Chairman Mao Meets Mr. Strauss

Communique of Second Plenary Session Of Tenth Central Committee of Communist Party of China

First Session of the Fourth National People's Congress of the People's Republic of China

January 13—17
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Chairman Mao Meets Mr. Strauss

Chairman Mao Tsetung on January 16 met Franz-Josef Strauss, Chairman of the Christian Social Union of the Federal Republic of Germany, his wife Marianne Strauss, and members of his party Wolfgang Hohlacher and Friedrich Voss.

Chairman Mao had a friendly conversation with Chairman Strauss and Mr. Voss.

Present at the meeting and conversation were Vice-Premier Teng Hsiao-ping, Vice-Foreign Minister Wang Hai-jung and Deputy Department Directors of the Foreign Ministry Tang Wen-sheng and Chang Han-chih.

(Continued on p. 26.)
COMMUNIQUE OF THE SECOND PLENARY SESSION OF THE TENTH CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF THE COMMUNIST PARTY OF CHINA

The Tenth Central Committee of the Communist Party of China held its Second Plenary Session from January 8 to 10, 1975.


The session elected Comrade Teng Hsiao-ping to be Vice-Chairman of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China and Member of the Standing Committee of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee.

PRESS COMMUNIQUE OF THE FIRST SESSION OF THE FOURTH NATIONAL PEOPLE’S CONGRESS OF THE PEOPLE’S REPUBLIC OF CHINA

January 17, 1975

The First Session of the Fourth National People’s Congress of the People’s Republic of China was formally held in Peking from January 13 to 17, 1975.

The agenda of the session was: 1. The revision of the Constitution; 2. The report on the work of the government; and 3. The election and appointment of the leading personnel of the state.

The Congress was held in the Great Hall of the People. On the rostrum was a huge portrait of our great leader Chairman Mao Tsetung, with bright red flags on either side. The Congress elected a presidium composed of 218 deputies. Chu Teh, Tung Pi-wu, Soong Ching Ling, Kang Sheng, Liu Po-chen, Wu Teh, Wei Kuo-ching, Saifudin, Kuo Mo-jo, Hsu Hsiang-chien, Nieh Jung-chen, Chen Yun, Tan Chien-lin, Li Ching-chuan, Chang Ting-cheng, Tsai Chang, Ulanfu, Ngapo Ngawang-Jigme, Chou Chien-jen, Hsu Tch-heng, Hu Chueh-wen, Li Su-wen and Yao Lien-wei were permanent chairmen of the presidium. Wu Teh was secretary-general.

Seated in front on the rostrum were also: Chou En-lai, Wang Hung-wen, Yeh Chien-yin, Teng Hsiao-ping, Chang Chun-chiao, Chiang Ching, Hsu Shih-yu, Hua Kuo-feng, Chen Yung-kuei, Chen Hsien-lifen, Li Hsien-nien, Li Teh-sheng, Yao Wen-yuan, Wu Kuei-hsien, Su Chen-hua and Ni Chih-fu.

Chairman Chu Teh declared the Congress open. This was greeted by the deputies with enthusiastic applause. The band played the national anthem.


Starting from January 14, the deputies earnestly discussed “The Draft Revised Text of the Constitution of the People’s Republic of China” and the two above-mentioned reports, which were submitted to the Congress for its deliberation by the Second
On the basis of the lists of nominees put forward by the Second Plenary Session of the Tenth Central Committee of the Communist Party of China, the Congress after serious discussion elected by secret ballot the Chairman, Vice-Chairmen and other Members of the Standing Committee of the Fourth National People's Congress, and appointed the Premier, Vice-Premiers, ministers, and ministers heading the commissions of the State Council.

When the results of the election and the lists of appointment were announced, the hall once again resounded with prolonged and warm applause.

The deputies joyfully said that this Congress had adopted a new fundamental charter for the People's Republic of China, set magnificent tasks for our country's socialist revolution and socialist construction in the days to come, and elected and appointed new leading personnel of the state, and that all this fully reflected the common aspiration of the people of all our nationalities to carry the continued revolution under the dictatorship of the proletariat through to the end, and would greatly enhance their enthusiasm for socialist revolution, speed up socialist construction, and would exert tremendous influence on the history of our country.

The Congress called on the people of all our nationalities, under the leadership of the Party Central Committee headed by Chairman Mao, to unite still more closely, adhere to the Party's basic line, earnestly implement and courageously defend the new Constitution, endeavour to fulfil the fighting tasks set by the Congress, carry forward the excellent situation, consolidate and strengthen the dictatorship of the proletariat, and strive for new victories in socialist revolution and socialist construction.

The Congress pointed out that the people of our country should continue to broaden, deepen and persevere in the movement to criticize Lin Piao and Confucius, study works by Marx, Engels, Lenin and Stalin and by Chairman Mao assiduously, build up a vast Marxist theoretical force and make sure that Marxism occupies all spheres of the superstructure. Under the centralized leadership of the Party, we should strengthen the building of revolutionary committees at all levels. We should implement the principle of grasping revolution, promoting production and other work and preparedness against war; build the country independently and with the initiative in our own hands, through self-reliance, hard struggle, diligence and thrift; strive to fulfill the national economic plans ahead of schedule and turn China into a powerful modern socialist country.

The Congress pointed out that the present international situation, which is characterized by great disorder under heaven, continues to develop in a
List of Members of the Presidium and the Secretary-General of the First Session of The Fourth National People’s Congress of The People’s Republic of China

The Presidium:

(218 members. Their names are listed in the order of the number of strokes in their surnames.)

The First Session of the Fourth National People's Congress of the People's Republic of China was formally held in Peking from January 15 to 17, 1955, in the Great Hall of the People. Photo shows the rostrum of the Congress.

The hall where the Congress was held.

January 24, 1975
Proclamation of National People’s Congress
Of People’s Republic of China

IT is hereby proclaimed that the First Session of the Fourth National People’s Congress of the People’s Republic of China elected on January 17, 1975 the Chairman, Vice-Chairmen and other members of the Standing Committee of the Fourth National People’s Congress:

Chairman: Chu Teh.


Members:

(The following are listed in the order of the number of strokes in their surnames.)


Kuo Hung-chiieh, Kuo Ying-fu, Tang Ke-pi (f.),
Tang Chi-shan, Hao Liang, Chu Hui-fen (f.),
Tao Chih-yueh, Chi Peng-fel, Huang Tso-chin,
Tsao Yi-ou (f.), Tsui Hai-lung, Kang Ke-ching (f.), Liang Pi-yeh, Liang Chi-chuan, Pong Shao-hui, Tung Tien-chen, Tung Chia-keng, Tung Chi-wu, Su Yu, Fu Yu-fang (f.), Fu Chiu-tao, Tung Ti-chou, Tseng Sheng, Tseng Chih (f.), Hsieh Ching-yi (f.), Tsoji (f.), Hsieh Li-fu, Tsai Shu-mei (f.), Liao Cheng-chiieh, Fan Teh-ling, Hsueh Ching-chuan, Hsueh Hsi-mei (f.), Wei Ping-kuei.

Presidium of the First Session of the
Fourth National People's Congress
of the People's Republic of China

January 17, 1975
Peking

Proclamation of National People's Congress
Of People's Republic of China

IT is hereby proclaimed that on January 17, 1975, the First Session of the Fourth National People's Congress of the People's Republic of China appointed, on the proposal of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China, the Premier, Vice-Premiers, ministers, and ministers heading commissions of the State Council of the People's Republic of China as follows:

Premier: Chou En-lai.
Minister of Foreign Affairs: Chiao Kuan-hua,
Minister of National Defence: Yeh Chien-yung,
Minister in Charge of the State Planning Commission: Yu Chiu-li,
Minister in Charge of the State Capital Construction Commission: Ku Mu,
Minister of Public Security: Hua Kuo-feng,
Minister of Foreign Trade: Li Chiang,
Minister of Economic Relations With Foreign Countries: Fang Yi,
Minister of Agriculture and Forestry: Sha Feng,
Minister of Metallurgical Industry: Chen Shaokun,
Minister of the First Ministry of Machine-Building: Li Shui-ching,
Minister of the Second Ministry of Machine-Building: Liu Hsi-yao,
Minister of the Third Ministry of Machine-Building: Li Chi-tai,
Minister of the Fourth Ministry of Machine-Building: Wang Cheng,
Minister of the Fifth Ministry of Machine-Building: Li Cheng-fang,
Minister of the Sixth Ministry of Machine-Building: Pien Chiang,
Minister of the Seventh Ministry of Machine-Building: Wang Yang,
Minister of Coal Industry: Hsu Chin-chiang,
Minister of Petroleum and Chemical Industries: Kang Shih-en,
Minister of Water Conservancy and Power: Chien Cheng-ying (f.),
Minister of Light Industry: Chien Chih-kuang,
Minister of Railways: Wan Li,
Minister of Communications: Yeh Fei,
Minister of Posts and Telecommunications: Chung Fu-hsiang,
Minister of Finance: Chang Ching-fu,
Minister of Commerce: Fan Tzu-yu,
Minister of Culture: Yu Hui-yung,
Minister of Education: Chou Jung-hsin,
Minister of Public Health: Liu Hsiang-ping (f.), and
Minister in Charge of the Physical Culture and Sports Commission: Chuang Tse-tung.

