

# PEKING REVIEW

15

April 13, 1962

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*Art, Publishing, Archaeology and  
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# PEKING REVIEW

北京周报

(BEIJING ZHOUBAO)

A WEEKLY MAGAZINE OF CHINESE  
NEWS AND VIEWS

April 13, 1962 Vol. V No. 15

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Published every Friday by PEKING REVIEW  
Pai Wan Chuang, Peking (37), China  
Cable Address: Peking 6170

Post Office Registration No. 2-922

Printed in the People's Republic of China

## ROUND THE WEEK

### Urumchi River Epic

One of the big stories in the press recently was that of the harnessing of the Urumchi River in the Sinkiang Uighur Autonomous Region, a story of sure and steady progress based on a well-thought-out plan for the transformation of nature.

Eleven years ago the Urumchi River was very much a mixed blessing for the people living in its basin. Today, as a result of untiring efforts by units of the People's Liberation Army and the people of the various nationalities living in the Urumchi area, it has become an unalloyed boon such as the people before liberation could never have conceived of even by a long stretch of their imagination. Skilfully harnessing the river and exploiting its water resources, they have extended the area it irrigates from 60,000 *mu* at the time of liberation to 690,000 *mu* today, and used its water to improve 150,000 *mu* of alkaline land and marshes, generate electricity, and supply water to the people for domestic and industrial use.

Rising in the Tianshan Mountains, the Urumchi is just over a hundred kilometres long. Its wide, rugged bed is of gravel with a steep fall. There is a heavy loss of water through seepage — as much as 70 per cent before liberation. Since it gets practically all its water from the melting of snow and ice in the mountains, there is little more than a thin trickle of a stream in early spring and autumn. But there is a boisterous flood of water in summer when most of its total annual run-off of 420 million cubic metres comes down to the plain. Situated in the dry heartland of Asia, the Urumchi area has an annual rainfall of only about 130 millimetres and an evaporation rate of over 800 millimetres.

Before liberation, no one ever thought of battling against such odds. At the time of liberation, only 60,000 of the nearly one million *mu* of arable land along the river was being cultivated. In spring and autumn, the crops were often damaged by drought, and in summer it was not uncommon

for the mountain floods to wash away crops, houses, bridges and everything else that stood in their way.

It was in the winter of 1950 that the battle to harness the Urumchi began. The river's eccentricities and possibilities were studied and measures drawn up to control and utilize its waters. Work started first in the middle reaches. These have the advantage of being near to the city of Urumchi and already possessed some simple irrigation facilities; they offered the quickest results with the least expenditure of funds and efforts.

The experience gained here was later used on the lower reaches. There the river flows through a low-lying plain, and the water which seeps through the gravel bed of the upper reaches reappears in the form of springs. Small and medium-sized reservoirs to store this spring water and a comprehensive irrigation network have now been built here. To improve the basin's alkaline soil and transform the marshes, steps have also been taken to lower the subsurface water table in the farmlands along the river.

With the successes achieved on the middle and lower reaches, work on the upper reaches — the most difficult section — was tackled in force.

Today, the Urumchi is harnessed by thirteen reservoirs with a total capacity of 200 million cubic metres of water, canals of concrete or gravel totalling some 60 kilometres in length and a thousand and more newly built and improved irrigation ditches on the basin's farmlands. These conservancy works form a complete irrigation network that is playing a big role in increasing farm output. Though the Urumchi area was hit by a serious drought last year, it garnered more grain and vegetables than in 1958 which was a good harvest year.

The agricultural people's communes and state farms in the area are out to get a still better harvest this year. Since winter they have been working to complete their long-term plan to tap the water resources of the Urumchi



Chemical Fertilizers for the Farms

Woodcut by Li Hua

to the full and bring still more land under irrigation.

### Better Steels From Shanghai

Better and more varieties of steel products are being produced in Shanghai, one of China's leading industrial cities. This is the direct result of the ingenuity and efforts of Shanghai's steelworkers and technicians. It is also a triumph of the Communist Party's policy of working on the basis of achievements attained during the great leap forward to carry out adjustments where necessary, consolidate past gains, fill in the gaps and raise standards.

**Rolled Steel.** Thousands of varieties and specifications of rolled steel are now being manufactured in Shanghai — treble the number available a year ago. Among the new products are more than a thousand specifications of rolled steel for use in light industry and for making farm machinery, including chains for tractors and stainless steel springs for chemical fertilizer equipment.

Shanghai, which formerly produced no seamless tubing, now makes hundreds of specifications of seamless tubes. Its new products include small-bore tubes and thin-walled tubes that require a high standard of technique in their manufacture.

**Cold-Worked Steel.** Shanghai's steel mills this year are producing many new varieties of cold-finished steel products of high precision and with good mechanical and physical properties. These products, cold-drawn,

rolled, bent or flanged at below recrystallization temperature, are much needed in making electrical machines, meters and other high-precision products.

The city's metallurgical plants are also producing all the specifications of strip steel needed for making bicycle parts. They also make cold-finished angle and channel steels with better mechanical properties than those produced by hot-rolling mills. With but little processing, cold-drawn steel bars of various shapes now made can be used directly for making parts and accessories for textile machinery and diesel engines.

Many of the cold-worked steel products which the city makes have been greatly improved in quality this year. By using tool steel instead of carbon steel, Shanghai mills can now turn out strip steels of greater durability.

**Converter Steel.** Shanghai steelworkers have scored notable successes in the making of converter steel. The quality has been improved and the number of varieties has been increased. This year they have produced high-quality welding rod steel, commercial pure iron, and silicon steel for generators and transformers.

As a result of new technical advances, Shanghai's steelworkers have succeeded in producing high-quality alloy steel by means of a combined process using converters and electric furnaces. The silicon steel so made for motors and generators is better in quality than that made by

electric furnaces or open-hearth furnaces. Using the same method they have also produced low-alloy, high-strength steels.

Shanghai produced its first heat of steel in 1893. But progress under the reactionary regime was halting. By 1948 the annual output was only 6,964 tons and this even dwindled to a mere 5,200 tons in 1949, much less than Shanghai's daily output at present. As to variety, only several kinds of ordinary carbon steel were made in the old days compared to the thousands of varieties that are rolling out of Shanghai's expanding steel

mills today.

With the fresh successes they have gained this year in hand, the steelworkers in Shanghai are forging ahead to greater victories in the battle for more and better steel.

### "Pearl Powder" for the Farms

The drive for a good 1962 harvest is calling for increased amounts of chemical fertilizers and insecticides. Chemical plants throughout the country are doing their best to meet these pressing demands. In the first two months of this year, the big plants in Nanking, Taiyuan, Kirin, Lanchow and other places recorded a marked increase in production compared to the same period in 1961.

The Nanking Chemical Industry Company, one of the country's largest producers of chemical fertilizer, overfulfilled its plan for nitrogenous fertilizers and superphosphates in January and February by between 40 to more than 100 per cent compared with last year.

The many small synthetic ammonia plants built in various parts of the country over the last few years are making a big contribution too. Over ten of these plants built on Shanghai's outskirts and run by the rural communes themselves daily produce enough synthetic ammonia to satisfy the needs of 36,000 *mu* of market gardens.

Peasant farmers have a high regard for the quality of the chemical fertilizer they are getting. "We call your fertilizer 'pearl powder,'" a group of model peasants in Shansi told the rep-

representatives of the Taiyuan nitrogenous fertilizer plant out to collect farmers' opinions of their products. "But we've one complaint. . . . We want more of it!"

## Green Garb for Peking

A new green look is apparent in springtime Peking, and small wonder. In the last four years an almost incredible number of trees, some 30 million, have been planted. This spring, no sooner had the weather warmed up than another two-thirds of a million trees were planted in the city's parks, on the grounds of schools and public institutions, around the new blocks of flats, and along the streets and boulevards.

Many different types of trees have been planted—poplars, willows and other fast-growing trees. Stately evergreens have a place too. Those that grace Tien An Men Square add beauty and serenity to the huge square and the buildings that flank it.

Peking's green belt outside the inner city limits has had lavish attention too from the tree planters, and that in New China practically means everybody.

Tree planting is a community effort in which all sections of the people and even school children take part. In the past three years office workers, students, people's commune members and officers and men of the People's Liberation Army have transformed 280,000 *mu* of bare hilly land on the city's western and northern outskirts. Embryo orchards and timber forests have appeared there. Peaches, apricots, chestnuts and evergreens have been planted around the Ming Tombs Reservoir, on the Western Hills and in other beauty spots. Large numbers of poplars and locust trees have been set out on the slopes near the Chinghsi Colliery, while pines, larches and cypresses make a brave show in other hill regions to the northwest of the city. Most of these trees are thriving. The peach trees and grape-vines planted in 1959 have already shown promise of being good bearers.

This massive course of tree planting has brought great changes to the capital and its surrounding districts. Most changed of all are the formerly bald and barren Western Hills which stand like a semi-circular screen to the west and northwest of the city.

Except for favoured spots like Hsiangshan (Fragrance Hill), Biyunsi (Temple of Azure Clouds) and a few other places, the Western Hills were for the most part treeless before liberation. But in recent years much has been done to make them producers of fruit and timber.

Since the setting up of the Western Hills afforestation headquarters in 1952, groups of students, office workers, P.L.A. men and city residents have come every year to afforest these hills. To date they have planted some 20 million fruit and timber trees on 70,000 *mu* of hill land. Green pines now clothe the hillsides in defiance of winter cold. In summertime these wooded slopes offer welcome coolness to city dwellers. The red maple-leaves and the crimson and gold of copper beeches attract crowds of admirers from the city for weeks on end in autumn. A newcomer to the Western Hills is the Korean pine. Found mainly in northeast China and Korea, these pines reach a height of some 20 to 30 metres when full grown. They will make an impressive addition to the future forests of the Western Hills.

## Parks for the People

Bustling Shanghai, city of teeming millions, great industries, universities, towering buildings, theatres, cinemas, restaurants, big shops and much else, is becoming a city of parks and gardens as well. To each of the 50 and more parks of present-day Shanghai come thousands of people every day to enjoy the warm spring sunshine, to stroll on the green lawns and among peach blossoms, or go rowing on the many man-made lakes. In these peaceful surroundings the hurly-burly of metropolitan life seems miles away.

The older generation still remembers that before liberation Chinese were forbidden to enter some of these parks in the "foreign concessions." Or, if they were nominally open to all, the parks were in fact accessible only to the privileged classes. Today all of them, larger and more beautiful than before, are open to their owners, the working people of the city.

Shanghai had 14 parks all told. Ever since 1949 work has been in progress to give the city more "breathing spaces." Since 1958, 15 parks have been built or enlarged, extending the total park area by over 90 per cent.

Many of the new ones have been built in workers' residential areas, lending beauty to the districts and providing a place for rest and leisure after the day's work. Most parks have children's gardens set aside exclusively for the youngsters. Besides, there are 12 specially built parks for children.

Great attention has been paid to the landscaping of the parks, whether newly built or improved. Last year alone, 100,000 trees and a great variety of flowers were planted in the various parks. Gardeners draw much and imaginatively on traditional Chinese horticulture and garden design to give the parks a national style. At other times they strike out in new directions striving for originality. The many artificial hills and lakes, waterfalls, groves of pines and cypresses, vermilion kiosks and red-tiled pagodas, all lend colour to the public gardens and make them the favourite haunts of Shanghai residents. Last year, it was estimated that an average of 100,000 people visited the parks every day, and during the Spring Festival holidays this year the number reached 900,000.

Changfeng Park is very popular this spring. Formerly it was a marsh; Shanghai's gardeners reclaimed it in 1958 and turned it into one of the most beautiful parks in the city, with hills and trees, lawns and pavilions, a willow-planted embankment and streams graced with delightfully decorative wooden bridges. It has the largest lake in the city—over 200 *mu* in extent—a favourite boating place for Shanghai residents.

