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### ROUND THE WEEK

#### For a Happy Spring Festival

The Spring Festival — or the Lunar New Year — is with us again. This year it falls on January 25 and the Chinese people, wherever they are, are jubilantly celebrating it.

In the capital, as in other cities throughout China, there is a gaiety and cheerfulness which sets off this traditional holiday from all others. You feel it in the air — animated crowds fill the entertainment centres to overflowing. You see it all around — traditional red scrolls and lanterns decorate the doors everywhere and the shop show-windows have special displays. And you hear it too — in the music on the radio and in the crackle of fireworks which, as we go to press, continually rip the night. So, with round after round of these salvos, the old Tiger Year is sent off and the new Rabbit Year ushered in.

Special “New Year goods” have been shipped to the cities and villages for the celebrations. In the four or five weeks preceding the festival, Shanghai alone shipped out over 20,000 tons of consumer goods to various parts of the country. There were from 30 to 300 per cent more of some items compared to last year. Thousands of bales of crepe paper of all colours were sent out to make New Year decorations. Hundreds of thousands of gramophone records were specially cut for the festival, many of them recordings of popular Peking, Pingju, Shaohsing and other local operas by well-known singers. These and other goods are in big demand all over the country, but priority has been given to Sinkiang, Yunnan, Chinghai and other provinces further inland.

Peking’s shops are well-stocked with all kinds of festival goods. They report brisk sales. This year they have sold twice the amount of such New Year specialities as Chinese lanterns and coloured candles, fireworks and toys, traditional New Year pictures and papercuts, and cymbals and drums as they did last year. Some of these were made in Peking itself, some came from as far afield as Taichung in Shantung, Wushu in Kiangsu and Foochow in Fukien which are famous for these goods.

But, of course, it's table delicacies, wine, fruit and sweets that people mostly go for during the buying spree for the New Year celebrations. Peking this year has an abundant supply of these, as well as vegetables, eggs, meat, chickens and famous Peking ducks from the suburban people's communes.

The fruit stalls have been crowded with people buying choice oranges from Kwangtung and Szechuan, tangerines from Kiangsi, and apples from northeast China. But nowadays the capital mainly relies on itself for its fruits. With well over 27 million fruit trees growing on its outskirts, three-fourths of them planted since 1949, the supply has not slackened since the summer. At the peak of the season, around 2 million pounds of fresh fruit were carted to the city from the orchards every day.

Wines of various famous brands are in heavy demand, including those made locally. With vineyards on the outskirts 50 times as large as at the time of liberation, and growing hundreds of varieties of grapes, Peking vintages favoured by connoisseurs are making an ever bigger name for themselves.

#### New Year Visits

The Spring Festival is the time for family get-togethers, and it's natural that the Chinese people and their own army — the People's Liberation Army — take the opportunity to visit one another.

Across the country, delegations representing every trade and profession are visiting units of the P.L.A. stationed in their locality to extend New Year greetings to the officers and men defending the motherland and socialist construction.

Down in subtropical Kwangtung, 54 such people's delegations are touring the various special administrative regions and counties in the province to celebrate the festival together with men of the P.L.A. Up in the northeast, gala rallies are being held in Shenyang and Harbin in honour of local garrisons. Delegations from the Tung-hua Special Administrative Region in Kirin Province are up in the snowy mountains visiting P.L.A. units there.
In Sinkiang to the northwest and Tibet to the southwest, delegations of the minority peoples are visiting local P.L.A. headquarters with bags of letters and gifts made by their own handicraftsmen. In Fukien on the southeast coast, over a score of theatrical troupes and a dozen mobile cinema teams are accompanying the people's delegations to entertain the troops at the front.

Units of the P.L.A. are also sending delegations to greet the people during the holidays. They visit nearby communes, schools and factories, and join in the festivities as members of the family. Giving unstinted help to the rural people's communes, some units make use of a part of the holidays to help build water conservancy works or lend a hand in other preparations for the busy farming season this coming spring.

**P.L.A. Aids the Farms**

The Chinese People's Liberation Army made a notable contribution last year to the national effort to develop agricultural production. This is in the P.L.A.'s best tradition of helping in socialist construction while safeguarding the security of the motherland.

Units of the P.L.A. stationed in the Peking and Shenyang areas each contributed over a million workdays to the farms in their neighbourhood. A hundred thousand workdays and more were given by units in Shanghai and other areas. This played no small role in helping raise farm output and consolidate the socialist collective economy in the rural areas.

This help was all-round. In most areas, P.L.A. units have established year-round contacts with the people's communes in their respective areas, and the armymen help in everything from the ploughing and sowing to harvesting the crops. The peasants know that whenever P.L.A. units are, they can be counted on to help whenever needed.

Many units have taken upon themselves the task of helping the less advanced farms raise their output and catch up with the more advanced. When one battalion stationed near the coast learnt that a nearby farm had suffered some crop failures due to lack of water, it immediately set about helping to solve this problem. It sent its technicians out to the mountains to find more water sources. Then it mobilized its men to dig a long tunnel through the mountains to conduct the much-needed water to the cropland. This brought rapid changes; it helped the farm gather in a good harvest last year.

Other units gave other kinds of agro-technical aid to the farms. Some helped improve the soil, others helped with technical innovations or repair work. P.L.A. units in the Nanking area last year sent more than two thousand technicians to the rural areas. They made the rounds of the people's communes, repairing farm machines, installing transmission lines and training junior mechanics. Factories and repair shops of many P.L.A. units also took on the repair of farm machinery as part of their routine work. In the Tsingan area in Shantung Province, for instance, workshops under the P.L.A. gave aid to a tractor station and four production brigades all the year round. This won for them praises from both tractor drivers and commune members.

It is nothing uncommon in the villages nowadays to run across people travelling in twos or threes with medical kit-bags slung over their shoulders. As often as not they are medical workers or veterinarians of the P.L.A. touring the countryside to give their services to the people's communes. Last year, too, they made a big contribution keeping the farm workers fit and well; on top of that, they helped train a number of medical workers and vets from among the commune members.

**Tibet Elections in Progress**

The first elections in history continue in Tibet and are now in full swing throughout the region. Former serfs and slaves going to the polls for the first time ever are electing their own deputies to the people's congresses at the township level. These in turn will elect members of the township people's councils—the local people's governments.

A recent report from Tibet indicates that, by the end of 1962, elections were completed in 473 townships, or 24 per cent of the total in the Tibet region. In the other townships and the extensive pastoral areas, elections are either under way or will start soon. It is expected that between spring and summer this year elections at the primary level throughout the region will be completed.

When election comes round, it is turned into a gala festival. After casting their votes, the people celebrate with singing and dancing and the performance of Tibetan plays. The Tibetans treasure the democratic rights they have gained at heavy cost and they are carefully choosing capable deputies.

The deputies elected—all Tibetans—are activists who have come to the fore over the years. Some have become members of the Chinese Communist Party or of the Communist Youth League, others are leaders of agricultural or stock-raising mutual-aid teams.
What Kennedy’s “State of the Union Message” Reveals

by OBSERVER

Following is an abridged translation of an article appearing in “Renmin Ribao” on January 21, 1962. Subheadings are ours.—Ed.

On January 14, President Kennedy delivered his annual “State of the Union Message” to Congress. It is a “message” which smells of gunpowder.

Kennedy, who has become more arrogant than ever since his successful gamble in the Caribbean, boasted with complacency that “steady progress has been made in building a world of order.” He even blustered, “our tide is running strong” and made no secret of his intention to step up U.S. plans of aggression and war.

Kennedy Rejoices Too Soon

But Kennedy has rejoiced too soon. No one can change the direction of the wind in the world. The international situation in which the East wind prevails over the West wind is developing in a way still more favourable to the peoples. At no time in history have the revolutionary movements of the world’s peoples developed as vigorously as they are doing now. Their struggles against the U.S. imperialist policies of aggression and war against and against the old colonialism and neo-colonialism continue to grow. Kennedy had the effrontery to talk about the “progress” U.S. imperialism had made in Laos, south Viet Nam, Cuba and other places. But the widely known fact is that the U.S. policy of aggression has suffered, or is suffering, serious setbacks in these places. Moreover, at no time in the past has the imperialist bloc headed by the United States been beset by so many contradictions and difficulties as it is today; nor has it ever faced such an acute crisis as it is experiencing now. It is the tide of the national and democratic revolutions of the peoples and of the cause of peace, democracy and socialism which is running strong, not the counter-revolutionary tide of imperialism headed by the United States.

Indulging in his wishful thinking, Kennedy even claimed that the current year is “a year of obligation and opportunity” for the United States. He maintained that there existed “four special avenues of opportunity” by which U.S. policies of aggression and war could be carried forward. These are: to tighten the U.S. grip on the “Atlantic bloc”; to intensify its efforts in the scramble for the “developing nations”; to make use of what he called “the Sino-Soviet difficulties”; and to engage in the so-called “search for worldwide peace.” Kennedy did his best to get public support for making “the most of our [the U.S.] gains—to translate the renewal of our national strength into the achievement of our national purpose.” As everybody knows, what the U.S. ruling clique calls the “national purpose” is to achieve world domination, or, in Kennedy’s words, to build up “a peaceful world community of free and independent states.”

How is Kennedy planning to meet the “opportunity” which he thinks lies before him? How is he planning to realize the U.S. “national purpose”?

In his message, the U.S. President bluntly stated that the United States will step up an unprecedented scale its drive to increase its armaments and war preparations this year; he cried that “there is no substitute for adequate defence.” In his budget message, therefore, he announced that the total amount of U.S. military expenditures will be increased to the record figure of $56,000 million, an increase of $2,400 million over the previous fiscal year. Of this huge amount, $15,000 million will be spent on nuclear weapons alone. Kennedy stressed that while increasing nuclear armaments, it was also necessary to strengthen “anti-guerrilla capacity” and establish “more powerful and flexible conventional forces.” This shows that he will continue to carry out a military strategy for all types of war, that is, while preparing for a world nuclear war as a “final showdown,” he is also preparing for “limited wars” by conventional forces and for “special warfare.” His frenzied plan finds especially clear expression in his budget message. The “free world must be prepared at all times to face the perils of global nuclear war, limited conventional conflict, and covert guerrilla activities,” he declared. Although Kennedy has said a few words about his willingness to end “nuclear testing” and realize “general and complete disarmament,” how can these words of “peace” be made to tally with his acts of increasing armaments and stepping up war preparations? Every sober-minded person can see that what Kennedy is after is by no means peace, but a world with more troops, more weapons and more wars. What he wants is definitely not “a worldwide victory of man,” but world domination by U.S. imperialism.

