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December 16, 1950

**The Way of the U. S. Aggressor:
Korea** — C. C. Fang

The Press in New China
— Liu Tsun-chi

**Achievements of the Viet-Nameese
People and Their Army**
— Hong Ha

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2) *Chou En-lai on Peace Treaty with Japan*

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HAMMER BLOWS FOR THE IMPERIALISTS

Fighting a just cause, the Korean People's Army and the Chinese volunteer forces in Korea are driving the brutalised and cowardly invaders south, encircling them, annihilating them. Pyongyang, capital of the people's Korea, has been freed. The Liberation offensive continues.

Tearing aside the curtain of deceit, Wu Hsiu-chuan, at the Security Council, with the clear, powerful voice of truth, showed black as black and white as white, teaching the arrogant, imperialist bluffers some of the new realities of the world we live in.

The hammer blows both at the front and at the Security Council have caused a devastating reaction in the camp of the imperialists. Austin, the voice of Wall Street, could not even attempt to answer the simple, irrefutable account of U.S. aggression against China's Taiwan and attacks on China, and instead resorted to abuse. The hysterical Truman started raving about spreading the war. He was trying to frighten the Chinese people but he only succeeded in terrifying his European satellites. Attlee, alarmed, flew poste haste to Washington to urge caution in the U.S. acts of aggression; while the high powered salesmen and gangsters that pass for politicians in the United States began abusing each other in a search for a scapegoat, one of them admitting frankly, "they have called our bluff and we had better pull out."

Wu Hsiu-chuan's very presence at the U.N. is a victory for the world peace forces. Despite all the moves of the United States, it was world public opinion, with the delegate of the Soviet Union voicing the sentiments of peace-loving people everywhere, that resulted in the invitation to People's China to send its representative; though due to the pernicious obstruction of the U.S. Government, the People's Republic of China has not as yet taken its rightful place in the U.N.

Despite all the manoeuvrings of Austin and his use of his foxy Yugoslav puppet to try to turn the discussion on to the illegal MacArthur "report," China's representative put the U.S. Government in the dock. American imperialism was indicted at the bar of world public opinion, and the accused had no answer to the charges.

What so disturbed the warmongers, too, was that as Wu Hsiu-chuan spoke, it became clear that here were the tones of a free people, standing firm. He listed the crimes of U.S. imperialism, its seizure of Taiwan, its use of naval forces to hinder the liberation of the island, its attack on Korea, its bombing of Northeast China, its refusal to allow China to take her rightful seat in the council of world powers, its plans for extending war to China. His arguments were overwhelming.

The people of China are today free men who understand every move of the imperialist, warmongering clique. They want peace and are not afraid to take steps to secure it. And, as the response throughout the world to Wu Hsiu-chuan's speech shows, they have the warm sympathy and support of the overwhelming majority of mankind.

What did the imperialists imagine? What sort of people do they think the emancipated masses of China are? Did they think they could rampage in Asia, grab territories, bomb and pillage and murder, and prepare for full-scale invasion of China, with the Chinese people sitting passively by?

Both in Korea and at the U.N., the imperialists are having to learn the facts of life. In Korea, the invaders flee in panic before the people's wrath. At the U.N., the speech and proposals put forward by Wu Hsiu-chuan, which the aggressors so hastily voted down, still hold good as the embodiment of justice and truth—sanctions against the United States Government for its aggression in Taiwan and Korea, withdrawal of U.S. forces from Taiwan, withdrawal of the armed forces of the U.S. and all other countries from Korea to allow for a peaceful settlement. These are powerful contributions to extinguishing the flames of war and maintaining peace in Asia and the whole world.

U.S. Intrigues on the Japanese Peace Treaty

The U.S. note on the peace treaty with Japan handed by Dulles to the Soviet Security Council delegate, Malik, on October 20, completely exposes the U.S. plan of using the Japanese islands as their main base for aggression against the peoples of Asia. The U.S. invasion of Korea is the first try-out of that plan.

As the statement of Chou En-lai, Minister for Foreign Affairs, on Dec. 4 makes clear, this seven-point proposal of the U.S. imperialists throws overboard every major international commitment the U.S. Government made during World War II. In particular, disregarding the heavy sacrifices made by all the fighters against Japanese fascism, the Washington warmongers propose to destroy the fundamental principle of the treaty, namely, general agreement of the Allies.

Further, while seeking to deprive others of their historic territories, the U.S. imperialists propose to arrogate to themselves territories, such as the Ryukyu and Bonin Islands, to which they have no claim other than expediency and greed. They bluntly announce their policy of rearming Japan—a policy they have long been realising in secret—

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and seek to legalise their post-war occupation of Japan on the transparent disguise of "joint responsibility for the maintenance of international peace and security."

The aggressive war of the U.S. imperialists and their puppets against Korea which surged up to and over the frontiers of China, has shown what a menace the U.S.-dominated Japan is to the whole of Asia. Japan has provided the bases for the bomber squadrons which have wreaked destruction in Korea and in Northeast China. Japan has been turned into an arsenal and a manpower pool for MacArthur's criminal campaign. Japanese soldiers and naval personnel have been employed in active operations. A number of major Japanese war criminals have figured prominently as MacArthur's advisers on Korea. At the same time, naval vessels of Yoshida's "Naval Security Department" have engaged not only in the patrolling of the Korean Sea, but have participated in the transportation of the U.S. First Cavalry Division to Korea and in the landings at Inchun. The Yoshida Government on November 5 admitted that military supply contracts to the value of US\$139,670,000 had been signed for Japanese supplies to the U.S. Army since the start of the aggression on Korea. The world has a right to know

how many of these bombs, bullets and shells have been used against the Korean people. The *Toyo Keizai Shinpo* on Oct. 14 revealed that 143,000 Japanese had been sent to Korea for war service with the American troops.

The Chinese people did not fight the Japanese fascists for eight long years to see Japan turned into a base for new aggressions against the peoples of Asia and the Japanese people again enslaved by a union of Japanese and American fascists.

Events in Korea have shown that no major question in the Far East of primary concern to the Chinese people can be settled without their participation. They stand today for the conclusion of a jointly agreed Japanese peace treaty on the basis of the solemn war-time undertakings so that the resurgence of fascism and militarism may be prevented, the democratisation of Japan may be carried out and Japan be enabled to contribute to the peace and security of Asia.

No American attempt to circumvent these principles can prevail. The stand of the Chinese people on this question is one with the mighty camp of the Soviet Union and all the peace-loving peoples who oppose the new forces of aggression in Asia.

TURNING ENEMIES INTO AIDS

The Central People's Government are working out nation-wide plans to end forever within a few years the age-old menace of floods and, at a later stage, to turn the raging waters into power for the factories and sustenance for China's arid lands.

The scenes of these mighty efforts in peaceful construction—the Yellow and Yangtze Rivers, the Huai, the Yi . . . have witnessed countless battles in which the lives and happiness of millions were the prize of victory. Too often in the past the waters won. Today, led by the People's Government and the Chinese Communist Party, aided by the modern knowledge of skilled workers and experts and the experience of the Soviet Union, the heroic people of China have already achieved a decisive nation-wide victory over their old enemy. In the coming years, that victory will be consolidated beyond all doubt.

The scale of work already completed in this first year of the People's Republic staggers the imagination. The earthwork alone total 420,000,000 cubic metres, equal to excavating six canals the size of the Suez. Millions of hectares of farmlands have already been ensured from flood. No floods of any size occurred this year except in the Huai Basin.

The National Water Conservancy Conference just concluded in Peking has now, therefore, discussed a comprehensive three-year plan that will

deal with outstanding danger spots. On the treacherous Huai, 30,000,000 people and one-seventh of China's arable land will be preserved from flood.

The reactionary regimes of the past neglected these conservancy works, squandered the conservancy funds, and were not above entrusting these vital undertakings to the whims of foreign imperialist "philanthropy." The KMT, in their fury at defeat, destroyed the dykes wholesale.

Today, the People's Government is able to tackle and solve these vast problems with the enthusiastic support of the whole people, thus further consolidating the victory of New China over imperialism and poverty. It is to complete these and other yet vaster works of peaceful construction, that China demands peace.

Once again the lesson is driven home: In their advance to freedom and plenty, the oppressed people must rely only on themselves and their friends in the international camp of peace headed by the Soviet Union. Imperialism offers them nought but destruction.

Freed from imperialist exploitation and feudal rule, the 475,000,000 people of China are a mighty creative force. They can achieve wonders possible only in a land where state power is in the hands of the people.

THE WAY OF THE U.S. AGGRESSOR: KOREA

C. C. Fang

In the U.N. Secretariat, there is a file marked "Secret Documents of Syngman Rhee" that anyone can consult today. Captured in his "presidential" palace when Rhee fled from Seoul, they provide documentary evidence that he plotted and launched the treacherous June 25th attack across the 38th Parallel under the instigation and with the active support of the U.S. government.

It is small wonder, therefore, that since they were laid before the U.N., these documents have been sedulously ignored by the imperialist press. Mostly in the form of correspondence between the head of the South Korean puppet regime and his agents in the United States (a facsimile of one document is reproduced in our pictorial section — Ed), they prove that the plan for the armed conquest of the whole of Korea was being prepared as early as the winter of 1948.

From that time onward, as the plot took shape, the arming and training of Syngman Rhee's troops by the Americans was intensified. Preparations developed into action. From January, 1949, to April, 1950, the Syngman Rhee troops made 1,274 raids across the 38th Parallel. His naval vessels shelled areas north of the Parallel 42 times and his aircraft bombed targets there in 71 sorties. These provocative attacks made from South Korea by forces controlled by the U.S. military mission were, of course, seldom mentioned in the capitalist press. Those that were reported were lightly dismissed as "border incidents." They were, in fact, part of the plan to whip up war hysteria in South Korea as well as armed patrols to test out the strength and dispositions of the Korean People's Army.

By September, 1949, Syngman Rhee thought he had the answer to the key question of the strength of the KPA. He began to press for decisive action.

"I feel strongly," he wrote on Sept. 30, 1949, to Dr. Robert T. Oliver, his paid agent in the United States, "that now is the most psychological moment when we should take an aggressive measure . . . to clean up the rest of them in Pyongyang. We will drive some of Kim Il Sung's men to the mountain region and where we will gradually starve them out."

A week later, on October 7, he assured an American UP correspondent that the South Korean army was in battle trim and "could seize Pyongyang in three days." On October 31, his Defence Minister Sin Sen Mo made a similar statement to the press. A rabid war-like atmosphere was built up in Seoul. Syngman Rhee was faced with a growing economic crisis. In South Korea, the people's discontent was

rising, the guerrilla resistance movement was spreading. The puppets were only too anxious to seek a solution of their difficulties in a war adventure that would put the flourishing economy of North Korea into their hands and pour more U.S. dollars into their depleted treasury.

U.S. Brigadier General Roberts, who was responsible for the training of the Syngman Rhee army, was, however, not convinced. The moment might well be "psychological" for the Rhee puppets, but the U.S. was not yet ready for the adventure.

The tempo of the plot was, however, quickened. In early 1950, Syngman Rhee was summoned to Tokyo to confer with MacArthur, who had now emerged as the leading agent of American imperialism in Asia. In June, the chief war-makers of the Pentagon and State Department, the then Defence Secretary Johnson, Bradley, Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, and John Foster Dulles, the leading U.S. strategist of the global "cold war," arrived in Japan for a series of special conferences with MacArthur. Dulles went on to South Korea in June, where in a "pep talk" to the puppet "assembly" in Seoul, he promised "all necessary moral and material support" to the Syngman Rhee regime in its "fight against Communism." This was the green light for action. Syngman Rhee bellicose declared: "If we cannot defend democracy in a cold war, we will win victory in a hot war." On June 25, with U.S. advisers directing operations, the long premeditated attack was launched against North Korea.

Intrigue at U.N.

Like racers at the sound of the starting gun, the State Department diplomats sprang into action to concoct measures at the U.N. in support of the American and puppet armies. At the U.S. request, the Security Council was convened on June 25, on the very day of the start of the fighting and, in the absence of the Soviet Union and the Chinese People's Republic, adopted a resolution declaring that the North Korean forces had committed a breach of the peace and calling upon all members of the United Nations to refrain from giving assistance to the North Korean authorities. This cynical resolution in effect demanded that the U.S. and its puppet forces should be allowed without interference to bludgeon Korea into submission.

The imperialists, however, grossly miscalculated. The heroic Korean people fought back courageously. They stopped and routed the invaders in a counter-offensive developed in the very first days of

the struggle. The U.S. and puppet troops were pursued across the 38th Parallel, and Rhee himself had to flee from the wrath of the people. The puppet army and government began to melt away.

As soon as it thus became clear that the whole puppet regime was collapsing, the United States resorted to direct action with its full power against the Korean people.

"In these circumstances," declared President Truman in his war manifesto of June 27, "I have ordered United States air and land forces to give the Korean government troops cover and support."

American land, naval and air force units were concentrated and hurled against Korea from Japan and other American bases in the Pacific. This was so patent an act of armed aggression that the diplomats were again called in. And they once again resorted to a Security Council "resolution" to give some guise of legality to the U.S. actions. Dominated by the U.S. and again in the absence of the two permanent members — the Chinese People's Republic and the U.S.S.R. — the Security Council met on June 27, after the U.S. aggression had already commenced, and was coerced into rubber-stamping the U.S. proposed resolution which approved its own act of aggression.

In passing this illegal resolution, the states that attended that Security Council "meeting" not only approved a criminal act of aggression, but also aided the United States in grossly violating the U.N. Charter.

