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THE PEOPLE'S COMMUNES FORGE AHEAD

by Tao Chu

Published by Foreign Languages Press, Peking, China

This is an article by Tao Chu, Member of the Central Committee of the Chinese Communist Party and First Secretary of the Secretariat of the Central South Bureau of the Central Committee, summarizing five years' experience in the rural people's communes of Kwangtung Province. It describes the historical conditions which gave rise to the rural people's communes in China, their nature and management at the present stage, and the struggle to decide which road China's villages should take to socialism or capitalism. It explains the unrivaled superiority and great achievements of the people's communes.

About 40 pages 18.5 x 13 cm. paper cover

The Rise of the Chinese People's Communes

— And Six Years After

by Anna Louise Strong

Published by New World Press, Peking, China

Six years have passed since the establishment of the Chinese people's communes in 1958. Denounced and even declared "dead" by China's enemies, they have in fact demonstrated their unparalleled usefulness and vitality as a form of socialist organization in the rural areas. In this book Anna Louise Strong, the famous American writer, gives an eyewitness account of scores of communes visited in various parts of China. In three parts, the first contains the full text of her well-received "Rise of the Chinese People's Communes," originally published in 1959. The second, "The Three Hard Years," is her on-the-spot reporting on the cardinal role of the communes in overcoming the natural calamities of 1959-61. The third, "Communes in 1964," is the result of close observation of communes in one province, plus important concluding chapters dealing with the entire national economy and the role of the communes today. Rich in facts, impressions and interviews, the book illustrates the author's own remark in her foreword: "The people's communes are the form of China's rural life today, a base of her internal strength."

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THE WEEK

Among the major events of the week:

- The Chinese Party and Government Delegation led by Comrades Chou En-lai and Ho Lung returned to Peking after attending in Moscow the celebrations for the anniversary of the October Revolution.

- King Mohammad Zahir Shah and Queen Homaira of Afghanistan left China for home at the end of their two-week state visit.

The Sino-Afghan joint communique, signed in Peking on November 12, was published.

- The Chinese Air Force shot down an unmanned high-altitude U.S. reconnaissance military plane over central-south China on November 15.

- China and Dahomey have decided to establish diplomatic relations at ambassadorial level.

- The Chinese Foreign Ministry, in a note to the Indian Embassy on November 11, denounced the Indian Government's latest brazen attempt to create "two Chinas."

- The mothers and wives of the nine Chinese unwarrantedly arrested in Brazil in April have protested against the Brazilian authorities' newest acts of persecution and maltreatment of their menfolk and called for their immediate release.

- The General Political Department of the Chinese People's Liberation Army convened a meeting in Peking on political work in the people's militia.

Afghan King and Queen Leave for Home

After touring central, south and east China, King Mohammad Zahir Shah and Queen Homaira of Afghanistan returned to Peking on November 11. The following evening, Chairman Liu Shao-chi and King Zahir signed a joint communique (see p. 17). On the morning of November 13, the Afghan King and his consort left Peking for home by special plane.

On the last night of this successful state visit, King Zahir gave a farewell banquet in the Great Hall of the People. Chairman Liu Shao-chi and Vice-Chairman Tung Pi-wu were among the Chinese leaders present.

In his banquet speech, the King warmly praised Sino-Afghan friendship and expressed the hope that this friendship "will for ever remain an outstanding example of good-neighbourly relations." The current visit, said the King, had left with him, the Queen and his entourage a fine and indelible memory. "We will take back to our compatriots, the Afghan people," said King Zahir, "our impressions of these joyful days. We are firmly convinced that the cordial reception given us by the respected leaders of China and the great Chinese people will always be remembered in the annals of friendship between the two countries."

Chairman Liu Shao-chi, who also spoke at the banquet, expressed the conviction that "through the visit of their Majesties, the King and the Queen, the relations of friendship and co-operation between China and Afghanistan will surely be further strengthened and developed on the basis of the Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence and the Ten Principles of the Bandung Conference."

"This not only serves the interests of our two peoples but is also a positive contribution to Asian-African solidarity and world peace," Chairman Liu added.
U.S. Spy Plane Downed

The Chinese Air Force has shot down another U.S. spy plane. This time it was a pilotless, high-altitude reconnaissance plane which was flying over central-south China on November 15.

Marshal Lin Piao, Minister of National Defence, in an order issued next day, commended the air force unit of the Chinese People's Liberation Army responsible for this major success and expressed the hope that it would sum up its experience and be ready to deal with any other invading enemy aircraft.

Greeting the occasion, Renmin Ribao in its November 15 editorial said: "The establishment of diplomatic relations between China and Dahomey, coming shortly after China established relations with Zambia, is fresh proof that China has friends all over Africa and the rest of the world. The Chinese Government and people wish to develop relations of friendly co-operation with all African countries on the basis of the Five Principles governing its relations with African countries. We believe that, with joint efforts by the Chinese and African peoples, their friendly co-operation, friendship and solidarity will be constantly strengthened and developed."

Studying Chairman Mao's Works

Throughout China, people of all walks of life are studying the works of Chairman Mao Tse-tung. Now a new wave of this campaign is sweeping the country. It is playing an increasingly important role in helping people remould their ideology and become revolutionized so that they can play a bigger part in building socialism.

Among the many who have distinguished themselves in this campaign are Liao Chu-chiang, Feng Fusheng and Huang Tsu-shih, all men of the Chinese People's Liberation Army. The press has reported the brilliant results they have achieved by studying Chairman Mao's writings and successfully applying in their work what they have learnt. An exhibition telling of them, passing on their experience in study and later achievements is now on at the Revolutionary Military Museum in Peking. Since its opening on November 10, tens of thousands of people have flocked to see it.

The exhibition, sponsored by the General Political Department of the P.L.A., displays more than 500 items. These include photographs and articles showing the hard life these three men led during their boyhood in the old society, notes they jotted down while reading, and articles they wrote after studying Chairman Mao's works in the light of their past experience and of current class struggles both in the country and abroad.

In one of his study notes Liao Chu-chiang writes: "If a soldier does not possess the bold spirit of sacrifice, he cannot defeat his enemy no matter how good his weapons and techniques are. If a person does not have the revolutionary conscientiousness to remould his ideology while studying Chairman Mao's works, he cannot solve any question no matter how much he studies or how eloquently he talks about Chairman Mao's works." It is this spirit of studying to solve specific questions, studying for the cause of the revolution and to improve work that has made these

(Continued on p.21.)

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Chinese Party and Government Delegation Returns Home

THE Chinese Party and Government Delegation, led by Chou En-lai, Vice-Chairman of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China and Premier of the State Council, and Marshal Ho Lung (deputy leader), Member of the Political Bureau of the Party's Central Committee and Vice-Premier, returned to Peking on November 14 by special plane after attending the celebrations in Moscow for the 47th anniversary of the October Socialist Revolution.

Among the Party and state leaders welcoming the delegation at the airport were Mao Tse-tung, Chairman of the Central Committee of the Chinese Communist Party; Liu Shao-chi, Vice-Chairman of the Central Committee of the C.P.C. and Chairman of the People's Republic of China; Chu Teh, Vice-Chairman of the Central Committee of the C.P.C. and Chairman of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress; Tung Pi-wu, Member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the C.P.C. and Vice-Chairman of the People's Republic of China; and Teng Hsiao-ping, General Secretary of the Central Committee of the C.P.C. and Vice-Premier.

At the airport to greet the delegation were also Peng Chen, Member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the C.P.C. and Vice-Chairman of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress; Li Hsien-nien, Member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the C.P.C. and Vice-Premier; Lu Ting-yi, Alternate Member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the C.P.C. and Vice-Premier; Chen Po-ta, Alternate Member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the C.P.C.; Senior General Lo Jui-ching, Member of the Secretariat of the Party's Central Committee, Vice-Premier and Chief of the General Staff of the Chinese People's Liberation Army: Kuo Mo-jo, Huang Yen-pei, Chen Shu-tung, Cheng Chien and Lin Feng, Vice-Chairmen of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress; and Fu Tso-yi and Tsai Ting-kai, Vice-Chairmen of the National Defence Council.

Welcoming the delegation were also Members and Alternate Members of the Central Committee of the C.P.C., government ministers and vice-ministers, leading members of departments under the Central Committee of the C.P.C. and the State Council, leaders of democratic parties and people's organizations and high-ranking officers of the Chinese People's Liberation Army.

When Chou En-lai left Moscow the previous day with members of his delegation, they were seen off by A.N. Kosygin, Member of the Presidium of the Central Committee of the C.P.S.U. and Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the U.S.S.R.; A.P. Kirilenko, Member of the Presidium of the Central Committee of the C.P.S.U.; V.V. Grishin, Alternate Member of the Presidium of the Central Committee of the C.P.S.U.; Y.V. Andropov and B.N. Ponomarev, Secretaries of the Central Committee of the C.P.S.U.

During its stay in Moscow, the delegation held meetings with leaders of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union and the Soviet Government. Attending the meetings from the Chinese side were Comrades Chou En-lai, Vice-Chairman of the Central Committee of the C.P.C. and Premier of the State Council; Ho Lung, Member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the C.P.C., Vice-Premier of the State Council and Marshal of the People's Republic of China; Kang Sheng, Alternate Member of the Political Bureau and Member of the Secretariat of the Central Committee of the C.P.C.; Liu Hsiao, Member of the Central Committee of the C.P.C. and Vice-Minister of Foreign Affairs; Wu Hsiu-chuan, Member of the Party's Central Com-
THE old China went to its end in a state of economic chaos. It left a legacy of currency inflation and sky-rocketing prices. One of the most pressing economic problems in the early days of the People's Republic was to end that chaos and pave the way for sound economic development.

The runaway inflation grew steadily more serious in the last dozen years of reactionarist Kuomintang rule. At first prices rose several hundred per cent a year; then they soared several hundred per cent each month; and finally they were shooting up, doubling, trebling and more nearly every week. Prices sky-rocketed 8,500,000 million-fold in the 12 years from 1937 to May 1949, when the Kuomintang government finally collapsed. This gravely damaged industrial and agricultural production and brought terrible hardships to the masses of the labouring people. On the other hand, the market swarmed with merchant speculators. Operating with huge amounts of capital, they specialized in speculation to grab huge profits instead of engaging in normal business pursuits.

