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— Chairman Hua Visits Iran

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Chairman Hua Returns To Peking

Chairman Hua Kuo-feng returned to Peking on September 5 after concluding his visit to Romania, Yugoslavia and Iran.

He was welcomed at the airport by Vice-Chairmen of the Central Committee of the Chinese Communist Party Yeh Chien-ying, Teng Hsiao-ping, Li Hsien-nien and Wang Tung-hsing, and other Party and state leaders. The welcomers congratulated Chairman Hua on the tremendous success of his visit which is of far-reaching significance to the common cause of the third world in opposing imperialism, colonialism and hegemonism.

Chairman Hua on September 1 returned to Urumchi, capital of the Sinkiang Uighur Autononomous Region.

During his short stay in Sinkiang, Chairman Hua made an inspection tour of the Shihhotzu area on the northern foothills of the Tienshan Mountains. Chairman Hua pointed out: Sinkiang is a vast region with great potentialities. The region suffered seriously at the hands of the “gang of four,” now we must transform this “devastated area” and enable it to make a swift turn for the better and achieve greater results than before. Chairman Hua gave instructions on how to improve economic management, carry out the principle of “to each according to his work” and speed up economic construction.

When Chairman Hua went to the Sardapan grasslands in the Tienshan Mountains region, herdsmen of Kazakh, Uighur, Hui and Han nationalities came on horseback in the rain to welcome him.

Chairman Hua said to them that efforts should be made to push Sinkiang’s economy forward and improve the people’s livelihood. He added that in addition to agriculture and stock-breeding which are the foundation, they should develop forestry and transform the desert. Chairman Hua urged the local cadres to work out concrete measures to bring about modernization in their respective counties and communes.

Chairman Hua visited an old herdsmen’s family in their felt tent. Sitting in a circle on the carpet, they chatted over their butter tea. He inquired in detail about the supply of grain, national costumes and other necessities, the publication of books in the languages of the minority nationalities, and the children’s education on the grasslands.

Signing of China-Japan Treaty Marked

Vice-Premier Teng Meets Japanese Friends. Vice-Premier Teng Hsiao-ping on September 3 met more than 50 Japanese friends who were visiting Peking. He joined them in acclaiming the signing of the China-Japan Treaty of Peace and Friendship.

Vice-Premier Teng said: Politically, the signing of the treaty has ushered in a long period of friendly relations between China and Japan. It will help deepen the friendship between the people of the two countries, promote the development of Sino-Japanese co-operation in the political, economic and cultural fields, increase the strength of China and Japan in opposing hegemonism and benefit the peace, security and stability of the Asia-Pacific region.

Happy Get-Together. On the evening of September 1, a reception was held in a festive mood in Peking’s Great Hall of the People to celebrate the signing of the treaty.

Among the 2,500 people who attended this gathering were Vice-Premier Keng Piao and 1,600 Japanese visitors from various circles, Japanese diplomats in China, representatives from Japanese people’s organizations as well as Japanese experts and correspondents.

On a table in the centre of the hall was a big glutinous rice cake brought by Japanese friends from Tokyo specially for the occasion. The cake weighed 250 kilogrammes and was 1.5 metres in diameter; around it were flowers and pine branches symbolizing the everlasting friendship between the two countries.

Food prepared in distinctive Chinese style was laid out buffet-style. On the tables were cakes which were frosted with a red Chinese character meaning “double happiness.” There was also steamed rice with red beans, also brought by a Japa-
brate the signing of the treaty; Alichio Fujiyama, Chairman of the Japan Association for the Promotion of International Trade.

Towards the end of the reception, Teng Ying-chao, Vice-Chairman of the N.P.C. Standing Committee and widow of the late Premier Chou, proposed a toast in which she said in a ringing voice: “Long live the friendship between China and Japan!”

The reception was jointly sponsored by 11 Chinese people’s organizations including the China-Japan Friendship Association, the Chinese People’s Association for Friendship With Foreign Countries, the China Council for the Promotion of International Trade, the All-China Federation of Trade Unions, the Preparatory Committee for the 10th National Congress of the Chinese Communist Youth League and the National Women’s Federation.

IN THE NEWS

- Vice-Premier Teng Hsiao-ping met on August 31 with the Thai National Legislative Assembly Delegation led by General Tawit Seniweng Na Ayuthaya, Member of the National Legislative Assembly and former Minister of Defence.

- Keng Piao, Member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China and Head of the International Liaison Department of the C.P.C. Central Committee, on August 28 met with a delegation of the Central Committee of the Revolutionary Communist Movement of Greece led by Christos Mpistis.

- Comrade Keng Piao met on August 31 with a delegation of the Central Committee of the Marxist-Leninist Communist Party of France led by General Secretary Jacques Jaurdet.

- Vice-Premier Keng Piao on August 31 met the Nepalese delegation to the China-Nepal Joint Boundary Inspection Committee headed by Bishwa Pradhan. Keng Piao said: The Sino-Nepalese boundary is a friendship boundary. Chief Representative Pradhan noted that the two countries enjoyed extremely good relations. That same day, an agreement on civil air transport between the Governments of China and Nepal was signed in Peking.

- Liao Cheng-chih, Vice-Chairman of the Standing Committee of the National People’s Congress, on August 30 met members of a former American youth delegation led by Joanne Grant. With more than 40 members, the delegation which came to China in 1957 was the first group of young Americans to break through the U.S. Government’s ban on travel to China. At that time, Premier Chou En-lai and Liao Cheng-chih had a meeting with them. The present delegation consists of some members of the former one. Liao Cheng-chih said: Now friendly relations are growing between the Chinese and American people, so are trade relations. We are confident that normalization of relations between China and the United States will ultimately be realized and that more and more American friends will come to visit China.
CHAIRMAN Hua's visit to Iran between August 29 and September 1 has brought the time-honoured friendship between China and Iran to a new stage of development. The visit was the first by China's top-ranking government leader since they established diplomatic relations in 1971.

A Complete Success. The visit has achieved important results.

- Chairman Hua and Shahanshah Pahlavi expressed satisfaction with the development of the relations between the two countries in recent years. The talks between the two leaders which covered an exchange of views on further developing these relations and on international issues of common concern have promoted better mutual understanding and friendly co-operation between the two governments.

- The two governments signed an agreement on cultural co-operation, laying down a good foundation for expansion of cultural exchange.

- Vice-Premier Chi Teng-kuei who accompanied Chairman Hua on the visit held talks
on the development of economic relations with three Iranian ministers in charge of economic affairs. Both sides agreed to expand trade and develop economic, scientific and technological co-operation, which will take a variety of forms, on the basis of equality and mutual benefit and mutual respect. They also agreed on the necessary measures to be taken. The two countries are expected soon to sign an agreement on scientific and technological co-operation.

The Iranian Government and people gave the Chinese visitors a ceremonious welcome.

The rituals of welcome were conducted at the airport upon Chairman Hua's arrival in Teheran. Accompanied by the Shahanshah, Chairman Hua left the airport in an open car for the Shahyad Monument. The three-kilometre-long road was lined by crowds waving the national flags of the two countries and bouquets of roses to welcome the Chinese guests. At the Shahyad Monument, the Mayor of Teheran, dressed in a bright-coloured robe, presented Chairman Hua with the golden key to the Iranian capital city and a huge silver plate to the resounding clapping of the well-wishers who thronged the area around the monument.

That evening, the Shahanshah gave a grand banquet.

Gifts were exchanged. From Chairman Hua to the Shahanshah was, among others, a gift of a yellow-glazed pottery one-humped camel with rolls of silk on its back. This is a seventh-century relic unearthed in Loyang in central China. Camels used to be a chief means of transport on the Silk Road linking ancient China with countries to its west. "This camel," Chairman Hua said to his host, "is a symbol of long-standing friendship between China and Iran."

Besides his talks with Shahanshah Pahlavi, Chairman Hua also met with the new Iranian Prime Minister Jaafar Sharif Emami.

**Basis of Friendship.** China and Iran have many things in common. Both are ancient countries which have made important contributions to the civilization of mankind. Both have suffered from imperialist oppression and aggression in modern times. Today, as developing countries in the third world, both are in urgent need of a prolonged peaceful international environment to carry on national construction and improve the people's living standards. These common goals furnish a
broad basis on which to develop further still the friendly co-operation between the two countries.

At present, West Asia finds itself seriously menaced by forces of aggression from the outside. The consolidation of Iran's independence and security is of great significance to the preservation of peace in and around the Indian Ocean and to the fight against the superpower contention there. The Iranian Government has in recent years strengthened its ties of unity with the other third world countries and improved its relations with the Gulf countries, and it plays an important role in world affairs. An independent and prosperous Iran is a force that must not be ignored, whether in relation to peace and stability in West Asia or to the third world's common cause of united struggle against hegemonism.

Chairman Hua's fruitful visit to Iran has written a new page in the annals of traditional friendship between the two countries. This will make fresh contributions to the common cause of the people of the third world.

At the Banquet in Honour of Chairman Hua Kuo-feng

Shahanshah Pahlavi's Speech

(Excerpts)

Iran and China as two great geographical, political and cultural units have created such genuine and fertile culture and civilization during the past long centuries. History always confirms that these two civilizations, since the very beginning, have been linked together and influenced each other deeply. 

