

# People's 人民中国 China

April 1

**SOONG CHING LING CONDEMNS  
AMERICAN AGGRESSORS**

**THE CASE AGAINST THE U.S.  
GERM WARFARE CRIMINALS**

Lin Ta-kuang

**THE MOVEMENT TO INCREASE  
PRODUCTION**

Sung Shao-wen

**VICTORY OVER DROUGHT**

Su Ming

**Pictorial:** *U.S. Germ Warfare in  
China and Korea: the  
Evidence*

**Short Story:** *Against the Torrent  
of the Som River*

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# People's China

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## CONTENTS

April 1, 1952

Outlaw Bacteriological Warfare—Punish the War Criminals! . . . . .	<i>Editorial</i>	3
American Aggressors: You Stand Condemned! . . . . .	<i>Soong Ching Ling</i>	4
The Case Against the U.S. Germ Warfare Criminals . . . . .	<i>Lin Ta-kuang</i>	5
The Movement for Increased Production and Practising Economy	<i>Sung Shao-wen</i>	9
World Support for the International Economic Conference . . . . .	<i>Ti Chao-pai</i>	13
Develop Cultural Ties Between the Peoples . . . . .	<i>Mao Tun</i>	16
Victory Over Drought . . . . .	<i>Su Ming</i>	22
The P.L.A.'s New Weapon—(A Quick Method of Learning to Read and Write Chinese) . . . . .	<i>Yao Hua</i>	25
A World Campaign Against U.S. Germ Warfare . . . . .		27
Against the Torrent of the Som River (Short Story) . . . . .	<i>Ching Yi</i>	28

### PICTORIAL

U.S. Bacteriological Warfare—The Proofs

### CULTURAL FRONT

“China Reconstructs”—A Review . . . . . 31

CURRENT CHINA . . . . . 32

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR . . . . . 33

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## ***Outlaw Bacteriological Warfare-Punish the War Criminals!***

Throughout the world the people are rising in protest against the vile bacteriological warfare which the United States is waging against the peoples of Korea and China.

The spokesmen of hundreds of millions of people, the World Peace Council, the world federations of democratic trade unions, women, youth, students and many other mass organisations and prominent public figures in various countries have denounced this flagrant violation of international law and morality and demanded immediate action to stop this new U.S. crime.

Outlaw bacteriological warfare! Punish the imperialist germ-war criminals! This is the call that is echoing around the world.

Bacteriological warfare is a method of mass destruction that recognises no national boundaries. Now directed against the Korean and Chinese peoples, it menaces all other peoples including the American people.

In unleashing its long prepared bacteriological warfare in Asia, the United States government stands indicted as the most dangerous enemy of mankind. Even the Hitlerites hesitated before this act. Yet the U.S. imperialists, in their arrogant drive for world domination, felt no compunction in committing this most bestial of crimes against humanity.

The U.S. aggressors have sought to terrorise the freedom-loving peoples into submission to Wall Street domination, but they achieved quite an opposite effect. They have further unmasked themselves. They have roused the opposition of great numbers of people who before did not fully realise the evil we face. Peace-lovers in all countries are redoubling their efforts for peace.

The mass protest of the peace-loving peoples of the world headed by the Soviet Union has thrown the U.S.-British war bloc into still greater confusion. They are scurrying to deny and try to evade responsibility for these base and universally abhorred crimes.

But who will believe Acheson, that old apologist for the most abominable atrocities of napalm bombing, the wholesale razing of defenceless hamlets and murder of populations

in Korea, when he brazenly claims that the United Nation's forces have not used any sort of bacteriological warfare? Uttering ridiculous calumnies against China and her medical workers, he blandly suggests that the International Red Cross should make an "investigation on the spot"—that same Red Cross organisation which has become a tool of the State Department, which has not lifted a finger to prevent the massacre of prisoners of war or civilians in American death camps in Korea. Trygve Lie, Acheson's obsequious servant, in a further attempt to divert world censure from this crime, proposes that the World Health Organization, the agent of that same group of U.N. powers whose troops are butchering the people in Korea, should also come and spy out the results of this germ warfare for its masters.

The people of the world will have none of such "investigations". They demand an end to these crimes.

Voicing the demands of humanity at the U.N. Disarmament Commission, Soviet Representative Malik proposed that what should be examined is "the question of the violation of the ban on bacteriological war, the impermissibility of using bacteriological weapons, the question of bringing to responsibility the violators of the ban on bacteriological warfare".

Yet Acheson's conscienceless henchmen attempted to evade discussion of this question. By opposing the ban on bacteriological warfare, the United States is clearly reserving a pretext for the further use of these weapons. Whoever refuses to support the straightforward appeal to ban germ-war weapons and stigmatise those who use them as war criminals, exposes himself as an aider and abettor of this crime. Let the U.S. satellites carefully consider to what their slavish support of the U.S. gangsters is leading them.

The use of germ warfare is an ignominious sign of weakness, of desperation on the part of American imperialism whose vaunted "air superiority" and "overwhelming technique" have been scattered to the winds in Korea. The U.S. imperialists will not save themselves by these base methods from the doom which

their mad aggression has marked out for them. The democratic people have the means of dealing with this crime too and making the war criminals pay the penalty for their crimes.

The call has gone out to the peace-loving toilers of the world, to the progressive scientists and intellectuals, religious leaders, doctors . . . to the people, to rise and put an end to

this method of mass murder and bring to book the U.S. organisers of bacteriological warfare.

The Chinese and Korean peoples, by their heroic and resolute efforts supported by the broad international united front, have dealt shattering blows against the Washington warmongers. They will crush their latest challenge to mankind too.

## American Aggressors: You Stand Condemned!

### A Statement by Soong Ching Ling on American Bacteriological Warfare

The cry of "shame!" "unpardonable crime!" is resounding throughout the world. Accusing fingers, pointed in scorn and indignation, are being thrust from all corners of the globe. The protests against the American aggressors in Korea continue to heighten and swell.

The American aggressors have strafed individuals at peaceful labour in the fields. They have napalmed into oblivion the smallest villages, far from the actual war. They have bombed once-prosperous cities into ruins. Now they are attempting the most monstrous of crimes—the wiping out of whole populations in Korea and China by bacteriological warfare. It is no wonder that people everywhere have risen, first in distress at such incredible news, and then in anger! It is no wonder that the demand of the Korean and Chinese peoples, that the perpetrators of this heinous act be condemned as war criminals, is emphatically supported on all sides!

Let it be known that the peoples of the world, and especially the Chinese and Korean peoples, will not tolerate this outrage against humanity. The chapter and verse which cite aggression and mass annihilation as crimes are well known.

The resolutions of the World Peace Council and other peace organisations demanding the cessation of these crimes in international life are actively sustained by hundreds of millions. They are the basis upon which we say to the small band of profiteers, militarists and politicians who act as the United States government: "We hold you responsible for all damage, for every death and wound in Korea! We intend to prosecute to the full for the major international crime of using bacteriological weapons!"

Those who have committed this latest act of depravity did not dare announce the fact

to their own people. They know the wrath and restiveness it would cause. Their spokesmen have gone through every contortion of denial. Their press and radio have used slander and distortion to divert attention from themselves, the real culprits; to try and place the blame for the spreading of disease on the Korean and Chinese people, where it just will not stick.

American aggressors! You will never get away with this! We have the evidence on hand. It is clearly marked "Made in U.S.A." It is evidence which condemns. We have presented it for the whole world to see and pass judgment. We have shown that you have once again gone beyond reason. We have shown that you will stoop to the very lowest level, even to using Japanese criminals already condemned for bacteriological warfare; that you will further besmirch the name and purpose of the United Nations with any act, if you think it will accomplish your predatory "mission".

The truth is that you have over-stepped yourself from the very beginning. The world has changed. This is a China and a Korea you simply do not understand. You are facing people's republics, where the love for our lands and the way we have chosen for ourselves is rooted in the very core of our farmers and workers, our students and youth, our women and children. None of your schemes will throw us off or stop us, including this vilest of them. We are organised to meet and defeat your threat; and in this great battle, we have the material and spiritual help of all peace-loving people.

American aggressors: in the eyes of the world you stand condemned! The Chinese and Korean peoples will win their victory; they will carry the struggle for peace ever forward.

# The Case Against the U.S. Germ Warfare Criminals

Lin Ta-kuang

The United States government stands indicted before the bar of world public opinion for one of the basest crimes in human history—bacteriological warfare.

Foreign Minister Chou En-lai's statement of March 8, condemning this crime, has alerted all sane forces for peace and humanity in the world against these new enormities committed by the American despoilers of Korea. The peoples of all countries know that the extremities of barbarism to which the Americans have now resorted are a blow not only at the whole structure of international law and custom but also at the very moral basis of human justice and decency. Rightly, they see before them new horrors of savagery if the American government can continue to defy with impunity the universally recognised principles of humanity. As Foreign Minister Chou said, unless they "resolutely curb this crime, then the calamities befalling the peaceful people of Korea today will befall the peaceful people of the world tomorrow." The peoples will therefore welcome the Foreign Minister's declaration that members of the U.S. air force who invade China's territorial air and use bacteriological weapons will be dealt with as war criminals on capture.

## Acheson's "Denials"

With the sneering cynicism so characteristic of the present leaders of American imperialism, Dean Acheson, on March 4, denied the charges of bacteriological warfare and affected "deepest sympathy" for the "very sad situation" of the Korean people, which he blamed on "Communist inability to care for the health of the people under their control."

The people of the world know well by now what Acheson's "denials" are worth. They will throw the grim facts in Acheson's face and demand an accounting on the severest terms.

What are these facts? There is the incontrovertible evidence of eye-witnesses and investigating scientists which has proved that the American invading forces in Korea, by special aerial bombing operations and the use of artillery, are disseminating deadly bacteria and viruses of epidemic disease in North Korea, Northeast China and Shantung, consistently and on a large scale. These operations

are directed at both civilians and troops, at animals as well as crops and food supplies. Acheson tries to make the world believe that the disease carriers have appeared suddenly as a result of natural causes, but this is a proven lie. One proof is that many of the infected insects and vermin were not of a kind indigenous to Korea or were of a kind never found before in winter on the snow. That they were artificially introduced is, furthermore, not a deduction made after the event. It is a fact attested by witnesses who saw the canisters dropped from U.S. planes or the shells fired from U.S. guns and who examined the deadly contents which they scattered.

## Evidence Gathered

The criminal evidence gathered on the scene is already heavily documented. This evidence is constantly increasing as reports come in from the teams of medical and other experts who have rushed to the danger areas.

The case against the American war criminals, however, is not based on such evidence alone. It lies in the nature of American bacteriological warfare as an integral part of the long-range policy and strategy of aggression by the Washington government. When Acheson affects a shocked attitude as if he had never heard of bacteriological warfare, he is flying in the face of facts which have long been a matter of record in the U.S. itself.

American preparations for the prosecution of "biological warfare" were not begun yesterday but all of ten years ago when an organisation disguised under the name of War Research Service began working to perfect bacteriological weapons. Details of the wartime operations were disclosed in 1946, in a report by G. W. Merck (who later became chairman of the U.S. Biological Warfare Committee and was decorated by Secretary of War Patterson in the same year for developing biological warfare). The report revealed that after 1943, bacteriological warfare research was stepped up and taken over by the U.S. Army Chemical Warfare Service, which set up its main centre of operations, cryptically called "Special Projects Division", at Camp Detrick near Frederick, Maryland. Large laboratories and pilot-plants were built, and during World War II, some

3,900 people worked in them. Field testing stations were organised at Pascagoula, Mississippi and Dugway, Utah, and a big plant for large-scale production was built at Vigo, Indiana. In addition, the U.S. navy had its own germ warfare project in the University of California. The cost of the whole U.S. project was put at about 50 million dollars. The report cynically noted the fact that this was the "cheapest" form of mass murder. Merck wrote:

It is important to note that the development of agents for biological warfare is possible . . . without vast expenditure of money or the construction of huge production facilities.

With complete shamelessness, the Merck report listed, among the main lines of research, the "development of methods and facilities for the mass production of micro-organisms and their products; experiments on methods of increasing the virulence of such organisms; field experiments involving use of animals in the dissemination of bacteria or bacterial products."

### Boastful War Criminals

Money and research were poured into the germ warfare programme. By 1946, American military and political figures were already showing their eagerness to try out the new weapons of biological warfare against the Soviet Union and the People's Democracies. In its June 15 issue of that year, *Collier's* magazine quoted General Alden H. Waitt, chief of the Chemical Warfare Service, as saying of the bacteriological weapon:

I believe it to be a practical form of warfare which has great potentialities.

Brushing aside the legal and moral aspects of the matter, this professional butcher added:

It is neither consistent nor intelligent to talk about the horrors of gas and biological warfare, and then condone atomic warfare. I am entirely out of sympathy with talk about the humanity or inhumanity of a weapon.

In the same month, the magazine *Time* reported that boasts about the new weapon were being heard in the U.S. Congress. It quoted Representative Albert Thomas as saying:

We have something far more deadly than the atomic bomb. We have it today—not tomorrow—and furthermore, it is in usable shape.

Representative Harry Sheppard, chairman of the Naval Appropriations Sub-committee, boasted that the U.S. government was "in an enviable position" with its "progress" in germ weapons, and that the Navy's biological war-

fare research at the University of California had concentrated on how to spread a disease "which was hundreds of years old and one of the greatest killers".

### Extensive U.S. Germ War Research

In December, 1947 the *New York Herald Tribune* quoted the report of the Government Special Bureau headed by Lieutenant General Harold R. Bull as saying that the investigation of ways to disseminate radio-active poisons and of secret techniques of using germs against men, animals and plants were all part of the research of the army, navy, and air force and other agencies. The newspaper said that although for security reasons the operations of the germ warfare centre at Camp Detrick were veiled behind a curtain of secrecy, civilian scientists have pointed out that military circles display great interest in certain types of germs and poisons, particularly those disease germs which can be disseminated by means of shells which burst at definite altitudes—such as bacilli anthrax, and yellow fever viruses. They also mentioned bubonic plague, considered as an outstanding bacteriological weapon.

The Merck Report was hurriedly withdrawn partly because it had revealed too much and partly because of shocked public opinion. Little more was said officially about germ warfare until former Secretary of Defence James Forrestal, on March 12, 1949, issued a statement which tried to minimise the huge scale of U.S. preparations for germ warfare and to call them "defensive measures". Forrestal admitted, however, that "Our research indicated that germs or their poisonous products could be used effectively as weapons of war."

The next day, the *New York Times* carried an interview with General Waitt in which he reaffirmed his faith in the practicability of biological warfare and said:

I think we have the best scientists in the world working on this problem. At the end of World War II we were far ahead of any of our enemies.

