

PEKING REVIEW

37

September 15, 1961

FRESH VICTORY OVER IMPERIALISM AND COLONIALISM

The achievements and significance of the Conference of the Heads of States or Governments of Non-Aligned Countries (p. 5).

Kennedy's "Limited Warfare"

What's behind all this vicious talk about "limited warfare," "local wars," and "brush-fire wars" (p. 7).

The West Berlin Question

Background information on what's really involved (p. 10).

At the Jianming People's Commune

Report on a well-known rural people's commune in north China (p. 15).

*Peking Opera, Pen Probes and
Other Features*

A WEEKLY MAGAZINE OF CHINESE NEWS AND VIEWS

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(BEIJING ZHOUBAO)

A WEEKLY MAGAZINE OF CHINESE
NEWS AND VIEWS

September 15, 1961 Vol. IV No. 37

CONTENTS

ROUND THE WEEK	3
Aiming High, Aiming Far; Swapping Houses; Mutual-Aid Teams in Tibet; Lu Hsun Museum Reopened	
ARTICLES	
Make the Anti-Imperialist, Anti-Colonialist United Front Still Stronger! — <i>Renmin Ribao</i> Editorial	5
Kennedy's "Limited Warfare" — Jih Hsin	7
The West Berlin Question — What Is Really Involved?	10
Gun Thy Neighbour! (Pen Probes) Salt and Its Makers — Peng Kuei-jung	12 13
Latest News from Jianming — Chin Ni	15
PEKING OPERA	18
A Veteran Master	
SIDELIGHTS	20
CHINESE PRESS OPINION	21
'Ware U.S. Plot in Laos!; Fascist Atrocities in S. Korea; The Passing Show	
CHINA AND THE WORLD	22
Greetings to the Korean Workers' Party Congress; Bulgarian National Day; Sino-Guinean Treaty Anniversary; Sino-Ethiopian Cultural Talks; Chinese-Japanese Journalists' Statement; Field Marshal Montgomery in China	
WHAT'S ON IN PEKING	23

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September 15, 1961

ROUND THE WEEK

Aiming High, Aiming Far

In Peking it's already quite cool of a morning and the evenings call for a jacket or a wrap. With summer's departure, the mercury column in most parts of the country has started to fall steadily. "White dews and autumn winds; it gets cooler every evening" so goes the saying among the country-folk. Across the land the tempo of farm work quickens. The harvesting of autumn crops—main harvest of the year—has begun and will unfold full-scale south to north any day now within the next few weeks.

In the Yangtse valley in southern China, harvesting of rice is in full swing in those areas where only one rice crop a year is grown. Where two crops of rice are grown the second harvest is imminent.

In the northern provinces along the middle and lower reaches of the Yellow River, early maize, sorghum and other crops are being reaped and cotton picking has just begun. But in most places the reaping has not yet got under way. Even at this stage the people's communes are taking no chances; they have not let up their effort in the fields. Weeding and irrigation still take up most of their time.

The farmers are already looking beyond this harvest. Most are already making concrete plans to ensure a better summer harvest next year, since a good harvest in summer depends a great deal on the efforts made in the preceding autumn. Winter wheat, rapeseed and other crops sown in autumn and reaped in summer account for one-third of the total sown acreage in the agricultural year. As of last week, active preparations for the autumn sowing are under way in most of the northern provinces. In Szechuan, the peasants are working out sowing plans. Taking advantage of the current monsoon season, commune members in this southwestern province as well as their colleagues in neighbouring Yunnan are storing up water in their reservoirs and ponds for winter irrigation. Shansi and

Shantung commune members are discussing the rotation of crops and what proportion of land should be allocated to wheat and other crops. In some northern provinces the peasants are already busy ploughing up their fallow land, applying fertilizer, selecting seed and doing the many other jobs preliminary to starting the autumn sowing of the first crop of 1962.

Swapping Houses

Despite modern means of transport, commuting, in the final analysis, is not usually synonymous with fun. People pick a place for permanent residence for varied reasons, but most, if they can, prefer to live nearer to where they work. This explains why when the city authorities and industrial departments in Shanghai made it known last year that they would help families move to residences nearer to their places of work, they got an immediate and enthusiastic response from thousands.

Like other big cities in the world, Shanghai, too, has plenty of commuters. Some who live at one end of town but work at another have to traverse the whole city during the rush hours twice daily. Some have to make several bus changes which may take as much as three hours for the round trip.

Determined to help the people save time and energy for better purposes, the industrial departments in Shanghai led by the municipal committee of the Chinese Communist Party last summer set up a special agency to facilitate mutual exchange of housing accommodation among residents on a voluntary basis.

During the past 12 months this agency helped some 70,000 people move into homes nearer to their work places. Most of the beneficiaries saved themselves up to two hours in daily travelling time.

The exchange of homes is arranged in several ways. The agency is first of all an information centre on the housing situation. It registers those



Harvest

Sketch by Shu Lan

families who wish to swap homes and the part of the city to which they would like to move. Then, it brings together the parties to a likely "match." Sometimes, through the good offices of the agency, A moves into B's house, B into C's and C into A's in a so-called "three-round switch." In some cases, if no suitable house is available for a swap, the agency helps a worker to change his place of work instead. A worker in a cotton mill, for instance, can go to work in another, more conveniently located mill, in agreement with the two factories. In still other cases different enterprises have exchanged whole blocks of housing owned by them.

Satisfied clients are full of praise for the service. With the help of the agency Sun Chiu-chen, a mill hand of the Shanghai Dafeng No. 1 Cotton Mill has managed to cut her daily travelling time from 3 hours to 20 minutes, a clear saving of more than 2½ hours a day. That gives her more time to spend with her family and catch up on her spare-time studies.

The success of these first efforts has encouraged the Shanghai municipal authorities to expand this service to residents. Naturally it goes hand in hand with other measures to shorten the travelling time of the city's commuters. More new workers' housing estates are being built and the city's public transport system is being improved.

Mutual-Aid Teams in Tibet

The mutual-aid teams which played so great a role in the early stages of the socialist transformation of agriculture in the rest of the country are now bringing prosperity to the peasants in the Tibet region too. The

13,000 mutual-aid teams organized since the democratic reform there are already making notable contributions to the growth of agricultural production and bettering the life of the rural population.

These teams have helped the peasants overcome shortages of manpower, livestock and farm tools, enabled them to get more and better work done in the fields and around the farms. Last year, the emancipated serfs reaped the biggest harvest in the history of Tibet. This season team members are expecting another big harvest. The *qingke* barley crop on the high plateau has already taken on a lush golden tinge and work goes ahead spurred by the brightest hopes for the future.

The No. 4 mutual-aid team of Chuchieh Village, Lingchou County, was set up in the spring of last year by 15 households of former landless serfs and slaves. Each of them had received a plot of land and farm tools from the government during the democratic reform. Now the team has a total of 377 *mu* of land and 10 draught animals. Before the establishment of the mutual-aid team, most of these peasant households lacked tools and draught animals. Only 9 families had enough manpower to till the land given to them. When the mutual-aid team brought these families together, each helped the other with what they had — manpower, draught animals or farm tools, so that each could cultivate its land.

Paichen, a former slave woman, and her family of three are among those who benefited most. They received 16 *mu* of land during the democratic reform but since she is the sole able-bodied worker in the family, Paichen found it almost impossible to cultivate

that much land properly all by herself. She reaped only 1,200 *jin* of grain in 1959. But last year, thanks to the help of other members of the mutual-aid team, she reaped a harvest 50 per cent bigger.

In these days of the people's communes, mutual-aid teams, of course, no longer sound so exciting to most of the people as they once did in most parts of the land, but they have greeted the news from Tibet with the greatest satisfaction. It's good to know that the Tibetan peasants are doing well with the mutual-aid teams, the first step in the march to prosperous, socialist, collective farming.

Lu Hsun Museum Reopened

Preparations to commemorate the 80th anniversary of the birth of Lu Hsun are under way in many cities. It falls on September 25 this year. Last week, as part of the commemorative activities for this great revolutionary writer, the Lu Hsun Museum in Peking's west city was reopened to the public following a thorough re-arrangement.

The improvements are notable. Many new exhibits have been added to its collection. The new arrangement also gives a better picture of Lu Hsun's active participation in the revolutionary struggles of his time. It gives a fuller account too of how Lu Hsun developed into the great writer, thinker, and revolutionary that he was. There is now a particularly rich section showing Lu Hsun's part in the May Fourth Movement of 1919, and his emergence as the standard-bearer of the new revolutionary culture.

Among the new exhibits are his essays praising the Great October Socialist Revolution, his early translations of Soviet literature and his article denouncing imperialist aggression against the Soviet Union. Here too are mementoes of his friendship with Maxim Gorky, the American progressive writer Agnes Smedley, the Japanese proletarian writer Takiji Kobayashi, the French anti-fascist fighter Paul Vaillant-Couturier and other foreign friends. On display are copies of his works from many countries published in 32 languages.

Founded in 1956, the Peking Lu Hsun Museum had been visited by over 3.8 million people by the end of 1960.

Make the Anti-Imperialist, Anti-Colonialist United Front Still Stronger!

Following is the "Renmin Ribao" editorial of September 9, 1961, greeting the successful conclusion of the conference of non-aligned countries. Subheads are ours. — Ed.

THE Conference of the Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries successfully concluded its work on September 6 when the 25 participating countries adopted a declaration and a statement on "The Danger of War and an Appeal for Peace." The conference has made positive contributions to the promotion of the cause of the peoples of Asia, Africa and Latin America in their struggle to win and safeguard national independence, to combat imperialist aggression and intervention, to oppose old and new colonialism, and to defend world peace. The Chinese people warmly congratulate the conference on its success.

Keynote of the Conference

The conference of non-aligned countries was held in a situation where the struggle waged by the peoples of various countries to win and uphold their national independence is surging to unprecedented heights. In Asia, the revolutionary struggle of the peoples against U.S. imperialism and its lackeys is growing in intensity and scope. In Africa, a series of countries has achieved independence and the flames of the struggle against both old and new colonialism are raging with ever greater fierceness. In Latin America, the national-democratic revolutionary movement grows vigorously. In spite of imperialism's desperate struggles to maintain its colonial rule, the march of history points to the inevitable final collapse of the colonialist system. The conference of non-aligned countries clearly reflected this objective situation.

In its unanimously adopted declaration, the conference expressed full support for the peoples of Algeria, Angola, Tunisia, Cuba and other countries who are fighting for and upholding their national independence, and demanded the removal of all military bases from foreign soil. The declaration called for the elimination of colonialism in all its manifestations and for the acceptance and carrying out of the policy of peaceful coexistence in the world. It pointed out that a lasting peace could be achieved only when colonialism and imperialism were completely uprooted. This is the common voice of all the peoples of Asia, Africa and Latin America, and also the common will of all who cherish peace and justice.

On the platform of the conference, the representatives of Indonesia, Cuba, Algeria, the U.A.R., Guinea, Ghana, Mali, Afghanistan, Nepal, Burma and many other countries strongly condemned imperialism and colonialism as

the root of evils and disasters for mankind. They urged the peoples of all countries to wage a resolute struggle to eradicate colonialism and oppose imperialism.

The important speech made at the conference by President Soekarno carried great weight with world public opinion. He stressed that the source of international tension was "imperialism and colonialism and the forcible division of nations." He stated in clear words: "History in the past and the realities of today prove that different social systems can coexist, but there can be no coexistence between independence and justice on the one side and imperialism-colonialism on the other." President Dorticos in his speech denounced the imperialist-colonial powers for their use of perfidy and violence to maintain their colonial exploitation and establish imperialist domination in a new form. Premier Ben Khedda called for full support for the struggle of all peoples fighting for independence. He declared: "Our efforts to bring about an easing of the international situation should lead us to work consistently for the elimination of all sources of tension, of which colonialism is one." These clear voices met with a most enthusiastic response at the conference, where opposition to imperialism and to colonialism, old and new, was the keynote.