More than 2,000 years ago, Chang Chien, the Chinese general and traveller, wrote his travel book concerning his ten-year-long visit to Iran during the Parthian period. In the course of centuries the few-thousand-kilometre-long Silk Road, traversing mountains, deserts and plateaus, has witnessed the continuous diplomatic, commercial, intellectual and artistic exchanges between the peoples of Iran and China. During this period numerous diplomatic missions were exchanged between the two countries and numerous caravans carried the goods of both parties, and groups of thinkers, and artists made this road the link of thought, culture and art of the two nations. Existence of many historical relics of Mithraism, Zoroastrianism and Manichaism remaining in various parts of China is a reminder of this fact. 

The art of the miniatures of Iran, as we all know, was inspired largely by Chinese paintings. The literature of Iran is so linked with China that in Persian classical works, almost everywhere, China has been discussed. After the suspension of commerce on the Silk Road, Persian commercial ships, by navigating the Persian Gulf route to Canton and vice versa, continued this ancient commercial and cultural link between the two peoples. For centuries many Iranians went to China by these ships and resided there. As a remarkable example we can mention the large Iranian community in the beautiful city of Hangchow on the shores of the Pacific. Numerous Persian tablets of this period are still extant there.

The participation of the Vice-Chairman of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress of the People's Republic of China in the ceremonies in 1971 marking the 2,500th anniversary of the founding of the Persian Empire, in fact, was a renewal of our ancient historical links. Likewise the visit of the Shahbanou of Iran to China in the subsequent year heralded the message of our nation to an ancient friend. From the time of the Shahbanou's visit until now, almost regularly, high-ranking diplomats and personages in the economic, parliamentary, sports and art circles of the two countries have

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exchanged visits. During the same period of time vast commercial, economic and cultural co-operation has been formed between the two countries. The commercial agreement concluded in 1973 between Iran and China has widely elevated the level of our commercial exchanges. The joint economic committee is regularly pursuing its activities. A direct air service, which, by right, could be regarded as the Silk Road of the present era, links Teheran and Peking since the year 1973. Our fruitful and constructive co-operation is continued for the benefit of both countries.

It is needless to state that your country, the largest of the world from the point of view of population, has achieved a high standing in political, economic, industrial, scientific and other fields in the international arena, and is growing in strength through its vast potentials and natural resources and with unremitting national efforts. The progress achieved by your country and people in this manner is worthy of praise and respect and naturally we, as a friendly nation, look upon these with great interest. Likewise, the progress of our country has been repeatedly lauded by the high authorities of your country.

Our friendly understanding regarding constructive co-operation and peaceful coexistence and the firm declared policy of your country in regard to the Persian Gulf and the Indian Ocean, to remain a zone of stability and security, the maintenance of which in this region should be vested solely in the littoral countries, is an evidence of this mutual understanding.

Iran's independent national policy is based on the Charter of the United Nations. She follows the principles of mutual respect, co-operation in cultural, scientific, technological and economic fields, peaceful coexistence and keeping friendly relations with countries with different social and political systems and ideology. For maintaining peace and stability and for securing a better and happy life for the people of various countries we are always willing to maintain friendly relations and co-operation with all countries.

Chairman Hua Kuo-feng's Speech
(Excerpts)

IRAN is a country with a long history and ancient civilization. The industrious and intelligent Iranian people created the magnificent Persian culture, a valuable contribution to human civilization. In modern times, your country suffered from imperialist aggression and oppression. But the Iranian people never submitted, they fought heroically, defeated the forces of aggression and defended the independence of their country. Today, under the leadership of His Imperial Majesty the Shahanshah, the Iranian people have scored gratifying successes in safeguarding the country's independence and sovereignty, protecting their national resources and building their country. Iran is playing a role of increasing importance in international affairs.

The friendship between the Chinese and Iranian peoples is of long standing. More than 2,000 years ago envoys of friendship from China had visited Iran. Szuma Chien, a famous historian of the Han Dynasty, wrote vivid accounts in his historical records about the prosperity of the Iranian people, who grew rice and wheat, had a developed agriculture, sailed and travelled to faraway countries to carry on trade and used silver coins as their currency. These contacts between our countries persisted for 20 centuries, as can be seen from the numerous references in the historical records of the various dynasties of our country. In the annals of our bilateral relations are only records of friendship, sympathy and mutual support. Among the relics unearthed in China in recent years along the ancient Silk Road are Persian coins and gold and silver utensils. These historical facts bear witness to the developed state of economic and cultural contacts between our two countries in
ancient times and to the friendship that has existed between us for many generations. In modern times, the traditional contacts between our two countries were temporarily blocked and undermined because we both suffered from imperialist invasion and oppression. Now, it is for us a source of great satisfaction that the friendship between our two countries is revived with added lustre under new historical conditions thanks to the joint concern shown by the Chinese people's great leader, the late Chairman Mao Tsetung, and their beloved Premier, the late Chou En-lai, and His Imperial Majesty the Shahanshah, and that the political, economic and cultural relations between our two countries are developing at a rapid pace, and there exists a solid basis for the further development of friendly relations and co-operation between the two countries. Looking ahead into the future, we have every reason to believe that the friendly relations between China and Iran will deepen and broaden and that the friendship between our two peoples will stand the test of time.

China is a developing country belonging to the third world. We need a prolonged peaceful international environment to build our country and improve the living standards of our people. In international affairs, it has been our consistent desire to develop friendly relations and co-operation with all countries on the basis of the Five Principles of mutual respect for sovereignty and territorial integrity, mutual non-aggression, non-interference in each other's internal affairs, equality and mutual benefit and peaceful coexistence. We have always held that there must be equality among all countries, regardless of size or strength, that the big should not bully the small, the strong should not oppress the weak; and that the affairs of a country should be handled by its people, the affairs of a region should be handled by the countries of that region and the affairs of the world should be settled by all the countries through consultation. We are firmly opposed to the policies of aggression and expansion pursued by big-power hegemonism and are resolutely against their interfering in the internal affairs and trampling on the sovereignty and dignity of other countries under whatever pretext. Judging by the laws of historical development, aggression bears the seed of defeat, and the aggressors are inevitably punished by history. However strong and mighty the aggressors may seem for the moment, the end result is always contrary to their expectations, and they will never escape their doom.

China is currently at a new stage of development in which we are carrying forward the revolutionary cause pioneered by our predecessors and forging ahead into the future. The Chinese people have started on a new Long March and are striving to turn China into a powerful modernized socialist country by the end of this century. We rely on our own strength in building our country while wishing at the same time to learn from abroad their advanced science and technology and everything else that is advanced. Let our two countries strengthen our friendship and co-operation, learn from and support each other and advance together triumphantly.

**Facts and Figures**

**Iran's Oil Industry Forges Ahead**

Iran’s oil industry has been developing at a fast pace in recent years. In 1977, crude output was 285 million tons, ranking fourth in the world, and oil export of 255 million tons took second place in the world.

The country's known deposits of 13,700 million tons constitute one-ninth of the world’s reserves. Natural gas deposits exceed 55,000 billion cubic metres, over 24 per cent of the world’s total. In 1977, Iran produced 58 billion cubic metres of natural gas.

Oil and natural gas make up 86 per cent of Iran’s exports. Seventy per cent of state revenues, or 90 per cent of gross foreign exchange income, comes from oil.

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The Iranian Government attaches great importance to the development of the refining industry. Before 1968, the country had only two refineries—Abadan and Kermanshah. But in the subsequent years a few more have been built, bringing the annual refining capacity to 48 million tons. After expansion and the installation of new equipment, the Abadan refinery, with an annual capacity of more than 32 million tons and some 100 varieties of oil products, has become one of the world’s giants. The government also pays attention to petrochemical development.

Outcome of Struggle. The development of the Iranian oil industry was the outcome of a prolonged struggle waged by the government and people against the Western consortium.

As early as 1908, the British struck the first Mideast well in southern Iran. In the ensuing decades, extraction of Iranian oil was in the hands of foreign capitalists. In 1951, the Iranian Government, with the people behind it, promulgated a decree on nationalizing the oil industry and set up the National Iranian Oil Company. But output declined drastically in consequence of imperialist sabotage. In October 1954, the government was compelled to sign a 25-year agreement of concession with the Western oil companies. Under this agreement, the Western monopolists which enjoy the right to explore, extract and refine oil and natural gas over an area of some 250,000 square kilometres in southern Iran controlled 90 per cent of the country’s oil production. Although the struggle by the Iranian people in the following years brought about certain amendments to the agreement, the country still suffered tremendous economic loss. Later, as the third world’s struggle against imperialism, colonialism and hegemonism surged ahead, the Shah issued a decree on July 31, 1973 to recover from the Western consortium all rights concerning oil production, administration and equipment in the aforesaid area. It was a resounding victory for Iran and an important guarantee for the rapid development of its oil industry in recent years.

The Four Modernizations: A Deep-Going Revolution

by Hsueh Yung-ying

The purpose of modernizing our agriculture, industry, national defence and science and technology is to bring about an all-round, fundamental technical transformation of the entire field of material production in China and equip the various departments of the national economy and national defence with the world’s most advanced scientific and technical know-how. This undertaking is of far-reaching significance to the socialist revolution, because the productive forces are the ultimate, decisive factor in promoting the development of history, and in changing the relations of production, the superstructure as well as the physiognomy of society. In his report on the work of the government to the Fifth National People’s Congress, Chairman Hua pointed out: “The socialist modernization of our agriculture, industry, national defence and science and technology is a great and unprecedented undertaking and a profound revolution, too. There will be momentous changes in town and country, in the productive forces and the relations of production, in the economic base and the superstructure, and in the political, economic, military, cultural and other spheres.”