Theodore Rosebury, a Columbia University professor who took part in the Camp Detrick operations, in his book *Peace or Pestilence*, published in 1949, confirmed the role of Camp Detrick as the centre of germ warfare research and openly boasted of the merits of the weapon of disease. "B. W. sets out to produce disease," he wrote, ". . . it can find ways to go forward where natural science falters. . . . The main problem is that of distributing a sufficiently

high concentration of B. W. agents . . . in such a form that it reaches its target while still active . . ." so that it would not be "wasted, militarily speaking". He suggested alternative means of doing so.

Rosebury deplored the fact that even in war time, there is a general feeling that the use of biological warfare is a dirty and hateful thing. He said that he considered such an attitude to be emotional and not logical, and that it made no difference whether a man dies pleasantly or painfully—in either case, the end result is a corpse. In the summer of 1949, the result of this cynical attitude was revealed by the Canadian press which reported that American experiments on Eskimos with germ warfare weapons had resulted in an epidemic of bubonic plague among them.

On July 24, 1949 the American newspapers carried an Associated Press despatch describing an expansion in the scope of the germ warfare programme. The despatch, based on a special U.S. army report, stated that the Army Department had requested an appropriation from Congress of over three million dollars to expand facilities at Camp Detrick for the purpose of improving germ warfare weapons against men and their sources of food—animals and crops. The purpose of the research was for use of germ weapons in any part of the world.

### Korea as "Testing Ground"

On March 31, 1950, three months before the American aggression began in Korea, Secretary of Defence Louis Johnson in his semi-annual report to the President said that "complete" and "detailed" studies had been made concerning a number of disease agents which were infectious for man, domestic animals and crop plants, but that "it would be unwise from a security viewpoint to publish these studies." The April 1950 issue of the *Military Review*, organ of the U.S. Army Command and General Staff School at Fort Leavenworth, published a comprehensive article on how to wage bacteriological warfare. Among the pointers emphasised were:

Microbes must be "raised" and kept in readiness in large quantities. . . . It must be possible to bring the active agent into contact with the enemy in the proper form; pathogenic ability must be as great as possible—that is, all infected persons, if possible, must be made sick. . . . The sickness produced must be as hard as possible to diagnose and its producer must be hard to determine, and wherever possible, artificial immunisation must not be possible

and the producer should not respond to any special chemical therapy.

From the opening of hostilities, Korea was considered as the first testing ground for the new U.S. weapons. On July 8, 1950, a few days after the U.S. government unleashed its armies against the Korean people, an article appeared in the magazine, *Science News Letter*, entitled "Germ Warfare in Korea?" The article said, "Germ warfare may get a trial very soon, if the fighting in Korea continues."

### U.S. Gathered Intelligence

At the time the Americans launched their first bacteriological warfare attack on the Korean people in the winter of 1950 to 1951, Chapman Pincher wrote in the December 1950 issue of the British periodical *Discovery*, (which describes itself as "a monthly magazine of scientific progress") . . . .

Biological warfare work has been continued in America at fair pressure. . . . The latest information available to me shows that a practicable long-range bacterial warfare weapon which could be put into operational use if required has been devised in the U.S.

Pincher gave details of one of the types of germ-carrying bombs which the U.S. government had made, tested and kept in readiness long ago for "operational use".

It was, of course, necessary before wider "operational use" of the germ weapons to gather "disease intelligence" on the actual effects of the use of the weapons in Korea. The Associated Press disclosed on May 10, 1951 that U.S. "medical teams" had been operating in Korea "gathering vital information on disease and the medical problems of the Communists" and that for this historic feat in the service of spreading pestilence, Brigadier-General Crawford F. Sams, chief of the U.S. army's so-called "Public Health and Welfare Section" had been awarded the Distinguished Service Cross. Sams performed equally "distinguished service" by his inhuman experiments on Chinese and Korean prisoners of war in preparation for germ warfare. The April 9, 1951 issue of the magazine *Newsweek* referred to a "bubonic plague ship", an "infantry landing vessel with a laboratory installed, complete with mice and rabbits", lying off Wonsan harbour on which "numbers of Chinese Reds" were "tested". The Associated Press reported on May 18 that these experiments were being conducted on U.S. Landing Craft Infantry No. 1091, and that "each day about three thousand tests were made on oral and rectal cultures obtained from

patients at Koje Island's sprawling prisoner-of-war camps."

The preparations for large-scale germ warfare were carried on at a feverish pace while the Americans stalled at the truce talks and were stalled on the battlefield. On January 22 this year, Brigadier-General Charles E. Loucks, deputy chief of the Army Chemical Corps, talked in Baltimore of expanded plans for the large-scale use of chemical and bacteriological methods of warfare. Three days later, Brigadier-General William E. Creasy, chief of the Army Chemical Corps Research Command, delivered a speech in Washington lauding the use of "germs, gas and radio-active materials" as the cheapest weapons to subdue an enemy. The U.S. army newspaper *Stars and Stripes* quoted him as saying that the U.S. government had developed weapons which may make it possible to "reduce an enemy's ability to resist" at a smaller "logistical cost" than any other type of warfare and, what was more tempting, "without destruction of his economy", the future spoils of invasion. While these incredible words of cannibalism were being uttered, Creasy's germ bombs were already on their way to Korea.

### World Protest

The angry uproar of the people of the world against U.S. germ warfare in Korea after the attacks began in late January did not draw penitence or condemnation of germ warfare from U.S. leaders. The U.S. *Congressional Digest* on March 5 carried a typical statement by Major General Bullen, chief of the Chemical Division of the U.S. Defence Department, repeating Creasy's callous praise for the "economy" and discrimination of the weapon of disease, sparing property, but not men, and clearly stood for its unlimited use in warfare. He admitted that the "chemical service" of the U.S. armed forces had been active in Korea since July 4, 1950 and its units had steadily increased in numbers and activity.

In the American conspiracy to use germ weapons for aggressive war, the closest collaborator of the U.S. in its aggression in Korea—MacArthur's Japan—was also its closest collaborator throughout the development of germ warfare weapons.

Japanese participation in U.S. germ warfare plans began in 1946, when eighteen Japanese specialists were sent to the United States to hand over the results of their own research, initiated in 1936, into mass murder by disease.

The *New York Times* on April 13 last year reported the setting up of bacteriological stations in Japan staffed with war criminals, and MacArthur and Ridgway encouraged the continuation of Japanese bacteriological research and production. A Telepress despatch on December 5 last year reported that Ridgway had sent three former generals, Shiro Ishii, Jiro Wakamatsu and Masajo Kitano to Korea to carry out experiments on Korean and Chinese prisoners of war and to perfect biological weapons for use "in winter warfare" against the Korean and Chinese people. They arrived on a freighter carrying all the necessary equipment for bacteriological warfare, including cholera germs, gas which induces blood poisoning, pestilence germs and other materials. All three are major war criminals who organized bacteriological warfare in China during World War II and their guilt had been established by the trial of twelve Japanese war criminals by a Soviet Military Tribunal at Khabarovsk in December, 1949. The Khabarovsk Trial showed that Ishii, principal Japanese theoretician of germ warfare, personally directed the wartime bacteriological expeditions in China, invented bacteriological bombs and shells similar to the ones used by the Americans in Korea, and perfected mass breeding of germs and the use of fleas as carriers, ruthlessly testing them on human beings. The recent use of bacteriological weapons in Korea and North-east China bear all the marks of Ishii's evil genius.

### War Criminals Aid Washington

Nor are the Japanese war criminals the only ones to be drawn into America's germ warfare preparations. Nazi specialists, formerly of the German High Command Bacteriological Department, are doing top secret work under orders from the Pentagon. Nazi general Walter Schreiber, former head of the Department, was brought to the United States by the U.S. air force in the middle of 1951. Other Nazi specialists include Hans Georg Eismann, Dr. Wolt Wilkenning and Heinz Kling, formerly of the German High Command Bacteriological Department. The November 15, 1950 issue of the magazine *New Times* noted that germ warfare research in West Germany was being conducted, among other places, at the Tubingen Biochemical Institute, where scientists are looking for ways to accelerate the multiplication of dangerous germs.

(Continued on page 34)



# The Movement for Increased Production And Practising Economy

Sung Shao-wen

*Director of the Planning Bureau, Committee of Financial and Economic Affairs*

The Chinese people, having taken state power into their own hands, are preparing to launch the first over-all economic plan for the construction of their country. This plan will probably be inaugurated at the end of this year, 1952, by which time the three years of preparatory work which began with the founding of the People's Republic of China will have been brought to a successful conclusion.

The plan will initiate the transformation of China from an agricultural to an industrial country. It will also help build up the national defence to repel all attempts at imperialist aggression, thus providing secure conditions for the great task of peaceful construction.

One of the prerequisites for industrialisation in any country is the accumulation of capital. Naturally, China too, is faced with this necessity. Knowing the crucial nature of this task, the American imperialists have tried by every evil means—embargo, blockade and military provocation—to impede its accomplishment. But the Chinese people, in the past two and a half years, have been tackling the problem successfully—even with the simultaneous calls made on their resources by the needs of current construction and national defence and by the fight against U.S. aggression in Korea.

## Method of Accumulation

The accumulation of capital in China takes place in ways pioneered by the Land of Socialism, adapted to the situation of the New Democracy. The main sources of capital funds are the steady increase of production and the practice of economy, thereby creating new wealth for the nation. New China, naturally, cannot seek to amass capital by ever-increasing taxation. Such a course would be detrimental to the living standards of the people and also hinder rehabilitation and development of a national economy in which private capitalists, handicraftsmen, peasants and other small producers still occupy an important place.

The New Democratic method of capital accumulation, basing itself on internal resources

and equal international trade, is fully in accord with the interests of both the Chinese people and the peoples of the world. Moreover, it positively assists and consolidates the cause of world peace. In all these respects, it is the opposite of the blood-stained and exploitative way in which capitalist countries amassed wealth for industrialisation. Britain, for example, accumulated capital by piracy on the high seas, by brutal plunder of colonial peoples whose resources she monopolised and by elimination of imperialist rivals through war. Capitalist Germany did it principally by invading other European countries, carrying away their resources and imposing heavy indemnities on defeated nations. Tsarist Russia financed railway and other development by contracting loans at usurious rates from more developed capitalist countries and allowing foreign monopoly capital full freedom of operation within its borders, thus subjecting the peoples under its rule to foreign as well as domestic exploitation and seriously compromising the sovereignty of the country.

It is because of the victory of the people's revolution in China and her brotherly relations with the Socialist Soviet Union and the People's Democracies that the Chinese people can advance steadily along the new road. It is under these circumstances that Chairman Mao Tse-tung, in his address to the People's Political Consultative Conference on October 23, 1951, declared that the campaign to increase production and practise economy is one of the two central tasks of the Chinese people today.

## Labour Productivity Rises

The most important guarantee of success in this campaign lies in the fact that the workers of China have enthusiastically adopted it as their own. Already, the working class, the leading class of the New Democracy, has great achievements to show in increasing production through higher productivity of labour and introducing economies. Here are some of the ways in which the workers have made a patriotic contribution to the Motherland, at the

same time improving their own livelihood, along with that of all the people.

Coal miners in Northeast China, through improved working techniques and better organisation of the labour process, produced twice as much coal in 1950 as in 1946.

By measures of rationalisation and economy, women electric-battery packers at the Hsinhua Battery Factory in Canton created 2,500 million yuan in extra wealth for the state within two months. Workers of the Kwangtung Cement Factory increased the daily output of each kiln by 43 tons.

In the workshop of the Shanghai Railway Administration, metal workers forged new girders from scrap steel, thus saving 12,000 million yuan for the government. A Shanghai locomotive crew headed by Ma Shu-sheng created a new operating record by running 250,000 kilometres in 884 days without a single accident or breakdown.

Li Ching-hsiang, a worker in Shantung province, trebled the efficiency of a gauge-block grinding machine at his machine-tool plant. Worker Tu Yung-min of the Shantung Paper Mill introduced a new device for economising oil and gasoline which regularly saves about 12 million yuan a month.

Shantung is also the home of the nationally famous seventeen-year-old Tsingtao model textile-worker, Ho Chien-hsiu, who succeeded in cutting the proportion of cotton wasted in spinning on the spindles she tends from 1.5 per cent to 0.25 per cent. Her method has been introduced as standard throughout the country's textile industry. When universally used, it will increase annual production by 44,460 bales of yarn or 64 million yards of cloth without a penny of additional investment in machines or raw materials. These extra textiles are sufficient for the use of four million people a year at China's present rate of per-capita consumption.

The example of Ho Chien-hsiu shows the extraordinary economic importance of the inventions and suggestions which the workers, as masters of the country, are now devising. A total of 24,875 were put into effect in the course of 1950 alone.

I have cited only a few examples of how the politically conscious Chinese workers constantly produce more for the country. They not only increase their own productivity but participate actively in production planning and in ensuring that schedules are fulfilled and overfulfilled. In the state-operated sector of

industry, where a series of democratic reforms have been completed, the workers have become masters of the factories and mines. In private industry, workers take part in labour-capital consultative conferences and can thus fully safeguard their own interests. The country-wide upsurge in labour enthusiasm, a result of the raised political and social status of the workers, is reflected in the upward trend of production charts in every factory.

### Peasants Increase Crops

In the vast countryside, where the productive potential of hundreds of millions of peasants has been freed from feudal shackles by the land reform, records of agricultural output are being broken in rapid succession.

Kuo Yun-hsiang, a peasant of Hsushui county, Hopei province, reaped 455 kilogrammes of millet per *mou* last year. The nationally-renowned labour hero Li Shun-ta, in Shansi, achieved a per-*mou* yield of 490 kilogrammes of Indian corn. Despite drought and flood in his region in 1951, Li Wen-tung of Wuchih county, Pingyuan province, reached an average of 272 kilogrammes per *mou* for wheat. All these records represent crops two to three times greater than those reaped by neighbouring peasants.

By applying modern methods in the cultivation of rice, Chen Yung-kang, a native of Sungkiang county, Kiangsu province, produced the remarkable record of 716.5 kilogrammes per *mou*, which is between four and five times the East China average of 155 kilogrammes. Chen, who is an enthusiastic participant in the work of the Agricultural Research Station in his locality, is passing on his knowledge to his neighbours and helping publicise his method in other rice-growing areas.

In response to the government's call for increased yields per hectare, the model mutual-aid team headed by Chu Yao-li in Hsiehhsien county, Shansi province, has been working hard to improve cotton cultivation. In 1951, Chu Yao-li succeeded in obtaining 460 kilogrammes of ginned cotton per *mou*, which is an all-time record for China and ten times the average North China crop of 45.9 kilogrammes per *mou*. If all other cotton-growers in the area can bring their crop up to only one-fifth of Chu Yao-li's, North China can supply the nation with twice as much cotton as it does now without any increase in cultivated area or manpower, and the standard of living of the cotton producers can also be raised.