Presidium of the First Session of the
Fourth National People's Congress
of the People's Republic of China

January 17, 1975
Peking
THE CONSTITUTION OF
THE PEOPLE’S REPUBLIC OF CHINA

(A adopted on January 17, 1975, by the Fourth
National People’s Congress of the
People’s Republic of China at its First Session)

PREAMBLE

The founding of the People’s Republic of China
marked the great victory of the new-democratic
revolution and the beginning of the new historical
period of socialist revolution and the dictatorship
of the proletariat, a victory gained only after the
Chinese people had waged a heroic struggle for
over a century and, finally, under the leadership of
the Communist Party of China, overthrown the
reactionary rule of imperialism, feudalism and
bureaucrat-capitalism by a people’s revolutionary
war.

For the last twenty years and more, the people
of all nationalities in our country, continuing their
triumphant advance under the leadership of the
Communist Party of China, have achieved great
victories both in socialist revolution and socialist
construction and in the Great Proletarian Cultural
Revolution, and have consolidated and strengthened
the dictatorship of the proletariat.
Socialist society covers a considerably long historical period. Throughout this historical period, there are classes, class contradictions and class struggle, there is the struggle between the socialist road and the capitalist road, there is the danger of capitalist restoration and there is the threat of subversion and aggression by imperialism and social-imperialism. These contradictions can be resolved only by depending on the theory of continued revolution under the dictatorship of the proletariat and on practice under its guidance.

We must adhere to the basic line and policies of the Communist Party of China for the entire historical period of socialism and persist in continued revolution under the dictatorship of the proletariat, so that our great motherland will always advance along the road indicated by Marxism-Leninism-Mao Tsetung Thought.

We should consolidate the great unity of the people of all nationalities led by the working class and based on the alliance of workers and peasants, and develop the revolutionary united front. We should correctly distinguish contradictions among the people from those between ourselves and the enemy and correctly handle them. We should carry on the three great revolutionary movements of class struggle, the struggle for production and scientific experiment; we should build socialism independently and with the initiative in our own hands, through self-reliance, hard struggle, diligence and thrift and by going all out, aiming high and achieving greater, faster, better and more economical results; and we should be prepared against war and natural disasters and do everything for the people.

In international affairs, we should uphold proletarian internationalism. China will never be a superpower. We should strengthen our unity with the socialist countries and all oppressed people and oppressed nations, with each supporting the other; strive for peaceful coexistence with countries having different social systems on the basis of the Five Principles of mutual respect for sovereignty and territorial integrity, mutual non-aggression, non-interference in each other’s internal affairs, equality and mutual benefit, and peaceful coexistence, and oppose the imperialist and social-imperialist policies of aggression and war and oppose the hegemonism of the superpowers.

The Chinese people are fully confident that, led by the Communist Party of China, they will vanquish enemies at home and abroad and surmount all difficulties to build China into a powerful socialist state of the dictatorship of the proletariat so as to make a greater contribution to humanity.

People of all nationalities in our country, unite to win still greater victories!

CHAPTER ONE
GENERAL PRINCIPLES

ARTICLE 1

The People’s Republic of China is a socialist state of the dictatorship of the proletariat led by the working class and based on the alliance of workers and peasants.

ARTICLE 2

The Communist Party of China is the core of leadership of the whole Chinese people. The working class exercises leadership over the state through its vanguard, the Communist Party of China.

Marxism-Leninism-Mao Tsetung Thought is the theoretical basis guiding the thinking of our nation.

ARTICLE 3

All power in the People’s Republic of China belongs to the people. The organs through which the people exercise power are the people’s congresses at all levels, with deputies of workers, peasants and soldiers as their main body.

The people’s congresses at all levels and all other organs of state practise democratic centralism.

Deputies to the people’s congresses at all levels are elected through democratic consultation. The electoral units and electors have the power to supervise the deputies they elect and to replace them at any time according to provisions of law.

ARTICLE 4

The People’s Republic of China is a unitary multi-national state. The areas where regional national autonomy is exercised are all inalienable parts of the People’s Republic of China.
All the nationalities are equal. Big-nationality chauvinism and local-nationality chauvinism must be opposed.

All the nationalities have the freedom to use their own spoken and written languages.

ARTICLE 5

In the People's Republic of China, there are mainly two kinds of ownership of the means of production at the present stage: Socialist ownership by the whole people and socialist collective ownership by working people.

The state may allow non-agricultural individual labourers to engage in individual labour involving no exploitation of others, within the limits permitted by law and under unified arrangement by neighbourhood organizations in cities and towns or by production teams in rural people's communes. At the same time, these individual labourers should be guided on to the road of socialist collectivization step by step.

ARTICLE 6

The state sector of the economy is the leading force in the national economy.

All mineral resources and waters as well as the forests, undeveloped land and other resources owned by the state are the property of the whole people.

The state may requisition by purchase, take over for use, or nationalize urban and rural land as well as other means of production under conditions prescribed by law.

ARTICLE 7

The rural people's commune is an organization which integrates government administration and economic management.

The economic system of collective ownership in the rural people's communes at the present stage generally takes the form of three-level ownership with the production team at the basic level, that is, ownership by the commune, the production brigade and the production team, with the last as the basic accounting unit.

Provided that the development and absolute predominance of the collective economy of the people's commune are ensured, people's commune members may farm small plots for their personal needs, engage in limited household side-line production, and in pastoral areas keep a small number of livestock for their personal needs.

ARTICLE 8

Socialist public property shall be inviolable. The state shall ensure the consolidation and development of the socialist economy and prohibit any person from undermining the socialist economy and the public interest in any way whatsoever.

ARTICLE 9

The state applies the socialist principle: "He who does not work, neither shall he eat" and "from each according to his ability, to each according to his work."

The state protects the citizens' right of ownership to their income from work, their savings, their houses, and other means of livelihood.

ARTICLE 10

The state applies the principle of grasping revolution, promoting production and other work and preparedness against war; promotes the planned and proportionate development of the socialist economy, taking agriculture as the foundation and industry as the leading factor and bringing the initiative of both the central and the local authorities into full play; and improves the people's material and cultural life step by step on the basis of the constant growth of social production and consolidates the independence and security of the country.

ARTICLE 11

State organizations and state personnel must earnestly study Marxism-Leninism-Mao Tsetung Thought, firmly put proletarian politics in command, combat bureaucracy, maintain close ties with the masses and wholeheartedly serve the people. Cadres at all levels must participate in collective productive labour.

Every organ of state must apply the principle of efficient and simple administration. Its leading
body must be a three-in-one combination of the old, the middle-aged and the young.

ARTICLE 12

The proletariat must exercise all-round dictatorship over the bourgeoisie in the superstructure, including all spheres of culture. Culture and education, literature and art, physical education, health work and scientific research work must all serve proletarian politics, serve the workers, peasants and soldiers, and be combined with productive labour.

ARTICLE 13

Speaking out freely, airing views fully, holding great debates and writing big-character posters are new forms of carrying on socialist revolution created by the masses of the people. The state shall ensure to the masses the right to use these forms to create a political situation in which there are both centralism and democracy, both discipline and freedom, both unity of will and personal ease of mind and liveliness, and so help consolidate the leadership of the Communist Party of China over the state and consolidate the dictatorship of the proletariat.

ARTICLE 14

The state safeguards the socialist system, suppresses all treasonable and counter-revolutionary activities and punishes all traitors and counter-revolutionaries.

The state deprives the landlords, rich peasants, reactionary capitalists and other bad elements of political rights for specified periods of time according to law, and at the same time provides them with the opportunity to earn a living so that they may be reformed through labour and become law-abiding citizens supporting themselves by their own labour.

ARTICLE 15

The Chinese People's Liberation Army and the people's militia are the workers' and peasants' own armed forces led by the Communist Party of China; they are the armed forces of the people of all nationalities.

The Chairman of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China commands the country's armed forces.

The Chinese People's Liberation Army is at all times a fighting force, and simultaneously a working force and a production force.

The task of the armed forces of the People's Republic of China is to safeguard the achievements of the socialist revolution and socialist construction, to defend the sovereignty, territorial integrity and security of the state, and to guard against subversion and aggression by imperialism, social-imperialism and their lackeys.

CHAPTER TWO

THE STRUCTURE OF THE STATE

Section I. The National People's Congress

ARTICLE 16

The National People's Congress is the highest organ of state power under the leadership of the Communist Party of China.

The National People's Congress is composed of deputies elected by the provinces, autonomous regions, municipalities directly under the central government, and the People's Liberation Army. When necessary, a certain number of patriotic persons may be specially invited to take part as deputies.

The National People's Congress is elected for a term of five years. Its term of office may be extended under special circumstances.

The National People's Congress holds one session each year. When necessary, the session may be advanced or postponed.

ARTICLE 17

The functions and powers of the National People's Congress are: to amend the Constitution, make laws, appoint and remove the Premier of the State Council and the members of the State Council on the proposal of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China, approve the national economic plan, the state budget and the final state accounts, and exercise such other functions and powers as the National People's Congress deems necessary.