U.S. Policy of Nuclear Blackmail

Kennedy’s decision to bring about a big increase in U.S. nuclear armaments is designed, without doubt, to give the U.S. superiority in nuclear weapons and to speed up preparations for unleashing a full-scale nuclear war. At the same time it represents an effort to bolster up the U.S. “position of nuclear strength” so as to back up its policy of nuclear blackmail. U.S. military and political leaders have recently been eagerly advocating that U.S. aggressive plans should be carried forward from a “position of strength” in the light of the experience
Seizure of Intermediate Zones

Kennedy's "State of the Union Message" shows that seizure of the "intermediate zones" plays an increasingly important role in U.S. global strategy. Kennedy indicated that the United States wants to continue to use "aid," the "Peace Corps" and other cunning devices as well as what he calls a "resilient and resourceful" approach to penetrate the Asian, African and Latin American countries, while on the other hand, it wants to step up "anti-guerrilla warfare" to suppress the national-liberation movements. In his rearmament plan he put special emphasis on "limited warfare" and "special warfare" as important means of maintaining and extending aggressive U.S. positions while it steps up its preparations for an all-out nuclear war. The U.S. imperialists calculate that at the present moment when they cannot yet start an all-out nuclear war it is to their advantage to wage "limited wars" and "special warfare" backed by nuclear blackmail. In the past year, however, Kennedy's "experiment" with the strategy of "special warfare" in south Viet Nam has suffered disastrous defeat. In their successful struggle against the "mopping-up" operations of the U.S.-Dien clique, the south Vietnamese people have smashed the U.S. imperialist "Staley-Taylor plan" which aimed to "stabilize the south Vietnamese situation" within 18 months. The defeat of aggressive U.S. imperialist activities in south Viet Nam has raised doubts even in a section of the U.S. ruling class about this so-called "special warfare" strategy. But Kennedy refuses to learn the lessons of this defeat; he persists in implementing his "special warfare" strategy and is bent on suppressing with even greater vigour the revolutionary struggles waged by the oppressed peoples and nations. It is also worth noting that Kennedy once again put forward the arrogant demand that, as a condition for compromise, the socialist countries must refrain from supporting the national-liberation movements and revolutionary struggles of the peoples of various countries. The Kennedy Administration is vainly attempting to tie the hands of the socialist countries and prevent them from supporting the national-liberation movements; it wants them to sever their ties with the Asian, African and Latin American countries and peoples so that it can do what it likes in these vast areas. But all that, of course, is just wishful thinking.

Control Over Western "Allies"

To consolidate the United States' aggressive front, Kennedy made it clear that the U.S. will tighten its control over its Western "allies" and strengthen its leadership of the "free world." Assuming the airs of "chief" of the Western alliance, he asked the U.S. "allies" in Western Europe to increase their armaments, accept its plan for a "multi-nuclear force" and provide conventional forces as the United States dictates. This shows that the Kennedy Administration is still desperately anxious to realize its scheme to compel its British and French "allies" to give up their independent nuclear forces and firmly establish a U.S. nuclear monopoly within the Western bloc.

In order to shift onto the shoulders of its "allies" the difficulties which the U.S. is experiencing in its economy and trade, Kennedy once more put pressure on the West European countries to make trade concessions to the United States and open the gate of the "Common Market" to U.S. commodities.

"Turbulence" and "Storms"

In his "State of the Union Message," Kennedy assumes a studied air of confidence in the way the U.S. plans of aggression and war are being implemented and pretends that he sees "hopes" everywhere. As a matter of fact, he is not unaware, and what is more, he has to admit that numerous, mounting difficulties stand in the way of U.S. expansion and aggression. To put it in his own words, "we know the turbulence that lies below, the storms that are beyond the horizon this year." Needless to say, the "turbulence" is the turbulence of the people's revolution and the "storms" are the anti-imperialist storms of the world's people. This is because the main contradiction in the world of today is the contradiction between the people on the one hand and U.S. imperialism on the other. This contradiction cannot be eased no matter what "strategy" U.S. imperialism may employ. The revolutionary movement of the world's people and particularly the struggle of the Asian, African and Latin American peoples for national liberation will make even greater progress in the coming days, while the imperialist camp will be beset with still more difficulties and acuter contradictions.

In his "State of the Union Message" Kennedy had to deal with such big and troublesome questions as the stagnant U.S. economy, serious unemployment, and deficits in its balance of international payments; he also had to deal with the deep contradictions within the Western camp. In other words, the steady decay of the imperialist camp is an irrevocable trend. The balance of world forces cannot be changed in favour of imperialism. The East will go on prevailing over the West. The floundering ship of U.S. imperialism flying the black flag of aggression is sailing against the wind and is doomed to be wrecked by the surging and sweeping tides of history. No matter how devoutly Kennedy prays, his "almighty God" cannot help him out of his troubles.

Kennedy's "State of the Union Message," as a negative example, may serve as a useful lesson for the world's people by helping them see how rapidly the Kennedy Administration is preparing and intensifying its global aggressive and war activities. Kennedy in his message significantly cried that "dangerous problems remain from Cuba to the South China Sea." This must alert the people throughout the world.

Judging by Kennedy's "State of the Union Message," the tasks which the peace-loving people of the world face
this new year in the defence of peace will be as difficult as any they ever faced before. The serious struggle waged last year by the Cuban people with the support of the peoples of the world to defend their sovereignty and independence and oppose U.S. imperialist aggression taught the world’s people many important lessons. They saw more clearly than ever before that the aggressive nature of U.S. imperialism will never change; they saw more clearly too the correct way to defend peace. Peace can be truly secured only by waging a resolute struggle against the U.S. imperialist policies of aggression and war. Just as Cuban Premier Comrade Castro has repeatedly pointed out recently: “To resist aggression is to fight for peace. The road of surrender to the aggressor is the road that leads to war, to the enslavement of all peoples.” “The stronger the imperialists consider themselves to be, the more dangerous they become.” That is to say, the world’s people must intensify their struggle against the aggressive designs of U.S. imperialism. There is no doubt that in this new year the struggle of the peoples against U.S. imperialism will be very acute and complicated. It is equally certain that so long as the revolutionary peoples and all peace-loving peoples strengthen their unity and intensify their struggles they will be able to defeat U.S. imperialism’s plans of aggression and war and dash Kennedy’s “hopes” to the ground.

Fresh Appeal for Communist Solidarity
— Excerpts From Wu Hsiu-chuan’s Speech at the 6th Congress of the Socialist Unity Party of Germany —

The Communist Party of China has once again made a sincere appeal that all fraternal Parties concerned make serious efforts to resolve their differences and strengthen unity through consultation on an equal footing. The appeal was contained in a speech delivered on January 18 by Wu Hsiu-chuan, head of the delegation of the Communist Party of China, at the 6th Congress of the Socialist Unity Party of Germany. Wu Hsiu-chuan also read out a message of greetings from the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China to the congress.

Following are excerpts of Wu Hsiu-chuan’s speech dealing with the unity of the world communist movement, the Sino-Indian boundary question and the Tito group.

Our subheads and emphases. — Ed.

The Unity of the World Communist Movement

Now more than at any other time, we Communists need to be concerned about safeguarding and strengthening the unity of the socialist camp, safeguarding and strengthening the unity of the international communist movement. Unity in facing up to the enemy is in the supreme interest of the Communists and the peoples of all countries, and is the primary task of Communists in all lands. The relations among socialist countries and the relations among Marxist-Leninist Parties are built on Marxism-Leninism and proletarian internationalism. The Moscow Declaration and the Moscow Statement are the common programme of the Communist and Workers’ Parties of the world on which they unite together against the enemy. These documents lay down a common line for struggles against imperialism and struggles for world peace, democracy, national liberation and socialism, and also lay down the principles guiding mutual relations among fraternal countries and fraternal Parties. As the Moscow Statement points out, “every country in the socialist camp is ensured genuinely equal rights and independence”; “all the Marxist-Leninist Parties are independent and have equal rights; they shape their policies according to the specific conditions in their respective countries and in keeping with Marxist-Leninist principles, and support each other”; all the Marxist-Leninist Parties should “work out common views through consultations and co-ordinate joint actions in the struggle for common goals.”

The experience of the entire international communist movement proves that among fraternal countries and fraternal Parties differences of one kind or another are hard to avoid; the question is how to handle the relations among fraternal countries and fraternal Parties correctly. If the principles guiding relations among fraternal countries and fraternal Parties, i.e., the principles of independence, equality and the working out of common views through consultations, are violated, the result can only be the harming of unity, the widening of differences, and even the danger of bringing about a split.

The Communist Party of China is consistent in safeguarding the unity of the socialist camp and the unity of the international communist movement, and consistent in defending the principles guiding mutual relations among fraternal countries and fraternal Parties set forth in the Moscow Declaration and the Moscow Statement. That was why a year or more ago when public attack by name was made for the first time on another fraternal Party, the Albanian Party of Labour, at the 22nd Congress of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union, the delegation of the Communist Party of China expressed its firm opposition. At that very congress we pointed out that such a practice “does not help unity and is not helpful to resolving problems. To bring a dispute between fraternal Parties or fraternal countries into the open in the face of the enemy cannot be regarded as a serious Marxist-Leninist attitude. Such an attitude will only cause those near and dear to us and gladden our enemies. The Communist Party of China sincerely hopes that fraternal Parties which have disputes or differences between them will unite afresh on the basis of Marxism-Leninism and on the basis of mutual respect for independence and equality.”

However, it is to be regretted that this sincere admonition on our part has not succeeded in preventing a deterioration in the situation. In April 1962, out of its desire to uphold the principles guiding mutual relations among fraternal countries and fraternal Parties and to
strengthen unity, the Communist Party of China expressed active support for the suggestions made by a number of fraternal Parties for the relaxation of relations and the improvement of the atmosphere, and formally proposed to the fraternal Party concerned the convening of a meeting of representatives of all Communist and Workers' Parties, with a view to eliminating differences and strengthening unity through comradely discussions and consultations. We also pointed out that pending the convocation of such a meeting, all Parties should stop attacking each other over the radio and in the press, so as to create conditions favourable to the convocation of the meeting.

We cannot but point out with distress that such efforts on the part of the Communist Party of China and other fraternal Parties have not evoked a response from the fraternal Party concerned. On the contrary, the practice which violates the principles guiding relations among fraternal countries and fraternal Parties has been repeated with ever more vigour. The congresses held recently in succession by some fraternal Parties were even used as platforms for further attacks on other fraternal Parties. At these congresses, comrades of some fraternal Parties continued their attacks on the Albanian Party of Labour and attacked by name the Communist Party of China and other fraternal Parties. In addition, they have widely mobilized their newspapers and other propaganda media to make massive attacks and slanders on the Communist Party of China. Many fraternal Parties have expressed their deep anxieties and worries about this grave adverse current which is disrupting unity and creating split, and their worries are fully justifiable.

The Communist Party of China has always welcomed the words and deeds which help to promote the unity of the international communist movement. At the current congress of your Party, we have heard response in a certain degree to the consistent proposal of the Communist Party of China for ceasing open attacks among the fraternal Parties, easing tension among them and improving the atmosphere. We would be very happy if such expressions could be translated into action. We maintain that the deeds of Communists should accord with their words. One should not preach the need to call a halt to attacks while at the same time continuing to make attacks. Such a practice is not conducive to the elimination of differences and the strengthening of unity.

