

PEKING REVIEW

16

April 19, 1963

Chairman Liu Shao-chi in Indonesia

A rousing welcome for China's head of state (p. 7).

Cuba, We Are With You!

Support Cuba, Latin America Day in Peking (p. 12).

Stop U.S. Aggression in Laos

Chinese Government statement and *Renmin Ribao* editorial
(p. 13).

China's Table Tennis Successes

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報

A WEEKLY MAGAZINE OF CHINESE NEWS AND VIEWS

See How Low the Modern Revisionists Have Sunk!

This is a collection of articles published in *Renmin Ribao* between September and December 1962, exposing and refuting the modern revisionists represented by the Tito group of Yugoslavia.

In Refutation of Modern Revisionism

(Enlarged Edition)

This book contains the Resolution of the Second Session of the Eighth National Congress of the Communist Party of China on the 1957 Moscow meetings of representatives of the Communist and Workers' Parties. It also contains important articles and editorials, published in the Chinese press between May 1958 and December 1961, exposing and refuting the modern revisionism of Yugoslavia.

Both the above are

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(BEIJING ZHOUBAO)

A WEEKLY MAGAZINE OF CHINESE
NEWS AND VIEWS

April 19, 1963 Vol. VI No. 16

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April 19, 1963

THE WEEK

Among the major events of the week:

● Chairman and Madame Liu Shao-chi receive a rousing welcome in Indonesia. The press in both countries greets this friendship visit as a major contribution to the solidarity of the Asian countries and to Asian and world peace.

● The Chinese Government issued a statement on April 16 sharply condemning U.S. imperialist activities aimed to subvert the Laotian Government of National Union and rekindle the civil war in Laos.

● Millions go to the polls. Elections at the primary levels are in full swing in many parts of the country.

● Chinese table tennis players win three titles — men's team, men's singles and men's doubles — at the 27th World Table Tennis Championships.

● African Freedom Day and the 8th anniversary of the Bandung Conference were celebrated in Peking.

● Peking held a mass rally in support of the struggles of the people of Cuba and other Latin American countries against U.S. imperialism.

● *Renmin Ribao* published on April 13 excerpts of a speech by Njoto, Second Vice-Chairman of the Central Committee of the Indonesian Communist Party, to Party activists in Djakarta, stressing that independence and freedom are possible only when the people dare to struggle and carry through the revolution.

On April 16, *Renmin Ribao* carried the full text of an address by Le Duan, First Secretary of the Central Committee of the Viet Nam Workers' Party, commemorating the death of Karl Marx 80 years ago. The speech was published in *Hoc Tap*, organ of the Central Committee of the Viet Nam Workers' Party.

Elections in Full Swing

The election of deputies to the people's congresses at the primary levels is now in full swing throughout China. This is the fifth time these biennial elections are being held. The first was in 1953.

Deputies to the people's congress of a *hsiang* (township), town, municipal district or a municipality not divided into districts are directly elected by the voters by secret ballot; their term of office is two years. These people's congresses at the primary levels will elect deputies to the next higher level, the people's congresses of counties or municipalities divided into districts. These in turn will elect deputies to the people's congresses of provinces and municipalities directly under the central authority which will then elect Deputies to the National People's Congress.

The Constitution provides that all citizens who have reached the age of 18, except insane persons and those

deprived of their rights by law, have the right to vote and stand for election, irrespective of their nationality, race, sex, occupation, social origin, religious belief, education, property status, or length of residence.

The people treasure these rights, which they have won after long years of hard struggles before liberation. So when election day comes round, there is a festive air everywhere. Red scrolls and banners greeting the elections are displayed on public buildings and private houses, while the lists of the electors, written on red paper, are put up on the walls weeks before election day. In nominating their candidates—who are invariably outstanding persons on all fronts of socialist construction—the electors thoroughly discuss their qualifications before a final decision is made.

April 14 was a red-letter day for Peking residents. Over 1.7 million electors in the city proper and its



City District Election

Sketch by Chen Teh-lin

outlying districts turned out to vote for deputies to the district people's congresses of Peking municipality. Leaders of the Chinese Communist Party and the People's Government voted together with the people in the Zhongnanhai electoral division where the Party's Central Committee and the State Council are situated.

Election dates vary. In Kweichow, Heilungkiang and a few other provinces where the campaign began earlier in the year, elections at the primary level have practically ended. Most of the other provinces and regions are in the midst of their election campaigns.

War Criminals Pardoned

On April 9, the Supreme People's Court pardoned and released 35 war criminals in accordance with an order issued on March 30 by the Chairman of the People's Republic of China. This is the fourth group of war criminals pardoned and released since the founding of the People's Republic of China.

The group of released men include 30 who belonged to the Chiang Kai-shek clique, four to the puppet "Manchukuo" regime and one to the puppet "Inner-Mongolian Autonomous Government." They had been imprisoned for ten years or more. They have repented of their crimes against the Chinese people, and have reformed and turned over a new leaf as a result of the patient educational work carried out among them by the People's Government in accordance with the policy of combining punishment with leniency, and reform through labour with ideological education.

The released war criminals belonging to the Chiang Kai-shek clique include Kang Tse, Lieutenant-General and commander of the 15th "Pacification Zone"; Yen Yi, Lieutenant-General and commander of the 47th Army; Li Yi-chih, Lieutenant-General and commander of the 74th Division of the 55th Army of the 8th Army Group; Sun Tu, Lieutenant-General and deputy commander-in-chief of the Southwest China Military and Political Affairs Administration; and Kao Chien-pai, Lieutenant-General and commander of the Officers' Training Corps of the 24th Army. Among the group are also major-generals and field-grade officers of the Kuomintang Army as well as Kuomintang party and administrative officials.

Among the released war criminals of the puppet "Manchukuo" regime are Ku Tzu-heng, Minister of the Department of Communications, and Chao Chiu-hang, Lieutenant-General and commander of the Third Army District.

The released war criminal of the puppet "Inner-Mongolian Autonomous Government" is Demochuk Donglub, chairman of the puppet "Inner-Mongolian Autonomous Government" and commander-in-chief of the puppet "Mongolian Army."

When the war criminals received notification of their pardon and release, they expressed their gratitude to the Chinese Communist Party and the People's Government for enabling them to turn over a new leaf. Many stated their determination to continue to remould their ideology and do their best to promote the nation's socialist construction.

Earlier, on April 4, two Japanese war criminals, Hiraku Suzuki and Hideya Miyake, were released in Fushun before the expiration of their terms. They have repented of their crimes and behaved well during their imprisonment.

Indian Soldiers Released

Batitung, Tibet, on April 10 was the setting of a warm send-off. Amidst cheers of "Hindi Chini Bhai Bhai! (India and China are brothers!)" 144 captured Indian military personnel were released and repatriated by the Chinese frontier guards. They were received by Indian Red Cross officials who, notified by the Chinese Red Cross Society, had come to Batitung. The Indian soldiers were captured while attacking the Chinese frontier guards late last year.

A farewell party was given by the Chinese frontier guards for the Indian soldiers at the centre set up for them on the eve of their release. At the lively camp-fire gathering which followed the farewell dinner, the Indians sang and danced. Many expressed gratitude to the Chinese Government for the good treatment given them during their capture. "I might forget everything else in the world, but your friendship would remain in my mind," one of them said.

As they mounted the trucks for Batitung, many of the Indians were moved to tears. They warmly shook the hands of the Chinese staff and presented them with bouquets of wild flowers they had picked from nearby fields.

On April 17 the Chinese frontier guards released another 131 captured Indian soldiers.

These were the first groups of captured Indian soldiers repatriated following the Chinese Government decision, announced on April 2, to release and repatriate all the 3,213 captured Indian military personnel. The rest will be released group by group.

Greetings to Fraternal Parties

The Central Committee of the Communist Party of China has sent messages of greetings to the Communist Parties of Great Britain and Finland now holding their Party congresses.

The Chinese people rejoice at every success of the working class and

labouring people of Britain in their struggle against monopoly capital in their own country, to protect the vital interests of the working people, and for peace, democracy and social progress, says the message to the 28th Congress of the Communist Party of Great Britain.

The Chinese people, the message stresses, treasure highly the traditional friendship between the peoples of China and Britain, and they earnestly hope that this friendship will be constantly consolidated and developed in the struggle against imperialism, in defence of world peace and for human progress. The urgent task confronting the Communists today, the message goes on to say, is to unite on the basis of Marxism-Leninism and proletarian internationalism, on the basis of the Moscow Declaration and the Moscow Statement, and in the common struggle against imperialism. "May the present congress of the Communist Party of Great Britain make great contributions to safeguarding and strengthening this unity," concludes the message.

The message to the 13th Congress of the Communist Party of Finland recalls the traditional friendship between the peoples of China and Finland and expresses the hope that this friendship will be further developed by the two peoples in their common struggle against imperialism. The common struggle against imperialism, the message says, urgently calls for the safeguarding and strengthening of the unity of the international communist ranks on the basis of Marxism-Leninism and proletarian internationalism. "May the 13th Congress of the Finnish Communist Party make great contributions to safeguarding and strengthening this unity," the message concludes.

African Freedom Day

Peking, on April 15, marked African Freedom Day at a reception jointly organized by the Chinese-African People's Friendship Association, the Chinese Committee for Afro-Asian Solidarity and the All-China Federation of Literary and Art Circles. Some of the capital's leading artistes gave a performance of songs and dances portraying the life and struggles of the African peoples.

In a statement greeting the day, the Chinese Committee for Afro-Asian

Solidarity extended warm fraternal greetings to the African peoples. It reiterated the Chinese people's resolute support for the African peoples in their just struggles against imperialism and old and new colonialism, and to achieve and safeguard their national independence. *Renmin Ribao*, in its editorial of the day, paid tribute to the African peoples engaged in this struggle. For hundreds of years, the editorial says, Western colonialists have brutally oppressed and enslaved the African peoples and deprived them of all freedom and human rights. But the African peoples have stood up. They are waging vigorous struggles against aggression and oppression and are determined to cast off once and for all the colonial yokes imposed on them.

The African peoples, the editorial continues, are marching from victory to victory along the road of national independence. In the past year, four more countries on the continent attained independence. Today, among the 59 African countries and regions, 33 have won independence. Their populations account for over 85 per cent of the total population in Africa and their total area makes up more than 80 per cent of the land mass of Africa. The victory of the armed struggle of the Algerian people has started a new page in the anti-imperialist struggle of the African peoples and has greatly inspired them in their fight for national liberation. An increasing number of oppressed nations in Africa look upon armed struggle as their road to emancipation, notes the editorial.

The countries which have newly attained independence are striving to consolidate their independence, safeguard their sovereignty and eliminate all colonial survivals, the editorial continues, and this marks a further development in the African national-liberation movement.

The continuous series of African victories in the national-independence struggle shows that the imperialist colonial system in Africa is falling to pieces, the editorial says. But the imperialists will never reconcile themselves to their defeats and are using every means possible to preserve whatever colonial positions they still have in order to stage a comeback some day. This shows that imperialism and colonialism were, are and always will be the ferocious enemy of the African

peoples. The most important and most pressing task confronting the African peoples, therefore, is to carry to final victory their struggle against imperialism and new and old colonialism.

The editorial calls attention to the intrigues of U.S. imperialism which is worming its way into Africa. Taking advantage of the weakened position of the old colonial powers and professing themselves to be the "kinsmen" and "friends" of the African peoples, the editorial says, the U.S. imperialists are working vigorously to penetrate into Africa. Under the mask of its much vaunted humanitarianism, U.S. imperialism is in fact helping the old colonialists to slaughter the African people and strangle the national-independence movements on that continent. The editorial recalls the events in the Congo which have enabled the African peoples to see the real nature of the U.S. neo-colonialists. The grim facts of the past, the editorial goes on, have made the people of the Congo and other African countries realize that U.S. neo-colonialism is more sinister and ruthless than the old colonialism and that it is their most vicious and dangerous enemy.

In their common struggle against imperialism and colonialism, the editorial declares, the unity between the peoples of Africa, Asia and Latin America is being further enhanced. Recalling that the Third Afro-Asian People's Solidarity Conference held in Moshi, Tanganyika, adopted a resolution on the convening of an Asian, African and Latin American Peoples' Solidarity Conference, the editorial says that this reflects the desire for mutual support and help among the peoples of the three continents in their common struggle against imperialism.

"The African peoples' anti-imperialist struggle is inseparable from that of the Asian and Latin American peoples," the editorial concludes. "Their formation of a broader anti-imperialist united front in this struggle will inevitably promote a greater upsurge of the national-liberation movements on these three continents. The Chinese people are closely following every advance made by the African peoples in their struggle to win and safeguard national independence and rejoice at every victory gained by them. The African peoples can have full con-

fidence that China's 650 million people will be with them for ever."

Bandung Anniversary

More than 300 students from Asian and African countries met in Peking on April 13 to honour the 8th anniversary of the Bandung Conference.

The meeting was sponsored jointly by the Union of Ceylonese Students in China, the Federation of Indonesian Students in China and the Peking Students' Federation.

Speaking at the meeting, P.P. Perera, President of the Union of Ceylonese Students in China, declared that the national-liberation movement had grown since the Bandung Conference. The face of Asia, Africa and Latin America had changed radically in the past eight years. But, he said, imperialism would never reconcile itself to defeat. It was still trying to repress the people's struggle on these continents. People must not entertain any illusion about imperialism and colonialism. To defeat them, the people of the world must strengthen their unity and wage a joint struggle.

The meeting adopted a resolution calling on the people of Asia and Africa to unite closely with the oppressed peoples the world over, support each other, sharpen their vigilance and struggle to accomplish their historic task of opposing imperialism and colonialism, both old and new.

Peking citizens will meet to celebrate the Bandung anniversary on April 18.

"Rodong Shinmoon" Delegation

A five-member delegation from *Rodong Shinmoon*, organ of the Central Committee of the Korean Workers' Party, is visiting Peking.

The delegation led by Chung Joon Ki, the editor-in-chief of the paper, came to China at the invitation of *Renmin Ribao*. The delegation was warmly received by the Peking press circles and the staff of *Renmin Ribao*.

