

PEKING REVIEW

U.S. Troops Must Withdraw from South Korea

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Wanted: More Realism from the West

Peking Review Index: January-June, 1959

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Eight Years of the Chinese People's Volunteers' Resistance to American Aggression and Aiding Korea

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(BEIJING ZHOUBAO)

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Wanted: More Realism From the West

NOW that the Geneva Conference of Foreign Ministers has been adjourned till July 13, world public opinion is watching for the next move of the Western powers and hopes that they will become less rigid and more realistic.

The six weeks of discussions in Geneva showed once again what the Western countries are after on the German question. Their much-publicized "package plan," as well as their proposals on the Berlin question, were all attempts at annexing the German Democratic Republic to West Germany and perpetuating the occupation of West Berlin. Even the so-called "last offer" they made before the conference recessed was described by the Western press as "old proposals in a more attractive dress." This Western approach is frantic. It shows a lack of sincerity on their part to solve the German question.

The Soviet Union and the G.D.R., in sharp contrast, made serious efforts to conclude a German peace treaty and end the occupation regime in West Berlin—pressing issues ripe for solution. The Soviet delegate in Geneva repeatedly tried to accommodate certain Western views and on June 10 put forward the important proposal for an All-German Committee and the signing of an agreement on the interim status of West Berlin. The G.D.R., while fully backing the Soviet position, also made important proposals for rapprochement and the conclusion of a non-aggression pact between the two German states.

In this connection, the joint Soviet-G.D.R. communique signed in Moscow on June 19 was another major contribution. While expressing deep concern about the growing menace of West German militarism and revanchism, the two countries reaffirmed their sincere desire to work for the easing of European tension and pointed out a realistic way to achieve this aim.

The Soviet Union and the G.D.R., as the joint communique stressed, will not tolerate delay in the conclusion of a German peace treaty or the indefinite preservation of the occupation regime in West Berlin. Should this stand be ignored, the Soviet Union and other peace-loving countries will sign a peace treaty with the G.D.R. while taking all the necessary measures to remove the abnormal situation in West Berlin. Meanwhile, N. S. Khrushchov warned that the Soviet Union would support the G.D.R. with all means at its disposal if the other states attempt to restore the occupation regime in West Berlin by force. All this should have a sobering effect on those Western politicians who still substitute illusion for reality. It should now be clear to them that whatever means they may resort to, their dream of swallowing up the G.D.R. will never come true and that in order to solve the German question, it is imperative, first of all, to recognize the existence and rights of the G.D.R.

The joint Soviet-G.D.R. communique attached special importance to the convening of a summit conference to solve the most pressing international issues including a German peace treaty and West Berlin. This in itself was an important effort for peace in view of the fact that certain Western quarters are trying hard to shun such a meeting.

The Soviet-G.D.R. stand is clear and just. It has the full support of the people of China. People throughout the world are watching whether the Western powers will adopt a realistic attitude when the Geneva Conference resumes.

ROUND THE WEEK

Coal Output Doubled

In the first five months of this year 109.9 per cent more coal was mined than in the corresponding period last year, *Renmin Ribao* reported on June 26. At more than 400 coal faces of the nation's collieries, including Kailan, Fushun, Hsishan, Fengfeng, Hopi and Chiaotso, the average monthly output per face was 10,000 tons and around forty of the more successful faces dug 20,000 to 30,000 tons. Many of the major collieries in the country have won "red banners" for work well done.

With this achievement under its belt the coal industry is mapping further action to raise the level of management so that the drive for greater output and higher quality will be fulfilled. The overall picture of the development of new coal mines is told elsewhere in this issue.

To enable the industry to go forward at full speed with its production plans this year, the metallurgical, engineering, forestry, transport and communication departments have been asked to provide the necessary equipment and services to the coal industry in time.

Steel Output Up 9 Per Cent

Steel output in May was up too, nearly 9 per cent higher than April; and pig iron output rose by nearly 8 per cent. The May figures for steel and pig iron represent increases of 78 per cent and 168 per cent respectively over the corresponding period last year.

May output of the country's 18 major iron and steel works ranged from 9 to 17 per cent above the April figure. Average daily output of pig iron was 3.8 per cent higher than April and steel 4.6 per cent higher. These are the fruits of the "red banner" emulation drive (*Peking Review*, No. 21, 1959) for higher output and quality in the iron and steel industry.

The mass drive has further raised the efficiency of blast furnaces. The First Iron Plant of the Penki Iron and Steel Company, which has long been a pacesetter in raising the coefficient of utilization of blast furnaces, has now boosted the average figure to 2.504 tons. The average coefficient of utilization of the big blast furnaces at Anshan, China's biggest steel centre, also rose from 1.498 to 1.64 tons. The average coefficient of utilization is the output of iron per cubic

metre of available furnace volume per 24 hours and is the most important index of blast furnace efficiency. The small blast furnaces all over the country, which produce almost half of China's pig iron, have also achieved a new high in efficiency. The average daily output of pig iron in May in Anhwei Province, for instance, was 10.2 per cent higher than April.

News from Anshan also shows an overall drop in production costs in May—5.32 per cent lower than in April—a result of the campaign to increase production and reduce costs carried out by the workers.

A Harvest Story from Shantung

Huangchiapu and Chiatsun are the names of two production brigades of the Chihcheng People's Commune in coastal Shantung Province. The two are next door neighbours. They have more or less the same kind of land and resources of manpower and materials. They grow more or less the same crops. Each year Chiatsun had a slight edge over its neighbour in wheat production, gathering in a wee bit more wheat than Huangchiapu. Otherwise, there is little difference between the two in output capacity.

When the wheat harvest was brought in, threshed and weighed this year, Huangchiapu gave Chiatsun a rather rude shock. Huangchiapu, usually a step behind, doubled its output while the old

front runner reaped barely 7 per cent more than last year. What accounted for the switch? It didn't take long to find the answer. Both had been guided by the 8-point Charter for Agriculture (see *Peking Review*, No. 25, 1959). Huangchiapu had carried out the eight measures to the full, but Chiatsun slackened on irrigation and the application of fertilizer and fell behind.

From the many reports of the wheat harvest coming in from various parts of the country there is recurrent evidence that high yields are secured, and over large tracts of land, where the 8-point Charter is fully and properly applied. Take Sichung County in Szechuan Province, for example. It is a hilly and very poor part of southwest China, considering its soil which is barren and thin. But the peasants faithfully put the Charter into practice. Last year some 100,000 of them moved basket after basket of earth to increase the thickness of the soil layer from six inches to over a foot. They used cable-towed ploughs to deep plough the land and applied the other measures properly and in time. Now over an extensive area of 220,000 *mu* of wheat land they reaped an average of 452.9 *jin* to the *mu*, an increase of 168 per cent over last year.

Kwangtung Fights Record Floods

Kwangtung, in south China, has been battling the biggest and worst flood of the century. Sudden outbursts of heavy rain began pouring on June 11 in almost all parts of the province (with the exception of Hainan Island) and continued unabated. Within a few days the downpour amounted to about one-fourth the usual annual rainfall. The heavy waters



Night shift at a coal mine

Woodcut by Li Chun

of the tributaries of the Pearl River swelled dangerously. Canton and the Pearl River Delta were threatened. The call went out for everybody to pitch into the battle against the raging waters.

All along the dykes on the North and West Rivers and around the rich Pearl River Delta millions of people, men and women, civilian and military, joined the mass mobilization to contain the torrents by raising the heights of the dykes and reinforcing them so that "if the crest of the flood waters rises by twelve inches the dykes will go up higher by two feet."

On June 24 it was touch and go. As expected, early in the morning, the flood waters came tearing down from the upper reaches of the North and West Rivers. After converging at a point west of Canton they raced ahead towards the Pearl River Delta. The sea tides were roaring in with more than their usual ferocity just at this time, and the impact of the clash of the swift flowing rivers and the incoming tidal waves threatened to submerge the entire delta and the city of Canton as well.

Never before had the North and West Rivers risen so high; never, too, had the people's fighting spirit and determination to subdue Nature reached such a pitch. A round-the-clock vigil was maintained; for every kilometre there were 60 and even as many as 80 people manning the dykes and with reserves to take over at all times, apart from a full-strength patrol, all ready to give battle to the biggest flood in man's memory. The weather was nasty, but through wind and rain, peasants, workers, government officials and Communist Party functionaries, P.L.A. soldiers, students, and housewives, led by Communist Party secretaries, repaired and stopped breaches in the dyke the moment they were spotted. There were breaches, but the great thing was that the reinforced dykes were held up. On June 25 the climax was reached and the flood waters began to drain into the ocean. The menace to Canton, the Pearl River Delta and the counties on the lower reaches of the North and West Rivers has been averted. The people of Kwangtung, with the support of the nation behind them, have won the first round of the epic battle against the worst of the flood.

In this struggle against the floods people naturally recalled the days of the Kuomintang. In 1947, the magnitude of the flood threatening the East River Valley was much smaller than this year's, but the entire rural population was left to sink or swim. Many were drowned and those who sought safety on the nearby hills received no help and starved to

death. In 1949 (before Kwangtung was liberated), with the first flood warning on the North River, all the Kuomintang officials and officers turned to their heels and left the people in the lurch. While thousands of women and children, uprooted by the floods, cried and begged on the wayside, the Kuomintang fugitive officials had the gall to use the disaster as a pretext to raise "relief" funds among overseas Chinese—to feather their own nests.

Although the worst possible damage and destruction have been averted so far, saving the greater part of the province from disaster, the flood did manage to play havoc with the valleys of the East River despite the great effort to fight it and despite all the water conservancy works built in the past few years. When all had been done that could be done to check the onslaught and the dykes still gave way, inundating large areas, the primary concern of the Communist Party and the government was to save the people marooned on roof-tops and hilltops. The three services of the People's Liberation Army, together with civilians, worked day and night to rescue the stranded peasants. The air force kept up a continuous air-drop of emergency food and medical supplies. By June 18 the 300,000 or so flood-stricken people had been brought to safety. With the water now subsiding in the East River, the people have been given relief and assistance to rebuild their homes and work on the land again. The slogan at present is "strive for a bumper harvest of late rice to make up the losses."

Women Pilots to the Rescue

In the rescue work during the battle against the floods in Kwangtung Province, China's women pilots acquitted themselves in a magnificent manner despite the stormy weather that threatened to ground all aircraft. Shih Li-hsia, Lin Shu-yu and Hsueh Wen-shu, top women pilots trained after the liberation, were on the air-lift job at first. They ignored the blinding rainstorm and relied on instrument flying to guide their planes to the spots where refugees from the floods in the East River region were seeking refuge on the hilltops. In one and a half hours' time on June 16 they air-dropped supplies accurately to a dozen or so points and continued at their jobs, on and off, for almost eight hours.

For several days the air-lift went on and more than two hundred tons of biscuits, fried rice, preserved food, clothing, medical supplies and communication equipment were air-dropped to the people marooned in isolated spots. The

mission was to make as many sorties as possible to alleviate the suffering of the refugees who were awaiting their turn to be rescued. When these women pilots were out on the second day, they got a pleasant surprise. From their cockpits they could discern quite distinctly big, rough characters formed out of white stones and other materials on the spot where they had dropped supplies the day before: "Long Live Chairman Mao!" and "Long Live the Communist Party!"—the grateful acknowledgement of the stranded peasants.

Graduation Time

July is graduation time in China's universities and the graduates are looking forward to their first jobs. Chinese graduates have no worry about finding suitable employment upon leaving the university. The state looks after that for them. The important thing for them, however, is how to apply their talents to contribute the most to their new fields of endeavour.

The Ministry of Education and the Communist Youth League, the organization of the country's politically advanced youth, have been receiving many letters from young men and women due to graduate in a few weeks' time expressing this sentiment. With the education given them by the Communist Party, in surroundings where they could pursue their studies without worry, they feel they owe it to the people and the Party to go and work where the country believes they can make the best contribution to the building of socialism, they write.

At the moment the universities are humming with more than their usual share of activities, what with most of the students taking their final exams, the graduates getting ready to embark upon their new careers, and the preparations being made to admit new students for the next academic year in the autumn. Entrance examinations for institutes of higher learning are scheduled to be held throughout the country beginning July 20. Quite a few of the national dailies have been running special features to furnish the students with the necessary information about the various colleges and universities, to help them make their choice.

In addition to the graduates of the middle schools in the major cities and provinces, overseas Chinese students and students from Hongkong and Macao have been registering for these college entrance examinations. According to the regulations issued by the Ministry of Education they will be given preferential consideration for admission along with workers, peasants, ex-servicemen, and students of national minority origin.

U.S. Troops Must Withdraw from South Korea

The following editorial appeared in "Renmin Ribao" (People's Daily) on June 25, 1959. — Ed.

