Fight in Unity, Advance in Big Strides

— Congratulating the successful conclusion of the O.A.U. summit conference

"European Security Conference": An Analysis of Its "Final Act"

An Effective Way to Speed Up Chemical Fertilizer Production
CONTENTS

THE WEEK

Chinese Army Day Celebrated
Peking International Swimming and Diving Friendship Invitational Meet Opens
Light Industry Fulfills Half-Yearly Plan

ARTICLES AND DOCUMENTS

Fight in Unity, Advance in Big Strides — Congratulating the successful conclusion of the O.A.U. summit conference — Renmin Ribao editorial

"European Security Conference": An Analysis of Its "Final Act" — A commentary by Hsinhua Correspondent

Winds Blowing Strong in Europe — A commentary by Hsinhua Correspondent

Refuting What the Soviet Revisionists Call "Small-Power" Chauvinism — Mei Ou

Repulse Wolf at the Gate, Guard Against Tiger at the Back Door — Jen Ku-ping

In the Soviet Union: Use of Latest Technology Impeded

Self-Reliance Is a Question of Line — Li Hsin

An Effective Way to Speed Up Chemical Fertilizer Production — Growth of small chemical fertilizer plants in Honan Province — Our Correspondent Hsiang Jung

ROUND THE WORLD

Cambodia: Visit by Viet Nam Workers' Party Delegation
Soviet Union: Why Buy Grain From Abroad?
Western Countries' Economies: No Sign of Recovery
India: Opposition to Ironfisted Rule
"Vanguard" (Australia): Moscow Backs India's Fascist Measures
Turkey: Turk-U.S. Defence Agreement Invalidated

ON THE HOME FRONT

Traditional Instrumental Music Improved
Waste Disposal
Chinese Army Day Celebrated

The Ministry of National Defence of the People’s Republic of China gave a grand reception on the evening of July 31 to warmly celebrate the 48th anniversary (which falls on August 1) of the founding of the Chinese People’s Liberation Army.

Attending the reception held in the Great Hall of the People were Party and state leaders Yeh Chien-ying, Teng Hsiao-ping, Chang Chun-chiao, Li Hsiin-nien, Chen Hsi-lien, Hua Kuo-feng, Wang Tung-hsing, Wu Teh, Wu Kuei-hsen, Su Chen-hua, Hau Hsiang-chien, Nieh Jung-chen, Ku Mu and Sun Chien; Su Yu and Hsiao Ching-kuang, Vice-Ministers of National Defence; Yang Cheng-wu, Deputy Chief of the P.L.A. General Staff; Liang Pi-yeh, Deputy Director of the P.L.A. General Political Department; Chang Tsung-hsun, Director of the P.L.A. General Logistics Department; Kong Piao, Head of the International Liaison Department of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China; Chiao Kuan-hua, Minister of Foreign Affairs; Li Chiang, Minister of Foreign Trade; Fang Yi, Minister of Economic Relations With Foreign Countries; and Ting Kuo-yu, Vice-Chairman of the Peking Municipal Revolutionary Committee.

Diplomatic envoys of various countries to China, military attaches of foreign embassies in Peking and their wives were among the guests.

Yeh Chien-ying, Vice-Chairman of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China, Vice-Chairman of the Military Commission of the C.P.C. Central Committee and Minister of National Defence, said in his toast at the reception: “The 48th anniversary of the founding of the Chinese People’s Liberation Army is arriving at a time when the situation both at home and abroad is excellent. On behalf of the Ministry of National Defence of the People’s Republic of China, I extend a warm welcome and heartfelt thanks to all our guests present at the reception this evening for joining us in celebrating this glorious festival!”

“The Chinese People’s Liberation Army is the pillar of the dictatorship of the proletariat in China and shoulders the glorious task of defending the great socialist motherland. All commanders and fighters of the army should deepen their study of the Marxist theory concerning the dictatorship of the proletariat, resolutely implement Chairman Mao’s line of army building, carry forward our army’s glorious tradition, unite to ‘grasp revolution, promote production and other work and preparedness against war,’ and be ready at all times to wipe out the enemies who dare to intrude. We are determined to liberate Taiwan!”

In conclusion, Vice-Chairman Yeh Chien-ying proposed a toast to the health and long life of Chairman Mao, the great leader of the Chinese people, to the great victories the Chinese People’s Liberation Army has won together with the people throughout the country, and to the friendship of all peoples in the world.

The reception proceeded in an atmosphere of unity and victory.

Also present at the reception were leading members of the various general departments of the P.L.A., the Science and Technology Commission for National Defence, military academies, various services and arms, the Peking Units of the P.L.A. and the Peking Garrison; leading members of departments concerned; P.L.A. combat heroes and models, and representatives of advanced units, militia, families of armymen and fallen heroes, army literary and art and sports circles as well as representatives of workers and poor and lower-middle peasants in Peking.

Peking International Swimming
And Diving Friendship
Invitational Meet Opens

The Peking International Swimming and Diving Friendship Invitational Meet opened on August 2.

A meeting of friendship in the swimming circles of the developing countries, it was attended by more than 300 swimmers, divers and delegates from Albania, Algeria, Burma, the Congo, Iraq, Jamaica, Malaysia, Mexico, Morocco, Pakistan, Palestine, the Philippines, Singapore, Somalia, Sri Lanka, the Sudan, Syria, Tanzania, Thailand, Tunisia, Venezuela, Zaire and China.

Among those attending the opening ceremony were Chen Hsi-luen, Vice-Premier of the State Council; and Li Su-wen, Vice-Chairman of the Standing Committee of the National People’s Congress.

Speaking at the opening ceremony, Chairman of the Organizing Committee Li Ching-chuan said that the presence of friends at the current meet was a manifestation of support and encouragement to the Chinese people. “It is our belief that with the common effort of all our friends,” he added, “the invitational meet will play a positive role in increasing friendship and unity among the peoples and athletes of the developing countries and in promoting the development of swimming in those countries.”

The Burmese swimmer Nanda Kyaw Zwar spoke on behalf of the swimmers and divers. He said: “We are gathered here in this great city not only for an interchange of skills, strength and prowess but also to take in fond memories of friendship, sportsmanship and camaraderie.

(Continued on p. 10.)
Fight in Unity, Advance in Big Strides

— Congratulating the successful conclusion of the O.A.U. summit conference

THE 12th Session of the Assembly of the Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity held in Kampala, capital of Uganda, came to a successful close on August 1. The conference discussed the current situation in Africa and the tasks confronting it and adopted a series of important resolutions. The participating countries are determined to strengthen the militant solidarity among African countries, their unity with the Arab and other third world countries and to continue to push forward their struggle against imperialism, colonialism and hegemonism. The conference once again demonstrates the great strength of the African national-liberation movements and the important role of the African countries in international affairs. The Chinese people warmly congratulate the conference on its success.

An invigorating excellent situation prevails on the African continent. The great African people have scored new victories one after another in their struggle against imperialism, colonialism and neo-colonialism, white racism, Zionism and superpower hegemonism. Since the holding of the 11th O.A.U. summit conference in June last year, Mozambique, Cape Verde Islands, Sao Tome and Principe and the Comoro Islands have proclaimed independence in succession. Angola is scheduled to become independent in November. Five-century-old Portuguese colonial rule has crumbled in Africa. While consolidating their political independence, the independent African countries are winning new successes in safeguarding economic rights and interests and developing the national economy. The African countries are playing an ever greater role in the third world’s united struggle against imperialism and hegemonism.

Inspired by the excellent situation in the whole of Africa, the people of Zimbabwe, Namibia and Azania are developing in depth their struggle for national independence and liberation. In the past six months and more, the Vorster clique and the Smith clique, while indulging in patent expressions of “detente” and “dialogue,” have stepped up their fascist suppression, thus making people see more and more clearly their reactionary features and deceptive counter-revolutionary tactics. Backed by the African countries and people, the Zimbabwean people have overcome all kinds of difficulties, persevered in their armed struggle, dealt a powerful blow at the white racist regime, and laid bare its “detente” fraud. The resolutions adopted at the conference call on O.A.U. member states to increase their support for the peoples in southern Africa in their armed struggle for national liberation. Under the banner of armed struggle, the national-liberation movements in Zimbabwe, Namibia and Azania are closing ranks in the valiant struggle to overthrow the reactionary rule of the Smith and Vorster regimes.

What merits particular vigilance at this juncture is the scheming of Soviet social-imperialism which, consumed by its intensified contention with the other superpower to gain the upper hand in Africa, is engaged in a variety of tactics to infiltrate Africa and expand its influence there. The Moscow revisionists are not only trying hard to seize ports and bases in Africa and exercise control and intervene in African countries, but also sowing discord among these countries and among national-liberation movements in an attempt to fish in troubled waters and supplant the old-line colonials. At a time when the three national-liberation organizations in Angola were ready to welcome its forthcoming independence after reaching agreement through consultations with the help of other African countries, the Soviet revisionists openly supported one national movement while attacking another, sent large quantities of arms to stir up civil war and undermined national solidarity in Angola, thus plunging the land into chaos.

During the African summit conference, the Soviet revisionists also brought out their baton and behaved like an overlord in trying to coerce the conference into accepting their “special document,” which is blatant interference in the internal affairs of African countries. This naked and dirty hegemonic act of the Soviet revisionists has aroused bitter indignation among the African countries and people. They denounced the Soviet Union for “new colonization of Africa under a socialist banner” and have come to see more clearly the diabolic expansionist and aggressive features of Soviet social-imperialism.

The Chinese people are comrades-in-arms of the African people on the same front. We have consistently supported the African people in their just struggle and will always stand by the great African people. We are convinced that so long as the African people sharpen their vigilance, close their ranks and persevere in struggle, they can surely frustrate each and every wicked scheme of the enemy and win new victories in the struggle for the liberation of the whole of Africa.

(“Renmin Ribao” editorial, August 3)

Pecking Review, No. 32
"European Security Conference": An Analysis of Its "Final Act"

The three-day third-phase of the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe wound up on August 1 in Helsinki. Each of the heads of state or government of the 35 participating countries or their deputies made a speech and signed the 120-page-long (running to some 30,000 words) Final Act of the conference. But one sees not any prospect of a settlement of the European problem either in these speeches or the documents they signed. On the contrary, the seeds of still greater contention between the two superpowers on that continent are there, portending a greater turbulence in the European scenario.

Just now the Soviet revisionist chieftains, with their propaganda machine in top gear, are feverishly chanting the praises of the Final Act of the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe (C.S.C.E.). Leonid Brezhnev has called it a "platform" guiding the actions of European "states in the years and, perhaps, in decades to come." The Soviet press boastfully sets it up as "the charter of peaceful coexistence in Europe"!

