

PEKING REVIEW

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November 3, 1972

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報

Statement of the Government of the People's Republic of China

October 30, 1972

— Resolutely supporting the D.R.V.N. Government's "Statement
On the Present State of the Negotiations Relating
To the Viet Nam Problem"

U.S. Government Faces Test

"Renmin Ribao" Editorial

China's Stand on Disarmament

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北京周报

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THE WEEK

Samdech Sihanouk's 50th Birthday Celebrated

On the occasion of the 50th birthday of Samdech Norodom Sihanouk, Head of State and Chairman of the National United Front of Cambodia, Acting Chairman Tung Pi-wu and Premier Chou En-lai, on behalf of Chairman Mao Tsetung and the Chinese Government and people and in their own names, on October 31 sent a letter of warmest greetings to him.

The letter said: "Respected and beloved Samdech, you are the Head of State of the Kingdom of Cambodia and the beloved Prince of the Khmer people! Upholding justice and defying brute force and hegemonism, you are a great Khmer patriot. Under your outstanding leadership, the Kingdom of Cambodia has consistently pursued a policy of independence, peace and neutrality.

"In March 1970, at the juncture when Cambodia's national existence was in peril, you held high the banner of defending national independence, issued the solemn five-point declaration, founded the National United Front of Cambodia and the Royal Government of National Union under its aegis and led the Khmer people in boldly rising to fight the war of resistance, thus ushering in a brand new historical stage in Cambodia's struggle against U.S. aggression and for national salvation.

"In the past two years and more, you have shouldered weighty responsibilities and devoted yourself to the Cambodian people's great fighting cause of national salvation. You initiated the convocation of the Summit Conference of the Indochinese Peoples. You frequently issued messages inspiring the fighting will of the people. You indefatigably paid successful friendly visits to Viet Nam, Korea and five European and African countries one after

another and enabled the Royal Government of National Union of Cambodia to enjoy an increasingly high international prestige, so that it was accorded de jure recognition at the Foreign Ministers' Conference of Non-Aligned Countries held in Guyana. You have performed rare meritorious deeds for Cambodia's cause of national independence and made tremendous contributions to the three Indochinese peoples' united struggle against U.S. aggression.

"China and Cambodia are close friendly neighbours, and the long-lasting China-Cambodia friendship, which has developed in our common struggle, has been nurtured by Chairman Mao Tsetung and your good self. You are the closest friend of the Chinese people. Firmly following their great leader Chairman Mao's teachings, the 700 million Chinese people vow to provide staunch backing for the peoples of Cambodia. Viet Nam and Laos and most resolutely support and assist their struggles against U.S. aggression and for national salvation till complete victory."

Prime Minister Penn Nouth Gives Banquet

To celebrate the 50th birthday of Samdech Norodom Sihanouk, Samdech Penn Nouth, Chairman of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the N.U.F.C. and Prime Minister of the R.G.N.U.C., and Madame Penn Nouth gave a grand banquet in the Banquet Hall of the Great Hall of the People in Peking on October 29.

Samdech and Madame Sihanouk and Special Envoy of the Interior Part of Cambodia Jeng Sary attended the banquet.

Present at the celebration were Chinese leaders Chou En-lai, Chiang Ching, Yeh Chien-ying, Li Hsien-nien,

Hsu Hsiang-chien, Kuo Mo-jo, Wang Hung-wen, Chi Peng-fei, Keng Piao, Wu Teh, Teng Ying-chao and others.

Among the guests were also comrades-in-arms of Viet Nam, Laos and Korea and diplomatic envoys of many countries to China.

In his speech that evening, Samdech Penn Nouth, in the name of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the N.U.F.C., the R.G.N.U.C. and the Cambodian people, wished His Royal Highness Samdech Norodom Sihanouk good health, longevity, happiness and victory in his high and eminently patriotic mission of leading the Cambodian people's struggle for national liberation.

The Prime Minister stressed: "Under the glorious banner of the N.U.F.C. and the leadership of the R.G.N.U.C., our people and their armed forces are determined to continue the struggle without compromise and without retreat,

"— to drive out of Cambodia all the American, Saigon and Bangkok aggressors,

"— to overthrow and destroy the clique of traitors Lon Nol-Sirik Matak-Son Ngoc Thanh,

"— to establish an independent, sovereign, peaceful, neutral, democratic and prosperous Cambodia in the integrity of its territory in conformity with the historic five-point declaration of March 23, 1970 and the political programme of the N.U.F.C."

The Prime Minister reiterated: "We categorically reject the U.S. schemes to obtain a 'ceasefire in Cambodia.' We vow to liberate our beloved fatherland completely."

Proposing a toast at the banquet, Premier Chou En-lai paid high tribute to Samdech Sihanouk for his outstanding contributions to the Cambodian people's war against U.S. aggression and for national salvation and to the three Indochinese peoples' cause of unity against U.S. aggression.

Premier Chou also warmly praised the patriotic Cambodian armymen and people for the brilliant victories of strategic significance they have won in various battlefields since the beginning of this year. He declared: "Following our great leader Chairman Mao's teachings, the Chinese people will, as always, give all-out support and assistance to the Cambodian people's just cause. We are convinced that victory surely belongs to the heroic Cambodian people."

Samdech Sihanouk in his speech reviewed the Cambodian people's fighting course of opposing foreign aggressors. He then said: "In the name of the Khmer people, the National United Front, the Royal Government of National Union and the People's Armed Forces of National Liberation of Cambodia, I once again declare very solemnly and categorically that an eventual Vietnamese-U.S. peace agreement should never extend its authority to Cambodia. Cambodia will never accept a compromise with the United States of America, the imperialist and neo-colonialist aggressor, and will never carry out an international agreement resulting from negotiations in which it did not participate."

He strongly denounced the dishonourable political and diplomatic manoeuvres of some big countries to prevent the National United Front, the Royal Government of National Union and the People's Armed Forces of National Liberation of Cambodia and himself from winning final victory in the already resolutely waged struggle against U.S. imperialism and its Phnom Penh lackeys and for the liberation of the fatherland.

Samdech Sihanouk stressed that the People's Armed Forces of National Liberation of Cambodia "will surely wipe out the Lon Nol clique and its U.S. patrons entrenched in Phnom Penh today and will re-establish in our capital independence and neutrality which have always characterized my policy."

The banquet proceeded in a cordial and friendly atmosphere. A soiree was given after the banquet. The song and dance composed for the 50th birthday of Samdech Sihanouk and songs composed by

Samdech Sihanouk in praise of the friendship between the Cambodian people and the people of Viet Nam, Laos, Korea and China were performed by Chinese artists.

Foreign Secretary Douglas-Home Visits China

Alec Douglas-Home, British Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, and his wife arrived in Peking on October 29 for a friendly visit to China on invitation.

Foreign Minister Chi Peng-fei held talks with him on October 29 and 30 and, on the evening of October 30, gave a banquet to welcome the British Foreign Secretary and his entourage.

British Ambassador to China J.M. Addis and officials of the British Embassy in Peking were present at the function.

Also at the banquet were Pai Hsiang-kuo, Minister of Foreign Trade, Yu Chan, Vice-Foreign Minister, and others.

In his speech at the banquet, Foreign Minister Chi said: "Exchanges and contacts between China and Britain have a long history. In the past century and more regrettable events have repeatedly occurred in the relations between the two countries, but the Chinese and British peoples have always been friendly to each other." The Chinese Government, he added, consistently held that the relations between states, whether their social systems were alike or not, should be based on the Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence.

"We sympathize with and support the European peoples in their efforts to defend the independence and sovereignty of their own countries and safeguard the peace and security of Europe," Foreign Minister Chi said. "The actions taken by any superpower to push expansionism under the facade of 'detente,' to legalize the division of spheres of influence and further bring more European countries under its domination will only aggravate the tension in Europe and will definitely not be accepted."

Reviewing the relations between the two countries, Chi Peng-fei said:

"Through the joint efforts of our two sides, Sino-British relations have markedly improved in the past two years. Trade and scientific-technological and cultural exchanges between our two countries are being strengthened, and friendly visits between the peoples and political personages are becoming more and more frequent. I believe that the present visit by Sir Alec Douglas-Home will help propel the development of good relations between our two countries."

Foreign Secretary Douglas-Home in his speech pointed out that it was a matter of history that relations between China and Britain had been uneven. "For the future," he said, "we are full of hope. In March of this year our two countries agreed to exchange ambassadors. That was a fresh beginning. And we are determined that this more personal relationship shall be beneficial to both countries, a positive and enduring contribution to neighbourliness and peace in the world."

"I come to China at a time when my country is becoming a member of the European Economic Community. For Britain this is a momentous step," the Foreign Secretary said. "We wish to learn about China. And we shall do all we can to help you learn about us. I believe that the content of the new relationship between Britain and China, based on respect for each other and imaginative understanding, will be rewarding and good for both of us," he declared.

Anniversary of C.P.V.'s Entry Into Korean War

October 25 is the 22nd anniversary of the Chinese People's Volunteers' entry into the Korean war. The various activities to commemorate the event held in China and Korea that day once again showed that there exists an unbreakable militant friendship between the Chinese and Korean peoples.

In Peking, Yeh Chien-ying, Member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China and Vice-Chairman of the Military Commission, Li Teh-sheng, Alternate Member of the

(Continued on p. 31.)

Statement of the Government of the People's Republic of China

October 30, 1972

On October 26, 1972 the Government of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam issued the "Statement on the Present State of the Negotiations Relating to the Viet Nam Problem." The Chinese Government and people resolutely support the solemn and just position taken in that statement.

During the past four years and more, in order to bring about a peaceful solution of the Viet Nam problem, the Government of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam and the Provisional Revolutionary Government of the Republic of South Viet Nam have consistently taken a serious and earnest attitude in the Paris talks and put forward many fair and reasonable proposals. Furthermore, for promoting progress in the talks, they have of late made tremendous efforts, and agreement has been reached with the U.S. Government on the formulation of the "agreement on ending the war and restoring peace in Viet Nam" and the schedule for its signing has been fixed through consultation. However, the U.S. Government has repeatedly changed its proposition, created offshoot issues, gone back on its own word and laid new obstacles to put off the signing of the agreement on the pretext that it has encountered difficulties in Saigon. The whole world knows that the Nguyen Van Thieu clique has been fostered by the United States single-handed and what kind of relationship there is between it and the United States. It should not be difficult to remove these obstacles if the United

States truly wishes to solve the problem. The people of the world cannot but ask whether the U.S. Government genuinely wants a peaceful solution of the Viet Nam problem or intends to drag out its war of aggression. The U.S. Government must reply by deeds.

The Vietnamese people are a heroic people long tempered in revolutionary wars. Their iron will to realize their sacred national rights is unshakable. They are sincerely for a peaceful solution of the Viet Nam problem as well as determined to fight to the end. The U.S. Government should faithfully keep its word and sign as soon as possible with the Government of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam the agreement which has already been reached. Should the U.S. Government drag out its war of aggression in disregard of the urgent desire of the people of Viet Nam, the United States and the whole world to end the war in Viet Nam as early as possible, it will surely eat the bitter fruit of its own making.

The stand of the Chinese Government and people of supporting the Vietnamese people's just struggle is firm and unshakable. So long as U.S. imperialism does not stop its war of aggression against Viet Nam, the Chinese people will certainly perform their internationalist duty and continue to give all-out support and assistance to the Vietnamese people in their war against U.S. aggression and for national salvation till complete victory.

"Renmin Ribao" Editorial

U.S. Government Faces Test

THE Viet Nam question is being closely followed by world public opinion. According to the timetable agreed upon between the Government of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam and the Government of the United States, the two sides should have signed the "agreement on ending the war and restoring peace in Viet Nam" on October 31, 1972. The date has slipped by now, but the agreement remains unsigned and peace in Viet Nam has not been realized. The U.S. side is wholly responsible for this complication.

Both the D.R.V.N. Government and the Provisional Revolutionary Government of the Republic of South Viet Nam have made unremitting efforts for the peaceful

settlement of the Viet Nam issue. They have time and again put forth reasonable proposals and continuously overcome obstacles and difficulties. To bring about progress in the negotiations and end the Viet Nam war as early as possible, the D.R.V.N. Government recently once again showed its goodwill and took the initiative in reaching an agreement with the United States on the text of the "agreement on ending the war and restoring peace in Viet Nam." The D.R.V.N. government statement issued on October 26 disclosing the actual state of the Viet Nam-U.S. negotiations makes clear the sincere desire and solemn and just stand of the Vietnamese Government and people in seeking a peaceful settle-

ment of the Viet Nam issue. Over the past few days, the governments, peoples and public opinion of many countries in the world have voiced their support for the D.R.V.N. government statement, spoken highly of the Vietnamese people for their efforts to end the war in Viet Nam and demanded that the U.S. Government fulfil its promise and sign the agreement on restoring peace in Viet Nam as soon as possible. This shows that to end the war and restore peace in Viet Nam is the common demand of the people of the whole world.

On the pretext that it has encountered difficulties in Saigon, the U.S. Government is trying to lay the blame on Nguyen Van Thieu for delaying the signing of the agreement. Everybody knows what kind of person Nguyen Van Thieu is. The relationship between the United States and Nguyen Van Thieu has always been that of the latter being at the beck and call of the former, never the other way round. And now the United States suddenly appears to be helpless when the Nguyen Van Thieu clique, always a U.S. hanger-on, says "no." Is this credible? The Nguyen Van Thieu clique is not in a position to stand in the way if the United States really intends to settle the Viet Nam question. It is by no means accidental that Nguyen Van Thieu has come to the fore shouting abuses and setting an extravagant price for a settlement. Isn't it closer to the fact if we view in this light why peace cannot be achieved in Viet

Nam at an early date? To go on prolonging its war of aggression in Viet Nam and intensifying its plan of "war Vietnamization," or to honour its words, halt its aggression, end the war and bring about peace in Viet Nam — this is the crucial test the U.S. Government is now facing.