TODAY is the ninth anniversary of the patriotic war of self-defence of the heroic Korean people against U.S. aggression. It is also the day of struggle of peace-loving people the world over supporting the Korean people and demanding the withdrawal of U.S. troops from south Korea. Since the Central Committee of the Korean Fatherland Front on June 6 called upon the whole Korean people to wage a struggle for the immediate withdrawal of U.S. troops from south Korea, successive statements have been issued by the World Council of Peace, the Secretariat of the Afro-Asian Peoples' Solidarity Council, the World Federation of Trade Unions and the World Federation of Democratic Youth, appealing to the peoples of all lands to observe June 25 as "Korea Day" to back up the struggle of the Korean people. The demand of the Korean people for the withdrawal of U.S. troops from south Korea is gaining strength daily. The struggle for the withdrawal of U.S. troops and the peaceful unification of the fatherland is unfolding even in south Korea despite the brutal repression by the U.S. and the Syngman Rhee clique. The peace organizations in the Soviet Union, Viet-nam, Mongolia, Indonesia, India, Japan and many other countries have been organizing various activities in support of the struggle of the Korean people. The Chinese people, who have always had deep sympathy and concern for the struggle of the fraternal Korean people for the peaceful unification of their fatherland, once again demonstrated their full support for this just cause and firmly demanded the complete withdrawal of the U.S. troops of aggression from south Korea at mass rallies in Peking and other big cities.

The withdrawal of U.S. troops from south Korea and the realization of the peaceful unification of Korea are the unanimous wish of the 30 million Korean people and the common demand of peace-loving people the world over. Today, when the United States continues to maintain its troops in south Korea and to obstruct the peaceful settlement of the Korean question, this reasonable wish and demand have become more urgent than ever. The state of affairs since the Korean armistice has fully proved this: the longer the U.S. troops stay in south Korea, the more the Korean people suffer and the greater the threat to peace.

Although nearly six years have elapsed since the end of the fighting in Korea, due to deliberate U.S.

sabotage, peace in Korea remains under constant and serious threat and the Korean nation and state are still divided. The Korean people who live in the north and south are unable to reunite with their kinsfolk or even see each other as if there were a great distance separating them. The indefinite occupation of south Korea by the U.S. troops, in addition, has become the source of the calamities and misfortunes the people there have to face. Acting on the orders of the United States, the Syngman Rhee clique has pursued a bellicose policy of arms drive. About 70 per cent of its budget is devoted to military and police force expenses. The Korean people in the south, as a result, are bled white and driven to economic bankruptcy. Industrial production in south Korea today does not even amount to half of what it was during the period of Japanese rule. About four-fifths of the medium and small enterprises there, which constitute 99 per cent of the mining and industrial enterprises in south Korea, have been forced to close down or reduce working time. The number of unemployed and semi-employed totals 6.6 million. The rural economy, too, is in a hopeless plight. South Korea, which was once known as the "granary of Korea," is now a land of hunger. To maintain their evil rule, the United States and the Syngman Rhee clique do not hesitate to take fascist measures to strip the people of the minimum democratic rights and freedom. In 1958 alone, 240,000 innocent people were imprisoned. It is little wonder that the Western press has described south Korea as a "hell," admitting that to introduce democracy in south Korea is even more difficult than to make roses grow out of a heap of rubbish.

THE U.S. policy of splitting Korea indefinitely and occupying south Korea by force is also a root cause of the war danger in Asia. Since the armistice, the United States has all along indulged in war provocations as the answer to all the proposals of the Korean and Chinese side aimed at peace and the peaceful unification of Korea. It has not only illegally shipped large amounts of war materials into south Korea, expanded Syngman Rhee's armed forces from 16 divisions at the time of the armistice to 31 divisions, but has openly sent in atomic weapons, established guided missile bases and even held large-scale mobile atomic war manoeuvres in the vicinity of the military demarcation line. In fact, it hopes to turn south Korea into an "ammunition depot" and a base for preparing a new atomic war.

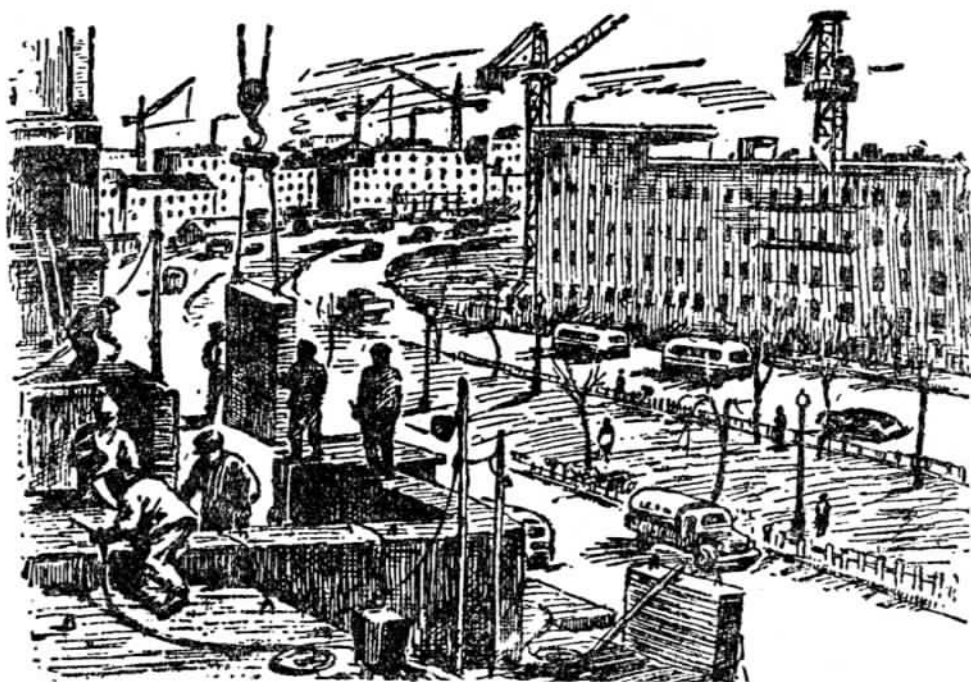
It is obvious that as long as U.S. troops forcibly occupy south Korea, it is impossible for the Korean people to rid themselves of their national misfortune and there can be no relaxation of tension in Korea and the Far East. To deliver the people in south Korea from their sufferings and to make the Korean armistice a consolidated peace, there is no other way out but to compel the U.S. troops to withdraw from south Korea and to bring about the peaceful unification of Korea at an early date.

IN the six years since the armistice, the Korean-Chinese side has made persistent and sincere efforts to promote a peaceful solution of the Korean question. The Government of the Korean Democratic People's Republic has proposed that the authorities in both the south and the north should each reduce their armed forces to less than 100,000 men, and it has led the way by cutting its own armed forces by 80,000 men. It has also put forward, on many occasions, a series of proposals for the withdrawal of all foreign armed forces from Korea and the realization of the peaceful unification of the country. But all these proposals were unreasonably rejected by the United States and the Syngman Rhee clique. Last year, the Chinese People's Volunteers who went to Korea to resist the U.S. aggressors and aid Korea, to protect their homes and defend their motherland, withdrew completely. This is another important contribution of the Chinese people to facilitating a peaceful settlement of the Korean question and preserving peace in Asia and the world. In these circumstances, the U.S. armed forces have no justification whatsoever to stay on in south Korea. To date, however, U.S. troops are still in south Korea and refuse to get out. At the same time they are stepping up their efforts to build and expand their atomic and guided missile bases in south Korea. The people the world over are entitled to ask: What motive do the U.S. armed forces have in prolonging their occupation of south Korea?

The continued stay of the U.S. armed forces in south Korea makes one thing clear: The U.S. imperialists still harbour their aggressive ambitions against the Korean Democratic People's Republic and the People's Republic of China. They vainly hope to stage a come-back one day. The United States itself has not tried to hide this. William H. Draper, Jr., chairman of the U.S. Presidential committee to study foreign aid, openly declared that as far as the United States is concerned, south Korea represents a real frontline, and at the present there is only truce but not peace. Not long ago, George H. Decker, commander-in-chief of the U.S. aggressive forces in Korea, also uttered the cry that hostilities may break out again in the Korean peninsula. The diverse

war preparations conducted by the United States in south Korea, it must be noted, are but a part of its aggressive designs against Asia. The United States has always pursued a war policy in south Korea as a key component of its sabotage of peace in the Far East. Of late, the United States has instigated the pro-American government of the Kingdom of Laos to scrap the Geneva agreements openly, to re-open the civil war and create tension in Indo-China. At the same time, it is intensifying its effort to equip Japan with nuclear weapons and trying to knock together a so-called "Northeast Asia Military Alliance" through the revision of the Japan-United States "Security Treaty." This would include south Korea, Taiwan, Okinawa and the Ogasawara Islands with Japan as its centre. The United States is plotting to co-ordinate the so-called "Northeast Asia Military Alliance" with the "Southeast Asia Treaty Organization," to pave the way for further implementation of its policy of expansion and war in Asia.

THE facts fully demonstrate that the U.S. plot to prolong the division of Korea and keep south Korea under its armed occupation has not only blocked the reunion of the 30 million Korean people and the peaceful unification of their beautiful homeland, but is adversely affecting the relaxation of tension in the Far East and the consolidation of world peace. To promote a peaceful solution of the Korean question and consolidate the peace in Korea and the Far East, the Chinese people are willing to join hands with the Asian peoples and the peace-loving people the world over to compel the U.S. armed forces to withdraw from south Korea and eliminate this source of war danger in Asia. The Chinese people are firmly convinced that the Korean people's aspirations will certainly be realized, that their struggle will certainly triumph and that the aggressive forces of U.S. imperialism will certainly be ousted from south Korea.



Pyongyang street scene

Sketch by Ok Sun Yu

"KOREA DAY" IN CHINA

by OUR CORRESPONDENT

FIFTEEN hundred Peking citizens assembled to observe "Korea Day" on June 24, the eve of the ninth anniversary of the outbreak of the Korean war. It was an emotion-charged rally. Speaker after speaker demanded: U. S. invaders, get out of south Korea! Korea must be peacefully reunited!

Elsewhere in the country, similar rallies were held—in Antung, which could see the flames of Korea's Sinuiju across the Yalu in the war days; in Yenchi, the capital of the autonomous *chou* of China's Korean national minority; and in big cities like Changchun, Shenyang, Canton and Shanghai. The press has given extended coverage to Korean news for days on end. The entire Chinese people were aware of the significance of this day.

Friendship Sealed in Blood

The words of Kuo Mo-jo, Chairman of the China Peace Committee, well summarized popular sentiment at the Peking rally which was sponsored by six Chinese people's organizations and attended by representatives of all circles and walks of life. "We, the peoples of China and Korea," he said, "are comrades-in-arms. Our unbreakable friendship is sealed in blood. The relationship between our two peoples is like lips and teeth and as close as flesh and blood." The presence of Korean Ambassador Li Young Ho and other Korean guests, as well as the appealing speech the Ambassador made at the rally, added to the atmosphere of Chinese-Korean solidarity and brotherhood.



Korean woman embroidering a gift for departing Chinese People's Volunteers

Woodcut by Chiu Tang

Past events are still vivid in the minds of people. In June 1950 the newly liberated Chinese people suddenly read the ominous headlines one morning: the Syngman Rhee clique had unleashed a full-scale attack along the entire length of the 38th Parallel on June 25. Two days later Truman ordered U.S. forces to give "cover and support" to the Syngman Rhee troops and the U.S. Seventh Fleet to invade China's Taiwan. One week earlier, on June 19, Dulles was known to have raved in Syngman Rhee's "National Assembly": "The eyes of the free world are upon you. Compromise with communism would be to take the road leading to disaster." The meaning of these events was soon clear: U.S. imperialism had set out to obliterate the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and our young People's Republic of China.

To the strains of the *Battle Song of the Volunteers*, thousands upon thousands of the best sons and daughters of the Chinese people crossed the Yalu River and joined the Korean people in repulsing the U.S. aggressors. Millions upon millions of people at home contributed to the cause of "Resisting American Aggression and Aiding Korea" in one way or another. On Korea's blazing battlefield and its scorched rear, Sino-Korean comradeship grew and flourished. There were Koreans who shielded wounded Chinese Volunteers from exploding shells with their own bodies; there were Chinese Volunteers who took fatal plunges into burning houses or ice-bound waters to save Korean lives....

The Korean people, fighting shoulder to shoulder with the Chinese People's Volunteers, dealt U.S. imperialism the worst defeat it ever suffered. But since the armistice, as pointed out by Liao Cheng-chih, Chairman of the Chinese Committee for Afro-Asian Solidarity, who presided over the Peking rally, the continued barbarous acts of aggression on the part of the United States in Korea have been threatening the security of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and peace in the Far East as well as in the world.