This was one of the main economic difficulties confronting New China at its birth. The imperialists and reactionaries at home and abroad were confident that this seemingly insurmountable difficulty would bring the young People's Republic to its knees. They prophesied that although China had won the War of Liberation, it would fail to overcome the financial and economic difficulties. To make the situation worse, the U.S. imperialists and their vassals imposed a “blockade” and “embargo” on New China. But events took an entirely contrary course to what they expected. Their hopes were utterly dashed. Under the wise leadership of the Chinese Communist Party and Comrade Mao Tse-tung, the People's Republic halted the currency inflation and stopped the rise in prices by March 1950, within six months. Since then prices have been kept stable and irrational price relations left over from history have been readjusted step by step in a planned way.

How Price Rise Was Halted

How was New China able to stop the chaos of soaring prices so swiftly? The following were the chief measures taken:

1. Confiscation of bureaucrat capital and transformation of the enterprises it owned into socialist state concerns. Direct state control of the production and distribution of important means of production.

2. Establishment and development of state commerce to control commodities of major importance to the people's livelihood, to regulate market supply and demand, and ensure the supply of necessities.

3. Establishment and development of the state bank to control the financial market and regulate the volume of currency in circulation.

4. Checking up on and increasing financial revenue and economizing on expenditures to maintain a balanced state budget.

5. Strict administration of the market; control of private banks and money houses, prohibition of buying and selling of gold, silver and foreign currency, and measures to combat commercial speculation.

6. Centralization of control over the nation's finances and economy to end the decentralized control which prevailed in the past. The three chief components of this new centralized control were:

   centralized control of state revenues and expenditures so as to channel the bulk of revenue into the state treasury to be used by the state in a concentrated way on its own expenditures, and so as to balance revenue and expenditures;

   centralized control by the state of all commodities essential to the national economy and the people's livelihood; and

   centralized control by the state bank of all the ready cash belonging to the Government but held by the various state enterprises, government offices and army units.

Market prices continued to rise in 1949 because, on the one hand, the currency issue had to be increased to meet the needs of the Liberation War and this resulted in the volume of currency in circulation exceeding for a time the amount actually needed. On the other hand, since the socialist state sector of the economy had only just been established, it had not yet taken under control the commodities essential to the national...
economy and the people’s livelihood nor had it established its leadership over the market. It was therefore still possible for speculative capital to make trouble on the market and hike up prices.

But as the six measures mentioned above were adopted promptly and began to take effect state revenue and expenditures were balanced, speculative capital was defeated and prices were swiftly stabilized. If the national wholesale price index in March 1950 is taken as 100, then it dropped to 95.4 by December of the same year. Using the same base period, the retail price index for eight major cities including Peking, Tientsin and Shanghai fell to 83.9 in December 1950. When speculative capital held sway over the market, prices rose whereas when the socialist state sector established its leadership over the market they were stabilized. The question of market leadership is a question of which will triumph in the struggle between the road of socialism and that of capitalism. In China the socialist state sector controls the lifelines of the national economy and exercises leadership over the market so that market and price stability is ensured.

This stabilization of the market and prices marked a historical change, a most profound reform of old China’s economy. This change helped to promote the rapid recovery and development of industrial and agricultural production; it helped to increase the interflow of goods between town and countryside and between different areas; it helped improve and make secure the livelihood of the broad masses of the labouring people, and facilitated the socialist transformation of the capitalist economic sector by the state.

Readjusting Irrational Price Relations

It should be noted that prices were stabilized in 1950 on the basis of price relations formed in the old China and in consequence there were many irrationalities. The main irrationality was that prices of agricultural products were unduly low; a price “scissors” operated as between industrial and agricultural products; and prices of heavy industrial products were unduly high compared with those of other industrial products. It was therefore necessary to tackle these irrationalities in price relations after the price level had been stabilized. That is to say stabilization of prices does not mean that all prices should be frozen, but that, on condition that price stability is maintained, irrational price relations should be readjusted in a planned way to rationalize these relations step by step. Only in this way will price stabilization facilitate the planned and proportionate development of the various branches of the national economy.

After prices were stabilized throughout the country and with the steady growth of industrial and agricultural production, the People’s Government readjusted the irrational price relations stage by stage and in groups in a planned way. In the 12 years between 1951 and 1963 prices paid by the state for agricultural products were raised an average of 57.4 per cent and for grain by 61.4 per cent whereas, over the same period, retail prices of industrial goods sold by the state in the rural areas went up on an average by only 13.7 per cent. In the main this transformed those exchanges of unequal values between industrial and agricultural products which had been left over from the old China. During that period, apart from a few agricultural products which sold at slightly higher prices, retail prices of the great majority of commodities in the cities, including grain, cotton piece-goods, coal and vegetables, remained stable in the main. Between March 1950 and 1963 retail prices in Peking, Shanghai, Tientsin, Shenyang, Wuhan, Canton, Chungking and Sian rose an average of only 11 per cent while wages of workers and staff rose by a much bigger margin. Under these conditions the livelihood of the mass of workers and staff improved. Since 1952, with the establishment and rapid growth of our own heavy industry, a great change has taken place in the situation left over from the old China in which prices of heavy industrial products were unduly high. Prices of most heavy industrial products are tending to decline gradually.

Formulating a Correct Price Policy

Price is a concept characteristic of a commodity economy. In a capitalist country, the law of value regulates prices spontaneously according to the values of commodities and supply and demand; through price fluctuations, it regulates spontaneously the production, circulation and consumption of commodities. Price fluctuations reflect changes in supply and demand on the capitalist market like a barometer and indicate to the capitalists the direction of productive growth and commodity circulation.

In a socialist country, production, circulation and consumption of commodities are arranged through the state plan in accordance with the needs of the state and the people and the proportions that objectively exist in the national economic development. Commodity prices are fixed by the state according to their values. In fixing or readjusting prices, the state carefully considers the requirements of the law of value and correctly utilizes what positive role this law can play in developing the socialist economy. That is to say, the socialist state, in formulating a correct price policy, complies with the law of planned and proportionate development of the national economy as well as the law of value so as to promote production, facilitate exchange, improve the people’s livelihood, and consolidate and develop the socialist economy.

How then do we fix prices and formulate a correct price policy in accordance with the requirements of the law of planned and proportionate development of the national economy and the law of value?

1. When fixing the price of a commodity, we see to it that it corresponds roughly to the value of that commodity, that is, the amount of socially necessary labour embodied in that commodity. Only prices so set can help establish an equivalent exchange between industrial and agricultural products, facilitate the correct handling of relations within the socialist economy.
economy, and help consolidate the state-owned economy, the collective economy of the people's communes, and the worker-peasant alliance.

There are two forms of socialist ownership in China today — ownership by the whole people and collective ownership. Industry is largely owned by the whole people whereas agriculture is largely based on collective ownership. In order to strengthen and develop the economic ties between these two forms of ownership and ensure that the economic units based on collective ownership (the people's communes and their production brigades and teams) are willing to produce the agricultural products needed by the state, an equivalent exchange between the two forms of ownership must be guaranteed; the producers must be assured that in producing various farm products according to the state plan they will receive roughly equal returns.

Although all state enterprises are owned by the whole people, they are independent accounting units. When exchanging products they must basically observe the principle of equivalent exchange so that enterprises producing products according to the state plan will be assured a reasonable profit. By fixing prices according to the products' values, the above-mentioned requirements are met, thereby facilitating the planned and proportionate development of the national economy.

We also permit rational regional price differences and differences between wholesale and retail prices so that all commodities can circulate smoothly between town and countryside and between different regions according to the state plan, and the commercial enterprises distributing these commodities can make reasonable profits.

2. We take account of supply and demand. In a capitalist country, the price of a commodity rises when demand exceeds supply and vice versa; when the price of a commodity exceeds its value, more people will begin to produce it and fewer people will buy it and vice versa. Thus, through constant fluctuations in production and prices impelled by the blind force of this objective law, the temporary, relative equilibrium between supply and demand is maintained or restored in a capitalist country.

In China, a socialist country, equilibrium between the supply and demand of commodities is brought about by utilizing correctly in state planning the law of planned and proportionate development of the national economy and the law of value. In drawing up the economic plan and fixing prices for various commodities, the state carefully considers the supply and demand situation on a nationwide scale and over a fairly long period of time, and appropriately utilizes the positive role of the law of value in regulating that supply and demand so as to maintain the equilibrium between supply and demand more effectively. A socialist country must fix the price of a commodity on the basis of its value. But when necessary, the state may raise or lower the purchasing price of a certain farm product to an appropriate extent to influence the amount produced and procured; it may also raise or lower the price of a certain consumer item to an appropriate extent to influence the amount sold. Sometimes we also use appropriate price readjustments to achieve the aim of increasing the output of a certain means of production made by state enterprises or effecting economies in its use.

In China, price stability can be maintained even when disequilibrium emerges in the supply and demand of certain important commodities. This is so because means of production are distributed according to the state plan and, within certain limits, their prices are not affected by the law of supply and demand. Although consumer goods are distributed as commodities, it is quite possible to control their prices and keep them basically free from the influence of the law of supply and demand because by far the greater part of these commodities is controlled by the state. When the demand for certain important farm products or major consumer goods outstrips supply, the state, by means of planned purchase and rationing, may prevent price increases and restrict the spontaneous operation of the law of value.

3. We take account of the livelihood of workers, staff and peasants as well as the accumulation of capital for the state. Prices in a socialist country are an important lever for distributing and redistributing national income. Commodity prices should be fixed in such a way as to help stabilize and improve the livelihood of workers, staff and the peasants and at the same time ensure appropriate accumulations for the state.

Part of the value created by the workers and staff of state enterprises is turned over to the state as financial revenue in the form of taxes and profits; another part of it is distributed to workers and staff in the form of wages in accordance with the amount and quality of the work done. Having received their wages, workers and staff buy what consumer goods they need from state trading organizations. The prices of consumer goods should therefore correspond roughly to their values, for only in this way can the principle of distribution of "to each according to his work" be correctly realized and the life of workers and staff improved steadily as their wages rise. Practice has proved that a socialist state may improve the life of workers and staff either by raising wages or by reducing prices. In China the method generally adopted is to raise wages gradually as production and labour productivity increase while keeping prices stable.

The standard of living of the peasants is determined chiefly by the level of agricultural production; it is also affected by the prices their farm products can command and the prices they have to pay for the industrial goods they need. In China, products of industry owned by the whole people belong to the state and are distributed in a centralized way by the state. Products of agriculture based on collective ownership be-
long to members of the collective in question. Part of these products is sold to the state and part of them is distributed to the peasants in the form of money or goods according to the amount and quality of work done. With their money, the peasants buy the industrial goods they need from the state. Therefore, whether the prices of industrial and agricultural products are reasonable or otherwise is a question which not only affects the accumulation of capital for the state but directly influences the income of the peasants from labour, and their standards of living. By fixing prices of industrial and agricultural products roughly in accordance with their values and gradually closing the price "scissors" between industrial and farm products, which was left over from history, so that farm products are exchanged for industrial products according to the principle of equivalent exchange, most satisfactory results have been achieved in encouraging the peasants' enthusiasm for collective production, in developing agricultural production and improving the peasants' livelihood.

