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Samdech and Madame Sihanouk Visit Kwangtung

Samdech Norodom Sihanouk, Head of State and Chairman of the National United Front of Cambodia, and Madame Sihanouk arrived in Kwangchow by special plane on the afternoon of February 7 for a friendly visit to Kwangtung Province together with Special Envoy Ieng Sary after having spent Tet with the Vietnamese people in Hanoi. Tens of thousands of people in Kwangchow lined the streets to give them a warm welcome.

Hsu Hsiang-chien, Vice-Chairman of the Military Commission of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China and Vice-Chairman of the Standing Committee of the National People’s Congress, made a special trip from Peking to be on hand to welcome the distinguished Cambodian guests and accompany them on their tour of the province.

The Kwangtung Provincial Revolutionary Committee gave a banquet in the evening to greet Samdech and Madame Sihanouk and the other Cambodian visitors. Chairman of the Provincial Revolutionary Committee Ting Sheng, in his speech of welcome, said that the Cambodian people and the People’s National Liberation Armed Forces led by the National United Front of Cambodia with Samdech Sihanouk as its Chairman, have won very great victories in the struggle against U.S. aggression and for national salvation. Referring to the statement issued by Samdech Sihanouk, Samdech Pennouth, Prime Minister of the Royal Government of National Union of Cambodia, and Khieu Samphan, Vice-Prime Minister and Minister of National Defence of the R.G.N.U.C., which reiterates that a solution to the Cambodian problem can be found only in the application of the March 23, 1970 five-point declaration of Samdech Sihanouk, Ting Sheng said that the people of Kwangtung Province, like the rest of the Chinese people, resolutely support the just stand of this solemn statement and the Cambodian people’s just struggle.

After speaking highly of the friendship between the Cambodian and Chinese peoples, Samdech Sihanouk quoted Premier Chou En-lai who had said that the Khmer, Vietnamese, Lao and Chinese peoples would remain united, fight together and win victory together. He also expressed confidence in victory in the common struggle against U.S. imperialism. In the near future, he said, we will realize the territorial integrity of the four countries — Taiwan will return to the embrace of the People’s Republic of China, Viet Nam will accomplish reunification, Cambodia will liberate Phnom Penh and Laos will realize national unity.

Recalling his visit to Hanoi where he celebrated Tet with the Vietnamese brothers, Samdech Sihanouk said that this had been the first Tet since the Vietnamese brothers had defeated the U.S. bombing and won decisive victory. This victory indicates that Indo-China will win final victory. We are united now and will remain united in the future, he said.

Foreign Minister Ho Dam Visits China

“It is most urgent at present that favourable conditions should be created for the independent, peaceful reunification of Korea, and no foreign countries should interfere in its internal affairs. The U.S. Government should withdraw its troops from south Korea, and the so-called ‘United Nations commission for the unification and rehabilitation of Korea’ must be abolished. This is a strong desire of the Korean people and a just demand of the people in Asia and throughout the world. The Chinese Government and people have always resolutely supported the Korean Government’s just stand on the independent, peaceful reunification of the fatherland, and insisted that the Korean question must be settled by the Korean people themselves without any foreign interference.”

This statement by Chinese Foreign Minister Chi Peng-fei was made in his speech at the banquet he gave in honour of the visit to China by the Foreign Minister of the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea Ho Dam.

Referring to the Korean problem in his speech, Ho Dam said: “Thanks to the unremitting efforts of the Government of our Republic, a North-South Joint Statement was issued last year, bringing about contacts and dialogues between the north and south. This has opened a new bright prospect for the people of our country in their advance to achieve an independent, peaceful reunification of the fatherland.

“However, behind the signboard of the United Nations, U.S. imperialism is continuing its forcible occupation of south Korea, ceaselessly sending in new-type weapons and military equipment and stepping up the modernization of the south Korean troops to obstruct the independent, peaceful reunification of Korea. At the same time, in an attempt to perpetuate the national division, certain south Korean forces are continually clamouring for ‘building up strength’ to secure a ‘superiority of strength’ in ‘confrontation while carrying on dialogue.’

“The people in north and south Korea as a whole absolutely will not tolerate such acts against national reunification. With the active support and solidarity of all peace-loving peoples of the world, they will certainly overcome the difficulties confronting them and realize the independent, peaceful reunification of the fatherland.”

Foreign Minister Ho Dam and his party arrived in Peking by special plane from Pyongyang on February 9 for a friendly visit to China as guests of China’s Foreign Minister. The Korean visitors were warmly welcomed by more than 3,000 people when they got off their plane.
Foreign Minister Chi Peng-fei held talks with Foreign Minister Ho Dam on the afternoon of the latter’s arrival and on the following morning.

Chou En-lai, Member of the Standing Committee of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China and Premier of the State Council, Li Teh-sheng, Alternate Member of the Political Bureau of the C.P.C. Central Committee and Director of the General Political Department of the Chinese People’s Liberation Army, and Chi Peng-fei, met Foreign Minister Ho Dam on the afternoon of February 10. The next day, Premier Chou and Foreign Minister Ho again. Both sides had a very cordial conversation.

On the evening of February 11, Foreign Minister Ho Dam gave a banquet at the Korean Embassy for the Chinese comrades. Present on invitation were Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Royal Government of National Union of Cambodia Sarin Chhak and Madame Sarin Chhak.

Korean Army Day Celebrated

February 8 this year was the 25th anniversary of the founding of the heroic Korean People’s Army. There is a deep fraternal friendship between the Chinese People’s Liberation Army and the Korean People’s Army. On the day of the anniversary, Jiefangjun Bao carried an editorial extending the warmest congratulations on the occasion.

To celebrate Korea’s Army Day, the Chinese Ministry of National Defence on the eve of the anniversary invited Senior Colonel Jang Rae Hyen, Military Attaché of the Korean Embassy in China, to give a report to 2,000 commanders and fighters of the Chinese People’s Liberation Army on this anniversary of the founding of the Korean People’s Army.

Senior Colonel Jang Rae Hyen said that the founding of the Korean People’s Army on February 8, 1948, was a great historic event in the history of the Korean people’s revolutionary struggle. It enabled the Korean people to repulse foreign aggression and safeguard the independ-

On February 7, Comrade Hill went from Peking to Kwangchow for a visit and left the latter city for home on the morning of February 9.

Premiere in Colombo

The entrance to Colombo’s Sugathadasa Indoor Stadium on the evening of February 2 was decorated with woven festive coconut leaves. This was the day the Wuhan Acrobatic Troupe of China gave its Sri Lanka premiere. (The troupe also plans to visit four other Asian countries—Pakistan, Afghanistan, Burma and Nepal.)

The opening ceremony was followed by 16 items performed by the acrobats which won prolonged applause and thunderous cheers from the spectators. The acrobats answered curtain calls after each item.

President and Madame William Gopallawa and Prime Minister Madame Sirimavo Bandaranaike of the Republic of Sri Lanka saw the performance on February 5.

Chinese acrobatics has a history of more than 2,000 years. Greatly loved by the people, it takes its theme from life and is full of national colour. The Chinese Wuhan Acrobatic Troupe was the third acrobatic troupe to have toured abroad on invitation in recent months. Two other Chinese acrobatic troupes have been performing in Africa and Latin America.

The Peking Acrobatic Troupe of China arrived in Tunisia on February 8 for a performance visit following its Egyptian tour.

Following its 3-week tour in Chile, the Shenyang Acrobatic Troupe of China arrived on February 6 in Peru, Chile’s northern neighbour, to perform for the Peruvian people.

February 7 Strike Marked

The 50th anniversary of the big February 7, 1923 strike by workers of the Peking-Hankow Railway was marked by the masses in Peking, Wuhan, Chengchow and other cities.

(Continued on p. 21.)
SAMDECH Norodom Sihanouk, Head of State and Chairman of the National United Front of Cambodia, made a friendship visit to the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam on invitation from January 30 to February 7, 1973. During the visit, he and Premier Pham Van Dong held talks on the present struggle of the peoples of the two countries and reached unanimity on all questions discussed. The Chinese Government and people warmly congratulate Samdech Sihanouk on this successful visit.

The peoples of the three Indochinese countries have a common destiny, sharing weal and woe. They have always supported and encouraged each other in their protracted common struggle. The struggle of the Vietnamese people has now entered a new stage and the peoples of Cambodia and Laos are marching forward in triumph. Samdech Sihanouk’s visit to the D.R.V.N. in such an excellent situation is, beyond doubt, of great significance. This visit and the publication of a joint communique have made a new contribution to the further promotion of the close friendship and militant unity of the three Indochinese peoples.

As pointed out in the joint communique, the recent signing of the Agreement on Ending the War and Restoring Peace in Viet Nam is a great victory won by the Vietnamese people in their protracted struggle, a victory for the indefectible solidarity of the three peoples of Indochina and a common victory for the people all over the world. The Vietnamese people are resolved to hold aloft the banner of peace, independence, democratic liberties and national concord and continue their struggle to complete the national, democratic revolution in south Viet Nam, defend and build the socialist north, and proceed towards the peaceful reunification of the country. Every new success achieved by the Vietnamese people on their road forward hereafter will vigorously push the development of the Indochinese situation in a direction favourable to the people in the area.