Albanian Visitors in Peking

Last week Peking was host to a number of visitors from fraternal Albania.

They are the Albanian communications delegation, headed by First Vice-Minister of Communications Milo Qirko, which has come to China to attend the second meeting of the administrative council of the Sino-Albanian Joint-Stock Shipping Company; the Albanian delegation of archivists led by Dhimiter Kotini, director of the State Archives Bureau, which arrived in Peking on April 3, in accordance with the 1963-64 executive plan of the Sino-Albanian cultural co-operation agreement; and two Albanian cinema workers, Niko Koleka, deputy head of the "New Albania" Film Studio and scenario writer, and Endri Keko, film director.

On April 10 Premier Chou En-lai received the Albanian communications delegation and the Albanian archivists delegation, and Vice-Premier Lu Ting-yi received the Albanian film workers.

On the same day the visitors were entertained by the China-Albania Friendship Association.

Viet Nam Government Delegation

The Viet Nam Government Delegation led by Nguyen Van Tran is now visiting south China.

While in Peking the delegation was received by Vice-Premier Li Fu-chun.

A banquet was given for the delegation on April 5 by Le Tan, Charge d'Affaires ad interim of the Vietnamese Embassy in China. In their toasts at the banquet, both Le Tan and Fang Yi, Director of the Central Bureau of Economic Relations With Foreign Countries, hailed the arrangements concerning the execution of the already concluded agreement on economic and technical assistance, and expressed hopes for the consolidation of the great friendship and militant unity between the two peoples.

Industry Backs the Farms

As the country presses ahead with spring ploughing and sowing, industry is stepping up its aid to the farms in a grand joint effort to raise a good harvest this year.

Compared to the first quarter of last year, industry in this year's first quarter has supplied the farms with more tractors, irrigation and drain-

age equipment, improved farm tools, chemical fertilizers and insecticides.

The output of tractors alone increased by more than 50 per cent. The Loyang tractor plant, China's largest, fulfilled its first quarter's production quotas ahead of schedule, with a marked improvement in quality. To meet mounting demands for irrigation and drainage machinery, the nation's machine-building factories have taken special measures to increase production. The current output of electric motors—much needed by the pumping stations of the rural people's communes—is running way ahead of last year. Compared with last spring, electric pumping stations in the countryside today have an additional capacity of some 500,000 kilowatts. More rural power grids are being built or extended in the grain- and cotton-producing regions.

Special attention has been paid to the production of farm tools and other equipment traditionally used by the peasants. A big rise in output was registered for some of the best-selling farming implements made of iron, wood, and bamboo. The output of animal-drawn carts with rubber tyres, a popular means of transport in north China villages, was nearly doubled.

The nation's chemical works also reported a rise in the production of fertilizers and insecticides. Compared to last year, the big plants in Kirin, Lanchow, Nanking and Talien produced 80,000 tons more nitrogenous fertilizer in the first quarter of the year. Their average daily output outstripped last year's peak record. By mid-March, they had reached and passed the first quarter's production target for phosphate fertilizer which is in big demand for communes growing cotton and paddyrice.

Goods for the farms are being rushed from factories to the countryside. They get top transport priority. In this first quarter the average daily amount of such goods handled by the railways showed a marked increase. Many branch lines have been built in the rural areas to speed up transportation. Highways and navigable waterways, too, have been extended to facilitate the increasing flow of industrial goods urgently needed during the current busy farming season.

A Visit for Friendship, Unity and Peace

by PIEN HSIEH

LIU SHAO-CHI, Chairman of the People's Republic of China, is paying a state visit to Indonesia. This is the first trip ever made by China's head of state to friendly Asian countries. It is an event of major political significance.

In Indonesia, Chairman and Madame Liu Shao-chi, Vice-Premier and Madame Chen Yi have been accorded a welcome impressive both for its mass character and great warmth. The occasion is more than an opportunity for statesmen to meet; it has become a popular festival of friendship.

Comradeship-in-Arms

And this friendship is not an ordinary one. As President Sukarno, greeting Chairman Liu Shao-chi upon his arrival, declared: "Friendship between two nations is like friendship between two persons; if it is a militant one, it will certainly be more cordial and closer than the friendship which exists only in the moonlight." Replying, Chairman Liu Shao-chi also stressed that "the brotherly friendship between our two peoples has been formed through our protracted struggles against imperialism and colonialism."

The Indonesian people, through their rousing welcome to Chairman Liu Shao-chi, have demonstrated the strength and profundity of this comradeship-in-arms linking the two great Asian nations.

Days before Chairman Liu Shao-chi's arrival, Djakarta citizens, from dockers in the south to peasants in the northern suburbs, held numerous meetings to prepare for the grand welcome. Boys and girls were often seen rehearsing the song *Djakarta-Peking*. One of the workers busily decorating the city voiced the popular sentiments in these words: "Let's make Djakarta more beautiful. We want our guests to feel at home."

A festive air reigned in the Indonesian capital on April 12, the day of Chairman Liu Shao-chi's arrival. When his special plane, escorted by four Indonesian jet fighters, landed, the huge throngs of welcomers assembled at the Kemajoran airport broke into deafening cheers. President Sukarno went to the planeside. The leaders of the 650 million Chinese and 100 million Indonesians embraced each other.

The moving scene there was best described by President Sukarno himself when he said, in his welcome speech: "Gathered at this airport are representatives of the people of all walks of life in the Indonesian Republic. There are representatives of the government, of the armed forces, the political parties and there are also representatives of the people of various regions with all their local colours making Indonesia look like a very beautiful flower basket. They all cherish an ardent love for the Chinese Government and people."

Over 500,000 Djakarta citizens lined the roads from the airport to the Presidential Palace. They waved the red-and-white flag of Indonesia and the five-starred flag of China. They shouted welcoming slogans. Many were dancing to the accompaniment of national instruments. Others were singing Chinese and Indonesian songs. Festive jubilation reached its climax as the long motorcade carrying the Chinese guests slowly drove through the city.

Djakarta's main thoroughfares were gaily decorated. There were portraits of Chairman and Madame Liu Shao-chi and of President Sukarno. There were specially erected arches and towers. Multi-coloured flags fluttered in the light tropical breeze. Big streamers hung over the roads carried these striking inscriptions:

"Taiwan is the legitimate territory of the People's Republic of China, just as West Irian is of the Republic of Indonesia,"



Chairman Liu Shao-chi, President Sukarno and Madame Liu Shao-chi at the Independence Palace.

China's Head of State Tours Asian Countries

April 12. Chairman of the People's Republic of China Liu Shao-chi and his wife, Wang Kuang-mei, leave the southwestern city of Kunming for Indonesia. They are accompanied by Vice-Premier and Foreign Minister Chen Yi and his wife, Chang Chien. Other members of the party include Huang Chen, Vice-Minister of Foreign Affairs, and Chiao Kuan-hua, Assistant Minister of Foreign Affairs.

Chairman Liu Shao-chi and his party stop over at Rangoon. They are warmly greeted at the airport by General Ne Win, Chairman of the Revolutionary Council of Burma, Madame Ne Win, Foreign Minister U Thil Han and other high-ranking Burmese officials.

President Sukarno and more than 500,000 Djakarta citizens give a grand welcome to Chairman Liu Shao-chi upon his arrival in the Indonesian capital.

Accompanied by President Sukarno, Chairman and Madame Liu Shao-chi visit *batik* (painted cloth-fabrics) and orchid exhibitions at the State Palace. The President names a newly developed variety of flower Wang Kuang-mei—in honour of Madame Liu Shao-chi.

April 13. President Sukarno, Chairman Liu Shao-chi and his party attend the 17th anniversary celebrations of the Indonesian Air Force, watch an air show and visit an aviation exhibition.

Chairman and Madame Liu Shao-chi pay a courtesy call to President Sukarno at the Independence Palace.

President Sukarno gives a grand state banquet in honour of Chairman and Madame Liu Shao-chi at the Independence Palace. After the banquet, host and guests attend a concert in the State Palace.

April 14. Chairman Liu Shao-chi receives Indonesian Chief Minister Djuanda and other high-ranking

officials of the Indonesian Government at the State Palace.

Chairman Liu Shao-chi lays a wreath at the martyrs cemetery on the outskirts of Djakarta. The ribbon on the wreath is inscribed: "The martyrs who laid down their lives in the revolution for the independence of Indonesia are immortal."

Madame Liu Shao-chi, accompanied by Madame Djuanda, wife of the Indonesian Chief Minister, visits a rehabilitation centre for crippled children in Djakarta. She donates 200,000 rupiahs to the centre.

Chairman and Madame Liu Shao-chi, accompanied by President Sukarno, visit Bogor. Tens of thousands of cheering Indonesians line the 60-kilometre highway from Djakarta to greet the Chinese guests, and practically the whole city of Bogor turns out to welcome them.

April 15. 250,000 people greet Chairman and Madame Liu Shao-chi when they arrive at the world-famous city of Bandung accompanied by President Sukarno and Madame Hartini Sukarno. Despite sudden rain before the guests' arrival, the whole city filled with joyous crowds becomes a sea of flags. Along the 100-kilometre route from Bogor to Bandung, large numbers of villagers and townfolk had turned out to cheer the Chinese guests on their way.

April 16. Chairman and Madame Liu Shao-chi, accompanied by President Sukarno and Madame Hartini Sukarno, arrive in Jogjakarta from Bandung by special plane. Citizens of this former capital of the Indonesian Republic line the route and give an equally heart-warming welcome to their distinguished guests.

April 17. Chairman and Madame Liu Shao-chi fly to Bali from Bandung with their hosts, President Sukarno and Madame Hartini Sukarno.

"The Republic of Indonesia and the People's Republic of China oppose imperialism and neo-colonialism,"

"The Republic of Indonesia and the People's Republic of China work for the success of the Games of New Emerging Forces,"

The Indonesian public has expressed its hearty welcome in many other ways. Popular organizations issued special statements. A flurry of welcome messages arrived at the Chinese Embassy. The press prominently covered and warmly commented on the visit.

There were equally unforgettable scenes of welcome when Chairman Liu Shao-chi visited Bogor, Bandung, Jogjakarta and other Indonesian cities.

"Once Independent, For Ever Independent!"

As the Indonesian people shower their friendly sentiments on the Chinese envoys, Chairman Liu Shao-chi, on his part, has conveyed the Chinese people's long-cherished admiration and respect for their Indonesian brothers.

"Merdeka!" "Once independent, for ever independent!" These Indonesian slogans resounded in China's cities and towns when President Sukarno first visited this country in 1956. Since then the Chinese people have always iden-

tified their Indonesian friends with these stirring calls to uphold independence and combat colonialism and imperialism.

Expressing this feeling of his people, Chairman Liu Shao-chi on his visit has repeatedly stated: "Indonesia is a country with a glorious revolutionary tradition. The Indonesian people is a great and heroic people." He has emphasized that Indonesia is playing an ever more important role in international affairs and its international status is continuously rising.

In a speech made at the state banquet President Sukarno gave in his honour in the spacious and brightly lit Independence Palace, Chairman Liu Shao-chi dwelt on this point more fully. He recalled the outstanding contributions made by Indonesia to the historic Bandung Conference of Asian and African countries in 1955. He pointed out that Indonesia, adhering to the ten principles of the Bandung Conference, had worked fruitfully for the unity and anti-imperialist struggle of the Afro-Asian nations. The Chinese Chairman declared:

At the conference of non-aligned countries in Belgrade, President Sukarno held aloft the anti-imperialist and anti-colonialist banner and won the applause of the

peoples of Asia, Africa and Latin America. President Sukarno's proposal for convening a second Asian-African conference has received the warm welcome and support of the Asian and African peoples. His proposal for holding games of the new emerging countries reflects the strong desire of the Asian and African peoples to free themselves from imperialist manipulation in international organizations. Indonesia's just stand of opposing the neo-colonialist scheme of Malaysia and supporting the revolutionary struggle of the people of North Kalimantan constitutes a serious blow to the colonialists, old and new.

With deep appreciation Chairman Liu Shao-chi said: "The Republic of Indonesia has become an important force opposing imperialism and colonialism and safeguarding



Vice-Premier and Foreign Minister Chen Yi and Madame Chen Yi having a cordial talk with Indonesian Chief Minister Djuanda and his wife

the peace and security of Southeast Asia and Asia as a whole."

As comrades-in-arms in the common fight against imperialism and colonialism, the Chinese and Indonesian

The Landmarks

Sino-Indonesian Friendship Grows Apace

Traditional friendship between China and Indonesia dates back to ancient times. Frequent cultural and commercial contacts began as early as the second century A.D. In 131 A.D., China received the first emissary of friendship from Yayadwipa (which we now know as Java). In the early part of the 15th century the well-known Chinese navigator Cheng Ho made repeated visits to Indonesia.

Both China and Indonesia gained independence after World War II. They established formal diplomatic relations with each other in April 1950, opening a new chapter in the long history of friendship between the two nations. Sino-Indonesian friendly co-operation has expanded and deepened in recent years on the basis of the Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence and the ten principles of the Bandung Conference.

Chinese and Indonesian leaders have exchanged frequent visits.

In April 1955, Premier Chou En-lai and Vice-Premier Chen Yi toured Indonesia after attending the Bandung Conference of Asian and African countries. A treaty on the question of dual nationality was signed during their stay.

In August 1956, Soong Ching Ling, then Vice-Chairman of the Standing Committee of the Chinese National People's Congress, visited Indonesia.

In March-April, 1961, Vice-Premier and Foreign Minister Chen Yi paid another visit to Indonesia and signed the Sino-Indonesian Treaty of Friendship and an agreement on cultural co-operation.

In August of the same year, a delegation of the Chinese National People's Congress headed by Vice-

Chairman of its Standing Committee Kuo Mo-jo toured Indonesia.

President Sukarno twice visited China, in September-October 1956 and June 1961. During his second visit, the two governments exchanged instruments of ratification of their Treaty of Friendship.