In the new period of socialist revolution and socialist construction in our country, the realization of the four modernizations is politically the most important thing.
What politically was the most important thing during the War of Resistance Against Japan? Overthrowing Japanese imperialism. What politically was the most important thing during the War of Liberation? Toppling Chiang Kai-shek and liberating the whole country. And in the period of transition to socialism after the founding of the People's Republic of China, the most important thing politically was to realize in the main the industrialization of the country and the socialist transformation of agriculture, handicrafts and capitalist industry and commerce. In short, the general task in a certain phase of a revolution is politically the most important thing for that period. This is so because success or failure in fulfilling the general task is crucial to the fundamental interests of the Party and the people, to the success or failure of the revolution and to the survival or ruin of the state and the nation.

The four modernizations are a great revolution in the social productive forces in our country.

Each and every epoch-making technical change in the productive forces is a revolution in the productive forces themselves. The advanced capitalist countries had passed through the industrial revolution on a world scale and entered the era of the steam engine in the 60s of the 18th century. Over the last few decades, thanks to the development of science and technology as seen in the development of nuclear energy, electronics and space technology, these countries have entered the era of electronics one after the other. Our country is lagging far behind. Our agriculture at present remains more or less in the age of manual labour; although our industry is to a certain extent mechanized, work by hand continues to dominate the scene and automation in the process of production has just started. Our social productive forces are, therefore, facing the herculean task of accelerating the pace of development, of catching up with and surpassing the developed capitalist countries. The four modernizations are the decisive means for carrying out this task. When this task is fulfilled, China will pass from the age of handwork and steam engines to the age of electronics. By then, through the wide application of the achievements of modern science and technology, accompanied by a tremendous rise in labour productivity, there will be an entirely new situation in various fields of material production. The level of the people's material and cultural life will be raised fairly highly. This will be an epoch-making revolution in China's social productive forces which will lay down the material foundation for the socialist and communist mode of production. Its historic significance will be far greater than that of the industrial revolution in the capitalist countries.

The four modernizations are bound to bring about revolutionary changes in the relations of production.

At present, the socialist relations of production in our country are basically in corres-
Correspondence with the development of the productive forces. However, these relations are still far from perfect, and this imperfection stands in contradiction to the steady growth of the productive forces. In the process of carrying out the four modernizations, these contradictions will crop up one by one for us to solve as we go along. Take agriculture for instance. With the development of large-scale modernized farming, the existing relations of production will no longer suit the developed productive forces and this will call for a corresponding readjustment in the relations of production.

China's rural people's communes today generally take the form of three-level ownership (by the commune, the production brigade and the production team), with the production team as the basic accounting unit. Chairman Mao pointed out: The advance from incomplete ownership by the commune towards complete, single ownership by the commune is a process in which the level of production of the poorer production teams is raised to that of the better-off production teams as well as a process of expanding the commune public accumulation funds, developing commune-run industries and realizing the mechanization and electrification of agriculture and the industrialization of the commune and the country as a whole. This is to say, changes in the relations of production are caused objectively by the development of the productive forces, not determined by man's subjective wishes. The "gang of four" denied the dependence of the relations of production on the productive forces and, in the last analysis, refused to acknowledge the decisive role of the latter, opposed the four modernizations and tried to make "revolution" in the relations of production without developing the productive forces. This is pseudo-Leftism, real Rightism, pure and simple. We must put the Party's economic policies for the countryside into effect in earnest, fully arouse the socialist initiative of the vast numbers of the commune members, and work hard to develop the productive forces before we can help bring about the development of public ownership from a lower stage to a higher stage.

The four modernizations will also serve as a powerful motive force for revolutionary changes in the superstructure. The latter comes into being in correspondence with the need of the economic base and the productive forces and exists to promote the development of the economic base and the productive forces. Thus, social politics and man's ideology are determined by the economic base and in the long run by the productive forces.

The four modernizations in our country will signify a great victory for the proletariat and socialism. They are bound to be opposed desperately by the moribund exploiting classes, which the "gang of four" represent. Opposing and undermining the cause of the four modernizations and brutally attacking and persecuting cadres and the masses working might and main for the four modernizations, they were the main obstacle to the four modernizations. Since the smashing of the "gang of four," the dictatorship of the proletariat in our country has become all the more consolidated and our Party so much stronger, while the political consciousness of the people has been heightened as never before. In order to speed up the four modernizations, we must continue to deepen the exposure and criticism of the "gang of four," clarify the theoretical and ideolog-
ical confusion caused by the gang who had distorted and tampered with Marxism in the fields of philosophy, political economy and scientific socialism, thoroughly criticize the gang’s counter-revolutionary revisionist line which appeared to be “Left” but was Right in essence, and completely destroy the bourgeois factional setup of the gang and their followers. In this great political revolution, we must build up strong leading bodies at all levels, restore and carry on the Party’s fine traditions and style of work, sum up the experiences, both positive and negative, of the past 28 years and, on this basis, work out the necessary specific lines, principles, policies, and systems that will help promote the four modernizations. We must deal blows at the class enemies’ sabotage and the attacks by the capitalist forces so as to defend and consolidate socialist ownership by the whole people and socialist collective ownership.

According to Marxism, while transforming old ideas, old habits, old traditions and old customs, people must also use new conditions of production as the material base for the transformation; only then can man’s mental outlook be completely remoulded. It is true we need to disseminate progressive ideas to transform these old things, but this cannot be achieved completely in the absence of material conditions such as are created by modern, large-scale production. For instance, take transforming the small producers’ conceptions of private ownership, absolute equalitarianism, conservativeness and liberalism — is it possible to succeed simply by giving lectures in political theory without doing anything else? Once we have socialized, modern big farming, with changes in the mode of labour and way of life, the small producers will find the basis for their ideas and habits non-existent. Lenin made a profound analysis of this problem; he said: “It will take generations to remould the small farmer, and recast his mentality and habits. The only way to solve this problem of the small farmer — to improve, so to speak, his mentality — is through the material basis, technical equipment, the extensive use of tractors and other farm machinery and electrification on a mass scale. This would remake the small farmer fundamentally and with tremendous speed.” (Tenth Congress of the R.C.P.[B.], 1921.)

The four modernizations will also have far-reaching significance for gradually narrowing down the three major differences between town and country, between industry and agriculture, and between physical and mental labour, and for the advance towards communism.

The three major differences came into being when the social productive forces had developed to a certain extent only, but not yet to a full extent. When the productive forces are fully developed, with both agriculture and industry mechanized and automatized, farming will be industrialized; it will be “industry” “manufacturing” farm produce; by then, the peasants will be transformed into workers — farm-workers, and the difference between industry and agriculture will gradually disappear. Then, the countryside will no longer be hampered by poor communications, deficient cultural facilities and a backward economy; it will be like the city in these respects and one will find little difference between town and country. By then, thanks to the highly developed social production, all members of society will have plenty of time to study science, techniques and management and so everyone will be a labourer with a high degree of learning and an advanced ideological level. Every one of them will have the ability to take part not only in material production but also in spiritual production, not only in labour but also in management. When intellectuals become workers and workers intellectuals, the difference between physical and mental labour too will gradually disappear.

Of course this ideal world cannot be reached immediately following realization of the four modernizations at the end of this century. It is safe to say, however, that with the four modernizations, the three major differences will be greatly reduced and a big stride will be taken towards our destination — communism.

From what has been said above, it is clear that the four modernizations are truly a profound revolution in both the productive forces and the relations of production, in both the economic base and the superstructure.
Ideological Education in a Primary School

by Our Correspondent Tso An-hua

The task of schools in China is to help students develop morally, intellectually and physically so that they will become workers with both socialist consciousness and culture.

Cultivation of socialist ideology begins at childhood, not at the adult level of education.

Following is a factual report on how the teachers of the Peking No. 2 Experimental Primary School carry out this aspect of their work. — Ed.

RECENTLY I spent a number of unforgettable days at the Peking No. 2 Experimental Primary School with the teachers and pupils, who told me many interesting stories about themselves. In China people praise teachers for their hard work, affectionately likening them to tireless gardeners. How then do the gardeners in this primary school cultivate the young shoots and help them thrive? Following are a few examples which I think will help answer the question.

Ideals

One afternoon after class, members of the Young Pioneers* of class 1 of grade 4 got together to express their ideals in different art forms on the theme “The Year 2000.” This was what they called their Pioneers day.

When the meeting began, a pupil recited his verse: I love science and the vast world of nature. I see in my mind’s eye that some day

* The Chinese Young Pioneers is a mass organization for children and teenagers from 9 to 15 years of age. Its aim is to educate the members in the communist spirit and enable them to become successors in the revolutionary cause who are well developed morally, intellectually and physically. The Young Pioneers organization at the school level is called a brigade and that at the class level a detachment.
relatives. Basing themselves on what they had learnt, they proceeded to choose the subject matter, created items and performed them. By taking part in this activity, the pupils received an education in revolutionary ideals.

Spurred on by a lofty ideal, the pupils study harder and harder. Jan Li, a girl with good marks in all subjects, told me that she was once tongue-tied when asked what she wanted to do when she grew up, because she did not have the slightest idea. She continued: Now I've formed an idea. Since China is now lagging far behind the advanced world level in science and technology, I want to be a scientist when I grow up so as to do my bit to upgrade our level of science. No less ambitious is Tan Chi, an 11-year-old boy, who has a bent for radio techniques. While learning basic theory and the actual operation of wireless sets in a spare-time radio group at the Home for Children run by the 'neighbourhood' committee, he pays special attention to studying arithmetic. During the summer vacation which has just ended, he studied this term's arithmetic on his own.