The Charter stipulates that decisions of the Security Council on all important matters shall be by the affirmative votes of seven members including the concurring votes of the five permanent members, viz., the Chinese People's Republic, the Soviet Union, the United States, the United Kingdom and France. But the Security Council met and decided on the Korean situation without China and the U.S.S.R.

Secondly, the U.N. Charter expressly forbids intervention by the United Nations in the domestic affairs of any state, regardless of whether that state is a member of the United Nations or not. By their illegal resolution, the American bloc of U.N. states condoned the U.S. armed intervention in Korea, the savage bombing and shellings of Korean towns and villages by American bombers and naval vessels, the unspeakable atrocities committed by the invading troops against the people, and all the other inhuman and illegal acts of the aggressors, including the use of Japanese bases, resources, armed forces and manpower, to support the U.S. aggression.

Of a piece with these illegal acts was the "appointment" of MacArthur, the criminal U.S. warmonger in Asia, to command the so-called U.N. forces in Korea which are wholly American with a mere flavouring of cannon fodder squeezed out of the American satellites and accomplices.

Under the pretext of "police action" and illegally flying the United Nations flag, the U.S. forces

threw all their modern weapons of destruction against the Korean people over 5,000 miles from the shores of America. The civilian population, cities and villages were so wantonly destroyed that even the reactionary commentator Walter Lippmann of the *New York Herald Tribune* opined that "after our bombing of the Korean cities, we cannot count on the friendliness of the population of North Korea." The devastation throughout the Korean peninsula is a grim testimony to the ruthlessness of the American imperialists in their bid for Asian domination.

Part of a Vaster Plan

From the very outset, it was clear that the American aggression in Korea was merely a part of a vaster plan. At the same time that Truman ordered the armed forces of the U.S. to Korea, he ordered the U.S. 7th Fleet "to prevent any attack on Formosa (Taiwan — Ed)." Despite the warning of Chou En-lai, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of China, that this constituted a direct armed aggression against the territory of China, for the consequences of which the U.S. would be held answerable, Washington expanded its aggressive action by increasing the number of its military advisers, stationing the U.S. 13th Air Force and increasing its aid to the KMT remnants on the island.

In addition to this, as the United States forces in Korea advanced north again towards the Chinese border, the number of reconnaissance and bombing raids on Northeast China increased. Between Aug. 27 and Nov. 30, no less than 268 raids were made over the frontier areas and as far as 100 miles into the hinterland.

In the same notorious June 27th statement, Truman announced U.S. measures to accelerate the "furnishing of military assistance" to the reactionary French forces invading Viet-Nam and also to the Quirino regime that was vainly trying to crush the people's forces in the Philippines.

The U.S. aggression in Korea emerged clearly as the most advanced front of the American offensive against the Asian peoples and, in particular, against the Chinese People's Republic.

As the dust left behind by Chiang Kai-shek's routed armies settled, Acheson had evidently seen that there was no hope of an internal overthrow of the People's rule in China and that the only possibility left of stopping the rapid progress of peaceful construction in People's China was by direct armed U.S. aggression. The courageous resistance of the Korean people to the U.S. attack was, indeed, a battle not only for their own existence as a free and united nation, but for all Asia, against the aggressor.

Violating the U.N. Charter and the accepted standards of civilised conduct and international law, the U.S. invasion of Korea and its related aggressive acts menaced the peace of the whole world.

The Soviet Union, spokesman for the camp of peace at the United Nations, made proposals at an

early stage for a peaceful settlement of the question of Korea by the withdrawal of foreign armed forces, to enable the Korean people to settle their own domestic affairs. These proposals were fully supported by China and all other peace-loving peoples. The U.S., however, rejected these proposals and intensified its attacks on Korea in the vain hope of getting a quick decision by force. At the same time, they tried to frighten the Chinese people by intensified bombings of the Northeast and by wild talk about the Yalu River not being the natural boundary between Korea and China. After being reduced to the Pusan beachhead, the U.S. mustered 40,000 troops, 300 vessels and 500 aircraft from all over Asia and after landing near Inchun at great cost, made straight for the Chinese border on the Yalu.

In this situation the Chinese people showed their awareness of the true interests of their country

and of world peace and security by volunteering in their thousands for service with the Korean People's Army, to preserve the Korean people's democracy and to protect their own homes.

They realised that the American invasion of Korea was merely the prelude to the invasion of China, that the reconstruction of their country could not be completed unless the flames of war started by the American imperialists in neighbouring Korea were quenched.

There can be no question of the right and justice of such aid. The Chinese people have followed the great democratic tradition of the past, of the volunteers for the Spanish Republic and of Lafayette in his fight on the side of the American people in their just War of Independence. If, at the dawn of American democracy, Canada had been attacked by a ruthless invader who repeatedly bombarded the State of Michigan and declared that the St. Lawrence was not the real national boundary between Canada and the U.S.A. and had given repeated proofs of its hostility to the latter, would the democratic American people not have risen in defence of their neighbour and their own hearths and homes?

The aid of the volunteers has succeeded in bringing about a new situation in Korea whereby the KPA has been able to launch a second shattering counter-offensive. For a second time in six months, the invaders have been sent reeling in panic to the south.

The State Department has already declared the KPA "aggressors" in their own country. Now, it is attempting to get the U.N. to slander the Chinese volunteers by calling them "interventionists." But these manoeuvres will certainly not deter the KPA and its allies in their drive to run the invaders out of the country.

The only way in which the American imperialists can extricate themselves and their satellites from the quagmire in which they have landed themselves, is to withdraw and accept a truly peaceful settlement in Korea as demanded by the Korean people, supported by China, the Soviet Union and all the peace-loving forces the world over. This demand was reaffirmed by the representative of the People's Republic of China at the U.N. Only such a solution can reverse the dangerous course onto which the American aggression in Korea has plunged the world.



Truman's Dream and the Reality

(from *World Culture*)

Cartoon by Fang Cheng and Chung Lin

THE PRESS IN NEW CHINA

Liu Tsun-chi

The role of the press has been a particularly distinguished one in the victorious revolutionary advance of the Chinese people to complete national independence and the establishment of a people's democracy. The people have taken the management and operation of newspapers away from the KMT counter-revolutionaries and into their own hands. Building on the experience of the revolutionary press in the days before the nation-wide victory, the people's press, by propaganda, raising the people's political consciousness and organising the broad masses, has powerfully assisted the advance of social progress and national construction in New China.

Before the collapse of the reactionary KMT regime, the people of China had their own newspapers only in the old Liberated Areas. In all KMT-controlled cities, the press generally played the role of mouthpiece of imperialism. Most of its daily news was taken from the releases of such foreign news agencies as *AP*, *UP*, *AFP* (*Agence France Presse*) or *Reuter*. Its columns and special features were filled with corrupting articles translated from the American press.

Even for news on China's own military, political and economic affairs, newspapers in KMT China depended on foreign news agency releases which were usually slanted to suit imperialist policies by the various foreign correspondents. These pressmen, who were assigned more or less permanently to China, enjoyed special rights and news collecting facilities which the Chinese newspapermen were denied. Indeed, the KMT did all it could for the capitalists of the United States, Britain, France and, at one time, Japan, who were subjected to no restrictions whatever and were free even to run, either in foreign languages or in Chinese, their own newspapers — an effective medium for keeping the props under long-term colonialism in China.

With very few exceptions, Chinese newspapers became little more than monopoly enterprises of the KMT reactionaries. Some of them were its open organs. Others, while nominally privately-owned papers of a commercial character, in fact depended on the KMT for subsidies, in return for which the newspapers propagandised on behalf of the corrupt regime.

The victory of the Liberation War brought a fundamental change to the press. In place of the newspapers of the KMT and the bureaucratic capitalists, publicly-run newspapers owned by the people themselves appeared. These have been in-

creasing both in number and circulation. Except for Taiwan and Tibet, each of the 28 provinces of China has its own publicly-run newspapers. Fifteen such papers were established over the past year alone. Together with the newspapers of various cities and localities, these newspapers have laid a sound basis for the development of the people's press on a national scale.

Workers and peasants have their own special newspapers which are developing large circulations. According to incomplete data in August, 1950, local trade unions throughout the country have 32 newspapers, 20 of which were established during the past year. In addition, there are the newspapers of the national industrial trade unions — the number of trade union papers totalling over 80. In developing production, sharing experiences, organising the people and raising the cultural level of workers, these newspapers have done a magnificent job.

There are special newspapers, too, for the national minorities published in their own native languages which have done much to raise the cultural and political level of the minority peoples. Already more than 16 newspapers are published in the languages of the various national minorities.

Important Decisions

Following the liberation of many urban centres during 1949, the people's press faced an entirely new situation. In the past, in the old Liberated Areas, the bulk of newspaper readers had been the revolutionary cadres working in the countryside. During those years, production was relatively low and communication and transportation facilities were restricted, for the background was war, often guerrilla warfare. Nevertheless, in spite of these obstacles, by utilising the then existing conditions to the best advantage, the newspapers achieved some success in establishing direct contact with the masses.

But the victory in the Liberation War made new demands on the press. The reading public was now the broad urban population, including large numbers of workers and intellectuals. The main features of national life were changing. In place of war, there was economic rehabilitation and reconstruction. Besides, it was more than ever imperative to enlighten the people so that they could actively promote New Democracy in the vast newly Liberated Areas, thus strengthening the relationship between the people and the government.

With these tasks in mind, the Press Administration of the Central People's Government convened the National Press Work Conference from March

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29 to April 16, 1950. In summarising the experiences of the press, as a result of the new circumstances brought about with liberation, the meeting reached certain conclusions embodied in the Decisions Regarding the Promotion of Press Work, lately promulgated by the Administration on April 22, 1950.

The Decisions calls upon all newspapers "to devote prominent space for reporting on the conditions of the people's labour and in production, publicising the experiences of success as well as the lessons of error derived in the work of production, and of financial and economic management."

Editors, reporters and commentators of newspapers are required "to foster an honest and practical working style of investigation and research," and "to try to maintain close links with the masses of the people, organisations and cadres."

Link with the Masses

On the basis of these decisions, the press of China has taken a great step forward, actually reflecting daily life and further consolidating its ties with the broad masses of working people.

The press has replaced tedious reports on meetings, trifling items about personal activities and academic discussions which have no bearing on actual conditions with a new type of news. Now, there are stories on new records set by workers in factories, on how railways and bridges demolished by the KMT have been rebuilt ahead of schedule, on the new measures taken by peasants to exterminate pests in the cotton fields, on how the peasants have carried out a dramatic water conservancy plan to control the Yi River, how illiteracy has been wiped out in a village after land reform, what methods the mother of a PLA fighter used to collect 3,000 signatures for the Stockholm Peace Appeal within a single week, the increasing anger of workers and students towards the atrocities of the American invaders in Korea, and how these people seek the opportunity to fight in Korea so as to stop the imperialist troops' advance towards China's border.

Once publicised in the newspapers, an achievement in any branch of production serves to educate all those working in the same field in similar enterprises. Rationalisation proposals for production and the experiences of model workers when written up as newspaper stories serve as subjects for national study. For instance, the press gave wide publicity to the achievement of the now famous machine worker Chao Kuo-yu, as he worked to improve machine making methods. When he first reduced the time for making a cone pulley from 16 hours — till then the usual time in the best machine making factories in China — to 2 hours 20 minutes, a country-wide emulation movement was set off, with the press playing an important part in stimulating and developing the movement. And as he further reduced the time for his operations, the whole country was kept informed step by step.

Among the press workers themselves, the old division of labour has been changed. The old method of distinguishing news editing from news gathering, and writing from editing no longer holds. Editors, commentators, reporters and correspondents have been classified according to the various fields of social activities which they cover — economy and finance, political affairs, culture, etc. Those responsible for reporting on agricultural developments have



Reading Newspapers

by Shih Ke

close contact with the agricultural departments of the government, with agricultural specialists, with peasants' associations and with the Party's organisations in the countryside. They are popular interpreters of the government's new laws and directives regarding agriculture. They are reporters of the peasants' activities both in productive and political fields.

Peasants from far and near are beginning to drop into newspaper offices to see those responsible for reporting on agricultural developments. Some have even used their newspaper connections to transmit letters to Chairman Mao. Some come with their complaints against the actions of such and such a rural cadre. Others even come for help in solving marital troubles.

The ties between the masses and the editorial offices of the press are growing closer and closer. Letters from workers and peasants receive considerable space in the newspapers. The *People's Daily*, the organ of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China, for example, receives about 400 letters a day of this type. Letters of special significance are published as important news items and given the most prominent space on the front page. Those which are not published are either answered directly by the editorial office or are passed on to the government branch concerned for treatment and reply. It is a new practice for people to "appeal to their newspaper" whenever they find themselves in need of help.

Another successful way to consolidate the ties between the newspapers and the people is the direct appointing of a large number of correspondents from among workers, peasants, students, PLA units and

government branches. The *Hopei Daily*, for example, has more than 1,600 such correspondents, the *North Kiangsu Daily*, more than 1,200 and the *Fukien Daily* in Foochow, more than 5,000 regular correspondents. Workers' newspapers are especially enthusiastic about this practice. *Labour* in Shanghai has more than 7,000 correspondents spread through shops and factories of various sizes. Penetrating as they do all branches of production and reporting fully on cultural activities, these newspapers are close to the life of the workers and are thus able to publish lively reports on subjects which interest the readers deeply.

Criticism and Self-Criticism

Still another task is required of the press — the development of criticism and self-criticism. With liberation of the mainland virtually completed and the Communist Party of China taking the leadership in government, any defect or error in the work of Party members and government cadres can be detrimental to the interest of large numbers of the people. There are individuals who may be conceited. Others may reject criticism either from within or outside the Party. Still others may attempt to suppress criticism. Such cases must be brought to public attention by the press. It is the duty of the press to consolidate the relationship between the Party and the people, to safeguard the democratisation of the Party and the state, and to strive constantly to expedite social progress in every way.