Ali Sastroamidjojo, former Premier of Indonesia, paid a visit to China in May-June 1955.

In September-October 1962, Madame Hartini Sukarno toured China.

Dr. Subandrio, Deputy Chief Minister of Indonesia, visited China last January.

China and Indonesia have successfully implemented their treaty on the question of dual nationality. They have thus settled in a friendly manner the complicated question of nationality of Chinese residents in Indonesia which is a legacy of history.

Economic co-operation between the two countries has grown markedly. Two trade agreements were signed, in 1953 and 1956 respectively. In 1961, the two governments reached accord on an economic and technical co-operation agreement. During Dr. Subandrio's visit to Peking last January, a new trade arrangement which benefits the economic development of both countries was made.

Also, non-governmental representatives of many trades and professions have exchanged visits. This, too, plays an important part in enhancing the mutual understanding and expanding the cultural interflow between the two peoples.

In 1955, an Indonesia-China Friendship Association was founded in Indonesia and a counterpart organization was formed in China.

peoples have always supported each other. And this mutual support has been reaffirmed and acclaimed time and again during Chairman Liu Shao-chi's visit.

The government and people of Indonesia actively support China's demand that Taiwan be liberated. They back the Chinese struggle against U.S. manoeuvres to sever Taiwan from its mother country and create "two Chinas." They maintain that China's legitimate seat in the United Nations should be restored to it. Last August, Indonesia defied pressure from the U.S. imperialists and their followers and took firm measures to prevent the "sports team" of the Chiang Kai-shek gang from entering Djakarta for the Fourth Asian Games. This foiled a U.S. plot to oppose the new China and undermine Afro-Asian solidarity under cover of sports activities.

For all this valuable support, Chairman Liu Shao-chi has expressed the heartfelt gratitude of the Chinese people to their Indonesian brothers.

The Chinese Government and people, on their part, have stood four-square behind Indonesia in its just and patriotic cause. As President Sukarno pointed out in one of his speeches: "The People's Republic of China helped us in suppressing the rebellion which attempted to overthrow the Republic of Indonesia; the People's Republic of China helped us in the struggle to liberate West Irian from imperialist and colonialist rule." "For this," the President said, "in the name of the government and people of the Republic of Indonesia, I wish to express my infinite gratitude."

On this coming May 1, the Indonesian flag will be the sole flag flying over West Irian. Chairman Liu Shao-chi

has warmly hailed this as a great victory won by Indonesia under the wise leadership of President Sukarno. The Chinese leader expressed confidence that no scheme hatched by the old and new colonialists could prevent the final and complete return of West Irian to Indonesia. "The national aspiration of the Indonesian people to establish a great republic extending from Sabang to Merauke," he said, "will certainly be realized."

Mutual support is an important component of Sino-Indonesian friendship. Co-operative relations between the two countries, however, have been steadily strengthened in other fields as well. These relations, firmly based on the Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence and the ten principles of the Bandung Conference and gaining fresh impetus from Chairman Liu Shao-chi's successful visit, will certainly grow stronger still.

Peace Zone in Asia

After his visit to Indonesia, Chairman Liu Shao-chi will proceed to Burma. There he will renew and strengthen the celebrated *paukphaw* (kinsmanlike) friendship already existing between the two neighbour countries of China and Burma.

All who cherish Afro-Asian solidarity are heartened by the new links of friendship being forged by China's head of state in foreign lands. They foresee that this visit will cement China's friendly co-operation with these Asian countries and hence consolidate and expand the zone of peace in Asia. That is why unbiased public opinion everywhere looks upon the visit as a journey for friendship and unity, for peace in Asia and the world.

27th World Championships

Chinese Table Tennis Successes

by TUNG FANG

CHINA'S players scored remarkable successes at the 27th World Table Tennis Championships held on April 5-14 in Prague. They won the men's team championship and took the first, second and third places in the men's singles and the men's doubles events. China's women players took third place in the team championship and in the singles and doubles.

The world championships in Prague this year were one of the most keenly contested in recent years. Over 400 of the world's best players from 50 countries and regions battled over the nets in Prague's Fucik Park Sports Hall for world honours. After 10 days of hot competitions, the final results for the seven events are:

Men's Team Championship: 1. China, 2. Japan, 3. Sweden and West Germany.

Women's Team Championship: 1. Japan, 2. Rumania, 3. China and Hungary.

Men's Singles: 1. Chuang Tse-tung (China), 2. Li Fu-jung (China), 3. Chang Hsieh-lin (China) and Wang Chih-liang (China).

Men's Doubles: 1. Chang Hsieh-lin/Wang Chih-liang (China), 2. Chuang Tse-tung/Hsu Yin-sheng (China),

3. Li Fu-jung/Wang Chia-sheng (China) and Keiichi Miki/Ken Konaka (Japan).

Women's Singles: 1. Kimiyo Matsuzaki (Japan), 2. Maria Alexandru (Rumania), 3. Sun Mei-ying (China) and Ella Constantinescu (Rumania).

Women's Doubles: 1. Kimiyo Matsuzaki/Masako Seki (Japan), 2. Diane Rowe/Mary Shannon (England), 3. Chiu Chung-hui/Wang Chien (China) and Kazuko Itoh/Noriko Yamanaka (Japan).

Mixed Doubles: 1. Koji Kimura/Kazuko Itoh (Japan), 2. Keiichi Miki/Masako Seki (Japan), 3. Chuang Tse-tung/Chiu Chung-hui (China) and Janos Fahazi/Eva Koczian Foldine (Hungary).

In the first five days of the championships, the world's top-notch teams contested for the team titles. Their performances in the early rounds demonstrated to veterans of the game that world table tennis had reached new heights of skill. The speed in play was much faster than ever before; tactics were more varied, and a greater variety of strokes were used by both veteran and young players of various countries. All this showed that the players



Victory smiles. China's men's team with the Swaythling Cup. From left to right: Wang Chia-sheng, Chuang Tse-tung, Hsu Yin-sheng, Fu Chi-fang (coach), Chang Hsieh-lin, Li Fu-jung

everywhere had obviously benefited from the experience gained at the last world championships.

In the competitions for the men's and women's team championships, China and Japan emerged victors, retaining the Swaythling Cup and the Corbillon Cup respectively. But during the course of play, many young new teams from Asian, African and Latin American countries put up a strong challenge, notably the team from the Korean Democratic People's Republic which did extremely well. Though it was only the second time that the Korean players took part in the world championships, in the men's team event they succeeded in defeating strong teams from such veteran table tennis strongholds as Hungary and Rumania. The teams from Indonesia and the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam also gave a good account of themselves.

In the individual events there were many surprises and upsets. Not a few seeded players went down before up-and-coming young players. The Chinese player Wang Chih-liang's successive victories over Janos Fahazi of Hungary, Radu Negulescu of Rumania and Koji Kimura of Japan caused quite a sensation.

The finals, and indeed the semi-finals too, of the men's singles were all-Chinese affairs. Four Chinese players successfully battled their way to the semi-finals, and in the finals once again Chuang Tse-tung met and defeated his team-mate Li Fu-jung to carry off the St. Bride Vase for the second time in succession.

The Chinese players did very well in the men's doubles too. The unseeded Chinese pair Chang Hsieh-lin and Wang Chih-liang confounded the prophets as they fought their way to victory. Among those they defeated were such powerful combinations as Japan's Ichiro Ogimura/Koji Kimura, and China's Li Fu-jung/Wang Chia-sheng and Chuang Tse-tung/Hsu Yin-sheng. Experts of the game noted with interest that they had beaten some of the world's best attacking players with their defensive-cum-attacking tactics.

The women's team title went for the fourth time in succession to Japan, a record in the history of world table tennis. Kimiyo Matsuzaki, mainstay of the Japanese

women's team, went on to win the women's singles title this year from Maria Alexandru of Rumania in fine style. She had to fight hard for her title, however. In an earlier round, she barely managed to beat China's Hu Ke-ming, an unseeded player, who took her to five games before she finally won the match. China's Sun Mei-ying, a veteran player who represented China as early as 1953 in the Bucharest championships, came third in the women's singles together with Rumania's Ella Constantinescu, also a veteran who first took part in world championship competitions more than ten years ago.

The mixed doubles competitions provided many thrills. The biggest surprise, perhaps, was sprung when China's Chang Hsieh-lin and Cheng Min-chih edged out Japan's Ichiro Ogimura and Kimiyo Matsuzaki, defending champions of the event. However, another Japanese pair Koji Kimura and Kazuko Itoh succeeded in winning the finals from their compatriots and so retained the mixed doubles title for Japan.

New and Old Friends

The Prague tournament has ended, but it will always be remembered as a tournament with an all-time high level.

A feature of the championships was the much faster attack. Defensive players had more spin to their chop strokes and were more tricky in their returns. Players of all teams showed greater skill in their services which helped them win many points. The great variety of styles and tactics in play, combined with greater speed and accuracy, will certainly promote the further development of table tennis.

But the Prague tournament was much more than a contest for world titles. Chinese players made many new friends and renewed old acquaintances from many lands. They exchanged souvenirs, swapped experience and learnt much from their friends.

The Chinese players had scored some success at the 27th World Championships. But as the leader of the Chinese team Jung Kao-tang said, they still had many weak points in their game. By watching and learning from the outstanding players of other lands at the championships, he said, they hoped to improve their skill and technique still further in the coming years.



Chuang Tse-tung, men's singles champion

Chang Hsieh-lin and Wang Chih-liang, men's doubles champions

Cuba, We Are With You!

by OUR CORRESPONDENT

SAPLINGS shine with new green. Flowers in full bloom dazzle the eye. The Cuban flag flies proudly in the breeze from the Caribbean on Giron Beach on the eve of the second anniversary of the victory of the Cuban people over the Washington-sponsored invasion of Cuba.

On April 17, 1961, U.S. mercenaries started to land on Cuba at Giron Beach and other places. They suffered a crushing defeat. The Cuban revolutionary army and militia units wiped them out in less than 72 hours. Giron Beach, the last position held by the mercenaries, was cleared on the afternoon of April 19. Today the Cuban people and their well-wishers all over the world are celebrating the anniversary of that victory. The spirit that inspires the slogan of "Fatherland or Death!" burns bright in the hearts of Cubans determined to crush again any new U.S. aggression.

Latin America on the Move

Ever since the Giron Beach victory the heroic Cuban people, under the firm leadership of their Revolutionary Government and Premier Fidel Castro, have been engaged in a continued, tit-for-tat struggle against U.S. imperialism. The "Caribbean crisis" created by the U.S. imperialists last October ended in another victory for the Cuban people. Heroic Cuba stands firm, the Revolutionary Government has become more consolidated than ever, its revolutionary influence is spreading. Under its influence, the national and democratic revolution of the people in other Latin American countries has risen to a new high. In many countries, such as Venezuela, Colombia and Guatemala, the people have taken the road of armed struggle. Any mountain in any of these countries may become another Sierra Maestra. The revolutionary flames in Latin America are licking at the very foundations of the rule of U.S. imperialism and its lackeys. At the same time, the Latin American peoples have strengthened their unity in their common struggle. They are united in their determination to oppose U.S. aggression against Cuba and other Latin American countries. This was demonstrated anew by the recent American Continental Congress in Solidarity With Cuba held in Niteroi, Brazil.

The revolutionary situation in Latin America was never so favourable to the people. This is why U.S. imperialism so deeply hates socialist Cuba and is trying by every means to strangle it. It is afraid that people in other Latin American countries will follow the example of Cuba and go the Cuban way. In a recent talk, U.S. President Kennedy not only showed his readiness to help the Cuban counter-revolutionaries to stage a comeback but also publicly called on them to join the U.S. armed forces so that they could work for the "common cause" of

overthrowing the Cuban Revolutionary Government. Immediately after the San Jose conference which Kennedy himself attended, the United States again conferred with the Ministers of Interior of various Central American countries to draw up fresh aggressive and subversive plans against Cuba.

In trying to stamp out the national-liberation movement in Latin America, Washington is using two counter-revolutionary tactics. It tries to fool the people with its "Alliance for Progress" programme. It is also working in closer collaboration with the local reactionary rulers and making active preparations to open a new "proving ground" on the Latin American continent for its so-called special warfare.

The Cuban people as well as the people in other Latin American countries are thus today confronted with a serious task of fighting U.S. imperialist intervention and aggression.

Support Cuba, Latin America Day

Back in February, the Third Asian-African People's Solidarity Conference at Moshi, Tanganyika, adopted a resolution calling the people of all Asian-African countries to observe a "Day of Support for the Cuban and Latin American People" on April 17 this year. The Chinese people responded enthusiastically to that call.

All the leading national dailies published editorials on that day hailing the second anniversary of the Cuban people's victory in the Giron Beach battle, and expressing China's unreserved support for the Cuban and other Latin American peoples. *Renmin Ribao* carried an editorial entitled "Support for Our Brothers in Cuba and the Rest of Latin America," and dispatches from Havana telling of the determination of that heroic island's people to fight U.S. imperialism until final victory.

A mass rally was also held at the Great Hall of the People on that day. Sponsored by the Chinese Committee for Afro-Asian Solidarity (C.C.A.A.S.), the China Peace Committee and six other people's organizations, it was presided over by Liao Cheng-chih, Chairman of the C.C.A.A.S., and attended by Party and government leaders and many of Peking's leading citizens. They included Premier Chou En-lai, who is also Vice-Chairman of the Central Committee of the Chinese Communist Party, Peng Chen, Member of the Political Bureau of the Party's Central Committee and Vice-Chairman of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress. An honoured guest at the rally was Jose Matar, President of the Cuban National Committee to Defend the Revolution, who, at the invitation of the C.C.A.A.S., had travelled all the way from Havana to Peking to attend the activi-

ties in China marking the "Support Cuba Day"; the Cuban Ambassador Oscar Pino Santos was also present.

The 10,000-seat hall was filled to capacity while many thousands more listened to the proceedings over the radio or on television sets.