Here we want once again to make a sincere appeal that all of us treasure the interests of the cause of the proletarian revolution and of the struggle against the enemy and make efforts to eliminate differences and strengthen unity through proper channels and strictly in accordance with the principles set forth in the Moscow Declaration and the Moscow Statement. In order to eliminate differences and strengthen unity, it is necessary to return to the path of adherence to the principles laid down in the Moscow Declaration and the Moscow Statement and to the path of internal consultation on an equal footing. In this respect, the initiative taken by the comrades who were the first to launch an attack against a fraternal Party would be helpful to the solution of the problem. The Communist Party of China maintains that the only correct way to eliminate differences and strengthen unity is for everyone to follow Marxism-Leninism and proletarian internationalism, to abide by the revolutionary principles of the Moscow Declaration and the Moscow Statement and to adhere to the principles guiding the relations among fraternal countries and fraternal Parties and to conduct comradely discussion and consultation. It is precisely in pursuance of this stand that the Communist Party of China has more than once proposed the convening of a meeting of representatives of all Communist and Workers' Parties and has backed the suggestions made by a number of fraternal Parties for the convening of such an international conference. Now we still maintain that it is essential to call such an international conference of the fraternal Parties. To make the conference a success, the fraternal Parties of various countries must make joint efforts to overcome numerous difficulties and obstacles and do a lot of necessary preparatory work, including cessation of attacks against fraternal Parties.

In the interests of the international communist movement and the interests of the common struggle against the enemy, the Communist Party of China is ready to continue to work unreservedly together with all other Marxist-Leninist Parties for the elimination of differences and the strengthening of unity. It is our firm belief that the international communist movement will eventually surmount all difficulties and obstacles, enhance the unity of its ranks and win great victories in the struggle against imperialism, in defence of world peace and for the promotion of the cause of human progress.

The Sino-Indian Boundary Question

The Communist Party of China and the Chinese Government have consistently stood for peaceful coexistence between countries with different social systems. China is an initiator of the famous Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence. On the basis of the Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence, China has established friendly relations with many countries in the world; it has successively concluded treaties of friendship or treaties of friendship and mutual non-aggression with the Yemen, Burma, Nepal, Afghanistan, Guinea, Cambodia, Indonesia and Ghana and has satisfactorily settled boundary questions with Burma and Nepal. These are facts known to all. As to the Sino-Indian boundary question, China has consistently been seeking a fair and reasonable settlement through peaceful negotiations. However, the Nehru government of India categorically rejected negotiations, did its utmost to alter, by force of arms, the situation on the Sino-Indian border, made ever increasing encroachments upon China's border territory and finally flagrantly ordered the launching of attacks on China to "clear" Chinese frontier forces from Chinese territory. Confronted with the massive attacks of the Indian troops, China launched a counter-attack in self-defence; this was a minimum, legitimate measure that any sovereign state would have taken. Having repulsed the attacks of the Indian forces, China immediately proposed the cessation of fighting, disengagement and the reopening of negotiations, and took the initiative in effecting a ceasefire and withdrawal of its troops. It was precisely because of this that the situation on the Sino-Indian border has eased.

As we have said on many occasions, the Nehru government's persistent anti-China move is the outcome of its increasingly reactionary domestic and foreign policies.
The outcome of its becoming more and more dependent on imperialism and its suppression of the people at home with increasing brutality. The Nehru government’s anti-China campaign and its increasingly reactionary domestic and foreign policies have been aided and abetted by imperialism, U.S. imperialism in particular. It is a matter for regret that they have also been supported and encouraged by some self-styled Marxist-Leninists. Throughout the Sino-Indian boundary dispute these people have ignored the facts and turned right and wrong upside down. They have shut their eyes to the large number of relevant documents made public by socialist China over the past three years and more, and have turned a deaf ear to the many notices and explanations given to them by China. In fact, they have joined the big anti-Chinese chorus together with Nehru. This surprising stand has nothing in common whatsoever with Marxism-Leninism and proletarian internationalism.

The Tito Group at the Service of U.S. Imperialism

The modern revisionists represented by the renegades to the working class, the Tito group of Yugoslavia, have knuckled under imperialist pressure, are willingly serving imperialism and are playing a role which the Social-Democratic parties are unable to play, in undermining the international unity of the working class. Usurping the title of a party of communism, waving the banner of a socialist country and garbed as Marxist-Leninists, the Tito group is trying to deceive the revolutionary peoples of various countries, to destroy their fighting spirit and to disrupt the revolutionary struggles of the oppressed peoples and nations. It is trying to disintegrate the socialist countries by exporting the so-called “Yugoslav road,” which means degeneration to capitalism. Under the mask of “non-alignment,” it is trying to undermine the unity of the socialist countries and those countries which have adopted a policy of peace and neutrality. Today the Tito clique is a special detachment of U.S. imperialism for carrying out the latter’s counter-revolutionary global strategy.

As the Moscow Statement points out, the Tito group “. . . betraying Marxism-Leninism . . . carry on subversive work against the socialist camp and the world communist movement . . . engage in activities which prejudice the unity of all the peace-loving forces and countries. Further exposure of the leaders of Yugoslav revisionists and active struggle to safeguard the communist movement and the working-class movement from the anti-Leninist ideas of the Yugoslav revisionists, remains an essential task of the Marxist-Leninist Parties.”

Another Triumph for the Five Principles

Final Settlement of Sino-Nepalese Boundary Question

— Dr. Giri in Peking —

by MAO SUN

DOCTOR Tulsi Giri, Vice-Chairman of the Council of Ministers and Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of Nepal, is now on an official visit to China. Accompanied by Major-General Padma Khatri, the Nepalese Defence and Foreign Secretary, he has come to Peking to put the seal on an important undertaking — to sign the Sino-Nepalese boundary protocol which sets out in concrete terms the boundary line between the two friendly countries.

The protocol is an annex to the boundary treaty signed in October 1961 by Chairman Liu Shao-chi and King Mahendra. In concluding that treaty, China and Nepal settled, to the satisfaction of both parties, all outstanding problems between them apropos of their common boundary. Now, the protocol defines in detail the alignment of the boundary line. Its signing signals the final and complete settlement of the boundary issue and the erection of a permanent border of peace and friendship between the two countries.

January 25, 1963

The smooth settlement of the Sino-Nepalese boundary question and that of the Sino-Burmese boundary question are two outstanding examples of how China and her neighbours have handled and solved their boundary issues by negotiation. They show that given the sincere desire and will to settle boundary issues peacefully and reasonably — boundary issues which are, after all, legacies of the historical period when imperialism held sway — the countries concerned will find the way to do it.

How the Boundary Was Delimited

For those who need such lessons, many things can be learnt from the way the Sino-Nepalese boundary question was solved. The boundary between China and Nepal extends over 1,100 kilometres through the world's highest mountain ranges, numerous passes and ravines. Although a traditional customary line had long existed, the boundary was never scientifically delineated or formally demarcated. In 1960, when the two Governments signed an agreement on the boundary question, they affirmed
Chen Yi on Sino-Indian Boundary Question

Vice-Premier Chen Yi declared on January 21 that "the Chinese Government welcomes and supports the efforts made by the six friendly Asian and African countries of the Colombo conference to promote direct negotiations between China and India. The Chinese Government accepts in principle the proposals of the Colombo conference as a preliminary basis for talks between Chinese and Indian officials. As a matter of course, it maintains certain points of its own interpretation of the proposals, and the Indian Government may have its own interpretation too. But differences in this regard may well be resolved by the two sides through direct negotiations."

Vice-Premier Chen Yi said: "The Chinese Government earnestly hopes that, with the promotion and assistance of friendly Asian and African countries, direct Sino-Indian negotiations will soon start."

their respect for this traditional customary line and took it as the basis for formally delimiting the boundary line. They also agreed that in sectors where the boundary line as shown in the maps of the two countries did not coincide and where they differed in their appraisal of the conditions under which jurisdiction was actually exercised, adjustments would be made through friendly consultations and in accordance with the principles of equality, mutual benefit, friendship and mutual accommodation. Basing their work on these principles, the joint committee set up by the two countries was able to agree on the actual alignment of the boundary and erect temporary boundary markers within the short span of a little over a year.

Again, the Chinese and Nepalese Governments had agreed that, prior to the overall settlement of the boundary question, they would maintain the status quo of the boundary and not make any territorial claims on each other as pre-conditions for negotiation. It was established that, apart from its own administrative personnel and civil police, neither side would send any armed personnel to patrol within 20 kilometres of the boundary on its side. Both sides strictly honoured this agreement, with the result that tranquillity in the border areas was ensured and amicable relations maintained.

What is more, in the course of settling specific differences concerning the boundary line, the Chinese and Nepalese personnel negotiated in full equality and mutual understanding, with due consideration of the national sentiments of the other side. Neither tried to impose its own views on the other.

Thus, with goodwill and statesmanship on both sides, the Sino-Nepalese Boundary Treaty was signed in 1961 and permanent markers were set up along the entire boundary. Far from leading to disputes or clashes, the boundary question was settled smoothly and the traditional friendship between the two countries was greatly strengthened.

Upholding the Five Principles

It may be asked why China and Nepal have been able to accomplish so much both in settling their boundary question and in steadily improving their relations and strengthening their economic and cultural ties. The answer is: both countries strictly adhere to the Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence.

China has always held that all countries, whether big or small, are equal and should treat each other as such, that they should respect and help each other, and that the sovereignty, territorial integrity and internal affairs of a country should not be infringed upon or meddled with by a foreign power. These principles are fully applied in China's relations with Nepal.

Under the leadership of King Mahendra, Nepal has consistently carried out a policy of independence, peace, neutrality and worked for friendly relations with all countries on the basis of equality. In the face of coercion, intimidation and slander by imperialism and the reactionaries of various countries, she pursues a policy of friendship with China. Nepal recognizes the Government of the People's Republic of China as the sole legal government of China. When a handful of Tibetan reactionaries staged a rebellion in 1959, Nepal adhered to her correct stand of non-interference in China's internal affairs.

The Chinese people greatly admire this stand of Nepal in international affairs and highly value Sino-Nepalese friendship. They look forward to seeing Sino-Nepalese co-operation make a still greater contribution to the common struggle against imperialism. In paying tribute to Dr. Giri and the other distinguished Nepalese guests, the Chinese people are honouring the people of Nepal and its leaders; they are expressing their aspirations for the further consolidation of the fruitful good-neighbourly relations between China and Nepal.

New Delhi Returns Evil for Good

A spokesman for the Chinese Ministry of Foreign Affairs in a statement issued on January 16, refuted the slanders of the spokesman of the Indian Ministry of External Affairs concerning the Chinese frontier guards' return of military supplies to India. Following is the text of the statement.--Ed.

According to a report of the Indian Information Service, a spokesman of the Indian Ministry of External Affairs stated on January 8, 1963, that India had received from the Chinese side some Indian army equipment previously captured by the Chinese frontier guards, which were all "heavily damaged." and that the Chinese side had returned this equipment for "propaganda purposes." Following the statement made by the spokesman of the Indian Ministry of External Affairs, Indian newspapers have one after another cast aspersion on the Chinese Government, alleging that the Chinese Government has "launched a propaganda campaign" on the handing over of equipment, that the handing over is a "treacherous manoeuvre," and so on and so forth.

