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Greetings, Heroic Albania!

On November 29, 1944, Albania freed itself from fascist occupation and embarked on the road of people's democracy and socialism under the leadership of the Albanian Party of Labour. The birth of the new Albania reinforced the camp of socialism with a heroic new member.

Albania's achievements during the past fifteen years are truly impressive. They prove eloquently once again that any country, irrespective of its size and state of economic development, can work miracles once the working class comes into power under the leadership of a Marxist-Leninist political party.

Albania used to be one of the most backward countries in Europe. Modern industry was virtually non-existent. Agriculture was primitive. The people lived in dire poverty. More than 80 per cent of the population were illiterate.

The emancipated Albanian people have turned their land into a great construction site teeming with labour enthusiasm. They carried out their First Five-Year Plan with flying colours. Now they are spurring ahead to the targets of the Second Five-Year Plan (1956-1960) which, revised upwards last year, represent a forward leap in Albania's socialist construction.

Albania's industry now produces every 16 days the equivalent of the production of the entire year 1938. Agricultural output has also soared with the extension of co-operative farming which now prevails over more than 80 per cent of the country's cultivated land. The economic wellbeing of the people has been vastly improved. One out of every five Albanians attends school and nobody under the age of 40 is illiterate.

We in China deeply admire the successes of the Albanian people in building socialism and draw inspiration from them.

Preoccupied as it is with peaceful construction, Albania staunchly implements a foreign policy of peace. It has, in particular, exerted important efforts for peace and security in the Adriatic and Balkans. The Albanian people, led by their Party of Labour, have made great contributions in the struggle to strengthen the solidarity of the socialist camp headed by the Soviet Union, defend the purity of Marxism-Leninism and oppose modern revisionism, and in the struggle against imperialism. They hold high the glorious banner of proletarian internationalism.

We in China highly esteem the heroic mettle of the Albanian people. Separated geographically from the other socialist countries, they stand at the forefront of the socialist camp and valiantly safeguard our common cause.

The Chinese and Albanian peoples have developed firm comradeship since their liberation. Co-operation is becoming ever closer and contacts between the two countries ever more frequent. Mutual all-out support in the struggle to defend the purity of Marxism-Leninism and oppose revisionism and in the struggle against imperialism and for peace, as well as self-less mutual aid in socialist construction, characterizes our relations. The people of China treasure Sino-Albanian friendship and on this day of jubilation of the Albanian people we extend our warmest fraternal greetings to them.
ROUND THE WEEK

Winter Wheat Is Sown

Practically all the wheat-producing areas in China have completed sowing their winter wheat, a staple food crop of the country. This year the whole job has been done faster than usual and better, despite difficulties resulting from the protracted drought in some provinces. It is better in the sense that the advanced farming measures, known collectively as the “Eight-Point Charter of Agriculture,” were extensively applied, with special emphasis on deep ploughing, adequate manuring, and rational crop planting. For example, more than 80 per cent of the wheat-belt in North and Northwest China has been ploughed to a depth of seven or eight inches, and in some areas to over a foot, about three inches deeper than last year.

In many of the people’s communes the peasants set aside as much as 20 to 30 per cent of the land sown to wheat to intensive farming to obtain especially high yields. The percentage is higher than last year and this will pilot the growth and expansion of high-yield wheat-fields.

With the sowing of winter wheat completed, the communes are directing their attention to other pressing jobs on hand, such as the drive for soil improvement, deep-ploughing the land in preparation for the spring sowing, and the tremendous development of water conservancy projects, at present swelling into a high tide.

Changing Keys

There is an old Chinese saying that “spring holds the key to the year.” It means that success in planning and work during the year depends a lot on what has been done in the spring. In these days of gargantuan endeavour to transform China, to improve the livelihood of the people rapidly, the forward-looking and revolutionary-minded peasants of China have changed this old saw to “winter holds the key to the year.” That is to say, planning and working far ahead, they start the coming year’s work the winter before. A typical example of this enterprising spirit is the way the question of water conservancy is being tackled by commune members in all parts of the country.

Nearly 10 million people in Chinghai, Kansu, Shensi, Honan and Shansi Provinces and the autonomous regions of Ningxia for the Huis and of Inner Mongolia, along the upper and middle reaches of the Yellow River, are turning out every day to work on the water conservancy projects on the loess highland which is notorious for its loss of water and soil. They brave the cold weather and pound at the freezing earth, keenly aware that only by bringing a wider area of the loess highland under control can they further stimulate the growth of agriculture and provide adequate protection for the gigantic Samnen Gorge Reservoir. The Samnen Gorge Reservoir, one of the major projects in the multi-purpose plan to control and exploit the Yellow River which will be completed far ahead of schedule, requires a drastic reduction in the amount of silt washed into the reservoir, and this can be done only if water and soil conservation is further carried out on the loess highland.

The area of loess highland in these parts which suffers from chronic loss of water and soil extends over 430,000 square kilometres. On an average 1,400 million tons of silt pass through the Samnen Gorge into the Yellow River every year. Much work was done after liberation and 170,000 square kilometres of this highland have been brought under control. Now work is proceeding on the rest of this loess highland. From Chinghai Province in the Northwest all the way eastwards to Honan Province, where the Yellow River turns to Shantung to empty into the sea—an area which is inhabited by many nationalities of China—Tibetans, Huis, Mongolians and Hans are seen chanting songs together as they build irrigation dykes and reservoirs, plant trees and grass and level the land in a common effort to remake what was once known as “China’s Sorrow.”

Railways—the Native Way

Last week the big news in the transport world was the completion of the new 260-kilometre railway which cuts across the Great Wall to link Peking with Chengteh, the ancient city by the Jehol River which makes a convenient junction with the large railway network of Northeast China. When this new line is put into regular service, it will take a load off the Peking-Shenyang run, until now the only railway connection between North and Northeast China.

But the construction of smaller railways, known popularly as indigenous or native-style railways in the provinces, is in the limelight, too. A product of the big leap forward last year, these native-style railways are being built in large numbers up and down the country.

Szechuan, the most populous province in China, laid over a hundred kilometres of these light, short-distance railways by the end of October and will be constructing a couple of hundred kilometres more before the year is out.

Anhwei, the province known for its many irrigation canals and other waterways cut by the peasants themselves, is going in for native-style railways in a big way. So far four new lines have been built which have helped keep up a constant flow of minerals and coal from the mining areas.

Much the same is true of neighbouring Honan Province. In the coal town of Chiaosu alone 26 such short-distance railways have been built during the past four months. Honan’s longest native-style railway, commissioned just a few weeks ago, is some 50 kilometres long and has a daily capacity of more than 6,000 tons.

The building of these native-style railways is doing much to increase the volume of local transport, which is being expanded rapidly these days with the introduction of many changes, such as simple mechanization to expedite loading and unloading at inland ports and the reform of transport vehicles on land. With the construction of trunk and local railway lines going on at the same time, the policy of “walking on two legs” is being fully implemented in the field of transport to meet the growing needs of industrial and agricultural production.

Peasants’ Quartermaster-General

With so much going on in the countryside, the demand for more farm tools and machinery, chemical fertilizers and insecticides is growing all the time. The state trading departments are redoubling their efforts to make supplies available to the peasants in time, and in much greater amounts than last year.

By the end of October this year the state shops had sent to the rural areas more irrigation and drainage equipment than during all of 1958. The amount of chemical fertilizers was greater, and so was the supply of insecticides. But in their drive for a continued leap forward the peasants are not only getting a greater supply of tools and materials from the state shops, they have also obtained the facilities to produce some of the things they need locally, an implementation of the policy of the simultaneous employment of modern and indigenous methods of production.

Much has been achieved in this respect to help the people’s communes make part of the chemical fertilizers and a good deal of the farm tools they use.

This method of stimulating the growth of the economy—local production for
local consumption—has found great favour with the peasants. No wonder the state trade departments have earned themselves the title of “quartermaster-general of agriculture.”

Experimental Plots: New Stage

Hsieh Chueh-tsai, President of the Supreme People’s Court, was so impressed by the vigorous and down-to-earth leadership given by the cadres of Yiyang County, Hunan Province, through what are known in China today as “experimental plots,” that he gave voice to his praises in classical verse. The poem was published on the cultural page of Beijing Wanbao last Thursday.

“Experimental plots,” which came into being early last year, are an important method of leadership in the rural areas. They originated in Hupei Province where leading cadres in the rural areas cooperated with peasants and technicians in trying to raise grain production on “experimental plots.” The idea worked and spread. It was one of the notable achievements of 1958.

This is the second year of the “experimental plots.” There are new developments both in the role they play and in the way they operate. Experimental plots are a successful way to guide output increases, but they are not confined to grain production and are used widely for other farming purposes.

While the experimental plots last year were small areas, devoted mainly to trying out various new farming techniques, this year the size of the experimental plots is much greater, generally 20 per cent of the cultivated land of the commune. They not only experiment with new farming techniques, but are part and parcel of the plan to increase total output and act as top high-yield plots to stimulate greater output over the entire area.

But, what is more important, the influence of the experimental plots has extended far beyond farming in the rural areas. Cadres in the local administrations have borrowed the idea for their day-to-day work. They go out among the masses more often, mix with them and work more closely with them. Whatever the job, they study it thoroughly and learn to do it themselves, while giving guidance. Many have learnt a great deal about agriculture, industry and every field of work they engage in. The experimental plots have helped many cadres become all-round men.

News from Lhasa

Life in the new Tibet of democratic reform is changing fast, and all to the benefit of the overwhelming majority of the people. The following news from Lhasa, seat of the Preparatory Committee for the Autonomous Region of Tibet, gives some idea of the changing scene:

Brisk and Fair Trade. Tibetan peasants and herdsmen are taking advantage of the fair prices offered them to sell large amounts of their farm produce, wool, hides, etc. to the trading agencies. In the past, serf-owners and manorial lords always forced prices down to an incredible level and applied all sorts of pressures to lay their hands on the goods coming to the market. With such serf-owners out of the way the working people of Tibet are breathing freely for the first time. With the money they earn from their products they buy farm tools, tea, and other necessities. To make things easy for people living in out of the way places the trading agencies send out mobile teams to the pasturelands, much to the welcome of the herdsmen.

Flourishing Handicrafts. Lhasa, the largest handicraft centre in Tibet, is coming into its own in handicraft production. The People’s Bank has made sizable loans to handicraftsmen working on their own and in mutual-aid teams, to help them develop their trades now that the economy is expanding and much construction is going on in the city. Unemployed handicraftsmen who had no way of making a living under the former local government of blood-sucking serf-owners have secured employment. The handicraftsmen are busy making Tibetan boots and hats, dresses and rugs, and all kinds of knick-knacks and they are sure of a market since the Lhasa Trading Company has concluded contracts with them to sell their products.

Free Tools for Peasants and Herdsmen.
The state has issued gratis some 306,000 iron tools to Tibetan peasants and herdsmen since the spring. They include ploughs, harrows, hoes, sickles, hatchets and wool shears. All these new farm tools were especially made to suit the conditions of Tibet, but since the Tibetan peasants are not used to these new iron tools, short-term classes were opened to give them some training in their use. Many are now proudly trying them out on the fields to prepare for another rich harvest next year.

Film Showings in the Grasslands.
Former serfs and slaves in Tibet are seeing motion pictures for the first time in their lives, as mobile film projection teams now tour the grasslands. Regular film showings are held in all the bigger towns and cities. In Lhasa, Shigatse, Gyantse and Nagchu a dozen new films are screened every month. From August to October this year more than 170,000 people went to the cinema in Lhasa and eight neighbouring counties, while the audience for the entire year of 1958 was less than 70,000. The reason for the difference was that the places showing films were few and the price of admission was prohibitive under the reactionary former local government of Tibet.

The People in Control. The Residents’ Committees for the four districts of Lhasa have all been elected now. Ninety-six per cent of the adult population turned out on election day. All the 350 committee members elected have in one way or another distinguished themselves in the campaign to mop up the recent rebellion and in carrying out the democratic reforms. Most of them are former nangzan (household slaves), handicraftsmen and from the poorest sections of the population. Women make up one-quarter of the total.
The People's Communes Are the Inevitable Outcome of China's Social Development

by LI CHING-CHUAN

Following is a translation of an article that appeared in "Hongqi" (Red Flag), fortnightly journal published by the Central Committee of the Chinese Communist Party, No. 20, 1959. — Ed.