Kuo Mo-jo, another Vice-Chairman of the Standing Committee of the N.P.C. and Chairman of the China Peace Committee, in his address to the meeting expressed the Chinese people's firm support for the people of Cuba and the rest of Latin America. "The struggle of the people of Cuba and of the rest of Latin America," he said, "is a very great encouragement and support to the revolutionary cause of the Chinese people. For this, we express our heartfelt thanks. The Chinese people have always regarded the struggle of the fraternal Cuban people and the people of the other Latin American countries as their own, and consider support for this struggle their lofty internationalist duty."

Kuo Mo-jo hailed the victory of the Cuban revolution as "a great event in contemporary international political life." During the Caribbean incident, he recalled, the Cuban people had not been cowed by U.S. imperialism's nuclear blackmail nor had they been deceived by Kennedy's "promise" of refraining from invading Cuba. The Cuban people and the people in the rest of Latin America stood together with those of Asia and Africa facing the common task of fighting imperialism headed by the United States and both old and new colonialism. Kuo Mo-jo stressed that the two historical currents—the national and democratic revolution on the three con-

tinents and socialism—were converging to demolish the positions of imperialism and dealing heavy blows to the imperialist policy of aggression and war. This was greatly accelerating the advance of mankind, Kuo Mo-jo added.

Amidst warm applause Jose Matar took the floor. The victory at Giron Beach showed the Latin American people, he said, that a united people could defeat even the most powerful and most brutal enemy. He poured scorn on the U.S. imperialists who had miscalculated once again when they tried to isolate and scare Cuba by naval and air blockade last October. It was the firm determination of the Cuban people, he said, and the support of the peoples of the world that enabled Cuba to smash the imperialist plots. Cuba, he said, in unity with all the socialist countries, would win victory in its fight against U.S. imperialism.

All the speeches were greeted by cheers and applause and shouts of:

Long Live the Militant Friendship Between the Peoples of China and Latin America!

Oppose U.S. Imperialist Aggression Against Cuba!

U.S. Imperialism Get Out of Latin America!

The rally sent a special message of support to Premier Fidel Castro and the Cuban people backing the five demands of the Cuban Government and the "sacred struggle of the Cuban people to defend their fatherland and revolution."

Chinese Government's Statement on The Laotian Situation

The Chinese Government strongly condemns the U.S. scheme to subvert the Laotian Government of National Union and rekindle the civil war, and resolutely supports the Laotian patriotic forces in their struggle to strengthen unity and oppose U.S. intervention and aggression. Should the Laotian situation further deteriorate, the Chinese Government suggests the reconvening of the Geneva conference.

Following is the text of the Chinese Government's statement dated April 16, 1963. — Ed.

WITH a view to subverting the Laotian Government of National Union and rekindling the Laotian civil war, U.S. imperialism recently directed the reactionaries to engineer a series of political murders and armed conflicts in Laos. These acts of U.S. imperialism in flagrant violation of the Geneva agreements have made the situation in Laos very serious.

The assassination of the outstanding neutralist patriotic Laotian statesman and Minister of Foreign Affairs Quinim Pholsena was a signal of the expansion of the interven-

tion and aggression by U.S. imperialism in Laos. Shortly after that, Lieutenant-Colonel Khanthy Siphanthong, a neutralist patriotic Laotian police officer, was murdered on April 12. At the same time, U.S. imperialism has, through the instrumentality of the Laotian reactionaries, created splits and provoked armed conflicts within the neutralist troops in Xieng Khouang and the Plain of Jars, and even hired large numbers of bandits and directed them to disguise themselves as neutralist troops and launch military attacks on Pathet Lao Fighting Units. And now, while the Laotian reactionaries are moving up their mobile forces in preparation for an invasion of Xieng Khouang and the Plain of Jars, large numbers of militarymen and special agents of the United States and other SEATO members as well as soldiers of the remnant Chiang Kai-shek gang have already entered the area. Laos is faced with the danger of its Government of National Union being subverted and the armed conflicts in Xieng Khouang and the Plain of Jars expanding into an all-out civil war.

U.S. imperialism has never ceased its scheming activities of infringing on Laotian sovereignty, interfering in Laotian internal affairs and undermining Laotian peace

and neutrality ever since the formation of the Laotian Government of National Union and the conclusion of the Geneva agreements. Far from withdrawing all its military personnel from Laos, U.S. imperialism has put them under disguise and set up secret military bases in Laos. Behind the back of the Royal Laotian Government, U.S. imperialism has kept illegally providing military aid to the Laotian reactionaries under its control and airdropping weapons and ammunition to the armed bandits in the rear of areas controlled by the Laotian patriotic forces. What is more sinister, U.S. imperialism has carried out various plots to divide and weaken the neutralist group in Laos and undermine the unity of the Laotian patriotic forces. The purpose of U.S. imperialism in engineering the recent series of political murders and armed conflicts is precisely to intimidate and disintegrate the Laotian neutralist forces, and sow dissension in the relations of unity and co-operation between the neutralist group and the Neo Lao Haksat. Should U.S. imperialism succeed in its scheme, it will certainly tear up the Geneva agreements completely, subvert the Laotian Government of National Union and re-

kindle the civil war in Laos so as to attain its ultimate aim of placing Laos under its control.

China is a close neighbour of Laos and a signatory to the Geneva agreements. The grave situation in Laos created by U.S. imperialism single-handedly cannot but arouse the close attention of the Chinese Government. The Chinese Government strongly condemns the U.S. imperialists' violations of the Geneva agreements, resolutely supports the policy of independence, peace and neutrality pursued by the Laotian Government of National Union led by Prince Souvanna Phouma, and firmly supports all the Laotian patriotic forces in their struggle to strengthen unity and oppose U.S. imperialist intervention and aggression. The Chinese Government calls on the co-chairmen of the Geneva conference to conduct consultations speedily so as to take the necessary measures to check the U.S. imperialist intervention and aggression in Laos. Should U.S. imperialism persist in its line of action and the Laotian situation further deteriorate, the Chinese Government suggests that the co-chairmen consider reconvening the conference of fourteen nations on the Laotian question.

人民日報
RENMIN RIBAO

U.S. Imperialist Aggression in Laos Must Stop

Following is an abridged translation of an editorial carried in "Renmin Ribao" (April 17) entitled "Uphold the Geneva Agreements and Stop U.S. Imperialist Aggression and Intervention in Laos." Subheads are ours.—Ed.

THE present grave situation in Laos is entirely and wholly the work of U.S. imperialism. Everybody knows that Quinim Pholsena was assassinated by Laotian reactionaries at the instigation of U.S. imperialism. Following this the U.S. imperialists have gone on to stir up trouble everywhere, and this has resulted in increased tension on the Plain of Jars. The course of events is so crystal clear that U.S. imperialism can in no way evade its criminal responsibility.

A Danger Signal

The assassination of Quinim Pholsena and the military clashes on the Plain of Jars are a danger signal that U.S. imperialism is moving to step up its aggression and intervention in Laos in further violation of the Geneva agreements. The peace, neutrality and independence of Laos is being subjected to ever graver outside threats. The Geneva agreements on respect for Laos' independence and neutrality are in danger of being violated completely by the U.S. aggressors. The aggressive activities of U.S. imperialism cannot but arouse the grave anxiety of all

those who are interested in the Laotian situation and peace in Southeast Asia and other parts of Asia.

It must be pointed out that since the Geneva agreements on the peaceful settlement of the Laotian question were signed in July last year, U.S. imperialism has never ceased its criminal activities of infringing upon the sovereignty of Laos, interfering in its internal affairs and violating its peace and neutrality.

U.S. Violations of Geneva Agreements

The Geneva agreements clearly provide that the signatories "will not introduce into the Kingdom of Laos foreign troops or military personnel in any form whatsoever, nor will they in any way facilitate or connive at the introduction of any foreign troops or military personnel." It is well known, however, that up till now, there are thousands of U.S. military personnel and troops of its lackeys as well as large numbers of the remnants of the Chiang Kai-shek bandits who are still hanging on in Laos. A number of U.S. military personnel are disguised as various kinds of "non-military personnel"; they have simply taken off their military uniforms, put on civilian clothes and acquired passports designating them as "economic" and "cultural" staff.

The Geneva agreements provide that the signatories "will not establish nor will they in any way facilitate or connive at the establishment in the Kingdom of Laos of

any foreign military base, foreign strongpoint or other foreign military installation of any kind." But U.S. imperialism has established secret military bases in Ken Thao, Sayaboury Province; Phong Thong, Champassak Province; Phou Kha Tuot, Saravane Province; and other places.

The Geneva agreements call on the signatories to "refrain from all direct and indirect interference in the internal affairs of Laos." But U.S. imperialism manipulates the state organizations of Laos through the forces it has fostered there in an attempt to control or paralyse the activities of the Government of National Union.

The Geneva agreements demand that the signatories "will not resort to the use or threat of force or any other measure which might impair the peace of the Kingdom of Laos." But U.S. imperialism, behind the back of the Royal Government of Laos, has offered military assistance to the Right-wing armed forces in Laos, and illegally air-dropped weapons and ammunition to the armed bandits operating in the rear of the areas controlled by the patriotic Laotian forces.

The Geneva agreements demand that the signatories "will not attach conditions of a political nature to any assistance which they may offer or which the Kingdom of Laos may seek." But U.S. imperialism attempts to use its "assistance" to control Laos' finance and economy. It has set up organs of economic "assistance" with staffs totalling thousands to "supervise" directly the use of "assistance" and to keep the activities of the Laotian Government under surveillance.

The Geneva agreements demand that the signatories "will not bring the Kingdom of Laos in any way into any military alliance." The Royal Government of Laos also explicitly pointed out in its declaration at the Geneva conference that it will not "recognize the protection of any alliance or military coalition, including SEATO." But in its vain attempt to continue to impose its "protection" on Laos, the U.S.-controlled SEATO military bloc has more than once openly discussed at its meetings the question of Laos and its plots to prepare and organize its acts of aggression and intervention against Laos.

Vain Attempt to Distort Truth

To cover up these criminal U.S. acts of aggression and intervention against Laos, the U.S. Under Secretary of State Harriman ostentatiously declared that the United States has decided "not to become involved militarily in the Laos conflict." At the same time, the United States has set all its propaganda machines in motion in a shameful campaign to vilify the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam and the People's Republic of China, alleging that troops from Viet Nam have "entered" the Plain of Jars and that China is engaged in "subversion" in Laos, and so on. We would like to ask Harriman: What is the meaning of the fact that the United States and its lackeys have left behind thousands of disguised military personnel in Laos and that the United States has sent large quantities of military materiel to the Right-wing Laotian armed forces? According to the reports of Western news agencies, the U.S.-controlled SEATO will soon hold "large-scale manoeuvres" as a means of "pressure" to influence the situation in Laos. What does this mean? As to the U.S. imperialist

slanders against China and the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam, they are so transparently mendacious that there is hardly any need to expose and refute them. Even a spokesman for the U.S. State Department admitted that he was "unable to confirm" the news of the "entry" of Viet Nam troops into Laos. China and Viet Nam have always strictly abided by the Geneva agreements, never intervening in the internal affairs of Laos. The rumours and slanders spread by the U.S. imperialists are solely designed to distort the true picture of the Laotian situation in anticipation of condemnation of their aggressive activities by world public opinion.

The present situation in Laos has reached such a critical point that one must ask: Are the Geneva agreements still solemn international treaties or just scraps of paper? Will Laos continue to march along the road of peace, neutrality and independence or will it once more be dragged by U.S. imperialism into a sea of flame of civil war and thrown into an abyss of darkness? In these stark terms of "this or that," the problem is sharply presented to the Laotian people, to all the peace-loving countries and the people of all lands.

U.S. Plots Doomed to Fail

The people of Laos are a heroic people. They have waged prolonged struggles against the foreign aggressors. Their determination to safeguard the peace, neutrality, independence and unity of Laos is unshakable. Today it is of the utmost importance for the Laotian people to strengthen their national unity still more.

What needs to be pointed out especially is that U.S. imperialism, in order to carry out its aggressive schemes against Laos, has recently done all it possibly could to attack and sow discord inside the neutral forces. In dealing with patriots like Quinim Pholsena, it resorts to murder and terrorism; it won't hesitate to spend large sums of U.S. dollars to buy over the small number of those whose will is weak. At the same time, U.S. imperialism is doing its best to disrupt relations between the neutral group and the Neo Lao Haksat, sabotage their unity and co-operation and so completely isolate the neutral group. But whether the U.S. imperialists scheme openly or plot in secret, uses tough means or soft, they hold consistently to one aim—to wipe out the patriotic and progressive forces in Laos and thereby realize their ambition of tearing up the Geneva agreements, overthrowing the Laotian coalition government and once more establishing control in Laos. The Laotian people have measured swords with U.S. imperialism on a great many occasions; they have a clear understanding of the ferocious and sinister nature of the enemy they are dealing with, and they have accumulated a lot of experience in fighting it. At this critical juncture, we are confident that all the people and all the groups which are loyal to the Laotian national interest will put the national interest first, will reinforce their unity and utterly squelch this U.S. imperialist plot to sow dissension and stir up trouble.

The Geneva agreements are the international guarantee of Laotian peace, neutrality and independence. It would only encourage the arrogance of the aggressor and lead to unthinkable serious consequences if U.S. imperialism were allowed to trample these agreements underfoot. The statement of the Chinese Government demands

that the co-chairmen of the Geneva conference speedily take the necessary measures and, if necessary, reconvene the Geneva conference. This is a timely proposal. We call on all signatories to the "Declaration on the Neutrality of Laos" to take all effective measures necessary to uphold this solemn international document and force the Kennedy government to "recognize and . . . respect and observe in every way the sovereignty, independence, neutrality, unity and territorial integrity of the Kingdom of Laos," and to behave itself and carry out its international obligations.