But a cursory reading of the documents gives lie to this Soviet revisionist humbug. The hullabaloo is served up to conceal their aggression and expansion in Europe, to deceive and lull the people of all lands into a false sense of security.

The Final Act includes a document entitled the "Declaration on Principles Guiding Relations Between Participating States" which ostentatiously lists ten "principles," namely; sovereign equality, respect for the rights inherent in sovereignty; refraining from the threat or use of force; inviolability of frontiers; territorial integrity of states; peaceful settlement of disputes; non-intervention in internal affairs; respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms; equal rights and self-determination of peoples; co-operation among states; and fulfilment in good faith of obligation under international law. These are "the ten commandments on the common life of peace throughout Europe," so the Soviet paper Izvestia ballyhooed.

In reality, as the British paper Daily Telegraph has pointed out, these principles, "rhetorical flourishes apart," "are little more than a reiteration of pledges to which all are committed as members of the United Nations." As is well known, the root cause of European tranquillity is the arms expansion and war preparations by the two superpowers, the Soviet Union in particular, for intensified contention in Europe and elsewhere. The conference, ostensibly held for the discussion of European security, did not even touch on this crucial question and set no restriction whatsoever on these acts of the two superpowers. Time-consuming as it was, the conference did precious little than to end up with a reiteration of the principles of the United Nations Charter. The documents and resolutions of the League of Nations before World War II likewise stipulated similar principles, but they could not prevent the outbreak of another world war. The U.N. Charter is now 30 years old, but since when has there been tranquillity on earth? Take the invasion and occupation of Czechoslovakia by the Soviet social-imperialists as an example. Could this move be in keeping with any of the aforesaid ten principles? But even in the course of the C.S.C.E. talks, officials of the Soviet delegation actually let it be publicly known that the dispatch of Soviet troops to occupy Czechoslovakia was not use of force and Moscow would do so again if and when a similar situation arose in the future. It is crystal clear that "international agreements" such as the so-called "principles guiding relations between states" have no binding force on Soviet social-imperialism as a mere scrap of paper and can in no way safeguard the security of the European countries.

Of all these principles, what the Soviet revisionists are most interested in is the so-called principle of "inviolability of frontiers." This is because they have all along hoped to force the West at the conference to recognize the Soviet sphere of influence and hegemony in Eastern Europe. This was made clear by Leonid Brezhnev when he said on July 31 at the summit that "the Soviet Union regards the outcome of the conference...as a necessary summing up of the political results of World War II." But, having its own axe to grind, the United States refuses to recognize this. Countering the Soviet revisionists' intentions, U.S. President Gerald Ford, in his July 25 statement made on the eve of his departure for Helsinki, observed that the C.S.C.E. documents would not be "legally binding on any participating state," and the United States would not thereby give tacit recognition to perpetual Soviet control over the East European countries. He even added that the United States has never recognized and is not recognizing now "the Soviet incorporation of Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia."
While formulating the principle on the “inviolability of frontiers” at the insistence of the Western countries and as a quid pro quo, the sentence “frontiers can be changed, in accordance with international law, by peaceful means and by agreement” was written in the “Declaration.” This makes it clear that in its reference to the change of frontiers, the documents not only testify to the two superpowers’ rivalry in Europe, but also provides them with a rationale for penetrating further into each other’s spheres of influence by interpreting the text each to its own advantage.

Another document “On Confidence-Building Measures and Certain Aspects of Security and Disarmament” provides that the signatories are to be notified 21 days or more in advance of military manoeuvres involving movements of at least 25,000 men within 250 kilometres of a common frontier. The Soviet Union agreed to this stipulation only after hard bargaining. But nobody will believe that prior notification of military manoeuvres can prevent a war of aggression. A Swiss paper said, “How can the announcement of a military exercise prevent a disposition for aggression or the transition of the exercise to a war operation? This was the case of the invasion of Czechoslovakia by [Soviet] troops officially known at that time to be engaged in military exercises.” More significantly, at Soviet insistence the document adds that prior notification will be voluntary, that is to say, not obligatory. The rider thus destroys at one stroke the illusions of security allegedly produced by the document.

The document “On Co-operation in Humanitarian and Other Fields” provides for free movement of persons and ideas, including family reunions, travel, meetings among young people, improvement of the circulation of, access to, and exchange of information, and co-operation and exchanges in the field of culture and arts. These subjects in what is called “basket three” were the ones the United States and some other Western countries are most interested in. Calculating on the growing discontent in the Soviet Union, the East European trend of falling away from the Soviet Union and the popular resentment in the East European countries against Soviet domination, intervention and plunder, Washington seeks to penetrate by peaceful means into Soviet spheres of influence and cut the ground from under the Soviet revisionists by spreading its own ideas and influence. Eager to make the conference a success in terms of its global strategy, the Soviet Union agreed, albeit with great reluctance, to negotiate on the basis of the Western package formula for “basket three.” After heated bargaining, the document is larded with phrases like “under mutually acceptable conditions” and “according to the modalities particular to each country”—all can be conveniently used to offset or nullify relevant stipulations. That is why some Western papers were of the opinion even before final touches were put to the document that the stipulations “are more likely to be honoured in the breach.” It was described by Member of Parliament of the Federal Republic of Germany Herbert Hupka as “a basket full of empty promises.”

Another document is entitled “Co-operation in the Field of Economics, Science and Technology and of the Environment.” In this field, the Soviet Union and the United States and other Western countries negotiated at cross purposes, each having its own ulterior motives. The Soviet Union reckons that, through this kind of “co-operation” with the West, it can reap economic benefits and thereby overcome its economic troubles and technical backwardness. On top of that, by using “economic relations to promote political relations,” it can achieve its goal of dividing the Western countries and sowing discord among them. On the other hand, the United States and some other Western countries seek to effect economic and political penetration into the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe by economic and technological means. Actually, the document opens up chances for the two superpowers to manoeuvre against and deceive each other in their rivalry and penetrate into each other’s spheres of influence.

Some small and medium-sized European countries have sensed the menace arising from the intensified rivalry between the two superpowers on the continent, particularly from the steady Soviet military build-up and expansion there. They put forward before the conference a number of proposals aimed at safeguarding state sovereignty and security and checking Soviet expansion. Romania proposed that no foreign countries should be allowed to station troops in other countries without the concurrence of the countries concerned. However, this reasonable proposal has not been included in the documents due to the strong opposition of the Soviet revisionists.

Noting that security in Europe cannot be separated from security in the Mediterranean, Malta, which is a Mediterranean country, requested at the very beginning that the conference take up the question of security in the Mediterranean. This request reflects the worries and demands of many other Mediterranean countries. However, the Maltese proposal which requires the withdrawal of Soviet and U.S. armed forces from that region was arrogantly rejected by the two superpowers. It just did not suit their interests and was expunged from the document. These examples vividly testify to the fact that with the “European security conference” falling into the ditches of the two superpowers the aspirations of small and medium-sized countries can in no way find their due expression no matter how legitimate their aspirations may be and no matter how hard they try to present their case.

From the above analysis it can be seen that the lengthy 120-page Final Act is in reality an empty document with its provisions open to different interpretations by different countries in accordance with their different needs. But above all it suits the Soviet Union and the United States, it dovetails into their contention for hegemony in Europe and the world and it serves their mounting rivalry. It has nothing to do with the safeguarding of security in Europe.

(A commentary by Hsinhua Correspondent, August 3)

Peking Review, No. 32
Winds Blowing Strong in Europe

The Brezhnev clique waxed eloquent about "detente" in Europe as the "European security conference" ground to a halt. But the higher the pitch of "detente" and "security," the fiercer the Soviet-U.S. contention for hegemony in Europe became. With clouds gathering and winds blowing strong on the Western front, factors for war are on the increase. This is the stark reality in Europe today.

In 1972, when the curtain rose on the convocation of Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe (C.S.C.E.), the Soviet revisionists predicted that it would bring a "turning point" in the European situation. Now with the curtain falling on the show, the Soviet press, as is its wont, did not let the opportunity pass without making a fuss about it. Izvestia declared on July 21 that in the years since the opening of the conference Europe has been through the trenches of "cold war" to arrive at co-operation. TASS described the results of the C.S.C.E. second stage as having "confirmed the resolve of the European peoples to make the relaxation of world tensions an irreversible process." "The all-European conference," it asserted, "is called to open up a new page of peace in the history of Europe.

Have the Soviet Union and the United States really moved from "cold war" trenches to "co-operation"? Or have they reinforced their trenches and stepped up their rivalry since they began to meet at the conference? Empty words deceive no one. The answer to this question can only be found in the objective reality of Europe.

Europe — Focus of Soviet-U.S. Contention

Europe has always been the strategic focus of the Soviet-U.S. global contention for hegemony. A notable trend in the development of the European situation in recent years is that both superpowers, to consolidate their positions, have strengthened their military build-up in Europe in all aspects. Three-fourths of Soviet troop strength are deployed in Europe. Since 1972 the Soviet Union has increased its military strength there at an annual rate of 5-10 per cent and speeded up arms expansion of its controlled Warsaw Treaty Organization member states to tighten their "military integration" with the Soviet Union. On the other hand, it has taken a series of political, economic and diplomatic steps under the cover of sham "detente" to disintegrate the Atlantic alliance, undermine West European union so as to weaken and push out U.S. forces from Europe. U.S. imperialism's deep involvement in Indochina created openings for Soviet infiltration and expansion in Europe. But as the years went by, U.S. imperialism was forced to "dissengage" itself gradually from the Vietnam war. Washington began taking one measure after another to pay greater attention once again to Europe. After their Indochina fiasco the U.S. imperialists were compelled to shorten their battle-fronts in this region last May. President Ford, Secretary of State Kissinger and Secretary of Defence Schlesinger followed one another to Western Europe to attend the NATO summit and the meeting of defence ministers where they worked out a series of moves, political and military. At the NATO summit meeting, Ford put forward "six primary tasks" and reiterated that the Atlantic Alliance remained the foundation stone of U.S. foreign policy. The "foremost objective" of the alliance was to "maintain a strong and credible defence." The NATO defence ministers' meeting, at Schlesinger's urgings, laid down "guidelines" for defence planning in NATO and advanced a "long-range defence concept" to cope with Soviet "challenges." Washington minced no words by saying that global strategic readjustment was being carried out by the United States with a view to protecting Europe and stepping up U.S. contention with the Soviet Union in Europe and its flanks.