The joint communique lauded the Cambodian people for the heroic fight they have put up and the great victories they have gained under the leadership of the National United Front and the Royal Government of National Union of Cambodia; it reaffirmed the solemn stand for the solution of the Cambodian problem as expressed in the five-point declaration dated March 23, 1970 by the Cambodian Head of State. It stressed that the United States must strictly respect the fundamental national rights of the Cambodian people and the neutrality of Cambodia; that the internal affairs of Cambodia must be settled by the Cambodian people themselves, without foreign interference; that Samdech Norodom Sihanouk, Head of State of Cambodia, is the representative of the legality, legitimacy and continuity of the Cambodian state; that the R.G.N.U.C. is the only and unique legal and legitimate government of the Cambodian people. The Cambodian people’s just struggle and their just stand for the solution of the Cambodian problem has all along enjoyed the firm support of the Government of the D.R.V.N. and the Provisional Revolutionary Government of the Republic of South Viet Nam, as well as the vigorous support of the Chinese people and the people of various countries in the world. It is plain that the Cambodian problem can be resolved only when the fundamental national rights of the Cambodian people are respected and when there is no outside interference; only then can the restoration of peace be extended to the whole of Indochina.

The Chinese people are close comrades-in-arms and brothers of the peoples of Viet Nam and Cambodia. We have always regarded the Indochinese peoples’ struggle as our struggle and their victory as our victory. In the days to come, the Chinese people will, as always, resolutely support the just struggle of the three Indochinese peoples. We are deeply convinced that holding high the banner of unity and friendship of the Indochinese Peoples’ Summit Conference and persisting in struggle, the peoples of Viet Nam, Cambodia and Laos are sure to fulfil their national aspirations and win complete victory.

(Febuary 9)

February 16, 1973
Latin American Countries Opposing Hegemony

Struggle for National Economic Development

This article reviews the progress the Latin American countries made in 1972 in developing their own economies and opposing big-power hegemony, economic control and plundering. An article on the struggle of these countries to protect their marine resources appeared in our January 10 issue. — Ed.

Latin America has long been the victim of colonialist and imperialist economic aggression. Foreign monopoly capital succeeded in getting hold of practically every main resource in many of these countries which it stole unscrupulously and damaged severely. As a result, more and more countries on the continent have become aware of the absolute need to free themselves from the imperialist grip and get back the resources and wealth seized by foreign monopoly capital if they are to develop their own economies.

Recovering National Resources

Last year the Latin American countries took various measures to cope with the situation by tightening controls and restrictions with regard to foreign capital, while nationalizing that portion of foreign enterprises which is predatory by nature.

Following nationalization of such principal resources as copper, iron, coal and nitrate and the foreign enterprises extracting them, the Chilean Government last May defied imperialist pressure and decided on making U.S. International Telephone and Telegraph Company property in Chile (against which the company had conspired) state property. The assets of three other U.S. enterprises in Chile were taken over more recently.

For its part, the Peruvian Government in May nationalized all assets of the U.S.-owned International Petroleum Company; in July it took over the National Telephone Company which had been controlled by foreign capital; in August it announced cancellation of a 160,000-hectare concession formerly acquired by a U.S.-owned oil company. By September's end, of the 17,724,000 hectares of concession granted to foreign companies, 17,420,000 had been recovered by the Peruvian Government.

In a recent decree jointly signed by the President and cabinet ministers, Ecuador announced the recovery without compensation of lands from a U.S. oil company.

The Government of Venezuela decided to supervise the property and production of foreign oil companies after having promulgated a decree to get back the oil resources and nationalize natural gas within fixed time. This decision was made because the companies had used such underhand methods as sabotaging production, transferring property and dismissing workers.

The Mexican Government nationalized the Pan-American Sulphur Company, the country's largest of its kind, in May.

To preserve state sovereignty over its natural resources is a matter of great importance in terms of a country's economic development. On October 19, 1972, at the plenary session of the Board of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development in Geneva, representatives of 11 Latin American countries—Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, Guatemala, Mexico, Peru, Uruguay and Venezuela—put forward a draft resolution reaffirming the sovereign right of all countries to dispose of their natural resources. Adopted by the plenary session, the resolution said that the measures of nationalization as states may adopt in order to recover their natural resources are an expression of sovereign power. On the strength of this power, it added, a state can decide the amount and procedure of compensation, and any controversy arising in this connection falls within the jurisdiction of the law court of that state.

Many Latin American states firmly oppose the superpowers which have applied all kinds of pressure to obstruct and sabotage these countries' exercising this sovereign right. Thus, when pressure was put on one state, the rest gave support and assistance. In early September, the U.S. Kennecott Copper Company tried to prevent Chile from selling copper on the world market as a measure against the just Chilean move to nationalize the Teniente Copper Mine. The U.S. company's action was widely denounced by governments and public opinion in other Latin American countries.
and the world at large and a movement for solidarity with Chile ensued.

Latin American countries have also further united in their struggle to defend their 200-mile territorial sea rights and protect their fishing resources. (See Peking Review, No. 3, 1973.)

Developing Regional Co-operation

To counter plunder and control by the superpowers, Latin American countries have been continually augmenting the strength of their united struggle through bilateral talks, regional meetings and organizing a common market. Last year saw frequent contacts between Latin American government leaders. Chilean President Salvador Allende, for one, at the close of the year, visited Peru, Mexico, Cuba and Venezuela. The result was his country has won wider and more powerful support for its stand on defending its national rights and interests.

These mutual visits and talks not only have strengthened ties between these states and promoted mutual understanding, but also have been advantageous to developing their strength for a united struggle against the hegemonic powers in the economic sphere.

Last year, many Latin American countries signed bilateral agreements or programmes for economic and technical co-operation, trade and joint exploitation of resources.

In the struggle to preserve their oil rights and interests, they have steadily cemented ties and co-operation with one another. The first meeting of the ministers of power and petroleum of the Latin American countries took place last August in Caracas, capital of Venezuela. Attended by 20 countries, the meeting decided that the participating countries would form a common front to strengthen the price position of petroleum and other Latin American products in world markets.

In regional economic co-operation, what deserves attention is the further consolidation and development of the Andes Pact Organization of which the five countries in the Andes region (Bolivia, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador and Peru) are members. Much progress was made in 1972 in reducing tariff barriers among themselves, promoting trade on the basis of mutual benefit, planning the development of national industry and reducing imports of industrial goods from other parts of the world. Tariff reductions, an initial move to do away with their sole dependence on North American and other foreign markets in foreign trade, brought about considerable growth in the trade volume among the five countries. In September, they unanimously agreed to a programme to develop the machine-building industry in the region and undertake a division of labour between them in the production of 91 items ranging from light planes, harvesters, motor generators to clocks and watches and pumps — goods that had to be imported in the past. This was to ensure that the member states would in this way become less dependent on foreign markets.

More recently four of the Andes group countries (Bolivia, Colombia, Ecuador and Peru) have come to an agreement with Venezuela to set up a permanent committee to co-ordinate policies for the development of the power and oil industries in the Andes region.

The fruitful co-operation among member states of the Andes Pact Organization have continuously made that body’s influence felt on the Latin American continent.

An agreement was reached in October between the Andes Pact Organization and Mexico to set up a mixed Andean-Mexican committee with a view to expanding economic co-operation and ties between the organization and Mexico.

A joint statement made recently by the organization and Argentina announced the establishment of an Andean-Argentine committee aimed at bringing the two parties into closer contact in trade, industry, technology and various fields in which implementation of mutually beneficial policies and joint action are possible, and at analysing the possibility of gradually realizing the goal of supplementing each other economically.

Opposing the foreign monopolies, especially the United Fruit which has harmed them by forcing down the price of bananas, the three banana countries — Colombia, Costa Rica and Ecuador — not long ago decided to form a union of countries exporting the fruit. Recently, the Council of Ministers of the Caribbean Free Trade Association (CARIFTA), attended by 12 countries and territories, met in Georgetown, capital of Guyana, to discuss the further strengthening of economic integration of the Caribbean countries and preparations to create a Caribbean community.

Co-ordinated Action With Afro-Asian Countries

In the struggle to safeguard national rights and interests, the Latin American countries have paid special attention to co-ordinated action and mutual support between them and other third world countries. In 1972, at various international meetings they, together with Afro-Asian countries, condemned the power politics and hegemonism of the superpowers and reaffirmed their determination to protect their national resources and develop their national economies. A special ministerial conference of the joint committee of the governments of the copper exporting countries, composed of Chile and Peru from Latin America and Zaire and Zambia from Africa, was held and came to a decision to strengthen co-operation and mutual support in the fight against the peremptory attitude of the supra-state companies and their plunder.

Latin America’s coffee-producers are uniting with their counterparts in Africa in their efforts to preserve

(Continued on p. 12.)
Congratulations on Signing
Of Paris Agreement

In the days preceding and following the conclusion of the Paris agreement, many countries welcomed the ending of the war in Viet Nam and warmly congratulated the Vietnamese people on their great victory. In our last issue we published excerpts of some congratulatory messages. Below are excerpts of messages and comments from more countries.—Ed.

Cuba. When he received the Ambassadors of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam and the Republic of South Viet Nam on January 26, President Dorticos told them that the Cuban people were greatly inspired by the Vietnamese people’s victory of far-reaching significance in their heroic struggle and looked upon this victory as a great triumph for all the peoples of the world.