Scale the Heights

Last April, the Chinese language teacher taught pupils of class 2 of grade 3 a poem entitled Storm the Fortresses by Vice-Chairman Yeh Chien-yung. Written with a view to encouraging the Chinese people to scale the heights of science, the poem implies that an indomitable spirit is needed to ensure success in this endeavour. Shortly after this lesson, the whole class with the teacher at the head went to climb a hill in a city park.

The pupils were divided into three groups. Planted at the crest of the hillock was a red banner which would go to the group reaching the summit first.

"Barriers" were put up all along the path leading to the hilltop, in the form of questions about current events, arithmetical calculations without paper and pencil, a spelling test of English words, dictation of Chinese characters and expressions and, the last of all, a fairly difficult test in arithmetic.

When the first group came to the first barrier, the pupils got a slip of paper from their teacher. On it was a question about current events — when was the National Science Conference convened and who presided over it? They passed easily for they always paid attention to reading the newspaper. The next three barriers soon gave way to the attackers. The fifth and last barrier was a question in arithmetic: There are five figures made up of eight 8's and adding up to 1,000; what are they? Without much thought, one of the pupils scribbled an answer: 125 × 8 = 1,000. The members of his group were overjoyed, thinking they would win for sure. But after reading the answer, the checker said: "No, that isn't correct. Please read the question carefully."

At this moment, the third group overtook them and headed towards the summit. Anxious as they were, the children of the first group

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Primary Schools in China

Number of schools and pupils:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>1949</th>
<th>1977</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Schools</td>
<td>340,000</td>
<td>9,821,630</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enrolment</td>
<td>24,390,000</td>
<td>146,164,200</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Attendance rate

of school-agers: about 20% 95.5%

Period of schooling:

Five years. School-agers are admitted at the age of seven in autumn. Measures are being taken to enrol pupils at six and a half or six where conditions permit.

Subjects:

There are eight subjects: political education, Chinese language, arithmetic, foreign language, general knowledge of natural science, physical culture, music and painting. At least five subjects are usually taught at the same time. The pupils are generally required to study one foreign language, English or Russian, beginning in the third year. Where possible, other foreign languages such as Japanese, French, German, Spanish and Arabic, are taught.
could not continue the climb unless they got
the answer right. So they started patiently
figuring it out all over again. When the teacher
came over and found them in a fix, he gave
them some pointers: Since the last number of
1,000 is zero, how many 8’s when added up have
zero as the last number? “We got it! We got
it!” the pupils shouted in delight: “888 + 88 +
8 + 8 + 8 = 1,000.” With the right answer found,
they dashed off towards the summit.

Later when they summed up their expe-
rience, the children said that in scaling the
heights of science, one must advance step by
step and in a down-to-earth manner, as with
mountain-climbing. In this way, they gained
a deeper understanding of the meaning of Vice-
Chairman Yeh Chien-ying’s poem.

Put Others Before Oneself
What happened five years ago in this school
is still fresh in everybody’s memory today.

One day when a Chinese language lesson
was going on in a second-grade class, a foreign
educational delegation came in to visit. A
woman member of the delegation asked the
teacher whether she could play games with the
children in class. The teacher readily nodded
assent.

The guest produced a narrow-necked bottle
with a hole on the side connected with a plastic
tube, the whole thing being likened to the shaft
of a mine. Three small lead weights each tied
to a piece of string were lowered into the bottle
to represent miners down in the pit.

When asked who would like to play the
game, the children all raised their hands.

The visitor picked three girls from among
them and told them: “Now I’ll say one, two,
three! At the count of three, I’ll begin to fill
the bottle with water through the tube. You
are required to pull your lead weight out of
the bottle as quickly as possible so that it won’t
get wet; otherwise, it means that the miner
gets drowned.”

The three children looked at each other and
the one named Li Hsiao-mei said to the other
two: “You’ll be the first to get out, then you,
and I’ll be the last.” When water began to
flow quickly into the bottle, the three girls
calmly pulled the lead weights out of the bottle
one after another.

“Wonderful! You’ve made it!” the visitors
exclaimed. Talking through an interpreter, they
asked Li Hsiao-mei how she hit upon the idea.

In reply, the girl said: “In giving lessons,
our teacher has always taught us to keep in
mind first the safety of our fellow comrades in
the face of danger.”

Li Hsiao-mei has gone on to the first year
in junior middle school. (At the moment, some
primary schools in China have a class attached
to them that gives courses for the first-year
students of junior middle school.) She con-
tinues to give a good account of herself ideo-
logically, morally and in her studies. She is
also a lover of wushu, traditional Chinese boxing
and sword-play.

Speaking of ideological education, she told
me that the teachers all paid close attention to
doing this work well at all times. When the
bell for the 15-minute break rang, for instance,
the more than 40 students of her class all
wanted to get out on to the playground quickly
through two doors. This blocked the doorway,
and no one could get out fast. Seeing this, the
teachers told us to stay behind for a while and
allow others to go first. The exemplary deeds
of the famous worker Iron-Man Wang Chin-hsi
of the Taching Oilfield were often cited to
educate the children. Most impressive was how
the Iron Man got injured during an accident
when he tried to protect the drilling rig and his
workmates.

Love the Collective

Many pupils in class 2 of grade 5 are
good at sports. But the class as a whole was
not placed in the recent sports meets, because
some of them showed little enthusiasm for team
events and did not want to win honour for the
class.

In preparation for the sports meet held
earlier this year, the teacher in charge of the
class and the physical culture teacher time and
again explained to the pupils the significance of taking part in the meet and urged everyone to do his best to win honour for the collective. This gave rise to heated discussions among the children.

One pupil was known as a good sprinter, but he was after the title in the individual events. Through discussions, he realized how wrong, his thinking was and decided to take part in a relay race in addition to the individual events.

Throughout the sports meet, the participants from this class did their level best and those who did not take part in any events were present on the occasion to cheer the contestants and bring them drinking water and towels. They observed the rules of competition and showed good sportsmanship. In the end the class for the first time scored the greatest total points and carried the day.

In summing up what they had achieved at the sports meet, the children all agreed that only when everyone contributed his bit to the collective could the latter achieve good results. That sprinter who had been unwilling to compete for the collective did well in the relay race and two individual events, which, of course, added credit to the collective.

**Call on Teacher at Her Home**

One Sunday I dropped in on a teacher of long standing. When I pushed the door open, I found several young people inside chatting with her. She told me that they are all her former pupils and graduates of the school who are now working at different posts. They still take time out to visit her.

I joined them in the chit-chat. The topic they naturally turned to was the impact of primary school life on them.

Mao Ping-sheng, now a worker, said: When we were in primary school, teachers always taught us to love the motherland, the people, science, physical labour and public property — that is, the “five loves.” This was engraved deep in my mind. I still remember that peaches, apples and persimmons hung heavy from the fruit trees on the campus in autumn, but none of us ever picked a single fruit. Even those that fell off were picked up from the ground and handed over to the teachers. There were always classmates who fixed broken desks or chairs in their own free time without mentioning anything about it. It was during my primary school days that the idea of safeguarding public property struck deep root in my mind. Since I began to work in the factory, I have never failed to remind young workers of switching off the light when they stop the lathe, because it pains me to see electricity being wasted.

Jen Hsiao-pin spoke of his firm conviction of the need to learn as much as possible so as to prepare himself for building socialism, as his teachers taught him in primary school. He told all present: After the college entrance examinations in 1972, the press gave much publicity to Chang Tien-sheng who was made a hero for handing in a blank examination paper. On hearing this, several alumni and I commented: “How absurd! If someone who turns in a blank paper can be made a hero, then who will make a real effort to study?” Of course, we didn't know at the time that the “gang of four” was deliberately torpedoing our educational undertakings.

*September 8, 1978*
Another graduate Fan Tung-ping stressed that he got into good habits of study during his primary school days. In those days, he said, several classmates and I used to compare our marks after each test or examination so that we would try to outdo each other. I have always kept up the habit. Now that I myself have become a primary school teacher, he continued, I appreciate how important it is to place strict demands on my pupils to help them cultivate a good style of study and way of thinking from childhood.

Hsieh Ning had this to say: I kept studying by myself after I settled in a village in Inner Mongolia upon graduation from junior middle school. In 1972, the year when that scoundrel Chang Tiew-sheng handed in a blank paper during the college entrance examinations, I enrolled in the Peking No. 2 Foreign Languages Institute. After graduation last year I was assigned to work in the geological bureau. I often recall the words of my primary school teachers when they drove home to us the need to learn some real skills in order to serve the people and stressed that indulging in empty talk simply wouldn't do. Their good advice still rings in my ears.

With a history of 69 years, the Peking No. 2 Experimental Primary School has over a long period served as a testing ground for primary school education, as its name suggests. Many reforms and new systems were first tried out here to gain experience. During those years when the “gang of four” was on the rampage, the school was accused of “giving first place to intellectual development,” “practising revisionism” and so on, and its work suffered. Now a process of clearing up what was confused and putting things to rights is going on, and Chairman Mao’s directive that our educational policy must enable everyone who receives an education to develop morally, intellectually and physically is being fully implemented.

The school now has 20 classes of different grades with an enrolment of 1,050 and a staff of 83. The standard of its teachers is somewhat higher than average. Like all primary schools in the cities, it provides a five-year education.

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A Pupil’s Composition

This composition entitled “A Meaningful Event” was written by Chang Hsueh-mei, an eight-year-old second-grader.

—Ed.

ONE afternoon in early spring, we second-graders came to school with wash-basins to fetch water for saplings.

