ever,” premiering 29 July to kick off the 20th anniversary of “Shark Week.”

Scientists believe China’s native tiger still exists in wild

XI’AN, 16 July — The south China tiger, a species native to south China but thought to be extinct in the wild, almost certainly still exist in the remote subtropical forests in the wild west, a group of scientists say.

“We saw footprints, heard their bellows and talked to villagers who had seen the big cats,” said Professor Liu Shifeng of Northwest China University. Liu headed a group of 30 zoologists to trace the tiger in the outback of Shaanxi Province last summer and winter. They searched through at least 130,000 hectares of forests in two trips that together lasted two-and-a-half months. But not a single tiger was spotted.

The last south China tiger was seen in Shaanxi Province in 1964. “But this time we did find big footprints 15-cm long and 15-cm wide at an interval of one metre. They could not have been left by leopards or any other known animal in the region,” he said.

Living fossil fish coelacanth caught in Zanzibar

BEIJING, 16 July — A strange fish caught by fishermen in Zanzibar has proved to be a coelacanth, a “living fossil” once thought to have gone extinct with the dinosaurs 65 million years ago, media reported on Monday.

The fish, which weighs 27 kg and is 1.34 metres long, was caught off the tropical island’s northern tip, according to researcher Nariman Jidawi of Zanzibar’s Institute of Marine Science.

“The fishermen informed us they had caught this strange fish and we quickly rushed to find it was a coelacanth,” Jidawi was quoted as saying by newsmedia.

The coelacanth is known from fossil records dating back more than 360 million years. In 1938, a coelacanth was caught by a South African museum curator on a local fishing trawler off the eastern coast of South Africa — a major zoological find. In recent years, around 30 have been caught off Tanzania.

Coelacanths are the only living animals to have a fully functional intercranial joint, a division separating the ear and brain from the nasal organs and eye.

The most striking feature of this “living fossil” is its paired lobe fins that extend away from its body like legs and move in an alternating pattern. — Internet

NASA considering mission to Mars’ two moons

BEIJING, 16 July — America’s space agency is co-sponsoring in early November the first international conference to consider sending robots and humans to Deimos and Phobos — the two moons of Mars. Many scientists think the satellites are captured asteroids that originated in the outer solar system, and NASA is thinking of putting together a mission to find out for sure.

The exploratory conference will take place at the NASA Ames Research Centre in California. The scientists will explore new ideas on probing the two moons, as well as how to use them as a gateway for exploring the Red Planet. From the human exploration perspective, scientists and engineers are to delve into what an expeditionary crew might do on Phobos and Deimos — and how to use those mini-worlds to help investigate Mars, as well as what precursor robotic missions that might be needed will be addressed. — Internet
Holders Japan power into Asian Cup quarters

HANOI, 17 July — Holders Japan stormed into the Asian Cup quarter-finals with a clinical 4-1 demolition of co-hosts Vietnam on Monday.

But Vietnam, appearing in the tournament for the first time in 47 years, joined Japan in the last eight after Qatar lost 2-1 to United Arab Emirates in the other Group B game.

"I'm still not satisfied," Japan coach Ivica Osim told reporters. "If I was satisfied then I might as well just quit as coach."

Japan's reward for finishing top of their group is a grudge quarter-final against Australia, who avoided an early exit with a 4-0 win over Thailand in Bangkok later on Monday.

A Keita Suzuki own goal put Vietnam ahead after just seven minutes and triggered riotous celebrations among a crowd of 40,000, but it took Japan just five minutes to restore normal service.

Celtic midfield star Shunsuke Nakamura found space on the left to float over a perfect cross for Seiichiro Yamada to head past the keeper.

Just seven minutes and triggered riotous celebrations in one section of the near-empty Supachalasai stadium, where about 200 rejoicing flag-waving Iraqis sang long after Younis Al Mushaifri's header whistled past the post with the keeper beaten.

Ruthless Australia find form in rout of Thailand

BANGKOK, 17 July — Australia put a dismal start to their first Asian Cup campaign behind them by thrashing co-hosts Thailand 4-0 to reach the quarterfinals on Monday.

Captain Mark Viduka scored two late goals in a ruthless display by the Socceroos which set up a mouth-watering last-eight clash with Japan.

Michael Beauchamp opened the scoring from a set-piece in the 20th minute before captain Viduka sealed victory with goals in the 79th and 83rd minutes.

Harry Kewell completed the rout with a goal in the last minute of normal time, confirming the one-time tournament favourites' return to form. The two teams finished Group A level on four points in second place but Australia went through as runners-up based on their goal difference result.

Iraq finished top of the group standings after playing out a scoreless draw with Oman. Iraq play Vietnam in the quarterfinals.

The Socceroos were in danger of an embarrassing early exit from the tournament after drawing 1-1 with Oman and losing 3-1 to Iraq but found their form in the nick of time at a packed Rajamangala stadium. After struggling to cope with the heat and humidity in their previous games, the Australians could not have asked for better conditions with the match played at night in steady rain.