With these tasks for the press in mind, the Central Committee of the Communist Party promulgated the Decisions Regarding the Development of Criticism and Self-Criticism Through the Press on April 19, 1950. These decisions call on all Party organisations and cadres of all levels to adopt a genuinely revolutionary attitude by welcoming and supporting criticism which reflects the opinions of the masses. Any indifference to such criticism is strongly condemned. Bureaucratic attitudes which restrict the publication of such criticism or receive it in a hostile way by counter-attack, revenge or ridicule are also firmly opposed.

In connection with these decisions, the Press Administration also promulgated a resolution in April. This resolution calls on the newspapers to assume responsibility for making constructive criticism of the various government organisations, economic enterprises, and staff members. The resolution also provides that the newspapers should make it their responsibility to secure replies to all the criticisms published and to undertake to publish these replies so that the full facts are put before the people who can thus see the results of their criticisms.

These decisions have enhanced the role of the press in democratising all aspects of political life. Criticisms of various government departments, or regarding the management of factories, of Party cadres, are fully published in the press. Then the process of educating the individuals or groups who

have erred begins in public before the people. In this way, the press is able to expose and quickly correct defects which impede progress.

As these criticisms made by the people are made public, the people steadily assume more power in their supervision of the government. In this very way, improvements have already been effected both in the work of various government departments and in the working style of cadres.

Examples of this type of criticism are now common in the press. To give one example, the North China People's Hospital, one of the largest hospitals in Peking, was criticised on several occasions for the inadequate treatment it gave to patients. The *People's Daily* gave considerable space to criticisms concerned with the hospital administration. The result was that the hospital reviewed its over-all administration and instituted immediate reforms.

Another example was the accusation of peasants in Hopei that certain rural cadres were illegally readjusting land already distributed to the peasants. The *Hopei Daily* exposed the incident. An on-the-spot investigation followed. A full page in the paper was devoted to the case. In this way, not only were the cadres and peasants involved in this case educated as to the proper steps which should have been taken, but the attention of rural cadres elsewhere was drawn to this case, which made clear the legal rights of peasants to their land acquired during land reform.

More Readers

Because of its close connections with the practical day-to-day situation, through its links with the masses, through its development of criticism and self-criticism, the press of New China is enjoying the support of the masses of readers. Circulation is rising everywhere. In Mukden, the *Northeast Daily* has increased its circulation from 150,000 copies in the spring of 1950 to 200,000 copies this autumn. The *Southern Daily* in Canton has increased its circulation from 30,000 to over 50,000. The circulation of *Labour* in Shanghai has jumped from 50,000 to 80,000. The *Masses*, a peasants' newspaper published in Tsinan, has increased its circulation from 30,000 to 90,000. Newspapers of a more general character have also experienced a corresponding increase in circulation.

But the circulation figures do not reflect the actual number of readers. On the average, a single issue is read by at least ten people. Students in the same class, workers in the same shop, subscribe to one copy which is sometimes read by scores of people. News items and articles are publicised even further through the stencilling of selected stories, their publication in wall papers, by writing them out on blackboards and in other ways.

The system of newspaper reading groups which was adopted in the old Liberated Areas has been

(Continued on page 31)

Achievements of the Viet-Nameese People and Their Army

Hong Ha

Four years have passed since the French colonialists, aided by the British and particularly the U.S. imperialists, trampled on the French and Viet-Nameese people's desire for peace and started their war of aggression against the whole territory of Viet-Nam. On Dec. 19, 1946, the French attacked Viet-Nam's capital, Hanoi, in North Viet-Nam, thus expanding to the whole country the assault which they had launched against South Viet-Nam ever since Sept. 23, 1945. During these four years, the Viet-Nameese people, under the clear-sighted leadership of President Ho Chi Minh, have grown in strength and achieved great successes in all fields.

Military Victories

In the military field, the Viet-Nameese people have succeeded in building up their own armed forces and dealing shattering blows to the invaders.

The first plan conceived by the French—a blitzkrieg aimed at smashing the backbone of the Viet-Nameese People's Army and the brain of the Viet-Nameese resistance movement, which they thought to be in the extreme north of the country—ended in the utter failure of their large-scale operations against the northern area in the autumn and winter of 1947. With the destruction of a great part of the best French troops in this campaign, the Viet-Nameese war of resistance entered a new stage in which the opposing forces were more or less equal in strength.

After this failure, the French resorted to a long-term plan, according to which the already occupied areas would first be "pacified" and then offensives would be launched to conquer new territory. The years 1948 and 1949 witnessed the breakdown of the second French plan. During the same time, particularly in 1949, the people's war of resistance developed rapidly.

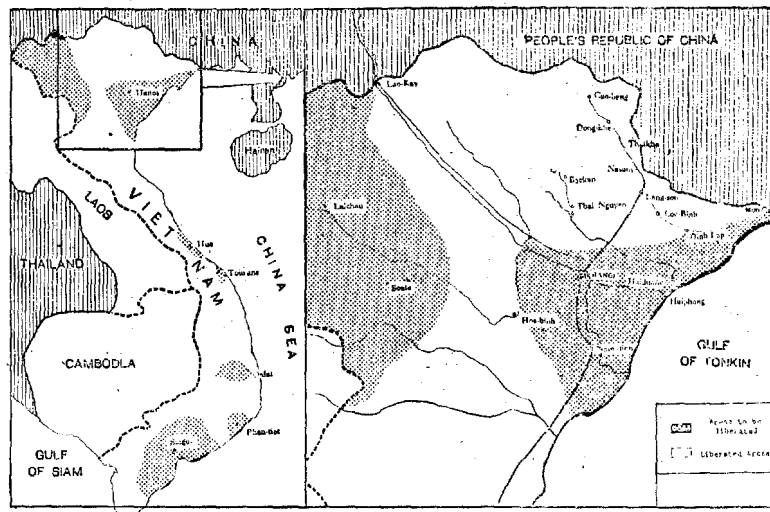
Units of the People's Army and people's militia operated in the enemy rear, teaching and organizing the masses, dispersing puppet authorities, destroying enemy communications and supplies, attacking enemy garrisons and property in the cities, wiping out isolated enemy posts and realising the slogan "Reduce the enemy occupied zone and transform the enemy rear into our bases." Scores of enemy posts were captured and tens of thousands of square kilometres were liberated between the end of 1948 and the beginning of 1949.

By the end of 1949, in view of the Viet-Nameese successes and the Chinese people's victory in their war of liberation, the French adopted still another plan proposed by General Revers. According to this, they would ask for more help from the United States and, meanwhile, they would concentrate their troops in North Viet-Nam, tightly close the Sino-Viet-Nameese border and hold on to North Viet-Nam. The recent victories of Viet-Nam along the Sino-Viet-Nameese border and in the central part of Bac-Bo (North Viet-Nam) are evidence of the failure of this third French plan. In one month, the whole French defence system along the border was smashed to pieces; nine crack French battalions were wiped out and seven big French-occupied townships recaptured by the Viet-Nameese People's Army. Even before this catastrophe, the French had already suffered heavy losses, including about 90,000 killed, from the day they started their aggression against Nam-Bo (South Viet-Nam) in September, 1945, to the

end of 1949. And needless to say, the morale of the survivors has steadily declined.

The Viet-Nameese armed forces, built up during this long and mortal struggle against the aggressors, have grown in cohesion, strength, ability and armament.

During the first period of the resistance, two-



Map of Viet-Nam

thirds of the people's regular troops were divided into small units which operated in the enemy rear to organise and arm the people, and develop guerrilla warfare. As a second step, enemy convoys and isolated posts were attacked by several small units grouped into a regiment. Then gradually, two or three regiments were concentrated to carry out a whole campaign. Now, larger concentrations of troops can be deployed to fight on a wide front.

Guerrilla forces, operating with the whole population, provide the National Army with inexhaustible reserves. The guerrilla movement has developed on a wide scale in the countryside and in the cities throughout the land. Striking from the liberated areas and within the French controlled districts, they harass and undermine the enemy's forces. In the first ten months of 1949, for example, the guerrillas of the third zone alone fought 3,361 engagements, killed 6,023 enemy troops and captured 3,962 others, destroyed 1 fieldgun, 2 mortars, 1 plane, 6 warships, 17 motors, 5 amphibious cars, 129 lorries, 7 jeeps, 117 kilometres of road and 65,580 metres of telephone wire. The people's patriotic efforts are unstinting. At the close of 1949, the province of Ha Tinh contributed 300 million piastres to the fund for the support of the people's militia while within the first four months of 1950, the population of Thanh Hoa Province (Central Viet-Nam) alone donated 20 million piastres to the same fund. From the technical and tactical points of view, commanders and men of the people's army have made tremendous progress. Starting from small attacks in which obsolete rifles and even jungle knives and bamboo sticks were used, they now know how to handle heavy arms and are adepts at mobile warfare.

These military successes are complemented by hardly less striking achievements in other spheres. In spite of the French blockade, the backwardness of the country, and the lack of cadres and pharmaceutical products, Viet-Nam has succeeded in training new medical cadres and making medicines to meet the greater part of the Army's needs. Another remarkable achievement is the creation of a war industry using old-time machines, rudimentary tools and scrap metal collected from destroyed cities to produce not only rifles but bazookas, mortars and other weapons.

Political Victories

In the political field, the Viet-Nameese people, uniting their ranks in the National United Front (Lien-Viet) and in support of the government of Ho Chi Minh, have foiled all the French attempts to 'divide-and-rule.' Workers, peasants, businessmen, intellectuals, youth and women, grouped in their respective organisations, are straining every nerve to help the Government and the Army to prepare the general counter-offensive. As President Ho Chi Minh has pointed out, the National United Front, relying upon the solid alliance of the working class and the peasantry, and including people of all anti-

imperialist classes and parties, constitutes the "steel wall" of the people.

The French dream of dismembering Viet-Nam and establishing "autonomous states" among the national minorities has failed ignominiously. At the end of 1948, after the Viet-Minh's order for wiping out the puppet authorities was issued, 95 per cent of these ceased to exist. The puppet central government has always been a farce. After several reshuffles due to its impotency, it has been reformed with the same traitors, known not only to the Viet-Nameese people but also to the outside world for their infamous activities.

At the same time, as the Resistance Movement has developed and advanced, the people's government has gone from strength to strength. In order to increase the participation of the workers and peasants in the direction of public affairs, new elections of village and provincial people's committees have been held even in the midst of the war. The people, including those residing in the enemy controlled areas, enthusiastically participated in the elections. In the French occupied city of Tourane, 90 per cent of the population cast their votes in spite of ferocious French reprisals. The people's power has thus been strengthened at all levels with the election of new representatives from among the workers, peasants and model fighters.

The correct national policy of the Viet-Nameese Government has also succeeded in bringing the peoples of Laos and Cambodia into close co-operation with the Viet-Nameese people in the fight against the common enemy. These states were formerly used by the French as strong bases against the Viet-Nameese independence movement, but now in Laos a people's government, and in Cambodia a national Liberation Committee, rule over vast territories freed by their own Liberation Armies.

From the international point of view, the recognition of Viet-Nam by the Socialist Soviet Union, the People's Republic of China and other People's Democracies "constitutes the greatest achievement in Viet-Nam's history." Viet-Nam has become an integral part of the mighty world front of peace and democracy. It has the support of progressive humanity, including that of the French people who are fighting against the colonial war in Viet-Nam and the American policy of enslavement.

In the economic field, the Viet-Nameese people, while destroying and blockading the enemy's economy, have succeeded in consolidating their own war economy and, at the same time, are laying the foundations of a people's democratic economy.

The people's forces, including the guerrillas, have inflicted heavy damage on factories, rubber plantations and other enterprises owned by the imperialists. Between January and March, 1950, for example, 22 aeroplanes and 7 transporters were destroyed in Hanoi by the guerrillas. French-imported goods are piled up in the French occupied cities owing to the Viet-Nameese blockade.

Having failed in the political and military fields, the imperialists have pursued a policy of economic sabotage: demolishing dykes, destroying crops, burning down storehouses, strafing defenceless peasants, slaughtering cattle, occupying rice-producing regions and blockading Viet-Nameese bases. They have spared no efforts to starve the Viet-Nameese people. But in this, too, they have failed. Viet-Nameese troops, while fighting back to protect the peasants' crops against the plunderers, compete with each other to increase production. While two million people died of hunger under the French domination in 1945, no famine has been seen since the establishment of the Democratic Republic, in spite of the criminal French destructions of dykes, crops and cattle.

Economic Reconstruction

Reconstruction has gone ahead during the past four years in spite of war conditions. A self-sufficient economy along the lines of a people's democracy has been built up with close co-operation between the government and private capital. In addition to war industries, consumers and producers co-

operatives and handicrafts are much encouraged by the government. Articles ranging from office equipment to chemical products and surgical instruments, which were formerly imported from France, can be now produced in small quantities in the liberated areas. The clothing problem has been solved in the greater part of the country, thanks to the development of cotton growing and weaving handicrafts.