The President also said the Cuban people and Government will continue to give the finest and warmest support to the heroic Vietnamese people in their new struggle for the fullerment of the agreement that has been reached, and in the reconstruction of their country.

Pakistan. In a statement on the conclusion of the agreement on Viet Nam in Paris, President Bhutto said: “Pakistan honours an epic struggle lasting for three decades and crowning a whole series of glorious national movements. No people have struggled so long and consistently against such overwhelming odds as have the brave people of Viet Nam. No country has been so ravaged by war as Viet Nam.”

“Today the war has ended,” the statement said. “The Government and people of Pakistan share in the rejoicing of the people of Viet Nam. Their struggle has not only done honour to their nation but has restored Asia’s pride and rehabilitated Asia’s self-respect, which suffered much from long years of colonial rule.”

Afghanistan. King Mohammed Zahir Shah on January 25 welcomed the agreement and expressed his pleasure over the fact that the sufferings of the people of Viet Nam caused by the destructive war had finally come to an end and this major threat to world peace was being alleviated. He also hoped that the provisions of the ceasefire agreement would be fully implemented, opening the way for the solution of tension in other parts of Asia and the world.

On the same day, Mohammed Musa Shafiq, Prime Minister and Foreign Minister of the Royal Government of Afghanistan, said that for years Afghanistan had supported with full sympathy the right of the people of Viet Nam to peace, secure from aggression and foreign intervention. Afghanistan had expressed this stand in international gatherings from the start of the Viet Nam issue.

Sri Lanka. Madame Sirimavo Bandaranaike, Prime Minister of the Republic of Sri Lanka, in a statement on January 25 said: “The cessation of the hostilities in Viet Nam will mark the end of one of the longest and cruellest wars in recent history and it is, therefore, a boon not only to the people of Viet Nam who have been its hapless victims but also to the international community in its efforts to promote peace in the world and end international conflict.”

“It is our earnest hope that these agreements will inaugurate an era of peace and stability in Asia,” the statement said.

Burma. The Government of the Union of Burma issued a statement on January 26 welcoming the agreement on Viet Nam.

The statement said: “Complete peace in Viet Nam should be regarded as but a prelude, for Cambodia and Laos still remain to be restored to that condition. Further, durable peace needs to be established in the entire Southeast Asian region and the Government of the Union of Burma considers that the opportune moment has arrived for the nations of the region to come together to work out the means to that end.”

Nepal. The Foreign Ministry of the Kingdom of Nepal, in a statement on January 24 said that the accord is highly laudable in so far as it relieves the tension in Southeast Asia and holds out promises of better prospects for unity and peace among nations on the continent.

“The accord also paves the way towards the elimination of the causes of conflict in the Indochina region as a whole,” the statement said.

Mexico. President Echeverría on January 24 said that the agreement on Viet Nam “was one long awaited.”

“No effort for the consolidation of peace would become futile but world peace can be founded on a permanent basis only by the practice of equal economic dealing and non-intervention in the countries of the third world politically and militarily,” he added.

Peru. President Velasco, in a comment on the agreement on Viet Nam on January 24, said: “The
Vietnamese people are a people long accustomed to fighting against powerful countries. With peace a climate will set in for the reorganization of their country. They have to heal the wounds and begin the reunion of a big family that has been disunited."

Tanzania. In a statement on January 24, the Tanzanian Government said: "Tanzania has always believed and stated publicly that the Vietnamese people fighting for a just cause will win. Although this is only the beginning of establishment of peace and independence in Viet Nam, Tanzania has every reason to rejoice with the Vietnamese people and people all over the world."

"The people of Tanzania equally salute the American people whose pressure on their aggressive Government has been a great contributory factor towards the ceasefire agreement."

"The Tanzanian Government hopes that all remaining United States forces and bases in Thailand, Laos, Taiwan and south Korea will in due course be removed," the statement said.

Guinea. In his message to President Ton Duc Thang, President Toure said: "Learning of the signing of the ceasefire agreement, the Guinean people, the Guinea Democratic Party and the Government extend heartfelt respects to the heroic Vietnamese people for their extraordinary courage and unswerving demonstrations in their historic struggle. In the last 25 years for defending national independence and sovereignty and upholding the honour, dignity and unity of the Vietnamese motherland."

President Toure's message to Foreign Minister Nguyen Thi Binh said: On the occasion of the signing of the ceasefire agreement, "the Guinea Democratic Party and the Government extend their warm regards to the militant revolutionary people of south Viet Nam and the strong Provisional Revolutionary Government of the Republic of South Viet Nam and express their warmest congratulations."

Algeria. In his message to President Ton Duc Thang and Premier Pham Van Dong, President Houari Boumediene said: "The victory is a result of the efforts made by several generations for the realization of your revolutionary objectives and of their great sacrifices and unremitting struggle. These have placed the Vietnamese people in an important place in the liberation history of the third world."

President Boumediene's message to Presidents Nguyen Huu Tho and Huynh Tan Phat said that the signing of the agreement "is a prelude to ultimate victory to be achieved by the Indochinese peoples in their sacrifices and revolutionary struggle for the realization of their just cause."

Chile. Welcoming the signing of the agreement on Viet Nam, President Allende said: "In the name of the Chilean people, I express my satisfaction with and our admiration for the great historic lesson which Viet Nam has given the world."

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The experience of Viet Nam, noted the President, showed that it was impossible "to impose upon a people a system of life, a thinking, a doctrine which they reject." He added: "However powerful the country which has such intentions, as long as there is confidence, sacred dedication, national and patriotic passion, as long as they are in hand, force and the development of war can be overcome, the perfection of destructive elements, which has been brought to the greatest extent, can be overcome, the power of money can be overcome."

Syria. Premier Mahmoud Ayyoubi on January 27 received the Ambassador of the Republic of South Viet Nam to Syria and congratulated the Vietnamese people on their victory.

The Syrian Foreign Ministry in a statement on January 25 pointed out: "The victory of the Vietnamese people was a victory for the freedom, national independence and self-determination of peoples. The victory won by the national-liberation forces in Viet Nam should be a motive for winning further victories against the forces of imperialism and invasion in Asia, Africa and Latin America."

Palestine. The Executive Committee of the Palestine Liberation Organization issued a statement which said: "What happened in Viet Nam proves the fact that the small peoples can stand in face of enemy forces no matter how powerful the are. Small peoples who carry arms and fight are invincible."

"The Palestinian people and all other militant peoples fighting against imperialism and puppet reactionary forces consider the victory of the Vietnamese people as a victory of all militant peoples and a defeat to imperialism," it declared.

Sudan. In a message on January 25 to President Ton Duc Thang, President Nimeri said that the legendary struggle of the Vietnamese people for independence and national unity "will go down in history as an epic of heroism and will be engraved for ever in the memories of all justic peace-loving peoples as a prominent milestone on the road of dignity and honour."

"We, in the Democratic Republic of the Sudan," the message said, "are looking forward to closer co-operation with the friendly Vietnamese people in our joint struggle against imperialism, colonialism and racial discrimination. The victory which you achieved through your great struggle for national independence and unity will for ever inspire the fighters everywhere in their struggle for freedom."

Mali. President Moussa Traore on January 26 sent identical messages of warm congratulations to the President of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam and to the President of the Provisional Revolutionary Government of the Republic of South Viet Nam.

The messages reaffirmed the Malian people's total support for the Vietnamese people "in their just struggle for freedom and independence for nearly 30 years."
SEVERELY pounded by the capitalist world stormy monetary crisis, the U.S. Government announced on the evening of February 12 a 10 per cent devaluation of the dollar. This is the second devaluation of the dollar in the past 14 months.

According to Western press reports, U.S. Secretary of the Treasury Shultz told a press conference at which the announcement was made that the measure was taken with a view to speeding improvement in the U.S. foreign trade and international payments position, particularly to correcting the huge payments imbalance between the United States and Japan. At the same time, he expressed concern that the devaluation could aggravate inflation in the United States. He added that it would be difficult to estimate the impact, and said that the United States must cautiously avoid an upswing in the cost of living. Shultz also complained that progress in the work to reform the monetary system of the capitalist world "has been too slow."

In Tokyo on February 13, Japanese Finance Minister Aichi announced the Japanese Government's decision to float the Japanese yen. Closed on February 10, Tokyo's foreign exchange market reopened on February 14. Japanese bankers and industrialists believed that the upward floating of the yen, which in fact is tantamount to a steep revaluation of the Japanese currency, would seriously affect Japan's economy.

Following the announcement by Shultz on the dollar devaluation and Aichi's announcement on the floating of the yen, F.R.G. Government's spokesman von Wechmar said that "the [F.R.G.] Government welcomes the results achieved." He stated that, with the exception of the dollar and the yen, the F.R.G. would retain the mark's current parity with all other currencies. French Finance and Economic Affairs Minister d'Estaing said that "France has taken a position in favour of the dollar devaluation." An AFP report quoted British official sources as saying that the British Government considered the dollar devaluation as "broadly satisfactory." Italian Treasury Minister Malagodi announced the floating of the lira.