The heroic Vietnamese people have fought and won great victories in a protracted heroic war of resistance for the independence, peace and reunification of their fatherland. As the events show, nothing on earth can shake the iron will of the 40 million Vietnamese people to realize their sacred national rights. Justice and all the people of the world are on the side of the Vietnamese people. The Chinese Government and people have always supported the just struggle of the Vietnamese people. The statement issued by the Government of the People's Republic of China on October 30, 1972, has fully expressed the firm support of the Chinese people for the solemn and just stand of the D.R.V.N. Government and manifested the Chinese and Vietnamese peoples' fraternal friendship of unity in struggle. If the U.S. Government continues to drag out the Viet Nam war, the Chinese people will, as always, give all-out support to the Vietnamese people in their war against U.S. aggression and for national salvation till complete victory.

(November 1)

D.R.V.N. Government Statement on Negotiations on Viet Nam Problem

The full text of the Statement of the Government of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam on the Present State of the Negotiations Relating to the Viet Nam Problem, issued on October 26, reads as follows:

FOLLOWING years of a glorious resistance war of our armed forces and people in both zones, the United States had to stop in October 1968 the bombardments against the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam and accept the holding of a four-party conference on Viet Nam in Paris. That situation opened up prospects for restoring peace in Viet Nam.

The Nixon administration chose, however, to embark on the path of "Vietnamization of the war" and negotiation from a position of strength. As a result, the U.S. war of aggression in Viet Nam dragged on, was intensified and expanded, and the Viet Nam peace negotiation could not make any progress.

Over the past four years, the valiant and undaunted Vietnamese people have stepped up their just struggle on the military, political and diplomatic fronts, and have recorded unprecedented victories, especially since spring 1972, thus inflicted a very important setback on the "Vietnamization" policy.

At the same time, the Government of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam has constantly shown its serious attitude and goodwill in the search for a peaceful solution to the Viet Nam problem on a basis guaranteeing the Vietnamese people's fundamental national rights and the south Vietnamese people's right to self-determination.

In full agreement with the Provisional Revolutionary Government of the Republic of South Viet Nam, the Government of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam has held private meetings with the U.S. Government with a view to a peaceful settlement of the Viet Nam problem. But till September 1972, the negotiations on the Viet Nam problem had remained without result.

With a view to making the negotiations progress, at the private meeting on October 8, 1972, the D.R.V.N. side took a new, extremely important initiative: It put forward a draft "agreement on ending the war and restoring peace in Viet Nam," and proposed that the Government of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam, with the concurrence of the Provisional Revolutionary Government of the Republic of South Viet Nam, and the Government of the United States of America, with the concurrence of the Government of the Republic of Viet

Nam, immediately agreed upon and signed this agreement to rapidly restore peace in Viet Nam. In that draft agreement, the D.R.V.N. side proposed a cessation of the war throughout Viet Nam, a ceasefire in south Viet Nam, an end to all U.S. military involvement in south Viet Nam, a total withdrawal from south Viet Nam of troops of the United States and those of the foreign countries allied with the United States and with the Republic of Viet Nam, and the return of all captured and detained personnel of the parties. From the enforcement of the ceasefire to the installation of the government formed after free and democratic general elections, the two present administrations in south Viet Nam will remain in existence with their respective domestic and external functions. These two administrations shall immediately hold consultations with a view to the exercise of the south Vietnamese people's right to self-determination, achieving national concord, ensuring the democratic liberties of the south Vietnamese people, and forming an administration of national concord which shall have the task of promoting the south Vietnamese parties' implementation of the signed agreements and organizing general elections in south Viet Nam. The two south Vietnamese parties shall settle together the internal matters of south Viet Nam within three months after the ceasefire comes into effect. Thus the Viet Nam problem will be settled in two stages in accordance with the oft-expressed desire of the American side: the first stage will include a cessation of the war in Viet Nam, a ceasefire in south Viet Nam, a cessation of the U.S. military involvement in south Viet Nam and an agreement on the principles for the exercise of the south Vietnamese people's right to self-determination; in the second stage, the two south Vietnamese parties will settle together the internal matters of south Viet Nam. The D.R.V.N. side proposed that the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam and the United States sign this agreement by mid-October, 1972.

The above initiative of the Government of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam brought the negotiations on the Viet Nam problem, which had dragged on for four years now, on to the path to a settlement. The American side itself admitted that the draft "agreement on ending the war and restoring peace in Viet Nam" put forward by the D.R.V.N. side was indeed an important and very fundamental document which opened up the way to an early settlement.

After several days of negotiations, on October 17, 1972, the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam and the United States reached agreement on almost all problems on the basis of the draft agreement of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam, except for only two unagreed issues. With its goodwill, the D.R.V.N. side did its utmost to remove the last obstacles in accepting the American side's proposals on the two remaining questions in the agreement. In his October 20, 1972

message to the Premier of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam, the President of the United States appreciated the goodwill of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam, and confirmed that the formulation of the agreement could be considered complete. But in the same message, he raised a number of complex points. Desirous of rapidly ending the war and restoring peace in Viet Nam, the Government of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam clearly explained its views on this subject. In his October 22, 1972 message, the President of the United States expressed satisfaction with the explanations given by the Government of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam. Thus by October 22, 1972, the formulation of the agreement was complete.

The main issues of the agreement which have been agreed upon may be summarized as follows:

1) The United States respects the independence, sovereignty, unity and territorial integrity of Viet Nam as recognized by the 1954 Geneva Agreements.

2) Twenty-four hours after the signing of the agreement, a ceasefire shall be observed throughout south Viet Nam. The United States will stop all its military activities, and end the bombing and mining in north Viet Nam. Within 60 days, there will be a total withdrawal from south Viet Nam of troops and military personnel of the United States and those of the foreign countries allied with the United States and with the Republic of Viet Nam. The two south Vietnamese parties shall not accept the introduction of troops, military advisers and military personnel, armaments, munitions, and war material into south Viet Nam. The two south Vietnamese parties shall be permitted to make periodical replacements of armaments, munitions, and war material that have been worn out or damaged after the ceasefire, on the basis of piece for piece of similar characteristics and properties. The United States will not continue its military involvement or intervene in the internal affairs of south Viet Nam.

3) The return of all captured and detained personnel of the parties shall be carried out simultaneously with the U.S. troops withdrawal.

4) The principles for the exercise of the south Vietnamese people's right to self-determination are as follows: The south Vietnamese people shall decide themselves the political future of south Viet Nam through genuinely free and democratic general elections under international supervision; the United States is not committed to any political tendency or to any personality in south Viet Nam, and it does not seek to impose a pro-American regime in Saigon; national reconciliation and concord will be achieved, the democratic liberties of the people, ensured; an administrative structure called the national council of national reconciliation and concord of three equal segments will be set up to promote the implementation of the signed agreements by the Provi-

sional Revolutionary Government of the Republic of South Viet Nam and the Government of the Republic of Viet Nam and to organize the general elections, the two south Vietnamese parties will consult about the formation of councils at lower levels; the question of Vietnamese armed forces in south Viet Nam shall be settled by the two south Vietnamese parties in a spirit of national reconciliation and concord, equality and mutual respect, without foreign interference, in accordance with the postwar situation; among the question to be discussed by the two south Vietnamese parties are steps to reduce the military numbers on both sides and to demobilize the troops being reduced; the two south Vietnamese parties shall sign an agreement on the internal matters of south Viet Nam as soon as possible and will do their utmost to accomplish this within three months after the ceasefire comes into effect.

5) The reunification of Viet Nam shall be carried out step by step through peaceful means.

6) There will be formed a four-party joint military commission, and a joint military commission of the two south Vietnamese parties.

An international commission of control and supervision shall be established.

An international guarantee conference on Viet Nam will be convened within 30 days of the signing of this agreement.

7) The Government of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam, the Provisional Revolutionary Government of the Republic of South Viet Nam, the Government of the United States of America, and the Government of the Republic of Viet Nam shall strictly respect the Cambodian and Lao peoples' fundamental national rights as recognized by the 1954 Geneva Agreements on Indochina and the 1962 Geneva Agreements on Laos, i.e., the independence, sovereignty, unity and territorial integrity of these countries. They shall respect the neutrality of Cambodia and Laos. The Government of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam, the Provisional Revolutionary Government of the Republic of South Viet Nam, the Government of the United States of America and the Government of the Republic of Viet Nam undertake to refrain from using the territory of Cambodia and the territory of Laos to encroach on the sovereignty and security of other countries. Foreign countries shall put an end to all military activities in Laos and Cambodia, totally withdraw from and refrain from reintroducing into these two countries troops, military advisers and military personnel, armaments, munitions and war material.

The internal affairs of Cambodia and Laos shall be settled by the people of each of these countries without foreign interference.

The problems existing between the three Indochinese countries shall be settled by the Indochinese par-

ties on the basis of respect for each other's independence, sovereignty, and territorial integrity, and non-interference in each other's internal affairs.

8) The ending of the war, the restoration of peace in Viet Nam will create conditions for establishing a new, equal, and mutually beneficial relationship between the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam and the United States. The United States will contribute to healing the wounds of war and to postwar reconstruction in the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam and throughout Indochina.

9) This agreement shall come into force as of its signing. It will be strictly implemented by all the parties concerned.

The two parties have also agreed on a schedule for the signing of the agreement. On October 9, 1972, at the proposal of the U.S. side, it was agreed that on October 18, 1972, the United States would stop the bombing and mining in north Viet Nam, on October 19, 1972, the two parties would initial the text of the agreement in Hanoi; on October 26, 1972, the Foreign Ministers of the two countries would formally sign the agreement in Paris.

On October 11, 1972, the U.S. side proposed the following change to the schedule: on October 21, 1972, the United States would stop the bombing and mining in north Viet Nam, on October 22, 1972, the two parties would initial the text of the agreement in Hanoi; on October 30, 1972, the Foreign Ministers of the two countries would formally sign the agreement in Paris. The Democratic Republic of Viet Nam agreed to the new U.S. schedule.

On October 20, 1972, under the pretext that there still remained a number of unagreed points, the U.S. side again put forth another schedule: on October 23, 1972, the United States would stop the bombing and mining in north Viet Nam, on October 24, 1972, the two parties would initial the text of the agreement in Hanoi; on October 31, 1972, the Foreign Ministers of the two countries would formally sign the agreement in Paris. Despite the fact that the U.S. side had changed many times what had been agreed upon, the D.R.V.N. side with its goodwill again agreed to the U.S. proposal while stressing that the U.S. side should not under any pretext change the agreed schedule.

Thus, by October 22, 1972, the D.R.V.N. side and the U.S. side had agreed both on the full text of the "agreement on ending the war and restoring peace in Viet Nam" and on a schedule to be observed for the formal signing of the agreement on October 31, 1972. Obviously, the two sides had agreed upon an agreement of extremely important significance, which meets the wishes of the peoples in Viet Nam, the United States and the world.

But on October 23, 1972, contrary to its pledges, the U.S. side again referred to difficulties in Saigon, de-

manded that the negotiations be continued for resolving new problems, and did not say anything about the implementation of its commitments under the agreed schedule. This behaviour of the U.S. side has brought about a very serious situation which risks to jeopardize the signing of the "agreement on ending the war and restoring peace in Viet Nam."

The so-called difficulties in Saigon represent a mere pretext to delay the implementation of the U.S. commitments, because it is public knowledge that the Saigon administration has been rigged up and fostered by the United States. With a mercenary army equipped and paid by the United States, this administration is a tool for carrying out the "Vietnamization" policy and the neo-colonialist policy of the United States in violation of the south Vietnamese people's national rights. It is an instrument for the United States to sabotage all peaceful settlement of the Viet Nam problem.

The above shows that the Nixon administration is not negotiating with a serious attitude and goodwill in order to end the war and restore peace in Viet Nam, all it is doing in fact is to drag out the talks so as to deceive public opinion and to cover up its scheme of maintaining the Saigon puppet administration for the purposes of continued war of aggression in Viet Nam and Indochina. The Nixon administration must bear before the people of the United States and the world responsibility for delaying the signing of the agreement, and thus prolonging the war in Viet Nam.

The Government of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam deems it its duty to bring the present situation with respect to the private meetings between the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam and the United States to the notice of our countrymen and fighters throughout the country, and the peoples in the world and the United States so that the truth may be known. This information is in the interest of peace and will in no way affect the negotiations, the two parties having agreed upon the text of the agreement and the schedule for its signing. While pointing to the above situation, the Government of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam strictly holds to the undertakings between the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam and the United States to the effect that no change should be brought to the agreed text of the agreement, and that the date scheduled for its signing is October 31, 1972.

The Government of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam strongly denounces the Nixon administration's lack of goodwill and seriousness. It firmly demands that the U.S. Government respond to its goodwill, keep its commitments, and sign on October 31, 1972, the agreement whose text has been agreed upon with a view to

ending the war, restoring peace in Viet Nam, contributing to the consolidation of peace in Asia and the world, thus meeting the desire of the Vietnamese people, the American people and the peoples around the world.

Countrymen and fighters throughout the country,

We want peace in independence and freedom. We are animated with goodwill. But the U.S. imperialists still nurture the design of conquering the southern part of our country, turning it into a new-type colony and a military base of the United States, and perpetuating the partition of our country. We had rather sacrifice everything than submit. **"Nothing is more precious than independence and freedom!"**

For the independence and freedom of our fatherland, for peace, national independence, democracy, and socialism in the world, we are fighting and defeating the U.S. imperialist aggressors. Ours is a position of victory, of initiative, which is unceasingly improving. The position of the U.S. imperialists and their lackeys is one of defeat, passivity and decline.

More than ever, our countrymen and fighters throughout the country are enhancing their resolve to unite as one man, to brave all hardships and sacrifices, to do their utmost to carry out President Ho Chi Minh's sacred testament, to persist in, and step up the fight on the three fronts — military, political, and diplomatic, until these lofty objectives have been achieved, to liberate the south, to defend and build the socialist north, and to proceed to the peaceful reunification of the country. Our people are determined to fight shoulder to shoulder with the fraternal peoples of Laos and Cambodia, and inflict a total defeat on the U.S. imperialist aggressors and their lackeys.

Our people's patriotic struggle against U.S. aggression is a just one. The strength of our unity is invincible. We have traditions of valiant and undaunted struggle against the aggressors. Moreover, our people enjoy the sympathy and great support of the fraternal socialist countries and the progressive people around the world.

We will win!