The Chinese Government did not make public, nor intended to make public, the return of captured weapons, ammunition and other military supplies to the Indian side by the Chi-
inese frontier guards. Unexpectedly, this measure on the part of China has been distorted and slandered by the Indian side, so the Chinese Government cannot but make public the related facts.

After the cease-fire by the Chinese frontier guards on China's own initiative and during their withdrawal, the Chinese Government, in order to further demonstrate its sincerity for a peaceful settlement of the Sino-Indian boundary question and to create an atmosphere of conciliation between the two countries, instructed the Chinese frontier guards to collect the weapons, ammunition and other military supplies of the Indian troops which they had captured during their counter-attacks in self-defence and return them to the Indian side.

In resolutely carrying out the instructions of the Chinese Government, the Chinese frontier guards first left the collected captured supplies with the local headmen in Limking, Sati and Mechukha on December 6, 8 and 11 respectively, requesting them to hand the same over to the Indian side speedily. The Chinese frontier guards also left with the headmen letters addressed to the Indian side and detailed lists of the returned supplies. Afterwards, on December 19, the Chinese frontier guards further handed over the collected captured supplies in Dirang Dzong and Walong to civil officials sent by the Indian side to receive them. After the checking and handing over, representatives of both sides signed the lists of returned supplies. Dangerous articles among the returned supplies were specially marked by the Chinese frontier guards so that the Indian side might take safety precautions while taking them over. Among the supplies returned to the Indian side were weapons, ammunition, aircraft, tanks, vehicles, various military equipment and material, clothing and bedding, etc. (See the appended list for details.)

In order to acquaint the Indian Government with the matter, the Chinese Government informed the Indian Government by two notes dated December 14 and 16, 1962. In delivering the notes, the Chinese side stated that the Sino-Indian boundary question should be settled by peaceful means and not by force, and expressed the hope that border clashes would not recur between China and India and that the returned weapons would not be used again to fight China.

The above is an account of all the facts about the Chinese Government's return of captured weapons, ammunition and other military supplies of the Indian troops to the Indian side. Anyone without prejudice will see that this measure taken by the Chinese Government is a friendly and generous one, without precedent in history. The armed conflict on the Sino-Indian border was deliberately provoked by India. The Chinese frontier guards made victorious counter-attacks in self-defence. Nevertheless, in order to secure a peaceful settlement of the Sino-Indian boundary question, the Chinese frontier guards, on China's own initiative, have not only ceased fire and withdrawn, but returned to the Indian side the military supplies they had captured in fighting. It is appropriate to ask: has such a thing ever happened in history?

The Indian side, however, has adopted an attitude of returning evil for good. As shown in the list, the greater part of the supplies returned by China is in good condition. The damaged weapons and equipment in the list had been either demolished by the Indian troops themselves before they retreated or damaged in action. Yet the spokesman of the Indian Ministry of External Affairs asserted that the supplies returned by China were all "heavily damaged." One cannot but feel regret at such an attitude of disregarding the fact.

The spokesman of the Indian Ministry of External Affairs further asserted that China has taken this measure for propaganda purposes." The fact is that the thing has never been published by the Chinese Government, nor has it been divulged in any way by Chinese newspapers. The Chinese Government has confined itself to notifying the Indian Government in two notes, and this can by no means be called propaganda. The Indian newspaper assertion that China has launched a propaganda campaign on this matter is sheer fabrication and slander. In fact, it is India itself which first made public this matter and launched in this connection a propaganda campaign maliciously slandering China.

Indian papers slandered the Chinese Government's return of Indian army equipment as a "treacherous manoeuvre." One cannot but ask: what kind of manoeuvre is it? China decided to return the Indian army equipment and formally notified the Indian side, and the Indian Government sent its civil officials to Dirang Dzong and Walong to receive it. The Chinese side handed over the supplies item by item, and the Indian civil officials receipted the lists of returned supplies. If such an open and above-board action should be labelled as a "treacherous manoeuvre" how should one describe the practice of taking the military supplies returned by China and then immediately turning back to slander China by alleging that its measure was for "propaganda purposes" and that the returned supplies were all "heavily damaged" while fully aware that most of them were in good condition?

The return of military supplies is one of the many friendly steps taken by the Chinese Government in order to create an
Saving the Lives of Sick and Wounded Indians

At Dirang Dzong and Jang Village on the eastern sector of the Sino-Indian border on December 13, 19 and 31, representatives of the Chinese Red Cross Society handed over to the Indian Red Cross Society groups of sick and wounded Indian army personnel captured by the Chinese frontier guards in Tibet. Many others were handed over to the Indian Red Cross during the same period at Bomdila, Mechukha and Walong.

The Chinese press recently published an article by Wei Chao-ting, one of the Chinese Red Cross representatives in charge of the handing over of these men, describing these events and what led up to them.

Good-bye and Many Thanks. Among the captured Indians whom he was charged to hand over, Wei said, 20 per cent had completely recovered their health, another 76 per cent were on the mend while more than 20 who had been in a critical condition were out of danger at the time they were handed over. Before they were returned, these men were most anxious to tell him and his colleagues of their gratitude for the efforts made by the Chinese frontier guards and medical personnel to save their lives. They kept on asking him and other members of the Chinese Red Cross to convey their thanks to the Chinese frontier guards and the Chinese people.

First Aid. These Indian soldiers were wounded during their attacks on the Chinese frontier guards along the Sino-Indian border. They were picked up by the Chinese forces on the battlefields, and in the snowbound mountains, forests and ravines to their rear. Many were dying. One wounded Indian private named Nandkishore Singh was found lying with a very weak pulse among several corpses. He was given first aid on the spot, then carried to a medical post, where after two weeks’ careful treatment he got a fresh lease of life. By the time he was handed over to the Indian Red Cross, he was already able to walk on his own. His was one of the cases that made the most of the opportunity. Some Chinese frontier guards quickly removed him from the field of action to a place of safety, where he was immediately operated upon. Four bullets were extracted from his chest.

“I Owe It to You That I’m Still Alive!” Left behind by the fleeing Indian Army, many captured Indians suffered from exposure. Lack of care made their wounds and ailments worse. As soon as they were brought in to a Chinese medical post, they were given immediate injections of antibiotics to prevent further deterioration of their condition and prompt operations followed. An Indian officer with five or six wounds and sure that he didn’t have many days to live was very depressed. But Chinese doctors operated on him and saved his life. At the time of his return, this officer, with a catch in his voice, told the Chinese doctors who saved him: “Now I’ve come to realize that you Chinese people can never be an enemy of us Indians.”

There was an Indian private who had received a wound in the jaw and was unable to eat or speak until a Chinese doctor came to his rescue and stitched his wound up. The first thing he said then was: “I owe it to you that I’m still alive!”

Warmth. Of the sick and wounded he had delivered to the Indian side, Wei recalled, more than 40 per cent were frost-bite cases, most of them serious, because at the time of their capture, they were wearing only thin clothes, socks and shoes that were practically useless in the cold weather there. No sooner were they captured than the Chinese frontier guards issued them warm clothing and cotton-padded caps and shoes. At one place, doctors and nurses at a Chinese medical post worked late into the night to knit 152 pairs of thick woollen stockings for frost-bitten Indians. There was a fire in every ward to give the captured Indians warmth such as they had not enjoyed for a long time. At noon, when the sun shone warmly, those who couldn’t get up from their beds were carried outdoors by the doctors and nurses so that they could get some good fresh air. Thanks to such care and treatment, many of them recuperated very quickly.

Good Food. The captured Indians were especially grateful for the good food they had. They told Wei that they were getting all the nourishment necessary for a quick recovery. They had three meals every day and morning and afternoon tea.

Appendix:

List of Weapons, Ammunition and Other Military Supplies Returned by Chinese Frontier Guards on Previous Occasions To Indian Side

1. Weapons and ammunition:
   - British-manufactured mortar, 75mm. 75 (58 in good condition; 17 with parts missing)
   - British-manufactured mortar, 81mm. 54 (15 in good condition; 39 with parts missing; 3 heavily damaged)
British-made mortar, 106.7mm.
British-made howitzer, 75mm.
British-made cannon-howitzer, 87.6mm.
British-made howitzer, 87.6mm.
U.S.-made rocket launcher, 90mm.
Grenade discharger and rifle grenade discharger.
Heavy machine-gun.
U.S.-made tank machine-gun, 7.62mm.
British-made light machine-gun, 7.7mm.
Canadian-made submachine-gun, 9mm.
U.S.-made semi-automatic rifle, 7.62mm.
British-made rifle, 7.7mm.
Pistol.
Signal pistol.
Shell, various types.
Cartridge, various types.
Rocket, for 90mm. launcher.
Hand grenade.
Cartridge, for signal pistol.
Mine.
Spare barrel, for British-made 7.7mm. light machine-gun.
Magazine, for British-made 7.7mm. light machine-gun.
Magazine, for Canadian-made 9mm. submachine-gun.

2. Aircraft, tanks and vehicles:
   Soviet-made Mi-4 helicopter (serviceable).

British-made Otter transport aeroplane.
U.S.-made M-5A3 tank.
Trucks, various types.

3. Military material:
   U.S.-made air compressor.
   Bulldozer.
   British-made steam-roller.
   Electric generator.
   Diesel engine.
   Radio set.
   Walkie-talkie.
   Telephone set.

   Wire.
   Battery.
   Field glasses.
   Parachute.
   Barbed wire.
   Spade.
   Pickaxe.
   Fuel tank.
   Other military material (including engineering material, observation and communication equipment, helmets, parachute cord, etc.).

4. Military clothing and bedding:
   Army blanket.
   Army overcoat.
   Army uniform.
   Mosquito-net.
   Quilt, sheet, etc.

   1,825 (all in good condition). 348 (all in good condition).
   Over 2,700 (over 2,410 in good condition; over 300 worn-out).
   360 (all in good condition). Over 360 (all in good condition).

Tibet Newsletter

Farewell to Tawang

Evacuating the strategically important town of Tawang on the eastern sector of the Sino-Indian border on January 14, the Chinese frontier guards continued their withdrawal to the north of the November 7, 1959 line of actual control. The withdrawal was steady despite the blizzard that blew up. In this area, the Chinese forces have thus already pulled back more than 200 kilometres since they started their withdrawal on their own initiative from Yitngka Pass on December 1, 1962. We publish below a newsletter from the Hsinhua correspondents who are with these forces in Tibet.—Ed.

We [Hsinhua correspondents] came to Tawang from the Kechilang River area in late October last year along with the frontier guards of the Tibet region.