The socialist countries have all along endorsed and supported the policies of peace and neutrality and of non-alignment of the national independent states. These states, after shaking off colonial rule and embarking on the road of independent development, refuse to join the imperialist military blocs; they oppose the establishment of military bases by the imperialists on their soil and stand for the peaceful coexistence of countries with different social systems. This not only conforms to their own national interests but also plays a positive role in weakening the imperialist war forces and strengthening the world peace forces. These non-aligned states do not belong to the imperialist camp, nor to the socialist camp. They are not a bloc by themselves either. But they share common interests in the struggle against colonialism and imperialism, the fight to win and uphold national independence and defend world peace. The clarion call of the conference condemning imperialism and colonialism clearly reflects the steady expansion and strengthening of the international united front against imperialism and colonialism.

A Defeat for U.S. Imperialism and Its Apologists

The positive results gained by the conference in fighting imperialism and colonialism is a defeat for the imperialist bloc headed by the United States. The imperialists schemed to exert an influence on the conference from the very outset and, through their spokesmen, tried

by means of a general and vague discussion on so-called questions of war and peace to divert the conference from the objective of its struggle and direct its main spearhead not against imperialism and colonialism but against the Soviet Union, China and the socialist camp.

The September issue of the British journal *Eastern World* said: "The West is opposed to the declared purposes of the conference," urging the conference not to discuss questions with "an acute anti-Western after-taste" such as Algeria, Angola, the Congo and West Irian but to "adopt a pro-Western orientation." A *New York Times* editorial of August 30 said arrogantly that the conference of non-aligned countries was "meeting under the aegis and protection of the Western powers and the Western alliance." It even suggested that the conference launch a campaign against "Soviet colonialism." In an editorial on September 2, the same paper, in an attempt to create an anti-Soviet outcry at the conference, made great play with the Soviet decision to carry out nuclear tests. It said maliciously: "The success or failure of the Belgrade meeting will be decided by how it reacts to that [Soviet] challenge."

However, the imperialists failed in their schemes. Now they have to admit that the majority of conference delegates criticized the United States, NATO and the Western colonialists in the sternest terms, that the keynote of the principal speeches was directed against the West and that [as a West German paper wrote] the conference "taught us [the West] a grim lesson and people can only face this moment with mixed feelings."

The outcome of the conference spells defeat also for certain apologists for U.S. imperialism, who have donned the cloak of non-alignment. They were unable to divert the main, anti-imperialist and anti-colonialist, current of the conference but have simply shown their true colours. Tito played precisely such a role at the conference. He made a big effort calling for co-operation with all countries and for refraining from attacking this or that country, while peddling his so-called "no-bloc" and "positive coexistence." But everybody knows that the Tito clique pursues no policy of non-alignment. As early as 1953, it made Yugoslavia a member of the "Balkan alliance," the other two members of which, Greece and Turkey, are both NATO members. There is nothing in common at all between the Tito clique's "no-bloc" and "positive coexistence" policy and the Afro-Asian countries' policy of peace and neutrality. The Afro-Asian countries' policy of peace and neutrality starts from the stand of safeguarding national independence and has an anti-colonialist, anti-imperialist nature. In their struggles against imperialist aggression and for world peace, these countries have common interests with the socialist countries and, therefore, can establish good relations with them. But the Tito clique's activities, carried out under the "no-bloc" and "positive coexistence" labels were painstakingly designed to oppose the socialist camp, to disrupt the solidarity of the world's peoples and to undermine the Afro-Asian peoples' struggles for national liberation. The Tito clique pretends that it is opposed to colonialism but in fact it betrays the national interests of the Afro-Asian countries, lures them to give up their anti-colonialist and anti-imperialist struggles, and serves imperialism.

Somebody at the conference also advanced these arguments: "The era of classic colonialism is gone and is dead," and anti-colonialist, anti-imperialist and anti-racial discrimination problems were secondary. Obviously, such arguments are totally contrary to the facts. It is true that under the impact of the national-liberation movement, the imperialist-colonialist system is rapidly disintegrating. But colonialism and imperialism have not passed away; U.S. imperialism, in particular, is not only striving to maintain colonial rule by adopting new tactics, but also frantically perpetrating aggression everywhere in an attempt to regain lost ground and expand its colonial influence. Today, the colonialists and imperialists are still committing arson and murder and barbarous acts of aggression right in the territories of many countries which participated in the conference of non-aligned countries, in Algeria, Tunisia, the Congo, Cuba and Indonesia, not to mention those colonial countries still under the sanguinary rule of colonialism and imperialism. At the conference, the delegates of many countries angrily condemned the crimes of aggression committed by colonialism and imperialism. President Nkrumah of Ghana said that he spoke with deep feeling of the fact that "colonialism is fighting its last battle in Africa today." Guinea's Foreign Minister Beavogui reminded the conference that "we should not forget the atrocious colonial wars in Algeria and Angola." In the face of all these facts, what purpose can the argument that "colonialism is dead" serve except to give cover to colonialism and imperialism?

Oppose Imperialism-Colonialism

The conference of non-aligned countries showed profound concern over present international tension. The declaration and the statement of the conference call for the realization of general disarmament, total prohibition of nuclear and thermo-nuclear weapons and the settlement of all outstanding questions through negotiation. This fully reflects the aspirations of the people of the world for peace. But where does the threat of war come from? The delegates of many countries have seen this clearly. Both the history of modern times and present-day realities have shown time and again that wars in modern times are the product of imperialism and colonialism. The imperialists have never given up the means of war to seize and carve up colonies and suppress the resistance of the colonial peoples. The two world wars in the past half century were both unleashed by the imperialists. And all the flames of war in the world today have been kindled by the aggressive policy of imperialism. When the colonial peoples demand independence and freedom, the colonial powers engage in armed repression. When those countries which have gained national independence want to develop their national economies and follow independent domestic and foreign policies, the imperialists frequently resort to armed intervention. U.S. armed aggression against Cuba, the civil war in Laos engineered and expanded by the United States, the French colonial war against Algeria and Portugal's armed repressions in Angola are the most notorious examples. Especially serious is the fact that U.S. imperialism, as the head of the imperialist camp and the last bulwark of modern colonialism, is building up arms and preparing for war on a large scale, setting up military bases everywhere, rigging up military alliances, pushing ahead frantically with its

policies of war and aggression. All this has posed a grave threat to world peace. It is precisely because of this that the struggle to win and safeguard world peace cannot but be at the same time a struggle against imperialism and colonialism. There can be no peace so long as national independence is not assured and the colonialist system is not eliminated. World peace can be defended only by constantly intensifying the struggle against imperialism and colonialism.

China's Legitimate Rights in the U.N.

The overwhelming majority of delegates to the conference came out with one voice for the immediate restoration to the People's Republic of China of its lawful seat in the United Nations. Prime Minister U Nu said: "We are disturbed that one of the great powers, the United States of America, continues to use her great influence to prevent the 600 million people of China from being represented at the United Nations." He pointed out that the anomalous situation in which China's seat in the United Nations Organization was occupied by the Chiang Kai-shek clique should be speedily terminated. Delegates of the majority of the participating countries expressed the same view. This view has been clearly stated in the declaration of the conference. The Chinese people are thankful to these friendly countries for their just stand. It can be seen from the conference that the U.S. Government's policy of hostility to the Chinese people and of illegally depriving China of its lawful seat in the United Nations is becoming increasingly unpopular. The U.S. Government, however, has no wish to make a change. On the contrary, it is actively hatching all sorts of plots

with the purpose of continuing to deprive China of its legitimate rights and preparing to peddle its various "two Chinas" formulas at the 16th session of the U.N. General Assembly. Such manoeuvres on the part of the U.S. Government are bound to meet with continued opposition from all countries standing for justice. Everybody knows that China is one of the founders of the United Nations. The representative of China can only be the People's Republic of China, it cannot be the Chiang Kai-shek clique existing in Taiwan under U.S. armed protection. The Chiang Kai-shek clique must be expelled immediately from the United Nations Organization. China's legitimate rights in the United Nations should be restored at once.

We all remember that the Asian-African Conference held in Bandung six years ago raised high the banner of anti-imperialism-colonialism. It exerted a tremendous and far-reaching influence on the development of the national-liberation movements in Asia, Africa and Latin America. Now the conference of non-aligned countries has also made contributions to the peoples' struggle against imperialism and colonialism. As President Soekarno has said, the conference of non-aligned countries "is not a rival to the Asian-African Conference, but must be complementary to it," and, therefore, "it is necessary to hold a second Asian-African conference in the near future." The Chinese Government and people fully support this proposal made by President Soekarno. We believe that through these conferences, the united front of the world's peoples against imperialism and colonialism will be steadily expanded and consolidated. Here lies a reliable guarantee that the peoples of all lands will win and preserve their independence and safeguard world peace.

Kennedy's "Limited Warfare"

by JIH HSIN

SINCE the day of its inauguration the Kennedy Administration has been expanding its armaments and war preparations. Kennedy seizes on every opportunity to promote his policy of preparing for all-out nuclear war as well as conventional, "limited wars." It is quite obvious that the Kennedy Administration regards "limited warfare" as an important means of carrying through aggressive U.S. policy.

Today, in the eyes of the Kennedy Administration, "the needs of limited-war forces appear to be more pressing than the requirements for strategic weapons systems." As early as 1958 Kennedy stressed that the United States must have the power to conduct limited warfare with "speed, discrimination, and versatility," "without weakening our ultimate retaliatory power." On entering the White House he had ordered the Pentagon to set up a "Limited War Requirements Commission" to study measures for the speedy modernization of troops armed with conventional weapons. On July 1, Kennedy appointed General Maxwell Taylor as the President's "military and intelligence adviser"; Taylor, once chieftain of the U.S. invasion forces in Korea, has always stood for "limited

warfare" and opposed any reduction in conventional troops.

The Wishful Thinking of the "Underdog"

History shows that the U.S. imperialists have always based themselves on the "position of strength" concept in pushing ahead its aggressive policy. But, as the East wind is blowing harder and harder, they are forced time and again to "re-estimate" and revise the means they use to implement this policy although in the end they still find themselves inevitably being pushed to the wall and in a "terribly awkward position."

Back in 1953 Eisenhower came up with his "new look" idea. In January of the following year, his Secretary of State Dulles whooped it up about the so-called "massive retaliation." What is the "new look"? "The New Look," as Taylor saw it, "planned a reduction of U.S. forces overseas and creation of a central strategic reserve on U.S. territory. . . ." In other words, the aggressive forces in the United States intended to fall back and stay on the homeland and from there intimidate and blackmail the

peace-loving people of other countries by means of the "nuclear deterrent" with "massive retaliation"; in this way they hoped to achieve their aggressive and expansionist aims.

This strategic idea was put forward because of the difficult position U.S. imperialism found itself in at the time. The U.S. aggressive forces had just suffered heavy blows on the Korean battlefield leading to their military and diplomatic bankruptcy. But Eisenhower and Dulles still fancied that the U.S. held the "superiority" in atomic weapons and strategic air force that formed its "nuclear deterrent"; they believed that the United States could be kept out of the frontline and would not be hit should an inter-continental war be waged overseas.