The Government of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam calls on the Governments and peoples of the Soviet Union, China and the other fraternal socialist countries, of the peace- and justice-loving countries, the international organizations, the American people, and the peoples around the world, which have been wholeheartedly supporting the Vietnamese people's patriotic struggle against U.S. aggression, to wage a resolute struggle to urge the U.S. Government to carry out immediately what has been agreed upon between the United

States and the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam so as to rapidly end the war and restore peace in Viet Nam. The Government of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam calls on all brothers and friends around the five continents to extend even stronger support and assist-

ance to the Vietnamese people's just struggle until total victory.

The Vietnamese people will win!

The three peoples of Indochina will win!

Hanoi, October 26, 1972

Viet Nam-Cambodia Joint Communiqué

Following is the full text of the joint communiqué on the friendship visit of Samdech Norodom Sihanouk, Head of State and Chairman of the National United Front of Cambodia, to the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam. —Ed.

AT the invitation of Ton Duc Thang, President of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam and President of the Presidium of the Viet Nam Fatherland Front Central Committee, Samdech Norodom Sihanouk, Head of State and Chairman of the National United Front of Kampuchea, and Madame Princess Monique Sihanouk, paid a friendship visit to the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam from October 26 to 28, 1972.

Samdech Head of State and Madame Princess Monique Sihanouk were accompanied by Samdech Penn Nouth, Chairman of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the National United Front of Kampuchea and Prime Minister of the Royal Government of National Union of Cambodia, and his wife; Ieng Sary, Special Envoy of the Interior Part of the National United Front of Kampuchea and the Royal Government of the National Union of Cambodia; Sarin Chhak, Minister of Foreign Affairs, and his wife; Chau Seng, Minister Charged With Special Missions; Ngo Hou, Minister of Public Health and Religious and Social Affairs; Chea San, Minister of Justice and Judicial Reforms; Keat Chhon, Minister Delegate to the Prime Minister's Office, and his wife; Sien An, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Kingdom of Cambodia to the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam, and his wife; and other personalities.

During their stay in the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam, Samdech Head of State Norodom Sihanouk, Samdech Prime Minister Penn Nouth and Special Envoy Ieng Sary had cordial meetings with President Ton Duc Thang, Chairman of the National Assembly Standing Committee Truong Chinh, Premier Pham Van Dong, Vice-Premier and Minister of National Defence Vo Nguyen Giap, and Vice-Premier and Foreign Minister Nguyen Duy Trinh.

The meetings took place in an atmosphere of militant solidarity, fraternal friendship and complete mutual

trust. The two sides reached identity of views on all problems discussed.

The two parties highly appreciate the very great and steady victories of strategic significance recorded by the Vietnamese and Cambodian peoples in all domains since the beginning of spring 1972, the glorious exploits of the armed forces and peoples of the two countries endowed with revolutionary heroism which have inflicted a serious defeat on the "Vietnamization" and "Khmerization" of the war policies and the "Nixon doctrine" of the U.S. imperialists and created a new and better than ever situation to the struggle of the two peoples.

The two sides severely condemn the Nixon administration for frenziedly escalating the war against the Vietnamese and Cambodian peoples through the massive participation of U.S. air and naval forces and unleashing an extremely cruel and barbarous war of extermination in an attempt to make up for its position of defeat and maintain the puppet administrations, tools for the carrying out of the "Nixon doctrine" and of neo-colonialism. The current grave situation stems from the fact that the U.S. imperialists remain very obdurate and bellicose and have not renounced their schemes of aggression against Viet Nam and Cambodia, instead still are doing their utmost to prolong and intensify the war while resorting to perfidious manoeuvres on the political and diplomatic planes.

The two sides express their high satisfaction at the continuous development and strengthening of the militant solidarity and fraternal friendship between Viet Nam and Cambodia. The recent period has been a period of hardest trials of the two peoples, but also a period of close co-ordination in all activities of struggle and of very great victories which have illustrated this truth: The two peoples closely united in the struggle against the common enemy and respecting each other's independence and sovereignty constitute an indomitable force.

The unprecedented victories of the Viet Nam-Cambodia solidarity reinforce the mutual trust, mutual

respect and mutual aid between the two peoples. This militant solidarity is radiating with justice and constitutes a decisive factor of victory, encouraging Vietnamese and Cambodian peoples to march forward to the realization of their noble liberation cause.

The two sides declare their strict loyalty to the Joint Declaration of the Indochinese Peoples' Summit Conference: "Proceeding from the principle that the liberation and the defence of each country are the business of its people, the various parties pledge to do all they can to give one another reciprocal support according to the desire of the party concerned and on the basis of mutual respect."

The two parties reaffirm that the problem of each Indochinese country must be settled by its own people. That is a sacred and inalienable right. The two parties strictly respect and resolutely support their respective stand concerning a solution to their respective problem in conformity with the peculiarities and interests of each country and with the general situation in Indochina.

The Viet Nam problem must be settled on the basis of the respect for the fundamental national rights of the Vietnamese people and for the right to self-determination of the south Vietnamese people. To promptly end the war and restore peace in Viet Nam, the U.S. Government must respond to the Statement of October 26, 1972 of the Government of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam, strictly respect the commitments made between the United States and the D.R.V.N., sign on October 31, 1972 the agreement on ending the war and restoring peace in Viet Nam as has been agreed upon by the two sides.

Acting upon the testament of President Ho Chi Minh, the Vietnamese people persistently carry on and intensify the struggle on the military, political and diplomatic fronts, with the determination to achieve the cause of liberating south Viet Nam, defending and firmly building the socialist north Viet Nam and advancing towards the peaceful reunification of the country. They are resolved to fulfil their international obligations to the brotherly peoples of Cambodia and Laos.

The Cambodian problem must be settled according to the five-point declaration of March 23, 1970 of Samdech Head of State, Norodom Sihanouk, and the political programme of the National United Front of Kampuchea. Samdech Head of State Norodom Sihanouk is the representative of the legality, legitimacy and continuity of the Cambodian state. The Royal Government of National Union of Cambodia with Samdech Penn Nouth as Prime Minister and Mr. Khieu Samphan as

Vice-Prime Minister is the only legal and legitimate Government of the Cambodian people. The Nixon administration must respect the independence, sovereignty, peace, neutrality and territorial integrity of Cambodia, put an end to all acts of interference, aggression and all other acts of provocation against Cambodia, and leave the Cambodian people alone to settle their own affairs without foreign interference.

Responding to the resounding patriotic appeal of October 5, 1972 of Samdech Head of State Norodom Sihanouk and of Samdech Prime Minister Penn Nouth, and that of September 14, 1972 of Vice-Prime Minister Khieu Samphan and of Ministers Hou Youn and Hu Nim, the Cambodian people are determined to struggle uncompromisingly and unflinchingly to drive out the U.S. imperialist aggressors and their Saigon and Bangkok lackeys, overthrow the traitors Lon Nol, Sirik Matak and Son Ngoc Thanh and build an independent, sovereign, neutral, peaceful, democratic and prosperous Cambodia within her territorial integrity.

The two parties warmly greet the extremely big, steady and strategic victories recorded by the brotherly Lao people in all fields and fully support their just and surely victorious struggle and the five-point political solution put forth on March 6, 1970 by the Lao Patriotic Front for ending the U.S. imperialist aggression, restoring peace and realizing national concord in Laos.

The two parties express their sincere thanks to the broad and vigorous international support and assistance given to their just cause. They call on the people of the socialist countries and the peace- and justice-loving peoples including the American people to enhance their support and aid to the national-liberation cause of the peoples of the three Indochinese countries.

On the occasion of the 50th birthday of Samdech Norodom Sihanouk, the esteemed Head of State of the Cambodian people and a great friend of the Vietnamese people, the leaders of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam and the population of Hanoi capital extended to him their warm congratulations. On this occasion, a solemn benediction service was held at the Quan Su Pagoda with the participation of Princess Monique Sihanouk and all the ladies in the delegation.

The friendship visit of Samdech Head of State Norodom Sihanouk to the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam has been crowned with success and has contributed to the enhancement of the solidarity, friendship and mutual trust between the peoples of Viet Nam and Cambodia. This solidarity and friendship will be everlasting.

Hanoi, October 28, 1972.

Lao Patriotic Forces' Just Stand on Peaceful Settlement of Lao Issue

PHOUN SIPASEUTH, Standing Member of the Central Committee of the Lao Patriotic Front and Head of the Delegation of the Lao Patriotic Forces, spoke at the first session of the official talks in Vientiane on October 17, 1972, explaining in detail the just stand of the Lao patriotic forces on the peaceful settlement of the Lao question, according to Khaosan Pathet Lao.

Listing a host of facts, Phoun Sipaseuth first of all exposed and severely denounced the crime of U.S. imperialism in trampling upon the 1954 and 1962 Geneva Agreements, twice subverting the national union governments and continuously intensifying the war of aggression against Laos.

He pointed out that the realities have amply shown that "the U.S. imperialists are the aggressors against our country and the most dangerous enemy of our people, and that the U.S. intervention and aggression is the cause of all suffering of our people, the cause of the extremely serious situation in Laos now."

He said: "Like the fraternal peoples of Viet Nam and Cambodia, our people have valiantly stood up to struggle resolutely and persistently against the U.S. aggression in defence of our beloved fatherland. Never will our people reconcile themselves to being slaves of the United States and submit to enemy bombs and shells. The savage crimes of the U.S. imperialists and their henchmen can only heighten the indignation of our people at the aggressors and the traitors.

"For independence, peace and genuine neutrality, in the interest of the nation, and in duty to the peace and security to the other nations in Indochina, South-east Asia and the world, all the nationalities of the Lao nation have rallied around the militant alliance between the Lao Patriotic Front and the alliance of patriotic neutralist forces, and have closely united with the brother nations of Viet Nam and Cambodia in the resolve to fight in defence of the country's independence and sovereignty and the liberated zone. We have smashed all military adventures of U.S. imperialism and its lackeys, giving them the punishment they well deserve. In the course of our struggle against U.S. aggression and

for national salvation, our patriotic forces have won very great victories. They have been tested and tempered, and have matured fast in all respects. Their position on the battlefield now is one of offensive and initiative. The liberated zone, under the control of the patriotic forces, has been successfully defended and strengthened. It is now steadier and stronger than ever, and is the pride of our people in the whole country. Moreover, the great successes our nation has made in the resistance to the U.S. aggression constitute an active contribution to the very great victory all the Indochinese peoples have won together in their common fight against U.S. imperialism and for the construction of their respective countries in their own ways. All this is an aspect of the reality of Laos at present. Any failure to see it or any attempt to disregard it will not help in any way to find a correct solution to the Lao problem."

He pointed out that for the settlement of the Lao issue "the United States must end the war, put a stop to all military involvement and all intervention in Laos, respect the sovereignty, independence, neutrality, unity and territorial integrity of Laos as laid down in the 1962 Geneva Agreement on Laos, to which the U.S. Government is a signatory.

"The United States must respect the Lao people's right to self-determination, and the affairs of Laos must be settled by the Lao people themselves on the basis of the reality in this country. The Vientiane party must stop joining the U.S. bandwagon. The Lao parties concerned will form a new national coalition government and settle issues that have just cropped up newly, in a way conforming to the present reality, thus providing a foundation to the restoration of peace, and the achievement of national concord and national unity in a thorough, definite manner."

He said: "The patriotic forces are in a position of victory and initiative. Yet, out of our concern for the supreme interests of the nation and the fatherland, and in response to the earnest desire of all strata of our people for genuine independence and freedom, we have always persisted in our stand of good will, advocating

a peaceful settlement of the Lao issue through consultation among the Lao parties concerned, as proposed in the five-point political solution we made public on March 6, 1970 and accepted by Prince Souvanna Phouma, in his letter of July 24, 1972, as a basis for discussion.

"Today, at this session, and on behalf of the Delegation of the Lao Patriotic Forces, I wish to dwell on the main contents of this five-point political solution.

"1. For peace to be restored and maintained permanently in Laos the United States must scrupulously respect the sovereignty, independence, neutrality, unity and territorial integrity of Laos as provided for in the 1962 Geneva Agreement on Laos, and put an end to all interference of any form in the internal affairs of Laos.

"a. The United States must stop its war of aggression in Laos, cease all bombardment and all other military operations, and terminate its military involvement in Laos.

"b. The United States must withdraw from Laos all military advisers and personnel, including technical personnel, of the United States and other foreign countries in the U.S. camp, all regular and non-regular forces of Thailand, and all U.S. weapons and war means. It must dissolve all military and para-military organizations it has set up in Laos, and must disband at once the 'special forces' it has directly organized, trained, equipped, paid and commanded.

"c. The United States must dismantle all U.S. and Thai military bases, positions and establishments on the land of Laos, and must stop using its military bases and forces in Thailand, and Thai armed forces as well, for intervention and aggression in Laos.

"d. The United States must answer for all the losses and destruction caused by its war of aggression, especially by its air war, to Laos since 1964, and must bear the cost of healing the wounds it has inflicted on Laos.

"2. In order that Laos may become a truly independent and neutral country, a foreign policy of neutrality will be applied in conformity with the declaration of July 9, 1962 on the neutrality of Laos, as stipulated in the 1962 Geneva Agreement on Laos.

"According to this agreement, the Kingdom of Laos will not enter into any military alliance with any foreign country, will not accept 'protection' from any military alliance, and will not allow any foreign country to maintain military bases, armed forces and military personnel on the territory of Laos, or to introduce weapons, ammunition and war materiel, under any form, into Laos. Toward this end,

"a. All agreements and treaties of a military or any other character that is inconsistent with the neutrality of the Kingdom of Laos must be annulled. The Kingdom of Laos must once again affirm its rejection of 'protection' by any power or any military alliance, first of all, the U.S.-rigged SEATO.

"b. The Kingdom of Laos will maintain and expand its relations with other countries on the basis of the Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence and without discrimination against any political and social regimes; it will maintain and develop economic and cultural cooperation with other countries on the basis of the principle of equality and mutual benefit; it will accept economic and technical aid without political strings from all countries including the United States.

"c. Regarding the other Indochinese countries, the Kingdom of Laos will promote its relations of good neighbourliness with them on the basis of the Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence and the provisions of the 1954 Geneva Agreements on Indochina and the 1962 Geneva Agreement on Laos, in a common effort to defend their respective lands and build them in their own ways.

"d. All matters that concern Laos and the other countries in Indochina will be discussed and settled among these countries on the basis of equality, respect for one another's independence, sovereignty, unity and territorial integrity, the spirit of mutual understanding and assistance, and without outside interference.

