

# People's 人民中国 China

March 16

**AMERICAN BACTERIOLOGICAL WARFARE**  
Statements and Protests

**ELIMINATING CORRUPTION, WASTE  
AND BUREAUCRATISM**  
Liu Tsun-chi

**CHINA'S GIANT SHELTER-BELT**  
Kao Kang

**THE CHENGTU-CHUNGKING RAILWAY**  
Our Correspondent

**"CRY KOREA"**  
Book Review by  
Dr. James G. Endicott

6

1952



# People's China

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# Against U.S. Bacteriological War

A Statement by the P.P.C.C. and Democratic Parties of China  
Issued on March 8, 1952

American imperialism, whose brutality is unprecedented in history, has suffered disastrous blows in its aggressive war in Korea, which is today nearly two years old. Over eight months have passed since it was first compelled to negotiate for an armistice. It has, however, not only no intention today of mending its ways but is using every underhand means to obstruct the armistice talks. It unscrupulously violates international conventions and becomes the enemy of human justice by committing the monstrous crime of waging large-scale bacteriological warfare.

Since January 28 this year, military aircraft of the American invaders have repeatedly scattered large quantities of germ-carrying insects over the frontline positions and rear of the Korean People's Army and the Chinese people's volunteers. This has aroused the boundless wrath of the Chinese and Korean peoples and the peace-loving people throughout the world. The governments of China and Korea have issued statements in solemn protest. A continuous series of protests have been made by the Chinese and Korean peoples, and people in other parts of the world.

The U.S. government, however, is doing its utmost to escape, deny and evade its responsibility. In a shameless statement on March 4, U.S. Secretary of State Dean Acheson lied that "United Nations forces have not used, and are not using, any sort of bacteriological warfare." The truth is that the American invaders not only continue to scatter germs in Korea but have further extended, from February 29 to March 5, the area of bacteriological warfare to our territory. The American invaders sent on different occasions during this six-day period 68 formations of planes making 448 sorties to invade the territorial air of Northeast China and dropped large quantities of germ-carrying insects over Fushun, Sinmin, Antung, Kwantien, Linkiang and other places. In addition, they bombed and strafed areas of Linkiang and Changtienhokow. These solid facts are a complete exposure of American imperialism, proving that it is so barbarous and inhuman that it will not stop at any ruthless

methods to kill the Chinese and Korean peoples and prolong and extend the Korean war.

The American imperialists made preparations for bacteriological warfare long before the Second World War. As far back as 1925, the United States and Japan were the only countries among the then great powers which refused to ratify the Geneva Protocol against bacteriological warfare. At the end of the Second World War, the American aggressors took under their wing a large group of Japanese bacteriological war criminals, including Shiro Ishii, Jiro Wakamatsu, Masajo Kitano, to secretly manufacture, conduct research in, and experiment with, various bacteriological weapons. Recently, they used captured personnel of the Korean People's Army and the Chinese people's volunteers to test bacteriological weapons. These are all well-known facts.

The democratic parties of China and the people throughout the country fully endorse the two solemn statements issued by Chou En-lai, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Central People's Government, on February 24 and March 8, regarding these inhuman and monstrous atrocities committed by the American imperialists. To safeguard human justice, defend peace in Asia and the rest of the world and to safeguard our own security and that of mankind, we must wage a resolute struggle against the American aggressors' use of bacteriological weapons. We will not rest till our aim is achieved.

The democratic parties of China issue this solemn call particularly to the people throughout the country: the more maniacal American imperialism becomes, the more isolated and hopeless it is. We the Chinese people must unite among ourselves and with the Asian peoples and people in other parts of the world, resolutely to answer the frenzied provocation of the American aggressors. We must continue to strengthen our just action in resisting American aggression and aiding Korea and further intensify our efforts to increase production and practise economy in support of the Chinese people's volunteers and the Korean People's Army to deal mortal blows to the bacteriological war criminals.

The democratic parties of China issue this solemn call particularly to the peace-loving people of all Asia and the rest of the world (including the people of the United States and Japan), as well as all organisations striving for peace: the monstrous atrocities committed by the American aggressors are not only a serious threat to the security of mankind but are an affront to the dignity of mankind. The calamity which fell yesterday on the peaceful people of Korea, has today already fallen on the peaceful people of China. If this monstrous crime of the American imperialists is not stopped at once, a similar calamity will come crashing down on the peaceful people of the rest of the world tomorrow. For the sake of human dignity and world peace, we must rise up and unanimously condemn the American

imperialists and impose the most severe sanctions on the bacteriological war criminals.

Justice belongs to us and victory shall unquestionably be ours!

**The National Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference**  
**The Communist Party of China**  
**The Revolutionary Committee of the Kuomintang**  
**The China Democratic League**  
**The Democratic National Construction Association**  
**The Non-Party Democrats of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference**  
**The China Association for Promoting Democracy**  
**The China Peasants and Workers Democratic Party**  
**The China Chih Kung Tang**  
**The Chiu San Society**  
**The Taiwan Democratic Self-Governing League**  
**The New Democratic Youth League of China**

## **Foreign Minister Chou En-lai's Statement**

### **March 8, 1952**

After launching large-scale bacteriological warfare in Korea on January 28, 1952, the American aggressive forces, between February 29 and March 5, sent 68 formations of military aircraft making a total of 448 sorties to invade China's territorial air in the Northeast and scatter large quantities of germ-carrying insects at Fushun, Sinmin, Antung, Kwantien, Linkiang and other areas, and to bomb and strafe the Linkiang and Changtjenhokow area. The details of these incidents are as follows:

(1) On February 29, American aircraft, in 14 formations, flew a total of 148 sorties over Antung, Fushun, Fengcheng and other areas and scattered insects over Fushun. An investigation on the spot showed that insects of a black colour were found within an area of 15-20 kilometres in Fushun county covering Takow, Lijen, and Fangsiao villages and Lien-taowan.

(2) On March 1, American aircraft, in 14 formations, flew a total of 86 sorties to intrude over Fushun, Tatungkow, Changtjenhokow, Kwantien and Chian and scatter insects of a black colour resembling fleas over Makinchwang and other places in Fushun county. Of these planes, 8 in one group strafed a point 5 kilometres northwest of Changtjenhokow.

(3) On March 2, American aircraft, in 12 formations, flew a total of 72 sorties over Fushun, Antung, Tatungkow, Changtjenhokow, Kiuliencheng, Chian, Kwantien and Changpai.

They dropped large quantities of flies, mosquitoes, fleas and other types of insects over Takow and other parts of Fushun county and areas between Fushun and Mukden.

(4) On March 3, five formations of American aircraft, flying a total of 32 sorties, intruded and scattered insects over Antung, Langtow and Chian.

(5) On March 4, thirteen formations of American aircraft flew a total of 72 sorties, to intrude and scatter insects over Antung, Langtow, Tatungkow, Kiuliencheng, Changtjenhokow, Sinmin, Chian, Hunkiangkow and Kwantien. At 11 a.m. of the same morning, six American aircraft were observed above Langtow. They dropped from a height of 5,000 metres two cloth receptacles which burst open some 2,000 metres from the ground; and then a swarm of flies was found near the highway. At 2 p.m., an American aircraft was observed over Paikipao and Jaoyangho in Sinmin county. It dropped a load of flies. On the same day, American aircraft were active over Kwantien, and afterwards flies, mosquitoes, crickets and fleas dropped by American aircraft were immediately found east of Kwantien city and at Hungsheklatze and other places.

(6) On March 5, ten formations of American aircraft flew a total of 38 sorties to intrude over Antung, Anpingho, Changtjenhokow, Hunkiangkow, Tunghua and Linkiang. Of these, one group of 8 planes at about 8 a.m.

indiscriminately bombed and strafed Linkiang, wounding 2 people and destroying 5 houses.

In view of the fact that the United States government has dared repeatedly and openly to make air intrusions over China's territory, spread germ-bearing insects and indiscriminately bomb, strafe and kill Chinese people at the same time as it is delaying the Korean armistice negotiations and obstructing a peaceful settlement of the Korean question in an attempt to prolong and extend the Korean war, I am authorised by the Central People's Government of the People's Republic of China to protest solemnly against these most savage and brutal acts of aggression and provocation by the United States government.

The open and direct acts of aggression of the United States government against the People's Republic of China date from June 27, 1950 when U.S. President Truman announced the despatch of its navy to invade and occupy China's territory, Taiwan. On August 27, 1950 the American aggressor troops in Korea began to send their military aircraft to intrude into the territorial air of Northeast China. From then on, the military aircraft of the United States government have many times intruded over Northeast China and carried out reconnaissance, strafing and bombing. Now, on the heels of its large-scale bacteriological warfare in Korea, the United States government is adding to its open violation of international law and all laws of humanity by scattering large quantities of bacteria-laden insects over Northeast China. This is an attempt by the criminal and vicious device of mass slaughter of peaceful people to further its aims of invading China and threatening the security of the Chinese people.

These brutal crimes of the United States government will never be tolerated by the Chinese people. The opposition of the Chinese

people in their wrath will assure the ignominious failure of these crimes.

It is the view of the Central People's Government of the People's Republic of China that the United States government, pursuing its objectives of extending the Korean war and undermining peace in the Far East and other parts of the world, has employed bacteriological weapons, strictly prohibited by humanity and international conventions, against the peaceful population and armed forces of the Korean and Chinese peoples in Korea, and is even extending such crimes against the peaceful population in Northeast China by employing these unlawful bacteriological weapons in a brutal provocation.

In its statement on February 24, the Central People's Government of the People's Republic of China pointed out: "If the people of the world do not resolutely curb this crime, then the calamities befalling the peaceful people of Korea today will befall the peaceful people of the world tomorrow." Now is the time for the peace-loving people of the world to rise and put an end to the maniacal crimes of the United States government. We are confident that human justice and peace will triumph.

The Central People's Government of the People's Republic of China hereby makes it known that members of the American air force who invade China's territorial air and use bacteriological weapons will be dealt with as war criminals on capture.

The Central People's Government of the People's Republic of China at the same time declares that the United States government must bear the full responsibility for all the consequences arising from air intrusions over China's territory, the use of bacteriological weapons and the murder of the Chinese people by indiscriminate bombing and strafing.

## Editorials

# ***Down With the Germ-War Criminals!***

Desperate because the peoples are defeating their every attempt to dominate Asia and the world, the American imperialists have extended to China the bacteriological warfare they earlier unleashed against the Korean people. Their use of this fiendish weapon, in defiance of all international conventions and humanity, is

the worst atrocity yet committed by Wall Street in its bloody aggressions in Asia.

We urge our readers to give their full attention to the solemn statement by the National Committee of the P.P.C.C. and China's democratic parties and to the statements by Foreign Minister Chou En-lai printed in this issue.



Truman's Latest Recruit

## China's Great Constructions

The constructive achievements of the Chinese people were once the wonder of the ancient world, but they pale in the light of those we are witnessing today. Peaceful building on a colossal scale goes on in every part of the land. The rehabilitation of many branches of industry has reached the point where the highest levels of the past have been overtaken and surpassed. New factories are beginning to rise and mines rapidly opened up for exploitation. Mastering modern technique, Chinese workers are producing their first automobiles and tractors, coal cutters and machine tools. The Chengtu-Chungking railway in Szechuan, the Tienshui-Lanchow line in the Northwest and the Laipin-Chennankuan line in Kwangsi are splendid examples of the creative energy of the liberated people.

Modern scientific methods are being introduced to agriculture to raise yield per hectare and to consolidate the self-sufficiency in food which China has enjoyed since 1950. Cotton production will top the all-time peaks by 33 per cent. A state farm is being established in every county, and every province will have its own farm machine and implement factory. These measures and the still wider development of co-operatives and mutual-aid teams prepare the way for a still more prosperous life for China's hundreds of millions of peasants.

Floods and droughts are being ended in the valleys of the Yellow river, the Yungting and Huai rivers. Two of the first great lake reservoirs are being constructed on the Yungting and Pi rivers; when completed, they will

These documents are an incontrovertible indictment of the government of the United States. They express the burning indignation of the Chinese people and their unshakeable will to crush the imperialist aggressors. They sound a call to the people of the world to do their clear duty: to put an immediate stop to this new means of mass annihilation which menaces the life of every man, woman and child everywhere, to fight with redoubled determination against these warmongers, who do not shrink at using the vilest methods of murder. They call for redoubled efforts in defence of world peace.

(The statement by Korean Foreign Minister Bak Hun Yung and Foreign Minister Chou En-lai's first statement on American bacteriological warfare are printed on pages 34-35 of this issue.—Ed.)

end floods, improve irrigation and bring hydro-electric power to the people in those areas.

A magnificent start is being made to increase the forest area of the country from the present 5 per cent of its total area to 20 per cent. The great forest shelter-belt being sown in the Northeast will transform its climate and make available for cultivation an area equal to one-third of the total arable land in England.

Under the leadership of the Communist Party of China, the Chinese people have indeed "stood up". The New Democracy has liberated vast resources of natural wealth and the human energy of 475 million people to contribute to the good of mankind. They are determined to take the road to Socialism pioneered by our great ally, the Soviet Union.

It is to protect and consolidate such constructive achievements that are a source of joy to peace-loving peoples everywhere that the Chinese people's volunteers are fighting alongside their comrades of the Korean People's Army against the U.S. aggressors. It is to protect and advance their peaceful construction that the Chinese people have launched their movements to increase production and practise economy, to accumulate capital, to eliminate corruption, waste and bureaucratism—those evils inherited from the past and fostered by the enemies of the people at the present time.

The successes achieved by these great movements lay the groundwork for the major works in the industrialisation of China, the preparations for which will be completed in the very near future.

# The Historic Movement to Eliminate Corruption, Waste and Bureaucratism

Liu Tsun-chi

Since December, 1951 a great mass movement has been launched throughout China. This is a campaign to wipe out corruption, waste and bureaucratism among workers in government organs and public enterprises.

This is a movement of historic significance. Never in any period of China's long past has there been such a movement; nor was a movement of this kind possible. Only the democratic rule of the people under the leadership of the Communist Party could dare to initiate such a mass movement to uproot, once and for all, the rotten legacy of centuries of reactionary rule. Only a people's democracy can stand the rigorous test of such a movement, and thereby further consolidate and strengthen itself.

It is widely known that corruption has a history almost as long as the old Chinese society itself. After China had been turned into a semi-colony, corruption and bribery received such encouragement from foreign capitalists and the comprador class at home that they virtually became a political feature of this ancient country. The imperialists on one occasion, for example, granted a favoured warlord a sum which enabled him to bribe practically every member of the so-called "Parliament" in the days of the Chinese Republic to elect him president. The Four Big Families of the overthrown Kuomintang presented the nation's resources and strategic bases as gifts to Wall Street in return for huge bribes.

Indeed, in the past, experts in the ways of corruption, bribery, extravagance and waste were admired by the members of the ruling class.

After the liberation of China's mainland, the People's Government, as a matter of principle, employed all the public functionaries left by the Kuomintang regime. Many among them succeeded in reforming themselves in the course of their work and as a result of political study during the past three years. They were converted into honest and conscientious cadres. Yet, unavoidably, there were quite a number of them who still retained various bad traits of selfishness which they brought along with them from the old society. Some of them abused the confidence the People's Government placed

in them, and conspired with law-breaking merchants to indulge in criminal acts of corruption, bribery and infringement upon the property of the people.

Besides this, a small number of formerly unsullied revolutionary cadres, as a result of their various contacts with the bourgeois class, and lured on by the black sheep among them, were also stained by the corrupting habits of the old society and themselves became corrupt.