A YEAR has already passed since the birth of the people's communes which are the great creation of the Chinese people and possess infinite vitality. They are the product both of the big leap in industry and agriculture and of the great upsurge of socialist consciousness among the peasant masses. They are a form of social organization which has developed on the basis of the advanced type agricultural producers' co-operatives. Since the check-up, they have gone forward rapidly along the path of consolidation and healthy development and contributed illustriously to the development of agriculture and the support of industry. However, while the people of the whole country rejoiced at the enormous achievements of the communes, hostile forces at home and abroad began viciously slandering and attacking them. There also appeared in our own ranks a handful of right opportunists who, in unison with the ravings of domestic and foreign enemies, found fault with the communes in every way. They said that the setting up of people's communes was "premature"; that they were "in an awful mess"; that they were "the result of the subjective wishes of a few people and did not reflect the desires of the peasant masses"; that "no early shoots of communism should exist in a socialist society"; that "the combination of the wage and the free supply systems was harmful"; that "the community dining-rooms were imposed on the peasants"; and so on. They denied that the people's communes were the inevitable outcome of the big leap in socialist construction and of the social development of our country. They refused to recognize that the new systems adopted by the communes reflected the urgent desire of the broad mass of the peasantry to take our country out of poverty and backwardness swiftly. They denied the great contributions the people's communes have made and will make to the socialist construction in our country.

It is exactly because the people's communes are such a fine thing that they have drawn the slanders and attacks of hostile forces at home and abroad. The right opportunists who echoed these vicious attacks did their best to find fault with the people's communes. Their allegations were entirely untenable and were firmly opposed by the broad masses of the cadres and the people. The right opportunists did not even find support among those who were sceptical about individual points with regard to the communes.

COMRADE Mao Tse-tung has pointed out:

"The basic contradictions in socialist society are still those between the relations of production and the productive forces, and between the superstructure and the economic base. These contradictions, however, are fundamentally different in character and have different features from contradictions between the relations of production and the productive forces and between the superstructure and the economic base in the old societies."

Where there are contradictions, solutions must be found for them. When old contradictions are resolved, new contradictions arise and call for solution. Agricultural co-operation resolved the contradiction between the individual economy and the socialist economy. Then there emerged the contradiction of the agricultural producers' co-operatives being too small in size and too limited in their scope of operations to meet the demands of the great advance of the productive forces. The establishment of the people's communes was precisely intended to resolve this contradiction.

The development from the land reform to the agricultural co-operatives, and from the co-operatives to the communes, shows that the revolution moves forward by stages and at the same time is uninterrupted.

Comrade Mao Tse-tung has developed the Marxist theories of the development of revolution by stages and uninterrupted revolution. It is precisely under the guidance of the thought of Comrade Mao Tse-tung which integrates the theory of the development of revolution by stages and the theory of uninterrupted revolution that we are leading the revolution from victory to victory. The people's communes are a great, remarkable victory, a proof that this integration by Comrade Mao Tse-tung will always lead to success.

Reviewing the course of development in the rural areas since liberation, we see that the birth and growth of the people's communes are by no means fortuitous.

In the early period after liberation, we won nationwide victory in the land reform, completely demolishing the feudal relations of production that had seriously hampered the development of rural productive forces. That was the first step towards the wide development of productive forces. Later the agricultural co-operative movement, led by the Party, was launched in the rural areas. As a result, the peasants, who had formerly been extremely poor and hence had a strong desire for revolution, abandoned the capitalist road and took the road of socialism. At first, mutual-aid teams were organized on the basis of the individual economy; they were characterized by collective labour and contained the shoots of socialism. Then, as their further development, elementary agricultural producers' co-operatives were formed; these were characterized by the pooling of land in the form of shares and by unified management; these were semi-socialist in nature. Afterwards, a still further step was taken: the setting up of agricultural co-operatives of the advanced type which were characterized by the collectivization of land and other principal means of production, and were fully socialist in nature. These successive changes in the relations of production all conformed with the demands of the development of the productive forces at the time. Each such change greatly promoted the development of the productive forces. This was proved by the steady increase in agricultural output. An example is the year-by-year increase of the total grain output in Szechuan Province. In 1954, when rural mutual-aid teams had been set up in large numbers, it increased by 6.6 per cent as compared with 1953. In the winter of 1955, elementary co-operatives were organized throughout the country, and crops in 1956 were 14 per cent above those of 1954 when mutual-aid teams were the prevalent form. In the winter of 1956, co-operatives of the advanced type were set up throughout the country. The 1957 increase in output was not great, as a result of the opposition to so-called “rash advances.” But in 1958, spurred by the Party’s general line for socialist construction, an extraordinarily big leap in production took place. Szechuan’s grain output that year was 46 per cent above that of 1956.

Agricultural co-operation was thus the second step towards the wide development of productive forces.

After agricultural co-operation had been realized, we conducted the great rectification and socialist education campaigns in the countryside. As a result, the socialist consciousness and productive enthusiasm of the broad masses of the peasantry rose universally. They were eager to raise production at high speed and to quickly shake off rural poverty and backwardness. Inspired by the Draft National Programme for Agricultural Development, large-scale movements to build water conservancy projects and to develop soil amelioration and afforestation were carried out in the countryside in the winter of 1957 and the spring of 1958. After the Party had put forth its general line for socialist construction, production and construction in the rural areas surged forward on an even grander scale. In the summer of 1958, a movement was started for the great development of local industries, with the improvement of farm tools and the manufacture of indigenous chemical fertilizers as the central tasks. On the basis of a comprehensive summing up of rich experiences in agricultural production, the “Eight-Point Charter” for agricultural production was formulated, promoting technical innovations in agriculture. The great advances in production brought before the eyes of the people a splendid future for the rural areas, involving mechanization, electrification and meticulous “garden-like” farming. In many places, gigantic, ambitious plans were drawn up to realize that splendid future. All this proves that, in the new circumstances brought about by the unprecedented big leap in agricultural production in 1958, a closer conformity of relations of production to the productive forces had become urgently necessary.

Agricultural co-operatives of the advanced type came across many problems in launching production campaigns and carrying out various projects of production and construction. First of all, they had felt the need of deploying and using manpower on a wider scale and in a more rational way. According to studies of typical cases at that time, the adoption of advanced farming techniques, such as the building of water conservancy works, deep ploughing and rational close planting, would require about double the labour force being currently used. Still more labour would be needed to ensure timely sowing, to overcome natural calamities, increase the sown area, resow land where necessary, develop a diversified economy with afforestation, animal husbandry and rural sidelines, and build the necessary local industries. Secondly, the development of production required that the means of production should be distributed and used more rationally. To build water conservancy projects on a large scale, for example, would need better regulation of the water resources. To take another example, the proper allocation of the land for different crops and the specialized management for land in different topographical, climatic and soil conditions, all called for bigger-scale arrangements of land and other means of production in accordance with conditions on the spot. Thirdly, in order to apply advanced agricultural techniques and carry out the “Eight-Point Charter,” it would be necessary to enlarge the scope of management, set up industries serving the needs of agriculture and run schools to train personnel for rural construction. Fourthly, to facilitate collective cultivation and reduce the intensity of labour, it would be necessary gradually to improve the situation in which the peasants lived in scattered dwellings, build roads for better transport and establish the necessary welfare services. All these problems could obviously not be solved by agricultural co-operatives of the advanced type, each of which consisted at that time merely of a few dozen to a hundred or more households and engaged solely in farming. Moreover, as production develops, the leadership of the state power over it must be strengthened further. In the past, the basic unit of state power was the township. Though the township government gave leadership in industry, agriculture, trade, education and military affairs, it was impossible to fulfill the gigantic tasks noted above on a relatively large scale without merging government administration with commune management to ensure unified leadership. These problems fully reflected the contradiction that manifested itself in the incompatibility between certain aspects of the relations of production and the development of productive forces. They also reflected the contradiction between the basic production unit and the basic unit of state power.

December 1, 1959
How to resolve these contradictions was a question to which the broad masses of cadres and peasants sought an urgent answer. As a result, even before the advent of the people's commune, basing themselves on their past experience in setting up big co-operatives embracing several hundred to a thousand and more households, the masses in various places had made many changes in the organization and regulations of the co-operatives. A great number of the agricultural producers' co-operatives in Szechuan Province had already merged into bigger units, some on a township scale, expanding the scope of their operations and starting up their own small-scale industries to serve agriculture. Some co-operatives had improved their organization of labour, thus strengthening co-ordination in work and the joint production both inside and outside the co-operative. Such co-ordination and joint production sometimes exceeded not only township but also county limits. About a third of the co-operatives had set up community dining-rooms and nurseries. Members of many co-operatives had begun to pool their pigs in the co-operatives as an investment calculated according to their money value, and developed collective pig breeding. Most of the small plots of land formerly reserved for private use had come under the unified management of the co-operative. The masses were fully convinced that only bigger collectives could conduct a more vigorous fight against poverty. So the merger of small co-operatives into big ones became inevitable. Comrade Mao Tsetung and the Party's Central Committee, in accordance with the objective law that the relations of production must conform to the character of the productive forces and in response to the popular demand, gave timely leadership to this movement. The Central Committee of the Party adopted a resolution on setting up people's communes in the countryside, summarizing what the masses had created, raising it to a higher level and developing the people's commune, a form of organization which "has great flexibility." The movement to set up people's communes brought about important changes in the relations of production and in the superstructure. That is to say, existing collective ownership was expanded and raised to a higher stage, and some elements of ownership by the whole people began to appear. Thus what was originally an organization of agricultural production alone turned into the basic unit of China's social structure, combining industry, agriculture, trade, education and military affairs and operating a diversified economy including farming, forestry, animal husbandry, side-occupations and fishery. Thus the basic organization of rural state power and the basic unit of rural production were merged into one. These changes in turn stimulated a greater leap of the productive forces. The splendid successes in developing production over the past year, i.e., since the establishment of the people's communes, attest this. The people's communes in Szechuan have not only shown their great vitality in agricultural production and in the struggle against serious natural calamities, thus enabling agricultural production throughout the province to make a continued leap in 1959 on the basis of last year's big leap forward. Moreover, they diverted last winter a labour force of several million to make iron and steel, vigorously promoting the big leap in the iron and steel industry.

Obviously, the absurd allegations of the right opportunists that the setting up of people's communes was "premature" and that they were "in an awful mess" run completely counter to the principles of Marxism-Leninism, and to the facts.

Contrary to what the right opportunists say, the establishment of the people's communes has opened new, broad prospects for the development of the productive forces on the basis of agricultural co-operation.

II

On the basis of the big leap forward in 1958 and with the great developments in production, the broad masses of the peasantry wanted an improvement in the system of distribution originally prevailing in the agricultural producers' co-operatives. That is how a system of distribution which combines the wage system with the free supply system (mainly the free supply of grain) came into being in the people's communes. Why is it necessary for our people's communes today to adopt such a system? It is because firstly, ours is a big country with over 500 million peasants. Without a good solution to the food problem of the peasant masses, it would be impossible for all our work to go forward with greater success. For that reason, since the founding of the People's Republic, we have adopted a series of principles and policies to promote agricultural development, and to raise the peasants' standard of living step by step. After the land reform, for instance, we completed the agricultural co-operation movement systematically and in a relatively short time. In socialist construction, we adopted the policy of simultaneously developing industry and agriculture; in dealing with the relations between the interests of the state and those of the peasants, we adopted the policy of looking after the interests of both and the policy of exchange at equal value; and so on. There can be no doubt that all these policies and principles are completely correct; they have achieved marked results. But because China's level of agricultural production was very low in the past, the food problem is still a big one, even though there has been a very big rise in the level of agricultural output as a result of the last few years' efforts. Broad masses of the peasantry still have to spend 60 to 70 per cent of their annual net income on food. Before the setting up of people's communes, about 50 to 70 per cent of the rural population found themselves, each year, in the category of "deficit households" which had many mouths to feed but were short of labour power and could not successfully fight against natural calamities. These households had to depend on state loans in grain and money, reduction of the agricultural tax or exemption from it, social relief, social insurance in the agricultural co-operatives, public welfare funds, allocations of grain and overdrafts from their accounts in the co-operatives. Only by relying on all these measures, and on mutual help and mutual relief among the masses, could they solve their food problems. The system of the free supply of grain, introduced after the setting up of people's communes, was a continuation and development of the measures of social insurance and collective mutual aid, measures which the state and agricultural co-operatives had been using all along. It puts these measures on a permanent basis by integrating them into a system. It ensures, beyond all doubt, that the peasants are provided with food. It thus relieves the mass of the peasants, above all the poorer peasants, of their former heavy burden, "the year-round worry about food." Thus they are now able to partici-
ipate in agricultural labour in a happy frame of mind. This is an important problem which the socialist system has had to solve.