In fixing commodity prices in such a way as to help stabilize and improve the life of workers, staff and peasants, we also give consideration to the accumulation of capital for the state. State accumulation comes mainly from taxes and profits turned over to the state by state enterprises; only a small part comes from the agricultural tax. Taxes and profits turned over by state enterprises can be realized only in the form of prices. In fixing commodity prices, therefore, we strive to ensure that the state industrial and commercial enterprises concerned will be able to pay taxes and make reasonable profits. In addition, we fix the prices of a few items which are not necessities, such as tobacco and wines, at levels higher than their values so as to limit their consumption and increase state accumulation.

China's state accumulation is fundamentally different from that of the capitalists. It serves the purpose of building socialism and guaranteeing the constant growth of industrial and agricultural production and the gradual improvement of the people's life. It conforms to the fundamental interests of the people and therefore receives their support.

4. In formulating our price policy, we also see to it that it helps to consolidate and develop the socialist economy, curb speculative activities and promote the socialist transformation of capitalist industry and commerce. Our price mechanism is an important means not only for ensuring the smooth advance of the national economy but also for facilitating the socialist transformation of capitalist industry and commerce.

Our state price policy played a significant role in the socialist transformation of China's capitalist industry and commerce. Our practice was to have the state control the ex-factory prices of all industrial goods offered by private manufacturing plants and so restrict and regulate in a planned way the amount of profit going to private industry. The state also undertook to determine rationally regional and seasonal differences in the prices of various commodities as well as the differences between wholesale and retail prices in order to restrict and regulate in a planned way the profit made by private commerce. By these means, the leading position of the socialist sector in the market was consolidated and market prices were unaffected or less affected by the free competition of capitalist industry and commerce. Speculative activities of all kinds were curbed and industrial and commercial capitalists were thus brought to accept socialist transformation voluntarily.

In 1956, the socialist transformation of capitalist industry and commerce was basically completed, and a unified, organized socialist market was established. State trade forms the mainstay of this market, and co-operative trade handled by the supply and marketing co-operatives serves as an able assistant to state trade. State and co-operative trade organizations operate in almost all spheres of commerce in the cities. They also control by far the greater part of rural trade. Meanwhile, trade on the rural local markets also accounts for a certain proportion of our trade as a whole. This kind of trade is led by state and co-operative trade organizations and serves as a necessary supplement to their operations within the unified socialist market.

Trade on the rural local markets has a dual character. On the one hand, it helps enliven the rural economy, provides a convenient channel through which the peasants can dispose of their surplus produce and buy for their own consumption, and stimulates the growth of agriculture and rural sideline production. On the other hand, it has certain negative effects. Being mainly negotiated by buyers and sellers, prices on the rural local markets are affected to a large extent by the law of supply and demand. When the demand for certain commodities exceeds the supply, their prices on the rural local markets tend to rise, in some cases departing considerably from the planned prices of the state and bringing instability to the market. This is disadvantageous not only to consolidation of the socialist planned market but also to the strengthening of the collective economy in the countryside. It may even lead to speculation by private merchants, cause some backward peasants to forsake farming and go in for trading and result in a growth of the spontaneous tendency towards capitalism. Thus, an important task in our work of price control is to strengthen our leadership and management of the rural local markets, stabilize prices on such markets in good time and keep them constantly at a level close to that of the planned prices of the state.

In controlling and stabilizing prices on the rural local markets, our basic method is to develop agriculture actively and also rural sideline occupations so as

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* In the village markets and fairs, the production teams of the people's communes and their members buy and sell certain of their secondary farm and rural sideline products. See "China's Socialist Commerce," Peking Review, No. 8, February 21, 1964.—Ed.
to ensure an adequate supply of farm and rural sideline products on the market. But at the same time we see to it that the state purchasing prices of these products are reasonably fixed and the issuance of credits and loans to the peasants is well handled, so that the amount of currency in circulation in the rural areas is strictly controlled and a balance is kept between the purchasing power of the peasants and the amount of commodities which the state can supply to the countryside. We also steadily improve the methods by which the state trade organizations and the supply and marketing co-ops keep the rural local markets supplied with goods. We have also organized, according to plan, the interflow of goods between town and countryside and between different areas in order, step by step, to replace long-distance trading by private merchants. Moreover, we have strengthened our management of the rural local markets and dealt blows to the speculative activities of merchants and peddlers. Experience has shown that so long as we implement these measures we are able to maintain prices on the rural local markets at a level close to that of the planned prices of the state and consolidate the leading position of socialist commerce in the market.

Maintaining Market and Price Stability

The basic reason for the stability of our market and prices over the years is that China is a socialist country. Our socialist state controls all the major means of production and the great majority of the consumer goods distributed as commodities, provides the market with these goods and enforces a strict and planned control of their prices. This has been the essential guarantee for the stability of our market and prices.

The socialist state can, through the regulatory effect of state plans, maintain a balance between supply and demand with regard to all the various products and between commodity supplies and the purchasing power of society. In this way, it ensures price stability. But it is not possible for our economic plans always to conform fully to actual economic developments. This is especially so in regard to agricultural production, which is still to a considerable extent dependent on natural conditions. Thus, a certain degree of disequilibrium is unavoidable. In view of this, apart from holding a certain amount of goods in constant reserve, we make timely readjustments in state plans according to changing circumstances, trying to maintain the balance of the plans as far as possible and thus help stabilize the market and prices.

There are two kinds of disequilibrium: disequilibrium between supply and demand in a certain number of commodities and disequilibrium between commodity supplies and social purchasing power. Both can cause unstable prices. The latter form of disequilibrium, especially, may cause an overall fluctuation of prices.

Disequilibrium between supply and demand in a certain number of commodities may occur frequently. When supplies of certain essential consumer goods fail to meet demand, we never try to restore the balance by raising prices. Instead, while stepping up production of these goods, we adopt the method of rationing in order to guarantee their proper distribution. This method enables us not only to maintain a relative balance between supply and demand but also to stabilize prices and satisfy the basic needs of the people. Of course, in the case of shortages in the supply of certain secondary consumer goods it is neither necessary nor possible for us to adopt this method of rationing. What we do is to readjust production plans to increase the output of such goods and at the same time appropriately readjust their prices so as to restore the balance quickly between supply and demand. It should be noted that where there is a balance between total commodity supply and the total purchasing power of society, a short supply of certain commodities is invariably linked with over supply of certain other commodities. Hence, the consequent readjustment of prices necessarily involves the raising of the prices of certain commodities and the lowering of prices of certain other commodities, so that the general price level is, in the main, kept intact.

In a socialist country, there is an urgent desire to speed up economic construction and improve the people's living standards. On the other hand, however, state plans cannot always tally with actual economic developments, especially when there are crop failures caused by natural calamities. As a consequence, purchasing power in a socialist society may sometimes outstrip commodity supplies and this may result in strain on the market over a certain period. When such a situation arises, what we do is, on the one hand, readjust production and capital construction plans to ensure an increase in the output of agriculture and light industry, and on the other hand, appropriately restrain the growth of social purchasing power so as to keep it in proper proportion to the increase in the supply of consumer goods. This enables us to stabilize the market and prices and rapidly restore a balance between the supply of commodities and purchasing power.

During the years 1959-61, China was stricken by serious natural calamities, and as a result of this and other things, the output of agriculture and those light industries using farm products as raw materials declined and fell out of line with our then swiftly expanding heavy industry and rapidly increasing purchasing power. This led to shortages in the supply of certain commodities. In tackling this situation, we introduced the policy of "readjustment, consolidation, filling out and raising standards." This policy mainly comprised:

- concentrating our efforts on reinforcing the agricultural front in order to restore and develop farm production as quickly as possible;
- appropriately curtailing those branches of industrial production and capital construction which it was necessary to curtail and developing those which needed to be developed and readjusting relations between the various branches of industry;

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increasing the variety of industrial products, raising their quality and economizing on the consumption of materials.

At the same time, we strengthened our planned control of the market and prices, and in order to satisfy the basic needs of the people temporarily adopted the method of rationing in the distribution of certain staple consumer goods which were in short supply. Thanks to these efforts, stability of the market and of price as well as stability in the life of the people were assured, a swift restoration and development of agriculture and industry as well as a rapid increase in the supply of commodities on the market were achieved, and the imbalance between commodity supply and purchasing power was quickly replaced by a new balance.

Now, our national economy has made an overall turn for the better, and a new upsurge of industrial and agricultural production is shaping up and developing. Some of the few commodities which were temporarily rationed in the past few years are now freely purchasable. There is an ever increasing supply of commodities on the market. With the growing improvement in our national economy, it can be anticipated that we will enjoy even better market and price conditions.

Our experience has shown that a socialist country is quite able to maintain market and price stability by economic planning and by formulating and implementing correct policies. Even if, owing to objective or subjective reasons, there is a disharmony in the national economy and an imbalance arises between supply and demand on the market, it is still possible to readjust relations between the various branches of the economy and ensure market and price stability by means of state planning.

What Johnson's Election Means

by OBSERVER

Following is a translation of an article by Observer in the November 13 issue of "Renmin Ribao" under the title "How to Look at Johnson's Election." Subheads are ours. — Ed.

THE U.S. presidential election has ended, and, as was expected, Lyndon Johnson was elected.

Billionaire's Game

The election of a president in the United States is strictly a billionaire's game. Lenin long ago said: "Nowhere . . . is the power of capital, the power of a handful of billionaires over the whole of society, so crude and so openly corrupt as in America. Once capital exists, it dominates the whole of society, and no democratic republic, no form of franchise can alter the essence of the matter." For many years, the result of every U.S. election has proved, without exception, Lenin's thesis. This is also true of the November 3 contest.

Both Lyndon Johnson and Barry Goldwater, the two presidential candidates, were under the thumb of U.S. monopoly groups. Both were supported by the monopoly capitalist class. The campaign was the usual hoax of U.S. monopoly capital to deceive the American people. If there was any difference between this and past elections it was that the U.S. monopoly capitalists deliberately trotted out a Goldwater and let him portray himself as an advocate of war adventures so as to throw into bold relief Johnson's make-believe role of a "seeker for peace."