Our teacher took us to the tap and half-filled each of our basins. While queuing up to wait for my turn, I mused: The saplings must be growing fast after taking in the water I'm going to sprinkle. But when my turn came, teacher called me and said: “Will you look after the tap?” Hearing this, I thought: Why ask me to turn the tap on and off? What a pity that the saplings won't have a chance to be watered by me! But on second thought, I realized that there must be someone to control the tap and fill the basins with water. My mind still racing, I turned on the tap and the clear, cool water flowed into the basin in each classmate’s hands. Seeing that my classmates were all in high spirits, I too sped up turning the tap on and off. Before long my arm began to ache and sweat came trickling down my cheeks. But I kept at it until the work was done.

On my way home from school after class, my satchel slung over my shoulder, it seemed to me, that the saplings had grown into giant trees. In my mind’s eye, I saw worker uncles fell them and haul the timber to factories where it was sawed into lumber and made into desks and chairs for us. When my school friends saw these new desks and chairs, they all jumped up and down with joy.
Raise Workers' Technical Level

To bring about socialist modernization in China, it is necessary not only to build up a mighty contingent of professional scientific and technological workers but also to raise the scientific and cultural level of the whole Chinese nation. And the narrowing of the differences between physical and mental labour cannot be achieved by suppression of the intellectuals and the weakening or even the elimination of education and scientific research, as the "gang of four" did in the past; it must depend on the rapid raising of the scientific and cultural level of all the labouring people.

In an article published recently in Renmin Ribao, Yuan Pao-hua, Vice-Minister in Charge of the State Economic Commission, stressed that all the workers, technicians and cadres must learn modern techniques and acquire skill in managing modern industry.

He said: As a result of the sabotage by Lin Piao and the "gang of four," China's technical development was held back for about 10 years. For example, there were 1,200 technical schools in the country in 1962, but after 1966 almost all of them were closed, most of them being turned into manufacturing units. It was only a few years ago that some of these schools were reopened, but there was a general drop in the quality of the students. In 1965, there were 410,000 students enrolled in spare-time colleges and 6.5 million in spare-time middle schools, but the figures dwindled respectively to 13,000 and 690,000 in 1972.

For a period of time in the past, most technical books, literature and data were put under lock and key; nearly all the technical information institutes were disbanded or merged into other units. In those days, if one wanted to learn about the new developments in some technical field at home and abroad, or read some domestic or foreign technical articles, he was faced with numerous difficulties. Technical personnel and workers were cut off from new developments in their specialized fields. This has seriously hampered the raising of their technical level.

To resolve the problem, Vice-Minister Yuan Pao-hua made a series of suggestions:

- Strengthen leadership of Party committees over technical training, and cadres in charge should take the lead in learning technical know-how.

- Implement a system of examining technical theory and skill among the workers. The results will be taken as one criterion for promotion and wage increase.

- Every enterprise must have a training plan. Veteran workers and new hands should sign a "contract" as between masters and apprentices, under which the former are required to teach, the latter to learn. New workers must attend training classes after they are recruited.

- Build up a mighty contingent of engineering and technical personnel. Make sure that colleges of natural sciences and engineering and secondary technical schools are run well; the various kinds of factory-run colleges, spare-time colleges and middle schools must be restored and short-term training classes organized so as to train large numbers of technicians from among the workers and staff members.
Workers and technicians studying technical literature in a library.

- Carry out technical innovations on a mass scale and mobilize the masses to collect scientific and technological information. Honorary titles and material rewards should be granted to those making important inventions and innovations. Organize socialist labour emulation campaigns. In industrial cities, technical exchange centres which existed and proved to be useful in the past should resume and expand their activities; demonstrations of techniques should also be organized as before. Study scientific and technological information from foreign countries and organize exchange of techniques at home between enterprises within a trade. (This is possible because there are no patent restrictions or technical secrets between our socialist enterprises.)

- Newly built factories should send people to plants using imported equipment and facilities to study their experience. The former are obliged to learn, while the latter have the duty to teach.

- Learn earnestly from the foreign specialists from whose countries we import industrial equipment.

- Raise the standard of the knowledge of foreign languages. Middle-aged and young workers and staff members should all try hard to learn one foreign language.

According to an earlier Renmin Ribao report, the Taching Oilfield has set up 30 colleges and 2,000 spare-time schools with an enrolment of 150,000. Now the oilfield has taken on the features of a technical training base.

The paper also ran an editorial urging people throughout the country to study technology. It pointed out that two-thirds of the country’s industrial workers took up their work after 1968, many of them without having received any rigorous technical training, while older technicians could not learn new techniques because of sabotage by the “gang of four.” Therefore, the editorial continued, it is a pressing task to learn techniques and the art of management.

It called on industrial departments to see that all engineers, technicians and workers receive a technical training within the next three years.

"Like Father, Like Son"
Theory Under Fire

NOT long ago Renmin Ribao printed a letter from a young woman Wang Yi, who complained of political discrimination against her husband Ma Feng-chun, who was of poor peasant origin. He was struck from the list of probationary Party members because of their marriage.

Wang went to settle down on the outskirts of Peking after she graduated from junior middle school in 1968. Her father had a bad political record, and politically she had broken off from her father. Two years later, she became engaged to Ma Feng-chun, a probationary Party member. Although her own political showing was good, nevertheless her fiance was still excluded from the list of probationary Party members by the local Party branch acting under the influence of the reactionary political theory of "like father, like son" and proffering the excuse that her family background was bad. The Party branch secretary posed the question to Ma Feng-chun as one of choosing "your wife or the Party."
The editor's note points out that some comrades have deviated from Marxist-Leninist teachings and Party policy on the appraisal of family background.

Of course, class origin does have its influence on a person. But this kind of influence is not present at birth through kinship; it is something which develops after birth and is a social phenomenon. In judging revolutionary qualities, we should take a person's political attitude in social life as the main criterion, that is, which class he speaks for and which class interests he upholds. We often put this concept in these sentences: "We pay attention to class or family origin, but never consider it the sole, decisive factor. We emphasize a person's own political showing." "No one can choose his or her parents, but everyone can take the revolutionary road if he wants." This is our Party's view, which is diametrically opposed to the reactionary political theory of "like father, like son."

For the last decade or so, Lin Piao and the "gang of four" poisoned the thinking of many people by this reactionary theory. Its pernicious influence must be eliminated. Renmin Ribao points out: In socialist China, everyone has a bright future so long as he is willing to contribute his bit to the socialist cause. This includes those whose family background is bad.

Minister Apologizes to Peasants

THE Chinese press recently advocated the spirit of "taking it back."

Last July, Chou Tzu-chien, Minister of the First Ministry of Machine Building, went to the Changchiawan People's Commune on the outskirts of Peking, heading a group of 3,000 who were either delegates to the national conference of the machine-building industry then in session in Peking or cadres of the ministry. The minister apologized to the local cadres and peasants in public at a mass meeting, because the commune had suffered losses attributable to the poor quality of some of the tractors produced by plants under his ministry.

Several years ago the commune bought three tractors. When tested on arrival, all were found to be defective in one way or another; one tractor in particular, produced by the Peking Nanyuan Tractor Plant, turned out to be completely useless. While vociferously lauding the workers and peasants to the skies at that time, the "gang of four" actually harmed the interests of the labouring people. The anarchism they fanned up led to a drop in the quality of industrial goods, including agricultural machinery. The peasants complained: "We sold our live oxen to buy iron oxen (referring to the tractors), but what we got were dead oxen."

At the mass meeting, the Party committee secretary of the Peking Nanyuan Tractor Plant and the secretaries of the two plants which produced the other two low-quality tractors all made sincere self-criticisms. It was announced that the factory concerned would refund the money paid for the unusable tractor and haul the faulty machine back to the factory (people call this "take it back"), and recompense the commune for the money it spent to repair the other two.

Minister Chou Tzu-chien also made a self-criticism at the meeting. "The poor quality of the tractors shows we have not done our work well," he said. "China is a socialist country based on the worker-peasant alliance. The poor quality of tractors affects agricultural production and increases the peasants' burden. We are very sorry about this, and apologize to our peasant brothers."

He pledged that his ministry would take effective measures to improve the quality of farm machinery. In future no sub-standard product would be allowed to leave the factories. As for the machines already distributed, the factories were to be responsible for repairing, replacing or refunding any defective ones, so as to provide more and better machines for the modernization of agriculture.

Wu Teh, Member of the Political Bureau of the C.P.C. Central Committee and First Secretary of the Peking municipal Party committee, went along with Minister Chou to "take back" the defective tractor. The peasants were happy to see that Chairman Mao's policy of caring for the people was back again in the rural areas. They expressed their determination to strive for a bumper harvest this year.

September 8, 1978
Escalating Anti-China Campaign

Can the Vietnamese Authorities Get Off the Hook?

AFTER the Yu Yi Kuan incident (see issue No. 35, p. 24), the Vietnamese propaganda machine went full steam ahead to make groundless charges that Chinese had rushed "to cross the border into Vietnamese territory" to drive the Chinese nationals stranded there "to the other side of the border in Chinese territory." Immediately after this, the Vietnamese authorities used the incident engineered by themselves to whip up a hysterical anti-China campaign, holding mass meetings, issuing statements and staging demonstrations. A certain Vietnamese leader kept hurling abuses at China all the way from Hanoi to Havana and back. At the same time, he bragged about how correct the line of the Vietnamese authorities is and how they are backed by their "friends." He called on the Vietnamese people to "get highly mobilized" to "build and defend" Viet Nam.