The Soviet Union Closes In

Soviet-U.S. contention for European domination becomes more acute as the one presses on relentlessly while the other regroups its forces to make up for lost time.

Central Europe has always been the heartland of direct confrontation between these two military blocs. To strengthen its military superiority and offensive capability on this battle-front, the Soviet Union has since 1972 not only increased its reserve forces in its western regions so as to reinforce its West European forward positions but also moved large numbers of troops to Central Europe and deployed new airborne units there. The equipment of the Soviet troops stationed in Eastern Europe has been renovated with tactical nuclear arms and conventional arms to enhance their offensive capacity. Western press reports say Soviet armed forces deployed in Central Europe have increased by more than 100,000 men from the autumn of 1971 to the beginning of this year. As compared with the early 1970s, the number of Soviet tactical nuclear warheads and the strength of its divisional artillery in Central Europe have both doubled. Particularly striking is the increase in offensive war means — tanks, armoured personnel and weapons carriers. Soviet and

August 8, 1975
Warsaw Pact military exercises in Central Europe have become more frequent in number and bigger in scale.

The southern and northern flanks of Europe have been in greater turmoil in recent years. Here lie the strategic sea passages to and from the Atlantic Ocean which are hotly contested by the two hegemonic powers in making their way into the heartland of Europe. But they are weak links in the U.S. and NATO defence line in Europe. Capitalizing on the U.S. weakness in this line, the Soviet Union for years has been engaged in war preparations and expansion in an attempt to outflank Western Europe.

The Soviet Union has its biggest naval base on the Kola Peninsula, with its eyes glued to Northern Europe. Its naval activity and exercises in Northern Europe have in recent years extended far into the Atlantic passage from the Norwegian Sea and the Baltic. Here the Soviet Union concentrates more than ten divisions, about 1,000 aircraft and its two biggest fleets—the Northern Fleet and the Baltic Fleet. After 1972 two new fleets were built here, one being the allied Baltic fleet established by the Soviet Union and some Warsaw Pact states, and the other a Soviet standing fleet patrolling the waters off northern Denmark to keep under surveillance NATO warships entering and leaving the Baltic.

Considered as the soft under-belly of the continent, Southern Europe is most bitterly contested by the Soviet Union and the United States. In their expansion in Europe's southern flank, the Soviet Union has built up in a most striking manner its Mediterranean armada to confront the U.S. Sixth Fleet and serve as a shield for infiltration and expansion in Southern Europe. The Balkan Peninsula has long been a target of Soviet conquest. After the Middle East war of October 1973, the Soviet Union's designs on the Balkan were further revealed, as it left no stone unturned in quest of a "military passage" and sea ports, and carried out subversion and infiltration in some Balkan countries. The Soviet Union also took advantage of the military coup of July 1974 in Cyprus to gain a foothold in this strategic point of the Eastern Mediterranean in contention with the United States. At the same time, it made use of this crack in NATO's southern flank to drive a wedge into the relations of Turkey and Greece with the United States and NATO. In Italy and Portugal, the Soviet Union is also working overtime to groom pro-Soviet forces and to dig in so as to weaken or squeeze out the United States and NATO.

U.S. Counter-Moves

In face of unceasing Soviet efforts for military expansion and political subversion in Western Europe, the United States is maintaining a strong military posture to contend with the Soviet Union in Europe. U.S. Defence Secretary Schlesinger made it quite plain in his defence report to Congress last February that in case of war, Europe would be the armageddon between the United States and the Soviet Union. Consequently, the Pentagon calls for a Europe-oriented U.S. military deployment.

Under this strategic orientation, the United States has in the past few years beefed up its nuclear strength and paid special attention to developing its conventional forces in Europe. To counter the Soviet menace, it has not only stepped up its military preparations in Central Europe, which it considers as "vital to U.S. interests," but also increased counter-moves in the northern and southern flanks of that continent. Last year, it augmented its army aviation forces in Europe to 850 aircraft from the 200 a few years ago. It fielded six of its eight Lance missile battalions in Central Europe, and is expected to reinforce its strength in the Federal Republic of Germany with two armoured brigades before the end of next year. Replacement of older equipment is under way among American units in Central Europe.

Both the United States and NATO have upgraded their naval capabilities in the southern and northern flanks of Europe. They have frequently staged military exercises in European waters—landing and amphibious manoeuvres, simulated port blockade and mock interceptions of Soviet warships—for the very purpose of checking Soviet naval advance at each step.

More recently, Washington decided to deploy a number of Poseidon submarines and the new, giant nuclear-powered aircraft carrier, the Nimitz, to the European theatre of war. Most of the U.S. marines stationed for years in the Pacific region will be moved to the Western front, strengthening the defence posture in Western Europe.

Meanwhile, the United States is redoubling its effort to improve its position in Southern Europe to rival more effectively with the Soviet Union in that area. The recent south European tour of the U.S. President signalled such a U.S. effort.

At a time when it was locked in rivalry with the other superpower on the northern and southern flanks of Europe, the Soviet Union held a global naval exercise in April, which involved more than 200 ships and a large number of submarines. It was a big show of strength. The exercise put emphasis on waters off Northern and Southern Europe and the Atlantic off Western Europe, the main objective being to cut the passage between the United States and Europe and the waterways from the northern and southern flanks of Europe to the Atlantic. This Soviet manoeuvre created a big stir in the United States and West European countries. As a counter-measure, the United States organized a series of naval exercises in these areas immediately afterwards.

Essence of the European Situation

Marxism teaches us that when analysing a thing, one must look into its essence and must not be deluded by its surface and false phenomena. From the realities in Europe, where can one find even a shadow of the "irre-
Refuting What the Soviet Revisionists Call “Small-Power” Chauvinism

by Mei Ou

New Times, the Soviet weekly, raised what it called an “important problem” — combating “small-power” chauvinism — in its No. 29 issue (1975) in reply to a reader.

What’s up? Why do the Soviet revisionists raise such a queer problem at this juncture?

At a recent Geneva meeting of the second-stage session of the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe, Malta put forward a proposal calling on the two superpowers to reduce their military forces in the Mediterranean. For a small country to openly challenge the superpowers in such a way was, in the eyes of the Soviet revisionists, blasphemy. Thus, hithhanded tactics and blackmail inside the conference hall apart, they abused the small countries right and left outside the conference, slandering the defence of their independence and security as “selfish plans,” as “remembering their rights” and “forgetting their responsibilities.” They even urged punitive action against this so-called “small-power” chauvinism.

“Selfish plans” indeed! The barb of the Kremlin’s revisionists is aimed at the right of small and medium-sized countries to defend their independence and security. At the conference reportedly discussing “security and co-operation,” Malta put forward a proposal on security. It was a justified demand made within the elementary right of a participating country. Yet the Maltese proposal was held up as an unpardonable crime of “small-power” chauvinism because it upset the “political timetable” of the Soviet revisionists who were anxious to wind up the conference, and because it impeded their scramble for hegemony in the Mediterranean and Southern Europe.

The question here is all too plain. It is not a question of small countries like Malta pursuing “selfish plans.” The heart of the matter is that their just struggle to defend their rights and interests goes against the “selfish plans” of the Soviet revisionists to contend for hegemony in Europe. Licence for themselves to push hegemonism unscrupulously but denial of the minimal right to small and medium-sized countries to defend their independence and security — such is the rhetoric of the concoctors of “small-power” chauvinism.

As the Soviet revisionists would have it, small countries should not “remember their rights,” they should remember “their responsibilities.” What then are the small countries’ “responsibilities”? To hear the Soviet revisionists talk, the small countries need worry only about one “responsibility” — follow the dictate of the Soviet Union, regard all it says as law and place their security under “the positive protection” of a big power like the Soviet Union. But if anyone deviates, even slightly, or dares to say “No,” the Soviet revisionists will come down battering “small-power” chauvinism. This once again opens people’s eyes to the fact that Brezhnev’s glib talk about “all nations, big or small,” “enjoying equal rights” (speech at a Polish Seym [Parliament] Session on July 21, 1974) is just so much eyewash.

It must be noted that the “small-power” chauvinism invented by the Soviet revisionists is directed not only against Malta but all other small and medium-sized nations. The Soviet revisionists always consider the small nations beneath their notice. They rebuke, intimidate, blackmail and use other customary tactics against them. Switzerland was outrageously charged with “departing from its neutrality” by the Soviet representative at the European security conference simply because it presented a proposal reflecting the interests of the small neutral states. Egypt was slanderously accused of trying to “force its conditions!” on the Soviet Union simply because Moscow’s attempt to have the Egyptians at its beck by dunning them for the payment of debts was thwarted. And now the Soviet revisionists once again use “small-power” chauvinism as a big stick to dragoon...
the small and medium-sized nations into submission to their big-power hegemonism.

Lenin pointed out: “In politics abusive language often serves as a screen for utter lack of principles and sterility, impotence, angry impotence, on the part of those who use such language.” (The Political Significance of Vituperation.) Buffeted by the surging wave of the small and medium-sized countries’ struggle against hegemonism, the Soviet Union is beset with deepening crisis as it pursues big-power hegemonism. That the Soviet revisionists resort to political abusive language to attack and slander the just struggle of these countries only serves to reveal their flabbiness and impotence.

(Continued from p. 3.)

which we shall cherish in our growing years.”

“We travelled to this great country from many miles,” Nanda Kyaw Zwar stressed, “to open up new frontiers that will eventually lead to unity among countries here represented. We are separated by vast bodies of water. Let water, therefore, unite us . . . the water in our arena of friendly competitions.”

A banquet in honour of the friends from Asia, Africa, Latin America and Europe was given the previous evening by the Physical Culture and Sports Commission of the People’s Republic of China and the Organizing Committee of the Meet.

Addressing the banquet, Minister in Charge of the Physical Culture and Sports Commission Chuang Tse-tung pointed out: “A profound traditional friendship has always existed among the peoples and sportsmen of the numerous developing countries. The independence of states and the liberation of nations have provided favourable conditions for our friendly contacts. Despite the fact that at present certain people in international sports circles are still trying to obstruct the friendly contacts among the peoples and sportsmen of various countries, their tyrannical acts are just as futile as ‘trying to cut water with a knife,’ for the historical current is irresistible. And the holding of our present invitational meet may well serve as an example.”

“At this invitational meet,” he continued, “our swimmers and divers will, in the spirit of ‘friendship first, competition second,’ work for the strengthening of friendship with their colleagues from other countries and earnestly learn from them. Together with friends from various countries, they will do their bit in promoting friendship and unity among the peoples and sportsmen of the developing countries and in furthering the progress of swimming in these countries.”

