

PEKING REVIEW

16

April 15, 1977

**Chairman Hua Separately Meets
President Daddah and
Mrs. Thatcher**

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**Carry Out in an All-Round Way the
Strategic Policy Decision on Grasping the
Key Link in Running the Country Well**

— "Renmin Ribao" editorial

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***A Serious Struggle in Scientific and
Technical Circles***

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北京周報

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Chairman Hua Meets President Daddah

HUA Kuo-feng, Chairman of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China and Premier of the State Council, on April 8 met President Moktar Ould Daddah of the Islamic Republic of Mauritania, Madame Daddah and their entourage.

A cordial and friendly atmosphere prevailed at the meeting. When President and Madame Daddah and the other distinguished Mauritanian guests entered the reception hall in the Great Hall of the People, Chairman Hua stepped forward and

warmly shook hands with all of them and again extended a warm welcome on their visit to China. They were photographed together.

Chairman Hua had a sincere and friendly conversation with President Daddah and Sall Abdoul Aziz, President of the National Assembly; Baro Abdoulaye, Minister of State for Rural Development; Hamdi Ould Mouknass, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs; Baibrahima, Minister of Planning, Handicrafts and Tourism; Mohamed Ould Amar, Minister of Hy-

draulic Resources; and Bakar Ould Sidi Haiba, Mauritanian Ambassador to China.

Chairman Hua and President Daddah reviewed with satisfaction the development of the friendly relations between China and Mauritania. Chairman Hua said: Our two countries belong to the third world. In the past, both our countries were subjected to colonialist and imperialist aggression, oppression and exploitation. We understand each other. Since the establishment of diplomatic relations between China and



Mauritania, the relations between our two countries have developed very well thanks to the joint impetus given by the Chinese people's great leader Chairman Mao, Premier Chou En-lai and President Daddah. President Daddah has made three visits to China and contributed to deepening the mutual understanding and friendship between the governments and peoples of China and Mauritania. He wished that Mauritania will be built into a more prosperous country under the leadership of President Daddah.

President Daddah again expressed his condolences on the death of Chairman Mao Tsetung, Premier Chou En-lai and Chairman Chu Teh. He said: China is a very friendly country to us. On my third visit to China, I have witnessed and am inspired by what the great Chinese people have achieved under the leadership of Chairman Hua Kuo-feng. "It is in times of difficulties that true friends know each other." Come what may, we Mauritians will

always stand by China in the same way as you have supported us.

Present at the meeting and taking part in the conversation were Vice-Premier Li Hsien-nien, Minister of Foreign Affairs Huang Hua, Minister of Economic Relations With Foreign Countries Chen Muhua, and Chinese Ambassador to Mauritania Kang Mao-chao.

President Daddah Visits China

President and Madame Daddah made a five-day official visit to China at the invitation of the Chinese Government. They arrived in Peking on April 6 and were greeted at the airport by Chairman Hua Kuo-feng. Vice-Premier Li Hsien-nien gave a grand banquet in honour of the distinguished Mauritanian guests that evening. The Vice-Premier and the President spoke at the banquet. (For excerpts of their speeches see pp. 11 and 13.) Vice-Premier Li and President Daddah held talks on April 6

and 7. Vice-Chairman Teng Ying-chao met President and Madame Daddah on the 7th. President Daddah gave a banquet on April 8.

President Daddah is a respected, old friend of the Chinese people. His previous two visits, in 1967 and 1974, contributed to developing the friendly relations and co-operation between China and Mauritania and promoting the third world's cause of unity against imperialism, colonialism and hegemonism. President Daddah came to China on another visit this time and held talks with Chinese leaders on relations between the two countries and the international situation. Undoubtedly, the friendship and co-operation between the two peoples will be further consolidated and developed thanks to the concern of Chairman Hua and President Daddah.

President Daddah and his party left Kwangchow for home on April 10 at the end of their visit.

Chairman Hua Meets Mrs. Thatcher

CHAIRMAN Hua Kuo-feng on April 9 met in Peking with Mrs. Margaret Thatcher, leader of the British Conservative Party.

Present at the meeting were British Ambassador to China E. Youde and members of Mrs. Thatcher's party Douglas Hurd, John Stanley and Miss Carol Thatcher.

Chairman Hua extended a warm welcome to the British guests on their visit to China. He said: This is Mrs. Thatcher's first visit to China. It will certainly be followed by a second, third and many more visits.

Chairman Hua had a talk with Mrs. Thatcher in a friendly atmosphere. They had an ex-

tensive exchange of views on questions of common concern. Ambassador E. Youde was present at the talk.

Vice-Premier Li Hsien-nien, Foreign Minister Huang Hua, Vice-Foreign Minister Liu Chenhua and Chinese Ambassador to Britain Sung Chih-kuang were present at the meeting and the talk.



matters of interest to us both," Mrs. Thatcher added. She also spoke of the possibility of expanding trade between Britain and China.

In his toast, Vice-Premier Li Hsien-nien said that both sides had a full exchange of views on the current international situation and issues of common concern. He added: "This undoubtedly helps enhance the mutual understanding between our two peoples and develop relations between our two countries to the

Mrs. Thatcher in China

Mrs. Margaret Thatcher came to China on a visit at the invitation of the Chinese Government. Mrs. Thatcher arrived in Peking on April 7. That evening Vice-Premier Li Hsien-nien gave a banquet in honour of the distinguished British guest. The host and guest made speeches (for excerpts of the speeches see pp. 15 and 16).

During her Peking stay, Mrs. Thatcher held talks with Minister of Foreign Affairs Huang Hua and Minister of Foreign Trade Li Chiang. Vice-Chairman of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress Teng Ying-chao also met her. On April 10, Mrs. Thatcher left Peking for a visit to other parts of the country. She gave

a banquet on the eve of her departure.

In her toast at this banquet, Mrs. Thatcher said: "I have been very glad of the opportunity to hold talks with so many leaders of the Chinese Government. These talks have ranged widely." "We have discussed many topics of international importance which will affect our whole future. We have spoken of the prospects before China at the present time, and the possibilities of improving further the co-operation, already good, between our two countries. I have enjoyed and profited greatly from these exchanges."

"It has been a particular honour to be received today by Chairman Hua Kuo-feng and to benefit from his views on many

great benefit of both sides. We are glad to note that our two sides have much in agreement on a number of major international issues. Indeed, in the world today, Soviet social-imperialism is carrying out global aggression and expansion, and the rivalry between the two superpowers has become ever more intense. Under such circumstances, there is no detente to speak of. We are opposed to the expansionists who play up detente to hoodwink other people, and we are also against the appeasement ideas of those who hold forth about detente to deceive themselves. Appeasement will only hasten the outbreak of war. We are pleased to see that amidst the clamour about detente more and more European statesmen

remain clear-headed in face of stark reality and dare to tell the people the truth about the so-called detente. We think this is most commendable."

Comrade Li Hsien-nien Meets Delegation of Marxist-Leninist Communist Party Of Belgium

Li Hsien-nien, Member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China, on April 11 met and feted the Delegation of the Marxist-Leninist Communist Party of Belgium led by its First Secretary Fernand Lefebvre.

In his toast, Comrade Li Hsien-nien spoke warmly of the contributions made by the Marxist-Leninist Communist Party of Belgium in the struggle against imperialism, revisionism and against monopoly capital in their own country, as well as in the struggle against the two superpowers, the United States and the Soviet Union, especially Soviet revisionist social-imperialism. He said: "We are convinced that the Marxist-Leninist Communist Party of Belgium will surely make new achievements in the course of integrating the universal truth of Marxism-Leninism with the revolutionary practice in its own country."

He said: "Our two Parties have supported each other in the common struggle against im-

perialism, revisionism and reaction. We deeply believe that your current visit is bound to further enhance the revolutionary friendship between our two Parties which is based on Marxism-Leninism and the principles of proletarian internationalism."

At the beginning of his toast Comrade Fernand Lefebvre expressed deep condolences on the death of Chairman Mao Tsetung, Premier Chou En-lai and Chairman Chu Teh. He said: "We were most grieved by Chairman Mao's passing away. Mao Tsetung not only belonged to the Chinese proletariat and people, but also to the proletariat and people of the rest of the world. Mao Tsetung had enriched the science of the revolution to such a point that in our epoch one should speak of three closely linked and inseparable elements: Marxism-Leninism-Mao Tsetung Thought."

Hailing the victory scored by the Chinese Communist Party in smashing the Wang-Chang-Chiang-Yao "gang of four," he said that the gang was a "counter-revolutionary criminal clique and a revisionist-fascist clique that conspired and sabotaged."

Comrade Lefebvre said: "On all the grievous occasions, as well as in the decisive victory of the wiping out of the 'gang of four,' Chairman Hua Kuo-feng has proved himself to be the worthy successor to Chairman Mao. Chairman Mao's

choice has made an inestimable contribution to the revolutionary cause of China and of the proletariat of the world."

He said: "The Second Congress of the Marxist-Leninist Communist Party of Belgium held at the beginning of this year has emphasized that Belgium is in the stage of monopoly capitalism, imperialism; the target of the revolution in our country is the monopoly capitalists; and analysis of the international situation should be made in the light of the theory of the three worlds elaborated by Chairman Mao. This theory constitutes a considerable enrichment of Marxism-Leninism and is a powerful weapon for the proletariat of all countries and for the people of the world."

Comrade Lefebvre pointed out: "The Soviet Union and the United States are the most vicious brigands who are contending for hegemony in the world and Europe is the key point of their exacerbated rivalry. This rivalry will inevitably lead to a war. Soviet social-imperialism, in particular, has become the principal source of war in the world."

The delegation arrived in Peking on April 4 at the invitation of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China. Keng Piao, Member of the C.P.C. Central Committee and Head of its International Liaison Department, feted the Belgian comrades.

Comrade Yeh Chien-ying's Poem in Chairman Mao's Handwriting

On April 6 *Renmin Ribao* gave frontpage prominence to a facsimile of Comrade Yeh Chien-ying's poem *Looking Into the Distance* in Chairman Mao's handwriting.