But this "superiority" of the U.S. aggressive bloc was simply a mirage; it was doomed to fade away. The Soviet Union was already in possession of atomic weapons in 1949. It was the first country to succeed in making hydrogen bombs in the very year that Eisenhower announced his "new look." In 1957, it launched inter-continental ballistic rockets and this was followed by its sending of the first artificial earth satellite into orbit. That ended for good the "happy days" when the United States was located in the "strategic rear."

It was then that the ruling circles in the United States began talking about "limited warfare." On June 25, 1957, at a meeting of the National Security Council, the Eisenhower Administration decided to "maintain . . . a defense level by reducing military manpower . . . [to] compensate for the rising cost of atomic bombers, long-range missiles, warning systems, and other equipment primarily needed to wage the big atomic war." This was criticized by Taylor, then army chief-of-staff, in an article

he wrote some time later. "Thus," he pointed out, "we continue to cling to the policy of Massive Retaliation, although it has reached an obvious dead end." A year later, Kennedy, who was then a senator, wailed that U.S. missile strength lagged behind that of the Soviet Union, and declared that "in the years of the gap, our threats of massive retaliation will lose most of their impact." He added that "our exercises in brink-of-war diplomacy will be infinitely less successful." With the increase in the power of modern weapons, Henry Kissinger, one of Kennedy's "military theoreticians" and now "the President's adviser on military problems," stated in his book *Nuclear Weapons and Foreign Policy* that "the threat of all-out nuclear war" had lost its "credibility and therefore its political effectiveness."

Thus, willy-nilly, the utter bankruptcy of the "massive retaliation" strategy has been acknowledged. The U.S. Government wants to step up aggression but is chicken-hearted and scared, hence "limited warfare," the so-called "middle course military strategy" which is a product born of the very awkward predicament it has got itself into and which is now part and parcel of U.S. "strategy" at a time when it has become, in the words of Kennedy, the "underdog." This shows that the concept of "limited warfare," like the earlier one of "massive retaliation," far from being a sign of U.S. "might," merely serves to show its weakness further. It has come into being when the East wind prevails even more over the West wind, when the scale is tipped further in favour of the East.

What kind of war is "limited warfare," a "local war," or a so-called "brush-fire war"? *The New York Times* defines it as a war "geographically contained within a specified area," in which "only so-called conventional

— For Your Reference —

KENNEDY'S ARMS DRIVE AND WAR PREPARATIONS

Military Expenditure: \$46,660 million for fiscal 1962, over 40 times the prewar level

Men Under Arms: forces increased by 250,000 more men from the reserve; term of draftees currently in service extended by one year

Nuclear Weapons: nuclear tests to be resumed as from this September—\$2,350 million more for development of nuclear weapons

Guided Missiles: expansion of subterranean I.C.B.M. bases in 18 states at a cost of \$28,000 million

On August 16 the U.S. Army Secretary Stahr announced a 12-point programme to increase the army's strength from 870,000 men at present to 1,080,000 by June 30, 1962. There will also be a draft call of 25,000 in September, with an estimated draft in October of at least 20,000 men and the calling up of some personnel with essential skills. The programme will turn three training divisions into full strength combat units and more than double the size of the U.S. Army Special Forces, trained for counter-guerrilla warfare.

Earlier, on August 14, the U.S. Navy Department announced its decision to increase a newly authorized strength of 657,000 men from its present level of about 626,000. On August 17, the U.S. Navy Department further announced

a seven-point programme according to which the U.S. fleets will get more ships, planes, missiles, torpedoes and other weapons. Under this programme, the number of ships on active duty will be increased to 861, of which 383 will be warships.

On August 15, the U.S. Air Force announced a programme to add about 28,000 men to its strength through a combination of voluntary and compulsory extensions of normal service. The new programme will raise the size of the air force from its present strength of 822,000 to 888,000 men.

In addition an extra 7,000 to 9,000 million dollars will be earmarked for the development of nuclear rockets, space-ships and space satellites in the next five years.

weapons or, at worst, tactical nuclear arms are used." Or, as Kissinger puts it, it is a war "fought for specific political objectives."

It must be particularly noted here that U.S. imperialism has by no means abandoned the concept of an "all-out nuclear war." Kissinger has admitted that "a limited war is thus not an alternative to massive retaliation, but its complement." The wishful thinking of Kennedy and Co. is to achieve the aims of their aggressive policy through diplomatic blackmail or by actually going into a series of "limited wars" threatening to develop into an "all-out war." This is why we say that the Kennedy Administration, successor to the Eisenhower-Dulles "policy of nuclear deterrent" and "brinkmanship," has done all that Eisenhower dared not do or did not do and that it is crazier and far more dangerous than the Eisenhower Administration.

Ulterior Motives

The primary aim of the Kennedy Administration in adopting this "limited warfare" strategy is to suppress the national-liberation movement anywhere in the world rapidly and effectively.

That the U.S. imperialists' aggressive plan is global is well known. It has made itself the enemy of the peoples of all countries, being especially hostile to the socialist camp which is the main bulwark against imperialist aggression. The U.S. imperialists imagine that the U.S. frontier has extended to the other continents. But, for the time being, the aggressive bloc in the United States is paying particular attention to so-called "intermediate zones." In his special message on "urgent national needs," Kennedy ranted for all to hear that "the great battleground [of the United States] . . . is the whole southern half of the globe—Asia, Latin America, Africa, and the Middle East—the lands of the rising peoples." It is indeed in these lands that national liberation struggles are surging forward.

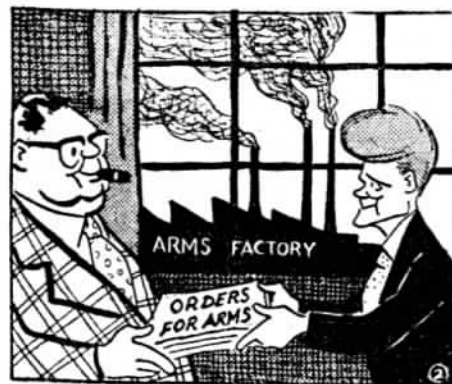
The Kennedy Administration wants to include the countries and peoples on these vast lands within the U.S. "frontier of freedom," to be enslaved and controlled by the United States. Its ways and means are to play rough at one time and to wheedle at another; peace alternating with war or both together. On the one hand, it is bringing to their very doorsteps baits and fetters in the guise of "U.S. aid," "peace corps," the "food for peace programme," the "alliance for progress," etc. On the other hand, it is ready at any time to make use of "U.S. airlift capacity" and impose a "limited war" on their peoples. The aims of such an aggressive war have never been concealed by the U.S. brasshats.

Next, Kennedy and his "strategists" believe that by maintaining world tension through "limited warfare," they will be able to force American citizens to tighten their belts further and shoulder the crippling burdens of

KENNEDY'S "GOOD ADMINISTRATION"



More Opportunities for "Employment"



Industry "Booms" Again



"Transport" Is Busier Than Ever



"Aid for the Needy"

Cartoon by Po Po

the arms drive and war preparations while at the same time holding together the aggressive Western bloc that, with each of its members having a private axe to grind, is falling apart.

Finally, Kennedy also counts on his "limited wars" to give the U.S. economy a shot in the arm, stimulating its "recovery" from its crisis. He and his followers are of the opinion that increasing the production of missiles and nuclear weapons alone is not an effective enough dose, that an increase in conventional armaments, which consume more steel and other materials, will serve better to "save" the U.S. economy from crisis. This explains why every time Kennedy asked for additional military appropriations the quotations of the munitions industry were the first to go up.

Such are the motives behind Kennedy's "limited warfare."

Bitter Pills to Swallow

In point of fact, the Kennedy Administration has not only made plans for but also actually tried out this sort of war—and has reaped the bitter fruits of its actions: the fiasco it suffered when it invaded Cuba.

The invasion of Cuba is a typical case of attempted U.S. suppression of the national liberation struggle by means of "limited warfare." Last April, Washington shipped mercenaries in its own planes and warships to the southern shores of Cuba. This "special force" was trained by the United States and had long been in

Washington's pay. It was armed to the teeth with American weapons. But it took the heroic Cuban people only 72 hours' fighting to smash this shameful armed attack launched by the United States. That battle brought the United States to a shameful pass, politically and morally; it caused tremendous confusion among ruling circles in the United States as they blamed each other for it. Kennedy, censured by world public opinion and attacked at home, finally had to admit that he was responsible for launching aggression. This battle to invade Cuba is the first specimen of "limited war" as waged by Kennedy and also the first entry in his record of failures in such enterprises.

Laos too for a time faced the danger of being turned into a battleground for U.S. "limited warfare." On March 9 Kennedy and his senior advisers worked out a plan for military intervention in Laos. It was only because of the failure of the Cuban adventure, as James Reston disclosed in *The New York Times*, that Kennedy finally changed his mind about direct intervention in Laos. Nevertheless, the danger of "limited war" is still there, for Kennedy has so far shown no intention of giving up this idea.

The United States has already dispatched "special forces" to south Viet Nam to take a direct part in combating the patriotic struggle of the people there.

In Europe, Kennedy has talked about his "determination to run any risks" and to hang on in West Berlin. According to the U.S. press, Kennedy has even considered whether or not to wage a "brush-fire war" there.

Eisenhower and Dulles intimidated and blackmailed the people of the world with their "brinkmanship" and

"massive retaliation." But the danger posed by the Kennedy Administration's "limited warfare" strategy is greater and more real than the mere threat of "massive retaliation," for this is not just the "brink of war" but war itself!

However, neither the plan for an "all-out war" nor an actual "limited war" can stem the revolutionary tide of national liberation and social progress. Neither Kennedy who thinks himself "powerful, decisive and alert" nor any other agent of U.S. monopoly capital can save the slave rule of imperialism and colonialism from ruin — its fate is doomed. A paper tiger is after all a paper tiger. The "limited war," which Kennedy's "strategists" have planned with so much painstaking effort, is just as useless as anything else in papering over the vulnerable points of U.S. imperialism. This is proved by what happened in Cuba and in Laos and it will be proved again in whatever place Kennedy chooses to launch aggression.

The aggressive nature of imperialism will never change. The imperialists can never appraise the international situation soberly and will not quit making trouble even in the face of difficulties. Though failing once they will continue to make trouble again. The United States suffered no small a setback in Cuba but the Kennedy Administration is now engaged in a still more frenzied way in expanding its armaments and war preparations, playing up the West Berlin question to create tension. This is another convincing proof that it is more dangerous than its predecessor. It serves a warning that when U.S. imperialism meets with a defeat, we must double our vigilance!

Background Information

The West Berlin Question— What Is Really Involved?

TAKING advantage of the so-called "Berlin crisis" which they themselves created, the Western countries, and, above all, the United States, are making a hullabaloo about "defending West Berlin" by force and, on this pretext, have engaged in frenzied preparations for war. But what is this West Berlin question actually all about? What are the real issues involved? Here, for the information of our readers, are some background facts.

How Berlin came to be divided: Berlin was liberated from the Nazis by the Soviet Red Army on May 2, 1945, and for a while garrisoned by that army alone. Later, in accordance with the Crimea Declaration, the Four-Power Declaration on control of Germany and the Potsdam Agreement, Germany was divided into Soviet, U.S., British and French occupation zones; Berlin was placed under joint occupation as a centre for inter-allied adminis-

tration of the whole of Germany. The purpose of this system of occupation was to "extirpate" "German militarism and Nazism" and "to assure that Germany will never again threaten her neighbours or the peace of the world" (Potsdam Agreement).

