

PEKING REVIEW

24

June 15, 1973

JOINT COMMUNIQUE

*Viet Nam Party and Government Delegation's
Visit to China*

4th Anniversary of Founding of Provisional Revolutionary Government of R. S. V. N.

*Laying a Firmer Foundation for the
National Economy*

— Notes on the rural areas in Hsishui County

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Vol. 16, No. 24

June 15, 1973

Published in English, French, Spanish,
Japanese and German editions

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Viet Nam Party and Government Delegation Concludes Visit to China

The Delegation of the Viet Nam Workers' Party and the Government of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam, led by Comrades Le Duan and Pham Van Dong, concluded its successful official and friendly visit to China. It left Sian, Shensi Province, for home by special plane on the morning of June 11, carrying with it the militant friendship of the Chinese people for the heroic Vietnamese people.

Chou En-lai; Li Jui-shan, Member of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China, First Secretary of the Shensi Provincial Party Committee and Chairman of the Shensi Provincial Revolutionary Committee, and other comrades as well as more than 3,000 people were at the airport to give the distinguished Vietnamese guests a warm send-off.

Before boarding the plane, Le Duan, Pham Van Dong, Le Thanh Nghi and other Vietnamese comrades and Chou En-lai, Li Jui-shan and other Chinese comrades warmly shook hands and embraced each

other alongside the plane. Comrade Chou En-lai said to the Vietnamese comrades: "Thank you for your visit to China." Comrade Le Duan replied: "We have received a very warm reception on our visit and are very much moved." He asked Comrade Chou En-lai to convey their regards to Chairman Mao.

During its visit, the Viet Nam Party and Government Delegation held talks with leading comrades of the Chinese Party and Government in a warm atmosphere full of revolutionary friendship and militant unity. A joint communique was issued by the two sides (full text on p. 6).

To heal the wounds of war in Viet Nam, rehabilitate and develop its national economy and strengthen its national defence capability and to further promote the militant friendship and unity between the people of China and Viet Nam, the Government of the People's Republic of China and the Government of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam signed in Peking on June 8 an agreement on

China's gratuitous economic and military assistance to Viet Nam for 1974.

Peking Mass Rally

More than 10,000 people in the capital attended a grand rally in the Great Hall of the People on the afternoon of June 7 to warmly welcome the Viet Nam Party and Government Delegation. Joyously, Chinese and Vietnamese comrades-in-arms together celebrated the great victory of the Vietnamese people in the war against U.S. aggression and for national salvation and extolled the daily consolidation and development of the great friendship and militant unity of the people of the two countries.

Among the guests at the rally were Comrades Le Duan, Pham Van Dong and Le Thanh Nghi and Prime Minister Samdech Penn Nouth. Comrades Chou En-lai, Chiang Ching, Yeh Chien-ying, Chang Chun-chiao, Yao Wen-yuan, Li Hsien-nien, Chi Teng-kuei, Li Teh-sheng, Wang Tung-hsing, Wang Hung-wen, Hua Kuo-feng, Wu Teh, Teng Hsiao-ping, Hsu Hsiang-chien, Kuo Mo-jo and others were at the rally during which Comrades Yeh Chien-ying and Le Duan delivered heart-warming speeches (full texts on pp. 9-15.)



Le Duan, Pham Van Dong, Le Thanh Nghi and other Vietnamese comrades accompanied by Comrades Chou En-lai, Li Jui-shan and others at Chairman Mao's former residence at the foot of Phoenix Hill, Yenan.

Their speeches were punctuated with thunderous applause from the audience.

After Comrade Yeh Chien-ying's speech, the rally presented the delegation with a velvet embroidery showing President Ho Chi Minh's cordial meeting with Chairman Mao Tsetung during the former's visit to China. At the end of his speech, Comrade Le Duan presented to the people of the Chinese capital a silk banner with the inscription in Vietnamese and Chinese reading: "May the great friendship and militant solidarity between the Vietnamese and the Chinese people be everlasting!" Amidst prolonged and enthusiastic applause, Comrades Chou En-lai, Chiang Ching, Yeh Chien-ying and Wu Teh warmly shook hands with Comrades Le Duan and Pham Van Dong.

Reciprocal Banquet

In the evening, the Viet Nam Party and Government Delegation gave a grand reciprocal banquet in the banquet hall of the Great Hall of the People. Comrades Chou En-lai, Yeh Chien-ying, Chang Chun-chiao, Yao Wen-yuan, Li Hsien-nien and Prime Minister Samdech Penn Nouth and others attended the banquet. Le Duan, Pham Van Dong, Le Thanh Nghi and other Vietnamese comrades were present.

During the banquet which was permeated with the warm expression of friendship, speeches were made by Comrades Le Duan and Chou En-lai.

Comrade Le Duan said in his speech: In particular, we shall always remember the cordial interview given by Chairman Mao Tsetung to our delegation, and the talks between our Party and Government Delegation and the Chinese Party and Government Delegation, talks held in a comradely and fraternal atmosphere to further strengthen the relations between the two Parties and peoples. The joint communique which is to be made public soon and the agreement on China's gratuitous economic and military assistance to Viet Nam, which will soon be signed, are a brilliant illustration of the new development in the great friendship

and militant solidarity between our two peoples.

In his speech, Comrade Chou En-lai said: It can be said with certainty that your visit has been crowned with complete success although the visit to our country by you comrades has not yet concluded. Your visit is contributing tremendously to the further consolidation and development of the great friendship and militant unity of our two Parties and two countries. We Chinese people are determined to strive to build up our socialist motherland and make her ever stronger and more prosperous under the guidance of Chairman Mao's proletarian revolutionary line, and live up to the hopes placed on us by the Vietnamese people.

Visiting Northwest China

The Viet-Nam Party and Government Delegation went to China's northwest on the morning of June 8 in the company of Comrade Chou En-lai and others. After spending a day in Sian, they arrived in Yen-an on the morning of June 9. Accompanied by Comrades Chou En-lai and Li Jui-shan, the Vietnamese comrades saw the places where Chairman Mao once lived and the exhibition hall on Chairman Mao's activities in Yen-an in leading the Chinese revolution.

The delegation returned to Sian from Yen-an on the morning of June 10 to continue its visit. Before leaving Yen-an, Comrade Le Duan wrote an inscription for the people of Yen-an:

"Yen-an — the base of the Chinese revolution. It is here that Chairman Mao put forward a line to guide the Chinese revolution. Illuminated by this brilliant line, the Chinese revolution has advanced from victory to victory.

"Through our visit to Yen-an, we understand more distinctly the history of the most arduous and heroic struggles waged by the Chinese people. We wish the Yen-an people, who have a staunch revolutionary tradition, brilliant achievements in the socialist revolution and socialist construction."

Like the people of Yen-an, all the Chinese people are very grateful to the Vietnamese leading comrades for their warm encouragement.

4th Anniversary of Founding Of Provisional Revolutionary Government of R.S.V.N.

The 4th anniversary of the founding of the Provisional Revolutionary Government of the Republic of South Viet Nam came at a time when great victory was won by the Vietnamese people in their war against U.S. aggression and for national salvation. Together with Vietnamese comrades-in-arms, the Chinese people warmly celebrated this glorious festival.

On June 5, Acting Chairman of the People's Republic of China Tung Pi-wu and Premier Chou En-lai sent a message to Nguyen Huu Tho, President of the Presidium of the Central Committee of the South Viet Nam National Front for Liberation and President of the Advisory Council of the Provisional Revolutionary Government of the Republic of South Viet Nam, and Huynh Tan Phat, President of the Provisional Revolutionary Government of the Republic of South Viet Nam. The message pointed out: "The struggle and the victory of the Vietnamese people are a source of powerful inspiration to the people of China and the whole world in their anti-imperialist revolutionary struggle and have set a brilliant example for and made great contributions to the liberation movements of the oppressed nations and oppressed peoples throughout the world."

"The revolutionary struggle of the south Vietnamese people has now entered a new historical stage. The Provisional Revolutionary Government of the Republic of South Viet Nam, which is the genuine representative of the south Vietnamese people, is rallying the broad masses of all strata and carrying on an unremitting struggle for the thorough implementation of all the provisions of the Paris agreement, the promotion of national concord, the consolidation and building up of the liberated areas and the defence of the fruits of revolution, and is winning continuous new successes. We are convinced that

the south Vietnamese people, who have been tempered in protracted revolutionary wars, will certainly be able to surmount all difficulties and obstacles, achieve national concord, build a peaceful, independent, democratic and prosperous south Viet Nam and proceed to accomplish the great cause of the peaceful reunification of the fatherland," it continued.

Nguyen Van Quang, Ambassador of the Republic of South Viet Nam to China, gave a reception on June 6 to mark the anniversary.

Attending the reception were leading comrades of the Chinese Party and Government Chou En-lai, Yeh Chien-ying, Chang Chun-chiao, Li Hsien-nien and others.

Also present were leading comrades of the Viet Nam Workers' Party and the Government of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam Le Duan, Pham Van Dong and Le Thanh Nghi, other members of the Viet Nam Party and Government Delegation which was visiting China, and Prime Minister Samdech Penn Nouth of the Royal Government of National Union of Cambodia.

At the reception Ambassador Nguyen Van Quang reviewed the great victory of the Vietnamese people in compelling the United States to sign the Agreement on Ending the War and Restoring Peace in Viet Nam, and demanded that the United States and the Saigon administration strictly respect and scrupulously implement the agreement.

He said: The victories we have won were great indeed. The situation remains still very difficult and complicated, but basically very favourable. He concluded that with the devoted assistance of the compatriots throughout the whole country and the sympathy and support of friends all over the world, the south Vietnamese people will surely frustrate every dark scheme of the United States and the Saigon administration, so as to realize a peaceful, independent, neutral, democratic and prosperous south Viet Nam.

In his speech Vice-Premier Li Hsien-nien said: We are most glad to

join our Vietnamese comrades-in-arms, and particularly Comrade Le Duan, Comrade Pham Van Dong and the other comrades of the Viet Nam Party and Government Delegation in joyously celebrating this auspicious occasion here.

He said: The Provisional Revolutionary Government of the Republic of South Viet Nam was born amidst the revolutionary flames of the south Vietnamese people's war against U.S. aggression and for national salvation. From the day of its inception, it has been the loyal representative of the fundamental interests of the south Vietnamese people and enjoyed the wholehearted support and love of the broad masses of people in south Viet Nam.

In conclusion, Vice-Premier Li Hsien-nien said that the Chinese people will continue to stand together with people of the south and the whole of Viet Nam and resolutely support their just cause till final victory is won.