A rush to sell dollars got under way in European money markets in the latter half of January. The mark and the yen were hard hit by early February under the deluge of huge amounts of idle funds in the form of U.S. dollars. To maintain the parities of the mark and the yen and to avoid revaluation of these currencies, thus weakening the competitive power of German and Japanese commodities in the world market, the German Federal Bank was forced to buy up over 6,000 million dollars while the Bank of Japan had to buy up over 1,100 million dollars. Confronted by this heavy influx of U.S. dollars, the Japanese Government decided on February 10 to close the Tokyo foreign exchange market. Following this, such main West European capitalist countries as Britain, France, the F.R.G., Italy and Belgium announced one after another the closing of their foreign exchange markets on February 12. Money markets in Australia, New Zealand, Singapore, Malayasia and other places soon followed suit. The entire capitalist monetary markets were paralysed.

The root cause of the present monetary crisis lies in the vulnerable position of the dollar resulting from the huge U.S. balance of payments deficits over successive years. The frequency of such a crisis signifies the continued development of the dollar crisis that has existed since 1960. The dollar's vulnerable position has not improved in more than a year following the agreement on the realignment of currency exchange rates and other issues reached among the ten major Western countries at the Washington meeting in December 1971. U.S. inflation developed further in 1972. The volume of the U.S. currency supply rose 11 per cent, reaching 246,800 million dollars by the end of the year. The U.S. Government budget deficit for fiscal 1973 (July 1, 1972 to June 30, 1973) is as high as 24,800 million dollars. In 1972 U.S. foreign trade deficit hit 6,440 million dollars, trebling that in 1971, and became the highest in history.

All this further shook the dollar's credibility. Dollar holders became more alarmed as a result of a study published on January 22 this year by the Morgan Guaranty Trust Company. The study says: The U.S. basic balance of payments deficit in 1972 was 10,000 million dollars, or 600 million dollars above that in 1971; the U.S. payments deficit in 1973 may total from 8,000 million to 8,500 million dollars; and the U.S. foreign trade deficit this year will probably total be-
between 4,000 million and 5,000 million dollars. This has given rise to heavy dollar selling in Western Europe. The Italian Government announced a two-tier exchange system on January 22. The following day the Swiss Government decided to stop supporting the dollar in foreign exchange markets, which means that the Swiss franc is being allowed to float. This was followed by a new monetary crisis storm with heavy dollar selling and hectic buying of the mark and yen sweeping the major financial centres of the capitalist world.

Intense activity took place on the part of the United States, West European countries and Japan in an effort to find ways to tide over the crisis. On February 7, the U.S. President sent Paul Volcker, Treasury Under-Secretary for monetary affairs, to Tokyo, Bonn, London, Paris and Rome. Five days later, he sent former Secretary of Commerce Peterson to Western Europe and Japan to hold talks there. The Japanese Government on February 11 dispatched Takashi Hosomi, adviser to the Ministry of Finance, to Bonn and then to other places in Western Europe for talks on measures to cope with the crisis. After a meeting between the finance ministers of the F.R.G., Britain and France on February 9, F.R.G. Finance Minister Schmidt, British Chancellor of the Exchequer Barber, French Finance Minister d'Estaing and Italian Treasury Minister Malagodi had a 3-hour secret talk on the evening of February 11 at the Paris residence of the French Finance Minister. On February 11, Volcker visited Paris and then Rome, and hurried back to Paris again on the same evening to talk with the four finance and treasury ministers. It was after these meetings and talks that the United States announced the dollar devaluation.

A Western news agency held that the dollar devaluation could not eliminate the dollar crisis, which is the root cause of the repeated eruption of monetary crises in the capitalist world, because “there is no guarantee that the devaluation will accomplish one of its main purposes, which is to improve the U.S. trade deficit and balance of payments position.”

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Report From Ethiopia

The Home of Coffee

November is coffee harvest time in Ethiopia. Big clusters of red cherry-like berries can be seen everywhere among a profusion of coffee trees. Many people were busy picking these ripe berries.

Where Coffee Was Discovered

The first coffee tree, it is said, was discovered in Agaro, Kaffa Province. More than a thousand years ago, before coffee was known to the outside world, the people of Kaffa had begun to eat wild coffee berries. According to one legend, a shepherd found that after his goats ate these berries, they became very lively and couldn't sleep all night. After hearing this, people began eating the berries which they thought probably contained something acting as a stimulant. At first, they ate fresh coffee berries and then cooked ones. Later they roasted and ground them and boiled the powder into a beverage to which they added salt or sugar. About the 16th century Arab traders introduced coffee seedlings from Ethiopia to Yemen and Saudi Arabia's Mecca, and then to other places. The name “coffee” was adopted from the name of its native place — Kaffa. Coffee is now grown in many places in the world and has long been a popular beverage.

Fruit of Enormous Toil

During the 1972 coffee harvesting season, we drove more than 300 kilometres from Addis Ababa to a 640-hectare coffee plantation, the biggest in Kaffa Province. Some 80,000 lush coffee plants were growing on the slopes of dozens of rolling hills. Roaming through the plantation, we saw many growers picking berries. They told us they expected a good harvest for the year, and that it would surpass that of previous years.

Some people say that the coffee plant does not need much care and that once it takes root it will bear fruit for dozens of years. However, we found during our visit that this was not true. Coffee is a delicate plant requiring much warmth, but its seedlings cannot stand direct sunlight. Thus coffee growers put up covering over each of the tens of thousands of tender shoots. Before the seedlings grow into plants, a tree is planted every few metres to shade the seedlings from scorching sunshine. Coffee growers, too, have to prune, weed,

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apply fertilizer and fight insect pests. And after millions upon millions of ripe berries are picked, they have to be washed, fermented, hulled, dried and sorted to remove the imperfect beans. Sipping a cup of fresh coffee is a pleasure to the drinker, but he may never know how much labour the growers have put into raising the plant.

Cultivation over the centuries has brought about a considerable variety of coffee in different countries. People living in the homeland of coffee have been striving to maintain the high quality and good reputation of coffee. At the Coffee Research Institute set up by the Ethiopian Coffee Board near Jimma, the man in charge showed us around. One of the experiments carried out here was collecting and nurturing 73 strains of coffee from other parts of the world for dissemination in Ethiopia.

Today’s coffee output in Kaffa Province accounts for 45 per cent of the whole country’s production and the beans are big, give a rich flavour and retain the features of the original Kaffa coffee. Ethiopia’s coffee production has increased year by year. Total output in 1971 reached 230,000 tons as against 81,900 tons in 1959, a nearly threefold rise in 12 years.

Defending Rights and Interests

The country’s total coffee acreage has expanded to 600,000 hectares. In addition to Kaffa Province, it is also grown in Hararge, Arussi, Sidamo, Gamu-Gofa and Wollega Provinces.

Not only is coffee indispensable for the Ethiopians as a drink, but it also has an important place in their national economy. Statistics show that a total of over 5 million people (about one out of every five Ethiopians) depend on coffee for their livelihood — they grow, pick, cure or sell it. Coffee brings in 60 per cent of Ethiopia’s foreign exchange revenue and it is not surprising that it is called the “green gold of Ethiopia.”

Though coffee output increases yearly, income has diminished year by year, instead of rising accordingly. This is because Western coffee traders have steadily forced down the price at the expense of the coffee growers and coffee-growing countries. Ethiopia exported 73,000 tons of coffee in 1971 as in 1966 but got 24 per cent less in payment. The devaluation of the U.S. dollar also caused losses to Ethiopia’s coffee export earnings in the first half of 1972. The official daily Ethiopian Herald said that the unhappy plight of the coffee-producing countries was caused by several developed countries. “The rich nations at the international coffee organization have concentrated on keeping the price as low and as steady as possible,” it said. “The result for the producing countries is that their export revenue is stagnating at a time when their import costs are rising rapidly because of inflation in the rich world.”

After petroleum, coffee is the largest primary product in world trade and Ethiopia is one of the 17 major coffee-exporting countries and regions. To protect their national economic interests, Ethiopia and nine other coffee-producing countries forced the United States to alter the export quota at a meeting in January 1971. At the International Coffee Council meeting in London last August, the coffee-producing countries raised export prices after consultation among themselves; to maintain the price, they reduced the supply of coffee to the world market in defiance of threats from the major coffee-consuming countries headed by the United States.

In order to protect its national economy, Ethiopia is promoting agricultural diversification and increasing the number of exports. Early last year, Ethiopian Minister of Commerce, Industry and Tourism Ketema Yiru said at a meeting that it was intolerable that Ethiopia should remain indefinitely subject to the international vicissitudes which govern coffee, the crop which still forms the main basis of Ethiopia’s foreign trade. He added that coffee can continue to be an important item in Ethiopian exports but “we need now actively to reach for and develop other exports.”

— Hsiahua Correspondent

(Continued from p. 7.)

the coffee export price. This is of tremendous economic significance to the Latin American countries, considering the fact that a drop of one U.S. cent for a pound of coffee would mean an annual loss of 55 million dollars for 14 Latin American countries.

So that they too can have their say on the international monetary question, a meeting of eight Latin American countries with Asian, African and other countries in Caracas made the decision to take joint action. Meanwhile, Latin American countries’ trade and economic co-operation with other third world countries also have been growing. Latin America’s major exports, such as copper, fishmeal, aluminium oxide, have made their way into the markets of other third world countries.