A place of importance on the eastern sector of the Sino-Indian border, Tawang is the capital town of the Monyul area in southern Tibet. Nestled in a wooded valley amidst snow-capped mountains, it has 37 villages around it with more than 1,000 households. On the hillside beside it are several hundred barracks of the invading Indian Army. This was the headquarters of the 7th Infantry Brigade, which directed the Indian attacks on the Chinese frontier guards north of the so-called McMahon Line. In the office of its commander, Brigadier-General J.P. Dalvi, now captured, we found a round table, purple in colour, under whose glass top was a map showing the military disposition of the Indian troops in their advance into Chinese territory. In the next room was a sand table ten metres long and five metres wide. These things were there when we arrived and were still there when we left Tawang.

We saw on our way the havoc of destruction left by the invading Indian troops as they fled to the south. Many villages went up in flames. At Khinze-mane, we saw a long wall with prayer wheels built into it. This was quite destroyed. The stone slabs on it carved with Buddhist images and inscriptions had been prised off by the Indian troops to build fortifications. The Indians had destroyed many things, including roads and bridges. They had cut down a rope bridge several score-metres long across the Nyamjang Chu River. On our way we met a number of Momba herdsmen who had fled from the retreating
Indians. They complained to us angrily: "The Jawans (Indian soldiers) ransacked our homes and took everything edible away from us."

When we entered Tawang, houses and warehouses set on fire by Indian troops were still shrouded in smoke. Most of the inhabitants had either been forced to leave along with the Indian troops or had gone into the mountains to avoid being press-ganged by the Indians or hit by rifle or gunfire. The only person left behind in the famous Tawang Monastery was an old gate-keeper. At that time, Indian artillery was still sited south of the Tawang River and Se La and it continued to shell Tawang and its surrounding villages.

"You're Like Our Kith and Kin"

As soon as the Chinese frontier guards arrived in a town or village their first care was to put out the fires, succour the people and save their belongings. Immediate measures were taken to protect public buildings and religious institutions. Most of the houses were vacant at that time, but the Chinese frontier guards would rather camp in the fields at night than enter houses whose owners were away. They sealed deserted houses with the notice "Owners away. No entry!"

Besides digging bomb shelters and dugouts for the old and weak and helping with their household chores sappers of the frontier guards also built a new, wide and well-constructed bridge over the Seju River, which was formerly spanned only by a rough log bridge. When it was completed, representatives of the people from eight nearby villages came to thank the frontier guards. "You're like our own kith and kin," they said.

With the help of the frontier guards, life in the Tawang area was soon back to normal. Lamas of the Tawang Monastery and many of the local inhabitants who had left home during the border clashes returned and cordial relations between them and the frontier guards were soon established. After the Chinese frontier guards took Se La, peasants and herdsman along the banks of the Tawang River were no longer harassed by Indian artillery bombardments. They were able to resume their work in the paddyfields and pastures and the frontier guards helped them. Thanks to that help, barley and wheat in the Tawang area are growing better this winter than in previous years because of timely and careful sowing, say the local peasants.

Tawang Monastery

The people of Tawang are believers in Buddhism (Lamaism); they use the Tibetan calendar, speak the Tibetan language and write in Tibetan script. They observe the same festivals of the people as in other parts of Tibet. Women in this locality wear a small cone-shaped cap and always carry a leather cushion on their back. Legend has it that this was the attire of Princess Wen Cheng of the Tang Dynasty (618-907) when she came to Tibet to marry the king of Tibet. Said to be capable of keeping away "evil spirits" these things were given to the people in Monyul by the princess and the women there wear and carry these souvenirs of the Han princess to this day.

Before we left Tawang, we went to see the famous Tawang Monastery. Situated on the top of a hill, its frescoes and other decorations are similar to those of other Tibetan monasteries. The biggest in the Monyul area, it was enlarged by a disciple of the Fifth Dalai Lama more than 300 years ago. It is a branch of the Daipung Monastery, one of the three chief monasteries in Lhasa. Its Kaupo (leading lama in charge of religious affairs of the monastery) has always been appointed by the Daipung Monastery. During their stay in Tawang, the frontier guards took measures to protect the monastery and ensure its normal religious activities.

While we were visiting the monastery, we saw large, tall prayer flags fluttering in the wind in front of the monastery. The main shrine hall was brightly lit by Buddhist lamps but soon the burning incense dimmed their light. We saw many lamas in their robes beating drums and reciting sutras. Many lay-believers of the Tibetan and Monba nationalities came to attend religious services and give alms to the lamas.

As the frontier guards withdrew northward, many Tibetans and Monbas gathered to say good-bye. Leaving Tawang, we could still hear the Monba song lingering in the air.

Stay with us for ever,
But you are leaving!
Though we cannot keep you,
Our hearts will follow you,
No matter where you go!
Colonialists, Get Out of the Congo!

by WANG LIN

Two years have passed since the murder of Patrice Lumumba, the national hero of the Congo. During this period the homeland of this resolute and dedicated fighter for national liberation has suffered the bitterest of hardships at the hands of the colonialists, both new and old.

Led by Lumumba, the ruthlessly exploited Congolese people fought heroically against the Belgian colonialists and won a great victory in their national-independence movement when the Republic of the Congo was proclaimed. When the Belgian imperialists launched their armed aggression against the newborn republic, the situation favoured the Congolese people. Mobilized, they pressed hard against the imperialists and their lackeys in the country. Shortly afterwards, however, U.S. imperialism intervened in the Congo. The legal government was overthrown and Premier Patrice Lumumba and Joseph Okito, President of the Senate, were murdered by the agents of the United States and Belgium, the new and old colonialists. Then, Gizenga. Lumumba’s successor, fell into a U.S. trap and, together with other nationalist leaders, was imprisoned. Since then the Congolese people have been plunged into the dark abyss of the new U.S. colonialist rule.

Tool of U.S. Aggression

In carrying out its aggressive activities in the Congo, U.S. imperialism has been trying to use the United Nations as camouflage. The Kennedy Administration has professed again and again that the United States is just “faithfully” carrying out the U.N. resolution aimed at implementing “the plan for the unification of the Congo.” But today this pretext can no longer hoodwink the Congolese and other African people. They know that it is precisely U.S. imperialism and the “United Nations Forces” manipulated by it which has intervened in the Congo and prevented the Central Congolese Government led by Lumumba and Gizenga from exercising sovereignty and putting down the rebellions of the Tshombe and other cliques serving imperialism. It is precisely the United States and other imperialists who created splits in the Congo by giving every possible help to their agents. The present chaotic situation in the Congo is wholly the work of the imperialist countries and, of the United States in the first place.

Having carried forward its policy of suppressing the national, patriotic forces in the Congo and fostering its agents, the Adoula clique, U.S. imperialism is now pressing ahead with its plan to squeeze out the influence of the other colonialist countries and to swallow up the Congo itself. Three armed clashes have broken out between the “United Nations Forces” under U.S. control and the Tshombe clique which is backed by the old British, French and Belgian colonialists. The first two occurred in September and December, 1961, respectively.

The third clash started with the attack of the “U.N. Forces” on December 27, 1962, against the Tshombe forces in Elizabethville, capital of Katanga. After the loss of all the province’s important centres except Kolwezi, his last stronghold, Tshombe was compelled to announce on January 15 that he was “prepared to give the U.N. troops freedom of movement throughout Katanga” and that “the Katangese secession is over.”

The recent military action of the “U.N. Forces” was planned a long time ago. At the Security Council in August 1962 the United States put forward through U Thant, then Acting Secretary-General of the United Nations, a so-called conciliatory plan for the Congo. This plan provided for: (1) drawing up of a new federal constitution within 30 days; (2) a fifty-fifty division of Katanga’s mining revenues between the Tshombe and Adoula cliques; (3) unification and integration of all the Congolese armed forces; (4) unification of currencies; and (5) cooperation with the United Nations. To put through this plan, negotiations would be conducted between the Tshombe and Adoula cliques. If this failed, economic and military sanctions would be applied against the Tshombe clique.

When the United States brought pressure to bear on Britain, France and Belgium to approve the plan, these latter powers openly opposed the use of economic sanctions and military force against Tshombe. They egged on Tshombe to boycott the plan. With this backing Tshombe stated that he did not oppose the “unification of the Congo” but that Katanga must maintain its “independence”; that “integration of the armed forces” could be accepted but that the “U.N. Forces” must withdraw from the Congo. Consequently, for more than four months, the plan remained on paper. Enraged, the United States went into action. The U.S. State Department announced on December 3, 1962, that the U.S. Air Force would increase its airlift of equipment to “U.N. Forces” in the Congo “in view of the lack of substantial progress” of the U.N. plan to end the secession of Katanga. Then, a high-level U.S. military mission led by General Louis W. Truman was sent to the Congo to study the needs of the “U.N. Forces” there and their ability to deal with developments in the situation. The latest armed clash between the new and old colonialists broke out right after the mission had completed its work in the Congo.

Cause of U.S. Military Showdown

The U.S. military showdown came in accordance with its long-cherished plan to get control of the whole of the Congo. But there are other more immediate reasons for it. First, the U.S.-fostered Adoula clique is in a shaky position. Opposition to it is growing. In defiance of the “state of emergency” the clique had declared, a demonstration took place on November 27, 1962, before the
"U.N. headquarters" in Leopoldville, demanding the resignation of the Adoula government. A majority of the deputies who voted on a motion of censure against the government in the House of Representatives of the Congolese Parliament on November 28, 1962, cast affirmative votes. During the debate, many deputies strongly attacked the government for having "completely surrendered to the Americans."

The Adoula clique is also on the brink of economic bankruptcy. Adoula disclosed on November 29, 1962, that his government was running an external deficit of as much as 5 million dollars (U.S.) a month. To boost the morale of the Adoula clique and to provide it with urgently needed revenue from Katanga, the United States found it imperative to put a quick end to the secession of this rich province. Secondly, the United Nations lacks sufficient funds to finance its operations in the Congo for long. To meet the expenses, it has issued a $200 million bond, half of which was purchased by the United States. But the money thus raised will be exhausted next summer. And the U.S. allies are reluctant to provide any money for fear that the U.N. operations will impair their own interests in the Congo. Thirdly, the growth of the Tshombe clique's military strength and its ever closer ties with British Rhodesia, Portuguese Angola and South Africa gave rise to U.S. misgivings that if the secession of Katanga was not brought to an end, Tshombe might form an alliance in one form or another with these regions. In fact, through Roy Welensky, the colonialist Prime Minister of the "Central African Federation," Britain has exerted influence on Tshombe to merge Katanga with the "federation." An article in the January 4 issue of the British weekly Tribune advocated the establishment of a federation embracing central and east Africa as a solution to the problem of the Congo.

Old Colonialists Try to Hang On

The recent U.S. military action in Katanga has brought the clash of interests between the old colonialists and the U.S. neo-colonialists to a new peak. After the fighting broke out, the British, French and Belgian Governments successively issued statements opposing the use of force by the United Nations in Katanga and demanding an immediate ceasefire. Representatives of Britain, Belgium and the United States held talks in New York on December 31, 1962, to discuss their differences. No agreement was reached. AFP reported that there was "a wide divergence of views" between the U.S. representative on the one hand and the British and Belgian representatives on the other. Immediately after the fighting flared up, the "Central African Federation" under Britain's wing declared that its troops and air force were concentrated on its border with Katanga. Several days later its fighter planes were patrolling over the Northern Rhodesia-Katanga border.