## 為祖國工業建設而奮鬥！

For the industrialisation of our Motherland!  
Poster by Liu Pao-yin

In agriculture as in industry, China's potential for increased production is virtually without limit. What has been done up to now, prior to mechanisation and the universal application of science, has only scratched the surface in this regard.

The facts given above prove that we can create huge capital for the nation by raising the productivity of labour in all fields. Additional large sums can be mobilised as we improve the management of economic enterprises.

The industry and transport which the Chinese people took over after liberation were, in the main, dilapidated, mismanaged and riddled with corruption and waste. To reorganise everything at once was not only organisationally difficult but undesirable from the point of view of the people's livelihood, since it would have entailed temporary interruption of production and the flow of goods. As a result, the reform of management in existing enterprises has been gradual and much remains to be done. Considerable new wealth can be created, and losses cut, by the introduction of

scientific management. According to the instructions of the Central People's Government, all state-run enterprises must cut operating costs by 6 to 10 per cent in 1952. This will not be done by cutting wages but in the ways indicated below.

### Fuller Use of Installations

Output can still be raised considerably by making full use of available production capacity. In heavy industry, this is already being utilised to the extent of 80-90 per cent. In light industry, the fact that only about 50 per cent of the capacity of existing machinery is used has led to energetic steps to improve the situation. Flour mills in East China, for instance, succeeded in running at 80 per cent of their full capacity in October and November, 1951. As a result, flour production there rose to a ten-year high.

In the fuel industry, power companies in Shanghai ran at 62 per cent of capacity last November as compared to only 53 per cent in August. This, together with other measures of economy, created savings equivalent to the power output of an additional 10,000 kilowatts of generating capacity.

### Quicker Capital Turnover

If the circulation of operating capital is speeded up, a given sum of money can finance much more production. Because of slow turnover, many of our enterprises still tie up much more capital than they need to. For this reason, it is imperative to reduce the production period, put an end to over-stocking of raw materials, market finished products as quickly as possible, dispose of surplus equipment and property and accelerate clearing of both credit and debit accounts.

Practically all enterprises have been working busily to achieve a quicker capital turnover, and many notable results have been reported. Much idle capital has been freed for circulation by the taking of accurate inventories. The Huainan Coal Mine recently discovered that it had realisable surplus property to the value of over 10,000 million yuan. The railway administration at Chengchow, Honan province, found 19,500 million yuan worth. Factories under the Department of Industry in Southwest China unearthed 10,000 tons of various materials. The No. 2 State Textile Mill in Tientsin found sufficient stores of a certain machine part to meet its own needs for

152 years. All these accumulations have been disposed of and put into circulation.

### **Reduction of Costs**

Production costs can be lowered by reducing waste in the processing of raw materials as well as in the consumption of fuel and electric power. The Tientsin Steel Works succeeded in May and June, 1951 in cutting the costs of steel ingots by 17.1 per cent. In light industry, three Shanghai match companies saved 1,259 kilogrammes of potassium chlorate and 58,519 bundles of match sticks in the single month of September, 1951. The Kiangnan Paper Mill increased its saving from 35 million yuan in July to 110 million yuan in August. Almost every factory and mine in the country can cite such facts from its own experience.

Further savings can generally be made by smoother co-ordination between different workshops and processes, by faster transportation and by streamlining personnel. Costs can also be reduced by productive use of discarded material such as scrap metal, waste paper and worn-out rubber goods.

The substitution of commoner and less expensive materials for more expensive ones of which there is some lack can both cheapen and speed up production. Last year, experiments were successfully carried out to substitute bamboo (grown in Kiangsi province) for wood-pulp in the manufacture of paper. As a result, paper mills in Shanghai will no longer need to rely on imported wood-pulp. China will save much foreign exchange in this way, while tens of thousands of Kiangsi peasants will benefit from growing bamboo.

Pig skin, previously largely wasted, has been scientifically developed into a good material for the leather industry. It is being made into first-class quality shoes, gloves, jackets, portfolios and suitcases. This material is extremely abundant. In 1950, about 50 million hogs were slaughtered in China, but one-fifth of this number of pig skins, turned into leather, would be enough for China's domestic needs. The value created each year would be enough to equip seven textile mills of 30,000 spindles capacity each.

### **Initial Successes**

The movement to increase production and practise economy in order to provide funds for industrialisation is now in full swing in every factory, plant, mine, workshop and state farm throughout the country. The pace has been

set by Northeast China where the movement started earlier and extra wealth equivalent to the value of 14,580,000 tons of grain was produced or economised by workers and staff members of state enterprises between May and November, 1951, through overfulfilment of assigned quotas and reduction of costs. This amount is sufficient to build more than two million new spindles for the cotton industry. Such results among a relatively small group of people in a single region of the country make it clear how tremendous will be the effect when the movement has proceeded for a considerable period on a nation-wide scale. The Chinese people know that it is the only road to building a better life for themselves and therefore manifest the greatest will and enthusiasm in carrying it out. Events have already shown that they are perfectly able to produce enough to carry on resistance against U.S. aggression in Korea, carry on immediate economic tasks, consolidate national defence and accumulate capital for industrialisation.

The present movement in China stands in sharp contrast to the capitalist "austerity", as practised in the Britain of Attlee and Churchill. The latter is just another name for forcing down the living standards of the people so that the monopolists can get richer and richer. In New China, the funds saved by the people go to the people and build a free and prosperous life for all. Moreover, the process of increasing output and economising resources is accompanied by immediate benefits in the form of higher wages and lower prices.

Just as the Chinese people are determined to promote this movement, so they will no longer tolerate the theft or dissipation of national property through practices which have their roots in the old society. That is why they are now engaged in a great drive to eliminate corruption, waste and bureaucratism—the evil inheritance of feudal, imperialist and bureaucratic capitalist rule. The success of this drive, which penetrates to every corner of the land, is an indispensable condition for successful accumulation of capital and the industrialisation of the country.

The liberated people of China have fixed on their course. They are proceeding, through the New Democracy, to Socialism. The whole path of the advance is planned. The people are on the move, gaining ever-greater momentum and allowing no obstacles, internal or external, from impeding them on their path.

# World Support for the International Economic Conference

Ti Chao-pai

*Noted economist, member of the Chinese delegation to the International Economic Conference*

Since the initiators of the International Economic Conference met in Copenhagen in October, 1951, all sections of the people throughout the world, except for the groups which are determined to make war, have shown their enthusiastic support for the decision to convene it. After six months' work by the Initiating Committee, which is made up of representatives from all the major countries of the world, the Conference will formally open and be held in Moscow early in April. Delegates from over fifty countries are gathering for the Conference. They include industrialists, agriculturists, merchants, economists, engineers, trade unionists and co-operative workers. This is one of the most broadly-based international conferences ever to take place in history. Irrespective of the political systems of the countries represented and the political outlooks of the delegates, all are welcome to attend the Conference. Prominent press organs and business and industrial groups in the capitalist countries, including the U.S.A., are showing more and more interest in it.

## Reasons for Capitalist Crisis

It is no accident that the Conference has evoked so big a response and such widespread support. While rapid progress in economic construction is being made, and the living standards of the people continue to rise in the Soviet Union and the People's Democracies, the various capitalist countries as well as their colonies and the dependent countries are being tied to the American war chariot. The result is that their production and trade are constantly declining, their financial deficits are growing, their currencies have been devaluated and the standard of living of their people is falling rapidly. Except for a few monopoly capitalists who have made super-profits out of the armaments race, merchants, industrialists, technicians, professional workers and the great mass of people in various countries, all feel

that the policy of war preparations carried out by the imperialists will lead them into the bottomless pit of poverty and bankruptcy.

The economic crisis of the capitalist countries, accelerated by their armament programme, is becoming more and more acute. Because they are forced to take part in the economic blockade rigged up by the American imperialists against the Soviet Union and the People's Democracies, the countries in Western Europe cannot buy inexpensive food, lumber and coal from the Soviet Union and the East European countries. Instead, they are compelled to buy these important consumer goods and industrial materials from the American imperialists at inflated prices. The cost of their main imports has increased, their trade balance has become still more unfavourable and their shortage of U.S. dollars still more acute. As for exports, the manufactured goods produced in Western Europe, such as machinery, metal products, raw materials for the chemical industries and silk goods of the Western European countries which could have been sold to the Soviet Union and the People's Democracies in large quantities, now find no market. The plants that make them have therefore been compelled either to suspend or to curtail production or have been converted to the service of the armament industries. This has brought about a crisis marked by reduction of exports and inflation.

## Effects of Imperialist Embargoes

The economy of certain Middle and Far Eastern countries is also suffering from imperialist-imposed embargoes and monopoly. Since the latter part of last year, the prices of tin and rubber have begun to drop, with the result that Malaya, Indonesia and Ceylon are facing depression. The rice output of Burma and Thailand is now far short of the pre-war levels. Such is the result of past and present imperialist pressure.

Trade relations between India and Pakistan as well as between these two countries and the rest of the world are in an abnormal state. This has prevented India and Pakistan from procuring cheap raw materials, food and industrial supplies and sent their cost of living and production costs soaring. Owing to imperialist controls and exploitation, the oil industry of the Middle East countries is suffering serious losses. What is more, these countries are not allowed to sell their oil in conformity with their own will and interests. All these facts demonstrate how the economies of the Far Eastern and Middle Eastern countries sustain serious losses as a direct consequence of imperialist political control and imperialist war policies.

### **Irrational Trade Barriers**

The countries of northern Europe and of Central and South America likewise feel deeply the hurt in severing trade relations with the Soviet Union and the People's Democracies. They are growing restive under the restrictions of the dollar and sterling bloc and getting more and more discontented under American and British oppression and restrictions. They cry out for "the opening up of new markets", and for "increasing and expanding trade relations with all countries".

To sum up, artificial and irrational barriers to international trade have greatly affected the economy of the imperialist countries, imposed further losses on undeveloped countries and caused a steep deterioration in the living conditions of the broad masses of their inhabitants. This is in sharp contrast to prevailing conditions in the Soviet Union and the People's Democracies. The domestic economies of the Soviet Union, the People's Republic of China and all the People's Democracies are prospering. The rise in the living standards of their peoples is plain to all. The trade relations between them are based on equality and mutual benefit, leading to reasonable and adequate exchange on the basis of free will and legitimate profit.

The resolute carrying out of policies of peace and the development of international trade and economic co-operation constitute a major factor contributing to the success of national economic construction and the improvement in the people's livelihood in the Soviet Union and People's Democracies. For this reason, the call issued by the Initiating

Committee of the International Economic Conference, inviting economists, industrialists, agronomists, businessmen, engineers and trade union and co-operative workers of all countries, irrespective of their diverse views, to meet for a discussion of how to effect peaceful co-operation through the development of economic relations among nations and the improvement of the living conditions of their peoples, has evoked a widespread response throughout the world, including the United States, Britain and Japan. American bourgeois newspapers, such as the *New York Times* and the *Wall Street Journal*, have emphasised the hope that this Conference will lead to the expansion of international trade, and that many industrialists want to go to Moscow to participate in this Conference. The ex-president of the British Board of Trade, Wilson has said that the one condition for improving the economic state of Britain is the restoration of the free trade with East Europe and the rest of the world which is indispensable to her economy. The shipping business of Britain in the Far East is suffering from depression because of the embargo. There is a widespread dissatisfaction among British businessmen in the Far East towards the embargo against the People's Republic of China.

Japanese industrialists, businessmen, financiers, engineers and trade union leaders have a great interest in the International Economic Conference. Japanese newspapers such as *Asahi Shimbun*, *Yomiuri Shimbun*, *Tokyo Times* and *Japan Industrial Economic News* have all expressed their support for the Japanese delegates going to Moscow.

### **Businessmen's Interest**

It is not hard to judge, from the reaction of the three above-mentioned countries towards the International Economic Conference in Moscow, how enthusiastically the other capitalist countries respond to this Conference. In France, beside the members of the proposed delegation to be sent to Moscow, a great many manufacturers and bankers are energetically forwarding proposals and submitting current prices to the Conference.

For the sake of promoting world peace and improving the people's living conditions through the proper interflow of international trade, the People's Republic of China heartily endorses the convocation of this Conference,

and will do its best to make the Conference achieve the anticipated success.

Just at a time when the American imperialists are wrangling over the failure of Truman's aggressive policy, when the governments of Western Europe are exhausting themselves in the drive to expand armaments, and when many small and medium sized countries are full of complaints after having tasted the evil fruits of the policy of war preparations, the Moscow International Economic Conference brings fresh hope to the people and to industrialists and merchants in the capitalist world, calling them to peace and prosperity through international economic co-operation.

The reason why we advocate international economic co-operation and the development of international trade on the basis of equality and mutual benefit irrespective of political systems and convictions is because this is a concrete step in defending world peace at present and a practical step towards alleviating the sufferings as well as improving the living conditions of the peoples of the capitalist world.

### **The Central Problem**

The central problem to be discussed in the International Economic Conference is how to promote the development of international trade. Ever since 1938, the rate of increase in the volume of international trade has been steadily falling. The quantity and quality of food consumed by the people of the United States and Britain have been steadily declining. What are the reasons for this? One of the chief is international trade restrictions and barriers imposed for political reasons. We believe that peaceful coexistence between the states of planned economy and those of private enterprise is possible, hence the expansion of trade relations between them is also possible. At this Conference, various trade contracts will be concluded in the light of the actual import and export potentialities of each country, thus making the International Economic Conference a starting point for expanding international trade.

The capitalist countries are facing a deficiency of raw materials; this is caused by their policy of war preparations and the series of measures consequent upon it. The Conference will discuss the situation regarding the principal raw materials and foods of the world and

methods of overcoming difficulties in their supply.

With regard to technical measures for increasing international trade, such as stabilising markets and prices, methods of international credit and its expansion and transportation facilities, etc., full exchange of views will take place in sub-committee meetings. With regard to questions relating to the living conditions of the people of various countries, their wages, how to fight famine through international co-operation and how to improve agricultural production and other questions, the various countries must have an adequate understanding of the problems and study possible ways and means of dealing with them.

### **Raise Living Standards**

"Exploitation of under-developed countries" has become a slogan for imperialist aggression. We oppose the exploitation of under-developed countries by states assuming the role of boss; we oppose so-called "economic aid" with political strings attached. We stand for assistance to under-developed countries on the basis of genuine equality and mutual benefit so as to enable them to utilise their own supplies and resources freely and according to their own will. By so doing, they can achieve economic development and raise the living standards of their people through real aid from the developed states. This will be one of the chief subjects for discussion in the Conference.

Moscow has been chosen as the site for this grand and most significant International Economic Conference because the Soviet Union is the bastion of peace and is one of the chief powers willing to increase international economic co-operation. What is more, the Soviet Union has indicated that it will grant visas without discrimination to delegates of the various countries irrespective of their political convictions, which is an act beyond the will and ability of any of the capitalist countries.