In the early days of occupation, Berlin was a unified city, with a unified democratic municipal assembly. But the Western occupation authorities soon set out to sabotage this arrangement. They joined together their sectors and disbanded the people's police there. In June 1948, they unilaterally introduced "currency measures" which made West Germany and West Berlin a separate economic unit. In December the same year, in violation of Berlin's Provisional Constitution and regulations governing unified election, they stage-managed a unilateral election and formed a West Berlin municipal government. Berlin was

thus divided into two parts: the Democratic Zone of Berlin and West Berlin.

West Berlin is not part of West Germany, nor is it administered by the West German government. Still the Western powers, taking advantage of their occupation status in West Berlin, have been engaged in the revival of West German militarism in a big way there and connived at the West German government setting up organs to carry out provocations from West Berlin. They have thus destroyed the legal basis for their occupation of West Berlin granted them under allied agreements.

West Berlin — centre of subversion: Taking advantage of the fact that West Berlin lies in the heart of the German Democratic Republic and that there was an "open frontier" between it and the democratic sector of Berlin, the Western powers with the United States at their head, have turned West Berlin into an "outpost" from which to direct espionage, sabotage and subversive activities against the G.D.R. and the other socialist countries. There are today in West Berlin over 80 known agencies and spy centres of the Western powers (mostly U.S.). These send a continuous stream of agents into the Democratic Republic, to collect intelligence and sabotage factories, mines and means of transportation. Their handiwork ranges from tapping telephone lines, arson, murder, poisoning to instigating outright revolt.

* The notorious armed revolt in 1953 to subvert the G.D.R. was directed by U.S. officers in West Berlin.

* In 1956, the U.S. occupation forces were caught red-handed spying through a tunnel driven into democratic Berlin to tap telephone lines.

* From West Berlin, RIAS, "Free Europe" and other Western-financed radio stations are daily carrying on anti-Soviet, anti-communist propaganda and whipping up a war psychosis.

* The Western powers and the West German government have also been engaged in large-scale currency speculation to undermine the G.D.R.'s currency and disturb its economy by artificially maintaining in West Berlin a black market exchange rate of 1:4 for Bonn and G.D.R. marks—an exchange rate completely out of keeping with their actual values. It is estimated that as a result of this underhand economic war, the German Democratic Republic sustains a loss of 1,000 million marks annually.

* West Berlin has also been used to carry out a campaign to bully, blackmail or bribe G.D.R. citizens into "fleeing to the West." Lately, this slave trade has been stepped up. The Berlin papers carried many reports of this.

The need to conclude a German peace treaty: The Western powers, the United States and the Bonn revanchists in particular, are raising a hue and cry about the West Berlin question both to cover up the foul situation we have just described and to divert world attention from the present urgent need for the signing of a German peace treaty.



Sketch Map by Su Li

According to international practice, after the end of a war, the belligerents must conclude a peace treaty to put an end to the state of war. The old Germany, in the grip of monopoly capitalists and militarists, has been the source of two world wars. This is the reason why, after the defeat of Hitlerite Germany, the first demand of the people of all lands has been the elimination of this source of war. They wished to conclude a peace treaty as quickly as possible so as to lead Germany onto the road of peaceful development. But thanks to the reactionary policy of the aggressive bloc headed by U.S. imperialism, the same forces which put Hitler into power are back in the saddle again in West Germany. Monopolies like Krupps, Thyssen, I.G. Farben, Siemens are still there, and stronger than before. The West German Bundeswehr, armed with tactical nuclear weapons, has become the kernel of the NATO armed forces in Europe. Former Nazi generals like Heusinger, Speidel and Foertsch occupy top posts not only in the Bundeswehr but also in NATO forces. Bonn ministers Strauss, Lemmer and others have time and again clamoured for the "recovery" of "lost territory in the east."

The Soviet Union and the other socialist countries have on several occasions proposed to negotiate a German peace treaty to put out the last embers of World War II. The ruling circles of the Western powers have, however, stubbornly rejected these proposals because they want to use the present abnormal situation to continue their cold war in West Berlin and in Europe in general. Of late, they have intensified their war efforts as a way out of their mounting economic crisis.

In view of this, it is of cardinal importance to sign a German peace treaty to record in legal form the immutability of the present German frontiers, to normalize

the West Berlin situation by ending its occupation status and to secure conditions for the peaceful development of both Germany and Europe as a whole. And this is precisely what the Soviet Union, the German Democratic Republic and other socialist countries propose to do within this year. They call for the convening of a peace conference of all the states that fought against the Nazi aggressors. Since in actual fact two German states exist, both will be represented at such a conference and will sign the peace treaty. Should the Western countries con-

tinue to evade this, as many states as are willing will participate in the conference and a peace treaty will be signed with the G.D.R. alone. As a demilitarized free city, West Berlin will be guaranteed unhindered communication with the outside world and non-intervention in its affairs. All just-minded people can see that these are peaceful proposals in the interests of the peoples of the world and detrimental only to those who seek to prolong the present anomaly for purposes of imperialist war and aggression.

Pen Probes

Gun Thy Neighbour!

“WHEN I get my shelter finished, I’m going to mount a machine-gun at the hatch to keep the neighbours out if the bomb falls. I’m deadly serious about this. . . . I’m not going to run the risk of not being able to use the shelter I’ve taken the trouble to provide to save my own family.”

This, from a Chicago suburbanite, is the sort of gibbering hysterics that can now be heard among well-heeled individualists in the United States, that country which its government likes to call “the most powerful nation” on earth and the “leading defender of Christian civilization.”

In this land of teetering recession and mass unemployment, where only the war industries are booming and making money hand over fist, there is a boomlet in the business of making atomic air-raid shelters. The monopoly press and professional warmongers are doing their best to whip up the war hysteria that helps the Kennedy Administration justify astronomical outlays on arms and munitions, on a worldwide network of military bases and aggressive operations. This propaganda and recent nationwide “alerts” have caused a rush among the well-to-do to build their private luxury bolt-holes.

In a society where the moral code has long been “every man for himself, and the devil take the hindmost,” survival too is becoming strictly private property. People go to great lengths to keep their shelters secret, even passing off construction workers as “furnace repairmen.” In a land that never saw a hostile soldier or plane in two world wars, they are readying themselves to kill if necessary to keep their neighbours out of their own private “Noah’s Arks.”

Time magazine quotes shelter-owner Charles Davis in Austin, Texas, who has stocked four rifles and a pistol in his shelter. Pointing at its four-inch wooden door, this man explained: “This isn’t to keep radiation out, it’s to keep people out.” He is also prepared in the event his shelterless neighbours should get in before he does. “I’ve got a .38 tear-gas gun, and if I fire six or seven tear-gas

bullets into the shelter, they’ll either come out or the gas will get them,” he boasted.

Nor is this good-neighbour policy in reverse limited to individuals only. In Las Vegas, in the state of Nevada, a local “civil defence” big shot, J. Carlton Adair, has publicly proposed a 5,000-strong militia to guard against the possibility of wartime refugees from neighbouring California pouring into Nevada “like a swarm of locusts.” In California itself, the “co-ordinator of civil defence” in Riverside County has decreed that all survival kits should include a pistol to cope with refugees from nearby Los Angeles. “There’s nothing in the Christian ethic,” said he, “which denies one’s right to protect oneself and one’s family.”

Christ would surely have been surprised to hear his teachings used to justify cold-blooded murder.

The man-hating ethic, so intensively propagated by the get-rich-quick-at-all-costs capitalism of these United States, is now turning on itself to destroy its own children.



“Cut off his fingers, Hiram. He’s rocking the boat!”

Salt and Its Makers

by PENG KUEI-JUNG

THE INDUSTRY: China produced 11,040,000 tons of salt in 1959. This surpassed the target set for 1962 in the Second Five-Year Plan (1958-62). It was a remarkable achievement. Before liberation the industry never recorded 4 million tons a year. But this figure was surpassed in 1951, two years after liberation. Output rose to almost 5 million tons in 1952. The year 1957 witnessed another two-thirds rise compared with 1952 and China for the first time stood second in world production. In the next three years (1958-60) it put on another spurt with an average annual rate of growth of more than 20 per cent. The combined output of these three years exceeded that of the previous five by nearly one-fifth.

A large part of the salt produced now goes for industrial and other manufacturing purposes. Its derivatives are needed increasingly for the chemical and metallurgical industries and also by the factories making porcelain, dyestuffs, soap and other consumer goods. Before liberation industry took some 6 per cent of the salt sold on the home market; the rest was consumed by the population in cooking, food processing, etc. Today industry accounts for a much larger percentage. Last year's home sales of salt were almost three times what they were in 1950. The amount taken by industry and by the farms and livestock ranches of the country has grown enormously.

Per capita consumption of salt has risen from an average of 8 *jin* a year in the early years of liberation to 18 *jin* today. It must be remembered that in old China, salt, because of its costliness, was in certain areas a luxury to large numbers of people, instead of being rated a daily necessity. Many simply could not afford to use it regularly in cooking.

Rich Deposits, Exorbitant Price

This was not because China lacked salt resources. On the contrary, her 11,000-kilometres of coastline provide vast areas suitable for salterns to get salt from seawater. She actually gets about four-fifths of her annual output of crude salt from this source. In Szechuan Province, southwest China, salt is produced from brine pumped up from salt wells. Deposits here are large but some are hard to get. Some wells are 1,000 metres deep. China also has many salt lakes in her northwest provinces and rich rock salt deposits in several hinterland provinces. The salt problem in pre-liberation days was caused not by any shortage of salt resources but by the policy of corrupt reactionary governments.

For centuries salt constituted one of the main sources of government revenue in feudal China. The rulers either made it a state monopoly or imposed a heavy salt

tax. After the 1911 revolution, Yuan Shih-kai, the warlord who usurped power and made himself emperor for 83 days, went even further. He mortgaged the country's salt tax to Britain, Japan, the United States and France for a loan and the imperialists thereby seized the right to supervise the collection and management of the salt tax. To protect their interest the imperialists had their agents appointed as "inspectors" in China's salt gabelle (tax) administration and local salt-making enterprises.

The lion's share of what consumers paid for their salt found its way into the capacious pockets of the imperialists, the reactionary government and venal officials. The saltfield workers were even more ruthlessly exploited than before. Even in Shantung, a seaboard province renowned for its rich salt resources, the price of salt was prohibitive. In 1936 a *jin* of salt there cost as much as 1.8 *jin* of millet.

In many remote regions where salt was not locally produced, such as Kweichow, the population was forced to do without it or to eat very little of it. Kweichow Province got all its salt from neighbouring Szechuan Province. It came in the form of rock salt carried in baskets on the backs of labourers along tortuous mountain paths. It was so expensive that most housewives never dreamt of throwing sufficient salt into a pot. They kept a piece of rock salt about the size of an olive in the kitchen and dipped it in their pots for a few seconds just to get a hint of saline flavour.

All that has ended since liberation. The People's Government has seen to it that the people even in the faraway mountain areas have sufficient high-quality salt at a reasonable price. It can do this because today, thanks to socialist reforms and technical transformations in the industry, it has ample stocks at its disposal.

Work Becomes Easier

The pre-liberation salt-making industry, whatever the technique of production used, was very poorly equipped. Most of the work at the mines, wells or salterns was done by hand. Since liberation more modern techniques and equipment have been introduced step by step. Today the whole industry has been radically transformed. Changes came especially rapidly when the movement for technical revolution and innovations was launched a few years ago. Wheelbarrows and carts have gradually replaced the carrying poles and baskets that were once the main means of transport in the saltfields. More and more conveyers and other mechanical means of transport have been introduced.