Although Tshombe has now been compelled to yield to pressure, he is not reconciled to his defeat. At his press conference in Kolwezi on January 15 he declared that he refused to recognize anyone's right to deprive Katanga of its "right to self-determination" and that "any solution of the Congo's problems imposed by force cannot be a definite solution."

There are two main considerations underlying the old colonialists' determination to hold on in Katanga. The first is that they have enormous economic interests in the province. Eighty per cent of the shares of the Union Miniere of Katanga, the economic octopus which sucks out the wealth of the province, are held by Belgium, Britain and France. Katanga's mineral products are exported on the British-run Katanga-Angola and Katanga-Rhodesia-Mozambique Railways. More than 80 per cent of France's copper imports come from Katanga. Every year, it is estimated, the imperialists squeeze a profit of about $240 million out of the Congo through their mining enterprises and a further big profit out of the $500 million worth of exports of Congolese mineral products, farm produce and timber which they handle. Most of these spoils come from Katanga. Naturally the old colonialists cannot be expected to hand over willingly such huge sums to the U.N. neo-colonialists. Another factor in the old colonialists' resolve to hang on to Katanga is their fear that the United States, using the U.N.'s takeover of Katanga as a precedent, will direct its spearhead against the neighbouring African countries and undermine their interests there. Britain is a case in point. The British paper Daily Telegraph in its editorial of January 3 expressed concern that the "U.N. Forces" might one day be invited to enter Nyasaland and Kenya. It predicted gloomily: "This prospect is not far beyond the end of the blood-flecked road through Katanga."

Hope for the Congo

The conflicts between the new and old colonialists in the past few years have brought untold sufferings to the Congolese people. They now see things more clearly than ever. They realize that wherever the influence of the United Nations extends, there goes U.S. influence. The U.S. imperialists, the most ferocious and treacherous of all the imperialists today, are the most dangerous enemy of all people fighting for their national independence and freedom. To win genuine independence, the oppressed nations and people should never count on anyone's "favourites," still less place their hopes in U.S. imperialism and the United Nations under its control. They must rely on their own struggles.

Though the national-liberation movement in the Congo has suffered severe setbacks, the sparks of national revolution there will never be extinguished. Inspired by the glorious example of the martyred heroes, the Congolese people will rally their forces again and wage new struggles against the new and old colonialists. The people's revolutionary struggles always develop along a tortuous path. This law of revolution has been proved not only by the struggles of the Chinese people but also by those of many oppressed nations in the East. It will also inevitably be proved by the revolutionary struggles of the Congolese people.

The Chinese people have always supported the Congolese people in their heroic struggle for national independence. In paying tribute to the memory of Patrice Lumumba on the second anniversary of his death, we all know that the patriotic spirit of the staunch and unyielding Lumumba will live for ever in the hearts of the Congolese people. Thousands of Lumumbas will rise as one Lumumba falls. The Congolese people will finally drive the new and old colonialists out of their land and win complete victory in their cause of national liberation.
Agriculture Heads the Agenda

"All for agriculture" is the dominant trend in China's economy today. In every field of endeavour, in industry, transport, trade, scientific research and in the rural people's communes themselves, people are directing their efforts to bringing about the technical transformation of agriculture as speedily as possible. They are working to provide agriculture with farm machines of various descriptions, chemical fertilizers, insecticides, means of transport, fuel, power, building materials, etc., so as to transform China's agriculture, step by step, into a large-scale, modernized socialist agriculture. This nationwide effort is being guided by the general policy of "developing the national economy with agriculture as the foundation and industry the leading factor," the policy defined by the Eighth Central Committee of the Chinese Communist Party at its Tenth Plenary Session held last September. (See Peking Review, No. 39, 1962.) In accordance with that policy all concerned are working with a will now to insure a good harvest in 1963.

Planning. In drawing up the blueprints for China's economic growth, planners give priority to agriculture. In every economic sphere they keep the farms in mind when setting production targets, deciding on investments in capital construction, mapping out specific projects and allocating material resources.

Returns for 1962 show further encouraging signs in this direction: those branches of production directly related to the modernization of farming did particularly well.

Industry. The farm machine building industry produced more tractors, tractor-drawn implements (ploughs, harrows and seeders), mechanical threshers, engines and water pumps than were planned last year. Plants making farm machine parts acquitted themselves well. Most of the farm machines and parts produced are of improved quality.

It will be some time yet before modern machines can be supplied to the farms in sufficient quantities, so in the meantime hand-operated or animal-drawn implements will continue to play a vital role on China's fields. The handicraft co-ops and artisans are making a big and growing effort to produce such tools. In the first ten months of 1962, they turned out over 500 million small farm tools—picks, shovels, hoes, sickles, water-wheels, small boats, etc. This was a considerable increase over the preceding year. Commune members praise these implements highly; they are serviceable and reasonably priced.

China topped its 1962 target for chemical fertilizers by over half a million tons. It produced 50 per cent more fertilizer than in 1961. Last year it produced more urea, sal ammoniac and ammonium bicarbonate than ever before. These fertilizers are among the more recently developed and are proving to be most effective.

Last year the steel industry added scores of new types of rolled steel products to the list of things it made for agriculture. This is most important to China's drive to modernize farming with her own resources. In the production of the Dongfanghong ("The East Is Red")—a 54 h.p. crawler-type tractor, for example, 450 types of metal shapes are needed. China is now supplying herself with all of these, with the exception of about 30. She is already producing small quantities even of some of these 30.

The oil and timber industries too forged ahead. In 1962 the farms received 52 per cent more timber than in 1961.

Capital Construction. In Sinkiang, Kiangsu, Szechuan, Kwangtung, Hunan and ten other provinces and autonomous regions, geologists are looking for the pyrites,
phosphorus and arsenic deposits needed for chemical fertilizers and insecticides.

Construction workers are pressing ahead with projects to expand the capacities for fertilizer production in the country's key chemical works in Kirin, Lanchow and Nanking.

Construction of large and medium-sized farm machinery plants is under way in Liaoning, Kirin, Hopei, Honan, Shantung, Kiangsu, Kiangsi, Chekiang, Anhwei and Sinkiang. The Shenyang Tractor Plant, which is turning out a variant of the Dongfanghong; the Tientsin Tractor Plant, maker of the "Iron Bull"—a 40 h.p. wheeldrive tractor; three engine plants in Wushih and other farm machinery plants in various parts of the country have built new shops and acquired new equipment during the past year.

Several of China's major iron and steel works are building new capacity to produce those varieties of rolled steel for agricultural and other uses, which are still not being made in China.

In line with the policy of "readjustment, consolidation, filling out and raising standards," many factories are reorientating themselves to serve agriculture. In some provinces and autonomous regions, two-thirds of the locally operated machine-building plants have switched over to manufacturing and repairing farm machinery and implements. The process of planned reorientation, however, is a complicated one and many problems remain to be solved.

Transport and Commerce. Everywhere the green light is given to materials and equipment bearing the red seal "For Agriculture." Transport and trading departments, like industrial departments, give top priority to orders for the farms.

Every night at midnight, the chief dispatcher on duty at the Railway Ministry's dispatch office receives reports from a score of railway bureaux in all parts of the country and checks over the transport of cargoes destined for the farms—freight ranging from farm machinery and chemical fertilizers to draught animals and fish fry for the people's communes' breeding ponds.

The state trading departments handling the distribution of the country's fertilizers, insecticides and farm machinery are seeing to it that these items are supplied to the farms in good time. They are concentrating consignments of insecticides at strategic points along the nation's trunk transport lines before the spring ploughing season begins, so that the necessary chemicals can be rushed post-haste to the scene of any pest outbreak.

Trading departments at the provincial and city levels have organized commodity fairs so that the rural supply and marketing co-ops can procure the manufactured goods they need for timely distribution in the countryside.

Scientific Research. Since the country's leading agricultural scientists met in Peking last September to discuss questions of agricultural development (see Peking Review, No. 42, 1962), scientific workers have been devoting more time and energy to research in pressing problems in agricultural science and technique. Among the subjects being intensively studied are: the breeding of good seeds and strains of livestock; the amelioration of saline and alkaline soils; designs of farm machinery and implements; the utilization of hilly regions and water and soil conservation.

China has about 4,000 million mu of grasslands. Scientists are studying ways and means of using them more effectively for animal husbandry. Theoretical studies in genetics and the growth of various crops are in progress.

The study and application of modern agricultural science and techniques are spreading ever further afield in rural China. Large numbers of college and secondary technical school students who have gone to the countryside in recent years are working in agro-technical stations, seed centres, veterinary stations and tractor stations in various parts of the country. Together with the commune members they are studying such subjects as how to popularize good strains of seeds, improve soil, control pests, breed livestock and use farm machinery more efficiently. They are welcome reinforcements for the tens of thousands of agro-technicians already working in the rural areas. Together they form an important force in the technical transformation of agriculture.

In the Rural People's Communes. From the snow-covered plain of the Liao and Sungari Rivers in China's northeast to the lush banks of the Lantsang River in the southwest, the countryside is bustling with activity. Commune members are collecting and carting manure to the fields. Water conservancy projects are being built both on the plains and in the hilly regions on a scale larger than in the last two years. The dams and dykes of some reservoirs are being strengthened and raised, canals, ditches dredged and deep wells sunk. On the Pearl River and Yangtse deltas, workers are putting up transmission lines to bring power to newly built or expanded pumping stations.

Although the difficulties in agricultural production brought on by three consecutive years of serious natural disasters have yet to be overcome completely, there is every reason to be optimistic about farm production in 1963: there is more manpower and machinery working on the farms; a greater amount of manure and fertilizer is available than before; irrigation and drainage facilities have improved; and, above all, the collective economy of the people's communes is being increasingly consolidated, thanks to the implementation of the Communist Party's policies on rural work. The commune administrators have become more experienced in running their collective economies.

Since winter, snow and rainfall have been normal in most parts of the country with the exception of certain areas in north China where a drought is developing. The young shoots of winter wheat on the vast plain between the Yellow and Huai Rivers and the rye, wheat and green manure crops in the south are all doing well. With spring just around the corner, China's farmers, backed by all the nation, are working hard and with good hopes for a good harvest this year.
A Ghanaian government friendship delegation headed by Kofi Asante Ofori-Atta, Minister of Justice, is currently visiting China. The Chinese people are happy to have the opportunity of entertaining the first friendship delegation from Africa in 1963, and extend the warmest welcome to the Ghanaian guests.

Before they came to Peking the Ghanaian guests had friendly talks in Hangchow with Premier Chou En-lai, and in the capital they were received by Chairman Liu Shao-chi and other government leaders.

The Chinese and Ghanaian peoples are closely united in their struggle against imperialism and colonialism. The friendship and co-operation between them are based on the Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence and the ten principles of the Bandung Conference. Especially since President Nkrumah’s visit to China in 1961 and the conclusion of the Treaty of Friendship between China and Ghana, the friendship between the two countries has grown considerably. The present visit of the Ghanaian delegation will undoubtedly further enhance the friendship and co-operation between the two countries and strengthen Asian-African solidarity.