Ahamed Abdi Daahir “Shell,” leader of the Somali Swimming Delegation, and Rodolfo Aznar Romero, leader of the Mexican Sports Federation Swimming Delegation, spoke at the banquet on behalf of the friends from various countries participating in the meet.

Ahamed “Shell” said: “We all know very well how much the People’s Republic of China has done in the development of sports in the third world and all other good-hearted nations in the world, hence we cannot see why certain ill-intentioned international sports associations try to block the legitimate rights of a nation of 800 million solely for personal reasons.

“We the third world, particularly Africa, are thankful to the Government of the People’s Republic of China for their continued aid and exchange of brotherly relations in all sports activities for the mutual interest of our nations.”

Rodolfo Aznar Romero said in his speech: “It is at this very gathering that sports are linked with the promotion of friendly contacts among the participating countries.” He added: Our young sportsmen have been engaged in extensive fraternal activities, which are so essential to the peoples of the third world. He also expressed support for the restoration of China’s legitimate rights in international sports organizations.

Light Industry Fulfils Half-Yearly Plan

China’s light industry fulfilled its production plan for the first half of this year. A fairly big rise in total output value and a considerable increase in the output of major products over the same period in 1974 were attained.

Of the 15 major products listed in the state plan, cotton yarn, cotton cloth, cigarettes, synthetic detergents, bicycles, sewing machines and light industry machinery went up more than 10 per cent over the same period last year.

Leading production bases like Peiking, Shanghai, Tientsin and Kwangtung Province achieved fairly big increases following a continuous growth over the years. Rises of more than 10 per cent in total output value over the first half of 1974 were registered in Liaoning, Kirin, Heilungkiang, Shansi, Inner Mongolia, Kansu, Ningsia, Chingsai and Kwelchow, all with relatively weak light industrial capacities.

Production in China’s light industry in the first half of this year was characterized by stable quality, greater variety, lower rate of consumption, lower cost and higher labour efficiency.
ENGAGED in a frantic scramble for worldwide hegemony, the two superpowers, the Soviet Union and the United States, leave no place tranquil as they rival for supremacy. The Soviet social-imperialists, in particular, are the more avaricious and their tentacles stretch far and wide.

New changes have taken place in the situation of Southeast Asia. With the support of the people throughout the world, the heroic IndoChinese peoples, through a prolonged courageous struggle, have finally defeated the U.S. imperialists and compelled them to withdraw from Indochina. The U.S. forces of aggression are greatly weakened in the rest of Southeast Asia. The Soviet social-imperialists jump at the opportunity of supplanting the United States and are trying their best to worm their way into the region. This reminds one of an old Chinese saying: Letting the tiger in through the back door while repulsing the wolf at the front gate. This situation draws the attention of all.

Southeast Asia, rich in natural resources, also occupies an important strategic position. Besides Europe, the major arena of their contention with the U.S. imperialists, the Soviet revisionists who cast covetous eyes on Southeast Asia are eager to swallow it up at one gulp. In recent years, they have frequently dispatched warships to the Pacific and the Indian Ocean, running wild and flexing their muscles there. They have established thinly disguised military bases in the region of the Indian Ocean. They insistently call for “internationalization” of the Strait of Malacca in order to control it and to open a “sea lane” for the Soviet navy to sail from the Black Sea in the west through the Indian Ocean and the Pacific to the Soviet Far East. The Soviet revisionists’ expansion in Southeast Asia is an important step in their quest for hegemony in the Indian Ocean, the Pacific and the whole world.

With “socialism” and “natural ally” as their signboard, the Soviet social-imperialists play the swindler in Southeast Asia. They carry on “smiling diplomacy” with an “offensive by bankroll.” They do everything they can to engage in political cajolery and economic expansion in the Southeast Asian countries. You want to develop shipping? All right, we will run joint “sea transport companies” with you. You lack funds? Well, we will supply you with loans on “preferential” terms. Perhaps you are afraid of our warships entering your ports? Then we will berth our freighters and fishing fleets at your ports only for refuelling and maintenance. You want “peace and neutrality”? Then our “Asian collective security system” is just the thing you need for pursuing Asian “peace and security.” Indeed, sweet reasonableness drips from the lips but what lies at heart is diabolical in the extreme. If the Soviet revisionists are allowed to crack open the door and get a foothold today, then they will advance further tomorrow. They will make the most to expand their influence and steadily grab the natural resources, ports, straits and military bases in Southeast Asia. As far as the Soviet revisionists are concerned, infiltration follows “trade”; “aid” is a means of control; “loan” is synonymous with capital export, merchant ships are but the heralds of military vessels. Isn’t this what is happening everywhere in the Middle East, North Africa, the Indian Ocean and elsewhere in the world? While clamouring with great fanfare that there is no “vacuum” in Southeast Asia, the Soviet revisionists are eagerly expanding their influence in that region, acting in all earnest to fill what they regard as a “vacuum.”

While one imperialist power has left the scene in defeat, another is taking its place. This is not the first time in the history of Asia and Africa that the tiger arrives when the wolf is gone. In the Middle East, when British and French influence was greatly weakened after World War II, the U.S. imperialists were there to fill the so-called “vacuum.” But even when the U.S. imperialist force was not yet driven away, the Soviet revisionists infiltrated the region in a big way. Not long after India freed itself from British colonial rule, the United States extended its influence into that country in the name of providing “aid.” Thereafter, the Soviet revisionists elbowed out the United States, intensifying their plunder and control of India and plunging the Indian people into abysmal misery. After the Japanese aggressors met with its disastrous defeat in 1945, the U.S. imperialists strutted into Southeast Asia and turned it into a U.S. sphere of influence. The same is true of Indochina. When the French withdrew upon the conclusion of the 1954 Geneva agreements, the Yankees arrived at their heels. Now, more and more
people are aware that many third world countries are facing the danger of "letting the tiger in through the back door while repulsing the wolf at the front gate."

The Southeast Asian people who have accumulated rich experience in their protracted struggle against imperialism will never allow history to repeat itself. The proposal for establishing a zone of peace and neutrality in Southeast Asia put forward by the countries there in recent years is in accord with the national interests of these countries and reflects the desire of the Southeast Asian countries and people to safeguard their sovereignty and independence and to oppose the contention between the two hegemonic powers. Recently, public opinion in Thailand stressed that Soviet socialism-imperialism, like a hungry tiger coming out from its lair in the mountains, poses an even greater danger to the states and peoples in Southeast Asia than decaying U.S. imperialism. That is why it is far more important to heighten vigilance against the Soviet Union, it said. The Philippine press also pointed up the Soviet Union as trying its best to replace the United States as the overlord in Asia. These bodies of public opinion clearly show that the Southeast Asian people realize that it is necessary not only to repulse the wolf at the front gate but also to guard against the tiger at the back door.

The world today is no longer one where tigers and wolves can run amuck. The historical current of the struggle of the people all over the world against hegemony is rolling on irresistibly. The two superpowers, the Soviet Union and the United States, beset with difficulties at home and abroad, are in an impasse. Although the tiger from the far north is baring its fangs, it is essentially very weak. So long as the Southeast Asian peoples close their ranks, strengthen their unity with the people of other parts of Asia and the world, and wage a firm struggle to combat superpower aggression and expansion and to safeguard their sovereignty and national independence, they are sure to go from victory to victory.

In the Soviet Union

Use of Latest Technology Impeded

burning with wild ambition for world hegemony, the Brezhnev clique which lays great stress on developing war industry, is overextended in its competition with the other superpower for numerical and technological superiority in weaponry. But in other branches of Industry, this "pauper in the guise of a military giant," as the Western press puts it, is bogged down technologically. "The weakest links," lamented Brezhnev in his report to the 24th Congress of the Soviet Party, "are those relating to the practical realization of scientific achievements, to their adoption in mass production." Pravda also complained in an editorial last January 8 that "many units have failed year after year to fulfil their plan of introducing new technologies and their plan of mechanization and automation in production (particularly in auxiliary work)." This is one more egregious indication of the decaying state monopoly capitalism in the Soviet Union where the relations of production are hindering the development of the productive forces.

Monopoly Engenders Stagnation

Referring to capitalist monopoly in his work Imperialism, the Highest Stage of Capitalism, Lenin pointed out: "Like all monopoly, it inevitably engenders a tendency to stagnation and decay. Since monopoly prices are established, even temporarily, the motive cause of technical and, consequently, of all progress, disappears to a certain extent." The revisionist renegade clique in the Soviet Union has turned state-run enterprises into state monopoly capitalist enterprises. The bureaucrat-monopoly bourgeoisie and the new emerging bourgeoisie, who are the least interested in the development of production and give no heed whatsoever to the needs of the people, regard the rake-in of maximum profit as the main objective and the highest norm in running enterprises. They do not show any interest in new technologies for they can easily make maximum profit by monopoly prices they fix on the strength of their monopoly position. It was pointed out in an article carried in Dengi i Kredit (Money and Credit), No. 9, 1972 that while the real rate of profit in Soviet industry in 1969 was 40 per cent higher than the normal level, in the instrument-meter-making industry and the electrical machinery industry it was 100 per cent and 150 per cent higher respectively. Such a high rate of profit "has killed the interest of enterprise collectives in renovating their
products," the journal observed. A Pravda article (October 23, 1972) reasoned that the use of new technical process and technologies and installation of new equipment would for a time decrease production and therefore bonuses and profits, and this would indeed be a real disaster to the management. As it is, workshops would be dammed up to keep new technologies from flowing in. In an article in the Soviet paper Sotsialisticheskaya Industriya (Socialist Industry) on April 25 this year, the author, who is Director of the All-Union Designing Institute, disclosed that his institute "has designed prototypes of scores of new machines, meters and instruments" but "we cannot cite a single meter or machine which has been approved for serial production."