In the salterns along the coast, the most strenuous work was raking up the salt from the evaporation basins, moving it to the storage sites and piling it up there. Now cable-towed tools to rake up and pile the salt are being used on an increasing scale; belt-conveyers, tug boats and barges have taken over most of the loading, unloading and transporting in the major seashore saltfields north of the Yangtse.

Where before the brine was taken from the salt wells by windlass and buckets, now either hydraulic or engine-powered hoists or pumps are being used or installed. Natural gas, generally found side by side with the salt wells in the southwest, is being used extensively to evaporate the brine.

Heavy manual labour in the major rock salt production centres is steadily being replaced by mechanical and semi-mechanical devices.

Such innovations have greatly increased production and efficiency, improved working conditions and lightened the work, thus enabling most salt-making enterprises to continue to increase output without additional manpower.

In addition to stepping up output so that there is enough salt for all the normal needs of domestic consumption, many saltfields in the last three years have set up factories of various sizes to manufacture salt byproducts. Last year such plants produced some 80 kinds of byproducts from the mother liquor—the left-over liquid after the salt is precipitated. These included many important

chemical raw materials, refractories, fertilizers, farm chemicals, etc. Among the major products, the output of potassium chloride went up by 60 per cent in 1960 compared with 1957.

This rapid advance of the salt industry in China has made a big contribution to the increasing wealth of the country and to the welfare of its people, not the least of all, the workers of the industry themselves.

* * *

THE MAKERS: The workers in the salt industry, whether in the salterns on the coasts, at the salt wells or in the saltmines lived under the most appalling conditions in the past. All the more remarkable therefore have been the changes that have taken place in their lives since the liberation.

The life of Su Pao-chung, a worker in the Hanku Salterns in Hopei Province, who is now retired, was by no means an isolated case in old China. He started work in the salterns at sixteen, working as a labourer. He hauled sacks of salt weighing 100 kg. on his back but rarely earned enough for a full meal. He and his wife were so hard pressed once that they poured out the rice husks that they used to stuff their pillows, ground them and mixed them with the few cups of maize flour they had left and used this mixture for food. Hoping to find some better place, he and his wife set out for the northeast with their two children, doing odd jobs and begging for a living. But at Shanhaikuan his wife took sick and died and he was forced to return to Hanku, the place he had sworn he would never go back to. It was here that liberation found him toiling as miserably as before, exploited by the saltern-owners and robbed left and right by the feudal gang bosses who preyed on the workers.

That past and its sorrows can never be obliterated but the new society has done a great deal to smooth the present and assure him of a happy future. He is now retired since his sixtieth birthday on pension and lives with his son in a sunny, well-furnished apartment. His pension and the wages of his son, also a Hanku salt worker, leave a wide margin for the family to live on comfortably and to put a bit aside as savings. Pictures on the walls, clean quilts on the bed, a new clock, a wireless set and other new purchases contrast with the rags and grinding poverty of the old days.

At Hanku today the hovels of the past have nearly all been pulled down to make way for row on row of new workers' housing. In the five years 1953-57 alone living quarters with more than 20,000 square metres of floorspace were built for its workers and employees. This has gone hand in hand with the building of a workers' hospital, a sanatorium, public baths, hairdressers and other collective welfare and recreational facilities.

Like their colleagues throughout the country, the Hanku workers and employees enjoy free medical care. Their labour insurance provides them with a basic wage during periods of illness, a life pension after retirement and many other benefits. All these benefits are paid for out of the labour insurance fund which is contributed to by the enterprise. No contribution to it is taken from the workers' and employees' pay packets.

KEEP ABREAST OF EVENTS IN CHINA

with

PEKING REVIEW

Informative articles, features, columns on current political, economic and cultural developments in China

Theoretical articles on China's democratic revolution, socialist revolution and socialist construction

Texts of major statements



Good wages enable the workers to buy many things which before liberation they could only admire in the store windows. Wireless sets, bicycles, clocks, leather shoes and wrist watches are no longer strangers to their households. To get adequate clothing for everyone in the family has long since ceased to be a worry.

Hanku has a score of clubs, libraries and reading rooms with a wide range of organized cultural activities. In addition, there are more than 20 playgrounds for ball games and other kinds of sports and recreational activities. A mobile cinema team gives excellent service.

People's Communes on the March

Latest News from Jianming

by CHIN NI

I HAD first read about the "Paupers' Co-op" in the book *Socialist Upsurge in China's Countryside*.^{*} This came out in January 1956. It told of the socialist co-operative movement that was then going full blast in rural districts. Among many other stories was this one about the "Paupers' Co-op" in the hills of Tsunhua County, in Hopei Province. It stuck in people's minds then because the co-op was first formed in 1952 by 23 of the poorest peasant households in the village with only 230 *mu* of land among them, no cart or farm tools and only "three-fourths of a donkey." Yet it had made good.

Three years later, by dint of hard work and frugality, it blossomed into a big co-op of 148 households and was well on the road to prosperity. The co-op had 6,000 yuan worth of common property, tools, carts, livestock and so on, 1,000 *mu* of cropland, terraced land planted to orchards and mountain land that had been afforested. Later in 1958 the co-op joined with 32 other co-ops to form the Jianming People's Commune.

From time to time the commune has been in the news. It was flourishing, but it was interesting to know just how things were going over there, and I went to pay it a visit in July. It took about four hours to get to Tsunhua by bus from Tangshan on the Tientsin-Shenyang line. High tension lines paralleled our road all the way from Tangshan to Hsipu, the centre of the commune, and it was clear that it was getting a sizable amount of electricity for power and light.

There were many other signs of prosperity: the croplands with their variegated hues in the valley bottoms; the saplings that clothed the hill slopes in the regular lines of new plantings, flourishing timber stands and orchards. The wheat had been gathered in. Millet, sorghum, maize and sweet potatoes were growing well. Among the trees I spotted chestnuts, walnuts, pears, apples and dates.

^{*} An English edition has been published by the Foreign Languages Press, Peking, 1957. — Ed.

Most of the Hanku workers were illiterate before liberation. Now the area is well on the way to wiping out this legacy of the past. Several thousand workers last year were studying in five spare-time schools and a workers' technical school. Hanku now has its prose and poetry writers, and its composers of *kuaiban* ballads and comic dialogues for stage performance. The rank and file contributed heavily to the writing of the history of the Hanku saltfields, a work of some 300,000 words which tells their story from the bitter memories of the oldest workers to the bright prospects of today.

The 5,000-household commune was formed in the autumn of 1958. Its members had unanimously agreed to call the people's commune Jianming, the real name of the "Paupers' Co-op." Its chairman is Wang Kuo-fan, the man who had led the "Paupers' Co-op." In this and other ways I found that the fate of the former "Paupers' Co-op" and the Jianming Commune were now inextricably bound together. The original Jianming co-op farm, now a production brigade of the commune, still retains part of its own special identity. It is an independent unit of management and business accounting within the commune, as are all the brigades under the rural people's communes. It is now called the Hsipu Production Brigade of Jianming.

There were several clearly visible ways in which the collective effort of the big commune had a decisive effect on Hsipu's prosperity. This was particularly striking in irrigation and mechanization.

Commune Irrigation

About five kilometres from Hsipu Village I saw one of the big achievements of the commune. This is a 200-metre-long dam of earth and rock that now holds back the waters of the largest reservoir in the commune. The Jianming Lake, besides serving as a flood detention basin, stores up sufficient water to irrigate 20,000 *mu* of farmland and raise quite a lot of fish. Just before the summer rains the commune had released the lake water and netted 4,000 *jin* of fish, a welcome delicacy for this formerly dry mountain district.

The commune had also constructed an ingenious underground reservoir. They had found a subterranean stream under a hill, built a dam of limestone and clay 6 metres high and some 350 metres long underground and so formed a covered cistern. This reservoir and Jianming Lake enable the commune to irrigate a considerable part of its 50,000 *mu* of farmland. Near by the cistern is a 50 h.p. electric pumping station that raises water to many terraced fields on the mountain slopes. These



The Commune's New Driver

Painting by Wang Shih

are the over-riding reasons why Jianming was little affected in the last two years when serious droughts hit this district.

Three-Legged Donkey Power to Tractors

Mechanization is another secret of Jianming's success. It has a fair-sized tractor park with tractors and implements, several diesel and other power units and lorries. The bulk of these were bought in the past three years. I was told that all the heavy field work on the bottom lands of the commune is now done by machine. To be appreciated this change has to be considered in relation to twelve years ago when most of the Jianming peasants had no draught animals and hauled their ploughs themselves. Two farmers pulling their hardest could only make a furrow ten centimetres deep. This was one thing keeping yields low.

The Jianming tractor station is not far from Hsipu. The day I was there was a slack one for the machines and about 20 drivers were using the opportunity to give their machines a thorough check-over. I struck up conversation with a strapping girl of just over 20. She is Chia Tsui-jung, a team leader. After leaving primary school two years ago she had been sent by the commune to a tractor drivers' class and became the first woman driver in Jianming. She was full of enthusiasm for her new job and the future prospects of mechanization. She also took her role as a woman pioneer in this field with great seriousness. Mechanization has enabled the commune to divert more of its manpower to other jobs such as stock breeding, forestry, fish breeding, collecting medicinal herbs, as well as to its various industrial undertakings.

Commune-Run Factories

About a kilometre from the Jianming Commune's headquarters is the valley in which most of its factories are situated. The only industry here in the old days was a forge set up in a disused temple by itinerant blacksmiths from the neighbouring province of Shantung. They came here to make and mend the peasants' simple tools. It was then a wild spot popular with the local

wolves. Now it is the site of a large food processing plant and a farm tool factory among others. The former makes some 30 products including preserved fruit, bean noodles, vegetable oils and wines made from the abundant local supplies of pears, apples and grapes.

The farm tool plant has six workshops producing machines and hand tools. It turns out all kinds of farm implements; it makes parts for the tractors, lorries, carts and other machines of

the commune, and of course does all the repairs to these machines. All of these workshops started with very simple equipment and most of their workers were trained on the job. Now the commune has a considerable number of well-qualified personnel: lathe turners, fitters, foundrymen, electric welders and carpenters as well as tractor and lorry drivers, surveyors and other technicians. This manpower is naturally at the call of the constituent units of the commune when needed.

In the Hsipu Brigade

Commune enterprises have greatly benefited the Hsipu brigade, the former "Paupers' Co-op," and all the other brigades. With a channel running from one of the big reservoirs, Hsipu is able to irrigate some 200 *mu* of its mountain land. All its land suited to mechanized farming is worked with the commune tractors.

With this backing from the commune, the Hsipu brigade has put a big effort in recent years into increasing its sown area and raising its yields of food crops. It has ameliorated the soil of many stretches of hill slopes to raise maize, potatoes and sorghum.

So far as yields are concerned the improvement has been steady. In 1957 its average per-*mu* yield of grain was 409 *jin*, almost double what it was in 1953. In 1958 the figure went up to 476 *jin*. In 1959 it rose by another 17 per cent, and in 1960 by another 8.6 per cent over what it was in 1959. From what I saw of things in July it seemed that Hsipu would get another good crop this year.

Practically every Hsipu household is raising pigs, rabbits, chickens or bees, but the porker seems to be a favourite sideline. This is because the pig is such an excellent manure maker, so much so indeed that the peasants say firmly: "The more pigs, the more manure and the bigger the yields!" And the bigger the yield, the more fodder and the more pigs, a truly "blessed circle." The brigade as a unit is also raising pigs, nearly the same number as are raised privately, and is therefore

able to give special help to households with this sideline, which averages out at about two pigs per household.

