

# PEKING REVIEW

14

April 6, 1962

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*Music, Theatre and Other Features*

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報

A WEEKLY MAGAZINE OF CHINESE NEWS AND VIEWS



SELECTED WORKS  
OF  
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A WEEKLY MAGAZINE OF CHINESE  
NEWS AND VIEWS

April 6, 1962 Vol. V No. 14

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## ROUND THE WEEK

### Tree Planting Time

Spring afforestation is in full swing in most parts of the country. Szechuan Province, on the upper reaches of the Yangtse River, leads the way with nearly 3 million *mu* of land there newly planted with trees. In Hunan, Hupeh, Kiangsi and other provinces along the Yangtse, afforestation is also proceeding apace. In the north, where spring comes later, the work is getting under way. But all in all, tree planting is going ahead much faster this spring than last. In some places almost double the number of trees have been planted.

Planting the tree that is right for the soil and climate and meets local needs is of first importance in successful reafforestation. Kiangsu Province on the eastern seaboard has enlarged its forest area this year, 75 per cent of the newly afforested acreage is planted to quick-growing poplars, black locusts and other timber trees. Northern Anhwei plans to make itself self-sufficient in the production of pit-props and has planted the needed timber trees on thousands of *mu* this spring around the Huainan and Huaipei coalfields. Over the past ten years, forestry departments there, in conjunction with the collieries and local people, have afforested tens of thousands of *mu* with elms and locust trees. The older stands are already providing a plentiful supply of pit-props.

The planting of oil-bearing trees has received special attention this year. In Szechuan, China's major tung oil producing province, tung oil trees were planted on more than half of the 3 million *mu* of land afforested this spring. Suiting the tree to the locality, large numbers of oil tea, walnut and other trees were set out in many parts of Hopei.

Many areas are carrying on with long-term shelter belt schemes and the planting of stands to anchor the soil or simply to give shade and beautify natural surroundings. People's communes in Fukien have planted many hardy, fast-growing trees in the coastal areas, along rivers and near reservoirs. These trees will serve

as windbreaks against typhoons, help in soil conservation and protect the farmlands.

In Sinkiang in the far northwest, shelter belts of elms, oleasters and mulberry trees have been planted against the wind and sandstorms that prevail in that region. In Toksun County, just south of a gap in the Tianshan Mountains, a place known as the "home of the winds," a shelter belt covering tens of thousands of *mu* has been established. The county was struck last May by one of the severest windstorms in years, but very little damage was done to the spring wheat crops in the protected area, and a good harvest was garnered. This year the people's communes, production teams and forestry farms there are strengthening the shelter belts with more trees to give greater protection from the wind and sandstorms that still ravage the treeless parts of the county.

### Playwrights in Conference

The nation's leading playwrights, directors, dramatic critics and theatrical workers recently gathered in Canton to discuss the writing of modern Chinese plays and operas. They delved into several of the most important questions in play-writing today.

At plenary sessions of the conference and in many small group meetings, its participants discussed methods of further stimulating the diversity of styles—the blossoming of a hundred flowers—in the writing of plays and in subject-matter and style; the portrayal of the new era of the people; dramatic conflict and the depiction of contradictions among the people; truthfulness to life and artistic veracity; the characteristics of operas and plays for children; national characteristics in modern plays and operas; and stage techniques. Another group of questions tackled was how a dramatist should go into the midst of the masses and get materials for his writing, raise his ideological level and enrich his artistic skill. Tien Han, Tsao Yu, Lao Sheh, Chin Shan, Tsiao Chu-yin, Huang Tso-lin and many other well-



Planting Trees

Woodcut by Hsia Feng

known playwrights and directors took part in these discussions.

Underlining the importance attached to the conference by the Communist Party and People's Government, Premier Chou En-lai and Vice-Premier Chen Yi made a special trip to Canton to meet the dramatists and they also spoke during the discussions.

By all reports the three-week conference was a most stimulating one. Its results will surely be made evident in the further course of development of the theatrical arts in China.

### Improving Alkaline Soil

How can soil be prevented from going alkaline? And when it has gone alkaline, how can it be made fit for farming? These were two of the major questions dealt with in twenty-six papers read at a recent conference in Tsinan, Shantung Province.

Sponsored by the Chinese Hydraulic Engineering Society, the conference was attended by experts and scientists from both central and local government departments and institutes of higher education in several provinces, as well as peasant farmers who had done notably well in ameliorating alkaline soils.

China's farmers have reclaimed huge areas of alkaline soil in the past ten years and more and learnt a lot about preventing alkalization. In reclaiming such land in the northern parts of the country and along the eastern coastlines, the rich practical experience of the peasants has been combined with

the latest scientific findings in this field. Many big mechanized state farms now flourish on what only a few years ago were desolate tracts of saline wasteland.

The conference listed the main factors leading to the formation of alkaline soil and incrustation with alkaline salts. These include: the presence of harmful soluble salts in the soil itself; flatness of the land (which is characteristic of the coastal regions and plains formerly flooded by the Yellow River); the slow movement of sub-surface water; rapid evaporation; alternation of dry spells and heavy rains; and inadequate irrigation and drainage. To counter-act these factors and remove and prevent the reappearance of harmful alkaline salts in the topsoil, the conference also proposed a number of basic measures. These include adequate irrigation and drainage; adoption of proper farming methods to improve soil content and texture and reduce surface evaporation; the levelling of farm plots and the building of ridges in the fields; increased use of organic fertilizer and better all-round field management.

The results of the conference are now being relayed to all departments concerned, state farms and rural people's communes. Here at the basic levels the findings of the conference are being eagerly discussed and applied.

### New Courses in Old University

Peking University, one of the oldest seats of higher learning in China, has

introduced over 40 new courses in the natural and social sciences, in literature and philosophy this term. Some of these courses pertain to whole new fields of scientific study and many experienced professors have made intensive preparations for them; others are very specialized courses in which certain professors have done research work; still others are general in their coverage and are aimed at broadening the students' knowledge.

Biophysics, a new branch of modern biology, has been introduced together with genetics and cytology of both the Michurin and Morgan schools. Lectures in the latter two courses are given by specialists both in the university and from outside; free contention between the two schools is encouraged. "Homotopy theory and fibre spaces" and "theory of connection," two highly specialized courses, are new additions to the curriculum for senior students in mathematics this term.

"Contemporary bourgeois economic thought" and "history of Chinese economic thought" have been introduced for students of economics. The former deals critically with "Keynesian economic theory," "people's capitalism" and "econometrics."

Several new courses have been added to give students a more solid grounding in literature and philosophy and to broaden their views. They include courses in selected works of classical and modern Chinese literature, a bibliography of the history of Chinese philosophy, an outline of Chinese Buddhist philosophy, a history of Japanese philosophy and existentialism. Courses in dialectical logic and Hegelian logic and philosophy, and in Western aesthetics are also being given this term. These courses have greatly enriched the university's curricula.

Founded in 1898, Peking University has grown enormously in the years since liberation. In 1948, the year before liberation, it had only some 300 faculty members and 2,000 students. At present there are more than 2,000 on the faculty and over 10,000 students in 17 departments in the arts, natural and social sciences. While few of its students came from worker or peasant families in the past, today half of the students are of worker or peasant origin.

# Another Test for the United States

Following is a translation of the "Renmin Ribao" editorial of April 3 on the disarmament question. Subheads are ours. — Ed.

**T**HE 17-Nation Disarmament Conference in Geneva is attracting widespread interest and attention among peace-loving people all over the world.

Attending the conference are socialist countries, Western military bloc countries and non-aligned countries. The participation of non-aligned countries of Asia, Africa and Latin America in the conference is a development of positive significance in international disarmament negotiations and will have a beneficial effect on the talks.

At the very beginning of the conference, the Soviet Union put forward a draft treaty for general and complete disarmament under strict international control. At the same time, in its memorandum explaining this draft, the Soviet Government also proposed that before the completion of negotiations on the treaty, action be started right now to implement a series of measures including the immediate cessation of all nuclear tests—measures which will help reduce international tension—so as to create conditions favourable to disarmament.

The Soviet Union and other socialist countries have always worked energetically for general disarmament. In the postwar years, the Soviet Union has repeatedly put forward disarmament proposals and programmes and has actually implemented such measures as unilaterally reducing its armed forces, cutting down its military expenditures and ceasing nuclear weapons tests for a period, for the purpose of promoting the realization of disarmament. This fully demonstrates that the Soviet Union is sincere in seeking disarmament.

## Why No Progress at Geneva?

More than two weeks have elapsed since the convocation of the Geneva disarmament conference. What has happened in this period shows that the United States is still maintaining its stand of obstructing and delaying general disarmament. On the question of the cessation of nuclear tests, it has again and again insisted, as a prerequisite, on so-called "international control" aimed at collecting military intelligence inside the Soviet Union, and has attempted to use the resumption of nuclear tests as a means of blackmail. On March 23, U.S. Secretary of State Rusk openly threatened that "the United States

will be forced to resume tests of its own" if the conference in Geneva fails to reach agreement on a firm treaty to halt all tests on U.S. terms next month. This U.S. stand is preventing the conference from achieving any substantial progress.

There is no lack of indications that the United States has adopted a policy of obstructing and drawing out the conference. Long before the conference began, the press in the United States repeatedly let it be known that Washington would drag the conference out. Last February, the *American Magazine of Wall Street and Business Analyst* as much as said that U.S. policy towards the disarmament conference was to carry on the arms race energetically while not letting up on its preaching about disarmament. *The New York Times* on March 14 carried a Geneva dispatch by C.L. Sulzberger on the prospects of the Geneva conference, which prophesied "dismal and redundant polemics" there. In fact, there is nothing "dismal" about such "redundant polemics" as far as the U.S. Government is concerned. As an article by Frankel published in the same paper on March 18 said: Today, Kennedy's representatives in Geneva were "determined not to negotiate but to talk," and "talk, or, as it is diplomatically called, maintaining the lines of contact and communication, has been elevated by the President to a strategic concept. . . . It is talk to keep the other at bay, to reduce the dangers of accident and to let you get about your own business." In other words, this means that the United States is seeking to use a long-drawn-out disarmament conference to gain time and intensify its arms drive and war preparations.

## China's Consistent Stand

To bring about general disarmament is a common aspiration and common struggle of all peace-loving peoples; it is a component part of the struggle of the people of all countries to preserve world peace. The Chinese Government and people who have consistently pursued a peaceful foreign policy, have always advocated general disarmament and given energetic support to the Soviet proposals for disarmament which are beneficial to world peace. On its own initiative, the Chinese Government has also adopted a series of measures and considerably reduced its armed forces. The Chinese People's Volunteers took the initiative in withdrawing from Korea in 1958. The Chinese Government on several occasions proposed the signing of a peace pact of mutual non-aggression among all countries in Asia and around the Pacific, in-

cluding the United States, to turn this entire region into a zone free of nuclear weapons. These sincere efforts made by China to promote general disarmament and consolidate peace in Asia and the world have won the sympathy and support of all peace-loving countries and peoples.

All Communists and peace-loving people the world over regard general disarmament as an important target of the struggle in defence of world peace. The Statement of the Meeting of Representatives of the Communist and Workers' Parties in 1960 points out, "In the opinion of Communists the tasks which must be accomplished first of all if peace is to be safeguarded are to stop the arms race, ban nuclear weapons, their tests and production, dismantle foreign war bases and withdraw foreign troops from other countries, disband military blocs, conclude a peace treaty with Germany, turn West Berlin into a demilitarized free city, thwart the aggressive designs of the West German revanchists, and prevent the revival of Japanese militarism."