Cheap Labour Power

In capitalist society, Marx pointed out in Capital, the sinking of "the price of labour-power below its value" is one of the means by which capitalists intensify their exploitation of the workers. The same is true of the Soviet bureaucrat-monopoly bourgeoisie. The Soviet revisionists themselves admit that Soviet families with average per-capita income below what is required to "ensure the lowest-standard material life" are large in number and they at least "involve 25 million persons." Accordingly, the Soviet bureaucrat-monopoly bourgeoisie would rather make use of this cheap and huge labour-power than go in for technological improvements. Things are exactly like what the Soviet journal Kommunist (Communist) No. 12, 1969 noted years ago: "Relatively cheap labour-power is hindering the development of technological progress because, from the point of raising the quota of the rate of profit, the use of manual labour is more profitable than replacing it with machines." Today, those engaging in manual labour account for more than one half of the total workers in the Soviet industry. The Soviet paper Trud (Labour) revealed in an article on April 8 this year that even in the Tyumen Woollen Combine, Siberia's biggest, "manual labour also accounts for over 50 per cent" of the work and "almost all transport, loading and unloading and other work in the workshops have not been mechanized so far." Sotsialisticheskaya Industriya also divulged in an article on February 9, 1974 that "nearly one half of the workers are engaged in manual operation" in the Karaganda Metallurgical Combine, reputedly "the 'youngest' basically highly-mechanized ferrous metallurgical enterprise."

To make big money, the new bourgeois elements in Soviet machine-building industry raise as they please the prices of new equipment usually several times over that of those made before the innovation. This, too, seriously hampers the popularization of new technologies. The aforesaid issue of Dengi i Kredit reported that although the actual efficiency of a new automatic drilling machine was only double that of the one now in wide use, its price was ten times higher! Similarly, a comparison between new and old machine tools in Soviet woollen industry, reported Voprosy Ekonomiki (Problems of Economics) No. 2, 1972, shows that the increase in the price of new machine tools was about four times greater than the increase in working efficiency. Mills having acquired such equipment found their rate of profit plummeting by a wide margin. Dengi i Kredit also revealed that when products manufactured with new technology accounted for 10 per cent of the total output value the rate of profit came to 30 per cent, but it dropped to 8 to 10 per cent when such products reached 50 per cent of the total output value. These figures were arrived at by an analysis of the situation in more than 100 machine-building plants in Moscow, Leningrad and Central Ural. Thus Soviet enterprises are reluctant to purchase or use new technologies.

A Serious Common Problem

With new technologies not introduced or popularized, the development of the productive forces suffers from man-made obstructions. This is not an isolated phenomenon but a serious problem the Soviet society as a whole is confronted with. According to Compilation of Soviet Government Resolutions published in 1973, "only about one-third of the annual registered inventions in the Soviet Union has been applied to the national economy." It was also disclosed by Ekonomicheskaya Gazeta (Economie Gazette) No. 35, 1974 that in 1973 the Ministry of Chemical and Oil Machine-Building adopted only 12 per cent of the registered new technologies and the Ministry of Building, Road and Communal Machinery only 21 per cent while the Ministry of the Machine-Tool and Instrument-Making only fulfilled 16 per cent of its plan for introducing new technologies. On December 28, 1974, Pravda in an editorial acknowledged that that year such major industrial departments as power, ferrous metallurgy, coal and building materials failed to fulfil their plans for popularizing new technologies.

This being the case, equipment in Soviet industrial firms is outmoded, technology backward and labour productivity low. This has become a serious problem in the Soviet national economy. Statistics released by the Soviet press show that in 1971, 34 per cent of the metal-cutting machine tools and 25 to 30 per cent of the textile machinery in the Soviet Union were out-of-date products. In the ferrous metallurgical industry, over 20 per cent of the rolling equipment dated back to the days of tsarist Russia. Over one million machine tools, that is, one-third of all that country has, are needed every year to keep these outdated machines in tolerable repair and running, not to mention a labour force of three million workers and expenses to the tune of 12,000 million rubles.
Self-Reliance Is a Question of Line

by Li Hsin

Our great leader Chairman Mao has pointed out: "Rely 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." Chairman Mao's important instruction sums up the practical experience of revolution and construction in our country and points out to us the only correct road of building China into a powerful modern socialist country at the earliest date by relying on our own efforts. We have adhered to this line in the last two decades or so and consequently our industry, agriculture and national economy as a whole have continuously developed and expanded, providing the material basis for consolidating the dictatorship of the proletariat.

Correct Line for Developing the Socialist Economy

China is now in the historical stage of socialism. The overthrown landlord and capitalist classes always try to stage a restoration and do whatever they can to undermine the socialist economic base. Because of the existence of the two kinds of socialist ownership—ownership by the whole people and collective ownership by working people—and the practice of a commodity system, exchange through money and distribution according to work, bourgeois right not only is still preserved in distribution, exchange and mutual relations between people, but it has not been completely abolished in the system of ownership. Therefore, the soil giving rise to capitalism and new bourgeois elements still exists. Our prolonged, arduous and meticulous work in various respects is required to overcome the resistance of the landlord and capitalist classes, prevent capitalist restoration and eliminate the soil and remove the conditions engendering new bourgeois elements.

One of the extremely important parts of this work is to develop and expand the economic strength of socialism through firm adherence to the line of independence and self-reliance. The growth of the socialist economy and consolidation and development of the socialist relations of production along this line will help us defeat the capitalist tendency in city and countryside, gradually narrow the three big differences between workers and peasants, between town and countryside and between mental and physical labour, and restrict bourgeois right. They will also help cadres and masses preserve the revolutionary tradition of the proletariat and the fine style of plain living and hard struggle, resist corruption by bourgeois ideas and defeat the class enemies who attack us through the use of the idea of bourgeois right. Internationally, imperialism and social-imperialism always dream of subverting our dictatorship of the proletariat. By adhering to this line and building an independent and comprehensive industrial and economic system at the earliest date, we can become more powerful in smashing their encirclement, blockage, aggression and subversion. Therefore, adherence to independence and self-reliance is, first and foremost, a political question which serves the purpose of consolidating the dictatorship of the proletariat and preventing capitalist restoration. We should link the implementation of the line of self-reliance with carrying out the Party's basic line, consolidating the dictatorship of the proletariat and persevering in continued revolution under the dictatorship of the proletariat.

For more than the last two decades, the struggle centring on adhering to or opposing the line of independence and self-reliance has been very sharp. Out of their sinister efforts to subvert the dictatorship of the proletariat and restore capitalism, Liu Shao-chi and Lin Piao frenziedly hated and stubbornly opposed this line. They vainly tried to sell out state sovereignty and once again bring "wolves" into our country, fanatically advocated servility to foreign things and the doctrine of trailing behind at a snail's pace, and did their utmost to sabotage socialist construction. Directed against interference and sabotage by the revisionist line, Chairman Mao has taught us time and again: "Building our country independently and with the initiative in our own hands, through self-reliance, hard struggle, diligence and thrift." "The Chinese people have high aspirations, they have ability, and they will certainly catch up with and surpass advanced world levels in the not too distant future." Guided by Chairman Mao's line of independence and self-reliance, the people of our whole nation have worked hard, overcome the imperialist blockade, withstood the pressure from social-imperialism and won one victory after another. The Great Proletarian Cultural Revolution smashed the two bourgeois headquarters of Liu Shao-chi and Lin Piao, criticized their revisionist line, deepened people's understanding of the line of independence and
self-reliance, and thus further promoted the prosperous development of our socialist cause.

Relying on the Masses’ Wisdom and Strength

"With the thoroughness of the historical action the size of the mass whose action it is will therefore increase." (Marx and Engels: The Holy Family.) The line of independence and self-reliance proceeds from the fundamental viewpoint of historical materialism. Contrary to the idealist conception of history spread by all exploiting classes that history is created by heroes, Marxism holds that the masses of the people are the makers of history and that the proletariat can rely on nothing but itself and unite with the masses of other working people to overthrow the old world, create the new world and realize communism. Experience over many years shows that we are fully capable of winning victory in revolution and construction by our own strength provided we truly have full confidence in the masses and rely on them, proceed from the country’s actual conditions in doing everything, do not yield to imperialist and social-imperialist pressure and do not mechanically apply foreign experience.

As early as the period of the democratic revolution, Chairman Mao pointed out: "On what basis should our policy rest? It should rest on our own strength, and that means regeneration through one’s own efforts." (The Situation and Our Policy After the Victory in the War of Resistance Against Japan.) Self-reliance means resting on "our own strength" and relying "on the creative power of the whole army and the entire people." (We Must Learn to Do Economic Work.) It was precisely because we followed this teaching of Chairman Mao’s during the prolonged revolutionary war in the past that we defeated the powerful enemy and won victory in our revolution. In the period of the agrarian revolution (1927-37), the army and the people in the revolutionary base areas developed production by self-reliance and smashed the Kuomintang reactionaries’ "enrichments and suppression" after unrelenting struggles. During the eight-year War of Resistance Against Japan (1937-45), we boldly mobilized the people, persevered in waging a people’s war, achieved ample food and clothing through our own efforts and thereby created the material basis for the continued war of resistance. In the end we defeated the Japanese aggressors. During the War of Liberation (1946-49), the whole army and the entire people waged the war while engaging in production. With millet plus rifles, we wiped out 8 million Chiang Kai-shek’s troops armed by the United States in less than four years. All these convincingly prove that we can always be invincible by relying on the masses and adhering to self-reliance.

Today we have established the superior socialist system and the broad masses of the working people have become the masters of the country and society. As Lenin pointed out, for thousands of years the labouring people worked for others and toiled for the exploiters, and under the socialist system "for the first time . . . , it has become possible to work for oneself and moreover to employ all the achievements of modern technology and culture in one’s work." Therefore, it is only now that there is the opportunity "created for the truly mass display of enterprise, competition and bold initiative." (How to Organize Competition?) The socialist system has liberated the productive forces, above all the labouring masses themselves who are the decisive factor in those forces. Guided by Chairman Mao’s revolutionary line, the Chinese working class has displayed inexhaustible wisdom and strength. Especially since the start of the Great Proletarian Cultural Revolution and the movement to criticize Lin Piao and Confucius, the working class and the masses have further raised their consciousness of the struggle between the two lines. This provides a reliable guarantee for us to bring into full play the socialist enthusiasm and boundless wisdom and ability inherent in the masses and further implement the line of independence and self-reliance. In the face of the Chinese working class and labouring people who are masters of the country, there are no difficulties which cannot be overcome. They can perform every kind of miracle.

As a typical example of taking China’s own road of industrial development, the Taching Oilfield has made major contributions to China’s industry. One important reason for its achievements is that it wholeheartedly relies on the working class in all work, really has confidence in the masses’ socialist enthusiasm, and has brought into full play the revolutionary initiative of the masses. Instead of resorting to revisionist "material incentives," it has put proletarian politics in command and persevered in educating and arming the workers with Marxism-Leninism-Mao Tse-tung Thought, enabling them to see their status as masters and their historical mission and to strengthen constantly their sense of responsibility as masters in working for the revolution. This has brought about on a wide scale the revolutionary spirit and enormous enthusiasm of the masses and resulted in a five-fold increase in Taching’s output of crude oil in a short period compared with the days before the start of the Great Cultural Revolution.