A Hotbed of War

For the U.S. imperialists, the armistice signed in July 1953 was a reluctant facing up to harsh reality. It is interesting to recall a typical U.S. comment of the time. *Barron's* weekly, which caters to U.S. financial circles, under the heading "Bitter Truce" wrote: "The first and decisive fact is that after three years of fighting, high casualties and the expenditure of billions, American arms stand about on the line from which the war started." U.S. imperialism has not taken its defeat lying down and has continued to stir up trouble in Korea.

Kuo Mo-jo in his speech cited some salient facts about U.S. violations of the Korean Armistice Agreement. From the signing of the agreement up to February 1959, the number of intrusions by U.S. military aircraft reached

1,721 and armed raids, gun firing, espionage activities, trespassing and other acts of provocation against the area north of the military demarcation line and the demilitarized zone totalled 966. The U.S. aggressors have obstructed the activities of the neutral nations commission supervising the armistice and shipped large quantities of war materials, including atomic weapons and guided missiles, into south Korea. Eight months have passed since the Chinese People's Volunteers effected their complete withdrawal from Korea, but U.S. troops still stay on in the southern part of the peninsula. The United States and the Syngman Rhee clique have repeatedly turned their backs to the efforts of the Korean-Chinese side for a peaceful settlement of the Korean question.

It is no secret that Washington hopes to keep south Korea as its colony and military base and use the south Koreans as its cannon fodder. Expounding the infamous U.S. theory of "making Asians fight Asians," the former commander of the U.S. Eighth Army in Korea, General Van Fleet, told the U.S. Congress on March 6, 1953: "This Oriental [referring to the youth of south Korea] is, of course, a much cheaper man to maintain than an American boy. His pay is about 10 cents a month. There are no allowances. There is no insurance. When he is gone, he is gone, left right there. That is the end of him." How cynical and cold-blooded! It was with this aim in mind that the United States, soon after the signing of the Korean armistice, concluded a so-called "mutual defence treaty" with Syngman Rhee and, over the years, has expanded Syngman Rhee's armed forces from 16 to 31 divisions. The United States is doing all these things, Kuo Mo-jo warned, so as to be in a position to launch another aggressive war at some future time.

A Living Hell

The speakers at the Peking rally and Chinese public opinion generally have voiced deep sympathy with the people of south Korea which "has been turned into a hell on earth" under the U.S.-Rhee misrule, as Kuo Mo-jo pointed out. A flood of facts has been reported in the Chinese press. In south Korea, 70 per cent of the budget goes to support the swollen military and police forces. In 1958, the total volume of imports was 20.4 times that of exports. Commodity prices have soared 100 times during the past ten years. South Korea, once a rice-exporting region, now has to import more than 700,000 tons of food grains each year. Twenty-eight per cent of the total population, 6.6 million in all, are either jobless or semi-employed. The average monthly wage of miners and workers in heavy industry is 35,000 *hwan* and of workers in light industry, 24,000 *hwan*, according to a south Korean source. But a five-member family in Seoul has to spend 52,000 *hwan* a month for its subsistence. To top all this, there is the notorious police terror of the Syngman Rhee clique.

In the foreign press, too, there are no few facts showing what's behind the facade of this U.S.-sponsored "democracy." The New York *National Guardian* recently reported: "The poverty of the south Koreans remains so great that a Lutheran minister said it 'disgraces all humanity in the sight of God.' Even in the big cities thousands of families live in makeshift huts. . . . American military and civilian personnel in south Korea live in luxury in contrast to the Koreans' poverty. . . . Syngman

Rhee's U.S.-supported 'free world' is a thorough-going police state."

Speaking about the situation in south Korea, Korean Ambassador Li Young Ho rightly demanded: "These hardships and tribulations of the people in south Korea must not be allowed to go on. . . . If the U.S. imperialist aggressive forces had not occupied south Korea, the Korean people would have long since peacefully reunified their fatherland and the people in south Korea would have been leading a happy and prosperous life together with the people in north Korea." The Ambassador went on amidst tumultuous applause: "Korea belongs to the Koreans. The Korean question must be settled by the Korean people themselves peacefully. . . . U.S. imperialism must withdraw its troops from south Korea immediately."

In stark contrast with the situation in south Korea, the northern part of the country has been advancing, as the popular Korean slogan puts it, "on a flying horse." A few figures are illuminating. The total value of industrial output of the northern part of Korea in 1958 quadrupled that of 1949, the year prior to the outbreak of the war. Last year, per capita production of important sectors of the economy in north Korea were 36.5 kg. of steel, 39 kg. of iron, 688 kg. of coal, 760 kwh. of electricity, 124 kg. of cement, 370 kg. of grain and 45 kg. of chemical fertilizers. (The corresponding figures for south Korea were 0.8 kg. of steel, 0.1 kg. of iron, 115 kg. of coal, 67 kwh. of electricity, 13 kg. of cement, 174 kg. of grain and no chemical fertilizer.) The historic tasks of agricultural co-operation and socialist transformation of private industry and commerce have been successfully carried out in the northern part of Korea. Exploitation and unemployment have long since become a thing of the past. The people's livelihood has improved markedly and suffice it to cite the fact that compulsory junior middle school education was instituted last November. A full-length colour documentary, *Korea Today*, was shown following the Peking rally. When one sees the industrial progress spelled out in big blast furnaces and turbines and the beautiful Pyongyang boulevards lined with modern new buildings, and when one recalls the almost endless stretch of ruins wrought by indiscriminate U.S. bombing during the war, the story of rebuilding and growth in north Korea assumes the proportions of an epic of our times.

End the Source of Tension

All the facts make it increasingly evident to the people of the world that U.S. occupation of south Korea is a source of tension and the root cause of the suffering of the south Korean people. On this "Korea Day," strong voices were heard from Moscow to Hanoi, from Bagdad to Tokyo, demanding that the U.S. troops pull out of Korea at once. That is why Kuo Mo-jo confidently declared: "The just struggle of the Korean people, supported by all the peace-loving countries and people of the world, will certainly triumph."

Dwelling on the world situation as a whole, Kuo Mo-jo condemned the United States for sustaining a handful of reactionaries most detested by the people of the world as its accomplices and tools, such as Adenauer, Kishi, Chiang Kai-shek, Syngman Rhee, Ngo Dinh Diem, etc. The people of the world now can see very clearly,

he said, that U.S. imperialism is the mainstay of the most reactionary and decadent forces and the common enemy of all the peace-loving people of the world. But, he stressed, if the people in Asia, Africa and Latin America and all peace-loving forces continue to strengthen their solidarity, sharpen their vigilance and persist in their struggle, imperialism will surely be defeated.

Report from Tibet

NEW DAY IN LHASA

by KUO KUNG

LHASA in June is warm and gay. And this summer, what with all the many changes that have taken place since the quelling of the rebellion in spring, the people are in a mood for merry-making. Recently they celebrated the centuries-old Lingka Festival, a three-day holiday for outings and picnicking, in the beautiful Nyizhol Lingka. Less than a year ago, the troops of the *kasha*, the former local government of Tibet, had this place roped off as a rifle-range. This year, the festival fell on June 20-22. Tents decorated with bunting and flags were pitched by the Lhasa River in the woods inside the Lingka (park). A big snow-white awning was set over a stage for performances.

The second day of the festival being Sunday, cadres and many P.L.A. men could also join the public in Lhasa for the holiday. Peasants rode or tramped in from the outskirts to enjoy the fun. Many herdsmen from north of the city rode in too.

Gay Songs

A gay song and dance programme was given in addition to a play entitled *The Last Days of Misrule*, based on a true story of the rebellion. Among the dancing crowd was a girl called Namjal who sang:

*Anybody here going to Peking?
Pray take this hata of mine to Chairman Mao!
The days of the past were dark as the pit of hell;
Now the sun of happiness shines overhead,
Warming the poor. . . .*

Namjal was formerly a slave girl in the family of Yuto Chahsi-dongchu, one of the ringleaders of the rebellion. In the past, she would have had to wait on her masters in silence at the festival. There would have been no place for her to sing and dance. But today is different. Freedom has come to Namjal, like the rest of the oppressed in Tibet. The man who led the dancing with a party of 30 other young men and women was Doje-phuntsog, a former house-serf of Tsarong Dazangdradul, another ringleader of the rebellion.

Five hundred lamas from the Gahdan Monastery walked more than 40 kilometres to the Nyizhol Lingka to celebrate the festival. They performed a religious dance.

At the Peking rally representatives of China's democratic parties, trade unions, women, and youth spoke out one after another in support of the Korean people. The meeting adopted a message addressed to the brothers and sisters across the Yalu, embodying the Chinese people's attitude: "For peace and for the unification of Korea, the U.S. forces of aggression must get out of south Korea!"

Here, as elsewhere in Tibet, people are busy as well as gay at these first stirrings of the new life. The shops are crowded. The Parkor, Lhasa's main thoroughfare, is lined with stalls with a wide range of goods for sale, from local made *pulos* (Tibetan rugs) to silver and jade ornaments. Truckloads of goods are pouring into the city along the Chinghai-Tibet Highway, destroyed by the rebel bandits and repaired immediately after the quelling of the rebellion. Peasants flock to market, their donkeys loaded with *qingke* barley, *tsamba* and other farm produce. Market prices have never been as stable as they are now. Every day in front of the Jokhan Monastery, as of yore there are men and women chanting prayers, or carrying in their offerings of butter to keep alight the lamps before the Buddha.

New Roads

Roads inside the city are being repaired or reconstructed. A 500-metre-long avenue has been laid out at the heart of the city, and another new road 160 metres long leading from the People's Hospital to the Potala Palace is now under construction. The road between the Norbu Lingka and the Jokhan Monastery was destroyed by the rebel bandits during the rebellion. It is again open to traffic.

Here in Lhasa, something new and vital is growing up while all that is old and moribund is dying away. In the middle of last month, Lhasans made a clean sweep of accumulated dirt and refuse. Tons of garbage that littered the city for no one knows how long were cleared away in a matter of a few days. Cesspools within the city limits were levelled up. Streets and lanes were covered with fresh sand. Over 500 metres of silted up sewage ditches were dredged out by the local residents themselves. Women residents, adapting a time-honoured custom to new needs, decorated street corners by sprinkling yellow and white earth in attractive designs. A favourite pattern was the symbol for "good luck."

Not far away from the Remogia Monastery, a large ditch winds its way through the northern part of the city. No one, not even the old inhabitants there, knew when it was dug or what it was excavated for. If it had been used to drain away water, it had long ceased to

perform this function but become a cesspool filled with night soil and mud, and it stank terribly. Several hundred households live beside this ditch, the road along its edge was so narrow that children playing there often fell into it. Now the residents in the area have dredged it and widened the road.

Only a few months ago colonies of beggars lived in rows of dilapidated hovels in filthy, narrow lanes, the flotsam and jetsam of serfdom. New life has come to them too. Years ago, the central authorities tried to get them rehoused but the *kasha* refused to allot land for this purpose. The project was put off from day to day. Now, most of these hovels have disappeared and soon all the rest of these unfortunates will be moving into the new homes provided for them. Those who are disabled, aged or weak, are receiving public relief, eating *tsamba* and drinking buttered tea for the first time in their lives. Twenty-eight needy households with able-bodied members have organized themselves into a production team and reclaimed 36 *khals** of wasteland. They are now busily digging irrigation ditches and collecting manure for their new farm.

Jobs for the Unemployed

To date, some 1,400 unemployed in the city have been given jobs since the quelling of the rebellion. Tharwa, a beggar only recently, is now a mason, keen on his work, and eager to master the craft. Another beggar, Gyanba, is now a carpenter earning good wages. Yunchu is now a building worker who was on the edge of utter despair when he was rescued. Ruined by the back-breaking *ula* system, he had run away from his native village by the Tsangpo River and had roamed about from place to place for thirty years seeking to make a living. His wife and nine-month-old baby were killed by the rebel bandits during the rebellion. His own life was saved by a Han cadre when he was attempting to drown himself in the Lhasa River. He is now more than content with his

regular wages, the new clothing and good food he gets. But it is hard for him to put the past behind him and cease to wish hopelessly that his wife and child were still alive to share his happiness.

Some miles to the east of Lhasa city a big hydroelectric power station is being built on the Lhasa River. Work is going ahead here at full speed after a brief interruption caused by the rebels. Tibetan and Han workers are pressing the job ahead shoulder to shoulder. They all understand that with the completion of this plant generating 6,000 kilowatts, power undreamt of in the past will come to Lhasa to turn machine tools and machines and replace the smoky light of oil lamps with bright electricity in the homes of the people. That day can't come soon enough for them. On the afternoon of May 18, the big dam that blocks the water of the Lhasa River was completed. Now, the second stage of the project is in hand: the building of another dam, the splitting of a nearby hill for the race that will carry water to the turbines and the building of the power plant itself.