As always, a firm favourite of children is, of course, the zoo. In the city's western suburbs, the site used to be a golf links in the old days. It has an area of more than 1,000 *mu* which is constantly being expanded as more plants, birds and animals are added. Though young as zoos go, it already has hundreds of animals and birds of more than 160 kinds, including sea lions, hippopotami, chimpanzees and white peacocks.

Fuxing Park's peacock from Java seems to be the chief attraction of the season. Thousands of admirers go to see it every day. Since spring set in this year, it has been lavish in displaying its plumage. A species of rare beauty, with its lustrous blue, rich purple, glossy-green feathers, it is at its most beautiful during the spring mating season.

# Kennedy's Nuclear Threats Condemned

**U.S.** PRESIDENT Kennedy's threat about the United States not scrupling to take the initiative in using nuclear weapons has been sharply condemned by Vice-Premier Chen Yi.

At the reception to celebrate the 17th anniversary of Hungary's liberation given by the Hungarian Ambassador Martin Ferenc on April 4 in Peking, Vice-Premier Chen Yi said: "At a time when the people of the world are fervently hoping for positive results at the Geneva disarmament conference, the United States is threatening to resume nuclear tests in the atmosphere. President Kennedy's statement that the United States will not scruple to take the initiative in using nuclear weapons and thus launching a 'preventive' nuclear war is particularly outrageous. It thoroughly exposes Kennedy for what he really is."

"With the daily increasing strength of the socialist camp and the vigorous growth of the national-liberation

movement, U.S. imperialism has become more cunning and more adventurist than ever. It persists in its military occupation of West Berlin, and continually commits military provocations and creates tension. In Asia, it has already gone into an undeclared war in south Viet Nam," the Vice-Premier added.

"The socialist camp is powerful and will never be cowed," the Vice-Premier stressed. "The world's people all oppose nuclear war. We socialist countries will make every possible effort to safeguard world peace. We believe that world war can be averted."

In conclusion, Vice-Premier Chen Yi pointed out: "If U.S. imperialism should first use nuclear weapons and impose a nuclear war on the people of the world, it can be said with certainty that it is U.S. imperialism, as the first to use nuclear weapons, that will be destroyed."

## Behind Disarmament Smokescreen

# The U.S. Drive to War

by HSIN HUA

**W**HILE U.S. delegates at the 17-nation Geneva conference go pontifical about disarmament, Washington is switching into high gear in its drive to war.

U.S. Secretary of Defense Robert McNamara in his recent testimony before Congress revealed that the Kennedy Administration has now embarked on a five-year programme for a massive strengthening of U.S. armed forces. The programme provides that by 1967, the United States will triple its "destructive" capabilities compared with last June. There will be an all-round increase in the number of inter-continental ballistic missiles, nuclear-powered submarines, B-52 and B-58 long-range bombers as well as in conventional armaments. To finance this, as revealed in an article in *U.S. News and World Report*, U.S. Government spending on armaments is to go on rising by at least \$3,000 million a year.

The U.S. journal *Missiles and Rockets* notes that the first step in implementing this five-year programme was the enormous military budget for fiscal 1963 (July 1 this year to June 30 next year), which Kennedy presented to Congress at the beginning of the year. This is the biggest peacetime military budget ever sent to Congress. It sets a record both in its allotment for direct military use and for the Defense Department. In fact, the Kennedy Administration has time and again upped U.S. military expenditure. Increases in budgetary expenditure for the Defense Department alone, for example, account for more than \$6,500 million during fiscal 1962 and 1963. But Congress still thinks that not enough money has been earmarked for certain military projects.

The House of Representatives on March 21 approved a bill for the purchase of new weapons recommending that more than \$490 million be used to purchase B-70 long-range bombers. This was \$300 million more than the amount Kennedy requested.

### Nuclear and Conventional Weapons

In its feverish preparations for all types of war, the Kennedy Administration is following a policy of all-round expansion of armaments. McNamara openly admitted last February that "thermo-nuclear power has been upgraded" by the U.S. This power, he added, was "essential" to U.S. strategy and tactics. He asserted that the United States has "no cause to relax" its "nuclear guard." This is why it has resumed underground nuclear tests and is planning atmospheric nuclear tests in April.

At the same time, there has been an adjustment in the five-year programme for missile development originally drawn up by the Eisenhower Administration. The revised programme provides that by 1965, the total number of U.S. strategic missiles—"Minuteman," "Polaris," "Titan" and "Atlas"—will be increased to about 1,700 instead of the 1,304 proposed last year. The number of programmed "Polaris" submarines has been raised to 41, an increase of 22 compared with the figure originally proposed by the Eisenhower Administration. Washington is also planning to spend another \$1,000 million to equip long-range B-52 bombers with "Skybolt" missiles.

The development of conventional arms is also being stepped up in preparation for "limited warfare." Testify-

ing before the House Armed Services Committee on March 15, McNamara said that the United States planned to possess by the end of 1962 the strength to fight "on two fronts," namely, to wage "limited wars" in Western Europe and in the Far East simultaneously. He pointed out that by increasing the U.S. army to 16 combat-ready divisions, augmenting the strength of three divisions of marine corps and increasing the number of assorted brigades and regiments, the effective strength of U.S. conventional forces has recently been increased by 45 per cent. The U.S. Government is planning to raise the strength of its armed forces from 2,482,000 men in mid-1961 to 2,684,000 men by mid-1963. Enlistment for the military services is being stepped up. On April 3 the Defense Department issued a call for 6,500 draftees in the month of June. This is 500 above the monthly drafts set for March, April and May. The June draft will bring the total inductions to 141,500 since last August, when Washington stirred up the so-called "Berlin crisis."

Kennedy recently declared that he did not intend to demobilize the large number of reservists called up last year. What is more, the Pentagon announced in February that two new divisions of reservists were being formed. Early in March, it ordered the three armed services to set up "a special pool of reservists" so that the U.S. Government can replenish the under-strength reservist units or the national guard in any future "cold war" mobilization.

To increase the combat power and mobility of U.S. armed forces, Washington has introduced certain measures of reorganization. In 1961 a "U.S. Strike Command" was set up by merging the three-division "Army Strategic Corps" with the 50,000 men and 1,800 military aircraft under the "U.S. Tactical Air Command." This was followed by the announcement this year that the strength of the "Army Strategic Corps" would be raised by five

divisions so as to increase its capability for "limited warfare."

### "Special Forces" Strengthened

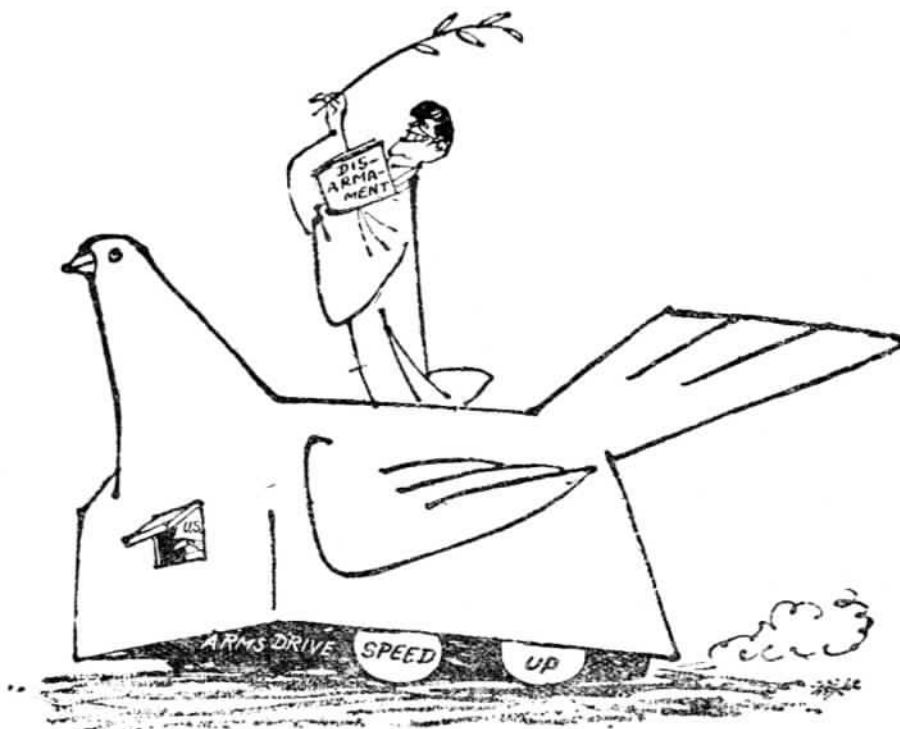
The United States is strengthening its so-called "Special Forces," whose task it is to suppress the national-independence movements by counter-guerrilla warfare. McNamara recently revealed that these forces had been increased from 200 men a year ago to 4,000 men now. The plan is to increase them to 10,000 men and to use south Viet Nam as a tactical testing ground.

To whip up the necessary war hysteria at home, Kennedy is pushing ahead the so-called "North American Continental Defense" and "civil defense" programmes with their air raid and rocket raid "alerts." He has ordered the Departments of Agriculture, Commerce, Labor and other government agencies to work out plans to "develop a state of readiness with respect to all conditions of national emergency, including attack upon the United States." These in fact are mobilization plans.

Side by side with these warlike activities, the Kennedy Administration is redoubling its efforts to strengthen the various U.S.-dominated aggressive military blocs. U.S. General Norstad, Supreme NATO Commander, said in testimony before the House Foreign Affairs Committee on March 23 that NATO forces stationed in Central Europe had been increased by more than 25 per cent from last July to the beginning of this year. He added that a "highly mobile" unit capable of strengthening any NATO area "under threat" had been set up. Kennedy and Rusk have lately reiterated that the United States and other NATO countries were discussing the establishment of a NATO "nuclear force."

Spokesmen of the ruling circles in the United States have made it very clear that their military build-up is directed against the socialist camp and the national-independence movements. Men like Kennedy have stressed the "long-term nature" of their fight against the forces of peace and progress; they talk about "freedom leaning on her spear" and the setting up of a U.S.-type "world order." McNamara has come out with the idea that the United States must possess enough military strength to "destroy Russia" and "counter any third power."

The combination of hard facts, sabre-rattling and muscle-flexing cited above makes it quite clear that the evasive and empty talk the U.S. delegates indulge in at the Geneva disarmament conference is nothing but a smokescreen to cover up the frantic arms drive now in full swing in the United States. Such being the case, it is all the more necessary for the people of the world, while carrying forward the struggle for peace and disarmament, to expose and oppose U.S. imperialist preparations for war.



The Geneva Branch of the "Peace Corps"

Cartoon by Fang Cheng

# U.S.-Thai Military Collaboration

by KUNG PING

THE current strengthening of the military tie-up between the United States and the reactionary rulers of Thailand is an important move in U.S. imperialism's plans for aggression in Asia.

## Tightened Grip on Thailand

Early in March, a joint statement was issued by Thai Foreign Minister Khoman and U.S. Secretary of State Rusk following their talks in Washington. It said that in case of "aggression" against Thailand, the United States would take action according to its own constitutional procedures without prior agreement with other SEATO members. This means that the United States will no longer be bound by SEATO and will take individual military action on its own account. The two also discussed aggressive measures against Laos and south Viet Nam. Following the statement, Thai Premier Sarit Thanarat disclosed that this year the United States would supply Thailand with arms and military equipment worth U.S. \$50 million. He further disclosed that the U.S. Government has assured him that U.S. troops could arrive in Thailand within 24 hours if necessary, and that the strength of the Thai forces would be doubled. Before and since the Rusk-Khoman talks, Thailand was visited by U.S. Assistant Secretary of Defense Bundy; Commander-in-Chief in the Pacific Admiral Felt; Kennedy's special adviser on Asian, African and Latin American affairs Chester Bowles and Assistant Secretary of State for Far Eastern Affairs Averell Harriman. Their discussions with the Thai authorities centred around new moves for intervention in Laos and detailed measures concerning U.S. "guarantee" of the security of Thailand.