The Communist Party and the Central People's Government have adopted an uncompromising policy against the phenomena of corruption and waste that violate the interests of the people. Chairman Mao Tse-tung in his 1952 New Year greetings to the nation stated:

Moreover, I wish us victory on a newly opened-up front—a front at which all the people and functionaries of the country are called upon to rise and launch vigorously and uncompromisingly a large-scale struggle against corruption, waste and bureaucratism so as to wash away these stains left behind by the old society!

## A Mass Movement

The launching of this campaign in today's China is very opportune. On the one hand, the people are determined to give full support to the Chinese people's volunteers, in order to continue to help the Korean people in resisting the American aggressors and to safeguard peace in the Far East and the world. On the other hand, they are determined to increase production and practise economy in order to accumulate capital and speed up the realisation of the plan of transforming China from an agricultural country into an industrial one.

Corruption, waste and their breeding ground—bureaucratism—are serious obstacles in the way to increasing production and practising economy. Only by resolutely and completely eliminating them can the wealth produced by the people of China be fully used for the great constructive enterprises of the country.

It was not surprising, therefore, that from the very beginning, this movement was enthusiastically supported by the broad masses of workers, peasants, shop-employees, intellectuals and the overwhelming majority of

government workers. Within a very brief period, this movement has achieved remarkable successes. One after another the corrupted elements have been unmasked in the government departments of all levels and in public enterprises. The movement brought most of them to a realisation of the baseness of their own behaviour and these voluntarily made confessions to their superiors or to the comrades of their own offices. They told how, after the founding of New China, they had abused their official positions, how they were bribed by dishonest merchants and how they stole public funds. They handed over the money or property they had stolen and expressed their determination to rectify their mistakes and start their lives afresh. The People's Government has acted on the whole with great leniency towards such repentant offenders. It holds that such people can be reformed through re-education in the New Democratic society. There were of course offenders who were adamant in their refusal to confess or even admit their misdeeds. In such cases, after the investigations made by the government and the masses of the people, their crimes were invariably exposed before the public; furthermore, those whose crimes are particularly serious will be severely punished, irrespective of their rank, and whether or not they are members of the Communist Party.

### A New Type of Government

Taking part in the movement, the broad masses of the people have been able to see for themselves how different the People's Government is from all past governments and from foreign capitalist governments. They have never before seen or heard of a government in China that insists on being honest and on wiping out corruption. When the press and radio made public the already confirmed cases of corruption, the people, bitterly angered against those who had violated the law, calculated the losses caused to the state. They were more than ever concerned with the care of public property and the country's interest.

Some people who had been influenced by reactionary foreign propaganda had wondered how the state power under the leadership of the Communist Party would deal with the problem of corruption. They doubted if it could preserve itself from contamination by this ancient evil. What they have seen has convinced them that it is absolutely impossible for it to succumb to these forces of decay.

In examining cases of corrupt behaviour among government functionaries, the government and the masses discovered at once that such behaviour has not only an historical basis but that chiefly it has a very real social basis in the conditions of today. Not all the national bourgeoisie who are accorded legal status in New China have been satisfied with their position as stipulated in the *Common Programme*—such as freedom to run their industrial or commercial businesses and make legitimate profits within the limits of being of benefit to the country and to the people's livelihood. On the contrary, most of them have in fact committed, in contravention of the *Common Programme*, such illegal acts as: (1) bribing personnel in government and in public organs; (2) smuggling and evading taxes; (3) stealing state property; (4) doing shoddy work and using inferior materials on government contracts; and (5) espionage to obtain economic information from government sources to be used for market speculation. Some relatively big businessmen even secretly organised themselves to monopolise the orders placed by government organs and state-owned enterprises, and even forcibly amalgamated small private concerns in the same lines or forced them out of business by utilising the base means that are usually adopted by the big capitalists in capitalist states.

The repulsive nature of these law-breaking private industrialists and merchants was sharply exposed as a result of the charges brought against them by the cadres of government organs and public enterprises whom they had tried to tempt or who had been tempted but had recovered their sense of civic virtue. Others were exposed by workers or employees in the enterprises of these same law-breaking merchants, men and women who were particularly well informed of the misdeeds of their employers and whose awakened civic consciousness made it impossible for them to tolerate the systematic flouting and breaking of the law, the sacrificing of state interests for personal gain. As a result of the educational campaign that plays so big a part in the movement, these employees first tried to persuade their employers to report of their own accord their illegal acts to the local government.

Towards the overwhelming majority of those industrialists and merchants who have committed such illegal acts as bribery, smuggling, evading taxes, etc. but have confessed their guilt, the government adopts a



policy of considerable leniency. To take an example, if they express a firm determination to discontinue their misdeeds and make up the sum of taxes which they have evaded for the past year, they are not punished. Those law-breaking merchants whose guilt is confirmed by material evidence but who refuse to confess their guilt, and whose crimes are so serious that they merit the keenest censure by the people, cannot, of course, be forgiven so lightly. The worst of these have been sent to the People's Court for trial and punishment.

It must be remembered that under KMT rule the national bourgeoisie were on the verge of total collapse as a result of the oppression of imperialism and bureaucratic capitalism. Some of their representatives participated in or sympathised with the people's liberation struggle at various times and to a certain degree. After the liberation, the national bourgeoisie have participated in the state power of the People's Democratic Dictatorship under the leadership of the working class, and private capitalist economy has become one of the five sectors of our national economy. Their political and economic position based on the *Common Programme* is protected by the state. During the past two years, the government, adopting a policy of developing industry and commerce in every respect, has helped them overcome post-war difficulties and to recover and develop their businesses. Since imperialist influence had been driven from China's mainland, and since the broad masses of the peasants secured land through land reform, and especially since the stabilisation of prices, private enterprises on the whole have enjoyed an unprecedented development. But as their enterprises developed, and quickly flourished as well, the bourgeoisie have been less inclined to heed the *Common Programme* and government regulations. They have tried increasingly to advance their selfish interests at the expense of the nation's economy and people's livelihood. They have engaged in disruptive activities, speculation and monopolisation to gain ever larger profits for themselves.

### No Change in Common Programme

The present movement does not aim to eliminate China's national bourgeoisie as a class. There is no change in the policy of the Chinese Communist Party and the Central People's Government of rallying the national bourgeoisie to aid in the national tasks, a policy laid down in the *Common Programme*.

But the New Democratic economy is the preparatory stage for the march of China towards Socialism. Private capitalism must not be allowed to develop without restraint and in a blind way, lest it cause damaging effects to the nation's economy and people's livelihood.

In his report made to the Standing Committee of the National Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference on January 5, 1952, Premier Chou En-lai said that the Chinese national bourgeoisie

...may act in the national, social and economic life in some respects, but may not act in other respects; they may be allowed to develop in some respects, but are prohibited from developing in other respects. Those economic enterprises which are beneficial to the nation's economy and people's livelihood may be allowed to develop. Those private economic enterprises which have no benefit for or are harmful to the nation's economy and people's livelihood will not be allowed to develop. Any economic enterprise which controls the nation's economy and people's livelihood should be put under unified state management.

We have already mentioned the five most common criminal acts in which the bourgeoisie have been found to indulge to the detriment of the nation's economy and people's livelihood. The campaign launched by China's new society against these reprehensible practices, which are opposed to the *Common Programme*, is inseparable from the campaign against corruption, waste and bureaucratism.

The Chinese people are hailing the victories already won on this front. They have united as one and with full confidence to carry this movement to a completely successful conclusion, because they deeply realise that the People's Government at all levels will, after this movement, become still cleaner and more consolidated. They know that the morale and spirit of Chinese social life will be refreshed, and that still greater achievements will be possible on the nation-wide production front. The facts have borne out this truth. The Communist Party and the People's Government today enjoy even greater prestige among the masses of the people. Corruption and waste are regarded more widely than before as socially shameful while industriousness and frugality are honoured; commodity prices have become more stabilised. The productive enterprises of the people are advancing at an increased tempo and the enthusiasm of the masses for construction, their spirit of initiative in production, has been heightened with the day-to-day development of the movement.

# A Giant Shelter-Belt for Northeast China

Kao Kang

This is an abridged version of the speech made by Kao Kang, Chairman of the Northeast People's Government, on December 26, 1951 at the conference on the shelter-belt afforestation project for the western section of Northeast China. The giant shelter-belt announced by Kao Kang is one of the greatest construction projects of peace to be undertaken by the people of New China. At the end of fifteen years, Northeast China will be protected by a forest 1,100 kilometres long and an area, equal to one-third of the arable in England, will be made available for crops.

We will be discussing something that has never before happened in the history of our country, a matter of vital concern to the people.

Since liberation, the labour enthusiasm of the peasants has been greatly raised, and rural economy has progressed rapidly. But there are obstacles in the path of further development of agricultural production—obstacles such as floods (the Liao river flood in 1950 was quite serious); shifting sand (in the western section of Northeast China and in the eastern part of Inner Mongolia, fertile land is turned into deserts year after year) and droughts.

## Man-Made Catastrophes

One of the major causes of these catastrophes is the wanton destruction of forests, a factor which was inseparable from the evils of past reactionary regimes. Almost without exception, the reactionary rulers felled timber recklessly, either to sell for profit, or to build palaces and mansions. No thought was ever given to forest preservation. The only "afforestation" carried out was the planting of trees around palaces and pleasure grounds to improve the "scenery". No real afforestation was ever undertaken to eliminate floods, droughts and sandstorms to serve agricultural and industrial needs or to lessen the sufferings of workers and peasants caused by these calamities.

Not only were very few trees planted during the warlord rule and the Japanese occupation of the Northeast, but predatory felling of trees cut greatly into the timber reserve.

As Karl Marx has pointed out, before the advent of a Socialist society, forests are always destroyed, and preservation and tree-planting

is negligible in comparison with the losses resulting from this destruction.

The reason why the reactionary ruling class is unwilling to build up the forests is, according to Marx, that afforestation requires such long periods for capital turnover that it does not represent a profitable investment for the capitalist.

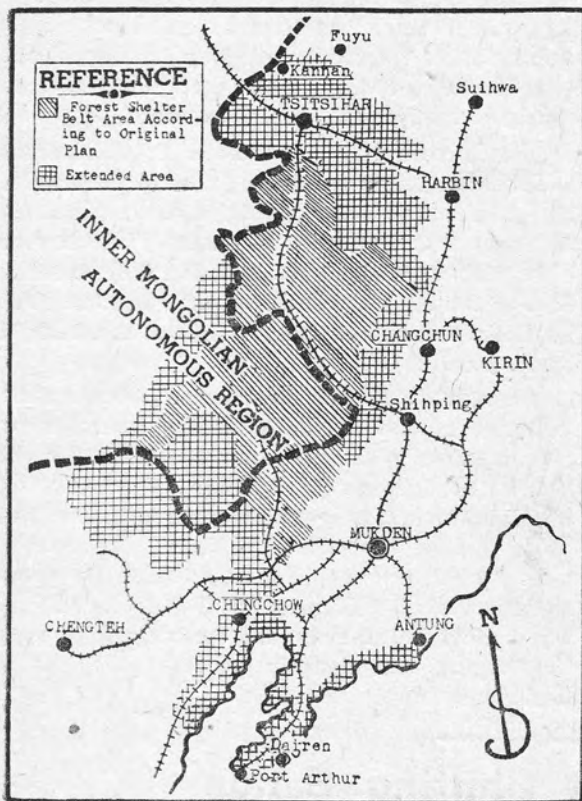
In defending their masters, bourgeois scientists have always maintained that forests came before mankind, and that it is mankind that brings about deserts. This is a distortion of fact; actually it is the reactionary ruling class that makes deserts, that causes floods, that brings disasters to mankind.

## Nature Being Changed

But now the government of China belongs to the people. Under the leadership of the Communist Party and Chairman Mao Tse-tung, the People's Government takes into account the interests, both immediate and long range, of the people. We must stop the wanton felling of trees; we must begin a large-scale afforestation programme for the benefit of the people, to eliminate the causes of further catastrophes.

In the early stage of liberation, with fighting and land reform still going on, the launching of such a programme was not possible. But in 1950, the Northeast People's Government decided on a shelter-belt afforestation project for the western section of Northeast China, in view of the constant dangers of sandstorms, floods and droughts in that area.

The present extended project, the first of its kind in our country, plans a forest-belt running south from Kannan and Fuyu in Heilungkiang province to Shanhaikwan in



The Northeast Shelter-Belt

Hopei.\* The Socialist Soviet Union is the only country in the world where a shelter-belt afforestation programme of similar magnitude has been successfully carried out. Nothing of this sort is possible in any capitalist country.

As Chairman Mao has said:

All the facts prove that our system of People's Democratic Dictatorship is vastly superior to the political systems of the capitalist countries. On the basis of this system, our people are able to give expression to their inexhaustible and unlimited strength. Such strength cannot be overcome by any enemy.

Under the leadership of Chairman Mao, we can defeat not only our enemies but also natural calamities.

Now our plan for the shelter-belt forest is made. Preparatory work is already in progress. Planting has begun in part of the area, and we have gained certain achievements and experiences.

The establishment of this shelter-belt forest is a great struggle to transform nature. It is

\* At Shanhaikwan on the Gulf of Pohai, the Great Wall of China runs down to the sea.

a fight to conquer sand and eliminate flood; a fight to wrest more arable land from nature; a fight for bigger harvests; a fight for safer living and better health conditions for the peasants. It is also a fight for more timber which will be needed hereafter in industry, transportation and other construction work.

If we do not complete this project, it will be impossible to fulfil our hopes for increased yield per hectare and for extension of farming acreage, regardless of how much other work may be done in the western section of Northeast China and in the Liao river valley. On the contrary, the arable land and agricultural output will decrease year by year and the peasants will face more calamities. Therefore, this project has an importance so great that it cannot be ignored in the slightest degree.

### All Will Help Everywhere

All members of the Party and Youth League, model workers and members of mutual-aid teams in the area must set an example in working together with the people to conquer all difficulties and complete the great task ahead of schedule.

In addition to the shelter-belt plan, attention should also be given to the preservation and growing of forests in the Changpai mountain area, where the enemy's irrational felling in the long past destroyed a large part of the timber reserve. Without the timely and planned creation of new forests, the Sungari river valley will be seriously threatened by floods, and the dykes along the river will be endangered.

The department of forestry of the Northeast People's Government and the bureaux of forestry of Liaotung and Kirin provinces should start a survey at once and map out their own plans; they should educate the peasants; they must get the seedlings ready—so that the masses can be organised for tree-planting in the spring of 1952.

In the meantime, a specified area in the upper reaches of the Sungari river should be set apart where cultivation of land will be prohibited. In other forest areas where there has been felling, we must nurse the young trees and protect older ones.

In addition to all this, a programme should be launched for afforestation of the sources and

along the banks of the Liao, Liu, Taitze, Hun, Nun, Moutan, Luan, Hsilamulun, Kuntu and Yalu rivers.

Trees in large numbers are to be planted along highways and railway lines, in cities, towns and villages, so that in twenty years' time all our cities and villages will be green and all our highways tree-shaded. By that time the climate will have been changed, rainfall adjusted and our national wealth increased.

### Fighting Forest Fires

The governments at all levels must pay attention to forest protection and to the prevention of forest fires. In the past few years, fires have caused serious losses to the forests of our nation. We must organise the masses as fire fighters, spread the knowledge of fire prevention and make the masses understand that to protect forests means to protect the great interests of the state and the people. We must, therefore, strictly prohibit the burning of brushwood, and we must be on guard against forest fires.

We must realise that afforestation is a long-range task. As long as mankind exists, afforestation work cannot stop. It does not only serve the immediate interests but also those of many generations to come.