More than 160,000 *khals* of land have been sown since this spring in the Lhasa area. Not far from the city sixty-six-year-old Yieshi and his family are living. During the rebellion, his last *khal* of *qingke* barley which he had kept as seed to be sown this spring was taken away by a group of rebels. As the thaw set in, with dogged persistence and hope in providence he had ploughed his land even though he had no seed to sow. The work team of the Lhasa Committee of the Chinese Communist Party came to his rescue just in time. They brought along with them not only food for relief but also seed to be issued as interest-free loans. After the rebellion, something around 1,785,000 *jin* of seed grain was issued in such loans in the fifteen *dzong* (counties) that come under the Lhasa area. The Yieshis are only one among thousands of families who are now looking forward to an unprecedented event in their lives: the first harvest that will be truly their own.

More Children at School

More children are now at school. Soon after the rebellion was crushed in Lhasa, the number of school chil-

**Khal* is a Tibetan unit of weight equivalent to about 12.5 kilogrammes. One *khal* of land means a piece of land large enough to sow one *khal* of seed. — Ed.



Lhasans at the Lingka Festival: (left) dancing youngsters and (right) a family picnic

Hsinhua radiophoto

dren increased by more than 1,500. Most of the newcomers were children of serfs and homeless orphans who until recently roamed the streets in piteous plight. In the past, the reactionaries did all they could to prevent children of the common people from attending school and attendance was even more difficult, of course, for children of impoverished serf families. So the two primary schools founded in Lhasa never had enough pupils in all the eight years following the peaceful liberation. But today they are finding it difficult to admit all the children wishing to go to school. In the first two days after the No. 3 Lhasa Primary School opened its doors more than 600 children applied to enter. It filled so rapidly that the Preparatory Committee for the Autonomous Region of Tibet has found it necessary to set up the No. 4 Lhasa Primary School. In addition to these, 19 schools run by local residents' committees have also been set up. On June 1, a primary school was set up for the first time in Drajaq Chika on the outskirts of Lhasa. The 123 pupils who came that first day were all children of poor peasant families.

Many adults in the city are now also going to evening schools to learn to read and write; they include tailors, painters, peasants and house slaves who have just won their freedom. Cultural activities too are booming. The people of Lhasa have set up six amateur song and dance groups with some 200 members. A new cinema has been opened and two mobile film projection teams tour the city districts and suburbs.

People Want Reform

There is an insistent demand everywhere for democratic reform to put an end to the cruel and barbarous feudal serf system. Free to speak out the people are voicing their demands. Not long ago Chang Kuo-hua, deputy-secretary of the Working Committee of the Chinese Communist Party in Tibet, paid house-to-house visits among the peasants in Dzai Dzong near Lhasa. Practically every one of them told him that

"they couldn't carry on" if democratic reform didn't come soon. Tsongje, a Tibetan mother, told him that last year she and her family had sowed two *khals* of seed on a small plot and harvested four *khals* of grain. One half of the harvest had to go for the rent and the other half to repay the seed she had borrowed. That is, after a year's hard toil, she and her family had nothing to live on. This was no isolated case. Rents, corvée and usury under serfdom bowed the Tibetan masses to the ground, but they are determined to rise to their feet and throw this load of exploitation off their shoulders.

Quite a few people of the middle and upper social strata in Tibet have also come to see the utter cruelty of the serf system and how it has held the Tibetan people back in poverty and want. That is why they also favour the peaceful reforms which are the policy of the central authorities. Sampo Tsewong Rentzen, a member of the Preparatory Committee for the Autonomous Region of Tibet, spoke for many besides himself when he recently publicly expressed what he felt about the reforms: "I'm a big land-owner myself and I used to be proud of it. But as I saw the world situation and the situation here at home change and understood the crying need of the Tibetan people for reform, I began to feel dissatisfied with this landlord life. So that everybody can lead a happy life, I, for one, am for the reforms."

In his message to Chairman Mao and other leaders of the Chinese Communist Party and the state sent on his return to Lhasa from Peking on June 15, Panchen Erdeni wrote: "All that we see now, however, is only the beginning of the new life of the Tibetan people who have just emancipated themselves from rule of violence by the reactionary feudal serf-owners. We, the Tibetan people, are confronted today by the urgent task of rapidly carrying out democratic reforms on the basis of thoroughly quelling the rebellion, burying the feudal serf system, establishing the people's democratic system and completely liberating the Tibetan people from the yoke of the feudal serf system."

Capital Construction

New Coal Mines in China

by CHU CHI-LIN

CAPITAL construction in the coal industry is going ahead this year on a very large scale. Total investments and the number and capacity of new mines and coal-washing plants that will go into production this year will exceed last year's big leap forward. Extensive building is going on in many parts of the country: in the rising new coal town of Pingdingshan in central China's Honan Province; in the rich new coalfield north of the Huai River in Anhwei Province—the Huaipai coalfield known as a "sea of coal," to cite but two. The Kailan Colliery, one of the oldest in the country founded 81 years ago, is getting a new lease on life as large-scale construction is undertaken to expand it. Work on a

number of coking coal bases is also in full swing. The expansion of coking coal and coal-washing plants this year is part of the national effort to increase steel production.

Increasing Scale of Construction

Large-scale construction since liberation has changed the face of China's coal industry. More than 600 major projects were started from liberation to the end of 1958. The total designed capacity of these projects far surpassed the total capacity of the existing collieries.

As early as 1950, the second year of liberation, work started on a number of huge modern mines—the Haichow

open-cast mine of the Fuhsin Colliery, the Tungshan pit of the Hokang Colliery and the central pit of the Liaoyuan Colliery, all in the northeast. The Soviet Union helped in the design, construction and supply of equipment. Several other modern pits designed by Chinese engineers were also started in the northeast in the same year.

When China embarked on her First Five-Year Plan in 1953, capital construction in the coal industry was spread to all parts of the country and the scale of construction increased year by year. In 1957 alone, there were more than 60 new starts with a total designed capacity considerably greater than the total capacity of new mines started during the entire period of rehabilitation (1950-1952).

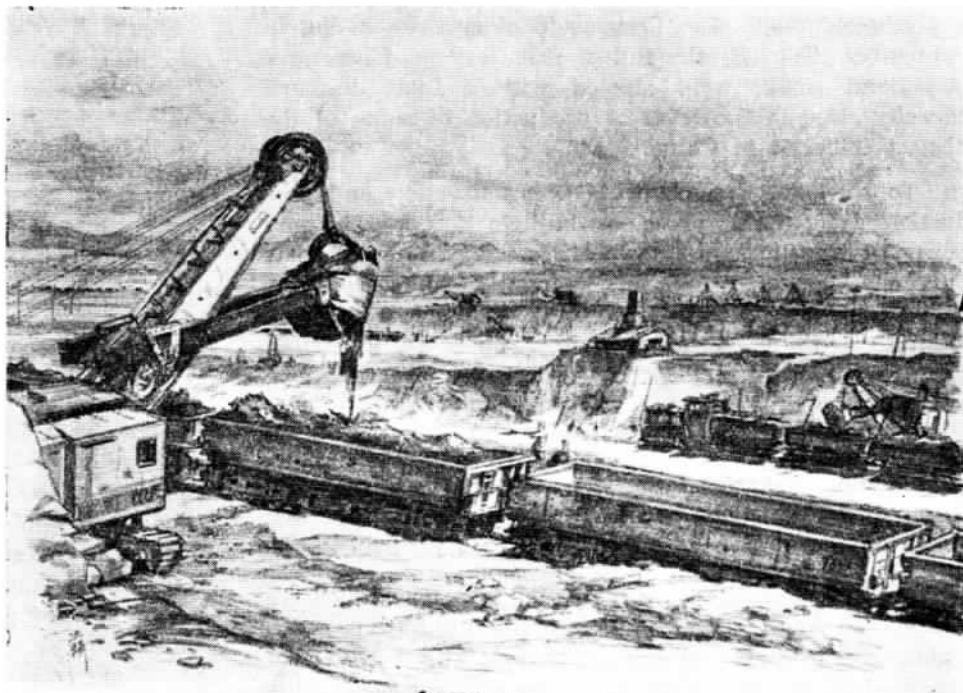
An unprecedented leap forward took place in 1958, with more than 400 new starts, not counting those small pits built by the local authorities or the people's communes by indigenous methods. In 1958 alone, the volume of construction (in terms of designed capacity) was more than double the total undertaken during the entire First Five-Year Plan.

By the end of 1958, more than 160 projects had already been completed and commissioned. Production from the new pits completed in the earlier years has risen rapidly. In the Haichow open-cast mine, the Pingan pit of the Fuhsin Colliery and the Tungshan and Hsingantai pits of the Hokang Colliery, output has surpassed the designed levels.

Wide Geographic Distribution

The building of coal mines proceeded according to the principle of tapping the potentialities of the existing collieries fully and, at the same time, placing new mines as close to the consuming areas as possible so as to effect a more rational distribution of the coal mines and save transport costs. Care has also been taken to ensure a proper proportion of the different types of coal produced. Where a mine is suitably located, the reserves are rich and the quality of the coal is high, comparatively large-scale construction is undertaken to turn it into a national coal base. There are dozens of such bases in all parts of the country in operation or under construction. More than three-quarters of the new pits under construction (in terms of designed capacity) are clustered around these bases. Many existing bases are being expanded. In most cases, the new capacity to be added will far surpass the existing capacity of the collieries.

How new construction changed the existing collieries is well illustrated by the Fuhsin Colliery. This colliery was built in 1936 on the basis of existing small pits by the Japanese militarists who ruthlessly looted China's resources during their occupation of northeast China (1931-1945). In 1941, the peak year before liberation,



At the Haichow open-cast mine

Drawing by Wang Chi

there were more than 30 small slope mines and several small open-cast mines which produced a total of 4.12 million tons of coal by primitive methods—hand picks and other tools. This colliery was taken over by the Kuomintang from the Japanese. When the Kuomintang fled in 1948, they seriously damaged the mines. Output in 1949 dropped to 1.88 million tons.

Large-scale construction since liberation has changed all this. More than 30 new projects were started. Of these, the Haichow open-cast mine alone has a designed capacity of 3 million tons. But in 1958, it actually turned out 4.89 million tons of coal. This means that a single new mine turned out nearly one-fifth more coal than the entire colliery did in its pre-liberation peak year!

The Haichow mine is a huge modern open-cast mine equipped with 4-cubic-metre power shovels for stripping the overburden, and 120-ton electric locomotives. Operations are thoroughly mechanized. An automatic signal system facilitates the transport of coal.

The newly built Pingan pit of the same colliery exemplifies modern deep-mining in China today. Here, coal-cutting, loading and unloading at the work faces and underground transport are all mechanized. Coal is hauled out in hopper cars. Then it is automatically sorted and loaded on out-going trains. The pit bottom is equipped with a chain-type blocking system. Various safety devices ensure safe operation.

New Coal Bases

About one-quarter of the new pits under construction are designed to develop new coal bases. These are scattered in more than 20 provinces, municipalities and autonomous regions. Most of these new coal bases are rising rapidly from bare ground. Take the Pingtingshan Colliery in Honan Province, for example. The place used to be a stretch of barren field that cannot be located on

a 3-year-old map. The first spade of earth was dug in September 1955. By the end of 1958, dozens of new pits, large and small, were started with a total designed capacity close to the level of production of some of the biggest collieries in China.

To meet the requirements of construction and production, a big power plant was built in Pingdingshan and powerful transmission lines were set up. Rows of new buildings — plants, offices and residences — have come up and a highway network has emerged. A special railway linking this mining centre with the Peking-Canton trunk line is now open to traffic. In less than four years, a mining town of more than 100,000 people has risen.

The first pit at Pingdingshan was completed and commissioned in the latter part of 1957. Since then output has been going up steadily. This colliery is fast becoming the first powerful coal base in central China.

Recent prospecting and actual construction have buried the myth prevalent before liberation that south China has little or no coal reserves. The building of new coal bases has already begun to alter the geographic distribution of China's coal industry. It was lopsided in the past, with heavy concentrations in north and north-east China and few coalfields in south China, necessitating long hauls of coal from the northern part of the country to the south.

Rising Technical Level

In the course of the construction of coal mines, a technical force of skilled builders has been created and its ranks are growing. Before liberation, the few modern mines in existence were mostly designed and built by foreign contractors. There was no Chinese technical force to speak of.

The first force of Chinese technicians and skilled workers grew up when China began building large modern mines in the northeast, with Soviet assistance, in 1950. Technical personnel and workers from the Kailan and Huainan Collieries came to the northeast and learnt on the job.