January 24, 1975
ARTICLE 18

The Standing Committee of the National People's Congress is the permanent organ of the National People's Congress. Its functions and powers are: to convene the sessions of the National People's Congress, interpret laws, enact decrees, dispatch and recall plenipotentiary representatives abroad, receive foreign diplomatic envoys, ratify and denounce treaties concluded with foreign states, and exercise such other functions and powers as are vested in it by the National People's Congress.

The Standing Committee of the National People's Congress is composed of the Chairman, the Vice-Chairmen and other members, all of whom are elected and subject to recall by the National People's Congress.

Section II. The State Council

ARTICLE 19

The State Council is the Central People's Government. The State Council is responsible and accountable to the National People's Congress and its Standing Committee.

The State Council is composed of the Premier, the Vice-Premiers, the ministers, and the ministers heading commissions.

ARTICLE 20

The functions and powers of the State Council are: to formulate administrative measures and issue decisions and orders in accordance with the Constitution, laws and decrees; exercise unified leadership over the work of ministries and commissions and local organs of state at various levels throughout the country; draft and implement the national economic plan and the state budget; direct state administrative affairs; and exercise such other functions and powers as are vested in it by the National People's Congress or its Standing Committee.

Section III. The Local People's Congresses And the Local Revolutionary Committees At Various Levels

ARTICLE 21

The local people's congresses at various levels are the local organs of state power.

The people's congresses of provinces and municipalities directly under the central government are elected for a term of five years. The people's congresses of prefectures, cities and counties are elected for a term of three years. The people's congresses of rural people's communes and towns are elected for a term of two years.

ARTICLE 22

The local revolutionary committees at various levels are the permanent organs of the local people's congresses and at the same time the local people's governments at various levels.

Local revolutionary committees are composed of a chairman, vice-chairmen and other members, who are elected and subject to recall by the people's congress at the corresponding level. Their election or recall shall be submitted for examination and approval to the organ of state at the next higher level.

Local revolutionary committees are responsible and accountable to the people's congress at the corresponding level and to the organ of state at the next higher level.

ARTICLE 23

The local people's congresses at various levels and the local revolutionary committees elected by them ensure the execution of laws and decrees in their respective areas; lead the socialist revolution and socialist construction in their respective areas; examine and approve local economic plans, budgets and final accounts; maintain revolutionary order; and safeguard the rights of citizens.

Section IV. The Organs of Self-Government Of National Autonomous Areas

ARTICLE 24

The autonomous regions, autonomous prefectures and autonomous counties are all national autonomous areas; their organs of self-government are people's congresses and revolutionary committees.

The organs of self-government of national autonomous areas, apart from exercising the functions and powers of local organs of state as specified in Chapter Two, Section III of the Constitution, may
exercise autonomy within the limits of their authority as prescribed by law.

The higher organs of state fully safeguard the exercise of autonomy by the organs of self-government of national autonomous areas and actively support the minority nationalities in carrying out the socialist revolution and socialist construction.

Section V. The Judicial Organs and the Procuratorial Organs

ARTICLE 25

The Supreme People's Court, local people's courts at various levels and special people's courts exercise judicial authority. The people's courts are responsible and accountable to the people's congresses and their permanent organs at the corresponding levels. The presidents of the people's courts are appointed and subject to removal by the permanent organs of the people's congresses at the corresponding levels.

The functions and powers of procuratorial organs are exercised by the organs of public security at various levels.

The mass line must be applied in procuratorial work and in trying cases. In major counter-revolutionary criminal cases the masses should be mobilized for discussion and criticism.

CHAPTER THREE

THE FUNDAMENTAL RIGHTS AND DUTIES OF CITIZENS

ARTICLE 26

The fundamental rights and duties of citizens are to support the leadership of the Communist Party of China, support the socialist system and abide by the Constitution and the laws of the People's Republic of China.

It is the lofty duty of every citizen to defend the motherland and resist aggression. It is the honourable obligation of citizens to perform military service according to law.

ARTICLE 27

All citizens who have reached the age of eighteen have the right to vote and stand for election, with the exception of persons deprived of these rights by law.

Citizens have the right to work and the right to education. Working people have the right to rest and the right to material assistance in old age and in case of illness or disable.

Citizens have the right to lodge to organs of state at any level written or oral complaints of transgression of law or neglect of duty on the part of any person working in an organ of state. No one shall attempt to hinder or obstruct the making of such complaints or retaliate.

Women enjoy equal rights with men in all respects.

The state protects marriage, the family, and the mother and child.

The state protects the just rights and interests of overseas Chinese.

ARTICLE 28

Citizens enjoy freedom of speech, correspondence, the press, assembly, association, procession, demonstration and the freedom to strike, and enjoy freedom to believe in religion and freedom not to believe in religion and to propagate atheism.

The citizens' freedom of person and their homes shall be inviolable. No citizen may be arrested except by decision of a people's court or with the sanction of a public security organ.

ARTICLE 29

The People's Republic of China grants the right of residence to any foreign national persecuted for supporting a just cause, for taking part in revolutionary movements or for engaging in scientific activities.

CHAPTER FOUR

THE NATIONAL FLAG, THE NATIONAL EMBLEM AND THE CAPITAL

ARTICLE 30

The national flag has five stars on a field of red.

The national emblem: Tien An Men in the centre, illuminated by five stars and encircled by ears of grain and a cogwheel.

The capital is Peking.
REPORT ON THE REVISION OF THE CONSTITUTION
(Delivered on January 13, 1975 and adopted on January 17, 1975 at the First Session of the Fourth National People's Congress of the People's Republic of China)

Chang Chun-chiao

Fellow Deputies!

The Draft Revised Text of the Constitution of the People's Republic of China submitted by the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China to the Congress for its deliberation has been issued to all the deputies. At the behest of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China, I shall explain some points.

Twenty years ago, in 1954, the First National People's Congress adopted the Constitution of the People's Republic of China. Our great leader Chairman Mao Tsetung pointed out, "An organization must have rules, and a state also must have rules; the Constitution is a set of general rules and is a fundamental charter." The Constitution of 1954 was China's first constitution of a socialist type. In the form of a fundamental charter it summed up historical experience, consolidated the victories of our people and mapped out a clear, well-defined course of advance for the people of the whole country. Practice in the last twenty years has proved that that Constitution was correct. Its basic principles are still applicable today. However, as tremendous changes have taken place in China's politics, economy and culture and in international relations since 1954, some parts of the Constitution are no longer suitable. In the present revision of the Constitution our main task is to sum up our new experience, consolidate our new victories and express the common desire of the people of our country to persist in continued revolution under the dictatorship of the proletariat.

Of the new victories won by our people in the last two decades the most significant has been the step-by-step consolidation and development of the socialist system under the leadership of the Chinese Communist Party headed by Chairman Mao. Through repeated trials of strength with enemies at home and abroad, and especially through the Great Proletarian Cultural Revolution of the last eight years which destroyed the bourgeois headquarters of Liu Shao-chi and of Lin Piao, the people of all nationalities in our country are more united and the dictatorship of the proletariat is more consolidated than ever. What is more important is that, in the course of the struggle, Chairman Mao formulated for us a basic line for the entire historical period of socialism by applying the principle of integrating the universal truth of Marxism-Leninism with concrete practice. He says:

Socialist society covers a considerably long historical period. In the historical period of socialism, there are still classes, class contradictions and class struggle, there is the struggle between the socialist road and the capitalist road, and there is the danger of capitalist restoration. We must recognize the protracted and complex nature of this struggle. We must heighten our vigilance. We must conduct socialist education. We must correctly understand and handle class contradictions and class struggle, distinguish the contradictions between ourselves and the enemy from those among the people and handle them correctly. Otherwise a socialist country like ours will turn into its opposite and degenerate, and a capitalist restoration will take place. From now on we must remind ourselves of this every year, every month and every day so that we can retain a rather sober understanding of this problem and have a Marxist-Leninist line.

Both the Ninth and the Tenth Congresses of the Party reaffirmed this basic line. Our struggles against Liu Shao-chi and Lin Piao have focused on one issue: whether to uphold this basic line or to change it. Past and present class struggles all prove that this basic line is the lifeline of our Party as well as of our country. As long as we uphold it, we shall assuredly be able to overcome all difficulties, defeat enemies at home and abroad and win greater victories. This is the main experience we have gained and also our guiding thought in revising the Constitution.
The draft revised Constitution now submitted is the continuation and development of the 1954 Constitution. It was born out of repeated discussions among the people of all our nationalities and is the outcome of combining the ideas of the leading organizations and those of the masses. The Preamble is new. The number of articles has been reduced from 106 to 30. The important revisions are as follows:

(1) Starting from the Preamble, the draft revised text records the glorious history of the Chinese people’s heroic struggle. “The Communist Party of China is the core of leadership of the whole Chinese people” and “Marxism-Leninism-Mao Tsetung Thought is the theoretical basis guiding the thinking of our nation”—such is the conclusion which the people of our country have drawn from their historical experience of more than a century and which is now inscribed in the General Principles of the draft. The draft stipulates, “The National People’s Congress is the highest organ of state power under the leadership of the Communist Party of China.” It also stipulates, “The Chairman of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China commands the country’s armed forces.” Since no chairmanship of state is instituted, the draft makes a corresponding revision of the provisions of the 1954 Constitution concerning the structure of the state. All this will certainly help strengthen the Party’s centralized leadership over the structure of the state and meet the desire of the people of the whole country.