It is true that the Northeast at present is the chief timber-producing area of the nation. But if there is only felling without planting, not only will calamities be invited; this source of timber essential to construction may one day be exhausted. Large-scale afforestation will be welcomed by the masses and we must begin it at once.

Inasmuch as the benefits of afforestation will not accrue in the first few years, some people might take little interest in it. Hence, besides necessary compensation by readjusting land allotments, universal education among the broad masses is necessary. Both government workers and the people should realise the great significance of this plan to transform nature. They must voluntarily and actively take part in carrying this gigantic project through to a victorious completion.

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## The Fight Against Shifting Sands

Waves of sand have buried whole villages in Fuyu county, in the western part of Northeast China, swallowing up homes, rolling over fields and forcing the inhabitants to move before their pitiless advance. Ever since the wanton destruction of forests by Japanese and Kuomintang rulers, sandstorms have blown and the sun has had a yellow glare nearly all the year round.

Fuyu, in Heilungkiang province, is only one of the many counties in this part of Northeast China being ravaged by the drifting sands. The peasants have fought a losing battle against nature. Their harvests have decreased every year under the sand attack.

Even Shenyang (Mukden), the biggest city in the Northeast, might one day be buried under the sands if the drift is not checked in time.

But the shifting sand is being checked and stopped—by the huge shelter-belt afforestation by the Northeast People's Government. This project is described in the speech by Kao Kang printed above.

The projected belt—second in scale only to those in the Soviet Union—runs south from Fuyu and Kannan in Heilungkiang province

down to the Liaotung peninsula and Shanhaikwan, the starting point of the Great Wall on the coast north of Tientsin. Its length is about 1,100 kilometres, and at its broadest section, it reaches a width of over 300 kilometres. It covers one-fifth of the territory of Northeast China, extending over 60 counties in Heilungkiang, Liaohsi, Kirin, Liaotung and Jehol provinces and in Inner Mongolia. When completed, over three million hectares will be afforested.

The present plan is an expanded version of an earlier project drawn up by the Northeast People's Government in July, 1950. Afforestation work started on a small scale as early as the spring of 1951. Since then, 18 million seedlings have been planted in an area of over 4,000 hectares.

This vital project is scheduled to be completed in 15 years. With the shelter-belt fully grown, 1,800,000 hectares of now unusable land will be made available for crops, an acreage equal to about one-third of the total under cultivation in England. In another area of roughly the same size, agricultural output will be raised 30 per cent. The forest belt itself will produce an annual yield of timber equal in value to 40 million tons of grain.

# China's Home Market Comes Alive

## Trade Between Cities and Villages in 1951

Li Ching-yun

As a result of the possibilities opened by the New Democratic economic system and of active promotion by the People's Government, internal trade in China is now at the highest level in history. In particular, the interflow of goods between cities and villages, the exchange of industrial for agricultural products inside the country, has reached an unprecedented volume.

Cotton provides a good example of this. In 1946, China's cotton imports were equivalent to 75 per cent of her own production. By 1951, only two years after liberation, the country was almost self-sufficient in cotton, and the sums paid by textile mills for their raw material went to Chinese peasants instead of flowing abroad.

Moreover, the subsidiary products of Chinese rural economy (crops other than grain and cotton as well as various handicraft articles) are reaching urban industries and consumer markets in ever-increasing quantity. In the past, most of these were either consumed in peasant households, sometimes simply as fuel, or completely wasted, as in the case of fruit which was not gathered and rotted for lack of customers. In 1951, however, 80 per cent of such products were sold on a national scale, while the figure for some areas was 90-95 per cent. With the money received for them, Chinese peasants were able to buy all kinds of city-made industrial goods. An incomplete estimate shows that peasant purchasing power in the country as a whole was 30 per cent higher in 1951 than in 1950. While the land reform was the chief factor in this increase, improved sales of subsidiary products also played an important part.

Basing itself on domestic ores, coal and other resources, China's heavy industry has already broken all past records in its output; it is now in a position to give increasing service to the countryside in the form of tools, transport and fertilisers, and to light industry in the form of many different types of machines. The North China region, to take one instance,

now produces seven or eight times as much steel as it turned out in its peak pre-war period.

This rapid growth has produced a situation previously unknown in China. The rate of growth of basic industry has now outstripped that of commerce—and commerce must expand to catch up if industrialisation is to proceed smoothly. Trade is being promoted in every way, not to enable more middlemen to get profits, but to expand, simplify and speed up the exchange of goods for the benefit of the people and their economy. The vast markets and raw material sources it is tapping within the country more than nullifies the results the imperialists expected from their attempt to embargo China. It also makes export goods available for foreign trade with friendly countries such as the Soviet Union and the People's Democracies, from which China obtains machinery and many other essentials of industrialisation in exchange for raw materials on a fair and equitable basis. The expansion of urban-rural trade is one example of how the "embargo" has in fact acted as an added reason to speed up their advance through industrialisation to Socialism.

### Benefits to Villages

Here are a few examples of benefits already apparent from the enlivened interflow of goods between city and country achieved under the trade policy of the People's Government.

Kiangsi province has always been able to produce a great deal of paper-pulp, which was previously turned out for hand-made paper only. Shanghai has modern paper mills, but they always used to import pulp from abroad. Now Kiangsi has expanded its production for the use of the Shanghai paper industry, which no longer needs to buy foreign raw material to work at capacity. Kiangsi peasants, Shanghai workers and the whole nation are richer for the change.

A small village in south China—Kangho, Hoyuan county, Kwangtung province—produces good turpentine, suitable for mixing paints and varnishes and for medical use. In

the past, buyers for American imperialist firms purchased the crude product from the peasants at such low prices that they lived in semi-starvation, shipped it to the United States where it was refined, and then transported the finished product back to China for sale. Now that Kangho turpentine has found a wide domestic market, things are different. Last year, 2,500 out of 5,100 poor peasant families there attained middle-peasant status. New houses and more cattle are to be seen in the village. Marriages have increased. All these changes took place because the peasants have not only won back their soil through land reform but also because they can make their subsidiary production pay.

Increased urban-rural trade has contributed greatly to the growth of industry and commerce in the cities. Many factories have not only recovered, but considerably surpassed, their best previous production. In Shanghai alone, 1,596 new industrial enterprises began work in 1951. In the same period, 3,278 new commercial enterprises opened for business.

Peking had 3,543 more shops and factories in April, 1951 than at the beginning of the year. Sales of cloth in Peking increased by 250 per cent and sales of flour by 59 per cent during the same period.

### State Trade Organs Lead

How is the expansion of urban-rural trade promoted? The leading role in this regard is played by the state trading organisations, which operate not only in the big cities, but also in villages and hamlets and the remotest areas inhabited by national minorities. Separate state trading organisations exist to handle grain, cotton yarn and cloth, producers' equipment, building materials, subsidiary farm products, salt, minerals, tea and miscellaneous consumer goods. Though their lines of business are different, they all serve one purpose, to develop domestic trade and increase the circulation of goods between city and countryside. Together, they buy up the larger part of China's agricultural products, keep an even flow of raw materials to industry and make sure that the rural people are adequately supplied with city-made goods.

The rapid growth of business by state trading organisations in 1950-51 is graphically shown by the following partial table for the Central-South China region.

### Turnover of State Trading Companies in Central-South China

(1950 turnover=100)

|  | Bought    | Sold   |
|--|-----------|--------|
| Grain . . . . .                        | 452.4     | 322.68 |
| Cotton Yarn . . . . .                  | 150.0     | 155.48 |
| Cloth . . . . .                        | 616.5     | 239.3  |
| Miscellaneous Consumer Goods . . . . . | 127.7     | 484    |
| Coal . . . . .                         | 254.4     | 143.8  |
| Salt . . . . .                         | no figure | 179.13 |
| Petroleum Products . . . . .           | no figure | 202.23 |

The state trading network is extending into the most far-off places. Last year, almost 200 branches and over 100 agencies were set up in national minority areas in Southeast China and nearly 300 among national minorities in the Northwest. By contrast with the past, when the minorities were constantly being cheated out of their produce by unscrupulous merchants as well as plundered directly by reactionary officials, trade is now conducted on fair terms and is a powerful factor in improving their well-being.

### Importance of Co-operation

One of the chief means of trading with the many-millioned peasantry is through the co-operatives, which are much more numerous than the state trading companies and work with them to develop domestic trade. The co-operatives gather raw materials in the countryside for the needs of urban industry and bring manufactured goods back to the villages from the cities. Both members and non-members benefit from these activities. Before there were co-operatives the peasants had to sell their produce cheap and buy the manufactures they needed dear. Now they are no longer at the mercy of the merchants who used to exploit them in this way.

Every spring since the liberation, the co-operatives have brought modern agricultural implements, sprayers, insecticides and fertilisers to the countryside. After each harvest, they have sold shoes, cloth, stockings and other consumer goods to peasants who at the same time bring them grain, cotton, tea, tobacco and silk for sale. The co-operative is thus the greatest focal point for the interflow of goods between city and village.

In the autumn of 1951, North China alone had 11,000 co-ops, with over 16,550,000 members and share capital amounting to 149,670 million yuan. This represented a membership increase of 88.99 per cent and a capital increase of 140.75 per cent over the previous year, 1950.

During the same period, retail sales of goods by the North China co-ops increased 62 per cent and their purchases 106 per cent.

Article 37 of the *Common Programme*, the basic law of the People's Republic of China, states that "State-owned trading organisations shall assume the responsibility of adjusting supply and demand, stabilising commodity prices and assisting the people's co-operatives." It is clear from the facts that this provision has been transformed into reality. Together with the state trading organisations, the co-operatives form the main bridge over which the interflow of trade takes place.

In the meantime, private trade has also increased and is protected. Private firms are organising specially for, and are contributing to, the urban-rural exchange.

### Exhibitions Promote Trade

Among the methods by which internal commerce is promoted, special exhibitions occupy a prominent place. In the course of 1951, no less than 31 of them were held in metropolitan, regional and provincial centres. Statistics for 21 of the exhibitions show a combined attendance of 10,700,000 people. The value of business done at 23 was 5,220,000 million yuan. Transactions were of three kinds: cash and carry, and contracts written and oral.

Economically, these exhibitions accelerated trade. Politically, they consolidated the alliance of workers and peasants by convincing them of their inter-dependence and making clear to the hundreds of thousands of peasants who attended that the working class must lead in the alliance. Culturally, they made millions realise the vastness and wealth of their country, giving them confidence that all economic attacks by the imperialists can be beaten off and that the building of China must inevitably succeed.

The exhibition for Central-South China, for example, impressed upon everyone the fact that this region alone has three times the area of Japan and a population equal to that of the United States. It contains the world's largest reserves of tungsten and antimony, as well as large deposits of zinc, lead and thirteen other ores. Its mineral wealth includes diamonds, marble and agate. Its manufactures include the world's best Kiangsi porcelains.

The North China exhibition made clear the wealth of that great area. In coal, Shansi

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## For International Economic Co-operation

*On the eve of the departure from Peking of the Chinese delegation to the International Economic Conference which opens in Moscow on April 3, its leader, China's well-known economist, Nan Han-chen, made the following statement: "The Chinese people, who love peace, want to establish and develop commercial and trade relations with the governments and peoples of all countries on the basis of equality and mutual benefit. We are in full support of the holding of the International Economic Conference. During the conference we are desirous of making extensive contacts with industrialists, businessmen, co-operative and trade union workers and economists of various countries in Asia, Europe, America, Africa and Australasia. We are prepared to conduct transactions and to sign trade contracts with trade organisations, industrialists and businessmen of the various countries which want to trade with China, so as to push forward energetically the development of international economic co-operation."*

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province alone has more than half of the nation's reserves. North China is also a land of cotton, feeding the country's mills so that they are no longer dependent on imports.

The Northwest has great reserves of oil, the life-blood of modern transport. That China is "poor" in petroleum resources is a myth that is now being disproved.

New railways are being built linking what was once the far hinterland to China's great rivers and sea coast. In the Southwest, over half of the Chengtu-Chungking railway, begun after the liberation, is already operating. In the Northwest, the Tientsin-Lanchow railway will be completed before the end of this year.

Internal trade helps pave the way for the industrialisation which, utilising China's vast resources, will make her one of the greatest productive forces in the world. This industrialisation will proceed at a pace both inaccessible and inconceivable to the capitalist world, especially because China does not stand alone but has the brotherly aid of the U.S.S.R. and the People's Democracies, with which she forms one inseparable camp of Socialism, democracy and peace.

# The Chengtu-Chungking Railway

*Our Correspondent*

On December 7, 1951, just two years after the last remnants of the corrupt Kuomintang had been driven from Szechuan province, the first train drew out of Chungking to Neikiang on the first 284-kilometre stretch of the new Chengtu-Chungking railway. This first section, begun in June, 1950 was completed twenty-six days ahead of schedule. The whole 530-kilometre run linking Chengtu, the provincial capital, with Chungking, its port on the Yangtse river, will be completed before New China celebrates its third National Day on October 1st this year.

The plan for this railroad in the south-western province of Szechuan dates back to the first decade of our century. The Manchus, the Northern warlords and then the Kuomintang all talked about building this important line. They filched huge sums from the people, enough to build at least three such railways. Yet up to the day of liberation at the end of 1949 not a single rail had been laid.

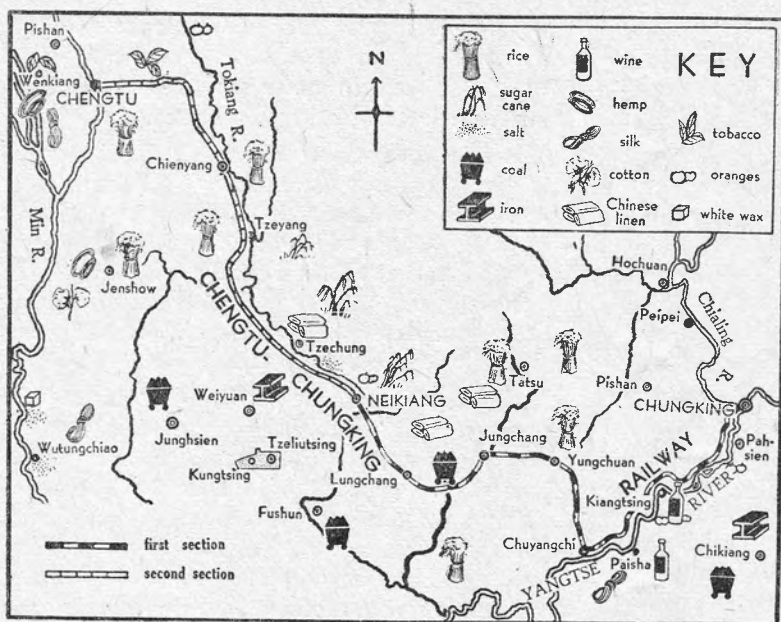
But under the People's Government, even before there had been time to restore order completely or stabilise over-all financial and

economic conditions, preparations were begun to make the forty-year-old dream of the people come true.

In the days when railroads were built in China by foreign engineers with foreign loans, materials right down to screws and nails were imported too. Only labour power, which was cheap and therefore added to the foreign investors' profit, was native to China. The new China takes pride in the fact that all the materials for the Chengtu-Chungking railway were procured either locally or from other parts of the country.

The tempo of actual construction has also set new records. Despite the difficulties presented by mountainous terrain, the railroad builders completed the part already open for traffic at twice the speed with which, for instance, the Shanghai-Nanking railway was built on perfectly flat ground. And while the terrain required seven times the amount of work per kilometre that the Peking-Hankow line necessitated, the average expenditure for the new railway is only five times what each kilometre cost on the Peking-Hankow line.