China Will Uphold Geneva Agreements

China is a signatory to the Geneva agreements and a neighbour of Laos sharing a common boundary. Naturally, therefore, the Chinese Government and people are deeply concerned about the development of the situation in Laos. Ever since the Chinese representative affixed his

signature to the "Declaration on the Neutrality of Laos," the Chinese Government and people have firmly committed themselves to upholding the Geneva agreements and undertaken the solemn international obligation of jointly respecting, together with all the other signatories, the independence, peace and neutrality of Laos. The Chinese Government and people will never remain indifferent to the unscrupulous activities of U.S. imperialism in Laos. Nor will the countries and peoples of Asia and the world who cherish peace allow U.S. imperialism to interfere brazenly in the internal affairs of Laos and violate the Geneva agreements. In the past, U.S. imperialist aggression against and interference in Laos ended in ignominious defeat. Today, when the strength of the Laotian people and the popular forces of Asia and the world defending peace have grown so tremendously, should U.S. imperialism wilfully continue to engage in and extend its aggression against Laos, it will surely meet with a still greater defeat.

International Communist Movement

Marching Forward Together Under the Banner of Marxism-Leninism

by LIU NING-I

LIU NING-I, delegate of the Communist Party of China and Member of its Central Committee, attended the National Conference of the Communist Party of New Zealand, which opened on April 12 in Auckland. On April 13, he addressed the conference and read out a message of greetings from the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China.

Following is a translation of the speech. Subheads are ours. — Ed.

I FEEL most happy and delighted to come here, on behalf of the Communist Party of China and the Chinese people, to attend the Conference of the Communist Party of New Zealand and to meet the advanced fighters of the New Zealand working class.

I am entrusted by the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China to extend warm fraternal greetings to the National Conference of the Communist Party of New Zealand in the name of the Chinese Communist Party and the Chinese people, and to pay our heartfelt tribute to the glorious Communist Party of New Zealand and its National Committee headed by Comrade Vic Wilcox. Please allow me to do so.

Holding Aloft the Banner of Marxism-Leninism

For years, the Communist Party of New Zealand has held aloft the revolutionary banner of Marxism-Leninism in Oceania and has united all the democratic and progres-

sive forces in New Zealand in vigorously waging the struggle against imperialism headed by the United States, resolutely supporting the national-democratic revolutionary movements in Asia, Africa and Latin America and actively participating in the worldwide movement of the people against imperialist aggression and for world peace. Your struggle has made an important contribution to the cause of the struggle against imperialism, the defence of world peace, and human progress.

We also observe that the Communist Party of New Zealand works hard to heighten the political consciousness of the working class and the labouring masses of New Zealand, energetically resists the corrosive influence of bourgeois reformism over the working people and strives to unite the working class, the other labouring masses and all the forces that can be united in waging the struggle against monopoly capital, the struggle for the protection of the immediate interests and the democratic rights of the working people and the struggle for the realization of socialism, and that it works hard to integrate the universal truth of Marxism-Leninism with the concrete conditions of New Zealand. In all these respects, the Communist Party of New Zealand has made remarkable progress too.

The Chinese Communist Party and the Chinese people have been watching your struggle with close interest. We rejoice in and are inspired by all the achievements scored by the New Zealand comrades. We will always be with you in the struggle against our common enemy, for the victory of our common cause and in defence of Marxism-Leninism. We believe that this Party conference

MESSAGE OF GREETINGS

Dear Comrades,

The Central Committee of the Communist Party of China, on behalf of all the members of the Party and the entire Chinese people, extends warm fraternal greetings to the National Conference of the Communist Party of New Zealand and, through this conference, pays heartfelt tribute to your glorious Party and to the working class and all the working people of New Zealand.

The Communist Party of New Zealand, under the leadership of its National Committee headed by Comrade Vic Wilcox, has been waging unremitting struggles for the safeguarding of the immediate interests of the working people of New Zealand, the protection of their democratic rights and the achievement of socialism; and it has made steady progress and scored continuous successes in these struggles. In the international communist movement, the Communist Party of New Zealand holds aloft the banner of Marxism-Leninism, defends the Moscow Declaration and the Moscow Statement, opposes modern revisionism represented by the Tito clique of Yugoslavia, and insists that differences should be overcome and unity strengthened on the basis of Marxism-Leninism, proletarian internationalism and the Moscow Declaration and Statement. The Communist Party of New Zealand has done its part in contributing to the revolutionary

cause of the working class of New Zealand, to the world revolutionary cause of the international proletariat, and to the cause of the people of the whole world to oppose imperialism, defend world peace and strive for human progress. The Chinese Communists and the Chinese people are gladdened and encouraged by every achievement scored by the Communist Party of New Zealand in their struggles.

We wish complete success to the National Conference of the Communist Party of New Zealand! We hope that the Communist Party of New Zealand will make further headway in its efforts to strengthen the unity of its own ranks and to unite the working class and all the democratic, progressive forces of New Zealand! We wish the Communist Party of New Zealand fresh achievements in its struggle for world peace, democracy and socialism! We hope that the Communist Party of New Zealand will make still greater contributions to the safeguarding of the purity of Marxism-Leninism and the safeguarding of the unity of the international communist movement!

Long live our banner—ever victorious Marxism-Leninism!

**Central Committee of the
Communist Party of China**

March 29, 1963

of yours will definitely mark a new starting point, enabling your Party to achieve new and greater successes in the struggle in Oceania against imperialism, in defence of world peace and for social progress.

Forward Together in the Common Struggle

Comrades, we especially rejoice in the fact that in recent years there has been a further development of the friendship between the Communist Party and the people of China and the Communist Party and the people of New Zealand. In the past few years, the Chinese people have encountered certain difficulties in the course of their work of construction, while in the international sphere an anti-China chorus consisting of the imperialists, the reactionaries and the modern revisionists has emerged. Your Party has aroused among the New Zealand people deep sympathy for the Chinese people. I am very glad today to be able to avail myself of this opportunity to convey the heartfelt thanks of our Party and people to the Communist Party and the people of New Zealand. Together with the New Zealand comrades, we will continue to strengthen and develop the friendship between our two Parties and our two peoples, and we will help and support each other in our common struggle and march forward together.

Comrades, I want to tell you that neither the temporary difficulties nor the anti-China chorus have intimidated the Chinese Communists and the Chinese people. In recent years, under the leadership of the long-tested Chinese Communist Party headed by Comrade Mao Tse-tung, the Chinese people, united as one with a singleness of purpose and self-reliantly exerting themselves, have

overcome various kinds of difficulties and scored great successes. Our country's economic situation is now improving year by year. This is the first year of our country's Third Five-Year Plan. Warmly responding to the call of the Tenth Plenary Session of the Eighth Central Committee of our Party, the people of our country are continuing to hold high the three red banners of the general line of socialist construction, the big leap forward and the people's communes, and are striving for a new upsurge in the national economy and new successes in the cause of building socialism.

In international affairs we continue to implement the general line of foreign policy consistently followed by our country, namely, to develop relations of friendship, mutual assistance and co-operation with the Soviet Union and the other socialist countries in accordance with the principles of proletarian internationalism; to strive for peaceful coexistence with countries of different social systems on the basis of the Five Principles and to oppose the imperialist policies of aggression and war; to support the revolutionary struggles of all oppressed people and nations against imperialism and colonialism. Come what may, we will spare no effort in making our own contribution to the struggle of the people of the world against imperialism and for world peace, and to the revolutionary cause of the people of all countries.

Building a United Front Against Imperialism

The present international situation is continuing to develop in a direction which is favourable to the revolutionary people of all countries and unfavourable to im-

perialism and all the reactionaries. In the balance of forces of the world as a whole, superiority lies with the side of socialism and the revolutionary people and not with the side of imperialism and its running dogs. The forces of socialism are daily expanding; the national-democratic revolutionary movements in Asia, Africa and Latin America are vigorously surging forward; the working people of the major capitalist countries are unfolding a large-scale class struggle. In the meantime, imperialism headed by the United States is experiencing still harder times. Because of the scramble for markets and for spheres of influence and the scramble for the control of nuclear weapons, the imperialist camp is in the process of further disintegration and a new conflict is unfolding. These characteristics of the present international situation prove that the possibility of preventing a new world war and defending world peace will be enhanced by further expanding the strength of the socialist countries, developing the struggles of the oppressed people and nations and the struggle against the imperialist policies of aggression and war, by building a broad united front against imperialism headed by the United States, and its running dogs and by simultaneously making full use of the internal contradictions within the imperialist camp.

Imperialism Pins Hopes on Modern Revisionism

As we know, imperialism will not step down from the stage of history of its own accord, and its nature will never change. Under the cover of "peace" the Kennedy Administration, which represents the interests of the U.S. monopoly capitalists, is actively pushing ahead with its policies of aggression and war, and is stepping up its arms expansion and war preparations more frantically than ever. In pursuance of its strategy of a "flexible response," it is preparing for "limited wars" simultaneously with its preparations for a nuclear world war, and is actually waging an extremely cruel "special warfare" in southern Viet Nam. It is ceaselessly plotting to invade heroic revolutionary Cuba, and intensifying its activities aiming at the control of the Latin American states and its aggressive and subversive activities against the whole of Latin America. It cunningly employs the dual tactics of alternately and simultaneously using violence and the U.S. dollar to suppress and destroy the people's revolutionary movements of various countries. Under these circumstances, the people of the whole world must constantly maintain the highest vigilance against imperialism headed by the United States, and must not slacken their struggle against it even for one moment.

In their desperate convulsions, the imperialists headed by the United States are pinning their last hopes on modern revisionism. Modern revisionism serves the needs of imperialism in seeking to sap the revolutionary fighting will of the people of all countries. The Tito clique of Yugoslavia, who are renegades to the working class, and whom the United States has pampered with several thousand million American dollars, have been trying in a thousand and one ways to disrupt the unity of the international communist movement and the unity of the socialist countries with countries which have recently achieved national independence, and to sabotage the revolutionary working-class movement and the national-democratic rev-

olutionary movements of various countries. Events have fully borne out the correctness of the conclusion in the Moscow Statement that modern revisionism is the main danger in the present international communist movement.

Together Guarding International Communist Unity

The Communists of all countries are now more than ever concerned about the safeguarding and strengthening of the unity of the international communist movement. We Chinese Communists, like the New Zealand comrades, are always distressed by and opposed to everything occurring in our ranks in the past few years against the interests of unity, and always rejoice at and support everything that is in the interests of unity. I deem it worthy of special mention that the Communist Party of New Zealand headed by Comrade Wilcox has made persistent efforts to uphold the unity of the international communist movement. The Communist Party of New Zealand was one of the several initiators of the proposal to convene a meeting of fraternal Parties. Your Party advocates the safeguarding of the Moscow Declaration and the Moscow Statement, and the elimination of differences and the strengthening of unity in accordance with the principles of independence, equality and the attainment of unanimity through consultation among fraternal Parties as set forth in the Moscow Declaration and Statement. The Chinese Communists sincerely admire the New Zealand comrades for their stand in adhering to Marxism-Leninism and to the Moscow Declaration and the Moscow Statement. We ardently welcome the valuable efforts you have made to uphold unity of the international communist movement.

Dear comrades, as you know, the Communist Party of China and the Communist Party of New Zealand take the same stand on the safeguarding of the unity of the international communist movement. From the very beginning we have supported the proposal to convene a meeting of fraternal Parties which your Party and several other fraternal Parties have put forward, and we have explicitly proposed that a meeting of representatives of the Communist and Workers' Parties of all countries should be convened. More and more fraternal Parties now favour convening a meeting of representatives of all the Communist and Workers' Parties, and both the Chinese and Soviet Parties have affirmed that they should hold bilateral talks as a necessary preparatory step towards convening an international meeting of fraternal Parties. So far as the Chinese Communist Party is concerned, we shall exert our utmost efforts in order to enable the talks between the Chinese and Soviet Parties and the international meeting of the fraternal Parties to achieve positive results.

We are firmly convinced that Marxism-Leninism is invincible and that the course of history is determined by the great strength of the people. The international communist movement will eventually surmount all difficulties and obstacles and forge ahead. No force can stop its advance. Comrades, let us always be united and continue to march forward courageously!

Now, please allow me to read the message of greetings from the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China.

ROUND THE WORLD

U.S. IMPERIALISM

Trouble Making in S.E. Asia

The situation in Southeast Asia needs close attention.

Finding its positions increasingly untenable in south Viet Nam, U.S. imperialism is again trying to light a conflagration in the Indo-China Peninsula. In Laos, following the foul murder of Foreign Minister Quinim Pholsena, Washington has gone on with still more assassinations and armed provocations. Its villainous schemings to sow dissension in the ranks of the neutralists and attempts to break up the National Union Government continue unbridled. This base plotting has been repeatedly rebuffed by the Laotian patriotic forces, but the schemers will not give up.

The SEATO ministerial council meeting in Paris also shows what the U.S. imperialists are up to. Under the smokescreen of combating "communist aggression and subversion," the U.S. delegate openly meddled in Laotian internal affairs. He threatened intervention there and tried to line up the other members to support this policy. This clearly violates the 1962 Geneva agreement which states that Laos does not recognize the "protection" of SEATO. At the meeting, Washington also forced on its partners an agreement that henceforth SEATO decisions would be by a majority vote, instead of the former unanimous vote. This, too, is aimed at making easier U.S. military intervention in Laos, south Viet Nam and other countries of Southeast Asia.

Still Another Lie

To cover up its own misdeeds in Laos, Washington has levelled all kinds of malicious allegations at China and the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam. The American press abounds in them and only recently this column, (*Peking Review*, No. 10-11) exposed one about Chinese road builders in Laos.

Now, when U.S. imperialism is madly pursuing its dark plots in Laos, Laotian Ambassador to Thailand Nouing Rattanavong suddenly makes a wild charge that "two battalions of Chinese troops have invaded Laos" and that

"communist China has now entered the battle." The Radio of the Pathet Lao Fighting Units in an authorized statement has already refuted this lie. All we need to add is that China's forthright stand on Laos cannot be distorted. In parroting somebody else's calumnies this high-ranking diplomat and brother-in-law of Phoumi Nosavan only exposes himself and who his masters are.

SOUTH VIET NAM

Murder Will Out

After almost a year of careful investigation and study, the South Viet Nam Liberation Red Cross recently published a report which presented shocking details of the type of chemical warfare that U.S. imperialism is waging in south Viet Nam.

