Emergence of the State Constitution is the duty of all citizens of Myanmar Naing-Ngan.

It is no need to ask if they love their state and national race as they are getting cash assistance from the big nations and remain under their influence.

They have never spent the dollars they have received for the so-called refugee camps on a single school, a hospital or a road. These points are the root causes of their downfall.

Lt-Gen Kyaw Win attends prize presentation for outstanding students of Shan State (South) in 2007 matriculation exam

Nay Pyi Taw, 28 July — Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Kyaw Win of the Ministry of Defence attended the prize presentation ceremony for outstanding students of Shan State (South) in the 2007 matriculation examination at the city hall in Taunggyi, Shan State (South) yesterday morning.

Speaking on the occasion, Lt-Gen Kyaw Win said that the number of universities and colleges in the nation rose up to 156 in 2007 from 32 in 1988 in the higher education sector. In Shan State (South), there was one university/college in 1988, and at present, seven universities and colleges have been opened in 2007. Likewise, the number of university students increased up to 596,696 in 2007 from 134,325 in 1988. In Shan State (South), although there were 3,064 students in 1988, a total of 7,929 students are attending the universities and colleges in 2007.

He continued to say that there were 722 basic education high schools, 1,696 BEMSs and 31,329 BEPSs throughout the nation in 1988, and a total of 2,047 BEHSs, 2,605 BEMSs, 5,952 Post-Primary Schools and 35,896 BEPSs have been opened in the entire nation in 2007. In Shan State (South), the number of BEHS rose up to 58 in 2007 from 29 in 1988, 115 BEMSs in 2007 from 80 in 1988 and 2,178 BEPS in 2007 from 1,826 in 1988. In addition, the state has opened 342 post-primary schools now. A total of 5,239,878 students attended basic education schools in the entire nation in 1988, and there are 7,838,136 students in 2007. In Shan State (South), the number of basic education students increased up to 348,015 in 2007 from 229,749 in 1988.

He cited that, in Knowledge Age the government believes that educated human resources can make the country develop. Therefore, the government is making efforts for development of human resources for future generations. Moreover, emphasis is being placed on improvement of the education sector for ensuring existence of a discipline-flourishing democratic nation.

Shan State (South) Education Officer U Mya Htut reported on the pass rate of the 2007 matriculation examination.

(See page 7)
Follow Noble Eightfold Path, perform meritorious deeds

Eight weeks after attaining the Enlightenment at the foot of the Maha Bodhi Tree, the Buddha went to Migadavun Forest. At about sunset on Full Moon Day of Waso 103 Great Era, He preached the first sermon Dhammacakka Sutta (The Wheel of the Doctrine) to Panca Vaggi (the group of the first Five Monks).

The Dhammacakka Sermon says that it is required of everyone to refrain from the two extremes—Kama Sukhallikanyayoga which means indulgence in sensual pleasures and Attakilamathanuyoga which means self-mortification. And with these two wrong paths, one cannot free oneself from the Circle of Birth and Death.

The Buddha also said that only through Majjhima Patipada or Noble Eightfold Path, would it be possible for one to gain insight and attain Nirvana.

Defining the term of the Four Noble Truths—Dukkha Sacca, Samudaya Sacca, Nirodha Sacca, and Magga Sacca, He expounded Magga Sacca or Eight Maggas (the Middle Way).

The Dhammacakka Sutta features the Middle Way, which consists of right view, right thinking, right speech, right action, right livelihood, right effort, right mindfulness and right concentration.

Entire Buddhists of the nation should, therefore, practise the Middle Way manifested in the Dhammacakka Sutta and perform three kinds of meritorious deeds—giving charity, observing moral precepts, and doing meditation every day.

Ministry of Science and Technology offers Waso robes to monks

NAY PYI TAW, 28 July — Under the aegis of Minister for Science and Technology U Thaung and wife Daw May Kyi Sein, the Ministry of Science and Technology organized the Waso robes offering ceremony at its hall, here, this morning.

Minister U Thaung, Deputy Minister U Kyaw Soe and Deputy Minister for Labour Maj Gen Aung Kyi donated Waso robes and provisions to members of the Sangha. Later, Minister U Thaung and the deputy ministers offered meals to members of the Sangha.

Also present on the occasion were members of the Sangha led by Bhaddanta Kumara of Thayetwadi Pariyatti Monastery of Nay Pyi Taw Lew, departmental heads and staff. — MNA

Jivitadana Sangha Hospital holds Waso robes offering ceremony

YANGON, 28 July — The 21st Waso robes offering ceremony of Jivitadana Sangha Hospital was held at the hall of the hospital this morning, attended by the Patron of Hospital Administration Committee and members, guests and staff.

First, the congregation received the Nine Precepts from Nayaka Sayadaw of Dawbon Township Sasana Alinyaung Monastery Bhaddanta Jotika and offered Waso robes and offerings to the Sayadaw and members of the Sangha.

Next, the Sayadaw delivered a sermon and those present shared the merits gained.

MNA

71 members resign from Kangyidaung Township National League for Democracy as they fed up with the NLD’s acts designed to undermine the State

YANGON, 28 July — As many as 71 members of Kangyidaung Township National League for Democracy of Pathein District, Ayeyawady Division including U Tun Tin, U Win Myint, U Aung Kyi Thein, U Tin Hlaing, U Ko Thein, U T T Tun, U Khin Kyaw, U Hla Myint, U Myint Thein and U Than Naing on 17 July resigned from the NLD party of their own volition, sending letters of resignation to the NLD Headquarters and local authorities concerned.

In their letter of resignation sent to the Kangyidaung Township Multi-party Democracy General Election Sub-commission, they said that the NLD is sticking to demanding power, ignoring national consolidation and unity among democracy forces; and that they were fed up with the NLD’s acts leading to undermining the State and the people and wanted to join hands with the government for national development. That was why they resigned from the party of their own volition, they said. — MNA
Bangladesh to sign TAC with ASEAN countries

Dhaka, 27 July — Bangladesh will join in the Treaty of Amity and Cooperation (TAC) in Southeast Asia aiming to further strengthen its Look East Policy and deepen relations with the Association of South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN) countries.

A meeting of the Council of Advisers of Bangladesh caretaker government on Wednesday took the decision and approved the proposal for Bangladesh’s accession to the TAC, private news agency UNB reported.

The meeting assigned Foreign Adviser Dr Iftekhar Ahmed Chowdhury to the task of signing the treaty during his tour of the Philippines to attend the forthcoming ministerial-level meeting of ARF (ASEAN Regional Forum) on 2 August.

The Philippines, the current ARF chairman, has invited Bangladesh to take part in the TAC in February, 1976. Bangladesh, after long diplomatic efforts over last four years, got the ARF membership last year. The ARF is one of Asia’s major security groupings that includes ASEAN and its dialogue partners.

MNA/Xinhua

Diabetes drugs ‘pose heart risk’

London, 27 July — Two drugs commonly prescribed to treat type 2 diabetes double the risk of heart failure, a study of data on more than 78,000 patients suggests. More than 1.5 million prescriptions for rosiglitazone and pioglitazone were issued in England alone last year. The researchers, led by the University of East Anglia, suggest fluid retention caused by the drugs may be to blame.

Writing in the journal Diabetes Care, they call for a rethink on the drugs by the regulatory authorities. Patients are advised not to stop taking the drugs, but to consult their GP if they have concerns.

Prescriptions for the drugs, known as thiazolidinediones, have doubled over the last three years. Rosiglitazone, brand name Avandia, was linked to heart attacks by research published earlier this year.

The drugs may cause fluid retention, leading to heart problems. —INTERNET

Three NATO soldiers, one Afghan soldier killed in Afghanistan fighting

Kabul, 28 July — Three NATO soldiers died Friday in Afghanistan fighting, two in the east and one in the south, NATO’s International Security Assistance Force said.

Along with the two killed during fighting in Regional Command East, an Afghan National Army soldier was killed and 15 others were wounded.

The 15 included 13 ISAF members, an Afghan soldier and a civilian, ISAF said. The slain ISAF soldier in the south was killed during an “engagement with enemy fighters,” it said.