Chairman Mao copied this magnificent anti-revisionist poem for his son Mao An-ching and daughter-in-law Shao Hua when they visited him on his 72nd birthday towards the end of 1965. He did this to educate and encourage them to assiduously study Marxism-Leninism and learn from the anti-revisionist spirit of the older generation of revolutionaries. Comrade Yeh Chien-ying's poem first appeared in *Guangming Ribao* on October 16, 1965.

Also frontpaged was an explanatory note by Comrade Yeh Chien-ying saying that the poem "was written in the autumn of 1965 to ridicule and denounce the 'polar bear' which had degenerated into revisionism."

On December 28 last year, Comrade Yeh Chien-ying received from Comrades Mao An-ching and Shao Hua a photocopy of the poem in Chairman Mao's handwriting. Later, he borrowed the original copy and had it reproduced as a souvenir to be treasured for ever.

Renmin Ribao also carried an article by Mao An-ching and Shao Hua the same day. Entitled "Rereading *Looking Into the Distance* Steels Our Determination," it said that the poem "reflects in full measure the thoroughgoing revolutionary spirit of the older generation of

proletarian revolutionaries loyal to Chairman Mao."

The article pointed out: There is a profound moral in the poem. It tells us that the Soviet people, who are in the depths of sorrow and suffering, infinitely treasure the memory of the great revolutionary teacher Lenin. The Soviet revisionist renegade clique has long abandoned the red flag. It is obsessed with capitalism, kowtowing to the "dead tree" of imperialism and racing backwards along the road of retrogression. With farsightedness and confidence in victory, the author sees that the struggles of the people in Africa, Asia and Latin America are surging forward with an irresistible force and firmly believes that the working people in the Soviet Union are discontented with the revisionist clique's rule and will eventually rise in revolution.

The article added: The "gang of four" slandered a large number of proletarian revolutionaries of the older generation, who had over the years followed Chairman Mao in making revolution, as "democrats" and "capitalist-roaders" and rabidly attacked leading comrades in the central authorities who upheld Chairman Mao's revolutionary line. But history is inexorable. The "gang of four" finally came to an ignominious end.

"As we restudy the poem *Looking Into the Distance* today," the article concluded, "we seem to hear again Chairman Mao teaching us kindly and we see for ourselves the thoroughgoing revolutionary spirit of the proletarian revolutionaries of the older genera-

tion who are holding high Chairman Mao's great banner in combating and preventing revisionism."

Ethiopian Government Delegation

The Ethiopian Government Delegation led by Tamrat Ferede, Member of the Standing Committee of the Provisional Military Administrative Council of Ethiopia, had a week-long visit in China April 5 through 11.

In Peking, Vice-Premier Wang Chen met the delegation with which Foreign Minister Huang Hua had a talk.

In his toast at a banquet honouring the delegation, Huang Hua said: Under the guidance of the Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence, there has been good development in the friendly relations and co-operation between the two countries since the establishment of diplomatic relations between China and Ethiopia. To continue the development and enhancement of the friendship between the two peoples and the friendly relations and co-operation between both countries conforms with the fundamental interests of their peoples and is in the interest of the third world's cause of unity against hegemonism.

Tamrat Ferede said: The Ethiopian Government Delegation deems it a great honour to come to China to continue consolidating the unity of the two countries and two peoples of China and Ethiopia. He expressed the hope that the friendship between both peoples would grow with each passing day.

mass movement to expose and criticize the "gang of four"; took effective measures to seize back the leadership usurped or controlled by the "gang of four" in the fields of propaganda, culture and education and solve the problems in those areas and departments which were dominated by the "gang of four" or affected by their sabotage; and called the Second National Conference on Learning From Tachai in Agriculture and a number of other important conferences and will soon call the National Conference on Learning From Taching in Industry. The situation in the past six months has proved that the political and organizational lines of the Party Central Committee, headed by Chairman Hua and the policy decisions and measures it made and took are entirely correct. In the difficult circumstances in which our great leader Chairman Mao passed away and in which the "gang of four's" sabotage caused serious effects, Chairman Hua not only has grasped the key link well, but everything else as well, thus bringing about a situation in which "when the lead rope is raised, the fish net opens wide." Chairman Hua is a worthy good student of and good successor to Chairman Mao and is our good leader. At present, the whole Party, the whole army and the people of all nationalities throughout the country are warmly responding to Chairman Hua's call and striving to fulfil the four militant tasks for this year and realize the strategic plan of grasping the key link in running the country well.

What should be done to achieve great order across the land? A summing up of Chairman Hua's latest instructions provides the following eight main points:

The great struggle to expose and criticize the "gang of four" must be carried through to the end so as to set to rights those things they turned upside down with regard to right and wrong on the question of political line, fully criticize and eliminate the pernicious influence and effects of their counter-revolutionary revisionist line politically and ideologically, sum up the experience of the struggle between the two lines during the Great Proletarian Cultural Revolution, consolidate and develop the victories of the Great Proletarian Cultural Revolution and unify the thinking and understanding of the

whole Party in accordance with Chairman Mao's revolutionary line. Organizationally, we must set right the class alignment which the "gang of four" muddled up, so that we can really rely on the working class, the poor and lower-middle peasants and the revolutionary cadres and revolutionary intellectuals in every field of work and implement the task of consolidating the dictatorship of the proletariat in every grass-roots unit.

It is imperative to do a good job of rectifying and building our Party ideologically, organizationally and in style of work and, in line with the three basic principles "**Practise Marxism, and not revisionism; unite, and don't split; be open and aboveboard, and don't intrigue and conspire,**" make conscientious efforts to solve the problems of impurity in ideology, organization and style of work which stemmed from sabotage by the "gang of four." It is essential to strengthen theoretical education in Marxism-Leninism-Mao Tsetung Thought and expand the Marxist theoretical contingents. It is also necessary to strengthen education in Party building, enhance proletarian Party spirit, eliminate bourgeois factionalism, restore and carry forward the Party's fine style of work and build Party organizations at all levels into **vigorous vanguard organizations capable of leading the proletariat and the revolutionary masses in the fight against the class enemy.**

In accordance with the five requirements for successors to the proletarian revolutionary cause and the principle of the three-in-one combination of the old, the middle-aged and the young advanced by Chairman Mao, we must build our Party's leading bodies at all levels into intelligent and capable leading cores that firmly implement Chairman Mao's proletarian revolutionary line and the policy decisions and directives of the Party Central Committee, persist in taking part in collective productive labour, maintain close ties with the masses, consciously restrict bourgeois right, wage a united struggle and enjoy prestige among the masses.

We must implement Chairman Mao's directive "**Push the national economy forward,**" overcome the difficulties caused by the "gang of four's" interference and sabotage, deal resolute blows at capitalism both in town and coun-

tryside, develop the national economy in a planned, proportionate way and at high speed. We must make efforts to build Tachai-type counties and Taching-type enterprises all over the country, unfold socialist labour emulation drives, improve and strengthen socialist economic management, enable the main economic and technical targets to first attain and then surpass the best domestic levels and catch up and surpass advanced world levels. We shall raise the living standards of the people step by step on the basis of increased production.

The revolution in education, literature and art, medical and health work and science and technology must continue in the direction Chairman Mao indicated. We must conscientiously carry out Chairman Mao's educational principles that education must serve proletarian politics and be combined with productive labour and that we should enable everyone who receives an education to develop morally, intellectually and physically and become a worker with both socialist consciousness and culture. Chairman Mao's policy of **"letting a hundred flowers blossom and a hundred schools of thought contend"** should be resolutely carried out in developing socialist science and culture and the study of Marxist philosophy and social sciences, and in enriching socialist literature, drama, cinema, fine arts, music and dance.

It is imperative **"to strengthen the people's state apparatus."** We must step up our efforts to build our army into a revolutionized modern army in accordance with Chairman Mao's military concepts and military line, heighten our vigilance, get prepared against war and work hard to be ready against any aggressive war. We should further implement Chairman Mao's instruction: **"To grasp army work means none other than taking up the study of the Party line, correcting malpractices, overcoming mountain-stronghold mentality and factionalism and stressing unity."** It is necessary to extensively unfold the mass movement to learn from Lei Feng and the **"Hard-Boned Sixth Company."** We must effectively strengthen preparedness against war and military training, learn military skills, raise combat strength, and earnestly carry out Chairman Mao's instruction on having **"not only a powerful army but also a powerful air force and a powerful navy."** We

must strengthen the building of the militia and public security work, deal steady, accurate and hard blows at the handful of class enemies, protect the people's interests and defend the socialist system.

It is imperative to promote democracy, improve democratic centralism, work to attain **"unity in thinking, policy, plan, command and action"** under the great red banner of Mao Tsetung Thought, and create among the people **"a political situation in which there are both centralism and democracy, both discipline and freedom, both unity of will and personal ease of mind and liveliness."**

Under the Party's centralized leadership, we must make overall plans and arrangements, earnestly implement the Party's policies on cadres, intellectuals and minority nationalities so as to mobilize all positive factors both inside and outside the Party, further strengthen the great unity of the whole Party, the whole army and the people of all nationalities throughout the country, and further develop the revolutionary united front led by the working class, based on the worker-peasant alliance and including various patriotic democratic parties and patriotic personages.

The eight points mentioned above can be summed up in one sentence — carry out in an all-round way and correctly Chairman Mao's proletarian revolutionary line in the political, economic and cultural spheres of our society and in industry, agriculture, commerce, culture and education, the army, the government and the Party. Only in this way can great order across the land be achieved.

Chairman Hua has given concrete, detailed and overall instructions in various fields of work on grasping the key link in running the country well and mapped out for us a grand blueprint for great order across the land. By following this strategic policy decision and grand plan, we can certainly administer China's affairs well and build China, this base area of the world revolution, into a still more powerful country. This coincides with the fundamental interests and common desire of the people of the whole country and with the ardent hope of the world's revolutionary people. Comrades in

(Continued on p. 17.)