Under the title of "Salute to the Heroic South Vietnamese People" *Renmin Ribao* in its June 6 editorial extended festival greetings to the south Vietnamese people. It pointed out that the Provisional Revolutionary Government of the R.S.V.N. is the real legitimate government of south Viet Nam. "Its status has been affirmed in the Paris agreement on Viet Nam signed last January. Nobody can deny the fact that the Provisional Revolutionary Government of the R.S.V.N. is playing an increasingly great role in the political life of south Viet Nam, and all the internal problems of south Viet Nam must be solved by it and other political forces of south Viet Nam through peaceful consultation."

"The signing of the Paris agreement on Viet Nam holds out prospects for solving the Viet Nam question in accordance with the national aspirations of the Vietnamese people. However, the people in south Viet Nam are still faced with difficult and complicated fighting tasks. Under the leadership of the National Front for Liberation and the Provisional Revolutionary Government of the R.S.V.N., they have made unremitting

efforts in the past few months in consolidating and building the liberated areas, defending the fruits of revolution and bringing about national concord, independence and democracy in south Viet Nam." the editorial said.

"The Chinese people," it added, "resolutely support the solemn stand taken by the Provisional Revolutionary Government of the R.S.V.N. in upholding the Paris agreement. We are firmly convinced that by strengthening their unity, enhancing their vigilance and persisting in struggle, the people in south Viet Nam with rich experience of protracted revolutionary struggle are bound to overcome difficulties and obstacles and win still greater victories in their revolutionary struggle ahead."

Foreign Minister Chi Peng-fei Visits Britain

Chinese Foreign Minister Chi Peng-fei and his 23-member party left Peking by special plane on the morning of June 6 for a friendly visit to Britain, France and Iran. Arriving in London the same afternoon (local time), they were welcomed at the airport by Sir Alec Douglas-Home, British Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, and Lady Douglas-Home and other British officials.

British Prime Minister Edward Heath met Foreign Minister Chi on June 8. They had a friendly talk.

After the meeting, the Prime Minister gave a reception in honour of Foreign Minister Chi and his wife Hsu Han-ping and other members of the Chinese party at his official residence.

Speaking at a dinner in honour of the Chinese Foreign Minister on June 7, Sir Douglas-Home reviewed the development of relationships between the two countries in the past year, including the exchange of ambassadors, mutual visits by government ministers and scientific, technological and cultural contacts. He said: "Out of all this we derived a host of impressions. The first is that modern China is an

(Continued on p. 15.)

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At the invitation of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China and the Government of the People's Republic of China, the Delegation of the Viet Nam Workers' Party and the Government of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam led by Comrade Le Duan, First Secretary of the Central Committee of the Viet Nam Workers' Party, and Comrade Pham Van Dong, Member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Viet Nam Workers' Party and Premier of the Government of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam, paid an official friendly visit to the People's Republic of China from June 4 to 11, 1973 and was accorded a warm welcome and a grand and hearty reception by the Chinese Communist Party, the Chinese Government and the Chinese people, for which it expressed sincere thanks.

Comrade Mao Tsetung, Chairman of the Central Committee of the Chinese Communist Party, met with Comrades Le Duan, Pham Van Dong and Le Thanh Nghi and had a most cordial and friendly conversation with them.

The Chinese and Vietnamese sides held talks on the further strengthening of the friendly relations and co-operation between the two Parties and two countries, the new situation in the Vietnamese people's revolutionary struggle and other questions of common interest.

Taking part in the talks on the Chinese side were: Comrades Chou En-lai, Yeh Chien-ying, Chang Chun-chiao, Li Hsien-nien, Keng Piao, Fang Yi, Li Chiang, Han Nien-lung, Chang Tsai-chien, Wang Yu-ping, Yuan Hua-ping, Lu Wei-chao, Liang Feng and Chu Chuan-hsien.

Taking part in the talks on the Vietnamese side were: Comrades Le Duan, Pham Van Dong, Le Thanh Nghi, Ly Ban, Ngo Thuyen, Hoang Van Tien, Tran Sam, Pham Binh and Hoang Bao Son.

Proceeding in a most warm atmosphere, the talks fully manifested the ever-deepening great friendship and militant unity of the two Parties, two countries and two peoples.

In fulfilment of the behest of the venerated and beloved President Ho Chi Minh, the Delegation of the Viet Nam Workers' Party and the Government of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam expressed sincere and heartfelt thanks to the venerated and beloved Chairman Mao Tsetung, the Communist Party of China and the Chinese Government and people for the support and assistance they had given with a full measure of brotherly love to the Vietnamese people, which were important contributions to the historic victory of the Vietnamese people's cause of resisting U.S. aggression and saving the nation.

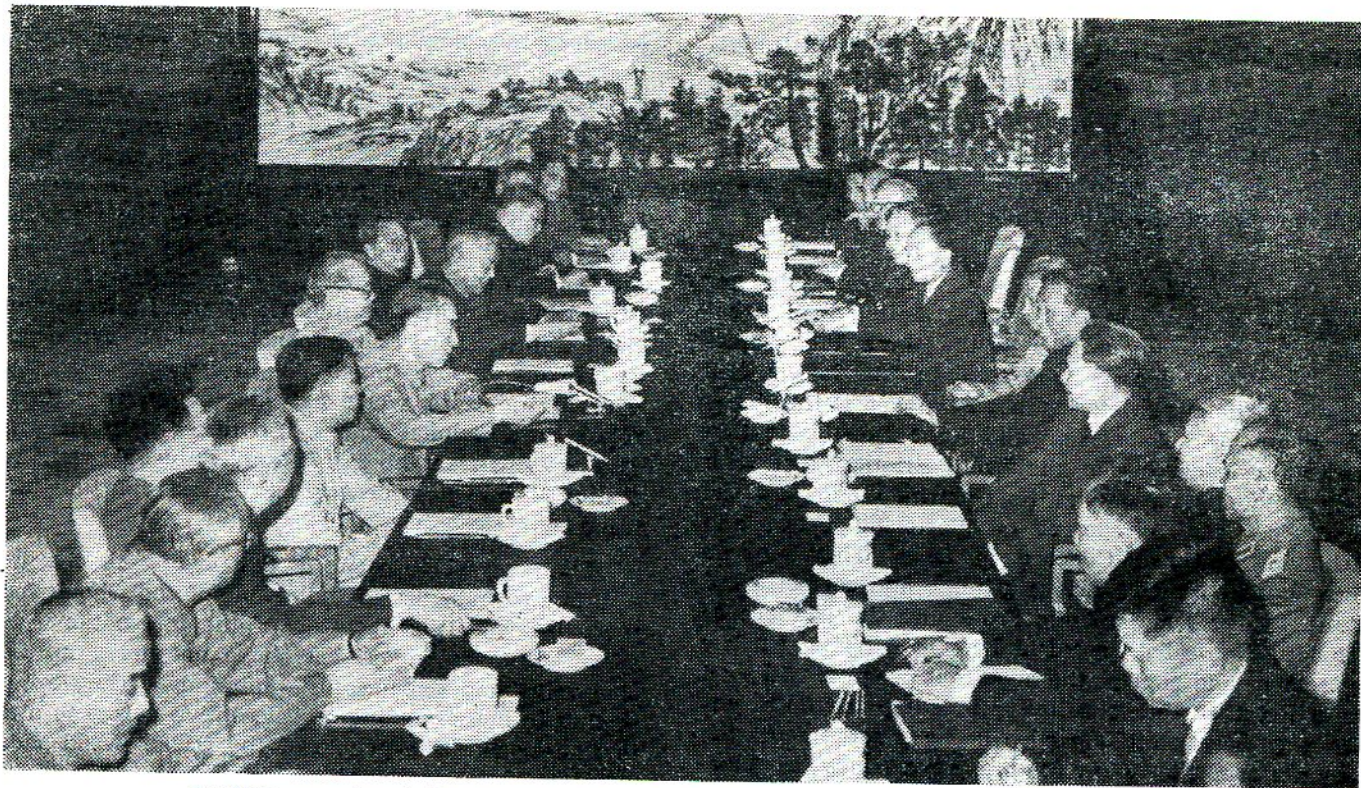
The Chinese side expressed its heartfelt joy at, and extended its warm congratulations on, the great victory won by the Vietnamese people in their struggle against U.S. aggression and for national salvation.

Under the leadership of the glorious Viet Nam Workers' Party and holding high the banner of the venerated and beloved President Ho Chi Minh's call for "firm resolve to fight and win," the heroic Vietnamese people maintained independence, waged arduous struggle and persisted in a protracted people's war with an indomitable revolutionary spirit and dauntless heroism and ultimately impelled the U.S. Government to sign the Agreement on Ending the War and Restoring Peace in Viet Nam, withdraw all the armed forces of the United States and its allies from south Viet Nam and undertake to respect the independence, sovereignty, unity and territorial integrity of Viet Nam and the south Vietnamese people's right to self-determination, so that they can solve their internal problems by themselves free from foreign interference, thus new prospects have been opened for achieving the peace, unity, independence, democracy and strength of Viet Nam.

The Vietnamese people's victory is also a victory of the three Indochinese peoples fighting in unity and a common victory for the people of the whole world, the American people included. It is a powerful inspiration and support to the oppressed nations and oppressed peoples fighting for independence and freedom as well as an invaluable contribution to the struggle of the people of the whole world against imperialism and colonialism.

Now, the Vietnamese people's revolutionary cause has entered a new stage. Carrying forward their revolutionary heroism displayed during the war of resistance, the people in north Viet Nam are conducting a patriotic emulation campaign to give impetus to production and scoring remarkable achievements in healing the wounds of war, rehabilitating and developing the economy and building socialism. Holding high the banner of peace, independence, democracy and national concord, the people in south Viet Nam, who are rallied around the South Viet Nam National Front for Liberation and the Provisional Revolutionary Government of the Republic of South Viet Nam, continue to heighten revolutionary vigilance, overcome numerous difficulties and obstacles and are winning continuous new victories in their struggle to build up and consolidate the liberated areas and defend the fruits of revolution.

The Vietnamese side warmly congratulates the fraternal Chinese people on the new achievements they have won on all fronts under the leadership of the venerated and beloved Chairman Mao Tsetung and the glorious Communist Party of China. Tempered in the Great Proletarian Cultural Revolution and invigorated



Leading comrades of the Chinese Party and Government hold talks with the Viet Nam Party and Government Delegation.

by education in the ideological and political line, the Chinese people are giving full play to the revolutionary spirit of independence and initiative, self-reliance and hard struggle and advancing triumphantly along the road of socialist revolution and socialist construction.

Socialist China is making positive contributions to the revolutionary struggle of the people of the world against imperialism, colonialism and neo-colonialism.