The nationalities of the people killed and wounded were not immediately released. —INTERNET

Six Iraqi police killed by Samarra roadside bomb

Baghdad, 27 July — Six Iraqi police were killed and four were wounded Friday when a roadside bomb struck their patrol in Samarra’s Dhuibat neighborhood, a Samarra police official said.

The incident took place about 10 pm Samarra is about 60 miles (100 km) north of Baghdad.

Separately, Baghdad police found seven slain bodies across the capital Friday, the Interior Ministry said.

The dumped bodies found daily are thought to be the result of Sunni-Shiite sectarian violence. The total number of such deaths this month now stands at 531. —INTERNET
Panel seeks overhaul of US military health system

WASHINGTON, 26 July — The US military health care system for wounded troops is complex and confusing and must be overhauled so Iraq and Afghanistan war veterans receive needed care, a presidential commission urged on Wednesday.

The commission, appointed by President George W Bush following a scandal at the Walter Reed Army Medical Centre earlier this year, called for the first major reform of the military health bureaucracy in 50 years.

Bush promised to swiftly implement the recommendations, which would force more coordination between the Pentagon and Veterans Affairs Departments.

He said he ordered Defence Secretary Robert Gates and Veterans Affairs Secretary James Nicholson, who is set to resign after a tenure marked by criticism of his agency, to move ahead with the panel’s recommendations.

“The spirit of that report is, anytime we have somebody hurt they deserve the best possible care and their family needs strong support,” Bush told reporters.

Bush ordered a review in February of the care received by wounded US troops returning from Iraq and Afghanistan after reports that many faced neglect at Walter Reed, the premier US military hospital. A Washington Post article found soldiers were living in a run-down building that was infested with mice, mold and cockroaches.

Many soldiers also struggled with red tape in trying to get treatment. Many soldiers also struggled with red tape in trying to get treatment.

In 2006, the Pentagon launched an independent investigation and Congress has advanced legislation aimed at improving care for injured troops.

On Wednesday, the Senate unanimously passed The Wounded Warriors Act, which addresses some of the same problems identified by the commission, such as the competing disability rating systems used by the military and VA.

Another teenager shot dead in south London

LONDON, 27 July — A 16-year-old boy has been shot dead fleeing a gang of youths in south London, becoming the latest young victim of violent crime in the capital this year.

The boy was found with a gunshot wound after police were called to an estate in Stockwell shortly after midnight on Thursday. He was pronounced dead at the scene.

“Initial reports suggest the victim was running away from a number of youths on bicycles prior to being shot,” said Detective Inspector Geoff Whitehouse.

Police said they believed they knew the boy’s identity but were awaiting formal identification.

The killing is the latest in a series of murders involving teenagers which have provoked intense debate about gang culture. — MNA/Reuters

Iranian Minister says sanctions ineffective

WASHINGTON, 27 July — More US or international sanctions will not persuade Iran to back down on its nuclear programme and could lead to “confrontation” with the West, Iranian Foreign Minister Manouchehr Mottaki said in an interview published on Thursday.

Speaking this week to National Public Radio’s “All Things Considered” programme, Mottaki dismissed two sets of UN sanctions imposed on Iran since December and said tougher penalties would not work.

“In today’s world, the instrument of sanctions is no longer effective,” he said according to a report on the NPR website which was to be broadcast by the network later on Thursday.

US officials and experts have insisted for some time that US and UN sanctions are having a significant effect on Teheran, especially on its ability to access the international financial system.

A third UN sanctions resolution is under discussion by the United States, other permanent members of the UN Security Council — China, Britain, France and Russia — and Germany.

Mottaki told NPR the new resolution would not force Iran to halt its uranium enrichment programme, which the United States and its allies say is aimed at fueling nuclear weapons but Teheran insists is intended to produce electricity.

“I will be the start of a confrontation,” he said.

MNA/Reuters

Six Alpine climbers die in cold wave

MILAN, 26 July — Six mountain climbers have died of exposure in the Alps when temperatures plunged to well below freezing, Italian and French officials said on Wednesday.

The six died in three separate incidents on Tuesday while much of Italy was grappling with a heatwave that spawned brush fires that killed at least two people.

French authorities found four dead climbers on the Bionassay crest, on the French side of Mont Blanc, Europe’s highest peak, French police in Chamonix said.

Three of the climbers were identified as being from Chile, France and from New Zealand.

Authorities are trying to confirm the nationality of the fourth person.

“These climbers did not have a tent and their clothing was absolutely inadequate to deal with the sudden weather changes,” Italian daily Corriere della Sera quoted French police official Olivier Kim as saying.

The four were students in the French city of Grenoble and between 20 and 25 years old, Italian newspapers said. French authorities could not confirm their ages.

A fifth climber, a Belgian man in his 50s, died in the Italian Alps in the Trentino area of northeastern Italy, police officials said.

A sixth person died near Monte Rosa, about 40 kilometres (25 miles) east of Mont Blanc, an Italian civil protection official said late on Tuesday.

MNA/Reuters
Top British trade official expelled from Russia

MOSCOW, 27 July — Russia has expelled Britain’s top commercial and trade diplomat as part of its retaliation in a continuing row over the extradition of a murder suspect, the Moscow Times newspaper reported on Thursday.

The English-language daily reported that Andrew Levi, Minister Counsellor for Economic Affairs at the British Embassy in Moscow, was the highest ranking of the four British diplomats asked to leave by the Foreign Ministry last week. “Multiple sources close to Levi...have confirmed that he is one of the four and is due to leave the country on Sunday,” the newspaper reported. Levi was not answering his office telephone on Thursday and the British embassy would not say whether the report of his expulsion was true. Russia expelled four British diplomats in a tit-for-tat response to Britain’s ejection of four Russian envoys.

London took that action to show its displeasure at Moscow’s refusal to extradite a suspect in the murder of emigre spy Alexander Litvinenko, who became a British citizen after quitting Russia. “We are not going to comment at all on the identities of those to be expelled,” British Ambassador Anthony Brenton told Reuters.

Britain and Russia both said at the time of the diplomats’ expulsions that they did not want to harm their flourishing trade and investment relationship and Brenton reiterated this. “The important thing in this is where Russia-UK relations go next,” he said. “Our firm intention is that our booming economic relationship continues to boom.” — Reuters

China bans poultry imports from Germany, Czech, Virginia

BEIJING, 27 July — China on Wednesday banned the imports of poultry and poultry products from Germany, the Czech Republic, the State of Virginia of the United States as well as the imports of swine products from the Republic of Georgia.

Chinese Ministry of Agriculture and the General Administration of Quality Supervision, Inspection and Quarantine jointly issued the public notice on Wednesday, saying both direct and indirect imports are prohibited due to local outbreak of animal diseases.

The notice said that recently Germany, the Czech Republic and some areas of the United States were hit by avian influenza and the Republic of Georgia by African swine fever.

The ban is aimed at preventing these animal diseases from infecting China, so as to protect China’s animal husbandry industry and ensure public health of the Chinese.

China ordered the return or destruction of poultry, pigs, wild boar and related products that had been shipped to China since the outbreak of relevant animal diseases.

No poultry, pigs, wild boars and related products from the disease-hit countries and areas would be found on ships, boats, planes, trains or any other transportation vehicle that pass by or stop over the Chinese territory, they would be destroyed under the supervision of the General Administration of Quality Supervision, Inspection and Quarantine, said the notice. — MNA/Xinhua

Vietnam expects higher export revenues in first seven months

HANOI, 27 July — Vietnam is estimated to gain export turnovers of 26.8 billion US dollars in the first seven months of this year, compared with over 22.3 billion dollars in the same period last year, the General Statistics Office said on Thursday.

In July alone, Vietnam is set to earn nearly 4.3 billion dollars from shipping abroad goods, mainly crude oil, garments and textiles, rubber, pepper, rice and seafood.

Between January and July, products posting high export growth in earnings include coffee with a surge of 102 per cent, plastic products with 49 per cent, electric wires and cables with 47 per cent, and pepper with 17 per cent.