When large-scale construction got under way during the First Five-Year Plan, many workers were sent from the producing mines to the building sites. With the help of Soviet experts, Chinese workers mastered modern techniques of building, such as simultaneously sinking and lining the shaft, modern techniques of tunnelling and lining, the installation of machines and equipment for big mechanized modern mines, the building of headframes, pitheads, bunkers and other above-ground buildings. They are now capable of building entirely on their own modern mines with an annual capacity of 2.4 million tons and coal-washing plants with an annual capacity of 4 million tons. Thousands of building machines are now in use. A considerable degree of mechanization has been achieved.

By introducing new techniques of construction, the workers have succeeded in raising efficiency considerably. An example is the use of large-hole blasting. By the use of this and other methods, builders of the Chuantai shaft at Hsuehchow, in Kiangsu Province, succeeded in

creating a record of 160.9 metres per month. Techniques of sinking shafts through complex geological strata have also been mastered. The method of sinking reinforced concrete pipes with vibrating pile drivers, similar to that employed in erecting the piers of the Yangtse River Bridge at Wuhan, is now being successfully used in Huaipai to sink shafts through thick strata of shifting sand. As a result of constant improvements in techniques of construction, the national average rate of shaft sinking increased three-fold from 7.97 metres per month in 1950 to 23.17 metres per month in 1958.

The rate of tunnelling also increased rapidly by the use of new methods. The tunnels are now cut in one sweep. This method is safer and from 14 to 20 per cent more efficient than the older method of cutting a small tunnel first and then enlarging it. Composite work teams capable of performing all types of operations have been organized. Last year, builders of the Yunkang slope mine at the Tatung Colliery in Shansi Province chalked up a new record of 431 metres per month in tunnelling through rocks. Builders of the Mawushan slope mine at the same colliery created a record of 1,335 metres per month in tunnelling through coal.

On the basis of these successful experiences, the Ministry of Coal Industry has summed up 22 major measures which are now being widely applied by the builders throughout the country in their "Red Banner" emulation campaign. By applying these and other measures the builders hope to accomplish more this year than in any previous year.

SON OF THE WORKING CLASS

The autobiography of Wu Yun-to, one of New China's best-loved heroes of labour. Wu was a coal miner. He grew up in the maelstrom of struggle against the Japanese invaders and the reactionaries who were betraying the country. Whether organizing a strike, making rifles with home-made tools, getting explosives for the people's army by rifling enemy time-bombs, or convalescing from his third wound, he never stopped working for the revolution.

The significance of this book is not so much that it is the story of a single hero — though Wu never indulges in heroics — as that it was because there were countless Wu Yun-tos — simple men of heroic mould — that the Chinese people won through to victory.

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Chingtehchen Today

by CHUNG HO

CROSSING Poyang Lake our boat sailed up the clear reaches of the River Chang till we came to the foot of the Southern Hills in northern Kiangsi. Chingtehchen, China's "porcelain capital," announced itself by the red glow cast by its chimneys against the evening sky. Reflecting the scene, the river's surface shimmered as if countless fiery dragons were dancing in its waters. Hundreds of boats stood by loaded with porcelain and pottery, and ready to sail.

Chingtehchen lay like a smashed rice-bowl in the days just before its liberation. Today its busy population is spilling over its edges. Pre-liberation chaos reduced it to less than 50,000 people. Now, it is the second largest city in Kiangsi with a population of 300,000.

1,500 Years of History

Chingtehchen is a well-known name to lovers of fine pottery the world over. Its kilns date back to the Eastern Han dynasty (25-220 A.D.). In Tang times (618-907) it was a major porcelain centre. Its exquisite wares were already known far beyond China's borders. The period from the Yuan to the middle of the Ching dynasty (from the 13th to the mid-18th century) was one of the most productive in its history. Its output at that time went up to 800,000 *dan* (400 tons) a year.

After the Opium War, Chingtehchen's products began to suffer increasingly from the competition of cheap foreign imports which, due to the unequal treaties, came in practically duty free. The situation grew worse when the imperialist powers used their special privileges to set up pottery factories in China itself. During Kuomintang times, all kinds of taxes and levies and general economic and social chaos hastened the decline of this ancient handicraft centre. But worse befell during the war against the Japanese invaders (1937-1945). Many kilns were destroyed in Japanese air raids. By 1942, its output had dropped to 40,000 *dan* a year. Many experienced potters were jobless and destitute. The whole area looked derelict as homes were deserted by people seeking work and a livelihood elsewhere.

Liberation came to Chingtehchen in April 1949. The first act of the People's Government was to help get production started up again. By 1955, more than 80 kilns were working. Output soared to 808,000 *dan* a year, a new all-time record. As the local saying goes: "When porcelain flourishes, a hundred trades flourish." Revolving around porcelain, Chingtehchen's general industrial and agricultural production has expanded rapidly.

"New every day and different every month" is the expression Chingtehchen's people like to use to describe their town.

As we drove through broad new streets, and passed by Saddle Hill, we saw rows of new factory and com-

mercial buildings. New ceramics works which have already gone into production include a factory to produce industrial porcelain goods, a porcelain clay factory where the whole production process is mechanized, a chemical plant producing raw materials for porcelain making and a plant to make building materials of porcelain. Still under construction is the state-owned Chingtehchen Porcelain Factory, fully mechanized and automatic and with up-to-date tunnel kilns. This is being built with the assistance of Czechoslovak experts. When completed, it will be the biggest of its kind in China. Another special factory being built will be devoted exclusively to the production of high-quality pottery and porcelain. This will also be mechanized and automatic. A host of other plants are also appearing either to serve the pottery industry directly or the growing population of the place. The formerly ramshackle town is taking on the look of a modern urbanized area. What were barren mountains and wasteland ten years ago are now busy construction sites.

The social services and lighter side of life are not neglected. The city's Lotus Lake has been turned into a real beauty spot and around the lake blocks of buildings have sprung up to provide the pottery and other workers with living quarters and modern service facilities. As the workers move into this new residential area their wretched



A modern teapot and cup from Chingtehchen

old hovels are being pulled down to make way for new buildings. New parks, cultural clubs, cinemas, theatres and hospitals with modern equipment are making Chingtehchen a delightful place to live and work in.

Rapid Development

Chingtehchen lives and talks pottery. Everyone takes a special pride in the rapid rebirth of its famous industry. Since liberation, a whole series of measures have been taken to revive traditional skills which had been lost for decades, to introduce scientific methods into the pottery and porcelain industry and train the new forces needed. In addition to various kinds of short-term training courses, a school of porcelain making, a school of ceramic arts and an institute for the ceramic arts, the first of its kind in China, have been established. A ceramics research institute was set up in 1954. Last year, as one of the results of its work, a thick volume entitled *Draft History of Chingtehchen Ceramics* was published.

Old artisans, artists, scientific and technical workers have got together to restore the artistic skill and taste for which Chingtehchen was famous. During the last few years, they have revived 40 rare coloured glazes, such as the "drunken beauty," "rose purple," "sacrificial red" and "tea dust." And in addition, they have created 20 new glazes including the "flaming red" and "peacock blue."

Certain porcelain figures like the "Twelve Horses" or the "Three Sages" have been perennial favourites with the Chinese public. Last year, the press reported the creation of another set of "Eight Kittens" which have instantly leaped into popular regard for their lively verisimilitude and charm. This set of figures is one of the 300 fresh products of the newly revived art of porcelain sculpture in Chingtehchen. These draw their subjects from historical, contemporary and natural life. In addition, the ceramic artists have designed over one thousand new products and hundreds of new designs have been made by artists for the decoration of tea sets, dinner ware and other household crockery.

A great deal of attention is being given to the technical side of porcelain manufacture. The porcelain clay produced in nearby Kaolin for Chingtehchen's use has made such a name for itself that the word Kaolin has gone into the vocabulary of many languages as a synonym for high-quality porcelain clay. Many indications seem to show that Chingtehchen and neighbouring areas had other materials available for porcelain making. Extensive surveys and research have confirmed these suppositions. It has been found that the white stone of Taihokeng is an excellent material for making high-grade glazed ware. The *tao* stone of Loping to the south of Chingtehchen has produced particularly good low-temperature white glaze. Many experiments went to discovering the correct proportions for mixing materials and the most suitable temperatures for firing. Now reliable methods of using the new materials have been worked out. But research goes on tirelessly. Workers, technicians and specialists are investigating other hopeful avenues of further advance.

Before liberation, Chingtehchen's porcelain making was done entirely by hand. In 1954, the first semi-mechanized porcelain factory, the Chienkuo, went into production. Here mechanical devices take care of all the initial

stages in porcelain manufacture, from breaking the stone down into clay to moulding and shaping ware ready for the first firing. Many other factories followed the Chienkuo in introducing semi-mechanized processes and now one-third of the kilns have replaced hand work by mechanical devices in the initial processes. This has greatly raised labour productivity; and greatly lightened the work. Power-driven potter's wheels for shaping the clay are now being widely used to replace the old handicraft wheels. The Red Star Porcelain Factory, a mass production plant, has successfully experimented with the use of a machine which automatically pours the raw material into the moulds. This greatly reduces unevenness in the thickness of the wares. A grinding mill and other machines it has introduced have all helped to increase the extent of mechanization and semi-automatization of production.

For centuries, Chingtehchen's potters used pine wood as the only fuel for their kilns. In the primitive types of kilns this resinous wood produced the needed high temperatures rapidly. Over the last fifty years prior to the liberation some enterprising people did experiment in substituting coal for pine, but these efforts got nowhere. There were great difficulties involved in getting and keeping the necessary temperatures with coal in the old type of kilns and, of course, it was difficult to raise capital for new kilns. Chingtehchen consumed an average of 300,000 cubic metres of pine wood each year and as the pine wood in the immediate neighbourhood became increasingly scarce, transport of fuel from distant places added greatly to the costs of production. The government began to tackle this urgent problem in 1954. After many experiments, the Chienkuo Factory finally succeeded in producing good porcelain in a kiln fired by coal. Since then there have been many improvements made in the use of coal and now over 160 kilns in the town use this fuel.

A great many new uses are being found for porcelain. Answering the call to "replace steel by porcelain," Chingtehchen's workers have created many different kinds of machine parts and equipment, including blowers and hot air pipes, out of porcelain, as well as porcelain wheels and equipment for medical and electrical installations.

Brisk Market

Improved quality and greater variety have given Chingtehchen porcelain a brisk market throughout the country. Last year, it sold 48 times more than in 1950. The demand abroad is growing too. Fifty countries are now importing Chingtehchen products.

At its most flourishing period, Chingtehchen's porcelain ware was described not only at home but also in many foreign lands, as being "white as jade, thin as paper, clear as a mirror and resonant as a musical stone." Last year, the Ceramics Research Institute succeeded in trial producing a type of white glaze surpassing in whiteness any porcelain previously made in Chingtehchen. To regain the highest standards and maintain them both for unique, hand-made ware and under modern mass production conditions will be no easy task. But the Chingtehchen workers are confident that with their craft enjoying every support from the government, the industry will continue to expand and they will soon create products of which their ancestors could well be proud.

SIDELIGHTS

A Book-loving Commune. Peasants of the Gaoshan People's Commune in Yingyang County, Honan Province, boast that the sound of reading aloud echoes throughout their villages. While this may overstate the case a bit, there's more than a germ of truth to this rural county's pride in its progress in literacy. Yingyang was a barren mountainous area before liberation. Drought and flood, rice husks and wild plants, were the poor peasants' fare from one year's end to another. Every year since liberation has brought greater and better changes into their lives. Last spring, most of the peasants started their lessons and joined the ranks of the literate. This opened a rich new world for them. The demand for books rose. A library with 40,000 books was set up. In a week, the commune members donated another 15,000. One library was not enough to cope with the peasants' avid interest. A network of 56 big and small libraries came into being, with more than 100,000 books and many newspapers and magazines. Two hundred and fifty mobile libraries now take the books directly to the peasants' homes or to the fields during breaks, where they are welcomed by one and all.

Longest Railway Tunnel Drilled Through.

The drilling of China's longest railway tunnel, the 4,000-metre-long Liangfengya tunnel, was completed on June 16. Driven through the Loushan Mountains in northern Kweichow Province, the tunnel is under the famous "72 hairpin turns" of the Szechuan-Kweichow Highway. New methods in drilling and drainage were used which made it possible to complete the complex job 15 months ahead of schedule. The Liangfengya is one of 70 tunnels on the new Szechuan-Kweichow Railway now under construction, a major artery linking heretofore remote southwest China with the national railway network.