Standards of Living

When I asked how things had gone with the members of the Jianming People's Commune, I was answered with an old Chinese saying: "When the water goes up, so does the boat!" As production has increased so have the standards of living of the members. Sales at the Jianming general store and its 10 branches give as good an idea as anything of what this means. Its retail sales last year doubled and grew to five times what they were in 1956 when the advanced co-ops were formed. Bicycles, wireless sets, sewing machines and fountain pens were in big demand and still are. Commune members have bought more than 2,000 cycles, about one for every two households, but many are asking the stores to get more.

Bank savings are up. Taking the 1958 level as 100, the figure was 110 in 1959, 145 in 1960.

A small hospital, six clinics and large numbers of maternity centres form the core of Jianming's medical care. It now has two middle schools and practically all its school-age children are in its 43 primary schools. There are also the usual kindergartens and nurseries and other welfare services.

I met several of the original "paupers." Wang Sheng, one of them, lives in a new house built with his family savings in 1957. His two sons, both married, live with him and his wife. He won't pull down the old shack in which they lived before liberation because he thinks this is a good education and reminder to his children and grandchildren of the bad old days.

Theirs is a well-to-do home now. Wang, his two sons and daughters-in-law are all able-bodied and working. Their work points are converted into money units once a year but actually pay is distributed twice a year. Granny Wang is also busy: looking after the house, and tending two pigs, 12 chickens, and a small plot of vegetables and tobacco plants. The next big purchase of the family will be a sewing machine to be paid for out of their joint savings.

The Wangs date all their good living from the liberation which gave them land and a house in the land reform. Before that there was the time when they had nothing, and went begging on the roads of the county with Wang himself sightless from heavy labour and ill usage at the hands of the landlords. Medical treatment after liberation restored his eyesight and he looks forward to seeing many years of useful work yet.

"Our Old Chairman"

At the centre of Jianming activities you will always find the man they all call "Our Old Chairman," Wang Kuo-fan. Old, not because of his years, which are only 42, but because of the length of time he has been doing revolutionary work. He joined the revolutionary ranks at 16. Before liberation he was leading the local peasants in their struggle against the Japanese invaders and the Kuomintang reactionaries. After liberation he played a leading part in getting the first mutual-aid teams organized and then the farm co-ops and now the people's commune.

It was as a member of the Chinese Communist Party that he had asked the Party leadership to let him work

in his home district and help it on its way to socialism. The prosperity of the place today is the best tribute to the fine job he has done. By working hard and living frugally, under his leadership, the Jianming co-op made such progress and so typically embodied the determination of China's 500 million peasants to get rid of their poverty and backwardness. Chairman Mao Tse-tung himself praised their efforts as a model for the whole nation.

Wang Kuo-fan for all his success as the leader of Jianming's 26,000 members is as modest a man as you'll ever meet. Besides his work in the commune, he is a deputy to the National People's Congress, but he always finds time to take an active part in the farm work, always with his finger on the pulse of things.

I was eager to know what he would say were the "keys" to the Jianming people's success, and I asked him. He listed them as three: the guidance given by the Communist Party, reliance on the masses and consistent adherence to the policy of diligence and frugality.

As to Jianming's future, he said: "We're turning our hopes into reality step by step. We aim to turn these once poverty-stricken valleys into a place of beauty and abundance."

The September Issue of

CHINESE LITERATURE

A Monthly in English



Carries a special section in commemoration of the eightieth anniversary of the birth of Lu Hsun, founder of China's modern revolutionary literature. This section includes three of Lu Hsun's best stories, **A Madman's Diary**, **The New Year Sacrifice** and **Regret for the Past**, his prose poems and essays, together with reminiscences about Lu Hsun by his wife, Hsu Kuang-ping, as well as by his old friends. These articles give a vivid portrayal of Lu Hsun as a writer, a fighter and a friend.

PEKING OPERA

A Veteran Master

One of the outstanding events in the Peking theatrical world this summer was the visit of Kai Chiao-tien, that grand, 75-year-old master of Peking opera. The press hailed his performances as "sensational." His homecoming to his lakeside residence in Hangchow on September 4 was described as "a triumphant return laden with fresh fame."

Kai Chiao-tien, who was specially invited by the China Peking Opera Theatre to pass on his wealth of experience and knowledge of the dramatic arts to the artists and theatre-lovers of the capital, is the most famous living actor in the *wu sheng* (military male) roles in the Peking opera style. He began to study Peking opera at the age of eight and two years later made his debut on the stage. At the age of 30 his reputation was already firmly established. He and Yang Hsiao-lou were known as "Kai of the south and Yang of the north," representing the two leading schools in *wu sheng* roles. His best known role is that of Wu Sung, one of the 108 heroes of the classical novel *Water Margin*, who for centuries has been one of the most popular literary characters among the people. Kai Chiao-tien has worked for years to perfect his characterization of this hero, and raised it to such a pinnacle of artistry that he has been well called "the living Wu Sung."

Since liberation, the People's Government has attached great importance to preserving all that can be preserved of the art of this master. His *Springs and Autumns on the Stage* was published in 1958. These notes of an actor, told in an intimate style in the first person, is an oral account taken down by two writers specially assigned to this task. Together with Mei Lan-fang's *Forty Years on the Stage*, it has since been a "must" for every actor and actress. The work of recording his oral reminiscences is still going on, and more of his *Notes* will appear in print.

In 1956, when he was 70, the People's Government held a big celebration in Shanghai in honour of the 60th anniversary of his stage life and this

gave an added impetus to the study of his art not alone by Peking opera actors and actresses, but by other theatrical workers as well.

Many stories have been and are still being told and retold about him. He is said to have set himself a motto early in life: "Learn as long as you live." And he has abided by it for more than half a century. Today, at the age of 75 and in retirement, he never for one single day misses his daily training.

He has an immense capacity for learning. He respects and develops the great tradition to which he is an heir but his artistry is based too on a deep study of life. He finds a lesson in an ink painting of fantastic dragons writhing in the clouds, in the grace of a tree swaying lightly in the wind, and also in the majestic curve cut by an eagle as it swoops in the air. Misty smoke from an incense burner inspired him to create a dance movement as light and as beautiful. A huge stone lion that stands guard at the gate of a temple was the source of inspiration of a posture calculated to show a heroic character. . . .

His love for his art is boundless. Due to a faulty set, one night when acting the part of Wu Sung, he slipped and had his right leg broken as he leapt from a height. He regained his feet to stand on one leg for several long agonizing minutes until the fall of the curtain. He said later: "I may fall prostrate, but Wu Sung — never!" This happened when he was 47. The doctor who treated him somehow also made a slip and the bone was improperly set. This meant that he would have to quit the stage for good, for the demands on the limbs are especially exacting for a *wu sheng* actor who has to do the most intricate acrobatics with the greatest precision. Upon learning this piece of news, Kai Chiao-tien broke his leg again, this time deliberately on the bedstead and asked the physician to set it again — right this time. He was in bed and convalescing for months, but he still managed to carry on his daily training and rehearsals. When he

re-appeared on the stage, his performance was as fine as ever.

Such stories and anecdotes about him are legion. They all add up to one truth, so well expressed in the old Chinese saying and so apt in answer to the question as to how, at 75, he can still play *wu sheng* roles so well: "Ice three feet thick is not made by the wintry chill of one day."

In Peking this summer, Kai Chiao-tien performed in three plays which are the most renowned in his repertoire: *Wu Sung Upsets the Inn-keeper*, *The Village of the Vicious Tiger* and *The Heroic Revenge*. His few performances were given mainly to audiences of actors, actresses, directors, musicians, playwrights, journalists and others in the fields of art and literature. There were two public performances, but the overwhelming majority of the general public had to be satisfied with viewing them on television. They were later the subject of many articles on his art, reviews and comments, poems and drawings. The late Mei Lan-fang, that great master of the Peking opera, also wrote an appreciation of his art. This is doubly memorable for its valuable content and for the fact that, as far as we know, it was the last piece written by Mei Lan-fang before his death on August 8. He says of Kai Chiao-tien's art: "At a special performance I saw his *Wu Sung Upsets the Inn-keeper* once more. This Peking opera is a popular one that is quite often staged. But Kai Chiao-tien's superb acting was like a cup of extremely good tea made with water freshly taken from a sparkling mountain spring; it leaves a sweet after-taste;



Kai Chiao-tien in "Wu Sung Upsets the Inn-keeper"

or like a fine piece of calligraphy or painting that is seen again and again in memory." After analysing his acting, Mei Lan-fang, by way of summing up and giving a piece of sound advice to those who want to learn from Kai Chiao-tien, wrote: "The artistic advance of an actor generally goes through three stages: few, many, and few again. . . . In the prime of his life, Kai Chiao-tien's performance was always a breath-taking display of somersaults, fencing, acrobatics and stunts, which he did with consummate skill and great vivacity. That was the stage of 'many.' It was also the stage in which he made his reputation among theatre-goers and artistically was most creative. Today he has reached the stage of greater refinement and condensation, in which the 'few' excels the 'many.' But the stage of 'many' is important. It is usually at this stage that the path of an actor is determined. If he subordinates the techniques he has mastered to dramatic action and characterization, he is on the right track. Otherwise, he will be going in the wrong direction of courting his audience's favours by astounding them with an unneeded show of physical abilities. Once he has lost his way it is difficult for him to retrace his steps, and difficult too for him to proceed to the third stage, that of the 'few.' . . . The artistic path of Kai Chiao-tien is the best of examples for us."

During his two-month stay in the capital, Kai Chiao-tien was present at some of the many discussions on his art attended by leading actors and actresses not only of the Peking opera style but of others, too, directors and musicians as well as the younger generation in the dramatic arts and students. He also gave a number of lectures to his young colleagues. Always exacting in his demands, he also had warm words of praise for the good work the young people have done. He never failed to remind them to "make the utmost use of all the favourable conditions you have now. I had none of these in my time."

His listeners well understood what lay behind his words. They knew from their own experience how well they are provided for by the state and society; they have full security of work and all that can possibly be done to advance their art is done—including asking Kai Chiao-tien to come to

teach them in Peking. They know from Kai Chiao-tien's own writings how hard was the life of the actor in his day. There was a saying then: "I'll plough two *mu* of land for you, but I'll not let you into the secrets of my acting!" Economic insecurity and a reactionary morality put up barriers between people of the same profession.

Kai Chiao-tien, son of a poor peasant, led a life of poverty. As a child, he knew what hunger was. At the age of 11 when he was already one year on the stage and in a rice-eating country, he still did not know what rice looked like. Thus he says in his book: "They gave it to me to eat. I was afraid, and asked: 'Is this eatable?'"

But no hardship could prevent him from pouring his life's blood into the art he loved. Even in his thirties when he had already won wide public acclaim he was still forced to lead a life of hardship. Devoted as he was to his art, he refused to compromise with the commercialism of the theatre-owners whose sole aim was to make a profit. As a result he frequently found himself without a contract or a stage on which to perform. More than once he was forced to pawn his costumes to buy food for his family. Through all these difficulties he remained faithful to his conscience and his art. He relates the following episode in his book:

"Once when I was still young I fell out with the bosses, and for a long time had no chance to work. There were many mouths in the family to feed. I was compelled to sell or pawn my stage costumes. Then, after many failures, I finally got a chance of using a theatre where the actors were having a summer holiday. The opera to be staged was *Wu Sung*, but I didn't even possess a tunic for him. Later at a second-hand store I found one which I bought for a small sum. It had several holes in the front of one of the lapels. What was I to do about it? An idea suddenly came to me: How about thrusting in my left arm, and leaving the other half hanging loose? Turning the empty sleeve round on the right side, I knotted it to the edge of the damaged lapel. The holes were completely covered up. In this operatic episode, *Wu Sung* enters the stage after drinking at the tavern on the



As Huang Tien-pa in "The Village of the Vicious Tiger"
Sketches by Yeh Chien-yu

Chingyang Ridge. He staggers along in high good humour. The liquor and walk has made him flushed and hot. . . . So it just suits to let him come on with half a tunic hanging loose about him. . . . Nobody had ever done it like this before, and so the impression of the stage entrance of this *Wu Sung* was all the more outstanding.