(2) The draft stipulates, “The People’s Republic of China is a socialist state of the dictatorship of the proletariat led by the working class and based on the alliance of workers and peasants.” It stipulates that the worker, peasant and soldier deputies shall form the main body of people’s congresses at all levels. It also specifies the targets of the dictatorship of the proletariat and sets forth the policies of the dictatorship. The draft includes in separate articles the rural people’s communes, which integrate government administration and economic management, and the local revolutionary committees at various levels formed on the basis of the revolutionary three-in-one combination, both of which emerged from great revolutionary mass movements. Thus, the class nature of our state and the status of each class in our country are clearly defined. Marx and Lenin consistently teach us, “The class struggle necessarily leads to the dictatorship of the proletariat” and “The proletariat state is a machine for the suppression of the bourgeoisie by the proletariat.” Our draft adheres to this principled stand of Marxism-Leninism and is sharply demarcated from such fallacies as Confucius’ “benevolent government” or the Soviet revisionist renegade clique’s “state of the whole people.”

As for our dictatorship of the proletariat, firstly, within the country it suppresses the reactionary classes and elements and those who resist socialist transformation and oppose socialist construction, and suppresses all treasonable and counter-revolutionary activities; and secondly, it protects our country from subversion and possible aggression by external enemies. It is the magic weapon with which the people of our country vanquish enemies and protect themselves. We must treasure it and constantly strengthen it. We should strengthen the great unity of the people of all our nationalities, strengthen the People’s Liberation Army and the people’s militia which are the pillar of the dictatorship of the proletariat, and strengthen the building of state organs. We should continue to consolidate the alliance of the working class with its reliable ally, the poor and lower-middle peasants, unite with the other working people and the masses of intellectuals, and develop the revolutionary united front which includes the patriotic democratic parties and patriotic personages in all walks of life. Only in this way can we unite with all the forces that can be united with, exercise the dictatorship of the proletariat effectively, defend the socialist system, and consolidate the independence and security of our great motherland.

(3) The dictatorship of the proletariat on the one hand exercises dictatorship over the enemy and on the other practises democratic centralism within the ranks of the people. Without ample democracy, it is impossible to have a high degree of centralism, and without a high degree of centralism, it is impossible to build socialism. The draft stipulates that all organs of state shall practise democratic centralism and specifies the democratic rights of citizens, and especially the rights of the fraternal minority nationalities and of women. It also stipulates that the masses shall have the right to speak out freely, air views fully, hold great debates and write big-character posters. Moreover, in accordance with Chairman Mao’s proposal, the specification that citizens enjoy freedom to strike has been added to Article 28 of the draft. We are convinced that the revolutionary masses, who have been tempered in the Great Proletarian Cultural Revolution, will apply these provisions still better and “create a political situation in which there are both centralism and democracy, both discipline and freedom, both unity of will and personal ease of
mind and liveliness, and so help consolidate the leadership of the Communist Party of China over the state and consolidate the dictatorship of the proletariat.”

(4) The task of socialist transformation of the ownership of the means of production put forth in the 1954 Constitution has been mainly completed. The draft fully affirms this great victory of the Chinese people and lays it down that at the present stage our country has mainly two kinds of ownership of the means of production, namely, socialist ownership by the whole people and socialist collective ownership by working people. The draft also contains provisions regarding non-agricultural individual labourers and allowing people's commune members to farm small plots for their personal needs and engage in limited household sideline production. These provisions integrate the principle of adherence to socialism with the necessary flexibility and are sharply demarcated from such fallacies as those advocated by Liu Shao-chi and Lin Piao on the fixing of farm output quotas for individual households with each on its own and the abolition of farm plots for personal needs.

The draft reiterates the general line of going all out, aiming high and achieving greater, faster, better and more economical results in building socialism, and stipulates a series of principles and policies for the consolidation and development of the socialist economic base.

It should be pointed out that in our country we still have harmony as well as contradiction between the relations of production and the productive forces and between the superstructure and the economic base. Like the morning sun, our socialist system is still very young. It was born in struggle and can only grow in struggle. Take the state sector of the economy for example. In some enterprises, the form is that of socialist ownership, but the reality is that their leadership is not in the hands of Marxists and the masses of workers. The bourgeoisie will seize hold of many fronts if the proletariat does not occupy them. Confucius died more than two thousand years ago, yet such rubbish as his never vanishes of itself where the broom of the proletariat does not reach. The draft lays down that “state organizations and state personnel must earnestly study Marxism-Leninism-Mao Tsetung Thought,” that “the proletariat must exercise all-round dictatorship over the bourgeoisie in the superstructure, including all spheres of culture” and that state organizations and state personnel must maintain close ties with the masses and overcome unhealthy tendencies. It is precisely the purpose of these provisions to call on us to pay keen attention to grasping socialist revolution in the realm of the superstructure and to pay attention to solving problems concerning the relations of production. We must broaden, deepen and persevere in the current movement to criticize Lin Piao and Confucius and occupy all fronts with Marxism.

(5) In accordance with Chairman Mao's teaching, Dig tunnels deep, store grain everywhere and never seek hegemony, we have written into the draft that “China will never be a superpower” in order to show that our country does not seek hegemony today and that it never will. Only by emancipating all mankind can the proletariat achieve its own final emancipation. We shall always unite with the people of all countries in the common struggle to abolish the system of exploitation of man by man over the face of the globe, so that all mankind will be emancipated.

Fellow Deputies!

The work of revising the Constitution has been going on for nearly five years. This Congress will complete the work and promulgate the new fundamental charter of the People's Republic of China. This is a major event calling for our enthusiastic celebration. In order to win and defend the right to people's democracy and socialism, smash the schemes of Kao Kang, Jao Shu-shih, Peng Teh-huai, Liu Shao-chi and Lin Piao for restoring capitalism internally and capitulating and selling out the country externally, and defeat reactionaries both at home and abroad, the people of our country have long engaged in sharp and complex struggles, in which tens of thousands of martyrs have laid down their lives. It is precisely the victories of these struggles that have given birth to this socialist Constitution. We are confident that the people of all our nationalities and, first of all, the Communists and state personnel, will earnestly implement and courageously defend this Constitution and carry the continued revolution under the dictatorship of the proletariat through to the end, so as to ensure that our great motherland will for ever forge ahead victoriously along the road indicated by Marxism-Leninism-Mao Tsetung Thought!

(Adopted on January 17, 1975)

The First Session of the Fourth National People's Congress approves "The Report on the Work of the Government" made by Premier Chou En-lai to the Congress on behalf of the State Council. The Congress holds that, under the leadership of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China headed by Chairman Mao and under the guidance of Chairman Mao's proletarian revolutionary line and through the Great Proletarian Cultural Revolution and the current nationwide movement to criticize Lin Piao and Confucius, the State Council has, since the Third National People's Congress, achieved tremendous successes in all aspects of internal and external work. The deputies attending the session are convinced that we can certainly build China into a powerful modern socialist country in another twenty years and more before the end of the century.

REPORT ON THE WORK OF THE GOVERNMENT

(Delivered on January 13, 1975 at the First Session of the Fourth National People's Congress of the People's Republic of China)

Chou En-lai

Fellow Deputies!

In accordance with the decision of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China, I shall make a report on behalf of the State Council to the Fourth National People's Congress on the work of the government.

Since the Third National People's Congress, the most important event in the political life of the people of all nationalities in our country has been the Great Proletarian Cultural Revolution personally initiated and led by our great leader Chairman Mao. In essence this is a great political revolution carried out by the proletariat against the bourgeoisie and all other exploiting classes. It destroyed the bourgeois headquarters of Liu Shao-chi and of Lin Piao and smashed their plots to restore capitalism. The current nationwide movement to criticize Lin Piao and Confucius is the continuation and deepening of this great revolution. The victory of the Great Proletarian Cultural Revolution has consolidated the dictatorship of the proletariat in our country, promoted socialist construction and ensured that our country would stand on the side of the oppressed people and oppressed nations of the world. The cultural revolution has provided new experience on continuing the revolution under the dictatorship of the proletariat; its historical significance is great and its influence far-reaching.

In the course of the Great Proletarian Cultural Revolution and the movement to criticize Lin Piao and Confucius, our people of all nationalities have unfolded a mass movement to study Marxism-Leninism-Mao Tsetung Thought and thus heightened their awareness of class struggle and the struggle between the two lines, and struggle-criticism-transformation in the superstructure has achieved major successes. The three-in-one revolutionary committees composed of the old, the middle-aged and the young have forged closer links with the masses. Successors to the cause of the proletarian revolution are maturing in large numbers. The proletarian revolution in literature and art exemplified by the model revolutionary theatrical works is developing in depth. The revolution in education and in health work is thriving. The cadres and the workers, peasants, soldiers, students and commercial workers are persevering on the May 7th road. Over a million barefoot doctors are becoming more competent. Nearly, ten million school graduates have gone to mountainous and other rural areas. With the participation of workers, peasants and soldiers the Marxist theoretical contingents are expanding. The
emergence of all these new things has strengthened the all-round dictatorship of the proletariat over the bourgeoisie in the realm of the superstructure, and this further helps consolidate and develop the socialist economic base.