Secondly, is it feasible for the people’s commune to give effect to this system? We say, “yes.” As stated above, since the people’s commune possesses greater collective strength than the advanced agricultural producers’ co-operative, the productive forces progress more quickly under it than ever before, and production for the commune’s own consumption and for exchange have increased continuously. That makes it possible for us to put the system of free grain supply into practice. Even in the case of a serious natural calamity, the people’s commune is capable of fully mobilizing the peasants to fight successfully against it. This year Szechuan experienced rather serious natural calamities. It was by using the strength of the people’s communes to enlarge the sown area and organize second sowings where the first had failed and by practising frugality, that the difficulties were successfully tided over and all the peasants assured of food.

The right opportunists are totally blind to the great significance, in China’s present conditions, of solving the food problem for the peasants. They are entirely indifferent to the pressing needs of the broad masses of the peasants, primarily the poorer peasants. They condemn the adoption of the free supply system by the people’s communes as “a violation of the principle of ‘to each according to his work,’” or as “ultra equilibrarianism,” and noisily demand that it “should be abolished.” Our answer to them is that it must on no account be abolished. The “Resolution on Some Questions Concerning the People’s Communes” adopted at the Sixth Plenary Session of the Eighth Central Committee of the Party stipulates that the people’s communes should adopt a system of distribution which combines the wage system with the free supply system. It declares at one and the same time that the people’s communes at the present stage should, in the main, adopt the wage system of “to each according to his work,” and that the free supply system which has the embryonic characteristics of “to each according to his needs” should also be confirmed. This combined system is an excellent one with immense prospects. Under it, in the general conditions now prevailing in Szechuan, all who can work receive from the free supplies provided by the communes that portion which they are entitled to because of the work they do. This portion, plus wages, accounts for about 70 per cent of the total income of commune members. Entire dependence on commune free supplies for livelihood is confined to old people who can no longer work, and children too young to work. These free supplies account for only about 30 per cent of the total income of commune members. It is the bounton duty of the socialist system to provide a due amount of social insurance and collective mutual assistance. This also conforms to the present needs of the broad masses of the peasants in their livelihood. The system of distribution that combines the wage and free supply systems is essentially still one based on the socialist principle of “to each according to his work,” not on the communist principle of “to each according to his needs.” As to wages, we have also stipulated, according to the principle given in the “Resolution on Some Questions Concerning the People’s Communes,” that people doing different kinds of work should be paid on different scales. Following this principle, the Shunjiang People’s Commune in Neichiang County, Szechuan Province, has made an estimate of its distribution for the year 1959. It is shown that households with greater labour power will get 65 per cent more income from the commune in 1959 than in 1958, the households with average labour power will get 26 per cent more, and the earnings of the households with greater labour power will increase by more than twice as much as those of households with a smaller labour force. In the commune as a whole, 94.6 per cent of the members will have a larger income than last year. In the estimated distribution in this commune in 1959, the ratio between wages and free supply to is to be 7:3. This makes it clear that the adoption by the people’s communes of a system of distribution combining wages with free supply has not violated the principle of “to each according to his work,” and hence cannot be called “ultra equilibrarianism.”

It cannot be denied that distribution “to each according to his work” is the socialist principle of distribution. But this does not exclude the possibility of the emergence, under the socialist system, of some communist elements of distribution “to each according to his needs.” The emergence of such elements is inevitable, and they will grow and expand step by step as production develops.

It must also be said that the question of material encouragement under the socialist system cannot be separated from the principle of “politics in command.” The principle of “to each according to his work” should be carried out in the socialist stage. But this does not mean that the communist spirit of working selflessly regardless of rewards should be negated; on the contrary, it should be encouraged. Socialist construction is the undertaking of the broad mass of the people, their very own work. To quickly end our country’s poverty and backwardness is the burning desire of our 650 millions. Inspired by the Party’s political propaganda and calls, the enthusiasm of the broad mass of the people to build socialism will inevitably find expression in their actions. Formerly, when the supply system was practised in army units, government offices and schools in the revolutionary bases, the masses of cadres and people paid little attention to material reward, and always struggled perseveringly, risking their very lives. Now, since the big leap forward, the masses of the people, full of vigour and enthusiasm, have been working voluntarily and selflessly, making it possible for the nation’s economic construction to advance at lightning speed. All this is proof of the extremely great importance of the Party’s policy of “politics in command” in all work. That is why material reward should be integrated with “politics in command” and why it is equally wrong to negate the principle of material reward and to neglect political and ideological work.

With the tremendous growth of production in rural areas the problem has arisen of labour shortage on the farms. It is necessary to tap the manpower potential further, and especially to free women for work in production, to meet the needs of the big leap forward. It was therefore natural that community dining-rooms, nurseries, kindergartens and other welfare services came into being in large numbers during the big leap. The community dining-rooms have ensured the commune members of their
full working time; they have led to a higher rate of attendance and greater efficiency at work. They have considerably diminished the difficulties arising from the labour shortage caused by the sudden and immense demands on agricultural manpower after the big leap. The community dining-rooms are also a form of organization for collective life. Under present circumstances the peasant masses associate them with the grain supply system operated by the people's commune. They firmly believe that the community dining-rooms are a safeguard for their livelihood, making them yet more confident that by relying on the collective, they can banish poverty and triumph over natural calamities. The community dining-rooms have therefore naturally become centres for various activities in developing rural production, arranging for the livelihood of commune members, education and propaganda. No wonder the Szechuan peasants sing their praises: "Our community dining-rooms—you can't knock them down, disband them or take them away from us." Can we run the community dining-rooms well? Of course we can. We are convinced that the people's communes can give leadership in bringing about higher yields in agriculture, ensure the supply of food grains needed by the peasants and provide the conditions for growing the vegetables needed and raising pigs. With these conditions, plus the creation of the required system of administration, there is no reason why the peasants should object to the community dining-rooms. There is also the question of whether the community dining-rooms lead to waste. Our reply is that we can completely do away with waste, if we practise frugal living and carry out a food policy of "giving a fixed allocation according to the individual, supplying grain directly to each household and allowing each person eating in the community dining-room to take away the balance of grain which he has not consumed." The right opportunists alleged that the community dining-rooms were no good at all and went so far as to order their dissolution. The reason why they dissolved community dining-rooms was that they wanted to destroy the people's communes. The dissolution of community dining-rooms obviously runs counter to the desires of the broad masses of the peasants and the needs of the big leap forward. It is absolutely wrong.

This is one side of the picture which we must keep in mind. On the other hand, it must be recognized that it is only step by step that we can lead the peasants to give up smaller-scale collective ownership and go over to ownership by the whole people through collective ownership on a larger scale. Furthermore, the development from partial ownership by the people's communes to complete and exclusive ownership by the people's communes is a process of raising the productive level of the present poorer production brigades to that of the richer ones; of increasing accumulated public funds, developing commune-run industries, and of bringing about the mechanization and electrification of agriculture and the industrialization of the communes and the whole country. In other words, to accomplish the historic task of advancing from collective ownership to ownership by the whole people, we must energetically and systematically create the conditions needed for this transition. The crucial question here is that the people's communes must become economically very strong.

First of all, we must strengthen leadership in the poorer production brigades within the communes. We must show adequate consideration for them in organizing production, arranging the livelihood of commune members, and in regard to the contribution which they make to the accumulation funds at the commune level. State aid may also be given. The purpose of all this is to help the poorer brigades catch up with the productive level of the richer ones fairly quickly. The disparity between the incomes of the poorer and richer production brigades in a commune with some 10,000 persons, as shown by surveys of some of the typical communes in Szechuan, is generally from 20 to 30 per cent. In a bigger commune, with some 10,000 households, it is, generally, from 50 to 60 per cent. It is entirely possible, over a number of years, to maintain an average annual rate of increase of more than 10 per cent in agriculture. Hence, provided the communes give stronger leadership and more help to their poorer brigades, it is also entirely possible to raise their productive level, so that it will reach or surpass that of the richer ones in two to three years, or four to five years.

In order to strengthen themselves further economically, and increase their accumulated public funds, the people's communes, while guaranteeing the supply of grain to the state and the peasants, must develop their diversified economy and observe the principle of the simultaneous development of production for their own use on the one hand and for exchange on the other. They must also operate industries and other enterprises which cater to the needs of agricultural production and the livelihood of their members, on the condition that the allocation of manpower to such industries and enterprises does not prejudice agricultural production, and that these are allowed by the state. If any industry or enterprise is beyond the means of one people's commune, it can be set up, under the leadership of the regional or county party committee, by the joint efforts of several communes, or within the framework of the county federation of people's communes. In this way the economic power of the people's communes will increase rapidly and the proportion of ownership by the whole people within the people's communes will gradually grow. The Hongqi (Red Flag) People's Commune on the outskirts of Chungking is a "ten-thousand-man" commune. Its accumulated public fund this year

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The practical experience of the past year makes it clearer that a social organization such as the people's commune is a powerful weapon for accelerating socialist construction in our countryside; also that it is the best form of organization for bringing about the step-by-step transition from socialist collective ownership to ownership by the whole people, as well as the gradual transition from socialism to communism in the countryside in the future.

The advance from agricultural producers' co-operatives to people's communes widened the scope and raised the level of collective ownership; also it introduced certain elements of ownership by the whole people. Although these elements of ownership by the whole people are as yet still proportionately very small, they represent the main direction of the development of socialist ownership in our countryside, and will therefore play an ever more positive and prominent role in the rural economy. Such elements will increase steadily as production grows and the political understanding of the masses is heightened.

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increased by 150 per cent over last year due to the gigantic growth of production. The growth of its public fund has strengthened the economic power of this commune. The value of the output of the industries and a diversity of other undertakings under direct management at the commune level will reach 580,000 yuan this year, constituting 25 per cent of the total value of the commune’s industrial and agricultural production. It is expected that this proportion will rise to 65 per cent in 1961. In such conditions the masses of members firmly demand that ownership at the commune level should be maintained as the basic form, while only part of the ownership should be vested in the production brigades. True, people’s communes like the Hongqi are still a minority. But judging from the rapid development of production in such communes, the inevitable trend of the tremendous economic growth of the communes is clear.

To enable the people’s communes to gain greater economic strength, it is also necessary, apart from the important measures enumerated above, to speed the mechanization of agriculture. In the conditions of the big leap forward in agricultural production, and in order gradually to alleviate the intensity of labour and greatly to raise the productive forces, it is necessary to speed mechanization not only in areas with vast tracts of land and sparse populations, but in densely populated areas as well. The question is whether the accumulated funds of the communes are sufficient or not. More especially, it is decided by the tempo of industrialization of the country. As to the question of funds, we hold that the main way to solve it is for the communes to accumulate public funds and carry out expanded reproduction in their economies each year; coupled with the necessary help from the state. This has already been done by a number of people’s communes, among them the Hongguang People’s Commune in Pihsien County, Szechuan. If it can be done by these people’s communes now, there is no reason why it should be impossible for other people’s communes which have less favourable conditions, after a certain period of hard work. As to whether the tempo of our industrial growth can meet the needs of the mechanization of agriculture, we think it can. Our policy of the simultaneous development of industry and agriculture, with priority for heavy industry, includes agricultural mechanization. During the big leap we have already laid the foundation for a rational geographical distribution of industry, which will enable us, from now on, gradually to increase the production of farm machinery to support agriculture. At the same time we practise semi-mechanization as a transitional step to complete mechanization, preparing the technical conditions for the latter. In this way we can realize agricultural mechanization more quickly and enable all rural areas in which it is feasible to carry out the semi-mechanization and mechanization of agriculture systematically and at relatively high speed.