The fight for economic independence is a component part of the national-liberation movement in Latin America. The position of U.S. imperialism as the overlord in Latin America was further weakened last year. Waving the signboard of “aid,” the other superpower tried to worm its way into the continent and plunder resources and wealth there, thereby revealing bit by bit its true social-imperialist colour. In the circumstances, 1973 will see further development in Latin America’s struggle against big power hegemony and control.
Race Against Time
— Shanghai Expands a Large Power Plant

WORKERS in Shanghai, China's largest industrial city, completed the foundations and buildings for the expansion of a big thermal power plant in less than ten months last year. By the end of the year the first 125,000-kilowatt generating set had been installed and put into operation.

The way in which this steam turbo-generating set with inner water-cooled stator and rotor was designed, built, installed and put into operation, all within the same year and more than six months earlier than planned, has been highly praised.

Building the project was decided on by the Shanghai Municipal Revolutionary Committee at the beginning of 1972. It was not long before the construction site became the throbbing centre of great activity, with those involved striving to get as much work done in the shortest possible time. Cadres, workers and technicians launched a big movement to criticize and repudiate the counter-revolutionary revisionist line pushed by Liu Shao-chi and other political swindlers. This enabled the general line formulated by Chairman Mao of "going all out, aiming high and achieving greater, faster, better and more economical results in building socialism" to be implemented in an all-round way.

Originally, the plan called only for completing the foundations and buildings by the end of 1972, but the builders said: "We have to get it done as quickly as possible. It's a race against time and power must go out this year!"

They worked day and night, in wind and rain. A big typhoon struck while the main building was being put up and huge 50-60-ton girders had just been raised into position. If the binding cement was not poured into the joints immediately the girders were in danger of being blown down.

Construction worker Feng Lung-ken saw this hazard. Without the least hesitation, he called on a group of young workers to do something about it. The horizontal beams they walked along carrying 50-kilogramme baskets of grout to pour into the joints were more than 40 metres above ground and only 30 centimetres across. Encouraged by this spirit of "fearing neither hardship nor death" they displayed, young workers doing different work at the work-site followed suit and organized themselves into shock forces to tackle the most difficult jobs whenever and wherever they came up.

Co-operation

The workers had to do a prodigious amount of work, and time was short. More than 70,000 cubic metres of earth had to be removed, the main building, more than 40 metres high, had to go up, as well as a number of auxiliary buildings, and more than 7,000

A view of the work-site.

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tons of equipment for the first generating set had to be installed.

The Shanghai Municipal Revolutionary Committee and leading organs concerned organized designing, manufacturing, building and many other departments concerned to co-ordinate their efforts and work together smoothly. The Shanghai Boiler Plant, the Shanghai Steam Turbine Plant and the Shanghai Electric Machinery Plant, responsible for turning out the main components for the generating set, each concentrated their forces for this crash effort.

The spirit of unity and co-operation was everywhere at the work-site. When there were not enough machines and tools to dig the foundations of the main building, people from the different units concerned in the project sent their excavators, bulldozers and trucks along, regardless of whether they were there to do civil engineering jobs or to do installation work. All worked together to dig the foundations. When there was a shortage of rolled steel, many departments immediately sent in their own stocks.

There are many accounts of how people took hold of difficulties to make things easier for others. More than 20 departments worked simultaneously on this project involving several hundred operations. In May one department putting down 1,200 metres of underground water pipes ran into another that was digging the main building’s foundations. Both jobs had to be done quickly and in the same confined space.

To facilitate excavation work those responsible for laying the pipes stepped aside three times. Ingeniously, they made up for lost time by thinking up all sorts of ideas and using a variety of methods, including putting the short intervals of time the other department was not working to full use. They even managed to complete their task with two days to spare.

Several times leading members of a Shanghai power plant led their workers to put in voluntary labour at the work-site. They worked even in the rain, digging, carrying and shifting moulds and clearing the site. When the Chinning Power Plant which is off in the far northwest heard that the enlargement project needed three special valves to lower temperature and pressure they immediately sent two workers with them to Shanghai.

The leadership at the site went deep among the masses, relied on the workers’ collective wisdom and solved difficulties. While the generating unit was being installed, leading cadres stayed with the three shifts day and night to discuss with them problems that had cropped up. The workers’ enthusiasm and creativeness were further enhanced. Their many proposals to improve construction work enabled them to complete the installation of the boiler weighing over 1,000 tons and with more than 6,900 welds in only 38 days.

Quality Guaranteed

While stepping up the work tempo, workers, cadres and technicians at the same time paid close attention to quality. Experienced installation worker Wang Ah-ken, all in all, made more than 200 proposals for improvements in quality. Once when the turbines were being put in, a bearing race was found to be a little faulty. He made several dozen painstaking adjustments to finally reduce this error to zero. The 40 workers responsible for welding the boiler were mostly newcomers, but under the guidance of veteran workers they worked diligently and mastered welding skills. A number of benches were set up in a work-shed for them to practise welding from different positions, sprawling on the ground, kneeling and lying on their sides. Because they always kept attaining the best quality in mind, and because they studied attentively and mastered techniques and skills, every high-pressure weld in the boiler was up to standard.

Whenever speed and quality came into conflict, the workers put quality first. As a result, the quality of the project was up to the standard set by the state, excellent and done at high speed.
A Party Committee Having Close Ties With the Masses

THE Peking General Knitwear Mill has more than 3,000 workers and staff in its seven workshops. Its leading organ, the current Party committee (the basic organization of the Chinese Communist Party in a factory) consisting of old, middle-aged and young cadres, was established three years ago in the Great Proletarian Cultural Revolution. The 23-member Party committee includes veteran Communists with long years of experience in revolutionary struggle and ten new cadres promoted from the rank and file during the Cultural Revolution.

Carrying out Chairman Mao's teaching "Direct reliance on the revolutionary masses is a basic principle of the Communist Party," the Party committee members maintain extensive, constant and close ties with the worker masses.

Participation in Labour

Leading members take part in labour regularly as ordinary workers among the masses. Ordinarily, only two members of the standing committee (eight of the 23 members are on it and are responsible for day-to-day work) are in charge of the work, the rest go straight to the grass-roots level in the workshops and take part in production. At the same time they look into things and study the situation. Some do this for half a year at a time. Over the past three years leading members of the Party committee have worked in the mill's production workshops, warehouses, dining rooms and other places.

The mill had to take on an urgent construction job in the winter of 1971. Braving severe cold, leading Party committee members worked with the rank and file, carting bricks and earth. The work tempo was not affected at all by the weather. On the contrary, the job was finished ahead of schedule. In order to raise the quality and range of products last year, four Party committee members went right down into four workshops, including knitting and bleaching and dyeing. Working together with the workers, they mobilized the masses to learn from the experience of other places. This enabled the mill to turn out 95.57 per cent first-grade all-cotton knitwear, instead of 91.94 per cent as it had done earlier that year, and set the highest up-to-standard rate in the mill's history. In addition, the mill turned out new products including terylene shirts and foamed plastic coats.

Cheng Yu-tsai who is a deputy secretary of the Party committee was an engineer and vice-director of the mill prior to the Cultural Revolution. Willing to learn from veteran workers, he spent half a year in the cutting workshop and, overcoming his old fault of divorcing theory from practice, completed a technical innovation.

Soliciting Opinions

Party committee members pay much attention to putting their work and their thought under the supervision of the masses. The following occurred as early as 1968: Soon after the mill's revolutionary committee was set up, a propaganda show-case displayed charts and illustrations showing the achievements in revolution and production. Some workers felt that the leadership, showered with praise, was showing signs of conceit and complacency. They made their opinion known to the revolutionary committee, citing a quotation by Chairman Mao: "Modesty helps one to go forward, whereas conceit makes one lag behind. This is a truth we must always bear in mind."

This had a profound effect on the leadership which saw that through participating in the Cultural Revolution the workers were using Mao Tsetung Thought in a much better way and to a greater extent to supervise and help the leadership. This spirit must be given the utmost encouragement, the leadership decided. At a mass meeting called in front of the show-case, workers were asked to list faults and shortcomings in the mill. The original display was replaced by the quotation used by the workers who were commended on the spot for their fine spirit of concern for the leadership.

This has become a tradition for the mill's leadership over the years. "Open-door rectification of work-style" meetings are held at least twice a year. The manner in which these are conducted varies, such as inviting representatives of workers to forums to express their views, Party committee members going to the workshops for heart-to-heart talks, or asking the workers and cadres at the grass-roots level to make suggestions and criticisms to the Party committee.

"The leadership does not fear criticism from the masses," Party committee members always remind themselves. "What one should be afraid of is not getting such criticism. Making an error is nothing to fear; what is dangerous is not correcting errors." Whenever they observe that the flow of proposals, comments and criticisms from the masses is falling off, they take care to speak more about their own weaknesses, faults and shortcomings so as to draw criticism and comments from the masses. Such opinions, suggestions and criticism are carefully considered and studied. Those that are correct are acted upon. Those that are one-sided or wrong are analysed by using Mao Tsetung Thought and explanations are patiently given.

In the spring of 1971 the mill, besides spending 40,000 yuan on equipment for recovering caustic soda which flowed off in waste in the bleaching and dyeing process, asked (Continued on p. 18.)
NEW strains of rice, wheat and other high-yielding and quick-ripening crops that adapt well to adverse weather or relatively poor soil conditions have been evolved in China in the last few years by agricultural scientists and peasants. Their popularization has been a positive factor in raising output in certain low-yielding areas and promoting agricultural development in the country as a whole.