The Vietnamese people fully support the Chinese people's struggle for the liberation of Taiwan Province, which is an inalienable part of the sacred territory of the People's Republic of China, and are deeply convinced that their struggle will definitely be crowned with final victory.

The Vietnamese side gave an account of the implementation of the Paris agreement in the four months or more since its signing and reaffirmed the consistent stand taken by the Government of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam and the Provisional Revolutionary Government of the Republic of South Viet Nam of strictly observing and carrying out the agreement. But the agreement has not yet been thoroughly implemented because the United States and the Saigon administration have incessantly, systematically and grossly violated important provisions of the agreement which they undertook to respect, violating the cease-fire, the Vietnamese people's fundamental national rights and the south Vietnamese people's right to self-determination, and provisions concerning peace, national independence, democratic freedoms and national concord in south Viet Nam.

The Chinese side highly appraises the indefatigable efforts made by the Government of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam and the Provisional Revolutionary Government of the Republic of South Viet Nam for the thorough implementation of the Paris agreement and firmly supports their solemn and just stand in striving to consolidate the peace in Viet Nam and safeguard the results already gained.

The Chinese side is glad to see the steady rise of the international prestige of the Provisional Revolutionary Government of the Republic of South Viet Nam and reaffirms that it will continue to strengthen in all respects its good relations with the South Viet Nam National Front for Liberation and the Provisional Revolutionary Government of the Republic of South Viet Nam — the only authentic representative of the south Vietnamese people. The Chinese side declares its full support for the six-point proposal put forward by the Provisional Revolutionary Government of the Republic of South Viet Nam on April 25, 1973 to open the way and create favourable conditions for the settlement of the internal affairs of south Viet Nam and the realization of national reconciliation and concord in south Viet Nam.

The Chinese side reaffirms its unshakable determination to continue to perform its internationalist duty. The Chinese people will firmly support and assist the fraternal Vietnamese people in their struggle to safeguard and consolidate peace, build socialism in the north, achieve independence and democracy in the south and proceed to achieve the peaceful reunification

of their fatherland and bring about a peaceful, reunified, independent, democratic and strong Viet Nam.

The two sides demand that the Saigon authorities and the United States thoroughly respect and strictly implement all the provisions of the Paris agreement and the Act of the International Conference on Viet Nam.

The two sides consider that important changes have now occurred in Indochina, resulting in a situation ever more favourable to the three Indochinese peoples. They warmly congratulate the heroic Lao people on the huge victories they have won in the struggle against U.S. aggression and for national salvation under the leadership of the Lao Patriotic Front with Prince Souphanouvong as its Chairman and hail the signing of the Agreement on Restoring Peace and Achieving National Concord in Laos. They express firm support for the serious attitude and correct stand taken by the Lao Patriotic Front and the Alliance of Patriotic Neutralist Forces in Laos in carrying out the agreement and express the hope that progress will soon be achieved in the consultative meetings currently under way between the parties in Laos so that all the provisions of the Vientiane agreement may be thoroughly implemented. They express the firm conviction that the Lao people will certainly be able to overcome all difficulties and obstacles, achieve national concord and build a peaceful, independent, neutral, democratic, unified and prosperous Laos.

The two sides warmly congratulate the Cambodian people on the huge victories they have won in their struggle against U.S. aggression and for national salvation. United as one and fighting dauntlessly in resistance under the leadership of the National United Front of Cambodia with Head of State Samdech Norodom Sihanouk as its Chairman and the Royal Government of National Union, the heroic armed forces and people of Cambodia have liberated over 90 per cent of the territory and over 80 per cent of the population in the short period of a few years. The traitorous Lon Nol clique is besieged ring upon ring by the Cambodian people. Samdech Norodom Sihanouk's recent inspection tour to the Liberated Zone, an event of great historic significance, has accelerated the triumphant development of the situation in Cambodia.

The two sides point out that the wanton bombing and other acts of military intervention in Cambodia committed by U.S. imperialism can by no means save the traitorous Lon Nol clique from its final defeat. The two sides express firm support for Samdech Norodom Sihanouk's Five-Point Declaration of March 23, 1970 and the solemn and just stand taken by the National United Front and the Royal Government of National Union of Cambodia regarding the settlement of the Cambodian question. The Cambodian question should be settled by the Cambodian people themselves free from foreign interference.

The two sides hold that the international situation is becoming ever more favourable to the anti-imperialist

and anti-colonialist revolutionary struggles of all peoples. The great victory of the Vietnamese people has contributed towards seriously weakening the imperialist forces of aggression and powerfully supporting and inspiring the oppressed peoples and nations of the world. Imperialist aggression, subversion, interference, control and plunder in various parts of the globe have further awakened the people of the whole world, arousing an increasing number of countries and people to resistance. The vast number of small and medium-sized countries are rising to master their own destiny and firmly oppose imperialist hegemony. The countries of the third world are playing an ever greater role in international affairs. Countries want independence, nations want liberation, and the people want revolution — this has become an irresistible historical trend.

The two sides consider that owing to the joint efforts and struggles of the people of the whole world, there has been some easing of the international tensions. But the imperialists have not given up their aggressive and expansionist ambitions. They are resorting to more cunning and deceptive means to attain their designs. The people of the whole world should maintain sharp vigilance against this.

The two sides express firm support for the people of Asia, Africa and Latin America in their struggle to oppose imperialism, colonialism, neo-colonialism and racism, win and defend national independence, safeguard state sovereignty and develop their national economies. They express firm support for all the just struggles of the people of the world.

China and Viet Nam are close and fraternal socialist neighbours with a tradition of friendship and unity. The two sides note with satisfaction that the great friendship and militant unity between the Chinese Communist Party and the Viet Nam Workers' Party and between the Chinese and Vietnamese peoples have grown stronger and developed steadily in the long revolutionary struggles, in which the two peoples experienced untold hardships and sacrifices and won brilliant victories. In the interests of the revolutionary cause of the two peoples and the people of the whole world, the two peoples have always supported, helped and encouraged each other in times of both difficulty and victory, undergone many tests and fostered and daily reinforced their profound friendship. The militant unity and great friendship between the two Parties, two countries and two peoples are based on Marxism-Leninism and proletarian internationalism; they can stand tests and will not be destroyed by any force on earth.

The two sides are glad to see in the signing of the Agreement on China's Gratuitous Economic and Military Assistance to Viet Nam in 1974 a most vivid expression of the militant unity of the Chinese and Vietnamese peoples.

The two sides pledge that they will exert all their efforts to continuously consolidate and strengthen the

unbreakable profound friendship and militant unity between the Chinese and Vietnamese peoples nurtured under the care of the venerated and beloved Chairman Mao Tsetung and the Chinese Communist Party and the venerated and beloved President Ho Chi Minh and the Viet Nam Workers' Party.

The two sides are confident that the complete success of the friendly visit of the Delegation of the

Viet Nam Workers' Party and the Government of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam led by Comrade Le Duan and Comrade Pham Van Dong to the People's Republic of China will certainly make a positive contribution to the further strengthening and consolidation of the great friendship and militant unity of the two Parties, the two countries and the two peoples based on Marxism-Leninism and proletarian internationalism.

At Rally Welcoming Viet Nam Party and Government Delegation

Comrade Yeh Chien-ying's Speech

Respected Comrade Le Duan,

Respected Comrade Pham Van Dong,

Respected Comrade Le Thanh Nghi and the Other Comrades of the Viet Nam Party and Government Delegation,

Respected Samdech Penn Nouth, Prime Minister of the Royal Government of National Union of Cambodia, Comrades and Friends,

Today, we people of the capital are gathered at this grand rally to welcome the honoured envoys of the Vietnamese people — the Delegation of the Viet Nam Workers' Party and the Government of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam. At this rally permeated with sentiments of militant unity, allow me, on behalf of the Chinese people's great leader Chairman Mao Tse-tung, the Chinese Communist Party and the Chinese Government and people, to express our warmest fraternal welcome to respected Comrades Le Duan and Pham Van Dong and the other comrades of the delegation.

China and Viet Nam are close socialist neighbours and the Chinese and Vietnamese Parties are fraternal Marxist-Leninist Parties. The current friendly visit of the Viet Nam Party and Government Delegation to our country is particularly significant because this is the first official friendly visit to our country by a Vietnamese Party and Government Delegation since the Vietnamese people won the victory of their war against U.S. aggression and for national salvation. That is why the presence of our Vietnamese comrades-in-arms fills us with exceptional warmth and joy.

The Vietnamese people are a heroic people. The Vietnamese nation is an industrious and valiant nation. To win the independence of their fatherland and the liberation of their nation, the Vietnamese people have waged long, unyielding struggles against imperialism, writing innumerable glorious chapters that are heroic and moving. Particularly during the last 50 years,

under the leadership of the Viet Nam Workers' Party, they successively defeated Japanese militarism, overthrew French colonial rule, staged the successful August Revolution and established the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam — the first socialist state in Southeast Asia. Thereafter, fighting a nine-year war of resistance, they smashed the armed aggression of the French colonialist forces who tried to make a come-back. Then, after more than another decade of incomparably arduous, valiant and determined fighting, they ultimately impelled the U.S. Government to concur in signing the Agreement on Ending the War and Restoring Peace in Viet Nam and won the great victory of the war against U.S. aggression and for national salvation. Over these scores of years, the heroic Vietnamese people never stopped fighting in the face of the enemy's savage aggression. They were not cowed by the brute force of the aggressors, nor deceived by the schemes of the imperialists. The Vietnamese people are worthy of the name of staunch fighters for national liberation of the present day.

Now, with the signing of the Paris agreement, the United States and its allies have withdrawn all their armed forces from south Viet Nam, and the Vietnamese people's revolutionary cause has entered a new stage.

The Vietnamese people's victory once again convincingly proves that the days when imperialism could bully other countries at will are gone for ever. Any attempt by a country, however big or mighty, to impose its will on the people of another country by force of arms is doomed to failure. Countries want independence, nations want liberation, and the people want revolution — this is an irresistible trend of history. So long as a nation or people subjected to aggression unites as one, dares to fight and constantly sums up experience in its struggle, it will certainly be able to grow from being weak to being strong and ultimately win victory in its war against aggression.

The Chinese people greatly admire the fraternal Vietnamese people and take pride in having the heroic Vietnamese people as comrades-in-arms. The staunch revolutionary spirit and dauntless heroism the Vietnamese people displayed in their protracted war of resistance have inspired all oppressed nations and oppressed peoples and won the acclaim and admiration of the people of the whole world. The heroic struggle and great victory of the Vietnamese people are a powerful support to the people of the world in their struggle against imperialism and colonialism and for national liberation.