Lyndon Johnson — A Vicious Chieftain of U.S. Imperialism

During the election campaign Johnson issued a number of high-flown "peace" pledges. He said that he would use "wisdom and patience and restraint" in his "quest for peace," that he would act with "responsibility" and would not "play the war game of bluff and bluster." But apart from these hypocritical "peace" pledges there was no lack of undisguised shouts for aggression in his platform and speeches. He openly declared: "We must continue to maintain, to increase and to strengthen our preparedness," adding that the United States must back its position "by strength" and would "use our full force if necessary" to engage in war "on land, in the jungles, on the sea and in the air." He pledged himself to continue past policies, saying that "the United States does not intend to give up its world outposts." He also made it plain that the United States

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would carry out bloody armed intervention and repression against the national-liberation movement as it has been doing from "Viet Nam to Venezuela." Johnson made clear the U.S. intention to strengthen the aggressive NATO and SEATO blocs, and further use the United Nations for aggression. He also frantically cried out for subversion and aggression against the socialist countries, saying that he would "bring the countries of Eastern Europe closer to the Western community," and "it would have been easy to drop bombs on China." Johnson's utterances show no trace whatsoever of a "moderate" looking for relaxation of international tension, but provide every indication that he is the vicious chieftain of a ferocious and sabre-rattling U.S. imperialism. Is there any doubt about this?

As for Goldwater, it is true that at the beginning of the campaign, unlike past Republican candidates, he did not play the tune of "peace and prosperity" but urged a programme which was downright reactionary and aggressive. He demanded more ruthless exploitation of the working people at home, suppression of the Negro movement and wider military adventures abroad. But in the course of the campaign Goldwater toned down bit by bit, saying that the main aim of his foreign policy was "peace through strength" and expressed his willingness "to sit down and talk about the problem of peace with responsible leaders anywhere in the world." Thus, although Goldwater raved at the start, he was aware that sabre-rattling alone did not entirely accord with the immediate interests of U.S. monopoly capital. That is why he had to pull in his horns and strike roughly the same refrain as Johnson.

Both Johnson and Goldwater are representatives of U.S. monopoly capital. If there was any squabble between them during the campaign it was over the best way to safeguard the interests of the monopoly capitalists. This was seen most clearly in the Gulf of Bac Bo (Tonkin) incident. In order to save the United States from defeat in its aggression against Viet Nam, Johnson, the so-called "moderate," deliberately invented this incident, went over the "brink of war" and launched an air attack on the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam. Rebuffed by the D.R.V. and condemned by world public opinion, Johnson was placed in a sorry plight and Goldwater, known as an "extremist," came forward and charged him with being "the most trigger-happy man in the country." This shows that the United States has come to a dead end in Viet Nam. Both Johnson's and Goldwater's policies on Viet Nam are in great confusion and no one can produce any proper prescription to save the United States from defeat there.

**Counter-Revolutionary Dual Tactics**

This is the case not only in Viet Nam but also in every part of the world. It is so not only at present but it has been so ever since U.S. imperialism's postwar attempts to dominate the world. World developments following the end of World War II have been becoming more and more unfavourable to U.S. imperialism. The socialist camp is growing stronger, the national-liberation movement in Asia, Africa and Latin America is surging forward and the imperialist camp is divided against itself. The U.S. imperialist policies of aggression and war are in trouble everywhere and Washington finds itself in an even more difficult situation. Under these circumstances U.S. imperialism can find no effective means whatever to cope with a host of thorny problems confronting it. U.S. foreign policy in every sphere is in confusion and riddled with insoluble contradictions.

U.S. imperialism has always resorted to frenzied military adventures to push its rabid plan for world domination and attempted to use war as a means of extricating itself from difficulties. John Foster Dulles was the most undisguised embodiment of this U.S. imperialist adventurer policy. During the Truman Administration he took a personal part in planning the war of aggression against Korea. When he became Secretary of State in 1953, he formulated and pushed a series of truculent warlike plans such as the "liberation" programme, "mutual security," "massive retaliation," "brinkmanship," etc., and mapped out and conducted a number of military adventures. U.S. imperialism as represented by Dulles vainly hoped to use force to "roll back" the socialist camp and suppress the mounting movement for national liberation. But this policy of U.S. imperialism had aroused increased opposition from people all over the world. As a result, U.S. imperialism not only failed to attain its aggressive aims but also landed itself in worse difficulties and greater isolation. By early 1959, Dulles was compelled to admit that "the world today is very different from the world of past
centuries. It cannot be ruled.” And so his “recent concept” for implementing the general strategy of U.S. foreign policy was to “seek peace” by “the substitution of justice and law for force.” He hoped to save U.S. imperialism from its dilemma by this peace tactic while at the same time engaging in an arms drive and war preparations and conducting local wars and special warfare. Dulles put the tactic of peace on a par with the tactic of force, attempting to make these counter-revolutionary dual tactics the fundamental line of U.S. foreign policy. He did this not because he was interested in peace but under the pressure of circumstances. The final strategic aim remains world conquest.

John F. Kennedy developed Dulles’ thinking and perfected the dual tactics; he formulated the “strategy of peace.” Through the peace tactics, he tried to break up the socialist camp, subvert the socialist countries, undermine the national-liberation movement, control the intermediate zones and finally realize the plan for world domination. But these tactics continued to meet with insurmountable difficulties. They failed to deceive the revolutionary peoples of the world. With its peace tactics proving of no avail, the Kennedy Administration then turned to reckless military adventures. Kennedy launched an armed invasion of Cuba, turned south Vietnam in a “testing ground” for “special warfare,” conducted barefaced armed intervention in the Congo and thus exposed his true colours as a warmonger. When his war tactics also failed, he again resorted to “peace” tactics.

Pursuing Kennedy’s Policies More Truculently

Lyndon Johnson, since succeeding to the presidency, has inherited the whole set of Kennedy's policies and pursued them more truculently than his predecessor. In the past year, his administration has frenziedly stepped up arms expansion and war preparations, conducted frequent underground nuclear tests, developed nuclear weapons and engaged in nuclear proliferation. It has sanguinarily suppressed the revolutionary peoples of Asia, Africa and Latin America. In particular, it has deliberately tried to expand the Indo-China war and aggravate international tension. The Bac Bo Gulf incident Johnson created and the air raid on the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam was his greatest war adventure. But all this failed to ease Johnson's difficult situation. Under pressure of uncontrollable circumstances, when his war tactics fail to achieve his aims, he turns to deceptive peace tactics. These developments are clear evidence that U.S. imperialism is in a hopeless predicament.

U.S. policy from Dulles to Johnson shows that the aggressive nature of imperialism decides that U.S. imperialism will invariably pursue its aggressive plans by means of war. When the international situation grows more and more unfavourable to it, it tries its utmost to turn the tide by employing counter-revolutionary dual tactics. But the development of the objective situation is independent of the will of U.S. imperialism. With its aggressive policy meeting with one setback after another, and, thus, its counter-revolutionary dual tactics having to be applied alternatively under ever worsening conditions, U.S. imperialism has landed deeper and deeper in a hopeless mire. Nevertheless, whoever becomes the President of the United States cannot but carry on this discredited policy.

Johnson has put forward his policy of “search for peace” “backed by strength,” while Goldwater, after clamouring about war for a time, had to make a pretence of seeking “peace through strength.” This precisely reflects the fact that U.S. imperialism lacks the power to realize its ambition. As to Johnson and Goldwater, there is nothing to the asserted difference between the “moderate” and the “extremist.”

A Loyal Guardian of U.S. Monopoly Capital

Because Lyndon Johnson proved himself a loyal guardian of their interests after Kennedy’s death, American monopoly capitalists have reinstalled him in the White House. People can see now that Johnson has not only promised to increase defence spending and step up tension during his election campaign, but is already confirming his promises to the U.S. monopoly capitalists by concrete actions. A U.S. nuclear submarine sailed into a Japanese port. In Indo-China, directed by the United States, the Laotian reactionaries are expanding the war by launching large-scale attacks against the liberated areas of Middle and Lower Laos. As reported by the British Daily Telegraph, the U.S. Seventh Fleet is “fully prepared to launch air attacks” against the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam. In addition, Johnson is vigorously tightening control over Western Europe and pressing ahead with his plan for a multilateral nuclear force. In this respect, it is reported that he will soon send Vice-President Hubert Humphrey and Under Secretary of State George Ball to Western Europe. The U.S. propaganda machine has pointed out that if there is to be any change in Johnson’s policy it will be “on the firm side.” This is the best description of the result of the U.S. presidential election.

So long as the United States remains under the rule of the monopoly capitalists, both the Democratic and the Republican Parties are bound to be their instruments, the Government the executor of their will and the President their agent. Judging from the past record of the Johnson Administration, one can see that he will carry out the policies of aggression and war more intensively and viciously in a desperate attempt to pull U.S. imperialism out of its present predicament.

In the face of such a truculent and dangerous enemy, no one should entertain any illusions over the election of Lyndon Baines Johnson. The peoples of the socialist camp, of Asia, Africa and Latin America and all other peace-loving countries and peoples should further close their ranks and form the broadest possible united front against U.S. imperialism and its stooges. Only when all peace-loving forces in the world unite and fight resolutely can the U.S. imperialist policies of aggression and war be defeated and world peace safeguarded.

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Japanese People Say No to U.S. Nuclear Submarines

When the U.S. nuclear submarine Sea Dragon nosed into the Japanese port of Sasebo on November 12, it entered a storm of protest which kept on growing even after it left two days later.

Thousands of people, braving the rain and shouting "Yankees, go home!" held a sit-down demonstration before U.S. base headquarters in that port. This demonstration was backed up by rallies all over Japan.

Nationwide Protest

The Japanese people had already made clear their opposition to the docking of U.S. nuclear submarines in Japanese ports. U.S. imperialism's brazen move was therefore a new challenge to them as well as a threat to their safety and to peace in the Far East and Asia. The people rose to the challenge. Kenji Miyamoto, General Secretary of the Japanese Communist Party, called on all Japanese democratic forces to close their ranks in the struggle.

On November 11 the Central Committee of the Japanese Communist Party protested to the U.S. and Japanese Governments against the planned call of U.S. nuclear submarines at Sasebo and Yokosuka. Kenji Miyamoto read the protest at a press conference in Tokyo. It declares: "Faced with this urgent situation, all forms of struggle — rallies, demonstrations and protest actions on a nationwide scale — must be intensified against the coming of U.S. nuclear submarines." The statement called for joint action of all those engaged in the struggle and for united action at once in Sasebo and Yokosuka.

In its November 14 statement the Japanese Communist Party again called for nationwide united action. It said that following the Sasebo incident, the United States was planning to dispatch a nuclear submarine to Yokosuka around November 16. "For the sake of the independence and security of Japan and peace in Asia and the world, we will never permit the dangerous U.S. nuclear submarines to dock at the Yokosuka port," the statement stressed.