From the thoroughness of the preparations for this Conference and the enthusiastic response received from all countries, we have every reason to believe that this Conference will achieve great success and will lay the foundation for a better future and for new international co-operation.

# Develop Cultural Ties Between the Peoples!

In Commemoration of Hugo, Gogol, Leonardo da Vinci and Avicenna

Mao Tun

Vice-Chairman, All-China Federation of Literary and Art Circles

The second meeting of the World Peace Council, convened in Vienna from November 1-7, 1951, adopted an important resolution about cultural relations between peoples. In accordance with this decision, the World Peace Council called upon all peoples to commemorate this year the anniversaries of four great contributors to the world's cultural heritage: the 150th anniversary of the birth of the French writer Victor Hugo; the centenary of the death of the Russian writer Nicolai Gogol; the 500th anniversary of the birth of Leonardo da Vinci, Italian painter, sculptor and scientist; and the 1,000th anniversary of the death of Avicenna (Ibn Sina), the Arabian physician, astronomer and mathematician.

The Chinese people realise the great significance of this World Peace Council resolution. The brilliant achievements of these four giants in the fields of science, literature and art have added much to the welfare of mankind and given great impetus to improvements in the people's ways of living. Just as we have honoured other great men of world culture to whom mankind is indebted, we give honour and our profound admiration to Victor Hugo, Gogol, Leonardo da Vinci and Avicenna, whose contributions to mankind we consider a treasury common to all the peoples of the world. We also realise that commemoration of these eminent men is important not only for cultural relations but is a means of strengthening mutual understanding between peoples and advancing the cause of their struggle against aggressive war and in defence of world peace. In response to the call of the World Peace Council, the China Peace Committee has asked people's organisations of national scope to organise joint, large-scale, commemorative activities in the month of May.

The first Chinese version of Victor Hugo's masterpiece *Les Miserables* appeared in this country as long as fifty years ago. On the eve of the Anti-Japanese War of 1937, a large part of the literary works of the great French writer had been translated into Chinese.

Lu Hsun, the great initiator of modern

Chinese literature, first introduced Gogol to this country about forty years ago. In his later years, Lu Hsun himself undertook the translation of *Dead Souls*, which thenceforward exercised a considerable influence upon China. Similar interest has also been shown in Gogol's *The Inspector-General*. Before the Anti-Japanese War, this famous comedy was staged in many places all over China. Even during the war, it was not infrequently performed both in the liberated areas and in those under Kuomintang control. Almost all the works of Gogol have been translated into Chinese.

Ever since the introduction of European Renaissance art to China, Leonardo da Vinci's works have won the admiration of our people. They have played an important part in the development of realism in China's modern art.

Likewise, Avicenna, the Arabian scientist of a thousand years ago, is held in high esteem by Chinese scientists and physicians, who are conscious of his worthy services to mankind.

## China's Interest in World Culture

The Chinese people have always received the works of eminent creators of world culture with the utmost warmth and interest. Why do we feel this warm admiration? Since we Chinese people had long been under the domination and cruel exploitation of imperialism, feudal landlords, bureaucratic capitalists and compradors, we feel very strongly that we have not struggled alone. In the light of the ideals to which these four cultural figures devoted their lives—their hatred for the dark ways of the past, their opposition to aggressive war, their efforts on behalf of the progress of mankind and confidence in the people's power—in a word, their great devotion to literature, art and science which they turned into weapons serving the people instead of the ruling and exploiting classes. We here on the Asian continent see reflected in the careers of these great men our own loves and hates, and the ideals we have long struggled to realise.

The Chinese people are working selflessly for the defence of world peace and the





**A Chinese people's volunteer tells alerted anti-epidemic personnel about the activities of U.S. bacteria-spreading planes**

**A micro-photo of one of the small, black, germ-carrying insects spread by U.S. forces. Actual size: 0.1 centimetre long and 0.003 centimetre broad**

## **AMERICAN BACTERIOLOGICAL WARFARE AGAINST KOREA AND CHINA**



**A reconstructed U.S. germ-carrying bomb. The parts were sterilised when found and re-assembled to make this photo**



**A test-tube with lethal, germ-carrying insects dropped from U.S. planes**



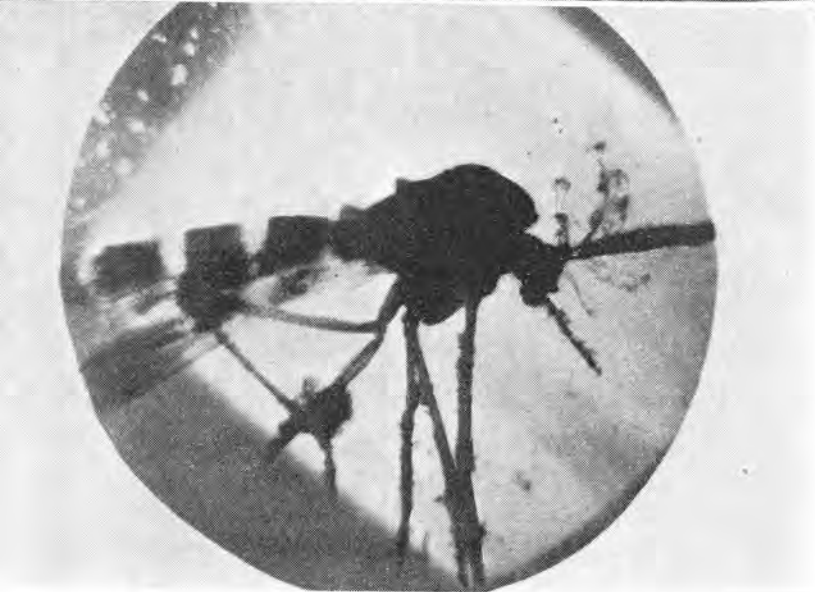


# U.S. Bacterio

The

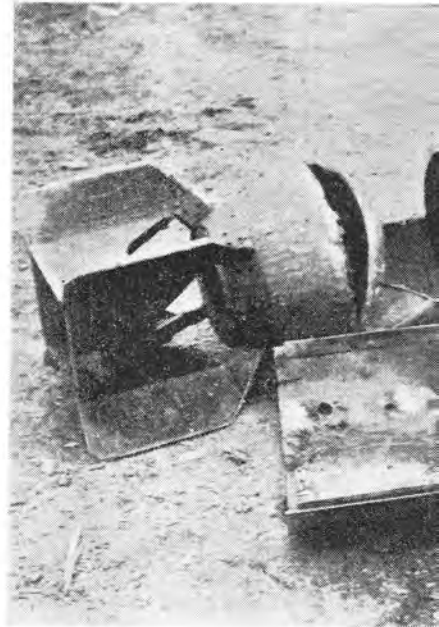
Since January 28, 1952, the U.S. has dropped large quantities of germ-carrying insects over liberated Korea. On February 1, 1952, the first bacteriological weapon attack was reported. These crimes have shocked and alarmed the world.

**Korean villagers give evidence to an anti-epidemic squad about U.S. germ warfare**



**Micro-photograph of one of the death-carrying insects which U.S. planes have dropped during intrusions over Chinese territory**

**Germ-bomb M 105, dropped by U.S. bacteriological war criminals. The markings in English are plainly visible**



**A type of germ-bomb dropped by U.S. planes. When it hits the ground, it splits into two parts, releasing the contents**

**A mass of infected flies dropped by U.S. planes. They will creep, but not fly when they fall on the ground. They carry germs such as Meningococci, Typhoid, and Cholera.**

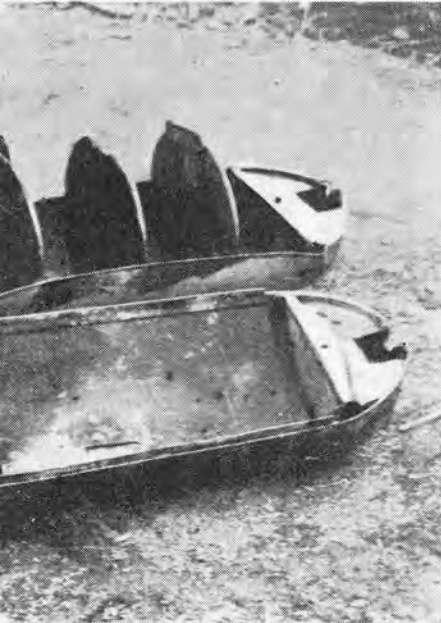


# Biological Warfare

## Proofs

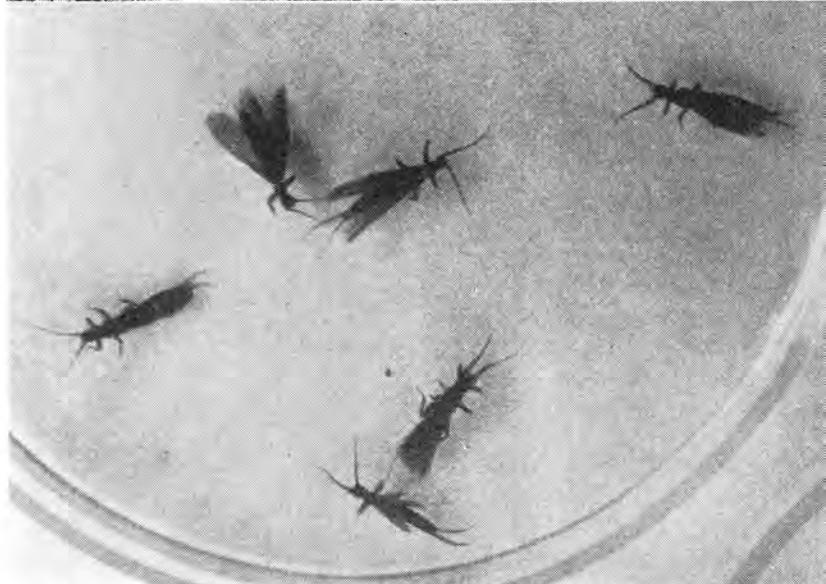
U.S. invaders have been scattering germ-carrying insects on the territories of Northeast China. U.S. planes carried out their attack on Northeast China. These insects killed the peoples of the world

Fragments of a U.S. germ-bomb. Circle frames bacteria-laden flies which it carried



U.S. planes. When it touches the ground, it is releasing its load of germ-carrying insects

They can fly on the U.S. invasion forces. They can crawl on the ground, and carry pathogenic germs such as B. anthrax and others



Lethal, germ-carrying insects spread by U.S. planes in China. These insects can fly and are at home both on the ground and on water

A member of an anti-epidemic squad at work in Korea identifying various types of bacteria used by the U.S. germ-war criminals

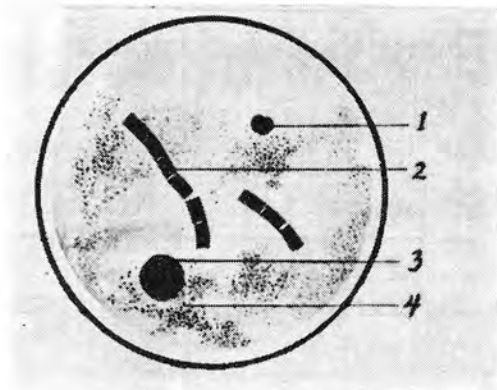


Members of the Commission of the International Association of Democratic Lawyers on their arrival in Peking where they were met by Shen Chun-ju, vice-president of the I.A.D.L. (extreme left). The Commission headed by Professor Brandweiner, (centre), has just returned from Korea where they investigated crimes committed by the American germ-war criminals

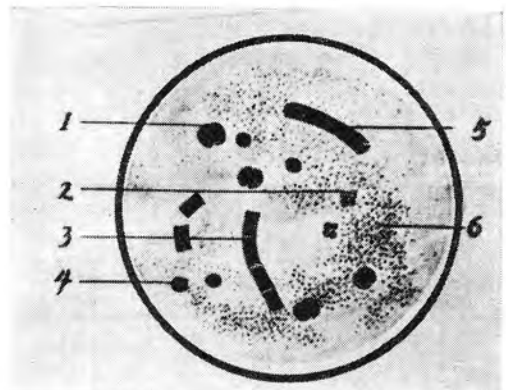


## U.S. Bacteriological Warfare

GERMS SPREAD BY THE U.S. BACTERIOLOGICAL WAR CRIMINALS SEEN UNDER THE MICROSCOPE



The germs on the slide shown above were carried by an ant-like insect with four wings, two antennae with 30 joints on each, two cerci with 21 joints on each. Its abdomen has eight segments. The slide shows: (1) *N. intercellaris* (Meningococci) (2) *B. anthrax* (3) Cell (4) Impurities



The germs on the slide shown above were carried by an insect like a house-fly, but smaller. It could crawl when it fell on the ground but could not yet fly. The slide shows: (1) *N. intercellaris* (Meningococci) (2) *M. tetragenus* (3) *B. anthrax* (4) Gram positive cocci (5) Tissue of the insect body (6) Impurities

construction of a new China. The liberated Chinese people have such an urgent demand for culture that, in a mere period of two years, hundreds of millions of workers and peasants in the cities and villages, in mines and factories, have joined activities in various cultural fields in a spirit of keen emulation. The people give full play to their initiative and creative powers; they have culturally "stood up".

As our great leader Mao Tse-tung teaches us, not only should we enhance the magnificent cultural heritage of our nation in order to develop a new national culture of the Chinese people so that it, too, will contribute to the progress of mankind, but we must bring examples of progressive world culture from outside to the Chinese people. In carrying out Chairman Mao's instructions, we have always presented selections from various national cultures of the world to the Chinese people. We treasure and look up to the achievements of any national culture that are healthy, progressive and beneficial to mankind, while we oppose those that are obnoxious and decadent. It is precisely because we treasure the cultural contributions of Hugo, Gogol, da Vinci and Avicenna as much as the peoples of France, the U.S.S.R., Italy and Arabia treasure them and look upon them as models for our efforts, that we are commemorating these four eminent men with such great love and respect. For this reason too, we warmly greet the idea of developing cultural relations by which all peoples will be mutually benefited.

But imperialist countries, and the United States in particular, do not like to foster democratic cultural relations among the peoples of the world. By refusing to grant visas, they prevent scientists, literary and cultural workers, and associations of various countries from visiting each other. They prohibit the circulation of books and newspapers. They often slander the culture of other nations, so as to sow suspicion and hatred among them. A typical example is American imperialist calumny and distortion regarding the cultural life of China, the Soviet Union and the People's Democracies.

### **Imperialist Aggression Against Culture**

The American imperialist aggressors are antagonistic to culture; they trample underfoot the treasured cultures of other nations; they consider the so-called "American way of life" of "movies", cheap novels and comic

strips, depicting murder, rape, racial prejudice, dollar worship, etc., as more interesting than the achievements of men like Hugo, Gogol, Leonardo da Vinci and Avicenna; and as more valuable than their own people's cultural heritage found in the works of Walt Whitman and Mark Twain. In America, people are in danger not only of being denounced as "Reds", of losing their jobs and being put into prison for reading matter published in the Soviet Union. They are in danger also of being black-listed for reading the progressive works of other nations, or even of Americans who advocate justice and peace and denounce violence.