While all this was going on, the Vietnamese authorities stepped up tension in the border area. On the very day of the incident in which Chinese nationals were killed or expelled, Vietnamese armed forces occupied Po Nien ridge on the Chinese side of the border near Yu Yi Kuan. Then the Vietnamese authorities again cranked up their propaganda machine accusing the Chinese side of having "concentrated tens of thousands of Hoa people" from Tunghsing to Hokou and preparing "to send them illegally into Vietnamese territory." The allegation was made to lay the ground for creating further border incidents.

The exhibition staged by the Vietnamese authorities makes it absolutely clear that the killings of Chinese nationals near Yu Yi Kuan were premeditated and planned actions. They are a logical development of the Vietnamese efforts to get themselves out of their present difficulties by escalating their anti-China campaign.

The facts are clear. The bloodbath took place on the Vietnamese side of the border, on Vietnamese soil, where the Chinese cannot go in and out at will. In the past few months, the Vietnamese authorities have massed large numbers of military and security men in the border areas. They wanted to drive thousands of Chinese nationals who had been displaced from other parts of Viet Nam over to the Chinese side of the border. They tried to do what they always have done: compelling China to accept what they have brought about and repeating the performance to expel still more Chinese nationals, in order to create more difficulties for China. China on its part demanded that the Vietnamese side send these stranded Chinese nationals back to their original residential areas and resettle them properly and, in the case of those who really have difficulties, extend to them facilities to enable them to return to China after completion of the necessary entry formalities. China's reasonable pro-

On August 25, Vietnamese security men, wielding daggers and hurling stones, beat up Chinese nationals at a point facing Yu Yi Kuan.
posal put the Vietnamese authorities in an embarrassing position. In the circumstances they had recourse to bayonets and stones and terrorized more than 2,000 Chinese nationals into stampeding over to the Chinese side of the border in great chaos.

And now, the Vietnamese authorities described their closely guarded border as an area where the Chinese can dispatch at will "hundreds of plainclothes troops and security men" to do what they like. Can people believe such a story? The over 2,000 Chinese nationals milling about on Vietnamese soil near Yu Yi Kuan had never been given any help or care by the Vietnamese side. On the contrary, they were persecuted in more ways than one. They had anxiously been looking forward to the day when they could return to their motherland. How can it be that China suddenly had to send large numbers of personnel to drive them back?

Statement of the Overseas Chinese Affairs Office

The Overseas Chinese Affairs Office of the State Council of the People's Republic of China on September 4 issued a statement strongly condemning the bloody Yu Yi Kuan incident engineered by the Vietnamese authorities.

The statement said: "This outrageous massacre and expulsion of Chinese nationals was another planned and premeditated crime committed by the Vietnamese authorities as well as a step of utmost gravity taken by the Vietnamese side in a glaring attempt to sabotage the Sino-Vietnamese negotiations at the vice-foreign minister level through the deliberate engineering of a bloody incident. The Chinese Government has already lodged a strong protest with the Vietnamese Government against this incident and made the demand that it stop forthwith with the persecution, suppression and expulsion of Chinese nationals, severely punish the culprits, return to the victimized Chinese nationals all their possessions and guarantee that there will be no recurrence of similar incidents in the future."

The statement continued: "The policy of the Chinese Government regarding Chinese nationals residing abroad has been a consistent one. It has all along urged them to live in amity with the people in their country of residence and contribute to the enhancement of friendship between the Chinese people and the people of the country concerned. The Chinese Government has the responsibility of protecting their proper rights and interests and hopes that these will be guaranteed by the countries concerned. At present, the anti-China acts and ostracism of Chinese residents committed by the Vietnamese authorities are getting worse and worse, the proper rights and interests of the Chinese residents in Viet Nam are seriously infringed upon, and they are not even ensured of their personal safety. We hereby express our utmost indignation at and condemnation of such acts.

"There is a deep traditional friendship between the Chinese and Vietnamese peoples forged during long years of struggle. To uphold such friendship and solidarity accords with the fundamental interests of our two peoples and is their common desire. The Chinese Government and people have always valued the friendship of our two peoples and have never done anything harmful to it. We have exercised restraint and forbearance in regard of the Vietnamese authorities' anti-China acts and ostracism of Chinese nationals. The Vietnamese authorities have now gone far enough along the road of antagonizing China and ostracizing Chinese nationals. We strongly demand that the Vietnamese authorities stop forthwith with the persecution and expulsion of Chinese nationals and truly guarantee their proper rights and interests and their personal safety."
The Vietnamese authorities, of course, cannot give any answer to these questions. Since all the strange happenings took place on Vietnamese soil, they could easily tamper with the evidence to transform by a sleight of hand the incident into an unsolved case and shift the responsibility for their sanguinary crime on to China.

Certain Vietnamese leaders admitted at an anti-China rally held after the Yu Yi Kuan incident that they found the going pretty tough, what with one thing they had to persist in the aggression against Kampuchea and another to tackle the political, economic and social disorder at home. However, they laid the blame for their predicament on China which, they alleged, was at the bottom of all their difficulties.

Isn't it ridiculous? Did China dragoon the Vietnamese troops into fighting Kampuchea? Was it China that brought about political, economic and social disorder in Viet Nam? The Vietnamese authorities know better than anyone else that the difficulties facing them are not caused by China but by their regional hegemonist policy.

After the victory of the war of resistance against U.S. aggression, the Vietnamese authorities became swellheaded over the powerful army and great quantities of munitions they had. They wanted to strike while the iron was hot, realize at one stroke their fond dream of building an "Indochina federation" and become the overlord of Southeast Asia. To this end, they have to launch aggression against Kampuchea and undermine the friendship between China and the Southeast Asian countries. More, they have to find a patron. And they have found one in Soviet social-imperialism.

With the Soviet Union aiding and abetting them, the Vietnamese authorities unleashed the war of aggression against Kampuchea, and slithered further down the road of opposing China. They not only slandered China on the question of Chinese residents, but blatantly interfered in China's internal affairs. They lashed at China on all its political movements, openly calumniated China's Great Proletarian Cultural Revolution in an attempt to exonerate Liu Shao-chi, Lin Piao and the "gang of four," and even obliquely attacked China's socialist system as "fascist."

Things have not been going the way the Vietnamese authorities expected. Their aggression against Kampuchea is not going in their favour and their anti-China antics are becoming more and more discredited. This has thrown them into an impasse which they cannot but acknowledge. In order to extricate themselves from this predicament, they need on the one hand to escalate their anti-China campaign in exchange for more Soviet money and munitions, and on the other to scare the Vietnamese people with a China "spectre," forcing them to die for the Vietnamese authorities' hegemonist ambitions and suppressing their discontent. This is the true background to the slaughter of the Chinese residents on Vietnamese soil before the Yu Yi Kuan.

Immediately after the Yu Yi Kuan incident, the Soviet Union expressed its appreciation of what the Vietnamese authorities had done. But the Vietnamese people who have a profound traditional friendship with the Chinese people will not easily be taken in by the Vietnamese authorities' anti-China antics. Their escalation of anti-China campaign is no panacea. It cannot extricate them from their difficulties, but will tie them tighter to the apron strings of social-imperialism.

(Abridged "Renmin Ribao" commentary, September 4)
Statement of the U.S. Communist Party (M-L) And Dominican Communists

Unity Around Three-World Theory

Following are excerpts from the Statement of the Communist Party (Marxist-Leninist) of the United States and Dominican Communists, which appeared in the May Day issue of "The Call," organ of the Communist Party (M-L) of the United States. — Ed.

The Communist Party (M-L) of the United States and the Marxist-Leninist organizations of the Dominican Republic, Linea Roja "June 14" Revolutionary Movement and Bandera Proletaria, representing the Committee for the Founding of the Dominican Workers’ Party (M-L), which also includes Via Marxist-Leninista, have met and had a series of meetings.

In these meetings, the U.S. and Dominican Marxists-Leninists exchanged experiences about the struggle against their common enemies: U.S. imperialism, Soviet social-imperialism, modern revisionism and all reaction.

The U.S. and Dominican Marxist-Leninists exchanged experiences in the struggle to unite the Marxist-Leninists around the construction of a single Party in their respective countries. They also discussed their views on important questions concerning the world situation and the international communist movement. They reached complete unity on all matters discussed.

The Dominican Marxist-Leninists stated that their country, the Dominican Republic, is a neo-colony of U.S. imperialism, subjected to the oppression, intervention and most barbaric plunder of its riches. This situation is perpetuated by the present government which was installed by the U.S. military invasion in 1965. This government is able to maintain the cruellest oppression of the broad masses by holding fraudulent elections every four years. The Dominican Marxist-Leninists explained that imperialism is trying to prolong the duration of this government to 16 years (since its takeover in 1966), by using demagogy to mislead public opinion and repression to terrorize the masses.

They also denounced the danger that social-imperialism poses for the Dominican people and for the Dominican revolution, since Cuba has been converted into a base of support and a shock force for the expansionism and aggression of Soviet social-imperialism in Africa and Latin America, and a direct threat to the Dominican revolution.

The Dominican Marxist-Leninists explained that their principal and immediate task is the struggle against U.S. imperialism and the establishment of a New Democratic government led by the proletariat, which will lay the basis for the advance towards socialism.

The Dominican Marxist-Leninists explained the great historic mission which they are carrying out to unite Marxist-Leninists and found the Dominican Workers’ Party (M-L) (P.T.D.); and they reported on the advanced level of unity and the decision to reach this longed-for objective in 1978.