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Vice-Premier Li Hsien-nien's Speech

(Excerpts)

PRESIDENT Moktar Ould Daddah of the Islamic Republic of Mauritania is an esteemed old friend of the Chinese Government and people. His Excellency the President visited China twice before, in 1967 and 1974. Today it gives us special warmth and joy that His Excellency the President, animated by profound friendship for the Chinese people, has again come from afar to visit our country. On behalf of Chairman and Premier Hua Kuo-feng and the Chinese Government and people, I wish to extend our warm welcome to His Excellency the President and Madame Daddah and all the other distinguished Mauritanian guests.

The Islamic Republic of Mauritania is a dynamic country. Her people are industrious and brave. Under the leadership of President Daddah, the Mauritanian Government and people have waged long and unremitting struggles to defend national independence and state sovereignty and develop their national economy and culture. Especially in recent years, Mauritania has made many efforts and achieved marked successes in overcoming difficulties resulting from natural disasters and the export of economic crisis of the capitalist world. Pursuing a policy of non-alignment Mauritania has persistently opposed imperialism, hegemonism, Zionism and racism and supported African national-liberation movements, making positive contributions to the Arab-African countries' cause of unity against imperialism, colonialism and hegemonism. We heartily rejoice at the achievements of the Mauritanian Government and people and wish your country new and greater victories on her road of advance.

The current international situation is still characterized by great disorder under heaven and remains excellent, as our great leader and

teacher Chairman Mao Tsetung pointed out time and again. The world is steadily advancing amidst turmoil, and the people are further awakening in the course of struggle. The two superpowers are stepping up their arms expansion and war preparations and fiercely contending for world hegemony. In particular, the superpower that hawks "disarmament" and "détente" in a most energetic way is reaching out its hand everywhere under all sorts of fraudulent pretences. It not only lays emphasis on Europe in its strategy for seizing hegemony but is also intensifying its challenge in the Middle East, Africa and other parts of the world. The aggression and expansion of the superpowers and their intense rivalry have aroused the strong resistance of the peoples all over the world. In recent years, the anti-imperialist, anti-colonialist and anti-hegemonic struggle, in which the third world is the main force, has developed vigorously and irresistibly and dealt heavy blows to the wild ambitions of the two superpowers. It is not the one or two superpowers but the peoples of the world who will decide the destiny of the world.

In Africa and Arabia the situation is excellent, too. The Afro-Arab summit conference successfully concluded not long ago demonstrated the broad unity and fighting will of the over 400 million African and Arab people against imperialism, colonialism, hegemonism, Zionism and racism. It was a conference of historic significance. The Chinese Government and people warmly hail its important victories. On their behalf, I wish to take this opportunity to reaffirm our resolute support to the Arab and Palestinian peoples' struggle for the recovery of the occupied territories and the restoration of national rights, to the southern African

peoples' struggle against the white racist regimes and for national liberation and to the Afro-Arab countries' just cause of unity against imperialism, colonialism and hegemonism.

While the Afro-Arab summit conference was in session, the superpower that styles itself a "natural ally" of the Afro-Arab peoples engineered single-handed the grave incident of a massive invasion of Zaire by mercenaries. This is another glaring revelation of the aggressive and expansionist features of social-imperialism. Despite the various lies spread by this superpower, describing the incident as a "military conflict inside Zaire" to vainly misrepresent its premeditated aggression as a Zairian civil war, the people of Africa and throughout the world have a discerning eye and will not be taken in. It has been pointed out by fair-minded world opinion that this superpower's invasion of Zaire constitutes a new round of offensives of political and military aggression in Africa in the wake of its aggression in Angola as well as a major move in its rivalry with the other superpower to seize Europe. Under the leadership of President Mobutu, the Zairian Government and people, defying brute force, are waging a valiant struggle to defend their national independence, territorial integrity and state sovereignty against foreign aggression. The just struggle of the Zairian people is winning more and more extensive sympathy and support from the people of Africa and the whole world. We firmly believe that the Zairian people will win final victory in their resistance to aggression. Africa belongs to the African people. Upholding unity and persisting in struggle, the heroic African people will surely drive all external forces of aggression out of Africa.

1976 was a most extraordinary year in the history of China. As everyone knows, we were faced with an unprecedentedly grave situation and we withstood the rigorous test. Following the behests of our great leader and teacher Chairman Mao Tsetung, the Party Central Committee headed by Chairman Hua Kuo-feng led our nation in smashing at one blow the Wang-Chang-Chiang-Yao anti-Party "gang of four" and winning a great historic victory. An excellent situation now prevails in China. Rallying closely round the Party Central Committee

headed by our wise leader Chairman Hua and holding high the great red banner of Mao Tsetung Thought, our whole Party, army and people of various nationalities are working hard with high morale and strong fighting will to realize the great strategic policy decision of "grasping the key link in running the country." The great political revolution of exposing and criticizing the "gang of four" is deepening step by step all over the country. The mass movements to learn from Taching in industry and Tachai in agriculture are surging ahead vigorously. The whole nation shows great revolutionary exuberance. A new upsurge in socialist revolution and socialist construction is emerging. In the course of the sharp struggle between the two classes, great order will be brought about in China, with initial success within this year and great success in three years' time.

Chairman Mao Tsetung was the founder of our Party, our army and our People's Republic. He was the greatest Marxist-Leninist of the present age. Mao Tsetung Thought is the inexhaustible source of our strength. The proletarian revolutionary line laid down by Chairman Mao is our lifeline. The history of the last half century and more has proved that Chairman Mao's banner is the banner of unity, struggle and victory. Now he has left us. It is our good fortune that Chairman Mao personally selected for us his good successor — Chairman Hua Kuo-feng, in whom our Party and country again have their wise leader. We feel certain that, under the guidance of the great banner of Chairman Mao and the leadership of the Party Central Committee headed by Chairman Hua, our people will further advance our revolutionary cause pioneered by Chairman Mao and other veteran proletarian revolutionaries, manage China's affairs well and strive to make a greater contribution to humanity.

You shared our sorrow in the days when we lost our great leader Chairman Mao and our esteemed and beloved Premier Chou En-lai and Chairman Chu Teh of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress. You extended your sincere congratulations when we won the great victory of smashing the "gang of four." For all this we express to you our heartfelt thanks.

China and Mauritania are both developing countries belonging to the third world. Our two peoples have forged a profound friendship in our long common struggle.

We will always remember the two cordial and friendly meetings between the Chinese people's great leader and teacher Chairman Mao Tsetung and His Excellency President Daddah. It is under their personal care that the deep friendship between our two countries has been fostered. The cordial talks between Premier Chou En-lai and His Excellency the President also contributed significantly to developing the friendly relations and co-operation between our

two countries. The friendship between our two peoples is based on our common struggle against imperialism, colonialism and hegemonism and has developed on the basis of the Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence; it is full of vitality and can stand the test of time. We will, as always, firmly implement Chairman Mao's proletarian revolutionary line and policies in the field of foreign affairs. We firmly believe that, under the personal care of Chairman Hua Kuo-feng and President Daddah and through the joint efforts of our two governments and peoples, the friendly relations and co-operation between China and Mauritania will continue to grow in strength and develop.

President Daddah's Speech

(Excerpts)

THIS visit — the third one we have the privilege to pay to China in a decade — clearly testifies to our shared and unflinching desire to develop and raise to the highest level the friendly relations binding our two countries and peoples.

But allow me also to tell you, right away, of the intense emotion that seized us when coming to China for the first time after the demise of Chairman Mao Tsetung and Premier Chou En-lai.

The death of the Father of the Great Chinese Revolution, a revolution that has given to the world a new sense so rich in the dignity and greatness of the people, and that of his illustrious comrade-in-arms are deeply felt by us with a grief all the more real and sharp because barely two and half years ago they received us, as if specially to leave with us, in the evening of their lives, the most touching of testaments: their generous friendship for our country based on their unshakable commitment to the causes of those peoples who are fighting for justice, peace and progress.

But the exemplary courage and determination shown by the Chinese people under the leadership of Mr. Chairman Hua Kuo-feng, great comrade-in-arms of Chairman Mao Tsetung, in succeeding him and carrying on his gigantic work alleviate our common grief, and it is with admiration and respect that we see how you have met the tremendous challenges that recently confronted your country.

Indeed, whether on the occasion of the terrible earthquake which you have just experienced or in the face of the drought which has hit vast areas of your great country, we are happy to note how your people are a mature people, who, just emerging from their immense sorrow, clearly and warmly responded to the appeal Mr. Chairman Hua Kuo-feng made on the day of the passing of Chairman Mao Tsetung: turn sorrow into invincible strength in their march towards new heights. And to be sure, what force is there like that inspired by the teachings of Chairman Mao Tsetung, which turned this land of China, formerly backward and seemingly condemned by history, into an

increasingly united and prosperous nation, a proud and strong nation, yet wholly committed to the ideal of peace, thus contributing in a decisive way to the liberation of the third world and the awakening of the world.

It was thus natural that our views fully agree in affirming and supporting the just causes, and above all in insisting that the dignity of peoples and of men be restored in its fullness wherever they are still down-trodden, as in the case of the peoples of Zimbabwe, Namibia and South Africa, who are fighting against the anachronistic systems of domination of the white minority racists, who have deprived them of their human and national rights, as in the case of the Arab people of Palestine who, mobilized in the P.L.O., are fighting for the restoration of their inalienable national rights, as in the case of other Arab countries in the Middle East, which are fighting for the recovery of their territories occupied by the Zionists — to cite only the last hide-outs of colonialism and racism which remain on the African continent and the Arab world to which our country also belongs — two worlds whose co-operation, already undertaken and strengthened, at the recent Cairo conference constitutes, after all, an essential link in the liberation of the third world.

It is precisely the consolidation of this Arab-African solidarity of destiny that primary importance is attached to by our country, which has full confidence in African unity and Arab unity.

The vital necessity of unity becomes daily more evident in the course of the long and difficult struggle to perfect political liberation and create conditions for our peoples' economic, social and cultural development.

If today Africa or the Arab world sometimes shows the saddening sight that some internal sub-imperialists stir up artificial conflicts here or there as if coming to the aid of colonialism and racism, we would remain no less confident of the irresistibility of the cause of unity which evidently presupposes mutual respect and common will to build a durable solidarity.