The people have won the war, and the war has tempered the people. After the ending of the war, the fraternal Vietnamese people, carrying forward their revolutionary heroism displayed during the war and maintaining high revolutionary vigilance, have made unremitting efforts for the thorough implementation of the Paris agreement and in defence of the fruits of revolution already gained. Enthusiastically responding to the call of the Viet Nam Workers' Party and the Government, the north Vietnamese people have launched a vigorous emulation campaign in production and thrown themselves into selfless labour to heal the wounds of war, rehabilitate the economy and build socialism, and have achieved remarkable success in the short period of a few months. The south Vietnamese people, who are rallied around the South Viet Nam National Front for Liberation and the Provisional Revolutionary Government, are surmounting numerous difficulties and obstacles, waging arduous struggles and winning continuous new successes in consolidating and building the liberated areas and promoting independence, democracy and national concord in south Viet Nam.

The Chinese people heartily rejoice at every victory won by the fraternal Vietnamese people as they would their own. We take this opportunity to once again extend our warm congratulations to the Vietnamese people and sincerely wish you new and still greater victories in your future struggle.

Comrades and friends,

The signing of the Paris agreement on Viet Nam not only accords with the national aspirations of the Vietnamese people, but also reflects the common desire of the people the world over. The agreement was welcomed and supported by the people of the whole world and solemnly confirmed and guaranteed by the International Conference on Viet Nam. Therefore, the thorough implementation of the Paris agreement is a very serious matter. In the four months or more since the signing of the agreement, it has been clearly evident that the Government of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam and the Provisional Revolutionary Government of the Republic of South Viet Nam have always scrupulously observed and resolutely carried out the provisions of the agreement, with the result that some of the important provisions have been implemented. However,

we cannot but point out that, owing to the obdurate stand of the Saigon administration, many provisions of the agreement have not been implemented in earnest up to this day. The Saigon administration has incessantly sent out troops on attacks to nibble at areas under the control of the Provisional Revolutionary Government of the Republic of South Viet Nam, refused to release all the military and civilian personnel captured and detained by it and obstructed and stalled the solution of the internal political problems of south Viet Nam. Of late, the Saigon administration has even gone so far as to blatantly state that it would "smash" the second administration which appeared in south Viet Nam. This runs counter to the principles of the Paris agreement and the spirit of national concord.

Historical experience and the facts after the ending of the war in Viet Nam have shown that it is no easy task to turn an agreement into reality and that every step forward involves serious struggle. But the Vietnamese people, who have been tempered in revolutionary wars, are invincible. No matter what sabotage and trouble-making the reactionary forces may resort to, they cannot prevent the forward march of the Vietnamese people in promoting the socialist reconstruction in the north, bringing about independence, democracy and national concord in the south and proceeding to the peaceful reunification of the fatherland. The Vietnamese people's desire to see the north and the south "reunited under the same roof" will certainly come true.

Comrades and friends,

Thanks to the unity and struggle of the three Indochinese peoples, profound and inspiring changes have taken place in the Indochina situation. After the signing of the agreement on ending the war in Viet Nam, the Lao people also overcame numerous obstacles, impelled the Vientiane government to agree to sign the Agreement on Restoring Peace and Achieving National Concord in Laos and regained the possibility of settling their internal affairs free from outside interference, and a new situation has emerged in the revolutionary cause of the Lao people. The Chinese people welcome the signing of the Vientiane agreement and firmly support the Lao Patriotic Front in its correct stand for the strict implementation of the agreement and its efforts to consolidate peace and achieve national concord. We sincerely hope that the political consultations now under way between the two parties in Laos will make early progress and the Vientiane agreement will be implemented, so that peace, independence, neutrality, democracy, unity and prosperity will be realized in Laos.

Under the leadership of the National United Front of Cambodia with Head of State Samdech Norodom Sihanouk as its Chairman and the Royal Government of National Union, the Cambodian people's war to punish the traitorous Lon Nol clique is developing rapidly, and the situation is exceedingly good. The People's Armed Forces of National Liberation of Cambodia, which are swiftly growing and expanding, have liberated over 90

per cent of the territory and over 80 per cent of the population and firmly hold the initiative in the war. The traitorous Lon Nol clique, which was full of arrogance for a time when it staged the coup d'etat three years ago, is now deserted by its followers and besieged ring upon ring by the Cambodian people, trying to prolong its precarious existence and vainly making a death-bed struggle.

The Chinese people firmly support the five-point declaration of Samdech Norodom Sihanouk, Head of State of Cambodia, and the just stand taken by the Royal Government of National Union of Cambodia regarding the settlement of the Cambodian question. We are firmly convinced that the Cambodian people's just struggle will surely win complete victory.

The world situation is still full of turmoil. Imperialist aggression, interference, control and oppression have been educating the oppressed nations and oppressed peoples by negative examples, stimulating them to new awakenings and rousing them to struggle in diverse forms. The imperialist designs to divide the world and scramble for spheres of influence are meeting with extensive resistance and opposition. Among the small and medium-sized countries, the wave of opposition to power politics and hegemonism is mounting ever higher. The third world countries are uniting more closely in their struggle against imperialism and colonialism and playing an ever greater role in international affairs. The struggle of developing countries against imperialist exploitation and plunder and in defence of national rights and interests is surging ahead. In short, on a world scale the revolutionary trend continues to be on the rise, and the situation is developing in a direction ever more favourable to the people of all countries and unfavourable to imperialism and all forces of reaction.

However, imperialism and hegemonism will never give up aggression and expansion or their ambitions to dominate the world. They are resorting to more cunning and deceptive ways to step up the arms race, stick their hands into every nook and corner, create splits and incite disputes. Although in certain aspects the international situation has eased a little, the world is still filled with contradictions and strife. People of all countries must still strengthen their unity, heighten their vigilance and frustrate the plots and designs of imperialism and all forces of reaction.

The Chinese Government and people have consistently stood for developing friendly relations with countries in the world on the basis of the Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence and opposed the imperialist policies of aggression and expansion. We firmly side with all oppressed nations and oppressed peoples, back the peoples of Asia, Africa and Latin America in their just struggles to oppose imperialism, colonialism, neo-colonialism and racism, win national independence and defend state sovereignty and support the people of the whole world in their just struggles for independence, freedom, peace and social progress.

Comrades and friends,

China and Viet Nam are linked by common mountains and rivers and closely related to each other like the lips and the teeth. There exists a traditional friendship between our two peoples. With the emergence of proletarian Parties in our countries, a new class content was added to this friendship between China and Viet Nam, and we were bound together still more closely.

The Chinese people will never forget the illustrious part the Vietnamese revolutionaries, with President Ho Chi Minh as their representative, played in the Chinese revolution during its hard years. Many Vietnamese comrades gave their precious lives for the cause of the liberation of the Chinese people. Nor will we ever forget that after the liberation of China, the Vietnamese people have given great support to our socialist revolution and socialist construction by their war against aggression. We have always held that the war of resistance the Vietnamese people fought and the blood they shed not only defended the independence and freedom of Viet Nam but were important contributions to peace in the Far East and the world. The noble internationalist spirit of the Vietnamese people is worthy of emulation by the Chinese people. With deep feelings, we wish to express at this rally our heartfelt gratitude to the fraternal Vietnamese people.

In the same internationalist spirit, the Chinese people have always cherished great sympathy and concern for the Vietnamese people in their revolutionary struggle. Particularly during the hard years of your war against U.S. aggression and for national salvation, the Chinese people, in resolute implementation of Chairman Mao's teaching, pledged themselves to be the "**powerful backing**" and "**reliable rear area**" of the Vietnamese people and exerted themselves in performing their bounden internationalist duty. We have regarded the Vietnamese people's difficulties as our own difficulties and their victories as our own victories.

The friendship between China and Viet Nam is based on Marxism-Leninism and proletarian internationalism. It has been nurtured in the protracted revolutionary struggles by the Chinese people's great leader Chairman Mao Tsetung and the Vietnamese people's great leader President Ho Chi Minh and by the Chinese Communist Party and the Viet Nam Workers' Party. It is unbreakable. As President Ho Chi Minh well said about our intimate relationship: "**Profound is the friendship between Viet Nam and China, who are both comrades and brothers.**" And as Chairman Mao Tsetung has well said: "**We are of the same family!**"

The Chinese Communist Party and the Chinese Government and people are determined, as always, to do everything in their power to further strengthen the great friendship and militant unity of our two Parties, two Governments and two peoples. We will support and help each other and march forward together!

Long live the heroic Vietnamese people!

Long live the friendship between China and Viet Nam!

Comrade Le Duan's Speech

Respected Comrade Premier Chou En-lai,
Respected Comrade Yeh Chien-ying,
Respected Comrade Wu Teh,
Respected Other Leading Comrades of the Chinese
Party and Government,
Respected Samdech Prime Minister Penn Nouth,
Comrades and Friends,

On behalf of the Delegation of the Viet Nam Workers' Party and the Government of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam, I sincerely thank the people of Peking capital city for their extremely cordial and grand welcome; I thank Comrade Yeh Chien-ying for his words full of cordial feelings vis-a-vis our country and the glorious and certainly victorious revolutionary struggle of our people.

In coming on visit to fraternal China, our delegation is bringing here the warm feelings and deep gratitude of the Vietnamese people, the Viet Nam Workers' Party and the Government of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam vis-a-vis Chairman Mao Tsetung, the great leader of the Chinese people and the beloved and respected friend of the Vietnamese people, and vis-a-vis the Chinese Communist Party, the Government and the fraternal people of China, who have unwaveringly extended wholehearted support and assistance to our patriotic struggle against U.S. aggression and our cause of socialist construction.