Meanwhile, key items with big export revenues include crude oil with over 4.4 billion dollars; textiles and garments, 4.2 billion dollars; footwear, nearly 2.4 billion dollars; and seafood, roughly two billion dollars.

Vietnam posted export turnovers of 39.6 billion dollars in 2006, up 22.1 per cent against 2005. — MNA/Xinhua

Japanesemini-cars drive by the Kabuki Theater in downtown Tokyo on 25 June, 2007 file photo. Japanese car makers are once again proving that smaller sells big. After pioneering first the gas-sipping compact, then the subcompact, the country’s auto companies have gone the next step with so-called ‘minicars’, a new breed basically putting a motorcycle-sized engine on four wheels. — INTERNET

73 illegal labourers detained in Macao

MACAO, 28 July — The Macao police have nabbed 73 illegal imported labourers, local media reported Friday.

The Macao Post Daily quoted police sources as saying that the police personnel launched the surprise raid on a casino-hotel construction site in the city’s Nape Region on Thursday. Among the 73 suspects, 51 are holding Hong Kong passports, 21 the Chinese Mainland travel documents and one Japanese, the sources told the newspaper.

The employment of illegal workers is a crime that incurs hefty fines and imprisonment in case of repeat offenders. Illegally employed workers are customarily ordered to leave Macao.

Macao’s number of illegally imported labourers has been rising in recent years. — MNA/Xinhua
Bush Administration criticized on prisoner treatment

WASHINGTON, 27 July — The Bush Administration was criticized on Thursday for its treatment of detainees in the war on terrorism, with a military officer saying US policies enabled it to “detain anyone it pleases” and lawmakers calling for an end to secret CIA prisons.

Lieutenant-Colonel Stephen Abraham, an Army reservist and lawyer who served on one of the tribunals for prisoners at Guantanamo, told the House Armed Services Committee the existing system of hearing prisoner appeals simply “rubber stamped detentions”.

He denounced the Guantanamo tribunals as “nothing more than an effort by the (US) executive to... detain anyone it pleases in the war against terror”.

Abraham, who has years of experience as a military intelligence officer, worked for several months in 2004 and 2005 in the Pentagon unit that reviewed cases of Guantanamo captives.

Recalling a policeman’s line from the movie “Casablanca” — “round up the usual suspects” — Abraham told lawmakers: “Today, they would be at Guantanamo.”

Last month, Abraham filed a court affidavit with his criticisms of the process. Shortly afterwards, the US Supreme Court agreed to hear appeals by Guantanamo prisoners after previously turning them down.

MNA/Reuters

An armed guard patrols the spillway of the newly built San Roque Dam in Pangasinan Province, Philippines. A prolonged dry spell in the Philippines has raised the possibility of water shortages and power cuts in the capital and surrounding areas, officials said on 26 July, 2007. — INTERNET

Scorching heat kills 12 in Romania

BUCHAREST, 26 July — The scorching heat in Romania killed 12 people on Monday, many of the victims were elderly people, informed Health Minister Eugen Nicolaescu on Tuesday.

Since the beginning on last Monday of the hot spell, 30 people have died so far because of the high temperature, and 23 July was the day with the most victims.

According to Nicolaescu, part of the deaths that occurred on Monday were caused by the fact that the persons in questions ignored to protect themselves against the excessive heat. Thus, among the people who died in Bucharest on Monday, there were a 75-year-old and a 95-year-old, who, on Monday at noon, were in the street.

Nicolaescu also informed that the emergency wards and the ambulance in Romania got 18,942 requests on Monday, by 17 per cent more than on the previous day. The number of persons who fell down in the street amounted on Monday to 869, up by 14.8 per cent as against the previous day, he said.

This is Romania’s second heatwave this year. In June, 30 people died in a previous two-week heatwave in the Black Sea country. — MNA/Xinhua

Taleban claims killing Korean hostage

GHAZNI, 26 July — Taleban kidnappers shot dead a South Korean hostage and threatened to kill 22 others unless their demands were met by 2030 GMT on Wednesday, a Taleban spokesman said. A local government official confirmed the death.

“Yes, they have killed one of the hostages and efforts are under way to have the others released,” the district chief of Qarabagh in Ghazni Province, Khowja Seddiqi, told Reuters.

The Taleban accused the Afghan Government and South Korean negotiators of failing to act in good faith after they rejected a list demanding eight named rebel prisoners be freed.

“Since Kabul’s administration did not listen to our demand and did not free our prisoners, the Taleban shot dead a male Korean hostage,” Qari Mohammad Yousuf told Reuters by telephone from an unknown location.

“If the administration of Kabul is not ready to release our hostages, then by 1 am (local time) the rest of the hostages will be killed,” he said. “That time is the last deadline.”

He said the Korean hostage had been killed in a desert area in the Qarabagh District of Ghazni close to where the 23 Korean church volunteers — 18 women and five men — were abducted on the main road south from Kabul last week. He rejected Korean media reports that said the Taleban planned to free eight of the captives.

Afghan President Hamid Karzai has pledged not to swap prisoners for hostages after being criticized at home and abroad for releasing five Taleban from jail in March in exchange for an Italian reporter. But the President and ministers have remained silent throughout the latest hostage ordeal. — MNA/Reuters

Two killed in California airport explosion

LOS ANGELES, 27 July — Two people were killed and four others seriously injured in a large explosion at an airport in the Californian desert on Thursday, authorities said.

The blast occurred at what officials called a remote section at the southeastern edge of the airport at the Mojave Air and Space Port, a flight research centre triggered by a tank of nitrous oxide, hit a rocket engine testing facility run byScaled Composites, operated by space entrepreneur Burt Rutan, at 2:45 pm local time (2145 GMT), authorities said.

The explosion did a great deal of damage to the airport, but it was not immediately clear whether any of the company’s buildings or equipment were damaged.

“Reports are two fatalities and at least four critical injuries,” said fire Captain Doug Johnston.

MNA/Xinhua
Minister attends prize-presentation for outstanding students in Taungtha

NAY PYI TAW, 28 July — Member of the Secretariat of the Union Solidarity and Development Association U Aung Thaung inspected construction site for station hospital in Yenosgyi Village, Taungtha Township in Myingyan District on 27 July.

Chairman of Committee for Construction of Station Hospital U Maung San reported on construction. U Aung Thaung gave instructions on speedy implementation of the project.

Minister for Industry-1 U Aung Thaung and wife Daw Khin Khin Yi attended the 11th prize-presentation for students of Talat Ywathit Basic Education High School this morning.

Minister U Aung Thaung spoke on the occasion and presented prizes to outstanding students in the matriculation examination and Headmistress Daw Kyi Tint.

Daw Khin Khin Yi also presented prizes to other outstanding students. Headmistress Daw Kyi Tint reported on academic matters. A similar ceremony was held atWeluang BEHS this morning.

Member of the Secretariat of USDA U Aung Thaung delivered a speech. Head Mistress Daw Than Win reported on academic matters.

U Aung Thaung and wife Daw Khin Khin Yi, Executive of Mandalay Division USDA U Aung Kyaw Tha, Chairman of Myingyan District Peace and Development Council U Hla Moe and Secretary of Myingyan District USDA U Aung Zan presented prizes to outstanding students.

The ceremony came to a close after concluding remarks by the minister. The minister went to vest factory (Taungtha) and inspected production process. He attended the 11th prize-presentation held at the city hall in Taungtha.

The minister presented prizes to distinction winners in the 2006-2007 matriculation examination. He also provided cash assistance to 50 needy university students. U Aung Thaung donated desks and other furniture for schools in Taungtha Township. — MNA

Ministry of Electric Power No 1 offers Waso robes

NAY PYI TAW, 28 July — The 2nd Waso robes offering ceremony of Ministry of Electric Power No 1 was held at the ministry, here, this morning, attended by members of the Sangha. First, the congregation received the Five Precepts from Joint-Secretary of State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee Sayadaw Agga Maha Panditta Agga Maha Saddhamma Jotikadhaja Bhaddanta Sandar Siri of YwaU Sandayon Monastery.