According to an AP report, there are now 219 U.S. military advisers posted among some 100,000 Thai troops. They are mainly with the ground forces. The Thai Army is, in fact, under the control of U.S. military advisers. The personnel of the U.S. military advisory group are stationed in all Thailand's military training centres.

"Experts" and "advisers" of all sorts are to be found in all government departments in Thailand. There are now more than 100 U.S. "technical advisers" in the country. The U.S. Embassy in Bangkok is, in effect, a branch of the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency, exercising direct control over the country and plotting subversion against the Southeast Asian countries.

Using Thailand as a base for its stepped-up war preparations, the United States recently sent an Okinawa-

based battalion of sappers to Thailand to build an important strategic highway and keep the U.S. military bases in good shape.

What lies behind these manoeuvres between the United States and Thailand?

The United States has all along used Thailand as a base for aggression and subversion in Southeast Asia. But after suffering repeated reverses in their aggressive moves in this area, the U.S. imperialists have of late been proclaiming that Thailand and south Viet Nam are the two main pro-West pillars in Southeast Asia, and that the United States must devote itself to the security of Thailand. But the Thai people are heroically struggling against U.S. imperialist encroachment on their country's sovereignty and against the Sarit government's submission to U.S. policies of war and aggression. Egged on by the United States, Thai ruling circles are attempting with the utmost brutality to suppress the patriotic and progressive forces in the country. But the Thai people, instead of being intimidated, are fighting back all the harder. It is clear that one of the first results of this closer collaboration between the United States and Thailand will be an even more ferocious onslaught on the Thai people, aimed to wipe out the Thai patriotic forces, preserve the reactionary rule of the pro-U.S. Sarit government and maintain U.S. imperialist control of Thailand.

## Another Motive

There is still another motive behind this U.S.-Thai military collaboration. The U.S. imperialists have consistently used the Thai ruling circles as a tool in their intervention and aggression in Laos and south Viet Nam. Thailand has built many strategic highways for the use of the U.S. imperialists. These include a network of roads built in areas bordering on Laos, Cambodia and Burma. Three more highways to carry U.S. war supplies to the Nosavan rebel clique in Laos have been completed. In February, the Thai Government decided that within five years beginning this year, 10 strategic highways totalling 2,500 kilometres in length will be built in north-eastern Thailand. The territory of Thailand has been used as a supply depot, a training centre and a convenient line of communications for the Laotian rebel troops.

Large numbers of Thai military personnel, directed by the United States, have entered Laos and been incorporated into Nosavan's rebel forces. Reports indicate that more than 10 battalions of Thai troops have joined the Laotian rebel forces in their operations. On March 8,



Thai Deputy Premier Thanom Kittikachorn admitted that "the main purpose of the joint statement issued by the Thai Foreign Minister and the U.S. Secretary of State is to express the intention of Thailand and the United States to aid Laos" (meaning the rebel group). On March 16 the Thai authorities promptly sent three more battalions to aid the Laotian rebels.

To achieve closer military collaboration, Thai military missions have, on several occasions, gone to south Viet Nam for secret talks with the Ngo Dinh Diem clique. Recently Thai Premier Sarit has repeatedly asserted that for Southeast Asia, "the most dangerous spot is south Viet Nam." He has made it known that Thailand is willing to help the Ngo Dinh Diem clique suppress the south Vietnamese people's just and patriotic struggle against the U.S.-Diem clique.

These facts show clearly that the United States is increasingly using Thailand as a cat's paw in its extended aggressive ventures in Southeast Asia.

### **Base for "Special Warfare"**

Since Kennedy took office, U.S. imperialism has used Thailand as a military base for waging "special warfare"

in Southeast Asia. More and more Thai troops are being trained as "special forces" to suit the purpose of the Kennedy Administration in waging "special warfare" to suppress the national-liberation struggles in Southeast Asia. An AP dispatch disclosed that several months ago, the U.S. military advisory group began training Thai troops for "guerrilla warfare." Recently, the U.S. Defense Department announced the appointment of Theodore Conway, Commander of the 82nd Airborne Division in Fort Bragg, training centre of U.S. "special forces," to head the U.S. military mission in Thailand. Not long ago, the United States sent a group of "guerrilla units," specially trained in Okinawa, to train Thai troops. More than 2,000 Thai military officers and personnel have been sent to the United States and Okinawa for training. There is every indication that the United States will continue to use Thailand to extend its "special warfare."

The reinforced military collaboration between the United States and Thailand is not only designed to tighten U.S. control over that country; it is also part of the new U.S. moves for further aggression in Southeast Asia and other parts of the Asian continent. The people of Southeast Asia and all who love peace must remain keenly alert to the grave situation created by U.S.-Thai collaboration.

## **Tool of French Colonialism**

# **The Secret Army Organization**

by **JEN WEN**

**A**LTHOUGH the French Government has been forced by the Algerian people to agree to a ceasefire, murder and sabotage in French-occupied areas in Algeria has not stopped. Algerian blood is still being shed at the hands of the French ultra-colonialists.

### **"O.A.S." Outrages**

Between May last year when it was founded, and January this year, the "Secret Army Organization" ("O.A.S.") had carried out 5,682 "operations" in Algeria and killed 269 people. When, this year, the de Gaulle government was compelled during the talks with the Provisional Government of the Algerian Republic to agree in principle to recognize Algeria's independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity, the "O.A.S." stepped up its terrorist activities. At the end of February, the French paper *Paris Journal* reported that bombing incidents were taking place in Algeria on an average of one every fifteen minutes. Between February 19 and March 5 alone, some 400 Algerians, including women and children, were killed in cold blood by the "O.A.S." The atrocities of the "O.A.S.," bomb explosions, raids and

assassinations, are now almost a daily occurrence both in France and in Algeria.

In Algeria, "O.A.S." terrorist acts are mainly directed against Algerians fighting for national independence and the French progressive forces supporting them. In France, the "O.A.S." has raided the offices of the Central Committee of the French Communist Party and several of its branches, the National Congress of the French peace movement, progressive trade unions, youth and other democratic organizations.

These vicious fascist acts reflect the sharpening contradictions among the French ruling cliques and the instability of the de Gaulle government resulting from France's defeat in the colonial war. They also reflect the desperate struggle of the ultra-colonialists, unreconciled to defeat.

### **Serving Vested Interests**

The "O.A.S." represents the interests of the big French plantation owners who have got their hands on some 11 million hectares of fertile land in Algeria and

who control two-thirds of the vineyards as well as many mines. Among them are the notorious "Hundred Seigneurs" including the "Wine King" Henri Borgeaud, who owns not only large areas of land but also Algeria's biggest tobacco, textile, cement and timber-processing enterprises. Maurice Gimgembre, another of the "Hundred Seigneurs" and one time "finance minister" of the "O.A.S.," is concurrently on the board of directors of a phosphate mining company with total assets of 15,000 million francs. For a long time these men, taking advantage of the privileges assured them by colonial rule, have plundered Algeria's resources and ruthlessly exploited its people. For example, one Georges Blachette, the "King of Reeds," sells a ton of reeds for 40,000 francs but pays the Algerian workers only 2,300 francs to collect them. Because they fear to lose their loot these big colonialists hate the awakened Algerian people and try by naked military suppression to strangle their liberation struggle. They want to keep Algeria permanently under savage French colonial rule.

This is why they clash with de Gaulle and his group who represent France's finance capital including the rising oil industry. This is why they have always opposed the de Gaulle government's policy of "self-determination for Algeria" and negotiations with Algeria. In 1960 and 1961, the ultra-colonialists twice staged armed revolts against de Gaulle. Following the failure of these revolts they founded the "O.A.S." in Madrid in order to wreck the French-Algerian talks, to apply pressure on de Gaulle and prevent Algeria from taking the road of independent development. The programme of the "O.A.S." is to suppress the Communist Party and the working class, to smash the trade union movement and to set up a fascist dictatorship. Internationally, it would carry out a policy of national chauvinism and colonialism, wage wars of aggression and fight to the bitter end to keep Algeria French.

### Men of the "O.A.S."

The head of the "O.A.S." is Raoul Salan, an old colonialist general. Back in 1944, he was an officer under de Gaulle, taking part in military operations designed to suppress the national-independence movements in Syria and Indo-China. From 1956 to 1958, he was Commander-in-Chief of the French Army in Algeria. The headquarters of the "O.A.S." is in Algiers.

It is estimated that the "O.A.S." has 20,000 members, most of them diehard fascists and professional murderers. They are organized into "detachments," mainly entrenched in Algiers, Oran and other Algerian coastal cities. Organizational centres and active groups have also been set up in France, in more than ten cities including Paris and Marseilles.

The "O.A.S." has close links with fascist organizations in the imperialist countries of Western Europe. Not long ago, Salan went to Belgium, Switzerland and West Germany to enlist support. At the time of the "Petain government," he was an agent of Hitler's military intelligence service. Today he has established connections with the West German espionage organization headed by Ghelen and has set up six recruiting stations in West Germany. The "O.A.S." has printing works and arms



**The Snake Charmer**

"The White House with President Kennedy's approval made an indirect appeal to the white settlers' Secret Army Organization to give up its terrorist activities and work toward peaceful relations between the Europeans and Arabs of Algeria."—UPI.

Cartoon by Fang Cheng

depots in Belgium. Franco of Spain is its undisguised protector. Many of its chiefs such as Lagailarde and Argoud fled to Madrid after the defeat of the two armed revolts in Algeria. The "O.A.S." also has connections with the "European National Movement," an international fascist organization in Western Europe whose centre is also in Madrid.

The "O.A.S." has direct connections with the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency. After Salan was appointed Commander-in-Chief of the French Army in Algeria in 1956, the C.I.A. established contact with him. The "O.A.S." has been supported and manipulated from behind the scenes by the C.I.A. For a long time the C.I.A., through Franco's Spain, has given the O.A.S. large amounts of military and financial support and helped train its personnel in disruptive activities. The anti-de Gaulle armed revolt in Algeria engineered by the colonialists last April was directly encouraged and supported by the C.I.A. Now the agents of the C.I.A. are still in frequent contact with Salan and give him aid. The aim of the United States, in its covert support of the "O.A.S.," is to force de Gaulle to submit to U.S. dictates and take advantage of this situation to intervene in Algeria.

### De Gaulle's Game

The powerful pressure of the French people's anti-fascist struggle has forced the de Gaulle government to take some ostentatious measures against the "O.A.S." and arrest some plastic bomb throwers. In reality, however, the attitude of the de Gaulle government has all along been one of pampering and protecting the "O.A.S." This

is because the de Gaulle government itself, the French troops and police as they are now constituted, and many French parliamentarians have links with this fascist organization. (It is said that 15 to 20 per cent of the Paris police are pro-"O.A.S.," around 40 per cent of the officers in the French Army favour it and some 80 members of the National Assembly support it.)

But, there exists contradiction between the de Gaulle government and the ultra-colonialists on French policy in relation to Algeria. In particular de Gaulle wants to prevent the latter's collusion with the United States to engineer revolts. But this contradiction is, after all, an internal contradiction among the French colonialists themselves. Moreover, the de Gaulle government wants to use the ultra-colonialists for its own purpose. On the pretext, for instance, of preventing armed conflict between the French and Algerians, de Gaulle demanded that more French troops be stationed in Algeria and be freely deployed. He hopes to use the "O.A.S." to threaten Algeria after its independence. He also plans to revise the Constitution after the war in Algeria is ended so as to strengthen his personal dictatorship and tighten his control over the French people. To achieve these purposes, he thinks it advisable to play ball with the ultra-colonialists. This explains why the de Gaulle govern-

ment has never adopted firm measures against the "O.A.S."