**New Strains**

The *hsien* rice strain traditionally used in south China's main rice-producing areas was easily lodged by typhoon or when closely planted or treated with large quantities of manure or fertilizer. Output was not high. Back in 1956 some Kwangtung peasants noticed that two short-stalk rice plants were still standing after a typhoon had levelled a plot of land. It was from these two plants that the new strain *nantei*, which can take heavy applications of fertilizer and stand up against lodging, was developed. This opened the way for the coastal areas of Kwangtung, Fukien, Chekiang and Kiangsu to breed lodging-resistant strains. Another high-yielding strain which can take heavy doses of fertilizer and withstand lodging was later bred by scientific research institutes, including the Kwangtung Academy of Agricultural Sciences, in co-operation with peasants. Spread over a dozen or so provinces in southern China, in general it yields 30 per cent more than ordinary strains.

New early-ripening strains have also been evolved in the south. A type of early *hsien* rice developed by the Chekiang Academy of Agricultural Sciences ripens in only 100 days or so and generally yields 700 jin per mu, with the highest yield reaching 900 jin. It has helped raise three crops a year in the Yangtze River basin, the Pearl River delta and other subtropical areas.

In recent years, a number of early-ripening, disease-resistant *keng* rice strains have been bred in northern China to expand acreage in chilly, high-altitude areas. In addition, this makes it possible to grow two crops, rice and wheat, a year in the Peking, Tientsin and other northern areas.

The chief aim of New China's wheat-growing areas in breeding fine wheat seeds is to get rust-resistant strains, since stripe rust is a major problem in production. More than 100 rust-resistant strains have been bred and widely adopted since the Great Cultural Revolution started. They have proved effective in combating stripe rust. One winter wheat strain bred by the Northwest Agricultural Institute effectively resists diseases. It has been sown on more than 10 million mu in 11 north China provinces and has yielded roughly 20 per cent more than ordinary strains.

Growing winter wheat on the cold Tibetan Plateau has met with success in the last few years. Chiacha County in the Loka Area north of the Himalayas got an average wheat yield of over 500 jin per mu on 3,300 mu last year — 50 per cent higher than spring wheat and *chingko* barley yields on the same kind of land.

New spring wheat strains well suited to harsh weather, poor soil and various natural conditions have been successfully cultivated in north China. Some have
been widely adopted and have effectively increased output.

Cotton strains have been improved three times on a wide scale since 1949, leading to a steady rise in yields. New strains developed in Kiangsu and Hunan Provinces give more than the old strains after they have been popularized in the Yangtze and Yellow River basins.

Hybrid strains of maize and sorghum suited to varied climatic conditions have been bred all over the country in the last few years. A kind of maize bred by the Agricultural Scientific Institute of Hsinhsiang Region in Honan Province gives 20 per cent more than previously used strains. A hybrid sorghum evolved by the Institute on the Use of Atomic Energy under the Chinese Academy of Agricultural and Forestry Sciences increases output by 30 to 50 per cent. Adoption of these hybrids is helping raise maize and sorghum output in some low-yielding parts of northern China and hilly areas in southern China.

Good seed strains have also been bred for soya beans, peanuts, rapeseed, sweet potatoes, sugar-cane and various kinds of fruit to be used in different localities.

China's scientists are making efforts to advance the use of atomic energy in agriculture. Over 40 new strains of rice, wheat, soybeans and other crops have been obtained in the last decade by mutation through radiation. These have already been popularized and used in production.

**Peasants Take Part**

The Party and the People's Government have paid great attention to seed breeding and special scientific research institutes have been set up. Large numbers of scientific and technical personnel have been trained. Chairman Mao summed up the practical experience of the Chinese peasants and scientists and in 1956 put forward the Eight-Point Charter for agriculture, in which improved seed strains are listed as one of the eight principal factors for achieving good harvests. Since then agricultural scientific experimentation has developed with added vigour. Apart from those research institutes at and above the provincial level, many regions and counties have set up centres for popularizing agricultural techniques, seed stations and good strain plots; many communes, production brigades and teams have formed scientific experiment groups. A big contingent of ordinary peasants have taken part in these activities, with many becoming technicians.

In 1959 the Yuchitan Brigade in Honan Province opened a spare-time agro-technical school staffed by team cadres, veteran peasants and professional agricultural technical workers. Three hundred agro-technicians have been trained from among ordinary peasants. In the past decade and more, they have not only developed five good wheat strains, but have written a book summarizing their experience in wheat cultivation. The brigade's average per-mu wheat yields reached 600 jin as against some 100 jin just after liberation.

Many peasant seed breeders have come to the fore in mass scientific experiments. Chi Tek-chang from Shanghai's suburbs is one. A hired labourer for 12 years in pre-liberation days, he has in the last two decades cultivated seven good wheat strains. Having devoted himself tirelessly to studying the laws governing wheat cultivation, he is able to sum up a whole series of experiences in raising wheat output. Not long ago he

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*Chinese Weights and Measures*

**At a Glance**

1 jin = 0.5 kilogramme or 1.1023 pounds

1 mu = 0.06 hectare or 0.1647 acre

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was invited by Shanghai’s Futan University to be a lecturer in its biology department.

**Scientists’ Efforts**

Scientists go to the countryside from time to time to learn from and sum up the farming experience of the poor and lower-middle peasants. They have made contributions in evolving and spreading good crop strains and popularizing cultivation technique.

Since 1970, scientists of the Chinese Academy of Agricultural and Forestry Sciences have formed themselves into 35 teams to go to the countryside to help breed good strains. One team went to the Taichai Brigade in Shansi Province—a pace-setter in agriculture. In co-operation with local peasants, the scientists selected five kinds of hybrid maize which yield more than ordinary strains. They also studied and helped solve problems met in planting paddy-rice on mountains, 1,100 metres above sea level. They reaped a harvest of 1,270 jin per mu.

Another team went to Yanan’s Taoyuan Brigade. Making innovations in wheat-growing techniques and popularizing good strains, its members and local peasants succeeded in reaping 657 jin of wheat per mu.

Aiming at raising millet output in the locality, scientific personnel of a research institute in north China’s Shansi Province went to different millet-growing areas to collect 517 kinds of millet. After several years of study, some good strains adaptable to various natural conditions in the locality were evolved. Generally yielding some 200 jin per mu in the past, millet plots on an extensive scale there now give over 1,000 jin a mu since newly cultivated good seeds were popularized.

Apart from drawing on the rich farming experience of the labouring people in the country, seed breeders have also introduced good crop strains from abroad and exchanged experience with their colleagues in other countries on seed breeding and cultivation techniques. For example, wheat seeds from Chile have been trial-planted and popularized in east, south, northwest and north China since 1959. Furthermore, some provinces and municipalities cross-bred this strain to develop another high-yielding, rust-resistant strain which adapts well to different localities. A short-stalk barley introduced from Denmark since 1965 has done well in Peking. In recent years it has become a good plant in China for intercropping and raising two or three crops a year.

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the state for funds to put up a new building. Workers sharply pointed out that this was contrary to the policy of doing things by “self-reliance” and “hard struggle.” They proposed retrieving the caustic soda with indigenous equipment. After careful consideration the Party committee accepted and adopted this proposal. The recovery equipment was given to a fraternal plant which needed it more urgently. Making use of material on hand, including three old boilers, the Party committee and the masses erected a temporary shed and spent only 2,000 yuan to build a piece of soda-recovery equipment and had it working within a fortnight. This self-made recovery equipment reclaims 11 tons of caustic soda a month for the mill.

When some young workers who lived a long way from the mill asked for nearby dormitory accommodations on week days, the leadership agreed and made them available. Later when a Party committee member found the number using the dormitories was falling off, he criticized the young workers, but it had no effect. After heart-to-heart talks with the workers, he found that his criticism was off the mark. The young workers did not want to live in the dormitories because there were no library and recreational facilities and sanitation was not as it should have been. He helped them set up a library and a recreation room, and table tennis tables were put in and higher standards of sanitation were put into effect. The young workers flocked back to the dormitories. The Party committee member criticized himself before the workers and examined his bureaucratic handling of the matter.

The Party committee’s real and not lip-service heed to the masses’ opinions greatly heightens the workers’ sense of responsibility that, as masters of the mill, they should do their best to help the leadership.

“Our opinions are listened to and criticism brings results,” workers say.

**Concern for the Masses**

Party committee members make a habit of going to see workers in their homes after work or on holidays to get first-hand knowledge of their living conditions and to help them solve difficulties when they arise.

Party branch secretary of the knitting workshop and a member of the standing committee of the mill’s Party committee Wu Feng-lan is a new cadre who came up from the ranks in the course of the Cultural Revolution. Originally a knitting machine operator, she has kept in mind Chairman Mao’s instruction to see to it that cadres “do not divorce themselves from the masses” since she took up her present leading post. Besides taking part regularly in collective production, she often visits the workers in their homes. When veteran worker Wang Shui-sheng’s wife fell ill, she visited her several times in hospital, and she also helped Wang with household and other work. She has paid visits to nearly 200 homes of workers and staff members over the past three years.