"The box office returns were exceedingly good. This made the boss of the theatre feel that business could be even better and he set his mind to thinking up how to attract bigger audiences. His thoughts, after turning this way and that way, finally came to rest on *Wu Sung*'s costume. What do you think he suggested? He and his people thought that *Wu Sung*, dressed from top to toe in black, didn't look so nice. They wanted to make an investment by putting me into a white tunic, embroidered with lions dancing after rolling balls, matched with trousers embroidered in a similar pattern. Said he: Let's smarten up *Wu Sung*! But just imagine, would he look like *Wu Sung* any more in such a costume? Annoyed by this ridiculous proposal, I refused. . . and once again the contract came to an unpleasant end."

Kai Chiao-tien greeted the liberation with open arms. He enjoys every comfort in his retirement, and the great respect and love of the people. He enjoys a second youth. He has said: "I felt as if I were a 7- or 8-year-old boy with a red scarf tied round my neck." He has also said: "My parents gave me birth. But the Chinese Communist Party truly understands me."

SIDELIGHTS

Dial 05 for Information. 05 is "Information" in the directory, but besides answering inquiries about the weather, sports activities, postal queries, transport timetables, and what not, it has helped find 5,500 errant children over the past 18 months. This is not part of its official duties but, being in touch with public transport centres, parks and public places of entertainment, mainly to notify them of expected changes of weather, it can easily enlist their help in locating lost children.

No one in pre-liberation Peking would have dreamt of asking the telephone exchange to help find a lost child. It was as much as one could do to find a telephone. There were few telephones then and fewer still in the villages round about. Today, any member of the surrounding rural people's communes can phone a friend in the city if he knows his address and the number of the public telephone nearest his friend's home. The phone attendant there will take and deliver a message or arrange a personal call for a fee of 3 *fen*. Even if you only know the address, 05's elder brother 04 will tell you the phone number within 60 seconds.

You don't have to go far in Peking to find the sign with the red telephone on a gold background indicating a public telephone. These are found in booths at stations and post-offices, inside shops or restaurants, at pedicab stands, service centres located in nearly every *hutung*, and such like strategic points. Each has its attendant. This arrangement places a phone within easy reach of everyone. The charge for a normal call is only 5 *fen*.

The first telephone was installed in Peking sixty-one years ago. Today the automatic dialling phone is an indispensable part of Peking's busy life. 05 is making it even more indispensable. Locating a family wanderer is merely another facet of its service to the public in every possible way.

Fun on the Checkered Board. Young players are sweeping the field in the three board games of *xiangqi*, *weiqi* and chess. In *xiangqi* (Chinese

chess), Shu Fang-yu, a young employee of the General Pharmaceutical Works, won the Shanghai women's *xiangqi* tournament, the first of its kind ever held in that city. Yu Peichu, a 17-year-old school girl, was runner-up.

When top *weiqi*, *xiangqi* and chess players from all over the country met in a series of friendly matches arranged in Harbin recently, young players were also well to the fore. Young Li Yi-ting, 1958 national *xiangqi* champion, led with 7 wins and 4 draws. Hu Jung-hua, the 16-year-old reigning champion, placed fourth.

In chess, the national champion, 22-year-old Hsu Tien-li, topped the list with 5 wins and 3 draws. Another young Shanghai player, Huang Hsin-chai, was runner-up. Other promising young players are Li Chung-chien, a 22-year-old student from Kirin, and Yao Pai-hua, also in his early twenties.

After Harbin the players will tour other centres to match wits with local players and give exhibition matches.

Weiqi (Chinese checkers or *go*) players are preparing to meet a group of Japanese guest players this month. This ancient Chinese game has gained wide popularity since liberation among the younger generation. The forthcoming series of friendly matches between Chinese and Japanese *weiqi* players is expected to give its popularity a further big boost.

The "Hsiao" — Chinese Flute. Music lovers delight in the rich, pure tones of an ensemble of *hsiao* or bamboo flutes. Poets have compared their mellow, limpid quality to a chorus of birds. Employing no key mechanism the end-blown single tube *hsiao* is an ideal instrument for the musical be-

ginner and offers a wide range of effects for the master performer.

Light and easily made, the *hsiao* is a favourite with scholars and peasants. A very good *hsiao* is well within reach of even a modest purse. One of the most sought after makes is that fashioned by the Cheng family of Yu Ping County, Kweichow Province, from a special kind of bamboo that grows there. Fine Cheng *hsiao* are prized for their purity of tone and fine finish.

The skill of this craftsman family was recognized hundreds of years ago. For three centuries all *hsiao* used in the imperial orchestras were made by this family. They still make the best *hsiao*. Cheng Hui-cheng, a senior member of the family, today heads a state flute-making factory employing over a hundred master craftsmen. They have reinforced the traditional skills of the past with modern methods to turn out *hsiao* that are as superb as any ever made.

Boat of 100 Treasures. An unusual sampan plies the canals and streams crisscrossing Kochiao People's Commune in Chekiang Province. It is a "Pai Pao Chuan" — a Boat of a Hundred Treasures, as the commune peasants call it. A miniature department store and public service centre, it makes regular trips to all the production teams of the commune to save commune members the trouble of going to town on small, isolated errands such as to buy thread, get a new suit or dress made, take a haircut or sell chicken feathers. It has made more than 200 trips since it was commissioned in the autumn of 1959.

This cruising blessing has a crew of eight: a barber, a doctor, a buyer from the state trading organization, a tailor, seamstress and salesmen selling goods ranging from hairpins to hoes, spades and insecticides. Wherever it moors, the captain, a sturdy lass and also the manager of the town's draper's shop, and those members of her crew who can be spared, lend the peasants a hand in the fields. Trading is done in the noon-day break and after-work hours. Sales are brisk for the boat brings just the things the peasants want. The crew has made a careful study of their customers' needs in every season of the year and also does a large order business as well.



Woodcut by Lin Hang-shen

CHINESE PRESS OPINION

'Ware U.S. Plot in Laos!

While pretending a desire for a peaceful settlement of the Laotian question at the Geneva Conference, the United States is actually busily getting the Laotian rebels ready to restart the civil war. This is the gist of the latest exposure of U.S. schemes in Laos by Commentator in *Renmin Ribao* (September 9).

He notes that recently as many as ten to twenty battalions of the Laotian rebel troops have been employed in large-scale "mopping-up" actions against the Laotian people and in operations against the Laotian liberated areas. Thai and south Vietnamese troops have also taken part in these attacks. In middle and lower Laos, the rebels are massing forces for new military ventures as soon as the rainy season is over. A group of U.S. and high-ranking rebel officers have been rushed there to plot large-scale campaigns against the liberated areas. In neighbouring Thailand, large groups of U.S., Thai, Filipino and south Vietnamese troops as well as the remnant troops of the Chiang Kai-shek clique have been grouped in readiness to march into Laos at any moment for intervention and aggression on even wider scale. In addition to this, the Laotian rebels are pressganging civilians in the occupied areas to build up another twenty puppet battalions and expand the ranks of their so-called "commandos."

To cover up these sinister measures, Harriman, the U.S. delegate to the Geneva Conference, declared hypocritically on September 5 that the United States intended "to continue the work at the conference which has made some progress." In fact at the conference it stubbornly persists in pushing its plan to put Laos under international trusteeship and obstructs the drawing up of an agreement which secures the peace, neutrality and independence of Laos. Under U.S. instructions, Phoumi Nosavan has rejected a proposal from Souvanna Phouma for a meeting of the three Laotian princes in the Plain of Jars or in Na Mon to discuss the early formation of a coalition government.

Underscoring the meaning of these ominous signs, Commentator writes: "The imperialists and all reactionaries are blind followers of the cult of force. And the U.S. aggressors are the worst of the lot. They think that they will be able to turn the tables and avert defeat by giving more arms and men to the Laotian rebels. They are unwilling to acknowledge, nor can they ever understand, this truth: U.S. intervention has failed and the Laotian rebel troops have suffered defeat, not because of inadequate weapons and insufficient armed strength, but because the Laotian people have a will for peace, independence, neutrality, unity and democracy that cannot be diverted from its purpose."

Fascist Atrocities in S. Korea

The Chinese people share the anger of world public opinion stirred by recent events in south Korea, particularly the savage repressions of students and journalists. Voicing this sentiment, a commentary in *Renmin Ribao* (September 9) calls for an immediate end to such fascist measures as the arraignment of members of the South Korean National Students Federation for National Unification before a military tribunal and the sentencing of the staff of the south Korean paper *Minjok Ilbo*.

The commentary points out that members of the students federation

are Korean patriots who stood in the van of the popular uprising in April last year. By fighting against the criminal rule of those U.S. lackeys—the Syngman Rhee clique—and for the peaceful reunification of their homeland, they have won the hearty support of all the Korean people. It is precisely for this reason that they are being persecuted by the south Korean reactionaries, at the instigation of the U.S. imperialists.

The south Korean reactionaries have harassed patriotic journalists with the same savage spite. They sentenced the director, editors and correspondents of the *Minjok Ilbo* to death or imprisonment simply because the paper advocated the peaceful reunification of Korea and withdrawal of U.S. troops from south Korea. Since the coup d'etat in May this year, over 830 newspapers and 370 publishing houses in Seoul and other cities in south Korea have been attacked or closed down by the fascist military clique.

When Kennedy took office as U.S. President, he made it known that the U.S. Government would urge its puppets to carry out "social reforms" and practise "democracy," the commentary recalls. This was, of course, nothing but a trick to exonerate itself from the crimes its placemen perpetrated against patriots in all parts of the world. Now, the south Korean reactionaries have once again shown up the sort of "social reform" and "democracy" the Kennedy Administration advocates.

THE PASSING SHOW

Unbelievable But True

One of the fast growing magazines in the United States these days is a magazine called, simply "Mad." The following items give some idea of the reasons for its success.

Kissing: There is a school in Boston offering a 4-week course in kissing. Headed by a former university professor of psychology, it has a teaching staff of 62 and an enrolment of 1,200. Students hear lectures on aesthetics, the psychology of love, etc., in the first two weeks; the last week is devoted to practice. Tuition fee—\$165.

Weeping: A weeping contest was recently organized in Philadelphia. The winner, a nineteen-year-old, broke the world record. She wept for four hours.

Beautifying: To fit women's feet into the new U.S. style of sharp-pointed shoes, a Texas chiropodist is cutting off the top joints of little toes of hundreds of women. No need to worry that the short toe will prevent the wearing of sandals. "Just paint the polish over the shortened toe," he recommends. "It's all the same looking down."



Greetings to the Korean Workers' Party Congress

Teng Hsiao-ping, leader of the Chinese Communist Party's fraternal delegation to the 4th Congress of the Korean Workers' Party and General Secretary of the Party's Central Committee, made a congratulatory speech and read a message of greetings from the Central Committee of the Chinese Communist Party to the Congress on September 12.

Paying tribute to the glorious victories gained by the Korean Workers' Party in the great struggle against imperialism and for socialist construction, the message says that the Korean Workers' Party has proved itself to be the resolute defender of the interests of the Korean nation and people and the leader guiding the Korean people to victory.