### Menace to Algerian-French Agreement

The "O.A.S." has repeatedly let it be known that any agreement reached between France and Algeria will be invalid. When agreement was about to be reached during the French-Algerian talks, the "O.A.S." distributed arms to the European settlers in Algeria, and stockpiled munitions and foodstuff in the mountains in preparation for launching "guerrilla warfare." It has also conspired to set up its own "provisional government of French Algeria" so as to carve up the country. French press reports indicate that the "O.A.S." has drawn up a "plan of revolt" calling for violent action against those participating in the Algerian National Liberation Front and for attacks on strategic points, strike action and a "revolt" of the European settlers to reverse the situation emerging after the Algerian-French agreement.

The French Government's connivance at "O.A.S." activities and the conspiracies of the fascists is at the present time a serious obstacle to the implementation of the Algerian-French agreement. The Algerian people will have to make a big effort to clear away this obstacle in the path of their advance.

### Latin American Survey

# Argentina Before and After The Elections

by CHANG LU

**J**OSE Maria Guido, Provisional Speaker of the Argentine Senate, has become the new Argentine President. This is the result of a coup d'etat by the reactionary military leaders, whose attack is directed more against the Argentine people than the ousted pro-U.S. Arturo Frondizi.

After conferring with the military, the new President is reported to have decided to annul the results of the recent March election, to appoint "interventors" to govern several provinces directly and to ban the activities of the Communist and Peronista parties as well as other Left-wing forces. Clearly, the new Guido government is entirely under the control of the military and is prepared, internationally, to maintain still closer ties with Washington, and implement a policy hostile to revolutionary Cuba and, nationally, to crack down on the progressive forces in the country. This must be seen as part and parcel of the U.S. schemes to further its aggressive imperialist designs in Latin America. As the Uruguayan paper *El Popular*, has well put it, "the plan carried out in Argentina is the very same plan which

the U.S. is attempting to carry out throughout Latin America."

### Cause of Argentine Political Crisis

The United States has all along regarded Argentina as an important base for the control of all South America. It has put large investments into this second largest South American country in recent years. It has chosen Argentina to be a "show case" for the implementation of its "Alliance for Progress" programme, a programme specifically designed to curb the revolution of the Latin American peoples, and to maintain and strengthen U.S. grip on Latin America. In the words of Robert McClintock, U.S. Ambassador to Buenos Aires, Argentina has been assigned the role of "southern leader" in the implementation of the "Alliance for Progress" programme. The Pentagon even looks upon Argentina as a strategic base for military control over what it likes to think of as its Latin American "backyard." It has built a string of military bases on the border areas between Argentina and Brazil, Chile and Bolivia. It has strengthened its control over the Argentine armed forces with the result that the reactionary military groups there have frequently

staged coups to force the government to do as they like. In the last 28 years, Argentina has had 11 presidents: eight of them were military men. Since Frondizi assumed office in 1958, the military men in Argentina have forced him to reorganize his government as many times as they wanted. And today, having no more use for him, the U.S. imperialists and the Argentine military have thrown him out "like a squeezed out lemon."

The results of the general elections in Argentina were the immediate cause of the recent coup d'etat.

Washington stepped up its dollar diplomacy in Argentina on the eve of the parliamentary and provincial elections. In addition to the loan of \$150 million granted under the "Alliance for Progress" programme to induce Argentina to sever diplomatic relations with Cuba, the Bank of America promised the Argentine National Cereal Committee a sum of \$5 million to be used as loans to landlords and rich peasants while the Inter-American Development Bank promised the Argentine National Development Committee "technical aid" amounting to \$500,000 together with 25 million pesos. The Inter-American Development Bank and several U.S. banks were also discussing other loans to Argentina totalling at least \$40 million. All this, of course, was aimed to bolster up the Frondizi regime which was following a pro-U.S. policy and had tamely subjected itself to the economic policy of the International Monetary Fund. It was a golden shot in the arm to strengthen it in the forthcoming election campaign.

The hopes of the U.S. imperialists, however, were rudely dashed. The ruling Intransigent Radical Party (Union Civica Radical Intransigente) was disastrously defeated. With the support of the Communist Party, the Socialist Party, National Intransigent Group of the People's Radical Party (Union Civica Radical del Pueblo), the Argentine People's Movement and other Left-wing forces, the Peronista Party won a landslide victory in the elections, capturing the chief post of governor in 8 of the 14 provinces where provincial elections were held. Meanwhile, Frondizi's Intransigent Radicals lost their absolute majority in the Chamber of Deputies, falling from 98 seats to 75, a decrease of 23 per cent.

### What the General Elections Results Show

The election results show that the Argentine people are firmly opposed to the "Economic Stabilization Programme" imposed on them by the U.S.-controlled International Monetary Fund, and are dead set against the traitorous, pro-U.S. policy of the Frondizi government which, in exchange for U.S. "aid," threw overboard the principles of national self-determination and non-intervention and broke off diplomatic relations with Cuba. As the March 20 statement of the Central Committee of the Argentine Communist Party pointed out, the Frondizi government's defeat in the national elections was not limited to Argentina; it was not only that country's ruling party but the whole despicable policy of the International Monetary Fund that was roundly beaten in these elections.

Towards the end of 1958, in exchange for a loan of \$329 million from the International Monetary Fund and expecting more from the U.S. totalling \$1,000 million, the Frondizi government accepted the so-called "Economic Stabilization Programme" which the I.M.F. drew up to facilitate U.S. monopoly capital's penetration into Argen-

tina for the plundering of its resources and interference in its internal affairs. The Argentine people called that programme the "hunger programme." It laid down that Argentina should permit free currency exchanges and abolish the official exchange rate between the dollar and the Argentine peso; remove restrictions on U.S. exports; gradually hand over state enterprises to private management; levy higher taxes at home and stop granting subsidies to state enterprises; reduce trade with the socialist countries; create a "favourable climate" for foreign investments (which, of course, are mainly U.S. investments); freeze wages, dismiss state employees in large numbers and so on and so forth. Implementation of this "Economic Stabilization Programme" brought serious economic calamities in its wake.

### Victim of "Economic Stabilization Programme"

First, it intensified the agricultural crisis. Argentina used to be one of the biggest exporters of agricultural and animal products in the world. Ever since it began implementing the "Economic Stabilization Programme," it has been hard hit by Washington's policy of dumping "surplus" U.S. farm produce. A rich peasants' organization by the name of the Argentine Agricultural Association has complained that owing to the I.M.F.-imposed policy of restricting loans to small producers, many peasant households cannot afford to purchase farm machines. Consequently, a stock of about 12,000 unsold tractors has accumulated. The situation in livestock breeding is even worse as a result of the continual shrinking of the traditional international market. The number of Argentine cattle was estimated at 45 million head last year, but this was still below the level of 1956. For lack of stock to export, the amount of frozen veal exported to Europe was reduced by 50,000 tons last year.

The 1961-62 acreage under wheat, a chief farm product in Argentina, was reduced to 4.6 million hectares, the lowest mark in the present century. In recent years, Argentine exports of wheat have decreased to only one-fourth of what they were in 1929; in 1961 alone they fell by two million tons. Prices for farm products too have been dropping steadily. Taking their 1949 level as 100, it was 134 in 1954 and 95 in 1961. On the other hand, prices of imported metals rose from 100 in 1949 to 162 in 1961. These are important factors contributing to the adverse balance of Argentina's foreign trade and international payments.

Secondly, there is an unfavourable balance in foreign trade. The year 1961 left Argentina with the biggest trade deficit in its history — an estimated \$500 million for the year. The deficit in trade with the United States alone was \$300 million. The country's gold reserve dropped to a little over \$150 million, while the balance owing on international payments for the year was \$550 million. Argentina's foreign indebtedness today totals \$2,000 million, of which \$350 million will have to be paid back in 1962. Living costs have gone up sharply. The general price index in 1961 went up to 577 (taking the 1955 figure as 100).

Thirdly, industries owned by local capital are in serious difficulties. According to official statistics, the index of industrial output last year increased by 11 per cent compared with 1960. But this gain was mainly in the automobile and oil industries where foreign capital,

and U.S. capital in particular, is concentrated. In actual fact, automobile production in Argentina depends entirely on parts imported from the United States; the machines are simply assembled in Argentina. The output of assembled automobiles increased from 89,000 in 1960 to 112,000 in 1961. But because these automobile parts are imported free of customs duties, Argentina loses about \$100 million every year in foreign exchange on this deal. At the same time as U.S. capital is streaming into the country to take advantage of lucrative profit opportunities, production in the textile, food, tanning, tobacco and lumber industries is in a state of stagnation. These are the industries mainly run by local capital and most of the industrial workers (about 600,000) are concentrated in them. They are badly hit by the influx of competitive imports and the tighter squeeze on credits and loans. As a result, unemployment in Argentina last year rose by 4 per cent compared with 1960.

### People Say "No" to Military Dictatorship

Therefore it is easily understandable why the masses in Argentina are firmly opposed to the "Economic Stabilization Programme." They know it means misery for them and drains their country of its resources; they are also bitterly angered by the U.S. imperialists' economic and political grip on their country. At the same time they are fighting hard to prevent the advance of the reactionary military dictatorship that seeks to take over the country completely.

The working class in Argentina stands at the forefront of this struggle. In spite of brutal repressions it has staged one strike after another. Each of the two nationwide general strikes which took place in January and September 1959 involved some four million people. These were followed by another general strike in November 1960 in which three million workers participated. The railway workers staged mass strikes in August, October and November, and their last one was supported by the

general strike of workers in all trades throughout the country. All these strikes mobilized the support of workers belonging to different trade unions; they had the support of the Communist Party, the Socialist Party, People's Radical Party and those who had split away from the ruling Intransigent Radical Party. Women, students, businessmen and people of every social stratum in the country joined them to form a mammoth mass movement against a government which flaunted its subservience to U.S. monopoly capital.

Recent events in Argentina have once again exposed U.S. imperialism in its true colours. Washington is stepping up its anti-people, anti-democracy activities in the Latin American countries. In Brazil, U.S. attempts to engineer a fascist coup nearly plunged that country into civil war; in Ecuador military officers at Cuenca, at the behest of the White House, have just revolted, and forced the government to sever diplomatic relations with Cuba; in Uruguay there is another clique trying to carry out the orders they get from the Pentagon.

Washington has hailed Frondizi's Argentina as an "example" of "representative democracy." But public opinion representing many different political trends in Latin America has described the recent electoral and post-election manoeuvrings of the U.S. stooges there as a farce. Even *El Diario*, a conservative Bolivian paper, has aptly described it as "a satire on democracy."

Recent events in Argentina have provided Latin America and the world with yet another example of what the men in the White House mean by "progress." Here we have seen the "Alliance for Progress" in action: bribery, corruption, subversion, army coups d'etat and dictatorship. Ever wider circles in Argentina are learning from experience that the only way to achieve genuine national independence, economic emancipation, democracy, freedom and social progress for their country is to wage a resolute struggle against U.S. imperialism and the home-grown forces of feudal oligarchy.

## Industry

# "Made by Jingwei"

—The story of the first Chinese-made modern textile machinery plant

by CHEN PO-SAN

**T**HE Jingwei ("Warp and Weft") Textile Machinery Plant that lies south of Taiyuan, capital of Shansi Province, occupies a unique place in the history of China's textile industry. Built eight years ago, it was the first big modern textile machinery plant ever designed and built entirely by Chinese. The cotton textile machinery it has made since it started up in 1954 is equivalent to 56 per cent of all the cotton textile machinery brought to China during the 60 years before liberation. Textile mills in 27 provinces, autonomous regions and municipalities all over the country are using "Warp and Weft" equipment. You will see the "Warp and Weft" trade mark too on the automatic pirn winders in the textile mill which Chinese experts helped design and build in Burma.