Not so long ago when the Kuomintang bandits were still ruling over the Chinese mainland, this poisonous, aggressive imperialist "culture" of U.S. America came in the wake of American warships and reactionary missionaries. Such "culture" certainly is not welcomed, and the Chinese people, now that they have become their own masters, will not permit it to exert its poisonous influence here. This is what American imperialism really means by their slanders about the new China expelling Western culture. The new China expels only what is aggressive, poisonous and corrupt. But we welcome and treasure all healthy, progressive and enlightened cultural achievements regardless of their origin. Foreigners visiting China have only to pay a visit to our libraries and book-stores, and to look at our catalogues of publications, to know that American imperialist slanders about "expulsion of Western culture" are not worth even a laugh.

The peace-loving peoples of the world are now being seriously menaced by the frantic war preparations of American imperialism. In order to incite war hysteria, to paralyse the people's consciousness, to strangle the just demand for peace, American imperialism and its associates are intensifying thought-control and restricting freedom of speech within their own country, while at the same time they are doing their utmost to prevent cultural relations among other nations. We firmly demand that cultural relations between the peoples of various countries be developed and strengthened so as to ensure peaceful co-operation and mutual understanding among them. We Chinese people want to join hands fraternally with peoples of all other countries in order to replace the imperialist blockade and cultural aggression with close cultural relations.

# Victory Over Drought

Su Ming

Less than three years ago drought was a word of terror in China that presaged want, starvation, debts and death for tens of millions each year. Drought was largely man-made, the result of ancient misrule that destroyed the protecting green covering of hills and countryside, the result of the corruption of the ruling class, and the bitter exploitation and poverty of the peasants which allowed water-works to fall into disrepair and prevented the digging of wells, or the building of reservoirs and canals. Under such conditions, drought became almost an annual occurrence in one or the other part of the country. In North China, nine years out of ten were dry. The old warlord and Kuomintang regimes took no effective steps to combat this evil or alleviate its results.

Yet within two years the People's Government has achieved startling results in the battle against drought as it has in the campaign against floods. A resounding victory has been achieved over drought. Long-range projects have been launched to overcome its effects.

The spring and summer of 1951 had all the signs of a major drought. In North, Northwest China and Inner Mongolia the winter snowfall was only half that of normal. Even in north Szechuan, Yunnan, Kiangsi, Hunan and Chekiang provinces and other areas where rain is usually plentiful, after a wet spring there came a scorching, dry summer. Altogether 125 million *mou* of cultivated land were threatened with drought and crop failure.

In the old days such conditions would have meant widespread famine. But led by their People's Government and the Communist Party, the people were able to mobilise their resources effectively and defeat the drought. On a national scale, the harvest in 1951 reached 92.8 per cent of the all-time peak output. China was able to export grain to alleviate famine in India. Cotton topped the pre-war record by 33 per cent.

## How the Victory Was Gained

The People's Government has made careful plans to overcome this ancient evil. Long term projects have been got underway for large-scale reafforestation, the creation of

forest belts, the construction of huge storage reservoirs as on the Huai, the Yungting and the Pi rivers, and other water conservancy works.

In the meantime, short-term measures have proved themselves of decisive value in combating the effects of drought. Among the most important of such measures are: (1) The wider use of drought-resisting seeds and of better methods of planting to offset drought; (2) The better utilisation of existing water sources and the development of new sources.

As soon as the danger of drought became evident in 1951, the People's Government and the Communist Party immediately took action to combat it. Directives were sent to all local governments, local Party organisations, trade unions and other people's organisations. Peasant organisations of all kinds were alerted. Relief, loans and technical aid were available. In Chahar and Suiyuan provinces, the worst affected areas of North China, the provincial governments sent a thousand cadres into the rural areas to help the work. County heads temporarily closed their offices to civil affairs, and went to direct the urgent anti-drought work in the fields. In Hopei, Pingyuan and other provinces, responsible government leaders too went to the threatened fields, side by side with the peasants. "Sow the crops! Fight the drought!" was the slogan.

One of the first tasks was to overcome the fatalistic attitude of many peasants, the bitter result of the long years of regularly recurring drought conditions. This was tackled by the activists on the spot by exhortation, argument and example aided by the whole national and local press and radio. This was less a problem in the areas where the land reform had been carried through than in those in which the peasant masses had not yet been fully mobilised.

Everywhere, the anti-drought drive quickly developed into a mass campaign. Methods were varied. The aim was to utilise the most effective measures for each particular place.

By such efforts in North China, for example, the 70 per cent of the total cotton-growing area affected by drought was sown.

Great ingenuity was shown by the peasant cultivators in guarding the young seedlings. In Hopei, Shantung and Honan, before sowing the cotton and *kaoliang* fields, the dry surface soil was spaded off, the seeds were planted in the moist soil underneath and then covered with the dry top-soil which was tightly pressed down in order to preserve the moisture beneath.

Some areas improved on this method. When the seeds were planted, moist soil, taken from places where no seeds were sown, was used to cover them and the whole protected with dry, tightly-packed top-soil. In other cases the seeds were planted together with an inch of soaked *kaoliang* or corn-stalk to give extra moisture. In 1951, three-fifths of Hopei's cotton fields were planted by this method.

Another method was to sow five to six seeds, properly spaced, in a single hole. When they began sprouting, four or five small holes were dug around each plant with a sharp, pointed stick, and water was poured into them from a kettle. When the water had soaked in, the holes were stoppered with soil. On an average, twenty buckets of water were required for each *mou* so planted. One-fifth of the Hopei cotton fields were planted in this way. The success of such methods was shown by the record-breaking harvest.

Other areas began the campaign against drought many weeks before the spring sowing. They started by conserving water sources.

### Expert Drought Fighters

In Chahar province Li Ho-wang, a Communist Party member, who had gained fame as a water conservancy model worker in 1950, mobilised the peasants of his district for ice conservation. Through holes in the ice on the frozen river, they thrust straw dams so that the flow of water was impeded, and it was forced to the surface where it added to the ice-crust. Then they cut the ice into blocks and took it to the fields where the spring thaw did the rest. This was not the end of the struggle, however, for later that spring, the



Ice blocks taken from the frozen river and left in the fields to thaw in the spring sun is one method peasants use to fight drought

millet stalks stopped growing when they were only about 20 centimetres high. No rain fell in April and May. Many peasants, however, still held captive by old-fashioned ideas, hesitated to water the millet so early in the year for fear they might harm it. But Li, with his colleagues, watered the millet on 4,000 *mou* of land for eight days. Soon after, the plants began to grow again while those in the unwatered fields began to wilt. Convinced by this, the whole village followed suite.

Then in June, the river dried up. The parched soil began to crack. But Li and his colleagues knew that there must still be water under the river-bed. Ninety people worked day-and-night shifts to dig 50 ditches in the river to tap ground water sufficient to irrigate 2,500 *mou* of land. Li's anti-drought team then mobilised 57 peasant households to repair wells and water wheels. This provided enough water for another 470 *mou* planted to vegetables.

Not far from the village there was a stream that had never been used for irrigation. Li organised 100 households to dig a canal from the stream to the fields and another 1,400 *mou* of parched land was assured of water. Under such leadership by Li Ho-wang, peasants from ten villages were thus enabled to beat the drought. In 1951, under severe drought conditions, they were able to gather a harvest exceeding by more than 750 tons the yield of 1950 which was a year of drought of only minor proportions.

In Fengchuang village, Huaijen county, also in Chahar province, no less effective measures were adopted under the leadership of Ma Yi-chien who was later elected a model worker. Besides sowing the cotton in moist sub-soil and using the dry top-soil tightly pressed down as a desiccation cover, Ma harrowed three or more times a season instead of the usual twice a season. This also helped to conserve ground moisture. After the summer rains in July, Ma led the villagers in re-planting 500 *mou* of crops which had withered on the stem. This was done in a day's shock work with seed loaned by the government. As a result of these measures, Fengchuang village reaped a harvest over 70 per cent of the average despite the conditions of severe drought and with no better water facilities than were available in other afflicted areas.

It was peasants like Li and Ma in many areas who led the way to fight and overcome drought. The press and rural propagandists spread the news of their methods and achievements.

### Better Use of Water Supplies

Better use of water supplies was a key factor in beating drought. The landlords in the old days controlled not only the land but waterways and water sources. They used this monopoly for extorting additional dues and services from the peasants. This abuse was eliminated by the land reform, but many old customs that had grown up regarding water usage had to be eliminated by special efforts on the part of the liberated peasants.

In some parts of Shansi province, for example, there was the custom that the water needs of villages on the upper reaches of streams must be met before those along the lower reaches. In consequence, in years of drought the former villages could often irrigate their fields several times a year while the less fortunately placed were starved of water.

Such anomalies too were ended soon after the land reform. Villages using the same water sources established joint committees on water conservancy and laid down equitable rules for the more rational use of the available water. As a result, more land can now be irrigated at a quicker rate of rotation than before. For instance, along the Yangwu river in Kuohsien county, Shansi province, a total area of 50,000 *mou* of irrigated land attached to eighteen villages can now be irrigated on a 22-day rotation

basis where before it took 30 days for each village's turn on the old rotation plan. The water thus saved is sufficient to irrigate an extra 16,000 *mou* of land in another six villages.

Thus, the battle against drought was also a campaign for more rational use and exploitation of water sources. Cotton fields in Shansi and elsewhere in North China used to be watered furrow by furrow. The drought fighters introduced the system of watering only every other furrow. This increased yields by doubling the water supply for irrigation.

### Mutual Aid

None of these methods of drought fighting could have given really effective results without the mutual aid among the peasants and government aid that is the mark of the New Democratic economy of China. For instance, the cost of digging a well is equivalent in value to 2-3,000 catties of millet, a water wheel costs 2,000 catties. Only landlords and rich peasants could afford such "luxuries" in the past. Now the peasants pool resources to cover such expenses. The government also grants generous loans. Thus, since 1949, the number of wells in North China has increased by 50,000 a year. Furthermore, under individual ownership a single well used to irrigate about 15 *mou* of land, now with collective management it irrigates 20 to 50 *mou* and in some exceptional cases up to 100 *mou*. At a conservative estimate, therefore, the new wells constructed can irrigate an extra 1½ million *mou*.

In 1949 there were 330,000 water wheels in use in North China; in 1950 they had increased to 400,000 and in 1951 to 510,000—an increase of 15 per cent in two years, a number equal to half the number of working water wheels built in the past!

This enormous activity based on the higher social consciousness of the liberated peasants and the development of co-operative methods of work fostered by the New Democracy makes all the constructive efforts of the past seem puny in comparison with the achievements of today. Peasants of North Anhwei, for instance, pooled resources to dig 77,561 wells and 6,000 pools in the single year of 1951. When each able-bodied man in Kailu county, Jehol province, was called on to dig one well, 10,400 wells were dug. Workers, People's Liberation Army units, students, teachers, office workers, volunteered their help to the peasants in the anti-drought



campaign. Peasants ran the water wheels in emergencies day and night.

Meanwhile the long-term measures of drought prevention were being pressed ahead. This work too, led by the People's Government and the foremost scientists of the country, is inseparably linked with the activity of the peasant masses in the building of reservoirs, dams and dykes, in the afforestation of vast areas, etc. The peasants of China know that the battle against drought is a long-term task and not merely a series of emergency measures. As a result of these long-term measures, the irrigated area has been enlarged by 17,000,000 *mou*. Some 90,000,000 *mou* of land is now assured of irrigation.

Early in 1952, it appeared that drought conditions might arise from lack of snow over considerable areas. The Central People's Government Council therefore issued a directive on February 8 starting a nation-wide anti-drought campaign. The Chinese Communist Party endorsed this directive and gave it its full support. On February 13, the Central Office for Agricultural Production and Drought

Prevention, headed by the Minister of Agriculture, held its first meeting. The North China Administrative Committee, the Ministries of Agriculture, Water Conservancy, Forestry, Interior, Health, Trade, the People's Bank of China, the All-China Federation of Co-operatives were represented in the Central Office. All the necessary measures were planned, prepared and initiated in the light of the experience of last year. Arrangements were made for the setting up of drought-fighting organisations in all menaced areas; for the preparation and supply of farm implements, water wheels, medical equipment, fertiliser and seeds; medical care for the people and livestock; the allocation and transportation of food supplies.

As the history of last year shows, drought can no longer wreck China's agricultural plans. New China has won yet another brilliant victory over an ancient enemy of the people. It is because of such victories that the people can look forward to the future with unshakable confidence, planning this year to increase cereal production by 8 per cent and cotton production by 20 per cent over the bumper 1951 yields.

## The P.L.A.'s New Weapon

### A Quick Method of Learning to Read and Write Chinese

Yao Hua

The fighters of the millions strong People's Liberation Army have acquired a new item of equipment. They call it the "Rapid Method of Character Learning". Devised by a P.L.A. fighter, it is a development and adaptation of the use of the phonetic script invented many years ago. This "Rapid Method" enables an illiterate person (naturally only one who speaks Chinese) to read books written in popular style and to write simple sentences after only 150 hours of study. Last year, over 12,000 fighters and 3,030 teachers in the Southwest Military Region tried out the "Rapid Method" and it proved a great success.

"Almost unbelievable," declared rifleman Tang, one of the first thousand men who had the good fortune to join the experimental class in this new method. He had previously spent a whole year learning characters, yet in that time, using the orthodox method of character-by-character memorising, he had only learnt 200. With the new method, in a short time, he learnt 2,000. No wonder he was enthusiastic.

#### The Method

Just what is this new method?

In writing Chinese, thousands of ideographs are used. Some of them are extremely simple. In these, the ancient pictorial base is still clearly evident, like the word for "sun", 日, *jih*, whose ancient form

is 日. Others are made up by combining picture ideographs as in the word for "bright," 明, *ming*, where the sun and moon (present form, 月, ancient form 月) are joined. Some compound ideographs are made up of a character or characters indicating the sense or meaning of the word, the "sense indicator", and another character or characters indicating the sound of pronunciation, the "phonetic indicator". The word 坊 *fang* meaning "district", for instance, is made up of a phonetic indicator, 方 *fang* and a sense indicator 土 *tu* meaning "earth", which is also a pictorial ideograph based on the ancient form showing two layers of earth with a sprouting plant. Nine-tenths of written Chinese characters are of this compound nature. Some are of great complexity, such as 凝 *ning*, meaning "to become solid".