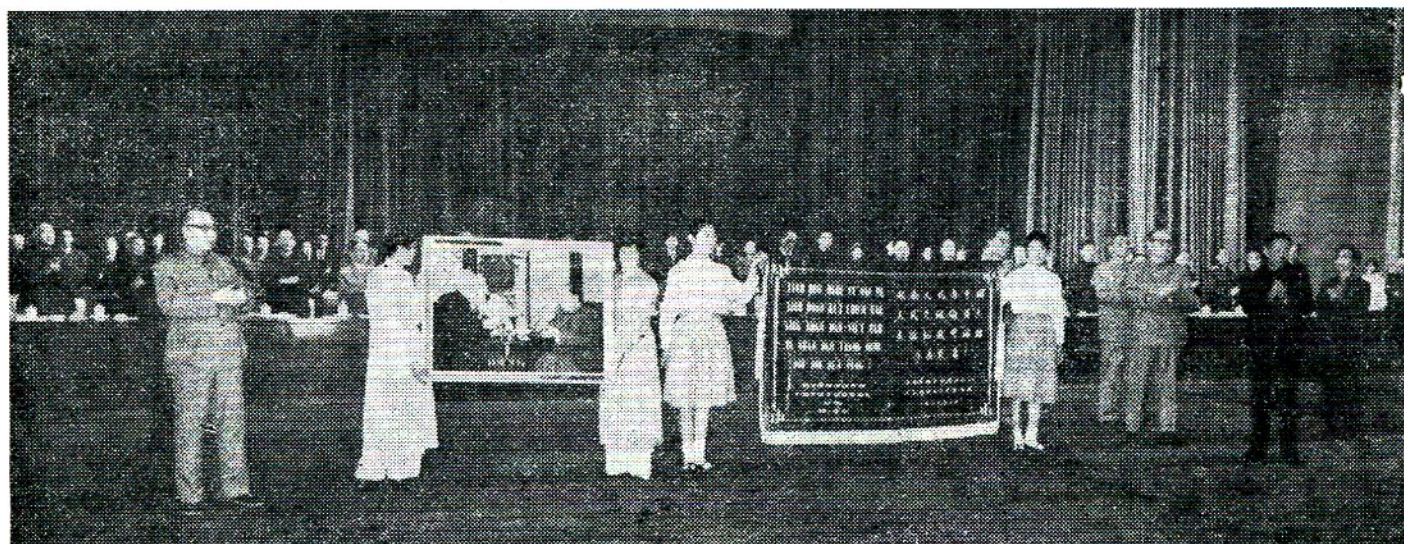
The revolutionary cause of the Vietnamese people and that of the Chinese people, which have been closely linked together during the past several decades, have

built up the great friendship and the militant solidarity between the Vietnamese and the Chinese people.

With intense emotion, we recall the early extremely hard days of the Vietnamese revolution, when our venerated President Ho Chi Minh and the Vietnamese patriots, devotedly supported and helped by the Chinese Communists and people, lived and engaged in revolutionary activities on this friendly neighbouring land. This particular circumstance in the revolutionary struggle has long caused us to become so close comrades and brothers just as lips and teeth. And these indefectible links have further consolidated and developed as the prodigious revolutionary struggle of our two peoples has been growing by leaps and bounds.

In our resistance war against the French colonialists, these links of friendship have been manifested in the devoted support and assistance extended in diverse forms by the Chinese people to the Vietnamese people. In particular after the triumph of the Chinese revolution which resulted in linking Viet Nam to the People's Republic of China and to the socialist camp, our patriotic struggle was given added strength and recorded the great historic Dien Bien Phu victory.

In our patriotic struggle against U.S. aggression and in the building of socialism in Viet Nam, the Communist Party, the Government and people of China have extended Vietnamese people great and valuable backing in many fields, thereby making an important contribution to the strengthening of the economic and defence potential and the fighting capabilities of the people in both north and south Viet Nam, and encouraging us to overcome all difficulties and hardships and



The velvet embroidery (left) presented by the Peking rally to the Viet Nam Party and Government Delegation and the silk banner presented by the delegation to the people of the capital. The embroidery shows President Ho Chi Minh's cordial meeting with Chairman Mao Tsetung when he visited China. The inscription on the banner in Vietnamese and Chinese says: "May the great friendship and militant solidarity between the Vietnamese and the Chinese people be everlasting!"

march from success to success until the splendid victory of today.

The Vietnamese people are very proud of having for comrades-in-arms the Chinese people who have always regarded support for, and assistance to, the just cause of the Vietnamese people as "an internationalist duty to be fulfilled." In the eyes of the Vietnamese people, these meaningful acts of the Chinese people — workers, and collective peasants, scientific workers and technicians, and people from other walks of life — will be viewed for ever as brilliant manifestations of the militant solidarity between the two peoples, and beautiful flowers of the Viet Nam-China friendship.

Dear comrades and friends,

As close neighbours, "both comrades and brothers" of the Chinese people, the Vietnamese people have always followed with particular sympathy the various stages the heroic Chinese people have gone through in their revolutionary struggle full of glorious victories. Each step forward made by the Chinese people on the immense expanses of their rich and beautiful country inhabited by one-fourth of the world population, has a very important significance. Not only does it open new, bright vistas for the Chinese people, it also constitutes a positive contribution to the revolutionary struggle of the world's peoples.

Through a long, hard and extremely glorious revolutionary struggle under the leadership of the Chinese Communist Party headed by venerated Chairman Mao Tsetung, the Chinese people have smashed the reactionary rule of imperialism, feudalism and bureaucratic capitalism, and founded the People's Republic of China, thus ushering in for themselves a new, bright era — that of independence, freedom and socialism. The triumph of the Chinese revolution and the founding of the People's Republic of China, an event of paramount international significance after the Great October Revolution in Russia, dealt a mortal blow at imperialism and tipped the world balance of forces in favour of peace, national independence, democracy and socialism.

Bringing into play their staunch revolutionary traditions, their industriousness and creative labour, the Chinese people are turning their beloved country into a mighty and beautiful socialist fatherland. Everywhere, from the majestic highlands to the fertile plains, 700 million liberated men are building socialism, with the determination and patience of "the Foolish Old Man who removed the mountains" and have unceasingly recorded outstanding achievements in all fields.

China's over 3,000-year-old agriculture, whose development was hindered by the reactionary forces, is now steadily growing in all respects and has scored brilliant results. Sustained efforts on the water-conservancy front, and a planned strengthening of agriculture's material and technological base in all fields have brought about bumper crops for several consecutive years. As a result China, which prior to liberation suffered chronic starvation, has not only managed to produce enough food for herself, but is also in a position to help her brothers and friends.

Advancing to socialism from a backward production, the Chinese working class and people have brought into play their staunch revolutionary will and their creative talent and have built up a comprehensive and modern system of industries capable of providing technical equipment to the whole national economy and meeting ever more adequately the people's requirements in consumer goods.

Only 15 years after liberation, China has successfully tested atomic and hydrogen weapons, and successfully launched man-made satellites of the earth; this has highlighted the rapid progress of modern science and technology in the People's Republic of China.

With the strong development of national construction in about a quarter of a century, the material and technological base of socialism in China has been unceasingly strengthened; national defence has been increasingly consolidated; the people's living standards have been progressively raised; cultural life has become ever richer with deep roots among the toiling masses.

In the enthusiasm that animates hundreds of millions of people resolved to "shake sky and earth to embellish their country," there have emerged Tachai and Taching collectives and individuals, constantly armed with a self-reliant, hard-working spirit, ardent patriotism and deep attachment to the cause of socialism. Such a nation is bound to record new, even greater achievements, which eloquently demonstrate the superiority of socialism and the boundless capabilities of the working people once they have been liberated.

Today, the People's Republic of China is a socialist power. Her international status has been increasingly heightened, as evidenced by China's regaining her legitimate position in the United Nations and establishing diplomatic relations with a series of countries in a short period of time. The trend of history has shown more and more clearly that there is only one China, the People's Republic of China. The persistent struggle of the Chinese people to recover Taiwan, an inalienable part of the sacred territory of the People's Republic of China, is bound to end in victory.

From the bottom of their hearts, the Vietnamese people express their joy and enthusiasm at the great victories of the fraternal Chinese people, which they consider a strong source of encouragement for their revolutionary cause and sincerely wish the Chinese people will record new, even more brilliant achievements in the building of socialism, thus making great contributions to the revolutionary struggle of the world's peoples.

Comrades and friends,

Over the past ten years and more, the Vietnamese people, defying all hardships and sacrifices, have united as one man to oppose the extremely atrocious war of aggression waged by U.S. imperialism the international gendarme. In conducting a war of aggression against Viet Nam, the latter aimed not only at imposing neo-colonialism on Viet Nam, but also at opposing two revolutionary currents of the present times — the na-

tional-liberation revolution and the socialist revolution. In this extremely fierce and bloody confrontation, the Vietnamese people, with the great thought that **"nothing is more precious than independence and freedom,"** with the devoted assistance of their friends in the world, have risen up with a wonderful force, and have finally emerged as a victor. This feat, this victory is a common feat, a common victory of the socialist countries, of the national-independence movement and of the whole progressive mankind. And it is today a great honour for us to meet you and share with you the joy at this great victory.

On January 27, 1973, the Agreement on Ending the War and Restoring Peace in Viet Nam was signed in Paris, sanctioning the undeniable gains of the Vietnamese people's revolutionary struggle: the United States and all other countries respect the independence, sovereignty, unity, and territorial integrity of Viet Nam; the United States will not continue its military involvement or intervene in the internal affairs of south Viet Nam; the south Vietnamese people's right to self-determination is sacred, inalienable, and shall be respected by all countries; the reunification of Viet Nam shall be carried out step by step through peaceful means on the basis of discussions and agreements between north and south Viet Nam, without foreign interference. . . .

On March 29, the last unit of the U.S. expeditionary corps had to pull out of ~~south Viet Nam~~, this brought to an end the occupation of the Vietnamese territory by foreign troops. That is a historic milestone, the end of a glorious stage in the fight which has been waged by the Vietnamese people for more than a century now. This great victory is bringing about favourable conditions and opening fine prospects for the Vietnamese nation to continue the struggle with a view to preserving and consolidating peace, building socialism in the north, completing independence and democracy in the south, and proceeding to the peaceful reunification of the fatherland.

As is well known, the Government of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam and the Provisional Revolutionary Government of the Republic of South Viet Nam have always strictly respected and scrupulously implemented the Paris agreement; meanwhile, the United States and the Saigon administration have brazenly and systematically violated a series of very important provisions of the agreement. The deep root and the immediate cause of these violations lie in the fact that in spite of repeated heavy defeats the U.S. imperialists are still pursuing a policy which has gone bankrupt — the policy of neo-colonialism in south Viet Nam and of permanent partition of Viet Nam. To achieve this foolish ambition, they are still using the Saigon administration, a militarist and fascist clique which for a long time already has met with strong condemnation and opposition by the south Vietnamese people and ever stronger protests from broad segments

of international public opinion. In such a situation, more than ever, the Provisional Revolutionary Government of the Republic of South Viet Nam stands out as the only genuine representative of all strata of the south Vietnamese people, the staunch champion of the latter's true right to self-determination, the symbol of south Viet Nam's bright future; while the Saigon administration has further unmasked itself as an odious lackey of the U.S. imperialists with an obdurate, reactionary and war-like nature. Running counter to the most fundamental rights and the most cherished aspirations of the Vietnamese people, going against the trend of the times and the evolution of history, it is irremediably doomed to defeat.