It is obvious that so far as the socialist countries are concerned there are definitely no obstacles to the accomplishment of the above-mentioned tasks. Everybody knows that these countries cherish peace. They are opposed to foreign encroachment on their territory; at the same time, it is unnecessary, impossible and impermissible for them to encroach upon a single inch of the territory of other countries. On the other hand, the difficulty in realizing general disarmament, as the Moscow Statement points out, is due to "the stubborn resistance of the imperialists." The statement says, "Hence it is essential to wage an active and determined struggle against the aggressive imperialist forces with the aim of carrying this programme into practice. It is necessary to wage this struggle on an increasing scale and to strive perseveringly to achieve tangible results—the banning of the testing and manufacture of nuclear weapons, the abolition of military blocs and war bases on foreign soil and a substantial reduction of armed forces and armaments, all of which should pave the way to general disarmament."

### Record of Past 15 Years

Disarmament talks have been going on for 15 years since the end of the war, yet so far no agreement on matters of substance has been reached. This is because the imperialist powers headed by the United States have advanced one unreasonable condition after another and put forward pretexts to obstruct the disarmament talks, while at the same time stepping up the arms drive for war. During the 15 years from 1948 till the present, the direct military expenditure of the United States has multiplied nearly sixfold. The postwar U.S. governments have always taken the so-called "deterrent" based on nuclear weapons as a support for its foreign policy and manufactured and developed such weapons on a large scale. Up to September 1961, the United States had conducted 153 atomic and hydrogen weapon tests. The United States has rigged up military blocs, established military

bases and stored nuclear weapons in various parts of the world to encircle the socialist countries. According to data published in *The New York Times*, the United States maintains altogether 900 overseas military bases including 250 major ones, in 35 countries and regions around the socialist countries. The number of U.S. troops stationed abroad exceeds one million. The United States has also carried out armed intervention and military provocation in many parts of the world and even launched aggressive wars. In a word, it is the fundamental national policy of the United States to persist in the armament drive and war preparations and in committing aggression and waging war against other countries. This policy of the United States runs completely counter to the desire of the people of the world for general disarmament and confronts the whole world with an ever expanding arms drive and an increasing threat of war.

### U.S. Frenzied War Preparations

Since Kennedy assumed the presidency, he has spared no efforts in using dual tactics to deceive the people of the world and lull their vigilance. While paying increasingly vigorous lip service to disarmament, he has also been stepping up his arms drive and war preparations.

As soon as he took office, Kennedy asserted that the "strongest hope" of the United States was the "creation of an orderly world where disarmament will be possible." However, what his administration has done in the past year and more has been to make three additions to its original military budget, raise direct and indirect military expenditure to 80 per cent of total government expenditure and increase the strength of its armed forces by 300,000 men, thereby showing the "strongest" zeal in the arms drive.

Kennedy in his State of the Union message this year said: "World order will be secured only when the whole world has laid down these weapons which . . . threaten our future survival." However, in the same message and the Budget message made after it, he called not only for "further significant increases" in the capabilities of U.S. strategic forces, with nuclear weapons as the mainstay, but also for a "substantial increase" in U.S. conventional forces, both in numbers and equipment. The U.S. Government, while actively preparing for an overall nuclear war, is intensifying its preparations for limited wars with conventional weapons, including the so-called "special warfare" designed to crush the national-liberation movements. It has openly declared that it is the national policy of Washington to conduct such limited wars.

Kennedy has repeatedly stated that the United States "has long urged an effective worldwide end to nuclear tests." However, the United States conducted 24 underground nuclear tests from last September to March 31 this year; and lately it announced that a series of atmospheric nuclear weapon tests would be conducted starting from the latter half of April. Kennedy, in his statement of March 29 on the Geneva nuclear test ban talks, arrogantly

declared that unless "international inspection" (which will facilitate U.S. spying activities) was established, the United States "cannot at this time enter into a treaty without the ability and right of international verification." He has also shamelessly used U.S. resumption of nuclear tests in an attempt to blackmail the Soviet Union and the Geneva disarmament conference.

Kennedy has piously stated that the United States could not adopt a "passive attitude" towards the disarmament talks but would make "genuine effort" for them. However, he arbitrarily rejected the Soviet Union's proposal for the holding of a conference of government heads of 18 countries to discuss disarmament and up to the present, in an effort to obstruct and undermine the disarmament talks, has persisted in his preposterous stand of broad "international control" and "verification" of armaments and not of disarmament. He even openly declared that in certain circumstances, the United States might have to start a nuclear war. This is not all. The Kennedy Administration has also openly launched an armed attack against Cuba, provoked the so-called "Berlin crisis," blustered about its readiness "to fight when necessary," tried hard to enlarge its armed intervention in Laos, and dispatched troops to south Viet Nam to take part in "an undeclared war."

What has happened in the past and is happening at present has proved that the sole cause of the arms race and the menace of war is the policies of war and aggression of imperialism headed by the United States. The struggle for general disarmament is a struggle against these imperialist policies. This is a sharp, fierce struggle between the world forces of peace and imperialism. In this struggle, it is necessary to thoroughly expose the imperialist policies of war and aggression, and mobilize the masses of the peace-loving people of all countries in waging a resolute and head-on struggle against them.

### **For General Disarmament and for National Liberation**

It is precisely for this reason that all struggles for peace and against the imperialist policies of aggression and war, and the struggles of all the peoples under imperialist enslavement and oppression to oppose imperialism and gain national independence and liberation, help to promote the realization of general disarmament. The imperialist policies of aggression and war are the cause of both the arms race and of colonialist aggression. Therefore, the struggle against the imperialist arms race and for general disarmament and the struggle against imperialism's colonialist aggression and for national liberation support and complement each other. The struggle of oppressed nations and peoples the world over for liberation has steadily weakened the strength of imperialism. They represent a powerful force in the current worldwide opposition to the imperialist policies of aggression and war. Thus, while striving for general disarmament, it is necessary to strengthen constantly the

struggles of all those peoples seeking national independence and liberation.

We are in favour of holding disarmament talks to achieve general disarmament. At a time when socialism has become stronger than imperialism, when the demand of all peace-loving people of the world for disarmament is mounting steadily and when the imperialist policies of war and aggression have met with one setback after another, it is possible, through struggle at disarmament talks and pressure from various sides, to force imperialism headed by the United States to accept certain disarmament agreements (on the banning of nuclear weapons, for instance). If the imperialist countries can be compelled to accept even a partial agreement on disarmament and guarantee its implementation, that will benefit the cause of world peace and we will welcome it. Moreover, through disarmament negotiations the people of the world can be enabled, from the different attitudes and stands adopted by the various sides, to further distinguish right from wrong and to see clearly the true nature of imperialism — warlike and opposed to disarmament. This will make the people of the world unite and strengthen their struggle.

### **China's Conditions for Undertaking Obligation**

The Chinese Government has repeatedly declared that China advocates and is in favour of general disarmament, looks forward to effective agreements being reached at the disarmament talks and is willing, without the least hesitation, to shoulder such international obligations as it agrees to undertake. But, just as the Chinese Government has time and again emphatically stated, it will not undertake any obligation regarding any disarmament agreement or other international agreements in the discussion of which no Chinese representative has taken part and which no Chinese representative has signed.

All peace-loving people of the world hope that through the sincere efforts of the socialist countries, non-aligned countries of Asia, Africa and Latin America and all other countries which genuinely love peace, the Geneva conference will achieve practical results in promoting general disarmament. However, the people of all countries know from the facts of life that imperialism is engaged in a frenzied arms drive and war preparations and will certainly put up a stubborn resistance against general disarmament. That is why, in order to bring about practical results in general disarmament, it is necessary steadily to strengthen the socialist camp, the national-liberation movements and the revolutionary movements of all peoples, unite all peace-loving countries of the world, and firmly expose and oppose the aggression and war preparations of imperialism headed by the United States. Only on this basis can the struggle for general disarmament yield practical results. The Chinese people, together with all the people of the world who cherish peace, will continually strengthen their struggle against U.S. imperialist policies of aggression and war, break the stubborn resistance of imperialism and make sustained efforts for the realization of general disarmament.

# "New Okinawa Policy" Hoax

by JEN TA

OKINAWA is the biggest and most important of the Ryukyus—the string of islands in the Pacific lying between Japan's Kyushu and China's Taiwan. It also buzzes with warlike activity. Day in, day out, U.S. war planes roar onto and off its airfields, warships anchor in its harbour, guns and rockets boom while troops on field exercises trample its good earth. Today, 16 years after it was seized from Japan during World War II, Okinawa is still under U.S. occupation and has become a major military redoubt and jumping-off point for U.S. aggressive moves in the Far East.

Of late Okinawa has been the scene of an even bigger military build-up and more feverish military activities. All this is directly connected with the Kennedy Administration's policy of intensified aggression in the Far East and suppression of the people's movements for national liberation in Southeast Asia. The March 5 issue of the U.S. journal *Newsweek*, for example, declared, "As America's military commitment to [south] Vietnam has grown, the 'staging area' of Okinawa has surpassed [south] Korea as the scene of the greatest concentration of U.S. military power anywhere in Asia." Reporting on the spot, its correspondent revealed, "Official secrecy makes it hard to say exactly how many Americans are being staged through Okinawa on the way to Vietnam and other points in Southeast Asia. But an engineers battalion has been sent to Thailand, helicopter units have been shipped to Saigon, and large but unspecified numbers of marines and special forces men ["anti-guerrilla units" — *Ed.*] have gone to Laos and Vietnam." The correspondent also told of Okinawa-based U.S. paratroopers performing drop manoeuvres in south Korea and the Philippines.

Yet, in the midst of all these warlike activities, the U.S. President in the latter part of last month suddenly announced that the United States would "ease" its rule in Okinawa and the other Ryukyu Islands.

Kennedy pledged himself in this same statement to give the Ryukyu people "a larger measure of self-government," to allow for a "bigger Japanese contribution" to their economic development and even to recognize Japanese sovereignty over the Ryukyus. In the meantime, U.S. officials hastened to add that all this is a "new U.S. policy" on Okinawa.

## Old Policy, New Fraud

But how *new* is this new policy? Apart from the facts mentioned above—which alone make nonsense of the talk of easing U.S. rule—the Washington statement makes it crystal clear that this "new" policy is simply a new fraud.

In the first place, the insistent demand of the Japanese people, both in Okinawa and throughout Japan proper, for the return of the Ryukyus to their rightful owner—the Japanese people—has once again been turned down. True, Kennedy has been forced to recognize the Ryukyu Islands as "part of the Japanese homeland," but this recognition is purely nominal. The actual return of the islands to Japan is put off indefinitely on the outworn excuse of safeguarding "the security interests of the free world." The Ryukyu bases, Kennedy said, "are of the greatest importance" in maintaining U.S. "deterrent power" in the Far East and in helping its "allies in the great arc from Japan through Southeast Asia." The Japanese people were therefore asked by Kennedy to face the situation "in a spirit of forbearance and mutual understanding." In plain English, this amounts to: "I'm keeping your islands because I need them and you just be patient about it."

As to self-government for the Ryukyus, this is just so much empty talk. Up till now, though these islands have a legislature, they have been under the absolute rule of the U.S. military. Under the new policy, the chief executive of the Ryukyu government is to be nominated by the Ryukyu Legislature, but he still has to be appointed by the U.S. High Commissioner. The latter can also pick his own "chief executive" if he finds the nominee unacceptable. Besides, the High Commissioner (the commanding general of the U.S. forces) can veto all bills affecting military security, foreign affairs and U.S. property. As to civil affairs, they will continue to be under the charge of his principal assistant, the Civil Administrator, the only difference being that he is now a U.S. civilian instead of a U.S. military man. So, the U.S. military authorities are still the overlords of Okinawa.

## Colonialism With Frills

Stripped of its frills, the "new Okinawa policy" is nothing but the same old imperialist policy of U.S. colonial domination. The frills—like Kennedy's nominal recognition of Japanese sovereignty—are simply there to distract the Japanese people's mounting feelings against U.S. imperialism and soften up their movement for the recovery of the islands. Particularly at this moment, when it is stepping up its war activities in the Far East, Washington seeks to lull the vigilance of the Japanese people.