We shall be able to achieve the semi-mechanization and complete mechanization of agriculture at an earlier date provided that we rely on the people’s communes to raise the productive level of their poorer production brigades to that of the richer ones within a given time; that the people’s communes follow the policy of simultaneous development of production for their own use and for exchange, and develop their own necessary industry as allowed by the state, so as to increase their economic strength and at the same time help accumulate public funds; that while giving priority to the development of heavy industry we actively promote the production of farm machinery. As the mechanization of agriculture develops, the people’s communes will have to improve and expand their organization and adjust their various systems accordingly. In the light of the decisions of the Central Committee of the Chinese Communist Party adopted at Peitaifu last year, we have every reason to believe that in three or four, five or six years, or a little longer, it will be possible for the people’s communes in most areas to switch from collective ownership to ownership by the whole people. After this is accomplished, the people’s communes will assume their further historic task—the gradual transition from socialism to communism.

Rural China

A Way of Life Can Be Changed

by LI SHU

Since the emergence of the people’s communes on the Chinese mainland, the imperialist elements in the United States have displayed an intensely hostile interest in this question. Basing themselves on wishful thinking, they predict that the people’s communes will come a cropper. They sing the same old tune they have repeated hundreds and thousands of times: the people’s communes have destroyed the traditional Chinese way of life! As they see it, it is impossible to change one’s way of life. But they seem to forget that when they try to introduce the American way of life in various parts of the world they obviously think differently, namely, that it is possible to change one’s way of life. If changing one’s way of life were impossible, how could anybody be expected to pay any attention to the introduction of the American way of life? Here the imperialist elements, because of their fanaticism in aggression, have become entangled in serious logical confusion.

Is it possible to change one’s way of life? It certainly is. Such change is determined not by any outside force but by the mode of production in society. A certain mode of production gives rise to a certain way of life. Primitive men sought their livelihood with stone knives and stone axes and lived in caves or on trees, so their way of life could only be one adapted to caves or trees. Slaves toiled on their masters’ farms with tools belonging to the masters and lived in their masters’ stables, so their way of life could only be life in their masters’ stables. Peasants con-

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fined to a small piece of land live in huts, so their way of life can only be a life in huts. Workers employed in the factories of the capitalists live in slums, so their way of life can only be a slum life. The oppressed and the poor of all times never rest content with the way things are. They always seek a new life and demand reform. It is impossible for man to imagine how succeeding generations will live. The succeeding generations will adhere to the way of life of their forefathers only when they persist in the mode of production of their forefathers. When it is possible for peasants to leave their huts and for workers to move out of the slums, when they have access to new living conditions, they will give up the way of life which is suited only for huts or slums, and will adopt a new way of life. The influence of tradition may linger but it will inevitably be weakened continuously by the newer generations and replaced by new traditions. This change is so closely connected with the changes in economic relations that no force but the economic one can dictate a sudden change. Peter the Great, who was a zealot of Europeanism, once tried to change everything in the national life of the Russians by virtue of his tsarist power, but in the end, as V. Belinsky noted, he could only bring forth among the upper classes in Russia "the parody of a European." The masses of serfs in Russia were not emancipated and their life could only be what it was before. Bourgeois revolutionaries in modern China took the changing of their way of life in a European mould as a characteristic of their revolution but they did not, and could not, effect these changes among the broad masses. Before the masses freed themselves from poverty they could only go on leading the old impoverished way of life.

The great victory of the Chinese people's revolution has brought about a fundamental change in the mode of production of Chinese society and has thus also changed the way of life of the Chinese people to a very great extent. In the seething revolutionary struggle and the organizations of collective production the people get into closer and closer contact with one another in their daily lives. But they still run their own household affairs which is a main aspect of their daily life. After the establishment of the people's communes, a fundamental change in the way of life began to take place among the vast rural population. Most of those who had lived in scattered places in the past set up residential centres according to their needs of production and life. Women won their real emancipation with the establishment of the community dining-rooms, kindergartens and homes of respect for the aged. They left the kitchen, which was usually smoky and cramped, freed themselves from countless household chores and together with their husbands, other members of their family and their neighbours, joined the production organizations and earned their share of food and wages directly. Because of these changes, our women have become really independent members of society for the first time while the husbands too are now more like husbands than patriarchs.

Are the masses used to this new life? The imperialists and bourgeois elements both at home and abroad think they are not. But the facts prove the opposite of what they think. With the exception of the former landlords, rich peasants and some of the well-to-do middle peasants, the overwhelming majority soon became accustomed to this new life. They welcome this new life and find real happiness in it because in this common big family the only things they have lost are family burdens. Today they not only have the greatest security in their livelihood but a much higher living standard as well. Their level of consumption is also much higher than in the past because they are now in a position to spend the wages they receive the way they want to. During the days of Kuomintang rule, the Chinese peasants were shabbily dressed—a rare thing today. The masses are very grateful for the great changes that they and those around them have experienced. They treasure all they have achieved and obtained. In many newly built residential centres and community dining-rooms in the countryside, there is already a spirit of voluntary discipline and noble-mindedness, an indication that the new way of life has come to stay.

This great phenomenon is the inevitable result of the change in the mode of production. The peasants uphold the socialist mode of production, and naturally uphold the way of life evoked by the socialist mode of production. It is not possible to halt this trend.

In foreign countries there are some so-called "old China hands" who see everything in New China in the
light of the poor knowledge on China they acquired in the last years of the Ching Dynasty and the days of the Kuomintang. They still think that the Chinese peasants cannot change so quickly, that they still hanker after the old days of poverty and hunger, that they are still reluctant to part with the ancestral tablets they used to enshrine in their wretched huts and that they are still reluctant to part with the idols in the neighbouring temples. But this does not correspond to the facts. To the peasants, idol-worship was something inseparable from poverty. There was no alternative but to beseech the blessings of the idols when they had no way out of their poverty. But once they came to realize that they themselves have the power to abolish poverty, their last bit of reverence for the clay and wooden idols died. “The idols were set up by the peasants,” said Comrade Mao Tse-tung as far back as 1927, “and in time they will pull them down with their own hands; there is no need for anybody else prematurely to pull down the idols for them.” And the facts have corroborated this, for the peasants have pulled these idols down with their own hands. Today, there are hardly any traces of superstition in the countryside; all those demi-gods once worshipped in the countryside have disappeared. All the ancestral halls have been turned into assembly halls and offices. Among the people there is only a dim memory of what these places were in the past, and only that minority of the population which is over forty years of age can tell what went on in these places in the past. And all the stories they tell are about how the landlords and local despots bullied the peasants, stories that can only arouse hatred, certainly not any yearning, for the bad old days. The Chinese peasants are not superstitious. They appeared to be superstitious because they believed in many gods when they were not yet mentally awakened; but they do not believe in gods now that they have been awakened. These are the facts.

Among the adult population in the countryside today, young people constitute the majority and are the main force in production. They belong to the new generation. They have created the great miracles of contemporary times and have effected the big leap forward in agriculture. They embody the tradition of the Chinese working people who are courageous and industrious. They are the builders of the new socialist life. They readily accept this new way of life and like it; in the future they will change it into a still better way of life. An article in the U.S. magazine Newsweek of October 12, 1959, laments: “The Communists ‘social reforms’ have irrevocably changed the Chinese way of life.” Yes, this change is irrevocable; and all those fools who desire to turn China back to the old days are free to mourn their irrevocable flop.

Independence and Freedom for the Congo! Imperialists, Quit Africa!

by KUO MO-JO

Following is the speech delivered by Kuo Mo-jo, Chairman of the Chinese People’s Committee for World Peace, at Peking’s mass rally held on November 25 in support of the peoples of the Congo and all Africa in their struggle for national independence and against colonialism. Subheads are ours. — Ed.

Comrades and friends:

We people of all circles in the capital meet here today to pledge our support to the peoples of the Congo and all Africa in their struggle against imperialism and colonialism and for national independence. We respond with enthusiasm to the appeals of the Afro-Asian Peoples’ Solidarity Council to mark November 23 as “Congo Day” and December 1 as “Imperialists Quit Africa Day.” These two timely appeals voice the strong desire of the Congo people and the masses of the African people for national independence and the overthrowing of colonialist rule, and at the same time express the common will of the peoples of the world to oppose imperialist aggression and defend world peace. On behalf of the Chinese people, from this great rally we send our high esteem and fraternal greetings to the heroic peoples of the Congo and all Africa.

As we well remember, in January this year, an extensive struggle against colonialist rule broke out in Leopoldville, capital of the Congo. For the sake of independence and freedom, the broad masses of the Congo people took up arms and fought valiantly against the Belgian colonialists. The Congo, hitherto called the “oasis of tranquillity,” has since then erupted like a volcano as far as the imperialists are concerned. On this fertile land of the Congo, which is 80 times larger than Belgium, the Belgian colonialists have plundered and exploited ceaselessly for more than 80 years. The Congo people, after suffering all kinds of unspeakable oppression, have finally stood up to fight the bloody repression of the colonial authorities and have achieved one victory after another. Recently, the struggle of the Congo people has further broadened out and an intensive armed struggle flared up again in the Stanleyville district. The working class of the Congo is also carrying out one organized strike after another to oppose the ruthless exploitation of the colonialists. The Belgian colonial rulers who have brought Belgium into NATO, backed by the U.S. imperialists, are brutally suppressing and shamelessly defrauding the people of the Congo, resorting to such tricks as so-called “independence by stages” and local council “elections” to lull and divide the Congo people. But the Congo people did not step back. They have unanimously and resolutely boycotted the fraudulent “elections” and demanded the formation of a government of the Congo people themselves in 1961 and immediate national independence of the Congo. The struggle of the Congo people has already spread to the Belgian trust territory, Ruanda-Urundi. The struggle of
the Congo people has won the sympathy and support of the masses throughout Africa and the world as a whole. The Chinese people solemnly declare once again that we resolutely support the Congo people in their just struggle for freedom and independence. The Chinese people sternly denounce the crimes committed by the Belgian colonial rulers in massacring the Congo people with the help of the U.S. imperialists and demand the immediate withdrawal of the Belgian colonialists from the Congo and independence and freedom for the Congo people.

The Whole of Africa Is Rising

Today, the whole African continent is seething. From North Africa to South Africa, from East Africa to West Africa, the movement against colonialism and for achieving and defending national independence is surging and rushing ahead. The convening, in recent years, of the historic Bandung Conference, Afro-Asian Peoples' Solidarity Conference, All-African Peoples' Conference, and the Conferences of Independent African States held in Accra and Monrovia, all greatly encouraged and gave impetus to the national independence movements in Africa. New independent African states were born one after another. Since the Bandung Conference in 1955, five countries, namely, Sudan, Tunisia, Morocco, Ghana and Guinea have won their independence. The heroic Algerian people, after waging protracted armed struggle against the French colonialists, last year established their own Provisional Government of the Republic of Algeria, and are continuing armed struggle for their independence and liberation. At present, the Kamerun people are carrying on a determined struggle for the independence and unification of their motherland; the people of Nyasaland, Northern and Southern Rhodesia, Uganda, Kenya, Ruanda-Urundi, Tanganyika, Somaliland, Angola, Mozambique and other regions are unfolding heroic struggles against colonialism; the coloured people in the Union of South Africa are uniting with the progressive white people there to wage fierce struggles against racial discrimination. These struggles of the African people have opened a new chapter in the history of the national independence movements in Africa. Their magnitude, the breadth of their mass base, their perseverance and determination are without precedent. The situation created by the surging national independence movements in Africa is forcefully shaking the imperialist colonial system and hastening its collapse. The days when the imperialists could ride roughshod over the people in Africa, as in the past few centuries, have gone for ever and their inglorious existence is coming to an end.

The imperialists, however, will certainly not withdraw from Africa or anywhere else of their own accord. The British, French and Belgian colonialists are still attempting in vain to maintain their criminal rule and to continue the enslavement of the African people by brutal armed suppression and political deception. Here we must mention particularly U.S. imperialism — a wolf in sheep's clothing, the most rapacious of the colonialists — which is pursuing a criminal policy of aggression and war all over the world. In Africa, U.S. imperialism is constantly intensifying its activities to grab colonies and extend its sphere of influence. On the one hand it supports the old colonialists and uses them to extend its own influence. On the other hand, pretending to be "sympathetic to Africa" and under the pretext of "aid" and "development," it works hard to penetrate into Africa and steps up its economic plunder and political division of Africa in an attempt to step into the shoes of the old colonial powers.