The Socialist Party held an emergency meeting of its Central Executive Committee to plan more vigorous action against the U.S. move. It sent Setsuo Yokomichi, Chairman of its Diet Policy Committee, and Toru Ohara, Director of the Bureau of National Movements, to lodge a forceful protest with the Japanese Government. In a statement, Setsuo Yokomichi denounced the Sato government for approving the Sea Dragon's call without the consent of the Diet.

On November 12, in response to the call of the Tokyo Action Committee of the Emergency Month to Prevent the Docking of U.S. Submarines, more than 15,000 people in Tokyo marched in the rain to the Diet to petition against the docking of the Sea Dragon at Sasebo.

On November 14, a column of marchers set out from Yokosuka for Tokyo to take part in the November 16 national meeting of the Japan Council Against Atomic and Hydrogen Bombs. At the meeting, which was attended by about 260 representatives of 39 prefectural organizations and a number of other national mass organizations affiliated to the council, it was decided to intensify the struggle against the docking of U.S. submarines in Japan.

Popular organizations were quick to take action. The Japan Peace Committee, the Council Against Atomic and Hydrogen Bombs, the General Council of Trade Unions, the Central Committee of the Democratic Youth League, the Teachers' Union, the State Railway Workers' Union, the Central Committee of the New Japanese Women's Association, the Liaison Council of the Congress of Japanese Mothers, the Christians' Association for Peace, and other bodies called on their members to take immediate action, hold protest rallies and send protests to the U.S. Embassy in Japan and to the Japanese Government. Akira Iwari, Secretary-General of
the General Council of Trade Unions, said that his organization was prepared to call a general strike against this U.S. outrage.

Leading Japanese public figures in statements to the press or in speeches at mass meetings condemned Washington's aggressive act. Socialist Diet Member Hisao Kuroda said that the Japanese people's resolute struggle against the docking of U.S. nuclear submarines at Japanese ports should not be limited to this single issue but should be extended to demanding the dismantling of U.S. bases in Japan and Okinawa and the abrogation of the Japan-U.S. "Security Treaty."

Tetsu Kawakami, Chairman of the National Federation of Students Self-Government Associations to Oppose the "Security Treaty" and in Defence of Peace and Democracy, denounced the latest U.S. move as an attempt to turn Japan into a base for nuclear war in Asia, drag her on to a dangerous path and take away yet more of her independence.

Hideomi Tsuge, well-known Japanese scientist and professor of Hosei University, said that the overwhelming majority of Japanese scientists resolutely opposed the entry of U.S. nuclear submarines into Japanese ports.

Support From China

The China Peace Committee and nine other people's organizations have sent a message of support to the Japanese people in their struggle.

In an article on November 14, Renmin Ribao's Commentator denounced the entry of the U.S. nuclear submarine into Sasebo as a menace to peace in the Far East and Asia that has aroused the opposition and indignation of the Asian peoples and all other peace-loving people. This incident clearly shows that "U.S. imperialism is stepping up its preparations for nuclear war in Asia," said Commentator. By drawing Japan further into the U.S. nuclear war strategy, this move, he pointed out, was, first of all, detrimental to the national interests of Japan, for the simple reason that once U.S. nuclear submarines had free access to Japanese ports, this would complete the transformation of Japan into a key base for U.S. imperialism's nuclear blackmail and threats in Asia. "Under no circumstances will the Japanese people or the peoples of Asia countenance this," Commentator stressed.

The Japanese people have three times fallen victim to nuclear catastrophe inflicted upon them by U.S. imperialism, Commentator noted, and now face an even greater menace because of the entry of U.S. nuclear submarines into their waters. However, Commentator continued, they have weathered many storms and have accumulated a wealth of experience in struggle; they will continue to hold high the banner of struggle against U.S. imperialism and advance rapidly along the road to independence, democracy, peace and neutrality. Events will show that the real power and strength lie not in the nuclear submarines of U.S. imperialism, nor even in its global nuclear strategy, but in the Japanese and all other peoples fighting in defence of world peace, Commentator concluded.

— Hsiiao Yang

U.S. Plot Against Tanzania Exposed

The wind of change raging across the African continent is an ill wind for imperialism. To check it, imperialism has alternated its policy of open armed intervention with stealthy subversion from inside. In the case of the newborn United Republic of Tanzania in East Africa, Lyndon Johnson and Co. took — at this stage — the latter course. But they were caught — red-handed.

When the people of Dar-es-Salaam opened their newspapers on the morning of November 11 first to hit their eyes was news of an imperialist plot against their country. Nationalist, organ of the ruling Tanganyika African National Union (TANU), published on the same day photostat copies of three secret letters in French which had fallen into the hands of the Tanzanian authorities. These showed beyond a doubt that the United States was scheming to subvert the Government of Tanzania (the new name for the United Republic of Tanganyika and Zanzibar).

Washington Plots

"The United States," said one letter, "will support the attempt of Portugal to take advantage of all frontier incidents between the Portuguese territory of Mozambique on the one hand and Tanganyika on the other to bombard all strategic points in Tanganyika. It went on, "as a second measure . . . to make special arrangements to overthrow the government of Nyerere according to the method still being studied by the State Department." This was incriminating enough. But still more revealing was the passion where Moise Tshombé, Washington's minion and a traitor to the African people, entered the picture. "The United States counts on the support of the Congolese government in such affairs especially on the evacuation of the American citizens in Albertville when the evolution of this conflict may eventually lead to an international dispute." The letter's content and purport led to only one conclusion: it was written by the U.S. Embassy in Dar-es-Salaam to the Foreign Ministry of Tshombé's regime at Leopoldville.

Another letter, with all signs of having been written to the U.S. Ambassador by a mercenary in Tshombé's pay, began: "I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of your note which you have sent me through an American pilot of your aircraft. At the same time I confirm

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through the same channel my agreement to carry out
the difficult task you have assigned for me in Tangan-
yika.” It continued, “To begin with, I am going to ask
the Congolese government to relieve me of my present
military functions. In the meantime, I shall send from
South Africa seven specialists in armed insurrection
who have qualified themselves for this type of thing in
Africa. I have prepared with them the whole plan for
the putsch . . . .” This soldier of fortune then acknowl-
edged payment for his services. “I thank you for giving
me twenty-five thousand dollars as the cost of the re-
cruitment, hotel and restaurant charges for these people
and myself.”

The publication of the letters in Nationalist under-
lined the statement by Oscar S. Kambona, Tanzania’s
Minister of Foreign Affairs, the day before when he
told the press that “Western powers in collusion with the
duped brother African states are preparing to com-
mit subversion and aggression against the United Re-
public of Tanzania and the nationalist movements which
have their bases here.”

Confronted with the damaging evidence in these
disclosures, the U.S. Embassy in Dar-es-Salaam fell back
on a course usually taken by those caught in the act.
It denied U.S. implication in the conspiracy, saying that
references to the United States in the three letters were
completely unfounded. But Nationalist pinned down
the United States as the culprit and took up the
American Embassy’s denial. In an editorial on Novem-
ber 13, it described U.S. diplomats as past masters in
changing their tune when facts throw the lies back in
their teeth, as in the case of the Washington-created
Gulf of Tonkin incidents last August.

Foreign Minister Kambona asked the permanent
headquarters of the Organization of African Unity
(OAU) at Addis Ababa to inform all other members of
this Western plot against his government and the
African liberation movements which have headquarters
in Dar-es-Salaam. “Africa’s commitment to liquidate
colonialism,” Kambona warned, “is at stake.”

In his capacity as OAU Deputy Secretary-General
Mohamed Sahnoun condemned the Western imperialists
for their plot against Tanzania. “The OAU,” he said,
“will not fail to alert all African countries to express
their solidarity with a member state of this organization
under threat, and put an end to imperialist machinations
in this region.”

The people of Tanzania have risen in unison to
denounce the United States and its allies. A wave of
protests culminated in a mammoth demonstration on
November 15. Column after column of angry Tan-
zanians marched through the streets of the capital shout-
ing slogans against the imperialist powers. They filed
past the U.S. Embassy and roared with one voice: “Down
with the U.S. imperialists!” The stream of aroused
humanity included leaders of the Government and the
ruling TANU, commanding officers of the Tanganyikan
army, leaders of the Women’s Federation and trade
union organizations.

When the demonstrators finally converged on
Jangwani Square a mass rally of 40,000 was staged to
climax the day’s stirring events. Addressing the gather-
ing, President Nyerere indicted the U.S. Government
for plotting to overthrow the Government of the
United Republic of Tanzania and dismissed the allega-
tion by the U.S. Ambassador that the documents
published in Nationalist were “all forgeries.”

The President reaffirmed his country’s determina-
tion to follow a foreign policy of non-alignment and
never tolerate any interference from abroad. He said,
“We did not struggle for independence so that we should
receive orders from Washington. This Government is
for this country. Even if we are not well equipped in
arms, we are not taking orders from outsiders.”

Referring to Chinese military assistance which
Washington and its friends have tried their best to
malign, President Nyerere said, “We have arms from
England, Australia, and we asked China too to give us
arms. This started a lot of noise and we had to be
asked about it like small children. The few Chinese
we asked to come and train our army for only six months
was as if we had asked for 70,000 Chinese and I was
forced to hold a press conference and explain this mat-
ter . . . and these Chinese are only seven.”

As the voice of the President resounded through the
square his speech was frequently punctuated by slogans
in response. “Nyerere yes, Yankees no!” “Bury those
imperialists who bring trouble to this country!” were
heard again and again.

Tanzania Not Alone

The people of Tanzania were not alone. One and
all, the leaders of the African liberation movements
with headquarters in Dar-es-Salaam have voiced strong
protests against the U.S. plot. They hailed its exposure
as a victory of the United Republic and pledged to back
the Government and people of Tanzania four-square.

From the other end of the continent the Secretariat
of the Afro-Asian People’s Solidarity Organization in
Cairo added its voice of protest. In a message to the
Tanzanian Foreign Minister, AAFSO said, “because of
the support extended by the Tanzanian Government to
the liberation movements of Africa, the Western powers
recently masterminded a plot to overthrow the Tan-
zanian Government. We denounce these imperialist
interventions and strongly protest against such
manoeuvres.”

Algeria expressed solidarity with its brothers in
East Africa. The Political Bureau of the F.L.N.,
after a meeting presided over by General Secretary
Ben Bella, stated that it “has studied the situation in
Leopoldville Congo and paid much attention to the
statements made recently by Tanzanian Foreign
Minister Kambona expressing deep anxiety over im-
perialist plots against his country.” It “reaffirms its
complete support to the Government and people of
Tanzania.”