In the financial field, too, a great deal has been achieved by the Viet-Nam Democratic Republic. In spite of the big "legacy" of public debts and inflation left by the French and Japanese in 1945, and in spite of the heavy cost of national defence and the abolishment of what were for the French the main sources of revenue, such as the poll tax and the monopolies of alcohol, salt and opium, the people's government has succeeded in considerably improving the state of the public finances, thanks to the voluntary efforts of the whole people. The general cost of living in some parts of the liberated zones is now lower than in the enemy

(Continued on page 32)

RECENT MILITARY SUCCESSES IN NORTH VIET-NAM

In the battle of North Viet-Nam, the Viet-Nam People's Army wiped out 10,000 crack French troops, including fully-equipped Legionaries, Moroccans and well-trained paratroops, in a single month ending Oct. 13, 1950. This is nearly 10 per cent of all the imperialist French forces in the country, as reported at the beginning of this year.

Between Oct. 10 and Nov. 6, the VPA also liberated many major towns including Cao Bang, That Khe, Thai Nguyen, Na Sam, Dong Dang, Lang Son, Loc Binh, Dinh Lap, Lao Kay, and Hoa Binh. Except for Mon Cay, now being attacked by the VPA, the whole area along the Chinese-Viet-Nam border is freed from the French imperialists.

During this campaign, which dealt the French colonialists the hardest single blow they have suffered since they started the "dirty war" in Viet-Nam four years ago, enough arms were captured to equip ten battalions.

These military successes testify to the growing strength of the VPA, which has mastered the art of annihilating the enemy forces in large scale mobile warfare. "They are due," stated President Ho Chi Minh, "to the active participation of the people in the struggle against the imperialists, to the heroism of our People's Army, to the determination of our people's government. . . ."

Neither French reinforcements nor American military aid, which is being poured into Viet-Nam in still larger quantities, has halted the liberation advance of the Viet-Nam people. French colonial rule has been reduced to a few outposts mainly along the sea coast. All industrial and agricultural production in the expanded liberated areas in the northern part of the country is now in a better position to serve the VPA's present preparation for general offensive.

The blockade imposed by the French imperialists along the Chinese-Viet-Nam border has been smashed. Liberated Viet-Nam now has an open common frontier with the victorious Chinese People's Republic and direct access to the other progressive peoples of the democratic world.

These Viet-Nam successes have made no small contribution to the over-all liberation struggle in Asia. While the Korean People's Army and the Chinese volunteers are hitting hard at the right flank of the American pincers to the northeast of China, the VPA has struck at the arms of the pincers in the south. The aggressive U.S. plan for an encirclement around continental Asia is thus being frustrated. These are resounding blows for peace against the world war camp. Once again it is shown that a mobilised people are invincible and can defeat the forces of reaction.

HO CHI MINH

— President of the Democratic Republic of Viet-Nam —

Ho Chi Minh is known today as the Father of his Country. He has devoted the 60 years of his life to the service of the people in their struggle for the independence and unity of Viet-Nam.

Born on May 19, 1890, in the Province of Nghe An, the son of a scholar of peasant stock, the young Ho began his revolutionary career at the age of eight as a courier for the Viet-Nam revolutionary movement that smouldered and flamed throughout the years of French domination, one of the most brutal forms of colonialism the world has seen. When in 1911 his whole family was arrested and sentenced to life imprisonment for their opposition to the French colonialists, Ho Chi Minh worked his way to France as a seaman. In Paris, he became acquainted with Charles Longuet, grandson of Karl Marx, who encouraged him to write for his paper, *Le Populaire*. In 1920, he founded the Inter-Colonial Union in Paris and edited a paper called *The Pariah*. As a member of the French Socialist Party, he was elected to the Tours Conference in the same year. When the Party split, he supported the programme of the 3rd International. With Marcel Cachin, Vaillant Couturier and other leaders, he later became a founding member of the French Communist Party.

Hounded by the French police, he left France in 1923 for the Soviet Union, where he witnessed the early steps of the building of the USSR. In the next year he arrived in Canton, then the headquarters of the revolutionary United Front led by Dr. Sun Yat-sen. Here he founded the Association of Revolutionary Viet-Nam Youth and, with the aid of Liao Chung-kai, close associate of Dr. Sun, organised the Association of Oppressed Peoples in Asia, uniting Viet-Namese, Chinese, Koreans, Indonesians and others.

He returned to Indo-China in 1930, after a short stay in Siam, and led the creation of the Communist Party of Indo-China on January 6, 1930.

In 1931, Ho Chi Minh was arrested on a trumped-up charge by the British in Hongkong. The French authorities demanded his extradition, but as a result of mass protests in Viet-Nam and other countries, he was released after six months in prison. Despite the constant trailing of special agents, he became one of the outstanding leaders of the Viet-Nam revolutionary national liberation movement which surged up with new intensity in 1934 and 1937 when



a wave of strikes and patriotic demonstrations took place in Saigon, Hanoi, Haiphong and Vinh.

The Japanese invasion brought about a new situation in Indo-China. Ho Chi Minh, now the recognised leader of the Viet-Minh — the League for the Independence of Viet-Nam, declared that "from now on, the main enemy of our country is Japanese fascism." But the French refused to co-operate with Viet-Minh against the common foe.

Meanwhile, he began to build up an anti-Japanese guerrilla force. To get material aid from the Allied Nations for this Resistance Movement, he set out for Chungking. But as soon as he crossed the Yunnan border, he was arrested by the Chiang Kai-shek reactionaries. It was only after 14 months of detention and barbarous tortures in KMT prisons that he was released. He returned to Viet-Nam to resume the fight against the invaders.

On the Japanese surrender, the Viet-Minh and its National Liberation Army under his leadership organised a general insurrection and established the People's Republic. After 83 years under French and Japanese domination, the Viet-Nam people became a free and united nation on August 19, 1945.

On September 2, 1945, the Democratic Republic of Viet-Nam was proclaimed with Ho Chi Minh as its first president, heading a Provisional Government of all patriotic democratic parties and groups. The government was based on the firm alliance of the workers and peasants and supported by all other democratic forces in Viet-Nam.

The French colonialists, however, refused to accept this verdict of history. The Viet-Minh made every effort to achieve a peaceful solution. President Ho even went to Paris to conduct negotiations in May, 1946. The French, however, finally broke all their pledges and unleashed a full-scale invasion of Viet-Nam by attacking Hanoi on December 19, 1946.

Under the leadership of President Ho Chi Minh, the Viet-Nam people, along with the peoples of Laos and Cambodia, are dealing telling blows against the French colonialists, their puppet Bao Dai and their mercenary U.S.-armed troops.

At the same time, the 20,000,000 people of liberated Viet-Nam, comprising over 90 per cent of the entire country and over 80 per cent of its population, are rapidly building and consolidating their people's democratic regime.

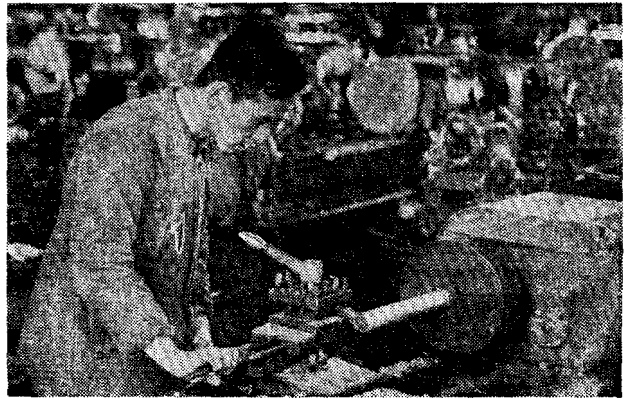
Support Our Volunteers in Korea



He reads the pledge for his PLA unit: "We will deal with them if they dare invade."



Peasant stretcher-bearers in Northeast China prepare.



Labour Hero Chao Kuo-yu initiates patriotic emulation drive.



Gifts for the volunteers and the KPA — Peking housewives embroider the bags for delivery.

Criminal Record of Wall Street and Syngman Rhee

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3568 1/2 S. Van Ness Avenue
 Los Angeles 7, Calif.

Dec. 3rd, 1947

President Syngman Rhee
 Republic of Korea
 Office of the President
 Kyung Mu Det., Seoul, Korea.

Dear President:

I received your radiogram this morning and I, hereby, thank you for your granting of the time to nurse my wound and to postpone my coming till early spring, to serve you and my country.

Touching on the international affairs and of combatting the threat of Communism against Korea and China, I take the liberty of repeating what I had written you about before and that is: the die is cast that East Asia, like any other immediately threatened spots in the world, has either to submit to Communist conquest without resistance or prepare to fight for survival, and that every true-hearted patriot in America, Korea, Japan, and China shall offer self, service and substance for the latter alternative. But to carry on the coming struggle to a victorious conclusion, the forces of defense such as the armies of America, Japan, China and Korea must be coordinated and led by a supreme Commander with triple objectives, namely: The Japanese push through North-east ward and pass Vladivostock; Korean and American armies, after liberating our Northern territory, march through Liaotung peninsula and up to Harbin; and a re-vitalized Chinese Nationalist army to recover China's lost territory including Shantung Province; and after ~~the~~ such a victorious conclusion, the Korean and American armies hold Manchuria until the cost of liberation be fully repaid by means of the developments of the natural resources of that part of East Asia by the combined capital and labor of Manchuria, Korea, and America and that until democracy and peace be firmly established there.

In the next reshaping of Far East, Japan should be made to be content with the preponderant influence to be acquired over Vladivostok and a part of Siberia but never again over Korea and Manchuria for the simple reason that were Japan allowed to become an imperialistic nation again, her vengeful spirit shall kindle again and burn the heart and soul of every Japanese however much she may be whitewashed with American benevolence and democracy, and Japan shall prepare to redeem herself from the humiliating surrender that she had to offer on a U.S.S. battlefield; and secondly, perhaps embrace Russia as an ally and try to embark upon a venture to conquer the world, again. The only way to nip such a potential danger to become a reality, lies in making Korea and China as strong as Japan so as to have one and all serve as a check and balance, and in the event of Russia's attack, that the three, with America's cooperation, may serve as a united defender.

No doubt you have a better plan than what I have said here above concerning the future destiny of Asia, but I repeat these views to the end that I, not you who are the supreme leader of thirty million Koreans, may become the target of enemy's attack and ridicule in case our plans happen to be leaked out or intercepted by the enemy.

Faithfully yours

Peong Koo Yoon

Photostat copy of the letter to Syngman Rhee from Peong Koo Yoon, one of his closest associates.



Rural co-ops replenishing supplies at a Shantung district co-op centre.



A co-op pottery in Hopei Province.



Tientsin mill workers buying at the factory co-op.



This Tientsin co-op specialises in carpet-making.



Co-op huller helps peasants at harvest time.



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The American-Syngman Rhee Army displays the severed heads of Korean patriots to warn the people against any resistance. The photograph was captured by the KPA.



Ruined homes, orphans — this is what the U.S. invasion brings to Korea.



In Seoul, American POW's who have learned the truth demonstrate against the Wall Street war-makers.

A Village Co-op — Kung Ho

All along the three li that the road runs, between tall autumn-touched willows, from the warehouse to the village, is rice. On either side are rice fields, the stubble dotting the inch or two of water that still covers the dark ooze. Only one or two fields remain to be harvested. They should be cut today. An old fan hung from a pole swings and scares the flocks of birds from the grain.

"Lao Liu!" the man from the city's co-op branch cups his hands and shouts across the paddy fields. "The harvest. How's it been?"

Lao Liu looks up from the treadle husker he's been working. "Heavy, heavy," he calls back.

"What about last year, is it better?"

For a moment Liu rests his foot. "Eh? No comparison." And the machine whirs again.

"You see," says the co-op man, turning to me, "the land's rich. More than 3,400 *mow* of it in this village, most of it under rice, and all good fertile land. This village is one of the richest hereabouts. All that grain in the branch warehouse, comes from here. Later, we'll take it into town for the city co-ops."

At the edge of fields or piled on threshing grounds are shocks of rice. Here and there a motor rattles, turning a huller and stirring the chaff and dust. There is one just at the entrance to the village encircled by yellow sheaves.

"A merchant's machine, from the city," says Chen, my companion from the co-op. "They bring them here at harvest. But their prices are too high. The co-op's bought its own to cut the cost."

Rice is even piled in the village street and against a wall where someone has painted, in big white-wash characters, the slogan "Build your supply and marketing co-op and help agriculture!" The street

and the lane leading to the co-op are almost emptied of people. Everyone, young and old, is out in the fields. Even the co-op store is not so busy as usual. The accountant, in fact, as we look in, is a little apologetic.

"You see," he says, "this is the busiest time of the year. We don't even have time to keep our shelves stocked—just these two or three weeks. Some are empty. Let me see—well, we carry flour and grain, cheaper grain than rice, that's the most important. Then there's soya sauce, noodles, salt—that too is important, and matches and cigarettes, notebooks, packets of tea, vinegar and soap. A few towels. The things the members want and decide the co-op should carry. Maybe we'll have cotton wadding for winter clothing tomorrow. The manager's off at the branch buying it today. In a couple of weeks, it'll be really busy again. But now, you see," and he waves his hand towards a group of peasants standing outside beside a pair of scales, surrounded by great sacks of grain, "everything's for the harvest. Bringing it in, or hulling it, or paying back loans to us. There's not much time for anything else. Why, in the back courtyard right here they've got a 'harvest nursery' where the women can bring their children at seven o'clock and pick them up in the evening again, they're that busy." He goes back to his books. Then, a moment later, looking up through his round spectacles, he exclaims, "Ah, the huller! You must look at that. Wait! Hsu Kuo-chen'll take you, he knows everything."

Hsu, chairman of the Peasants' Association, is leaving the village government office across the way. "Come," he says. He runs his hand over his close-shaven head. Young and robust, he is a man of presence and ease in talk.