Next, the minister and wife, the deputy minister and departmental heads offered Waso robes and provisions to the members of the Sangha. — MNA

Ministry of F&R offers Waso robes

NAY PYI TAW, 28 July — The fifth Waso robes offering ceremony of the Ministry of Finance and Revenue was held at the ministry, here, this morning, attended by members of the Sangha. First, the minister and the congregation received the Five Precepts from Joint-Secretary of State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee Sayadaw Agga Maha Panditta Agga Maha Saddhamma Jotikadhaja Bhaddanta Sandar Siri of YwaU Sandayon Monastery.

Next, the minister and wife offered day meal to the members of the Sangha. — MNA

Two injured in mine blast in Thandaung, Bago Division

NAY PYI TAW, 28 July — Saw Ko Mya, 39, and Saw Tawthu, 35, of Yenosgyi Village in Thandaung, Bago Division, stepped on an insurgent-planted mine as they went into the woods for doing farmworks at about 7 am on 22 July. Due to the mine explosion, the former lost his left foot and the latter was wounded in his left eye and left arm.

The victims were rushed to Toungoo Township Hospital and are being given all necessary assistance by authorities concerned. Authorities concerned and the local people are in hot pursuit of insurgents responsible for the mine blast. — MNA

Minister Maj-Gen Hla Tun and wife Daw Khin Than Win donate Waso robes and offerings to the Sayadaw.— MNA

Minister Col Zaw Min and wife Daw Khin Mi Mi offer Waso robes and provisions to the Sayadaw.— MNA
I lost appetite because of the early morning smears of the VOA and could not enjoy my breakfast well. I gulped down the coffee made by Kyee Kyee Mya. It seemed that Bagyi Soe and Kyee Kyee Mya were sipping their coffee. I was anxious to know more about the KNU’s unending story of atrocities.

Bagyi Soe: Oh Maung Kyaw, you drink coffee so quickly.

Soe Mya Kyaw: It’s my habit that I always eat and drink quickly. I gulped the coffee as I wished to start our discussion sooner. I believe that the discussion will provide a lot of knowledge.

Kyee Kyee Mya: Oh, how anxious you are! See Ko Soe, the audience is waiting.

Bagyi Soe: So let’s continue our discussion. As you have said before our coffee break, ethnic cleansing and genocide are the prime strategies the KNU had practiced in the past and is practising till now. The Tatmadaw has been unjustly slandered with the allegation “Licensed to Rape”. Actually, the KNU is the organization that has been committing the crime of rape with so much pleasure throughout the internal insurgency.

Soe Mya Kyaw: I also have some knowledge about it. But tell me more about the crime to enhance my knowledge about the matter.

Bagyi Soe: Some of the insurgent leaders are infamous for their murders, robberies and rapes. For example, Kayin insurgent Bo Yar Kyaw and group blew up a passenger train coming from Sittoung near Naungkala village on 22 November 1953. They robbed of all the money and property from passengers and kidnapped 50 men and women. They freed male victims if ransom was paid. But for every woman, even if ransom was paid for her, they raped the woman before releasing her. They killed every man if no one paid ransom for his release, and raped and murdered every woman for failure to pay ransom. As for KNU insurgents, Lin Htin, Hsa Lan and Pha Lu Kyaw, rape was just a usual practice to them. In addition to committing the crime, Lin Htin had 45 wives, Hsa Lan had over 120 wives and Pha Lu Kyaw had more than 150 wives. Many young Bamar, Kayin and Mon women’s lives were ruined because they were raped by the KNUs. It is not a fable.

Bagyi Soe: Yes, Bo Than Shein of KNU guerrilla battalion 3 in delta region was so infamous for his crimes to ruin the lives of many women. He killed the husband, if he wanted the wife. He was notorious for his cruelty to murder over 50 persons in one or two days. I do not want to tell about it. KNUs even raped the wives of their own subordinates. They are real rapists who have never spared even pregnant women.

Kyee Kyee Mya: Enough Ko Soe, please. I feel so disappointed to hear the KNU’s licensed to rape sex crimes. Please change your topic.

Bagyi Soe: Some very wild KNUs even ate the meat of the human victims. But I do not want to tell about it. As KNUs are too familiar with terrorism, they are the first to hijack a plane or the pioneers of the skyjacking terrorism.

Soe Mya Kyaw: KNUs went even that far? I can’t believe my ears.

Bagyi Soe: It’s true, Maung Kyaw. KNUs hijacked a Dakota passenger plane of Union of Burma Airways during its Yangon-Kyaikpyu-Sittway flight on 25 June 1954. The hijackers forced the pilot to land on a sea beach near Magyezin village south of Gwa town. They took away together with them State funds amounting to K 724,000. There are still many more KNU crimes and atrocities Maung Kyaw. The KNUs attacked the Mandalay-Yangon Down train with a time bomb while it was entering Yangon Railway Station on 10-1-1988, committed a shooting spree on Kyakhtiyoe Pagoda platform in March 1988, blew up and torched cars carrying missionaries who would convey the statue of Alantaya Sayadaw on Thaton-Hpa-an-Hlaingbwe road near Kya-in village on 10-5-1989 and launched mine attack against the motorcade of Mingun Sayadaw U Vicittasarabhivamsa who was on his way from Dawei to Thayetchaung on 3-2-1991.

Soe Mya Kyaw: You are right. Originally, the KNU is rooted in narrow racism. The organization became arrogant when it was flattered and instigated by the colonialists. It did not recognize the nation’s independence and demanded a separate homeland. As the KNU have been committing terrorist and destructive acts constantly throughout the successive eras, all its crimes cannot be told even in a week. What you have explained to me is enough for me to understand well that KNU is the lord of sabotages. Please tell me all about the rest.

(See page 9)
Bagyi Soe: Yes, that’s a good idea. As you said, KNU is doing wrong and claiming that they are working for the formation of Kayin State and well-being of Kayin nationals. But, in practice, they follow the warlord policy and group-wise practice, and were very cruel to local people including Kayin nationals. In the end, the people lost their patience and rose against the KNU. On 14 February 1968, a KNU troop of about 50 led by Lieutenant Aung Than entered Lanthamaing village at Myaungmya District. At that time, there were no Tatmadaw outpost at the village. But, the villagers held whatever arms they got such as swords, spears and sharpened bamboo sticks and drove them out of the village. So, they (KNU) had to flee.

In the end, KNU completely lost the support of local people and fled the delta region. Local people including Kayin nationals cooperated with the Tatmadaw columns in the military operations such as “Shwe Lin Yon”, “Moe Hein”, and “Theinlar” for three years from 1969 to 1971. Local people took part in the militia strategy and four-cut tactics, and as a result, all KNU camps fled the delta region and went across the border into the neighbouring country.

Soe Mya Kyaw: I think their condition worsened in the border areas. I know more about their later situations.

Kye Kyee Mya: Go on, then, Maung Kyaw.

Soe Mya Kyaw: Yes, KNU have claimed that they are working for improving the living conditions of the Kayin nationals, but in practice, they built strong camps along the border line to exploit and bully local people. They have done nothing good for their national race, but as you know, they collect extortion money and levy taxes from the villages. They smuggle out gems and teak. And they set up so-called camps along the Myanmar-Thai border.

Bagyi Soe: Yes, you are. Let me tell more about that. In 1988, the Tatmadaw took up State duties and tried its best to put an end to the internal armed conflict that had occurred for more than 40 years due to the evil legacy of the colonialists, and to achieve national reconsolidation. At that time, the Tatmadaw had gained an upper hand militarily, but it suspended all its offensives unilaterally against the KNU throughout the country including Kayin State on 28 April 1992 to achieve national reconsolidation. In response to the Tatmadaw’s proposal for peace talks, 17 national race armed groups and many small groups that did not stick to racism and dogmatism and relied on external elements returned to the legal fold. I am sure, you know that, Maung Kyaw.

Soe Mya Kyaw: Yes, I do, Bagyi. KNU remnants, KNPP that went underground again, and SSA-S Ywet Sit group are all that have failed to give up the armed struggle line.