We have fulfilled the Third Five-Year Plan and will successfully fulfil the Fourth Five-Year Plan in 1975. Our country has won good harvests for thirteen years running. The total value of agricultural output for 1974 is estimated to be 51 per cent higher than that for 1964. This fully demonstrates the superiority of the people's commune. While China's population has increased 60 per cent since the liberation of the country, grain output has increased 140 per cent and cotton 470 per cent. In a country like ours with a population of nearly 800 million, we have succeeded in ensuring the people their basic needs in food and clothing. Gross industrial output for 1974 is estimated to be 190 per cent more than 1964, and the output of major products has greatly increased. Steel has increased 120 per cent, coal 91 per cent, petroleum 650 per cent, electric power 200 per cent, chemical fertilizer 330 per cent, tractors 520 per cent, cotton yarn 35 per cent and chemical fibres 330 per cent. Through our own efforts in these ten years we have completed 1,100 big and medium-sized projects, successfully carried out hydrogen bomb tests and launched man-made earth satellites. In contrast to the economic turmoil and inflation in the capitalist world, we have maintained a balance between our national revenue and expenditure and contracted no external or internal debts. Prices have remained stable, the people's livelihood has steadily improved and socialist construction has flourished. Reactionaries at home and abroad asserted that the Great Proletarian Cultural Revolution would certainly disrupt the development of our national economy, but facts have now given them a strong rebuttal.

Along with the people of other countries, we have won tremendous victories in the struggle against colonialism and imperialism, and in particular against the hegemonism of the superpowers. We have smashed imperialist and social-imperialist encirclement, blockade, aggression and subversion, and have strengthened our unity with the people of all countries, and especially the third world countries. China's seat in the United Nations, of which she had long been illegally deprived, has been restored to her. The number of countries having diplomatic relations with us has increased to nearly 100, and more than 150 countries and regions have economic and trade relations and cultural exchanges with us. Our struggle has won widespread sympathy and support from the people of all countries. We have friends all over the world.

Tempered in the Great Proletarian Cultural Revolution and the movement to criticize Lin Piao and Confucius, our people of all nationalities are more united and our army has grown stronger. Our great motherland is still more consolidated. All our successes are great victories for Marxism-Leninism-Mao Tsetung Thought and for Chairman Mao's revolutionary line.

Fellow Deputies!

The Tenth National Congress of our Party again elucidated the Party's basic line and policies formulated by Chairman Mao for the entire historical period of socialism, and pointed out even more clearly the orientation for continuing the revolution under the dictatorship of the proletariat. Under the leadership of the Party Central Committee headed by Chairman Mao, the people of all our nationalities should unite still more closely, adhere to the Party's basic line and policies, endeavour to fulfil the various fighting tasks set forth by the Party's Tenth Congress, consolidate and enhance the victories of the Great Proletarian Cultural Revolution and strive for new victories in socialist revolution and socialist construction.

Our primary task is to continue to broaden, deepen and persevere in the movement to criticize Lin Piao and Confucius. The struggle between the two classes, the proletariat and the bourgeoisie, between the two roads, the socialist and the capitalist, and between the two lines, the Marxist and the revisionist, is long and tortuous and at times even becomes very acute. We must never relax our criticism of Lin Piao and Confucius because of the big successes already achieved in this movement. We should go on deepening the criticism of Lin Piao's revisionist line and the doctrines of Confucius and Mencius, and in line with the principle of making the past serve the present, sum up the historical experience of the struggle between the Confucian and the Legalist schools and of class struggle as a whole, build up a vast Marxist theoretical force in the course of struggle and use Marxism to occupy all spheres in the superstructure. The key to the fulfilment of this task is for the cadres and the masses to study works by Marx, Engels, Lenin and Stalin and by Chairman Mao assiduously in order to arm themselves with the basic theories of Marxism. Through the criticism of Lin Piao and Confucius, we should further advance the revolution in literature and art, in education and in health work, promote struggle-criticism-transformation on various fronts and support all the new things as soon as they appear in order to keep to the socialist orientation.

Under the leadership of the Party, we should strengthen revolutionary committees at all levels.
Leading bodies at all levels should become more conscious of the need to implement Chairman Mao's revolutionary line and should maintain closer ties with the masses. We should make active efforts to train young cadres, women cadres and minority nationality cadres, and make a point of selecting outstanding workers and poor and lower-middle peasants for leading posts. We should have better staff and simpler administration with fewer levels. New and veteran cadres should learn from each other and strengthen their unity, and they should be ready to work at any post, high or low, persist in collective productive labour and wholeheartedly serve the people.

We should strictly distinguish between the two different types of contradictions and handle them correctly, implement the Party's policies conscientiously and ensure that the task of consolidating the dictatorship of the proletariat is fulfilled right through to the grass-roots level. We should rely on the broad masses to deal steadily, accurately and hard blows at the handful of class enemies, with the emphasis on accuracy. We should earnestly strive to do well in resolving contradictions among the people with democratic methods in accordance with the principle of unity — criticism and self-criticism — unity, and thus give full play to the masses' enthusiasm for socialism.

The unification of our country, the unity of our people and the unity of our various nationalities — these are the basic guarantees of the sure triumph of our cause. We should strengthen the great unity of the people of all our nationalities. We should wholeheartedly rely on the working class and the poor and lower-middle peasants, unite with the other working people and the many intellectuals and further develop the revolutionary united front which, led by the working class and based on the worker-peasant alliance, includes the patriotic democratic parties, patriotic personages, patriotic overseas Chinese and our compatriots in Hongkong and Macao. We should unite over 95 per cent of the cadres and the masses and unite with all the forces that can be united with in a joint effort to build our great socialist motherland.

Socialist revolution is the powerful engine for developing the social productive forces. We must adhere to the principle of grasping revolution, promoting production and other work and preparedness against war, and with revolution in command, work hard to increase production and speed up socialist construction so that our socialist system will have a more solid material foundation.

On Chairman Mao's instructions, it was suggested in the report on the work of the government to the Third National People's Congress that we might envisage the development of our national economy in two stages beginning from the Third Five-Year Plan: The first stage is to build an independent and relatively comprehensive industrial and economic system in 15 years, that is before 1980; the second stage is to accomplish the comprehensive modernization of agriculture, industry, national defence and science and technology before the end of the century, so that our national economy will be advancing in the front ranks of the world.

We should fulfill or overfulfill the Fourth Five-Year Plan in 1975 in order to reinforce the foundations for completing the first stage before 1980 as envisaged above. In the light of the situation at home and abroad, the next ten years are crucial for accomplishing what has been envisaged for the two stages. In this period we shall not only build an independent and relatively comprehensive industrial and economic system, but march towards the splendid goal set for the second stage. With this objective in mind, the State Council will draw up a long-range ten-year plan, five-year plans and annual plans. The ministries and commissions under the State Council and the local revolutionary committees at all levels down to the industrial and mining enterprises and production teams and other grass-roots units should all arouse the masses to work out their plans through full discussion and strive to attain our splendid goal ahead of time.

In order to keep on expanding our socialist economy, we must persist in the general line of going all out, aiming high and achieving greater, faster, better and more economical results in building socialism and continue to apply the policy of taking agriculture as the foundation and industry as the leading factor and the series of policies of walking on two legs. We should work out the national economic plan in this order of priorities: agriculture, light industry, heavy industry. We should give full play to the initiative of both central and local authorities under the state's unified planning. We should implement The Charter of the Anshan Iron and Steel Company still better and deepen the mass movements — in industry, learn from Taching and in agriculture, learn from Tachai.

While tackling economic tasks, our leading comrades at all levels must pay close attention to the socialist revolution in the realm of the superstructure and keep a firm grasp on class struggle and the struggle between the two lines. Only when we do well in revolution is it possible to do well in production. We should thoroughly criticize revisionism, criticize capitalist tendencies and criticize such erroneous ideas and styles of work as servility to things foreign, the doctrine of trailing behind at a snail's pace, and extravagance and waste.
Chairman Mao points out, "Rety mainly on our own efforts while making external assistance subsidiary, break down blind faith, go in for industry, agriculture and technical and cultural revolutions independently, do away with slavishness, bury dogmatism, learn from the good experience of other countries conscientiously and be sure to study their bad experience too, so as to draw lessons from it. This is our line." This line has enabled us to break the imperialist blockade and withstand social-imperialist pressure, and the progress of our economy has been sound and vigorous all along, regardless of economic fluctuations and crises in the capitalist world. We must always adhere to this line.

Fellow Deputies!