China Voices Support

A commentary in the November 14 issue of Peking’s
Renmin Ribao hailed the exposure of the subversive
U.S. plot as a major victory of the Tanzanian people and went into the reasons why the United States and other Western imperialist powers were hostile to this new emerging nation. Tanzania has become a thorn in their side, it said, because the people of Tanzania have been highly successful in reinforcing their political independence, eliminating the forces of imperialism and colonialism and developing their national economy and culture.

Another reason for imperialist hostility towards Tanzania, the commentary declared, is its pursuance of an independent foreign policy of peace, neutrality and non-alignment, opposition to imperialism, colonialism and neo-colonialism and support for the African national-liberation movements, and particularly support of the people's struggles in the Portuguese colonies in Africa and Leopoldville Congo. Renmin Ribao voiced the admiration of the Chinese people for the dauntlessness shown by the Tanzanian people and Government in continuing to support the national-liberation movements in Africa and committing themselves to the total liberation of the African continent. The article expressed the Chinese people's wholehearted support for their just stand in upholding national independence and honour.

— C.K.C.

Document

China-Afghanistan Joint Communique

Following is the full text of the joint communiqué of the People's Republic of China and Afghanistan signed in Peking on November 12 by Chairman Liu Shao-chi and King Mohammad Zahir Shah.— Ed.

At the invitation of His Excellency Chairman Liu Shao-chi of the People's Republic of China, His Majesty Mohammad Zahir Shah and Her Majesty Queen Homaira paid a state visit to the People's Republic of China from October 30 to November 13, 1964.

Accompanying Their Majesties the King and Queen on the visit were Ali Mohammad, Minister of Court, N.A. Etemadi, Secretary-General of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Sardar Sultan Mahmoud Ghazi and other high officials of the Royal Government of Afghanistan.

During the visit, Their Majesties the King and the Queen and the other esteemed guests from Afghanistan visited industrial and agricultural projects and places of historical interest in Peking, Wuhan, Canton, Nanking, Shanghai and Hangchow. Everywhere they were accorded a warm welcome and grand reception by the Chinese Government and people, which fully demonstrated the profound friendship between the Chinese and Afghan peoples.

During the visit, Chairman Mao Tse-tung of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China met King Mohammad Zahir Shah and the other distinguished guests from Afghanistan. Chairman Mao and His Majesty the King had a cordial and friendly conversation.

Cordial talks were held in an atmosphere of friendship and harmony between Chairman Liu Shao-chi and Premier Chou En-lai and His Majesty King Mohammad Zahir Shah on the further development of the friendly relations between the two countries and on other matters of common interest. The two parties expressed satisfaction at the ties of friendship and good-neighbourliness between the two countries and the development of those ties in the recent years.

The two parties were of the common view that the Treaty of Friendship and Mutual Non-Aggression Between China and Afghanistan has strengthened the ties of friendly co-operation and good-neighbourliness which are in accordance with the fundamental interests of the people of the two countries and conducive to the preservation of peace in Asia and in the world.

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The two parties expressed their view that the treaty signed last year for the formal delimitation of the Chinese-Afghan boundary and the subsequent implementation of setting up boundary markers this year are eloquent signs of mutual good intentions, full understanding and friendly neighbourhood.

The two parties agreed to develop and further economic and cultural relations, and to develop technical co-operation between the two countries.

The two parties reaffirmed the spirit of the declaration of the First Asian-African Conference held at Bandung, in which both parties took part, and both agreed that the spirit of the Bandung Conference has played a positive role in promoting the development of the present-day world situation, in frustrating imperialist policies and promoting national-independence movements.

The two parties agreed that the two conferences of non-aligned countries held in Belgrade and Cairo have made positive achievements and are helpful to the defence of world peace. They hoped that the Second African-Asian Conference scheduled to be held in Algiers next March would live up to and further develop the Bandung spirit and make new contributions towards opposing colonialism and further consolidating Asian-African unity and world peace.

The two parties agreed that direct contacts between the leaders of the two countries were conducive to the strengthening of the friendship and ties of the two peoples, and that the visit of Their Majesties the King and the Queen to China was of great significance to promoting the further development of the relations of friendship and co-operation between China and Afghanistan.

His Majesty Mohammad Zahir Shah extended an invitation to Chairman and Madame Liu Shao-chi to visit Afghanistan at a time convenient to them, which they accepted with pleasure.

Peking, November 12, 1964

Chairman of the People's Republic of China
(Signed)

LIU SHAO-CHI

King of Afghanistan
(Signed)

MOHAMMAD ZAHIR SHAH
Chinese Foreign Ministry’s Note

New Delhi’s Attempt to Create “Two Chinas” Denounced

- Indian Government is serving the U.S. imperialist plot.
- It is also obstructing and sabotaging cultural interflow and friendly contacts between the Chinese and Indian peoples.

In a note to the Indian Embassy in Peking dated November 11, the Chinese Foreign Ministry sternly denounced the Indian Government for its participation, in the name of international cultural exchange, in the U.S. imperialist plot to create “two Chinas” and for erecting barriers against cultural interflow and friendly contacts between the Chinese and Indian peoples.

In a note sent in April this year to the Chinese Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Indian Embassy, on behalf of the organizing committee for the 22nd International Geological Congress, extended an invitation to the Chinese Government to send its official delegates to the congress which will be held in New Delhi in December 1964. The Chinese Government has always actively favoured and supported cultural and scientific interflow and friendly contacts between the peoples of different countries, including the peoples of China and India. The Chinese Ministry of Foreign Affairs replied in this spirit, expressing its appreciation for the Indian invitation and its readiness to give it favourable consideration. However, a responsible Indian official of the organizing committee for the 22nd International Geological Congress had earlier indicated to the Chinese organization concerned that the committee intended to invite the Chiang Kai-shek clique in Taiwan. In view of this, the Chinese Ministry of Foreign Affairs in its reply made clear its just and resolute opposition to the utilization of any international conference to create “two Chinas,” and asked the Indian Government to clarify whether the Chiang Kai-shek clique was invited to the congress.

The Indian Embassy in July confirmed in an unreasonable manner sequel seen in diplomatic correspondence that the congress had extended an invitation to the Chiang Kai-shek clique.

The Chinese Foreign Ministry says in its note: “This shows that the Indian Government has long been aware that the Chiang clique elements in Taiwan have been invited to attend the 22nd International Geological Congress. Yet the Indian Government gratefully sent a diplomatic note to the Chinese Government inviting it to send its official delegates to the congress. Is this not a flagrant attempt to create a situation of ‘two Chinas’ at an international conference to be held in New Delhi? The Chinese Government cannot but express extreme indignation at this and hereby solemnly state once again that the Chinese Government will never send delegations to any conference in which Chiang clique elements are taking part.”

The Chinese note says, “The U.S. imperialist scheme of creating ‘two Chinas’ is becoming more and more discredited in the world and has long been repudiated by all countries which uphold justice and face up to reality. The Indian Government, however, is ever more energetically working to promote this scheme. This will bring no other result than to expose the Indian Government before the world as a tool serving the policies of U.S. imperialism.”

The note further points out that in April this year China invited Indian scientists to attend the 1964 Peking Symposium held last August. This was done solely for the purpose of promoting international scientific exchanges and friendship between the peoples of different countries. It was regrettable that the Indian Government not only unreasonably rejected the invitation before the invited Indian organizations had time to give their reply, but took the opportunity to slander China by heaping its shop-worn charge of Chinese “violation of India’s territorial integrity.” In a note sent in June to the Indian Embassy in China, the Chinese Foreign Ministry reasoned things out in a serious manner and refused the Indian charge. The Indian Ministry of External Affairs, however, in its note of reply in October to the Chinese Embassy in India, apart from repeating its slanders and attacks, racked its brains and sought out a pretext to obstruct the friendly contacts between the Chinese and Indian peoples by declaring that as the Chinese Government was opposed to the tripartite partial nuclear test ban treaty and was determined to manufacture atom bombs, India could not enter into any scientific and cultural exchanges with China.

Refuting this nonsensical and clumsy sophistry, the Chinese note says, “The Chinese Government’s just stand on the tripartite partial test ban treaty and on nuclear weapons has long been elucidated in detail in numerous official documents. It is futile for the Indian Government to vilify China on this score. It should be pointed out that if, according to the Indian Government’s logic, no cultural and scientific interflow should be carried out with China because China is determined to manufacture atom bombs, then, one may ask the Indian Government whether it has stopped its contacts with the United States whose Government has for the past twenty years conducted hundreds of nuclear tests and has manufactured, stockpiled and is continuing to manufacture huge quantities of nuclear weapons. The United States has established nuclear bases in many parts of the world and U.S. air and naval forces armed with nuclear weapons are rushing hither and thither throughout the world, intimidating the peoples and jeopardizing world peace; has the Indian Government made any effective opposition to all that? All the world knows that it is precisely the Indian Government which is in a passionate embrace with the U.S. nuclear overlord. The facts are very clear: in making the question of nuclear weapons a pretext for disrupting friendly contacts between
the Chinese and Indian peoples, the Indian Government is motivated by sheer hypocrisy and is serving the U.S. imperialist policies of nuclear monopoly and blackmail."

The Chinese Foreign Ministry note says, "The two matters mentioned above are by no means unrelated to each other. They precisely show that while painstakingly trying to make use of the international conference to be held in

India to promote the scheme of creating 'two Chinas,' the Indian Government is bent on obstructing and sabotaging genuine cultural exchanges between nations and friendly contacts between the Chinese and Indian peoples. These most unseemly acts of the Indian Government will surely meet with the just condemnation of the peoples of China and India and fair-minded public opinion of the world."

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**Pen Probes**

**Wonders of the Electronics Age**

**The Lie-Detector**

When Baron Munchausen related his fanciful adventures, his breathing was even. Goebbels never changed colour even uttering the biggest lie. Tenants on Lyndon Johnson's Alabama plantation live as subsistence farmers, but when the U.S. President declared war on poverty in his country, his palms were dry although maybe they were itchy. The defeated U.S. Republican presidential nominee Barry Goldwater was crying for a "cold war offensive on all fronts," yet it is not open to doubt that his blood pressure showed no significant change when he talked about communism being "the significant disturber of peace."

"Politicians," said the American weekly *Nation*, "deny they are scalawags and scoundrels and then offer to take a lie-detector test to prove it."