Jingwei's history actually goes back considerably further than eight years. It began in the 1930s.

### Vain Efforts

The textile industry was one of the earliest industries developed in China, but, like most industry in colonial and semi-colonial countries, it was completely dependent on imported equipment. It was only in the 1930s on the eve of the War of Resistance Against Japan that some national capitalists in Shanghai combined to launch a textile machinery plant to provide China's textile industry with home-made equipment. The industry was already fairly large, having some 5 million spindles, so there would be a big demand for parts and new machines; nevertheless it

wasn't an easy venture. Machine-building generally calls for relatively large investments, and returns are slow. The national capitalists, economically weak as they were, failed to raise the necessary capital, and when the War of Resistance broke out in 1937, the whole scheme fell through.

The idea, however, refused to die. During the war, Li Sheng-po, an enterprising capitalist who had interests in textile mills in Nantung and Shanghai, hung up the signboard "Jingwei Textile Machinery Mfg. Co." in Liuchow, Kwangsi. But before he could turn out any machinery with the few obsolete machine tools he had, he was forced to evacuate by the advancing Japanese invaders. What was left of his plant was destroyed in the war in Kweichow. Li alone escaped to Chungking. What with the rich killings that could be made by speculation, he could find no one there interested in investing in his project. He waited there till Japan's surrender. He then pinned his hope on getting financial backing from the "Bank of Communications," a Kuomintang bureaucrat-capitalist concern. The bank promised to invest on condition that he raise another U.S. \$1,500,000 from other sources. Li then turned to the U.S. Export-Import Bank which makes much of its mission to give "aid to underdeveloped countries." Here the answer he got was that China could get all the textile machinery she needed from U.S. manufacturers and so there was no need to set up a Chinese textile machinery plant at all. The Jingwei Co. by this time was in such straits that it could hardly pay subsistence wages to the dozen employees it still had.

It was not until the autumn of 1948 that Jingwei had a stroke of luck. The Kuomintang government, on the verge of bankruptcy, announced its last "currency reform." It ordered all banks to deposit their foreign exchange holdings with the "Central Bank." There were sharp behind the scene squabbles going on among the bureaucrat-capitalists. To circumvent this order the "Bank of Communications" immediately transferred U.S. \$1,500,000 to the account of the Jingwei Co. But this amount still fell far short of the price of the equipment needed by the projected textile machinery plant. This was to have an annual capacity of 150,000 spindles to be made with equipment bought in the United States. And so, even with this windfall, the textile machinery plant for which the national capitalists had worked for nearly a decade remained a blue-print.

### Birth of New Plant

The real history of China's textile machine-building industry began only after liberation. The People's Government took over a number of textile machinery repair and assembly factories owned by bureaucrat-capital, expanded and retooled them and gradually developed them into a more or less comprehensive textile machine-building industry. Among the factories taken over was this Jing-



Sketch by Chiang Wen-ping

wei firm, since the biggest share of its capital was owned by the bureaucrat-capitalist "Bank of Communications." But all the "actual" assets taken over by the People's Government were the name and a dozen employees who had never produced any textile machinery but had to be paid.

In May 1951 building of the Jingwei Textile Machinery Plant began in the heart of Shansi Province. It was a brand new plant (except its name), highly mechanized and of considerable size. It was Chinese all through, in design, building and equipment, and, after being commissioned, produced completely Chinese-designed machinery.

### No Easy Job

This, to be sure, was not an easy job. Among Chinese technicians and workers there was little experience in such work available. But the tremendous enthusiasm to create a new world liberated by the victorious revolution inspired the whole collective engaged on the project. The builders learnt the advanced techniques of capital construction on the job and the tempo of building was steadily speeded up. The future workers of the plant acquired the skills needed to run the modern machine tools even while the plant was still being built. Skilled workers passed on their know-how to apprentices in short order and soon their pupils in turn were teachers. Technicians and rank-and-file workers of the textile industry cooperated to devise highly efficient machine tools to process cylinders, doffers and flats—important parts in carding machines. The Jingwei plant soon produced the first carding machine ever made in China.

The "Warp and Weft" was built rapidly and grew just as fast, especially during the years of the great leap forward. In those three years 1958-60 it produced twice as many ring and other types of spinning frames and

flyer frames as it had made during the four preceding years. As a result of the additions of new equipment and the increased technical skill of its workers, the actual capacity of the plant is nearly twice its designed capacity. Labour productivity rose 152 per cent in seven years. "Warp and Weft" is today producing a wide range of textile machinery and is trial-manufacturing some novel new equipment.

Jingwei is well equipped with modern machines which are highly mechanized or automatic; these include many highly efficient machine tools, pneumatic fixtures and mechanized founding equipment. Its production lines and layout have been planned on an advanced scientific basis. It turns out well-built, high-quality products which enjoy great popularity among users. To maintain and improve these standards, "Warp and Weft" regularly sends work-teams out to user plants to solicit suggestions on the design and workmanship of its machines. Campaigns for technical innovations at the plant itself complement these efforts. It also regularly sends its technical personnel and workers to other textile machinery plants in the country to learn their advanced methods, or invites outstanding workers from other plants to come to Jingwei to demonstrate and pass on their skills. Such friendly mutual help in technical matters between the nation's textile machinery plants as between all other plants has become an established practice in China.

### Higher Technical Level; Better Life

The technical advance of Jingwei, the increase in the variety of products it makes and the constant improvement in their quality are inseparable from the steady rise in the technical level of its engineering staff, workers and other personnel. Since 1958, it has promoted 75 technicians and 20 engineers. Eleven of these engineers have come directly from the ranks of the veteran workers. Pan Kung-liang, for example, was a turner of the sixth grade. He became first an engineer and then a vice-director of the plant. More than 1,000 of Jingwei's skilled workers were green hands and apprentices who learnt their industrial skills here on the job. "Warp and

Weft" has also helped train more than 1,000 skilled workers and administrative personnel for other textile machine-building plants.

These results, of course, were possible only because the plant has paid such close attention to the growth of its spare-time educational arrangements and kept them in line with the demands of the time. Today it has a complete spare-time educational system ranging from literacy classes to a full-fledged spare-time college. Special courses are also available to help veteran workers and cadres brush up their general, technical and theoretical knowledge.

In their spare time, the workers also enjoy a rich cultural life. The plant's club-house has accommodation for 2,000. It gives two film shows a week. Eight amateur dramatic troupes are active, each specializing in a certain type of local opera. There is never any lack of items for club performances or entertainments. Sports and amateur athletics have many fans among the workers and staff.

Administration, Party and trade union organizations work closely to care for the material life of the plant's workers and their families and dependents. Living quarters totalling over 86,000 square metres of floorspace have been built. The plant has its own hospital, kindergarten, nursery, baths, hairdressers, dining halls and retail store. It is also well known in the country for its horticultural prowess. Nestled in trees and flower beds the factory area looks more like a park than a manufacturing centre.

How life has been improved may be seen from the fact that today a great many workers and employees own bicycles, wrist watches and radio sets. This may not sound very much, and indeed the workers and staff of Jingwei no longer regard these things as something out of the ordinary, but it will be recalled that before liberation few Chinese, and still fewer of China's ruthlessly exploited workers, could afford such "luxuries." It was the people's revolution that brought them emancipation, a secure life, full of even brighter hopes for the future.

### Report From Sinkiang

# TARIM SKETCHES

by KUO PENG

*This is the second instalment of an article about the opening up of the Tarim River Basin. The events described here took place at a point on the river south of Aksu in the northwest corner of the Tarim Basin. The first instalment appeared in "Peking Review," No. 14, 1962. — Ed.*

THE men of the People's Liberation Army, reclaiming the wasteland south of the Tarim River, cut a big canal to lead water from the Tarim to irrigate their farms. But when the canal was opened up that turbulent river

simply refused to fill it. Heedless of invitations it roared past on its way east. To complete the project it was therefore necessary to dam the Tarim and force it to flow along the canal. This is no unusual procedure. It has been done on many rivers but the Tarim presents certain special difficulties in this regard. Dams, generally speaking, should be built where there is a hard riverbed into which their foundations can be sunk, but here on this section of the Tarim, the riverbed is sand, deep sand, without a single trace of rock. Furthermore the dam would be built out from both banks simultaneously until the two

halves met in the middle; closure of the gap between the two halves would require rocks or cement blocks. But here on the Tarim one couldn't find even a single rock as large as a fist and people here didn't have cement to use on such a job as this. The builders of this dam would clearly have to solve some new problems. The question of a leader, therefore, was most important. Just the right person would have to be chosen from among the officers of the division to lead the work.

While this matter was being considered by the divisional staff, an officer named Chung turned up and eagerly asked that he and his men be entrusted with the task. Chung was known as a man of action, but was sometimes a bit haphazard about the way he went about things. The divisional commander therefore questioned him closely about how he proposed tackling the project. Chung outlined a feasible plan to build the dam with earth and baskets of twigs filled with sand. This would be done in the ordinary way, building out from both banks of the river.

"That sounds reasonable," said the commander, "but how about the final gap? The narrower it becomes, the faster the current will run. At the end it will be very strong. How will you close it?"

"I will throw in a whole pile of sand baskets all at once; that will do the trick, I'm almost sure!"

The commander nodded agreement but pressed the point: "How exactly will you manage to pile in so many baskets all at the same time?"

Chung scratched his head, hemmed and hawed a bit but was finally forced to admit that he hadn't thought that out as yet. He was sure, however, that a way could be found to do it. The commander warned him that the Divisional Command would certainly never approve his project until he had a feasible way of solving this problem.

Chung, however, was not the sort of man to be easily put off. He was in and out of Divisional Headquarters

half a dozen times with various ideas. When these ran out, he said that though he had not hit on quite the best way of closing the gap, he was sure that backed by the collective wisdom of his men, the job would be done. The seventh time he came, all he could say was: "Please give us this job. If I fail to carry it out, I'm quite prepared to be judged according to Party discipline!"

In the end the job was assigned to him. He threw himself into it with terrific energy, as was expected, but also with a circumspection that was new for him.

### Blocking the Tarim

Every man under Chung's command knew well what the task was and what he had to do. "Block the Tarim!" was the slogan painted over the construction site. Morale was high and enthusiasm soared. When the plan of action was put up for mass discussion they even thought of a way of solving the knotty problem which had stumped Chung—how to close the final gap in the dam. When the dam was built out from both banks till the gap between the two arms was narrowed down to the minimum, the idea was to station a tractor on either arm with several strong ropes suspended tautly between them forming a rope bridge over the gap. Baskets of twigs and earth would be placed on this bridge. At a signal, the "bridge" would be cut from both sides and the baskets would fall simultaneously into the river, blocking the gap. Things, however, did not turn out as expected. The operation was performed twice but though the number of baskets was increased the second time they failed to hold back the current which effortlessly tossed them aside.

Meetings were held to study the failure of these first two experiments and as a result it was decided to build another, curving dam to force the current to make a detour and so retard its speed at the vital gap. The new dam was quickly built; and everything readied for another try to close the gap. The two tractors again manoeuvred their "rope bridge," piled with baskets, over the gap. At each end of the "rope bridge" stood a dozen sturdy men, each with a drawn sabre. At a signal of three revolver shots, they would slice through the ropes, the baskets would fall and the roaring Tarim would be blocked.