Kennedy has drawn up the present policy because all previous attempts by the U.S. occupation authorities to frustrate the demand of the Ryukyu people to be reunited with Japan have failed. Outright repression, bribery and attempts to set the Okinawan people at loggerheads have



# "Island on a U.S. Base"

U.S.-occupied Okinawa is one big army camp. It is the "home" base of more than 40,000 U.S. troops: 18,000 marines, 11,000 ground forces, 10,000 airmen and 2,000 navy personnel.

It has been turned into the biggest U.S. nuclear war base in the Far East. It has at least a dozen U.S. rocket launching sites (some indicated on accompanying map). More are under construction. Among these are launching sites for the Mace-B, a guided missile which U.S. officials openly described as being directed against China and the Soviet Union. Also stationed on the island are nuclear weapon carriers such as F-100 fighter bombers and B-52 heavy bombers, as well as the notorious U-2 spy planes.

In fact there are so many military bases on Okinawa that, in the words of one Kyodo correspondent, "one feels that the island is built on the bases, not vice versa."

U.S. occupation and war preparations have brought endless trouble and intolerable humiliation to the Okinawans. Some 300,000 of the island's inhabitants have been deprived of their land because of military construction. U.S. military exercises and atrocities committed by U.S. troops are a constant threat to the Okinawans. One U.S. jet aircraft which crashed into a school building three years ago killed 27 pupils instantly and wounded more than 100.

Okinawa's economy is also under U.S. control. Its electricity and waterpower, and finance and trade are all in the hands of the occupation authorities. Today, the island is so geared to U.S. military needs

that its formerly prosperous sugar-cane industry, fisheries and farming are rapidly declining and the population is forced to take construction jobs or menial work on the base. Because food and consumer goods are U.S.-imported, prices on the island are four times what they are in Japan proper.



not stopped the movement for reunification with Japan. That movement has, in fact, become linked with the Japanese people's struggle to recover the Ryukyus and abolish all U.S. military bases in Japan. This united movement has grown so powerful that, bowing to public pressure, the Ryukyu Legislature and the Japanese Diet recently adopted separate resolutions demanding the return of Okinawa to Japan. The Ryukyu resolution pointed out that continued occupation of Okinawa by the United States constitutes a violation of the U.N. Charter and runs counter to the U.N. resolution calling for independence for the colonies.

## Japanese People Say: "No"

Right after Kennedy's statement, the political spokesmen of the pro-American monopoly capitalists raised loud hosannas about the "big advances" represented by the "new" U.S. policy on Okinawa and talked about "Japan-U.S. co-operation for Okinawa's welfare." This is not surprising since what they are concerned with is not Japan's national interests but how to sabotage the Japanese people's patriotic movement against U.S. imperialism. The Ikeda government, loyal U.S. lackey that it is, chose to be completely silent about the recovery of Okinawa in

its statement of administrative policy issued in January this year. During the recent visit to Japan of Robert Kennedy, U.S. Attorney-General and brother of President Kennedy, the ruling Liberal Democratic Party in its "recommendations" actually expressed its readiness to sell out Okinawa to the U.S.

Japanese public opinion, however, takes a different stand. It rejected the "new" U.S. policy and exposed it for what it is. *Akahata*, organ of the Japanese Communist Party, declared in its editorial that Kennedy's "new" policy shows that the United States is counting on a permanent occupation of Okinawa, that it has no intention of returning Okinawa to Japan or relinquishing administrative rights over the island. Senaga, Chairman of the Okinawan People's Party, denounced the "new policy" as a "fraud." The head of the Foreign Affairs Department of the International Bureau of the Japanese Socialist Party Morito Morishima condemned U.S. use of the pretext of Far Eastern "security" to justify its occupation of Okinawa while refusing to take any positive step to relax tension in the Far East. This, he said, shows that the U.S. is determined to hold on to the island permanently.

In brief, the Japanese people say an emphatic "no" to the "new U.S. policy" on Okinawa.

# West German Militarism on the March

by HSI LIN-SHENG

THE rearming of West Germany is posing an increasingly serious threat to the European situation. Recent developments show that the West German militarists, backed by the United States, are doing all they can to break down the treaty restrictions on army building and armaments. They are expanding the Bundeswehr and demanding modern heavy weapons. Bonn has not only got tactical atomic weapons but is pressing hard for strategical nuclear weapons. Economically, a considerable proportion of its industries is being geared to the expansion of arms production on an ever larger scale. Its rising atomic industry is energetically preparing to produce atomic and missile weapons. From their strengthened position, the West German militarists are openly embarking upon military expansion, seizing military bases abroad and scrambling for military hegemony. All this indicates that the revival of West German militarism has reached a still more critical stage.

## Conventional and Nuclear Armament

In line with U.S. imperialism's global strategy, the West German militarists are going all out to prepare for conventional as well as atomic warfare. Bonn's Defence Minister Strauss has claimed that West Germany must keep "a balance system of nuclear and conventional weapons" and its "conventional forces had to be strengthened more than at present." Last year, when the Kennedy Administration, on the pretext of the "Berlin crisis," pressed West Germany and its Western "allies" for a big expansion of their conventional armaments, Bonn promptly lengthened its military service from 12 to 18 months, and raised its military budget by 50 per cent. By early this year the strength of the West German Bundeswehr had increased to 375,000 men. This greatly exceeds the number stipulated in the original plan — 350,000 — which is to be reached in 1963. At the present time, West Germany has 8 army divisions, 10 naval detached squadrons and 7 air force wings in the NATO forces. This forms the biggest military unit at the disposal of the aggressive NATO bloc. According to the MC-96 plan formulated by the United States and the NATO bloc, there will be 12 West German divisions by 1963 with six more to follow. By then, the strength of the Bundeswehr will be increased to 300,000. At the same time, it will establish a 100,000-strong regional armed force not to be placed at NATO's disposal. Bonn will also establish its own military command. This, as the West German newspaper *Neue Rhein Zeitung* pointed out, will make the Bundeswehr "the army with the strongest fighting capability in the West's cold war outpost."

After forming the Nazi Wehrmacht, Hitler boasted he had built this military machine from the first with the purpose of fighting. Today Adenauer also trumpets that it will be possible to strike in the East when the West German divisions are ready. The only difference is that today the West German Bundeswehr, backed by the United States, is being armed with such weapons of mass destruction as atomic rockets. Today West Germany has formed two "Nike" and "Matador" missile battalions. Another ten "Honest John" missile battalions have been or are being formed. West Germany possesses 230 "Honest John" missiles and 68 nuclear installations. According to the MC-96 plan, West Germany's atomic armament will be further expanded. It is provided that all West German divisions will have atomic weapons while its battalions will get U.S. intermediate-range missiles of the latest design. In 1962, West Germany will form 40 ground force and 28 air force missile battalions. It will build 100 launching platforms for intermediate-range missiles. Four warships capable of firing missiles are under construction. Last year, Bonn spent more than 400 million marks for purchase of U.S. "Pershing" missiles which can carry atomic warheads. These missiles will reach West Germany before the end of this year. As *U.S. News and World Report* said, "West Germany . . . as a result of close co-operation with the U.S., is already a nuclear-armed country."

The wildly ambitious West German militarists, however, are still unsatisfied. They bitterly resent their failure so far to secure direct control of the atomic weapons; they are struggling fiercely to get nuclear weapons into their own hands. Not long ago, Adenauer declared that West Germany wanted not only carrier rockets but, like its "allies," must have atomic weapons at its disposal. Strauss also claimed that the possession and control of nuclear weapons is the measure of West Germany's sovereignty. A recent West German General Staff memorandum asserted that without atomic weapons it was inconceivable for West Germany to restore its national frontiers, that the Bundeswehr must have the same effective armaments as its allies, and that atomic weapons were absolutely indispensable.

## Establishment of Arms Industry

The West German militarists, besides purchasing the latest military equipment from abroad through foreign aid, are now moving to manufacture their own modern weapons and rebuild their arms industry. This trend to large-scale militarization of West Germany's economy actually began in 1958.

Up to that time West German monopoly capital was more interested in pushing ahead with the growth of its

civilian industry and foreign trade expansion; it was prepared to rely mainly on foreign countries for its military equipment. Throughout this time West German monopoly capital was scoring heavy successes on the capitalist world market and it dared not openly arm itself with atomic weapons. But a big change came about in 1958 when the United States and the Bonn government decided to go in for atomic armaments in a big way. Since then West German military orders have been placed mainly with home firms. In the four years since 1958, the West German Government has placed 60 per cent of its military orders with local firms. Today about 15 to 20 per cent of West Germany's labour force is engaged directly or indirectly in arms production. West Germany's revived aviation industry is producing military aircraft at full speed; its shipbuilding industry, having received military orders worth 4,800 million marks, is building some 40 submarines and other warships, both large and small. West Germany's automobile and electrical engineering industries too have in hand military orders worth more than 1,000 million marks. Beginning last year, the latest-type tanks started leaving the assembly lines in West German plants. West Germany has also turned out its first batch of F-104 (Starlight) jet fighters, its first batch of "Sidewinder" guided missiles and its first post-World War II submarine.

To date, West Germany, still under treaty restrictions, has not been in a position to make atomic weapons. But, its monopoly capitalists, substantially helped by the United States, are devoting considerable resources to the research and production of atomic weapons and guided missiles. Besides reaching an agreement on exchange of information in atomic technology, the United States has issued licences to West Germany to make American-designed guided missiles. It is providing Bonn with raw materials such as uranium and heavy water, for manufacture of atomic bombs. By making good use of its partnership with the United States and other Western countries, West Germany is catching up the advanced technical level necessary to develop its own nuclear military power. Today, with licences issued by the United States, West Germany and five other West European countries are jointly engaged in the manufacture of "Hawk" and "Sidewinder" guided missiles. West Germany is now taking part in the West European satellite launching projects initiated by Britain and France. In the field of atomic weapons, it has 75 government financed research institutes engaged in the study of atomic technology and atomic physics. Already West Germany has established six atomic centres; it has altogether eight laboratory atomic reactors in operation, more than 100 plants turning out radioactive isotopes, and over 280 plants taking part in the study and production of nuclear equipment. In co-operation with the United States, Degussa, a West German firm, has worked out a new method for the enrichment of uranium needed in the manufacture of atomic bombs. All these efforts are going ahead in conformity with the demands of Strauss, who states: "As far as the armed strength of [West] Germany is concerned, the technical conditions for equipping the country with strategic nuclear arms now exist."

This national drive to militarize the West German economy is closely connected with the development of the West German economic situation in recent years. Since

1957, with the deepening capitalist economic crisis, the intensified scramble among the capitalist countries for markets, West German monopoly capital is finding overseas expansion more and more difficult. The rate of West German economic expansion has slackened considerably. To give it a new "push" and to ensure high monopoly capital profits, West Germany, while actively continuing its foreign expansion, is doing its utmost to find markets for its new arms production. The United States and the NATO bloc have speeded up West Germany's atomic armaments and relaxed the prohibition on West Germany manufacturing modern weapons. This has given West German monopoly capital the green light to go into arms production on a huge scale.

The drive towards militarization of West Germany's economy follows inexorably the law of its capitalist economic development. It is also the material basis of the intensified foreign expansion of West German militarism. Although today arms production does not yet make up a very large proportion of the West German economy, it will become an increasingly important factor in the development of its economy with the deepening of its economic contradictions and intensified foreign expansion. West German militarism will become increasingly more aggressive in nature.