Bagyi Soe: Now, they are not in a position to exist inside the country, and have to stay hidden along the Myanmar-Thailand border. In particular, they are based in the so-called refugee camps, and sometimes, they launch attacks on the nation through guerrilla warfare. These border areas linking with the areas of the insurgents are only regions that have not enjoyed development and lag behind all parts of the nation in terms of development. So, local people cannot help feeling bitter about the acts of the insurgents.

Soe Mya Kyaw: Yes, Bagyi. Now, the Tatmadaw has occupied all the KNU camps along the border. So, they now have to stay in the so-called refugee camps in the neighboring country to earn their living.

Kye Kyee Mya: How stupid they are! They have wasted all the good chances of leading a peaceful life.

Bagyi Soe: KNU has held informal talks with the Tatmadaw for three times and formal talks for four times since 1995. But, no success was achieved because they refused to give up their some bad habits. So, many members are breaking away from the KNU and returned to the legal fold one group after another, and now the number of the break-away groups has reached six.

KNU has held informal talks with the Tatmadaw for three times and formal talks for four times since 1995. But, no success was achieved because they refused to give up their some bad habits. So, many members are breaking away from the KNU and returned to the legal fold one group after another, and now the number of the break-away groups has reached six.

Initially, the government’s effort to make peace with KNU almost met with complete success. However, complete success could not be achieved due to the interferences of their masters of the West as they fear that they will not be able to continue to play Myanmar’s politics when the country becomes peaceful and stable.
The current strength of the KNU, despite being flattered by some foreign broadcasting stations, is not more than 3500.

Only 3,500 members of KNU is indeed a handful of people. So, can that small number of them represent the entire mass of Kayin people?

Even when KNU were in strength, they could not represent the entire mass of Kayin nationals. According to current data, the number of all Kayin nationals across the country is 3.5 million. So KNU members represent just 0.1 per cent.

KNU does not represent the entire mass of Kayin nationals

---

 unforeseen武装分子

Kyee Kyee Mya: Of course.

Bagyi Soe: You know, there are still some KNU remnants who sometimes come and attack the peace groups. Tell him about it.

Kyee Kyee Mya: KNUs also dissuaded Maj-Gen Htay Maung’s group from entering the legal fold. Is it right?

Bagyi Soe: Yes, they did. Most of the members of KNU Brigade-7 are stationed in Bekalaak Camp in the other country. Actually, that camp is opened under the name of refugee camp. All the members of Maj-Gen Htay Maung’s group wanted to enter the legal fold. First, all the members including central security guard members tried to do so en masse. However, their expectation was not met in full due to forced intervention of Phado Manshar’s group of the Central KNU. They gave promotion to Johnny, a subordinate of Maj-Gen Htay Maung, applied pressure on other leaders and persuaded other organizations not to enter the legal fold. Consequently, most of the groups were not able to get out of KNU’s operational areas.

Kyee Kyee Mya: Is that so, Ko Soe? If there are no pressure, intervention and persuasion, it is possible that more KNU members would enter the legal fold.

Bagyi Soe: What’s more, there are accurate data and records that KNU tried to persuade the six Kayin national race groups that had made peace with the government to take up arms again. It is natural that destructive elements are always thinking about sabotage, isn’t it?

Soe Mya Kyaw: Yes. But I think there are only a few KNU remnant members who are still active.

Bagyi Soe: Openly speaking, the current strength of the KNU, despite being flattered by some foreign broadcasting stations, is not more than 3500.

Soe Mya Kyaw: The Tatmadaw government always keeps the door open according to the gentleman’s agreement and a peaceful solution is offered to the KNU remnant members similar to other armed groups who have entered the legal fold.

Bagyi Soe: Peace door is always kept open. Initially, the government’s effort to make peace with KNU almost met with complete success. However, complete success could not be achieved due to the interferences of their masters of the West as they fear that they will not be able to continue to play Myanmar’s politics when the country becomes peaceful and stable.

Kyee Kyee Mya: Only 3,500 members of KNU is indeed a handful of people. So, can that small number of them represent the entire mass of Kayin people?

Bagyi Soe: Even when KNUs were in strength, they could not represent the entire mass of Kayin nationals. According to current data, the number of all Kayin nationals across the country is 3.5 million. So KNU members represent just 0.1 per cent. That is why just a handful of KNU members cannot represent the entire mass of Kayin nationals who have marginalized the KNU as well. KNU and Kayin people are so different.

Soe Mya Kyaw: I’ve come to realize the current situation of KNU. So we can go back to the issue of opening more refugee camps due to Tatmadaw’s offensive.

Kyee Kyee Mya: Good. We talked about it first. Now, let’s start on this topic again.

Bagyi Soe: It was a nice topic. But I’m getting hungry now as we have been discussing very earnestly. What about both of you? Kyee Kyee Mya: Oh, mine! I only remember it is time we had our lunch. OK, let’s have it.

Soe Mya Kyaw: Yes, Kyee Kyee. I’ll help you laying the table.

Bagyi Soe: Let’s continue our discussions after lunch?

Translation: TMT+MS+ST
(Myannya Alin & Kyemon: 28-7-2007)
Commander inspects preventive measures against DHF and diarrhoea

YANGON, 28 July — Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Hla Htay Win inspected preventive measures against dengue fever and diarrhoea in Thakayta and Dawbon Townships this morning.

At the office of Thakayta Township Development Committee, the commander heard reports on outbreak of DHF and diarrhoea and preventive measures on the diseases in Yangon Division, proper flow of water and sanitation in the township presented by Dr Daw Mya Than Nwe, Dr Khin Than Aye of Thakayta Township Health Department and Chairman of Township PDC U Myo Kyaing.

Next, the commander looked into spraying of insecticide, preventive measures against mosquitoes-borne disease, proper flow of water and sanitation tasks carried out by departmental personnel, members of social organizations, students and local people and observed the educative talks in the township.

After hearing reports on preventive measures presented by Dr Daw Cho Cho Win of Dawbon Township Health Department and Chairman of Dawbon Township PDC U Myo Lwin at the office of Dawbon Township Development Committee, the commander inspected the sanitation tasks and preventive measures in the township and gave necessary instructions.

MWAF provides cash assistance to eye patients

YANGON, 28 July — A ceremony to provide cash assistance to provide with eye complaints was held at the Yangon Eye Specialist Hospital this afternoon.

It was attended by Vice-President of Myanmar Women’s Affairs Organization Daw Mar Mar Wai and members, Medical Superintendent Dr Daw Kyin San Yin of the hospital and officials.

First, Professor Dr Tin Win gave accounts on operation process of eye surgery. Next, Vice-President Daw Khin Thet Htay gave speech and presented K 900,000 for 30 patients to conduct eye surgeries through the medical superintendent. After the ceremony, the vice-president and party comforted the patients and donated K 100,000.

MWAF Vice-President Daw Khin Thet Htay comforts a patient with eye complaints at Yangon Eye Specialist Hospital. — MNA

Seminar on haematological disorders to be held on 4 August

YANGON, 27 July — The final match of the 15th Commander-in-Chief (Air)’s shield Boxing Championship was held in conjunction with the prize presentation ceremony at Thura Maung Thein Hall of Mingaladon Airbase, here, yesterday evening.

Boxers participated in the final matches of respective classes. After the competitions, officials presented prizes to winners.

On behalf of the Commander-in-Chief (Air), Commanders of Mingaladon Airbase Brig-Gen Zin Yaw awarded championship shield to the boxing team of Mingaladon Airbase.

Also present on the occasion were commanders of airbases, squadron leaders and heads of sections, judges of Myanmar Boxing Federation, Yangon Command Headquarters, Defence Services (Air), Myanmar Police Force and Yangon City Development Committee, guests and fans.