"3. To settle all matters that concern the various Lao parties, national concord and unity must be achieved, so that all citizens of Laos may pool their efforts to make their country independent, democratic and prosperous,

"a. On the basis of the declaration and strict observance of civil liberties, the Constitution and the Election Law will be amended and revised in compliance with the present realities in the country, and genuinely free and democratic general elections will be held to elect a national assembly and to form an official coalition government which truly represents the Lao people of all nationalities, for the building of a peaceful, independent, neutral, democratic, unified, and prosperous Laos.

"Out of respect for the throne, the Lao parties concerned, in the immediate future, will set up a new provisional national coalition government and a political consultative council for the settlement of various matters.

"b. The new provisional national coalition government will be formed according to a special procedure and will include segments of equal strength, namely,

— the Lao Patriotic Front,

- the patriotic neutralist forces, and personalities and intellectuals advocating peace, independence and neutrality, and
- the Vientiane party.

“The provisional national coalition government will have a new political programme and apparatus, agreed upon by the parties concerned, to carry out the following functions and tasks: to entertain foreign relations, maintain peace, implement agreements among the parties, promulgate and observe civil liberties, receive and distribute foreign aid to Laos, and in co-ordination with the political consultative council, make preparations for truly free and democratic general elections to achieve national concord and national unity.

“c. The setting up of the political consultative council, which will be the highest expression of national unity, will promote national concord and national unity. The council, set up through consultations, will consist of components largely representative of all parties concerned, patriots of both sexes, representing all nationalities, religions, social strata and patriotic personalities and intellectuals throughout the country.

“To achieve national concord and unity, the political consultative council will rectify the General Election Law and Procedure to make it truly democratic and free to elect a national assembly and an official national coalition government truly representative of all nationalities in Laos.

“d. The Lao parties concerned will agree upon the measures to ensure the security of the premises of the national coalition government and the political consultative council to counter any sabotage or pressure of whatever forces in Laos or from outside, so that the national coalition government and the political consultative council may operate with efficacy.

“4. To guarantee justice and security to all Lao citizens, disregarding their political background or leaning, and gradually promote and consolidate national concord and unity.

“a. The parties concerned will refrain from discriminatory or retaliatory acts against people who have co-operated with the other party during wartime; the Vientiane side must dismantle ‘refugees camp’ and repatriate people who were forced to leave their home villages, and compensate them for their losses.

“b. The provisional national coalition government will strictly guarantee democratic liberties to the people, and abolish all regulations and organizations that are incompatible with these rights.

“c. To promote the normalization of relations in all respects between the two zones, create favourable condi-

tions for the people to move from one zone to another on business or visit, exchange information and culture, etc., in order to promptly reunify the country through consultations among the Lao parties on the basis of equality and national concord.

“5. In order to end hostilities and facilitate the implementation of agreements of the parties concerned:

“a. The belligerent parties will order the regular or non-regular forces under their command or in alliance with them to effect ceasefire on the spot, completely and simultaneously throughout the Lao territory. That is to say:

“— The United States will completely and definitively cease bombing and all other military acts of the United States and other foreign countries in the U.S. camp in Laos.

“— The armed forces of Laos will stop all hostile military acts on the ground and in the air, and all encroachment upon or nibbling at areas under the temporary control of the other side.

“b. Right after the ceasefire has been effected, the Lao parties concerned will exchange all captured militarymen and civilians of whatever nationalities, according to procedures agreed upon by the parties concerned. Such exchanges will begin and conclude simultaneously with the withdrawal from Laos of advisers and military personnel of the United States and of other foreign countries in the U.S. camp, and Thai troops.

“c. The parties concerned will agree upon the setting up of a liaison organ to control and supervise the ceasefire and the implementation of all agreements among the Lao parties, with the assistance of the International Commission for Supervision and Control within its status as laid down in the 1962 Geneva protocol.”

He said in conclusion: “The contents of the five-point solution, as I have mentioned above, constitute an organic, indivisible whole. It aims at settling the Lao problem in its internal and external aspects, its political and military aspects. These five points are very fair and sensible. They are based on the present realities in Laos, and take into consideration the interests of all parties concerned. We believe that these five points fully meet the deep aspirations of our people and the fundamental rights of our nation, as well as the desire of our King and the interests of peace and security in Indochina, Southeast Asia and the world.

“We hope that your side respond positively to our proposals so that we may settle the Lao question among ourselves peacefully and in accordance with the aspirations and burning desire of our entire people.”

In Face of Drought

To be pessimistic and do nothing, or to work tenaciously and strive for a good harvest in spite of natural calamities? The two diametrically opposed attitudes reflect two different world outlooks.

Cadres at various levels and members of people's communes in the rural areas took the correct course when serious drought hit the greater part of north China and some areas in the south this year.

Following are two examples.

The Strength of the Communes

Farm production in Chengting County on the Hopei plains has developed at a relatively fast tempo. Its 1971 per-hectare yield of grain and cotton topped 6 tons and 0.75 ton respectively. This year it had little rain for 200 days running. As far as the elderly people there remembered, they had a drought of this severity only once before, and that was 54 years ago.

But the 400,000 people in Chengting were not daunted by such adversity. Making full use of the water conservancy works built collectively after the establishment of the people's communes in 1958 and tapping underground water sources, they succeeded in reaping a good summer grain harvest. The county's output of summer crops registered an 18 per cent increase over last year, and was twice the aggregate for 1949.

Following Chairman Mao's teaching "**Irrigation . . . is the lifeblood of agriculture,**" the Chengting people started building water conservancy projects as early as 1958. Since the Great Proletarian Cultural Revolution began, they have every year sunk a number of deep wells while rebuilding some old ones. The number of such wells has now increased to 3,669, averaging one well for every ten hectares, from which over 420 million tons of water have been drawn this year to irrigate the fields.

When the drought got from bad to worse, the county Party committee sent its cadres to make a thorough investigation of the wells, pumps and

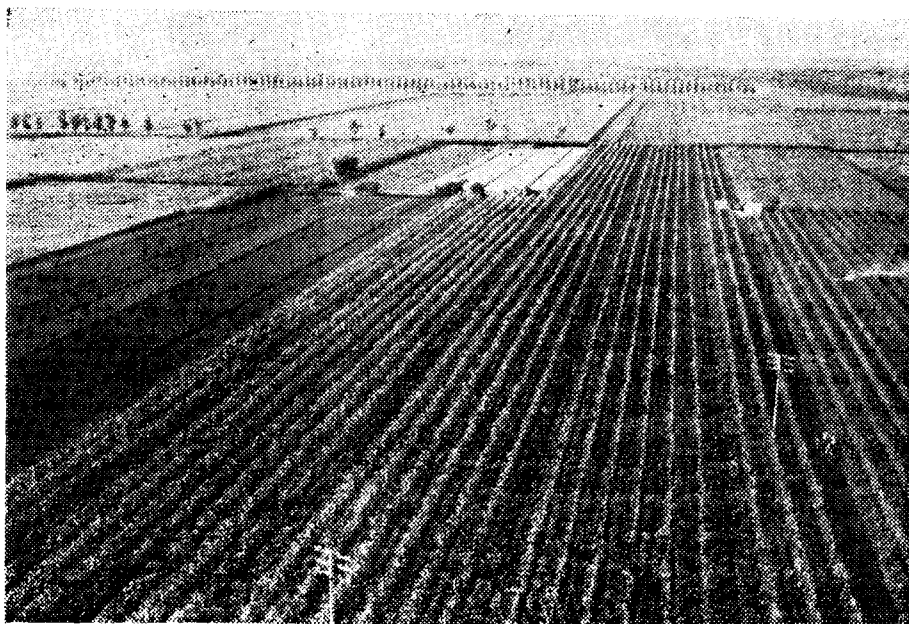
facilities. The commune members carried water in basins and buckets to the fields. Their combined efforts saved the young autumn crops.

Apart from building water conservancy works, the Chengting peasants have over the years relied on the communes' collective strength to transform their cultivated land on a big scale. This was another important guarantee for beating the drought this year.

channels in every commune and production team and organized 250,000 people to fight the drought. Everything was done to find and utilize surface and subterranean water sources for irrigation.

The county first formed 58 teams to sink deep wells in areas seriously hit by the drought. By the end of August, they had sunk 530 wells and rebuilt 250 old ones. As the dry spell continued unabated after the wheat harvest, the water level in the wells fell and some wells dried up. The teams were out day and night doing all they could to draw the underground water and lead it to nine communes which were seriously hit and had comparatively poor irrigation

In old China, the three rivers flowing through the county often overflowed their banks, causing more than 40 per cent of its 34,000 hectares of cultivated land to become sandy and alkaline. In 1958, the commune members began levelling the sand dunes and mapped out a plan for expanding and improving their lands. But the plan failed to materialize due to interference by Liu Shao-chi's revisionist line. Later, after doing away with such interference, they once again worked out a long-term plan. Heartening initial results have been gained; the county now has large tracts of farmland criss-crossed by smooth roads and irrigation channels.



Autumn fields of a production brigade in Chengting County.

With the planting of trees on some 7,300 hectares in the sandy areas, the county has turned half of its sandy alkaline land into arable land that gives stable yields despite long dry spells or too much rain. In the Chengkuan People's Commune on the lower reaches of the Chouhan River, for instance, 75 per cent of its 1,000 hectares were alkaline land with very low yields, with the result that it had to depend on the state for food grain. The commune members later transformed the sandy alkaline land into good farmland yielding two crops —

wheat and rice — a year, after dredging the river, filling up some 370 depressions and levelling the land. This year, the drought did not affect the crops and the commune has expanded its paddyfields by another 16 hectares.

Following the example set by the Chengkuan commune, many production teams of the other 24 communes in the county have successfully grown paddy rice. Despite this year's drought, they have increased the acreage planted to rice, thereby getting another year of good harvest.

increased their confidence in the collective strength.

Late in July, Chen Yung-kuei, secretary of the Hsiyang County Party Committee, and other leading members made the rounds of 89 brigades in 16 communes, investigating how the water conservancy works functioned in countering the drought. When they came to the Tachai Brigade, they found that the crops there were growing sturdily. Could it be that rain had fallen in Tachai? No. It was the result of the water conservancy works the brigade had built over the past few years. The brigade had built many water retention basins and dug a 7-kilometre-long channel to conduct the water up the hills.

A Bad Thing Turned Into a Good Thing

Hsiyang County in Shansi Province, where the nationally known Tachai Brigade is located, has stood the test of an exceptionally serious drought this year. According to the records, this area had been hit by two long dry spells: one from April to August 1877, when all the crops withered away, and the other in 1920 when everything went well in the spring but there was no rain at all after summer had set in. The dry spell this year lasted seven months, from summer to autumn, and was far more serious than the previous two. Though construction of the farmland was undertaken over the past few years, turning the barren hills into terraced fields which yielded good harvests for years in succession, this year's unprecedented drought was a serious threat to the crops.

In face of this adversity, leading cadres and commune members in the county regarded the fight against drought as a good opportunity to further solve the irrigation problem. While reduced output seemed imminent, they put in every effort aimed at spurring their farm production in the days ahead.

In order to make everyone confident in beating the drought, they organized many meetings to contrast past sufferings with today's happiness. Speaking at one meeting, old poor peasant Hu Kuang-chung recounted his plight in 1920. Having run out of

food, he was forced to sell his wife and shortly afterwards his parents died of starvation. Within two months, only two of his family of seven were left. Later, Hu had to leave his native village and go begging. Recalling the past bitterness and seeing for themselves how today, in the people's communes, no natural disaster could again plunge them into the old fate, the commune members received a profound education and

The achievements of the Anping Brigade of the commune bearing the same name opened everyone's eyes to the possibilities. This brigade was lagging behind others just a few years ago. But its members worked hard during the slack farming seasons in spring and winter and built four small reservoirs in the last four years. They have also completed a number of small water conservancy projects



Chen Yung-kuei (first from left) and commune members surveying the land for new irrigation projects in Hsiyang.

in the course of fighting the drought this year. Now all the crops on its 86 hectares of land are growing well.

At a special county meeting, Chen Yung-kuei reviewed the general situation in farm production and commended the local people for their heroism in combating drought. He said: "Serious drought is of course a bad thing, for it brings losses to farm production. But this bad thing can be turned into a good thing as it impels us to build more water conservancy works which in turn help enhance our ability to fight natural calamities."

This is true. Drought acted as an impetus to the development of water conservancy. Many communes and production brigades completed projects in a matter of months instead of three to five years as originally planned.

Communes situated in the mountain gullies are now making use of their terrain to build reservoirs to retain floodwaters. At present more than 200 small and medium-sized reservoirs are under construction along the big rivers and in the mountains.



Laying a pipeline to conduct water up the hills in Hsiyang.

Production brigades on hilltops where the building of reservoirs is not feasible are building water retention basins on the ridges and at the same time working on projects to bring water up to those basins. In all, 307 highland water basins and 270 waterlifting projects are being built.

All over Hsiyang one sees the bustling scenes of people building water conservancy works. By the end of August, some 900 small ones of the over 2,000 projects under construction were completed. The local people put it aptly when they say: "1972 is a year of great trial as well as a year of great development for Hsiyang."

Workers, Peasants and Soldiers Studying Philosophy

Transplanting Apple Trees to Shanghai

by Workers of the Paoshan Orchard

CHINESE books on fruit-growing have always stated that "oranges are grown in the south and apples in the north." Nevertheless, we have succeeded in transplanting an assortment of apple trees from north China to Shanghai in the south. This was the fruit of our endeavour in over a dozen years, especially in the years since the Great Proletarian Cultural Revolution began.

The suggestion for transplantation first came up in 1958, the year of the big leap in China's national economy. Some comrades, however, pointed out

that apple trees grew only in cool, dry areas with a temperature range of 15°-22°C. and an annual rainfall not exceeding 600 mm. and on sandy soil where the water drained away easily. Since natural conditions in Shanghai were quite different, they therefore thought that it was not feasible to transplant apple trees to areas south of the Yangtze River.