The Communist Party (M-L) of the United States expressed its resolute support for the efforts to unite into a single Marxist-Leninist Party for the victory of national liberation and revolution.

The Communist Party (M-L) further expressed its opposition to the armed intervention which the U.S. ruling class launched against the Dominican nation. The Communist Party (M-L) resolutely opposes the pillage of the natural resources and labour by U.S. Imperialist monopolies. The Communist Party (M-L) solemnly stated that as Marxist-Leninists in the United States representing the working class of that country whose ruling class oppresses the Dominican people, it always has and always will stand by the side of the struggle for the liberation of the Dominican Republic. They are determined to strengthen the anti-imperialist solidarity between the peoples of the United States and the Dominican Republic.

The Communist Party (M-L) of the United States expressed its solidarity with the Dominican Marxist-Leninists in denouncing the threat posed by Cuba as a support base and shock troops for Soviet social-imperialism against the peoples of Africa and Latin America.

The United States, they said, is now locked in the deepest crisis since World War II. The

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working class and oppressed peoples are actively fighting the effects of the capitalist crisis such as unemployment, layoffs, police repression and the threat of deportation.

Because of imperialist oppression of their homeland, thousands of Dominicans have been forced to immigrate to the United States. Here they face discrimination in employment, language, education and all other areas. The Communist Party (M-L) struggles to win the entire U.S. working class to support the struggles of the Dominicans and all other immigrants for their full democratic rights.

The U.S. Communists said that the U.S. imperialists, in their contention with Soviet social-imperialism, are locked in a frantic arms buildup and war preparations. The imperialists cannot fight an imperialist war without launching a war against their own people, increasing the attacks against the democratic rights and living standards of the people, and on the right to self-determination for the oppressed nations. With the outbreak of the new world war, the Communist Party (M-L) will lead the struggle in the United States to turn the imperialist war into a revolutionary war against capitalism.

The Communist Party (M-L) is determined to lead the struggle to overthrow the U.S. imperialist ruling class and to establish proletarian rule and socialism.

The Dominican Marxist-Leninists fully support the Communist Party (M-L) of the United States in its struggle against the U.S. monopoly bourgeoisie, social-imperialism, revisionism, opportunism and all reaction. They support the U.S. Marxist-Leninists in their struggle for socialist revolution and warmly greet the great event of the founding of the Communist Party (M-L) of the United States, which was the result of their unity efforts and which is the only guarantee for guiding the working class to its victory.

In analysing the world situation, both the Dominican and U.S. Marxist-Leninists agree that the world situation is excellent for the struggle of the proletariat and the peoples against imperialism, social-imperialism and all reaction. The two superpowers are engulfed in increasing difficulties and contradictions which cannot be solved, both domestically and internationally. On the other hand, the struggle of the proletariat and the oppressed peoples and nations for independence and liberation is growing in size and strength.

The U.S. and the Dominican Marxist-Leninists consider that the growing rivalry between the two superpowers, the United States and the U.S.S.R., for world hegemony will lead the world to a third world war. In recent years, the factors for world war have been growing dangerously. The two superpowers are the principal enemy of the people of the world, and Soviet social-imperialism has become the most aggressive power and the principal source of a new world war.

It was fully agreed that in order to confront the two superpowers and the danger of a new world war, the proletariat must base its strategy on the brilliant analysis on the international situation made by Comrade Mao Tsetung in his correct theory of the three worlds. We maintain, and facts prove it daily, that the third world is the main force in the struggle against the two superpowers. The struggles of the third world for independence and new democratic revolution constitute an integral part of the world proletarian revolution. The contradiction between the working class of the first world and its monopoly bourgeoisie is also sharpening. Both sides stressed the necessity to form a broad international united front against the two superpowers, in order to isolate them fully and accelerate their defeat.

The U.S. and Dominican Marxist-Leninists emphasize the importance of struggling for the unity of the international communist movement for its full development and final victory. We both promise to do everything within our power to defend unity, and to oppose everything which could lead to division, since that only benefits imperialism, social-imperialism, modern revisionism and reaction.

The U.S. and Dominican Marxist-Leninists agree to broaden and deepen their ties on the basis of Marxism-Leninism, Mao Tsetung Thought and proletarian internationalism. We agree to make every effort to strengthen our support for the genuine socialist countries, and to embrace them with firm bonds of friendship, and also to strengthen our relations with the genuine Marxist-Leninist Parties and groups throughout the world.
Three-World Theory: Questions and Answers

Economic Appeasement Prior to World War II

Question: How did the United States, Britain, France and other countries carry out a policy of economic appeasement towards the German fascists prior to World War II? What were their purposes in doing so?

Answer by journalist Kuo Chi-chih: After World War I, a number of imperialist countries including the United States, Britain and France did all they could to shore up the German monopoly group and help Germany build heavy industry in order to lay a foundation for restoring and expanding its military might. To this end, the Dawes Plan for handling the question of German reparations was worked out in 1924 and the Young Plan in 1929 under U.S. manipulation.

The Dawes Plan provided for loans from foreign countries (mainly the United States) to Germany to stabilize its currency, and stipulated the annual amount of reparations to be paid by Germany, their sources and guarantees. Under the plan, the first huge postwar loan of 200 million U.S. dollars was extended to Germany to enable the country to pay reparations. In addition to this loan, the United States and other countries between October 1924 and December 1926 also gave Germany 775 million U.S. dollars for other purposes. Most of these loans were taken by such concerns as Krupp, Thyssen and Siemens. Within a short period, Germany received about 21,000 million marks in various loans from abroad under the plan; yet until 1929, the various reparations paid by Germany amounted to only 11,000 million marks.

In 1929, Germany demanded revision of the Dawes Plan under the pretext of inability to pay its debts because of the economic crisis. At the end of that year, a committee of seven was formed, including the United States, Britain and France, with Owen D. Young, Chairman of the Board of the General Electric Company, as its chairman. It worked out a new reparations plan reducing the amount due from Germany by 20 per cent and decided to lift all controls over the German economy, thus giving the green light to the massive development of Germany’s armament industry. In 1932, the Lausanne conference adopted a resolution on terminating reparations payments from Germany.

Foreign loans helped Germany expand its economic potential, and in particular, its military potential. Between 1924 and 1929, steel output in Germany increased from 9.8 million tons to 16.1 million, and by 1939 it had reached 22.5 million tons. Moreover, the United States, Britain and other countries went in for so-called “economic co-operation” and “technical co-operation” with Germany by providing it with technical aid as well as transferring their patent rights and manufacturing permits to it. For example, when Germany was preparing to build its air force, the United States provided it every month with enough accessories and equipment to assemble 100 planes; Britain also made available tens of thousands of up-to-date plane engines in 1934 and 1935. By 1939, Germany was producing more than 1,300 planes annually. While building its naval force, Germany also received aid from British financial groups. All the crude oil Germany needed was imported from the United States and all the non-ferrous metals, rare metals and alloys were provided chiefly by Britain and its self-governing dominions and colonies. The French monopolistic merchants of death also provided Germany with large quantities of munitions.

The main purpose of the economic appeasement policy was to stabilize the rule of the German monopoly capitalists and suppress the revolution of the people in the country where

(Continued on p. 31.)
ROUND THE WORLD

GENEVA

Conference on Combating Apartheid

Representatives from about 100 countries, some national-liberation movements and international organizations attended the world conference on combating apartheid which took place in Geneva from August 14 to 26, in accordance with the resolution adopted at the 28th United Nations General Assembly in 1973. The U.N. resolution called for actions to combat racism and apartheid in the ten years beginning from December 10, 1973.

"The Vorster racist regime in South Africa enforces a cruel racist rule over and racial oppression of the Azanian and Namibian peoples. Racial discrimination against and persecution of the Zimbabwean people practised by the Smith racist regime in Rhodesia are no less vicious than those practised by its South African counterpart. Vorster, Smith and their ilk have turned the rich and beautiful territories in southern Africa into living hells." This was said by An Chih-yuan, Head of the Chinese Delegation, during the general debate at the Geneva conference.

Many representatives, especially those from third world countries, condemned the Vorster and Smith racist regimes in their speeches.

An Chih-yuan pointed out: One superpower is aiding and abetting the racist regimes in every manner so as to preserve its vested interests in this region. The other superpower, a latecomer on the scene, moved by the needs of its global strategy to seize strategic positions and resources, control Africa and outflank Europe, is intensifying its offensive and making energetic efforts to infiltrate and expand in southern Africa. Furthermore, he went on, it is using mercenary troops more frequently and on a massive scale to repress the African people, interfere in the internal affairs of African countries and launch armed invasion against these countries.

The conference adopted a declaration and a programme of action. The declaration notes that all forms of discrimination jeopardize international peace and security. Apartheid "is a crime against humanity and an affront to the dignity of mankind, and is a threat to peace and security in the world," it says.

The declaration denounces the racist regimes in southern Africa for using Bantustans as a means to dispossess the African people of their land and to consolidate "the political and economic White settler domination. "The so-called internal settlement in Southern Rhodesia is a blatant attempt to split the national-liberation movement, to foment civil war and perpetuate racist minority rule and cannot be an acceptable solution to the problem of Zimbabwe," it adds.

The declaration calls upon the governments of various countries, international and regional organizations to extend support to and solidarity with all oppressed peoples and their national-liberation movements, frontline countries and all victims of racism and racial discrimination, colonialism and apartheid. The declaration condemns the increasing relations between the Zionist state of Israel and the racist regime of South Africa and expresses its solidarity with the Palestinian people in their struggle for liberation and against racial discrimination.