The present international situation is still characterized by great disorder under heaven, a disorder which is growing greater and greater. The capitalist world is facing the most serious economic crisis since the war, and all the basic contradictions in the world are sharpening. On the one hand, the trend of revolution by the people of the world is actively developing; countries want independence, nations want liberation, and the people want revolution—this has become an irresistible historical current. On the other hand, the contention for world hegemony between the two superpowers, the United States and the Soviet Union, is becoming more and more intense. Their contention has extended to every corner of the world, the focus of their contention being Europe. Soviet social-imperialism "makes a feint to the east while attacking in the west." The two superpowers, the United States and the Soviet Union, are the biggest international oppressors and exploiters today, and they are the source of a new world war. Their fierce contention is bound to lead to world war some day. The people of all countries must get prepared. Detente and peace are being talked about everywhere in the world; it is precisely this that shows there is no detente, let alone lasting peace, in this world. At present, the factors for both revolution and war are increasing. Whether war gives rise to revolution or revolution prevents war, in either case the international situation will develop in a direction favourable to the people and the future of the world will be bright.

We should continue to implement Chairman Mao's revolutionary line in foreign affairs, always keep the people in mind, place our hopes on them and do our external work better. We should uphold proletarian internationalism and strengthen our unity with the socialist countries and all the oppressed people and oppressed nations of the world, with each supporting the other. We should ally ourselves with all the forces in the world that can be allied with to combat colonialism, imperialism and above all superpower hegemonism. We are ready to establish or develop relations with all countries on the basis of the Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence.

The third world is the main force in combating colonialism, imperialism and hegemonism. China is a developing socialist country belonging to the third world. We should enhance our unity with the countries and people of Asia, Africa and Latin America and resolutely support them in their struggle to win or safeguard national independence, defend their state sovereignty, protect their national resources and develop their national economy. We firmly support the just struggles of the people of Korea, Viet Nam, Cambodia, Laos, Palestine and the Arab countries as well as countries in southern Africa. We support the countries and people of the second world in their struggle against superpower control, threats and bullying. We support the efforts of West European countries to get united in this struggle. We are ready to work together with the Japanese Government and people to promote friendly and good-neighbourly relations between the two countries on the basis of the Sino-Japanese Joint Statement.

There exist fundamental differences between China and the United States. Owing to the joint efforts of both sides the relations between the two countries have improved to some extent in the last three years, and contacts between the two peoples have developed. The relations between the two countries will continue to improve so long as the principles of the Sino-American Shanghai Communique are carried out in earnest.

The Soviet leading clique have betrayed Marxism-Leninism, and our debate with them on matters of principle will go on for a long time. However, we have always held that this debate should not obstruct the maintenance of normal state relations between China and the Soviet Union. The Soviet leadership have taken a series of steps to worsen the relations between the two countries, conducted subversive activities against our country and even provoked armed conflicts on the border. In violation of the understanding reached between the Premiers of China and the Soviet Union as early as 1969, they refuse to sign the agreement on the maintenance of the status quo on the border, the prevention of armed conflicts and the disengagement of the armed forces of the two sides in the disputed areas on the border, an agreement which includes the non-use of force against each other and mutual non-aggression. Hence the negotiations on the Sino-Soviet boundary question have so far yielded no results. They even deny the existence of the disputed areas on the Sino-Soviet border, and
they even refuse to do anything about such matters as the disengagement of the armed forces of the two sides in the disputed areas on the border and the prevention of armed conflicts; instead they talk profusely about empty treaties on the non-use of force against each other and mutual non-aggression. So what can their real intention be if not to deceive the Soviet people and world public opinion? We wish to advise the Soviet leadership to sit down and negotiate honestly, do something to solve a bit of the problem and stop playing such deceitful tricks.

Chairman Mao teaches us, "Dig tunnels deep, store grain everywhere, and never seek hegemony. "Be prepared against war, be prepared against natural disasters, and do everything for the people." We should maintain vigilance, strengthen our defence and be prepared against war. The heroic People's Liberation Army shoulders the glorious task of defending the motherland. The whole army should resolutely implement Chairman Mao's line for army building to strengthen the army and enhance preparedness against war. We should build the people's militia conscientiously and well. Together with the people of all our nationalities, the People's Liberation Army and the masses of the people's militia should be ready at all times to wipe out any enemy that dares intrude.

We are determined to liberate Taiwan! Fellow-countrymen in Taiwan and people of the whole country, unite and work together to achieve the noble aim of liberating Taiwan and unifying the motherland!

Fellow Deputies!

In the excellent situation prevailing at home and abroad, we should first of all run China's affairs well and strive to make a greater contribution to humanity.

We must bear firmly in mind Chairman Mao's teachings and grasp major issues, grasp the line, and adhere to these fundamental principles, "Practise Marxism, and not revisionism; unite, and don't split; be open and aboveboard, and don't intrigue and conspire."

We must resolutely support the centralized leadership of the Party. Of the seven sectors — in-


dustry, agriculture, commerce, culture and education, the Army, the government and the Party — it is the Party that exercises overall leadership. We must put all fields of work under the unified leadership of the Party committees at various levels.

We must carry forward the glorious tradition of observing discipline, conscientiously practise democratic centralism, and, on the basis of Chairman Mao's revolutionary line, achieve unity in thinking, policy, plan, command and action.

We must persist in the mass line: From the masses, to the masses: we must have unshakable faith in the vast majority of the masses and firmly rely on them. Both in revolution and in construction, we should boldly arouse the people and unfold vigorous mass movements.

We must work hard, build the country and run all undertakings with diligence and thrift. We should maintain the same vigour, the same revolutionary enthusiasm and the same daring death-defying spirit we displayed in the years of revolutionary war, and carry on our revolutionary work to the end.

We must uphold proletarian internationalism, and get rid of great-power chauvinism resolutely, thoroughly, wholly and completely. We will never seek hegemony; we will never be a superpower; we will always stand with the oppressed people and oppressed nations throughout the world.

Under the leadership of the Central Committee of the Party headed by Chairman Mao, the Chinese people have worked energetically, surmounted all difficulties and hazards, and turned a poverty-stricken and backward country into a socialist one with the beginnings of prosperity in only twenty years and more. We can certainly build China into a powerful modern socialist country in another twenty years and more before the end of the century. We should continue to work hard, carry forward our achievements and overcome our shortcomings, be modest and prudent, guard against arrogance and rashness, and continue our triumphant advance. Under the guidance of Chairman Mao's revolutionary line, let us unite to win still greater victories!

Standing Committee of Fourth National People's Congress Holds First Session

THE Standing Committee of the Fourth National People's Congress held its First Session in the afternoon of January 20. Chairman Chu Teh presided over the meeting.

January 24, 1975

The session appointed Chiang Hua President of the Supreme People's Court and Chi Peng-fei Secretary-General of the Standing Committee of the Fourth National People's Congress.
Message of Gratitude From Central Committee Of Romanian Communist Party

The Central Committee of the Communist Party of China on January 9 received a message sent by the Central Committee of the Romanian Communist Party. It reads as follows:

Peking

The Central Committee of the Communist Party of China

Dear Comrades:

We most sincerely thank the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China for its greetings and wishes extended on the occasion of the conclusion of the 11th Congress of the Romanian Communist Party and Comrade Nicolae Ceaucescu’s re-election as General Secretary of the Romanian Communist Party. We wish the fraternal Chinese people, led by the Communist Party of China headed by Comrade Mao Tsetung, greater new successes in socialist construction in their country and in the struggle against imperialism, colonialism and neo-colonialism and for the promotion of the peoples’ co-operation, progress and world peace.

The Central Committee of the Romanian Communist Party

Mr. Strauss in China

Chairman of the Christian Social Union of the Federal Republic of Germany Franz-Josef Strauss, his wife and party arrived in Peking on January 12 for a visit to China.

Premier Chou En-lai met in a hospital Chairman Strauss and the other distinguished guests during their stay in the capital.

Vice-Premier Teng Hsiao-ping and Foreign Minister Chiao Kuan-hun met Chairman Strauss, his wife and party on separate occasions. The Vice-Premier and Foreign Minister had a friendly and frank conversation with Chairman Strauss. Vice-President of the Chinese People’s Institute of Foreign Affairs Ko Po-nien hosted a banquet in honour of the guests.

Concluding their stay in Peking, Chairman Strauss, his wife and party left on January 17 for visits to other parts of China. Deputy Chief of the General Staff of the Chinese People’s Liberation Army Li Ta met Mr. Strauss before the latter’s departure.

Premier Chou En-lai meets Mr. Strauss and his wife.

Premier Chou Meets Japanese Friends

Premier Chou En-lai met in a hospital on January 16 with Inayama Yoshihiro, President of the Japan-China Association on Economy and Trade; Yoshizane Iwasa, Kiyoshi Nakatsukasa and Chujirō Fujino, Vice-Presidents, Iryoichi Kawai, Director-General, and Takasharu Okubo, Managing-Director, of the association; and Ichizo Kimura, Director-General of the Kansai Chapter of the Japan International Trade Promotion Association.

The same day, Vice-Premier Li Hsien-nien also met and had a friendly conversation with Inayama Yoshihiro and other Japanese friends, who had arrived in Peking on January 13.
NEW FRAUD IN SOVIET-U.S. NUCLEAR RACE

ENGAGING with might and main in arms expansion and war preparations and feverishly competing for nuclear superiority, the two superpowers, the Soviet Union and the United States, recently struck up the old tune of “detente,” making a big noise about the problem of the so-called “strategic arms limitation” in particular. Moscow’s propaganda machine became especially energetic when it loudly trumpeted the recent “Soviet-U.S. joint statement” on the so-called “offensive strategic arms limitation,” hailing it as “a major turning point in limiting the arms race” and “an important contribution to the cause of the consolidation of peace and international security,” adding that “its significance can never be overestimated.”