Such is the meaning of our efforts to promote the establishment of sub-regional and re-

gional economic groups. Thus in Africa our country, which is a founding member of the O.A.U., is also a founding member of the Organization for the Exploitation of the Senegal River, the Economic Community of West Africa, the Economic Community of the West African Nations and the International Commission Against Sahel Drought. In the Arab world, we are members of the Maghreb Permanent Consultative Committee, the Arab League and other inter-Arab organizations.

As the natural extension of the Arab-African bloc, the Islamic Conference and the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries are, in addition to the U.N., our other centres of activity on the international arena where we intend to endeavour, together with all countries that love justice, peace and progress, for the advent of a new world order which manifests the aspirations of all peoples.

Such is the meaning of the options of our people, their Party and Government which, with the complete reunification of our motherland, will work with faith and resolution to build ever more decent conditions of life, in spite of the heavy constraints caused by underdevelopment and the hardships imposed on us from outside. To do this, we are fully aware that there is still a long way to go, but we also know that, above all, so long as we increasingly rely on our own strength, we will certainly surmount all the difficulties.

In this regard, your country sets a magnificent example.

But you not only furnish us with this example. You also furnish us, and we shall measure the exemplary sacrifice you make for us — you furnish us, I say, with an aid and assistance especially precious in many different fields of our country's construction — the main fields, I may cite, are: agriculture, infrastructures, rural and urban hydraulic engineering, energy, industry, health, culture, etc., the exceptional quality of achievement can be matched only by the devotion of the personnel that your Government has placed at our disposition.

What an immense capital of trust and what truly generous bases for the pursuance and development of Sino-Mauritanian co-operation!

Vice-Premier Li Hsien-nien's Speech

(Excerpts)

FIRST of all, let us express our warm welcome to Mrs. Thatcher and the other British guests. The Chinese and British peoples are friendly to each other. Many of our British friends have been to China; among them is Mr. Edward Heath, whom Chairman Mao met twice. We remember his contribution to the development of Sino-British relations. Mrs. Thatcher is our new friend. We are very glad to have a chance of exchanging views with her on questions of common concern, which, we think, will be useful.

The present international situation has a distinctive characteristic. To put it in a nutshell, we say, there is great disorder under heaven, and the situation is excellent. There has been no "detente" in the world since the Helsinki conference, far from it. The struggle between the two superpowers for global hegemony has intensified; all the basic contradictions in the world are sharpening; and the factors for war are on the increase. It is precisely those people who keep talking about "the irreversible process of detente" that are sharpening their swords on the sly, stepping up their arms expansion and war preparations. "We must not accept words or gestures as a substitute for genuine detente," as Mrs. Thatcher has well said. History proves that so-called conferences on peace, co-operation or disarmament and reams of treaties, conventions and agreements create illusions of security instead of bringing peace, and that appeasement and concessions will not satisfy the greed of aggressors but in the end will only bring grief upon oneself. The people want peace. But if aggressors insist on fighting a war, you have no alternative but to prepare for war. Is constant fear of war of any help if it comes? Countries want independence, nations want liberation, and the people want revolution—we firmly believe that this has become the irresistible trend of history. Going against this trend, the expan-

sionists poke their hands into all parts of the world, demanding a yard after getting an inch. This bears the seed of defeat, for they are only courting their own destruction.

1976 was far from an ordinary year in the history of the People's Republic of China. The Wang-Chang-Chiang-Yao "gang of four," taking advantage of our great leader Chairman Mao's grave illness and his subsequent passing, more frenziedly stepped up its conspiratorial activities to usurp supreme Party and state leadership. Acting on Chairman Mao's behests, the Party Central Committee headed by Chairman Hua Kuo-feng smashed at one blow the counter-revolutionary scheme of the "gang of four," thus saving the Party and the revolution and ensuring the continued victorious advance of our proletarian revolutionary cause pioneered by Chairman Mao and other veteran revolutionaries. The history of the past half century has proved that the great banner of Chairman Mao Tsetung is our people's banner of unity, struggle and victory; it is our heirloom. We will pass on the great banner of Chairman Mao from generation to generation. China's foreign policies, including those towards Western Europe, were formulated by Chairman Mao personally. We support the West European people's cause of unity against hegemonism. We wish you greater strength and closer unity. Relations between China and the West European countries have made gratifying progress in recent years. This is in the interests of the Chinese people, the people of the West European countries and the people of the whole world. In future, we will continue to implement unswervingly our line and policies in the field of foreign affairs, which Chairman Mao formulated.

Thanks to the leadership of the Party Central Committee headed by our wise leader Chair-

man Hua, the situation in our country is now excellent and getting even better every day. We still face some difficulties resulting from the sabotage of the "gang of four" and serious natural disasters, but they are temporary difficulties that we are fully capable of overcoming. We believe that Mrs. Thatcher, in the course of her visit, will see the great socialist enthusiasm of

the Chinese people that has burst forth after the overthrow of the "gang of four." She will see their high spirits, morale and confidence in redoubling their efforts to make up for the time lost through the sabotage of the "gang of four." She will see that the Chinese people are advancing victoriously towards attaining their strategic goal of great order across the land.

Mrs. Thatcher's Speech

(Excerpts)

WE in Britain have always been an outward-looking people, with a strong enthusiasm for travelling across the seas and for studying the ways and achievements of other countries and civilizations. China has always exercised a particular fascination which I have long felt myself in reading of your history and studying your art. I have heard much of your achievements under the leadership of Chairman Mao Tsetung and of the great work done by Premier Chou En-lai. For me, therefore, it is a great personal pleasure to be visiting China for the first time.

But, of course, there is now an added reason why anyone actively preparing to take part in the government of Britain should welcome an opportunity to come to China. For China, by her vast population and growing power, has established herself as a great force, not simply in Asia, but in the general balance of world affairs. I am therefore very glad indeed to have the opportunity of meeting the leaders of the Chinese Government. However much one studies despatches, learned reports, or even newspaper articles, they cannot be a substitute for personal acquaintance and conversation face to face.

It goes without saying that our two countries have very different political and social systems derived from our different histories. We in Britain believe strongly in our traditional parliamentary democracy, and in an economic system which has brought prosperity to our people.

We do not seek to impose our ideas on others, but we are always eager to discuss and defend them in public and in private. As Chairman Hua Kuo-feng said last year, "The people are the makers of history." In the end it is the people who choose.

Our differences should not prevent us from co-operating in many fields with the People's Republic of China. We share many interests and we both stand to gain by the creation of better understanding.

I was very glad to be a member of the Conservative government which, under the leadership of Mr. Edward Heath, restored full diplomatic relations at ambassadorial level between Britain and China. By this act the British and Chinese Governments started a new chapter in the relations between our countries.

It is already clear from the conversations which I have had in Peking that our analysis of the world is in some respects close to yours.

We believe like you that we live in an unsettled and dangerous world. International peace cannot be taken for granted. On the contrary, the maintenance of peace requires constant effort. History is full of examples of nations which have relaxed their efforts in the belief that they will never be threatened. They have not realized until it is too late that it is precisely this relaxation of effort which brings the threat upon them.

That is why I oppose unilateral cuts in defence spending. Far from advancing the cause of peace, such cuts simply increase the chance of conflict. In my view it is vital that the countries of the Western alliance should continue their vigilance, and accept that they will need to maintain a powerful collective defence for the foreseeable future. At the heart of this defence is of course the close relationship between Europe and the United States.

The countries of Western Europe cannot expect the United States to carry the whole responsibility for this political and defence effort. We in Europe have a responsibility which we must not shirk. That is why I have always supported the coming together of the principal nations of Western Europe in the European community.

I have never seen the European community as solely economic in purpose. Indeed there is a real danger that it will allow itself to be bogged down in a mass of detail, and lose sight of its main task. I have seen the community primarily as a means by which the countries of Western Europe can speak with increasing authority to the outside world. I see this as one of the main tasks for European leaders in the next few years.

Of course, there are differences of emphasis between the existing national policies of West European governments. But seen from China, indeed seen from anywhere outside Europe, these differences of emphasis look insignificant

compared with the overriding need for a clearer and stronger European voice in world affairs.

In no sphere is this more important than in our dealings with the Soviet Union and with her allies in Eastern Europe.

It is entirely natural that the countries of Western Europe should feel anxiety when faced with the massive build-up of Soviet military strength near our borders.

It is entirely natural that we should seek to influence Soviet policy and to impress on Soviet leaders our determination to protect our freedom. We can do this most effectively if we come together as European nations, for example at the forthcoming Belgrade conference, for example in concerting our attitude to talks on strategic arms limitation between the United States and the Soviet Union.

I do not say this because I believe that we should be in any way provocative towards the Soviet Union or anyone else. We do not seek a confrontation. We must certainly work towards disarmament through agreements which, because they are properly balanced, do not put at risk the security of any of the signatories.

Of course we wish to have reasonable day to day relationships with the Soviet Union and her friends. But we do not believe that simply because the language of detente is fashionable through the world, we can afford to neglect the realities of power or the lessons of history.

(Continued from p. 10.)

every place, department and unit must implement in an all-round way Chairman Hua's strategic policy decision on grasping the key link in running the country well.

At present, the people's war of exposing and criticizing the "gang of four" is advancing triumphantly and stimulating and improving work on all fronts. The departments of the national economy are being gradually brought back to the course of sound development in the wake of the struggle to expose and criticize the gang. A new situation of leap forward is tak-

ing shape. The general trend and the feelings of the people are to raise high the great red banner of Mao Tsetung Thought, grasp the key link in running the country well and attain great order across the land. The whole Party, the whole army and the people of all nationalities throughout the country should rally closely round the Party Central Committee headed by Chairman Hua, make joint efforts and work energetically to implement this strategic policy decision in an all-round way and strive for initial success this year and great success in three years.

("Renmin Ribao" editorial, April 11)

these profound changes the great Kampuchean people's revolution had brought to a country where a small peasant economy predominated not long ago.

Adhering to the policy of taking agriculture as the foundation and the principle of independence and self-reliance, the Kampuchean Government and people have, in the main, achieved self-sufficiency in food grain after working strenuously for a little over a year. This is a wonderful achievement!

Thriving Industry

On the industrial front, many factories serving agricultural production and the needs of the people have been restored and are developing.