Hangchow Silk Parasols. Light Hangchow silk parasols in all the colours of the rainbow are making their appearance this year in greater numbers and more attractive designs than ever before. Delightful as these parasols are as works of art and utility, peak production before liberation never exceeded 10,000. In those days the only people who could afford them were a handful of rich tourists visiting the West Lake. The parasol-makers were individual craftsmen with very small capital. They were at the mercy of middlemen and capitalists and had difficulties getting raw materials.

The market was limited, and so few were willing to risk depending on their production for a living. Hsu Shun-teh, a famous old master who made parasols with the help of his daughter for years, had to engage in petty trading on the side to support his family. The largest number of craftsmen who ever engaged in this work only came to 56. Since liberation, the demand for silk parasols has gone up sharply. The parasol craftsmen were organized into co-operatives where they are assured of a steady income and supplies of raw materials. Each year more new craftsmen joined in the trade until now the total number is over 450. As for production, by 1958 it had risen to 442,000, and more is planned for this year. In addition to landscapes, new designs include dragons, phoenixes and flowers.

Inner Mongolian Sports Meet. Six of the nation's best times in horse-racing were established at the first region-wide sports meet held in the Inner Mongolian Autonomous Region not long ago. 14-year-old Taoerhchi, son of a herdsman on the Silingol grasslands and a fourth-year primary-school student who rode a Mongolian bay, won the 10,000-metre race in 15 min. 25 sec. 17-year-old Chingsema, riding a gray mount, finished the women's 1,000-metre race in 1 min. 13 sec. These and other results show that horse-racing, a traditional favourite among the herdsman and hunters who inhabit the region, is being splendidly carried on by its younger generation. But horsemanship has ceased to monopolize the interest of people in Inner Mongolia. Facilities and coaching provided since liberation have enabled them to branch out into other sports as well. A total of 44 new regional sports records were chalked up at the meet.

Lakeside Tea. Lakeside tea-houses at the West Lake in Hangchow are already serving fragrant *longjing* tea fresh from this year's first crop. The tea-growers in this renowned resort had a rich harvest this spring, the amount of tea gathered in being 53 per cent higher than last year's and the biggest since 1949. This high-quality green tea derives its name from Lungching (Dragon Well), near the West Lake, an area of clear mountain brooks in which dragons are reputed to have lived. The tea grown here is distinctively clear and fragrant,

which tea fanciers appreciate particularly on hot summer days. Now all the tea grown near here is known as *longjing* tea. The best of the *longjing* teas is known as *yuchien*, or "Before the Rains." It consists of the tenderest tips of the plants picked early in April, just before the rains come to cast China.

Bird Island in the Koko Nor. In the midst of the blue waters of the Koko Nor, China's largest inland lake in sparsely populated Chinghai Province, northwest China, lies a small neglected island. Local people ventured out to it when the lake was frozen in winter, only to find it utterly deserted. Now the whole Koko Nor area is coming to life. This summer, fishermen of a newly formed state fishery who came near the island discovered that it was thick with birds and wild fowl. Scientists who followed in their tracks identified a species of wild goose, bitterns, and gulls as the most numerous inhabitants of the island. The wild geese have been found to be of particular economic value. Their eggs, the biggest of which come to half a *jin* are edible and their down excellent for making quilts. Their meat—and they weigh 7-8 *jin* each—is delicious. Attempts are now being made to domesticate these valuable birds.



Mongolian horseman

Painting in Chinese ink by Wu Tso-jen

Theatre Arts and Music

Festivals in Peking

May was a festival month for the theatre arts and music in Peking. Over a score of the leading troupes, choruses and orchestras in the capital took part in it. The thirty performances they gave included Peking and *pingju* operas, modern Chinese operas and plays, ballets, puppet shows, and recitals of songs, music and folk dances. Works by both Chinese and foreign dramatists and composers, ancient as well as modern, were represented. The occasion was still further improved by the arrival of local opera troupes on tour from Kiangsi, Anhwei, Wusih, Tsingtao and Sian. And in early June cultural troupes of the People's Liberation Army began to converge on the city from all parts of the country for their second national festival. This will continue with plays, operas, variety shows, music, singing and no less than five new dance-dramas until the latter half of July.

Peking Opera

The festival performances gave theatre-goers a rare chance to see Mei Lan-fang, Hsun Hui-sheng, Ma Lien-liang, Tan Fu-ying, Li Ho-tseng and other leading Peking opera actors in some of their favourite roles. Mei Lan-fang's Mei (Plum Blossom) Peking Opera Company presented *Mu Kuei-ying Takes Command*. This is the first entirely new play this great artist has produced since liberation. Mei Lan-fang has been playing the part of Mu Kuei-ying in her youth ever since he was twenty and the role of this Chinese Joan of Arc who led the Sung armies against the foreign invaders is today inseparably bound up with his name. In this new opera, adapted from a Honan opera version, he creates the role of Mu Kuei-ying in middle age when, after leading a life of retirement for twenty years, she takes the field again. In the first half of the opera he concentrates with great sensitivity and artistry on the inner conflict of Mu Kuei-ying. His heroine is a brave and forthright soul, a woman of resolution, but after her early victories she has gone into retirement out of disgust at the way the spineless Emperor had allowed himself to fall into the hands of selfish and treacherous ministers. Still angry and contemptuous of the ruling clique she is reluctant to

resume command of the army but finally concern for her country and her high sense of duty moves her to accept it. In the second half of the opera, Mei Lan-fang portrays Mu Kuei-ying in dance and song, an amazon whose very name strikes terror into the hearts of the invaders.

Mei Lan-fang has created a tradition in such heroic roles that stand unchallenged and those who have followed his painstaking work in creating this new role have glimpsed the application that has made him the artist that he is. He is now over sixty years of age, but there is no resting on his laurels. In producing his new opera he made a most careful study of how the character of Mu Kuei-ying is projected in other Honan, Szechuan and Peking opera versions so as to assimilate the best points of each into his own portrayal. He is well supported by his long-standing partner Chiang Miao-hsiang in the role of Yang Tsung-pao (Mu Kuei-ying's husband), while his daughter and son respectively play the parts of Chin-hua and Wen-kuang, Mu Kuei-ying's daughter and son.

A feature of the festival was the staging of three other well-known Peking operas which have also recently been greatly improved and enriched by assimilating the finer points of similar local operas. Tan Fu-ying, Ma Lien-liang, Chiu Sheng-jung and others have learnt much from the *chin Chiang* type of Shensi opera to give a moving performance of the *Orphan of the Chao Family* (see *Peking Review*, No. 43, December 23, 1958). Li Ho-tseng and others have made a new adaptation of *Drawing Lots for Life or Death* (see *Peking Review*, No. 10, March 10, 1959) on



Mei Lan-fang in *Mu Kuei-ying Takes Command*

the basis of the Hunan, *pingju* and *kunqu* opera productions of the same play, while Chang Chun-chiu, one of the most promising actors in *tan* (female) roles, has undoubtedly enriched the Peking opera version of Kuan Han-ching's *Riverside Pavilion* in the light of the enchanting Szechuan opera production of that masterpiece.

"Huiju" Opera

Theatre lore in Peking has a long memory. Peking opera evolved out of and developed partly on the basis of *huiju* opera, a local form of opera which originated and flourished in the area around Huichow in the southern part of Anhwei Province. About 160 years ago, four *huiju* troupes visited the capital and created something of a sensation. It is small wonder then that the recent visit of a *huiju* opera troupe, the first in decades, has aroused considerable interest. Peking opera fans were able to see the original prototype of their favourite theatre form. Curiosity was heightened by the fact that the troupe was made up of young people still in their teens.

Huiju, as one of China's best and oldest opera forms, has exerted a considerable influence not only on Peking opera but on local operas throughout most of the provinces south of the Yangtse River. But it was one of the early victims of the general crisis that overtook the theatrical arts as a result of warlord and Kuomintang misrule. Before the liberation it was barely clinging to life like an old, withered tree. Liberation has given it a new lease of life. The People's Government has taken effective measures to resuscitate and foster it. The old artists in this field have been sought out and brought together, and by the summer of 1957 a regular *huiju* opera troupe was organized. It has a core of twenty veterans to teach fifty pupils in their teens. They showed Peking the result of nearly two years of concentrated work.

Flooding the Seven Armies was a typical production. Young Chang Chi-hsiang gave a surprisingly mature portrayal of Kuan Yu, the famous general of Liu Pei, claimant of the Han throne. Brave and wise, Kuan Yu in his prime was invincible; but in this episode from the *Romance of the Three Kingdoms*, he is already advanced in age and seems to be no match for his young and vigorous opponent Pang Teh. He suffers defeat after defeat; his exasperation mounts as he recalls the past. Chang Chi-hsiang is barely fifteen years old, but he succeeds brilliantly in personifying the old hero who lags on the stage of life, trying desperately to preserve the outward appearance of unruffled calm but inwardly gripped with frustrated rage and appre-

hension. Thirteen-year-old Ku Hua-min who plays Chou Tsang, Kuan Yu's aide, received unstinted praise from veterans of the stage. In contrast to Kuan Yu, hot-tempered Chou Tsang never bothers to keep his inner feelings to himself. The opera ends with the victory of Kuan Yu who makes use of the floodwaters to defeat his opponent's seven armies.

There is no doubt that, with this group of talented young actors and actresses carrying on the tradition, *huiju* has now stood firmly on its feet again.

Wusih and Kiangsi Operas

The visit of the Wusih and Kiangsi opera troupes brought other famous local types of opera to the capital. The Wusih opera, that has a reputation for good acting and moving music, presented *The Pearl Pagoda* and *Meng Li-chun*, both of which are highly dramatic "actors' pieces." *The Pearl Pagoda*, a comedy based on a popular folk tale, is a barbed satire on family relations in feudal society. Wang Yun-chih makes a suitably repellent and miserly aunt who first treats her poor nephew with contempt, but later fawns on him when he passes the imperial examination and becomes a high official. The poor scholar-nephew is played by Wang Pin-pin. His style of singing has become so popular in the area around Wusih that it has now got a name of its own: "Pin-pin melody."

The Kiangsi Classical Opera Troupe brought with it many types of local operas. Its performance of *Huan Hun Chi (The Return of the Soul)* was in *Yiyang chiang* style, indigenous to Yiyang in northeastern Kiangsi. Opera experts had particularly warm praises for this. This is a new production adapted from the great Ming dramatist Tang Hsien-chu's famous play, which is also known as *Mou Tan Ting (Dream Lovers of the Peony Pavilion)*. Tang lived at about the same time as Shakespeare, and this play of his has often been compared with Shakespeare's *Romeo and Juliet*. But unlike Juliet, Tu Li-niang, the heroine of *The Return of the Soul*, in the end happily marries the man of her dreams, Liu Meng-mei. Separate episodes from this play, like *Chun-hsiang's Follies at School* and *Excursion to the Garden and the Strange Dream*, are very often played by various local operas. This time the Kiangsi Classical Opera Troupe performed the whole play. It was a rare chance which Peking theatre-goers enjoyed to the full.

"Pingju" Opera

By the Kinsha River, produced by the China Pingju Opera Theatre, is another noteworthy attempt to broaden the scope of pingju opera. Old pingju was somewhat restricted in its themes. It was



A scene from *By the Kinsha River*

mainly preoccupied with the domestic genre: problems of love and marriage, family relations, relations between old and young, between men and women in the home. In that, it has played a considerable role in discussions of the new morality and ethics in modern Chinese family life, but it was inevitable that over the past few years it should cast its net wider for themes in folklore and revolutionary history. *By the Kinsha River* is one of these. It concerns the crossing of the Kinsha River by the Red Army during its famous Long March and the friendship and unity it built up with the Tibetans in that region. It has some ambitious mass scenes for which the entire force of the theatre seems to have been mobilized. The musical accompaniment, too, has ventured from the previously limited range of pingju melodies to strike a new, fresh note.

Music

The festival produced several distinguished new musical compositions. These columns have already reviewed Lo Chung-jung's *First Symphony (Peking Review, No. 22, June 2, 1959)*. The consensus of critical opinion now is that this new symphony by a young composer is one of the best works composed since liberation. Dedicated to the heroic people of the frontline island of Amoy, the first symphony by Li Huan-chih played at the same concert got encouraging reviews.

On the instrumental side, Liu Shih-kun, second-prize winner at the Tchaikovsky International Violin and Piano Competition held in Moscow last year, gave a recital of Tchaikovsky's Piano Concerto No. 1, while the Central Philharmonic Symphony Orchestra performed Shostakovich's *Eleventh Symphony*. Like our ballet, this orchestra shows steady growth with every major work performed.

The Central Song and Dance Ensemble can always be relied on to provide a

lively evening's entertainment. This time it presented for the first time a new cantata, with music by Chang Lu and Li Ni, and words by Hsi Yang, on the harnessing of the Yellow River. It also performed new folk dances which it collected and adapted for the stage during the six months it recently spent in Yunnan, Kwangsi, Szechuan and Honan Provinces.