The Dynamic Role of Man

We weighed the pros and cons. We opposed acting rashly regardless of

objective laws, but we asked ourselves: "Is man really helpless before these laws?" Historically, in China apples were first planted in Sinkiang and Kansu in the northwest; in the last hundred years they began to be grown in Liaoning and other places in the northeast and gradually in Hopei, Shantung, Honan and Anhwei Provinces further south. What was particularly worth noting was that, in the course of making investigations on Shanghai's outskirts, we discovered one household had succeeded in transplanting several apple trees

brought from the north, and these had even borne fruit. These facts proved that although natural conditions had an important bearing on pomiculture, the geographical distribution of fruit trees was not entirely unalterable. If we saw only the influence of nature on man but not the part played by man in changing nature, we would be neglecting the subjective dynamic role of man. Although unfavourable factors did exist, such as a higher temperature, sticky soil and abundant rainfall, there were also favourable ones, such as fertile soil and rich sources of fertilizers. If we made good use of the latter and gradually transformed nature, planting apple trees south of the Yangtze could become a reality. Consequently, in 1958 we started experimenting.

A folk adage says: "It takes peach trees three years to fruit, apricot four, plum five and apple six." Six years after transplantation, the majority of our apple trees put forth leaves luxuriantly but failed to flower and bear fruit. To find out the reasons, some comrades closely observed a few trees that did bear some fruit. Strange to say, the trees concerned were all rather sickly.

At first, some comrades regarded this as something fortuitous. Later, through studying Chairman Mao's philosophical works, we gradually came to understand the dialectical relationship between fortuity and certainty. In nature, certainty, not fortuity, is decisive. But factors of certainty are contained in fortuity. We should treat accidental phenomena as "an usher at the threshold" and try to grasp the laws of things through accidental phenomena. After study, we gradually realized that the function of growth (branching and foliage) and the function of reproduction (flowering and fruiting) of fruit trees constituted a pair of contradictions, interdependent and mutually conditional. If the function of growth was too weak and the tree could not thrive, blossoming and fruiting would be affected. Converse-

ly, if there was excessive growth and large amounts of organic nutrition were absorbed by branching and foliage, the function of reproduction would be weakened. The trees would bear fruit only when a proper proportion was maintained between the functions of growth and reproduction in the process of absorbing nutrition.

On the basis of this knowledge, we further studied the causes of the trees failing to flower. First, because the level of underground water in Shanghai was high and the soil fertile, the roots developed and the top parts of branches and the leaves grew excessively, thus consuming much nutrition while hampering ventilation and light penetration, making it difficult for the buds to form. Secondly, rainfall in the Shanghai area was abundant, the temperature fairly high, and there were many kinds of fruit tree diseases and pests. The leaves which grew profusely at first fell off rapidly afterwards because of plant diseases, and this destroyed the function of the leaves as "processing factories" for organic nutrients and made it hard for the buds to form for lack of nutrition.

This explained why the diseased and malformed trees bore fruit—it was not entirely accidental. In such trees, the vascular system by which organic nutrients were conveyed was partly destroyed or weakened, and this curbed the growth of the branches and leaves while ensuring enough nutrition for budding. This was a result of external factors forcing the growth function to change and become weak. Could we consciously make use of this law to enable apple trees to flower and bear fruit in Shanghai? Having found the laws of objective things, we could use this correct knowledge of laws to change the world on our initiative.

At first, we pruned at random, hoping to slow down the growth of the trees. But contrary to our wish, when a big branch was cut off, new shoots emerged in no time, and

no amount of effort could make the trees flower and fruit. After soliciting opinions all around and analysing the concrete conditions in Shanghai, we realized that, owing to the fertility of the soil south of the Yangtze, our oversimplified measure of checking the growth of the branches was just like bouncing a ball—the harder you bounced it the higher it rebounded. Chairman Mao has said: "Error is often the precursor of what is correct." Drawing lessons from such failures, we applied a proper amount of nitrogenous fertilizer on the one hand and on the other tried topping. Then we gradually learnt a number of ways to prune with satisfactory results. We also paid attention to wiping out the pests and viruses, and succeeded in preventing the leaves from falling off in large numbers at the early stage. After repeated practice, beginning in 1966, the apple trees we transplanted finally blossomed and bore fruit.

Concrete Analysis

New contradictions arose after old ones had been solved. Having succeeded in making the apple trees bear fruit, we found later that the young fruit fell off in large numbers.

To our knowledge, this also happened to apple trees in north China. The way to deal with it was to give a little water to the trees, apply fertilizer, and so on. However, "without concrete analysis there can be no knowledge of the particularity of any contradiction." (*On Contradiction*.) To solve our problem, we should analyse the concrete conditions in Shanghai.

By comparing the natural conditions in Shanghai and north China, we found that during May and June there was not much rainfall in north China, which favoured the growth of young apples. In Shanghai, however, rainfall was concentrated in these two months. Several days after each heavy rainfall, the young fruit fell off. The heavier the rain, the more serious the falling off of fruit. Through this external phenomenon we came to understand the

internal cause. In May and June, the branches and young apples grew apace. Both needed lots of nourishment over which they naturally competed. Rainfall at that time stimulated the rapid growth of the branches which consumed lots of organic nutrients. Lacking the necessary nourishment, the young apples fell off. In the light of these characteristics, we adopted a series of measures to help the young apples get nourishment. The result proved quite satisfactory.

The output of apples increased, but their colour, flavour and taste were not as good as those grown in the north.

We made a comparison between apples of the same kind grown in the north and in the south, and found that the seeds of those from the north were black while those of our apples were still brown, even though the former were picked several days earlier. This made us understand that the same kind of apple ripened at different times in different latitudes. As our apples were picked before they were really ripe, they were of course sour and hard.

How to make our apples grow bigger? Generally speaking, apples are comparatively small if too many grow on the same tree competing for nourishment. So we thinned the young fruit when there were too many on one tree, and this helped the apples to grow big. Later we found that thinning the fruit was rather wasteful as lots of organic nutrients had already been consumed. So we thinned the flowers instead, and later we further improved by thinning the flowering buds. With adequate organic nutrients, our apples grew bigger than before.

Zigzag Advance

Our knowledge of the law governing the growth of apple trees in Shanghai gradually deepened through a zigzag process. We advanced a step when we succeeded in making our trees bear a small number of fruit in 1966 after six years of failure and in producing 900 *jin* per *mu* in 1969. In 1970 when we mechanically copied the experience in the north, the per-*mu* yield dropped to 425 *jin*. In 1971, we summed up our own experience and made the per-*mu* yield rise to

1,580 *jin* that year. This year witnessed another big step forward when we gathered 3,100 *jin* of apples from each *mu*. Reviewing this process, we realize that when our ideology corresponds to the changing situation and conforms to the law of the objective world, we achieve success in our work. Otherwise we will fail. Only by conscientiously summing up our experiences — both positive and negative — and by constantly learning from the orchards in other areas can we make our own ideology conform to the objective law.

However, our knowledge in cultivating apple trees is far from being complete. Even the knowledge we have already gained may change as the fruit trees grow. For example, in the past few years we have found that several of our trees bear many apples in one year but quite few the next. In addition, there is still a gap between the output and quality of our apples and those grown in the north. We need to make further researches to solve these problems. And to make good use of the soil and climate south of the Yangtze River to grow new varieties requires painstaking effort over a long period.

Olunchun Nationality

From Primitive Hunting to Mechanized Farming

THE Olunchuns, one of China's smallest nationalities numerically, live deep in the thickly forested mountains near the northern frontier. There are 61 Olunchun households in the Hsinngo People's Commune of Sunke County, Heilungkiang Province, in northeast China. At harvest time, one of their young men can be seen driving a combine in the field, while at the threshing floor of concrete, the hum of winnowing machines at work goes on incessantly. Power comes from the commune's small hydroelectric station.

In poverty-stricken, backward old China, the Olunchuns were verging

on extinction. Primitive hunters then and living in tents of birch-bark or hide, they ranged the Greater and Lesser Khingan Mountains for game with their crude, antiquated muskets and foraged for wild fruits. Disease, which took a heavy toll each year, had reduced their numbers to less than 2,000 by 1949.

After liberation the Party and the People's Government came to their assistance, providing them with grain, clothes and new hunting-guns, sending in doctors and helping them to settle down. The present Hsinngo Commune includes one of the settlements established in the early post-

liberation days by the Olunchun people.

Farming and Grain

After settling down, the Olunchun families learnt to farm. They started out growing vegetables for themselves and fodder for their horses on 75 *mu* of land. Their food-grain, supplied by the state, was transported over tortuous mountain paths from a great distance. Then in 1963, they were able to enlarge the area under cultivation when the state gave them a tractor and trained one of the young men as a driver. This was on the tenth anniversary of their settling down. The next year the Olunchun commune members succeeded in growing more than enough grain to feed themselves.

Since the beginning of the Great Proletarian Cultural Revolution they have bought two tractors, a walking-tractor, a combine harvester, a threshing machine, numerous semi-



Party branch secretary Chang Pen (second from left) of Olunchun nationality and other members of a production team on an inspection tour of the forests.

mechanized farm machines and other implements with funds accumulated from expanded production. This was done in co-operation with members of Han, Manchu, Mongolian, Tahir and Owenke nationalities who had come to the commune more recently.

The commune members built a reservoir, together with other water conservancy works, and increased their cropland to 6,900 *mu* by reclaiming some swamps. Last year there was grain left to deliver and sell to the state after putting aside enough for their own food, animal fodder, seed and reserves. Last year, defying cold and high altitude they tried raising 60 *mu* of paddy. It proved successful and they had their first meal of home-grown rice.

Diversified Economy

Hunting is different now. Formerly the Olunchuns killed any animal they came across, however rare, with no regard for its perpetuation. But in 1957 they began to capture deer alive to breed and raise in captivity. Today the commune has a herd of 79 wapiti which produce a yearly average of 34,500 gm. of antler, a valuable medicinal substance. Antler sold to the state last year brought in 45,000 yuan.

Their horses and cattle, which they began raising in 1964, now number 220. Recently they crossed a local breed of horse with an outside breed to cultivate a strain for greater toughness, strength and resistance to cold. Pigs, poultry and other side-lines are flourishing as well. Bee-keeping was started last year, and this year, fish-breeding. Sometimes commune members go collecting medicinal herbs or mushrooms and other delectable fungi in the mountains. This many-sided economy has meant more income for the commune, production teams and individual families.

In the old days there were no industries in the area. If someone wanted a manufactured article, say a knife, he had to travel a good 1,000 *li* to the nearest store and barter away a pelt or two for it. Today, the thickly forested commune has its own shops and stores. There are small workshops for processing grain, generating electricity and repairing farm equipment.

Incomes and Population

Commune members have electricity in their homes today, and good furniture. The Olunchun families' birch-bark utensils have been replaced by iron or aluminium ware, their leather

garments by clothes of cotton or wool. The roebuck tendons formerly used in sewing are a curiosity, for everyone has thread today, and 18 of the 61 Olunchun families have sewing-machines.

With the development of production, the collective's funds have reached 800,000 yuan. The amount from farming and side-line produce in 1971 was three times that of 1965, the year before the beginning of the Cultural Revolution. The individual commune member's income has gone up too. Able-bodied workers made up to 800-900 yuan last year, with the average worker receiving 600-700 yuan.

Before liberation, with not a single school in the region, nearly all Olunchuns were illiterate. Today the commune provides free primary and middle-school education. Several Olunchun young people are now in college. On holidays youngsters of various nationalities put on joint cultural performances. The youth are keen on sports, particularly basketball and table tennis. Free film shows can now be seen; the projector, bought this year by the commune, is operated by an Olunchun.

A clinic, set up under commune auspices, has Olunchun medical and health workers, and is part of the commune's co-operative medical service. Smallpox, typhus, cholera, plague and other contagious diseases which had taken many lives in the past have been wiped out, while arthritis, bronchitis, disorders of the gastro-intestinal tract and other more common diseases have been cut down sharply. After 19 years of settled life, the Olunchun population of Hsinngo Commune has doubled.

Although the Olunchun nationality is numerically small, it enjoys political equality with all the other nationalities of China. There are Party members and Communist Youth League members of Olunchun nationality and there are Olunchun representatives on the revolutionary committees at provincial, county and commune level.

China at the U.N.

Supports Struggle of All Peoples Against Colonialism and Neo-Colonialism

At the October 20 plenary meeting of the U.N. General Assembly on the question of anti-colonialism, Vice-Chairman of the Chinese Delegation Huang Hua condemned and exposed the crimes of colonialism, old and new. He also expressed firm support for the just struggle of all peoples against colonialism and neo-colonialism. Following are excerpts of his speech. Subheads are ours. — Ed.

Rely Mainly on Own Efforts

THE present situation is excellent in the struggle against colonialism and neo-colonialism. In the year past, the independent countries in Asia, Africa and Latin America have made unremitting efforts and achieved a series of victories in shaking off superpower control, opposing foreign interference, safeguarding national independence and state sovereignty, eliminating the forces of imperialism and colonialism, protecting national resources and developing national economy. The national-liberation movement in Asia, Africa, Latin America and other regions are developing vigorously.

The peoples of the world are forming an ever broader united front in the struggle against imperialism, colonialism and neo-colonialism.

Countries want independence, nations want liberation and the people want revolution — this has become the great trend of history which no one can check.

It is very important for the peoples of Asia, Africa and Latin America to sympathize with and support each other and strengthen their unity in the struggle to oppose colonialism and neo-colonialism and win and safeguard national independence. However, fundamentally speaking, the independence of a country can be achieved mainly through the unremitting struggle of its people. In other words, they should rely mainly on their own efforts and take foreign aid as an auxiliary. One should never rely on others to end colonial rule, still less should he expect colonialism

and neo-colonialism to show “benevolence” and “bestow” independence on him.

Revolutionary Violence Is Not “Terrorism”

The struggle against colonialism and neo-colonialism and for the achievement and defence of national independence is a mass struggle. Victory can be won only by mobilizing and organizing the masses in their millions for unremitting struggles. The form of waging struggles is bound to be varied, but in the final analysis the counter-revolutionary violence of the colonialists can be frustrated only by the use of revolutionary violence.