Everything seemed ready; then again the unexpected happened. The weight of the baskets on the "rope bridge" finally dragged the tractor on the southern dam into the water. The "rope bridge" sagged. Chung immediately sent for an 80 h.p. tractor as reinforcement. But, as ill luck would have it, there was not a single heavy tractor on the southern bank. To get one over from the northern bank two of the small wooden barges, which were all the boats available at that point, were lashed together and the tractor-driver slowly moved his giant machine onto them. They sank rather low, but by careful handling they were brought over without mishap. To the anxious watchers on



Tarim Basin oasis



the banks it seemed to take hours for the boats to cover the 330-metre-wide river but actually it took less than 30 minutes.

When the barges finally pulled into shore, the "hai-hai" of the boatmen ceased and the tractor landed safely, there was an audible sigh of relief from the crowd of workers. Once again everything was ready. The baskets were steadied on the "rope bridge," and every eye was turned on Chung. He consulted his watch, looked at the comrades around him with a smile, pulled out his revolver from its holster, and raised it above his head. All heads were now turned to the men with sabres. At the third shot, the blades, glittering in the sun, descended as the swordsmen shouted in unison. With a mighty splash the baskets fell. There was a moment of tension. The water reared up wildly; then suddenly came to a halt as if its driving force had had a brake applied to it; it whirled round and round and then, as if resigned, stopped roaring and eddying. Presently, it obediently entered the big canal and followed the course man had made for it.

So the Tarim was harnessed. But it still wasn't tamed. In July and August every year it comes down in full flood; its waters then would certainly overwhelm the dam. It brings down a mass of silt too; this would choke and stop up the mouth of the canal. That meant that every year after the flood season a new dam would have to be built and the silt dredged from the canal. That is why a reservoir was built on the upper reaches of the Tarim and water led from there to the canal rather than directly from the Tarim. It is planned now to build a big reservoir on each of the three rivers, the Yarkand, the Kashgar and the Aksu, which join to form the upper reaches of the Tarim. This will do much to reduce the silt content of the Tarim and make that river a dependable natural source of irrigation for the farms in its basin.

In Aral, the new town on the north bank of the Tarim, I met an old acquaintance of mine, Comrade Wang Chinshan. He was brought up in the seaboard province of Shantung but famine sent him as a refugee to eke out a living in the nearby province of Shansi. He had been a farmhand, and then a coalminer until he joined the Red Army in 1936 and with it crossed the Yellow River to fight the Japanese invaders. Now he was the superintendent of state farms on the north bank of the Tarim.

It was he who told me the story of how that famous cotton strain Victory One came into being.

### Cotton Seed "Victory One"

In Sinkiang the most suitable place for cotton cultivation is, of course, in the hot, low-lying Turfan Depression. Here on the Tarim, cotton can be grown too, but temperatures in May and October, the beginning and end of the frost-free period, are rather low, so no farm here had ever once reaped a bumper harvest of good-quality cotton. The Tarim pioneers, however, were determined to help raise the cotton the country needs. This put a big responsibility on the agro-technicians and scientists attached to the Tarim projects. They were asked to provide a new variety of cotton plant that would be suited to the Tarim climate, and that first of all, would mature early and give a high yield.

Work in this field started in the spring of 1955. Arrangements were made for a good number of new strains to be brought from other parts of the country for testing in the Tarim. The whole batch, however, had to be destroyed when it was discovered that some were infested with pink boll-worm eggs. It was too late then to get fresh seed from other places; so if a whole year was not to be lost, the only alternative left was to select the best seed possible from what was already growing in the Tarim fields. Every single cotton plant on the thousands of *mu* of plantations was closely scrutinized, but no really good candidate even turned up. The frosty season was about to set in and still no decision had been made. Finally, an unusual and unusually ugly looking plant caught the eye of the patient searchers. It grew on an infertile plot, had no branches and only nine bolls growing close to the main stem. These nine bolls, however, were noticeably bigger than the bolls on any other plants in the locality because the plant, unlike its neighbours, had no branches to fritter away the nourishment it got from the poor soil. These bolls besides were fully opened, showing that they had blossomed out early, well before the frost came. This freak therefore had three obvious merits: first, it matured early; second, it had no branches and therefore needed no pruning, which meant a big saving in manpower; and third, this made it suitable for close planting—promising a high yield. Photographs of the plant were taken and its nine bolls examined. Each boll had three carpels and each carpel eight seeds. Only a few of these seeds, however, had soft, fine good-quality cotton fibres, most of the rest was nothing special. Some were of the opinion that this precluded further consideration of the plant for a special role in the Tarim Basin. At this point the controversy was reported to the Party organization for decision. The Party organization threw its full weight behind the bold "commanders on the scientific research front." A thorough discussion made it clear that the advantages offered by the plant—early ripening, its promise of a high yield and big labour savings—more than outweighed the fact that some of its fibres were not of very good quality. It might even be that the lower quality of some of its fibres in comparison to others on the stem was due to the fact that it had been grown on very poor soil and had not had a chance to display its real merits. If this were the case, it was possible that good care on good soil would show that this single defect was accidental and remediable. Only an actual test in field conditions would show.

The following spring, 77 seeds of this plant were sown on an experimental plot. The harvest was eagerly awaited. The results came up to the most sanguine expectations: the plants indeed grew in their own peculiar way and the fibres were of uniformly good quality. Then in 1957, weather conditions in the Tarim were very bad. While all the other cotton plants, like men in a Marathon race, were completely exhausted at the end and there was a general decline in yield and output, the new strain was ready for picking some two weeks earlier than the others. This was something special. Usually, it is not easy to hasten the ripening of a plant even by one day, not to speak of fourteen or more. The divisional committee of the Party named this particular strain Victory One. After another few years' cultivation the peculiar merits of Victory One were firmly established. Today it is being grown on the cotton plantations both north and south of the Tarim.

## Tibet in Pictures

Ten artists who had brought sketches and paintings back from their journeys in Tibet showed some of their works at an exhibition held last month in the Union of Artists Gallery in Peking. Over a hundred of the 178 sketches on view were done last year in oils, watercolours or gouache by the painters Tung Hsi-wen, Wu Kuan-chung and Shao Ching-kun. They travelled over the length and breadth of Tibet from July to December eagerly painting the land and its people.

Tung Hsi-wen, one of the leading painters in oils, delighted the public as early as 1953 with his first paintings on Tibetan subjects. These new works bring us the new face of Tibet's emancipated masses. *An Old Serf Freed* is a portrait of an old man, his wrinkled face brightened with a beaming smile as he stands gazing forward at his own land, part of which, covered with lush *qingke* barley, makes up the background. *Portrait of a Former Slave* shows a model worker proudly wearing a big red flower favour; long years of oppression and exploitation have left deep-cut lines on his face, but the look in his eyes, the set of his head, tell us of his new happiness and confidence in life. Other sketches like *Leader of a Rural Mutual-Aid Team*, *Mutual-Aid Team Enjoying a Noontime Break* and *Study* also draw their subjects from the new people and the new way of life which have made their appearance since the quelling of the reactionary rebellion.

Wu Kuan-chung, especially known for his landscapes, painted many scenes as he journeyed along the Sikang-Tibet Highway — highland pastures; trees laden with pink peach-blossoms; the contrasts of dark-green forests, snow-covered mountains and clear azure sky. His *Mountain Flowers*, *Dragon King Pool in Lhasa*, *A Wall of Buddhist Images* and *Ferry Along the Yalutsangpo River* are eloquent of the splendours of Tibet's natural beauty. He has a lyrical touch, and delights in colour. The young woman painter Shao Ching-kun, in a lucid and easy style depicts other facets of the life of Tibet: *Market Place* shows a bustling village scene, *Laundering "Pulu"* (a typical Tibetan woollen

fabric) reflects the gaiety of young people at work; and *The Hall for Chanting Buddhist Scriptures* presents an aspect of the religious life of the country.

Other styles and approaches are shown in the sketches and drawings made by artists Hsiao Su, Chao Yu-ping, Chang Li and Pan Shih-hsun who joined the delegation sent by Peking's art and literary circles to Tibet in 1959. Pan Shih-hsun shows the originals of his series of charcoal drawings *Song of Emancipation* (see *Peking Review*, Nos. 2 and 49, 1961), a fine portrayal of former serfs making music, leading their yaks to the sowing, and celebrating the harvest. This series has been used as designs for a new set of stamps on Tibet. *Folk Singer Okyendrolma* by Chao Yu-ping is a sensitive, fluently drawn study of a folk artist, with a lovely sense of colour harmony. *Nangzan Joins the Chinese Communist Party and Deputy From a Pastoral Region*, both by the young woman painter Chang Li, present strong images of the new masters of today's Tibet. This group of sketches show their creators, all young artists, as talented painters with a clear mastery of their subjects and technique.

Several other interesting sketches filled out the exhibition. They were by Chu Chi, Li Tsun-wei and Wang Yu-lin, from the Central Institute of Industrial Arts in Peking. They went to Tibet in 1960 to get acquainted with Tibetan life and art at first hand in preparation for the work of designing the interior decorations of the Tibetan Auditorium of the Great Hall of the People in Peking.

Tung Hsi-wen and his two colleagues relate that before they left Tibet for Peking, they gave an exhibition of their sketches in Lhasa and it attracted huge crowds of enthusiastic visitors who were most generous in their praise. Even more gratifying, however, was the equally keen interest shown by peasants in remote villages and herdsmen in the pastoral regions where the painters worked. Not in-



Harvest

Oil sketch by Tung Hsi-wen

frequently, they were greeted by people who had travelled miles to see how they were represented in pictures by artists from faraway Peking. The commonest comment they made was: "How can we help being moved? In the past, people scarcely spared us slaves a glance. We were too mean to rate in their eyes. But now, look, Chairman Mao sends people to paint such lovely pictures of us!"

## PUBLISHING

### "The Primitive Society of The Owenkes"

*The Primitive Society of the Owenkes*, recently published by the Chung Hua Book Company in Peking, shows that the Owenke people, one of the smallest national minorities of China, lived in primitive clan communes right up to the time of liberation. Based on years of on-the-spot investigation, this scholarly work with its rich array of factual data, raises and answers many questions of key interest to modern ethnology.

The Owenkes even now number only 7,000 souls. Most of them live in the Hulunbuir League of the Inner

Mongolian Autonomous Region, with a small number in Heilungkiang in the northeast and in Sinkiang in the northwest. Scattered in this way, with one group isolated from another, their social development has been very uneven and the various groups today stand at different levels of social-historical development. Those who settled down in the agricultural and pastoral regions of Inner Mongolia entered the stage of class society long ago. The group which continued to lead a hunting life in the forests of the Great Khingan Mountains retained its primitive clan commune social system up to the time of liberation. The living preservation of such a social phenomenon that has long died out in most parts of China is of great significance for the study of ancient history.

Since 1957, an investigation group sent by the Institute of Nationalities of the Chinese Academy of Sciences has been making on-the-spot investigations among these Owenke hunters in the northeast. The data the group has gathered concerning the mode of production, the social organization and the spiritual culture of the Owenkes, came to several hundred thousand words. This has been summarized and made into this intriguing volume by the group in collaboration with the Inner Mongolian branch of the Chinese Academy of Sciences.

Even a hundred years ago, the Owenkes in this part of the country who depended on hunting for their main subsistence still used the bow and arrow and the spear. Organized into social groups called *wulileng* and formed of the offspring of a common ancestor, they went on joint hunting expeditions. The spoils of the chase were as a rule divided equally among all members of the *wulileng* which owned the hunting grounds, the domesticated deer and weapons as common property. The authors of the book advance the opinion that the *wulileng* was a clan commune type of organization governed by the economic law of primitive communism.