We visited the No. 6 Machinery Plant, a threshing-machine plant, a cement works and a farm tool repair plant in Phnom Penh. A common feature of these small factories is that their products directly serve agricultural production and help its restoration and development. The machines produced are welcomed by the peas-



Producing pumps for farmland.



Applying fertilizer to paddyfields.

ants because they reduce labour intensity and increase efficiency.

In order to become acquainted with the restoration and development of industry since the nationwide liberation, we interviewed Cheng An, a veteran guerrilla, now Chairman of the Industrial Committee. "Before liberation," he said, "Kampuchea was a semi-feudal and semi-colonial country with an industrial foundation so weak that it was dependent on foreign countries for almost any manufactured goods. Most of the negligible industry was destroyed by the traitorous Lon Nol clique during the war. Once the people became masters of the country, they took the initiative into their own hands." "The revolutionary organization," he added, "has laid down the policy which stresses taking agriculture as the foundation to promote the development of industry. It puts emphasis on the development of light industry to meet the people's daily needs, promote the development of agricultural production and, in this way, gradually accumulate funds for the development of heavy industry. It is in accordance with this policy that we have actively restored and developed industrial production. Meanwhile, we have paid particular attention to developing the small and medium-sized industrial enterprises which are within our reach."

Guided by this policy, Kampuchea's industry has truly undergone a rapid restoration and development. By mid-December last year, nearly 200 factories and workshops in the country were back in production. Among them were those vital to the development of the national economy and improvement of the people's

livelihood, such as the textile, power and tyre factories in Phnom Penh, the Battambang hempen sack factory and the Kbal Thnal machine-building plant. All these restored factories have made outstanding achievements.

A new generation of Kampuchean workers has been rapidly trained through the restoration and development of national industry. Most of them were in the revolutionary army, and all are loyal to the revolution, working conscientiously and earnestly and improving their skills constantly. In a threshing-machine factory, we saw a number of women operating the machines. Ex-women soldiers who had arrived in Phnom Penh with other troops, they are now the main force of the workers in the factory. We saw some young workers in the No. 6 Machinery Plant working at furnaces and machines. In wartime, they braved enemy fire to bring ammunition and other supplies to the front; now they man machines in the interest of the revolution.

In the fields of culture, education and public health, the Kampuchean people are blazing a new trail; the people who now decide everything are doing away with the rubbish of imperialism, capitalism and feudalism. A nationwide anti-illiteracy drive is in full swing. Medical service is now available to the workers, peasants and

soldiers. Every agricultural co-operative has its own doctors. The campaign to prevent and treat malaria and other epidemic diseases is a big success. Culture and art also have taken on a new look.

In our contacts with the Kampuchean people, we were moved by their revolutionary spirit of loyalty to the revolution, self-reliance, working hard and defying hardships. We were impressed by their heroic deeds in defending and building their fatherland. The cadres are closely linked with the masses, sharing weal and woe and working side by side with them; neglecting sleep and meals, the masses are striving day and night to transform nature. It is precisely these ordinary people who have brought about the epoch-making changes in Kampuchea and written a new page in its history.

We visited Angkor Wat which is one of the prides of the Kampuchean national culture and a symbol of the ancient Kampuchean working people's wisdom and creativeness. However, the great significance of the glorious deeds accomplished by the great Kampuchean people in their national-liberation war and in their struggle to defend and build their fatherland far exceeds that of the Angkor Wat era.

What Does the Failure of Moscow Talks Signify?

U.S. Secretary of State Cyrus Vance was "disappointed" by the result of his talks in Moscow with Brezhnev and Gromyko to break the SALT II deadlock. At the same time, his hosts were furious.

A foreign newsman noted that Soviet-U.S. "relations are worse than at any time in recent years," as a result of the failure of the Moscow talks.

Within hours after Vance's departure from the Soviet capital, Gromyko started attacking

him behind his back. At his unusual press conference on March 31, he "pounded a table in anger at times." In Washington, Zbigniew Brzezinski, Carter's assistant for national security affairs, counterattacked, accusing the Soviet Foreign Minister of rudeness.

The Soviet-U.S. quarrel did not stop here. On the day of the failure of the talks, President Carter got across a message that if he felt that "the Soviets are not acting in good faith with us. . . , then I would be forced to consider a

much deeper commitment to the development and deployment of additional weapons."

An AP Washington dispatch said senior Pentagon officials believed that "the Kremlin's move could improve the controversial B-1 bomber's chances of winning President Carter's approval for continued production."

To this, Gromyko replied in no uncertain terms, "clearly, we shall not depart from the principle of equality also in this regard."

An article in the U.S. *Christian Science Monitor* of March 31 wondered if "a new round in the nuclear arms race is about to begin." West German press opinion pointed out that "at least it entails the danger of accelerating the arms race."

It is now eight years since the Soviet-U.S. strategic arms limitation talks started in 1969. In 1972 both sides signed in Moscow an interim agreement providing that the number of strategic missiles which both countries then possessed and were manufacturing would be frozen for five years. In 1974 again both sides reached a verbal accord at Vladivostok (Haishenwei), under which each had a ceiling of 2,400 strategic delivery vehicles.

In the early 60s, the Soviet Union lagged far behind the United States in both quantity and quality of nuclear armaments. At that time Khrushchov shipped Soviet missiles into Cuba in an unsuccessful attempt to use nuclear blackmail against the United States; crestfallen, he was forced to withdraw them at once. Thereafter, the Kremlin, taking advantage of the situation in which the United States suffered a disastrous defeat in the war of aggression in Viet Nam and was beset with difficulties at home and abroad, spared no expense to catch up as soon as possible by accelerating development of nuclear missiles in contending with the United States for world hegemony.

Throughout the first stage of the SALT (between November 1969 and May 1972), the Kremlin strove unrelentingly to expand its nuclear arsenal with a view to overtaking the United States in the quantity of strategic arms.

The number of Soviet strategic nuclear missiles shot up from 1,210 in 1969 to 2,087 in 1972.

In the second stage (between November 1972 and now), the Kremlin, bent on surpassing the United States in quality and technology, spurred on research and development of a new generation of ICBMs.

The eight years of Soviet-U.S. strategic arms limitation talks show that neither talks nor agreements can restrict the arms race between the two superpowers. Both sides have been working overtime to multiply strategic offensive weapons, quantitatively and qualitatively.

Carter has had to admit: "The Soviet Union and the United States have accumulated thousands of nuclear weapons. Our two nations have almost five times as many missile warheads today as we had eight years ago.... The arms race has only increased the danger of conflict."

Brezhnev also has declared that "the further development of detente is threatened by the continuing and even intensified arms race." He has even admitted that he is "sitting on mountains of arms." As the Soviet paper *Izvestia* once wrote, "The progress of negotiations has lagged behind the pace of the emergence of new weapons."

Although the two superpowers, the Soviet Union and the United States, are talking glibly about so-called "limiting strategic arms" and "maintaining nuclear power equilibrium," each is focusing attention on how it can outdo the other in the development of strategic arms and retain or attain its nuclear superiority. Unevenness is a law of the development of imperialism. Historically, a late arriving imperialist country always tries to catch up with its rival in order to scramble for hegemony. First, it tries to turn its inferiority into parity with its rival. After that, it takes a step further to attain superiority so as to overwhelm its rival. This is what Soviet social-imperialism has done in the last decade or so. A new round in the Soviet-U.S. nuclear disarmament talks, therefore, means nothing more than a new nuclear arms race between them.

Report From Birmingham

Rapid Progress in World Table Tennis

The 34th World Table Tennis Championships — the game's grand biennial world event — were held in Birmingham from March 26 to April 5. Following is an on-the-spot report from a Hsinhua correspondent. — Ed.

THE 34th World Table Tennis Championships were another grand gathering of table tennis players from the five continents. Through competition and contacts, they contributed to the development of the sport and the promotion of mutual understanding and friendship.

A record number of over 600 players from 62 countries and regions took part in the Birmingham championships. This in itself proves that world table tennis is advancing. The last two years saw a rapid and general improvement of the level of play. Many weak teams became strong while strong teams reached a higher level. Top-notch players from some Asian and European countries further raised their standard of play while up-and-coming players from some Asian, African and Latin American countries were developing swiftly.

Notable progress was made by Asian players. At the 34th championships, they captured the top four placings in the women's team event, the men's singles, the women's singles and the women's doubles as well as the first two placings in the men's team event and the men's doubles. The Japanese men's team gave a good account of itself and defeated all its European rivals in the team event. Mitsuru Kono won the men's singles title by eliminating a number of famous players. Some European stars like Jonyer, Surbek, Secretin and Bengtsson also greatly improved their skills in the last two years. The women's teams of Asia maintained their relative superiority, but the Eu-

ropean teams were catching up and many of them defeated their Asian opponents.

Both Asian and European players strove to take the initiative. They gave full play to their specialities while striving to develop all-round skill. All methods of play were more fully developed and in an all-round way.

The general improvement in table tennis skill resulted in more thrilling contests at the championships. Many individual event matches were decided after the maximum five games.

It is worth noting that the gaps in skill between teams in the A, B and C categories are narrowing. B teams all made new headway. Even greater progress was shown by teams of the third world countries. Adhering to the principle "friendship first, competition second," they greatly strengthened friendship and unity among the people and table tennis players of the third world countries and promoted the popularization and improvement of table tennis skill through mutual visits and invitational tournaments in Lagos, Mexico City and Pyongyang in the last two years.

A large number of young and rising players showed great promise at the championships and their challenges spurred older players to greater efforts. A number of contestants aged 12-15 took part in the world championships for the first time. Twelve-year-old Sonja Grefberg of Finland defeated players from Malaysia, Malta and Belgium in the preliminary qualifying series before entering the competition proper in the women's singles. Ursula Hirschmuller of West Germany fought her way to the quarter-finals after eliminating stars like Judit Magos of Hungary, Pak Yong Ok of the Democratic Peo-

ple's Republic of Korea and Ilona Uhlikova of Czechoslovakia.