### **Energetic Foreign Expansion**

History has shown that a German militarism that has revived its political, economic and military strength will be out to seize spheres of influence abroad, to wage a new war of revenge. Hitler aggressively seized *lebensraum* abroad. The Bonn militarists in West Germany today, on the pretext of having only a limited space, have already obtained military bases in nearly a dozen countries including Britain, France, Italy, the Netherlands, Belgium, Spain, Greece, Turkey, Norway and Denmark. They are planning to set up bases in Portugal, the Sahara, Kenya and Canada. Ex-Foreign Minister of the Bonn government Heinrich von Brentano epitomized these West German ambitions when he declared: West Germany will become the dominant power of Western Europe by the end of 1966. In the words of the Prime Minister of Bavaria, this "dominant power" means this: We, he said, do not allow people to have any misunderstanding on this point that we want eventually to occupy Europe. With such demands, West Germany could one day become the flash-point of the world.

The revival of West German militarism is taking place under the wing of U.S. imperialism. In pursuance of its strategy of preparing to fight both atomic global war and limited wars, the Kennedy Administration is pushing forward the atomic and conventional armament of West Germany even more energetically than before, treating it as the mainstay of strength for its policy of aggression in Europe. This is what makes the situation in West Germany all the more dangerous. The revival of German militarism engineered by the United States and the ruling clique in West Germany in the postwar years shows clearly that imperialism is by nature aggressive and warlike, and that its nature cannot change even though the balance of forces in the international arena today is unfavourable to imperialism. The people of the world must heighten their vigilance against this evil, they must struggle unremittingly against the war schemes of the United States and West German militarism.

# KWANGTUNG REVISITED

by CHEN CHI-YU

*The author is Chairman of the China Chih Kung Tang, one of the democratic parties in China, and a deputy to the National People's Congress. The following article gives his impressions during his inspection tour as a deputy to the N.P.C. — Ed.*

SINCE the middle of last October, I have spent three months and travelled 3,000 kilometres visiting more than 20 counties in Kwangtung, south China. My itinerary included Canton, Swatow, Foshan, Chanchiang and Taishan. I saw a great many towns and villages, and inspected many rural people's communes, factories and other enterprises. The great successes in construction, the remarkable changes in the outlook of the people and the growth of fine standards of social ethics are among the major achievements over the past years in my home province.

As there are too many things which are deserving of special mention, in the following I limit myself only to a few of the notes in my travelogue.

## No More the "Sweet Potato" County

Haifeng, my home county, east of Canton, was known as the "sweet potato county," because this tuber was a major item of food of the population. Even in the best years, its grain output was sufficient only for nine months in a year. Before liberation, in one four-month drought in 1943, more than 40,000 people, about one-tenth of the total population, starved to death. In one small village which was hard hit by this disaster, 160 of its 200 and more adults and children died of hunger. It still shocks me today whenever I recollect the scenes of horror and misery of those days.

Haifeng was ravaged by floods too in those days. They were even more frequent than drought, occurring sometimes twice or three times in a single year. Each time the floods brought death and destruction, carrying away crops and damaging or destroying other property. Add to this, oppression under the yoke of corrupt officials, landlords and imperialists and you will understand why so many Haifeng people, desperately seeking a decent living, went overseas. More and more farmlands were left to the weeds.

Since liberation things have taken a radical change for the better in the county. Take water conservancy for instance. The building of 30 reservoirs and 180 kilometres of dykes along the coast has freed the county from the threat of ordinary floods and drought. These engineering

works are playing a big role not only in this but also in improved irrigation and power generating.

In 1960, rice cultivation took its normal course despite an eight months' drought. Thanks to the abundant supply of water now available, large tracts of saline soil along the coast have been transformed into crop-bearing land, big areas of farmland have been switched from single to double cropping and irrigation extended to an ever larger area. This has boosted grain yields and output and Haifeng now produces more than what can be consumed locally.

The county town has changed too. It was a market and consuming centre without a single machine tool before. With the establishment of a farm machinery works, a tractor station and many other industrial enterprises, it has now become a centre of production.

These and other economic advances have brought about enormous changes in the people's standards of living and outlook. People here don't think any longer of going overseas to seek a living. Life is getting steadily better. The fishermen of Shanwei, who with their families used to lead a floating life on the water all the year round, have generally settled down on the land. As they put to sea to fish now, they can look back at their brick homes looking clean and sunny with well-plastered walls and green-painted window frames. Their new fishing villages have tea houses, co-op stores and primary schools.

The thriving scenes in modern Shanwei reminded me that in his Industrial Plan Dr. Sun Yat-sen designated the building of a new fishing port there. The reactionary Kuomintang government talked a great deal about this but all it did was to create a new office staffed with scoundrels, who were interested only in squeezing money from the people but had not the slightest intention of helping the fishing industry. Thanks to the guidance of the Communist Party, this Sun Yat-sen idea is now being turned into reality.

I found the folks in my home county full of optimism. They love their home county more than ever and are confident that, under the leadership of the Party, they can forge ahead along the socialist road and build Haifeng into a still happier place. Such a situation as exists today is beyond my expectations in the past.

Everything in my home area has changed — the mountains, the rivers and above all the people. Fertile farmlands have appeared on former barren mountains; the waters are at the service of man and people once hard pressed by life have become outstanding workers in building socialism. Thinking of the past, comparing it with

what I have seen achieved today and looking forward to the happy future, I cannot but be deeply moved.

### Battle Against Typhoon

Kwangtung was hit by serious natural calamities in the past three years. In the fights against them the mass of people and their cadres showed initiative, a tough heroism and determination to beat all obstacles in the way of socialist construction.

Last September a destructive typhoon hit Swatow. Some 60,000 *mu* of farmland were flooded, a great part of the city was inundated and many houses were damaged. In the low-lying areas the flood waters stood 1.4 metres deep. There is no doubt that things would have been much worse had it not been for the firm guidance of the Party in preparing against just such an emergency and the staunch and energetic efforts put forth by the Party and government cadres and the masses.

The municipal government gave timely warning of the arrival of the typhoon and made all the preparations possible. In the midst of the storm, the mayor himself was there working with other typhoon fighters in waters breast high, helping those forced to evacuate. After intense work for the whole night through, more than 30,000 inhabitants living in the low-lying districts and their belongings were transferred to safe ground. Here they were provided with living quarters and relief funds, food and clothes which tremendously lessened their losses and difficulties.

Thanks to the good arrangements made by the local authorities and the inspiring example set by Party members, the people eagerly joined in the effort to wipe out the aftermath of the storm. In a matter of ten days, the dykes along the coast were repaired. Within a fortnight all the city's factories resumed production and they overfulfilled their planned output targets for October. When I arrived in the city only a bit over a month had passed since the big storm, but there was already little trace of its damage.

This sent my memory back 40 years when a typhoon hit the Chaochow and Swatow areas. As the then government had made no preparations at all in advance, the people suffered terrible losses. No less than 29,000 people died and the death toll in the city of Swatow alone amounted to more than 2,000. After the disaster I was made one of the leading figures in the Office of Rehabilitation, but the corrupt warlord government showed not the slightest concern for the people and some unscrupulous officials even filled their own pockets in the name of relief. The work of rehabilitation went on for years, but it took years for production to recover. In 1947, two years before liberation, another typhoon less strong than last year's hit Swatow but more than 10,000 people were made home-



Returned overseas Chinese at work on their farm

Sketch by Yeh Chien-yu

less. Rice prices doubled immediately. Everybody was deeply concerned about the future.

These examples vividly illustrate the differences between now and the past. The natural calamity that hit Swatow last year was worse than that which had occurred before liberation, but due to foresight and preparation the actual damage done was less. The damage was swiftly overcome; construction quickly went ahead and there were none of those horrible scenes of deserted fields and houses and a multitude of emaciated corpses. Even the hardest-hit areas were able to keep the people's life on an even, steady keel. Two social systems yield two different results. The advantages of the socialist system are there for all to see.

### Prosperous Villages

I would say I am quite familiar with the life of the peasants, returned overseas Chinese and dependents of overseas Chinese in Kwangtung. However, it was really beyond my expectation that they could all be living as I found them after serious natural calamities for three successive years. They have maintained and achieved these good living standards because they did well in battling and overcoming natural calamities and pushing production ahead regardless. I found them all keen on raising farm yields and output.

I may cite the Guanshan Production Brigade of the Shanghai People's Commune as an example. This brigade in Chenghai County averages two-thirds of a *mu* per head; this means a fairly small holding in relation to population, but they get the maximum from their limited farmland by a series of measures such as land contouring, soil amelioration and irrigation. Consequently, their land is well armed to withstand the onslaught of drought or waterlogging. Even when a drought lasting five months occurred in 1960, the brigade still raised its grain output. Earnings from sidelines also helped a lot to improve the

living standards of members. With more surplus grain on hand, they are keeping more and more chickens, ducks and geese.

When I posed the question of why they all work with such energy and joy, they attributed it mainly to three basic things: the people's commune system, the Party's policy and its full implementation. The Party's policy brings the peasants' enthusiasm for production into full play. They show an immense interest in farm work because the general and specific policies of the Party have gripped their imagination. Here lies the reason for the prosperous rural scenes that I saw even in the wake of natural calamities. In all the places I visited, grain output showed increases to different extents over those in 1960. The peasants were busily preparing for the spring ploughing and the air was full of hope.

### Returned Overseas Chinese

The life and work of the returned overseas Chinese are well arranged. They have settled down and taken up work suited to their abilities, so they can dedicate their full knowledge and strength to building their motherland. Many have distinguished themselves in their work and have been elected outstanding workers by their colleagues. There are also others who have become deputies to the people's congresses of different levels, members of the national and local committees of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference, deputy governors, deputy mayors or county heads.

The dependents of overseas Chinese are leading a secure life and the rural people's communes all take good care to see that they get the kind of work best suited to their skills.

My tour also included visits to three farms in Huahsien, Lufeng and on Hainan Island, where more than 10,000 returned overseas Chinese have settled down in new houses. Their children are provided with good facilities for education. The farms have their own nurseries, kindergartens, primary and middle schools and agricultural schools. Older people who have no one to depend on live happily in the homes of respect for the aged. These farms also have their clinics and hospitals, cinemas and song and dance ensembles.

When overseas Chinese came back in the old days, they had to face all sorts of oppression. But now no longer. The aged are taken good care of, the young people get a fine chance to work and the children are properly educated. What happened to Wu Tse-cheng's family is by no means an individual case. His parents, his five children, and his three younger brothers and sister all depended on him and his wife for guidance and a living. This couple was constantly at their wit's end to support such a big family abroad. Once, in 1948, he himself came back but had to leave again because of the exactions imposed on him by the reactionary government.

All the Wus returned in 1960 and are doing fine. His parents, both now approaching 70, get a subsidy from the farm, his brothers and sister are either studying in schools or at work, all his five children are getting a free education in primary schools. He works in the supply department of the farm. All his former worries about keeping

the family have been dispelled. For him it is clear that a prosperous, strong motherland is the most reliable support of the returned overseas Chinese.

The returned overseas Chinese have created great wealth for the country. The site of the Xinglong Overseas Chinese Farm on Hainan, for instance, was a rich, tropical but unopened area before liberation. The returned overseas Chinese have made a big effort here in the past decade. They have reclaimed 100,000 *mu* of farmland, planted 170 kinds of tropical industrial crops, built living quarters with a total floorspace of 30,000 square metres and established many factories. Xinglong today is a prosperous farm bustling with activity. There is no doubt that the returned overseas Chinese and the dependents of overseas Chinese will play a still bigger role and make still greater contributions to the cause of advancing socialist construction.

During my three-month tour to the rural areas which beat back natural calamities, to the home counties of overseas Chinese which garnered bumper harvests, to new cities and the mountain regions of our national minorities, from the many moving things I saw or heard in talks with workers, peasants, cadres, returned overseas Chinese and city people, I got a better understanding of the situation of our country. Things are going all right with us; the future is bright under the leadership of the Communist Party. What I saw demonstrates the unmatched superiority of the socialist system and the correctness and great vitality of the three red banners—the general line for building socialism, the great leap forward and the people's communes.