MNA

15th Commander-in-Chief (Air)’s shield Boxing Championship concludes

Patron of School Board of Trustees Thingangyun Township USDA Secretary U Khin Wai awards prize to six-distinction winner Ma Zin Lei Mon at prize presentation ceremony of BEHS (Thuwunna) in Thingangyun Township on 28 July. — MNA

Chairman U Aung Tha Tun and Secretary U Wun Ni of School Board of Trustees present school uniforms for needy students to Headmaster U Tint Lwin at annual meeting of Parent-Teacher Association of No 29 BEPS in South Oakkalapa Township on 28 July. — MNA
CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV KOTA TERAJU VOY NO (247)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV KOTA TERAJU VOY NO (247) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 29.7.2007 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.W.P.T here 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: ADVANCE CONTAINER LINES PTE LTD
Phone No: 256908/278316/376797

40th AMM to come up with final draft of ASEAN charter

MANILA, 27 July — Philippine Foreign Secretary Alberto Romulo said on Thursday that one of the outputs of the 40th Association of South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN) Ministerial Meeting (AMM) will be the final draft of the ASEAN Charter.

At a Press briefing held here Thursday, Romulo said that a High Level Task Force (HLTF) is now putting the finishing touches to the draft of the ASEAN Charter. The HLTF is supposed to submit the draft to ASEAN’s foreign ministers during the 40th AMM which opens next Monday.

The HLTF has had seven meetings since February 2007. It began on the Charter draft after the 12th ASEAN Summit in Cebu in January 2007, where it was decided to draft the final charter.

Chinese journalists told to stick to truth

BEIJING, 27 July — China’s media authorities have launched an unprecedented crackdown on bogus news stories in the wake of the furore over the allegedly fabricated “cardboard dumplings” exposé.

The report was produced by a Beijing Television reporter who allegedly instructed four “baozi” — stuffed dumplings — cooks to fill their products with chopped waste cardboard.

The report was immediately labelled a fake news report.

There are rules that govern reporting and all news organizations are required to stick to truth and correct the items as soon as possible.

In a circular to all news organizations, the three authorities said those who intentionally fabricated news that caused public anxiety and tarnished the nation’s image would be harshly dealt with or even prosecuted if they broke the law.

The media authorities said those who committed suicide in his parents’ Massachusetts basement less than a year after returning home from fighting during the invasion of Iraq in 2003.

The US military said on Thursday that seven of its soldiers that have been killed across Iraq, including three Marines and a sailor killed in the volatile province of Diyala.

Iraqi war veteran’s parents sue US after suicide

BOSTON, 27 July — The parents of an Iraq war veteran who committed suicide sued the US Government on Thursday for negligence, charging their son hanged himself after the government ignored his depression.

The suit accuses the federal government of not helping 23-year-old Jeffrey Lucey, who committed suicide in his parents’ Massachusetts basement less than a year after returning home from fighting during the invasion of Iraq in 2003.

Iraqi war veteran’s parents sue US after suicide

Seven US soldiers killed in Iraq

BAGHDAD, 27 July — The US military said on Thursday that seven of its soldiers have been killed across Iraq, including three Marines and a sailor killed in the volatile province of Diyala.

The three Marines and the sailor were killed on Wednesday by small arms fire in southern Baghdad, the military said. One more soldier was killed in a roadside bomb explosion during clearing operations in Baghdad on Tuesday, it said.

A Marine died of non-combat related incident in the western province of Anbar, another statement said. The latest deaths bring the number of US soldiers that have been killed in Iraq to more than 3,640 since the Iraqi war broke out in March 2003, according to media count based on Pentagon figures.— MNA/Xinhua

Jennifer Lopez and her husband, Marc Anthony are interviewed as they arrive to attend the premiere of the film “El Cantante” in New York on 26 July, 2007. — Xinhua

Jennifer Lopez and her husband, Marc Anthony are interviewed as they arrive to attend the premiere of the film “El Cantante” in New York on 26 July, 2007. — Xinhua

In a statement, the parents said the military was responsible for the death of their son.

They have hired an attorney to represent them and are seeking a range of damages, including a judgment for negligence, charging their son hanged himself after the government ignored his depression.

The action follows another suit in which two veterans’ rights groups allege the Department of Veterans Affairs delayed and denied veterans help for combat-related disabilities such as post-traumatic stress disorder.

Seven US soldiers killed in Iraq

July 27, 2007

Another soldier was killed on Wednesday by small arms fire in southern Baghdad, the military said. One more soldier was killed in a roadside bomb explosion during clearing operations in Baghdad on Tuesday, it said.

A Marine died of non-combat related incident in the western province of Anbar, another statement said. The latest deaths bring the number of US soldiers that have been killed in Iraq to more than 3,640 since the Iraqi war broke out in March 2003, according to media count based on Pentagon figures.— MNA/Xinhua

Jennifer Lopez and her husband, Marc Anthony are interviewed as they arrive to attend the premiere of the film “El Cantante” in New York on 26 July, 2007. — Xinhua

Jennifer Lopez and her husband, Marc Anthony are interviewed as they arrive to attend the premiere of the film “El Cantante” in New York on 26 July, 2007. — Xinhua

In a statement, the parents said the military was responsible for the death of their son.

They have hired an attorney to represent them and are seeking a range of damages, including a judgment for negligence, charging their son hanged himself after the government ignored his depression.

The action follows another suit in which two veterans’ rights groups allege the Department of Veterans Affairs delayed and denied veterans help for combat-related disabilities such as post-traumatic stress disorder.

Seven US soldiers killed in Iraq

July 27, 2007

Another soldier was killed on Wednesday by small arms fire in southern Baghdad, the military said. One more soldier was killed in a roadside bomb explosion during clearing operations in Baghdad on Tuesday, it said.

A Marine died of non-combat related incident in the western province of Anbar, another statement said. The latest deaths bring the number of US soldiers that have been killed in Iraq to more than 3,640 since the Iraqi war broke out in March 2003, according to media count based on Pentagon figures.— MNA/Xinhua

Jennifer Lopez and her husband, Marc Anthony are interviewed as they arrive to attend the premiere of the film “El Cantante” in New York on 26 July, 2007. — Xinhua

Jennifer Lopez and her husband, Marc Anthony are interviewed as they arrive to attend the premiere of the film “El Cantante” in New York on 26 July, 2007. — Xinhua

In a statement, the parents said the military was responsible for the death of their son.

They have hired an attorney to represent them and are seeking a range of damages, including a judgment for negligence, charging their son hanged himself after the government ignored his depression.

The action follows another suit in which two veterans’ rights groups allege the Department of Veterans Affairs delayed and denied veterans help for combat-related disabilities such as post-traumatic stress disorder.

Seven US soldiers killed in Iraq

July 27, 2007

Another soldier was killed on Wednesday by small arms fire in southern Baghdad, the military said. One more soldier was killed in a roadside bomb explosion during clearing operations in Baghdad on Tuesday, it said.

A Marine died of non-combat related incident in the western province of Anbar, another statement said. The latest deaths bring the number of US soldiers that have been killed in Iraq to more than 3,640 since the Iraqi war broke out in March 2003, according to media count based on Pentagon figures.— MNA/Xinhua
Two US Senate office buildings evacuated

WASHINGTON, 27 July — Two US Capitol office buildings were briefly evacuated on Wednesday because of a fire alarm and the smell of smoke, authorities said.

A number of fire trucks were summoned to the Hart and Dirksen Senate office buildings, but there was no immediate word on the cause for the alarm.

Within minutes, congressional staffers were permitted to return after authorities gave an all clear signal. Police halted traffic on the street outside the two buildings, located across the street from the Capitol where the Senate and House of Representatives were both in session.

A spokeswoman for Capitol Police said initial findings suggested the source of the smoke may have been an electrical problem. — MNA/Reuters

14 insurgent suspects detained in southern Thailand

BANGKOK, 27 July — The Thai police detained 14 suspected insurgents and seized weapons in a series of raids in Thailand’s southern province of Narathiwat on Wednesday, local media reported.

After receiving intelligence that nine locations in Sungai Padi and Cho Ai Rong districts of Narathiwat have been troubled with insurgency-related violence which has claimed more than 2,300 lives since 2004.

Narathiwat, Yala and Pattani have been troubled with insurgency-related violence since 2004.