There are many aids for memorising these numerous and complicated structures, but all so far have relied on a great effort of repetition. According to the new method, the student starts by memorising a set of 37 phonetic signs (not characters) such as 一 *yi*, ㄨ *wu*, ㄩ *yu*. P.L.A. men call them "walking sticks". A picture or a short story attached to each helps the students in this preliminary task which can be accomplished in two days. The second step is to learn to use the "walking sticks". A combination of any two or three of the phonetic signs (which are divided into vowels and consonants) is

able to give a close approximation of any ideograph's sound.

In the second stage of study, the student thus begins to link up the phonetic signs with the actual characters. First he reads characters with the phonetic signs alongside them, for example: 米 (character) *mǐ*, rice and ㄇ— (phonetics) *m* and *i*. The teacher helps by explaining the meanings. The work goes extremely fast. A student is able to study twenty and sometimes more words in an hour. The people's fighters call this stage the "shock attack on illiteracy".

Then the students divide into small mutual-aid teams, and help each other repeat the words learnt. After repeating each word four or five times, the phonetic signs are removed, and they start to read the characters independently without the phonetic signs. Within 100 hours, they can learn to read 2,000 characters.

In the meantime, they learn to read the textbooks, and in a study period of 150 hours, they learn to write the 2,000 words they now can read, and also use the dictionary. Naturally a great deal depends on the choice of characters the students study. One of the great contributions of the sponsors of the new method is their choice of characters, which stresses those in common use today. At an early stage, for instance, the student learns the words for "people", "democracy", "freedom", "unity", "peace" and for "imperialist", "exploitation", "war". With the 2,000 characters selected for study, he can manage most popular newspapers.

The success achieved by the method reflects the traditional tenacity of the P.L.A. men. "With the fighting spirit of the Huaihai victory, we have broken through the bastion of the 2,000 characters," said one of the fighters. The P.L.A. command provides every possible facility to encourage this spirit.

The P.L.A. men enjoy another enormous advantage in mastering this method. Their ears are familiar with the sound of the characters they study. Their eyes too "know" many of the common characters. Learning by associating unfamiliar things with those which are familiar, the sound and sight of these characters make a strong impression more easily. Thus, to the P.L.A. man, the characters 勞動 (labour) are very quickly associated with the sound *lao tung* which he knows and has already "seen" on thousands of posters and notices. This method is thus especially adapted for the use of adults.

Last year the method was widely used throughout the P.L.A. Many civilian people's organisations also adopted it. In December, 1951 the Political Department of the Central Military Committee of the P.L.A. decorated Chi Chien-hua, its initiator, and decided to adopt the method for the army as a whole.

#### The Man Who Started It

The phonetic signs have, of course, been known for many years; most primary-school boys and girls know them. It was in 1913, during warlord Yuan Shih-kai's regime, that a conference was held in Peking to popularise the Peking dialect as the standard Chinese pronunciation. It was decided to adopt the phonetic notes invented for this purpose by a group of lexicographers and phonologists of

whom Professor Li Ching-hsi, now head of the Department of Chinese Language and Literature at the National Peking Normal University, was one of the leaders. But this decision was soon forgotten by the succeeding warlord regimes.

However, a few educators continued to try and popularise the phonetic notes. Later, thanks to the impetus given to progressive cultural ideas by the May Fourth Movement of 1919, the phonetic method was at least adopted in the primary school system. Its use, however, still depended mainly on the individual teacher's interest. No attention was paid in the next thirty years by the succeeding reactionary governments to this method as a means of mass education. They cared little for the work of educating the masses of the people, almost 90 per cent of whom were condemned to illiteracy.

Finally, in late 1948, this method received the earnest attention of a P.L.A. fighter.

Chi Chien-hua well knew the need for knowledge. Son of a poor Honan peasant, his whole family, except his mother and himself, were wiped out by starvation. Since early childhood he toiled and struggled against the old society and its backwardness. At fourteen, a neighbouring village opened a free night school where Chi Chien-hua received his first lessons and learnt the phonetic signs. He mastered them in a few nights and was able to read the primary school textbooks of the time within a month. He made his way through an 8,000-word dictionary in a few weeks.

Chi joined the P.L.A. in 1948. How often did he hear his comrades say: "To master the technique of modern warfare we must raise our cultural level." Just at that time, a new comrade who knew only a few characters joined his unit; Chi started to teach him according to the phonetic system, and in ten days they could read the evening paper together. The command of this people's army of culture quickly took note of the fact. Chi was made a full-time teacher and enabled to develop his method further. Later, many experts were assigned to help him perfect it.

At the second conference of P.L.A. educational and cultural workers, the method perfected by Chi Chien-hua and his colleagues was discussed and endorsed. At a recent conference of linguistic experts sponsored by the Ministry of Education, Chi Chien-hua gave a further report, and his method was recommended as a valuable educational aid.

The People's Government is always on the look out for new and effective ways of serving the people in methods of mass education. It has launched this rapid method of learning to read and write on an immense scale in the P.L.A. and in civil life in spare-time schools and factory courses in a way that only a democratic government can. Instructional guides, textbooks and dictionaries are being printed in mass editions. This is a phenomenon possible only in a China of the people where the Army is at once a great fighting force and a school; where the people are filled with a tremendous striving for knowledge, and in their tens of millions, eagerly attend adult schools.

"The Rapid Method of Character Learning" is being turned into a powerful weapon in the great struggle for mass literacy.

# A World Campaign Against U.S. Germ Warfare

On February 24, Foreign Minister Chou En-lai, speaking for the Central People's Government of the People's Republic of China, charged the United States government, "before the people of the whole world, with the heinous crime of employing bacteriological weapons". He called on "the world's peace-loving people to take steps to put an end to the frenzied, criminal acts of the U.S. government." He reiterated this call on March 8, when the Americans extended germ warfare to Northeast China.

Immediate endorsement of this warning and appeal to the world came from the People's Political Consultative Conference and the democratic parties of China.

The Chinese press throughout the country vehemently denounced the American crime. The Peking *People's Daily* on February 23 called the U.S. troops "... to look at the enormity that is being committed by the American aggressors, to recognise that this crime of mass annihilation is unforgivable, to stand up and refuse to be part of it." *Kuangming Daily*, organ of the China Democratic League, commented that the new American crime "proved that the aggressors had lost confidence in their aggressive war and were attempting to forestall their inevitable defeat."

On March 13 in a mass protest, 160,000 people demonstrated in Shenyang (Mukden).

From all over the country, trade unions, scientific, medical, religious and educational workers, peasants, women and students made public protests.

The vice-president of the Academy of Sciences, Lee Sse-kuang (J. S. Lee) declared: "The Chinese people who have been steeled by long years of revolutionary war will certainly defeat this base action of the American aggressors."

Wu Yao-tsung (Y. T. Wu), well-known Chinese Christian leader, stated: "The Christians in China will not tolerate this inhuman crime which violates international law." Thirteen Protestant organisations in China urged all honest Christians in the United States and the world over to condemn American bacteriological warfare. The Catholic Reform Committee of Peking, speaking on behalf of thirty thousand church members in the capital, urged Catholics everywhere to rise "in defence of world peace and human justice" against germ warfare.

On March 15, a seventy-member commission, headed by Li Teh-chuan, president of the Chinese Red Cross, left for Northeast China and Korea to make a thorough investigation. Included in the commission were scientists, doctors, lawyers, welfare workers, trade union representatives, journalists, and art and literary workers.

Scientists, medical workers and students from all over China are volunteering to go to menaced areas for epidemic prevention work.

In the United Nations on March 15, Yakov Malik, Soviet delegate to the United Nations Disarmament Commission, demanded that the Commission examine without delay the question of the violation of the ban on bacteriological war and of bringing the violators to account.

Protests against American germ warfare have come from the people of the Soviet Union, the People's Democracies, Viet-Nam, India, Pakistan, Burma, Indonesia, Israel, Italy, France, Belgium, Finland, Holland and Switzerland and other countries. Huge mass protest rallies have been held in Moscow, Leningrad and other Soviet cities.

Democratic world organisations with international affiliations have one after another voiced strong protests. On March 8, Frederic Joliot-Curie, chairman of the World Peace Council, said: "The use of bacteriological weapons is a clear violation of international law—in particular of the Geneva Protocol of June 17, 1925.... Public opinion must arise to denounce this crime." Vehement condemnations were also voiced by the Women's International Democratic Federation, the World Federation of Trade Unions and the World Federation of Democratic Youth. The Commission of the International Association of Democratic Lawyers made an on-the-spot investigation. On March 17, members of the Commission called on Shen Chun-ju, president of the Supreme People's Court of China and told him:

"We have made investigations into the allegation that American forces have instituted bacteriological warfare. We have obtained evidence, which in our opinion is corroborated, that flies and other insects of a character hitherto unknown in Korea have been found... following the visit of circling aircraft in those districts and the finding of remains of containers that indicate that these insects were deposited in groups or clusters from the air."

The United States government must bear full responsibility for the consequences of the bacteriological warfare that they have started. For as Soong Ching Ling has said: "Accusing fingers, pointed in scorn and indignation, are being thrust from all corners of the globe."



ACHESON: You follow up and spy out what results we got  
Cartoon by Hua Chun-wu

# Against the Torrent of the Som River

Ching Yi

It was past midnight. The sound of gunfire still came from the other side of the mountain. Its echo broke the silence.

The sky was dark and cloudy but the rain had not yet started. Now and then a few icy drops would strike one's face, a sign that rain would be coming soon.

Hu Pin had just returned from putting up the telephone wires. As he passed through the gate, rain fell with a pattering noise on the heap of cornstalks in the court. He said to himself that he should get something to eat before the rain got worse. In the kitchen he found young Liu, the political instructor's aide. Liu told him to report to the instructor immediately for a new assignment.

Hu was still glowing with pleasure at having succeeded in his last task. And now, hearing that he was about to be given another, he felt so proud that he forgot all about his meal, though he had not had anything to eat since breakfast.

The company headquarters were in a small cottage beside a pine wood. Because of the blackout, the doors and windows were covered with overcoats and blankets. The instructor was bending over his desk beside a lighted candle. When he saw Hu, his face brightened with pleasure and he showered him with questions:

"Ah! So it's you. When did you get back?"

"I just got here."

"Fine! The commander has another assignment for you. Communication with the 2nd Battalion is broken again."

"Oh!"

"According to a prisoner we have just captured, the enemy have changed their plans. We don't know yet what they're up to. The army headquarters must keep in touch with all the units so as to keep us informed. The combat zone of the 2nd Battalion is the most strategic point of the whole regiment. It's somewhere just off the highway. Our contact with them must not be broken at any time. Your job is to keep the phone working! If anything goes wrong, it's up to you. . . ."

"That'll be alright! I'll go immediately." Hu drew up the curtain, pushed open the door and stepped out.

The political instructor stared quietly at the curtain which was still moving. He could hear the sounds of firing outside and the patter of raindrops. "What a great and lovable fighter he is! He never seems to get tired. He always does his work with such a light heart. He's had no rest for the past twenty-four hours! Ahhh . . . ! I wonder if he's had anything to eat!" He told Liu to call Hu Pin back. Liu stood in the storm with his hands cupped

round his mouth like a megaphone and shouted: "Hu . . . . Pin . . . . Hu . . . . Pin. . . ."

"Ay . . . . ." the reply came from the end of the village.

"Come back quickly! Hurry up! The instructor wants to talk to you!"

In a minute, Hu Pin was back. "Report, Comrade Instructor! Is there anything else?"

"You haven't eaten yet, have you?"

"Oh sure I have."

"Where did you get it? You said that you'd just got back."

The instructor glanced at Hu's belt, buckled tightly round his waist. "Where are your biscuits? Haven't you brought them along with you?"

"No, I left them in the squad room."

"So!" The instructor picked up his own untouched packet of biscuits and said: "This is for you. Take it along."

"Oh, no!" Hu Pin stubbornly pushed the packet back and said: "Didn't you say that the biscuit package was not to be opened except under orders?"

"Do you know why I said that?"

"Because the biscuits are to be eaten when there's no time for meals. If we eat them at ordinary times, then. . . ."

"I agree with you." The Instructor grinned. "As far as you are concerned, it's about time to eat the biscuits."

Hu Pin said nothing, but young Liu quickly fetched a small pot of food from the kitchen and interposed: "Here, Lao Hu. Our cook just fried these mushrooms for the instructor, but he doesn't want them. Take them along."

"Put them down. I don't want to be bothered carrying them. I can find mushrooms anywhere."

"Those wild ones will poison you."

"Ah, you think I'm as delicate as that! In that case, I'd get sick if a fly bit me."

"It's for your own good, what the devil is the use of joking about it?"

"You might as well take them along," said the instructor. Then he glanced at the bed and asked Liu where his raincoat was.

"I hung it over the window."

"Cover the window with something else and give the coat to Hu."

Hu Pin fastened the packet of food to his belt and Liu helped him on with the raincoat. Hu saluted the instructor and stepped out into the rain.

\* \* \*

The night was inky black. The machine-guns and artillery over the mountain roared like thunder;

the raindrops, icy cold, splashed on Hu's face. He picked his way forward along the narrow mountain path, following the wires. Sometimes, when the path was too difficult, he had to use his hands and feet and support himself by clinging to pine branches. When the path became smoother, he would take out a biscuit and eat it. So he continued inspecting the lines.

When he had checked all the wires up to the bank of the Som river, the rain was letting up, and the sky had cleared somewhat. It was early April. The Som river had already begun to thaw. Large blocks of ice ground together as the rapid spring torrent carried them down the heart of the river.

"The trouble must be here," Hu said to himself. He tightened his shoe-laces, took off the raincoat and his cotton-padded trousers and, following the wire, he climbed down to the river. His legs were soon numbed by the biting cold of the water. The torrent was carrying the wire down river. When he reached the middle, he found the break.

"Ah! Now I'm getting somewhere. Here is the break. I'll have it connected in an instant." He found one end but he couldn't reach the other end without letting go of the first. He criticised himself. "What a fool I am! Not enough wire." Then he remembered that there were miles of wire in an open field abandoned by the enemy. So he waded back to the bank.

He wiped his legs, put on his trousers and crawled like a sapper clearing away mines. It was too dark to see anything, so he crawled over the path which the enemy signal-corps men might have used. Still groping, he passed the foothill, the trenches, the banks of earth. At times he would take a creeper for a wire and his sudden joy was immediately followed by disappointment.

The rain had stopped. Enemy planes swooped over the river dropping flares. The dark sky glowed with a red light which was reflected by the river. Hu Pin was furious; he looked up at the sky and cursed: "To hell with you rascals!... Well, I need a light! Let's just see if you can stop me from connecting the wire!"

Taking advantage of the flares, Hu went on searching till he found an empty U.S.-made wire reel. And then, about ten metres away, he saw a length of wire hanging from the bombed trunk of a pine tree. At first it refused to move, but when he pulled on the other end, it came down. He squatted under the tree and started winding.