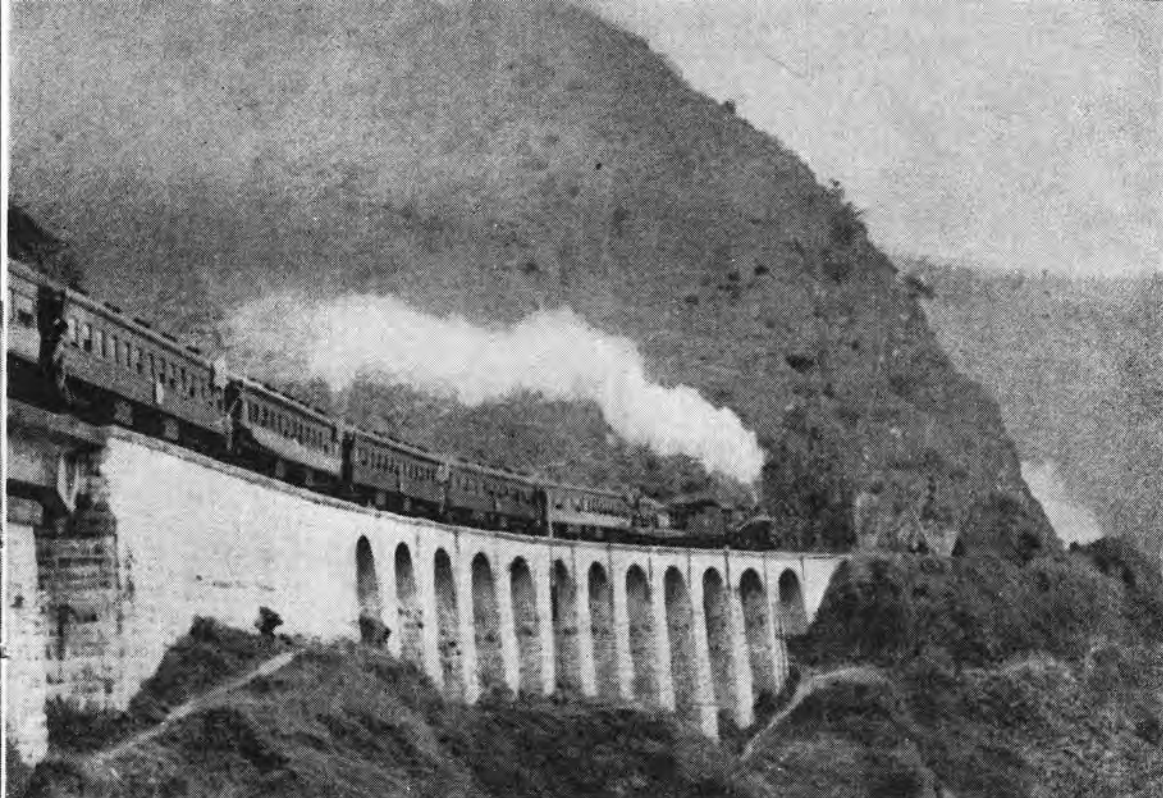
Construction of this railroad has restored a number of industries which had been strangled completely or reduced to part-time work by Kuomintang misrule. As a result of the railway's large orders for pig-iron, machines, cement, iron clay, sulphur, bricks, tiles and metallurgical, electrical and chemical products, these local industries were put back on their feet both in state-owned and privately-owned plants in north, east and south Szechuan. Many thousands of workers who had been laid off before liberation have found new employment. Over 2,000 tons of fish-tail plates, screws and rivets have been supplied by 430 large and small private engineering and



The Chengtu-Chungking railway. The Chungking-Neikiang section was completed on December 7, 1951



The first train from Neikiang to Chungking crosses Meiyao Bridge



One of the obstacles met, and overcome, in building the line

## Chengtou - Chungking Railway

China's newest railroad will span the 530 kilometres from Chengtu, provincial capital of Szechuan, to Chungking, its port on the Yangtse river. It was first planned forty years ago, but the funds were stolen or wasted by reactionary governments and officials, and not a single rail was ever laid. Begun by the People's Government in June, 1950, the first section of the 284 kilometres from Chungking to Neikiang was completed ahead of schedule on December 7, 1951

Technicians from the Shanghai and the Northwest railway bureaux who are assisting the construction discuss plans for the Tokiang Railway Bridge





Raising pylons for the Shouchi river bridge



The first locomotive is unloaded



Thousands of peasant builders bring ballast for the new line



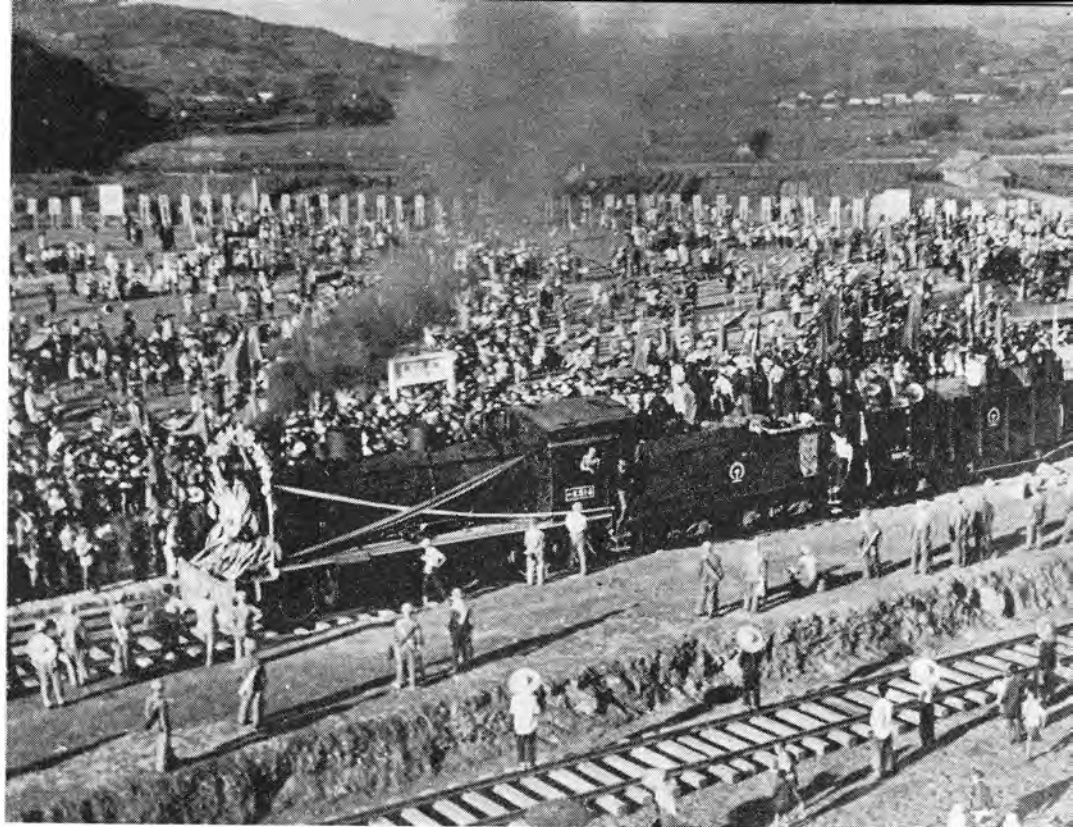
The first train over the completed bridge



Workers read their own newspaper, the *Railroad Builder*



...tive for the new line  
... at Chungking

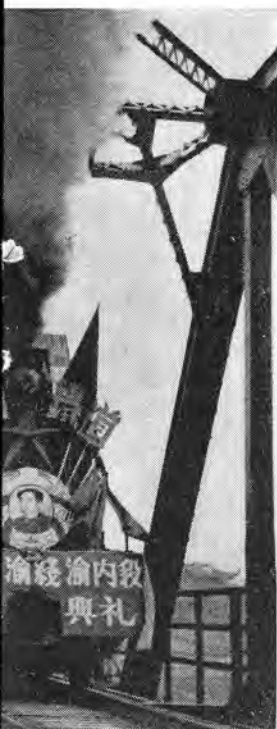


A mass meeting greets the first train at Yungchuan Station

## Building The Chengtu-Chungking Railway

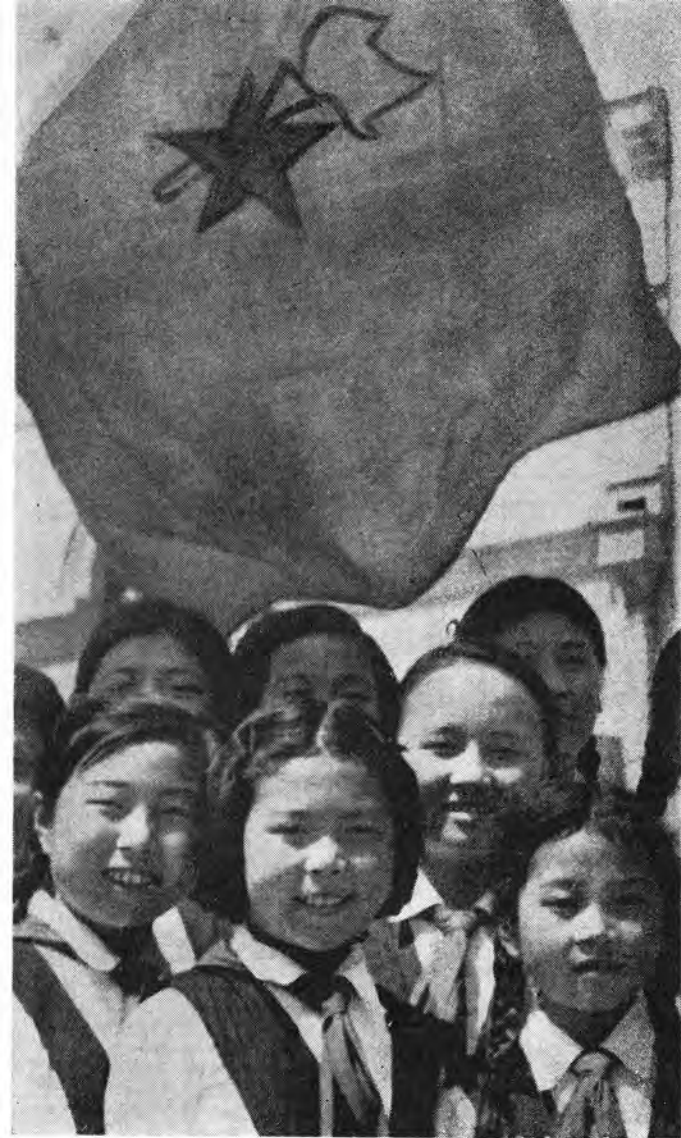
Linking the rich hinterland of Szechuan with the great Yangtse waterway, the new railway is built entirely of Chinese materials

Full steam ahead to the future! Pioneers bring bouquets and a banner for the railway builders



...to Nelkiang passes  
...eted Tokiang Bridge





Pioneers of the Peking Youth Art Academy

# HAPPY CHILDHOOD IN NEW CHINA

Dinner time at the Nanking Children's Home



In the spacious, sunny playroom of the Nanking Children's Home

metal goods supply firms and smithies. Cement production has reached an all-time high.

The building of this railway has been a truly national effort led by the People's Government and the Chinese Communist Party. The supply of sleepers, for instance, was a big problem. The usual supply centres are several hundred miles away in the extreme southwest or northeast. This key problem, however, was solved in a typically democratic way. The Southwest Commission for Financial and Economic Affairs called a conference to discuss the question. It was decided to mobilise local resources. Government cadres took specifications back to their localities, and the peasants enthusiastically responded, cutting, grading and bringing in the necessary timber from hundreds of timber stores, and even back-gardens, to the appointed place. Hokiang county contracted to supply 20,000 sleepers. It turned in 42,000 as a result of its counter-plan. Jung-chang county undertook to deliver 38,000 in forty-five days. It completed its task in twenty.

#### **Working on the Railroad—Now**

Construction workers and engineering technicians came to Szechuan from all the great railway centres of China. Soviet railway experts are helping too. Thanks to their pioneering experience, more efficient methods of road-bed construction are being used. The smaller bridges are being built of stone, thus saving steel that is so much needed for the work of national construction.

The Soviet experts on this project, as elsewhere, have made a point of encouraging the development of local resources and training cadres locally in sharp contrast to the English and American engineers in the past who always stressed the need for foreign imports and studying abroad. Thus a steel mill has been renovated with the aid of Soviet technicians, and, for the first time, New China is able to produce her own heavy-duty rails. On-the-job training classes for road-bed maintenance men have already produced several hundred graduates.

Over a hundred thousand workers have been engaged on this railroad construction job. But what a difference in working on public work projects today compared with pre-liberation days! Formerly, the unskilled workers for such tasks were forcibly drafted from among the peasants. No provisions were made for public health education, or entertain-

ment on such projects. Now, with the foresight and astonishing skill in mass organisation that is the wonder of liberated China, extensive preparations were made before the workers arrived at the construction sites. Accommodation, foodstuffs and utensils were ready for them. Gifts of clothes, towels, cigarettes and other presents arrived from all over China—such interest has this railway construction aroused in the people.

The workers building the new line are heroes in the eyes of the nation. They are regarded not only as builders of a railway but also of a new society. Literacy classes and wall-newspapers are a natural part of the educational programme mapped out with their aid. Doctors and medical workers have set up health centres at various places along the line. Students have come to help in cultural work. Artists come in groups to sing and dance for them.

Small wonder, then, that these workers—conscious of their ownership of this new railway—started a “five competitions” movement to increase the amount and improve the quality of the work done; for greater efficiency; for safety; for economy, and for speed. In the course of this movement, they have hit upon new methods of saving time and materials through individual and collective efforts. In “Chu Ke-liang meetings”<sup>\*</sup> knotty problems are discussed and usually unravelled. Just to cite a few examples: a group under a local peasant worker named Hsieh Chia-chuan has succeeded in reducing the amount of explosives used for dynamiting to one-third the former quantity. Yen Shao-kuei, also a peasant worker, has evolved a one-man dynamiting method which raises work efficiency 600 per cent, enabling one man to blast 28 metres where formerly two men were needed to dynamite 10 metres per day.

Most of the hundred thousand workers on the line are peasants like Hsieh and Yen. Already, eight thousand have taken up permanent jobs with the railway administration. The others will return to their homes when the job is finished, bringing with them a higher political consciousness and a wider social outlook. They will not easily forget their months of fruitful contact with the workers, cultural

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<sup>\*</sup> Chu Ke-liang was a resourceful strategist in the third century A.D., an originator of bold plans to defeat the most difficult circumstances.

and technical, who brought them literacy and machines, and the vision of a modern world stretching beyond the horizon of their peasant farms.

### New Economic Life

Even with only half the line completed, Szechuan province and its people already feel the difference it makes in their lives. Take for instance Yungchuan, a small town in eastern Szechuan. It has already undergone a great change since it was linked with Chungking by rail. New buildings and roads are going up all around the railway station. Many new industrial and commercial enterprises have started operations to meet the demands of the expanding market. Nearby localities send their products—mostly rice and coal—by truck or pony cart to Yungchuan for rail transportation. A new highway is being built to connect Yungchuan with Luhsien, the commercial centre of southern Szechuan.

The Chengtu plain is one of China's great rice granaries and a tobacco producer. The province grows sugar cane, rapeseed, bamboo and tung oil trees. Palm trees yield a rough fibre which is made into many items of daily use. There are salt wells at Tzeliutsing (the name means "self-flowing wells"). Several towns are well-known for their pottery kilns. Szechuan pigs are the biggest and fattest, and their bristles used to be one of

China's main exports. The climate also encourages the luxuriant growth of mulberry trees whose leaves feed myriads of voracious silkworms—and Szechuan silk is famous abroad as well as in China. Hemp, grown widely in the province, is woven locally into linen for cool summer clothing and fine cross-stitch embroidery. Szechuan is, also famous for fragrant, mellow rice wine.