Are things really what Moscow has asserted? Not in the least. The assertions are all deceitful talk. In fact, the so-called “limitation” specifies neither cutbacks in numbers nor restrictions on weaponry improvements; it means “upward parity” for both sides.

Not Limitation, But Expansion

The United States has officially announced that both countries had agreed to a ceiling for each side of 2,400 strategic delivery vehicles — intercontinental ballistic missiles, submarine-launched missiles and heavy bombers — of which 1,320 can be armed with multiple warheads (MIRVs).

But how many strategic delivery vehicles do they have now? U.S. Defense Department spokesman William Beecher stated last December 3 that the United States had a total of 2,206 launchers, 826 of which were armed with MIRVs, and the program was to bring the number of MIRV-armed launchers up to 1,286. In other words, the “ceiling” of 2,400 agreed upon not only exceeds the current U.S. stockpiles but also its target figure.

Soviet stockpiles of strategic delivery vehicles were estimated to be 2,435 in the middle of 1974, according to the London International Institute for Strategic Studies. The total appears slightly above the “ceiling,” and it seems necessary to make some reductions. But in fact, Soviet MIRVs are being tested frequently and not yet in the stage of actual deployment. That is to say, under the accord, the Soviet Union can deploy all of the 1,320 MIRVs stipulated. Can this be regarded as a “limitation”?

The Christian Science Monitor noted that the Russians “will have to cut back on the total number of launchers, but this merely means phasing out obsolete models.” The Washington Post pinpointed the fact that the accord “actually allows both sides to considerably expand the numbers of multiple warhead missiles.”

The essence of the problem lies precisely in the quality of weapons. Since the end of the first round of Soviet-U.S. “strategic arms limitation talks” in May 1972, the two nuclear hegemonic powers’ nuclear arms race has switched from quantitative increase to qualitative improvement. In this regard, it is most important to replace the existing single warhead missiles with multiple warhead missiles. U.S. Defense Secretary James Schlesinger predicts that the Soviet Union will begin deploying its MIRVed missiles in early 1975 and will complete its entire redeployment process sometime between 1980 and 1983. In these circumstances, agreement between the Soviet Union and the United States on a number for both sides to “have the right to possess” means nothing but setting a higher target and a new rule for their nuclear arms race in the period ahead to bring their strategic nuclear weapons to a still higher level. The New York Times observed that, under the accord, the present round of the arms race will go on “possibly a little faster” in some areas than previously planned.

Even more, except for reiterating the limits on the number of heavy missiles specified in the 1972 interim agreement, the accord puts no restrictions on throw weight, thus permitting the two countries to develop large missiles further. Nor does it place any limitation on the number of MIRV warheads or on their explosive power, level of accuracy and aiming capability. It does not affect the new-type strategic weapons development programmes being carried out by both sides, or restrain them from replacing present strategic weapons with those of a new generation. “That means full speed ahead in the qualitative race,” the New York Times commented. Die Welt, a paper in the Federal Republic of Germany, also noted that “the accord is expected to lead to a stage in the arms race when competition in the number of vehicles will probably shift to rivalry in carrying capacity and in the number of multiple warheads to be carried.”

What is called “limitation” actually means “expansion.” The more talk about “limitation,” the greater the number and the higher the quality of strategic arms. This is the essence of the so-called Soviet-U.S. “strategic arms limitation.”

Sharpening Contention

The record of the Soviet-U.S. strategic arms “limitation” talks in the past few years is in every sense one of the strategic nuclear arms race. The signing of each accord has bred fiercer competition between the two countries. The 1972 interim agreement gave Soviet revisionism supremacy in the number of missiles,

January 24, 1975
with U.S. imperialism having the advantage in MIRVs. While maintaining its lead in the number and throw weight of its missiles, Soviet revisionism in recent years has focused its attention on qualitative improvement by stepping up MIRVs tests. On its part, U.S. imperialism has tried hard to restrict large-scale Soviet revisionist deployment of MIRVs so as to retain its quality superiority.

Shortly before “the Soviet-U.S. joint statement” was published last November, the two countries lost no time in embarking on a new nuclear arms race. The Soviet Union once again test-fired new ICBMs with MIRVs in the Pacific from October 20 to 23, while the United States launched a “Minuteman” ICBM by plane on October 24 over California. Before the ink on the statement was dry, the blasts from their new missile tests were heard. The Soviet revisionists conducted another round of ICBM tests in the Pacific from December 11 to 13, the fifth last year. A U.S. Defense Department spokesman said that the test involved one of the Soviet Union’s new generation of four types of ICBMs, the only one that had not been previously test-fired into the Pacific. “There have been some reports from the Soviet Union actively associating this missile with the mobile mode,” he added.

U.S. imperialism naturally will not allow itself to be outdone by Soviet revisionism’s threatening challenge for nuclear superiority. Shortly after the statement had been signed, U.S. President Ford told a press conference on December 2: “If there is an inequality in throw weight, it can be remedied”; “If we decide to go to a heavier throw weight, we can add on a MIRVed missile a greater number of individual warheads.” U.S. Secretary of Defence Schlesinger said more bluntly on December 6 that “we are prepared to match whatever the Soviets do.” He indicated that as the Soviets’ developed technology increases their threat against U.S. land-based missiles, the United States must look ahead to alternative forms of strategic deterrent. All this shows that the publication date of “the Soviet-U.S. joint statement” also marked the beginning of a new nuclear arms race.

As the Soviet-U.S. nuclear arms race intensifies, the two sides have also accelerated their conventional weapons race.

The speeding up of the Soviet-U.S. arms race, both nuclear and conventional, shows that the two hegemonic powers are the source of a new world war, threatening the independence and security of all countries. Their fierce rivalry will finally lead to war. The world’s people are becoming more and more vigilant. In the face of the enlarged danger of war, they have become more and more doubtful about Moscow’s high-sounding words about “detente” and “lasting peace.”

(A commentary by Hsinhua Correspondent)

Firm Resolve to Continue Struggle For Africa’s Liberation

The 24th Session of the Liberation Committee of the Organization of African Unity, held in Dar-es-Salaam from January 8 to 14, adopted the Dar-es-Salaam Declaration of New Strategy for Liberation of Africa, Consolidation of Struggle and Reconstruction of Liberated Territories. The declaration presents a clarifying analysis of the African situation and calls on the African people to strengthen unity and heighten vigilance so as to “move decisively towards final elimination of the scourge of colonialism and racism” from the continent. This represents a firm resolve to continue the advance towards the total liberation of Africa. It shows the common will of the entire African people to fight heroically and serves as an emphatic reply to various manoeuvres recently used by the imperialists, colonialists and racists.

Hard hit by the persistent armed struggle of the African people, Portuguese colonial rule in Africa has crumbled. This has led to a great change in the situation in Africa’s national-liberation struggle. The Guinea-Bissau people have attained independence and the people of Mozambique, Angola, Sao Tome and Principe as well as the Cape Verde Islands have won their right to independence. In southern Africa, national-liberation forces have grown rapidly while colonial and racist forces have been further weakened. In this excellent situation, the O.A.U. Liberation Committee issued the timely call for “redoubling efforts with a view to securing greater victories” and clearly declared that the African people will give priority assistance to the liberation movements in Zimbabwe and Namibia, thus charting the orientation for the continued advance of the struggle.

As the African national-liberation struggle is crowned with one victory after another, the colonialists, imperialists and superpowers vigorously support the Rhodesian and South African racist regimes in their clamouring for “detente.” It is known to all that these regimes were the accomplices of the former Portuguese fascist regime in the colonial war it carried out in Africa for long years. Even today, they are still shel-

(Continued on p. 31.)
The statement said: "The Provisional Revolutionary Government of the Republic of South Viet Nam has consistently respected and strictly implemented the Paris agreement on Viet Nam. It has been amply proved by the reality in south Viet Nam that as long as the U.S. military involvement and interference in the internal affairs of south Viet Nam continue, as long as the Nguyen Van Thieu administration remains in power, the war will go on and the Paris agreement will still be in jeopardy. The correct way to settle the south Viet Nam issue, shown in the statement of October 8, 1974 of the Provisional Revolutionary Government of the Republic of South Viet Nam, is that the United States must put a definitive end to its military involvement and interference in the internal affairs of south Viet Nam, that Nguyen Van Thieu and company must be overthrown, and that an administration must be set up in Saigon that favours peace and national concord and is willing to implement the Paris agreement in all earnest.

"The Provisional Revolutionary Government is ready to enter into negotiations with such a government in order to reach a prompt settlement to south Viet Nam's internal affairs, as provided for by the Paris agreement on Viet Nam."

**THAILAND**

**Peasants Persist in Struggle**

The Thai peasants' struggle against oppression and exploitation and for legitimate rights and interests developed further last year.