Eleven of the 20 Chinese players took part in the world championships for the first time. Kuo Yueh-hua, Huang Liang, Chang Teh-ying, Yang Ying and Wei Li-chieh finished among the best four in the individual events. Li Yu-hsiang and Wang Chien-chiang also chalked up good results.

The Chinese players were widely acclaimed because they not only showed a new high level of skill but also reflected the new mental outlook of Chinese athletes after the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China headed by Chairman Hua smashed the "gang of four" anti-Party clique. Strictly adhering to the principle "friendship first, competition second," they learnt earnestly from players of other countries and displayed the fine sportsmanship of the players of New China. They were not overawed by strong opponents and remained dauntless and steady. In several key matches, when they trailed 0:2 and would be eliminated if they lost another game, they came from behind to win three games in a row to take the



The men's team of the Chinese Table Tennis Delegation. Both the Chinese men's and women's teams won the team event titles.

matches. In their encounter with Istvan Jonyer/Tibor Klampar of Hungary in the men's doubles event, Huang Liang and Lu Yuan-sheng were on the point of losing in the deciding game when they trailed 11:20. But after winning nine points in succession they went on to win the match. This was the day's big news. The leader of the Malaysian team said the Chinese had a new outlook after the "gang of four" was smashed.

During the days of competition, players from the five continents had joint practice sessions, exchanged skills and visited one another. They forged a profound friendship. Winning or losing is temporary, but the friendship formed through competition will last for ever. Though the 34th World Table Tennis Championships was over, the close contacts made by the players of various countries and regions left an unforgettable impression on everyone. When the time to part came, the players reluctantly bid each other farewell and expressed the hope of seeing each other again at the 35th world championships in Pyongyang in 1979.



Pak Yung Sun (D.P.R.K., second from left), winner of the women's singles title; Chang Li (China, first from left), runner-up; and Ko Hsin-ai and Chang Teh-ying (China, first and second from right), placed third.

A Serious Struggle in Scientific and Technical Circles

by the theoretical group of the
Chinese Academy of Sciences

CHINA'S scientific and technical circles underwent a soul-stirring struggle in 1976. This struggle was not just a contention over the line, principles and policies to be followed in the scientific and technical field, but it involved a serious move by the "gang of four" to usurp Party and state power.

Chairman Mao himself had laid down for our Party a Marxist-Leninist line in scientific and technical work as well as the relevant principles and policies. And Premier Chou had given a series of important instructions concerning this work. After the convocation of the Fourth National People's Congress in January 1975, Comrade Hua Kuo-feng took charge of the country's scientific and technical work. He and other leading comrades of the central organs resolutely implemented Chairman Mao's line in this work and urged the leading cadres in the scientific and technical departments to strive to gain a clear understanding of the specific line, principles and policies laid down by Chairman Mao for their work.

Meanwhile, they pointed out that things at the Chinese Academy of Sciences had to be straightened out, so that bourgeois factionalism would be eliminated, the Party's various policies implemented and all positive factors brought into play to contribute to realizing the modernization of agriculture, industry, national defence and science and technology in China. Precisely because of this, the "gang of four," who had long been scheming to usurp the supreme leadership of the Party and state, did everything possible to meddle in scientific and technical circles and tried to open up a breach there for them to oppose Chairman Mao, Premier Chou and Comrade Hua Kuo-feng.

Premier Chou passed away in January 1976. Taking this as their long-awaited opportunity, the "gang of four" stepped up their activities in usurping Party and state power and launched rabid attacks in the scientific and technical field.

Creating Confusion

The gang chose a meeting called by the State Council in 1975 as the target of their attack. It was attended by Comrade Hua Kuo-feng and other central leading comrades who issued many important directives after hearing reports on the work of the Chinese Academy of Sciences.

Early in 1976, the "gang of four" directed their trusted follower in Tsinghua University to plot with another follower in the Chinese Academy of Sciences. Together they studied "plans for action" which were aimed at throwing a large number of central leading comrades out of office in a planned way and step by step. At their bosses' bidding, they stealthily passed on the minutes of the meeting to the gang's henchmen in Shanghai and asked them to reprint them in large quantities and distribute copies to the grass-roots units as material for "criticism."

Using such tricks as putting Chang's hat on Li's head, as the Chinese saying goes, and quoting out of context, the two above-mentioned followers of the "gang of four" compiled anti-Party material consisting of excerpts of what they called statements advocating "reversing the correct verdicts." Included in this material which did not give the sources were many of the instructions of central leading comrades and a dozen of Chairman Mao's directives as well. In refuting the "gang of four's" slander that intellectuals "without

exception are working to dig up the foundation of socialism" and they "constitute the social basis of the capitalist-roaders," Chairman Mao in July 1975 pointed out that intellectuals with shortcomings should be given more help and conditions should be created for them to devote themselves to work. The gang's followers, however, vilified this and other directives of Chairman Mao's as "opposing the socialist revolution in the superstructure and strangling socialist new things" and "reversing the correct verdicts on the revisionist line in scientific research." They even went so far as to brand these directives as rumours and call on others to criticize them.

In addition, the instructions of central leading comrades encouraging scientific and technical personnel to delve into their studies for the revolution and stressing the need of rules and regulations to ensure the quality of products were slandered as "reversing the correct appraisals of the Great Cultural Revolution and settling accounts with it." Remarks by central leading comrades criticizing those who practised bourgeois factionalism, created splits and engaged in intrigues and conspiracies were smeared as "hitting at the newborn force of the revolution."

That follower in the Chinese Academy of Sciences also appropriated the power he had usurped to reprint this material in large quantities and distributed copies to various provinces, municipalities and autonomous regions as well as departments under the State Council in a vain attempt to create confusion throughout the country.

What the "gang of four" had done was firmly opposed by the cadres and masses in the scientific and technical field. There was a general lack of interest at the so-called criticism meetings sponsored by the "gang of four" and their follower. This well illustrated the cadres' and masses' opposition to this adverse current against the Party.

A Poisonous Arrow

It was at this time that Yao Wen-yuan took the field himself and launched a counter-revolutionary offensive to prepare opinion in scientific and technical circles for the gang to usurp Party and state power.

With Yao Wen-yuan giving the tips and doing the polishing work himself, *Hongqi* soon published an article in which right and wrong were turned upside down and charges were framed against central leading comrades. This article was a poisonous arrow shot at the Party Central Committee by the "gang of four."

Yao Wen-yuan made a special point of giving the article's writers the minutes of the meeting, which was called by the State Council to discuss scientific and technical work, to be used as a target of criticism. While polishing it, he added this passage: "The scientific and technical positions have long been an exclusive domain of the exploiting classes, and bourgeois prejudice and traditional forces are deeply rooted there, no less than in educational circles. In the 17 years prior to the start of the Great Cultural Revolution, Liu Shao-chi and company pushed a revisionist line in scientific and technical circles. As is the case in other fields, many scientific research units are dominated by bourgeois intellectuals."

This amounted to an open attack on Premier Chou. During the Cultural Revolution, Premier Chou again and again severely criticized the reactionary trend of thought of "negating all and overthrowing all" whipped up by the Lin Biao anti-Party clique and the "gang of four," and explicitly pointed out that despite the interference and sabotage by Liu Shao-chi's revisionist line, scientific and technical circles had gone through 17 years of struggles and by and large had kept to the general orientation of advancing along the revolutionary line represented by Chairman Mao. But the "gang of four" flagrantly threw Premier Chou's correct conclusion overboard, in a vain attempt to distort history and attain their aim of negating Chairman Mao's revolutionary line.

The gang's follower in Tsinghua University insisted that the writers add a part devoted to the question of mass movements. Why did this gang of scoundrels who paid no heed to the masses at all and all along had sabotaged revolutionary mass movements choose to talk glibly about this question? The background is that at the time Comrade Hua Kuo-feng warmly supported the mass movement to carry out scientific experiments, while criticizing the fallacy that totally negated the role of the professional

scientific and technical workers. But this slanderous article openly said that attaching importance to professionals by "those who advocate the Right deviationist attempt to reverse correct verdicts" was nothing but a hoax. Obviously, their attack was directed at Comrade Hua Kuo-feng.

However, contrary to the "gang of four's" wishful thinking, the article was good material by negative example which served to arouse the revolutionary forces. Immediately after its publication, the masses in the Chinese Academy of Sciences rose in condemnation of such a frenzied anti-Party manoeuvre. Streamers appeared in some units challenging the writers to a debate. Flying into a rage, the "gang of four" and their follower ruthlessly cracked down on the revolutionary people, labelling some of them "counter-revolutionaries." Nevertheless, the revolutionary masses stood firm and continued their struggle against them.

Opposing the Principle of "Letting a Hundred Schools of Thought Contend"

In the summer of 1975, Comrade Hua Kuo-feng, acting in the spirit of Chairman Mao's directives, invited a number of scientific and technical personnel to a forum in order to carry out to the letter the principle of "letting a hundred schools of thought contend." During the discussions, he warmly encouraged the participants to give their opinions out of a sense of responsibility to the people, so as to push forward our country's scientific and technical work, and he listened attentively to their suggestions. The forum greatly aroused the socialist enthusiasm of scientific and technical workers. Immediately afterwards, some participants suggested stepping up scientific research and prospecting work on iron-rich ores. With deep feelings, many old scientists pledged to exert themselves and make contributions in their remaining years.

After Comrade Hua Kuo-feng became First Vice-Chairman of the Party Central Committee and Premier of the State Council in the spring of 1976, the "gang of four" intensified their activities to oppose him. They maligned the forum as "a meeting to pour out discontent and grievances against the Great Cultural Revolution and the dictatorship over the bourgeoisie" and attacked it for "smearing the excellent situation on the scientific and technical front."

They even went in for counter-revolutionary investigation by raising the question: "If revisionists rise to power, what shall we do on the scientific and technical front?"

Last-Ditch Struggle

The "gang of four" quickened the pace to usurp Party and state power when Chairman Mao was seriously ill and after his passing.