We could go on endlessly, citing the products of this rich, beautiful area. What was once accessible only with difficulty will now be easily available all over the country, thanks to the new railroad. Rural-urban interflow of goods and produce is already expanding. Sugar cane can now be brought by rail from the centre of the industry at Neikiang to Chungking (where the Yangtse river offers cheap water transportation all the 3,000 kilometres to Shanghai) at one-seventh the former cost of transportation; salt from Tzeliutsing is carried to Chungking at about one-twentieth of what it used to cost by truck when there was no railroad. Grain will be carried by the railroad at one-fourth of what it cost to carry on human backs in the rotten old days.

The Chengtu-Chungking railway is one of the first, but it won't be the last, railroad in China whose building spells benefits for all, and not profits for a few foreign investors only and their Chinese hirelings.

## Mother and Child Care in New China

"Children are precious, they are the treasure of our nation"—these words, heard everywhere, are the guide for the treatment of children in the new China.

Dirty, superstitious midwives attending women in childbirth; the death of countless infants from famine; child wives of the rich; boys or girls slaving at a thousand back-breaking tasks as apprentices to cruel masters in dirty, dark sweatshops—these scenes belong to the dead past when feudalism, imperialism and bureaucratic capital were a triple yoke on China.

Today it is considered the birthright of all children to be loved and cared for, fed and taught. They are privileged little citizens of a great, new democracy. The whole status of children is based on a happy home life with their parents.

Article 13 of the *Marriage Law* (promulgated on May 1, 1950) states:

Parents have the duty to rear and to educate their children; the children have the duty to support and to assist their parents. Neither the parents nor the children shall maltreat or desert one another.

Not only are children already born protected by such regulations. After liberation, the raised status of women has brought the expectant mother care she never dared dream of before. The People's Government and the Democratic Women's Federation with all its local branches are seeing to it that the right environment is prepared for their future citizens.

### Pre-Natal Care

Pre-natal care is given in more than 10,000 health clinics. Complications in childbirth can thus be anticipated. Midwives with modern training or re-trained old-type midwives ensure the health of mother and child. In Pingyuan province, for instance, pregnant women refuse to be attended by a midwife other than with modern training.

Over 110,000 old-style midwives have been re-trained in modern methods of child delivery. In the Port Arthur-Dairen area and other big towns, mothers-to-be get talks on modern mother and child care. In Liaohsi province, the health department co-operated with the Democratic Women's Federa-

tion and stationed midwives at rural co-operatives where they are able to render service in modern scientific ways and train others in delivery methods and child and maternal health care.

Thus, tetanus, the killer of generations of infants, is being quickly and surely wiped out. In rural areas, infant mortality has dropped to one-third of former figures.

Women are granted rights they never had before—the rights of women and of mothers. An expanding system of child care and care for mothers means that women can participate widely in industry, agriculture and other spheres, even though they are mothers.

#### Working Mother's Problems Solved

In the old China, how many women feared motherhood! It might mean the loss of their job or at least a reduction in their wages.

Now the *Labour Insurance Regulations* guarantee working mothers eight weeks paid maternity leave. Through mutual-aid agreements, neighbours will do the cooking, washing and looking after older children while the woman of the house is having another baby.

Besides this, since liberation more than 18,900 creches and nurseries of various types have been established throughout the country, freeing the mothers of 579,000 children wholly or in part from their duty of supervising these children and freeing them for active participation in national construction. Experience since 1949 proves that, where the problem of caring for the children of working mothers is solved adequately, the morale and working efficiency of the mothers is immeasurably increased.

For instance, working mothers whose children were properly taken care of in the creche attached to No. 3 Textile Mill in Tientsin were so successful in the emulation movement during May, 1951 that twenty-five "mother groups" won the coveted title of group model workers, and four mothers individually were elected model industrial workers. During the movement to resist American aggression and aid Korea, forty-three other women won the banners for outstanding industrial production records.

Creches attached to the primary schools of Shenyang (Mukden) solved the problem of women school teachers nursing their babies.

In Shanghai, twenty-nine creches have been established by women of various social strata—some contributing money, others offering their services—for working women in a certain section of the city, the creches being organised according to the street or lane the working mother lives in.

In the villages, the problem of child care during the busy season is solved by means of seasonal creches and nurseries. Thus, 76 creches and 3,582 "baby-sitting" groups were organised in Honan province. They enabled 27,359 mothers to participate in the harvesting work. In 1951, these provisions raised the women's productive efficiency by one-third on the average, and in many cases, doubled it.

How have such great advances been made so quickly? The answer is that, under the People's Government, the people themselves, the broad masses in rural and urban areas, rally to solve their personal difficulties collectively, by mutual-aid

teams, by taking turns in doing certain jobs, by initiating a thousand and one new ways of solving old problems in a new, democratic manner.

In Pingyuan province, the women of some villages launched on their own a "three-clean" movement (clean streets, clean clothes, clean utensils) and greatly decreased the cases of sickness and disease.

Their economic status is protected. The *Labour Insurance Regulations* ensure the economic rights of women in industry. Wages are based on the principle of "equal pay for equal work." They enjoy full rights along with men under the *Labour Insurance Regulations*. In the land reform, women received for the first time in Chinese history the right to land ownership. And every child in the family—even a babe born on the day the land was distributed in the area—received his or her share.

#### Law Protects Children

And another most important law came into effect nearly two years ago: the *Marriage Law* which bases marriage upon the complete willingness of the two parties, without interference or compulsion by parents, and which observes equal rights for both sexes and protects the lawful interests of women and children. This *Marriage Law*, for instance, allows divorce when both sides desire it, but it makes very important provisions for the child or children of divorced parents:

##### ARTICLE 18:

The husband shall not apply for a divorce when his wife is with child. He may apply for divorce only one year after the birth of the child. In the case of the woman applying for divorce, this restriction does not apply.

##### ARTICLE 20:

The blood ties between parents and children do not end with the divorce of the parents. No matter whether the father or the mother acts as guardian of the children, they still remain the children of both parties.

After divorce, both parents still have the duty to support and educate their children.

After divorce, the guiding principle is to allow the mother to have custody of a baby still being breast-fed. After the weaning of the child, if a dispute arises between the two parties over the guardianship and an agreement cannot be reached, the People's Court shall render a decision in accordance with the interests of the child.

In China, the children are truly assured a place in the sun.

But in order that these children may grow into full citizenship, peace is needed, peace in the world and peace in Asia. The Chinese People's National Committee in Defence of Children, set up in Peking on November 26, 1951 with Soong Ching Ling (Mme. Sun Yat-sen) as president, is standing guard over this birthright of children. China's delegates to the International Conference in Defence of Children—scheduled to meet in Vienna on April 12-16—will join women of all nations at that forum in expressing and organising their demand for peace, for the right of children to grow up in a world free from fear of atom bombs, free from fear of vile murder by bacteriological warfare.

—L. V.

# The Story of an Actress

Yu Chun-min

Two hissing kerosene lamps of ungainly shape hung over the front of the stage. Above, the smoky darkness hid the peeling paint and cobwebs of the old theatre.

Up in the gallery, clerks, small merchants, hawkers and students and a few workers huddled on the narrow benches expectantly.

In the front rows the audience was gross. Compradors of the foreign shipping companies, banks and textile mills, local big-time Tientsin gangsters, Japanese-Kuomintang puppets and officials sprawled in their chairs, restlessly sipping tea, cracking melon-seeds, eating sweet preserves, picking their teeth, gossiping about the latest scandals . . . prices on the market . . . the war in that spring of 1941.

The crash of the gong announced the start of the play. But the stalls were impatient. As Hsin Feng-hsia stepped through the entrance onto the stage a raucous voice yelled: "Come on! You lovely creature!" Someone threw a date. It hit her in the face. She would have turned and fled, but another voice backstage whispered urgently: "Go on! Take no notice!" She smiled, moved her arms in a graceful entrance gesture, demanded, commanded their attention. . . . The gallery roared support. The stalls were forced to be still. . . .

Ten minutes later, back in the crowded dressing room, the tension snapped. Her tears brought her memories of the past. . . .

\* \* \*

The courtyard was very still. A little girl sat beneath a pomegranate tree, her fingers playing with some faded petals smeared with dirt. She was listening intently to the tremulous notes of an *erh hu* violin that someone was playing behind the half-opened door that led into an inner garden. A young woman began to sing a melancholy aria, softly, as if to herself, but as the mood took hold of her, the low tones rose in pitch and intensity. The little girl held the petals without moving.

An old man entered the courtyard. She jumped up and caught her father's hand.

"Daddy! Can I join the theatre some day and sing just as beautifully as Big Sister?"

The old man suddenly grew serious. "One disgrace in the family is enough. You will taste bitterness, my child, if you go that way."

But a few years later, despite his misgivings, he finally gave his consent. Life was not easy for a small dealer in second-hand clothes, under the Kuomintang, and it was worse under Japanese rule. Big Sister had given up the stage, got married and



Hsin Feng-hsia

gone south. Feng-hsia had to help support the family.

Ever since she turned eight, the stage had held an extraordinary fascination for Hsin Feng-hsia. She had got her sister to teach her songs from the Peking opera, the *ching hsi*. Through a friend she received four months' training in *ping chu* singing. To drum or *erh hu* she could sing the *ping chu* songs, with an air of conviction that made these old-wives' tales of lovers and their troubles sound as if they had really taken place. She loved the hurly-burly backstage, the comradeship of her actor-friends. She

had a talent for organising.

She soon became a "star" with her own company. But success, just as her father had warned her, brought never-ceasing troubles. Drunken local gangsters and puppet politicians would force their way backstage. For them an actress was fair sport.

\* \* \*

In 1943 Feng-hsia turned sixteen. That year Hsu Liu-tou, gangster and traitor, opium seller and collaborator with the Japanese occupationists, came to the theatre. Feng-hsia took his fancy and he determined to make her his concubine. How could she escape him? Only a lucky invitation to tour in Tsingtao saved her.

Hardly had the train started when the manager came to report that their costumes and properties were being searched and scattered all over the wagon. An official travelling in a special coach had heard that actresses were on board and was demanding that he be entertained.

To save the troupe, Feng-hsia agreed to sing. In the foetid atmosphere, to the clatter of the train wheels, she sang the official choice: *Merry Widow Ma Opens an Inn*, a salacious *ping chu* rhyme.

The Tsingtao tour ended. Tientsin again, and, as she had dreaded, Hsu Liu-tou's car was waiting at the station! She was hustled in before she had time to think what to do. At his house, Hsu, with immense satisfaction and as if he were doing quite the right thing, offered a cheque for thirty thousand dollars—the standard price for an actress-concubine.

Feng-hsia fought for body and soul. She was held a virtual prisoner in Hsu's house. After an attempt to commit suicide, she managed to escape and charged Hsu at the police station. Without even a chance to confront him, she was informed that he had been found innocent of all charges.

After much pleading and feasts for the go-betweens, it was finally arranged that all her trunks and the trinkets they contained, her ear-rings and so on which Hsu had stolen should remain with him as "damages for the loss he had sustained".



On the advice of her friends Hsin Feng-hsia left the Tientsin stage, not to return as long as Hsu and his Japanese protectors ruled the city.

\* \* \*

V-J Day, 1945 brought the Kuomintang back again on U.S. ships. Tientsin, little knowing what the future held, celebrated. Feng-hsia thought it meant at least freedom to act again on the stage. She did act. On that first night, for a fleeting moment under the glare of the stagelights, she saw the faces of her audience in the front rows. They were the same! The only differences were the ruddy masks of U.S. soldiers, and on the side gangways, the shiny white helmets of M.P.'s "keeping order". The traitors who had served the Japanese, the local gangsters and idle rich were still there. They had rejoined their old masters and were even being praised for serving as "underground" workers for the Kuomintang.

For moments Hsin Feng-hsia would feel the old sheer delight in the acting. Then she would feel cheated and bitter. What was she acting for? For these libertines and scoundrels?

The same old enemies attacked her art. And another was added. Drunken G.I.'s, protected by the KMT police, had the run of the city. They would throw their empty beer bottles on the stage, start riots in the theatre so that the audience was afraid to enter. Hsin Feng-hsia for the second time left the stage she loved so well. She got married. It seemed a way out from the constant humiliation of an actress' life. It was to a man who seemed kinder than the rest.

Only a few days later she found that her husband was an active member of a secret society that was hand in glove with the Kuomintang reactionaries. He also operated a chain of gambling dens and brothels. Her dream of marriage crashed as bitterly as her dream of being an actress.

\* \* \*

A year later in January, 1949 Tientsin was freed by the people's armies. Feng-hsia was not sure just what that word "liberation" meant. But she waited expectantly, with the hopefulness of youth. Tientsin buzzed with speculation. The old Kuomintang bosses had scurried for cover, or fled. This in itself was a liberation. But they left behind a muddy pool of rumours: "The artists will be put into uniforms! The Communists will close the theatres!"

Yet only a few weeks later a theatre in nearby Tangshan invited Hsin Feng-hsia to perform. What surprised her was that the letter was addressed to her respectfully as an "art worker"!

In Tangshan she and other *ping chu* players, folk musicians and artists were invited by the Bureau of Art and Literature of the municipal government to attend the first Tangshan conference of art and literary workers. Sitting among people she had never met before, famous writers and artists, she felt nervous and a little afraid. She scarcely dared move from her seat, but her heart beat fast and hope surged high. So the People's Government respected her as a *ping chu* artist? She felt

for the first time the dignity of being respected because she was an actress!

In 1949 she came to Peking, the new capital of the People's Republic. The Wan Sheng Hsuan at Tien Chiao—the Bridge of Heaven outside the Chien Men Gate, had offered her a contract.

Tien Chiao was formerly the poor man's pleasure centre. After a hard day's work, mill hands and rickshaw pullers, carters, restaurant attendants and shopkeepers came here to see the entertainments given by the people's artists, magicians, jugglers, acrobats and sword dancers. They came to hear the tellers of folk-tales, ballad singers, and back-chat comedians and see pocket versions of the great classic plays or buy needed odds and ends from the open-air stalls.

Feng-hsia had heard about the brothels and poverty of Tien Chiao. What was the good of performing there, she had thought. But the first day she spent in these crowded lanes of shops and stalls, the first performance she gave in the little theatre, showed that a change had come here too. The beggary and brothels had disappeared. The audience listened in quiet, rapt attention. Feng-hsia gave of her best. Within the year Wan Sheng Hsuan became one of the most popular Tien Chiao theatres.

Liberation made Feng-hsia's talent shine brightly. *Ping chu* originated out of the North China peasants' "lotus tales", popular rhymes on a myriad earthy subjects seasoned with the people's wit and humour. Emerging into the town only in the last thirty years, *ping chu* is rich in local colour, in expressive local dialect and idioms. *Ping chu* theatrical forms—a mixture of realism and the classical theatre—are still in the process of transition. They react quickly to changes of locale. They were able quickly to adapt themselves to the new atmosphere of free Peking. At the same time, Hsin Feng-hsia and her company had, like nearly all the local folk artists, joined in the political and artistic study movement sponsored by the Bureau of Art and Literature of Peking's municipality.