A total of 14 suspects were detained during the raid, the news agency said, adding that the police also seized a number of items including six firearms and ammunition, two chain saws, explosive devices, and Malaysian currency worth several thousand baht. All the suspects underwent forensic tests to determine possible links with earlier insurgent activities.

The police will examine the tests and forensic evidence collected from crime scenes, said Jatuporn.

The suspects denied any involvement in insurgent attacks. If the investigation shows that they are not involved in the attacks, they will be released, he said.

However, anyone found to be connected with the insurgency will be sent to an Army camp for further investigation, he added. Thailand’s three southernmost provinces added. Thailand’s three southernmost provinces have been an electrical problem.

Iran says will never stop nuclear activities

TEHERAN, 27 July — Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad said on Wednesday Teheran would never yield to international pressure to suspend its nuclear programme.

“Iran will never abandon its peaceful (nuclear) work. Our nuclear work is legal and why should we stop it?” Ahmadinejad told state television.

The oil-producing Islamic Republic says its nuclear programme is only for generation of electricity for the benefit of its economy.

Ahmadinejad said any further UN resolutions would not prevent Iran from obtaining nuclear technology.

Let’s say they issue resolution number 300... what will happen? It should be remembered that Iran is obtaining nuclear technology. They have to eventually accept that,” he said.

Two sets of UN sanctions have been imposed on Iran for defying Security Council resolutions demanding it suspend all nuclear fuel activity.

In an attempt to avert tougher sanctions, Teheran has agreed to increase cooperation with the UN’s nuclear watchdog, the International Atomic Energy Agency, to clarify the scope of its atomic work.

Iran agreed during negotiations with the IAEA on Tuesday to let UN inspectors revisit its Arak nuclear reactor site early next week.

MNA/Reuters

Iranian, was also in hospital with bullet wounds.

US professor shot, woman kidnapped in Nigeria

YENAGOA (Nigeria), 27 July — Armed robbers shot a US professor and a security guard in the Nigerian city of Port Harcourt on Wednesday, the latest violent incident in the oil-producing Niger Delta.

Michael Watts, a Berkeley, California-based expert on oil-related violence in the delta, was in hospital with bullet wounds in the hand after a newspaper office he was visiting came under attack, one of his friends said.

The security guard, a Nigerian, was also in hospital with bullet wounds.

“About eight or nine armed robbers were trailing him. They shot the security guard, gained access to the office which they ransacked and stole 600 US dollars from the professor,” said the friend, who was at his bedside in hospital and asked not to be named.

The incident came the morning after suspected ransom-seekers kidnapped the mother of the speaker of the state house of assembly in neighbouring Bayelsa State the latest in a spate of abductions of relatives of powerful people in the Niger Delta.

The three-year-old son of a traditional ruler was released on 13 July.

FOREST OFFICIALS BOARD A COUNTRY BOAT TO MOVE TO DRY LAND AFTER FLOOD WATERS SUBMERGED THEIR OFFICE IN POBITORA WILDLIFE SANCTUARY, ABOUT 55 KILOMETRES (34 MILES) EAST OF GAUHATI, assam, ON 27 JULY, 2007. ANIMALS OF POBITORA WILDLIFE SANCTUARY ARE STRUGGLING TO REACH HIGHLAND TO SURVIVE FLOODING CAUSED BY MONSOON RAINS. THE SANCTUARY IS FAMOUS FOR THE 84 ONE-HORNED RHINO LIVING IN 16 SQUARE KILOMETRES. — INTERNET

MNA/Reuters

A Slovenian Army helicopter refills water from the river Vardar to extinguish a forest fire near Kopance, 25 km (15 miles) west of Skopje on 27 July, 2007. — INTERNET

MNA/Reuters

A 37-year-old volunteer, shoulders an eight kilo earth model inscribed with the Chinese words “no time to delay in protecting our earth” in Qiqihar, northeast China’s Heilongjiang Province, on 26 July, 2007. — INTERNET

MNA/Xinhua

**Terry agrees 5-year deal with Chelsea**

**LONDON, 28 July** — Chelsea skipper John Terry signed a new five-year contract with the club on Friday, ending months of speculation about his future.

Terry, 26, the England captain who has spent all his career at Chelsea and played more than 300 matches for the club, told Chelsea’s website (www.chelseafc.com), “I’m really happy this has now been concluded.

“There has been a lot of speculation but these things take time and I never had any doubts that I wanted to stay at Chelsea and that the club wanted me to stay. Terry had just over two years on his old contract, which has now been superseded by the new one.” — MNA/Reuters

---

**Three seeds reach Croatia Open quarterfinals**

**UMAG (Croatia), 28 July** — Spanish fourth seed David Ferrer overcame Argentina’s Jose Acasuso 2-6, 7-6, 6-2 on Thursday to reach the Croatia Open quarterfinals.

Ferrer will meet compatriot and four-times champion Carlos Moya, who defeated another Spaniard Pere Riba 6-0, 6-3 in the final match of the day.

Italy’s Filippo Volandri overcame Mischa Zverev of Germany 7-6, 7-5 to set up a quarterfinal with Andres Pavel of Romania.

The 33-year-old Romanian, who upset Croatia’s top player and third seed Ivan Ljubicic in the first round, continued his fine run with a 7-5, 6-4 win over Dutchman Robin Haase.— MNA/Reuters

---

**CROSSWORD PUZZLE**

**ACROSS**

1 Respiration
2 Henry Higgins protege
3 Human trunk
4 Wearisome
5 Golf clubs
6 Impression
7 Guide
8 Egyptian river
9 Performer
10 Study of plants
11 Human trunk
12 Tear
13 Prospero (anag.)
14 Whirl
15 Dependent
16 Collection of books
17 Wind
18 Maintain
19 Performance
20 Armament
21 Manipulates
22 Whistle
23 Dependent
24 Collection of books
25 Next month
26 Impression
27 Relaxed
28 Coloured pencil

**DOWN**

1 Study of plants
2 Unpredictable
3 Musical instrument
4 Whirl
5 Golf clubs
6 Estimate
7 Guide
8 Prospero (anag.)
9 Collection of books
10 Polish composer
11 Performer
12 Armament
13 Throng
14 Egyptian river
15 Olive
16 Collection of books
17 cylinders
18 Winds
19 Hands
20 Hands
21 Hands
22 Hands
23 Hands
24 Hands
25 Hands
26 Hands
27 Hands
28 Hands

---

**Iraqi team mask grief with Asian Cup**

**JAKARTA, 28 July** — Iraq’s weary soccer team could be forgiven for hoping the fulltime whistle never blows when they play Saudi Arabia in Sunday’s Asian Cup final.

Their fairytale rise into the final has captured the imagination of the sporting world and given Iraqis a rare sense of national pride, uniting a country ripped apart by sectarian violence.

Like the Ancient Greeks who used to stop their wars while the Olympics were on, there is at least hope the fighting and violence may be halted while the match is in progress.

For 90 minutes at least, there may be peace in Iraq, but it will only be a temporary relief. When the final whistle blows, life will return to normal.

Guns will crackle again and more people are likely to die.

Three were killed in Baghdad by falling bullets after Iraq’s quarterfinal victory over Vietnam and another 50 were killed by suicide bombers as thousands of revellers spilled onto the streets to celebrate their semifinal win over South Korea.

The bombings were a painful reminder of the sectarian violence between majority Shitte Muslims and minority Sunni Arabs that has killed tens of thousands since the US-led invasion to topple Saddam Hussein in 2003.

The carnage did not escape the attention of the Iraqi team, who have overcome extraordinary odds to succeed where politicians have failed.— MNA/Reuters

---

**Wenger implicates Gallas to captain Arsenal**

**LONDON, 28 July** — Arsene Wenger has hinted France defender William Gallas could captain Arsenal this season despite publicly criticizing the club.

Gallas, 29, launched a stinging attack on Arsenal’s failure to sign enough top quality players but Wenger still gave him the skipper’s armband for Wednesday’s 1-0 friendly defeat against Salzburg in Austria. The former Chelsea star had claimed several of Arsenal’s leading players were considering their futures after previous captain Thierry Henry’s departure to Barcelona and said he did not want to “play for third place”.