With regard to Laos, we are very gratified at the conclusion of the Agreement on Restoring Peace and Achieving National Concord. That is a very great victory of the Lao people and the Lao patriotic forces headed by Prince Souphanouvong. However, the U.S. imperialists have not stopped supporting the Rightwing party and are giving them free reins to violate the Vientiane agreement. In Cambodia, the United States is escalating the war and intensifying the barbarous B-52 attacks on the Liberated Zone. But in spite of the hysterical efforts made by the U.S. imperialists and their henchmen, the Cambodian people's heroic resistance war has been recording very great and resounding victories and these have taken place at a time when Samdech Norodom Sihanouk, Head of State, recently made a successful visit to the Cambodian Liberated Zone.

According to the spirit and content of the Joint Declaration of the Summit Conference of the Indochinese Peoples, the Vietnamese people and the Government of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam pledge themselves to strictly respect the inalienable independence and sovereignty of the brotherly Lao and Cambodian peoples: the affairs of the Lao and Cambodian peoples must be settled by the Laotian and Cambodian peoples, without foreign intervention.

The situation is developing favourably for the just and certainly victorious struggle of the Vietnamese, Lao and Cambodian peoples. The three Indochinese peoples are all the more resolved to strengthen their solidarity and co-ordination in struggle and to march forward to even greater successes until total victory.

Dear Chinese comrades, brothers and sisters,

In their extremely hard fight which is full of brilliant feats, our people have won, and are bound to win. This is because our fight has always enjoyed great and valuable sympathy, support and assistance from the Chinese people as well as from the people of the Soviet Union and of the other fraternal socialist countries, from the international communist and workers' movement, third world countries, and the whole progressive mankind, including the American people. The more we think of the lofty international solidarity which has always inspired us and given us added

strength, the more we will endeavour to do everything in our power to contribute in a worthy manner to the strengthening of the solidarity among the fraternal socialist countries and within the international communist and workers' movement on the basis of Marxism-Leninism and proletarian internationalism.

Today, from this grand rostrum, in this atmosphere of Viet Nam-China friendship, we are very glad to express to you and through you to the fraternal Chinese people our sincere and deep gratitude. It is our eager desire to have an opportunity to visit many places in this country which has become so dear to us, and to meet and express our love and esteem for brothers who have extended wholehearted support and assistance to the Vietnamese people's patriotic struggle against U.S. aggression and to their cause of socialist construction.

For their part, the Vietnamese people will endeavour to deserve your confidence, to fulfil their glorious international duty vis-a-vis the Chinese people, to be for ever worthy of the title of staunch fighters on the Southeast Asian outpost of the socialist system and to make positive contributions to the great struggle of the world's peoples for peace, independence, democracy and socialism.

(Continued from p. 5.)

exciting country. But perhaps the most striking was the readiness of your government to talk frankly on any subject under the sun."

Referring to international problems, he said: "There is a healthy trend in the world today. This is the desire of countries of all kinds to sit down and discuss their differences." "We are about to engage as part of the Western alliance in talks both in Helsinki and in Vienna designed to create a future for Europe which is more secure as well as more relaxed. One cannot relax until one is secure. We do not forget that, but we are alert to detect genuine detente," he said.

Replying, Chi Peng-fei expressed sincere appreciation for the warm reception given by the British Government and people. He said: The British people cherish independence and freedom. Particularly in World War II, their resistance to fascist aggression wrote a glorious page in British history. This left a deep impression upon the Chinese people who were then engaged in a heroic war of resistance.

He said: "Although 28 years have passed since World War II, the world

is still in turmoil and unrest. Hegemonism and power politics are still menacing the independence and security of nations, and this is the root cause of international tension. It is understandable that the people of Europe and throughout the world hope for an international detente. But what we want is a genuine detente and not one on paper. If one talks volubly about detente but in practice actively prepares for expansion, his detente is nothing but a fraud. We agree to the view that while an illusory detente is easy to attain, it is also very dangerous."

"China and the United Kingdom," he added, "are countries with differing social systems, and we are very different in our political, economic and cultural conventions and way of life. Yet this need not hinder our two countries from establishing friendly relations and settling questions existing between us step by step on the basis of the Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence."

In conclusion, he thanked all British friends, old and new, who have contributed to the growth of Sino-British friendship.

Chinese Ambassador to Britain Sung Chih-kuang gave a reception

The revolutionary cause of our entire people has scored extremely great victories, but on the path to the building of socialism in the north, the completion of the national democratic revolution in the south, and the peaceful reunification of their country, the Vietnamese people have still to face many difficulties, hardships and complex situation which require us to persist in the struggle with more gallantry and perseverance than ever. We are sure that in the future as in the past, the Communist Party, the Government and the people of China will continue to extend to the Vietnamese people their warm, great and strong support and assistance.

This friendship visit to this great country — China — is giving our delegation and the entire Vietnamese people from north to south boundless enthusiasm. It will contribute to further strengthening and consolidating the brotherhood between our two Parties and peoples. On this occasion, we would like to present the people of Peking capital city with a banner bearing this inscription in golden letters:

May the great friendship and militant solidarity between the Vietnamese and the Chinese people be everlasting!

on the evening of June 8 on the occasion of the visit by Chinese Foreign Minister Chi Peng-fei. At the reception were Lord Hailsham, Lord Chancellor and Speaker of the House of Lords, and other government officials.

Proposing a toast, Foreign Minister Chi said he had had a friendly conversation with Prime Minister Heath and talks with Sir Alec Douglas-Home, which produced positive results.

He added that Prime Minister Heath had accepted an invitation from Premier Chou En-lai to visit China. This will be a great event in Sino-British relations. "We are looking forward to welcoming Mr. Prime Minister in China in the not too distant future," he said.

Lord Hailsham said in reply that the British people had goodwill for the Chinese people. He said he was delighted that Britain and China had developed good relations since the Conservative Party came to office in 1970, and he and his colleagues were happy that Prime Minister Heath was to visit China. He expressed the hope that relations between the two countries would continue to develop.

Laying a Firmer Foundation for the National Economy

— Notes on the rural areas in Hsishui County

by Chu Shih

FOLLOWING a decade of successive rich harvests, China conquered an unusually serious drought and other natural calamities last year and got a good harvest equivalent to that of 1970. Peasants all over the country continued building water conservancy works on farmland on a wide scale last winter and this strengthened their ability to combat natural calamities. **"Taking agriculture as the foundation and industry as the leading factor"**—this general principle for developing the national economy set forth by Chairman Mao goes deeper into the hearts of the people. Since the beginning of last spring, peasants in every part of China have gone all out for better farming and their efforts have won the full support of all the other sectors of the economy.

We visited the countryside in Hsishui County in eastern Hupeh Province, central China, during the spring farming season. Along the banks of the Hsiho River, a tributary of the Yangtze, there was much activity even before the sun rose. Carts moved on the roads to collect and transport farmyard manure, while tractors were at work in the fields. Manure was piled high in the furrows of the wheat fields where sturdy seedlings had turned dark green.

Hsishui is a densely inhabited hilly county—population 770,000 and over 47,000 hectares of cultivated land. Many years of continuous building of water conservancy works on farmland by the county has resulted in high and stable yields year after year. Despite a big drought rarely seen in history, Hsishui had a record grain harvest averaging 9.75 tons per hectare last year. This greatly exceeded the six-tons-per-hectare target set by the state for this region.

But the peasants of Hsishui are not content with what they have done. Only when agriculture develops more rapidly, they understand, when it provides more

grain and raw materials for the workers and industry, accumulates more funds and when rural areas are able to absorb more industrial goods, can industry develop at a faster pace and the socialist country become more consolidated. To put agriculture, the foundation of the national economy, on a firmer basis, Hsishui's peasants have made still bigger efforts this year.

Deserted Offices

County cadres here are experienced in leading agricultural production. Their style of work has become more down-to-earth since the start of the Great Cultural Revolution. Instead of listening to reports and issuing directives in offices, they take their knapsacks and go out and stay at the grass-roots level to get experience. In other words, they remain in a basic unit, eating, living and working together with the commune members, and sum up the experience in that particular place so as to guide the work in the whole area under their direction. No less than 1,700 cadres at the county, district and commune levels went to the production front and stayed in more than 300 production brigades last spring. (The basic rural unit in China is the production team. A number of teams form a brigade and many brigades make up a commune. Communes are led by the county. Some counties are divided into several districts.)

Comrade Pan Chih, deputy secretary of the county Party committee, stayed in the Hsintsun Brigade of the Huho Commune. When young Kuo, the commune's telephone operator, heard we were looking for Comrade Pan, he volunteered to be our guide. "You can't find him in the office," he told us. "When he stayed here 15 days last time, he worked in the fields 12 days. This time, I heard, even meetings are held in the fields. . . ."

Kuo took us to the small room Pan lived in. Nobody was there. We finally found him on a ridge together with a work team sent by the county Party committee and the brigade's cadres. They were digging the ground for planting fir trees.

Hsieh Hsuan-ching, another deputy secretary of the county Party committee, was helping with cotton production at the Tuanchung Brigade. In the daytime he worked with the commune members while making his investigations. At night he solicited opinions from the old peasants. Experienced old peasants proposed dealing with the pink boll-worm in early spring so as to raise cotton yields. Hsieh and commune members studied the problem and worked out measures which were popularized throughout the brigade.

Cadres of every brigade are busy in the fields day and night. The Chingshan Brigade got an average of 13.5 tons of grain per hectare last year. How to increase this year's yields? Taking his quilt, a shoulder-pole and a hoe, secretary of the Party branch Pi Chiu-jung went to stay in the No. 2 Team whose yields were relatively low compared to other teams. Together with the commune members, he studied what prevented the yields from rapidly rising. Because there were no sties for the pigs and no sheds for the cattle, a lot of farmyard manure was lost and this kept down the yields. So Pi built sties and sheds together with the commune members. Besides working with the commune members in the fields during the day, he spent evenings with them in their houses to see if there were any problems in their livelihood and to explain the importance of doing a better job in farming.

We ran into Pi Chiu-jung one day after dusk. His trousers, spotted with mud, were rolled up to his knees. Pi gave us many vivid examples of selfless labour by the commune members but never mentioned a word about himself. But, during the traditional Spring Festival, he took care of the pigs so that the pig tender could have time off at home. He also visited commune members, checked how the seedlings in the wheat fields were growing. . . . He worked as usual during the three-day holiday.

Mass Criticism in Every Village

Criticizing revisionism and rectifying the style of work is now a task of prime importance in the political life of the Chinese people. It is also a big motive force pushing every kind of work forward continuously along Chairman Mao's revolutionary line.