Outstanding and experienced literary and art workers had joined them to help in the reformation



Hsin Feng-hsia as the heroine in "The Weaving Girl and the Cowherd"

of their art. Hsin Feng-hsia, for the first time, learned the truth about the old society, why it was dominated by the exploiters, and how it could be changed into one that was wholly organised in the service of the people. She came to understand how important her own art of the theatre was in bringing about this transformation. Her awakening political consciousness gave her a new understanding of the drama. She saw how the people's *ping chu* art had in part become debased and sometimes perverted by the influence of the old reactionary society, and how now, in the freedom of a people's state, it could really blossom with all the natural health of a people's art. She changed many of the lines in the old plays. Then she searched the old repertoire to find plays with more popular themes. The working people of Tien Chiao warmly appreciated the new approach in Hsin Feng-hsia's *ping chu*.

One year later Feng-hsia and her company, on the advice of the Bureau, moved their performances into the centre of the city. The company became the Peking Experimental Ping Chu Troupe. Encouraged by the literary cadres sent by the government to help them, they made their first attempts to write their own plays collectively.

*The Depths of Bitterness* was their first success. It was really a sort of collective autobiography about actors and actresses. It told about life under the reactionary Kuomintang, about the crimes of the traitors and local gangsters. It was presented opportunely in the spring of 1951 when Peking's citizens were engaged in the task of rooting out those few die-hard counter-revolutionaries who were still aiding the American interventionists and Kuomintang remnants. Hsin Feng-hsia wrote the introduction to the play herself:

"Today we enjoy the respect of the people and our government. After such humiliation and per-

secution as we have suffered, how deeply do we feel the joy of freedom! When the list of apprehended reactionaries was published, we saw among them many who had oppressed and persecuted us *ping chu* players. We firmly support the government in its actions against the counter-revolutionaries. We will propagate the people's policy from our stage."

In the months of preparation of this play, Feng-hsia thought deeply of the past. How far she had travelled in the last year! How much of the past had she accepted without question before and whose falsity she now saw in clear and truthful terms. Still held in servitude by the ideas of the old society, she had hesitated to get a divorce. Now as soon as this production was launched, Hsin Feng-hsia went to the People's Court and asked to be freed from this "marriage". The divorce was granted. It symbolised the utter break with the hateful past.

Busy months have followed. In the two years since 1949, the troupe has added thirty new plays to its repertoire. They include Lu Hsuh's *Sister-in-Law Hsiang Lin*, Chao Shu-li's *Hsiao Erh-hei's Marriage*, the tremendously popular *White-Haired Girl* and the old folk tale *The Weaving Girl and the Cowherd* told in a modern way. Each new production was an education to the whole group. Each posed, and helped to solve, new problems. New themes have given fresh impetus to the growth of *ping chu* and to Hsin Feng-hsia.

Besides her regular shows at the Democratic Theatre each night, she is also busy giving extra performances for the movement to resist American aggression and aid Korea. She is a member of the Democratic Youth League of Peking. "Acting—living—work—it is all one now. Life is full and filled with happiness!" she says. "There is no end to the work that one can do in service of the people!"

## U.S. Massacre on Koje Island

Just before daybreak on February 18, the so-called "wolfhound" regiment of the American 25th Division surrounded P.O.W. Camp No. 62 on Koje Island off the Pusan coast in South Korea. Hand-grenades and fire-arms were used against the six thousand P.O.W's in the camp who were protesting against U.S. methods of "interrogation". Seventy-five P.O.W's are reported to have been killed and almost twice as many wounded.

When confronted with responsibility for this new crime, the U.S. negotiators at Panmunjom, in a statement on February 22, barefacedly dismissed the massacre as a "riot" and declared that the dead and wounded involved had already been "reclassified" as civilians and were therefore "no concern" of the Korean and Chinese delegation at the cease-fire talks. No satisfactory reply has been given to the strong protest lodged with the Americans on February 23 against this barbarous massacre.

According to American news agency reports, the "wolfhound" regiment was sent to Koje Island to assist the American inquisitors at P.O.W. Camp No. 62 in "individual interrogation" and "screening" work, which was nothing but an illegal and brutal attempt to force the P.O.W's to renounce their democratic faith and betray their own country. Those who refused were stated to have been threatened with being sent to the Syngman Rhee hangmen. All the six thousand P.O.W's demonstrated against this blackmail. They shouted: "Long live Kim Il Sung!" On the flimsy pretext that the "internees displayed an ugly mood", the "wolfhound" regiment brought up tanks and mowed down over two hundred P.O.W's.

At the Panmunjom conference table, the U.S. negotiators have demanded "voluntary" repatriation of war prisoners in the name of "humanitarianism". Their hypocrisy is glaringly exposed by the February 18 massacre on Koje Island and by the fully authenticated atrocities against Korean and Chinese P.O.W's held in other death camps.

# "Cry Korea"

## An Exposure of U.S. Aggression

Dr. James G. Endicott

*Chairman of the Canadian Peace Congress, now visiting China*

The book *Cry Korea*, by Reginald Thompson, correspondent of the conservative London *Daily Telegraph*, must come as an awakening shock to every honest reader in America and other U.N. member countries with troops in Korea. The author gives hair-raising, eyewitness accounts of the aggressive adventurism of the United States in Korea and the unspeakably brutal behaviour of troops flying the United Nations flag against defenceless Korean civilians and prisoners of war. Mr. Thompson's testimony corroborates what the Korean and Chinese side has been reporting about the war all along. At the same time, it exposes the writers of the U.N. military communiques and most western press dispatches as coiners and circulators of the most outrageous lies. Mr. Thompson's description of how these lies originate, are disseminated and fool many people, written from the vantage-point of a working newspaperman of many years' experience, is one of the most telling indictments in a book no one can ignore.

*Cry Korea* should be put in the hands of every delegate to the United Nations. It should be made public in every church in England and North America. Especially should it be carefully analysed by all those on the World Council of Churches who so hastily endorsed the American State Department's case on Korea. It is true that the author himself has not fully thought out his position. While crying his "sorrow and shame" at what is being done in Korea, he protests that American censorship has not given sufficient credit to British troops for their part in a sordid war in which, by his own words, there is "neither honour nor glory". Moreover, Mr. Thompson makes pathetic efforts in this book to cling to the Churchill myth that the "English-speaking nations are divinely appointed to rule the world." But in spite of these grave flaws, the sheer weight of reported facts in *Cry Korea* is sufficient to blow the State Department version of Korean events sky-high.

Mr. Thompson exposes and rejects the hollow sham of the South Korean "democracy" in defence of which young men of many member states of the United Nations are being sent to die. He is convinced that, were it not for outside support, "the whole corrupt edifice upon which Syngman Rhee balanced, with MacArthur's hand on his elbow, would collapse of its own rottenness. What a mockery it was to name this kind of thing democracy."

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*Cry Korea* by Reginald Thompson, MacDonald & Co., London, 1951.

Regarding the real aims of the U.S. military from the beginning of the Korean war, the author leaves no doubt that it was clearly known by correspondents that MacArthur intended to provoke a war with China. They were fully aware of the deep implications of MacArthur's visit to Chiang Kai-shek in Taiwan. Mr. Thompson writes of this:

It was common knowledge that MacArthur wanted to establish himself as the Napoleon of the Far East before he died.

On the crossing of the 38th Parallel by the forces under the U.N. banner, Mr. Thompson has this to say:

It was absurd to expect the new China . . . to tolerate the United States or the United Nations on her Manchurian frontier if she could prevent it. Not because China's government is Communist, but because great nations in the recorded history of the world do not permit these things if they can help it. Why then should China, strongly suspecting the goodwill and motives of the U.S., sit tamely by.

In another place he writes of the American schemes:

Plans were known to be developing to create subversive activities inside China, and to do all possible to undermine the government.

This, no doubt, explains the howls of rage in the U.S. press when the Chinese government acted quickly to round up Chiang Kai-shek's U.S.-directed criminal elements.

### "This Army Will Disintegrate"

After spending much time with the highly mechanised and well-armed U.S. forces, Mr. Thompson warned his paper even before the 38th Parallel was crossed:

If China is provoked across the border, this army will disintegrate, leaving its vast equipment behind it.

And that, of course, was exactly what happened, because no amount of indoctrination based on falsehoods could give the deceived American soldiers any feeling that they had a cause to fight for and believe in. The Korean People's Army and the Chinese volunteers were victorious because they had both.

Mr. Thompson's exposure of the lies the western public was told at the time of the inevitable defeat is pungent and merciless. He ridicules the face-saving MacArthur communique that the Chinese volunteers "represented two out of the five field

armies constituting the entire military structure of China." Dryly, he remarks that "MacArthur was determined to fight China if only on paper" and that "up front, there was no talk of Chinese hordes because there weren't any." Instead, he pays grudging tribute to the magnificent discipline and dash of the Chinese volunteers in action, reporting with awed respect that "not a shot was fired by the Chinese until they were within thirty yards of the target." In one instance he himself verified, Mr. Thompson tells of a "great battle" described in a U.N. headquarters communique which actually never took place at all. His conclusion is that American communiqués on the Korean war "were not serious military documents but full of the kind of thing put out by advertising copy-writers."

With deep moral indignation, Mr. Thompson writes of the crimes committed by the "United Nations forces" against the Korean people whom they boasted of "liberating". He reports how these troops "set the people's homes on fire for the fun of it", how great numbers of Koreans "often slowly done to death, were heaped into common graves by their executioners." Regarding the treatment of military captives, he tells of "naked prisoners marched . . . continuously by the dusty roadsides", of Korean women nurses, also stripped, many of whom "had been shot 'trying to escape.'" What did the "U.N. armies" bring to Korea? Thompson answers this question by saying:

Every village and township in the path of the war was blotted out. Civilians died in the rubble and ashes of their homes.

By contrast, Thompson describes the effects of the war-prisoner policy of the Chinese people's volunteers and the anxiety of U.S. military authorities that it should not become known.

. . . The Chinese began to send groups of American prisoners back into the 1st cavalry lines . . . They had been well fed . . . Within two hours of the first arrivals, censorship clamped down and the returned prisoners were taken to hospital under heavy guard. All contact with them and all mention of the circumstances was forbidden.

#### U.N. Perverted

Mr. Thompson does not draw all the obvious conclusions from the things he has seen, but most readers will. The awakening of broader groups of people to the real facts about the origin and nature of the Korean war is progressing. *Cry Korea* should be read in combination with Sir John Pratt's pamphlet, *Korea, the Lie That Led to War* (Britain-China Friendship Association, 17 Bishopsgate Road, London). The plain lesson for all to see is that the United Nations has been perverted from its original purpose, which was to preserve peace, prevent war and settle all issues by negotiation. What has happened should sicken the heart of every decent person who is courageous enough to face the truth.

Whatever their beliefs, such people will agree with some conclusions that Mr. Thompson did draw. In stinging words, he brands the atom bomb:



Over seven hundred innocent Korean people were massacred by the fleeing U.S. troops in a valley at Migongni, Hwanghal province on January 8, 1951. Relatives trying to identify the dead

I cannot understand how a professed Christian supports this weapon in any circumstances.

The atom bomb is the ultimate expression of cowardice, the ultimate affront to human dignity. It is a denial of God. How can one imagine a man, or a body of men, so lacking in humility that they should dare to sit in conclave to pronounce utter destruction on countless thousands of their fellow men.

Despite Mr. Thompson's inconsistencies (on some pages he denounces the Korean war and on others he suggests "more successful" strategies for it), people of goodwill can welcome another of his statements:

Men must learn in the end that there is no substitute for fighting except not fighting, no substitute for war except peace.

They can not only welcome it, but they are uniting to change it into reality. The answer to the problem is to support the Stockholm Peace Appeal, to sign the call for a Five-Power Peace Pact, to work of disarmament and the development of mutually beneficial world trade without regard to politics, to stand up for the peaceful coexistence of different systems and forms of government and for peace and progress everywhere in the world.

# The Viet-Nam People's Victory

The Viet-Nam people greeted the first anniversary of the Lao Dong Party and the merging of the Viet-Minh and Lien-Viet Fronts on March 3, with a great victory—the liberation of Hoabinh, provincial capital in north Viet-Nam, on February 23.

The significance of the liberation of Hoabinh was stressed in a statement by General Vo Nguyen Giap, Commander-in-Chief of the Viet-Nam People's Army, who declared that "This victory spells defeat not only for the French colonialists and their lackeys, Baø Dai and Tran Van Huu, but also for the American plots to extend aggressive war in Asia." It smashed the enemy's schemes to regain the initiative in north Viet-Nam.

In the past three months, the French colonialists lost 22,000 officers and men on the north Viet-Nam front alone. The liberation of Hoabinh, stated General Vo Nguyen Giap, re-established major communication lines between the northern and southern parts of Viet-Nam. Several million people were liberated.

In an anniversary statement, the Lao Dong Party calls on the Viet-Nam people to advance to final victory.

"This anniversary," it states, "shows the greatness of the Party, the National United Front and the union of the Viet-Nam, Khmer and Pathat Lao peoples. It strengthens our faith in the certainty of

final victory in the struggle against the French colonialists and the American interventionists."

Recalling the many victories gained in the military, political, economic and cultural fields in the past year, the Lao Dong Party calls for consolidation of worker-peasant unity, for solidarity with the French working class and French colonial peoples and close unity with the U.S.S.R., China and other People's Democracies. It calls on the people to link up the resistance struggle with the struggle of the world camp of peace and democracy to oppose the imperialist bloc of war instigators.

In its programme of action for 1952, the Central Committee of the Lien-Viet (National United Front of Viet-Nam), at its recent January 2-6 congress, laid down the main tasks as follows: strengthening of the National United Front; intensifying of propaganda and guerilla warfare against the enemy to smash his "divide-and-rule" manoeuvres and thus enable the army to wipe out more enemy troops and achieve military superiority on the main battlefronts; fulfilment of the government's production and economy plans to improve the people's living conditions and increase support of the army; the giving of fresh impetus to all resistance work in co-ordination with the struggle for world peace and implementation of the resolutions of the second session of the World Peace Council; the strengthening of the ties with the fraternal peoples of Laos and Cambodia, and of co-operation with the world peace front.

## U.S. Obstruction Delays Korean Truce

Washington continues its obstructionist tactics in the Korean armistice talks, which began eight months ago. By going back on points already agreed upon, by bringing up side issues to evade discussion of major issues, by putting forward impossible demands, the American negotiators are blocking agreement on Item 3 (armistice supervision) and Item 4 (exchange of war prisoners).

On Item 3, the Americans' intolerable attitude is fully revealed in their opposition to the nomination of the Soviet Union, proposed by the joint Korean-Chinese delegation to serve as one of the six neutral nations on the supervisory committee. Even the Americans themselves admit that the Soviet Union conforms in every respect to the definition of a neutral nation as understood by both sides. They were repeatedly reminded that the agreed definition—"those nations whose combatant forces have not participated in the hostilities in Korea"—is the sole criterion whereby one side can refuse or accept the nominations of the other. Giving no reason whatever, the Americans persist in excluding the Soviet Union from the supervisory committee.

The same stalling tactics were used by the Americans in the discussions on Item 4—the exchange of war prisoners. The American refusal to agree to

the internationally recognised principle of unconditional release and repatriation of all P.O.W's remains the chief stumbling block to agreement on this item. While harping on "voluntary" repatriation, they are using nazi methods of intimidation against P.O.W's held on Koje Island and in other parts of South Korea to detain large numbers of Korean and Chinese P.O.W's. Chiang Kai-shek agents have been recruited from Taiwan to work along with the Syngman Rhee hangmen to force P.O.W's to renounce their loyalty to their countries. This lawlessness on the part of the U.S. was strongly denounced by the Korean and Chinese delegates.

It is clear that the U.S. has purposely dragged out the negotiations to gain time for the Chiang Kai-shek and Syngman Rhee agents to carry out widespread intimidation of the Korean and Chinese P.O.W's and set the stage for the farce of "voluntary" repatriation, or blackmail at the point of American bayonets.