U.S. aircraft, says the report, have sprayed toxic chemicals over large and thickly populated areas. They include not only toxic chemicals such as "2-4-D" and "2-4-5-T" (which Washington in its statements of March 9 and 11 admitted using), but also white arsenic, sodium arsenite and calcium arsenite, metal arsenates, 2-4 dinitrophenol and calcic cyanamide. The two first-named chemicals, when used in large doses as they have been, are harmful to human health, cattle, fruit trees and vegetation. The arsenic, its compounds, and 2-4 dinitrophenol cause skin inflammation and eat into the flesh. In areas where they have been sprayed, crops and cattle died and many people became seriously ill. Calcic cyanamide damages even big fruit trees such as coconut and orange, kills cattle and seriously affects humans.

The report also cites the case of the recent U.S. spraying drive (arsenic and calcic cyanamide) in Ben Tre Province where victims included women, children and the aged. A large number of people suffered from skin inflammation. Their flesh putrefied. The membranes of their noses blistered. They vomited and had headaches or nose bleeding. Others fainted.

The chemical warfare being waged in south Viet Nam has been carefully planned and executed by Washington. Under the U.S. Command in Saigon,

there is a special body entrusted with the task of studying and organizing the spraying operations. Recently, especially after the U.S. defeat at Ap Bac in My Tho Province, these noxious operations have been extended. As a result, about 20,000 south Vietnamese people were affected. Many lost their lives. Thousands of buffaloes, oxen, pigs and fowls were killed. Tens of thousands of hectares of crops were destroyed.

In the face of worldwide condemnation and protest, U.S. imperialism has continued with this criminal action under the smokescreen of fighting the guerrillas with "defoliants." But murder will out. And the recent open letter to Kennedy signed by 62 prominent Americans calling for an end to the U.S. dirty war in south Viet Nam shows that even in the United States an increasing number of people are aware of the ugly truth.

CAMBODIA

No Game for Imperialists

The people look upon international tournaments as welcome opportunities for friendly contacts and better understanding among countries. Not so the imperialists. They use their domination of international sports organizations for shoddy ends.

The latest example of this is the unsuccessful attempt of the U.S. imperialists to do a bit of blackmail on Cambodia. Through the International Amateur Athletic Federation, they tried to force Cambodia to agree to the federation's exclusion of Indonesia. Failing that, the federation would not authorize Cambodia to organize track and field events in the Third Southeast Asian Peninsula Games to be held at Phnom Penh. This ultimatum was flatly rejected by Prince Sihanouk, Head of State of Cambodia.

What has Indonesia done which so infuriated the U.S. imperialists? Simply this: Indonesia refused entry to the Chiang Kai-shek team during the Fourth Asian Games last year and thwarted the U.S. scheme to create a "two Chinas" situation in international sports.

However, the imperialists are finding it more and more difficult to monopolize international sports where former colonial countries have been fair game for their machinations. The countries of Asia and Africa are

shortly to confer in Djakarta to arrange for athletic meets of the new emerging forces. These will be tournaments organized and attended by the peoples of Asia, Africa and Latin America, free from imperialist manoeuvre and wire-pulling, and conducive to their own friendship and solidarity.

SOUTH AFRICA

How Long Can This Last?

South Africa is a vast prison. It is also a powder keg which may explode at any moment.

The Verwoerd racist government is trying desperately to prolong its rule by outright repression. In the last few months, it has passed a number of fascist laws which make the Africans political and economic slaves. It has banned the progressive newspaper *Spark*, the last in a long series. It has house-arrested or jailed many prominent leaders of the African National Congress and the Pan-Africanist Congress, which were banned in 1960. It has sentenced three Africans to death and many others to long-term imprisonment on charges of violating the notorious Anti-Sabotage Law.

Verwoerd has also announced a record peacetime military budget for 1963-64 to build up the army, navy and air force. The police, the white settlers' "volunteer force" and other auxiliaries (such as "pistol clubs" and "vigilante groups") are being hurriedly reinforced. Meanwhile, fast-flying jets, helicopters and other weapons and arms are pouring in from the United States, Britain and France.

All the force at the disposal of the state is being used to shore up the hated apartheid. The African people have no choice but to pay back the colonialists in their own coin. Besides spontaneous uprisings, organized armed resistance, including the activities of the "Spear of the Nation," is increasing. As a representative of the African National Congress recently told the press: "The violence resorted to by the colonialists and racists has compelled the African people to choose violence to defend their life and dignity. From now on we will reply to the white government and its clique: eye for eye, tooth for tooth and life for life."

The situation in South Africa has once again proved that the colonialists will fight with guile and force, will go to any lengths to keep themselves

entrenched. In a land which is theirs by right, the Africans have been deprived of all rights, cruelly exploited and now violently repressed. They will no longer tolerate it.

CANADA

U.S. Meets Stiff Resistance

Despite its crude interference in Canada's internal affairs, Washington is having trouble in dictating to its northern neighbour.

In a hotly contested election, the Liberals who had Washington's backing won 130 seats out of a total of 265 in the Canadian Lower House; the Conservatives won 94, the Social Crediters 24 and the New Democrats 17. This means that, contrary to the expectations of the New Frontiersmen across the border, the pro-U.S. Pearson who heads the Liberals will not be able to form a one-party government. He needs the permanent support of one of the smaller parties or at least some of its members for a parliamentary majority and this will limit his freedom of action accordingly.

This national election was Canada's fourth since the Conservatives won power in 1957. It was also the second in less than ten months. Last February, when the outgoing Prime Minister Diefenbaker rejected a State Department fiat to stockpile U.S. nuclear warheads on Canadian soil and to equip the Canadian forces in NATO with nuclear weapons, the Kennedy Administration brought

about his fall by open and hidden pressure. Besides this immediate cause, Washington's wrath also reflected the reality of U.S. efforts to tighten its control over Canada and the latter's growing resistance.

During the election, Diefenbaker time and again referred to the nuclear warhead issue and declared that Canada would not be pushed around by the United States. This was popular among the Canadian people and helped him to forestall the Liberal's expectation of winning a clear majority. Pearson, on the other hand, came out for acceptance of U.S. nuclear warheads, but he failed to arouse public enthusiasm. However, he exploited the country's economic difficulties to attack the Diefenbaker government.

Washington was disappointed by the moderate showing of the Liberals, particularly since it had gone out of its way to influence the result. The barrage of attacks against Diefenbaker in the American monopoly press and threats of withdrawal of U.S. capital from Canada aside, there were also such obvious economic moves as bills submitted by U.S. Congressmen to restrict imports of Canadian timber and minerals and to increase duties on Canadian cattle, and a pre-election loan of U.S.\$300 million to the Liberal-controlled Quebec Province. Real Caouette, leader of the Quebec wing of the Social Credit Party, charged American high finance of "infamous propaganda" during the campaign.

THE PASSING SHOW

Verwoerd's Burning Enthusiasm for Literature

Cape Town incinerators are working extra shifts to burn tens of thousands of books banned by the Verwoerd racist government in an attempt to muzzle progressive thought in South Africa. Books criticizing his racist segregation policies, "writings depicting black Africans favourably," even Tolstoy's classic novels are banned. The South African authorities have already passed 33 acts and ordinances on censorship and control to gag the voice of national freedom and democracy; 15,000 books and other publications are on the prohibited list.

"You Can't Trust Your Own Right Hand!"

Rattled by successes of the patriot forces, by scary palace coups and other stabs in the back by its U.S. masters, a spokesman of the Ngo Dinh Diem puppet regime in south Viet Nam has said: "A revolutionary [sic!] government like ours has to be suspicious of everyone, even of ourselves!"



Socialist Culture for the Countryside

China has launched a nationwide campaign to bring socialist culture to its villages. Teams of cultural workers, theatrical troupes, mobile cinemas, artists, writers, editors and publishers are going out to the countryside to work and find out how best they can serve the cultural needs of the peasant masses. The following translations of excerpts from a "Renmin Ribao" editorial and from a survey carried by the same paper on March 25, 1963, will give an idea of what has been done culturally in the countryside since liberation and what still has to be done, and why. The survey, made by five staff workers of the "Renmin Ribao" editorial department, was originally entitled "Changes and Demands — Cultural Life in Honan's Villages." — Ed.

Culture and Art Must Serve the Countryside Still Better

("Renmin Ribao" Editorial)

THE following survey is limited to a single area, but it reflects problems of a national character. Our villages need culture. The Chinese Communist Party needs to educate the peasantry in socialist ideas through the medium of culture.

Led by the Communist Party, China's peasantry has been a staunch ally of the working class in the various stages of the revolution; it has made great contributions to the revolutionary cause. In the period of socialist revolution and socialist construction, and with the gradual unfolding over the years of the movements for co-operative farms and rural people's communes, and various political movements, the broad masses of the peasantry have further enhanced their political consciousness. However, as the Tenth Plenary Session of the Eighth Central Committee of the C.P.C. pointed out, the class struggle between the proletariat and the bourgeoisie and the struggle between the socialist and capitalist roads will continue throughout the whole historical period of proletarian revolution and proletarian dictatorship and the whole historical period of the transition from capitalism to communism.

Socialism v. Capitalism

In the countryside, these struggles find their main expression in the struggle between the collective economy and the spontaneous capitalist tendency characteristic of petty [peasant — Tr.] producers. China has a large rural population. It is impossible to overcome overnight the survivals of old ideas in the minds of the peasant masses, to eradicate in a short time the force of habit left over by the old society. The class struggle, the struggle between the two roads, and the struggle between new and old habits and ideas will continue for a long time to come in

the countryside, and will be a complex one. Comrade Mao Tse-tung said early in the post-liberation period: "The serious problem is the education of the peasantry." Culture and art are powerful means of giving the people a socialist education. To carry out the Communist Party's general policy for developing the national economy with agriculture as the foundation and industry the leading factor, it is all the more necessary to enable the new socialist culture to penetrate still deeper into the villages, to serve the peasants still better. This is the primary content of our cultural and artistic work at the present time.

Since the founding of the People's Republic, our cultural and artistic work in the rural areas has made tremendous achievements. Cultural institutions of many kinds have been set up at the basic level throughout the vast countryside, opening up a path of cultural and artistic activities, both professional and amateur. More and more people in the villages can now read the newspapers. New dramas, music, new New Year pictures, easy-to-read picture story books and new literary works are gradually finding their way into the rural areas while mobile cinema teams have carried films to remote mountain villages which had never before seen a movie. It must, however, be pointed out that in the last few years, cultural work in the service of the rural areas is still a weak link in our cultural work as a whole. We must work hard and long before the new socialist culture strikes root in every corner of the countryside and bursts into flower.

Meaning of "Serving the Countryside"

What does "culture and art in the service of the countryside" mean?

It means stepping up the education of the peasantry in socialist ideas, in collectivism and patriotism by means of revolutionary literary works and cultural activities, so that the peasants can be led to take the socialist road and make their way along it with greater determination. This will also help the peasants rid themselves of the influence of outworn ideas and habits and replace them by new ideas and new customs.

It means using suitable cultural means to help promote the cultural revolution and the technical revolution in our rural communities. For a long, long time, China's villages have been backward economically and culturally. Today there is an urgent need for China's peasants to master modern culture, science and technology to end this backwardness. Raising the cultural level of the peasantry is an important condition for the heightening of their socialist consciousness as well as for promoting agricultural production and the modernization of agriculture.

It means further to satisfy suitably, step by step, the proper demands of the broad peasant masses for cultural recreation. With the growth of production and rising living and cultural standards these demands will increase.

During the period of socialist construction, the worker-peasant alliance is provided with a new foundation. The all-out support of industry to agriculture strengthens that alliance economically; the bringing of socialist culture to the countryside to step up socialist education among the peasants strengthens it ideologically and culturally. During the periods of revolutionary wars, our revolutionary culture forged close links with the peasants in the revolutionary bases. Since the liberation, the cities have become the centres of our cultural work. So the strengthening of cultural ties between city and countryside, the bringing of socialist culture to the countryside in a planned way to satisfy the cultural demands of the peasants has become vitally important; it helps to consolidate the worker-peasant alliance and to further the cause of socialism. In the old society, the cities exploited and corrupted the villages; today, a major task of the cities is to support the villages and help them develop a new culture.

Culture for the Masses

Culture and art in China are in the service of the workers, peasants and soldiers, in the service of the broad masses of the people. But we must be clear in our minds that the worker and peasant masses constitute the main body of those we should serve. And the peasants are the overwhelming majority of the worker and peasant masses. Comrade Mao Tse-tung pointed out at an early stage, in his article *On Coalition Government* [1945]: "The peasantry is the chief concern of China's cultural movement at the present stage. Would not the elimination of illiteracy, and the introduction of universal education, art and literature for the people and a public health service become largely idle talk if the 360 million peasants were left out of account? In saying this, of course, I am not overlooking the political, economic and cultural importance of the remaining ninety million people, particularly the working class, which is politically the most awakened and therefore the best qualified to lead the whole revolutionary movement; there should be no misunderstanding on this point." Only by turning their face towards the broad masses of the peasantry can revolutionary culture and art prevent themselves from becoming estranged from the main body of people whom they should serve and for whom they should function; only in this way can they assert the leading role of the working class in the field of culture. Only by doing this can there be proper co-ordination in the work of popularizing art and literature and raising their quality. In this way we shall be popularizing art and literature among the masses and at the same time providing a solid foundation for raising their quality.

Ideological Transformation

An intense struggle is now going on in the countryside between the old and the new. The peasants are fighting a hard battle to build a new life. In their struggles to conquer nature and to transform their environment, they have also transformed themselves ideologically and spiritually. By going into the midst of rural life, by serving and maintaining close contacts with the peasants, living alongside the peasants and joining in in their struggle, our writers and artists will not only reform and temper themselves but also enrich their knowledge of life and struggle, and become intimately acquainted with the



A mobile cinema team comes to a village
Woodcut by Chiu Chen-teh

thoughts and feelings of the peasants, thereby bringing themselves closer to the sources of creative art. This will also help them to learn the language, the art and literature of the people, and to discover which forms of artistic expression are truly suited to the taste of the masses, thereby giving our art and literature a more distinctively popular and national character. Whether the matter is considered from the point of view of the needs of the peasant masses or of the needs of culture and art in their development, it is of great significance that our cultural and artistic work be orientated to the villages to give immediate service to our 500 million peasants. This is a question that concerns the course that should be followed in our cultural and artistic work.