We attended a meeting to criticize revisionism at the No. 1 Team of the Chaoyang

Brigade in Peiyung Commune. Commune members, including old people and children, crowded together in a room. Wang Cheng-hsi, secretary of the brigade's Party branch, presided over the meeting which criticized the scheme of Liu Shao-chi and other political swindlers who tried to disintegrate the socialist collective economy of the people's commune and restore capitalism. Old poor peasant Wang Shan-chiu recalled: "A dry spell lasted 42 days in 1925 and the seedlings were dried up. Except for one landlord household, all the other 19 households in our village had to become beggars. A dry spell continued for 108 days last year, but both grain and cotton yields exceeded those of 1971. Nobody worries about food and clothing. We also got cash at the year-end distribution."

People talked one after another at the meeting. Finally the Party branch secretary said with emotion: "Chairman Mao leads us to take the socialist road. Every step forward is a success. The political swindlers wanted to subvert the dictatorship of the proletariat and put the landlords and bourgeoisie back in power. Can we allow that to happen?" "Never!" was the unanimous answer.

This team has recently held eight such meetings. We also often saw such meetings of other teams in their political evening schools or on the threshing grounds. All sorts of manifestations of the revisionist line in the rural areas were criticized in these meetings. They helped the cadres and commune members draw a clear demarcation line between Chairman Mao's revolutionary line and the revisionist line of Liu Shao-chi and



Hsishui County cadres (first from left, county Party committee secretary Chang Chang-chun) study and sum up experience in raising rice yields in the Shihyueh Brigade.

other political swindlers, and understand what is in the interests of socialism and what is not. For instance, a small number of commune members of the Tuanchun Brigade in the Sanhua Commune wanted to earn more cash for themselves. They gave up their farm work to take up side-lines in other places. The brigade's Party branch led the commune members to deepen the criticism of revisionism and mobilized the masses to expose the class enemies who spread such fallacies as "It is better to get money than grain and cotton" and who instigated people to give up farm work. As for the commune members who had been deceived into leaving their village, the Party branch carried out socialist education by calculating the losses the brigade suffered from their absence.

The No. 2 and No. 3 Teams of the Tuanchun Brigade have each similar amounts of land and labour power. But the latter's yields and income were higher last year. Why? Cheng Yun-wei, a poor peasant in the No. 2 Team, told a meeting: "The No. 3 Team concentrates its labour on farming. But certain people on our team went out for side-lines during the busy farming season. One-half of our early-rice fields was transplanted late and this alone lowered output 15 tons. The trouble, I think, is that we have failed to take agriculture as the foundation." Then poor peasant Cheng Yun-shun continued: "The No. 3 Team's boats were used for transporting fertilizer and that helped farming. Our boats were used to carry other goods in order to make money. With more fertilizer available, they certainly got more cotton. Our fault is lack of a clear orientation." After the discussion the members of the No. 2 Team saw things clearly. They concentrate their manpower and materials on farming this year. Both the quantity of ground fertilizer for cotton and the engineering work for improving soil surpassed those of any previous year.

Struggle Against Nature

Rain poured continuously in this area in the spring. From February to mid-March, there were more than 30 rainy and cloudy days out of 45 days. This had scarcely been seen in many years. In the past farmland would be waterlogged. However, the wheat seedlings of the Huho Commune spread out like an endless green carpet over the rolling plots. This results from the efforts of the commune members who have dredged the ditches and drained the water five times.

The Huho Commune was not an isolated case. Members of many other communes along the road we travelled were digging ditches in the rain so that the accumulated water could be drained into rivers and lakes. Bean and wheat seedlings were strong and green and rape plants were flowering. They seemed to be challenging nature.

We asked Comrade Hsieh Shou-ju, secretary of the Sanhua Commune Party committee: "Do you think

that this year's fairly serious waterlogging will affect the summer harvest?" Full of confidence, he replied: "Man can conquer nature. We're thinking of raising our yields a bit!" Where does his confidence come from? To get a rich harvest and overcome waterlogging, the commune's cadres and masses started their daily work very early and had two meals in the fields. Standing on the river dyke at night, we saw a multitude of lights flickering in the fields. The shock teams were draining off water. Seeing this, who could say secretary Hsieh's confidence was not well founded?

Learn From Tachai, Catch Up With Shihyueh

Chairman Mao issued the call "In agriculture, learn from Tachai" in 1964. In the years since, the mass movement to learn from the Tachai Brigade of Hsiyang County, Shansi Province, has surged forward wave upon wave throughout the whole country (see "Powerful Force for Developing Agriculture," *Peking Review*, No. 15, 1973). A group of advanced units have emerged in every province in the movement to learn from Tachai. The Shihyueh Brigade of the Wangcheng Commune in Hsishui is the "Tachai of Hupeh Province." Cultivated land here amounts to only 0.047 hectare per person. However, the brigade has overcome a series of difficulties by planting three crops on a plot each year — one crop of wheat or rape and two crops of rice. Thus one hectare was used as two or three hectares. The brigade's grain yield averaged 15 tons per hectare last year. The Hupeh provincial Party committee called on all the peasants in the province to "learn from Tachai and catch up with Shihyueh." Since Shihyueh is in Hsishui, the peasants in this county are energetically trying to catch up with it.

Immediately after leaving the county town one morning, we came upon a long line of carts moving fertilizer. We ran over to a group of commune members, asking: "Comrades, are you from Shihyueh?"

"No, Shihyueh is ahead of us. We're from Hunghsing."

"Plenty of vigour!"

"We're still far behind Shihyueh but we're catching up now!" The young commune members were pulling their carts and running.

Not only are the less advanced brigades catching up but the advanced ones are also determined to move forward. The Chienchin Brigade of the Wangkang Commune got 15 tons per hectare for two successive years. Someone said it would be all right if the brigade could just match last year's yields. But the brigade's Party branch did not think so. They said: "Tachai has some new measures every year, Shihyueh makes a new start every year and we can't rest on our laurels." In the light of what Shihyueh had done, the Party branch

called on the masses to find out where they lagged behind and decided on plans to tap potential. Emulations for the red flag have been developed between teams of the brigade and between organizations of youth, women and militia.

When we arrived at this brigade, the No. 2 Team had just received the red flag because of its excellent work in spring farming. The commune members said: "Though we got the red flag, we have to learn from the No. 3 Team in collecting fertilizer." While transporting fertilizer the next day, deputy team leader Chao Kuo-wen led the others to change small baskets for big ones. Chen Feng-ying, a young girl, wanted to use big baskets, but her father also wanted to use them. "Young people should carry the heavy loads!" Feng-ying said as she ran along with big baskets.

All-Round Support

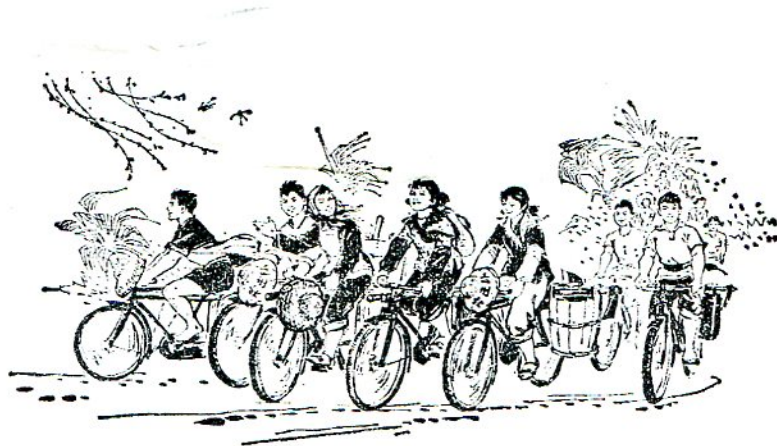
"Taking agriculture as the foundation and industry as the leading factor." An important aspect for industry to play its role as the leading factor is to continuously equip agriculture with new techniques and supply it with an ever increasing amount of chemical fertilizers, insecticides, coal, electricity and so on. During spring farming the repair and maintenance of farm machines and tools is also an important work. The industrial departments of Hsishui organized 78 farm tool repair groups when the county started preparations for spring farm work. These groups made the rounds of the production teams to serve the peasants.

Enterprises which are not making farm machines also help agriculture in every possible way. Chang Tsu-hui, a worker in a plant in the county town that makes parts for the broadcasting set-up, passed through the Hunghsing Brigade one day in February. He saw commune members carrying mud from the ponds to be used as manure. While moving ahead rapidly they talked to one another: "If trailers were used, we'd have finished transporting the manure long ago." This drew Chang's attention. He went to the brigade office and found that its two tractor-drawn trailers needed repairing. The repair groups had not reached this brigade yet, so he reported his finding to his plant. The secretary of the plant's Party branch consulted with the workers at once. The latter said that though it was not their job to repair farm tools, there were no limits in serving agriculture. They agreed they should make an exception and do the repair job. The

plant sent Chang to the brigade to tell it what the plant had decided to do. Two days later, the two repaired trailers began moving fertilizer.

There are many stories in the county about how the commercial, transport and service departments help agriculture. The crew of a motor junk belonging to the water-borne transport co-op gave up its Spring Festival holiday to move fertilizer for a commune. For the convenience of commune members who came to buy draught animals to be used in spring farm work, a hotel built a cattle shed behind the building in a short time.

The county telecommunication bureau planned to put up a new line to the Wangcheng Commune and the help of five strong commune members was needed. Han Kuei-ying, woman leader of a telephone squad, said: "It would be better not to use rural manpower during the busy spring season. We'll do the work of putting up the line." Someone said: "You girls are good at handling the switchboard, but you may not be able to do this kind of heavy work." Bold and confident, she replied: "If one person can't do it, we'll use two. When two can't handle it, our whole squad will be there. If we can help one person not leaving work in the countryside, this is our contribution to farming." She and eight other girls in the squad carried the wires and set up the line in the rain.



Spring in a people's commune: (Top) Young shock team members; (Below) Ploughing.

Sketches by Chih Tsai

SAMDECH SIHANOUK IN TIRANA

Visiting the Ninth Country

On the eve of his departure from Albania to visit Yugoslavia, Samdech Sihanouk stressed the Cambodian people's determination to carry their war against U.S. aggression and for national salvation through to the end. Speaking at the farewell banquet he gave in Tirana's "Partisan Palace" on the evening of June 8, Samdech Sihanouk said: The U.S. Government has announced everywhere that the United States and the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam will soon end the armed resistance of the Khmer people and will establish on the land of Cambodia an "American-type peace." "This shameless political manoeuvre of Washington," he pointed out, "has been exposed by the outstanding leaders of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam themselves."