Revolutionary Spirit

We can advance unwaveringly along the road of self-reliance only by breaking down blind faith, emancipating the mind and displaying enormous drive. Experience proves that when the leadership follows the correct line and its spirit is high, it can lead the masses to sweep away the leftover poisonous influence of the doctrines of Confucius and Mencius, such as "the highest are the wise and the lowest are the stupid," and throw overboard all foreign dogmas and stereotypes and dare to struggle against the revisionist line. Thus the workers’ wisdom and ability will produce splendid achievements. While emphasizing the importance of the people’s mental state, we do not, of course, negate the necessary material conditions. While objective conditions are important, people, not things, are decisive.

(Continued on p. 23.)
An Effective Way to Speed Up Chemical Fertilizer Production

— Growth of small chemical fertilizer plants in Honan Province

by Our Correspondent Hsiang Jung

China's chemical fertilizer production has developed rapidly in recent years. With the building of a number of large chemical fertilizer plants as well as numerous smaller ones all over the country, the nation's 1974 total output was 4.3 times that of 1964. Output in the first six months of this year outstripped that of the corresponding period last year, and the increased amount could be used to help boost the production of grain by more than 5,000,000 tons or ginned cotton by more than 1,500,000 tons. Locally run small synthetic ammonia plants today produce 60 per cent of the nation's nitrogenous fertilizer, while the output of small phosphate fertilizer plants and phosphorus mines account for two-thirds and more than half of the nation's total respectively. China's chemical fertilizer industry now turns out a wide range of products including nitrogenous, phosphate, potash and compound fertilizers.

"Walking on Two Legs"

China's chemical fertilizer industry had a very poor foundation. In 1949, the year of liberation, there were only two nitrogenous fertilizer plants turning out ammonium sulphate with a maximum annual output of 220,000 tons between them.

Since the founding of New China, the state has attached importance to this industry and made it a key item in socialist construction. A number of large plants like the Lancheow Chemical Fertilizer Plant, the Nanking Phosphate Fertilizer Plant and the Kirin Chemical Fertilizer Plant were built in the 1950s. This was followed by the completion in 1962 of the Wuching Chemical Works in Shanghai, the first big project of its kind designed, built and equipped by our own efforts. The successful building of this all-Chinese affair was indicative of China's capability to rely on its own efforts to make complete sets of equipment for big chemical fertilizer plants. Since then, large and medium-sized plants were set up one after another in various provinces and by 1965 they had come to 17. More have come into being during the Great Proletarian Cultural Revolution. To date most provinces, municipalities directly under the central authorities and autonomous regions have their own large and medium-sized chemical fertilizer plants, and an increasing number of them are using petroleum gas instead of coal as raw material to produce synthetic ammonia.

With high productivity and relatively advanced technology, the large plants are the backbone force in chemical fertilizer production. But since they entail huge investments and take a long time to build, only a few key projects can be undertaken in a given period. What with China's large territory and vast expanse of cultivated land, it is therefore necessary to rely on local resources to build small chemical fertilizer plants. Hence the principle of "walking on two legs" — simultaneous development of national and local industries, simultaneous building of large enterprises and small and medium-sized ones and simultaneous employment of modern and indigenous production methods.

A mass movement was launched in 1958 throughout the countryside to set up by self-reliance small chemical fertilizer plants which have now become an important force in chemical fertilizer production. Statistics by the end of 1974 showed that there were more than 2,000 small synthetic ammonia and phosphate fertilizer plants and small phosphorus mines dotting the land, and they are likened to "stars in the sky." Quick to build, these plants which employ simple technology and equipment need little investment and can make full use of locally available raw and other materials; moreover, their products find a ready market in their own locality.

Honan Province — An Example

Not long ago we visited central China's Honan Province, an area historically notorious for frequent occurrences of serious floods, drought and famine. Today the province is a far cry from what it was. Since 1970 it has become self-sufficient in grain. In 1974 its grain output rose by nearly 60 per cent compared with 1965, the year preceding the start of the Great Cultural Revolution. With more grain than its population needed, Honan delivered and sold to the state more than 400,000 tons of surplus grain last year.

Rapid development of farm production naturally demands a greater supply of fertilizer. Take Honan's Hsihsiang Prefecture for instance. In 1965, with an average of 5 kg. of chemical fertilizer applied to one mu (one-fifteenth of a hectare) of cultivated land, the average per-mu yield of grain was 124 kg. and that of
cotton 19 kg. When the fertilizer applied was increased to 45 kg. per-mu in 1974, the average per-mu yield of grain and cotton jumped to 298 and 36 kg. respectively. This shows that chemical fertilizer is an important factor in developing farm production in that prefecture.

How has Honan multiplied its sources of fertilizer? Over the past several thousand years, China's peasants have accumulated rich experience in making and applying fertilizer. Farmyard manure remains the main fertilizer used in the countryside today. Although chemical fertilizer is now extensively used on the 7.38 million hectares of cultivated land in Honan Province, it alone is far short of the needs. Each hectare of farmland still takes 75,000 kg. of farmyard manure annually on the average. The commune members have a variety of ways to obtain the fertilizer they need: composting garbage and earth, collecting night soil and pig and cow dung, fermenting crop stalks under high temperature, and planting milk vetch and sesbania as green manure. Total acreage under green manure crops in Honan is about 530,000 hectares every year. In addition, some communes and production brigades also go in for bacteria fertilizer.

Simultaneously with the accumulation of farmyard manure, Honan Province also makes big efforts to develop the chemical fertilizer industry. To produce nitrogenous fertilizer, it built its first medium-sized plant - the Kaifeng Chemical Fertilizer Plant - with state investment in 1958, the year of the big leap forward in the national economy. By 1965, it had two chemical fertilizer plants, and the number has kept increasing year after year. During the Great Cultural Revolution, rapid progress has been made in building synthetic ammonia plants. By the end of 1974 there were 94; with the exception of three large and medium-sized plants, all are small ones run by counties or communes with an annual capacity of from 2,000 to over 10,000 tons. In 1974 output of these small plants amounted to 70 per cent of the province's total. Phosphate fertilizer plants in the province have also exceeded 130, of which five are big enterprises and the rest are small ones. In addition there are a few plants using a kind of rock to produce potash fertilizer. In the past few years, some areas have begun making a new organic fertilizer known as ammonium humate*.

*Humate fertilizer is a compound organic fertilizer made of humic coal, peat or lignite containing humic acid and other organic substances mixed with ammonium, potassium, sodium or other elements. Highly and durably efficient, it helps increase yields and at the same time ameliorates the soil and regulates soil acidity and alkalinity, which no inorganic fertilizers can do.

China abounds in humic coal and other resources needed to produce humate fertilizer which in recent years has been widely used on large tracts of land in many places. With rich deposits over vast areas, they can be mined easily. The method of making this fertilizer is also relatively simple and easy. According to incomplete statistics, more than seven million tons were produced in the first half of this year.

Since small plants require little investment, counties and even some of their people's communes have the financial resources to build them. And the masses, on their part, have soaring enthusiasm for making chemical fertilizer in response to the Party's call to go in for agriculture in a big way.

We visited the small chemical fertilizer plant in Huihsien County. The construction of this plant started in 1969 and it went into operation in September 1970, producing ammonium bicarbonate and ammonium nitrate. Prompted by the rapid progress made in transforming nature since the start of the Great Cultural Revolution, the county Party committee in 1969 decided to build a small chemical fertilizer plant. But it was short of funds as many water conservancy and other projects had to be built that year. When the commune members were asked to discuss the issue, the consensus was they would solve the question of funds by themselves. Many began putting their savings into the credit co-operatives, and bit by bit they accumulated enough funds to build and commission the plant, all within one year.

Where did they get the technical force? This problem was solved by recommending young people from the various communes in the county to become
workers. Full of drive in building socialism, these youngsters were dauntless in overcoming difficulties. Over a hundred young commune members led by a responsible member of the county Party committee were sent to a chemical fertilizer plant some distance away from the county to learn the necessary techniques. After three months of study, they returned to Huihsien to take part in installing the equipment. Learning in the course of actual work, they acquainted themselves with all the parts through constant checking with the help of drawings, and they discussed among themselves the ways and means of installation.

Many workers in the plant now not only can operate and install machines but do maintenance work as well. Thus they have become a technical force with each worker skilled in one particular field and at the same time capable of doing other work. Over the past few years, they have produced lathes by indigenous methods and used them to turn out large quantities of spare parts and accessories. With plate benders and gear-hobbing machines made by themselves, they have succeeded in bending thick steel plates and processing gears. They have also built nine nitric acid absorbing towers with granite quarried in nearby hills, thus saving more than 80 tons of stainless steel plates.

And where did they get the equipment? There are more than 100 factories in the country specializing in manufacturing complete sets of equipment for large chemical fertilizer plants, but the equipment for small county- or commune-run plants have to be made in the provinces concerned by relying on their own efforts. In Honan Province, seven factories are co-ordinating their efforts to produce the necessary equipment for small local chemical fertilizer plants. The Chengchow Boiler Plant, for instance, undertakes to make high-pressure containers and boilers. Before the Great Cultural Revolution it could only make ordinary boilers for use in light industry, so there were enormous difficulties when it was assigned the task of making chemical fertilizer containers. Being aware of the importance of the task of supporting agriculture, the workers did all they could and succeeded in producing equipment.

While provincial departments provide the small plants with the necessary equipment, the various localities try their level best to turn out some equipment in the spirit of self-reliance. The Huikuochen Commune in Kungsien County is a case in point. In 1970 it decided to rely on its own efforts to make the equipment for a small chemical fertilizer plant in order to economize on funds and put it into operation at the earliest possible date. Using several lathes and drilling machines owned by the commune's small machinery factory, the commune members turned out the special machines for making chemical fertilizer equipment according to the drawings provided by the state designing departments for small rural plants.

Whenever they had difficulty in reading the drawings, they asked the technicians trained from among the peasants to explain to them at night so that they could continue their job the following day. In this way they finally managed to produce the more than 70 pieces of equipment for gasification, desulphurization and purification. Compared with similar products made by big factories, they may appear to be somewhat crude, but they work normally to produce chemical fertilizer and can be improved in the course of operation.

During our visit we saw that the plant was being expanded with production suspended, the aim being to increase its designed annual capacity from 2,000 to 5,000 tons. Racing against time, the workers were expanding some of the workshops and rebuilding and reinstalling the boilers despite a drizzle.