During the last century as a result of frequent contacts between the Owenkes and the outside world, shotguns have gradually superseded bows and arrows. With the development of the productive forces and exchange of goods (trade), individual labour began to assume more importance. Part of

the game such as ermines, caught by individual hunters, was no longer shared equally among all members of the *wulileng* but became the private property of the separate family within the *wulileng* to which the lucky hunter belonged. Gradually, fewer and fewer things were subject to equal division. The rights of the clan commune as the basic economic unit fell under constant attack from the competing rights of the separate families and these began to assume a more and more active and important role. However, what with the insecurity of hunting as a basic means of subsistence and the racial oppression imposed by the old domestic reactionary regimes and the Japanese imperialist invaders, the growth of the productive forces among the Owenkes was very slow. Thus it was found that until the time of liberation, the hunting groups still kept their hunting grounds, domesticated deer and weapons as common *wulileng* property, and devoted most of their time to joint hunting expeditions. It followed that game procured this way was still shared equally by members within the *wulileng*. The line between common and private property was not too sharply defined. Sometimes even the domesticated deer, shotguns, or game "belonging" to separate families as private property were shared with others or given for the use of the commune without remuneration. Separate classes never made their appearance among these Owenke hunters.

The book contains a wealth of other information on the Owenkes' social organization, their way of life and work, and their spiritual culture—their beliefs, poems and songs and dances, and their decorative arts. All this is accompanied by more than 30 graphic illustrations.

## ARCHAEOLOGY

### **2,000-Year-Old Capital Found**

The secrets of Hsienyang, capital of China 2,000 years ago, are now being unearthed by archaeologists in Shensi Province, northwest China.

Hsienyang was the capital of Chin Shih Huang Ti, the First Emperor who welded China into a unified, mighty, feudal empire. He was a builder on the grand scale. The Great

Wall, one of the greatest engineering feats of ancient China, and still one of the wonders of the world, is credited to him. His dynasty, the Chin (221-206 B.C.), however, was short-lived. The remains of his capital were found ten kilometres northeast of the present-day town of Hsienyang. The southern part of the old site has been washed away by the Wei River, but excavations of the northern part conducted by archaeologists over an area of more than ten square kilometres have revealed remains of walls of rammed earth, drinking wells, a drainage system and foundations of dwelling houses. The diggings within the site of the old city have yielded many relics of Chin times including coins, wall paintings, implements and vessels made of bronze and iron as well as pottery vessels for everyday use.

One find of special importance is an imperial decree inscribed on a bronze plate, ordering the standardization of weights and measures throughout the empire. The plate is well preserved and all 40 characters of the inscription are clearly legible. It corresponds exactly with what has been recorded in historical documents. Such a bronze-inscribed decree is the first of its kind ever excavated in China.

Amid the remains of a structure which had been destroyed by fire were found bronze animal masks plated with gold, decorative pieces of bronze cast with exquisite designs, and fragments of decoration made up of straight lines, curves and geometric designs painted on walls in red, yellow, blue and black. This wall painting is the oldest yet discovered in China.

Historical records show that Hsienyang remained the capital of the Chin from the time Duke Hsiao of Chin established his headquarters there in 350 B.C. It became the political and cultural centre of the nation after the powerful Chin kingdom eliminated the other six rival states in the country and established a unified empire. It was ravaged by war during the reign of the Second Emperor when peasant uprisings broke out on a national scale. No record of the city's layout and size has come down to us. The recent trial excavations have already provided a wealth of material and knowledge of these ancient times and much more is promised by the excavation work further projected.

# SIDELIGHTS

**Only the Beginning.** In more years than he can remember 82-year-old Grandpa Wang, a former village carpenter, had built houses for others, but he'd never had one of his own. Not long ago he and his family moved into a new brick house, all their own. Its ten bright, airy rooms were built with the help of the production team of the commune in which he lives. Living in this house, he often feels, is one of the best things that ever happened to him in his life.

His is one of the many new houses, containing a matter of 1,700 rooms, built in the last two years by members of the Machuang People's Commune, Hopei Province.

Prosperity did not come easy to the commune, which started with 60,000 *mu* of alkaline land notorious for frequent droughts and constant waterlogging. Before liberation the majority of the peasants there lived in incredible poverty. Of the 86 families in Grandpa Wang's village alone, 83 were either hired farm-labourers or beggars. Immediately after the birth of New China the battle against nature got under way; but only since the formation of the commune, with the combined labour power and resources of the brigades, has the transformation of the land been carried out in a really big way. A 47-li canal and over 50 irrigation ditches have been dug, as well as hundreds of wells. These have been very effective against drought and waterlogging. Intensive measures were taken to reduce the alkalinity of the soil. Soon crops began to improve. Members began to have more money in their pockets. Brigades became richer. Nearly half of the brigades in the commune were able to install electricity for home lighting, radios and the broadcasting system, and to run the mills. Now the commune has a number of industrial works too.

Grandpa Wang and his children and grandchildren, and other commune members, are pleased but far from satisfied with all this. "This is only the beginning," they say, as they look confidently into the future.

**How Many Han Characters?** No accurate figure available, replied the editor of *Zhongguo Qingnian Bao*

(China Youth Daily) to a reader's letter. It estimates that there are now roughly over 70,000 characters (ideographs) in the Han language (or Chinese, as it is usually called abroad). This does not include the unlimited number of possible combinations formed by the monosyllabic characters or ideographs. With the growth of Chinese civilization, the Han vocabulary has grown. *On Language and Words* written by an Eastern Han (25-220 A.D.) scholar listed only 9,353 characters at that time. The present number is already half as large again as the 48,000 characters listed in the *Chunghua Dictionary* of 1915. However, only about 6,000 characters are in general use. A reader with a vocabulary of 3,000 to 4,000 can get by fairly well for most purposes.

**Old Craft Revived.** There is a unique profession in Peking—restoring and reproducing ancient bronze ware. The craftsmen doing this work have long years of experience and are artists in their own right. They show a consummate skill in piecing together and restoring newly discovered ancient bronze ware.

They also make reproductions so remarkably faithful, down to the pattern of the highly prized patina, that even specialists find it hard to distinguish them from the originals. This is why all copies are clearly marked "Reproduction." These wares go to the growing numbers of museums and cultural institutions set up since liberation. Excellent copies of some of the rarest bronze relics unearthed in this country have been made.

The trade, an old one, is said to have flourished as far back as the Sung

Dynasty, but it was in a bad way just before Peking was liberated. Most of the craftsmen were scraping a living as pedicab drivers, cobblers and in less skilful trades, but even then there was not enough work for the remaining 30 or so craftsmen still employed at this. They led wretched lives, being considered little better than forgers. Of course there were unscrupulous antique dealers in old China who tried to sell their reproductions as the genuine article.

Now these art racketeers are gone. The number of craftsmen working in Peking today has more than doubled. The demand for their services is great not only in the making of reproductions but because of the vastly increased scale of archaeological work now being done.

**Useful Snakes.** Few places can boast as much poison per foot as the snake farm of the Institute for Research on Venomous Snakes attached to the Kwangsi Medical School. All the deadliest snakes in south China—cobras, kraits and others are lodged in this subtropical garden. They are "milked" regularly for their venom for use in research and in making antivenins, and other medicinal substances.

The laboratory staff has collected many folk prescriptions and methods for treating snake bites. These are being systematically tested so as to establish, improve or disprove their clinical usefulness. Very promising therapeutic agents have been derived or developed from these "home" remedies.



Oil painting by Yu Pen

# CHINA AND THE WORLD

## Sino-Soviet Scientific Co-operation

The 4th and final session of the Joint Sino-Soviet Academic Committee for research on the productive potentialities of the Heilungkiang River Basin opened on April 5 in Peking.

The upper and middle course of the Heilungkiang (Amur) with its tributaries, the Argun and the Ussuri, form part of the boundary between China and the Soviet Union. In August 1956, an agreement was signed between the two countries for a joint comprehensive study and survey of the main course of the three rivers in order to assess and develop their natural resources, control their summer floods and tap their water power resources. Teams of scientists from China and the Soviet Union started work that same year and completed their task in 1960 according to plan.

Speaking at the opening meeting of the session, which is discussing the final results of the survey, Professor Chu Ko-chen (Coching Chu) who headed the Chinese delegation pointed out that the results achieved by the survey would have been impossible without the correct leadership of the Chinese and Soviet Governments, the warm support of the two peoples, and in particular, the close co-operation and hard work of the scientists of both countries.

Dr. P.V. Vasiliev, head of the Soviet delegation, said that this co-operation furnished an example of brotherly unity between Soviet and Chinese scientists inspired by the lofty ideas of Marxism-Leninism.

## Release of Gizenga Demanded

Under cover of the U.N. flag, U.S. imperialism has intensified its aggression in the Congo. Having effected the imprisonment of Gizenga it is stepping up its attempts to destroy the country's patriotic, anti-imperialist forces which it hates as the main obstacle to its control of the country. The Chinese Committee for Afro-

Asian Solidarity, in a statement issued on April 4, strongly condemning these crimes of U.S. imperialism and its agents in the Congo, expresses the firm support of the Chinese people for the Congolese people's demand for the immediate release of Gizenga, the Congolese nationalist leader.

The statement points out that events in the Congo in the past year have clearly exposed U.S. imperialism as the sworn enemy of the Congolese and all the African peoples and the "U.N. forces" as a tool of U.S. neo-colonialism.

It demands the withdrawal of the "U.N. forces" and all foreign troops from the Congo so that the Congolese people may settle their own affairs in accordance with their national aspirations and interests.

## Cuban Youth Congress

The first National Congress of the Association of Insurgent Youth of Cuba, which began in Havana on March 30, closed on April 4.

Youth delegates from 26 countries brought greetings and pledges of wholehearted support for the Cuban revolution.

Head of the Chinese youth delegation Hu Chi-li, warmly greeted the Cuban people and their youth on their great victories in overthrowing the reactionary Batista regime, frustrating repeated U.S. imperialist acts of aggression and intervention, annihilating the U.S. mercenaries, defending their country, carrying out social reform and in developing their national economy and culture. He expressed the firm support of the 130 million Chinese youth for the Cuban people and youth in their struggle against U.S. imperialist aggression, in defence of national independence and for the building of their country.

His speech was repeatedly applauded by the delegates who cheered and shouted "Long live Mao Tse-tung!"

## Recent Visitors

Rune Johansson and C. Persson, Minister and Vice-Minister of the Interior of the Kingdom of Sweden, have concluded their visit in China. They



The Cuban Negro singer Ignacio Vila Fernandez (Bola de Nieve) with Chinese artist friends at the farewell party given in his honour in Peking. He gave his final performance in China on April 6 before a packed house. Premier Chou En-lai and Vice-Premier Chen Yi were in the audience

left for home on April 9. During their stay in Wuhan, they visited the Wuhan Iron and Steel Company, the Wuhan Heavy Machine Tool Plant, Wuhan University, the Yangtse Bridge and rural people's communes. They also went sightseeing on the East Lake.

Among other recent visitors were Alexina de Paula, wife of Francisco Juliao who is President of the Peasants' League of Northeastern Brazil and her two daughters; Narciso Rabell Martinez, representative of the Puerto Rican University Students' Federation for Independence; and a delegation of members of the Japanese Council for Joint Struggle Against the Japan-U.S. "Security Treaty" from Fukuoka Prefecture led by Ichitaro Komiya and Mitsuo Matsuda.

## Cultural Briefs

*The Selected Works of Chinese Poets* is being published by the Japanese bookstore Iwanami. Compiled by two Japanese specialists in Chinese literature, the anthology is in two parts. The first part of the 18 volumes has already come off the press. Included in it are the *Book of Songs* and poetic works of the Tang Dynasty. The second part in 15 volumes includes poems written in the Sung, Yuan, Ming and Ching Dynasties (10th-20th centuries).

An exhibition of photographs from Switzerland was opened in Shanghai last week. Sponsored by the Shanghai branch of the Chinese People's Association for Cultural Relations With Foreign Countries, it depicts the history, geography, and social and economic life of Switzerland, as well as its culture and art.