As before, the 1974 peasants' struggle centered on the fundamental question of land. Slogans such as "Let the peasants own the land!" "Land to those who use the ploughs and harrows!" were raised by participants in the struggle. This is a reflection of the peasants' determination and strong desire to preserve their land in order to make a living. Moreover, they took action against cruel exploitation by rents and usury and closely combined economic with political struggles.

The peasant movement was marked by its unprecedentedly broad scale. Thousands upon thousands of peasants in various provinces waged repeated struggles in different forms. They even went to Bangkok for joint struggles. For instance, Bangkok was the scene of round-the-clock joint struggles by 500 peasants from 11 provinces for nine days in March, by over 1,000 from 15 provinces for seven days in June and by more than 1,500 from 30 provinces for 12 days in November. Besides the struggle, the peasants in November joined 10,000 other people in staging a demonstration in the capital. This was something unheard of in Thailand's history.

Another characteristic of the movement is its solid organization. The Thai Peasant League was formed as the center of the joint struggle.

The peasants' struggle has gained wide support from workers, university and middle school students, intellectuals, monks and government functionaries as well as other people of various strata. As a component part of the struggle by the people of the whole country for independence and democracy, it has promoted the steady development of the Thai people's patriotic struggle for democracy and at the same time energetically supported the people's armed struggle in the countryside.

**U.S.-SOVIET RELATIONS**

**Trade Agreement Cannot Go Into Force**

The U.S. President has decided that the U.S.-Soviet trade agreement concluded in October 1972 cannot be brought into force and that he would not grant the Soviet Union most-favored-nation status; U.S. Secretary of State Henry Kissinger announced at a press conference in Washington on January 14.

The trade agreement, signed in Washington on October 18, 1972 after the Soviet-U.S. summit talks in Moscow in May that year, stipulated that the two sides will extend most-favored-nation status to each other and make trade credit arrangements.
The Soviet revisionist leading clique had been busy in the past few years in behind-the-scenes deals with Washington, trying to get U.S. congressional approval of the agreement by emigrating more Soviet Jews to Israel. Last December, the U.S. Congress adopted the “trade act of 1974,” authorizing the U.S. President to grant the Soviet Union most-favoured-nation status in trade and trade credits on condition the Soviet Government ensure “freer emigration” of Soviet Jews. The act also stipulated that most-favoured-nation treatment will be revoked by the U.S. Congress at the end of the 18-month period if the Soviet Union did not carry out its commitment. Meanwhile, another bill adopted by the Congress limits U.S. credits to the Soviet Union to 300 million dollars over four years. These dealings revealed the Brezhnev clique’s ugly features before the people of the world, including the Soviet people.

Kissinger said in a statement at the press conference: “The Soviet Government has now informed us that it cannot accept a trading relationship based on the legislation recently enacted in this country [the United States],” and “it will not put into force the 1972 trade agreement.”

“In view of these developments,” Kissinger said, “we have concluded that the 1972 trade agreement cannot be brought into force at this time and that the President will therefore not take the steps required for this purpose by the trade act.”

Replying to questions, Kissinger said that in addition to Soviet “sensitivity” over the emigration issue, the ceiling Congress placed on export-import credits (300 million dollars over four years) to the Soviet Union was “an important factor” leading to this Soviet action.

“It goes without saying,” Kissinger emphasized, “that should it herald a period of intensified pressure the United States would resist with great determination and as a united people.”

People still remember that after the signing of the 1972 trade agreement, the Soviet Union extravagantly lauded it as “making a fruitful contribution to the cause of strengthening relations between the Soviet Union and the United States.” What does Moscow have to say now about this “fruitful contribution”? Facts have proved once again that U.S.-Soviet “mutual trust” is only a deception and the essence is their stepped-up contention.

UNITED STATES

What Does State of the Union Message Mean?

As the two superpowers, the Soviet Union and the United States, intensify their worldwide contention and the capitalist world is gripped by its worst postwar economic crisis, U.S. President Ford presented to the Congress on January 15 the first State of the Union Message since he took office.

It was devoted mainly to the U.S. economy and the administration’s policies dealing with the economic crisis. Ford admitted that “the state of the Union is not good.” “Millions of Americans are out of work. Recession and inflation are eroding the money of millions more. Prices are too high and sales are too slow. “This year’s federal deficit will be about 30,000 million dollars, next year’s probably 45,000 million dollars.”

Shortly after his assumption of the presidency last August, Ford declared inflation to be “domestic public enemy No. 1,” saying that his “first priority” was to “bring inflation under control.” While rampant inflation is now still left unchecked, the crisis of “overproduction” is rapidly worsening. So he had to declare in his message, “the emphasis of our economic efforts must now shift from inflation to jobs.”

The message contains nothing new in the measures listed to deal with the worsening economic crisis. It suggested the same old methods so often used since the 1930s by previous U.S. governments: to increase the budget deficit as a stimulus for an economic upturn. Tax reduction is the main measure to be adopted. The President proposed a one-year tax reduction of 16,000 million dollars “to bolster business and industry and to create new jobs.” But he had to admit that a tax cut “will increase the size of the budget deficit.”

Therefore, the President urged that steps be taken to check the growth of federal expenditures and limit increases in federal pay and social benefits. “Even so,” he stated, “the level of outlays for fiscal year 1976 is still much too high.” Next year’s federal deficit will be 50 per cent more than this year.

The President tried to blame the increase in world oil prices last year for the economic crisis of the United States. Referring to the problem of energy, he stated, “this nation and, in fact, the world must face the prospect of energy difficulties between now and 1985.” His proposal was to “impose burdens on” the American people to reduce the consumption of energy and increase its production. “I am using presidential powers to raise the fee on all imported crude oil and petroleum products,” he declared, and “I am prepared to use presidential authority to limit imports, as necessary. . . .”

On foreign policy, the President stressed that “international security cannot be taken for granted.” More than ever before,” he continued, “our own well-being depends on America’s determination and leadership in the world.” The United States will not abandon its commitment to its “allies and friends” in the Middle East and in Europe and Asia. It “must have the tools to do the job,” namely: “strong and ready” military forces and “fully adequate conventional and strategic forces,” accompanied by “effective diplomacy.” This means the United States will engage in still fiercer worldwide contention with the Soviet revisionists.

OIL-PRODUCING COUNTRIES

U.S. Threat of Force Opposed

Leaders have made speeches and the press has carried comments in some oil-producing and Arab countries recently, condemning the U.S. threat of force against the Middle East oil-producing countries.

In a January 2 interview given to the U.S. magazine Business Week,
U.S. Secretary of State Kissinger unreservedly blamed the oil-producing and Arab countries for using oil as a weapon and threatened that “I am not saying that there is no circumstances where the United States would not use force.” “A country of the magnitude of the United States is never without political recourse,” he added.

President of the Council of Revolution of Algeria Boumediene pointed out on January 3 that should the United States intervene, the intervention would be a form of pure colonialism. He said: “occupying a kilometre of land of an oil-producing Arab country means to us the occupation of the entire Arab world.”

Egyptian President Anwar Sadat pointed out on January 7 that Kissinger’s statement “is very regrettable.” President Sadat fully agreed with President Boumediene, saying that “he in effect declared that we ourselves would blow up our oil wells even before their [Americans’] arrival, if they should carry their threats into effect.”

Libyan Prime Minister Jalloud said on January 4 that Arab oil producers “do not fear threats and use of force from industrial nations.”

Iraqi Minister of the Economy Hikmat Al Azawi noted on January 7: “We reject American threats to occupy the oilfields in oil-producing countries.” “The Arab homeland’s wealth is under the Arab people’s sovereignty and no foreign power, however great it may be, has the right to manipulate this wealth.”

Kuwait Minister of State for Cabinet Affairs Abdul Aziz Husain said on January 5 that the Americans had become accustomed to resorting to pressure or force to impose their will on the Arab countries.

Secretary-General of the Arab League Mahmoud Riad on January 6 called on the Arab countries to consider the action they would take to confront the American threat. “We must think of the precautionary measures we must take,” he said.

A short January 4 comment in the Iranian paper Etela’at said that Tehran reacted strongly when the report about attempted U.S. military interference to cut the oil price spread for the first time. It continued: “The [Iranian] Shah had said that nobody could dictate to us or shake his fists at us because we could do the same.”

YUGOSLAVIA

Hungarian Foreign Minister’s Visit

Hungarian Foreign Minister Puja Frigyes paid an official visit to Yugoslavia from January 7 to 9 at the invitation of Yugoslav Vice-President Milos Minic.

old, bloody colonial rule has been maintained through armed repression. While trenching “peace” to create an atmosphere of “detente,” the colonialists and racists, who owe the African people heavy blood-debts, are engaged in frantic arms expansion and military deployment for cruel repression of the African people. This further opens the eyes of the African people. Just as the O.A.U. Liberation Committee declaration pointed out: “Africans will fight if that is the only way of gaining their liberation and will continue fighting until that objective is achieved.”

The African national-liberation movement is an important component part of the third world’s united struggle against imperialism. The Chinese people, together with the other third world peoples, resolutely support the O.A.U. and the African people in their struggle against colonialism and racism, and wish them still more brilliant victories in the days to come!

(“Renmin Ribao” Commentator, January 18)

January 24, 1975
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