As is well known, the United States has all along been giving its support to the dirty colonial war in Algeria with arms and dollars, thus helping the French colonialists to massacre the Algerian people. The United States has also continuously supplied France with arms to suppress the Kamerun people. The United States has established air and naval bases in different parts of Africa according to its plan of military deployment. There are many U.S. military airfields in the Congo. The United States has also built launching sites for atomic weapons and guided missiles in the Sahara region, and has concluded military pacts or "mutual defence" agreements with a number of countries. Recently the United States, in utter disregard of the resolute opposition of the broad masses of the African people, has been openly supporting France's plan to test nuclear weapons in the Sahara. Through these criminal activities the United States is trying to include the whole African continent in its range of military aggression. As to economic expansion, the United States is energetically plundering such strategic materials as oil, uranium, aluminium, manganese, etc. in Africa and extracting fabulous profits from them. In 1964, U.S. investments in Africa only amounted to $150 million, today the amount has reached $2,000 million. The rate of profit for the investments during 1951-1957 was as high as 21 to 25 per cent per annum. One-half of the increased U.S. investment in the past few years comes from profits squeezed out of Africa. The aim of all the U.S. schemes in Africa is quite obvious, namely, to preserve colonialist rule and replace the British, French and Belgian imperialist powers by fastening the shackles of U.S. colonialism on the African people. But these despicable schemes of the U.S. imperialists cannot fool the awakening African people. This is quite certain: absolutely nothing, be it British, French and Belgian colonialism or U.S. colonialism, can prevent the heroic march of the great African people towards independence, freedom and liberation.

Universal Opposition to U.S. Imperialism

Comrades, friends! While the roaring flames of anti-colonialism are spreading throughout the African continent, we are also happy to see that the struggle of the people in other parts of the world against U.S. imperialist plundering and domination and for national independence and democracy is also gathering momentum and forging ahead. The United States is doing everything it can to prevent the Korean and Viet-namese peoples from realizing the peaceful unification of their motherlands. At the current session of the United States General Assembly, the United States, by lining up a number of countries, has once more unreasonably prevented the representative of the Korean Democratic People's Republic from participating in the discussion of the Korean question. Furthermore, the United States is trying to push through a proposal, put forward by it and 13 other countries which waged aggressive war in Korea, to allow the U.S. forces to hang on in south Korea and go on obstructing the peaceful unification of Korea. It is also interfering continuously in the internal affairs of Laos and other Southeast Asian
countries and is conducting subversive activities everywhere. All this has aroused the universal opposition of the peoples of all Asian countries. Here we should like to underscore that U.S. imperialism and the reactionary Kishi government in Japan are now trying to realize the Japanese-American military alliance by revising the Japan-U.S. "Security Treaty." The essence of this military alliance is to further accelerate the revival of Japanese militarism so as to use it for aggressive war in the Far East. Aiichiro Fujiyama, Japanese Minister of Foreign Affairs, declared recently that the draft new treaty would require the United States to arm the Japanese troops with nuclear weapons and let the U.S. forces stationed in Japan undertake war operations in the zone north of the Philippines, including the coast of the Chinese mainland, as well as the maritime territory of the U.S.S.R. and other regions around Japan. This patently flagrant utterance to shore up the U.S. imperialist aggressors is really the height of impudence. The concerted plotting of the U.S. and Japanese reactionaries endangers the security of Japan itself and poses a serious menace to peace in the Far East and the world. The Japanese people are launching a broad, powerful movement against the revision of the Japan-U.S. "Security Treaty" and for its abolition. The peace congress convened on the 21st of this month in Japan, demanding the ending of the "cold war" and opposing the revision of the Japan-U.S. "Security Treaty," marks a new upsurge in this struggle. The Chinese people fully support the Japanese people in their struggle against the revision of the Japan-U.S. "Security Treaty," and, as a further step, for its abolition, and sincerely wish them fresh and greater victories.

The struggle of the peoples of Latin America to safeguard national independence and for democracy is mounting to unprecedented heights, causing panic among the U.S. imperialists. The determined struggle of the Cuban people against U.S. intervention and in defence of the fruits of their revolution has greatly inspired and enhanced the national and democratic revolutionary movements all over Latin America. Recently the people of Panama, in defence of their national sovereignty, have been waging a heroic struggle for the recovery of the Panama Canal which is occupied by the United States. In Puerto Rico, long dominated by the United States, a powerful anti-U.S. movement has also broken out. The indignant cry denouncing U.S. imperialism: "U.S. imperialists get out of Latin America!" is reverberating through Brazil, Nicaragua, the Dominican Republic, Paraguay and everywhere in the whole U.S. "backyard." In recent years, a number of treacherous dictatorial regimes in Latin America, fostered and financed by the U.S. imperialists, have collapsed one after another under the mighty counter-blows of the broad masses of patriotic Latin American peoples. This shows that the two hundred million people of Latin America are awakening. Their struggles will in the end override all difficulties and win final victory. Let us at this mass rally pay our sincere respects to the peoples of Latin America who are fighting courageously to safeguard their national independence, for democracy and freedom, and against U.S. aggression and plunder.

Great Contributions to World Peace

Comrades and friends: The national and democratic movements in Africa, Asia and Latin America have made great contributions to the defence of world peace. The struggles there are effectively weakening and hitting the war forces headed by the U.S. imperialists. Now, more and more people have come to understand that the movement for national independence is a powerful force in the peace movement. More and more people have come to see that independence can only be attained by defeating imperialist aggression and that peace can only be consolidated by preserving independence. More and more people have come to realize that the U.S. imperialists' policy of aggression and war is the root cause of the menace of war and international tension. U.S. imperialism backs the decadent forces and the reactionary dictators in all countries and ruthlessly suppresses the peoples of various countries, expands its military bases in various places, lines up aggressive blocs and increases the people's burden of military expenditures, and uses the pretext of "aid" to engage in brutal economic plunder in many places. All this directly impairs the real interests of mankind and wrecks its peaceful life. The facts prove that U.S. imperialism is the common and most vicious enemy of the national independence movements in Asia, Africa, Latin America and the whole world and of the world movement for peace and democracy. Therefore, the peoples of all countries, nationalities, and social strata, under the banner of safeguarding peace, have formed the broadest united front against imperialism and colonialism headed by the United States. The powerful socialist camp headed by the Soviet Union stands in the forefront of peace and is the main force for world peace. It consistently and resolutely supports all the just causes opposing imperialism and preserving national independence. The people of the whole world have come to see more and more clearly that the forces of peace are growing stronger daily while the forces of war are in constant decline. This has strengthened their confidence that peace will prevail over war. Let the people throughout the world unite ever more closely and form a vast sea to safeguard independence and defend peace, and thus completely drown and wipe out the U.S. imperialist policy of aggression and war and the criminal colonial system.

Comrades and friends: The development of the current international situation is increasingly favourable to peace and the peoples of the world and unfavourable to war and imperialism. Recently, as the result of the unprecedented strength and unity of the socialist camp headed by the Soviet Union, the tremendous advances made by the national and democratic movements and the world peace movement, and the constant struggles of the peoples of the whole world, the "position of strength," "brink of war" and other policies of aggression and war always flaunted by the U.S. warlike clique have been heading further down a blind alley which is putting them in an increasingly awkward position. A short while ago, Comrade Khrushchev, Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the U.S.S.R., paid a visit to the United States and contributed tremendously to the lessening of international tension. In the face of the powerful people's forces of peace throughout the world, the U.S. authorities have had to make some gestures of relaxation of tension. This fact in itself represents an important victory for the forces of peace. The U.S. imperialists, however, have not given up their policy of aggression and war. They persist in their hos-

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tility to the socialist countries, the national and democratic movements and the world peace movement. The United States is continuing to create international tension and carry out aggressive and expansionist activities in many areas of the world. It is overtly and covertly conducting large-scale guided missile exercises in Japan’s Okinawa and in other islands in the Pacific. It has drawn up the huge military budget of $41.000 million for the coming fiscal year with primary emphasis on the development of guided missiles. NATO general headquarters, under the command of a U.S. general, is planning to build a network of guided missile bases in West Europe by the end of next year with 60-odd guided missile battalions. At the conference of NATO parliamentarians, U.S. Secretary of State Herter and other U.S. civilian and military officials worked hard to whip up anti-Soviet hysteria and called for strengthening the military blocs to win the “cold war.” The United States has consistently dominated the United Nations, using it as a figleaf for the U.S. policy of aggression and war. Recently it again brazenly put the so-called “Hungarian incident” on the agenda of the United Nations. The people throughout the world have seen clearly that the recent high-sounding peace harangues of the U.S. ruling clique are nothing but a smokescreen deliberately put up to divert the attention of the people of the world, to lull and weaken their determination in the fight against imperialism and for peace and to lessen the internal contradictions of the imperialist bloc, a trick to deceive the American people for their votes and to gain time for further armaments expansion and war preparations. We must not allow this new plotting by the U.S. imperialists to put us off our guard, nor can we slacken our fight against the U.S. forces of war and our defence of peace. We must completely tear away the peace mask donned by the U.S. forces of war. We are deeply convinced that as long as the people throughout the world unite still more closely and, with greater vigilance, persist in the struggle, they can certainly make the current situation, which is favourable to peace, move in a direction still more favourable to peace and bring more and greater victories to the just struggle against U.S.-led imperialism and colonialism.

Hostile U.S. Activities Against China

The U.S. imperialists are consistently hostile to the Chinese people. Faced with the monolithic unity of the Chinese people, the U.S. imperialists have met with shameful defeat in all their hostile activities against the Chinese people. In the past few years, economic construction in our country has made rapid advances. A new situation has arisen in which industry and agriculture are making big leaps forward and the people’s communes are making great progress. In these circumstances, the U.S. imperialists have been trying by all means to impair our country’s international prestige and disrupt our country’s friendly relations with Asian, African and other countries by spreading the vile calumnies and most venemous slanders in an effort to oppose the Chinese people from various sides. The Chinese people, however, under the leadership of the great Chinese Communist Party and Chairman Mao Tse-tung, are working as one man, going all out and continuing to advance by leaps and bounds on the basis of the victory of the big leap forward in 1958. Our country’s international prestige and position are rising daily. Our relations with other countries are being further strengthened and developed. Not long ago, on the occasion of the tenth anniversary of the founding of the People’s Republic of China, delegations came from 87 countries of all the continents to participate in our celebrations. Our friends are many and are to be found everywhere in the world. No matter what underhand splitting schemes and vicious calumnies the U.S. imperialists may resort to, they cannot harm us in the least.

The U.S. imperialists are still occupying our territory Taiwan by force. Using its dominating position in the United Nations, the United States continues to prevent the People’s Republic of China from regaining its rightful seat in the United Nations. Not long ago, it again manipulated its voting machine to secure the adoption of an illegal resolution in the U.N. General Assembly on the so-called “Tibet question,” grossly interfering in the internal affairs of our country. The U.S. State Department has been circulating propaganda broadsheets in which it openly denies that Taiwan is part of China’s territory and persists in its scheme to create “two Chinas” in an effort to occupy Taiwan permanently. Please look! These are the so-called peace gestures of the United States. We must sternly warn the U.S. imperialists: these tricks of yours cannot deceive the Chinese people or the other peoples of the world. If you are really for peace, then please withdraw your troops from Taiwan, accept the Soviet proposal for general disarmament, dismantle all your military bases on foreign soil, dissolve NATO and other military blocs, destroy all your atomic and nuclear weapons, you and your partners please stop immediately the bloody suppression of the national and democratic movements in Asia, Africa and Latin America! Can you do all this? All your underhand activities against the Chinese people will meet with even more ignominious and complete defeat than ever before!

Chinese People Stand for Peace

Comrades and friends: We Chinese people resolutely defend peace in the Far East and in the world. We always have profound sympathy for, and resolutely support, the people in Asia, Africa and Latin America in their just struggle to achieve and safeguard national independence, and oppose the forces of aggression headed by the U.S. imperialists. Under all circumstances, the Chinese people will firmly stand with them. At the same time, the Chinese people in their peaceful construction have been drawing great encouragement and support from the struggles waged by the peoples of all countries. Let us here express our thanks and pay our respects to them.

The Chinese people have always cherished peace and stood for peaceful coexistence of all countries. We are fervently looking forward to an international environment of lasting peace to facilitate the development of our socialist construction. We have always supported the efforts and initiatives from all quarters that help peace and progress. Our Government and people unswervingly favour friendly relations with all countries on the basis of the five principles of peaceful coexistence and the ten principles of the Bandung Conference. We have always stood for the reasonable settlement of all international disputes by means of peaceful negotiations. In the recent period, our friendship with the governments and peoples
of many countries has grown. We are very happy to note that not long ago formal diplomatic relations were established between our country and the new West African state of Guinea. This is another milestone in the solidarity and co-operation between the Chinese people and the peoples of Guinea and other African countries. Here let us sincerely greet this event.