# CHINESE PRESS OPINION

fighting in Laos is nothing but a veiled threat of blackmail.

## U.S.-West European Rivalries

Discussing the visits which George Ball, U.S. Under-Secretary of State, recently made to Paris, Bonn and London and reactions in the capitals of the major Western European countries, a report carried in *Renmin Ribao* (April 9) notes that this trip marks a new phase in the clash of interests between the U.S. and its Western allies.

During his visits, Ball exerted heavy pressure on these West European countries to increase their "contributions" of conventional forces to NATO, give more "aid" to the developing countries through U.S.-controlled international agencies and open their markets still wider to U.S. goods. However, as Western press reports indicate, this U.S. pressure ran up against stiff resistance.

In a speech in Bonn, Ball complained that the efforts of the Western European countries in the arms drive were insufficient. In London he is reported to have said that "the real defence of Europe lies in the conventional defence of NATO forces and the cover of American strategic force, which is a nuclear one." London regards this as a deliberate slight on Britain's role as a nuclear partner of the U.S.

British public opinion was also irritated by Ball's statement in Bonn

## What Was Sullivan Up To?

At the end of March, Sullivan, U.S. delegate to the Geneva Conference for the peaceful settlement of the Laotian question, went to Xieng Khouang, provisional capital of the Kingdom of Laos, on a two-day visit. His aim, says a Hsinhua dispatch from Xieng Khouang, was to cover up U.S. political intervention and military aggression in Laos. By blaming the Nosavan-Boun Oum clique for its "stubborn" attitude, Washington seeks to shrug off its responsibility for undermining the formation of a coalition government in Laos, and pin this on its puppets.

Sullivan came out with a number of lies. He alleged that the Kennedy Administration is "concerned" about a "peaceful" settlement of the Laotian question, "supports" Prince Souvanna Phouma in forming a coalition government, "hopes" for the realization of peace and neutrality in Laos, and is "worried" about the possibility of a new outbreak of war in that country. It is said that to exert "pressure" on the Nosavan-Boun Oum clique, Washington withheld payment of two months' aid amounting to U.S. \$6 million.

But what has made Nosavan so "stubborn"? Is his stubbornness due to U.S. "pressure" or its support? Sullivan had no answer to this question. But he gave the show away when he said that there was a limit to the exertion of pressure and that the U.S. could not allow Nosavan to be cornered.

Everybody knows that, in the more than 10 months since the ceasefire negotiations, the U.S. has instigated the Nosavan-Boun Oum clique to stall and undermine the formation of a coalition government. Egged on by Washington, the Nosavan-Boun Oum clique has insisted that the reactionaries hold the most important portfolios in a coalition government, so that this government will be a tool for U.S. aggression. Everything indicates that the U.S. certainly has no wish to support Prince Phouma in forming a coalition government for the realization of peace and neutrality in Laos.

The myth of U.S. "pressure" on the Nosavan-Boun Oum clique was exploded by General Kong Le. He pointed out that U.S. imperialism was simply playing a trick and that part of its aid was handed to Nosavan through Thailand. Nosavan himself has admitted that during the period when the U.S. aid payments were suspended, he still received a special fund of U.S. \$19 million, and that U.S. aid in the form of military supplies increased rather than decreased.

There are now 1,300 U.S. officers commanding Nosavan's rebel troops, the interventionist forces from Thailand, south Viet Nam, the Philippines and the remnant bandits of the Chiang Kai-shek clique, which have launched attacks on the liberated areas in violation of the ceasefire. Before the ceasefire, most of the U.S. officers in Laos were attached to the rebels' military commands above the battalion level. Now they are to be found in the companies and platoons, controlling the training, supplies and military operations. At the Nam Tha front, U.S. pilots have given air cover to the rebel troops.

It is clear that Sullivan's talk about U.S. "worries" over a new flare-up of

## THE PASSING SHOW



### Twisters

"Ban the Bomb!" the people cried,  
"Scrap those U.S. bases!"  
In Holy Loch and Guantanamo, Okinawa . . . even Turtle Bay!  
Clear them all away!

Eager to distract attention,  
The Big, but little, Four  
Had recourse to a new invention:  
They began to Twist.

Adenauer shook that thing,  
Kennedy made it swing,  
Mac the Wonder counter-twisted,  
Charles, declaiming "Gloire!" gyrated  
Till even he was sated  
With such frantic immobilité.

More and more the people doubted  
This unseemly show.  
"End this thing!" they shouted,  
"NATO, SEATO, CENTO — NO!  
"Peace and liberation:  
"That's what we want!  
GO!"



that if "the preferential trading habits of all colonial systems are perpetuated in a new form," this would lead to a "dead end." The *Daily Express* bluntly pointed out that the U.S. wanted Commonwealth preferences cut to make room for its own trade expansion.

Ball's visits to Western Europe took place at a time when the U.S. is in the grip of a serious balance of payments crisis. So one of his aims is

to press the Western European countries, particularly West Germany, to take over more of the U.S. "foreign aid" burden. Ball is reported to have expressed dissatisfaction with the terms of West German foreign "aid," and demanded an extension of its "aid" programme. But Bonn's Economics Minister Erhard, it is reported, gave him a firm "no."

On the trade question, Ball expressed the fear that the Common

Market "implied a substantial degree of discrimination against the U.S." and asked them to be more "outward-looking," that is, to open their markets to U.S. goods. On the other hand, it is known that the latest U.S. action to raise U.S. duties on imported carpets and glassware to the detriment of the Common Market countries, especially Belgium, has touched off a violent protest from the Council of Ministers of the Common Market.

## WHAT'S ON IN PEKING

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

### PEKING OPERA

▲ **HSIEH YAO-HUAN** Adapted from Tien Han's new historical play. Hsieh Yao-huan is a talented woman official under Queen Wu Tse Tien, China's first woman ruler who reigned during the early Tang Dynasty. She is sent by Wu Tse Tien to investigate a peasant uprising in the Taiho area. Her opposition to the harshness of official policy causes the hatred of the local nobles, who kill her. China Peking Opera Theatre.

▲ **A THORN HAIRPIN** A rich girl accepts a thorn hairpin as a pledge of betrothal to a poor scholar she loves. Their marriage is broken up by a scandal-monger, but truth triumphs and they are finally reunited. China Peking Opera Theatre.

▲ **AT THE PORT OF CHIUCHIANG** A historical opera. A Yuan general, rejecting the advice of his faithful retainer, Chang Ting-pien, falls into an enemy trap at the Port of Chiuchiang. On the verge of defeat he is rescued by Chang. China Peking Opera Theatre.

### PINGJU OPERA

▲ **BY THE KINSHA RIVER** An episode from the famous Long March. It tells how the Red Army defeats a Kuomintang plot and unites in friendship with the Tibetans as it crosses the Tibetan region by the Kinsha River in 1936. China Pingju Opera Theatre.

▲ **YANG NAI-WU AND HSIAO PAI-TSAI** A drama based on a notorious murder case in the Ching Dynasty. China Pingju Opera Theatre.

### KUNQU OPERA

▲ **THE CHAIN SCHEME** An episode from the *Romance of the Three Kingdoms*. In the latter part of the Han Dynasty, Prime Minister Tung Cho tries to usurp the throne. To save the Han Dynasty, Minister of the Treasury Wang Yun devises a plan to turn the faithful retainer, Lu Pu, against his master Tung Cho. He promises that the beautiful Lady Cicada shall marry Lu Pu, but actually marries her to Tung Cho. The scheme works: Lu Pu in his jealousy kills his evil master. North Kunqu Opera Theatre.

### YUNGJU OPERA

▲ **IF IT RAINS, MOTHER WILL MARRY** A tragedy of woman in feudal society. Widow Lin, bereft of all means of livelihood by a devastating flood, is persuaded to marry a rich merchant so that she can provide for her only son, Tu Wen, whom she confides to the care of a relative. Nineteen years later, Tu Wen passes the imperial examinations and becomes a high official. One day, a colleague ridicules him on learning of his mother's second marriage. Insensitive and puffed up with pride he condemns her and publicly upbraids her on her birthday. Grief stricken, she commits

suicide. Performed by the Chin Feng Yungju (Ningpo opera) Opera Troupe from Shanghai.

### QUYI OPERA

▲ **THE TRAGEDY OF AN ACTRESS** Adapted from Chang Hen-shui's novel of the same title. Story of the fate of an actress in old China. Shen Feng-hsi, a young actress, happy in her love for a college student, is abducted by a Kuomintang warlord. Peking Quyí Opera Troupe.

▲ **YI HO TUAN** A new historical quyí opera about the patriotic anti-imperialist uprising in 1900. Peking Quyí Opera Troupe.

### BALLADRY

The Long March Balladry (*pingtan*) Troupe from Shanghai is now in Peking and performs here for two weeks. Its repertoire includes episodes from the following stories: *A Pair of Pearl Hairpins*, *The Tragedy of an Actress*, *The West Chamber*, *Romance of the Three Kingdoms*, *The Song of Youth* and others.

### MODERN OPERA

▲ **THE WHITE-HAIRED GIRL** One of China's most famous modern operas. A peasant girl, forced to flee to a mountain wilderness to escape from landlord tyranny, returns dramatically to her village after liberation. Central Opera and Dance-Drama Theatre.

### CONCERTS

#### RECITAL

by

Liu Shu-fang - Lyric soprano

Sponsored by the Central Philharmonic Society. Piano accompaniment by Li Pao-chiung. Programme includes songs by Nieh Erh, Hsien Hsing-hai, Mozart, Tchaikovsky, Verdi and others.

### MODERN DRAMA

▲ **THE CENTRE-FORWARD DIES AT DAWN** A topical drama by the Argentine playwright Augustin Cuzzani pungently exposing the perverted commercialization of life in capitalist society. China Youth Art Theatre.

▲ **SONG OF RED TASSELS** A new five-act play produced by the students of the Central Drama Institute based on the heroic peasant uprising in Hunan Province in 1927.

▲ **KOU CHIEN REBUILDS THE STATE** A historical play written collectively by Tsao Yu, Mei Chien and Yu Shih-chih. The State of Yueh in the Warring States Period is defeated by the State of Wu. After three years' captivity, Kou Chien, King of Yueh, returns home. Mindful of the humiliations and suffering he and his people have endured, he encourages them to work hard to strengthen their country. Many years later, he turns the tables on Wu. Peking People's Art Theatre.

## HIGHLIGHTS OF CURRENT ENTERTAINMENT, EXHIBITIONS, ETC.

▲ **A FISHERMAN'S FAMILY** A play by the Albanian playwright Suleiman Pitarka. It tells how the Party of Labour leads the heroic Albanian people to victory in their fight against the fascists. Peking People's Art Theatre.

### FILMS

▲ **SMALL DAGGERS SOCIETY** A colour film version of a dance-drama based on a people's uprising which occurred in Shanghai from 1853-55. Shanghai Tienma 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 WEDDING EVENING** A Polish film telling how in 1809, a happy wedding in a small village in Poland is interrupted by the Austrian invaders. The story then goes on to portray the people's heroic struggle against the aggressors.

### EXHIBITIONS

▲ **EXHIBITION OF TRADITIONAL PAINTINGS BY THE LATE HU PEI-HENG** Daily, 9:00 a.m.-5:30 p.m. till April 17. At Beihai Park.

▲ **EXHIBITION OF PAINTINGS ON CUSTOMS AND HABITS OF THE CHING DYNASTY** Daily, 9:00 a.m.-5:00 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.



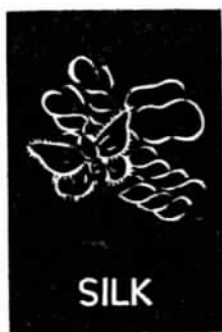


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