The present tactics of the Americans at Panmunjom must also be seen in connection with their vile use of germ warfare in Korea and Northeast China. They want to gain time while watching the effects of the germ-droppings as the weather gets warmer.

# THE BRIDGE

Pan Kuo-tseng

Under the parching May sun the heavy ears of wheat bowed and rippled in the breeze. The river below glistened and sparkled in the light. I was hurrying along the bank, hoping to reach the village and my home on the mountainside before two in the afternoon. I had not seen it since I joined the People's Liberation Army four years ago.

I still had several *li* to go to reach the point where you could cross the river by a broken-down wooden bridge built many, many years ago. I doubted whether I would be on time. I reckoned that even if I hurried I'd be lucky if I got in before three o'clock.

The disadvantage about this bridge was that it was three *li* up the stream beyond the village, so that I'd have to make a detour of six *li* altogether. The quickest way of getting to the village would have been to build a bridge at the point on the river opposite to it. But the grandfathers and grandmothers, the older generation, were opposed to that idea.

They said that a bridge built at that point might upset the geomantic conditions and bring ill luck. It was far better to exert oneself and walk the long way around. Since the young people could not convince the elders, they gave up the idea. The bridge was never built.

But there was much unhappiness about the situation. In the rainy season the road became very muddy and sticky. The cows would refuse to go around by the wooden bridge which was wet and slippery. They would slide down into the river and wade across the water at the point where common sense said a bridge should have been built. Sometimes, by the time the cowman had gone round by the bridge, an animal or two would have disappeared. Then the villagers would have to come out and hunt for the missing animals, sometimes for a good part of the day, before they were found in some hollow in the valley or down by the little wood.

Such things troubled the older generation far less than the geomantic condition of the village. Yet despite all this respect for the spirits of wind and water, life in the village went from bad to worse. Those who three years before had been able to eat *kaoliang* and millet were hardly able to afford a bowl of gruel. And those poorer ones who had formerly subsisted on gruel could only afford cooked *kaoliang* husks. Worst of all was when the crops failed. Then, in addition to lack of food, the villagers would be hard pressed by the "Kill-Man-Tang" (the nickname they gave the Kuomintang) demanding tax money, and the landlords trying to squeeze from them every last penny of rent.

Remembering all these things, I was amazed when I came to the place where the road met the river. There was a bridge in front of me! It was a beautiful stone bridge, smooth and even, and the water was lapping gently against the supporting pillars.

It was not yet two o'clock when I arrived at the village. Uncle Liu, accompanied by Grandpa Wang Shu, hurried over to greet me. Grandpa was now

over seventy and he walked with the aid of a staff.

I couldn't help asking the inevitable question:

"Uncle, how did we manage to get the bridge built at this spot? I remember everyone was against the idea because of the unfavourable geomantic conditions. Didn't anyone object?"

Uncle Liu looked embarrassed.

"Geomancy!" he said. "What ugly nonsense! Yes, it's true we used to talk about it day and night. But what good did it do us? Conditions only grew worse. The landlords grew greedier while the children went naked. When people died they had no coffins. What misery and grief! But after liberation three years ago, we carried through the land reform. We all got land and things have got better from day to day. Poo! There's no one who believes in geomancy anymore! Why, geomancy was just a trick of the Kill Man Tang and landlords to fool the people!"

Uncle Liu paused for breath and then went on: "This spring when the chairman of the peasants' association proposed that we rid ourselves of feudal superstitions and increase production, he suggested that we build the bridge. There wasn't a single person who did not agree with him. Contributions poured in and more than a million yuan were collected in no time. In less than two weeks, the bridge was finished. Now the peasants don't have to waste time going all that way around to get to their fields. It just makes us chuckle with happiness all day long."

Uncle Liu tapped his bald, shiny head and muttered to himself: "If it were not for Chairman Mao, this superstitious old head of mine would never have been ready to take in new ideas."

It was two o'clock and children were off to school by two's and three's, singing as they went *The Communist Party Is Like the Sun*. Their clear, ringing voices floated down the valley. This mountain village had "turned-over" to a new life, and as I gazed on it, I felt an infinite strength swell within me.



The Ferry

Woodcut by Sung Ping-heng



## Chinese Writers in the Soviet Union

I felt the profound friendship between the Chinese and Soviet peoples and their literatures during every moment of the visit of our Chinese writers' delegation to the Soviet land.

Particularly impressive was the evening party held in honour of Chinese literature in the great hall of the Moscow Conservatory on the evening of December 11. This was not the first time that modern Chinese literature was introduced to the Soviet people, but it was the first time that it was thus introduced, by the Union of Soviet Writers and with participation of a Chinese writers' delegation. Noted Soviet writers, sinologists and actors paid tribute to Chinese literature. Chinese poems were recited. A Soviet choir gave a brilliant performance of the cantata *The Sun Shines Over China*. The audience of over two thousand people warmly applauded every item of the programme. Many of them offered us improvised verses and messages that were filled with affection and fraternal regard.

The great Socialist state has shown the same keen interest in the literary developments of our new country as she has in every other aspect of our people's fight for liberty and happiness. We were told that in 1928-50, the works of twenty-nine Chinese writers were translated and published in twelve different Soviet languages. As many as eighty-six editions were printed. In the literary exhibitions held in Moscow, in the Caucasus and in Uzbekistan we saw the free verse and poems, written by Chairman Mao Tse-tung during the Long March, translated into various Soviet languages; we saw the translated novels of Lu Hsun, Ting Ling and many other writers. On a bookshelf at the home of Lazaryev, a worker in the Moscow Automobile Factory, the story *The Marriage Certificate*, written by Chao Shu-li, caught our eyes. A number of stanzas by our great national poet, Po Chu-i, translated by the noted sinologist Eidlin, have

elicited the admiration of Soviet readers. Twenty-three-year-old Petrov told us the names of twenty modern Chinese poets whose works he has been translating with such enthusiasm. An honoured place has been given to the literature of the people of China.

The warm interest of the Soviet people and especially that of the Soviet writers in our literature made us really feel that they are our closest friends. They have acclaimed the deeds of our people with their pens. We have read *Fighting China* written by Konstantin Simonov. Almost every Soviet poet, from Mayakovsky to the younger generation of today, has turned his affectionate attention to the Chinese people. Stalin Prize winner Cheschvili, novelist of the Georgian S.S.R., told us how in 1930, when he was taking part in the work of farm collectivisation, he met an old peasant who sang a beautiful poem which he had himself composed about China. He sang with the deepest sympathy about the bitter lives of the Chinese peasants during the centuries of feudal oppression. But the song ended full of hope. The Chinese peasants were struggling under the guidance of the Chinese Communist Party. Liberation was assured.

### Ancient Contacts

When we met the writers of the Azerbaijan S.S.R., we were told that the greatest poet of their nation, Nizami, as early as the twelfth century, in his immortal work *Seven Beauties*, wrote about the beauty of China and its people, their industry, courage and wisdom. The people and the writers of Azerbaijan were proud of this contact between their national poet and our country.

We had many experiences of the practical friendship between the literature of the Chinese and Soviet peoples. Through talks and daily conversations with the famous poets and writers of the U.S.S.R., and through our visits to the cultural institutions and to the great projects of Socialist construction, we received invaluable aid in our creative work. The poet, Surkov,

specially organised a gathering for us to discuss the subject of Socialist realism, the technique of writing and the creative methods of Socialist literature. We exchanged experiences with many Soviet writers including Konstantin Fedin, Nikolai Tikhonov, the poets Isakov, Tvardovsky, Marshak and Mikhalkov.

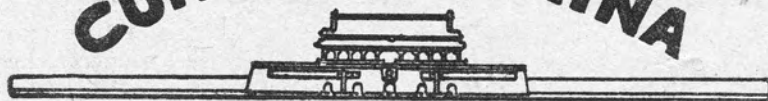
We discussed problems in writing as intimately as only brothers of the pen can.

To speak of the influence which Soviet literature has had upon us is to realise its priceless worth. The great Lu Hsun exerted a great part of his energy to introducing Soviet literature to China. In the last twenty years, we have translated a great number of the best Soviet works including *The Iron Flood* by Serafimovich, *Destruction* by Fadeyev and *How the Steel Was Tempered* by Nikolai Ostrovsky. These and hundreds of other Soviet writers' works have not only educated our literary workers but also led tens of thousands of our youth forward on the road of revolution during the darkest days of reaction. They have given our comrades even firmer confidence in protecting their Motherland from imperialist invasion and reconstructing it for the advance to Socialism. Today, on the fronts in Korea, in the trenches of our volunteers, these books are inspiring our heroes in their courage and faith to fight against American aggression and for the defence of peace. From the depths of our hearts, we thank all the artists of our great ally, the Soviet Union, advancing under the banner of Lenin and Stalin.

Chinese revolutionary literature is based on the same great premises. Led by Chairman Mao Tse-tung, our literature is part of our whole revolutionary effort; it is a tool to serve the people's welfare and happiness, a weapon with which to fight in our common cause for world peace and for the welfare and happiness of the people.

**Guest Writer: Kang Cho, member of the recent delegation of Chinese writers to the U.S.S.R.**

# CURRENT CHINA



## Fight Against Germ War

Angry protests swept through China after the first report appeared of U.S. use of bacteriological weapons in Korea. The Red Cross Society of China, scientists, trade unions, medical and educational workers all denounced the crime. Newspapers throughout the country have carried numerous letters during the past few weeks from people in all walks of life expressing their indignation.

On February 25, the chairman of the China Peace Committee, Kuo Mo-jo, cabled an appeal to Frederic Joliot-Curie, chairman of the World Peace Council, for transmission to peace-loving peoples throughout the world, urging international action against U.S. use of bacteriological warfare.

In response to the appeal, the World Federation of Trade Unions, the Polish Red Cross Society and the Viet-Nam General Confederation of Workers have cabled the United Nations, the International Committee of the Red Cross, and the headquarters of the League of Red Cross Societies, asking these organisations to adopt emergency measures in order to prevent the recurrence of such criminal conduct of warfare.

The first team of a Chinese anti-plague corps left Peking for Korea by air on February 29 to help Korean medical authorities combat germ war. The team, formed within three days in answer to an urgent call from the National Medical Association of China, consists of bacteriologists and specialists in entomology, pathology and epidemic control.

## International Anniversaries

It is a characteristic of the spirit of internationalism of New China that her people today wholeheartedly celebrate all the great anniversaries that the progressive peoples of the world observe.

On January 21, the 28th anniversary of the death of Lenin, the *People's Daily* wrote editorially:

"The struggle of the Chinese working class and the Chinese people was conducted in the spirit of Lenin's teachings and was greatly influenced by the October Revolution which he led to victory."

On February 21, the International Day of Struggle Against Colonialism, *China Youth News*, the organ of the New Democratic Youth League of China, pledged its unity with all the young people of oppressed nations.

The 34th anniversary of the establishment of the Soviet armed forces on February 23 was hailed in a special article by Nieh Jung-chen, acting chief-of-staff of the People's Revolutionary Military Council, as the occasion to cement still more firmly the bonds of friendship for peace between the peoples and armed forces of the two countries, China and the Soviet Union.

International Women's Day, March 8, found China's women ready for the tasks before them. In its directives issued for the day, the All-China Democratic Women's Federation had called for still wider participation of women in agricultural and industrial production, in all spheres of national construction, in the struggle for peace, in support of the Chinese people's volunteers in Korea, in service of the people.

The press carried special articles by prominent women. Cinemas showed films about heroines like *Liu Hu-lan*, revolutionary peasant woman killed by the Kuomintang during the War of Liberation, *Chao I-man*, woman guerilla fighter against the Japanese, and *Zoya*, the Soviet guerilla heroine murdered by the Nazi invaders.

## Agricultural Plan for 1952

China has adopted its agricultural plan for 1952. Total output will at least equal the top levels reached before the Anti-Japanese War. Main efforts will be directed towards raising yield per hectare. Cereal

output will be raised 8% and cotton output 20% above the 1951 figures.

The government plan of February 25 also calls for an increased output of livestock and agricultural products including tea, silk and fruit.

Last year, the nation's cereal production reached 92.8% of the pre-war peak output, while cotton topped the pre-war record by 33%. The output in poultry, jute, tobacco, tea, marine products and vegetable oil either equalled or surpassed the 1951 targets.

The main effort to increase production will be directed this year towards a higher yield per hectare by increased use of fertilisers and development of the mutual-aid team system, by completing more water conservancy projects and taking preventive measures against any possible natural catastrophe.

It is planned that 80-90% of the nation's peasants will join mutual-aid teams within a period of two or three years. In North China alone, membership in mutual-aid teams is expected this year to go up from 55% to 70-80% of the area's total rural population.

At least one state farm will be set up in each county in order to extend modern farming methods. Each province will have a factory for producing improved farm implements.

## China's Biggest Reservoir

The country's biggest reservoir is under construction on the Yungting river northwest of Peking.

When the whole project is completed by the end of 1953, the reservoir will cover an area of 220 square kilometres and will have a storage capacity of 2,900 million cubic metres of water. The harnessed river will be a source of electricity and will improve irrigation along its valley.

With its source in Chahar province, the Yungting river has overflowed its banks 7 times during the past 30 years, bringing destruction to farmlands between Peking and Tientsin. Tientsin itself was flooded twice. The Kuomintang regime never did anything to check these calamities.

As far back as the autumn of 1949, the Central People's Government initiated the plan to harness the river by building 3 reservoirs, the largest of which is now being built.



The present project consists of three parts: a dam, an underground river channel and a spillway. Since last winter over 3,000 workers have been cutting the underground water channel which is scheduled to be completed before the coming autumn. Work on the dam will start this spring and is scheduled to be finished by the end of the year.

## Textile Output This Year

China's cotton yarn output this year is expected to top the figures for 1930, the pre-war peak year, by 39% and for 1951 by 28.3%.

Compared with 1951's figure, the output of cotton cloth this year will increase by 28.97%; gunny bags by 81.51%; raw silk by 25%; spinning machinery by 300% and weaving machinery by 40%.

The production target adopted at the National Textile Industry Conference is confidently expected to be fulfilled as a result of an increased cotton output and improved technique in the textile industry.

## News Briefs

On March 1, Hsinhua News Agency reported that 10,000 Chinese from Hongkong and Kowloon, who had gathered at the Kowloon railway station to welcome a delegation from Canton, were fired upon by British police and soldiers. Three Chinese were seriously wounded and more than one hundred arrested.

The Peking *People's Daily*, commenting on these latest atrocities, warned that the British government and authorities in Hongkong would be held fully responsible for the shootings and arrests. The Chinese residents in Hongkong, the paper added, had the entire people of China behind them in their protests against the outrage.

\* \* \*

The 14-man Chinese Preparatory Committee for the International Economic Conference in Moscow includes Nan Han-chen, director general of the People's Bank, Ma Yin-chu, the well-known economist and president of Peking University, Liu Ning-yi, vice-president of the All-China Federation of Labour, Lei Jen-min, Vice-Minister of Trade, Chen Wei-chi, Vice-Minister of the Textile Industry and Meng Yung-

chien, vice-chairman of the All-China Federation of Co-operatives.

The Chinese writers Ting Ling and Tsao Yu attended the commemoration in Moscow of the 100th anniversary of the death of Gogol. In May, Chinese cultural and literary associations will hold a joint ceremony to honour the memory of Gogol, Victor Hugo, Leonardo da Vinci, and Avicenna, Arab physician and philosopher of the 10th century.

## Chronicle of Events

### February 25

The Government Administration Council promulgates the 1952 plan for agricultural production.