We have always opposed assassination and hijacking of individuals as a means for waging political struggles and are also opposed to the adventurist acts of terrorism by individuals or a handful of people divorced from the masses. But we definitely cannot agree to the confusion of revolutionary violence with “terrorism.” Quite a few representatives touched upon the question of “terrorism” during the general debate at the earlier stage. What calls for attention is that the Portuguese representative has opposed the theory of distinguishing just wars from unjust wars, calling all acts of violence “terrorism” and describing Portugal itself as a victim of “terrorism.” The representative of South Africa further asserted that “terrorism” will survive so long as the use of force and violence are condoned. Moreover, the representative of Israel even alleged that the most rampant “terrorism”

today is that which has its root in Arab hostility to Israel, and he slanderously called the Palestine Liberation Organization a “terrorist” organization. These are most remarkable performances at the current session of the General Assembly. The Israeli Zionists and the Portuguese and South African colonialists with their hands stained with the blood of millions of Arab people and African people turn out to be “the greatest humanitarianists” of the present day. This is indeed a fantastic tale. Small wonder that at the current session of the General Assembly one superpower has been making such feverish outcries against “terrorism,” while the other superpower has been peddling so energetically the non-use of all force.

We maintain that the United Nations is duty-bound to support the people of various countries in their struggle against colonialism and neo-colonialism. It is utterly impermissible for the superpowers to suppress or demoralize the national-liberation movement through the instrumentality of the United Nations.

Beware of Newest Type of Colonialism

Particular vigilance should be kept over neo-colonialism of various descriptions. The colonialists’ old tricks have been seen through by the people of various countries. The colonialists and neo-colonialists are employing all kinds of new tactics either to maintain their existing colonial rule or to carry out fresh colonial expansion. They either foster agents and buy over traitors to serve them, or incite coups d’etat for subversion or even organize mercenaries for armed invasions. They carry out economic plunder and political control under the guise of investment and loans. It should also be pointed out that they are now trying by every possible means to sow discord and

create disputes among the Asian, African and Latin American countries so as to fish in troubled waters and stage a come-back. What merits particular attention is that a certain superpower is masquerading as a friend of the Asian, African and Latin American peoples by flaunting the signboard of "anti-imperialism and anti-colonialism" and professing to give so-called "aid," while actually it is perpetrating the same colonialist evils. That is a newest type of colonialism.

Self-determination is an important principle in the national-liberation movement. But what kind of stuff is the "self-determination" advertised by colonialism and neo-colonialism? Some are forming the so-called "Bantustans" to sabotage the territorial integrity and unity of a state; some rig up titular parliamentary structures with all powers in the

hands of the colonialist authorities; some openly instigated armed aggression to dismember a sovereign state. They describe all this as self-determination! In fact they are carrying out national oppression and national division under the name of self-determination.

In our opinion, it is not impermissible for the oppressed nations and peoples to have dialogue with the colonialists as a means of opposing colonialism on the condition that it does not impair the fundamental interests of the people. But the Portuguese colonial authorities and the South African white racist regime are feverishly intensifying their reactionary rule, while hypocritically expressing their readiness to hold "dialogue" with the parties concerned. Obviously, such a dialogue is a means employed by the colonialists to sustain their colonial rule, for the purpose of

extricating themselves from their ever greater isolation on the international arena, mollifying the condemnation by the peoples of the world and lulling the fighting will of the local people. It is entirely justified for a large number of African countries to oppose such a kind of "dialogue."

China firmly supports the people of various countries in their just struggle against colonialism and neo-colonialism.

We are firmly convinced that the people of Asia, Africa, Latin America and other regions will rely on themselves, get united, persevere in struggle and, with the support and sympathy of all the justice-upholding countries and peoples of the world, overcome all the hardships and obstacles on their road of advance and completely bury imperialism, colonialism and neo-colonialism.

China's Stand on Disarmament

The debate on disarmament opened on October 23 at the First Committee (Political and Security) of the United Nations General Assembly. Speaking on October 24 at the second session, Chinese Representative Chen Chu explained the Chinese Government's solemn stand on disarmament and exposed and refuted a number of hypocritical and preposterous arguments spread by certain people on this issue. Following are excerpts from his speech. Sub-heads are ours.—Ed.

Imperialism Is the Root Cause Of War

IMPERIALISM has brought untold oppression, plunder and aggression as well as innumerable wars to the peoples of the world, who have been made to suffer the calamities of two world wars. By unleashing and waging wars, imperialism has inflicted a great toil of suffering on the people, but at the same time it has educated them. More and more people have now come to understand the truth that imperialism is the root cause of war in our times. So long as imperialism exists, there is the possibility of an outbreak of war. To defend world peace, it is essential to firmly oppose the imperialist policies of aggression and war. However, there are now certain people who assert that the arms race is the main

cause underlying the danger of war and who place the responsibility for the arms race on all countries alike. They propagate that it is only on the basis of a general and complete disarmament that the threat of war can be fully excluded from the life of the human community. Such an assertion shows a lack of common sense and is deceptive.

As is well known, arms as such do not lead to war, the crucial question is who wields the arms and what kind of policy they serve. Arms in the hands of those who pursue an imperialist policy will become tools for oppressing the people of various countries and waging wars of aggression; whereas arms in the hands of the oppressed and aggressed countries fighting for self-defence will constitute a force in defence of peace.

The enhancement of their self-defence capabilities by a great number of small and medium countries confronted with the aggression, interference, subversion and control by imperialism, colonialism and neo-colonialism has nothing at all to do with "the arms race." In spreading the idea that the arms race is the root cause of war and in advocating a general and complete disarmament, their plain aim is to cover up the basic fact that imperialism is the root cause of war and to ask the people of various countries to abandon their struggle against imperialism and colonialism, and disarm themselves before the intimidation and aggression of imperialism, colonialism and neo-colonialism, who may trample upon them at will.

Two Superpowers' Armaments Should Be Cut First

China has always been in favour of disarmament. But we are opposed to indiscriminately describing disarmament as an issue of vital importance to, and the universal demand of, all peoples. In our opinion, a serious discussion of the question of

disarmament should not be a far-ranging rambling discourse, but it should make clear whose armaments should be cut first. What is there to cut in the armaments of a great number of the third world countries? Nothing. For them the important question and the universal demand today is by no means disarmament but, on the contrary, the strengthening of their national defence capabilities to resist foreign aggression and oppression and safeguard their national independence and state sovereignty. As for those peoples still under colonial domination, they are fighting against colonialism and neo-colonialism, and it goes without saying that for them, disarmament is all the more out of the question. The whole world is aware that at present it is none other than the two superpowers which are feverishly engaged in an arms race. To reduce armaments, it is first of all necessary to reduce their armaments. Those who try to put the blame for the arms race on all countries indiscriminately and who insist on disarmament by all countries alike in the event of any disarmament, only show that they have no desire at all for disarmament but are attempting to shift the blame on to the large number of small and medium countries.

At present, the nuclear arms race between the two superpowers is being stepped up without pause. They are brandishing nuclear weapons to intimidate the people of various countries. Who are obstructing nuclear disarmament? — The answer should be crystal clear. However, at the conference of the committee on disarmament held in Geneva not long ago, the Soviet representative alleged that those countries which had refused to sign or ratify the “partial nuclear test ban treaty” and the “treaty on the non-proliferation of nuclear weapons” must be held responsible for obstructing nuclear disarmament. In his letter of August 14 to the U.N. Secretary-General, the U.S.S.R. Minister for Foreign Affairs again made a big fanfare about those treaties and suggested that such “a considerable body of experience” as the so-called “accumulated” disarmament should be summed up. This is sheer deceptive talk which turns things upside down.

One might ask: How much nuclear armament have these two superpowers reduced over the years? Have they reduced or increased the nuclear weapons in their hands? While engaged in unbridled nuclear arms expansion, they want to put the blame for obstructing nuclear disarmament on the non-nuclear countries or the countries with few nuclear weapons. Can such a reason exist anywhere on earth? More and more countries have now come to realize that the “partial nuclear test ban treaty,” the “treaty on the non-proliferation of nuclear weapons” etc., which they have concocted, are a sheer hoax aimed at maintaining their nuclear monopoly and hegemony. If any experience of disarmament over the last decade is to be summed up, there is indeed “a considerable body of experience,” that is, one must not trust their words but must thoroughly expose their nuclear frauds.

Old Tricks of Tsarist Russia

All the imperialists invariably try to cover up the essence of their aggression and arms expansion with lies about peace and disarmament. In the last decade alone, not to search into the remote past, no small number of so-called disarmament agreements have been concocted by the two superpowers, who have spared themselves no energy in advertising peace. But what have they actually done? Please look at the facts.

— They have been engaged in frantic arms expansion and war preparations. They have been feverishly developing not only nuclear weapons, but conventional weapons as well. Their military budgets have reached prodigious figures;

— They have stationed large numbers of troops and set up various military bases, including nuclear bases, on the territories of many countries in wilful violation of the sovereignty and territorial integrity of other countries;

— They have vied with each other in carrying out military manoeuvres and making a show of force on the high seas, on the territories of other countries and on the borders adjacent to other countries;

— Their planes, warships and submarines, including those carrying nuclear weapons, have been flying or plying everywhere, posing a threat to the security of the people of various countries;

— One of them has carried on its war of aggression in the Far East for a decade, and the other has arrogantly dispatched its troops to occupy the land of one of its European allies and incited a war of armed aggression to dismember Pakistan on the South Asian subcontinent.

It is not a new invention by modern imperialism to employ the policy of peace deception and the policy of war threat alternately or at the same time. Tsarist Russia was an old hand at such tricks. As is known to all, tsarist Russia at the end of the 19th century was a huge feudal military empire, enforcing a brutal military rule at home and carrying out frenzied armed expansion abroad. However, it was precisely that government which, chanting the tune of peace and disarmament, proposed in 1899 and 1907 successively the convocation of what it called a “world peace conference.” But after a short span of a few years it unleashed World War I in collusion with other European powers. History will not repeat itself all over again. Nevertheless, the past not forgotten is a guide for the future. Historical experience merits attention.

In our opinion, if there is to be disarmament, it should be genuine disarmament, and it must not be used as a slogan to deceive the people. If a world disarmament conference is to be convened, it must contribute to the promotion of the struggle of the peace-loving people of the world for the complete prohibition and thorough destruction of nuclear weapons and must not serve to lull and hoodwink them. The Soviet Government maintains that all “conditions” now exist for the convening of such a conference. We cannot agree to such views. The actual situation is that the overwhelming majority of countries in the world are being subjected to the threat by nuclear superpowers in varying degrees. To convene the world disarmament conference under such circumstances is in effect demanding that these coun-

tries accept "terms of surrender" under nuclear threat. In our opinion, so long as there is no assurance for all countries to participate in the conference free from any threat, it cannot be said there exist the necessary conditions for convening such a conference, and there can be no talk even about the preparatory work for the conference.

Elementary Conditions

The Chinese Government has consistently stood for the complete prohibition and thorough destruction of nuclear weapons and has stated solemnly on many occasions that at no time and under no circumstances will China be the first to use nuclear weapons. The Chinese Government is ready to promote actively the convening and smooth progress of a world disarmament conference. However, in view of the actual situation prevailing in

the world, the Chinese Government is of the opinion that the most important thing at present is to create the necessary conditions for the convening of such a conference, that is: all nuclear countries, particularly the Soviet Union and the United States which possess the largest amount of nuclear weapons, should undertake the obligation: 1. not to be the first to use nuclear weapons at any time and under any circumstances, particularly not to use nuclear weapons against non-nuclear countries at any time and under any circumstances; 2. withdraw from abroad all armed forces and dismantle all military bases including nuclear bases set up on foreign soil. Only thus will it be possible for all countries, big or small, to participate in the conference on an equal footing and free from any threat. If, in the absence of these elementary conditions, the so-

called preparatory work is to be forcibly carried out and a date for the convocation of the conference is to be fixed in advance, it will only give rise to fond illusions among the people of various countries. This is most harmful to the peoples' just cause of opposing imperialism, colonialism and neo-colonialism, winning and safeguarding national independence and defending world peace. China fully understands the legitimate desire for peace on the part of many countries which oppose the superpowers' arms race and demand their disarmament. However, when certain people are exploiting such desire to serve their deceptive trick of sham disarmament and real arms expansion, China declines to be a party to it.

We hope that the above views will be seriously considered by the committee.

Complete National Liberation Is the Road to Flourishing of Education, Science and Culture

Huang Chen, head of the Delegation of the People's Republic of China to the 17th Session of the UNESCO General Conference, spoke at the plenary meeting in the course of general debate on October 25. He pointed out that the aggression and expansion of the superpowers not only impair the independence and sovereignty of other countries and jeopardize world peace and security, but inevitably do great harm to education, science and culture in the countries subjected to aggression. He reiterated that the Chinese Government and people firmly support the people of the world and the small and medium-sized countries in their just struggle to safeguard national independence and state sovereignty, develop their national education, science and culture and oppose aggression, interference, subversion and control by the superpowers. Excerpts of his speech follow. Subheads are ours. — Ed.

IN the past few years, UNESCO has, at the strong demand of Asian, African and Latin American countries and with their efforts and the support of many other peace-loving and justice-upholding countries, discussed and passed resolutions opposing colonialism and racism, adopted some positive measures, and played a due role in strengthening international cultural exchanges. At some meetings, reasonable opinions voiced by

many developing countries on the advancement of national education, science and culture have won wide sympathy and support from the people of the world. Facts have shown that the third world countries in UNESCO are playing an ever-growing role. This is most inspiring.

Great Harm Done by Superpowers

To develop education, science and culture in the service of the noble

cause of safeguarding national independence and promoting world peace and human progress is a universal desire of the people of all countries as well as the objective for which the representatives of the majority of the member states of this organization are working. However, it cannot but be noted that, contrary to the desire of the people of the world, fruits of modern civilization have often been unscrupulously ravaged by imperialism or even utilized by the superpowers as means for pushing their policies of aggression, expansion and war. In Indochina, the United States is continuing its bloody war of aggression. It is wantonly bombing cities and villages in Viet Nam, destroying many schools and other cultural and medical institutions, and killing many teachers, students, patients and medical personnel. In the Middle East, the two superpowers are contending with each other through a competitive "export of weapons." They either openly incite and support

armed aggression, or exercise control over other countries on the pretext of "aid." They are using Arab countries' territories and sovereignty and the Palestinian people's right to existence as stakes for striking political deals. In the jungles in Africa, too, the colonialists are using modern weapons to frantically suppress the African people fighting for freedom and liberation. Moreover, the two superpowers are feverishly developing nuclear weapons in a nuclear arms race, attempting to contend for world hegemony by means of nuclear threat and blackmail. These actions of the imperialists, and particularly the superpowers, not only impair the independence and sovereignty of other countries and jeopardize world peace and security, but inevitably cause great harm to the education, science and culture of the countries subjected to aggression. This runs diametrically counter to the purpose of UNESCO of contributing to world peace and security.