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# TARIM SKETCHES

by KUO PENG

*Between the Tienshan and the Kunlun ranges is the Takla Makan Desert, the great bowl of desiccated, sun-scorched sand that lies at the heart of southern Sinkiang. After he barely escaped from it with his life on a journey in the 1890s, the Swedish adventurer Sven Hedin called it the "Sea of Death." Around and through its western section, however, curves the Yarkand River flowing north from the Kunlun; meeting the Aksu and other tributaries, this forms the Tarim River flowing from the northwestern section of the bowl to the lake of Lop Nor in its central-eastern section. The sketches published below and written by Kuo Peng deal with this remote area of China. He has been associated for 20 years with the P.L.A. detachment he describes. — Ed.*

**I**N the winter of 1949, as the victorious tide of revolution swept through the country, units of our people's army, moving fast, entered Aksu, the strategic point on the northwestern edge of the Tarim Basin. At the other side of the Takla Makan Desert in Khotan (Hotien), at the bidding of the British and U.S. imperialists, the remnants of Chiang Kai-shek's forces in Sinkiang were making plans to dig in and stir up a counter-revolutionary revolt on the frontier. To nip these plots in the bud, it was necessary to free Khotan immediately, get rid of these criminals and bring peace and harmony to Sinkiang.

The normal way to Khotan would be to take the caravan road circling round the Takla Makan to the west via Kashgar. But this would take many days and it would be impossible to hide the advance from the enemy. There was no time to lose; a bold decision was soon made: take a short cut, march straight south across the desert; cross the Tarim River, penetrate the dread Takla Makan and take the enemy in Khotan by surprise.

## Short Cut Across the Desert

The 15th Infantry Regiment was chosen to carry out this difficult and dangerous enterprise. There was, of course, no road to follow in the desert and its men began their march into the "Sea of Death" groping their way forward by compass. The hardships increased as the journey progressed. Water was a constant source of anxiety. Thirst was ever present. The sky, overcast with a haze of dust, held the constant threat of the terror of the desert sandstorm. When horses collapsed, men took over their burdens. When shoes wore out, men wrapped their feet in rags and plodded on. The last drops of water were reserved for those who needed it most. For 17 days the unit struggled forward until it finally reached the edge of the Khotan oasis. The enemy, taken by surprise, was swiftly defeated. The great mission which the Party and people had entrusted to the heroic 15th was fulfilled.

This was the first time in human history that men and horses in such numbers had crossed the Takla Makan.

At that time the War of Liberation had not yet come to its end, but no time was lost by the Communist Party in making arrangements for opening a new front — only this time it was against Nature. With the restoration of peace, the men of the P.L.A. became a great force in the work of socialist construction in Sinkiang. Now, more than a decade later, the same troops which marched so valorously to liberate southern Sinkiang have become the main force in reclaiming the Tarim Basin.

## Changing Tarim

The first news of the extensive work being done by the P.L.A. to reclaim this area came in 1958. Since then, many leading comrades have been to these Tarim lands. Comrade Wang Chen, an Eighth Route Army production chief and commanding officer in the Yenan days, and now Minister of State Farms and Land Reclamation, joined the reclamation work. He travelled all the way from Peking to the Tarim and took a turn on the land as a tractor driver. At harvest time, Comrade Wang En-mou, First Secretary of the Sinkiang Autonomous Regional Committee of the Chinese Communist Party, came from Urumchi making his rounds of the farms and lent a hand in bringing in the crops. When Comrade Saifudin, Chairman of the People's Council of Sinkiang, came to see the place, the Tarim River was in flood and river traffic temporarily suspended but this couldn't deter him. He made a risky crossing of the river in a small boat to visit the new farms. Other visitors to Tarim included Tao Shih-yo, Commander of the Production and Construction Army Corps. When I heard of what they had seen I could no longer restrain my impatience to see this new world and my old acquaintances there. I set off there at the first opportunity.

I arrived at the edge of the desert on a spring morning, but soon it was as hot as noontime in mid-summer. In the sunlight, the glare from the golden sand both dazzled and scorched. The hot breeze was sending me into a doze but just as I was about to close my eyelids, our car sped through a gap in the sandhills and an entirely new world suddenly leapt into view — sparkling canals, dark green forest belts, the levelled trails of tractors, three of which were moving side by side towards the distant horizon. The rows of trees that formed the shelter belt, poplar and *Elaeagnus angustifolia* extended in many straight lines as far as the eye could see. It was just as if a giant, using this great landspace as his sheet of paper, had drawn on it countless coloured straight lines running from left to right, from top to bottom, with a monster brush dipped in silver and green paints. The large, coloured, equilateral rectangles — formed by these lines of canals and shelter belts — each about 1,000 *mu* in area, were covered mostly by olive green wheat crops or emerald green cotton sprouts. Some of these squares were filled with glistening blue sheets of

water, ready for the transplanting of rice seedlings. In other squares, tractors were moving in formation, rumbling importantly and belching out blue exhaust smoke.

### City of Happiness

As our car drove on under the shade of the trees with their white blossoms, many new settlements flashed before my eyes: this, said my guide, belongs to the Sixth Company, that to the Fifth Detachment; the one we had just passed was the Youth League Farm and finally he announced that we were coming to the first town built on the southern bank of the Tarim River, the City of Happiness.

On the opposite bank of the Tarim is Aral, another newly created town. But both of them are so new that they cannot be located even on the latest maps published. Visitors usually call them Tarim's new-born cities but the comrades there prefer to refer to them as two new towns, partly out of modesty, partly because they have more ambitious plans for the cities they are building. Nevertheless, compared with small towns elsewhere in the country, these are rather out of the ordinary. At Aral, for instance, there is a restaurant, department store, bookshop and post and telecommunication office such as the general run of towns may not have. In addition, there is also a hospital with several hundred beds, a college, the Tarim College of Farming and Land Reclamation, another institute engaged in agricultural, forestry and livestock breeding research and an eye-catching Guest House.

West of the City of Happiness, on the upper reaches of the Tarim, a huge reservoir was under construction. This too was out of the ordinary, not an artificial lake like other reservoirs I have seen before but a veritable man-made sea. On completion, this would provide enough water for millions of *mu* of arable land south of the Tarim. Unlike other huge reservoirs built by damming a gap in mountains which, to save engineering work, are used as retaining walls, this reservoir set on the vast expanse of the Tarim Basin floor itself is formed by dams that rise from the ground like the Great Wall itself. The sluice-gate, tall and imposing as an ancient castle, was already completed while the circular dam has already been raised to a height which makes the retention of water possible. Work on it is still going on but it is already serving the people well.

Standing atop the sluice-gate, I commanded a fine view of this artificial sea. The wind stirred up roaring waves on it. As they fell, I was astonished to see an expanse of green at the farther end of the reservoir. It looked as if crops were growing out from the bottom of the water. When I enquired into this mystery, the secretary of the Party committee of the construction site told me that these were actually the tips of a forest of trees, mostly poplars, which were

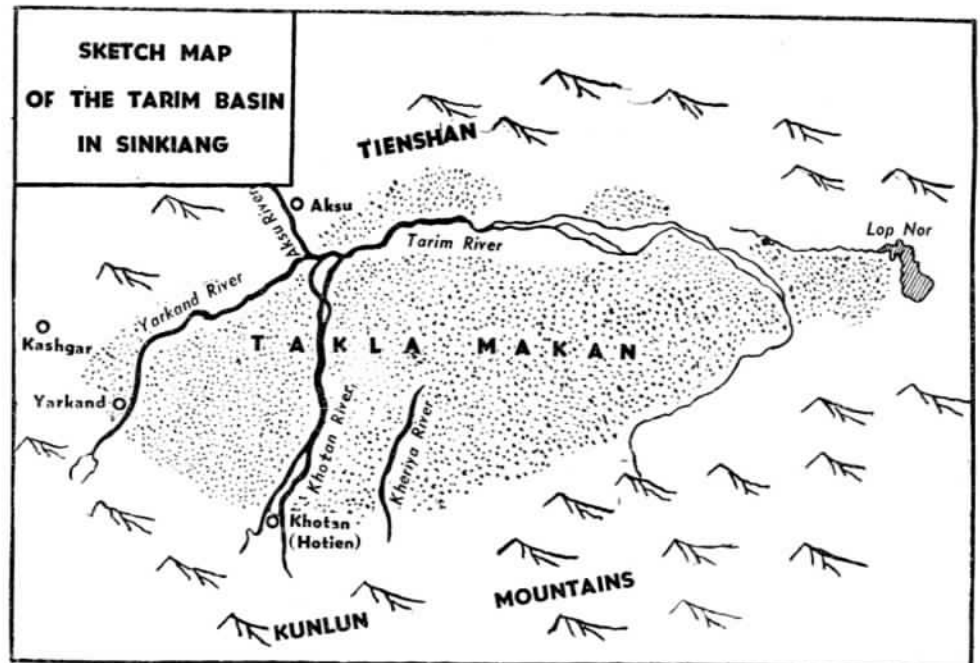
indeed rooted beneath the water. The site of the reservoir, he said, like the land they had reclaimed, was originally an uninhabited expanse overgrown with trees and vegetation. Because they did not have any special economic value and it would cost too much to remove them, they were simply submerged when water was let into the reservoir. Now that the water level was falling, they were showing up again.

This underwater forest aroused my interest; so Comrade Lin Hai-ching, the Divisional Commander who accompanied me, took me to a part of the wasteland still waiting to be reclaimed so that I could see for myself what the reservoir site looked like before it was flooded.

We came to another sea, this time a sea of trees. Above, the tips of the poplars licked the sky; down below, the ground littered with withered twigs forming a tangled carpet; all kinds of plants and shrubs vied with each other for living space upon it. As we forced our way through this thick undergrowth with only a feeble green light seeping down from above, I felt as if I were in a submarine world: there was no way of knowing which way one was moving.

Commander Lin's guard suddenly moved alertly to our front, gun ready at hand. "Is there anything the matter?" I asked him. "Boars, comrade, boars," he said seriously without turning back his head. We did indeed hear strange noises in the woods. A whole warrenful of startled rabbits rushed past scampering in all directions. Their neighbours too were alarmed. A flock of pheasants shot up into the sky; then more rabbits ran out from their hiding-places. I was told that this place also teemed with deer but much as we wanted to see them we spotted none. They are such alert animals that they were probably warned by the rabbits' flight and kept themselves well away from us.

I scrutinized the soil under my feet. It was jet black as if it had just been manured. One burly young man in the group with me, anxious to show the fertility of their land, took a spade and started to dig. He kept at it till he had dug about one metre down; the soil was





all the same, rich, jet black. I was so amazed that I burst out laughing. The young man too, beads of sweat trickling down his forehead, stopped short and he too burst into joyous, triumphant laughter. Waving his right arm in the direction of the east, he added proudly: "All the soil is like this! Here and for more than a thousand kilometres to the east, and scores of kilometres from north to south of the Tarim River!"

The long course of the Tarim is a vast and unusually fertile oasis. Why then has this treasure land been allowed to slumber uninhabited for so many centuries?

Here in Sinkiang the traveller soon notes a very unusual fact: cities, townlets and villages are dotted along the banks of every stream of any size. I have been to a place called I-wan-chuan (Bowl of Spring Water) where several dozen households have set up their dwellings beside a brook no wider than a rice bowl. Yet the Tarim River was the only exception. Although it is the biggest inland river in the region with millions of *mu* of fertile land lying to each side of it, its valley has for the most part remained a vast expanse of wasteland. Only a few dozen peasant households lived along the course of this great river. Why was it that the Uighur peasants, who like all peasants hold land so dear, never seemed to show any interest in this area?