News from the Provinces

Similar theatrical arts festivals have already been held or are at present going on in other parts of the country. In Kwangtung, over 1,200 actors and actresses, musicians, singers and dancers from all parts of the province gathered in Canton for a twenty-three-day festival. They presented 200 items. In Shanghai, a music and dance festival ended early this month. During the sixteen days it lasted, over a thousand artists from twenty professional and amateur groups performed 270 items. Over half of them were new works by composers and choreographers of the city. They included the *Cantata of the River of Happiness* by Hsiao Pai, Wang Chiu-fang and others, which was awarded the first prize by the international jury of the Seventh World Youth Festival. Among other outstanding works was the symphony by Wang Yun-chiai dedicated to the War of Resistance to Japanese Aggression and performed by the Shanghai Philharmonic Symphony Orchestra. It has a popular revolutionary song of the day as the main theme of each of its four movements. The melody of the famous composer Hsien Hsin-hai's *Carry the War into the Enemy Rear* is used in the third movement which reflects the courage and revolutionary optimism of the people's army in the fight against the invaders. It is fast moving, vigorous and compact in conception.

One of the points that is in the centre of attention of Chinese artists today is the problem of national style in symphonic compositions and the modern dance. In this light, the violin concerto *Liang Shan-po and Chu Ying-tai* played by the orchestra of the Shanghai Conservatory of Music and composed by two of its young students, Ho Chan-hao and Jen Kang, attracted particularly favourable attention. Based on the popular folk tale of the *Butterfly Lovers*, it was generally regarded as a successful effort to give the Western concerto form a distinctively Chinese national flavour.

—WU PIN

CHINESE PRESS OPINION

South African Struggle

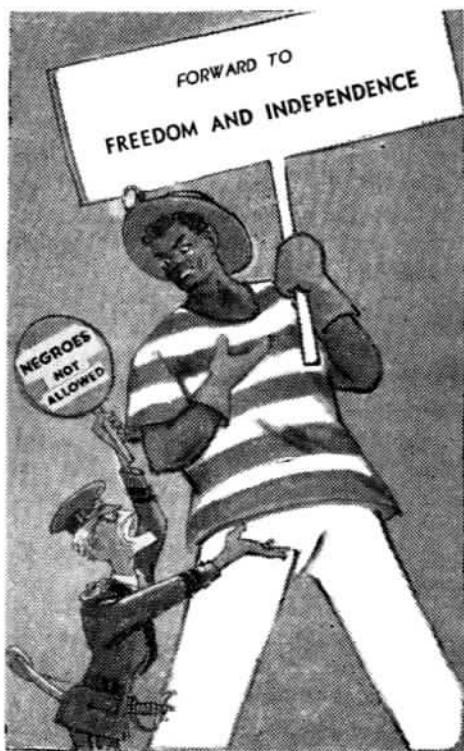
In the wake of the anti-colonialist storms which erupted one after another on the African continent this year, a massive struggle against racial discrimination and persecution has now broken out in South Africa, writes *Renmin Ribao's* Commentator (June 22). He draws attention to the fact that the great demonstrations of tens of thousands of Africans which took place in the South African port of Durban have spread to other areas since June 18.

The Durban incident has caused fear and confusion among the South African authorities, Commentator notes. On the one hand, they have dispatched large numbers of troops and police from Johannesburg to suppress the demonstrators, while on the other hand, they have pretended to be unperturbed and alleged that the African demonstrations were only a dispute over "beer." The demonstrators were touched off by the government prohibition of beer brewing by the African women, but deep-rooted causes lie at the back of them, Commentator points out.

A barbarous system of racial repression exists in the Union of South Africa, says Commentator. In order to facilitate the ruthless colonial exploitation of the

Africans, the all-white government of South Africa has enacted more than sixty racial discrimination decrees which deprive the Africans of all political and educational rights as well as basic personal freedoms. Millions of African Negroes are forced to live in overcrowded "reserves" or compelled to toil on the plantations and in the mines of the whites. Large numbers of other Africans are without work.

It is inevitable that the South African people, who are living in a virtual prison, should rise up to fight for their right to live, Commentator stresses. Quoting the frank admission in a recent statement by Minister of External Affairs Eric Louw of the Union of South Africa that the attitude of various independent African countries towards his country "has not only been unfriendly but unfortunately even hostile," Commentator comments that it is not only the people of the African countries but the people of the whole world who detest colonialism and its offspring, racial discrimination. The existence of this system is a disgrace to modern mankind, a disgrace to our era, Commentator declares. The South African people's struggle against racial discrimination will undoubtedly receive the sympathy and support of the freedom-loving peoples of Africa and of the whole world.



South African Government: "That road is not for you!"
By Chiang Fan

Safeguard Peace in the Balkans

Discussing the statement issued on June 25 by the Soviet Government on safeguarding the peace and security of the Balkan and Adriatic areas, *Renmin Ribao's* Commentator (June 27) notes that the Soviet Government and its leaders have in the recent period time and again proposed to make the Balkan and Adriatic an area free of atomic weapons. The Governments of Albania, Rumania and Bulgaria fully support the Soviet proposal, and have advanced some additional proposals which would help ease the tension in the Balkans.

These proposals show the concern of the socialist countries for peace in the Balkan area. They create favourable conditions for promoting the normalization of relations between the Balkan countries and safeguarding the security of their peoples, Commentator adds.

But, Commentator points out, Italy and Greece have repeatedly and unjustifiably rejected these peaceful proposals. Ignor-

ing the interests of their own peoples, the government leaders of Italy and Greece have openly expressed readiness to provide the U.S. with rocket and atomic weapon bases. They are trying to justify this under the pretext of "defence" of their national "security." Such argument is completely untenable. The Soviet Union and the other European socialist countries have never threatened the security of Italy and Greece. On the contrary, they have time and again made known their willingness to work for the peaceful coexistence of countries with different social systems in the Balkans.

The aim of the United States in establishing atomic and rocket bases in Italy and Greece, however, is to encircle the Soviet Union and other socialist countries in Europe with a network of short and medium-range guided missile bases and to prepare an aggressive war against them. Therefore, the essence of the "defence" as the Italian and Greek Governments call it is to threaten the security of other states. The Soviet Union and the Balkan socialist countries naturally cannot be indifferent to this. They have made it clear that should the Italian and Greek leaders choose to persist in this dangerous policy, the Soviet Union and the Balkan socialist countries cannot but take appropriate measures to safeguard their own security.

Following the June 25 statement of the Soviet Union, Italy and some other Western countries again rejected it offhand, Commentator says. According to their argument, it seems that before there is an agreement on the overall banning of atomic weapons and general disarmament, the establishment of a zone free of atomic weapons in the Balkan and Adriatic areas would be to the advantage of the Soviet Union alone. This excuse, of course, can fool no one. It is common knowledge that the Soviet Union has always stood for a complete banning of nuclear weapons and a cessation of nuclear tests. It has also consistently advocated general disarmament. It is only because of the continuous obstructions of the Western powers headed by the U.S. that no agreement of any kind on these issues has been reached to this day despite the many negotiations held in recent years. In these circumstances it would be of great significance to the gradual realization of completely banning atomic weapons and easing international tension in the whole world if areas free of atomic weapons are set up in different important regions of the world. It is precisely because of this consideration that the Soviet Union has time and again proposed and supported the idea of establishing atom-free areas in the Bal-

kans and the Adriatic, in the Baltic, Central Europe, Asia and the Pacific. Since the Western countries do not have the intention of reaching agreement on the complete banning of atomic weapons, how can they use this as an excuse for rejecting the establishment of a Balkan zone free of atomic weapons?

The fact that Italy and other countries of the West have repeatedly turned down the Soviet proposal can only show that they are determined to continue to create tension in the Balkans and the Adriatic and turn this region once again into a dangerous powder-keg. Commentator concludes. Such a policy will be firmly opposed by the peoples in the Balkans and the Adriatic and the people the world over. Inspired by the peaceful proposal of the Soviet Union and concerned with their own security, the people of different lands will certainly continue the struggle to make the Balkans and the Adriatic an area free of atomic weapons.

Strikes in Western Europe

Commenting on the current wave of strikes that is sweeping the West European capitalist countries from Naples to Paris and from London to Madrid, *Renmin Ribao's* Commentator (June 20) points out that such strikes have now become an outstanding feature in the life of these countries. They are not only economic but are political in nature and are affecting the political situation in these countries. This strike wave itself is a manifestation of the restless social and economic conditions in these countries, Commentator continues; most of the strikes have as their direct objective the improvement of working-class economic and living conditions, but these demands reflect far deeper social causes. The working people in West European countries have been forced to bear increasingly heavy burdens as a result of their governments' following the U.S. policy of piling up armaments and preparations for war; the domestic markets in these countries are shrinking and the purchasing power of the masses is declining steadily. To improve their competitive position, the capitalists and ruling classes in these countries have intensified the exploitation and plunder of the working people. All this has inevitably resulted in worsening the living conditions of the masses. Unemployment is mounting to an all-time high while more workers are facing the danger of lay-offs or reduction of working time. Higher taxation and soaring prices have cut the real income of a still larger number of people.

"This policy of the ruling classes in the West European countries is arousing

increasing discontent among the working people. This is the social and economic background of the current wave of strikes that has developed in these countries," writes Commentator.

The mounting strike movement in the West European countries once again demonstrates the strength of the working people there and their unity in the struggle to win the right to live and other social rights, Commentator points out. Their actions show that they are by no means willing to submit to unbridled exploitation and plunder by monopoly capital, nor bear the evil consequences of their governments' reactionary political and economic policies. The ruling classes of Italy and France are resorting to vicious means in their attempts to deceive the workers or coerce them into resuming work, or deprive them of their right to strike. These plots have already been exposed.

"The striking workers in the West European countries have the support of the working people of their lands. They are determined to stand fast for their demands and will surely win new victories," concludes Commentator.

Blow Against Franco

Responding to the call of the Spanish Communist Party and other parties and organizations, the Spanish workers came out on strike on June 18. *Da Gong Bao* (June 20) characterizes this action as "a protest and demonstration of the people of Spain against the tyranny of the Franco regime."

Under Franco's dictatorship, the commentary notes, the Spanish people have no freedom and little bread. With a battered economy, the country faces soaring prices and serious unemployment. All this has occurred at a time when Spain has received over 1,000 million dollars in U.S. "aid."

Long years of Franco's fascist rule has turned the whole of Spain into a huge prison, the commentary declares, but the Spanish people are indomitable. The Spanish working class has never succumbed in the past twenty years and the flames of revolution are burning everywhere. The big demonstration organized by the Spanish Communist Party on May 5 last year ushered in a new stage in the struggle against Franco's rule. The recent general strike embraced the broadest strata of people and even certain members of Franco's own Falange Party, the Christian Democratic Party and the Socialist Party participated in the struggle.

The Spanish people have a heroic revolutionary tradition; they are resolved to overthrow fascism. Faced with such a situation, the tottering Franco regime is panic-stricken and stepping up its repressions. Its secret police are out hunting fresh victims. But the broad masses of the Spanish people who have suffered so bitterly in the past twenty years are today resolutely demanding a change. The strength of the united Spanish people will be far greater than that of the dictatorship. Franco will not be able to save himself from his final doom, the commentary concludes.

THE PASSING SHOW

"Free World" Sample

"We march in the noblest of causes —
human freedom." **Eisenhower**

In 1958 in south Korea, one out of every hundred persons was arrested and jailed. Every day in February this year saw an average of three cases of robbery, murder, rape or arson by American soldiers. Children fathered by G.I.'s, the American writer Pearl Buck said, are "dying like flies" in south Korean orphanages. 6,600,000 people or 23 per cent of the population are unemployed or on short time; 3 million peasants are destitute; there are 200,000 prostitutes and 3 million homeless.



South Korean landscape

The Self-helping Hand

Fund-raising for fighting polio, cancer, T.B. and other diseases is big business in the United States, according to a New York report. Forty national "health agencies" raise up to \$180 million a year for these causes, but 25 per cent of the take goes on expenses. Advertising interests alone get a \$26 million share.

CHINA AND THE WORLD

Closer Sino-Soviet Ties

A. Zasyadko, Vice-Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the U.S.S.R., recently paid a 9-day visit to China at the invitation of Chinese Vice-Premier Po I-po. Accompanying him were P. Kolomitsev, Vice-Chairman of the State Scientific-Technical Council of the U.S.S.R., N. Korobov, Vice-Chairman of the State Construction Committee, and other officials.