Vice-Premier Chen Yi gave a banquet at the Great Hall of the People in honour of the Ghanaian guests. Speaking at the banquet, Chen Yi paid tribute to the remarkable achievements made by the Ghanaian people under the leadership of President Nkrumah in consolidating their national independence and safeguarding their sovereignty and developing their economy. The Ghanaian Government had consistently followed a policy of peace and neutrality, engaged in the just struggle of the African people against imperialism and for independence and freedom, and made unremitting efforts to strengthen Asian-African solidarity and safeguard world peace, he said.

Referring to the situation in Africa, the Vice-Premier said that it had drastically changed. The African peoples, who had long been subjected to colonialists enslavement, had stood up one after another and grasped their destiny in their own hands. The torrent of the nationally awakened African peoples was pounding on the last dykes of the imperialist-colonial system in Africa. This was a mighty force propelling the advance of contemporary history. Imperialism would surely never withdraw from Africa of its own accord. Therefore, the African peoples were still confronted with the serious task of opposing the old and new colonialists and safeguarding their national independence. “The Chinese people firmly support the just struggle of the African peoples for independence and freedom,” declared Vice-Premier Chen Yi.

Vice-Premier Chen Yi expressed deep appreciation of the efforts made by President Nkrumah and the Government of Ghana to promote a peaceful settlement of the Sino-Indian boundary question.

Chairman Mao Meets Indonesian U.P. Leaders

The Indonesian Communist Party delegation led by Njoto, Second Vice-Chairman of its Central Committee, concluded its visit to China and left for home on January 23. The 3-member delegation came to visit China at the invitation of the Chinese Communist Party.

Chairman Mao Tse-tung had a cordial talk with and gave a banquet in honour of Njoto and the other members of the delegation, Yusuf Adiutorop, Alternate Member of the Political Bureau and Vice-General Secretary of the Secretariat of the C.C. of the I.C.P., and Margondo.

Sino-Albanian Trade Talks

Government trade delegations of China and Albania recently held talks in Peking on the exchange of goods and the continued expansion of economic co-operation between the two countries in 1963.

As a result of the talks a protocol on the exchange of goods and payments for 1963 was signed on January 17. In accordance with the provisions of the three agreements on loans granted by China to Albania signed in Peking in 1959, 1961 and 1962, the two sides also signed a “protocol on the use in 1963 by the Government of the People’s Republic of Albania of loans from the Government of the People’s Republic of China.”

The talks between the Chinese and Albanian trade delegations and the documents signed by them manifest the further growth of the unity, friendship and relations of mutual aid and co-operation between the peoples of the two countries, based on Marxism-Leninism and proletarian internationalism. These will promote a common upsurge in the socialist economic construction of China and Albania and will help to strengthen the unity and might of the socialist camp and the cause of world peace.

Continuing Persecution of Chinese Nationals in India

India Mustn’t Obstruct Return of Chinese Nationals

The Chinese Government has notified the Indian Government that it has decided to send ships to India to bring back Chinese nationals now being persecuted and particularly those who are detained in concentration camps and maltreated by the Indian Government. This request was contained in its note of January 19 to the Indian Government.

Earlier, on December 18, 1962, the Chinese Government had asked the Indian Government to give it the necessary facilities for bringing back its victimized nationals. But the Indian Government, in its note of December 31, 1962, did not say a word about this. On the contrary, the Indian Government stated that it would “review” the arrested Chinese nationals and continue to detain those who “constitute [a] serious risk to national security” and that departure facilities would be limited to holders of passports issued by the Government of the People’s Republic of China. Refuting this unreasonable position of India’s, the Chinese note said that this once more revealed the Indian Government’s intention to detain large numbers of Chinese nationals as hostages for blackmailing the Chinese Government. The fact is that the Chinese Government has neither registered all Chinese nationals in India nor issued passports to all of them. Many Chinese nationals in India therefore do not hold Chinese passports. However, this does not change their status as Chinese nation-
als and the Indian Government has never raised any objection to this.

"The Chinese Government is resolutely opposed to the Indian Government's attempt, by any pretext, to deprive Chinese nationals of their right to return to their motherland," the Chinese note stressed.

The note further notified the Indian Government that the Chinese Embassy in India had been instructed to discuss with the Indian Ministry of External Affairs concrete arrangements concerning the sending of ships to bring back the Chinese nationals, and expressed the hope that the Indian Government would give a speedy and explicit reply to this reasonable request.

The continued persecution of Chinese nationals in India was angrily condemned by returned overseas Chinese at a meeting held in Peking on January 22. They demanded the immediate release of the arrested Chinese nationals and a definite reply from the Indian Government to the request to send ships to India to bring back the victimized Chinese nationals.

India Collaborates With Chiang Gang

In disregard of the Chinese Government's repeated protests, the local Indian authorities in Kalimpong have handed over the Chung Hua School to members of the Chiang Kai-shek gang there. The Chinese Foreign Ministry on January 17 sent a note to the Indian Embassy in China in strong protest against this.

The school was founded in June 1941, with funds raised by patriotic Chinese nationals in Kalimpong. Since its establishment, the school had been run in accordance with the local regulations. It contributed not only to the education of Chinese nationals but also to the promotion of friendship between the Chinese and Indian peoples and cultural exchange between the two countries.

But since 1960, the Indian authorities have systematically subjected the school to persecution. The Chinese Government in its previous notes pointed out that in doing so the Indian Government aimed at facilitating the activities of members of the Chiang Kai-shek gang and helping them seize the school. Facts have now proved indisputably, said the latest Chinese note, that collusion between the local Indian authorities and the Chiang gang elements was of long standing.

and that the handing over of the school to the latter was a long-premeditated act. The Chinese Government urged that the Indian Government immediately correct this error. It also reserved every right to make further representations.

The Indian authorities, the note pointed out, "not only worked hand in glove with the Chiang Kai-shek gang in damaging the legitimate cultural and educational establishments of the Chinese nationals and persecuting the Chinese nationals but have recently brazenly connived at and supported the activities of the so-called 'Overseas Chinese Association' of the Chiang Kai-shek special agents on Indian soil, which are directed against the People's Republic of China, and compelled Chinese nationals to oppose their motherland. The fact that the Indian authorities should so flagrantly collude with the Chiang Kai-shek gang elements while diplomatic relations are maintained between China and India and while the Indian Government has all along declared that it recognizes the People's Republic of China alone cannot but arouse the utmost indignation of the Chinese people. The Chinese Government warns the Indian Government that, if the Indian Government continues its present practice, it must accept responsibility for all the consequences arising therefrom."

British Encroachment on China's Sovereignty

The British authorities in Hongkong have recently attempted to use compulsory means to demolish premises in the City of Kowloon and to resettle the residents by force.

The City of Kowloon is situated in the northeastern part of Kowloon and inhabited by more than 20,000 people. It has traditionally been part of China's territory and under China's jurisdiction.

The forced demolition and resettlement of residents of the city of Kowloon was plotted long ago by the British Government. In the past few years, the British authorities in Hongkong have made repeated attempts to put their decision into effect but these were frustrated by the local residents. However, on January 7 the British resettlement department in Hongkong issued "demolition and resettlement notifications" to the effect that demolition of some 200 houses was to be completed by January 20 at the latest.

This unlawful action of the British authorities has deeply angered the residents of the city of Kowloon who have strongly protested against it. If the forced demolition and resettlement were carried out, their homes would be destroyed and they would be deprived of their means of livelihood. Home-owners and those with estate interests would sustain heavy losses and thousands would be in a desperate plight.

This act on the part of the British authorities in Hongkong is a serious encroachment on China's sovereignty. The Chinese Foreign Ministry on January 17 lodged a strong protest with the British Government, pointing out that the City of Kowloon is China's territory and under China's jurisdiction, and that this has always been so in history. The Chinese Foreign Ministry demanded that the British Government instruct the British authorities in Hongkong to cancel their decision immediately and stop all measures relating to the demolition and resettlement.

On January 10, the Anti-Demolition and Anti-Resettlement Committee of the Residents of Kowloon issued a statement reiterating their opposition to the decision of the British authorities in Hongkong and demanding its immediate cancellation.

Briefs

Chinese and Yemeni government leaders exchanged greetings on the 5th anniversary (January 12) of the signing of the Sino-Yemeni Friendship Treaty.

The Korean Cultural and Art Delegation headed by Hun Jin Suk left China for home on January 21. During their stay, the delegation visited Peking, Shanghai, Hangchow and Canton. They had exchanged views with Chinese artists on the growth of culture and art in the two countries.

A Chinese delegation headed by Liu Ning-I left Peking on January 21 to attend the 3rd Conference on Afro-Asian People's Solidarity to be held next month in Moshi, Tanganyika.

A memorandum concerning fishing in the Yellow Sea and East China Sea was signed by the China Fishery Association and the Japan Fishery Association in Peking on January 22.

Peking Review, No. 4
"Welcome Spring" Pictures

Chinese artists, as usual, have prepared many fine New Year pictures for the villages this Spring Festival. But special praise must go to the Shanghai artists; they took the initiative in designing and publishing a set of pictures to be cut out and pasted up in every part of a peasant’s home, to give it an extra festive air. These they call “Welcome Spring” pictures. They come in four large sheets containing 24 pictures for 16 different purposes.

Since time immemorial, the Chinese people have observed the custom of sending off the old and welcoming in the new kitchen god at the time of the Lunar New Year. But this once superstitious practice has shed its superstitious contents since liberation to become a tradition that is widely observed in the countryside.

“We don’t rely on paper gods for an abundant life, but we want something red and bright to put up here in the kitchen at the New Year,” said some peasants to the Shanghai artists.

The artists found that, besides the kitchen pictures, there were pictures pasted up virtually everywhere in a peasant’s home, on the bedsteads, cupboards, large and small, on the big-mouthed earthenware jar for holding water, on the cowshed and pigsty. These are changed once every year. The peasants explained: “We want to keep our homes gay and cheerful.”

But since the artists had not paid much attention to all these various types of New Year picture, many types were still of the kind used in the old days of superstitious beliefs. The one used for the water jar for example pictured a dragon with the words “Dragon King of the Well.”

The Shanghai artists immediately set about planning their new set of pictures to cover all the needs of a peasant’s home, and express the sentiments of New China’s peasants in a way suited to their traditional tastes in decoration.

Before they started the actual drawings, they visited several people’s communes to collect the peasants’ opinions. They got the advice of folk story-tellers, papercut artists, traditional Chinese painters, and many others. The draft designs were sent to the communes for further suggestions, and drawn and re-drawn until everybody was satisfied.

The result is that at this Spring Festival, when out shopping for New Year pictures, the peasants are crowding in the first place to buy the “Welcome Spring” set.

New and Old Door “Ghosts”

New door pictures have been designed every year for many years now, and this year is no exception. Reproduced here is a popular pair.