On the eve of the Tangshan earthquake last July, the gang and their follower wildly engaged in underhand activities to seize power in the State Seismological Bureau, to the extent of turning a deaf ear to forecasts by professional observatories and the masses' forecasting networks. After the occurrence of the earthquake, they sabotaged the anti-quake and relief work, describing the instructions by Comrade Hua Kuo-feng and other central leading comrades on strengthening seismological forecasting work as "overemphasizing the earthquake at the expense of the revolution" and "not taking class struggle as the key link." While slandering the appointment in 1975 by the central authorities of several leading cadres to work in the Chinese Academy of Sciences as setting "a precedent for the bourgeoisie to usurp the leadership of the academy since the start of the Great Cultural Revolution," they attacked and persecuted leading comrades in the academy by framing charges against them and turning things upside down.

Putting into practice Chiang Ching's reactionary theory that 75 per cent of the veteran cadres would inevitably turn from democrats into capitalist-roaders, the "gang of four" and their follower classified 70 per cent of the members of the academy's Party nucleus group as "the bourgeois inside the Party" and described the academy's Party organizations as "bourgeois in nature." Following this, they proceeded to reorganize the Party nucleus group and a sworn follower of the gang in fact proclaimed himself No. 1 in the academy. In addition, they recruited their hatchetmen into the Party and gave them important posts.

* * *

By pushing a counter-revolutionary revisionist line in the Chinese Academy of Sciences, the "gang of four" and their follower under-

mined the Party's leadership over scientific and technical work, dampened the revolutionary enthusiasm of scientists and technicians and disrupted our country's scientific research work.

Chairman Hua led the whole Party, the whole army and the people throughout the

country in smashing the "gang of four," thus saving the revolution and the country's scientific and technical work as well. Now that initial victories have been won in exposing and criticizing the gang, an excellent situation prevails in China's scientific and technical field.

A Factual Report

"Gang of Four's" Plots in the Movement to Criticize Lin Piao and Confucius

THE movement to criticize Lin Piao and Confucius initiated and led by Chairman Mao started at the beginning of 1974. It was a continuation and deepening of the Great Proletarian Cultural Revolution.

The movement aimed at deepening the criticism of Lin Piao's counter-revolutionary crimes and his revisionist line, dig out the ideological roots of this line and eliminate its pernicious influence, thoroughly clear up problems related to the Lin Piao anti-Party clique, raise the level of people's political consciousness, and consolidate and develop the achievements of the Great Cultural Revolution.

Flaunting the banner of criticizing Lin Piao and Confucius, the Wang-Chang-Chiang-Yao "gang of four" launched a frenzied attack on the Party after careful plotting. As it turned out, it was a big exposure of their ambition to usurp Party and state power.

Lin Piao and Confucius

Lin Piao was a bourgeois careerist who had long hidden in the Chinese Communist Party. After the Great Cultural Revolution started, he jumped out waving "red flags" to oppose the red flag, formed a coterie to pursue selfish interests and created confusion in his bid to usurp power. When Chairman Mao saw through their criminal activities, Lin Piao and his sworn followers risked all and launched an armed counter-revolutionary coup d'etat in an attempt

to set up a rival central committee. However, Lin Piao's conspiracy failed. On September 13, 1971, he secretly boarded a plane and, while fleeing as a defector to the Soviet revisionists, died in a crash at Undur Khan in the People's Republic of Mongolia.

Following this, the Party Central Committee called on the people throughout the country to conscientiously study Marxism-Leninism-Mao Tsetung Thought, unfold a nationwide movement to criticize Lin Piao and rectify the style of work, and carry out mass revolutionary criticism of Lin Piao and other political swindlers like him.

In August 1973, the Tenth National Congress of the Communist Party of China was convened. The congress issued the call to carry on the movement to criticize Lin Piao and rectify the style of work.

In the course of exposing and criticizing the Lin Piao anti-Party clique in a deep-going way, people found that the clique's reactionary activities and philosophical ideas had many aspects in common with Confucius who died more than 2,000 years ago.

Confucius (551-479 B.C.) lived at a time when tremendous social changes were taking place in China. It was a period of transition from slavery to the feudal system. Taking the stand of the slave-owning class which was on the point of total collapse, Confucius advocated

restoration of the old order and retrogression and opposed all new things which were then emerging as a result of social changes. Confucius advocated "Restrain oneself and return to the rites," which meant that people should restrain themselves in word and in deed so as to conform with the system of "rites" which had existed 500 years earlier. In this way, he attempted to turn the wheel of history back to the Western Chou Dynasty when slavery was at its height. To this end, he spent his lifetime running from place to place.

Following the founding and consolidation of the feudal system after Confucius' death, the feudal rulers began worshipping him, for his conservative ideas suited their needs. Confucius' teachings were made the orthodox doctrine of the feudal society and used by the feudal ruling class to benumb and deceive the working people and to buttress its own rule. From the Han Dynasty (206 B.C.-220 A.D.) on, feudal rulers of successive dynasties and all reactionary ruling classes as well as the chieftains of all opportunist lines in the Party have done the same.

Lin Piao, a political swindler of the 70s who wore the cloak of a Communist Party member, was a devout disciple of Confucius. He hung Confucius' maxim "Restrain oneself and return to the rites" above his bed, displayed it on his desk and scribbled it in his diaries. He noted: "Of all things, this is the most important." Thus Lin Piao exposed his intention to turn back the clock and restore capitalism.

"Three Arrows From One Bow"

The "gang of four" did not draw a lesson from Lin Piao's despicable end. In the movement to criticize Lin Piao and Confucius, members of this gang continued to engage in intrigues just as before when they collaborated with Lin Piao after the start of the Great Cultural Revolution.

Behind Chairman Mao's back, the "gang of four" convened two meetings in Peking on January 24 and 25, 1974. The meetings were professedly meant to promote the movement to criticize Lin Piao and Confucius, but what actually took place was an undisguised performance by the gang to usurp the Party

Central Committee's leadership over the movement. At the January 24 meeting, Chiang Ching directed her henchmen to slander and attack the People's Liberation Army and leading comrades of the Military Commission. At the next day's meeting, she regarded herself as the responsible member of the Party Central Committee in charge of the movement and arrogantly announced that she would "command the battle." Two henchmen of the gang, with Goebbels' fascist fanaticism, slanderously averred that the older generation of proletarian revolutionaries had "turned into their opposite" and become persons who "failed to keep up with the revolution." At the same meeting, they lavished praises on Chiang Ching. Seated beside her henchmen, Chiang Ching was unable to restrain her joy and cut in 33 times to interpose a comment or make a speech.

At these two meetings the "gang of four" made no real criticism of Lin Piao or Confucius, but were unsparing in their criticism of joining the army or entering colleges by the "back door." The Liberation Army enjoys high prestige and young people throughout the nation consider it a great honour to join up. Some parents helped their sons and daughters enlist in the army through private connections. Of course, this was wrong and should be corrected. But such practices as enabling one's sons or daughters to join the army or enter the universities through the "back door" are generally contradictions among the people and should be handled as such. The "gang of four," however, deliberately mixed up the two entirely different types of contradictions — those between ourselves and the enemy and those among the people — and tried to disrupt the movement to criticize Lin Piao and Confucius by adding a "third arrow" — criticism of going by the "back door." This was aimed at diverting people's attention. Members of the gang hastily polished up the recording of the speeches made at the January 25 meeting preparatory to sending them to the army units and to the people all over the country. Chairman Mao learnt of this in time and held up the tapes, pointing out that to bring in criticism of going by the "back door" would weaken the movement to criticize Lin Piao and Confucius. In sternly criticizing the "gang of four," Chair-

man Mao said: "Metaphysics, one-sidedness, is rampant."

Opposing Premier Chou

The "gang of four" seized upon the criticism of Lin Piao and Confucius as an opportunity to direct the spearhead of attack against Premier Chou En-lai, who had always been loyal to the revolutionary cause. They considered Premier Chou a great obstacle blocking their way to seizing Party and state power.

Early on the morning of January 25, 1974, Premier Chou received a letter from Chiang Ching. That afternoon, she and her cohorts forced him to hold a meeting and demanded that he consent to their proposal there and then. Before the meeting, which was in the nature of a surprise attack, Chiang Ching remarked gleefully, "Ha! Ha! I've got Premier Chou into a fix and he didn't know what to do."

After the two meetings, members of the gang gave reports in various places. Chiang Ching babbled that the movement's focal point was to "criticize Lin Piao, Confucius and the Duke of Chou," openly comparing Premier Chou with the Duke of Chou who set up the ritual of the Western Chou Dynasty in the 11th century B.C. Chiang Ching even called for criticism of the "big Confucianist of today." Fearing that people might not get her real meaning, her henchmen further explained in a vicious slander against Premier Chou: "This big Confucianist is neither Liu Shao-chi nor Lin Piao." At that time, many articles published in newspapers and periodicals under their control, which seemed to be criticizing Confucius, were actually attacking Premier Chou.

As early as in 1919 when the anti-imperialist and anti-feudal May 4th Movement took place, the slogan "Down with Confucius' shop" was raised. Comrade Chou En-lai who was very young at that time took an active part in the movement. The "gang of four's" attack on Premier Chou under the pretext of criticizing Confucius can in no way disparage the brilliant image of the Premier in the hearts of the Chinese people.

Attacking Revolutionary Leading Cadres

Scarcely had the movement to criticize Lin Piao and Confucius begun when the gang sent its cohorts and pawns to set up liaison centres

in various places in order to collect information and instigate people to expose the so-called "disciples and followers of Confucius." Their aim was to overthrow a large number of leading cadres at all levels in the Party, government and army and replace them with their own followers. They even placed themselves above the Party Central Committee and issued orders at will in those places and departments under their control, thereby creating great confusion among the people.

The "gang of four" also tried to take this opportunity to grab the leadership of the army. By writing letters and sending materials to some army units, boasting and bluffing, Chiang Ching tried to pile up political capital for herself among commanders and fighters of the People's Liberation Army whose support she needed in seizing army leadership. She slandered the army and said that it was not implementing Chairman Mao's revolutionary line and that some units were "unlucky" because they were under the control of "warlords." She tried to create confusion in the army, hoping to grab army leadership in the ensuing disorder.