### February 26

The Chinese Preparatory Committee for the International Economic Conference to be held in Moscow from April 3-10 is formed.

New Year's Day is celebrated in Lhasa by Tibetans together with units of the People's Liberation Army.

### February 28

Over 100 people from Taiwan, living in Peking, hold a meeting to commemorate the 5th anniversary of the "February 28" incident. On that day in 1947, there were widespread revolts in Taiwan against the oppressive Kuomintang rule, during which 30,000 Taiwan civilians were killed.

### February 29

The first team of the Chinese volunteer anti-plague corps leaves Peking for Korea.

### March 1

In Hongkong British police and soldiers attack a crowd of 10,000 people peacefully gathered at the Kowloon railway station to welcome a delegation from Canton.

### March 3

The Central Committee of the Communist Party of China sends congratulatory greetings to the Viet-Nam Lao Dong Party on the occasion of the first anniversary of its founding.

### March 4

The Government Administration Council publishes strict fire-prevention regulations to ensure protection of forest reserves.

### March 5

The Ministry of Agriculture announces the 1952 target for the fishing industry and outlines measures for its achievement.

A Hsinhua dispatch reports that, between February 29 and March 5, 68 formations of American planes flew 448 sorties over Northeast China, disseminating large quantities of germ-carrying insects over 5 counties. They also bombed and strafed the cities of Linkiang and Changtientshokow.

### March 7

Kwon O Dik, the new Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to the Chinese People's Republic, arrives in Peking.

### March 8

Women throughout China celebrate International Women's Day with meetings, special film showings, sports and exhibitions. The first group of Chinese women pilots give an air display over Peking.

Foreign Minister Chou En-lai issues a strong protest against the American air intrusions over Northeast China, the dropping of germ-laden insects, bombing and strafing.

The National Committee of the P.P.C.C. and democratic parties issue a joint statement on the use of germ warfare by the Americans.

# Letters

## For a People's Japan

OSAKA, JAPAN

Your *People's China* encourages me in the hope for a future Socialist Japan and in the struggle against our common enemies, the American-Japanese warmongers. We who exist under strict censorship regard your magazine as not only speaking for People's China but for a People's Japan. To our regret we have too few sources for knowledge on the world situation. The reactionaries deprive us of our rights day by day, but this is only evidence of the decay of their rule. As a Japanese anti-imperialist, I send you, the great Chinese people, heartfelt wishes for still greater success in the construction of the fortress of peace.

T. SUEZAWA

## Chinese Christians

LONDON, ENGLAND

The article on the Chinese Christian Church by Wu Yao-tsung in No. 11 Vol. IV was timely. It exposed the slanders of those who use the propaganda of the "persecuted Church in China" to stir up hatred of the Chinese people and further the aims of those warmongers who want to break up the friendship between our two peoples.

We are glad that your Church has at last gained independence, is run by your own people and has repudiated those unctious "old China hands" who abused the name of Christian by talking about "Christian" Chiang Kai-shek!

A LONDONER

# U.S. Germ Warfare Denounced

## STATEMENT BY BAK HUN YUNG

*Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Korean Democratic People's Republic*

On May 8, 1951 the government of the Korean Democratic People's Republic lodged a serious protest with the United Nations against the use of bacteriological weapons by the American imperialist interventionists in their war of aggression against Korea. However, the forces of the American imperialist invaders again used bacteriological weapons early this year for mass annihilation of the people. They have thus committed the most serious criminal act in the history of mankind, viciously violating all international conventions relating to war.

According to authenticated data available at the headquarters of the Korean People's Army and the Chinese people's volunteers, the American imperialist invaders have, since January 28 this year, been systematically scattering large quantities of bacteria-carrying insects by aircraft in order to disseminate infectious diseases over our frontline positions and rear.

On January 28, enemy military aircraft dropped three types of infected insects, over the Yongsodong and Yongsudong areas to the southeast of Ichon, such as have never been seen before in Korea. The first type resembles back flies, the second, fleas, and the third, ticks.

On January 29, enemy military aircraft again scattered large numbers of flies and fleas over the Ichon area.

On February 11, enemy military aircraft dropped large numbers of paper tubes and paper packets filled with fleas, spiders, mosquitoes, ants, flies and other bacteria-carrying insects over our frontline positions in the Chorwon area; a large quantity of flies over the Sibyonni area, and a large quantity of fleas, flies, mosquitoes and grasshoppers in the Pyonggang area.

On February 13, enemy aircraft scattered large quantities of flies, mosquitoes, spiders and fleas over the Kumhwa area.

On February 15, enemy military aircraft scattered large quantities of bacteria-carrying flies, spiders and other insects over the Pyonggang area.

On February 16, enemy military aircraft again scattered such types of infected insects over the Hongsu and Ochonni areas, east of the Pukhan river.

On February 17, four enemy aircraft scattered flies and fleas over the Shankapri and Hakkapri areas north of Pyonggang.

Bacteriological tests show that these insects scattered by the aggressors on the positions of our troops and in our rear are infected with plague, cholera and the germs of other infectious diseases.

This is irrefutable proof that the enemy is employing bacteria on a large scale and in a well-planned manner to slaughter the men of the Korean People's Army, the Chinese people's volunteers and peaceful Korean civilians.

I am instructed by the government of the Korean Democratic People's Republic to lodge a solemn protest in the name of the Korean people against these foul atrocities.

After starting the war of aggression in Korea, the American imperialists have violated international conventions and are conducting bacteriological warfare on a large scale to slaughter the Korean people at the front and in the rear, in a vain attempt to turn Korea into an American military base.

This is by far the most serious of the atrocities perpetrated by the U.S. imperialist invaders in Korea.

At the same time, it shows clearly that U.S. imperialism is the enemy not only of the Korean people but also of all peace-loving people in the world. It is essential that the world should know that this criminal bacteriological warfare used by the American imperialists in Korea is being conducted after long preparation.

The Biological Warfare Section of the U.S. Army Chemical Corps has manufactured sixteen kinds of bacteriological weapons to spread bacteria by air and water for mass annihilation of the people.

In March 1951, the U.S. landing craft No. 1091 sailed to Wonsan, under the command of Crawford F. Sams, chief of the so-called Public Health and Welfare Section of the U.N. Forces General Headquarters. They later went to Koje island, where they used captured men of the Korean People's Army and Chinese people's volunteers for bacteriological experiments.

In perpetrating these ghastly crimes, the American imperialists have been openly collaborating with the Japanese bacteriological war criminals, the former jackals of Japanese militarism whose crimes have been proven by irrefutable evidence. Among the Japanese war criminals sent to Korea were Shiro Ishii, Jiro Wakamatsu and Masajo Kitano. On February 1, 1950 the Soviet government proposed that these arch-schemers of bacteriological warfare be handed over to a special international military tribunal.

Working hand in glove with the Japanese war criminals who are recognised as such by the whole world, including America, the American imperialists are waging bacteriological warfare on a large scale in our country.

It is clear that the American aggressors are determined to use the sworn enemies of the Korean people—the Japanese imperialists and particularly the Japanese war criminals, who are running dogs of American imperialism and known to the world as arch-schemers of bacteriological warfare—to wipe out the Korean people. This vicious scheme of the American and Japanese imperialists has aroused the wrath and indignation of the people throughout Korea.

Like the other outrages engineered by the American imperialists during the Korean armistice negotiations, the use of bacteriological warfare brings out the naked criminal character of American imperialism in all its heinousness. But whatever violent means it employs, American imperialism will never attain its ends in Korea. Nothing but the most vehement opposition of the peace-loving people and utter bankruptcy of its aggressive schemes is in store for it.

The Korean people will continue their struggle

## STATEMENT BY CHOU EN-LAI

*Minister for Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of China*

According to authenticated data available at the field headquarters of the Korean People's Army and the Chinese people's volunteers, the American aggressor troops have, since January 28, 1952, repeatedly employed, on a scale larger than before, bacteriological weapons which are aimed at slaughtering the peaceful people of Korea, the Korean People's Army and the Chinese people's volunteers. Bak Hun Yung, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Korean Democratic People's Republic, issued on February 22 of this year a statement protesting against these new crimes and calling on the people of the whole world to check the atrocities of the American imperialists and investigate and define the international responsibility of those who organise the employment of bacteriological weapons.

I am authorised to state that the Central People's Government of the Chinese People's Republic and the Chinese people fully support this just stand of the government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

As is universally known, this is not the first time that American imperialism has used bacteriological weapons in its war of intervention in Korea. As early as during the period from December 1950 to January 1951, the American aggressor troops disseminated smallpox viruses in Pyongyang, Kangwon province, South Hamkyong province, Hwanghae province and several other areas while retreating southward across the 38th Parallel under the combined blows of the Korean People's Army and the Chinese people's volunteers. The recent criminal act of the American aggressor troops in repeatedly scattering by aircraft large quantities of germ-carrying insects over the frontline positions and in the rear of the Korean People's Army and the Chinese people's volunteers has provided further proof that the United States government is continuing planned and premeditated germ warfare in a completely inhuman manner. The people of the whole world, squarely faced with the facts, cannot but identify the United States government as the first war criminal in the world today, which, in pursuance of its aggressive war, does not scruple to use bacteriological weapons in violation of all international conventions.

In its machinations to undermine world peace and prepare for world war, American imperialism first employed Shiro Ishii, Jiro Wakamatsu, Masajo Kitano and other Japanese bacteriological warfare criminals, whose hands have long been stained with the blood

together with the people of the world against the savage atrocities of the American imperialists that trample on international law and every human moral precept.

We resolutely protest against the new crime that the interventionists are perpetrating by spreading deadly germs in Korea. We appeal to the people of the whole world to check the outrages of the interventionists and to investigate and define the international responsibility of the organisers of the use of bacteriological weapons.

*February 22, 1952*

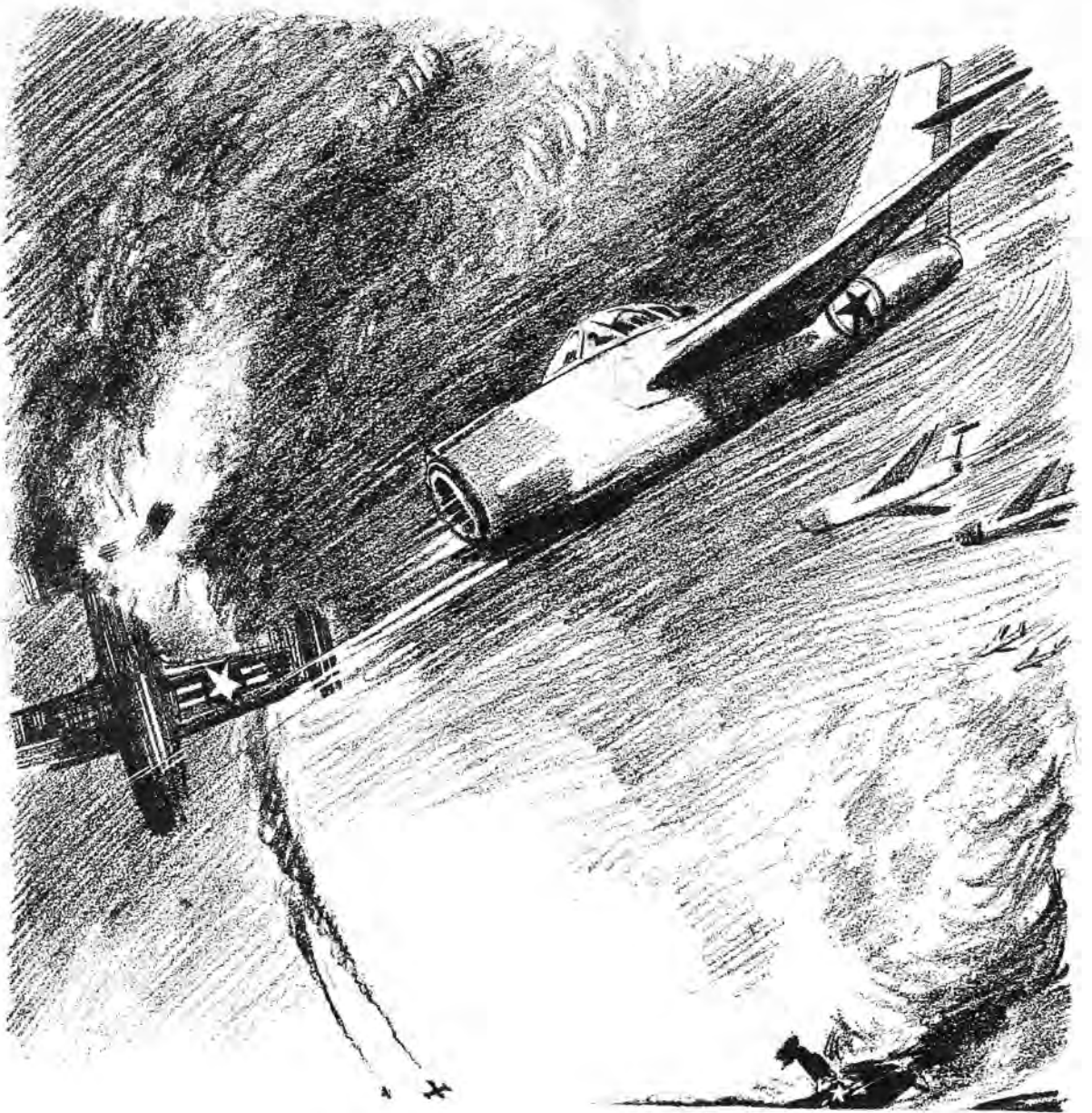
of the Chinese and Korean people, to carry out on the Korean battlefield experiments and manufacture of various types of lethal bacteria. Hundreds and thousands of the captured personnel of the Korean People's Army and the Chinese people's volunteers have been victims of experiments with these bacteriological weapons. And now American imperialism is using these tested bacteriological weapons to slaughter the peaceful people of Korea. If the people of the world do not resolutely put an end to this crime, then the calamities befalling the peaceful people of Korea today will befall the peaceful people of the world tomorrow. The criminal act of American imperialism in waging bacteriological warfare has thus proved that American imperialism is the most dangerous foe of the Chinese and Korean peoples and the peaceful people of the whole world.

It must be pointed out that the American imperialists were forced to conduct armistice negotiations after receiving shattering blows at the hands of the heroic Korean People's Army and the Chinese people's volunteers during the war of intervention which they launched in Korea. Nevertheless, the American imperialists refuse to acquiesce in their own defeat. In the negotiations, they resort to all sorts of shameless tactics to obstruct the progress of the negotiations on the one hand, and callously conduct brutal germ warfare on the other. They attempt by these means to prolong and extend the Korean war and achieve their aggressive designs to destroy the People's Republic of China and undermine peace and security in the Far East. The Chinese people are determined to smash, and inevitably will smash, the shameless machinations and criminal acts of American imperialism. American imperialism will not only fail to attain its criminal ends but will, without doubt, ignominiously pay the penalty for its crimes before the just wrath of the peaceful people of the whole world.

On behalf of the Chinese people, I charge the United States government, before the people of the whole world, with the heinous crime of employing bacteriological weapons against all principles of humanity and international conventions to slaughter peaceful citizens and armed fighters in Korea. I call on the world's peace-loving people to take steps to put an end to the frenzied, criminal acts of the United States government. The Chinese people, together with the people throughout the world, will struggle to the very end to halt the frenzied crimes of the United States government.

*February 24, 1952*

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## THE WINGS OF FREEDOM VICTORIOUS

*Drawings made by Shao Yu  
on the Korean Front*



## SHOOTING THE U.S. AIR PIRATES OUT OF THE SKY