What is a lie-detector? It is a device comprising a pneumatic tube that fits across a subject's chest to measure breathing, an inflatable rubber cuff that wraps around the arm to measure blood pressure and a pair of electrodes that touch the hand and, by a flow of current, measures the dampness of the palm. These instruments activate pens that draw wiggles and waves on a roll of paper. If there are any unusual perturbations on the chart, the examiner can "nab his man."

It is all very simple and it works like a charm for the purpose for which it was invented—not to catch lies, but to compound them. In the U.S. it has become big business. There are some 500 lie-detector firms employing 1,000 to 1,500 polygraph (chart) examiners who question subjects at a cost of about $35 a head. Two chief manufacturers charge from $900 to $1,800 for a polygraph. A school training lie-detector operators charges $500 for a six-week course. . .

To take a lie-detector test successfully all you need is a firm belief in your lie. Now that lie-detectors are in wide use, the possibilities opened up are fascinating to contemplate. Awarding citations to the eleven U.S. ships which created or concocted the Bac Bo (Tonkin) Gulf "incidents" of last August and took part in the subsequent surprise attacks on the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam, the U.S. Navy confidently told the world that all these "incidents" actually occurred. If need be the Pentagon men would probably be quite willing to subject themselves to a lie-detector test on one of their numerous machines.

Should anyone question the infallibility of these machines, why then, the manufacturers themselves can declare that the lie-detectors do not tell lies and take a lie-detector test with their machines to prove it.

**Computer for President!**

Inspired by the marvels of the electronics age, an American author has written a novel whose hero is a computer. This "character" helps an American presidential candidate to finely adjust his attitudes, his every word and gesture to the desires of the current voting majority. The candidate naturally wins the election and apparently the computer then takes over. Strange to say this is not far-out sci-fi. It is close to American reality. During the 1960 election campaign, when Kennedy defeated Nixon, the book recalls that a real company, the Simulmatics Corporation, taking a computer count, advised Kennedy to go to town on the Roman Catholic issue and not to evade it. Kennedy took this advice and, so it was said, won the election. Reviewing the book, the *Manchester Guardian Weekly* commented: "Those of us who would prefer such a move to spring naturally from character, not from a computer, obviously are not in touch with political realities."

Who knows how many computers there were contesting the recent U.S. elections, quietly computing the contenders' issues? And of course, there is a big advantage about computers as political aides: they have no urge for bribes, vicuna coats, outside earning and so on, and of course, have no need for F.B.I. clearance on moral correctness. In future presidential elections the toast on election eve may well be: "Let the best computer win!"
ROUND THE WORLD

Cambodia Asserts Independence

U.S. Embassy on Probation

Cambodia has served notice on the Johnson Administration that its Embassy in Phnom Penh is now put on its best behaviour. It has done so because, far from following accepted diplomatic norms, the Embassy has consistently indulged in practices detrimental to the national interests of the Cambodian people.

At a meeting presided over by Prince Sihanouk on November 14 the question of American accreditation in Phnom Penh was reviewed and the Embassy's harmful and dangerous activities were denounced. In the opinion of the meeting the "American 'observers' exclusive knowledge of the existence of a clandestine (pro-American and anti-People's Socialist Community) opposition is evidence of the (harmful and even dangerous) activities of the U.S. Embassy in Phnom Penh." The meeting decided that the Cambodian Head of State has "grounds to demand at a moment he deems opportune that the National Assembly study the question of whether there is reason to put an end to the existence of this embassy."

Prince Sihanouk squelched the venomous stories filed by American newsmen in Cambodia during its recent Independence Day festival. The journalists, following the Washington line, here in Asia as elsewhere, that whoever refuses to live on American handouts must be in a bad way, had slandered Cambodia as having fallen into a "grave crisis" after rejecting U.S. "aid." Moreover, they maliciously tried to sow discord between Cambodia and the socialist countries. Cambodia did not let that pass.

The meeting set up a commission comprising members of the Cambodian Journalists' Association to study the dispatches sent out by American journalists to determine the seriousness of their slanders and to see whether to expel them. The commission went to work at once. Francois Sully of Newsweek and Jack Langguth of the New York Times were asked to leave Cambodia forthwith. The commission also demanded that all journalists in the service of U.S. imperialism should be refused visas.

The November 14 meeting provided an opportunity for the Cambodian Head of State to urge the people once again to beware of imperialist snares.

"To be a U.S. satellite," Prince Sihanouk said, "would mean to sacrifice our territorial integrity for the benefit of Thailand and the Free Vietnam and to offer our youth as cannon fodder for a cause which is not ours. It would mean social injustice where the rich become richer and the poor poorer, the corruption of our society, and an end to the possibility of our building an independent economy, that is, the end of our country which in that case will become another Laos or 'south Vietnam.'"

Pentagon in "Malaysia"

Intervention Open and Direct

Washington which once tried to cover up its tracks in "Malaysia," that neo-colonialist offspring it helped Britain to bring into being, has now thrown all pretence aside. It has sent a "U.S. defence team" of army, navy and air force officers to "Malaysia" to implement the U.S. military aid programme discussed in July between Lyndon Johnson and Abdul Rahman. These representatives of the Pentagon, led by an adviser of the State Department, Philip W. Manhard, arrived in Kuala Lumpur on November 11.

At the airport Manhard told newsmen that he would talk with "Malaysian" officials about the supply of military equipment, helicopters, trainer planes and small craft on a long-term credit basis. He added that the provision of training

facilities in the United States would also be taken up. But there is more to the presence of this "U.S. defence team" than that. It is concerned with nothing less than working out a programme which has the Republic of Indonesia as its target.

AP said that the U.S. officers were in Kuala Lumpur "to determine where and how American assistance might fit into a largely British-oriented armed forces programme." It added that "aircraft developed for jungle warfare are priority items here, to help combat" what it called "Indonesian guerrilla raids." The British paper, Daily Telegraph, for once calling a spade a spade, said that the United States was now directly involved in "Malaysia's" struggle against Indonesia.

Apart from providing military hardware, Washington, to boost the morale of its friends in Kuala Lumpur, has announced that the U.S. missile cruiser Oklahoma City will pay "courtesy visits" to "Malaysian" ports between November 19 and 27. This parading of the flagship of the U.S. 7th Fleet, which is an instrument of U.S. aggression in Asia—witness its unprovoked bombardment in the Gulf of Tonkin in August, the attempted docking of nuclear submarines in Japanese ports, and its perennial provocations in the Straits of Taiwan against China—is an open display of force meant to intimidate the people of Indonesia.

This direct intervention of the United States on the side of "Malaysia" has aroused great indignation in Indonesia. In Djakarta aid to "Malaysia" is regarded as a challenge to Indonesia's revolution and the aid-giving country is considered an enemy of the Republic.

Apartheid Outrage

Africa Condemns Murders

South Africa's Verwoerd regime has again shocked world opinion by its apartheid brutalities. Vuyisile Mini, Wilson Khayingo and Zimakile Mkaba, trade union leaders of the African National Congress who were arrested early this year by the white
settlers’ government on a trumped-up charge of “sabotage,” were hanged at the Pretoria Central Prison on November 6. This abominable violation of minimum human rights is a follow-up of that outrageous Rivonia trial where South African nationalist leaders Nelson Mandela and Walter Sisulu were sentenced to life imprisonment last June.

Denunciation of the judicial murder was immediate in all parts of Africa. Prime Minister Jomo Kenyatta of Kenya said that it was a further manifestation of racist brutality and tyranny. “Three more nationalists,” he said, “have paid with their lives the price that Verwoerd demands from all who seek the path of human dignity and equality. But their sacrifice will not be wasted. Their cause will prevail.” Government leaders and public figures in many other African countries spoke in a similar vein, abhorring the execution of the freedom fighters and calling for stronger action to remove “the cancer of apartheid.”

The press up and down the continent expressed the view that this flouting of African opinion must not be met head-on. It was stated that the assistance given by the imperialist powers had encouraged the Verwoerd regime in its Hitlerite policies against the African population. In a news commentary Radio Ghana, for instance, exposed the part played by the United States in South Africa. It said that, while boasting of being a champion of “democracy,” “the United States is providing her friend Verwoerd’s inhuman government with assistance in order to help them strengthen their most undemocratic state apparatus for enforcing apartheid.”

Imperialist complicity was also the dominant note in the statement issued by the All-African Trade Union Federation. “The capitalist monop-

ologies, especially Anglo-American monopolies,” it said, “are creating serious dangers for the continent by encouraging Verwoerd to massacre African nationalists. Nazi ruthlessness is being encouraged in order to safeguard Western financial interests.” The federation called on all workers and people in Africa to crush the Verwoerd regime.

The African National Congress to which the three martyrs belonged has once again advocated armed struggle to overthrow the racist government. “Only by armed struggle,” it said, “can we defeat racial segregation and overthrow white domination and fascism in South Africa. . . . The living conditions of the South African people and history itself give us no other choice but to fight.” In South Africa today where apartheid is on the rampage the militant African people are being driven to the only course open to them — to match violence with violence.

THE WEEK

(Continued from 4.)

three P.L.A. men an example for all to follow.

The exhibition will continue for several months. It has given great inspiration to all who have seen it. It is playing a most valuable role in promoting the study of Chairman Mao’s works.

Norman Bethune Anniversary

November 12 this year was the 25th anniversary of the death of that great internationalist and revolutionary, Dr. Norman Bethune. This fine son of the Canadian people came to China in 1937 and devoted his life to helping the Chinese people in their struggle against Japanese aggression. In 1939, he died at his post in the front line of that struggle. Twenty-five years have passed since then, but his selfless spirit lives on in the hearts of the Chinese people. On the anniversary of his death, Peking’s major papers paid tribute to his memory by calling on all to learn from his internationalist spirit and be thoroughgoing revolutionaries.

At the Bethune International Peace Hospital in Shihchiachuang, north China — the hospital founded by him in 1938 has been named after him — more than 1,000 people, including medical workers, soldiers and government officials, gathered at a commemorative meeting. Chin Yu-chih, superintendent of the hospital, in his address said: “The revolutionary spirit and noble qualities of Dr. Bethune will always remain fresh in the memory of the Chinese people. Chairman Mao Tse-tung has called on us to learn from Dr. Bethune his selfless spirit of doing everything for the benefit of the people. This spirit of internationalism and communism is an example for us to follow.”

In recent days, Bethune’s grave in the memorial park for revolutionary martyrs in Shihchiachuang has been a place of pilgrimage for a constant stream of people coming from far and near to pay their respects to this great internationalist.