Because of the Party committee members’ close ties with the masses, the workers seek out and tell them what is on their minds and what problems they have discovered. This has helped the Party committee to keep in close contact with conditions and do its job competently. The production plan at the mill has been met ahead of schedule every year since 1968.

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VIET NAM

Saigon Authorities Denounced For Violating Agreement

The Foreign Ministry of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam issued a statement on February 12 condemning the serious violation of the Paris agreement on Viet Nam by the Saigon administration.

The statement said: “Since the conclusion of the agreement, the D.R.V.N. Government and the Provisional Revolutionary Government of the Republic of South Viet Nam have seriously and scrupulously implemented the agreement. Meanwhile, the Saigon administration, tolerated and protected by the U.S., has deliberately infringed on the agreement in a systematic and widespread manner. Within only a fortnight, it has violated the agreement in more than 2,000 cases, i.e., more than 100 cases a day.”

The statement said that the Saigon administration has started military operations involving naval, ground and air forces, and carried out indiscriminate air and artillery bombardments against the various areas controlled by the R.S.V.N. Provisional Revolutionary Government. Every day, it said, the Saigon administration has conducted police operations to round up and arrest people. Thousands of people have been arrested. The Saigon administration also plans not to return all the patriots and peace-loving people it has arrested. Hundreds of thousands of people continue to be detained, tortured or disposed of in “tiger-cage” prisons.

Along with the above-mentioned brazen violations, the statement continued, the Saigon administration has deliberately rendered inoperative the organizations responsible for ensuring the implementation of the agreement, especially the Four-Party Joint Military Commission, so that it could violate the agreement with ease. It has shown a very cowardly attitude by committing flagrant acts against officers and military personnel in the military delegations of the D.R.V.N. Government and the R.S.V.N. Provisional Revolutionary Government to the Four-Party Joint Military Commission.

The statement said that Nguyen Van Thieu has repeatedly declared his opposition to peace, issued a lot of fascist regulations and carried on the “pacification” programme. “Those war-like and fascist policies of the Saigon administration are completely at variance with the spirit and the letter of the Paris agreement on Viet Nam,” the statement pointed out.

“If the agreement is to be strictly carried out, and peace maintained and consolidated,” the statement declared, “the Saigon administration must stop immediately all its war-like and fascist policies and adopt a policy of peace, independence, democracy, and national reconciliation and concord.”

“As a signatory to the agreement, the U.S. Government has the responsibility and obligation to respect and strictly implement the agreement and the protocols to it and must refrain from tolerating and protecting the Saigon administration in sabotaging the agreement,” it said.

The statement concluded by saying: “The D.R.V.N. Government and the Vietnamese people reaffirm their unwavering stand which is to seriously and scrupulously implement the agreement and the protocols to it, and resolutely preserve peace. At the same time, they would not tolerate any violation by the Saigon administration as well as the U.S. of the Agreement on Ending the War and Restoring Peace in Viet Nam.”

CAMBODIA

Strikes in Phnom Penh

More than 40,000 Phnom Penh workers went on strike on February 5 against the traitorous Lon Nol clique’s harsh exploitation and fascist rule and demanded increased wages and living allowances. The strikes caused a shut-down in all big factories and companies.

Phnom Penh workers have been fighting this clique over the last two months for higher wages and living allowances. But it put off answering their legitimate demands.

Workers occupied 15 factories owned by foreign capitalists and the Lon Nol quislings. They put up huge posters on factory gates and trucks condemning the clique. The strikers demanded the dismissal of the puppet minister of social affairs. Workers in the soft-drink, cigarette and textile mills held sit-down strikes, demanding that the clique pass a law guaranteeing them increased wages and living allowances as it has been compelled to promise. Under the powerful pressure of the strikers, it met some of their demands.

These strikes have dealt the Lon Nol clique’s tottering reactionary rule a telling blow.

SOUTH AFRICA

African Workers’ Struggle

Tens of thousands of African workers in Durban, South Africa’s largest industrial port, have persisted in striking for higher wages. The almost 20,000 African industrial workers who began their strike on February 2 were joined by 16,000 African municipal workers on February 6.

The biggest in South Africa in years, the Durban strike has paralysed the city’s industrial production and municipal services. Production in some 100 firms and sea transport

February 16, 1973
have been brought to a halt. African workers refused to unload more than 70 railway wagons of fresh fruit and vegetables which began rotting.

Groups of African strikers went to the streets in defiance of the decree of the South African racist regime’s “forbidding demonstrations.” They sang militant songs, upholding their demand for wage increases.

The racist regime airlifted police reinforcements from Pretoria, the South African capital, to suppress the Durban African strikers. The police savagely attacked African marchers in the streets and arrested more than 300 on February 6 and 7. Tear gas was fired at more than 7,000 African demonstrators in Hamarsdale, an industrial area near Durban. Police equipped with gas masks and batons patrolled the city’s streets, preventing African strikers from going round in groups.

The Durban city-wide strike is spreading to other cities in South Africa. Waves of work stoppages by African workers demanding wage increases broke out in some ports, such as East London, Shepstone and Cape Town. A cabinet minister of the South African racist regime warned on February 7 that the country’s situation was “very serious.”

Ruled by the minority white racists, South Africa’s African workers toil under bad conditions and get low wages, particularly women workers. In the face of the soaring cost of living, they can scarcely maintain their living. Many have downed tools and walked out for higher pay. There have been six major strikes in the Durban area since the beginning of the year.

SWEDEN

Prime Minister Palme Condemns Superpowers

Speaking of the foreign policy during the general political debate in the Swedish Parliament on January 31, Prime Minister Olof Palme stated: “There is the risk in our time of a hegemony of the superpowers in the world in an attempt to divide the world into areas of interest and to maintain the status quo.”

He added that “a small nation which tries to assert its own individuality and its particular interests in this order of things runs very serious risks. We have seen frightening examples of this both in the East and in the West. No one in this House has forgotten Czechoslovakia.”

“This is a development to which we, a small nation, must object,” Palme stressed.

“The conflict in Viet Nam has also concerned the right of a small nation to live and survive,” he added. “To keep silent about what has been happening in Viet Nam could be interpreted as acceptance of the principle that the small nations of the world shall not voice their demands or assert their rights. Our united opinion on the conflict in Viet Nam thus means that we have also upheld our own fundamental interests, our own demands for security.”

IRAN

Agreement With Western Oil Consortium to Terminate

Addressing Parliament on January 23, Shahsahnshah Mohammad Reza Pahlavi announced that Iran will terminate in 1979 the existing agreement with the Western oil consortium operating in the country.

Composed mainly of American and British oil companies, the Western oil consortium has been operating in Iran under a 25-year agreement concluded with the Iranian Government in 1954.

Speaking of the past few months’ negotiations between Iran and the consortium, the Shahsahnshah declared that these negotiations, though not broken off, had produced no results. The consortium had not undertaken to protect Iran's interests, he added.

He said that Iran will terminate the existing agreement in 1979 because the oil companies have not honoured clauses set down in the agreement that stipulated they should protect Iran’s best interests in exploiting its oil.

Shahsahnshah Pahlavi stated that Iran will undertake its commitments under the agreement but only on the condition that per barrel revenue received from consortium-produced oil is no less than revenue secured by other countries in the area, and that Iran’s exports will reach the level of 8 million barrels per day fairly rapidly.

For the period after 1979, the Shahsahnshah continued, the consortium companies have either one of two options — they can either purchase Iran’s oil like others without any special preferences or negotiate long-term purchase agreements with Iran now.

The Shahsahnshah said that Iran has every reason to terminate the existing agreement in 1979 not only by the terms of the agreement itself; it is also on the basis of the United Nations Charter and U.N. resolutions which make it clear that each country has complete sovereignty over its resources and the exploitation of these resources by foreign concessionaires is subject to the agreement of the host country.

SOVIET UNION

Military Expansion Stepped Up

Britain’s Yorkshire Post on February 8 carried an article by Harold King entitled “Russians Openly Arm Themselves to the Teeth.”

The article said: “The Russians are arming to the teeth and pursuing their race for military superiority over the free world with single-minded tenacity.”

“The Soviets are making continuous efforts to improve strengths and capabilities of their own and other Warsaw Pact forces,” it added.

The large-scale use of civil airlines aircraft by the Soviet Air Force along with the Soviet Navy’s use of merchant ships show that “all the civilian resources of the Soviet Union and her satellites are used for mil-
itary purposes, even in peacetime,'" the article reported.

It then referred to the massive troop deployment in Europe by the Warsaw Pact Organization and NATO, saying that "on the west frontiers of Russia 700 nuclear rockets are permanently aimed at" Western countries. "About 7,000 nuclear warheads under American control in Europe are opposed by 3,500 Soviet warheads." "The NATO forces in Europe have 8,100 tanks. The Warsaw group has 21,200. NATO in Europe can throw into battle 2,850 war planes of different kinds. The Warsaw group has 5,380."

The article stated that the expansion of Russia's naval power on all oceans of the world is known to everybody.

(Continued from p. 4.)