Recently, the U.S. imperialists and some other foreign reactionary forces, taking advantage of questions left over by past history, have been making frantic attempts to sow discord and undermine the friendly relations between China and certain Southeast Asian countries so that they can fish in troubled waters and derive benefit. Our Government and people have always insisted on the reasonable settlement of these questions through friendly negotiations in accordance with the five principles of peaceful coexistence. We hope that the governments of these countries, for the sake of solidarity, will settle certain disputes between us by peaceful negotiations and continue to co-operate in the fight against the common enemy—the imperialist forces of aggression—and in the common cause of defending peace in Asia and the whole world.

The Chinese people suffered from imperialist aggression and oppression for a long time. We have learnt from our own experience that genuine independence and peace will definitely not be "bestowed" by the imperialists, nor will it be obtained by begging them. We Chinese people will never commit aggression against others and will never tolerate any aggression against us. We Chinese people ardently love peace, but will never yield to any aggressor or beg for peace from those who provoke war. We Chinese people are willing to unite ever more closely with all peace-loving people in the world over in a common struggle for the elimination of the imperialist war threats and for lasting peace.

Dear comrades and friends, we are living in an age when imperialism is tottering to its doom, an age when the forces of socialism have grown and become unprecedentedly strong, an age when the oppressed nations are straightening their backs. The great Soviet Union has already entered the historic period of all-round communist construction. It has successfully launched three cosmic rockets in succession this year, showing that Soviet science and technique is in the forefront of the world. All the other socialist countries are also surging ahead in all fields of their economic construction. The national and democratic movements in Asia, Africa and Latin America are growing by leaps and bounds. The peace forces in the world have greatly surpassed the forces of war. This once again testifies to the correctness and brilliance of the conclusion drawn by the great leader of the Chinese people Chairman Mao Tse-tung that "the East wind prevails over the West wind." We are deeply convinced that in the near future we are sure to see the glorious banner of independence flying over the Congo. The banner of national liberation will certainly be held aloft everywhere in Asia, Africa and Latin America. The banner of peace will certainly fly all over the world.

Let us further strengthen the unity of the fraternal socialist countries headed by the Soviet Union and further strengthen the great unity of the peoples of Asia, Africa, Latin America and the world, holding still higher the banner of peace, democracy, independence and progress and boldly marching forward to the total, complete and final victory of lasting peace!

Peking Rally Supports African Freedom

On November 25, 1,500 representatives of all walks of life met in Peking and voiced the Chinese people's unqualified support for the peoples of the Congo and Africa as a whole in their struggle for national independence and against colonialism. Jointly sponsored by the Chinese Committee for Afro-Asian Solidarity, the China Peace Committee, and the national trade union, women's and youth organizations, the rally highlighted a host of "Congo Day" and "Imperialists, Quit Africa Day" activities in China, organized in response to the call of the Afro-Asian Peoples' Solidarity Council.

The rally, in the anti-imperialist tradition of the Chinese people, unanimously passed a militant resolution part of which follows:

"The Chinese people have always viewed the just struggles of the peoples of the Congo and Africa as a whole with profound sympathy and resolutely support these struggles. We shall always stand with the Congo and African peoples in the common struggle for the complete overthrow of colonial rule and for lasting world peace. We are convinced that today, when the strength of the peoples of the world far surpasses that of the imperialist forces, the awakened and united African peoples, with the backing of the powerful socialist camp and the peace-loving peoples the world over, will further strengthen their unity, persist in their struggle, resolutely smash all imperialist intrigues and drive out all imperialist forces from African soil. Final victory surely belongs to the great African peoples!"

"The imperialists will not take their defeat lying down. They are attempting in vain to prolong their criminal colonial rule by means of cruel repression and fraud. The U.S. imperialists in particular are stepping up their political, economic and military penetration in Africa so as to replace the British, French and Belgian colonialists and trap the African peoples in the shackles of neo-colonialism. Ferocious and vicious as the imperialists may be, their schemes are doomed. The imperialists must get out of the Congo and all Africa! The African peoples will achieve complete liberation!"

The rally was addressed by Kuo Mo-jo, whose speech we publish in full on page 13, and leaders of the Chinese trade union, women's and youth organizations. It was attended by guests from Camerun, Uganda, French Equatorial Chad, the United Arab Republic, Korea, Japan, India, Thailand, New Zealand, Chile and other countries. Similar rallies will be held in Shanghai and Tientsin.

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Czech Philharmonic in Peking

Peking has had the good fortune in the last two months to hear performances by some of the world's best orchestras. Memories of the Bolshoi Ballet's orchestra and the Dresden Philharmonic were still fresh in their minds when the Czech Philharmonic Symphony Orchestra visited the capital and gave two performances in the latter half of November. The Czech Philharmonic is by no means a stranger to China's music lovers. They have been able to enjoy its performances on records and broadcast tape recordings received from Prague, but a live performance is, as they say, "something else again." Its visit to Peking after a successful tour of Japan, New Zealand and Australia was a great event in the Chinese musical world. It gave us two memorable evenings of works by Smetana, Dvorak, Tchaikovsky, Mussorgsky, Schumann, Beethoven and others.

This is an orchestra with a fine history of over sixty years. It made its debut early in 1896 under the baton of the great Anton Dvorak; since then it has grown in stature, particularly after the liberation from the Nazis when it has developed steadily with the sedulous care and support of its government. With a hundred and twenty members, it is now considered one of the best orchestras in the world, and has a rich repertoire of works by both classical and modern masters. The two performances it gave in Peking were brilliant occasions, demonstrating a very high level of technique. With every member an artist in his own right, it played with precision and perfect harmony. At its best it brought out fully with unique skill the tone and inner impulse of the work played. It played with distinction not only works by Czech composers, such as Smetana's Bartered Bride Overture and Dvorak's Ninth Symphony, (From the New World), but also works by German and Russian masters, including Beethoven's Symphony No. 3 in E flat (the Eroica), and Tchaikovsky's Romeo and Juliet Overture. It was conducted by Karel Ancerl whose spirited guidance since 1930 has enabled the orchestra to attain its present world renown. An ardent supporter of young composers, Ancerl has done much to introduce to the world the new works of Czechoslovak musicians.

Led by Jiri Pauer, the tone quality of the orchestra's strings was clear and rich; they played with great accuracy and sweetness, especially in the overture from Smetana's Bartered Bride and the Scherzo, the third movement of the New World Symphony. Peking quickly learnt why the wind instruments of the orchestra have won for themselves such a high reputation throughout the world. The rich tone colour produced by the flute, oboe, clarinet, English horn and bassoon was magnificent. Even the deep-toned tuba produced notes that were matchless in beauty.

On its opening night in Peking the Czech Philharmonic performed the overture from The Bartered Bride by Smetana, the "father of Czech music." The fast-flowing melodies of the strings at once conjured up the animated Czech village scene and peasant dance. The first movement of Dvorak's New World Symphony, with its deep-toned and solemn theme, took the audience to a completely different world. Under Ancerl's baton the orchestra gave what this reviewer found to be a very clearly phrased and understandable rendering of a humanist and democratic work. With its characteristic pastoral touches, the brilliant English horn solo in the second movement conveyed in a way the composer's longing for his homeland. This melody, penta-tonic like some Chinese songs, was particularly familiar to the Chinese audience, as it has been used by a Chinese musician as the basis for a nostalgic song. I think, too, that our audience particularly appreciated the vigorous melodies of the Slavonic dances in the third movement which developed into the bold upsurging spirit of the final movement. The part played by the brass in this symphony is especially responsible, but here too the Czech Philharmonic lived up to the fondest wishes of exacting critics. This was throughout a superb interpretation and performance of this best-known of Dvorak's symphonies.

Chinese audiences enjoyed Beethoven's Symphony No. 3. The brass parts in the Eroica, in particular, came through perfectly to give the performance the forcefulness and heroic touch the work requires. Mussorgsky's Pictures at an Exhibition was a popular success. Karel Ancerl moved his baton like a painter's brush; the orchestra provided all the colours he could wish for and the audience was enthralled by the excellent pictures he "drew."

Two small pieces by the Chinese composer Ho Lu-ting played on the opening evening were warmly received. The pianist Jan Panenka and violinist Josef Suk, who played Schumann's Piano Concerto in A minor and Dvorak's Violin Concerto respectively, were both given enthusiastic receptions and had to answer several curtain calls.

During its stay in Peking, the Czech musicians visited the China-Czechoslovakia Friendship People's Commune in the city's suburbs. They had a happy get-together with the commune members, and the hosts and guests gave a joint concert of Western and Chinese folk music. The orchestra also gave several concerts in Canton and Shanghai.

— CHANG SEN

Artists from Argentina

The Argentine orchestra led by Osvaldo Pugliese, who was at the piano, had a style all their own whether they played traditional or modern tango pieces. The accordion players were spirited, the violinists imparted a special lilting touch to the music, and Carlos Guido and Jorge Maciel sang with feeling. They were very warmly received here, particularly when they sang the little song My Chum:

Only I know the tango of the slums, For there I was born and bred, And there I shall die!

Monica Reinal and Toto Rey danced the tango and gave us a new insight into this dance. They danced the El Choclo, a classical tango; two others were danced too, which threw light on the origins and development of the dance. As it is today, the tango is danced by partners, a man and a woman. But it was not always so. Once only men danced it. Luis Mela and Toto Rey gave a fine demonstration of this early, all-male tango.

So it was that the Osvaldo Pugliese Orchestra opened its month-long tour of China with a charming tango evening at the Tienniao Theatre on November 22. Tango in Argentina truly belongs to the people. Like all such music, it reflects the joys and sorrows of the people, their dreams and aspirations. Its melodies mean much more than the dance music: the word "tango" generally conveys; they constitute a kind of national musical form which musicians make use of for both gay and serious themes. The tango, under capitalism, has been commercialized and neutered to cater to the cheap taste of the exploiting classes. But there was no sign of such influences in the performances given by this orchestra. Its music is the kind the common people play and sing every day to amuse themselves. Peking, which had the good fortune to hear several concerts given by Brazilian and Bolivian artists, thoroughly enjoyed the four per-
performances the Argentine orchestra gave and the re-plays over the radio.

At the final performance in Peking, Premier Chou En-lai was in the audience. During the interval, he chatted with the Argentine artists, and at the end of the performance he went on stage to congratulate them.

The visit of the orchestra in Peking, though brief, showed that its performances and continued tour in China will bring much fresh understanding of Argentine art to the Chinese people.

SPORTS

New Track and Field Records

The four-day winter athletics meet held in Wuhan in mid-November produced a fine crop of new national records in track and field. In the 42 events contested, four athletes established new national records in four events, five others equalled the present national records in six events, while over thirty men and women athletes attained the standards set for the title of Master of Sports.

Liu Cheng from Inner Mongolia won a gold medal at the First National Sports Meet last September by doing the 30 metres hurdles in the record time of 10.9 secs. At Wuhan, she bettered her record, clocking 10.8 secs. in this event, only 0.2 sec. slower than the world record.

In the men's 110 metres hurdles, Chinese athletes are still lagging behind the world's top hurdlers, but they are coming along surely. The best performance for this event at the First National Sports Meet was 14.4 secs. Now Kuo Chi-chao, an up-and-coming hurdler from Hopei, has bettered it, winning the event at Wuhan in 14.2 secs.

Cheng Feng-jung, China's champion woman high jumper, came into the limelight two years ago when she broke the world high jump record by clearing 1.77 metres. At Wuhan this time, she distinguished herself by winning the women's pentathlon with 4,302 points, a new national record. Though she failed to improve her high jump record, she cleared 1.73 metres.

A fine batch of young, promising sprinters have emerged recently. About a year ago, a young sprinter from the army set a national record of 10.6 secs. for the 100 metres dash. Since then several others have succeeded in equaling this performance. At Wuhan last month, 20-year-old Chen Chia-pan from Szechuan clipped one-tenth of a second off this record. A few days later Li Pi-hua, the 18-year-old sprinter from Hopei who won the 100 metres at the National Meet, repeated the feat at another athletic meet. Several other sprinters are pushing close to this time.