**Struggle Between the Two Lines**

Necessary as it is to solve the problems of funds, equipment and technology in developing small chemical fertilizer plants, the question of ideological and political line, however, is of paramount and decisive importance.
The small chemical fertilizer plants which emerged in the mass movement during the period of the big leap forward in the national economy had met with sabotage by Liu Shao-chi’s revisionist line. This is well illustrated by production figures in the two eight-year periods before and after the start of the Great Cultural Revolution in 1966. In the first eight years (1958-65), particularly during the three years (1959-61) of temporary difficulties in China’s national economy, Liu Shao-chi slashed large numbers of small industrial enterprises on the pretext that they had shortcomings which were only natural at the initial stage and that they were “irregular” and “built recklessly.” As a result, chemical fertilizer production was seriously affected. In the second eight years (1966-73), however, small factories rapidly increased as a result of the criticism of Liu Shao-chi’s reactionary line. The number of small chemical fertilizer plants throughout the country increased to more than 900 in 1973 as against only 90 in 1965 and their output was ten times as much.

The course of building a plant is often a struggle between the two ideologies and the two lines. Some people who were badly influenced by Liu Shao-chi’s “servility to things foreign” and craved for things “big and foreign” saw only the weaknesses but not the advantages of small factories. In their eyes these factories were small in size and used indigenous methods in their early days, but they failed to see that they would grow bigger and bigger and gradually introduce modern production methods. Facts have refuted their erroneous views. The above-mentioned small chemical fertilizer plant in Huihui County, for instance, reached its designed annual capacity of producing 5,000 tons of synthetic ammonia in 1970, the year it went into operation. As a result of technical transformation in the successive years, it has now nearly tripled its output.

This is exactly the case with many other small industrial enterprises in China which, starting virtually from scratch, have gradually developed from small to big and from manual operation to mechanization or even automation in production. Practice has proved that small factories can accomplish big things. A small chemical fertilizer plant only produces a fraction of what a big plant does, but the efforts of all the small plants combined can really solve big problems.

To rely on one’s own efforts or not is also an important aspect of the two-line struggle. Rapid growth of chemical fertilizer production, for instance, invariably gives rise to the problem of how to get more coal, an essential raw material. The small chemical fertilizer plant in Huihuoxieng Commune did well in production, but the monthly supply of lump coal it got from the state was barely sufficient for ten days. To ask the state for more top-quality lump coal from the big coal mines or to rely on its own efforts to increase the supply of this raw material?

When the plant’s Party branch put the problem before the workers, they said: The state requires that small chemical fertilizer plants like ours make use of whatever raw material that is locally available to keep production going. Since there are two small coal pits 40 kilometres away, we can find ways to turn their anthracite powder into raw material for making gas instead of asking the state for help. Their suggestion was immediately accepted. In a little over a month, they designed and built two machines for pressing coal powder into coal bars, using only one and a half tons of rolled steel and about 2,000 yuan. This resulted in increasing the annual production of synthetic ammonia from 2,000 to 3,000 tons.

The struggle between the two lines also manifests itself in whether to rely on a few people or to rely on the masses by launching a mass movement. An example of this is provided by the work done by the scientific and technical personnel of the Honan Provincial Chemical Research Institute together with workers and commune members. Through combined efforts, they used humic coal, in which the locality abounds, as raw material and successfully trial-produced ammonium humate, an organic fertilizer which helps increase farm production and keep the soil fertile.

Before the Great Cultural Revolution, the chemical research institute had listed the experimentation on humatic fertilizer as a research item, but nothing came of it. This was because it relied only on a few experts to make experiments in laboratories and some bourgeois scholars disdained the work on grounds that it was “technically simple” and “without academic value.”

In early 1970 when the institute’s scientific and technical personnel went to the countryside in Loyang Prefecture to temper themselves through manual labour, they saw for themselves the pressing demand for chemical fertilizer in the rural areas. Re-educated by the poor and lower-middle peasants with whom they worked and lived together, they gradually brought about changes in their thinking and feelings which became closer to those of the peasants. They made up their minds to carry on their research work on this highly efficient chemical fertilizer which can be made by every production brigade at low cost and with simple equipment.

With the support of the local Party committee, they got down to work with the commune members in real earnest and their efforts soon paid off. At present, the small chemical fertilizer plants of the 740 communes and production brigades in ten counties under the prefecture are producing ammonium humate by indigenous methods. These small plants are warmly welcomed by the commune members, for each of which is equipped with six jars, one cauldron and other things worth only 100 yuan and produces more than one ton of chemical fertilizer a day.

Practice has borne out the fact that an effective way to achieve rapid increase in chemical fertilizer production is to rely on the masses and implement the principle of “walking on two legs.”

August 8, 1975
ROUND THE WORLD

CAMBODIA

Visit by Viet Nam Workers’ Party Delegation

The Voice of the National United Front of Cambodia broadcast on August 3 a press communiqué on a visit to Cambodia by a delegation of the Viet Nam Workers’ Party.

The press communiqué says: “A delegation of the Viet Nam Workers’ Party, led by Le Duan, First Secretary of its Central Committee, has recently paid a friendly visit to Cambodia at the invitation of the leading members of the Cambodian revolution.” “The delegation was warmly received by the leaders of the revolution and the people of Cambodia.”

“Cordial talks imbued with fraternal sentiments were held between the Cambodian and Vietnamese delegations. The two sides discussed questions of mutual concern and reached complete agreement on all questions raised.

“The visit has contributed to further strengthening the militant solidarity and time-honoured friendship between Cambodia and Viet Nam.”

SOVIET UNION

Why Buy Grain From Abroad?

No sooner had the Soviet revisionist clique with Brezhnev at its head made fantastic boasts to the voters about the Soviet Union’s important “achievements” in agriculture than Moscow began its shopping spree for grains abroad. The Governments of the United States, Canada and Australia confirmed that the amount of wheat and corn the Soviet Union bought from them totalled 13.5 million tons.

Though claiming itself to be a “developed socialist country,” the Soviet Union has not really solved the problem of feeding its population. Year after year, it has to import grains from abroad. Since the Kremlin pursues a “guns instead of butter” policy, the result can only be a “rich harvest” of cereals abroad, a dire consequence of the revisionist leading clique’s frantic arms expansion and war preparations and militarization of its economy.

The Soviet rush for grain on the world market mirrors the severe plight of its agriculture and economy as a whole. It also reveals the Kremlin clique as an unscrupulous moneygrubber. Earlier this year, the Soviet Union, noticing signs of a fall in grain prices, scrapped its contract with the United States on purchasing 200,000 tons of wheat. As grain prices on the international market dropped to a lower level, the Soviet Union seized the chance to purchase substantial quantities to reap profits, a practice Moscow can be proud of its skill. In 1972, the Soviet Union bought from the United States and other Western countries more than 20 million tons of cereals, causing grain prices to spiral on the international market. It then got a windfall by reselling part of them to other countries at prices three times higher. Facts show that the Soviet Union, a merchant of death and a grain speculator, is used to inflating prices to harm the American people and the people of third world grain-importing countries.

World opinion condemns the Soviet Union for cornering grain on the world market and thus sending up prices in the United States and Canada. The International Longshoremen’s Association adopted a formal resolution to denounce Moscow for reaping profits at the expense of others, and decided not to load the American and Canadian cereals on Soviet-bound vessels.

Moscow’s shopping for grain is connected with its active war preparations, some Western papers pointed out. Judging from other Soviet efforts to beef up its military power, this is not a groundless conclusion. Aren’t Soviet officials talking about hoarding grains to cope with “eventualities?” One can see from all this talk that the Brezhnev clique’s ballyhoo about a receding danger of war is merely a cock-and-bull story.

WESTERN COUNTRIES’ ECONOMIES

No Sign of Recovery

The member states of the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (O.E.C.D.) are hit by the most serious postwar economic crisis. Worse still, there is no sign of recovery. So says a report of the organization.

The report points out: “The recession now confronting the O.E.C.D. countries is the gravest since the war. It distinguishes itself not only by its duration and amplitude — for the third consecutive half-year, the (economic) growth in the zone as a whole is negative — but also by its universal character; in fact, all O.E.C.D. countries recorded in 1974 a growth rate lower than an ordinary period, and no economic sector appears to be able to reabsorb idle resources in 1975. The scale of underemployed (industrial) resources in the zone of O.E.C.D. is the biggest ever registered since the war, and unemployment has reached a new level. In some major countries, industrial production dropped very sharply in the 4th quarter of 1974 and the first quarter of this year. Since the war no decline has been of such a magnitude and presented so close a synchronism.”

The report adds: “The recent 6 or 9 months have witnessed the most drastic decline in production since the Second World War. Compared with its earlier peak, industrial production decreased about 20 per cent in Japan, 10-15 per cent in the United States, Germany, France and Italy, and 5 per cent in the United Kingdom in the first quarter of this year.”

The report points out that at present, “industrial production appears to remain at an extremely low level. In March-April, it was some 9 per cent lower than the 1974
average. Production remained very feeble in the second quarter."

Referring to the problem of unemployment, the report notes that "in most O.E.C.D. countries unemployment has reached the highest level ever registered since the war. "The jobless total in the zone is now about 15 million, or twice that in the previous cycle (of economic crisis)."

The report is pessimistic about the Western countries' economic prospects. In the O.E.C.D. countries, it says, "the signs of a sensible (economic) recovery remain scanty at present, especially in (Western) Europe," and "it is still extremely difficult to forecast the precise time of arrival and exact magnitude of the recovery." The report also holds that "as a result of feeble demand, the recovery will be slower than in the past."

The O.E.C.D. is made up of 24 member countries, including the United States, Japan, Australia, New Zealand and Canada as well as Britain, France, the Federal Republic of Germany and 16 other West European countries.

INDIA

Opposition to Ironfisted Rule

Mass resistance activities are spreading in India as the people give expression to their resentments of the fascist measures taken by the government of Indira Gandhi.

The crackdown has become increasingly severe since the "state of emergency" was proclaimed on June 26. On July 24, the Indian Parliament, manipulated by Indira Gandhi, passed a constitutional amendment to cut curbs on the judiciary. The courts, according to this bill, are not allowed to take up cases which challenge government decrees and measures. The new legislation also extends press censorship to cover newspaper advertisements, bans strikes and interdicts assemblies of more than five persons.

Twenty-six organizations have been proscribed. Moreover, police and police hounds have been detailed to shadow, search and arrest Indira Gandhi's opponents. Tens of thousands of people from all walks of life have been thrown in jail. Official figures, obviously watered down, put the number of the arrested at 1,689 in Maharashtra, 1,850 in Bihar and 1,000 in Uttar Pradesh.