The enemy planes still whirled in the sky. Finding no targets, they strafed the river and then headed back, leaving a flare with its yellowish light floating in the sky. Hu Pin wound up enough wire by the dim light and cut it off with the pliers he had



brought with him. Then he floundered back to the river through the sticky mud of the paddyfield.

He quickly connected up the lines and started across the river. The water was deeper than when he had first crossed. Large blocks of ice struck him and almost threw him over. He had just finished the repair when the flare burned out. He connected the phone and heard the clear sound of the bell ringing. It was like music to him.

He reported the whole thing to the instructor over the phone. The instructor said: "Good work! But I'm rather afraid the strong current may break it again. . . . You are too far away to come back here. You might as well go on to the 2nd Battalion command and get warm." Hu took off his trousers again and waded across the river.

Now the rain was mixed with hail. The gunfire was dying down. When Hu Pin came in, the commander of the 2nd Battalion was shocked at the sight of his pale face and purple lips. "Aiya! You've been repairing the wire? You must be frozen. Go and get warm at once."

They gathered round him and helped him to get the raincoat off. "Where was it broken? You ought to have a look at yourself!"

"Take your shoes off too. I've got a pair of dry ones."

"Have a hot drink first."

"No, let him sleep awhile."

"....."

Hu only smiled and said: "I'm all right. I felt hot, so I took a bath in the Som river."

While they were laughing, the telephone operator suddenly yelled: "Damn it, it's broken again. . . . Hello . . . Hello . . ."

"What!" Hu Pin and the major asked at the same time. "Broken again?" The whole room was suddenly silent.

"It worked for a few minutes and now. . . ."

"It's that damned river," said Hu Pin, hurriedly getting into his raincoat as he hurried to the door. "Stand by; I'll get it repaired."

"Come back, Hu Pin! Let some one else go, you're not fit."

"Let me go."

"I'll go."

Both the operator and the signalman volunteered.

But Hu Pin was already running through the rain, shouting: "I won't freeze . . . you're all amateurs!"

His words were drowned by the pouring rain.

\* \* \*

Daybreak.

Unmindful of the mud splashing to his knees, and of the biting sleet that cut his face, Hu Pin thought: "It's no good that way. It will break again. . . . I'd better have run double lines across. . . . But there's no time!"

Suddenly he stumbled into a swamp. He pulled himself out and struggled on. "That current would break even double lines. The river is rising."

He fell again, and while he was getting up, he thought: "I ought to support the wire on poles. There are trees along the river. . . . No, they're strong enough but they're not tall enough. The river is too wide."

It was getting lighter. He could see the sleet whirling before his face, and through it, the river torrent driving the great blocks of ice like a flock of sheep. The broken wire dangled in the water.

The political instructor's words came back to him: "There is nothing a Party member can't do if he is determined." He had to connect the wire! But how . . . how could he face Chairman Mao, the Party, his country, if he failed?

It was bright day now; the sleet had stopped. A streak of blue showed through the dense clouds. His raincoat was frozen stiff. It cracked when he moved.

Then an idea flashed through his mind. "I'll twist all the wires together and make a strong cable. . . . But I'll have to get more wire." He rushed to the bombed pine tree and started to wind up the wire. But there was not enough. Again he searched, and soon he came across some barbed-wire.

"I'll run the barbed-wire across first, and then twist the telephone wire around it. That will hold it. But I'll have to cross the river twice."

Already his fingers were numbed, but he succeeded in winding up two reels of barbed-wire. Then he headed for a pine tree beside the river bank.

\* \* \*

A bitter wind was freezing the sleet hard. In the eastern sky appeared a red glow which was reflected by the ice in the river.

Hu Pin nailed the barbed-wire to the pine tree and left the phone and the end of the broken wire under it. Then he took off his raincoat and trousers and, with the barbed-wire in one hand and the end of the telephone wire in the other, he stepped down into the river. The sharp ice cut his thighs cruelly.

And when he was near the middle of the river, a block of ice as large as a grindstone knocked him over. But he emerged from the water with the wires still in his hands.

There was no tree on the other side, so he fastened the wire around a huge rock. As he patiently connected the broken wire and protected the joint well with adhesive tape, he raised his hand to brush the hair from his eyes. It felt like a handful of frozen noodles. Then he plunged into the icy water again, and as he advanced, he twisted the telephone line round the barbed-wire like a creeper growing round a tree.

He heard enemy planes approaching; one of them was swooping over the river. He was racked with pain. But he thought of only one thing: "Another five minutes, and it will be over . . . Hurry, hurry. . . ."

Meanwhile, the regimental headquarters had received an urgent order requiring the whole regiment to go into action within fifteen minutes. It was to support and cover the combat zone of other friendly troops on the left flank. The American troops who had suffered severe losses from this regiment the day before were now launching an attack on the left flank. The commander had already given orders to the 1st and 3rd battalions. But communication with the 2nd was still interrupted.

The political commissar looked anxiously at his wrist-watch. "Only four minutes to go!"

"We'd better send a messenger on horse back."

"That will take at least half an hour."

\* \* \*

Meanwhile, enemy planes were madly strafing the Som river. One plane swooped over Hu Pin, and there was a rattle of gunfire.

"Damn you . . . you're here again!"

He had almost reached the bank. A plane dived down to the river. Hu Pin threw himself under the water. The machine-gun bullets threw the water up in a forest of little pillars. Then Hu Pin crawled out of the icy water and staggered to the pine tree. As he was connecting the phone, the plane returned to strafe again. His whole body seemed paralysed, but he could hear the music of the bell! He made a great effort to get to his feet, and then suddenly fainted.

\* \* \*

When he came to his senses, he was lying wrapped in a warm eiderdown. The instructor was caressing his forehead and smiling down at him.

"How do you feel, Hu Pin?"

"Oh, fine! I'm quite comfortable." But his lips and tongue were stiff.

The instructor put his hands under the blankets. "Your legs are still cold."

"I'm alright! I could do another job right now."

"But you're. . . ."

"If we keep it up and win, hundreds of thousands of other people will be warmer than they are now."

"....."

They only smiled at each other, for they both knew what they were fighting for.



## "CHINA RECONSTRUCTS"

A great many aspects of today's reality in our country are touched upon in the copiously illustrated bi-monthly magazine, *China Reconstructs*, latest addition to the growing family of foreign-language periodicals from which readers in many lands may learn the truth about life in the People's Republic of China. The magazine is published in English by the China Welfare Institute, the chairman of which is Soong Ching Ling (Mme. Sun Yat-sen). Its aim, as outlined in an introductory message in the first issue, is to "present the work and achievements of the Chinese people to people abroad who believe that all nations should co-operate for peace and mutual benefit". The first two numbers of *China Reconstructs*, which have already appeared (for January-February and March-April 1952), perform this task successfully through the medium of informative articles, lively features and vivid photographs. They also contain art reproductions in both colour and black-and-white, the words and music of a song famous in New China and a philatelic section.

The leading articles in both issues are written by Soong Ching Ling. In the first, "Welfare Work and World Peace", Soong Ching Ling says: "Build peace and you enhance welfare. Destroy peace and you eliminate welfare. It follows, therefore, that the attitude of a government towards war and peace determines the welfare programme it plans and operates for the people." Telling of progress in welfare work in China, she concludes that the proud record of achievement in the first two years of the People's Republic "helps all those who are working and fighting to make mankind's dearest dreams of peace and well-being come true in our own day".

In the second, "Protect the Children", Soong Ching Ling calls trenchantly for the unity of all people of good will throughout the world behind the International Congress for the Protection of Children.

"Already," she writes, "mothers are standing amidst torn fields and rubble streets, shedding bitter tears for their young ones. This has alerted mankind. It is a warning that we must act now to prevent such misery and distress from sweeping over all children. We can see that protecting the children is first and foremost a problem of peace."

In harmony with the title of the magazine, *China Reconstructs* chronicles the economic, social and cultural progress of the country. It depicts the mighty labour by which the people are accomplishing their great achievements.

In the economic sphere, articles and features in the first two issues

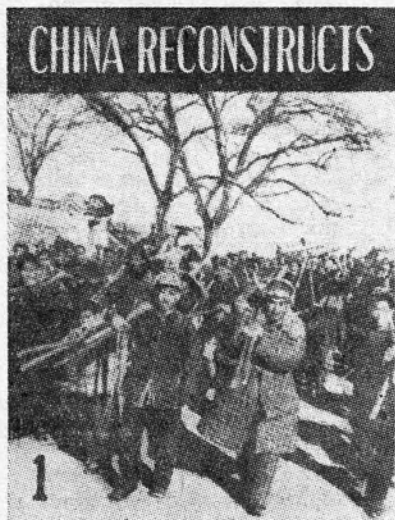
and of the peasants in changing the whole aspect of Chinese agriculture. The aid of the People's Government to the peasants is told in reports of how droughts and floods are fought and relieved, how the People's Air Force participated in the fight against locusts and bombed out of existence an ice-block which threatened a catastrophe in the Yellow river valley.

Social improvement in China is treated in an extensive article on advances in public health, a story-report on the effect of the new *Marriage Law* in the countryside, a description of the China Welfare Institute's model nursery and several items on the improvement of living conditions in the cities.

The emergence of national minorities to equal membership in the great family of the People's Republic of China is exemplified by an article on the Inner Mongolian Autonomous Region.

Cultural advances are recounted in articles on the new function of the post office in spreading education in China, the emergence of fresh themes in the handicrafts of Peking, the work of the Shanghai Children's Theatre—the first in China, the successes of a village teacher.

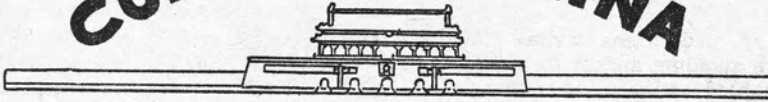
*China Reconstructs* is extremely broad in its appeal, attractive to the general reader and helpful to the serious student. Many of the authors who have contributed to the first two issues have long been internationally known as exponents of their subjects. The editorial board, too, reflects many interests, consisting of Chin Chung-hua (journalism), Chen Han-seng (history and economics), Ch'ien Tuan-sheng (studies in the field of government), Li Teh-chuan (public health), Liu Ong-sheng (private industry), Wu Yao-tsung (religion) and Wu Yi-fang (educator). Initial responses show that it is being enthusiastically received by the most varied groups of people all over the world.



describe the great Hwai river control project, the production of automobiles and tractors in China for the first time, the building of new railways, the rise of the Chinese petroleum industry after liberation, the revival in the production and export of Chinese tea, the increase of the cotton crop to an all-time high, the mechanisation of many coal mines, the rehabilitation of coastal fisheries, the building of new railroads, the present work of a large privately-owned textile mill and many other subjects. Much attention is given to the role of the workers themselves in advancing industrial development through productive competitions, inventions and suggestions,

*China Reconstructs*, bi-monthly, 54 pages, 1s. 3d. a copy, published by the China Welfare Institute: 157 Changshu Lu, Shanghai.

# CURRENT CHINA



## Steps to Raise Crop Yields

Distribution of fertilisers and small-scale irrigation projects are being carried out on a widespread scale to ensure fulfillment of the 1952 agricultural plan which calls for an 8% increase in grain output and a 20% increase in cotton over last year.

**Fertiliser:** Distribution of fertilisers is taking place through the co-operatives. The All-China Federation of Co-operatives is supplying peasants in all areas with 2,280,000 tons of fertiliser, which is 40% of the bean and cotton seed cake and 90% of the chemical fertilisers they need. In many places peasants have already deposited surplus crops with the co-ops as advance payment. The peasants will also make use of local fertilisers, as well as river silt.

In most areas, larger quantities of fertiliser will be used this year than ever before. The important wheat and cotton area of central Shensi province, for instance, will receive three and a half times more fertiliser than in 1951.

The co-ops will spend a total of 3,600,000 million yuan on this programme, of which 1,500,000 million will come from state loans. The balance will be raised by speeding up capital turnover and by savings from the peasants themselves.

**Irrigation:** In addition to the giant river control projects being undertaken by the government, the peasants are building countless small reservoirs, wells and canals for irrigation purposes throughout the country. There is hardly a village in China today where one or more of these projects are not under construction. The nation's irrigated lands will be extended by several million hectares during the current year.

On the great plains of Northeast China, wells are being sunk by the thousand, while dams are being built across rivers and streams in the hilly districts of Jehol and Liaotung provinces. In Southwest China, new irrigation works will

## China's First Women Pilots

The first air display by Chinese women pilots was given in Peking in celebration of International Women's Day on March 8. In addition to pilots, women navigators, mechanics and radio operators took part.

From early morning, Peking's women—workers, students, peasants and housewives, flocked to the airport to see the take-off of the planes. Among 7,000 attending the opening ceremony were over 50 prominent women leaders including Teng Ying-chao and Li Teh-chuan, vice-presidents of the All-China Democratic Women's Federation, and diplomatic guests, who presented the pilots with bouquets.

When the women air crews flew over the centre of Peking, normal traffic momentarily stopped as the crowds cheered.

The air-women were congratulated by Commander-in-Chief Chu Teh, who said: "In two years, we have trained New China's first group of women air crews. They are the glory of New China's womanhood, an inspiration to our liberated women."

irrigate 220,000 extra hectares. In the Northwest, herdsmen in the Inner Mongolian Autonomous Region are working on 27 new canals and several thousand wells. In this area another half million hectares will be benefited by new irrigation works. In Kwangtung and Hunan provinces a "one irrigation project for every village" movement has been launched. In East China, besides the Huai river project, 22 million cubic metres of earth will be moved in projects to control the Yi and Shu rivers.

## New Methods in Industry

Modern methods of lathe operation are revolutionising China's machine-building industry. An important development is the application of multi-tool and multi-edge metal-cutting methods.

Use of this method, together with the already popularised high-speed metal-cutting techniques, will raise labour productivity in the nation's machine-building industry from 5 to 10 times.

The average old-fashioned plant has lathes equipped with only one tool. In working on a complicated product, the operator has to change tools continuously and the tool rest has to be turned around repeatedly. Consequently, time and labour are wasted, and the lathe is not used to the full. The new method recently initiated by three workers in Mukden has overcome these weaknesses. They are applicable to any type of lathe.

Over 40 publicly-owned plants in Northeast China are using the method. In the No. 1 Machine-Building Plant where it formerly took two hours to turn out ten "165" parts on a tool with one edge, the workers can now turn out the same number of parts in 6 minutes, using 3 tools with 11 edges.

A conference has been called jointly by the Northeast Machine-Building Industry Bureau and the Northeast branch of the Chinese Machine-Building Workers' Union to promote the popularisation of the new methods.

## Stalin Prize Awards

Ting Ling, noted Chinese writer, has been awarded a Stalin Prize for her novel *Sunshine on the Sangkan River*, a story of the land reform. Half a million copies of the Russian translation of her novel have already been sold in the Soviet Union.