According to historical records, there used to be a city in the Tarim valley in the Tang Dynasty about a thousand years ago. This was later destroyed in some unknown catastrophe and the few who survived the disaster left the place and never came back. It was some twenty years ago when Sinkiang was still held in the grip of the Kuomintang warlord Sheng Shih-tsai that a Communist came to this place. It was he who hit upon the idea of reclaiming this wasteland; and, inspired by this ideal, peasants in the counties of Kucha, Sinho and Shaya actually began to organize to dig a large canal to water the land they planned to reclaim. Not long after the project was actually started, however, the reactionaries interfered. Sheng Shih-tsai charged the Communist responsible with the "crime" of "stirring up revolt" and threw him into jail. All sorts of pressure was brought to bear upon the peasants and they were finally forced to give up the idea and resign themselves again to the mercies of the feudal landlords who had always dominated their villages and lives and lived on their rents and labour.

### **Taming the "Unbridled Horse"**

In 1958, things began to change. The People's Liberation Army, having made all the necessary preparations, advanced to conquer the Tarim, that same Tarim which, in the eyes of the local peasants, was an "unbridled horse no one could tame." This opened their eyes. The P.L.A. is our pioneer, they said. If we do as the P.L.A. does, get organized and follow the lead of the Communist Party, there will be no difficulties we cannot surmount. At first, several hundred young peasants and those in their prime joined the ranks of the P.L.A. in the march on the Tarim wastelands. They helped build up the first group of state farms there. Later, even the men and women of the older generation, who always regarded the Tarim with awe, also wanted to see and work these new

lands. In 1960, a number of people's communes in Shaya County joined their efforts to dig a large canal to tap the waters of the Tarim. Now the peasants there are keenly enthusiastic about transforming the Tarim wastelands.

The 15th Regiment had noted the fertility of the area when they made the march to Khotan across the Tarim, but at that time, of course, they were preoccupied with their urgent military mission. In 1955, when the Central Committee of the Chinese Communist Party issued the call to the P.L.A. to "do still more things good for the people in Sinkiang," its men and officers began to consider development of the Tarim Basin as part of the overall plan of the Sinkiang Production and Construction Corps of the P.L.A. Support for their ideas was generously forthcoming from the Ministry of State Farms and Land Reclamation, from the Sinkiang Uighur Autonomous Regional Committee of the Chinese Communist Party, from the many divisions of the Production and Construction Corps, from the Party organizations and administrative units in the locality and from the people of various nationalities in Sinkiang. . . . An aerial survey was made. It showed how vast was the size of the Tarim oasis; experienced surveying teams went deep into the region to determine more exactly what the possibilities were; hydrographical stations were set up along the entire course of the Tarim to collect relevant data. . . .

Then in the spring of 1958, at the second session of the Party's Eighth National Congress, its Central Committee and Chairman Mao gave the nation the general line of going all out, aiming high, achieving greater, faster, better and more economical results in building socialism. The division which the 15th Regiment belonged to then and there decided to start the transformation of the Tarim.

In a thicket of poplar trees, Comrade Lin Hai-ching showed me the Divisional Headquarters used when they first entered the Tarim area. It was a simple cabin of untrimmed logs: trees had been felled and driven into the earth to form a circle; smaller trunks laid on them made the rafters. This, I was told, was then considered the finest house ever built on the Tarim. The less grand "houses" were no longer there. At that time everyone engaged in the work of reclamation was expected to bring back a bundle of firewood after work; these bundles were put into piles forming a circle at the centre of which was another pile. A fire was lit. This was their pioneer's bivouac; all who contributed "building materials" were entitled to a place around the bonfire. These "buildings" had their merits: they were well "heated," kept the wind out and also scared away the wild animals. In addition, they served as a beacon light for comrades coming "home" after dark. At that time, quite a few comrades lost their bearings after night fell because of the thick and trackless undergrowth. Human voices did not carry very far in the thickets, so without these "beacon houses" a lost man might have to spend the night wandering in the sea of trees.

Such was the life of the pioneers in the early days of their conquest of the Tarim.

*(To be continued.)*

# MUSIC

## **Canton Music Festival**

Amidst the brilliance of a southern spring, the red kapok in full bloom everywhere with roses, agrimony, poinsettia, cassia and camelias, Canton has just concluded its first big music festival. The *paixiao* (an ancient Chinese pan-pipe) and the kapok flower was its emblem. Its full name was the "Canton Music Flower Festival," a title chosen to celebrate the fact that subtropical Canton is a city famous for both its music and its flowers, and that this festival was a review of the music which has blossomed so exuberantly in Kwangtung since liberation.

Music festivals are a regular feature of cultural life in New China. Some are held occasionally; some have become annual events. The first "National Music Week," held in August 1956 in Peking, was attended by 4,500 musicians from all parts of the country. In 1960, Shanghai held its first "Spring Music Festival"; Harbin followed suit last year with a "Summer Festival" and Tientsin arranged its own "Music Week." The latest was last month's Canton festival. This was a unique occasion in many ways. The emphasis, in the first place, was on Kwangtung music; 15 professional musical groups and many more amateur troupes from all over the province took part, but musicians from 14 other provinces and cities also attended as invited guests. In the two weeks of the festival 2,700 musicians performed in 30 concerts, and some 600 Chinese and foreign compositions, both ancient and modern, were presented to audiences totalling more than 100,000 people.

The festival amply demonstrated the success of Kwangtung musicians in carrying forward the tradition of national and folk music. For over a century now musicians have recognized a lyrical style of specifically Kwangtung music, a synthesis of traditional operatic and instrumental music and local folk song, but up to quite recently this was played only by small orchestras with just up to six or seven kinds of instruments. In the past few years musicians have greatly enriched this local form both harmonically and in instrumentation. The *Dragon Boat Race* performed at the festival was an

excellent example of these new developments. A vivid depiction of the gay and exciting atmosphere of such an event, it was played by a large 60-piece orchestra of 30 different kinds of instruments, including newly developed bass string instruments and high-pitched *suona* (Chinese cornet). Another novel form was exemplified in the *Autumn Moon Over the Han Palace*. This is a traditional composition rearranged as a quartet for *pipa* (Chinese lute), *dongxiao* (notched flute), *liuhu* (a kind of 2-stringed fiddle) and *guzheng* (ancient long zither) which most effectively conveyed the mood of grief and heartache. The playing of *Liuniang Gets Drunk Three Times* on six *erhu* (a standard 2-stringed Chinese fiddle) in unison showed a considerable technical advance in the achievement of uniformity in *application* (fingering) and bowing.

The music of Chaochow in eastern Kwangtung, which has a local style all its own, has also shown remarkable advances especially since 1958, when a professional ensemble was formed there. The festival audience was particularly delighted with a Chaochow item, *Butterfly Gathering Nectar*, which well lived up to its reputation as a gold medal winner at the Sixth World Youth Festival.

Kwangtung vocal music has a very fine tradition. It was well represented at the festival by such famous Kwangtung opera singers as Hung Hsien Nu (the Red Thread Girl) and Ma Shih-tseng, the veteran performer of male roles; and Li Shao-fang, Pai Yen-tse and other *quyi* ballad singers. Li Shao-fang's rendition of *The River Will Soon Be Clear* was particularly memorable for her excellent intonation and diction.

Kwangtung composers are extremely active these days. Of 380 compositions performed by the Kwangtung troupes, nearly 130 were new works. Some of these were new departures in Chinese music. The symphonic poem *Hsiang Hsiu-li*, dedicated by the composer Yang Hua to the young woman worker who gave her life trying to save state property in a fire, is a case in point. Here the image of the heroine is movingly evoked by the use of characteristically Kwangtung melodies; folk song is skilfully woven into the symphonic texture of the music. It was performed at the festival by the Canton Philharmonic Orchestra. There

were several other works too which successfully brought a popularizing national flavour to the forms of modern music.

A crop of promising young performers made their debut at the festival. Another notable sign was the increase in the number of highly proficient amateur musicians. More than 1,000 amateurs — industrial and office workers, peasants, soldiers, teachers and students — performed at festival concerts.

The festival was also distinguished by the number of noted musicians who attended and played. These included violinists Ma Ssu-tsung (Sitson Ma) and Lin Ke-han from Peking; international prize winners Kuo Shuchen, Chang Li-chuan, Tung Ai-lin, Yang Pi-teh (vocalists) and Chou Kwang-jen, Hung Teng and Pao Hui-chiao (pianists); and well-known *erhu* and *guzhen* (ancient Chinese zither) players.

As at all such festivals there was much fruitful activity outside the concert hall too. Musicians took the opportunity to get together and exchange experiences. Lu Chi, Chairman of the Union of Chinese Musicians, gave an address on the critical assessment and absorption of Western music and the Chinese musical heritage; the noted composer Ho Lu-ting, Vice-Chairman of the Union, lectured on musical composition; and Chao Feng, Vice-Director of the Central Conservatory of Music, spoke on the teaching of music. Other well-known composers, musicologists, concert artists and conductors also contributed to the many discussion forums organized by the festival sponsors.

— Z.J.L.

## THEATRE

### **Tibet's Modern Drama Troupe In Peking**

Tibet's first professional modern drama troupe had the honour of giving a series of three performances of their Tibetan version of *Princess Wen Cheng* to distinguished audiences of deputies of the National People's Congress and members of the National Committee of the C.P.P.C.C. now in session in the capital. The troupe is on its way home to Lhasa

after being trained and formed in the Shanghai Institute of Dramatic Art as we reported two months ago in these columns.

The first of their Peking performances was seen by Premier Chou En-lai, Vice-Premier Chen Yi and other Party and government leaders accompanied by Panchen Erdeni, Acting Chairman of the Preparatory Committee for the Autonomous Region of Tibet. At the end of the play, Premier Chou and Panchen Erdeni encouragingly congratulated all the young actors and actresses. Their performance throughout had had a most warm reception. Every scene was enthusiastically applauded; at the end of the play, their audience gave them many curtain calls.

*Princess Wen Cheng* is written by the famous dramatist Tien Han. It is about the talented Tang princess of the 7th century who was married to Tibet's capable King Sron-tsan Gampo, a marriage which did so much to seal the ties of fraternal unity between the Han and Tibetan people. The Tibetan play is a translation of Tien Han's drama. With the aid of ear-phones, the Peking audience was able to hear a simultaneous translation of the play in the Han language.

The Tibetan troupe's Peking performance has been highly praised. Their acting was perceptive and true to life; the leading roles in this play demand grace of movement and authority of gesture and that demand was well met. The young Tibetan actors and actresses impressed their audiences especially with their deep understanding of the dramatic content of the play.

These twenty-nine talented youngsters from Tibet are mostly former serfs or herdsmen emancipated only a few years ago. They joined the Tibetan class set up in the Shanghai Institute of Dramatic Art only in 1959. But they made rapid progress and *Princess Wen Cheng* in the Tibetan language, their graduation performance, was first staged in Shanghai early this year. They have several other plays on their repertoire.

After their performance in Peking, they will stop off in Sian and Lanchow on their way back to Lhasa.

#### SHORT NOTES

##### West Lake Lovers

Architects and gardeners, poets and painters, not to speak of the general

public in Hangchow, Chekiang Province, are currently engaged in a lively discussion on the future development of their West Lake, famed in picture and poetry.

How shall the singular individuality of the place be preserved without denying the need of modern development? Should its natural surroundings be inviolate or yield to the art of the gardener and builder? Should the simple refinement of the present structures veto more sophisticated elegance and greater comfort? Should new buildings there continue the old architectural form or boldly introduce innovations?

These are some of the questions being debated. Although the discussions grow rather heated at times, when they approach the more concrete questions, one principle seems to have universal support, that is, a dialectical approach in preference to a dogmatic, one-sided approach. As one newspaper article, commenting on the discussions, points out: "With the dialectical method you can achieve unity without sacrificing diversity, utility without slighting beauty and the new without slighting the old." But then, there still remains the question of what is essential. Judging from what has been said, quite a few insist that in the further development of West Lake the starting point must be to preserve its "national flavour, old traditions and the beauty of Nature."

##### Hangchow Folk Tales

The Chekiang People's Publishing House is issuing a book of West Lake folk tales chosen from among more than 500 collected since 1959.