The Chinese Government and people firmly support the people of the world and the small and medium-sized countries in their just struggle to safeguard their national independence and state sovereignty, develop their national education, science and culture and oppose aggression, interference, subversion and control by the superpowers.

Asian, African and Latin American Peoples Capable of Standing on Their Own Feet in the Family Of Nations

Innumerable historical facts have proved that only complete political and economic independence can provide practical possibilities and open up broad prospects for the development of national education, science and culture. Complete national liberation is the only broad road leading to the flourishing of all national education, science and culture.

Like the other peoples of the world, the Asian, African and Latin American peoples are industrious, talented and valiant. Historically, during periods of their independent development, they created splendid ancient cultures and made valuable contributions to the civilization and progress

of mankind. It is only in modern times that their cultures have been reduced to a backward state due to imperialist aggression, oppression and plunder. Some imperialists often brag about their civilization and deride Asia, Africa and Latin America for their backwardness. They have in fact forgotten history. The Asian, African and Latin American peoples not only have a brilliant past. It can be said that modern Western civilization itself has, to a large extent, been nurtured with the blood and sweat of the Asian, African and Latin American peoples. We are glad to see that many Asian, African and Latin American countries have since independence achieved gratifying successes in gradually developing their national education, science and culture while defending their state sovereignty and developing their national economy. The Asian, African and Latin American peoples have the will and the capability of standing on their own feet in the family of nations. We are firmly convinced that the Asian, African and Latin American peoples, who once created miraculous ancient cultures, will surely be able to create even greater miracles and make their national cultures shine forth in still greater splendour once they throw off the shackles of imperialist enslavement and become masters of their own destiny.

Our Opinions

We stand for the normal growth of cultural, scientific and educational exchanges and co-operation among the peoples of all countries so as to increase their mutual understanding and friendship. We hold that progressive cultures of all nations, regardless of the length of their history, have their respective characteristics and merits, which should be the cultural nourishment of other peoples and serve as examples in their cultural development. There can be mutual assimilation and overcoming of one's own shortcomings by learning from the strong points of others. Of course, this assimilation is by no means uncritical eclecticism. An analysis should be made of foreign cultures. Even their progressive ele-

ments should be appropriately adapted to the specific domestic conditions according to the needs of the people and conveyed through national forms before they can answer the purpose of serving the people at home. It is inadvisable to the development of national cultures to have blind faith in foreign things and transplant them in toto.

We hold that, in educational, scientific and cultural as in economic construction, the developing countries should rely on the strength and wisdom of their own people, bring up their own contingents of experts and teachers and accept necessary foreign aid given on an equal footing, while mainly relying on their own efforts. All sincere aid in these fields, including multilateral aid through UNESCO and the other agencies of the United Nations, should be based on respect for the sovereignty and national dignity of the recipient countries. The purpose of the aid should be to help the recipient countries stand on their own feet and develop their education, science and culture independently; it must not reduce the recipient countries to dependence on the aid-giving countries. Some powers regard their aid as "alms" and boast about anything they give; they look down on others as "inferior nations" and pride themselves as superhuman "angels." We are resolutely opposed to such despicable practice.

In whose hands is scientific and cultural knowledge and whom does it serve?—This is a matter of principle. We hold that scientific and cultural knowledge should be in the hands of the broad masses of the people and serve the majority of the people. For, fundamentally speaking, it is the crystallization of the diligent work and the wisdom of the working people of all countries from generation to generation. It is only at a given stage in the development of history that it became monopolized by a minority of people and was turned by them into a means of exploitation and a means of violence. This irrational state of affairs can be

(Continued on p. 28.)

ROUND THE WORLD

ROMANIA

Ceausescu Visits Belgium

Nicolae Ceausescu, President of the State Council of Romania, and his wife paid an official visit to Belgium from October 24 to 26 at the invitation of Belgian King Baudouin I and the Belgian Queen.

During his stay in Belgium, President Ceausescu held talks with Belgian Prime Minister Gaston Eyskens and visited some Belgian cities.

A joint statement signed between Romania and Belgium on October 26 declared their determination to develop and expand their relations of friendship and co-operation. The statement pointed out that the two countries were determined to base their mutual relations and their relations with all other states on principles including the following: the right of every state to independence, freedom and sovereignty and the obligation of every state to live in peace and entertain relations of good neighbourhood with other states; non-interference in the internal affairs of another state under any form and on whatever ground; settlement of inter-state disputes by peaceful means only and refraining from the use and threat of force against another state under any pretext.

YUGOSLAVIA

Military Exercise to Strengthen National Defence

Yugoslavia held a large-scale military exercise code-named "Podgora 72" at the middle coast of the Adriatic Sea from October 22 to 25.

The exercise was conducted under the command of Vice-Admiral Ivo Purisic, Commander of the Split Naval Zone. Taking part in the exercise were naval, ground and air

forces of the Yugoslav People's Army, civil defence forces and local civilians.

Josip Broz Tito, President of Yugoslavia and Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces, watched the exercise in the company of Army General Nikola Ljubicic, Federal State Secretary for National Defence.

On the eve of the exercise, Vice-Admiral Ivo Purisic pointed out in an interview with *Front*, "The exercise will be another warning against any potential aggressor: It will show what kind of resistance he will encounter if he dares to encroach upon our country."

President Tito spoke after the exercise. "I think this exercise has demonstrated the powerful defence capabilities," he said. "We must always be ready to defend our country and this longest coast line. Our islands cannot become victims of aggression."

JAPAN

Statements on Japanese-Soviet Peace Treaty and Northern Territories

Japanese Prime Minister Kakuei Tanaka and Foreign Minister Masayoshi Ohira made statements respectively on October 25 and 26 on the conclusion of a peace treaty with the Soviet Union and the problem of Japan's northern territories (namely the four Japanese islands Habomai, Shikotan, Kunashiri and Etorofu now under Soviet occupation).

The Japanese Jiji News Agency reported that meeting Japanese reporters at the Prime Minister's official residence in Tokyo on October 26, Prime Minister Tanaka said: "The return of the four islands as the whole nation desires is the prere-

quisite," adding that "the Soviet Union should also understand that a precondition for a Japanese-Soviet peace treaty is the question of the four islands." He said: "Between Japan and the Soviet Union, there is not only the question of the northern territories, but there are also questions of the safety of fishing, the detained seamen, the Tyumen Oilfield and other economic issues as well as the questions of unrepatriated Japanese militarymen and visits to Japanese graves which should all be solved."

Upon his return to Tokyo on October 25 from visits to Australia, New Zealand, the United States and the Soviet Union, Foreign Minister Masayoshi Ohira told reporters: "As Japan is concerned, the biggest question for concluding a peace treaty with the Soviet Union is the territorial article. No progress can be made so long as this question is not clarified. The Soviet attitude towards this question is stubborn and inflexible. But they did not say: 'Give it up, no peace treaty will be concluded.' If it could be said that there is still room left, the two countries have to clarify the issue through contacts and mutual understanding in the future."

U.S.S.R.

Rocket Carrier Tests in The Pacific

TASS issued an announcement on October 18 to the effect that the Soviet Union had concluded its tests of launching rocket carriers to an area in the Pacific ahead of schedule.

The recent tests began on October 13 and were scheduled to conclude on October 30.

According to an AP report, the U.S. Defence Department confirmed that the recent Soviet launchings were "tests of intercontinental ballistic missiles with multiple warheads." The Soviet Union had been trying for some time to "develop multiple independent re-entry vehicles" for its missiles, the report said.

Recently, the Soviet Union set forth a proposal for the "non-use of force in international relations and the permanent prohibition of the use of nuclear weapons" at the 27th Session of the United Nations General Assembly, and advertised in a big way the significance of the "agreements on the limitation of strategic armaments" reached between the Soviet Union and the United States. In fact, since the dishing up of the Soviet-U.S. "agreements" on May 26, the two sides have not slackened the development of strategic nuclear armaments, but have entered a new stage in the race.

According to an AP report of July 6, U.S. Defence Secretary Laird told newsmen that since the "agreements" were signed, the Russians had conducted seven ICBM tests and eight tests involving submarine-launched ballistic missiles.

U.S.A.

Workers Strike

12,500 workers at U.S. General Motors assembly division facilities — at Kansas City, Kansas; Janesville, Wisconsin; and Arlington, Texas — downed tools on October 21 in protest against the creation of unemployment by the monopoly capitalists.

To seize bigger profits, the monopolists of the General Motors Corporation have enforced in its plants the "speed-up system" under which the workers' labour intensity is considerably increased by unjustifiable mass dismissals without reducing the original production quota.

It was reported that the speed of the assembly line at the General Motors assembly division in Norwood remained as designed after 749 of the 4,000 workers were dismissed. The workers of the General Motors plants have decided to resort to hit-and-run strikes to protest against their brutal exploitation by the monopolists. The walkouts of the workers at General Motors assembly plants at Kansas City, Janesville and Arlington were part of these strikes.

The present auto workers' walkouts have caused heavy losses to the capitalists of the General Motors Corporation, who sustained a loss of more than 3,000 cars and trucks each day the workers of these three plants were on strike.

Since June this year, U.S. workers have constantly waged struggles against monopoly capital for better working conditions and in defence of their right to work and to live. Strikes have been successively staged by 6,500 building workers in New York, over 1,600 pilots of Northwest Airlines, 17,000 miners of the Blacksville mine in West Virginia, 5,000 workers of shipbuilding yards on the eastern coast in New Jersey State, agricultural workers in Arizona, tens of thousands of teachers in Washington, New York and some other U.S. big cities, 3,600 municipal workers in Cleveland, and hundreds of dockers in Honolulu. Northwest Airlines' pilots persisted in their strike for 95 days.

EQUATORIAL GUINEA

Developing National Education

Since it freed itself from Spanish colonial rule and won independence four years ago, the Republic of Equatorial Guinea has done much to develop its national education.

Before independence it had only a few primary schools, and its two middle schools were mainly for white men's children. Most Guinean children were deprived of the right to have any schooling. Since independence the government, while energetically restoring and developing its national economy, has taken vigorous measures to develop its education so that the cultural backwardness brought about by colonial rule in the past would be done away with step by step.

Four years of continued effort has paid off handsomely. Equatorial Guinea now has three times the pre-

independence number of primary schools with an enrolment also three times as many, and 60 per cent of its school-age children are now in school. The number of middle schools has increased to eight.

In accordance with the principle that "official posts are for its own nationals only," the Equatorial Guinean Government has founded two specialized schools to train its own administrative personnel and primary school teachers. Recently, an educational development centre was established for the purpose of gradually providing teachers for the middle schools. To date, the number of primary school teachers has doubled compared with pre-independence days; among its 147 middle school teachers 96 are Equatorial Guineans. Gone for good are the days of colonial rule when the country did not have a single middle school teacher of its own nationality.

Laying emphasis on the development of its national culture, the government has made great efforts to revive traditional culture. To educate its youth in the spirit of fighting against imperialism and colonialism and in patriotism, the Party of National Unity Labour has edited a textbook entitled *Anti-Colonialist Political Education* which is now a must in all schools throughout the country; leading officials are sent regularly by the government to schools to give lectures on politics.

The Equatorial Guinean Government also stresses the importance of students taking part in a certain amount of productive labour. Last December, the Council of Ministers adopted a resolution providing that all middle schools should run its own training classes for farming and set up small experimental farms attached to the schools so that the students will be taught to love farming. In response to the government's call "to make the motherland prosperous and powerful," young students with hoes in hand are often seen going to the cacao-tree groves to take part in productive labour.

FRIENDSHIP LOG

Chinese Scientists in Britain

With Pei Shih-chang, Director of the Institute of Biophysics of the Chinese Academy of Sciences, as its leader, a Chinese scientists' delegation visited Britain from October 7 to 20. The Chinese visitors were accorded a warm welcome by their British colleagues in London and Edinburgh, and in Manchester and the university towns of Oxford and Cambridge.

Together, scientists of the two countries visited some of the research institutions or held discussions during the day-time and in the evenings they often chatted far into the night. Though some members on the delegation are over 60, they never felt tired in spite of a busy schedule.

Some of the Chinese scientists had either studied in Britain or visited it some 30 years ago. This time, they met some of their old acquaintances and this made the visit particularly memorable.

Professor Chang Wen-yu studied in Britain when he was young. Two of his tutors, now living in retirement, came especially to see him. The world has changed in the last three decades, but friendship between the peoples of the two countries remains firm — such were the subjects of conversation between the emeritus tutors and their one-time Chinese student. An aged professor who knew Professor Chien Wei-chang was delighted when

he found the latter's name on the delegation in the newspaper. He came to Oxford to look him up and the two talked of those days 30 years ago when they worked together and reviewed the progress made in world science and technology. Some British scientists who had visited China before were most enthusiastic and friendly. Among them was Sir Alan Hodgkin, President of the Royal Society. Though in poor health, he accompanied the delegation on a visit. Dr. Joseph Needham, President of the Society for Anglo-Chinese Understanding and Master of the Gonville and Caius College of Cambridge University, invited the delegation to pay a visit to Caius College.

Professor K. Mendelssohn of Oxford University, a noted physicist, has been to China many times and is well known in Chinese scientific circles. When the delegation came to Oxford, the professor invited the Chinese visitors to his house where they received a warm welcome from the whole family as well as other British scientists present. Together they recalled the memorable days Professor Mendelssohn had spent in China. The professor said that it was an honour and a privilege that he could entertain the Chinese scientists at his home. He showed the guests his collection of Chinese paintings and books of poetry and other objects of art. At the dinner table there were delicious Chinese dishes prepared by Mrs. Mendelssohn herself. She said she had been looking forward to the day when she would be able to treat her guests with Chinese food. The Chi-

nese scientists were very much impressed by their hospitality.

Professor Dorothy Mary Hodgkin of Oxford and the staff of her laboratory had a discussion with the Chinese biochemists on insulin. The Chinese scientists gave an account of China's research on insulin and views were exchanged on scientific experimentation in this and other fields. Professor Hodgkin spoke highly of China's progress in the research of synthetic insulin. The Chinese guests expressed admiration for the painstaking and fruitful work of their British colleagues.