Release of Relatives in Brazil Demanded

More than seven months ago nine Chinese personnel were illegally arrested and imprisoned in Brazil by the Brazilian authorities. Recently, despite censure by world public opinion, these nine men have been the victims of fresh acts of persecution and maltreatment at the hands of the Brazilian diehards. In protest, the nine began another hunger strike on November 12.

Deeply worried and anxious on learning of these fresh developments, the wives and mothers of the nine detainees issued a statement on November 15 demanding that a stop be put to the persecution of their husbands and sons and that they be released immediately.

The statement points out that during this whole period “the Brazilian authorities, despite prolonged ‘interrogations,’ have failed to produce a single scrap of evidence to substantiate their false charges against the accused. . . . This proves once again that they are completely innocent.”

Denouncing the political frame-up which was carried out on the instructions of the U.S. imperialists and which violates the most elementary norms of international law and humanitarian principles, the statement urges the Brazilian authorities to restore freedom immediately to the detained men.

November 20, 1964
LITERATURE

Reportage, 1963-64

China's vast expanse has never been so intimately and swiftly linked by the news media of press and radio as it is today. An increasingly important role in this has been played by reportage in attractive literary style giving full, factual accounts of events.

First-rate reportage broadcast the experience of Chao Meng-fao, the famous woman textile worker of Shensi who has been hailed as a "daughter of the Party," and young millhands from Shanghai to Sinkiang carefully entered her words in their notebooks. Reportage has made widely known the style of training given by Kuo Hsing-fu, outstanding company commander of a P.L.A. unit. Reportage has stirred and inspired millions of Young Pioneer hearts with the story of Chang Kao-chien, the Young Pioneer who was killed while protecting his Fukien mountain commune's sheep from saboteurs.

In March last year, the editors of Renmin Ribao and the Chinese Writers' Union jointly organized a discussion on how to satisfy the growing demand for reportage and the creative problems of this genre of writing. Since then there has been an appreciable growth both in the amount of reportage and its quality. Newspapers as well as literary magazines are devoting a great deal more space to it. The three journals People's Literature, Liberation Army Literature, and Grasslands alone have published 315 in little over a twelve-month. They appear regularly and are eagerly read in Renmin Ribao and other dailies and periodicals. They have attracted increasing editorial comment and appreciative literary criticism.

Current reportage comes from many sources. Professional journalists and writers are taking a bigger interest in this literary form, and an increasing amount is written by non-professionals working in industry, agriculture, trade, the army and other fields. Each from his own angle strives to reflect the outstanding people and incidents of the sphere of life and work he knows best, and this whole body of work builds up to a lively panorama of socialist life.

New People

A central theme of contemporary reportage is the image of the new people in the van of socialist life. One of the most interesting pieces in this vein appeared in the June issue of People's Literature. Its locale is Hsiao-yu-chuang Village in Paotai County, Hopei Province, known as the "Beggars' Den" before liberation. Perennial floods, landlord extortion, Kuomintang pressgangs, Japanese and bandit raids not only denuded the villagers' homes, but finally emptied the village itself. In the worst five years, only an octogenarian was left in the place and he died from starvation after having eaten up the grain husks that stuffed his pillow.

In 1959, out of this former "Beggars' Den" came surprising news. The commune production team there, which had been on the Government's relief grain list every year till then, not only became self-sufficient but had a tidy amount of surplus grain itself to sell to the state!

Huang Chung-ying, author of the reportage Girls That Carried the Big Banner, gave the story of the village and the four young girls, aged 15 to 17, who took the lead in bringing about its transformation. In the early years after liberation water conservancy works built by the People's Government had made it possible for the Hsiao-yu-chuang lands to be tilled again and with a better chance of success. Nineteen families returned to the village. But there were only 14 able-bodied workers and four of them were young girls. These teenagers, however, descendants of generations of the poorest of the poor, were determined to shake off poverty once and for all. They were fired by the Communist Party's call for "poor brigades and teams to catch up with the rich through industry and thrift." When their team decided to expand their holding by opening up wasteland, they formed a youth shock brigade.

That frosty spring they dug indomitably at the stony soil from early till late. That autumn, the 56 mu of newly opened land yielded an additional four months' food for the village. The girls also made 400 pairs of cloth soles and cut and sold for compost 30,000 jin of weeds from a swamp. With the money earned they bought a boat and a mule for the team, a strong ox—the first the village had ever owned—20 suckling pigs and 20 rabbits. That year, the brigade erased its name from the state's relief list and left "Beggars' Den" for ever behind.

The writer drew revealing character sketches of the girls, with whom she became intimate friends.

"One day, Hsiao-ming bought a new bicycle. At noon, she pushed it out to learn to ride. I offered to help, but she scoffed. 'Whoever heard of needing an assistant when you ride a bike? That night, she was black and blue although she never admitted anything. The next morning we were to go to another village, eight li off. Hsiao-ming announced:

'Let's go by bike.'

'What! It's all of eight li...'

'Once I get on it, what does it matter how many li there are?'

'So each of us got on a big man's bike and started. On the uneven footpath atop the dyke ahead of me, Hsiao-ming's careering zigzags brought my heart to my mouth. Finally we reached the village. But—she was heading full tilt for the wall of the first house! I suddenly remembered: the girl doesn't know how to get off a bike yet! Picking herself up from the ground, she grinned: 'There, we made it, didn't we?'

The last time the authoress saw them, the girls were busy with test tubes in the lab on their farm. Only four years ago they were wholly illiterate; now they're out to scale the heights of science—and who can say they won't make it?"

Kuo Hsing-fu and His Men (by Lien Yun-shan, Kan Yao-chi and Liu Chia-chu, published in Liberation Army Literature, No. 3, 1964) vividly portrays this famous company commander, popular, respected and strict, who has trained company after company of model soldiers inspired with the lofty ideas of communism. Another fighter who has inspired countless others through being the subject of reportage is the "ace aircraft gunner" Pao Shou-keng. Pao
likes to challenge the toughest opponent he can find. He always tells the other chap first about his weak spots and the details of his technique. He says: "I've got my weak spots, there's no use covering them up. If I don't discuss and correct them with a comrade now, sooner or later they'll be exposed by the enemy." Then there is "crack artillery man" General Chao Chang-chen, deputy commander of the artillery units of the P.L.A. Already close to sixty, he tirelessly makes the rounds of his units, sharing with newcomers the wealth of his experience.

The Big View

The growth of industrial and agricultural construction has given rise to a number of pieces chronicling the progress of particular plants, farms and other enterprises. One of the most influential of these has been Taching Spirit and Taching Men, a vivid report about oilfield builders who overcame every difficulty with a revolutionary spirit and built their enterprise up from scratch into one of the leading oil centres in the country. That same revolutionary spirit is manifest in the commune peasants in Spring Over Nanlìu and Heroes of Tachai, who, under staunch Party leadership and rallied around the poor and lower-middle peasants, fought historic battles to win prosperity for their communes. Other pieces tell of workers and peasants taking up science and technological research on a scale never known before; of intellectual cadres joining in productive labors at the grass-root level, of youths carrying their newly acquired knowledge and skills back to the villages, of the sharp struggles in many forms and under varied circumstances between proletarian and bourgeois ideologies. These are some of the subjects that are attracting key attention as China's masses march forward along the path of socialism.

The growth of communist spirit and morality, of new relations between men, are the themes of much modern-day reportage. In the old days, neighboring villages were known to shed blood in the struggle for the right to use the waters of a river. Today, reportage carries to readers the story of the peasants of Panyang Commune in Fukien Province, who voluntarily offered to let the waters of a river flow through their own commune fields so that a drought-stricken commune near by could get water for its fields. As a result, a thousand mu of its land was submerged, but, overall, the community gained.

Successful ventures have also been made into many new fields of reportage, such as science, commerce, sport, city life. Master Cheng's Fate published by the China Children's Books Publishing House movingly records the vicissitudes of an old man, who works as a pedicurist in a public baths, and the honour he receives in the new society. Another reportage describes the changes in Peking's famous Ox Street, a centre of the Muslim community. This was a new departure into "street history" reportage.

Many Styles, Fresh Techniques

Diversity of literary style and technique is an important ingredient in the popularity of reportage. In depicting outstanding people, by probing into their hearts, beyond the externals, some of the best reportage have achieved great power. In describing collective units or important events, some authors have succeeded in giving a bird's-eye view of things to reveal the grand sweep of great social movements. In some, readers get acquainted with the main character not so much through direct description, as obliquely, through incidents and stories of the people around him. This has proved an effective technique. Some characters have been sketched in bold relief by skillful reporting of a single typical scene, episode or conversation. Some of the factory, commune, village or family histories are written in the traditional novel style in simple, idiomatic language with verse couplets as chapter heads. In all, completeness of the facts is a basic feature.

The march of socialism demands quick mirroring in literature. Reportage, with its swift development in the past year, has been able to answer this demand to some extent. Judging from public response and the many new, hitherto unknown names that are appearing under some very good pieces, this is a line of literature from which big things can confidently be expected.

SHORT NOTES

Books in Tibetan. An indication of the Tibetan people's rising cultural and educational level is given by the fact that close on half a million copies of books in the Tibetan language have been sold in Tibet since 1959 when serfdom was abolished. These books range from the social and natural sciences, to literature and popular readers. Among the most avid buyers are emancipated serfs who are now government functionaries, peasants and herdsmen just learning to read and write, and schoolchildren. Until Tibet was liberated in 1951, all Tibetan books were hand copied or block printed. A modern publishing house now answers its people's growing needs.

Choosing Best Popular Science Readers. A committee has been set up to select the best popular science readers published in China since liberation and give them wider circulation. The committee, organized by the Chinese Scientific and Technical Association, includes some of the most eminent scientific brains in the country. The noted bridge engineer Mao Yi-sheng heads it, and the mathematician Hua Loo-keng, the agronomist Shen Chi-yi and the technologist Yen Chi-tzu are among its vice-chairmen.

Thirty-six publishing houses in the country have submitted over 1,100 popular science publications for consideration. Some of these have been selected from the 10,000 volumes in this field published from 1957 to 1962 alone. The new committee will also sum up experience on the writing and publication of such readers.

Natural Science Series. Peking recently published eight popular science readers on subjects ranging from bacteria to guided missiles. They are the first of the "Natural Science Series" that will eventually cover questions of astronomy, physics, radio, aeronautics, chemistry, zoology, botany, entomology, bacteriology and geology.

November 20, 1964
Twice a week PIA's jet services fly you from China to Pakistan, the Middle East and on to Europe, and vice versa. Aboard PIA you get gracious service and the choice of delicious Pakistani, Chinese or European food. To make your flight more pleasant, PIA show inflight movies to both First and Economy classes—at no extra cost!

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