One of the several tales about the origin of the West Lake runs roughly like this: Long, long ago, a Jade Dragon and a Golden Phoenix lived by the Celestial River (the Milky Way). They spent a long time cutting and polishing a marvellous stone they had found in the river into a big, translucent pearl. Then the Queen Mother of the Western Heaven stole the pearl. In the ensuing struggle to wrest the treasure back, it slipped out of their hands and fell by Hangchow to become the West Lake. Diving to earth, the dragon and the phoenix also settled in the world of mortals, as the Jade Dragon Mountain and the Phoenix Mountain which overlook the lake.



1. Princess Wen Cheng 2. King Sron-tsan Gampo 3. Lontongtzan (the good envoy) 4. Gongton (the villain) 5. Princess Wen Cheng and the Tibetan herdsmen

Sketches by Yeh Chien-yu

## Sino-Indonesian Friendship Treaty Anniversary

The first anniversary of the signing of the Treaty of Friendship and the Agreement on Cultural Co-operation between China and Indonesia, which fell on April 1, was warmly celebrated by the Chinese people. Chairman Liu Shao-chi in a message to President Sukarno said that, in the past year, owing to the joint efforts of both peoples, there have been inspiring developments in the friendly relations between the two countries. The co-operation between the two countries in international affairs and in economic and cultural construction has been strengthened daily. Friendly intercourse has become more frequent. The message described the successful implementation of the dual nationality treaty completed by the two Governments not long ago as another major achievement in their friendly co-operation.

Vice-Premier and Foreign Minister Chen Yi has sent a message to Dr. Subandrio, Deputy First Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Indonesia, greeting the anniversary.

Vice-Premier Chen Yi and other leaders of the Government and public organizations attended the reception given by the Indonesian Ambassador Sukarni Kartodiwirjo in Peking on April 1 to celebrate the anniversary. Both Vice-Premier Chen Yi and Ambassador Sukarni toasted the friendship that is growing daily between the two countries.

In his speech, Vice-Premier Chen Yi reaffirmed China's resolute support for the Indonesian people's struggle to liberate their territory, West Irian. He said that the Indonesian Government has always stood for the peaceful settlement of the West Irian question and worked untiringly to attain this. But, the Netherlands has so far shown no sincerity for peaceful negotiations on a reasonable basis. Recently, the Vice-Premier said, the Netherlands has stepped up its demonstrations of armed forces, and intensified its military threat against Indonesia, thus greatly increasing the tension in this area. Obviously evil

external forces are manoeuvring behind the scenes. This has sharply alerted the Indonesian people.

In conclusion, the Vice-Premier expressed confidence that the Indonesian people, with a rich anti-imperialist and revolutionary tradition, uniting as one and persisting in their struggle, will certainly triumph under the leadership of President Sukarno and supported by the world peace forces.

*Renmin Ribao* in its editorial hails April 1 as a day for warm celebrations by the peoples of China and Indonesia. Having reviewed the development of the friendly relations between the two peoples, the editorial says that at present, we are both still engaged in a common struggle against imperialism and colonialism. In the struggle to uphold our national independence and territorial integrity, we have always sympathized with and supported each other.

Dealing with the question of West Irian, the editorial emphatically points out that the Dutch colonialists' refusal to enter into peaceful negotiations on a reasonable basis is backed up by U.S. imperialism. It is worth noting that large quantities of U.S. capital have penetrated into the West Irian economy. Recently, the Dutch Government agreed to give the U.S. "prospecting" rights on more than 60 per cent of the total area of West Irian, and to "exploit" the natural resources there. U.S. designs on West Irian are quite clear.

An anniversary celebration was held by the China-Indonesia Friendship Association in Peking. The Indonesia-China Friendship Association in Djakarta issued a statement marking the occasion.

On April 2, Chairman Liu Shao-chi received a cable from President Sukarno thanking him for the support given by the Chinese Government and people to the Indonesian Government and people in their struggle for the liberation of West Irian.

### **Fraternal Friendship**

**Hungarian Liberation Anniversary.** Leaders of the Chinese Communist

Party and state sent a message on April 3 to the leaders of the Hungarian Socialist Workers' Party and state, greeting them on the 17th anniversary of the liberation of Hungary (April 4).

The message was signed by Chairman Mao Tse-tung, Chairman Liu Shao-chi, Chairman Chu Teh of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress and Premier Chou En-lai. It wished the Hungarian people new and greater victories in building socialism and in preserving peace in Europe and the world. May the friendship between the Chinese and Hungarian peoples which is based on Marxism-Leninism and proletarian internationalism be evergreen, it said.

The China-Hungary Friendship Association and China-Hungary People's Commune on the outskirts of Peking held meetings to celebrate the anniversary.

Last month, a Sino-Hungarian goods exchange and payments agreement for 1962 was signed in Peking.

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China has recently concluded a number of agreements with other socialist countries. She signed a goods exchange and payments agreement for 1962 with Poland on March 28 in Peking, a protocol on the exchange of goods and payments for 1962 with Bulgaria on March 30 in Sofia and a 1962 executive plan for cultural co-operation with Czechoslovakia on April 3 in Peking.

### **With Southeast Asian Neighbours**

Premier Chou En-lai has sent a message to King Mahendra of Nepal, expressing sympathy for the losses caused by a fire in Biratnagar. The Chinese Ambassador in Nepal when delivering the message to the Government of His Majesty, the King of Nepal, informed it of the Chinese Government's decision to donate 200,000 yuan to the victims of the fire as an expression of the Chinese people's sympathy and desire to help them in their tragic loss.

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A modern paper mill, built with Chinese assistance, went into production recently at Chhlong, Kratie Province, Cambodia. The building of this Cambodian-Chinese Peoples Mill began in March 1959 and was completed in February 1961. With an annual output of 5,000 tons of various

## GREETINGS TO JAPANESE C.P. LEADER

The Chinese Communist Party and Chairman Mao Tse-tung sent greetings on March 28 to Sanzo Nosaka, Chairman of the Japanese Communist Party, on the occasion of his 70th birthday. The message from the Central Committee of the Chinese Communist Party described Sanzo Nosaka as a close friend of the Chinese people and an outstanding fighter in the international communist movement. For scores of years, the message said, he has devoted himself to the revolutionary cause of the Japanese people and the Japanese Communist Party. He has waged a heroic struggle against Japanese militarism, against the wars of aggression launched by Japanese imperialism and for the liberation of the Japanese people. Since the end of World War II, he has held aloft the banner of revolution and waged a stubborn struggle against U.S. imperialism and its subservient ally, Japanese monopoly capital, and for Japan's independence, democracy, peace and neutrality. He has made important contributions to the defence of peace in the Far East and the world.

In the early forties when the Chinese people were in great difficulties, the message continued, Sanzo Nosaka came from afar to Yenan, the centre of the Chinese people's anti-Japanese base at that time, and together with the Chinese Communist Party and people waged a selfless struggle against Japanese imperialism. Referring to this the message said that his great proletarian internationalism will for ever be remembered by the Chinese people and the members of the Chinese Communist Party; the Chinese people are proud to have such a friend.

In his message, Chairman Mao Tse-tung recalled the days Comrade Sanzo Nosaka spent in Yenan. Following World War II, the message said, Sanzo Nosaka returned to his motherland where, with other Japanese Communist Party leaders, he raised high the banner of Marxism-Leninism, the banner of internationalism and patriotism, and did a great work carrying on a sustained struggle to unite the Japanese people, oppose the U.S. occupation forces, throw off the yoke imposed on the Japanese nation by U.S. imperialism and oppose the revival of Japanese militarism.

"U.S. imperialism is the common enemy of the Japanese and Chinese peoples," pointed out the message. "In the fight against the common enemy, the solidarity between the Chinese and Japanese peoples has grown and their friendship deepened. People are the creators of history. We are convinced that U.S. imperialism and its lackeys, bent on hostility to the people, will eventually be defeated. The Japanese nation is a great nation and no matter how many twists and turns and difficulties its people have to encounter in their advance, they will finally emerge victorious and the just struggle carried on by the Japanese Communist Party and all Japanese patriots will win final victory."

An article entitled "Outstanding Fighter of the Japanese People" written by Teng Hsiao-ping, the General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Chinese Communist Party, was published in *Renmin Ribao* to mark the occasion.

kinds of paper, the mill is one of four factories presented by China to Cambodia as unconditional assistance.

At the opening ceremony, Prince Sihanouk decorated Wang Jun-sheng and other Chinese experts for their services to Cambodia.

### Compensation Demanded

A Chinese fisheries company has demanded full compensation for the sinking last year of one of its vessels by an American ship, the S.S. *Letitia Lykes*. This demand was conveyed in a letter, sent through the two countries' Red Cross Societies, to the steamship company concerned.

On May 15, 1961, while fishing about latitude 29 degrees 12 minutes north and longitude 123 degrees 15 minutes east, the Chinese fishing vessel *Cheyu-116*, owned by the Ningpo Marine Fisheries Company, was hit and sunk by the S.S. *Letitia Lykes* of the Lykes Brothers Steamship Company, Inc., of the U.S.A. It has been established, after detailed investigations over a period of months, that the accident was caused by the U.S. ship, which, while sailing in a fog, violated inter-

nationally recognized navigation regulations.

### Cultural News

An exhibition of 56 paintings reflecting the life and work of the Chinese and Vietnamese peoples, by the Albanian artist, Foto Stampo, was held recently in Tirana. The pictures were made by the artist during a tour of China and the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam last year.

An exhibition of photographs showing mass activities in China in the scientific and technical fields was held recently in Pyongyang. It is being sponsored by the Korean Society for Cultural Relations with Foreign Countries.

China has presented to the Cultural Ministry of the United Arab Republic 42 reproductions of famous ancient and modern Chinese paintings. The pictures, which include the works of well-known painters Chou Fang, Chao Meng-fu, Chi Pai-shih and Hsu Peihung, were requested by the U.A.R. Cultural Minister Sarwat Okasha and will be shown in Cairo in an exhibi-

tion of famous paintings throughout the centuries gathered from art galleries all over the world.

### Briefs

The Treaty of Friendship which was signed in Peking last year between the People's Republic of China and the Republic of Ghana came into force with the exchange of instruments of ratification on March 23 in Accra.

The Third Congress of Soviet Composers ended 6 days' of session on March 31. Ho Lu-ting, Vice-Chairman of the Union of Chinese Musicians, greeting the congress, acclaimed the achievements of Soviet musicians. Chinese musicians have much to learn from their advanced experience, he said.

Lu Hsu-chang, Chinese Vice-Minister for Foreign Trade, and K. Makela, head of the visiting Finnish government trade delegation, signed in Peking on March 29 a trade agreement for fiscal 1961-62 between the Chinese People's Republic and the Finnish Republic.

# SIDELIGHTS

**Deputies of the People.** The people's deputies busy with their deliberations at the current session of the National People's Congress in Peking come from every profession and occupation in China today. Together with leaders and cadres of the political parties and government and popular organizations, workers, peasants, artisans, writers, artists, physicians, etc., have all taken their places.

Be they deputies to the N.P.C., the highest organ of state power, or to the local people's congresses at lower levels, these are the people who are running the nation's affairs today.

All of them have a full-time job of their own. The duties incumbent upon them as deputies are carried out in their spare time (except, of course, for those on full-time work for the government). When off duty, they go out among the people asking for criticisms and suggestions on all aspects of government work. Every matter raised is taken up with the department concerned. It is the deputy's duty to see to it that it is dealt with promptly and to the people's satisfaction.

One such people's representative is 55-year-old Su Lei-wen, deputy to the municipal people's congress of Tsinan city, Shantung Province. Manager of a small restaurant in that city, he often lends a hand in the kitchen. He is a busy man but he never neglects his duties as a people's deputy. During the recent Spring Festival, on his four free days he visited eight city streets and four suburban villages. During the last six years he has filled a dozen notebooks with what people have told him of their problems and how they would like them solved. Opinions voiced range from governmental policy to city planning, from matters of great moment to details of everyday life. Anybody who has something on his mind goes to see Deputy Su. Whether it is the matter of a silted sewer in the market, a road in need of repair or a certain cadre's wrong attitude to work, nothing is too trivial for the deputy to see to. He keeps in close touch with the mayor, passing on for action matters that have come to his attention on his rounds.