UAE sink Qatar to send Vietnam through

HO CHI MINH CITY (Vietnam), 17 July — United Arab Emirates struck in stoppage time through Faisal Khalil to beat Qatar 2-1 in an Asian Cup Group B on Monday.

Qatar needed victory to reach the quarterfinals after drawing their games against Japan and co-hosts Vietnam, and defeat left them bottom of the standings.

Coach Djamel Majid took over at the Asia Cup after his former club Al Sadd picked up the red card.

United Arab Emirates, out of contention after losing to Japan and Vietnam, leap above Qatar into third place. Qatar had looked to be on their way into the last eight when Uruguay-born striker Sebastian Quintana converted a penalty three minutes before halftime.

Top Malaysian official resigns after latest defeat

KUALA LUMPUR, 17 July — The deputy president of the Football Association of Malaysia has resigned, one day after the co-hosts suffered a second straight heavy defeat in the Asian Cup.

Tengku Abdullah Sultan Ahmad Shah said in a letter faxed to local news agency Bernama on Sunday: "It is with deep regret that I would like to inform you that I have decided to resign from all my positions in the FAM today."

No reason was given for his resignation but Abdullah was known to be unhappy with Malaysia's performance in Asia's premier international tournament.

Ahmed, also an executive member of the Asian Football Confederation (AFC), criticized coach Norizan Bakar after Malaysia lost 5-1 to China in their Group C opener on Tuesday.

Mourinho hopes to produce more open game to reclaim title

LONDON, 17 July — Jose Mourinho is back on speaking terms with Chelsea owner Roman Abramovich and says he now feels so settled in London that he has bought a house.

Mourinho, in the United States on Chelsea's pre-season tour, said that his injury-hit side spent much of last season playing "survival football" but hoped to be able to produce a more open game in their bid to reclaim the Premier League title. Many observers felt that Mourinho's strained relationship with Abramovich, caused partly by the Russian's refusal to fund transfers the manager wanted, adversely affected the team last season but the coach said that things had improved.

"We had a very long meeting at Stamford Bridge last week that made everything clear between us. There is no doubts. I know what he thinks, I know what he feels, I know what he wants," Mourinho told the London Evening Times. "It is possible to do it again very, very well."

"I think it's better to have one very good and long meeting than 10 short and bad," Mourinho told the Sunday Times. "It was a very distressing match. It was like a final, it was a very complicated game."

Oman needed victory to stand any chance of going through and were on the attack from the outset.

They spurned countless chances but could have won the game a minute from time when Younis Al Mushaifri's header whistled past the post with the keeper beaten.

Iraq survive Oman onslaught to reach last eight

BANGKOK, 17 July — Iraq reached the Asian Cup quarterfinals for the fourth time in row after holding spirited Oman to a goalless draw in their final Group A match on Monday.

Iraq topped the group with five points but could easily have lost the game after surviving a relentless wave of Oman pressure that could have cost them a place in the last eight.

The result sparked scenes of jubilation in one section of the near-empty Supachalasai stadium, where about 200 rejoicing flag-waving Iraqis sang long after the final whistle.

British's David Beckham trains at his first official soccer practice session for the Los Angeles Galaxy at their stadium in Carson, California, on 16 July, 2007.

China's Liu Xiang (C) competes in the men's 110-metre hurdles at Norwich Union British Grand Prix in Sheffield, Britain, on 15 July, 2007. Liu won the champion by 13.23 seconds.
Iraqi media worker killed

BAGHDAD, 16 July — An Iraqi translator working for foreign media was killed in Baghdad by gunmen in southern Baghdad, an Iraqi media watchdog said on Sunday.

"Unknown gunmen shot dead a translator working for Reuters news agency and two of his brothers were killed on Wednesday by gunmen in the Jers Diyala area in southern part of the capital," the Journalistic Freedom Agency and two of his family members.

A day after, two of Reuters' Iraq staff were also killed during clashes between insurgents and the US troops in Baghdad's southeastern neighborhood of al-Amin.

Naimer Noor al-Deen, 22, who worked as a photographer and his driver Saeed Shmagh, 42, were killed during the clashes but the cause of death was not clear, although witnesses talked about an explosion in the area where they killed. Reuters' Baghdad office said in a statement.

The Iraqi police reported the incident but did not confirm the cause of death, saying "the death might be caused by a US aerial bombing or a mortar attack."

The latest deaths bring to seven the number of Reuters employees killed in Iraq since the US-led invasion in March 2003. On Friday, another journalist working for the New York Times was also killed in Baghdad's southern neighborhood of Saidiyah, according to the watchdog.

Khalid Hassan, also known as Khalid Samim, 23, has been working for the US daily for four years, it said.

More than 230 Iraqi media workers were killed in Iraq since the US-led invasion in 2003, according to the Iraqi Union of Journalists count.