Art to the Villages

In all parts of the country recently, there has been a big flow of art and theatrical troupes to the countryside. Rural cultural work teams, organized jointly by the Ministry of Culture, the All-China Federation of Literary and Art Circles, and the Central Committee of the Chinese Communist Youth League, are going out to the rural areas. This is excellent. The task of these rural cultural work teams is to help bring socialist culture and art to the villages, to help educate the peasants in socialist ideas, to spread cultural and scientific knowledge, and create a vital cultural life in the countryside. It is also their duty to assist the administrative units of cultural affairs departments and of cultural and art organizations at the county level, as well as of amateur art organizations in the villages, to help them broaden their activities and

discover the best ways of doing their work. Their task is also to find out and sum up the successful experience gained in different localities and at different seasons by various types of art troupes so as to improve the cultural work being done in the service of the villages. While in the countryside, team members will do a suitable amount of physical labour and work in the basic administrative units so as to strengthen their links with the working people. This helps them temper and remould themselves.

As we look about the countryside, we see a land brimming with vitality under the warm spring sunshine. The peasant masses, inspired by the brilliant red banners of the general line for building socialism, the big leap forward and the people's communes, have thrown themselves with heroic enthusiasm into the drive for spring work. Let every cultural and art worker contribute his efforts and support them with fine works of art and good cultural work! Join in the common endeavour for the consolidation of the collective economy, the promotion of agricultural production and the building of a new socialist countryside!

Cultural Life in Rural Honan

(A "Renmin Ribao" Survey)

NOT long ago we went to Honan to make a survey of cultural life among the peasants in the three counties of Hsuehchang, Yencheng and Yingyang.

The people's communes were doing fairly well there. Many of them suffered various natural calamities in the last few years, but things are now picking up very fast. Production is well on the road to recovery, living standards are rising, and along with this, the peasants are developing a flourishing cultural life. They are becoming more and more demanding in questions of art and culture in general.

Marked Advance in General Education

Judging the situation as a whole from what we saw in Hsuehchang County, we found the general educational level of the peasants not only incomparably higher than before liberation, but also very much higher than just a few years ago.

Before liberation, there was a rich peasant in that county's Tacheng Village who had three sons. When his eldest son graduated from the county town's junior middle school in 1942, he hired a Peking opera troupe to perform in the village for three days on end. All three sons richly dressed in ceremonial clothing went in grand style to pay their respects to their ancestors' graves and parade the "glory" added to their ancestors' name.

This was a much admired and talked of event in the village. Neighbouring landlords and other rich peasants, in hopes of spurring their sons on to study better, told them: "When you graduate we'll hire an opera troupe to celebrate too." The great fuss made by these landlords and rich peasants for a son graduating from middle school,

gives one some idea of how little education there was among the well-to-do, not to speak of the mass of ordinary peasants.

In 1947, the county was liberated. In the following years up to and immediately after 1952, the emphasis in educational work here was on wiping out illiteracy and setting up the school system. The peasants' educational level during that time was generally raised to the point where most could read simple textbooks written in the basic characters [ideographs] or popular reading matter which is a help in mastering the characters.

Now, illiteracy has been eliminated; a regular school system has been established and in the last few years, the number of locally educated peasants has steadily increased. In addition, large numbers of young students educated in the cities have returned to their home villages and quite a number of educated workers and employees have come from the cities to reinforce the work of the rural communes. All this has greatly raised the general educational level of the villages. In the future, with the further spread of primary and middle school education, every year will see more and more student graduates coming to the villages and there will be an even faster rise in the educational level.

Hsuehchang County has a population of 480,000. Nearly one-fourth, or 107,000 people to be exact, now have an education equal to or more advanced than that of a pupil who has completed primary school. The county has 257 primary schools, either set up by the state or by local factories, mines, enterprises, government offices and people's communes, six junior middle schools and one senior middle school. These have over 83,000 pupils. Some, on completion of their courses, will be going on to get a higher education but there will be around 6,000 each year who will go to reinforce the villages.

The situation is more or less the same when it comes to individual people's communes. The Wunudian People's Commune 35 li east of Hsuehchang county town is actually a big township with 4,320 people. Before liberation, this township had a hundred or so persons who had been to primary school; five who had been to middle school and only one person who had been to college. Now it has 521 local peasants who can read newspapers and books; 362 students educated in the cities who have returned to the township, and 197 workers and employees who came to join agricultural production. This makes a total of 1,080 people, one-fourth of the commune's population. Ninety per cent of this number are young people or people in their prime. Most of them have an educational level equivalent to that of a completed primary school education; some have a junior middle school education and others again are at a more advanced level. There are few people under 30 who still cannot read. The commune has a primary school with over 800 pupils and a junior middle school with over 300 pupils. Besides those who will be continuing their studies after leaving their present schools, there remain about 100 primary school or middle school students who will be joining productive work in the commune each year.

Educational developments in the different counties naturally differ considerably but, judging from what we

saw, the rise in the peasants' educational level in Wunudian is typical of the Honan plains.

Modern Revolutionary Literature

With a higher educational level, the peasants are making new and higher demands on art and literature. For example, simple textbooks teaching characters, and reading matter in popularized, simplified style, although still welcomed, already cannot satisfy the needs of the peasant youth. They are reading modern revolutionary literature as never before.

There is a big demand for nearly all the good modern novels. Such books as *Red Crag*, *Keep the Red Flag Flying*, *Tracks in the Snowy Forest*, *Song of Youth*, *Sow-Thistle*, *Railway Guerrillas*, *The Builders*, *Red Sun*, *Sanliwan Village*, *Great Changes in a Mountain Village*, *The River Flows East*, and *Heroes of the Luliang Mountains* are passed from hand to hand among the young peasants and commune cadres. Reminiscences written by veteran revolutionaries, stories of the revolutionary struggles or biographies of revolutionary heroes such as *Iron Bars But Not a Cage — Wang Jo-fei's Days in Prison*, *Beautiful China*, *Huang Chi-kuang*, *The Story of Tung Tsun-jui* and *Hsiang Hsiu-li* are in heavy demand.*

Educated young farmers and commune cadres have an insatiable appetite for good literary works. Everywhere we found the supply of books far short of demand.

There are ten circulating libraries in the villages of Hsueh County. Each has a librarian. Every month or so he goes to the county town and carries back from the county cultural centre a stock of books which he circulates in his village.

The Hsinhua Bookstore in Hsueh county town has two travelling salesmen whose job is to sell books in the villages. Each takes three or four dozen volumes on a trip and soon sells them all. Last year, not counting sales over the counter, the bookshop sold 25,600 copies of literary works in the villages. *Red Crag* alone sold 1,100 copies and the *Collection of Poems of Revolutionary Martyrs*, 950 copies. From 1958 to 1962, the surrounding villages have bought one to two thousand copies each of *Tracks in the Snowy Forest*, *Sow-Thistle*, *Song of Youth*, *Sanliwan Village*, *Keep the Red Flag Flying*, and *Great Changes in a Mountain Village*, but there is still a long waiting list of young peasants for every one of them.

To ease this problem somewhat, the Hsinhua Bookstore in 1960 set up a reading counter in the shop stocked

* English translations of *Keep the Red Flag Flying*, *Tracks in the Snowy Forest*, *Red Sun*, *Great Changes in a Mountain Village*, *Sanliwan Village*, *The Story of Tung Tsun-jui* and *Wang Jo-fei's Days in Prison* have been published by the Foreign Languages Press in Peking, the last three also in French translations. A Vietnamese translation of *Wang Jo-fei's Days in Prison* has also been put out by the F.L.P. — Tr.

with hundreds of copies of various novels. This was warmly appreciated. The two long benches at the counter are almost always full, and many people read standing up. It also set up a lending library with 1,150 copies of 722 best-sellers (80 per cent of them literary works). There are 30 copies of *Red Crag* alone, but that is still not enough to go around and many readers had to sign up and wait their turn. The place is crowded from morning to night and up to a hundred books are lent out every day.

We spent several days at the Wunudian People's Commune and found many "bookworms" there among the youth. Many had read between three and five contemporary revolutionary literary works, some had read several score, and a few, over a hundred. There was one commune member by the name of Wu who was 34 years old. He had gone to primary school before liberation and had become a fan of the old-type "superman" fiction. He was from a poor family, and these novels so influenced him that with childish enthusiasm he set his mind on becoming himself a hero with supernatural powers, dreaming that he would thus be able to humble the tyrants and help the poor. The year he was fifteen, he stole some money from home and ran away to the county town, hoping to get to some mountain fastness where he could learn extraordinary powers from some superman. He was caught and brought back home by his elder brother. After liberation, in 1951, he read his first revolutionary novel *Heroes of the Luliang Mountains*. He was profoundly impressed by the anti-Japanese heroes in this novel. From then on he became a devoted follower of contemporary revolutionary literature and abandoned his supermen. In the next ten years, he built up his own library of over a hundred literary works and books of revolutionary reminiscences. He is familiar with all the good novels recently published as well as a sprinkling of translated novels from abroad such as *The Iron Flood* and *How the Steel Was Tempered*.

His is no isolated instance of a love of literature. There is another commune member in Wunudian by the name of Chen, now 26 years old. He couldn't read a word when he joined the village literacy class in 1952. By 1954, he could just manage to read the county newspaper. When the village set up a recreational club, he became its broadcaster. Every evening he took his megaphone and climbed up on the housetops to broadcast the news. Soon he was writing short pieces for the village blackboard



"The Hsinhua Bookstore is coming. . ."

Papercut by Yi Kuang

newspaper and composing *kuaiban* (quick-patter rhymes). Then, as he acquired more education and understanding of art, he began subscribing to the *People's Liberation Army Literary Gazette* and *Benliu* (Torrent).^{*} By this time small, abridged versions of books could no longer satisfy him. He considers them "too flimsy" and goes in for big, full-length novels like *Song of Youth* or *Sow-Thistle*. He has gone through the former three times already, but when the Central Broadcasting Station broadcasts it serially over the radio, he still listens in on his crystal set, following the reading carefully with the book. He has memorized whole pages of it. He gave us an inkling of the urgent need for more books in the villages when he told us: "Once, I had just got my hands on *Tracks in the Snowy Forest* when somebody grabbed it away from me. I didn't even finish half of it. I'm still annoyed about that!"

Apart from novels, some young peasants are particularly fond of short stories. Such authors as Li Chun, Chi Hsueh-pei, Ma Feng, and Chun Ching are very well known.

Revolutionary literature is used as a means of self-education and of educating others. The Party secretary of the Huaishuwa Production Brigade in Yingyang County has told the stories of Hsu Yun-feng and Hua Tzu-liang [characters in *Red Crag*] at mass meetings and cadres' meetings. Listeners, deeply moved, have said: "Compared to them, our difficulties today are nothing at all!" Production brigade cadres who have books make a point of taking some along with them when they visit the various production teams of the brigade so that more people can get a chance to read what books are available.

Young peasants interested in medicine want books like *Practical Internal Medicine* or *Notes on Cautery and Acupuncture*; those interested in the arts want *How to Paint in Water Colours* or books on the technique of wood engraving. Books on the most diverse subjects are needed, such as on how to assemble crystal radio sets, on the nature and uses of electricity, on how to raise one's political level, how to write fiction, and all types of historical fiction.

Picture Story Books,** New Year Pictures

The picture story book is another form of literature the peasants like. People who know only a few characters like them; people who know a great many characters also like them. Grandpas and grandmas who don't know any characters at all like to point at the pictures and ask the young people: "This one is a good man; that one is the scoundrel, isn't that so?" As for primary school pupils, you can't coax them to let go of these books.

The peasants like best the picture story books adapted from the classical novels and folklore and on the revolutionary struggles. They like those with well-composed pictures, well drawn, with fine, clearcut lines. They are a bit critical of those picture story books made up of motion picture stills which are not too clearly reproduced.

^{*}A monthly literary journal published in Honan.—Tr.

^{**}Pocket-size paperbacks with a picture on each page and short captions or narrative either included in the pictures or beneath them.—Tr.

At lunar New Year time, practically every village home puts up spring scrolls, door pictures or picture posters printed with the lunar calendar. Commune members paste large New Year pictures on their walls to give their homes a bright, festive look. The Honan People's Publishing House published 9.6 million pictures of various kinds this year, and Peking, Shanghai and other places also supplied Honan villages with great numbers of New Year pictures, but these still fell short of demands. In every county peasants lined up in long queues to buy them. The peasants like pictures with bright colours and well-arranged compositions, not too crowded with figures and with each figure clearly delineated. They don't like dim colours or crowds of people with indistinct features on their pictures. They say: "It's not nice when it's all cluttered up." They like best pictures which have Chairman Mao on them such as *The Inauguration Ceremony of the People's Republic of China* or *The Phoenix Spreads Its Wings*. Those who are able to get one of these consider themselves very lucky. They don't like pictures dealing with simple themes of farming chores.

Drama

Besides books and pictures, the peasants like opera, films and listening to broadcasts.

Last winter and this spring, rural amateur theatrical groups all set up their own stages and performed for the peasants.

There is one amateur theatrical group in Wu Village in eastern Yencheng County which has been staging operas with contemporary themes ever since it was set up in 1950. Everybody in that village loves its plays. Neighbouring villages too frequently come to its performances. There is a saying around these parts that "anyone who has drunk water from Wu Village can do some warbling" — meaning that the opera-loving Wu villagers can all hum a couple of lines.

When this village theatrical group performs *A Debt of Blood* on the stage, audiences weep right through it. Old people say: "We ought to have more of these plays. Then the young people will know how those Japanese fascists used to trample upon us Chinese — and they'll know that our good times are hard come by!" When *Two Team Leaders* is being performed on the stage, grandmas in the audience say: "Why, this is meant for us! I'm not going to be like Aunt Weisan. I'm going to keep my sheep well fenced in. If the sheep eat up our wheat, what are we going to eat?"