But Wenger insists there is no rift with Gallas, who along with Gilberto Silva and Kolo Toure, is a strong contender to lead the Gunners.— MNA/Reuters

---

**Portugal winger Simao completes $27m Atletico move**

**MADRID, 28 July** — Portugal winger Simao Sabrosa has completed his move from Benfica to Atletico Madrid on a four-year contract, the Primera Liga club said on Friday.

Simao passed a medical in the morning and will be presented in the Calderon later.

Benfica said the deal was worth 20 million euros (27.3 million US dollars), with the Portuguese club also holding an option to take two Atletico players in the other direction.— MNA/Reuters

---

**Chivu joins Inter Milan after protracted talks**

**ROME, 28 July** — Romanian defender Cristian Chivu joined Inter Milan on Friday after the Italian champions came to an agreement with AS Roma following weeks of talks.

Chivu was transferred for 16 million euros (21.8 million US dollars) with Inter defender Marco Andreolli moving the other way in a shared ownership deal between the two clubs, Roma said in a statement.

“I am going to Inter. It is a life choice,” Chivu told a news conference at Roma’s training ground.

“I would like to be remembered as a good lad. I have spent four marvellous years here, full of satisfaction.” — MNA/Reuters
British students jailed over al-Qaeda propaganda

London, 28 July — A British court on Thursday jailed a group of British Muslim students who collected a library of al-Qaeda propaganda and intended to travel to Afghanistan to fight coalition forces for a total of 13 years.

The five Muslim men linked up with sympathizers in Pakistan and the United States and held video conferences over the Internet to discuss violent jihad. They were caught after the parents of one of the students contacted police.

Schoolboy Irfan Raja had run away from home in February 2006 when he was just 17, leaving a suicide note.

“If not in this dunyad (world) we will meet in Jannat (paradise),” the note said.

When his parents looked on his computer they found speeches by Osama bin Laden calling for Muslims to take revenge on the West for invading Islamic lands and other extremist speeches, the prosecution told a London court.

“Any disbeliever, Jews and Americans were the prime targets,” said prosecutor Antony Edin.

Raja had gone to meet four students from Bradford University in the north of England whom he had befriended on the Internet and who intended to go to training camps in Pakistan and Afghanistan.

However the next day, he returned home after speaking to his parents by phone and was arrested.

Detectives uncovered a wealth of material on the men’s computers. These included Internet conversations justifying suicide bombings, the need for terrorism training and cover stories for travelling abroad.

ASHFORD IN JESUS

Saw Ba Saw
Age (94) years
Retd. Traffic Officer
Myay Airways

Beloved husband of (Daw Ethel Ogh), beloved father of Elizabeth Saw (MITCY-U Swa Linn Aung (Son)), Saw Teresa Saw (Retd. BEMS No: 2184-Myaw Lhoh Su San Saw-Reservand Saw Tin Oo, Grandfather of Saw Le Ma-Naw Ku Hwe, Saw Isaac, Saw Linn Htin (SM), Saw Joseph-Kuth Aung, Swa Swu Aung, Saw Ku Hun and Saw Moses, Great Grandfather of Thomas Joe and Philip Joe slept in Jesus at (2:30) am on (28-7-2007) at No 56, Taungthu Eon St. Insein.

Funeral service at Taungthu Eon Karen Baptist Church, Insein on 29-7-2007 at (1 pm) and thence to Hain Htin Christian Cemetery for burial.

Bereaved family.

**WEATHER**

Sunday, 29 July, 2007

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hour

MST: During the past 24 hours, rain or thundershowers have been widespread in Kachin State, fairly widespread in Chin State and Taninthayi Division, scattered in Shan State, upper Sagaing, Mandalay, Magway and Ayeawady Divisions, isolated in Rakhine State, lower Sagaing, Bago and Yangon Divisions and weather has been partly cloudy in the remaining areas with isolated heavyfalls in upper Sagaing and Magway Divisions. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Hkamti (3.78) inches, Myeik (2.21) inches and Taungdwingi (1.85) inches.

Maximum temperature on 27-7-2007 was 92°F. Minimum temperature on 26-7-2007 was 74°F. Relative humidity at 09:30 hours MST on 27-7-2007 was 55.5%.

Rainfall on 28-7-2007 was (Tr) at Mingaladon, (Nil) at Kaba-Aye and (Nil) at Central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-7-2007 was (77.56) inches at Mingaladon, (81.34) inches at Kaba-Aye and (82.24) inches at Central Yangon.

Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (4) m/s from Northwest at (15:30) hour MST on 27-7-2007.

Bay influence: Monsoon is weak in the Andaman Sea and Bay of Bengal.

Forecast valid until evening of 29-7-2007: Rain or thundershowers will be fairly widespread in Kachin and Chin States, upper Sagaing, Mandalay and Magway Divisions and isolated in the remaining areas. Degree of certainty is (80%).

State of the sea: Seas will be slight to moderate in Myanmar waters.

Outlook for subsequent two days: Weak monsoon.

Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring areas for 29-7-2007: Isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (80%).

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring areas for 29-7-2007: Isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (80%).
Minister inspects diesel locomotive shed (Mahlwagon)

YANGON, 28 July — Minister for Rail Transportation Maj-Gen Aung Min and Deputy Minister Thura U Thaung Lwin inspected the diesel locomotive shed (Mahlwagon), here, this afternoon.

Assistant Mechanical Engineer U San Oo reported on organizational set-up of the shed, running time for various kinds of locomotives and use of lubricant and diesel, Deputy Minister Thura U Thaung Lwin on repair of locomotives, conducting training courses and duties assigned.

Minister Maj-Gen Aung Min spoke on minimizing wastage and loss of fuel and observing the directives at the grassroots levels.

The minister inspected repair of locomotives and turn table system at the shed. The minister and the deputy minister went to the warehouse in Setsan, Assistant General Manager of Cargo Division of Myanmar Railways U Aung Myo Myint reported on running of freight trains and earnings. The minister then fulfilled the requirements.

The minister inspected storage of goods, arrangements for carriage, handling of freight and maintenance of freight coaches.

The minister met the proprietors of the goods and attended to the needs.—MNA

Minister for Rail Transportation Maj-Gen Aung Min inspects warehouse in Setsan.—MNA

Four political objectives
* Stability of the State, community peace and tranquility, prevalence of law and order
* National reconsolidation
* Emergence of a new enduring State Constitution
* Building of a new modern developed nation in accord with the new State Constitution

Four economic objectives
* Development of agriculture as the base and all-round development of other sectors of the economy as well
* Proper evolution of the market-oriented economic system
* Development of the economy inviting participation in terms of technical know-how and investments from sources inside the country and abroad
* The initiative to shape the national economy must be kept in the hands of the State and the national peoples

Four social objectives
* Uplift of the morale and morality of the entire nation
* Uplift of national prestige and integrity and preservation and safeguarding of cultural heritage and national character
* Uplift of dynamism of patriotic spirit
* Uplift of health, fitness and education standards of the entire nation

Flood bulletin

NAY PYI TAW, 28 July — According to the observation at 6:30 am today, the water level of Chindwin river at Homalin is 3026 cm. It may remain above its danger level 2900 cm during the next 48 hours commencing noon today.

According to observation at 6:30 am today, the water level of Dawkhawaddy river at Myinge is 871 cm. It may remain above its danger level 870 cm during the next 48 hours commencing noon today. — MNA

Flood warning

NAY PYI TAW, 28 July — According to the observation at 6:30 am today, the water level of Ayeyawady river at NyaungU and Hinthada are 2080 cm and 1304 cm. The water level may reach their respective danger levels of 2120 cm and 1342 cm during the next 48 hours commencing noon today.

Similarly, the water level of Ayeyawady river at Katha is 1063 cm and it may remain above its danger level 1040 cm during the next 24 hours commencing noon today. — MNA

Weather Forecast for 29-7-2007

Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring areas
Isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (80%).

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring areas
Isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (80%).

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring areas
Isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (80%).