Bulgarian archaeologist Georgi Ktilov shows a fourth century BC Thracian golden mask near the village of Topolchane, some 208 km (175 miles) east from the capital Sofia, Bulgaria, on 15 July, 2007. — Reuters

WEATHER

Tuesday, 17 July, 2007

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST: During the past 24 hours, weather has been partly cloudy in Chin and Kayah States, lower Sagaing Division, rain has been scattered in Shan State, Mandalay and Magway Divisions, fairly widespread in Kachin State and upper Sagaing, Yangon Divisions and widespread in the remaining States and Divisions with isolated heavy falls in Rakhine and Mon States. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were An (3.90) inches, Ye (3.07) inches, Myitkyina (2.60) inches, Kawkarek (2.05) inches, Bago (1.77) inches, Hpa-an and Dawei (1.58) inches each.

Maximum temperature on 16-7-2007 was 84°F. Minimum temperature on 17-7-2007 was 74°F. Relative humidity at 09:30 hours MST on 17-7-2007 was 93%. Total sunshine hours on 16-7-2007 was 0.3 hour approx.

Rainfall on 17-7-2007 was (0.40) inch at Mindagalo, (0.23) inch at Kaba-Aye, (0.24) inch at Central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2007 was (73.98) inches at Mindagalo, (78.46) inches at Kaba-Aye and (78.31) inches at Central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (5) mph from South at (18:00) hours MST on 16-7-2007.

Bay inference: Monsoon is moderate to strong in the Andaman Sea and the Bay of Bengal.

Forecast valid until evening of 18-7-2007: Rain will be isolated in Chin and Kayah States, lower Sagaing Division, scattered in Shan State, Mandalay and Magway Divisions, fairly widespread in Kachin State and upper Sagaing Division and widespread in the remaining States and Divisions. Degree of certainty is (80%).

State of the sea: Squalls with moderate to rough seas are likely at times off and along Myanmar Coasts. Surface wind speed in squalls may reach (35) to (40) mph.

Outlook for subsequent two days: Likelihood of decrease of rain in Rakhine State.

Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring areas for 18-7-2007: Isolated rain. Degree of certainty is (80%).

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring areas for 18-7-2007: One or two rain. Degree of certainty is (80%).

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring areas for 18-7-2007: Likelihood of isolated drizzle. Degree of certainty is (60%).

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Lt-Gen Maung Bo inspects regional development tasks in Htokawkoe region in Kawkareik Township

NAY PYI TAW, 17 July — Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Maung Bo of the Ministry of Defence, Chairman of Mon State Peace and Development Council Commander of South-East Command Maj-Gen Thet Naing Win, Chairman of Kayin State Peace and Development Council Brig-Gen Zaw Min, senior military officers and officials of the State Peace and Development Council Office and departmental heads inspected regional development tasks in Htokawkoe region in Kawkareik District, Kayin State on 14 July.

Lt-Gen Maung Bo and party inspected rubber farms, cultivation of monsoon paddy and road section on Kawkareik-Nabu Road.

Lt-Gen Maung Bo and party also inspected paving of Nabu-Htokawkoe Road in Htokawkoe Village.

Director of Kayin State Development Affairs Committee U Maung Maung reported on measures undertaken for development of Htokawkoe region, water and power supply, a new building and furniture for basic education middle school, construction of delivery room, paving of Nabu-Htokawkoe Road, arrangements for construction of Htokawkoe-Kyaw Khoo Road and cultivation of paddy, sugarcane and rubber.

Lt-Gen Maung Bo then gave instructions and fulfilled the requirements. Next, he presented rice, clothing, books and stationery to leaders of national races of the region.

He inspected installation of iSplitstar telephone, houses of the villagers, Winthuza shop, dispensary and delivery room, library and barber shop.

Lt-Gen Maung Bo and party inspected growing of physic nut, monsoon paddy and road section on Nabu-Kawkareik Road.

Lt-Gen Maung Bo attended the tree-planting ceremony held at No 2 Basic Education High School in Kawkareik. He presented saplings to officials of District Union Solidarity and Development Association, District Maternal and Child Welfare Supervisory Committee, Township Women’s Affairs Organization (See page 11).

Lt-Gen Maung Bo plants a teak tree at the monsoon season tree planting ceremony in Kawkareik District. — MNA

Lt-Gen Myint Swe attends opening ceremony of University of Public Health (Yangon)

YANGON, 16 July — A ceremony to open the University of Public Health (Yangon) under the Medical Science Department of the Ministry of Health was held at the university in front of University of Medicine 1 on Lammadaw Road in Latha Township this morning.

Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Hla Htay Win, Minister for Health Dr Kyaw Myint, Chairman of Yangon City Development Committee Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin and WHO SEA Regional Director Dr Samlee Plianbangchang formally opened the university.

Lt-Gen Myint Swe of the Ministry of Defence unveiled the plaque of the university and sprinkled scented water on it.

Next, the commander, the minister, the WHO SEA Regional Director and the Mayor sprinkled scented water on the plaque.

Also present on the occasion were Deputy Ministers for Health Dr Mya Oo and Dr Paing Soe, WHO Resident Representative Prof Adik Wibowo, the director-general of Medical Science Department, rectors, directors, medical superintendents, officials and members of the social organizations.

After the ceremony, Lt-Gen Myint Swe, the commander and party visited the University of Public Health (Yangon). — MNA

Lt-Gen Myint Swe unveils bronze plaque of the University of Public Health (Yangon). — MNA