"The relationship between the Peasants' Association and the co-op?" he repeats on the way. "Different duties, of course, but they're hard to divide. I'm a co-op director myself. All the co-op members are in the Peasants' Association and most Association members are in the co-op. We discuss things mutually. So that when we wanted the rope factory to start up, the Association made the co-op a loan from the grain it took from the landlords. When it comes to production or loans, we talk most things over together. Our planning committee has people from the co-op, the Peasants' Association, the Women's Association and the village government on it. So you could say our plan is a collective one."

Peasant Mechanics

He stops a peasant. "Lao Wang, where's the huller? Just round the corner?" We round the corner and there amidst a great clatter are half a dozen men round the machine, feeding it, hauling in more rice and piling it on reed mats. They look more like mechanics than peasants.

"We'll have to fix their wages soon," Lao Wang shouts to the chairman above the chug and rattle. "At the next members' meeting." The chairman nods.

"They're all members too," adds Lao Wang, pointing at the men round the huller. "When the work started they said they wouldn't take any pay, that this was a service to the co-op and the village. But the other members told them, 'No, that's not right. This work helps us all. You must get paid for it.' We'll settle how much after the harvest. Reckon it will work out at three and a half cattles a picul, but perhaps it'll be a bit more. Last year there were only merchants running this sort of thing. Before they started they got together and fixed their price at six cattles. This year, when they heard the co-op had its own machine, they brought it down to five. When we get another going in a day or two, they'll bring their

we'll have three hullers. That'll take care of all the members' rice."

"Too much noise here," complains the chairman. "Let's go back to the store."

The Co-op Comes in

Lao Wang comes also. He is already past middle age and walks slowly, but there's no need to hurry, the sun is warm yet. "Once, you know," Lao Wang goes on, "a lot of us were without land. Nearly 2,300 people in this village and most of us without land. I was for one. So was the chairman. There were those who had to beg for a living, too. Now no one begs. After liberation, when we got land, things were different. We got loans to help us."

"That's where the co-op came in," interjects the chairman. "We needed loans to get going, fertiliser for the land, food to get us through till harvest. We could raise them at the co-op because the co-op could raise money from the banks or the city co-op. When the co-op first started last year, we had loans from it interest-free, and that made people believe in it. In the old days, where would we peasants go for loans? To the merchants or the landlords. And what would we pay in interest? Anything, up to a third of the loan. There wasn't one of us who didn't want a co-op loan. Who wouldn't when interest's never higher than 2 per cent? Everyone took at least a picul of bean-cake to fertilise the land. Some of us have 250 catties laid down this year where once we only put 150 or less. Though the land's good, crops were never so big in the old days. We'd get one, one and a half, perhaps two piculs of rice out of every *mow*, for as long as I can remember. This year we're getting 2.4 or 2.5."

"Partly it is the hard work we put into it, knowing the harvest will be ours. Partly it is the Mutual Aid Groups. They make the best use of our efforts. Partly it is the co-op with its loans and fertiliser. Then, too, the Mutual Aid Groups loan implements from the co-op. They are all parts of the same thing — production. . . ."

Late in the afternoon, when the co-op manager comes back from the branch, bringing a load of cotton with the horse and cart which the co-op was allocated from the fruits of the land struggle, he says the same.

"We must put up production. The fields are growing more, we've more money on hand. So we can develop more side occupations and make better use of all the labour in the village. We've got a rope factory going already, had more than a hundred working there last winter. Next year we want to have our own flour mill." He unwraps a cloth bundle, takes out some cartons of cigarettes and hands them to a clerk. He has bought flour, too. His black jacket, tied at the waist with rope, is white with it, and the powder has dusted on to his trousers. The cotton and flour are carried into the store even as he sits down on the trestle bed at the back of the co-op office.

"Sometimes we sleep here," he explains, "when the work's heavy. Now you want to know what the co-op does? If you asked the people around here they'd say, 'It gives us fertiliser and loans.' Cheaper prices? Yes, our cotton's 300 *Jen Min Pi* (People's Currency) cheaper for members than on the market, our flour 100 *Jen Min Pi* or so cheaper. But first it was the loans that attracted people."



Woodcut by Hsia Feng

He is called into the store, settles a matter of prices, and eases himself back again on the edge of the bed.

"We've only been going a year, you know, even though there are more than 1,300 members — that's near 60 per cent of the population. More have joined this past week,

but we've had no time to register them yet. Before we began, the city co-op's branch helped us, bought some of our products, worked on the well-digging here and made us loans. When land reform was coming round, the branch sent one of their people over. Told us what the co-ops are for and what they can do. The co-ops grew with land reform. That's been the way with most villages around here.

"There were difficulties at first. People remembered what co-ops had been like under the Japanese and the Kuomintang, when they were all in the hands of landlords. But gradually they lost these fears. They think a lot of it now. After all, they realise it's their co-op, not anyone else's. And if after land reform we hadn't a place to go for money and fertiliser we wouldn't have done half so well. Once our crops began coming in we found we had enough money for things we needed — like clothes and soap. And here was the co-op to buy them at."

He took off his jacket, dusted the flour off, and held it out.

"Nearly new, you see. In the old days, if you had a jacket and trousers you said you were doing well. If you only had trousers you said, 'I can pass.' There was nothing in the way of new clothes for peasants. Last year the co-op bought cloth. The price was cheap and those who hadn't the ready cash could pay when the harvest came. This year we don't need to do it that way. The store carries cloth all the time, and anyone buys as he wants, and with cash."

The co-op was getting busier. Villagers were coming off the fields. In the store a woman, her child just gathered from the nursery, was buying some of the newly-arrived cotton.

"Here," said the manager, "look at this." He went up to the store scales. "It's attached to a beam. No one could accuse anyone of cheating with that. No adding to the pan or fiddling with the weights like before liberation. And here are the receipts, all that's been

sold today. The members say their co-op should set a standard for honest, well-run business."

There is a small crowd now. The Peasants' Association chairman has come. So have the members who've been putting the motor for the new co-op huller together, their hands greasy from work.

"But there's one thing I forget to tell you," adds the manager. "Early this year we changed our policy. Up till then we'd taken the wrong turning. We thought we ought to make money, show profits, pay out bonuses. Not that a good co-op shouldn't make profits, but we'd made that our aim. When we thought about it, and learnt about the experiences of other co-ops, we realised we were going wrong. It had to be service to the people and the village, stepping up production, not just profits. Now when there's a profit we put it right back into the co-op and don't take bonuses. The whole co-op's stronger for it."

People are calling him with one or another question. He holds them off a minute.

"It's hard to describe what it was like before liberation and before land reform. Day in, day out, never a moment free from misery. Sometimes we didn't know it was oppression, it was so much a part of our lives." The circle of men nods in agreement. "You know what bean-cake's for, the stuff we put on fields? We weren't above eating that. And 'kung ho mien,' have you ever tried it?"

One of the men standing by makes with his hands a gesture of taking a little of this and a little of that, of mixing it all together.

"Beans, if you had any. Old flour, if you had any. Mixed and pounded and made into noodles. Whatever you had—or didn't have."

And suddenly—you couldn't say whether it was the infection of good harvest, or the warm weather, or perhaps the remembrance of a swill they'd never eat again—all their faces broke into smiles and the crowd went into gusty laughter.

THE ROLE OF CO-OPS IN NEW CHINA

New China's co-operative movement has expanded with amazing rapidity since the people won nation-wide victory in the War of Liberation. Between March, 1949, when membership totalled 5,000,000, and June, 1950, co-op membership increased five times. The following table shows its growth since December, 1949:

	December 1949	March 1950	June 1950
Membership	18,446,887	20,176,448	23,921,909
Number of Co-ops	26,309	38,648	42,350
Share Capital (People's Currency) *	\$122,398,110,000	\$239,748,440,000	\$268,468,180,000

Peasant Membership

The overwhelming majority of co-op members are emancipated peasants who have received land in the agrarian reform. Thus, over 93 per cent of the members are in Northeast, North and East China. In Northeast China alone, it is estimated that during 1950, the more than 10,000 co-ops will sell goods valued at some 2,200,000 tons of grain, or approximately one-fourth of the total volume of retail trade in that area. Consumers' co-ops in Mukden, Peking, Shanghai, Hankow and other cities, however, cater for several millions of workers, government employees, teachers and students and an increasing number of producers' co-ops are being organised.

One of the chief functions of co-ops today is to help develop a new type of commercial network which will minimise middlemen's profits and protect the interests of both consumers and small producers. Another function is to reorganise the scattered individual small producers and strengthen the links between them and the state economy. This latter is especially important, as individual small producers make up an overwhelming proportion of China's 475 millions, and are responsible for some 90 per cent of her national economy.

The Common Programme and Co-ops

The Common Programme guarantees state assistance to the co-operative movement and outlines its development. Thus, Article 26 stresses the importance of "all components of the social economy" carrying out, under the leadership of the state-owned economy, "division and co-ordination of labour" in order that each component shall play its part in developing the social economy as a whole, while Articles 29 and 38 deal more specifically with the co-operatives. Article 29 states:

"Co-operative economy is of a semi-Socialist nature and is an important component of the people's economy as a whole. The People's Government shall foster its development and accord it preferential treatment."

Article 38, defining the scope and types of co-operatives, states: "Co-operatives: the broad masses of working people shall be encouraged and assisted to develop co-operatives, according to the principle of willingness. Supply and marketing co-operatives, as well as consumers', credit, producers', and transport co-operatives shall first be organised in towns and villages. Consumers' co-operatives shall first be organised in factories, institutions and schools."

"Our Machines Are Our Weapons"

"Our factory is our battlefield and our machines are our weapons."

This slogan sets the keynote for the vast Patriotic Emulation Campaign that is now rapidly spreading to every corner of China.

This great production movement was touched off when the American army pushed across the 38th Parallel into North Korea and began to tramp towards the borders of Northeast China.

The Mukden labour hero Chao Kuo-yu, who last year initiated the nation-wide New Record Movement, again provided the impetus for this latest production campaign. On Oct. 13, Chao Kuo-yu and his fellow workers in No. 3 Plant of the Mukden Machine Tool Factory challenged all other workers in Northeast China to an emulation campaign designed to strengthen their fatherland, protect their homes, defend world peace and oppose American aggression. In issuing this challenge, Chao Kuo-yu and the other turners in his shop pledged to surpass the achievements they had already scored since the Korean war began.

"We warn the American imperialist aggressors," these workers declared in a written statement, "that we will oppose their aggression with concrete action. In August and September, we did not turn out a single defective product. After topping our production plan by 24 per cent in July and August, we fulfilled our September target in 14 days and our October target in 20 days."

The response to this challenge was instantaneous. In a matter of days, virtually every factory, workshop, brigade and worker in Northeast China had drawn up anti-American aggression emulation targets, often substantially higher than original production plans for the last quarter of 1950.

Workers of the Fushun Steel Mill, for instance, set themselves the target of fulfilling their 1950

production plan one month ahead of schedule. Two women locomotive drivers, Wang Pao-sung and Pi Kwei-ying, raised their goal to 100,000 kilometres without any breakdown or major overhaul.

New slogans went up on factory walls and mine shafts, embodying the new atmosphere that now pervades all industrial enterprises. "Each additional ton of ore extracted is one more ounce of strength for our motherland and one more blow at the enemy." "The elimination of one more defective product means the elimination of one more enemy." The workers decorated their machines with cartoons of General MacArthur and other American war criminals, adding such captions as: "This machine will smash you and bring you to justice!"

Production rates soared. By the end of October, 22 Northeastern factories and mines could proudly announce that they had completed their month's production quotas well ahead of schedule. By then, five enterprises in Dairen and Port Arthur had fulfilled their year's programme. In seven mining centres, production was up 43 per cent above the output for the same period last year.

Letters began pouring in to the office of Chairman Mao Tse-tung, telling him of further gains on the production front. The entire personnel of the Anshan Steel Mill, for example, sent a joint letter to Chairman Mao, reporting that they had over-fulfilled their October target by 16.1 per cent—by far the highest output since the mill resumed operations one and a half years ago. Reflecting the sentiments of the workers who had achieved this outstanding record, the letter continued: "We are extremely indignant over America's aggression. . . . We are determined to transform our hatred into strength. . . . We solemnly pledge that we will contribute all we can

towards the production of more steel for use in opposing the American aggressors and aiding Korea."

With this movement proving so successful in Northeast China, the All-China Trade Union Federation decided to extend the patriotic production drive to the rest of China. On November 6, the Federation issued a manifesto calling on all Chinese workers "to unite as one, to extend the Patriotic Emulation Campaign and to strive to raise production and strengthen the national defences."

The nation's leading model workers and labour heroes, just back on their jobs after their inspiring conference in Peking, threw all their efforts into devising new ways to raise production. Labour Hero Li Yung, famous as the driver of the "Mao Tse-tung Locomotive," presented a set of rationalisation proposals to increase train haulage despite the handicap of winter weather which normally slows down freight shipments. By organising closer co-operation among repair shop mechanics, maintenance workers, telephone operators and various other types of railway department workers, Li Yung managed to increase his train's haulage by 3,000 tons in the first ten days after his plan went into effect. The "Mao Tse-tung Locomotive" is now nearing the record of 200,000 kilometres of perfect running without a major overhaul. Railway workers in other parts of the country are studying Li Yung's latest proposals and introducing measures to "keep pace with Hero Li Yung."

In connection with the Patriotic Emulation Campaign, many factories and workshops have held "speak bitterness" meetings at which the workers recall their miseries in the old society. Contrasting their past sufferings with their present prospects, the workers have become thoroughly alert to the threat to their own futures presented by American aggression in Korea. They know that to defend their newly-born liberties, they must work as hard in their workshops as their brother volunteers are fighting on the Korean battle-



THE PEOPLE DANCE

When in brilliant sunshine 6,000 dancers from every region of China danced their colourful way across the Tien An Men Square on China's National Day, it seemed to symbolise the unity that has been realised among the artists of the many nationalities of People's China.