The Korean Workers' Party, the message continues, has waged a steadfast struggle to safeguard the independence of their fatherland and to achieve Korea's peaceful reunification. The Chinese Communist Party and the Chinese people fully support the proposals for Korea's peaceful reunification put forward by the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and resolutely support the Korean people in their patriotic, just struggle against U.S. imperialism.

The Korean Workers' Party firmly opposes the imperialists' policies of aggression and war, actively strives for world peace, supports the revolutionary struggles of all the oppressed nations and peoples, and wages a persevering and untiring struggle to consolidate and strengthen the solidarity of the socialist camp and the international communist movement.

Dealing with the fraternal friendship between China and Korea, the message points out that China and Korea share the deepest feelings of solidarity. Whether in the struggle against the common enemy or in the cause of building socialism the two Parties and two countries have always co-operated, supported and helped each other. The unity of the two peoples

is based on the principles of Marxism-Leninism and proletarian internationalism; it has stood the test of long periods of struggle and is sealed by blood shed together.

Bulgarian National Day

Chinese Party and state leaders on September 8 sent a message of greetings to the Bulgarian Party and state leaders on the 17th anniversary of the Bulgarian socialist revolution.

The message pays tribute to the Bulgarian people who, under the leadership of the Bulgarian Communist Party and the Government of the Bulgarian People's Republic, have scored new achievements in socialist construction, and in the struggle against the imperialist policies of war and aggression and to maintain peace in the Balkans and throughout the world.

Speaking at a reception given by the Bulgarian Charge d'Affaires ad interim A. I. Stoev in Peking, Vice-Premier Chen Yi hailed the daily growing friendship between the Chinese and Bulgarian peoples and peoples of other socialist countries.

Speaking about the recent conference of non-aligned countries, the Vice-Premier pointed out that peoples in Asian, African and Latin American countries have been made deeply aware from their own experience that "without independence and freedom, the defence of world peace is out of the question, and that without smashing the shackles of imperialism and colonialism, coexistence is out of the question." "This is history, this is reality, this is the truth," he added.

Sino-Guinean Treaty Anniversary

September 13 marked the first anniversary of the signing of the Sino-Guinean friendship treaty. On this occasion, Chairman Liu Shao-chi and President Sekou Toure exchanged messages of greetings hailing the further

development of friendly relations between the two countries.

Renmin Ribao also greeted this anniversary in an editorial describing the signing of the treaty as of great historic significance.

Sino-Ethiopian Cultural Talks

The Chinese Government's representatives and the visiting Ethiopian cultural delegation signed a joint communique in Peking on September 5.

The two sides expressed firm support for the Asian, and particularly, the African peoples' just struggle against imperialism and the new and old colonialisms. They expressed their desire for further development of friendly political, economic and cultural co-operation between China and Ethiopia.

After giving warmly received performances in Peking, Hangchow and Shanghai, the Ethiopian cultural delegation concluded its 3-week visit and left China on September 9.

Chinese-Japanese Journalists' Statement

A joint statement was issued by the Chinese journalist delegation and four Japanese journalist and publication workers' organizations on September 5 in Tokyo at the close of the former's 24-day visit to Japan.

The statement puts on record the identity of view reached by the Chinese and Japanese journalists after a full exchange of views on the problems now facing them. Both sides expressed determination to support each other in their struggle against their common enemy — U.S. imperialism.

Dealing with the present international situation, the two sides hold that since Kennedy's assumption of power, the imperialist and colonialist forces headed by the U.S. have engaged in aggression everywhere, created tension everywhere and suffered defeat everywhere. But the more defeats they suffer the more frantic and adventurist they become. Journalists should all the more resolutely expose the war schemes of the imperialists, intensify the struggle in defence of world peace and to prevent imperialism from launching war.

They called on journalists and newsmen of the various countries, and of

the Asian and African regions in particular, to continue to work for the convening of the Afro-Asian journalists' conference according to the agreement reached at the Baden gathering last year.

Field Marshal Montgomery in China

Visiting China for the second time, Field Marshal Montgomery arrived in Peking on September 6. He was guest of honour at a banquet given by Vice-Premier Chen Yi on the following day.

Speaking at the banquet Vice-Premier Chen Yi expressed his con-

fidence that Field Marshal Montgomery's present visit will play an even greater role than his first visit of last May in promoting mutual understanding and friendship between the Chinese and British peoples.

Replying, Field Marshal Montgomery recalled that he had put forward three principles to ease world tension. These are: (1) there should be one China whom everybody recognizes; (2) there should be two Germanys whom everybody recognizes; and (3) all armed forces everywhere should withdraw to their own national territories. He explained that when he said China,

he meant "the People's Republic with its Government in Peking and not the Taiwan set-up which is in no way qualified to represent China and never has been. I have always considered that Taiwan is part of the People's Republic."

Field Marshal Montgomery, accompanied by Vice-Premier Marshal Chen Yi visited the Peking Workers' Gymnasium and also enjoyed some exhibition games given by top table tennis players of China which he described as "superb." He is now making a tour of north China.

WHAT'S ON IN PEKING

The following programme is scheduled for the coming week, but is subject to change.

PEKING OPERA

▲ **THE NINE DRAGON CUP** A valuable jade cup of the Ching court is stolen by an outlaw to show his skill. When the outlaws learn that the life of an innocent guard is threatened because of the loss, the cup, after many adventures, is returned to the court. China Peking Opera Theatre production.

▲ **SHE SAI-HUA** Tsui Lung and Yang Chi-yeh, suitors of beautiful She Sai-hua, fight a duel to decide the issue. She Sai-hua loves Yang and helps him to win. But it is only after a series of exciting adventures that the two lovers are finally wed. China Peking Opera Theatre production.

▲ **THE BATTLE OF CHANGSHA** An episode from *Romance of the Three Kingdoms*. Besieging Changsha, Kuan Yu's chivalrous conduct so moves his opponent, General Huang Chung, that he spares Kuan Yu's life. Changsha finally falls to Kuan Yu's forces. Produced by the Peking Opera Company of Peking.

▲ **YU TANG CHUN** Yu Tang Chun, a famous Ming courtesan, wrongly accused of murder, is saved by a scholar, whom she helped when poor but who has become a high official. Produced by the Peking Opera Company of Peking.

SHANSI OPERA

The Shansi Opera Youth Troupe is now visiting Peking. Below are some of the operas they will perform.

▲ **BEATING THE GOLDEN BOUGH** A traditional comedy. Kuo Ai, son of Kuo Tzu-yi, a minister of the Tang court, slaps his wife, the emperor's daughter, to prove her haughtiness. The princess complains to her emperor father. But apprehensive that a family quarrel may affect his relations with his minister, he doesn't punish Kuo Ai, but apologizes to him for his daughter's impertinence.

▲ **HAN YEN** Han Yen, born of aristocratic family, in the latter part of the Yuan Dynasty, falls in love with a young hunter, and rejects the rich marriage arranged by her wicked step-brother. To end feudal oppression and attain her own happiness, she joins a peasant uprising.

▲ **CHIN HSIANG-LIEN** A Sung Dynasty story. An ambitious scholar, after gaining wealth and position, tries to murder his wife and children, obstacles to a new advantageous marriage. He is brought to justice by Pao Cheng, a just magistrate.

KUNQU OPERA

▲ **LI HUI-NIANG** Li Hui-niang who has fallen into the clutches of Chia Shih-tao, a

corrupt prime minister, is killed by him, because she shows her admiration for a patriotic young scholar, Pei Yu. After her death her spirit saves Pei Yu from the minister's vengeance. A new production of the North Kunqu Opera Theatre.

PINGJU OPERA

▲ **BITTER HERBS** A play about the Shantung peasants who rose against oppressive traitors and landlords during the War of Resistance Against Japan. China Pingju Opera Theatre production.

MODERN OPERA

▲ **RED GUARDS OF LAKE HUNGHU** A dramatic account of how the people of Lake Hunghu supported the revolution despite the white terror during the Second Revolutionary Civil War. Central Opera and Dance Drama Theatre production.

▲ **HSIAO ERH-HEI'S MARRIAGE** Adapted from Chao Shu-li's short story. A young couple in the countryside wins happiness in a struggle against feudal ideas. Central Opera and Dance Drama Theatre production.

MODERN DRAMA

▲ **THREE DOLLARS; A TROOP OF MONKEYS; DEATH OF A FAMOUS ACTOR** Three short plays about the old society by Ting Hsi-lin, Sung Chih-ti, Tien Han respectively. Peking People's Art Theatre production.

▲ **UNDER A SHANGHAI ROOF** A famous play by Hsia Yen. The life of five families who share the same roof in Shanghai; an exposure of the fate of millions under the KMT regime. China Youth Art Theatre production.

▲ **THE SALESWOMEN** A comedy by Lao Sheh describing how three young girls and a housewife free themselves from household drudgery by becoming saleswomen. They have to overcome the petty-bourgeois contempt which members of their families have for their new jobs, but finally all learn what socialist service means to the people. Peking People's Art Theatre production.

▲ **THE PEACH BLOSSOM FAN** The story of the tragic love of a courtesan for a scholar who betrays his love and his allegiance to the Ming Dynasty for wealth and position in the service of the Ching. Produced by the Experimental Modern Drama Theatre of the Central Drama Institute.

▲ **CABAL AND LOVE** Schiller's masterpiece staged in Chinese. China Youth Art Theatre production.

FILMS

▲ **RED SUN OVER KOSHAN** A colour film version of a modern opera. August First Studio production. A dramatic story

HIGHLIGHTS OF CURRENT ENTERTAINMENT, EXHIBITIONS, ETC.

of the rising of the Tibetans against feudal serfdom and of how in helping to put down the rebellion of the reactionaries in the Khamba area, they took their destinies into their own hands.

▲ **CHIN NIANG-MEI** Film version of a Kweichow opera. Joint production of Shanghai Haiyen Studio and Kweichow Studio. Chin Niang-mei, a Tung girl, fights against feudal oppression and avenges the death of her beloved.

▲ **TACHI AND HER FATHERS** Changchun Studio production. Tachi is adopted by an old man of the Yi people who has saved her from slave-owners. Later, finding her own father, she becomes the happy daughter of two fathers.

▲ **ATAMAN KODOR** A Soviet feature film in colour. A romantic and exciting drama of a peasant revolt against landlord-tyranny oppression in Moldavia. Dubbed in Chinese.

▲ **SANBO MILL** A Soviet-Finnish joint production. A fairytale about the struggle between good and evil. Dubbed in Chinese.

▲ **STREET OF THE POOR** A Bulgarian film about the underground anti-fascist activities of two college students on the eve of Bulgaria's liberation. Dubbed in Chinese.

▲ **GOD WITH US** A U.A.R. feature film about the success of the July coup d'état in Egypt in 1952. Dubbed in Chinese.

EXHIBITIONS

▲ **MUSEUM OF THE CHINESE REVOLUTION** 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. (no admittance after 4 p.m.) Daily except Mon.

▲ **MUSEUM OF CHINESE HISTORY** 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. (no admittance after 4 p.m.) Daily except Mon.

▲ **MILITARY MUSEUM OF THE CHINESE REVOLUTION** Open every Tues., Thurs., Sat. and Sun. 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.

▲ **LU HSUN MUSEUM** 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. (no admittance after 4 p.m.) Daily except Mon.

▲ **"BEAUTIFUL BULGARIA" PHOTO EXHIBITION** 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. Daily till Sept. 19. At Wenhua Hall in Palace Museum.



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