* * *

Brushing aside the gang's interference during the movement, the revolutionary cadres and masses throughout the country firmly carried out the series of instructions from Chairman Mao and the Party Central Committee on the criticism of Lin Piao and Confucius, conscientiously studied works by Marx, Engels, Lenin and Stalin and Chairman Mao's works, adhered to the Party's basic line and raised their consciousness of continuing the revolution under the dictatorship of the proletariat. Just as the late Premier Chou said in his Report on the Work of the Government at the First Session of the Fourth National People's Congress on January 13, 1975: "Tempered in the Great Proletarian Cultural Revolution and the movement to criticize Lin Piao and Confucius, our people of all nationalities are more united and our army has grown stronger. Our great motherland is still more consolidated."

Committing all sorts of evil, the "gang of four" went further and further down the anti-Party road and exposed themselves before the Chinese people as conspirators and careerists trying to usurp the supreme leadership of the Party and state.

ROUND THE WORLD

AFRICAN COUNTRIES

Soviet Mercenaries' Invasion of Zaire Condemned

The Soviet mercenaries' invasion of Zaire has further exposed the social-imperialists' features as aggressors and expansionists. The leaders of some African countries wrote to President Mobutu or issued statements voicing solidarity and support for Zaire in counterattacking the aggression in defence of its territorial integrity. They stressed that African countries should strengthen their unity and defend the independence and liberation cause of Africa.

Referring to the invasion of Zaire's Shaba Region, Seewoosagur Ramgoolam, current Chairman of the Organization of African Unity and Prime Minister of Mauritius, on March 29 sent a letter to President Mobutu expressing full support and solidarity for Zaire on behalf of the O.A.U. and the Mauritian Government. The letter said: "The news of the violation of the territorial integrity of Zaire, a fraternal country and member of the Organization of African Unity, has aroused indignation not only among the member states of the O.A.U. but also among all the people who cherish peace and freedom."

The letter pointed out: "This aggression against the security of a state, an irresponsible act, threatens to entail extremely serious consequences to the security in this region of Africa."

In an interview with the French paper *Le Monde* on April 5, Egyptian President Sadat said that the Soviets were carrying out sinister manoeuvres everywhere in Africa.

He noted: "As to the civil war in Zaire, it is obviously not an internal affair, as one claims." "The Katangans possess improved Soviet tanks, notably the T-54 and T-55." He emphasized: "These tanks are not dropped from the skies."

At a press conference in Washington on April 6, Sadat said he had expressed his concern about the Soviet-Cuban role in Africa to U.S. officials, adding that he did not want to see what happened in Angola and Zaire repeat itself in other African countries.

Tunisian President Habib Bourguiba and Moroccan King Moulay Hassan II expressed their support to Zaire. A message from Chadian Head of State Felix Malloum to President Mobutu expressed indignation over the invasion of Zaire by foreign mercenaries and extended moral support to the country. In an interview with the Sudan News Agency on April 5, Sudanese Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Francis Deng said that the Sudan had been following with great concern the development of the Shaba incident in Zaire. He condemned the aggression against a fraternal African country, stressing that "the Sudan is deeply confident that all con-

spiracies against Africa will surely be frustrated in the end."

The first group of Royal Armed Forces of Morocco has arrived in Zaire to support that country's counterattack against the invasion of mercenaries, declared a communique issued by the Moroccan Ministry of Information on April 8. Morocco's dispatch of troops to Zaire is aimed at implementing the principle of the O.A.U. Charter of safeguarding Africa's independence and dignity, it added.

Many commentaries published in African newspapers emphasized the need to guard against letting the wolf in through the back door while repelling the tiger at the front gate.

An article in Kenya's *Sunday Nation* said: A new contention for Africa was in full swing and the wolf was already at the door. What has motivated the Kremlin to take the new adventurous actions in contending for power and exerting influence in Black Africa? This naturally is related to the world equilibrium of forces, to its scramble for greater power of control and final domination of the whole world. The African countries must maintain high vigilance so as not to unconsciously fall a prey to the other biggest imperialist power of the world after shaking off one form of colonialism.

PODGORNY'S AFRICAN TOUR

Moscow Steps Up Infiltration

N.V. Podgorny, President of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the U.S.S.R., visited

Tanzania, Zambia, Mozambique and Somalia from March 22 to April 3.

Leading a huge delegation of 120 members, Podgorny had talks with leaders of the four countries and met leaders of a number of national-liberation organizations in southern Africa. In addition, a 20-year treaty of "friendship and co-operation" was signed between the Soviet Union and Mozambique.

In a written statement on his African tour distributed to newsmen at the airport upon his arrival in Tanzania, Podgorny declared that his visit was to "strengthen co-operation with countries in Africa." He took pains to avow that "the Soviet Union does not seek concessions or military bases or some special privileges, neither in African countries nor anywhere else."

However, press comments in a number of third world countries pointed out that the timing of Podgorny's African tour indicated Kremlin's intention to step up infiltration and expansion in Africa and reflected further intensification of Soviet-U.S. rivalry in southern Africa.

The Nigerian *Sunday Standard* said that after the U.S.-proposed Zimbabwe Geneva conference had been deadlocked, "the Russians now see the chance of a counter-diplomatic move towards the solution of the southern African issue."

The Egyptian weekly *October* stressed: "It is logical that the Soviets attempt to fill the vacuum in Africa created by the withdrawal of the West" and "what is more important is the

fact that they should attempt to get warm-water bases."

The Malaysian paper *Kuang Hua Yit Pao* said: "The Soviet Union covets southern Africa with a view not only to seizing strategic materials but also to securing a strategic passageway to form a strategic posture of encircling Europe in a round-about way."

CASTRO'S MOSCOW VISIT

Co-ordinated Soviet-Cuban Action in Southern Africa

President Fidel Castro of the State Council of Cuba paid an "unofficial visit" to Moscow from April 4 to 8 after his recent tour of Algeria, Angola, Tanzania, Mozambique and Democratic Yemen, Somalia and Ethiopia in the Red Sea region. The timing and background of his Moscow visit have attracted people's attention.

In its April 5 commentary AFP said: "There was no doubt that the two African tours (by Podgorny and Castro) were the result of joint planning between Moscow and Havana, just as Cuba's decisive 1975 intervention in Angola was prepared by the Kremlin." It also pointed out that the Moscow talks were "probably aimed at co-ordinating Soviet-Cuban action in southern Africa" and "probably with regard to the horn of Africa."

One African newspaper held that the "Russians and Cubans should also be expected to try and expand northwards." The recent invasion of Zaire was a case in point. It is now clear that "Prime Minister Castro has turned Cubans into a nation of

Soviet hirelings delegated to all dirty work Russians should be doing."

Castro's African tour, in co-ordination with Podgorny's, was highly appreciated by the Kremlin. In his speech at a banquet honouring Castro on April 5, Brezhnev said: "We feel ever more directly that the work which we are doing jointly or in close interaction has become an important and inalienable part of our national efforts."

E.E.C.

Portugal's Application for Membership Accepted

Foreign ministers of the nine member states of the European Economic Community (E.E.C.), at a meeting in Luxembourg on April 5, formally accepted Portugal's application for admission to the community.

Portugal officially presented its application to the President of the Council of Ministers of the European Communities on March 28.

In the past few years, Portugal has formed a close relationship with the E.E.C. It signed a free trade agreement with the E.E.C. in July 1972 and the community has since become its major trading partner. In 1975, the Common Market supplied 40.2 per cent of its imports and took 50.2 per cent of its exports.

Prime Minister Soares visited the E.E.C. countries and institutions between February and March this year, where he discussed Portugal's entry into the community with the responsible members of the E.E.C. and leaders of its member states.

ON THE HOME FRONT

A New Record in Freight Train Loading

IN March, China set a new record over all previous corresponding periods in average daily freight train loadings; the state norm was outstripped by 1,600 waggons. Its daily coal loadings also made a record by topping the state target by 300 waggons.

Once handicapped by the "gang of four's" interference and sabotage, rail traffic is now operating smoothly and on time, with trains carrying more and running faster.

The national railway conference called by the State Council last February under the care of the Party Central Committee headed by Chairman Hua has spurred on the workers, cadres and technicians in railway departments. They are

determined to improve and expand railway transport that is a vanguard of the national economy, and contribute to bringing about great order throughout the country. While indignantly exposing and criticizing the "gang of four" for its crimes in sabotaging railway traffic, they are unfolding a socialist labour emulation campaign. With their enthusiasm for building socialism fully released, a rapid improvement is taking place in railway work.

Coal Production Plan For First Quarter Overfulfilled

THE quotas for the national coal production and tunnelling footage for the first quarter of this year have been overfulfilled.

Following a national conference on the coal industry in January, which stimulated the movement to learn from Taching in industry, a socialist labour emulation campaign has been launched in the mines throughout the country.

The advanced coal mines which had been cited at the conference deepened their exposure and criticism of the "gang of four" and made new achievements in production. In the Kailan Coal Mine, which had been seriously damaged by last year's earthquake, production went full steam ahead while reconstruction was under way. The mine's production plan for the first quarter has been topped. The Chihsi Coal Mine in northeast China's Heilungkiang Province hit an all-time high in

March in terms of daily and monthly output. As to those units which were severely sabotaged by the "gang of four," efforts have been made to catch up with the other mines. The Pingtingshan Coal Mine in Honan Province is a case in point. An upward turn in its coal production was brought about last November and it has overfulfilled its plan every month since December.

Artificial Diamonds Produced by a Small Plant

SINCE 1974 an artificial diamond plant in the Eastern District of Peking has been turning out products whose hardness surpasses the standard set by the state. Its annual output now accounts for about 10 per cent of the country's total.

The plant, set up by eight young workers in 1966, has developed gradually in the last decade thanks to the workers' efforts in learning from the Taching Oilfield and displaying the spirit of self-reliance and hard struggle. In its first year, with the help of scientific research institutes, it succeeded in trial-producing artificial diamonds. Output last year was 71 times that of 1970. The quality of its products, too, has improved annually, while production cost has been reduced considerably.

Last year it produced a batch of polycrystalline diamonds for making drill bits needed in oilfield construction. These were warmly welcomed by drilling workers who now can sink a well with only one such drill bit instead of eight carbide scraper drill bits.



Hsuchow Railway Station.