This strike was a large-scale political struggle waged by the Chinese working class under the leadership of the Chinese Communist Party. On February 1, 1923, when the Peking-Hankow Railway workers met at Chengchow to set up a general trade union (of the Peking-Hankow Railway workers), armed interference by Wu Pei-fu, a Northern warlord, was used against them. The workers struck on February 4, stopping all traffic everywhere on the 1,000-kilometre line. Three days later, on February 7, Wu Pei-fu, backed by the imperialists, called out his troops to carry out a mass slaughter of workers in Chengchow, Wuhan's Chiangnan area, Peking's Changhsinant area and other places along the line. Scores of workers were killed or arrested, hundreds wounded and more than a thousand discharged. This came to be called the February 7th Massacre. Communist Party members and strike leaders Lin Hsiang-chien and Shih Yang were killed in cold blood.

One thousand six hundred workers' representatives held a meeting this year at the Peking February 7 Rolling Stock Plant on February 7. A veteran worker who had participated in the strike gave an account of the meeting of how the railway workers had bravely fought the imperialists, feudal warlords and other reactionaries.

A leading member of the Conference of Representatives of Peking Revolutionary Workers and a representative of young workers also addressed the meeting. They pledged to carry forward the glorious tradition of their revolutionary forerunners and do more for the cause of socialist revolution and socialist construction. Leading members of the Peking Municipal Revolutionary Committee extended greetings to the 30 veterans of the February 7th strike present and had a cordial talk with these retired workers.

Two commemoration meetings attended by more than a thousand people each took place in Wuhan and Chengchow. Responsible members of departments concerned in Wuhan city and Hupeh Province went to the monument to the fallen heroes of the February 7th strike and the tomb of martyr Shih Yang. Forums were held by factories, P.L.A. units and schools to educate the people in the revolutionary tradition. Workers, students and P.L.A. fighters in Chengchow visited the February 7 Memorial Tower and a pictorial exhibition on the big strike.

At the Hsiangchien People's Commune, native place of the fallen hero Lin Hsiang-chien, in Fukien Province's Minhao County, 1,300 representatives of workers, poor and lower-middle peasants, office workers, P.L.A. commanders and fighters and Red Guards took part in a big memorial meeting. They laid wreaths at the mausoleum of the martyr and called on his family to express their cordial regards and concern.

Earthquake in Szechuan

A strong earthquake hit the Kangtse Tibetan Autonomous Chou in western Szechuan Province at 18:37 hours on February 6, with after-tremors occurring the next two days.

As verified by China's network of seismological observatories, the earthquake was of 7.9 magnitude. The epicentre area was 31°6' North Latitude and 100°24' East Longitude, where houses crumbled and varying degrees of damage and losses in life and livestock were caused.

Showing great concern for the people in the affected area, Chairman Mao, the Central Committee of the Chinese Communist Party and the State Council promptly organized the departments concerned to take part in relief work.

A veteran of the February 7, 1923 strike recounts the heroic deeds of the strikers at the February 7 Exhibition Hall in Chengchow.

February 16, 1973
Wuchiang River Open to Through-Traffic

GREAT achievements have been made in dredging the Wuchiang River by river maintenance teams and people living along the banks under the guidance of Chairman Mao's proletarian revolutionary line.

Work on harnessing this treacherous river began in 1953. The builders waged a fearless battle against the rapids, shoals and reefs, emulating the Chinese Workers' and Peasants' Red Army which, led by Chairman Mao, made a forced crossing of this turbulent river during the epic Long March in the 1930s. Stones and silt were removed from the shallow stretches, some one hundred shoals and reefs above and under the water were blasted. The river is now navigable on its middle and lower reaches for 500 kilometres, with the lower reaches open to night navigation as well.

The Wuchiang is the longest river in mountainous Kweichow Province. It originates at the foot of Wumeng Mountain in the province, flows northward down a steep gradient of one metre per kilometre and empties into the upper section of the Yangtze River in neighbouring Szechuan Province. Both sides are flanked by sheer cliffs, while one-fifth of the entire course consists of shoals which average one every kilometre.

Before liberation, the river was not navigable on its upper and middle sections. The bed was studded with dangerous shoals and the current was too swift. Only a few sections on the lower reaches were plied by wooden junks.

Although the areas along the river are rich in mineral resources and farm and side-line products are abundant, local economic development was handicapped by difficulties in transport and communications resulting from the Kuomintang reactionary regime's failure to dredge the river.

The dredged waterway now provides favourable conditions for industrial and agricultural development throughout the basin. Today steamboats and motor junks ply up and down the river, bringing out rich cargoes of local products. In the past two years and more, the Wuchiang River Navigation Sub-Bureau has overfulfilled its transport plans set by the state. In 1972, the volume of freight was 3.5 times that of 1966, and the number of passengers, 2.6 times. Navigation on the middle and lower reaches is still being improved and river maintenance crews are hard at work dredging the upper sections so as to extend the route for motor boats.

Film Shows in Every Village

Film distribution and showings have increased rapidly in north China's Shansi Province since the start of the Great Proletarian Cultural Revolution. Of the film projection teams formed throughout the province in the past few years — the
number is close to the total in the 16 years before the Cultural Revolution began — 67 per cent are in the rural areas. Film shows are now available to every peasant in the province.

This is a result of implementing Chairman Mao's proletarian revolutionary line in literature and art, one of its important principles being that literature and art (including cinema) must be created for the workers, peasants and soldiers and are for their use.

Projectionists of mobile teams have made the rounds of the villages in every season. When The Red Lantern adapted from a modern revolutionary Peking opera was being shown, the Pingliu County Film Management Centre gave shows every evening in relays in four different villages. In some 50 days, over 300 shows were presented.

Attendance in the last two years reached 268 million in the whole province — Shansi's population is 12.35 million people. Included in the films shown were screen adaptations of model revolutionary theatrical works and other revolutionary films.

To better serve workers, peasants and soldiers, projectionists have gone out of their way to learn and improve their technique and carefully looked after their machines and films.

Production and repairing of cine-projectors and other equipment in the province have also developed in the wake of the widespread film showings. Apart from a cinema machinery plant, it has now set up seven repairing centres in the city of Taiyuan and six special regions. These play an important part in ensuring the normal functioning of the projection units throughout Shansi.

Night Schools in a People's Commune

In sparsely populated, mountainous Sunchung (now Sunchung People's Commune in Chichun County, central China's Hopeh Province), only 72 people, or less than 1 per cent of its population, were literate on the eve of liberation in 1949. A landlord at the time dubbed it a "benighted area," looking down upon the villagers as being stupid and ignorable. However, it was none other than he, plus a handful of blood-suckers like him, who exploited the peasants so sayagely that schooling for them was out of the question.

Chairman Mao has pointed out: "The moment the power of the landlords was overthrown in the rural areas, the peasants' movement for education began." With the conclusion of the agrarian reform in 1951, the Sunchung peasants who had overthrown the landlords and received land set up a spare-time school in winter during the slack farming season. Enthusiasm for learning was high and such schools soon mushroomed throughout the area under the leadership of the local Party organizations.

Efforts have been sustained over the past 20 years and more to provide spare-time education for Sunchung peasants. At present, the commune is running 77 regular night schools. The total enrolment of 4,350 students covers nearly half the population. At nightfall, diligent peasant-students arrive promptly at their well-lit classrooms to learn to read and write, study proletarian politics and science and technology.

First place is given to political study with Chairman Mao's works as basic contents. Important also are selected quotations from Chairman Mao and Party and government policy documents relevant to the major tasks in the rural areas in different periods. For instance, during the movement to set up agricultural cooperatives, the directives on agricultural co-operation were studied. At the moment, students are concentrating on the history of the inner-Party struggle between the two lines.

Study takes various forms so that more commune members can participate. Each production team has a night school giving lessons nine evenings a month. Where peasant households are widely scattered, several families form a study group, with the commune members with a higher education level tutoring the others. In the case of couples with more children and household chores, father and mother take turns going to night school.

In the course on agricultural technique, study is geared to experiments in production. Quite a number of students who have gained some technical know-how in the night schools are taking the lead in making scientific experiments. In 1971, a student succeeded in producing over 1,000 jin of late rice per mu on his 1.9-mu experimental plot.

Following the principle of integrating theory with practice, the Sunchung night schools base their textbooks on local needs and conditions. This makes them easier to understand and more useful to the students. In addition to booklets like "Culture and Technique," "Farm Planning," "Short-Term Course in Reading and Writing" and others, they have edited many loose-leaf compilations dealing with current political activities.

Teachers are selected from among the commune members whose relations with the masses are good and who like teaching. Among the 83 teachers are some young peasants who attended school after liberation, while the rest are graduates of the night schools. The commune runs regular courses to help them improve while teaching.

Spare-time education has markedly raised the educational level of the commune members. Schooling equivalent to that of primary school has been provided for 290 people who were illiterate. Another 120 who could read and write a little have reached middle-school level. With a sense of pride, the peasants say: No one can call our place "benighted" now. We've turned it into a bright one! Look how many of us can read and write!
# Radio Peking

English Language Transmissions

* effective only from Nov. to April  
† effective only from May to Oct.

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**Areas Covered:**

- **NORTH AMERICA (EAST COAST)**
- **NORTH AMERICA (WEST COAST)**
- **AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND**
- **SOUTHEAST ASIA**
- **SOUTH ASIA**
- **EUROPE**
- **EAST AND SOUTH AFRICA**
- **WEST AND NORTH AFRICA**