Other Chinese writers who have been awarded the Stalin Prize are Chou Li-po, author of the novel *Hurricane*, and Ho Ching-chih and Ting Yi, co-authors of the opera *The White Haired Girl*.

*Pravda* in its March 15 commentary pointed out that these writers have faithfully described the life of their country's working people and their struggle for freedom and happiness.



## News Briefs

The Chinese delegation to the forthcoming International Economic Conference left Peking for Moscow on March 18. The delegation comprises 23 members and 23 working personnel. Its leader is Nan Han-chen, director-general of the People's Bank of China, and its general secretary, Chi Chao-ting, the well-known economist and assistant general manager of the Bank of China.

\* \* \*

The Menzies government has refused entry to Australia of the Chinese youth delegation to the Australian Youth Peace and Friendship Carnival. Liao Cheng-chih, the president of the All-China Federation of Democratic Youth, has written to the organisers of the Carnival expressing confidence that the Carnival will further unite Australian peace-loving youth in opposition to aggressive war, the rearming of Japan and the defence of peace in the East and the world.

\* \* \*

Chou Hsien-chia was installed as Chiamuyang the Sixth, the Living Buddha, of the Labrang Monastery in Kansu province on March 6. Labrang Monastery is one of the six major temples of China. Chiamuyang the Fifth died in April, 1947. Wang Feng, special representative and concurrently chairman of the Nationalities Affairs Commission of the Northwest China Administrative Committee, attended the investiture.

\* \* \*

A new issue of postage stamps commemorating the peaceful liberation of Tibet appeared on March 15. The stamps bear the inscription "The Peaceful Liberation of Tibet" in both the Han (Chinese) and Tibetan languages. The set contains four stamps with two designs; the Potala palace at Lhasa and Tibetan peasants farming with yaks.

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**CORRECTION:** In our Current China feature in *People's China* No. 6, 1952 the capacity of the Yungting Reservoir is given as 2,900,000,000 cubic metres; this should read: 2,090,000,000 cubic metres.

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## Chronicle of Events

### March 9

Mao Tse-tung, chairman of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China, congratulates Rakosi Matyas, general secretary of the Hungarian Working People's Party, on his 60th birthday.

### March 10

Kuo Mo-jo, chairman of the China Peace Committee, requests the World Peace Council to take effective action against America's employment of bacteriological warfare.

### March 11

Han Sul Ya, chairman of the Korean Peace Committee, arrives in Peking from Moscow.

Government leaders including Huang Yen-pei, Vice-Premier, Chang Han-fu, Vice Foreign Minister, attend the reception to celebrate Denmark's National Day held by Ernst Meinstorp, Charge d'Affaires ad interim of the Danish Legation.

### March 12

A Hsinhua dispatch reports that American air planes dropped germ-carrying insects on Tsingtao, Shantung province, on March 6 and 7. Between March 6 and 12, American planes continued their intrusions into Northeast China, dropping more germ-carrying insects in addition to bombing and strafing.

### March 15

A 70-member commission headed by Li Teh-chuan, president of the Chinese Red Cross, leaves Peking to investigate American germ warfare in Korea and Northeast China.

### March 16

Chinese student delegates to England, Norway and Finland return to Peking.

The Ministry of Agriculture names the first groups of model workers in agricultural production.

Seventy-five American planes in a total of 17 groups intrude over Liaotung province, Northeast China. Two bombs are dropped near Chian, destroying 12 houses and wounding 16 people.

### March 17

The Commission sent by the International Association of Democratic Lawyers to investigate U.S. crimes in Korea tells Shen Chun-ju, President of the Supreme People's Court, that it has found incontrovertible evidence of U.S. employment of germ warfare.

### March 18

The Chinese delegation to the International Economic Conference leaves Peking for Moscow.

Kwon O Dik, new Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of

the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, presents his credentials in Peking.

Frantisek M. Komzala, new Czechoslovak Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary to the People's Republic of China, presents his credentials in Peking.

### March 20

The commission of the International Association of Democratic Lawyers arrives in Peking from Korea. They will enquire into the American employment of bacteriological weapons on Chinese soil.

# Letters

## A Bright Future

P.O. UDYOGAMANDAL, SOUTH INDIA

I am a man of letters in Malayalam literature—the mother tongue of 125 lakhs of people of Kerala (South India). Our progressive literary movement is gaining strength in every corner of the country. Prominent literary figures are rallying round the banner of world peace. We have been busy with our provincial peace convention. When we look to you—our great neighbour and protector of Asian culture and democracy—a bright future stirs our hearts.

Please accept my sincere greetings for your untiring spirit and enthusiasm in championing peace and prosperity all over the world.

P.N.G. NAYAR

## To the Youth of China

NEW ZEALAND

Youth of China watchful be,  
Keep your Land forever free,  
Free from alien domination,  
Tyranny and exploitation.

Free from want and free from care,  
Free from superstitious fear.  
Free to come and free to go,  
Free to reap and free to sow.

Free to rise to any height,  
Ever free to face the light,  
Ever free to take your stand  
To plan the future of your Land.

Free to choose your way of life,  
Free from all internal strife.  
Free to education, rest,  
So that all may give their best.

Keep future and posterity  
Free for all eternity.  
Youth of China faithful be,  
Guard and keep your Homeland free.

M. S.

## THE CASE AGAINST THE U.S. GERM WARFARE CRIMINALS

(Continued from page 8)

The American engineers of total war have also pressed into service the resources of satellite governments. After World War II, the United States took over the results of British wartime research in germ warfare weapons, and has since then guided British research. "In working collaboration" with Washington, the British government expanded its work and established a new germ warfare establishment called the Microbiological Research Department at Porton, on Salisbury Plain. Chapman Pincher, in his *Discovery* article quoted above, cited an official report issued in 1947 as giving details "before security became as tight as it now" of machines designed to produce pneumonic plague. He described the Porton plant as "the biggest science building in Britain", and said that British researchers were working closely with the Americans at Camp Detrick.

Germ warfare research is being conducted under American direction in seven laboratories in Canada. The *Reader's Digest* noted in January, 1951 that:

In southern Alberta, on a vast tract which covers nearly a thousand square miles, the Suffield Experimental Station has become world famous for its field trials in chemical and biological warfare.

Chairman Solandt of the Canadian Defence Research Board paid open obeisance to the Washington directors of Canadian research in germ warfare when he said in an article in the *Standard* quoted in the *New Times* article mentioned above,

The future of death on a mass scale is very bright. . . . We can expect to do first class work which will be accepted and used by our larger partners.

The advanced scale on which the United States has organized preparations for germ warfare in connection with its aggression in Korea is now known to the whole world. Acheson's poker-faced lies cannot divert the attention of an angry world from the fact that the U.S. government is fast outdoing the nazis in crimes against peace and humanity and in violation of the laws and customs of war. Acheson and his masters and accomplices will do well to remember the Nuremberg Trial in which the nazis too tried unsuccessfully to deny their crimes by spreading the fiction that they had no premeditated plans to commit war crimes, and that the German army strictly observed the laws and customs of war in both letter and spirit.

### **Banned by International Law**

Foreign Minister Chou En-lai has declared that the American use of bacteriological weapons is a war crime. This declaration is firmly based on international conventions, international customary law and in particular, the laws and customs of war. Washington keeps an eloquent silence on the criminality of germ warfare—it is fully aware of the legal obligations it has violated.

What are the specific laws which apply to the present United States action?

The United States government knows that it violated the International Convention on Genocide unanimously adopted by the General Assembly of the United Nations on December 9, 1948. Its crime, in the terms of the Convention, is its "conspiracy" and "attempt to commit genocide" by means of germ warfare—with the aim of "killing and causing serious bodily harm" and "deliberately inflicting" on the Korean and Chinese peoples "conditions calculated to bring about" their "physical destruction in whole or in part". The Convention affirms that such acts constitute "a crime under international law", which the Contracting Parties "undertake to prevent and to punish", and that "persons committing such crimes" shall be punished, "whether they are constitutionally responsible rulers, public officials or private individuals."

The United States government knows that it violated the Geneva Protocol of June 17, 1925, signed by forty-eight states including the United States. The Protocol specifically prohibited "the use in war of asphyxiating, poisonous or other gases, and of bacteriological methods of warfare". The United States and Japan significantly failed to ratify it, and on April 8, 1947, Truman withdrew it from consideration by the U.S. Senate. But the treaty is in force among forty-one states and the prohibition must be regarded as part of universally accepted international customary law equally binding on all states. The Protocol itself contemplated that the prohibition "shall be universally accepted as part of International Law, binding alike the conscience and the practice of nations".

The Nuremberg and Tokyo war crimes trials established the principle that the courts can deal even with nationals of states not party to specific conventions by recourse to international custom—and international custom, beyond any shadow of doubt, forbids bacteriological warfare.

The United States knows that it violated the Hague Conventions of 1899 and 1907, to which it is a party. Article 23 of the Regulations annexed to the Convention of October, 1907 says,

. . . . It is especially forbidden (A) to employ poison or poisoned weapons, . . . and (E) to employ arms, projectiles or material calculated to cause unnecessary suffering.

The U.S. War Department explicitly acknowledged in Paragraph 28 of its "Rules of Land Warfare" that Article 23 (A) "extends to the use of means calculated to spread contagious diseases."

Many states have made attempts through international action to reinforce by specific conventions the prohibition in international customary law of germ warfare. The Draft Convention of 1930 prepared by the League of Nations Preparatory Commission for the Disarmament Conference provided in Article 39 that the Contracting Powers "undertake unreservedly to abstain from the use of all bacteriological methods of warfare". The Soviet Union demanded in 1949 to introduce the prohibition of concentrated bombing of civilian populations and the use of bacteriological warfare into the new Geneva Convention, but was blocked in its efforts by the United States and its voting machine. The

new Convention on prisoners of war signed on August 12, 1949, however, did obligate the United States as a signatory power not to subject any person "to medical experiments which are not justified by the medical treatment required and are not in his or her own interest." The United States plainly violated this provision by its illegal bacteriological experiments on prisoners of war in Korea.

The American violation of the laws and customs of war undoubtedly constitutes a punishable war crime. This principle has been affirmed many times by the various war crimes tribunals after World War II. It was specifically stated as a decision of the Far Eastern Commission on April 3, 1946.

Foreign Minister Chou En-lai's warning that U.S. air force personnel brought down while on germ warfare missions will be treated as war criminals reaffirms another principle internationally established during and after World War II—the principle that war criminals are individually responsible for their crimes.

The Moscow Declaration of November 11, 1943 stipulated that such individuals are subject to punishment by the courts of the country wherein they committed the crime. The principles of the Nuremberg International Tribunal, affirmed by the United Nations General Assembly in Resolution 95 on December 11, 1946, declared that any person committing an act which constitutes a crime under international law is responsible therefor and liable to punishment. The Far Eastern Commission stipulated that "all practicable measures should be taken to identify, investigate, apprehend and detain all persons suspected of having committed war crimes."

But the people of the world will not be satisfied to punish only the flyers who drop germ weapons. When the final accounting is made with the American aggressors, it will not be forgotten that germ warfare and other crimes committed by them were carried out "in execution of or in connection with their war of aggression", (in the words of the Charter of the Nuremberg Tribunal) and are inseparable from the whole American conspiracy of crime against peace. The instigators of these crimes in America's ruling clique should take note of the precedent set by Article 6 of the Charter of the August 8, 1945 Agreement for the Punishment of the Major War Criminals of the European Axis. This article provided that there "shall be individual responsibility" for "crimes against peace", "war crimes", and "crimes against humanity". Can they possibly ignore the lessons of history?

The legal issues are clear. But we do not rest the case on its legal merits alone. The motive of American imperialism in resorting to germ warfare is obvious. It is another step to obtain by new criminal means what it could not win on the battlefield. It is a cowardly attempt not only to throw back the heroic defenders of Korea and China but also to strike at whole civilian populations and ripen them for invasion. It is an act of desperation against united, peace-loving peoples determined to defend their independence. It is a "cheap" attempt to test new methods of mass extermination while keeping the Korean armistice negotiations stalled. The Pentagon is attempting to use Korea and North-east China as huge proving grounds in its preparations for a new war of aggression.

Germ warfare represents the total perversion and prostitution of science. As far back as 1947, microbiologists from many countries, appalled by the prospect that their scientific achievements might be used for human destruction, passed a resolution firmly condemning bacteriological warfare at the Fourth International Congress of Microbiology in Copenhagen. Their resolution said that the Congress "joins the International Society of Cell Biology in condemning in the strongest possible terms all forms of biological warfare. The Congress considers such barbaric methods as absolutely unworthy of any civilized community and trusts that all microbiologists throughout the world will do everything in their power to prevent their exploitation." Many outstanding scientists have endorsed this resolution. In January this year, the Pathological Society of Great Britain and Ireland was urged to endorse this resolution, and pathologists were called upon to discuss their responsibilities "in relation to the problem of bacteriological warfare and the steps which might be taken to remove the threat of its employment."

The colossal crime of germ warfare runs directly counter to the security of all peoples and their will for peace. It runs counter to the World Peace Council decisions adopted in November, 1950 in Warsaw, which called for the prohibition of bacteriological, chemical and all other means of mass destruction. Joliot-Curie, president of the World Peace Council, voiced the conscience of the world in his powerful statement of March 8 this year calling on right-minded people everywhere to rise up in denunciation of the U.S. crimes. A ground swell of revulsion and protest is even now surging throughout the world. In the U.S. itself, repudiation of the warmakers is rising from every section of the American people.

The people of the world are already familiar with the American record of crime in Korea—from the original launching of aggression to the indiscriminate bombing and strafing of civilians, the "no quarter" order to shoot and burn everything in sight, the atrocities against civilians and prisoners of war and the use of poison gas. The mounting bitterness of the people's opposition to these hellish crimes is a consuming fire. It will not be quenched until it destroys every war criminal guilty of these atrocities.

Foreign Minister Chou En-lai's statement issues a call to all peoples and a challenge to all governments in the camp of war. The issues between peaceful progress and the debasement and destruction of man were never clearer. There is no middle ground. All must decide either to join the ranks of peace or stand with the madmen in Washington who propose to wipe out humanity.

The peoples are drawing tight the chain of justice around the American war criminals. Some of the Japanese and nazi criminals were shielded and saved for future use by the U.S. government. But the impending defeat of American imperialism will wipe out the last refuge for the criminals of today.

Humanity has met and defeated every menace in history. The challenge of American germ warfare will also be met and defeated. The peoples will crush the perpetrators of this crime and send them to join the Berlin-Rome-Tokyo Axis in the rubbish heap of history.



## ASSIGNMENT FULFILLED!

—THE CAPTURE OF HEIGHT 338.1

*Two drawings made by Shao Yu  
on the Korean front*



AT A COMMAND POST OF THE  
CHINESE PEOPLE'S VOLUNTEERS