The draconian measures taken by the government of Indira Gandhi are meeting with strong resistance. Protest rallies and demonstrations by the people against the fascist suppression were held recently one after another not only in Gujarat and Tamilnadu where the opposition parties are in power and the control of the National Congress Party is weak but also in New Delhi and in Bihar and Kerala States. Large-scale demonstrations against the "emergency" rule took place on July 10 in Trivandrum, capital, and several other cities of Kerala State. In early July, 100,000 people staged a rally in Madras, Tamilnadu State, to voice their protest against the government fascist suppression.

Reports say secretly printed and distributed newspapers, journals, leaflets and pamphlets have appeared in New Delhi, Bombay, Bihar State and other places to condemn government terrorism and its fascist suppression.

"VANGUARD" (AUSTRALIA)

Moscow Backs India's Fascist Measures

"Far-reaching fascist measures have been taken by the Indian Prime Minister, Indira Gandhi," said Vanguard, organ of the Australian Communist Party (Marxist-Leninist) in an editorial on July 10.

"Under the cover of parliamentary democracy, Indira Gandhi has ruled India as a fascist state. She has ruthlessly suppressed all revolutionary activity and indeed any radical activity," the editorial added.

"But, where there is oppression, there is resistance. The Indian people have resisted," the editorial stressed.

The editorial pointed out that the upheaval in India "really arises from the crisis of capitalism and the need of Indian big business and its Soviet masters to suppress the people. The pretence of parliamentary democracy can no longer be sustained."

The editorial said the Soviet social-imperialists highly praise the fascist measures taken by Indira Gandhi. It is because "for them, India is a key possession and a key stepping stone to their striving to domination in Asia, the Indian Ocean, Australia, etc."

"The Indian people will have the last say. A dictatorship of social-imperialist fascists cannot possibly last long."

TURKEY

Turk-U.S. Defence Agreement Invalidated

The 1969 joint defence agreement between Turkey and the United States and other related agreements have lost their legal validity.

The announcement made by the government in Ankara on July 25 said that operations of all U.S. military installations in Turkey, which will be placed under the full control and authority of the Turkish armed forces, will cease as of July 26.

A U.S. fighter plane squadron at Incirlik air base in southern Turkey will be allowed to continue its duties strictly for NATO defence purposes, it said.

The Turkish decision came after the U.S. House of Representatives rejected on July 24 a U.S. government proposal to lift the American arms embargo against Turkey.

In February this year, the U.S. Congress adopted a resolution on cutting off military aid and arms sales to Turkey. President Ford has since asked the Congress to partially "lift the arms embargo."

A statement was issued by President Ford after the House decision. The House action, he said, "can only do the most serious and irreparable damage to the vital national security interest of the United States." He urged it to reconsider the matter.
ON THE HOME FRONT

Traditional Instrumental Music Improved

Traditional instrument music played with improved instruments on stage, TV, or over the radio is much appreciated by audiences.

The Triumphant Return of the Fishermen, based on melodies from the Choushan Islands off the coast of east China, is played with a dozen musical instruments including 10 small gongs suspended on a frame and three drums of different sizes. The gongs and drums underscore the jubilation, elaborately rendered by wind and string instruments, on the return of a people's commune fishing fleet after riding out a storm.

Techniques of playing Western musical instruments are assimilated in depicting the heroic fighting spirit of the dockers in Fighting the Typhoon, a solo for the improved cheng (an ancient stringed instrument which is plucked). Red Flowers of Tachai Bloom Everywhere, a composition for the sheng (a small bamboo wind instrument with a number of pipes), takes a popular revolutionary song as its theme. It tells how peasants all over China farm for the revolution after learning from the Tachai Production Brigade, the nation's pace-setter in agriculture.

China has a rich heritage of national music, with a legacy of nearly 300 kinds of traditional musical instruments. Revolutionary workers in the field of music have improved most of them to enable them more fully to reflect life in the socialist era. Their original features have been retained, but tonal range, volume and timbre have been enhanced.

In this way, instruments exuding soft, sentimental strains for court and chamber in ancient times, now burst forth with energetic, militant tunes for the masses. After undergoing improvement, some musical instruments which were used by folk musicians only as accompaniment have become solo instruments much applauded at concerts. Traditional instrumental music, like a hundred flowers blossoming, serves socialism in a still better way.

After special arrangement, many traditional and folk musical pieces have gained currency and popularity. Here are some examples:

River Waters, known as a flute solo in northeast China, was later adapted for the erh-hu (two-stringed fiddle). It describes the sorrows of the labouring masses before liberation. Their hatred for the evil old society and their resistance are dramatically expressed by the soloist, who has further developed various new fingering techniques and striking variations in volume.

Besieged on Ten Sides is a solo for the pi-pa (a plucked instrument). This celebrated composition describes a battle which took place more than 2,000 years ago. In the revised melody the use of various fingering techniques brings out the fighting will and power of the troops led by Liu Pang, who represented the progressive forces of his time. From beginning to end, the music is militant and forceful, yet full of changes, now vigorous, now subdued, with fresh and varied musical images.

A Hundred Birds Contend in Singing is a traditional folk tune popular among the peasants, played with suona (wooden trumpet with a brass mouthpiece and a brass opening end). Its mouthpiece improved, the instrument lends itself to the use of both traditional and newly-developed performing techniques. The suona soloist can imitate cuckoo-calls, cooing of doves, twit-titting of swallows, singing of cicadas and the song of the nightingale interspersed with a gay and lively melody. The whole composition, played with orchestral accompaniment, is charming and full of local colour.

Waste Disposal

HEAPS of household and industrial waste accumulate daily in Peking proper and garbage alone reaches 2,700 tons a day. But these materials are really not "waste." Garbage is carted or trucked to the fertilizer pits of the people's communes in the suburbs and processed into organic fertilizer. This is a great support to these areas. Other items of household waste such as rags, worn-out shoes and paper are recycled by the state purchasing department for multi-purpose use.

City industrial wastes such as scrap iron and steel, non-ferrous metals, waste oil or other liquids, worn-out tyres are also received at collection points by the state departments concerned for comprehensive utilization. For instance, waste iron and steel can be tempered again, worn-out tyres

An ensemble playing Chinese traditional instruments.
can be turned into regenerated rubber, certain waste liquids can be used for extracting chemical raw materials. Waste and old materials retrieved in Peking in recent years have become one of their sources of raw materials for some small factories.

There is a bone glue and oil refinery in the southern suburb of the city, turning out over 20 kinds of products from discarded bones, waste lubricating oil and other materials. The quality of the lubricating oil thus refined is up to the standard stipulated by the state and can be used as well as new lubricating oil. The bone glue put out is an adhesive agent which is indispensable in the chemical industry, dyeing, textiles, printing and furniture-making.

In Peking, there are thousands of people engaged in daily street sanitation work, such as removing waste and sweeping. To reduce the dust stirred up, cleaning streets and garbage-removal are usually under way at night.

The broad masses pay great attention to public sanitation. The masses are organized by the residents' committees to keep the lanes and sidewalks in their own localities clean. There are waste and garbage disposal boxes along the streets and in parks. People are in the habit of throwing fruit remains, waste paper, cigarette butts and so on into the boxes.

In China, the residents do not pay the expenses for street-cleaning or garbage and night-soil collection. The state assumes responsibility for whatever these services cost. Ten million yuan are spent on these items alone in Peking every year.

(Continued from p. 15.)

We have seen how small factories have done big jobs and simple equipment has turned out some most up-to-date products. Without adequate buildings, some factories started production in mat sheds in street lanes. In the absence of modern machines, they started with ingenuously-made equipment and then made radical improvements through technical innovations. Socialism cannot be built by following the routine way, being afraid of hardship and arduous work or in a comfortable way. It must be built by waging struggles and working in a daring death-defying spirit. Relying on revolutionary spirit and revolutionary enthusiasm, we defeated the Kuomintang reactionaries and won the victory of the democratic revolution in the past. To further consolidate the dictatorship of the proletariat and build socialism today, we have to show still greater vigour, revolutionary spirit and revolutionary enthusiasm. As long as we rely on the masses and preserve and carry forward the same revolutionary enthusiasm and the same daring death-defying spirit of the years of revolutionary war, we will surely be able to push our cause forward at a faster pace.

To achieve real success by following the spirit of independence and self-reliance, it is necessary to continuously deepen the criticism of servility to foreign ideas and the doctrine of trailing behind at a snail's pace, both of which have their deep social and historical roots in China and still poison the minds of a section of the people today. These people dare not think boldly and do things in a new way, nor will they let others think boldly and blaze a trail. When workers catch up with and surpass world advanced levels in certain technical fields, they attempt to find fault in every conceivable way. This is extremely wrong. Old China was a semi-colonial and semi-feudal society. Imperialism fostered a comprador bourgeoisie, did its utmost to spread slavish ideas and used them as the spiritual shackles to rule the Chinese people. Our social system has undergone radical changes since liberation. However, the influence of these bourgeois ideas will remain for a long time. The Lin Piao anti-Party clique was the political representative of both old and new bourgeois elements. In working for restoration and retrogression, they would certainly take up the mantle of the Chinese comprador bourgeoisie, energetically spread the idea of worshipping foreign things and having blind faith in them, and take the road of capitulation and national betrayal. We should continue to deepen the criticism of Lin Piao's crimes of worshipping Confucius and national betrayal, criticize the bourgeois idea of revering and having blind faith in foreign things, and give full prominence to the spirit of independence and self-reliance.

Self-reliance does not mean closing the door to the outside world. It is necessary to import and introduce some equipment and technique from abroad according to the needs of our socialist construction, and the purpose of doing so is to enhance our country's ability to rely on itself. However, we must adopt the scientific attitude of "one divides into two" with respect to foreign equipment and technique. Learning from foreign countries must be combined with a spirit of independent creation. It is wrong to imagine that foreign technology is flawless. There has never been anything in the world that is perfect in every sense. Restricted by the law of profit and tied up in the idealist and metaphysical world outlook, technology in capitalist-imperialist countries inevitably has its backward side. If we do not analyse it and discard its dross while using its strong points as examples or learning from them, and fall to rest on our own independent creations, we will go astray and bring about losses to our construction.

August 8, 1975

23
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Published by: FOREIGN LANGUAGES PRESS, Peking, China
Distributed by: GUOZI SHUDIAN (China Publications Centre), Peking, China

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