The peasants have a real affection for the Quyi Opera* Troupe of Luanchuan County in the Funiu Mountains, for it has given them such good service.

Luanchuan County lies deep in the Funiu Mountains. It measures over 300 *li* [approx. 150 kms.] from east to west and 150 *li* from north to south. Its 170,000 inhabitants live scattered in the various mountain valleys. Larger villages have 40 or 50 families; smaller ones only two or three. The distance between two neighbouring villages sometimes amounts to several score *li* over winding moun-

* Quyi opera is a new operatic style developed from ballad-singing, story-telling, combinations of singing and recitation.—Tr.

tain paths. Communication is therefore quite a problem except for a few places which are accessible by motor-car or pushcarts and wagons.

In order to bring their art to the doorsteps of the peasants, the Luanchuan Quyi Troupe travels through the mountains and thick forests all year long without a word of complaint. Everywhere they go they are received like members of the family; the peasants look after them with great solicitude and according to the local custom press all kinds of mountain fruits and nuts upon them. When they leave, villagers vie with each other to carry their equipment and luggage, accompanying them a long way before reluctantly saying good-bye. Last year alone, the troupe gave at least one and up to three performances in every village in the county. It was no easy thing for the troupe to have kept up.

Films

Mobile cinema teams, usually of three members, are no less welcome in the villages than the theatrical troupes. In Hsueh County, each team has two pushcarts and a bicycle — "one man to every two wheels." They pull the carts with the movie projectors themselves, travelling in the daytime and giving shows at night. It is hard work. Teams serving the mountain areas have an even tougher job — they have to carry all their equipment up and down the steep mountain paths. But when a good film is shown and the peasants enjoy it, the members feel so well rewarded that they forget all their weariness. This was told us by many teams.

The level of appreciation of films among the peasants is constantly rising. A few years ago, when a film was shown in the villages, many came just to see the fun and enjoy the novelty. Everybody was intrigued by the people who could walk and talk on a screen. Now, however, they demand much more from a film than that. They want it to be well acted and entertaining, to be realistic, to have a high ideological content, to have powerful artistic generalizations, vivid characterizations with, in particular, well-depicted heroes and heroines. They especially like battle films with plenty of drama giving a clear idea of who the enemy is and who finally wins out. These include such films as *Guerrillas on the Plains*, *A Red Detachment of Women*, *The Long March*, and *The Red Guards of Lake Hunghu*.

They are very fond of films about peasants. Long before *Li Shuang-shuang* was shown in the area, it was already the talk of many villages. Every time a mobile movie team comes to a new place, it is asked: "Why didn't you bring *Li Shuang-shuang*?" Everywhere it has been shown, peasants say: "What happened in that film is exactly what happened here. Why, so-and-so is Li Shuang-shuang herself; so-and-so is the spitting image of Hsi-wang!" *Five Golden Flowers*, about the life of a national minority region, is just as intensely enjoyed. When someone recalls a funny incident in the film, everybody bursts out laughing at the recollection.

Opera films like *Monkey Sun Fights the White-Bone Ghost*, *Hua Mu-lan*, *Mu Kuei-ying Takes Command* and *Chin Hsiang-lien* are also popular.

Scientific-educational films, when they fit in with the needs of the locality, are warmly welcomed. Commune

members in charge of draught animals find *How to Take Care of the Buffalo* very useful. Peasants find the methods shown in the film *How to Store Sweet Potatoes* quite effective. Naturally, they like to see such films which are closest to their practical interests. Peasants in Hsueh County, a tobacco-growing region, were not much interested in a film showing how to use the paddy-rice transplanter. They said: "If you could show us a film on how to plant tobacco the easy way, that would be really good!"

The peasants appreciate it very much if the movie operator tells them something of the story beforehand, or even makes helpful comments on the action while the film is being shown. They prefer straight narrative films to those with many flashbacks and interpolations. They like popular titles for films, short and easy to remember, and not fancy ones. When the film *Ploughing the Clouds and Sowing the Rains* [translated as the *Girl Cloud-Watcher* by P.R.] was shown, someone said after the show: "I still don't see how you can plough the clouds and sow the rains!"

Rediffusion System

Rediffusion systems and crystal radio sets are new things in the countryside. In those villages and hamlets which are on the phone, many peasants have got themselves a home loudspeaker and listen into the broadcasts relayed by the county's radio diffusion centre. In 12 districts of Hsueh County there are over 6,000 loudspeakers.

Crystal sets are popular among the young peasants. Through their earphones they can hear excerpts of news from the Peking press in the mornings, and programmes of music, operas, plays and so on in the evenings. The opportunity they give of increasing one's knowledge and enjoying entertainment after working hours make them popular possessions.

A whole family can enjoy themselves with a loudspeaker relaying programmes over the rediffusion system. The county's central radio diffusion station is making a special effort to keep the peasants abreast of the news as well as providing programmes on agriculture suited to local conditions, weather forecasts, music and selections from operas, plays, and literature that are suited to the peasants' needs. These programmes are popular with everyone in the countryside irrespective of sex or age. While listening to the broadcasts in the evenings, the women carry on their cooking or needle-work and the old folk care for their grandchildren. In the summer, the peasants hang their loudspeakers outside and listen to the broadcasts as they sit in the cool. They look on the radio as a means of education, relaxation and entertainment.

The peasants attach great importance to the advanced methods of production broadcast over the radio. Last year a group of young farmers from the West Street 6th Brigade of the Wunudian Commune heard the broadcast describing a method of growing sweet potato seedlings in a "hot bed." They introduced this method to their brigade and got very good results through it. The county's central diffusion station gave a broadcast on a new method of recording work-points that makes it easy for everyone to understand a team's accounts and thus helps improve

farm work. This method has now been adopted by a good many production brigades. When the veteran farmer Tien Chin-chu broadcast his valuable experience in raising melons, many commune members followed his advice and they raised more and bigger melons.

Some Other Wishes

Such are some of the cultural and artistic activities conducted among the peasants. In addition we also heard of certain other wishes expressed by the peasants.

Country people do not have many chances to see live performances by the county's theatrical troupes. Some haven't been able to see even one show a year. These troupes perform mainly in the county town or at places adjacent to the railway and main highways, so the peasants eagerly look forward to their coming. Modern plays reflecting revolutionary struggles are, however, very seldom performed by these troupes and this means that a valuable means of socialist education among the peasants is not utilized. This does not satisfy the peasants. They are intensely interested in those modern plays which were frequently performed in the countryside before, such as *The White-Haired Girl*, *Hsiao Erh-hei's Marriage*, *Liu Hu-lan* and others. Young peasants are most anxious to see modern plays on contemporary themes. One hears such remarks as: "Almost every stage performance deals with stories of emperors and empresses and such things. Why don't they give us some performances reflecting the facts of present-day life?"

There was complaints too in regard to *quyi* balladry: that there were not enough new items, for example. This is a problem that needs to be tackled. *Quyi* balladry is a light art form with a broad mass basis. Every county has 30 or more folk artistes who perform constantly in the countryside. There are more in some counties; for instance, Huangchuan County has 225 folk artistes, of whom 18 are professional, 87 semi-professional and 120 amateur. We should think carefully how to make good use of this force.

Under present circumstances, the peasants see at most 5 to 6 films a year; in most counties the average is 3 to 4. Those films which the peasants prefer are naturally in big demand, so the film studios are asked to print more copies of them.

The peasants like to see some films again and again. Some people suggest that a certain number of selected films be reserved especially for the peasants. In Hsueh-chang County, *The White-Haired Girl* is still warmly welcomed even though 196 showings of it were given in the county last year. Several places are asking for repeat showings of it.

In the past, country clubs and cultural centres have done a good job in answering the cultural and artistic needs of the peasants. Due to the fact that the countryside had so much to do in battling natural calamities in the past two years, cultural organizations in many places very nearly ceased their activities. Now the young peasants are eagerly demanding that these activities be resumed.

The peasants of Wunudian in Hsueh-chang County gather at the crowded tea-house to chat, tell stories and so on. This tea-house is considered a club, but the young people are not satisfied with it. They want an organization which will provide them with fresh new items of entertainment. They want to organize a newspaper-reading group, to hold lantern-slide lectures and so on. They believe that such cultural activities will be of great benefit to them, sharpening their wits as well as entertaining.

We spent all too short a time and saw only a few places during our visit to the Honan countryside, but we are greatly impressed with what we saw. The cultural changes that have taken place there are beyond our expectations, but there are still many problems to be solved. The important thing in today's cultural work is to pay full attention to cultural activities in the countryside; and to meet the peasants' needs for an enriched new socialist culture and socialist education more fully.

NEWS IN BRIEF

A 3-member meteorological delegation from the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam led by Nguyen Xien has been visiting China since March 18. Vice-Premier Tan Chen-lin had a cordial talk with the delegation on March 27.

Soekanto, member of the Indonesian Communist Party Delegation to the 6th Congress of the German Socialist Unity Party, stopped off in China on his way home. He left Peking on April 9 for Indonesia.

A health delegation led by Wei Ming-chung, Vice-President of the Sian Medical College of China, has concluded its visit to Algeria. The delegation arrived

in Algeria on March 5 at the invitation of the Algerian Ministry of Public Health.

The delegation visited Rabat, Morocco, on April 8.

China and Rumania signed their 1963 goods exchange and payment agreement in Bucharest on April 8. Under the new agreement the volume of trade between the two countries will be bigger than last year.

The 1963 goods exchange and payment agreement between China and Hungary was signed on April 10 in Budapest.

A Chinese Academy of Sciences delegation led by Professor Hsiung Yi at-

tended the 15th annual conference of the Pakistan Association for the Advancement of Science. The conference opened in Lahore on March 19. The Chinese delegation of four visited East and West Pakistan before leaving for home on April 10.

After its successful tour of several Chinese cities the Hungarian acrobatic troupe left on April 10 for the People's Republic of Mongolia. The tour was arranged in accordance with the Sino-Hungarian cultural co-operation agreement.

Kamerun students in Tientsin celebrated the 15th anniversary of the founding of the Kamerun People's Union at a meeting on April 10.

Welcome to the

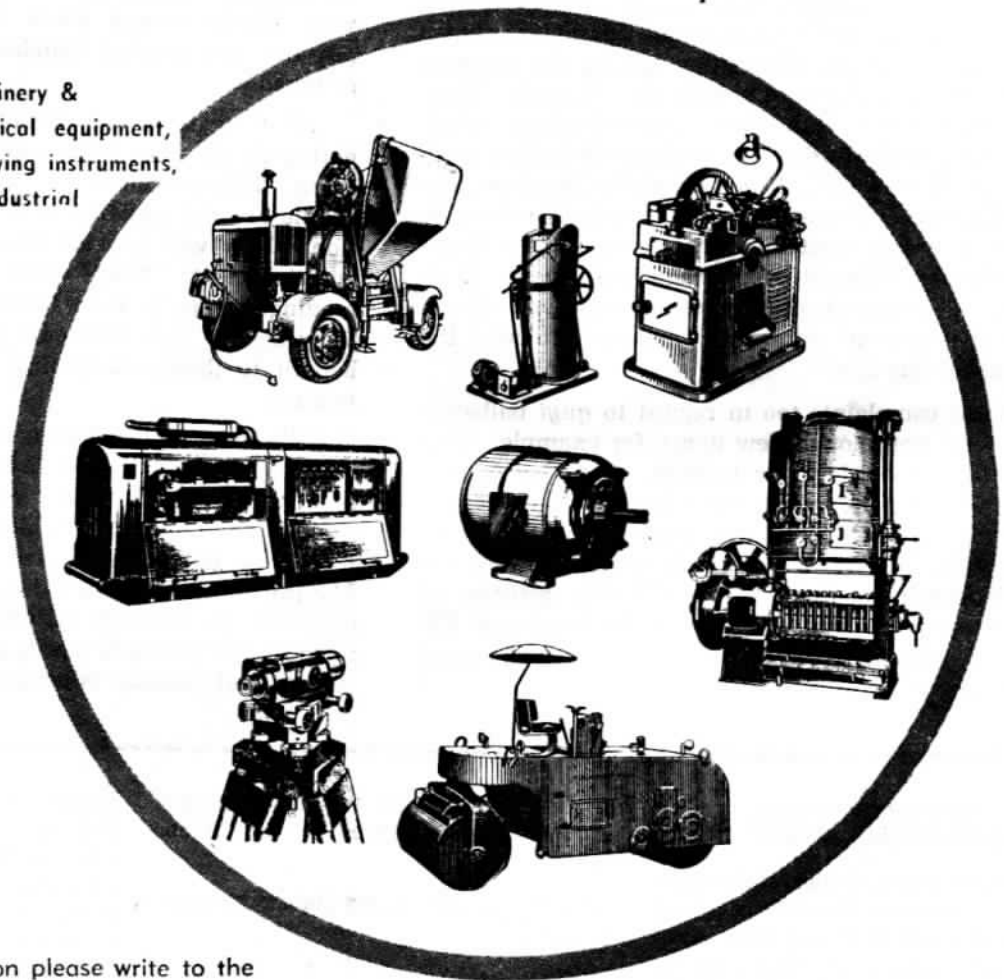
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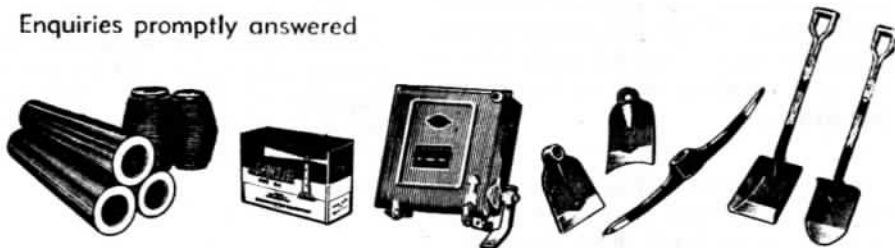
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