Encouraging results have been achieved in several other events. In the women's shot-put, Chung Hsi-yun from Kiangsu set a new national record of 14.30 metres. In the men's javelin-throw, both Ma Fu-cheng from Honan and Ma Chang-lu from Hopei exceeded the 70-metre mark; the former's record was 70.25 metres, and the latter was only 5 centimetres behind him.

Soviet Basketball Teams in China

The Soviet Youth Men's and Women's Basketball Teams arrived last month on a tour of China. They played six matches in Peking, each to a packed gymnasium of over six thousand basketball fans. The Soviet players had the advantage of height, but the Chinese players matched them in speed, team work and shooting. The first two matches were between the Soviet and Chinese youth teams. The Chinese men's quartet fought the fast Soviet players to a draw at 70 points. The Chinese women's team led all the way in their match, and with barely 60 seconds to go, they still had one point more than their opponents. But the experienced Soviet players remained calm and steady. They turned the tide in no time when a Chinese player fouled, and just before the gong, they scored another goal to win the match 69:68.

Playing their second match against the Peking men's and women's teams, the Soviet men players lost by 64:68, but their women's team won 63:55. In the return match between the Soviet and Chinese youth women's teams, the Chinese players made up for their first defeat by a victory of six points, the final score being 60:54. The Soviet men's team defeated the August First team by a single goal in a fast, exciting match. The scores tied again and again, but when the gong sounded the scores stood at 65:63 in favour of the Soviet team.

In Tientsin, the Soviet teams scored five victories, and suffered one defeat. This was when the Soviet women's team played against the Szechwan women's team which won the match by 70:64.

Table Tennis Victories

China's National (B) Men's and Women's Table Tennis Teams did well last month at the Budapest international championships. Contending against most of the top-ranking players in Europe, the Chinese players won a first, and came second in two other events. Li Fu-jung and Chiang Tze-tung beat Berezik and Hbonyi of Hungary 3:1 to carry off the title for the men's doubles. The Hungarian players were the more experienced, but their defence crumbled under the hard-hitting attack of the two Chinese youngsters. China's 18-year-old Chiang Tse-tung met the redoubtable Berezik in the men's singles finals and barely missed winning the title in a gruelling match of five games. Chiang and his partner Hu Ke-ming came second in the mixed doubles, losing to Berezik and Lantos 1:3 in the finals. The women's singles was won by Koczi of Hungary, while the women's doubles title was carried off by the Rumanian pair, Golopenta and Pitica.

After the Budapest championships, the Chinese players flew to England for a series of matches. In Slough, near London, they were in winning form again. In their first match, both Li Fu-jung and Chiang Tse-tung beat I. Harrison and B. Merrett, top-ranking British players, in the men's singles. Hu Ke-ming, China's 1959 women's singles champion, defeated M. Mortimer 2:1. In the men's doubles, Li and Chiang defeated Harrison and Merrett 2:0.

The British players, experienced in international matches, were proficient in the defence tactics practised by most players in the West who grip the bat in the hand-shake style. The Chinese players, on the other hand, vigorously pressed the attack, and had a variety of spin serves at their command. The most exciting match was played between Li Fu-jung and Harrison. Calm and steady, Harrison tried to wear down Li's patience by persistently chopping back low balls just over the net, while waiting for an opportunity to flip a swift backhand counter-stroke. Li's speed, accuracy and powerful strokes, however, were equal to the occasion. Smashing the ball at sharp angles to both sides of the table, he shattered Harrison's defence to win 2:0.

The Chinese team was visiting Britain on the invitation of the English Table Tennis Association. This is the first time a Chinese table tennis team has ever visited Britain. In playing against top-ranking British players in Hastings, Oxford, Birmingham and other cities, the Chinese players showed excellent form; they defeated their opponents in five of the six friendly matches played, the other being a draw.
In India, where the imperialists and reactionary forces acting under their command are doing all they can to stir up anti-Chinese feelings by threatening China and distorting China's stand, just-minded opinion is unanimous in hailing Premier Chou En-lai's November 7th letter to Prime Minister Nehru with its eminently reasonable proposal.

Pandit Sundarlal, President of the All-India Peace Council and India-China Friendship Association, has told the India Press Agency that Premier Chou's approach is "undoubtedly helpful" and that the establishment of a demilitarized zone at the place where the borders meet is "a very good idea and necessary for the prevention of border clashes." Another Indian public figure, Major General Sokhey, welcomes Premier Chou's letter as "friendly and helpful," declaring that a Chou-Nehru meeting will ensure settlement of the border question to mutual satisfaction.

In greeting the proposal by Premier Chou En-lai, these Indian circles underline the paramount importance of frustrating the plots of the imperialists and their henchmen to fish in troubled waters. Disharmony between China and India will only serve the interests of the imperialists, they point out. Typical of the views expressed are the comments of Amar Bose, Chairman of the Marxist Forward Bloc: "It is imperialism that has been glad of the recent incidents between China and India. Hence the sooner the tension is cooled down the better."

Such opinions are shared by all those in Asia who treasure the solidarity of the Asian-African peoples and the advance of the anti-imperialist struggle.

The Korean paper Rodong Shinmun writes: Close cooperation with the countries of the socialist camp provides a reliable support for the newly-born Afro-Asian countries in safeguarding their independence and development. The fostering of disputes between China and India will in the first place harm India's own interests. The Indian Government should put an immediate end to the reckless and provocative anti-Chinese campaign launched by certain circles in India, which can only play into the hands of the imperialists.

The Viet-namese Nhandan stresses that the imperialist plot to undermine friendly Sino-Indian relations is part of their campaign to disrupt the unity of the Asian peoples in their struggle for independence and peace and to poison the improved international atmosphere.

In Southeast Asia, Premier Chou's letter has been praised for being permeated with the spirit of goodwill and conciliation and of Asian-African cooperation. The Indonesian paper Harian Rakjat, describing Premier Chou's proposal as fresh evidence of China's goodwill and fidelity to the Bandung principles, expresses the hope that Prime Minister Nehru will adopt a reasonable attitude and not submit to the pressure of the imperialists and the right-wing elements of the Congress Party.

The Burma National United Front in a policy statement also supports settlement of the Sino-Indian border issue through peaceful negotiations. It specifically welcomes the principle of withdrawing the armed forces of the two sides and creating a demilitarized zone.

Wilmot Perera, President of the Ceylon-China Friendship Association and former Ceylonese Ambassador to China, speaking at a public function, has voiced the hope that the Chinese and Indian leaders will meet as soon as possible and smooth out their differences so that those wishing to poison Sino-Indian friendship will have no opportunity to do so.

The Cambodian paper Mittihep (Friendship) in an editorial on the Chinese proposal warns that the imperialists who are hostile to the policy of neutrality and would like to incite a Sino-Indian conflict are now clamouring for this proposal to be turned down.

Similar comments have been made in the press of other Asian countries, from the Pacific to the Near East, as well as in other parts of the world.

Schiller and Sholom Aleichem Commemorated

China observed the bicentennial of Johann Schiller and the centennial of Sholom Aleichem with special meetings and editions of their works.

The Schiller bicentennial meeting in Peking heard an address by Tien Han, Chairman of the Union of Chinese Dramatists, on the spirit of revolt against the old society and hatred for foreign aggressors displayed in the works of the great German poet and playwright.

Mao Tung, Chairman of the Union of Chinese Writers, was the first in China in 1925 to translate Sholom Aleichem's works into Chinese. At the Peking commemorative meeting, he paid warm tribute to the great Yiddish writer for his works which are so rich in humanity and the humour of his people.

Schiller's Wallenstein, Cabal and Love, Joan of Arc, William Tell and The Robbers and Sholom Aleichem's autobiographical novel From the Fair as well as a collection of short stories were recently published or re-published in China especially for the occasion.
Resurgence of Japanese Militarism

Organizations of Chinese workers, youth and students sent cables on November 26 to their Japanese counterparts in support of the Japanese people's struggle against the Japan-U.S. "Security Treaty." In its cable to the General Council of Trade Unions of Japan and the National Council Against the Revision of the Japan-U.S. "Security Treaty," the All-China Federation of Trade Unions wished success to the Japanese workers and people in the 6th nationwide united action on November 27 against the revision of the "Security Treaty." In another cable Chinese youth and students declared: "We firmly believe that in the favourable international situation in which the East wind prevails over the West wind, the Japanese people will certainly succeed in thoroughly smashing the conspiracy of the U.S. and Japanese reactionaries, and win victory in their struggle for peace, independence, democracy and a neutral policy for their fatherland, if the youth, students, and people of Japan continue to strengthen their solidarity and persist in their struggle."

Commenting editorially on the decision of the Kishi government to conclude a Japan-U.S. military alliance by signing a new "Security Treaty" with the United States, Renmin Ribao (Nov. 27) that as Japanese Foreign Minister Aichiro Fujiyama admitted in the Diet, the new "Security Treaty" covered the area north of the Philippines, the coastal areas of China and the maritime territory of the Soviet Union, centred around Japan; that the area of war operations of the U.S. forces in Japan might extend to the interior of China or the Soviet Union; and that negotiations were being held with the U.S. on the introduction into Japan of nuclear weapons and other important military equipment.

Fujiyama's outeries completely laid bare the plot of the U.S. and the Japanese reactionaries who are collaborating militarily to revive Japanese militarism, in hostility to China and the Soviet Union, expand in Southeast Asia and hatch a new war in the Far East, the editorial says.

"We have time and again issued warnings and pointed to the aggressive nature of the Japan-U.S. 'Security Treaty' and the threat it poses to the peace and security of China, the Soviet Union, the Southeast Asian countries, the Far East and Asia. But there were still some people in Japan and other countries who did not believe this entirely," the editorial notes.

Now Fujiyama himself has admitted that the U.S. and Japanese reactionaries have extended the scope of their so-called "security" and "defence" even to the interior of China and the Soviet Union. Apart from aggression and expansion, the editorial stresses, there can be no other reason to extend the scope of the "defence" of one's own country to the territory of others? There is no room for any more doubt about the aggressive character of the Japan-U.S. "Security Treaty."

Contrary to U.S. claims, the new Japan-U.S. "Security Treaty" is not a treaty negotiated between "two equal partners" but a product of collaboration between the master, U.S. imperialism, and the servant, the Japanese monopoly capitalist groupings represented by Nobusuke Kishi, the editorial points out.

In the eyes of the U.S. imperialists, Japan is their ideal tool for launching aggression and preparing for an atomic war in the East. It is precisely because of this that the U.S. has never slackened its control of Japan since World War II. The United States itself is aware of the fact that the Japanese people are very much dissatisfied with its occupation of their country. That is why the U.S. is anxious to depict Japan as its "equal partner" so as to step up the revival of Japanese militarism and turn Japan into an atomic base and an accomplice in its aggression and expansion in the Far East, the editorial continues.

On the other hand, the Japanese monopoly capital, by its very nature, seeks to develop through the arms industry and overseas expansion. In fact, the Japanese arms industry has expanded tremendously in recent years. It is now patently clear that if the new Japan-U.S. "Security Treaty" is signed, Japan would be dragged into the U.S. orbit of war. It would once again be led along the path of war and aggression. The first direct victims of the reactionary policy of the Japanese monopoly clique represented by Kishi will be the Japanese people, says the editorial.

The main targets of the military alliance of the U.S. and Japanese reactionaries are China and the Soviet Union, the editorial points out. But, confronted with a powerful Soviet Union and a powerful China, the Japanese reactionaries will have to ponder what consequences aggression against these two countries would entail. History has also shown that the aggressive expansion of all militarists is always spearheaded first of all against places which they believe are weaker links. In fact, the Japanese monopoly clique of late has made no secret of its designs for economic, political and military expansion in Southeast Asia.

The editorial lists many facts which, it declares, "fully show that the spearhead of aggression of Japanese militarism is first of all directed against the Southeast Asian countries." But the awakened peoples of Southeast Asia will certainly not allow Japanese monopoly capital to throw its weight around, the editorial says.

It is clear that the reactionary policy of the Japanese monopoly clique represented by Kishi, to collaborate militarily with the United States and revive militarism, will not bring any good to Japan but can only make it suffer still greater disasters than it did in the last war.

The broad mass of Japanese people resolutely want to take the path of independence, democracy, peace and neutrality because this is the only bright path for Japan. The Chinese people have always regarded U.S. imperialism as the common enemy of the peoples of China and Japan and have always extended their profound sympathy and support to the just struggle of the Japanese people, the editorial concludes.