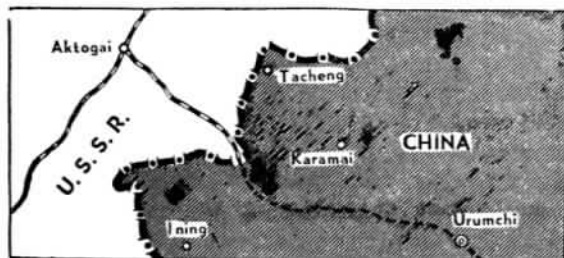
During their stay in China, they toured Peking, Shanghai and the lake-city of Hangchow. They visited iron and steel works, machinery and electric cable plants, coal mining and coal machinery designing institutes, people's communes, etc. They also went to Tangshan, Hopei Province, which is one of China's major coal-producing centres. There they watched the operation of China's first hydraulic coal pit at the Kailan Collieries.

The Soviet guests were warmly welcomed wherever they went. In Peking, they were received by Premier Chou En-lai on June 17.

A consular treaty between China and the U.S.S.R. was signed in Peking on June 23 after friendly negotiations between the government delegations of the two countries. The treaty defines the rights and obligations of consuls as well as other questions concerning the functions of consuls.

The treaty will come into force on the exchange of instruments of ratification, which will take place in Moscow.

Track-laying along the Sino-Soviet "Friendship Railway" linking Aktogai on the Turkestan-Siberian line to the Soviet-Chinese border was completed on June 23. A meeting was held at the Soviet-Chinese frontier to mark the completion of the 308-kilometre Soviet section of the Lanchow-Urumchi-Aktogai Railway.



Regular passenger traffic along the Soviet section will begin on July 1.

Track-laying for the Chinese section starting from Lanchow in Kansu Province has already entered the Sinkiang Uighur Autonomous Region. When completed the new line will cut the rail distance between Moscow and Peking by over a thousand kilometres.

Korean Industrial Delegation

A Korean industrial delegation of 32 members headed by Vice-Premier Chung Il Ryong has just concluded a visit to China. On a 23-day visit the delegation made a study of Chinese industry, visiting Peking, Shanghai, Hangchow, Nanking, Shenyang, Anshan and other cities. Besides seeing many factories, mines, shipyards and other enterprises, they also exchanged experience with leading personnel in charge of various branches of China's industries.

In their speeches at a banquet given in honour of the Korean delegation, both Vice-Premier Po I-po of China and Vice-Premier Chung Il Ryong referred to the fact that the Chinese and Korean peoples have much to learn from each other in socialist construction. On June 17, Premier Chou En-lai received the Korean Vice-Premier and members of the visiting delegation.

Report of the Chinese Military Goodwill Mission

General Hsiao Hua, Deputy-Chief of the General Political Department of the Chinese People's Liberation Army, delivered a report on June 22 to more than 5,000 officers in Peking on the Chinese military goodwill mission's visit to eight fraternal countries.

General Hsiao Hua, a member of the mission, first conveyed the sentiments of profound friendship expressed by the fraternal countries for the Chinese people. He said that the visit had contributed to the further consolidation of unity in the socialist camp headed by the Soviet Union and to world peace.

General Hsiao Hua cited many examples showing the rapid development in all fields and the high morale of the armed forces in the countries he visited. There is excellent co-operation among the armed forces of the fraternal Warsaw Treaty member states, he said. He warned that in the event of aggression, the armed forces and peoples in the socialist camp would deal the aggressor a destructive blow.

The general urged Chinese officers to learn from the armed forces of the fraternal countries, noting that the Chinese mission had learnt a lot during its visits.

The Chinese military mission headed by Marshal Peng Teh-huai visited seven People's Democracies in Europe and the Mongolian People's Republic in a 7-week period.

Greetings to French C.P. Congress

A message of greetings dated June 21 has been sent by the Central Committee of the Chinese Communist Party to the 15th Congress of the French Communist Party.

The message warmly praises the loyalty of the French Communist Party in defending the interests of the French nation and the people, and its important contributions to the world's working-class movement. Characterizing the 15th Congress of the French Communist Party as "holding high the banner of restoring and renewing the democratic system," the message says that it will be "a new milestone on the road to the unity of the French working class and the French people."

The message wishes the French Communist Party ever new successes in the struggle to consolidate the unity of the Party, the unity between the working class and the democratic, progressive forces, and to restore and renew the democratic system. It wishes the French people still greater achievements in the struggle to defend European and world peace, safeguard the national interests of France and support the various oppressed nations, and in their efforts for the development of friendly co-operation among the peoples of various countries.

African Friendship for China

In a recent interview with a Hsinhua correspondent in Conakry, Guinean President Sekou Toure spoke of the friendship felt by the African people for the Chinese people.

President Toure said: "The peoples of Africa have infinite sympathy, I would even say, infinite admiration, for the Chinese people. People here are following closely the efforts now being made by the Chinese people."

He continued: "Our experience is similar in many ways. We have many similar major problems, though our conditions and methods are different. Our aspirations are the same. These numerous factors have quite naturally given rise to this tendency of spontaneous sympathy existing between the African and the Chinese peoples."

"I recall the ovation given to the delegate of the Chinese trade unions at the Congress of the General Workers' Union of Black Africa. This expression of sentiment fully explained itself."

Referring to Guinea's foreign policy, President Toure said: "Our foreign policy is based on positive neutrality. Our neutralism is by no means a principle of isolation, a passive attitude. It is a neutralism in the service of peace and co-operation among peoples and a neutralism in favour of the people's right to self-determination."

Trans-Pacific Visitors

After visiting Chile and Uruguay, a 3-member Chinese journalists' delegation has gone on to Brazil. In Rio de Janeiro, the delegation called on Sergio Magalhaes, Chairman of the Brazilian Chamber of Deputies. It also met many prominent figures including Minister of Labour Fernando Nobrega, leader of the Labour

Party Oswaldo Lima and Deputy Emilio Carlos, who had visited China. On June 19, the delegation held a press conference over the television network before an audience of more than 500,000 people.

Meanwhile, guests from Latin America now visiting China have been joined by several newcomers. They include the Haitian writer Jacques Stephen Alexis and the Brazilian writer Eneida de Moraes. The friendship which the Chinese people have for the Latin American peoples was well expressed in the warm welcome they extended to these emissaries from the other side of the Pacific.

Warning Against U. S. Provocations

A patrol plane of the U.S. Navy twice intruded into China's territorial air space

over Yunghsing Island of the Hsisha Islands, Kwangtung Province, at 9:05 hours and at 12:40 hours on June 23. On the same day, a reconnaissance plane of the U.S. Navy twice intruded into the same air space at 10:03 hours and at 11:53 hours.

A spokesman of the Chinese Ministry of Foreign Affairs has been authorized to issue the fiftieth serious warning against these military provocations by U.S. military planes.

On June 26, China issued its fifty-first serious warning against a further provocation by two U.S. military planes that intruded into China's territorial air space over the same area and two other small islands of the Hsisha Islands on June 25.

WHAT'S ON IN PEKING

— Highlights of Current Entertainment, Exhibitions, etc. —

Programmes are subject to change. Where times are not listed consult theatre or daily press.

PEKING OPERA

▲ **THE TALE OF THE WHITE SNAKE** The legendary love story between a White Snake fairy and a scholar. A scheming recluse sets him against her and later imprisons her in a tower. Many years later, she is rescued by her son. Produced by the China Peking Opera Theatre.

June 30, 7:30 p.m. Renmin Theatre

▲ **YU TANG CHUN** A well-known opera based on the love story of the famous Ming courtesan, Yu Tang Chun. Produced by the Mei Lan-fang Peking Opera Troupe.

June 30, 7:30 p.m. Guang He Theatre

PINGJU OPERA

▲ **BITTER HERBS** A play about the Shantung peasants who rose against oppressive traitors and landlords during the War of Resistance to Japanese Aggression. Produced by the China Pingju Opera Theatre.

June 30, 7:30 p.m. Da Zhong Theatre

CONCERT

Joint performance by the Central Philharmonic Symphony Orchestra and Chorus and the Central Radio Symphony Orchestra and Chorus.

Beethoven: *Symphony No. 9 (Choral)*

Sitson Ma: *Voice of the Forest* (from the symphonic suite *Forest*)

Conductor: Yen Liang-kun

Soloists: Liang Mei-chen, Tsai Huan-chen, Wei Hung-chuan, Wei Chi-hsien

July 5, 10:00 a.m. Shoudu Theatre

THEATRE

▲ **THE LAST ACT** A play about the life, work and struggles of a group of progressive theatre workers and how they face the Kuomintang's white terror on the eve of liberation. Produced by the China Youth Art Theatre.

June 30-July 1, 7:30 p.m. Tianqiao Theatre

▲ **AESOP** A play by the Brazilian playwright, Guillermo Figuereidor, based on the life story of Aesop, the slave and clever teller of fables of ancient Greece. It reflects the struggles between slaves and slave-

owners, and the determination of the slaves to die for freedom than stay alive as slaves. Produced by the Peking People's Art Theatre.

July 1-7, 7:30 p.m. Shoudu Theatre

▲ **TSAI WEN-CHI** Kuo Mo-jo's latest historical play. Tsao Tsao, Prime Minister of the Han Kingdom, sends two envoys to ask Tsai Wen-chi, who is married to a Hun noble, to return home and continue her scholar-father's work. One envoy threatens the Huns; the other accomplishes Tsao Tsao's aim by winning their friendship. On their return his life is saved by Wen-chi when he is falsely accused by the other of treachery. On the death of her husband, Wen-chi marries the loyal envoy and is happily reunited with her children. Produced by the Peking People's Art Theatre.

July 3-10, 7:30 p.m. Renmin Theatre

▲ **THE TEMPEST** The famous play by great Russian dramatist, A. N. Ostrovsky. Produced in Chinese by the Experimental Theatre of the Central Drama School.

July 3-9, 7:30 p.m. Peking Workers' Club

FILMS

▲ **FLYING OVER THE ROOF OF THE WORLD** An exciting story about the life and activities of China's young pilots and navigators and their dedicated work in opening the difficult Peking-Lhasa air route. In colour, produced by the Peking Film Studio.

June 30-July 2, Da Hua, Jiao Dao Kou, Ertong, Xin Jie Kou, Peking Exhibition Centre Cinema, Shoudu Cinema, Guang An Men, Zhongyang, Peking Workers' Club

July 3-6, Shengli, Xi Dan Theatre, Xin Zhong Guo, Guang He Theatre.

▲ **WE ARE ALWAYS WITH THE PARTY** A Soviet full-length documentary in five parts about the heroic part played by Soviet Communist Youth League members in defending their motherland and in national construction. With Chinese subtitles.

June 30-July 5, Da Hua, Jiao Dao Kou, Shoudu Cinema, Xin Jie Kou, Peking Exhibition Centre Cinema

▲ **THE STORY OF SIM CHUNG** A coloured film version of a Korean opera adapted from an ancient folk tale. Sim Chung, daughter of a poor blind old man, sells herself to pay for an offering to the gods to return her father's sight. Her filial love moves the King of the Sea, who helps

her. She becomes the queen of Korea and is reunited with her father.

July 3-8, Guang He Theatre, Xin Zhong Guo

▲ **HOW CAN WE BEAR TO PART** A Korean feature film about a young man who is captured by the U.S.-Syngman Rhee forces during the Korean war and is taken to south Korea. His widowed mother, despite many difficulties, tries to find her only son. The enemy prevents their reunion.

July 3-6, Shengli, Xi Dan Theatre

▲ **THREE MUSKETEERS** Adapted from Alexander Dumas' famous novel. Jointly produced by French and Italian film workers, dubbed in Chinese.

July 3-8, Xin Jie Kou, Peking Exhibition Centre Cinema, Shoudu Cinema

EXHIBITIONS

▲ **PEKING'S FIFTH EXHIBITION OF TRADITIONAL CHINESE PAINTINGS** On display are over 200 pictures by Peking artists. Sponsored by the Peking Research Society of Chinese Paintings. Open daily 9:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m.

At Beihai Park

GARDEN PARTY AT BEIHAI PARK

— Celebrating the Chinese Communist Party's 38th Anniversary —

A concert on the lake set with 10,000 lotus lanterns, fireworks, cinema, etc.

July 1, 8:00 p.m.

SPORTS

▲ **FOOTBALL MATCH** The Bulgarian State Football Team will compete with the P.L.A. "August 1" Team on July 1 at the Peking Stadium.

SWIMMING

▲ **OUTDOOR SWIMMING POOLS**

* The Tao Ran Ting Swimming Pools
Mon.-Sat. 12:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m., 1:00-3:00 p.m., 2:00-4:00 p.m., 3:00-5:00 p.m.

Sun. 9:00-11:00 a.m., 12:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m., 3:30-5:30 p.m.

* The Shi Cha Hai Swimming Pools
Daily: 9:00-11:00 a.m., 12:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m., 3:00-5:00 p.m.

(Medical certificates required)

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