Later, the dancers from the national minorities gave more than 40 performances in Peking. Three thousand workers of art saw their gala festival at the Temple of Agriculture. Everyone who could, flocked to the concerts, one of the outstanding artistic events of the year.

This gathering of dancers from the Southwest, Sinkiang in the Northwest, Inner Mongolia and the Koreans of Northeast China, gave an exhilarating consciousness of the vastness and diversity of China and the enormous reservoir of cultural riches and talent that the people's revolution has unsealed.

From the Southwest

China's Southwest peoples showed themselves here as splendid dancers having all the immediacy of folk culture. Dancing for them is as natural an activity as working or eating. Among the Miaos of Kweichow, the *Lu Ti* (a reed-pipe made in many sizes, some with a pipe 5-feet long) is played by two-thirds of the male population who invariably dance as they play. It has a peculiarly plaintive timbre as of birds in the twilight, and there is also something bird-like in the impression the dancers create as they hold it. Their steps are symbolic and evocative rather than pantomimic — "roosters fighting," "the dragon moves," the "Spring strut." Their dances deal with basic social themes: the Dance of the Four Seasons, the Dance of Friendship — depicting the reunion of old friends, the Moon Dance — a dance of love-making famous among the Ai-Si people who not infrequently dance the whole night through. In the Dance of the Four Directions

a drum summons the dancers. Their movements symbolise the wind that blows them together, then again they recall the darting movements of fish who come together fleetingly in a pool and disperse and gather again in constant motion.

These four groups of dancers in Peking represented 43 nationalities. The Southwest troupe alone included folk dancers from 13 peoples in Kweichow, Yunnan and Sikang.

The Sinkiang troupe brought the characteristic movements and music of the Central Asian peoples: Uzbeks, Kazahks, Uighurs, Tatars; the vivacious clipped rhythms done to the beat of the *Yuen Ku*, the hand drum, the gracious running steps of the women dancers with gorgeous coloured billowing skirts, and particularly expressive hand movements. They did the dances and songs of the epic chivalry of the steppes — the *Annavhan*, the tragic tale of a famous beauty, for instance, but here too is the song of a peasant denouncing the ravages of war, calling for peace and happiness.

Inner Mongolia and Korea

The troupes from Inner Mongolia and the Koreans of Northeast China have developed the folk dance towards the theatre. These are professional groups of selected folk dancers. The Mongolian group, formed in 1946, helped the campaigns of the PLA and developed out of their folk dances forms well able to express modern ideas. Their sword dance uses traditional movements yet personifies the strength, vitality and determination of the people's fighters of today. In his "Wild Goose" dance, the young dancer Chia Tse-kwang, who not long ago performed for the World Youth Festival in Prague, takes the theme of the migration of the birds, fighting through storms to the haven and warmth of sunny lands, to symbolise the struggle of the people for liberation.

For all its newness of form, the spirit of this dance immediately communicated itself to the great audience at the Chungshan Park in Peking and they roundly applauded this bold and inventive artist.

The Border Region Troupe, the largest of those of Korean nationality in the Northeast, also grew out of the war of liberation and today shows a high standard of professional achievement. It has 90 artists and its own orchestra of modern and folk instruments. Their range of theme and treatment is still wider than that of the other troupes: pastoral dance mimes such as "Washing" or "Pounding Rice," rousing martial movements with clashing daggers and songs of the birth of New China. This modern note in the songs was characteristic of all the troupes, in fact. All sang songs of praise of the Communist Party and



the leadership of Chairman Mao Tse-tung, whose national policy has made this unique festival possible.

The establishment of the Central People's Government has brought about an entirely new relation between the cultures of the various national minorities and that of the Han people. Any expression of the old supercilious attitude to the culture of the minorities is today greeted with the scathing condemnatory epithet: "Feudal!" The national minorities no longer bring their art to the capital as something "exotic." The people's arts have come into their own. Now there is an eager quest for knowledge of the arts of the national minorities to enrich the common fund of Chinese culture and the utmost eagerness to encourage the art of the peoples, to create a diversified culture, national in form but inspired by the common ideals of the New Democracy.

Letters From A Volunteer

In view of their undoubted interest to its readers, People's China has received the kind permission of his family to reprint the following letters from a young volunteer in Korea. Further letters will be published in subsequent issues.

Letter I

Medical College
Near Peking
November 15

Dear Hwa-nien,

I've volunteered for Korea. There's very little time left before my departure and I don't think I'll be able to make a trip to see you as I have so much to do. There are many meetings to attend, send-off parties and discussion group sessions.

You will, I know, approve of my decision, for in your last letter you expressed your own indignation at the barbarous aggression of the American imperialists. You mentioned that you also wanted to volunteer but that *People's China* could not release you at this time.

I've spent a long time writing a note to mother explaining why I have volunteered and I have little time left to write you at any length. In any case, as we have often joked, "Mother is the one who needs the most 'enlightenment.'"

Please read the enclosed letter to mother and see what you think of it. I hope you will think it does a good job "enlightening" her.

More from Mukden if we're there for any time.

Love,
HWA-CHANG

Letter II

Medical College
Near Peking
November 15

Dear Mother,

Lights are off at the College and I'm writing by candle-light just as I did a little over two months ago, on October 1, when after the exciting all-day parades and celebrations I wrote to you about how happy I felt participating in the

great new era which China has entered with Mao Tse-tung as our leader.

I remember writing you then that as soon as I had finished my internship in a year's time, I would be ready to take part more fully in the great national construction work that is now going on.

In that letter, too, I wrote you about Hsueh-fang, my girl-friend, and of our plans to marry. You wrote back that you were most interested in my news and that you looked forward to meeting Hsueh-fang when you visited Peking. (All this time I haven't wangled a good photograph of her for you but now she says she will send you one herself.)

When I wrote you then, I thought that the U.S. imperialists and their quisling Chiang Kai-shek realised that they had been thrown out forever by our people. I did not think that they would dare try again to threaten our very existence. But the world situation has been changing very quickly since I wrote you. The great future which China has is still clear, but now we must fight for this future and we must protect our chances to build this future. I know that you—yourself a victim of Japanese aggression in China from the days of 1937 when you kept moving west, a widow with three children to look after—will understand what aggression means in the lives of people. If we didn't stop Mac-Arthur and his gang now when they are at our very threshold, there would be no bright future for me, for my sister, Lan-ying, for Hsueh-fang or for anyone. You will understand then why I have volunteered for Korea.

I wondered a little how Hsueh-fang would react to my volunteer-

ing, but when I went to tell her, I found that she, too, had volunteered. She hopes to be accepted either as a nurse or as a member of the Cultural Corps—she's quite good at acting.

All my warm clothes are going with me, for Korea is very cold at this time of year. I'm also taking a few medical books and a Soviet novel called "How the Steel was Tempered." Otherwise I'm travelling light—just that weather-beaten old canvas bag. The College is looking after all my other things for me.

Love and Good-night,
HWA-CHANG

Letter III

Mukden
November 19

Dear Mother,

By now, I hope you received the letter I sent you through Hwa-nien before leaving Peking.

How I wish that you could have been present for the farewell meetings to see how we were feted and honoured. My Surgery Department gave us a farewell party and so did the Study Group I belong to. But the most impressive farewell meeting of all was the one held in the College Auditorium. All of us volunteers were presented with enormous red brocade peonies which were pinned on our chests. When we walked into the hall which was filled with people and red flags, everyone rose and cheered us. The President of the Student Body led us to the platform and the meeting opened, with everyone singing the stirring National Anthem, "March of the Volunteers." Even though this song was written more than ten years ago during the fight against Japanese imperialism, it's very appropriate today when we go to fight the American imperialists. It seems that the imperialists

haven't learned very much over the past years. But today we Chinese are a united people, and a strong people.

Our professors and fellow-students made moving speeches. A senior student from the Pathology Department, who has something of a reputation as a poet in the College, recited a poem written specially and dedicated to us volunteers. One from our group — there are 22 of us — replied for all of us to the various tributes. I didn't copy down the words, but he said something like this: "We must go to Korea. We now have a Fatherland where workers have rights and factories, where peasants have farms and where the oppressed have found a home. We must go to defend all this."

Before the meeting ended, each of us was presented with a "comfort bag," mine being a contribution from the wife of the college Treasurer. In my bag there are a pair of cotton-padded gloves, six pencils, a couple of towels and some stationery which I'm now using.

On Thursday, the day of our departure, at lunch we were guests at a special meeting. For an hour before the luncheon, we met with a medical officer who had worked for years in the old guerrilla bases. He gave us a good many pointers on what to remember when doing emergency medical work on the battlefield. He warned us of the handicaps, of how sometimes we might be faced with shortages of drugs and stretchers in emergency work. He told us to remember that enemy bombing might cut off the electric current just as an operation was in progress, and warned us to be prepared to carry on our work in spite of any obstacles. He told us again, as others had, and what we already know, that on our side we have a great and decisive advantage over the enemy: courage and tenacity. We have this for a simple reason — because we are fighting for a just cause.

After lunch, it was almost time to leave. Our baggage had been sent to the station beforehand. The whole College seemed to be on hand to see us off. Strings of fire-



WOUNDED U.S. "HEROES" IN KOREA

Dr.: There's a hero for you. Wounded right on the nose!
Nurse: Ah, but Doctor, he ran so fast he fell over on it.

Cartoon by Fang Cheng and Chung Lin

crackers were let off and above the playing of the college band we heard the shouting of slogans: "Down with American Imperialism! Restore Freedom and Independence to the Korean People! Long Live the National Liberation Movements of Asia!" There was even a movie van from the Peking Film Studio on hand taking pictures of our send-off. Perhaps you and Lanying will catch a glimpse of me in the newsreel!

By one o'clock, we were on our way to the station, an hour and three-quarters before the train was scheduled to leave. Yet we didn't notice any time lag.

The College only allowed a restricted number — thirty — to see us off. But the number seemed to grow and grow. I think it must have been double that number. I managed to have a last talk with Hsueh-fang who brought me a pull-over she had rushed to finish knitting. Hsueh-fang was disappointed that she had not been accepted as a volunteer, but she has not given up hope and when the train moved away, she kept waving a blue handkerchief and shouting, "See you there!"

In the heated carriage, all the volunteers were talking and chatting to each other. There were workers, accountants, shop stewards, people from every trade and profession you can think of. We sang songs together — "Unity Is Strength" and "In Defence of

Peace." Somehow, the words carried a very special meaning that afternoon.

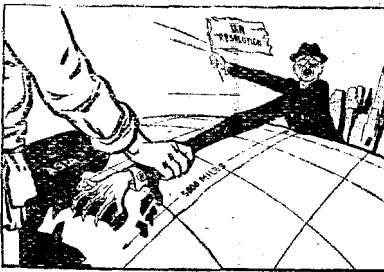
The railway workers had decorated our train with red flags and as we passed through the countryside, children and peasants in the fields waved to us gaily.

From the chalky appearance of the soil, we knew that we were approaching the coast. Then the train went north — on to Shanhai-kwan. As we pulled out of Chinchow, it was daybreak. Time passed so quickly.

The names of the station-stops were historic reminders of the autumn campaign of 1948 when Chiang Kai-shek's bandit gang's final collapse set in with the battle for Mukden. The landscape was becoming more and more mountainous and the dry air was noticeably chillier. It was our first morning in Northeast China.

I've been here three days already. There are volunteers from all parts of China here and recognising the accents as we walk around the streets or in the shops — Szechuanese, Cantonese, Hunanese, Fukienese — makes one realise how diverse and yet united our great country is.

Most of our time has been spent attending meetings where we learn about Korea — her history, geography and the course of her War of Liberation. More than ever do I realise the necessity for resisting aggression in Korea, for Korea is indeed a very doorway to China.



"Hands off America!"

by Chou Ling-chao

We've had some time, too, to look around this great Northeast city. There are so many factories with columns of smoke rising from their chimneys. A most welcome sight and one which all the cities of China will see more and more in the future. Helping the Korean people beat off the American invaders will bring this sight more quickly to the rest of our country.

With Love,

HWA-CHANG

P.S. — Please pass this letter on to Hwa-nien when you've finished with it. I have no time to write another letter at present.

Letter IV

Somewhere in North Korea
November 30

Dear Mother,

This will be a brief note. We're all very security-conscious, as one has to be, with the enemy so close.

The Yalu River was frozen when we crossed it. The experience of crossing it marks a new page in my life, and indeed in our national life. Instead of waiting passively for further aggression on the part of the American warmongers, we've launched a timely shattering counter-offensive. This is indeed a new China, a strong China.

For the time being, I've been assigned to a field hospital. So far I haven't done any surgical work. We've had two briefings from a Korean doctor who used to run a clinic in Changchun. He's in the liaison department between the Korean medical corps and our own.

The Koreans are a most friendly people. They treat us like one of

their own — even better, when they can. When a Korean sees one of us, he rushes over, raises his thumb and in an eager voice asks: "Mao Tse-tung?" When the reply is an affirmative nod and smile, our hands are wrung until our fingers nearly break. And we exchange greetings and say to them, "Kim Il Sung," just these two names — Mao Tse-tung and Kim Il Sung — seem to have the power of making life-long friends for us. Not only is this true of the soldiers but of the ordinary people as well. The Korean people are very kind to us. Any treasures they have — food, cigarettes or wine — are offered to us. The barrier of language seems not to matter a whit.