U.S. "Cold War" Mongers Exposed

As a result of U.S. machinations, the United Nations General Committee has illegally decided to put the so-called "Hungarian question" on the General Assembly agenda. Renmin Ribao's Commentator (November 26) characterizes this move as yet another U.S. attempt to aggravate the "cold war" atmosphere in the U.N. after the so-called "Tibet question."

Commentator notes that the Hungarian People's Republic has protested against this illegal decision and the Soviet Union, Czechoslovakia and impartial world public opinion have also strongly condemned this despicable action of the U.S.

The so-called "Hungarian question" is a notorious "cold war" product manufactured by the U.S., Commentator continues. The U.S. cooked it up in the United Nations General Assembly in November 1956 in an attempt to interfere in the internal affairs of Hungary and continue to incite the remnant Hungarian counter-revolutionaries at home and abroad to carry on their subversive and disruptive activities against the people's regime. But this U.S. attempt has

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failed to impede the triumphant advance of socialism in Hungary. The socialist system there has become ever more firmly established and its socialist economy is flourishing, Commentator states.

Now the U.S. is reviving the so-called “Hungarian question” in the U.N., and its delegate, Cabot Lodge, has heapied his vicious slanders on Hungary and the Soviet Union. This will not damage the prestige of the socialist state of Hungary in the least but it will add to the proof that U.S. imperialism is the rabid enemy of socialism. It will also open the eyes of the world’s people to the fact that the United States is sparing no effort to prevent a relaxation of international tension, says Commentator.

Recently certain U.S. leaders have talked repeatedly about their desire for peace and relaxation of international tension. But at the same time, the U.S. has been stepping up the arms drive, strengthening its military bases and expanding its nuclear weapons. In addition, it has time and again made use of the U.N. General Assembly to fan the “cold war.”

These manoeuvers are fresh evidence of the hypocrisy of the U.S. “peaceful” avowals. They also serve as a reminder to peace-loving peoples the world over that they must not be taken in by U.S. “peace” tricks but should heighten their vigilance, thoroughly expose and smash U.S. conspiracies and carry on the struggle for peace to the end, Commentator concludes.

Behind a Smokescreen
Of “Peace”

In the discussion of the Korean question in the Political Committee of the U.N. General Assembly, the U.S. Government once again exposed itself as one which gives lip service to peace while actually continuing its “cold war” policy, writes Renmin Ribao’s Commentator (Nov. 28).

The United Nations is under the clear obligation to urge withdrawal of the U.S. occupation troops from south Korea so as to enable the Korean people to achieve the unification of their country on a democratic basis without foreign interference, Commentator points out. But discussion of the Korean question in the various General Assembly sessions and the resolutions they adopted have all along been used by the U.S. to cover up its aggressive scheme in Korea. From the very beginning, the U.S. has forced its majority on the Political Committee to refuse to permit delegates of the Korean Democratic People’s Republic to take part in the discussion of the Korean question while letting the delegates of the Syngman Rhee clique vent his usual slanders against the Governments of the Soviet Union, China and Korea. It was still another example of the U.S. tactics of using the U.N. to carry on the “cold war.”

The essence of the U.S. resolution is to refuse to withdraw its troops from south Korea and to make its occupation of south Korea permanent. Washington’s aim is to turn south Korea into a war base for aggression in the Far East.

Commentator concludes that U.S. activities in the U.N. clearly show that Washington is persisting in its aggressive policy in Korea, in keeping up “cold war” tension in the Far East and using every chance to obstruct relaxation of international tension, particularly in the Far East.

The “Two Chinas” Plot

The Peking press has exposed and denounced the latest twist in the “two Chinas” plot manifested by the U.S. State Department pamphlet on Taiwan issued last month. This shows that the leopard cannot change its spots. Repeating the usual State Department slanders against China and using the same old tory-turvy imperialist logic, it clearly reveals the naked reality of Washington’s hatred for the Chinese people. It shows that Washington is not budging an inch from Taiwan, which it is occupying illegally and using as a base for aggression in Asia, and that is why it is pushing its “two Chinas” plot to the fore even more shamelessly. The pamphlet also proves that far from thinking of relaxing tension in the Far East, as its propagandists claim, Washington is going all out to create new tensions in Asia.

This is how the pamphlet describes the U.S. policy of hostility towards China: “We do not recognize the Communist regime; we oppose its seating in the United Nations; we maintain a strict embargo on all trade with mainland China, and we do not sanction cultural exchanges with the Peiping regime.” And the reason for all this, it says, quoting the late cold war monger Dulles, is because the U.S. dreams of making People’s China a “passing phase.” Regarding the U.S. occupation of Taiwan, the pamphlet unashamedly admits that it stems “primarily from considerations of the highest national interest of the United States,” because “Taiwan is a vital link in the free world’s island chain of defence in the Pacific.”

Ever since the Sino-American ambassadorial talks started in 1955, the U.S. State Department has tried to pass off its demand for a so-called “cease-fire” in the Taiwan Straits and “general renunciation of the use of force” as being designed to “tranquilize the situation in the Taiwan Straits.” The pamphlet sings the same tune although it has been clear from the very beginning that these proposals are mere subterfuges to try and legalize the U.S. occupation of Taiwan through the U.S.-Chiang Kai-shek “Mutual Security Treaty” and get the Chinese people to renounce their right to liberate their territory of Taiwan.

There is nothing new in all this, of course, but the fact that the U.S. State Department reaffirms this at this particular time serves to expose once again the hypocrisy of Washington’s recent peace gestures. Eisenhower’s lip service to the relaxation of international tension notwithstanding, Washington persists in its policy of hostility towards China and continues to occupy Chinese territory. It is well known that these are the precise causes underlying the present dispute between China and the United States.
If Washington's words are not merely empty declarations, why doesn't the United States end its armed occupation of Chinese territory immediately, stop its military provocations and war threats against China and withdraw its armed forces from Taiwan and the Taiwan Straits area?

The State Department pamphlet sheds further light on the U.S. plot to create "two Chinas." This is coming out into the open more and more and is, in effect, a scheme to jettison the Chiang Kai-shek clique in favour of direct U.S. rule in Taiwan. On October 31, the U.S. Senate Foreign Relations Committee made public a report prepared for it by the Californian organization "Conlon Associates, Ltd." This report which reflects the opinion of certain quarters in the ruling circles of the United States openly advocates the founding of a "Formosan Republic" in Taiwan under the direct protection of U.S. armed forces. The report also says that the Kuomintang regime in Taiwan has a "limited public appeal." and describes Chiang Kai-shek and his men as "tired hands."

Earlier the U.S. Federal Court in a ruling against the deportation of two Kuomintang officers to Taiwan advanced the argument that Taiwan was not a "country" but could be called a territory or area occupied and administered by the "Republic of China" while not officially recognized as a part of the "Republic of China." This strange theory has the backing of the U.S. State Department.

At his October 22 press conference Eisenhower went further and tried to make out that the Taiwan question was not China's internal affair. He even said that more than forty nations have already recognized "the independence of Formosa (Taiwan)." Although U.S. officials later tried to cover up this blunting out of Washington's true intentions as "a slip of the pen," some U.S. Congressmen further elaborated on this "two Chinas" scheme. U.S. Congressman Charles Porter (Dem.), for example, declared in a public speech that "Formosa and the offshore Pescadores (Penghu Islands—Ed.) be internationalized" and "Chiang Kai-shek's armed force be disbanded" and that "Chiang himself should be sent to an old soldier's home, preferably one with barber wire." At the same time, several U.S. newspapers have also proposed such concoctions as a "U.N. trusteeship for Formosa" and an "independent Formosa under U.S. or U.N. protection."

These sinister manoeuvres, clearly designed to pave the way for direct U.S. seizure of Taiwan and the dumping of the Chiang Kai-shek regime, came as a real shock to the Kuomintang authorities in Taiwan, and they have given vent to vehement protests. To pacify them the State Department has found it necessary in its pamphlet to indicate its "continued recognition of the Republic of China," but at the same time, in keeping with the "two Chinas" plot, its treatment of Taiwan completely separates it from the Chinese mainland.

WHAT'S ON IN PEKING

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

PEKING OPERA

A SHEI-HUA A historical opera produced by the China Peking Opera Theatre. Shei-hua is the beautiful and clever daughter of the high court official in the Sung court. Two of He Heng's colleagues want their sons to marry her: Yang Chi-yeh, one of them, later to become a famous general, wins her heart and hand.

Dec. 6, 7:15 p.m. Remnin Theatre

PINGGU OPERA

A MISSION TO THE ENEMY'S REAR An exciting tale of underground revolutionary activities of the Communist Party in an enemy-occupied city during the Japanese invasion. Produced by the China Pinging Opera Theatre.

Dec. 1, 7:15 p.m. Remnin Theatre

MODERN OPERA

LA TRAVIATA Verdi's famous opera. Produced in Chinese by the Central Experimental Opera Theatre.

Dec. 1, 7:15 p.m. Tiantiao Theatre

THE HEAVENLY MAID AND THE MORTAL Adapted from an old fairy tale about the romance between a celestial princess and a brave young peasant. Produced by the Central Experimental Opera Theatre.

Dec. 4-6, 7:30 p.m. Wu Dao Kou Club

LIU HU-LAN A modern opera based on the true story of a young girl revolutionary. Liu Hui-lan of Shanxi, who was killed by the K.M.T. warlord Yen Hai-shan's men because she refused to betray her comrades. Produced by the Central Experimental Opera Theatre.

Dec. 6-7, 7:15 p.m. Tiantiao Theatre

CHINESE BALLET

MAID OF THE SEA An ancient Chinese fairy tale about the love between a sea maiden and a huntsman. Produced by the Peking School of Dancing.

Dec. 1-6, 7:30 p.m. Cultural Palace of the Nationalities

THE MAGIC LOTUS LANTERN A modern Chinese ballet based on an ancient Chinese fairy tale. The nymph of Mt. Huashan takes a human form with a scholar. Infatuated by her attractiveness she takes a mortal, her Intolerant brother imprisons her. Fifteen years later her child, now grown to a brave, warrior, defeats his uncle and wills himself free. Produced by the Central Experimental Opera Theatre.

Dec. 2-3, 7:15 p.m. Tiantiao Theatre

CONCERT

A programme of vocal solos and duets, violin and oboe solos given by the Central Experimental Orchestra.

Dec. 6, 7:30 p.m. Tiantiao Theatre

THEATRE


Dec. 1-7, 7:15 p.m. Shouhua Theatre

THE SPARK A film from the Mongolian People's Republic. How a young Soviet woman doctor wins the friendship and trust of people in a remote border region and overcomes their superstitions and faith in magical cures. Produced by the Ulan Bator Film Studio in honour of the 42nd anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution. Dubbed in Chinese.

Dec. 1-2, Shouhua Cinema, Xin Jie Kou, Peking Workers' Club

TANA An Albanian film dubbed in Chinese, tells the story of the love and work of Tana, a man activist in an agricultural cooperative.

Dec. 3-4, Guany An Men, Zhongyang, Peking Workers' Club

FILMS


Dec. 1-2, Guang An Men, Zhongyang, Peking Workers' Club

EXHIBITIONS

NATIONAL EXHIBITION OF INDUSTRY AND COMMUNICATIONS Open daily (except Mon.) 8:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.

At Peking Exhibition Centre

NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL EXHIBITION Open daily (except Mon.) 8:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.

At Agricultural Exhibition Centre

PHOTO EXHIBITION OF FIFTEEN YEARS OF THE ALBANIAN PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC Open daily (except Mon.) 9:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m.

At Zhongshan Park

PHOTO EXHIBITION OF THE MONGOLIAN PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC Open daily 9:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m.

At Jingshon (Coal Hill) Park

ACROBATICS

The Acrobat Troupe of the Railway Workers will give its thrilling performances on Dec. 3-4, 7:15 p.m. at the Peking Theatre.

SPORTS

The Korean Men's and Women's Basketball Teams will shortly visit Peking and compete with Chinese teams.

Dec. 6 v. Chinese State Basketball Team
Dec. 7 v. "August 1" Basketball Team
Dec. 9 v. "Peking" Basketball Team
At Peking Gymnasium
Many novel designs
Excellent quality
Fast colours

Jeans and Twills
Printed Shirtings
Dyed Shirtings
Yarn-dyed Shirtings
Dyed Haircord
Printed Muslins
Bleached sheetings
White Rabbit Poplin
Dyed & Striped Poppins
(Lotus Lantern Dance Brand)

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