Mr. Pease, a leading member of the Culham Laboratory at Oxford, expressed his wish that the Chinese scientists would constantly break new grounds. Chairman Mao's words that China ought to make a greater contribution to humanity will certainly be realized, he said.

The Chinese scientists discussed with the leading members of the Royal Society the question of expanding the exchange of scientists of the two countries. Sir Hodgkin said that such an intercourse accords with the aspirations of the two peoples. He hoped for more exchanges of visits by scholars of the two countries. His view was shared by the Chinese scientists. Head of the Chinese delegation Pei Shih-chang said that the warm reception accorded the delegation reflected the profound friendship between the scientists and peoples of the two countries, the development of which delighted both himself and other members of the delegation.

(Continued from p. 25.)

fundamentally changed only when scientific and cultural knowledge returns to the hands of the people and serves the interests of the majority of the people. The victory of the Chinese revolution has created conditions for the rapid development of the Chinese people's educational, scientific and cultural undertakings. In order that science and culture may be grasped in the hands of the broad masses of the working people, we

have further effected a profound transformation in the superstructure including the cultural field. The fundamental reform of the old culture and the old educational system carried out during our Great Proletarian Cultural Revolution is precisely aimed at placing education, science and culture in the better service of the great majority of the people. Our experience is, of course, still inadequate and premature. But we believe that the Cultural Revolution has already opened up new and broad

prospects for the development of our education, science and culture. Our education, science and culture, compared with those in old China, have been fundamentally changed and their level has been greatly raised, but they still cannot meet the requirements of our national construction and our aid to the people of other countries. We must continue to exert ourselves, modestly learn from the advanced experiences of other peoples and strive to make a greater contribution to mankind.

ON THE HOME FRONT

Fertilizer Production Climbs Steadily

EACH month's target for chemical fertilizer production from January to September was overfulfilled this year. Total output was 33 per cent higher than that of the same period of last year. Quality was good and production costs lowered. Consumption of raw materials, fuel and electricity was lower than that of the first three quarters of 1971. About one hundred small chemical fertilizer plants plus a batch of big and medium-sized ones went into production. This addition boosted nitrogenous and phosphate fertilizer production.

This year, the principle of simultaneously developing the industrial enterprises under both the central and the local authorities, developing small and medium-sized and large enterprises, and developing industries by both modern and indigenous methods was conscientiously implemented. Technical transformation of small nitrogenous fertilizer plants was carried out on a large scale as production in large and medium-sized enterprises rose steadily.

Small nitrogenous fertilizer plants were first built in China in 1958 when there was a great leap forward in the national economy. These plants have helped agricultural production in a big way over the past dozen years or so. Their output last year made up 43 per cent of the national total output. Technical transformation has been completed in one-seventh of the small nitrogenous fertilizer plants. This enables them to produce synthetic ammonia using fine crushed coal or poor quality coal as well as coke or coal. This opens new prospects for the small nitrogenous fertilizer plants.

This year, management has been strengthened in many medium-sized and large fertilizer plants which are striving for higher production, better

quality and lower consumption of power and raw materials.

Importance has also been attached to the development of phosphate fertilizer production while production of nitrogenous fertilizer is being spurred.

Using Acupuncture Anaesthesia in Animal Surgery

OVER the past two years Peking veterinarians have used acupuncture anaesthesia in operations on the chest, neck, limbs and other parts of the body of 360 horses, mules, donkeys, cattle and pigs. The rate of success was 95 per cent.

Since acupuncture anaesthesia induces analgesia and to a certain extent readjusts the functioning of the organs of the ailing animals, smooth operations can be ensured when there is acute pain or physiological disorder. It is particularly effective for seriously ill animals with irregular heartbeat, in which case anaesthetics will be harmful. Moreover, it does not have any of the side effects caused by anaesthetics, and usually only requires electrically operated needles which are easy to handle.

Using acupuncture anaesthesia in animal surgery, after 400,000 similar

performances on the human body have proved successful, is of theoretical importance. This is because some people assert that it is man's consciousness that helps acupunctural anaesthesia to induce analgesia, and animals cannot give veterinary surgeons conscious co-operation. The success obtained in using acupunctural anaesthesia in animal surgery to a certain degree shows that analgesia induced by this method on the human body has a material basis in human physiology.

Anaesthetics were generally used for operations on animals, causing many side effects. Sometimes, administration of fluids and injection of cardiac stimulants were needed. In the past, it was practically impossible to operate on animals with heart trouble because anaesthetics could not be used.

In October 1970 the Peking Municipal Veterinary Hospital and the army horse disease prevention and treatment centre of the P.L.A. Peking Units formed a scientific research group which improved the auricular needling method used by other units to produce anaesthesia in treating horses and mules. The group simplified it by using only one needle on one acupuncture point, and later developed the method of using electricity instead of the hand to manipulate the needle. The group also found new points for needling which can produce more satisfactory results.



Using an electrically manipulated needle to induce analgesia in performing an operation for a mule.

Once, a seven-month pregnant mare was sent to the vet hospital for it had abdominal swelling and constipation. Its heartbeat was 100 per minute. Such a case would have been incurable in the past. But this time the operation went smoothly under acupunctural anaesthesia. Immediately after the operation, the mare stood up to drink water and its heartbeat returned to normal. After a period of treatment, the animal fully recovered and foaled.

Veterinary surgeons are summing up their experience so as to solve some of the problems which are yet unsolved and gradually perfect the method of acupunctural anaesthesia in animal surgical operations.

Hunting and Preserving Wildlife

CHINA abounds in wild animals. Hunting is being actively taken up in various parts of the country, providing large quantities of pelts and hides, meat and medicinal substances as well as coveted animals for the zoos. Agriculture and stockbreeding have also received benefits through the thinning of some of the destructive animals.

Heilungkiang, Kiangsi, Inner Mongolia, Hunan, Kwangsi, Yunnan and 14 other provinces, municipalities and autonomous regions in the first half of this year purchased 55 per cent more pelts and hides of non-domesticated animals than in the same period of 1971. State purchases of birds in Chinghai, Shensi, Shansi and Kansu Provinces since last winter reported a 188 per cent increase over the same period of last year.

Party organizations everywhere have strengthened their leadership over hunting. They organized teams to investigate and study wildlife resources and sum up the experience gained. Plans for hunting suited to the local situation have been mapped out so as to protect the rarer animals. The more valuable animals such as deer, musk-deer and mink are being reared. Szechuan, Anhwei and Shensi are now extracting musk from the



Commune members of several nationalities selling pelts and other native products at a state store in Kweichow Province.

live animals instead of using the age-old method of killing the deer for its musk.

Commercial departments have done good work in providing ample and timely supplies to the hunters and buying their catches. Those in Nileke County, Sinkiang, have made things easier for the hunters by sending out teams to call on the widely scattered settlements to sell consumer goods and buy up what was taken.

Wildlife research is being carried out in a more systematic way. A biological resources investigation group in Shensi Province visited eight counties in the Yen-an region and carried out detailed studies of the distribution, species and numbers of wild animals there. The data it has collected are helpful to hunting activities. The Zoological Research Institute of the Chinese Academy of Sciences, the Entomology Research Institute of Kwangtung Province and the Zoological Research Institute of Yunnan Province have also made similar contributions.

40 Million Paper Bags

CHAIRMAN MAO pointed out: "To make China rich and strong needs several decades of intense effort, which will include, among other

things, the effort to practise strict economy and combat waste, i.e., the policy of building up our country through diligence and frugality."

Bearing in mind these words of Chairman Mao, trade personnel of the Talien Cement Factory have earned wide praise for their thrifty ways.

As the factory's rising cement output demands greater quantities of containers, the sales department decided to recover as many paper bags from their customers as possible.

At one construction site, they discovered that, instead of opening the bags at the sewn end as indicated, people thoughtlessly disembowelled the bags with a thrust of the shovel.

They talked to the cadres and workers about this, told them how much their factory needed the empty bags and pointed out that every bag saved meant a saving in state funds. If everyone did that it would add up to a lot.

The workers saw the significance and took extra care to keep the bags intact. They even saved the strings used in sewing up the bags.

Within a short time, the cement factory had recovered 40 million paper bags and 12,000 kg. of cotton string from the construction sites.

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Political Bureau of the C.P.C. Central Committee and Director of the General Political Department of the Chinese People's Liberation Army, and leading members of departments under the C.P.C. Central Committee, government departments and various P.L.A. services and arms attended the banquet given by Korean Ambassador Hyun Ju Keuk. Speaking at the banquet, Comrade Li Teh-sheng recalled that the Chinese People's Volunteers were given solicitous attention, all-out support and assistance by the Korean Workers' Party, Government and the people during their stay in Korea. The Chinese people, he said, will never forget the profound friendship of the Korean people.

The Democratic People's Republic of Korea is an unbreakable bulwark of the anti-imperialist outpost in the East, he noted. The Chinese people are elated at the achievements made by the fraternal Korean people and the Chinese Government all along supports the Korean Government's stand on the independent and peaceful reunification of the fatherland. "U.S. imperialist aggression and interference is the main obstacle to the realization of peaceful reunification of Korea. The U.S. troops must withdraw from south Korea," Comrade Li Teh-sheng declared.

Ambassador Hyun Jun Keuk in his speech praised the militant friendship and unity of the people of Korea and China which were forged in the course of protracted revolutionary struggle.

Peruvian Army Delegation

The Military Delegation of the Peruvian Army led by Lieutenant-General Edgardo Mercado Jarrin, Chief of Staff of the Peruvian Army, arrived in Peking on October 21 for a friendly visit to China.

Premier Chou En-lai, Vice-Minister of National Defence Wang Shu-sheng, Deputy Chief of the General Staff of the Chinese People's Liberation Army Hsiang Chung-hua and Vice-Foreign Minister Yu Chan met the delegation on October 23. Yeh Chien-ying, Vice-Chairman of the Military Commission, and others met

and had a friendly conversation with the visitors earlier.

Vice-Minister Wang Shu-sheng gave a banquet on the evening of October 21 in honour of the distinguished Peruvian guests. Yeh Chien-ying and other responsible members of departments concerned attended the banquet. Also present on the occasion were Peruvian Ambassador to China Eduardo Valdez and his wife and others.

In his speech at the banquet, Wang Shu-sheng paid tribute to the Peruvian people and armed forces who, under the leadership of President Juan Velasco Alvarado, have fought tit for tat against imperialism to safeguard their national independence and state sovereignty, defend their right over 200-nautical-mile territorial waters and national resources, and have taken a number of measures in the interest of developing the national economy. He expressed the Chinese people's firm support for the just struggle of the Peruvian people.

Referring to the friendly relations between China and Peru, Wang Shu-sheng said: "Both China and Peru are developing countries. Both belong to the third world. In the struggle to safeguard state sovereignty and build up their own countries, the two peoples have consistently sympathized with and supported each other. Since the establishment of diplomatic relations between China and Peru in November last, the relations of friendly co-operation in various fields between them have been growing and friendly contacts between the two peoples have been increasing."

General Edgardo Mercado Jarrin said in his speech that the Peruvian and Chinese peoples were linked by many common points in history, namely, "our respective ancient civilizations in the past, and our common desire for independence and social justice at present."

"One of the principal aspects in the course of the Peruvian revolution is to restore our national dignity," he said. "The people of Peru are beginning to be the masters of their destiny. We are fighting to safeguard our state sovereignty and national independence. The recovery and safeguarding of our natural resources

takes a prominent place in this struggle," he added.

During their stay in Peking, the Peruvian guests visited a Peking unit and a tank unit of the Chinese People's Liberation Army, watched military training and visited a company club, a soldiers' dormitory and an army hospital and pharmaceutical workshop. They also paid a visit to Tsinghua University and saw places of historical interest.

On October 25, the delegation left Peking to visit southern China.

NEWS BRIEFS

▲ Acting Chairman Tung Pi-wu and Premier Chou respectively sent messages on October 25 to Mohammad Reza Pahlavi, the Shahanshah of Iran and Amir Abbas Hoveyda, Prime Minister of Iran, extending warm congratulations on the Shahanshah's birthday and the National Day of Iran.

▲ Premier Chou and leading members of departments concerned on October 9 met the Cultural Delegation From the Democratic People's Republic of Korea led by Minister of Culture Li Chang Son and the Government Geological Delegation of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea led by Kong Jin Tae, Alternate Member of the Central Committee of the Korean Workers' Party and Chairman of the Committee for Foreign Economic Relations.

▲ The Delegation of the Korean Democratic Women's Union led by Li Jong Sun, Member of the Executive Committee of the Central Committee and Secretary of the Central Committee of the Union, paid a friendly visit to China from September 29 to October 26. Chou En-lai met the delegation on October 25.

▲ The Syrian People's Army Delegation led by Mohamad Ibrahim Al-Ali, Commander of the Syrian People's Army, paid a friendly visit to China from October 14 to October 25.

▲ The representatives of the China-Japan Memorandum Trade Office of China and the Japan-China Memorandum Trade Office of Japan on October 29 concluded an agreement on China-Japan memorandum trade for 1973 after friendly talks.

Just Off the Press



Western Han Dynasty Silk Painting

(In Chinese)

This Western Han Dynasty (206 B.C.-24 A.D.) painting in colour on silk draping the innermost coffin inside a 2,100-year-old tomb was discovered in April this year at Mawangtui on the outskirts of Changsha city, Hunan Province. The painting was done with rich imagination and executed with smooth strokes.

The whole painting is divided into three sections. The upper section depicts a scene in heaven. The middle section, the main part of the painting, is a noblewoman on an outing, a scene of the daily life of the buried woman during her lifetime. The lower section of the painting represents the nether world. With elaborate thin silk as the background, it is mainly done with mineral pigments of vermilion, azurite, malachite and chalk. The silk painting is T-shaped, 205 cm. long, 92 cm. wide at the top and 47.7 cm. wide at the bottom, with silk ribbons attached to the corners.

This masterpiece of ancient painting not only provides rich material for the study of history but also reflects the intelligence, ingenuity and great creative power of the Chinese labouring people in ancient days. It also testifies to the truth that history is made by the slaves.

In a set of 12 coloured plates, 11 details with captions in Chinese

52 × 38.4 cm.

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