Only last night, when I was half-asleep, an elderly Korean nurse insisted on covering me with an extra blanket in spite of the fact that I indicated that I was warm enough. But I must have the extra blanket, for the weather, she warned, was very cold.

You'll be interested in our volunteers. On the very day of arrival, as I was reporting for duty to the head of the Surgical Clinic, several wounded volunteers came in. They insisted that they be discharged at once and sent to the front again. I was most impressed with one whose head was still bound in thick bandages. (Later, I learned that American shrapnel was still lodged in his neck.) He spoke in a Hupeh accent, a man of about 30. He kept telling the doctor that his wound was "only slight." He tried to explain to the doctor how important it was for him to get back to the front. "I didn't come all this way to convalesce in a hospital ward while the enemy is still around the corner."

Well, mother, the blue mists of a Korean winter evening are beginning to settle. It's time for me to end this letter. —Please write soon.

Love,

HWA-CHANG

Tibetan Regiment Happy with the PLA

Officers and men of the Tibetan 9th Regiment, who crossed over to the PLA recently, are now leading a happy life. This is the result of the good treatment accorded them.

"Our commander did the right thing when he led us in staging the uprising," said the men. "We knew that the People's Army was good, but we never knew that it was as good as we find it now." Platoon leader Pasanagi said, "We have now returned to the big family of China."

The regimental commander thanked the People's Army for the way it treated his men. "All officers and men are happy, especially at the measure which allows us to preserve our former organisation and the ranks of the officers and men," he said.

When the 9th Regiment broke with the Lhasa authorities, the People's Army immediately gave

allowances to the Tibetan troops. A delegation from the local branch of the Communist Party soon arrived to greet them.

At first, many Tibetan officers and men feared that they would be separated from their families whom they had brought along with them. But they were allowed to follow their old customs. Some of the older men who asked to be demobilised, after consulting the Tibetan officers, were allowed to go home and given travelling expenses.

The education given by the People's Army has already raised the political level of the Tibetan troops who now realise that their enemies are the imperialists who plot to obstruct the liberation of Tibet. They have stated that they are ready to fight alongside the People's Army in its glorious task of liberating Tibet. (Hsinhua News Agency, Sikang-Tibetan front, Dec. 1.)

A NEW LIFE FOR CHINA'S MINERS

New working conditions in China's state mines, new living conditions for the miners and the consciousness among these key workers of the country that the future is in their hands has resulted in outstanding production achievements in the first year of the Chinese People's Republic. Labour productivity already far surpasses all previous levels. Production costs have been reduced by 15 to 24 per cent, resulting in a general reduction of coal prices throughout the country since last September. This has benefited the home consumer and cheapened the costs of all coal-using industry — an outstanding contribution to the industrialisation of the country.

Three Major Measures

Three major measures of the Central People's Government have brought about these results. The gang-labour system, by which gang-masters in the past robbed the miner of as much as 80 per cent of his wages, has been abolished in all state pits. Now every miner participates in the administration of the state collieries through his trade union. Thousands of rank and file miners have been promoted to administrative posts including that of colliery directors.

All state mines are being gradually mechanised and are adopting up-to-date methods of mining, lightening the toil of the miners and increasing their productivity. Safety conditions have also been radically improved. Large sums have been allocated to provide better ventilation and safety devices, and the miners have been given special training in safety measures. Many brigades have already distinguished themselves by working

without a single casualty throughout the year. As a result of these measures, the rate of fatal accidents dropped by three-fourths in the second quarter of this year as compared with the first quarter.

What these measures of reform mean to the miners and the industry can be readily understood when it is recalled that in the old days, as a result of the gang-masters' extortions and methods of terrorism, the life of many mine-workers was little better than that of slaves. Prior to the liberation, there was never any legal trade union to protect the workers' interests, even in such an enormous undertaking as the Fushun Colliery, for instance. In a very large number of small mines, there were only the most primitive safety devices and methods of exploitation. Kuomintang bureaucratic capitalists and foreign imperialists, interested only in quick profits, cared little for the lives of miners who could easily be replaced with no compensation paid to dependents of the killed or maimed in accidents. Floods, gas explosions and roof falls were regarded as commonplaces. Seams were abandoned as soon as they became difficult to exploit. Chinese lives and natural resources were regarded as cheaply expendable.

The miners have responded to these great reforms by new production efforts. Thousands of model miners have been cited for outstanding achievements: technical innovations, increased output, reduction of accidents and lowering of production costs. In step with these production achievements, wages of coal miners — which in the past were reduced to subsistence level after the gang-masters' rake-

off — have increased by 15 per cent in the course of the year. An average miner can now afford to keep a family of four on his wages. In addition, many mines provide rent-free dwellings for their workers. In the Northeast especially, the government has completed the building of large housing estates for the miners, served by new bath houses, canteens, clubs, clinics, and co-operatives.

Labour Insurance

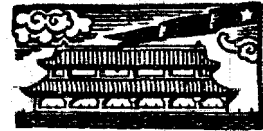
The new labour insurance regulations, which are already in operation in the Northeast, by next year will be operative throughout the country. They have removed the formerly deep-rooted fears of the miners with regard to old age, sickness and disability. Most miners south of the Great Wall already enjoy the rights provided by the insurance law. They are, for example, entitled to free medical care when they fall sick. The government has also started establishing miners' rest homes and sanatoria, one of which is situated at the famous summer resort of Chingwangtao. Sports and other recreational activities have also developed rapidly among the miners.

Like the rest of the workers in China, the Chinese coal miners have long been deprived of the right to education. Eighty per cent of them were illiterate or semi-illiterate at the time of liberation. In the past year, literacy classes have been set up in most mining centres. And over 70,000 miners have joined such classes in their off-duty hours. The government aims at eliminating illiteracy completely among coal miners within the next two or three years.



CURRENT CHINA

Nov. 26 — Dec. 10



Volunteers Enter Pyongyang

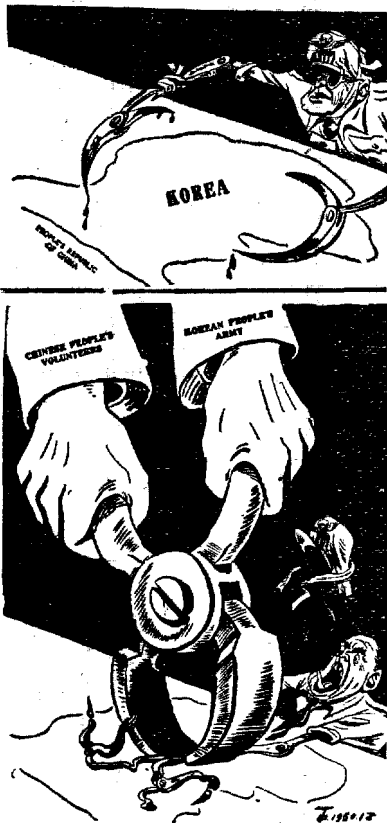
The Korean People's Army and Chinese people's volunteers liberated Pyongyang on Dec. 6, after a 12-day counter-offensive. American and puppet troops fled south in confusion.

The American invaders, who received a sharp set-back in North Korea between Oct. 24 and Nov. 8, had mobilised all available forces for a "total offensive" on Nov. 24 in an attempt to annex the whole of Korea. But by Nov. 27, the entire enemy front was shattered by the KPA counter-blow. The enemy abandoned much heavy equipment in his efforts to get away from the pursuing people's forces. The cities of Anchu, Sin-anchu, Sukchun, Sungchun, Kang-dong, Chinsong, Hesun and others were liberated and the Korean People's Army and the Chinese people's volunteers entered the city of Pyongyang, fired by the invaders.

Enemy Losses

Preliminary figures on the results of the campaign up to Dec. 1 on the western front alone give the total enemy losses as five regiments and 15½ battalions annihilated, one company surrendered, two divisional command posts, one brigade, nine regiments and one battalion routed; 15,982 enemy troops were killed or wounded. Of these, 8,095 were mainly American, with a few British and Turkish troops; 7,625 enemy troops were taken prisoner and 143 surrendered. Of these, 2,272 were mainly American, with a few British and Turkish troops, including 12 regimental commanders and other officers above the rank of major. Total enemy losses in men were 23,700.

On the eastern front, the whole 1st Division of the U.S. Marine Corps, a part of the 3rd and 7th Divisions of U.S. Infantry and a part of the 3rd Division of the Syngman Rhee troops were surrounded in areas west and south of the Changchin Reservoir.



The Pincher Pinched by Tsung Wei

Peace Treaty with Japan

Foreign Minister Chou En-lai in a statement on Dec. 4 said that the memorandum of the U.S. Government, handed to the Soviet Government on Oct. 26, openly renounced the principle of a joint peace treaty with Japan as laid down in the Cairo Declaration, the Yalta Agreement and the Potsdam Declaration. He declared that all preparations for the drafting of a peace treaty with Japan are illegal and invalid unless the People's Republic of China participates in them.

More French Intrusions

French planes came over Kwangsi Province six times between Nov. 10 and 23. French ground forces shelled the frontier area on six occasions between Nov. 4 and 9. On Nov. 11, three French aircraft flew over Hokay and bombed the city's northeast quarter.

Wu's Peace Proposal

The three-point proposal put forward by Wu Hsiu-chuan, China's representative at the U.N. Security Council, on Nov. 28, condemning the armed aggression of the U.S. Government against China's Taiwan and armed intervention in Korea, demanding sanctions against the aggressor and calling for the withdrawal of U.S. forces from Taiwan and the U.S. and all other forces from Korea, has been widely acclaimed throughout China.

The All-China Federation of Labour, the All-China Democratic Women's Federation, the All-China Federation of Youth and the All-China Students' Federation issued a joint statement in support of his speech and the proposal. All democratic parties expressed their unanimous support for his charges against the U.S. aggressors.

Messages and cables have come to the press from all sections of workers, students, peasants, intellectuals and industrialists, supporting his firm stand on behalf of China.

Businessmen Demonstrate

More than 42,000 Tientsin industrialists, merchants, managers, accountants, apprentices, engineers and technicians held a mass rally followed by a march through the streets, demonstrating against American aggression.

In a telegram to Chairman Mao, they pledged their efforts in support of the government against the U.S. invasion in Taiwan and Korea. Chairman Mao sent a reply expressing the wish that "all patriotic industrialists and merchants throughout the country will, along with the broad masses of the people, form a united front against imperialist aggression more consolidated than ever before."

Similar mass meetings and demonstrations were held in Hankow, Shanghai, Canton, Peking and other cities.

Democratic Parties Confer

China's various democratic parties have been holding executive meetings in Peking. Chang Lan, Chairman of the China Democratic League, outlined the main task of the League as the mobilising of the widest strata of intellectuals, patriotic businessmen and all other progressive people to develop and strengthen the national movement against American aggression.

The Revolutionary Committee of the Kuomintang, the China Association for Promoting Democracy, the China Democratic National Construction Association, the Chiu San Society and other political organisations — all discussed how to help in the campaigns to resist America and aid Korea and, at the same time, how to consolidate and expand their organisations.

In Tibet

On Nov. 12, the PLA liberated Lolungchung, 100 kilometres southwest of Changtu, on the west bank of the upper Salween River.

Full investigations are being made into the espionage activities of the Englishman R. W. Ford, who was arrested during the battle for Changtu and is being held for, among other charges, causing the death by poison of the Living Buddha Geda on August 22. Geda was a prominent Tibetan leader who helped the Chinese Red Army during the Long March in 1935. He supported the PLA when Kangting was liberated early this year. He was poisoned while on his way to Lhasa to arrange for the peaceful unification of Tibet with the motherland.

Trade with Germany

The first cargo of raw materials will leave China shortly in exchange for German heavy machinery and equipment under the terms of the new Sino-German Trade Agreement for 1951, signed on Oct. 10, 1950.

Vice-Premier Chen Yun, who is also Chairman of the Committee of Financial and Economic Affairs, commenting on the agreement, said, "it is an important milestone in the friendly economic co-operation between the people of China and Germany."

Victory in the War on Floods

With the experience of this year's massive and successful flood prevention work, the Ministry of Water Conservancy is co-ordinating local plans into an over-all, nation-wide, long-term programme which will eliminate the very root causes of flood and rid the country completely of this menace.

The first phase of this far-sighted programme is covered by a three-year plan, which was drafted and discussed at the recent National Water Conservancy Conference in Peking. This deals with several of the most treacherous rivers.

In the first year, 1951, efforts will be centred on the 900-kilometre Huai River. The major part of the work on the Yi and Shu Rivers will also be completed next year, while preparations will be pushed ahead for a great reservoir on the Yungting.

Selection of reservoir sites will begin on the Yellow and Han Rivers and water detention works will be built along the Yangtse. Dyke repairs will be carried out at key points on all these mighty rivers. Big irrigation projects will be concentrated in North, Northeast and Southwest China.

While this plan is still being elaborated by the Government, large-scale anti-flood work is going on all over the country in the present slack farming season.

Huai River Over 280,000 peasants are working on the central section of the Huai River project in North Anhwei. They are throwing up millions of tons of earth on 500 kilometres of dykes along the Huai and its tributaries. The present stage of work, to be finished by January, will safeguard 200,000 hectares of land from flood.

On the upper reaches in Honan, 20,000 workers are building a flood detention basin. Ten such vast detention basins will be finished in 1951. In North Kiangsu, a new 175-kilometre outlet for the unruly Huai to the sea has been charted.

Shu River 220,000 peasants in Shantung are cutting a new 140-kilometre outlet to the sea. Started in 1949, the project is to be finished in 1952.