The programme of action calls upon all states to take immediate and effective measures to put an end to the inhumane policies of apartheid and racial discrimination practised by the minority group in southern Africa.

It requests the U.N. Security Council to urgently consider the imposition of comprehensive and mandatory sanctions against the apartheid regime of South Africa and the racial regimes of Rhodesia and Namibia.

DEMOCRATIC KAMPUCHEA

Refuting Soviet Slander

In a statement on August 27, the Press Department of the Foreign Ministry of Democratic Kampuchea was authorized to refute the vicious slanders against Kampuchea from Soviet sources.

The statement said that the propaganda barrage of TASS, Pravda and other Soviet journals and T.V. stations had repeatedly intervened in the internal affairs of Kampuchea and
opposed the revolution of Kampuchea and its stand of independence, self-reliance and keeping the country's destiny in its own hands.

In the war for Kampuchean national liberation, the statement pointed out, the Soviet mass media came down on the side of the traitorous Lon Nol clique, the lackey of U.S. imperialism, and were antagonistic to the Kampuchean revolution and the Kampuchean people. After liberation, the Soviet propaganda apparatus smeared the Kampuchean revolution and Democratic Kampuchea and supported and encouraged the aggressive and expansionist Viet Nam in its invasion of Kampuchea and its attempt to incorporate Kampuchea into the so-called "Indochina federation."

The statement said that towards these unfriendly and hostile acts the Kampuchean people and the Democratic Kampuchean Government, out of their desire to remain friendly with the Soviet people, took an attitude of restraint and forbearance and refused to be agitated. Ignoring all this, however, the slanders and hostility of the Soviet leadership and its propaganda against Kampuchea went unabated.

The statement declared that the Kampuchean people and Government would never allow any country to interfere in its internal affairs or to encroach upon its sovereignty, "let alone sitting idly in face of the hostility on the part of the expansionist power and its accomplice, which were against the Kampuchean revolution and Democratic Kampuchea and support-

ing Viet Nam in its aggression, expansion and annexation of Kampuchea."

ASIAN AND PACIFIC ECONOMIC CO-OPERATION

Unity Against Hegemony

The 3-day (August 21-23) Ministerial Conference on Trade Co-operation in Asia and the Pacific Region was held in New Delhi by the U.N. Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific. It unanimously adopted a programme of action for trade expansion and co-operation in Asia and the Pacific region.

The preamble to the programme of action says that the programme will further promote the objective of establishing a new international economic order. It agrees that promotion of intra-regional co-operation should be based on the principles of independence, sovereignty, equality and mutual benefit. It reaffirms with emphasis the need for special measures to develop the least developed, landlocked and island countries of the region.

Liu Hsi-wen, Chinese Vice-Minister of Foreign Trade, who headed the Chinese Delegation to the conference, said in his speech on August 22 that economic and trade co-operation between the Asian and Pacific countries plays an important role in forging unity in the effort to seek national prosperity, to promote the growth of the national economy and to deter the expansion and penetration by hegemonism. This serves the interest of the common cause of the Asian and Pacific peoples in consolidating their political independence, achieving economic independence and opposing hegemonism. The contention between the two superpowers is the main cause of intranquillity in the world today. The late-coming superpower in particular, wild with ambition, is stretching its tentacles everywhere in the world. While sowing discord and creating troubles in Africa, it is stepping up its expansion and penetration in Asia and the Pacific region. Of late, it has suddenly changed its ways and is refurbishing its long-rejected scheme of "Asian collective security system" by dressing it up as support for the Southeast Asian countries in their effort to set up a zone of peace and neutrality. It claims that there are "many common grounds in the aims for ensuring security in Asia between the 'Asian collective security system' and the advocacy of a neutralized Southeast Asia" and mainly attempts to put Southeast Asian countries in the orbit of its "collective security system."

China, Liu Hsi-wen noted, attaches great importance to developing economic and trade relations in Asia and the Pacific region. It has established trade relations with almost all countries and territories in this region. He said that on the basis of mutual respect for national independence, sovereignty, equality and mutual benefit, China will constantly expand its economic and trade co-operation with countries and territories in this region according to what can and must be done.

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ON THE HOME FRONT

Transforming the Tsaidam Basin

THE Tsaidam Basin on northwest China's Chinghai-Tibet Plateau, it was recently announced, will be transformed into a mechanized agricultural base in eight years.

With an area of 200,000 square kilometres, Tsaidam is the third largest inland river basin in China. Known as a "treasure house," it abounds in oil, asbestos, coal and other natural resources, and has about 200,000 hectares of virgin land that can be reclaimed.

Last year Tan Chi-lung, first secretary of the provincial Party committee of Chinghai, made an inspection tour of the basin some 300 kilometres to the west of Sining, the provincial capital. After his inspection and surveys by other leading cadres, a plan was drawn up by the provincial Party committee for exploiting the basin's natural resources.

A serious handicap to speedy industrial development in Tsaidam at present is the shortage in farmland in the basin today averages 75,000 tons.

Foshan: A Clean City

FOSHAN in Kwangtung Province was cited as one of the "clean cities" in China in the early 60s. It has kept up its reputation for over a decade. Now a medium-sized industrial city with a population of 250,000, it is as clean as ever.

Many anti-pollution devices have been installed in the factories to cope with the three wastes — waste liquid, gas and residue. Black smoke from the factory chimneys has basically disappeared. While being used as fertilizer, the city's night-soil is turned into methane for generating electricity. In Shihwan town, a famous porcelain producing centre, the dust that used to be everywhere is now kept under control.

Located on the Pearl River delta, the city of Foshan has a history of 1,300 years. Before liberation, flies and mosquitoes used to breed in the dirty puddles and ditches. From 1912 to 1946 there were six epidemics of cholera, bubonic plague and malaria; many people had died and many others fled to other places. When the city was liberated, it had a population of only 80,000.

Since liberation, the Foshan people have carried out mass health and sanitation campaigns. Sewers totalling 140,000 metres long have been built since 1958, and more than 1,300 lanes and streets have been replaced by 526 cement or asphalt roads. Low-lying areas and stagnant pools have been filled in and turned into parks, squares and sports grounds,
while the main roads have been repaired and widened, with trees planted on both sides.

In 1960, Foshan was commended as an advanced unit in the nationwide health and sanitation campaign. Premier Chou En-lai encouraged the Foshan people to keep up their reputation.

Eighteen thousand households in the city have now been commended for cleanliness. In the last ten years bed bugs, flies and mosquitoes have been basically eliminated.

**Shock-Workers of The New Long March**

In Shanghai, five outstanding Communist Youth League members were recently awarded the title of “Shock-Worker of the New Long March” by the municipal Youth League committee. Emulating for the title, 2,800,000 Communist Youth League members and other young people in this metropolis are working hard and studying diligently to improve their skills.

The new Long March means the modernization of China’s agriculture, industry, national defence and science and technology by the end of the century.

The five shock-workers are: Hsu Kuo-ping, a woman weaver in the Shanghai No. 9 Cotton Mill, who turned out 130,000 metres of flawless cloth last year and 70,000 metres in less than six months this year; Tang Ta-chang, a technician at the Shanghai General Camera Works; Cheng Yen-ping, a new worker at the Shanghai No. 2 Rubber Shoes Factory; Huang Yi-yen, a silk weaver; and Mao Yi-chun, a team leader of stevedores at the Shanghai Harbour. They have distinguished themselves at their posts.

Shanghai has adopted diversified methods to help young workers to become both “red and expert,” that is, to become workers with socialist consciousness and professional skill. For instance, to encourage 200,000 young cutting tool operators to improve their skills, the city has recently organized a contest in metal cutting techniques. Taking part in the finals in screw cutting and five other items were 36 young workers selected from among 1,100 young workers in a number of preliminary contests.

Factory workers beat drums and cymbals to send off their finalists. Spectators swarmed round the machine tools, and some stood on the benches or climbed on to the windows to get a better view of the contest. Among the spectators were nationally known cutting experts and model workers, as well as teachers and parents of the contestants.

Lin Lien-fen, a woman worker at the Shanghai Printing and Dyeing Machinery Repair Plant, won the ball cutting contest by cutting a round piece of steel 43 millimetres in diameter into a ball 40 millimetres in 18 minutes and 17 seconds, a task which usually takes 40 minutes or an hour. It has a smooth finish and needs no further processing.

The average age of the top winners of the six cutting items at this contest is 25. Their efficiency is several and even a dozen times higher than the average. Prizes or citations were issued by the Shanghai Municipal Revolutionary Committee and the Municipal Trade Union Council.

(Continued from p. 27.)

A revolutionary situation was particularly visible after the outbreak of the unprecedentedly deep and sharp economic crisis of the capitalist world in 1929. Moreover, the policy intended to build Germany into a force against the newborn socialist Soviet Union. In particular, Hitler was actively patronized when he rose to power as a champion of anti-communist forces and clamoured for what the United States, Britain and some other countries also favoured — a thrust to the east. However, it was not the Soviet Union but Britain and France that were contending with Germany for hegemony over Europe and the world before World War II. Thus it was to no avail that Chamberlain and his ilk courted Hitler, for he persisted in regarding Britain as the “principal enemy” and war against Britain and France as “a matter of life and death.” Indeed, Hitler contemplated attacking the Soviet Union, but only after first seizing the industries and resources of the principal West European countries. The attempt of the West to divert the Hitler peril eastward failed. When World War II broke out, Western countries bore the brunt of the attack and suffered great losses.

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