Like the old, they consist of two pictures—one for each of the traditional two leaves of the front door in a peasant’s house. They are about the same size and shape, but gayer in colour, and more festive in character. Pictured here instead of the customary fierce door gods, are two chubby boys in bold tiger-headed shoes and with ponies as their mounts, one holds a milliaman’s spear, and the other is dressed in the uniform of the People’s Liberation Army. From the way this and other sets of new door guardians are being snatched up in the country fairs and markets, one can easily see that our village folk much prefer to have these new “gods” stand guard at their doors to the old ones.

A couple of fresh prints of door gods put up on New Year’s Eve is another time-honoured tradition in China. The earliest door gods are said to have been the two brothers Shen-tu and Yu-lei. Their story is recorded in a book by Wang Chung, a great philosopher of the Han Dynasty (206 B.C.-220 A.D.). The two brothers, says the legend, lived under a big peach tree on Tushuo Mountain by the Eastern Sea. They used to catch phantoms causing harm to men, tie them up with reed ropes and feed them to tigers. Appreciative of their good deeds, people in ancient times hung their pictures up at their doors to ward off evil.

Up to the time of the Sung Dynasty (960-1279), the tradition was to paint these two protective figures on two thin wooden boards to be hung on the doors as people ushered in the New Year. Besides Shen-tu and Yu-lei, the legendary bushy-bearded “eater of ghosts” Chung Kuei was also sometimes pictured as a door god.

New door pictures by Chou Tsung-hsun

It is now hard to tell when people began to picture Chin Shu-pao and Yuchih Kung, famous generals of the Tang Dynasty (618-907), in full martial array as door gods. Soon, however, their fame in their new occupation became firmly established. In this they were not a little helped by the great classical novel Pilgrimage to the West whose vivid descriptions of them made them household names. Chin Shu-pao was drawn as long-bearded and fair-complexioned, while Yuchih Kung was drawn as curly-whiskered, and swarthy-faced. Other famous heroes, like Yo Fei, the valiant patriot-general of the Sung Dynasty, were also portrayed as door gods.

The Temple of Confucius in Kufow, Shantung, preserves a unique collec-
FOLK SONG

The Tafts—A Singing People

Now that the country is in the midst of busy preparations for the Spring Festival, my thoughts naturally go back to a year ago when I enjoyed a unique Lunar New Year’s Eve among the musical Tai people. At the time I was in Hsinshuangpanna, Yunnan Province, to collect examples of the rich folk song and dance of the Taifs.

That night, my colleagues and I were guests at the home of the local militia leader. We had drunk a good deal of rice wine. Our feasting was just coming to an end when somebody turned up asking our young host to go in for a singing contest. Two girls had arrived from a distant village, he said, and several young local fellows had had to beat a retreat after an exchange of a few verses with them. The militia leader was the village’s outstanding singer. He was asked to try to compete with the girls.

We followed our young hero to the crowded bamboo house. As we elbowed our way in, we heard a sweet, soft melody from behind a bamboo curtain. The girls were greeting us, our host told us. The words of their song were roughly as follows:

May we beg to ask:
Where you guests from far have come from?
From some hillside or from some riverside?
You came on horseback or aboard a boat?
Riding a horse, did the rice plants by the roadside nod to you in welcome?
Sailing in a boat, did the fish in the water swish their tails in salutation?

Their way of greeting was such a novelty to us that none of us knew how to find an apt reply. We could only ask the militia leader to send them our compliments. Then the singing contest began. At first they exchanged greetings, then they asked each other to say something about themselves and their homes and villages. All this was sung with much imagery and many similes. From the singing we learnt that the girls were sisters, the elder one being the main singer. She sang:

When the sugar-cane is not ripe,
People say it’s not sweet.
When the maiden has not grown up,
People say she’s not pretty.
When the sugar-cane is sweet,
It’s time to squeeze for sugar.
When the maiden becomes beautiful,
It’s time to marry her off.

She went on to sing about her unhappiness in love; a young man deceived her and gave her up:

If you eat dates, don’t eat sour dates;
They are more bitter than sweet.
If you listen to words, don’t listen to the words of crows;
They are black like those who utter them.
If you choose a husband, don’t choose a heartless man;
He has got more false than true feelings.

The young man was deeply moved by her confession. He began to sing with deep feeling, about his own lonely bachelor’s life, comparing himself to an empty bucket stuck in the well, unable to come up or to go down. Then he returned to what she said in her song, tried to solace her, poured out words of sympathy and admiration, and declared that he himself would never be such a heartless man.

The exchange went on, their impromptu verses rich with captivating imagery deep-rooted in their own work and life. Smiles crept onto the faces of the audience as they nodded in appreciation.

Soon it was past midnight. The girl’s winning songs had clearly aroused the young man’s admiration. Passionately he sang:

Tomorrow you’ll leave me to go away.
Please don’t kick away the twig barring your way.
That twig is me, unwilling to part from you.
WHAT'S ON IN PEKING

PEKING OPERA

A HUAI HO BATTALION A historical opera. Conduction by Peng Fu, first emperor of the Han Dynasty, his queen plots to usurp the throne. To preserve the succession and the throne, Liang Fang, the queen's official assigned to deal with the rebellion, leads a powerful army to oppose the queen and save the throne. Directed by China Youth Art Theatre.

THE NYMPH OF THE RIVER LO One of the few famous operas. A story about Tiao Chi's meeting with a nymph, the River Lo, in a dream, who eventually marries him. Directed by the Szechuan Opera Theatre from Chongqing.

SECHUAN OPERA

A RIVERSIDE PAVILION A play by the great Yuan painter, playwright and director Shao Hong, about a beautiful woman who outrivals the powerful Lord Yang in his scheme to dispose of her husband and possess her. Directed by the visiting Szechuan Opera Theatre from Chongqing.

A TALE OF THE WHITE SNAKE The White Snake Fairy is a fairy that appears in love with and marries a mortal. Her happy life is shattered by a mischievous recluse who imprisons her in a pagoda. Many years later she is rescued by a monk who sets her free. Directed by the visiting Szechuan Opera Theatre from Chongqing.

KUNQU OPERA

A KIFES MISTAKE. A traditional opera about the difference between a young couple caused by a broken kite stringing and a wrongly delivered message. Produced by the Kunqu Opera Theatre.

PRINCESS WEN CHING A historical opera, about the marriage of the young princes. Directed by the Kunqu Opera Theatre.

DANCE-DRAMA

A WILD GOOSE DETACHMENT In dance and mime, the Song and Dance Ensemble of the P.L.A.'s Comrades-in-Arms Cultural Troupe tells a gripping story of how the soldiers of the People's Liberation Army repelled an attack by the Japanese aggressors during the War of Resistance. Directed by the Kunqu Opera Theatre.

A MAGIC LOTUS LANTERN Based on a Chinese fairy tale, it is directed by the Kunqu Opera Theatre.

OPERA

A TACHING RIVER A story of the people of the Taching River valley in the struggle against the Kuomintang forces during the War of Liberation. Directed by the Modern Opera Troupe of the P.L.A.'s Comrades-in-Arms Cultural Troupe.

BALLET

A VAIN PRECAUTIONS The ballet by P. Hertel produced by the Experimental Ballet Troupe of the People's Art Theatre of the People's Art Theatre.

SONG AND DANCE

A CELEBRATING THE TENTH ANNIVERSARY OF THE PEOPLE'S ARTS AND CULTURE OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA A total of three dances will be presented: Folk dances, including Red Silk Dance, Lotus Dance and others, and folk songs, solos and choruses.

CONCERTS

A THE CHINESE PHILHARMONIC SOCIETY presents: Jan. 27 & 28, 2 concerts of orchestral music. Jan. 21 & 22, 2 recitals of vocal and instrumental solos. At the Peking Concert Hall.

MODERN DRAMA

A TUZICUAN MOUNTAIN A drama about the struggle of the Communist Party and the masses who take part in a spontaneous peasant uprising and become a strong and organized revolutionary force. Directed by the Peking People's Art Theatre.

A RED PROPAGANDIST A modern play depicting the Flying Horse Movement in Korea. Directed by the Peking People's Art Theatre.

A THUNDERSTORM A tragedy by the famous playwright Teng Yuen. Directed by the People's Art Theatre.

A THE SIEGE Approaching an industrial city in northeast China, the People's Liberation Army skillfully makes use of the conflict within the city to liberate the city by peaceful means, saving the city, its people and industry from the Peking Film Workers' Modern Drama Troupe.

A THE WOMAN BARBER A comedy by the People's Art Theatre. Directed by the People's Art Theatre.

A SEVEN DAYS AND NIGHTS A new feature tells how in 1947, in the battle to defend Yenan, the People's army won the Kuomintang forces in a trap and crushed their joint operation. Directed by the Shanghai Film Studio.

A LIU YI AND THE PRINCESS A colour film version of a Shaoxing opera. Directed by the Shanghai Film Studio.

HIGHLIGHTS OF SPRING FESTIVAL ATTRACTIONS

Princess of Lake Tungshing escape from her overbearing husband, the Prince of Chinghu River. She ends happily with the marriage of the Dragon Princess and her benefactor, Changchun Studio.

A RESURRECTION A Soviet film in two parts adapted from Tolstoy's novel of the same name.

A TIGERS ABOARD A Soviet colour film. A comedy of a Soviet merchant ship and its strange cargo - two tigers, two lions and a monkey. Thrills and fun.


A THE STORY OF THE HUNTING DOGS A Hungarian feature for children. Two dogs and a hawk go off on their own. After many adventures they return safely to their master.

FAIR

A ANNUAL SPRING FAIR - curios and antiques, paintings, calligraphy, carving, jade, silk, handcrafts, paintings and lanterns. Peking's traditional delicacies and souvenirs, etc. Open from Jan. 25 to Feb. 3 in Liulichang outside Hu Ping Men Gate.

EXHIBITIONS

A PHOTOS OF CUBAN REVOLUTION Daily, 9:30 a.m.-5:00 p.m. At Peking Exhibition Centre.

A PAINTINGS OF THE ALBANIAN PAINTER VANQUSH MO Daily, 9:30 a.m.-5:00 p.m. till Feb. 9. At the People's Palace of Culture.

A 6TH NATIONAL PHOTOGRAPHIC ART EXHIBITION Daily, 9:30 a.m.-5:00 p.m. till Jan. 31. At Shenbang Park.

A EXHIBITION OF PAINTINGS BY AMATEUR PAINTERS Daily, 9:30 a.m.-5:00 p.m. till Jan. 31. At the Working People's Palace of Culture.

A FOCHOW INDUSTRIAL ARTS EXHIBITION Daily, 9:30 a.m.-5:00 p.m. till Feb. 5. At the Round City, Beijing.

(Above exhibitions closed on Mondays.)
PHARMACEUTICS
AND
CHEMICALS

Made in China

SODIUM NITRITE
SODIUM NITRATE
SODIUM CHLORATE
POTASSIUM CHLORATE
AMMONIUM CHLORIDE
AMMONIUM BICARBONATE
CHLOROPICRIN

Finest Quality
Well packed in strong containers for safe handling

For further details, please contact:

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