Yi River Another army of 420,000 enthusiastic peasants are working along the banks of 10 rivers and sections of the Grand Canal in North Kiangsu, where a new course is being built to carry the turbulent Yi to the sea.

Chaopai River Over 50,000 peasants are renovating two waterways of the Chaopai River system in Eastern Hopei to complete the second stage of the Chaopai project next year.

Yellow River About 150,000 peasants have started dyke strengthening along 1,000 kilometres of the Yellow River in Honan, Pingyuan and Shantung provinces. They will finish a third of next year's target for earthwork before the river freezes.

The flood prevention work already completed this year exceeded the targets set. The acreage benefiting from irrigation works exceeded the planned area by 27 per cent. Comprehensive repairs were completed along most of China's 42,000 kilometres of dykes. Double the planned amount of earthworks were built.

U.S. Atrocities Are No New Thing

Yu Hsiu-tien, a peasant of Huashutien village in Chi An county, is driving his ox cart home from market along a quiet, easy road. Yu is contented in his mind. The crops from his four *mow* have brought him new purchases. Being old, one does not come easily by such things, not after half a lifetime spent hewing and carrying for landlords, not when rack rents and high taxes have done their best to break a man. Alone, with your cart going slowly homewards, one can take time to reflect on these things. . . . But Yu Hsiu-tien will have long to ponder. He lies on the dusty road, and through the cotton padding of his new winter coat seeps his blood.

Under the mulberry trees near Balichia-tse village of Kuantien county, a group of peasants are gathering leaves for their silkworms. When you gather mulberry leaves, you have time for talk and laughter. . . . But suddenly, the branches no longer bend and rustle. There is no longer any laughter or talk. The pickers of mulberry leaves lie silent and sprawled under the trees.

Chiang Pu-shen has three healthy, sturdy peasant sons. They are gone with the cart to collect the cotton seeds. But what delays them, why do they not come back?

Father, we cannot come. . . . Cart and children and cotton seeds are lying thrown on the ground, and the seeds are slowly staining red.

The date is November 3. The planes that shattered with bombs and bullets this peaceful afternoon were American planes. All along the Yalu River the peaceful lives of the people were shattered. These invaders led by MacArthur have bombed and strafed Chinese civilians in 268 raids from Aug. 27 to Nov. 30, at the very moment when Truman was giving "assurances" about China's frontiers. Some of the American planes

penetrated as deep as 100 miles into Chinese territory.

The searing anger of the Chinese people today against these crimes is intensified by the recollections, etched in their memory, of the times when these same U.S. troops who are invading and destroying the valleys of Korea and marauding on the borders of Northeast China, murdered and raped in China too, before they were thrown out along with their KMT puppets. They remember Christmas eve, 1947, when American marine W. G. Pearson raped Shen Chung, a co-ed of the Peking University. They remember how on Oct. 8, 1945, in Shanghai, a U.S. soldier simply shot down a Chinese worker whom he had falsely accused of stealing some sugar. They remember how, on Aug. 8, 1948, at a Hankow dancing party, a number of Chinese women guests were violated by American officers.

These things are part of a whole nation's memory. In Peking, Nanking, Shanghai, Chungking, Kunming, Chengtu, Canton, the crimes committed by U.S. imperialists are remembered. Letters are pouring into newspaper offices protesting at these crimes. People in factories, schools and institutions, or at street corners, stand up at "accusation meetings" and speak of their bitter experiences.

American Way of Life

Between Sept., 1945, and Jan., 1946, in five months in Shanghai alone, there were 495 accidents caused by recklessly driven U.S. Army trucks, resulting in 236 casualties and 18 deaths.

On Jan. 22, 1946, in Shanghai, Americans threw beer bottles from a top floor onto a passing demonstration of workers against the KMT, injuring five workers, two of them severely.

On New Year's Day, 1947, two GI's and a bar girl forced Chen Yun-fan to drive all three of them in his single-seat pedicab. When Chen paused for a minute's rest

after a mile of hard peddling, the two soldiers in a fury thrust a five-inch knife into his back.

Ten days later, U.S. troops forced Chen at pistol point as he lay in hospital to withdraw his court charges.

On June 28, 1946, four U.S. soldiers broke into the women's bathroom in the Huei Hsien Hotel in Chungking and committed every sort of indecency.

These crimes are not forgotten. For these were the crimes of American imperialism against the whole Chinese people. These are but a few examples. A complete list would fill another, bigger Acheson "White Paper" on the record of U.S. imperialist intervention in China.

It is the memory of them which stokes the fires of Chinese indignation today and lends added force to the arms of Chinese volunteers on the battlefields of Korea.

Crimes Against U.S. Youth

But these were also crimes against the American people, the American youth.

The American troops stationed in China after V-J Day were there as tools of Wall Street's intrigues against the Chinese people. In order to dull their social consciousness, they were indoctrinated with the idea of race superiority, with contempt for the Chinese people. They and their officers got their idea of a great nation from their contacts with the corrupt and servile KMT clique. U.S. GI's in China, as in Korea today, were debauched by their reactionary leaders as systematically as Hitler debauched his Hitler Youth. Those "accidents" in China were no accident. They were of the same stuff as the atrocities in Korea and in China's Northeast today—of a piece with the unchanging savagery of imperialist aggression.

— P. T. Wang

CORRECTION: No. 11, Vol. II, page 29, last line should read: Government has listed no less than 116 violations of the air frontiers of the People's Republic of China between Aug. 27 and Nov. 14.

RESTRICTED
PEOPLES CHINA**THE PRESS IN NEW CHINA***(Continued from page 10)*

developed further. In these groups, the news is read aloud and discussed. Thus a great many illiterate people have become constant newspaper "readers." Only recently, the *South Kiangsu Daily* reported that in one month it had organised 183 such reading groups reaching over 1,839 people. In factories and in villages, the reading of newspapers has become a major cultural and educational activity.

How powerful a medium of education and culture the press can be, and how effectively it can raise the people's political consciousness, is very clearly shown by its reporting on American imperialism's aggressive war in Korea. As model workers, combat heroes and popular organisations made their appeals in newspapers for resolute action against American aggression to safeguard the fruits of the revolution, the response came immediately from people all over the country volunteering to fight in Korea. The press has been the principal means for expressing public indignation at American air raids in the Northeast, and it has played a leading role in organising the people on the Korean issue. The signatures of hundreds of thousands of volunteers for service in Korea have been published. Those who cannot go to the front themselves announced in the newspapers suggestions as to how they could otherwise help in

the fight against American aggression. And these lists of volunteers and the public expressions of hatred against the aggressor demonstrate how great is the reserve of strength upon which China can draw in the defence of peace.

Authenticity of Information

Finally, it must be pointed out that, like newspaper readers elsewhere, readers in China demand prompt and interesting information from the press. Most important, they demand authentic information. Recently, a newspaper gave incorrect figures for a certain colliery's output. Immediately, some of the colliery workers wrote to the newspaper asking that the correct figures be published.

The Common Programme stipulates: "Freedom of reporting truthful news shall be safeguarded." There is no press censorship in the new China. "Censorship" rests with the people themselves. But the press is not free to report untruthful or inaccurate news. The people themselves see to that, for it is the people who supervise the press.

In the space of a very short time, New China's press has shown its mettle. It has a key role. Its duty is to promote social progress, to help with the economic development of the country, to expand the basis of democracy, to stir up the people's national consciousness and develop their spirit of internationalism.

Emulation Speeds Production in Peking Plants

The foundrymen of a power plant and of a steel mill in the suburbs of Peking are eagerly awaiting a jury's verdict on the outcome of a two and a half months' emulation competition between the two shops. The competition began with a challenge issued by the foundrymen in the power plant as to which group could attain the greatest achievements in raising the quantity and quality of their output while also cutting production costs and economising on materials.

The competition, from beginning to end, has been characterised by the friendly nature of the workers' rivalry. During the month-long preparations before the campaign officially started, the foundrymen visited each other's shops and shared their production experiences. The workers then mutually drew up common production targets which were embodied in a competition agreement concluded between their two trade unions. This agreement, for instance, called for the reduction of defective production to 3 per cent of the total—though at the time of signing, this percentage had never dropped below 4 per cent in either foundry.

Although both sides were equally keen to make the best showing in carrying out this common plan, the competition moved ahead with the same sense of comradesly co-operation, even as it neared its photo-finish climax. Representatives from both foundries held fortnightly meetings to exchange

progress reports and discuss new technical innovations that had proved successful.

As the excitement of the competition intensified, subsidiary competitions sprang up throughout both enterprises. Shop challenged shop; brigade challenged brigade; and worker challenged worker. In order to ensure the steady flow of supplies necessary to win, the foundrymen signed contracts with the workers in related departments specifying quantity, quality and delivery dates for needed supplies. As a result, operations in both the steel mill and power plant became far more systematic and well organised than ever before, while at the same time, production graphs rose sharply.

By the end of August, both foundries had already exceeded their campaign target by reducing their defective output to 2 per cent. A month later, this figure was down to 1 per cent. In the same manner, labour productivity and economy in materials had also exceeded original targets. Such developments have presented the jury with a serious headache in trying to award the red flag, for while the steel mill has the edge in raising quality, the power plant has had the best record in raising quantity and cutting costs.

Meanwhile, without waiting for the decision on the period just ended, the two foundries are now drawing up an agreement for a new competition to raise their production to still higher levels.

*(From the Hsinhua News Agency)***RESTRICTED**

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PEOPLE'S CHINA**ACHIEVEMENTS OF VIET-NAM***(Continued from page 13)*

occupied zones. A provisional increase in the salary of government officials, ranging from 20 to 30 per cent, was granted in July, 1948.

The circulation of French banknotes has been forbidden, while a national currency called "Ho Chi Minh Banknotes" was created in February, 1946, and the Viet-Nameese gold-standard piastre representing 0.375 grams of gold was introduced in July, 1948. The Viet-Nameese currency is so popular that the French have been compelled to recognise it in some of their areas.

In brief, a sound finance free from imperialist shackles has been successfully established during the past four years.

As to agriculture, the slogan "not an inch of land to remain uncultivated, not a single hand idle" has been thoroughly and enthusiastically carried out by the whole population. Land has been reclaimed, old dykes repaired and new ones built, in spite of murderous French raids and systematic destruction. The acreage of cultivated lands has increased by 371,000 hectares in North Viet-Nam and by 280,000 hectares in the four northernmost provinces of Central Viet-Nam. In four years, 6,300,000 cubic metres of earth have been moved to build dykes, involving 9 million working days and an expenditure of 67 million piastres. As a result, famine and floods have been averted during the past four years. To alleviate the shortage of rice in some areas, the growing of maize, sweet potato, manioc, and other staples has been intensified. The yield of these dry crops in 1950 has increased several fold compared with pre-war days.

Fallow land and land belonging to French colonialists and Viet-Nameese traitors have been distributed to the peasants, who also receive government loans. Land rents have been reduced by 25 per cent or more and a network of co-operatives set up.

A labour code was promulgated in March, 1948, safeguarding the rights and interests of the workers. The workers share in profits and participate in the direction of the enterprises in which they work. Family allowances have been granted and the principle of "equal pay for equal work" applied. Basic wages have been fixed in accordance with the cost of living. Trade unions ensure for the workers the full exercise of their rights.

These and other steps, such as the development of health services, the prohibition of the sale of opium, the restriction of the sale of alcohol and the prohibition of prostitution, have succeeded in altering completely the conditions of Viet-Nameese society within four years. In most parts of the liberated areas, beggary, robbery, and banditry have completely disappeared.

The achievements in the sphere of culture are outstanding. Within these past few years, the number of illiterates has been reduced from 90 to 30

per cent of the population, and this remaining 30 per cent includes persons living in the French-occupied areas, very old people and national minorities in remote places. Now the whole population of 10 provinces, all workers and youth and 99 per cent of the people's armymen can read and write. In view of these great successes, a practical plan of further education has been worked out for those who can already read and write. Many primary, secondary and higher schools have been opened and are attended by tens of thousands of students of both sexes, mainly from the working class and the peasantry.

Music, literature, poetry, painting and other branches of culture are flourishing. Teams of artists go to the people to learn from them and at the same time to rouse their patriotism for the war of resistance.

All these achievements have been made under most adverse conditions and at the cost of truly great sacrifices. The Viet-Nameese are not resting on the laurels of their first successes. They are fully aware of the great difficulties they have to overcome in the future.

The recent successes of the Viet-Nam People's Army have brought the American imperialists more and more openly into the picture. The French ruling circles, who hitherto kept a blackout on all news of their losses in Viet-Nam, now even exaggerate their weakness in order to secure more American aid. But the humiliating conditions imposed by the American imperialists, such as the use of French ports for transporting American supplies to western Germany and the extension of military service from 12 to 18 months, is increasing the anger of the French people and their opposition to the French imperialist war against Viet-Nam. In addition, the generous action of the Viet-Nam government in releasing French prisoners of war has made a profound impression in France, as vivid proof of the Viet-Nameese people's desire for peace.

The Viet-Nam people's successes have been a hard blow to the American interventionists plotting the suppression of the national liberation movements in Asia. They have done their best to bolster up the French mercenaries. They are now pouring in more arms, planes and tanks. In a message to his people, following the recent victories, President Ho Chi Minh said, "We have won the recent battles, but we all must bear in mind that we will have to overcome even greater difficulties and endure even greater hardships in order to wipe out all the French imperialist forces, oppose the American interventionists and liberate the whole territory of our fatherland. We must not indulge in self-complacency or underestimate our enemy following our recent victory.

"However, thanks to the unity, enthusiasm and perseverance of our people, the heroism of our army and the determination of our government, we are sure to overcome all difficulties and win complete victory."

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