It's no accident that Su Lei-wen is such an earnest and devoted deputy. Son of a poor peasant, he was apprenticed to a cook in a small restaurant, and lived a hard life. Memories of the past make him doubly treasure the new life granted him by liberation. He worked hard, at first as cook and later as manager of the restaurant, all the time taking part in public activities. He was elected a municipal people's deputy in 1956 and has been re-elected twice since then. In 1959, he was admitted to the Communist Party, a worthy holder of the public offices he has filled.

**A Country Fair in Chinghai.** Business was brisk at the Taersi temple fair, Huangchung County. Over 142,000 yuan worth of goods exchanged hands in the three days of the fair. With an estimated crowd of well over 100,000, it was by all accounts the best and biggest fair for years. Unlike the frequent market days, where consumer and producer meet face to face and are often one and the same, this is an annual fair. People of many nationalities flock to the big Taersi Lamasery each Lantern Festival Day to celebrate the arrival of spring and to buy all sorts of locally made goods from neighbouring counties and towns.

The booths that filled the main street and packed the side alleys stocked things wanted by country folk. Other booths bought handicrafts and the sideline produce of the farming community. By far the biggest and busiest booth was the one selling farm implements. Extra large orders of farm tools had been brought in to meet the expected demand. The people's communes are determined to

bring in a good harvest. From early morning to late evening, buckets, hoes, forks, spades, ploughshares, sieves, willow baskets and all manner of small pieces of farm equipment were carted away in an unending stream to production brigades and teams. Women did the family shopping. They bought new clothes, cloth, crockery and other household needs. But in the midst of the hustle and bustle of buying and selling neighbours yarned and speculated about the weather and farming prospects, taking it easy for the last time before the busy spring season began on the farms.

**Fish Farm.** Pond culture of food fish long been practised in China has become much more widespread over the last four years. The new ponds and reservoirs dug by people's communes are making fresh fish available in increasing quantities.

Old ponds have been drained, cleaned, enlarged and stocked with fish fry from big fish hatcheries. One old fish farm, enlarged and renovated, that rears and farms fresh-water fish and prawns is the Huangkang Fish Hatchery not far from Tientsin. Its 8,000 *mu* of water surface has been increased to 20,000 *mu* since liberation. Pisciculturalists employed in the hatchery have pushed the annual yield to five times what it was in the pre-liberation peak year. Needless to say the quality of its products is uniformly high too.

**Life and Laughter.** The five films currently in production at the Tienma and the Haiyen Studios this spring take their themes from contemporary life and they are full of life and fun. Nearing completion, *The Wondrous*

*Travels of a Magician*, is China's first full-length stereoscopic feature. The magician's son who shows his father, recently returned from abroad, the miraculous changes in post-liberation Shanghai is played by the noted screen comedian Han Fei. Another film, showing very amusingly the changed status of women in the countryside is *Li Shuang-shuang*. The country wife who gives the film its name is an energetic woman active in public affairs. She does her best to change the



A scene at the fair

By Nung Lo

old ways of living but her timid and somewhat old-fashioned husband doesn't always agree with her. Resolving this contradiction provides plenty of bright humour. *Woman Hairdresser* is another about working women, but this time about a woman in the city. Wang Tan-feng, the popular actress who spent several weeks working in a downtown beauty parlour to get first-hand experience for her role, plays the part of the Shanghai housewife who becomes one of the best hairdressers in a city known for its excellent hairdressers. Her husband is at first much put out and full of doubts by his spouse's determination to go out and work but later he is happy and proud of his wife. Their life together takes on added mean-

ing. The studios are also making two films on sport, *Football Fans* and *The Three Brothers*. These should make the millions of sports fans happy.

**Taiping Relics.** Over the last decade much factual material has been collected on the Taiping Revolution (1851-64), that great peasant revolt which began in Chintien Village, Kwangsi Province, now the Kwangsi Chuang Autonomous Region. Recently the museum and the historical institute of the region carried out extensive research to assemble for posterity a more complete picture of the origins of this great revolution of over a century ago.

The four expeditions organized by the institute systematically scoured the two provinces of Kwangtung

and Kwangsi. Their search led them through 15 counties and towns, and 53 people's communes where they interviewed more than 600 people individually to gather material on the birth of the Taiping Revolution. All that the local people could remember hearing their elders tell about the revolutionaries and their activities was carefully noted down and checked. They also tracked down some of their weapons and tools. Many original manuscripts, carved tablets and letters of correspondence were unearthed and clues leading to fresh discoveries were tirelessly followed up. From the people of those areas where the Taiping revolutionaries had been active or lived they gathered much of value about their early history and families.

## WHAT'S ON IN PEKING

HIGHLIGHTS OF CURRENT ENTERTAINMENT, EXHIBITIONS, ETC.

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

### PEKING OPERA

▲ **MAN JIANG HONG** (*The River Is Red*) This historical opera tells the story of the patriotic Sung general Yo Fei. While he is courageously leading the Sung army against the Kin invaders, the faint-hearted Sung emperor is prevailed upon by his treacherous prime minister Chin Kuei to order a retreat. Yo Fei is imprisoned and murdered by Chin Kuei. China Peking Opera Theatre.

▲ **CHANG PAN PO BRIDGE** and **HAN TSIN PORT** Two episodes from *The Romance of the Three Kingdoms*. Liu Pei's general, Chao Yun, fights his way through the enemy encirclement and rescues Liu Pei's baby son and heir. China Peking Opera Theatre.

### KUNQU OPERA

▲ **A KINGDOM AS THE STAKE** A story of the Warring States Period. King Wei of Chu plots to subdue the State of Chi by defeating its king and queen in a game of chess with the State of Chi as the stake. But when the clever Queen of Chi wins the game, King Wei becomes enraged and Chu starts a real fight. The queen, aware of his treacherous plan, is well prepared and defeats Chu. North Kunqu Opera Theatre.

### YUNGJU OPERA

▲ **TWIN CICADAS** A woman's tragic fate in feudal society. Eighteen-year-old Hsieh Fang-erh's father while drunk betrothes her to a boy. When he discovers later that his future son-in-law is only two years old, he wants to retract his promise but his feudal clan elders forbid this because it would sully the good name of their clan. Soon the boy's father dies and, having no relatives, the child is sent to his prospective father-in-law. As Fang-erh has no mother, she has to look after the boy. After eighteen years of devoted care for the boy, she learns that her fiance, now a successful candidate at the imperial examination, has fallen in love with a young girl. In despair, Fang-erh commits suicide. Produced by the visiting Chin Feng Yungju (Ningpo opera) Troupe from Shanghai.

▲ **HALF A PAIR OF SCISSORS** The tragedy of a bondmaid in feudal society. Also produced by the Chin Feng Yungju Opera Troupe.

### MODERN OPERA

▲ **THE HEAVENLY MAID AND THE MORTAL** Adapted from an old fairy tale. It tells of the romance between a celestial princess and a brave young peasant. The Central Opera and Dance-Drama Theatre.

### DANCE-DRAMA

▲ **THE MAGIC LOTUS LANTERN** Based on a Chinese fairy tale. How a brave warrior, son of the Nymph of Mt. Huashan, defeats his intolerant uncle in combat and sets his mother free. Central Opera and Dance-Drama Theatre.

### CONCERTS

Cello and violin recital presented by the Central Broadcasting Symphony Orchestra. April 7 at Peking Concert Hall. Programme includes:

Handel: Sonata No. 6  
Bach: Sonata No. 3  
Boccherini: Cello Concerto in F Major  
Bruch: *Nigun*  
Wienlawsky: *Souvenir de Moscow*  
Cellist: Lin Ke-ming  
Violinist: Lin Ke-ting

The Central Philharmonic Symphony Orchestra presents a symphony concert. April 8 at Peking Concert Hall

Tchaikovsky: Symphony No. 6 (*Pathe-tique*)  
Schubert: Symphony No. 8 (*Unfinished*)  
Gliere: Concerto for Voice and Orchestra  
Soloist: Sun Chia-hsin  
Conductor: Chang Kung-fan

### MODERN DRAMA

▲ **TSAI WEN-CHI** A five-act historical play by Kuo Mo-jo. Tsai Wen-chi, a woman scholar of the Han Dynasty, is captured by and marries a noble Hun invader. The play tells how twelve years later, with peace restored, she is asked to return to her homeland to continue her scholar-father's work. Peking People's Art Theatre.

▲ **AESOP** A play by the Brazilian playwright, Guillermo Figuereido, based on the life story of Aesop, the slave and clever teller of fables of ancient Greece. It reflects the struggle between slaves and slave-owners, and the determination of the slaves to die for freedom rather than live as slaves. Peking People's Art Theatre.

▲ **THE PEKING MAN** One of the plays written by the well-known contemporary playwright Tsao Yu. It depicts the decline of a feudal family in Peking in the 1930s. Produced by the Central Broadcasting and Television Modern Drama Troupe.

### FILMS

▲ **SMALL DAGGERS SOCIETY** A colour film version of a dance-drama based on a heroic people's uprising which occurred in Shanghai from 1853-55. Shanghai Tienma Studio.

▲ **A HUNDRED-YEAR-OLD LADY TAKES COMMAND** A film version of a Peking opera about the famous and patriotic Yang family who lived during the Sung Dynasty. On hearing the news of her grandson's death in battle, She Tai Chun, overcoming her sorrow, takes command of the army and defeats the invaders. Shanghai Haiyen Studio.

▲ **VIRGIN SPRING** A Soviet widescreen colour film. With songs and dances by the well-known Soviet Birozhka (Little White Birch) Ensemble, a love story full of fun and laughter. In Russian, with Chinese subtitles.

▲ **THE HEIRS** A Soviet colour film. It tells how the younger generation of Soviet workers take the initiative in automating Soviet industry.

### EXHIBITIONS

▲ **EXHIBITION OF PEKING SCULPTURE** Daily, 9:00 a.m.-5:30 p.m. till April 12. At Artists' Union Gallery.

▲ **EXHIBITION OF PAINTINGS ON CUSTOMS AND HABITS OF THE CHING DYNASTY** Daily, 9:00 a.m.-5:30 p.m. At Tianwang Hall in Beihai Park.

(Above exhibitions closed on Mondays.)

### VISIT THE PARKS

\* Enjoy the beauty of spring at the Summer Palace. Flowering peaches and magnolias are now in full bloom.

Some other attractions:

\* Fishing in Beihai and Tao Ran Ting Parks.

\* Boating on the lakes at Beihai Park, Zhongshan Park, Shih Cha Hai and the Summer Palace.

\* See the rare collection of goldfish at Beihai and Zhongshan Parks.

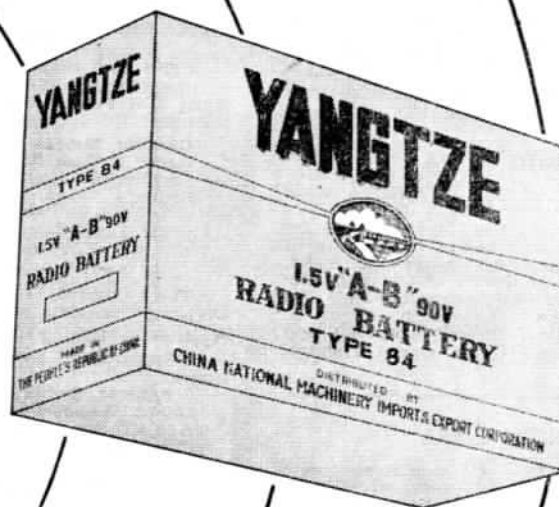


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