The Cambodian Head of State quoted a telegram sent him by Samdech Penn Nouth, Prime Minister of the Royal Government of National Union of Cambodia. The message said: "On June 5, 1973 I had a talk with Their Excellencies Le Duan and Pham Van Dong during which my interlocutors asked me to extend their fraternal greetings to the head of the Khmer state and to assure him that the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam would never allow itself to discuss the Cambodian problem in our stead. There is only one Cambodian government for the D.R.V.N., the Royal Government of National Union of Cambodia, and there exists only one Cambodian state which has as its head Samdech Norodom Sihanouk. For the solution of the Cambodian problem, the United States should talk directly with the Royal Government of National Union of Cambodia."

Samdech Sihanouk reiterated his determination to carry on the struggle "until U.S. imperialism-neo-colonialism is completely wiped out once

and for all from the sacred Cambodian land" at the banquet which was attended by Enver Hoxha, First Secretary of the Central Committee of the Albanian Party of Labour, Haxhi Lleshi, President of the Presidium of the People's Assembly, and Mehmet Shehu, Chairman of the Council of Ministers.

Heartily thanking Albania for the powerful support it gave to the Cambodian people's just cause, he noted that "some allegedly anti-imperialist countries, and indeed not unimportant ones, feign not to understand us."

Albania was the ninth country on the Afro-European tour by Samdech Sihanouk, his wife and their party. Before they went to the "land of eagles," they had made a private visit to Algeria where they were received with warm hospitality by Houari Boumedienne, President of the Algerian Council of Revolution and Prime Minister, and other high-ranking officials and officers.

FRANCE-U.S.A.

Summit Talks

President Pompidou and President Nixon concluded two days of talks in Reykjavik on June 1.

Relations between the United States and the West European countries were discussed by the two presidents during their talks in Iceland's capital. Both sides considered the talks "useful and constructive" and stressed the importance of the Atlantic alliance.

Speaking at a dinner given by the Icelandic President, President Nixon said: "As President Pompidou has said, we believe we can achieve genuine European-American unity while respecting the individual personality of each sovereign nation. The ties that unite us — . . . our common concern for the security of the Atlantic community — are much

stronger than any issue which may temporarily divide us."

Referring to the Atlantic alliance, President Pompidou said: "We know what place Europe occupies in your preoccupations. On our side, no matter how favourable the world situation becomes, there are too many uncertainties to allow the necessity for the alliance which unites us to be blurred."

Western defence was among the other topics discussed at the U.S.-France summit. Pompidou emphasized the "extreme importance of the presence of U.S. troops in Europe and the great danger of reducing the U.S. forces unilaterally." Talking to newsmen about the U.S. attitude on this question, White House Press Secretary Ziegler said Nixon had often declared that the United States had no intention of proceeding with a unilateral reduction of forces.

As regards monetary question, both presidents held that the monetary system of the Western world was not viable and had to be reformed. Denis Baudouin, spokesman for the French President, said that the American position "in this respect is not blocked and the French position is not frozen."

The French and U.S. Presidents expressed their views on the results of the Reykjavik talks. President Pompidou said: "We discussed everything. We did not make decisions. . . . I can say that we found that on all the main problems which exist and project themselves, there are many spheres of agreement and some areas of disagreement. But generally speaking the agreements outnumber the disagreements."

On his part, President Nixon pointed out that "there was some disagreement but it must not be overdramatized because on the basic goals, we have always been in full agreement with France."

EUROPEAN SECURITY CONFERENCE

Preparatory Talks Concluded

The first stage of a conference on European security and co-operation

— a meeting at the foreign minister level — will take place in Helsinki on July 3. This was decided according to an agreement reached after more than six months of heated debate by representatives of 32 European countries and the United States and Canada which took part in the preparatory talks held in the Finnish capital. The second stage will be meetings of various committees in Geneva this autumn to discuss specific questions on the agenda. The conference will enter the third stage after the committees achieve results in their discussions. The time and level of the meeting for the third stage are still to be decided.

The preparatory talks were held against the background of intensified contention between the Soviet Union and the United States for Europe. Under the signboard of "European collective security system," the Soviet Union is trying hard to consolidate its hegemony in Eastern Europe, extend its sphere of influence to Western Europe and elbow out U.S. influence there. While trying to create a false sense of "detente" in Europe, it is building up its military strength to pave the way for infiltration and expansion in Western Europe. The United States on its part, in proposing a "year of Europe" and a "new Atlantic Charter," is trying to adjust its overall relationship with Europe, ease its contradictions with Western Europe and consolidate its position there, and, together with Western Europe, contend with the Soviet Union for Eastern Europe.

During the preparatory talks, very heated debates on the agenda centered on the question of European security and the question of contacts between people and cultural exchanges. The *New York Times* maintained that Moscow has taken the European security conference as "a means of firmly establishing the post-war division of Europe." Directing themselves against the "Brezhnev doctrine" which asserts that East European countries have only "limited sovereignty," the United States and other Western countries insisted

on the inclusion of the principle of "self-determination" and other principles on the agenda.

The United States and other Western countries asked for discussion of "freer movements and contacts, individually or collectively" and "freer and wider dissemination of information" to facilitate their infiltration of Eastern Europe. The Soviet Union at first categorically rejected any discussion on these questions, but later it made one concession after another because it was anxious for the convocation of the conference. Thus, both sides reached a compromise at the long deadlocked preparatory talks, ending the marathon-type talks on June 8 which began on November 22, 1972.

The other two items of the conference's agenda are economic cooperation and machinery. A Reuter dispatch said that the Soviet Union tried to "buy equipment for their own more sluggish economy" from the Western "technological supermarket." The Western countries, on the other hand, intended to attain by economic and technological means their aim of infiltrating the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe.

As to the question of machinery, the Soviet Union proposed setting up permanent organs of the conference, but the Western countries feared that the Soviet Union might use these organs to break up the unity of Western Europe and sow dissension between Western Europe and the United States. The *London Times* pointed out on June 8 that "some Western governments were haunted by fears that they were walking into a trap," that they saw the conference as "a means of gaining Western endorsement" of Soviet rule in Eastern Europe, and that "they thought it would spread a false sense of security that could only divide and weaken the Western communities."

In the course of the preparatory talks, a number of small and medium-sized countries were very active. At the very beginning, a Romanian representative proposed that all states

take part in the talks on the basis of equality and independence. The proposal was widely supported by other small and medium-sized countries. Romania, Yugoslavia, Sweden and Switzerland urged in strong terms that European military security be discussed at the conference. Malta and some other countries requested that security in the Mediterranean be put on the agenda. Nevertheless, neither the Soviet Union nor the United States was willing to discuss these questions which are really related to European security.

When the Soviet representative talked glibly about European "security," "co-operation" and "detente" at the preparatory talks, Western journals widely reported the massive build-up of Soviet military strength in Eastern Europe. The French paper *La Croix* said: "So long as this formidable and mute Soviet military hegemony lasts, people do not see how the problem of European security can advance one step."

TANZANIA AND UGANDA

Normalization of Relations

The dark clouds over Tanzania and Uganda have drifted away. Both countries have signed an agreement on the normalization of relations through the good offices of Emperor Haile Selassie I of Ethiopia.

Held in May in Addis Ababa, the 10th Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity (O.A.U.) provided the opportunity for the reconciliation. The agreement announced simultaneously in Dar-es-Salaam and Kampala was signed by President Nyerere of Tanzania, President Amin of Uganda and Emperor Haile Selassie I.

The agreement says: "Both parties agree to adhere strictly to all terms of the Mogadishu agreement. In particular each party undertakes to see to it that its territory is not used as a base of subversion against the other." The Mogadishu agreement refers to the 1972 joint communique issued on October 6

and a pledge on October 7 by the Foreign Ministers of Tanzania and Uganda after talks in Somalia's capital Mogadishu at the initiative of Mohamed Siad Barre, President of the Supreme Revolutionary Council of Somalia.

ARGENTINA

Peron Stresses Latin American Integration

Ex-president of the Argentine Republic Juan Domingo Peron, in a recent televised speech in Spain, stressed the necessity of Latin American integration and unity to defend the continent. Peron is President of the Justicialist Party of Argentina which returned to power after winning the presidential election in March this year.

Peron said that Latin American integration should be a fundamental object for all Latin Americans and that there would be grave difficulties if there was ~~no continental integration~~. Countries that wished to live in isolation could attain no development.

He stressed that Latin American countries could defend themselves only when they were united. Nothing could be done if they are separated. Latin America has a population of over 250 million. United, it could play a role in the future world.

He pointed out that countries belonging to the third world would have a bright future if they could master their own destinies. Latin America had immense wealth in natural resources which were virtually untapped. This was a great hope for the countries there.

ISRAEL

Beset With Crises

All aggressors start with the aim of injuring others only to end up by ruining themselves. The Israeli aggressors are no exception.

It is six years now since Israel launched the "June 5" war of aggression against the Arab countries. Yet what are the grave consequences of Israel pushing ahead with its policy of aggression and expansion in the last six years?

First, soaring military expenditures. Israel's military budget, which stood at 2,200 million Israeli pounds in 1968, rose to 5,200 million pounds in 1971 and topped the 6,000 million pounds (1,500 million dollars) mark in 1973.

Enormous military expenditures have left Israel with no choice but to live on loans. External debts have kept increasing since the war of June 5, 1967. The foreign debts, which amounted to 1,600 million U.S. dollars towards the end of 1967, soared to 4,000 million by the end of 1972, ranking first in the world per capita.

Second, drained coffers. An unfavourable balance between revenue and expenditure has resulted in yearly deficits. The country has incurred large amounts of internal debts on top of foreign ones. According to Israel's bond organization, Israel issued 258 million U.S. dollars worth of bonds in 1971 and another 280 million last year. With financial resources running out, the Israeli authorities have imposed exorbitant taxes and miscellaneous levies to fleece the Israeli people. At present, Israeli taxes are the heaviest in the world.

Third, skyrocketing prices. The Israeli pound has been devalued again and again. The exchange rate between the Israeli pound and the U.S. dollar was 1 to 2.8 in 1949, now it is 4.2 to 1.

Israel's currency inflation and price increases have reached a rate unknown before. As a result, the labouring people can hardly keep their heads above water as their real wages are getting lower and lower. Israeli Deputy Prime Minister Yigal Allon said recently that Israel's "poverty problem is worse than I would have expected ten years ago."

Fourth, waves of strikes. The Israeli labouring people have gone on strikes time and again, protesting against soaring prices and demanding higher wages. The number of strikers was 25,000 in 1967 and reached 73,000 in the first three quarters of 1970. Strikes continued to grow in scale in early 1973, with people from more and more social strata taking part. In January alone, about 30,000 engineers and technicians, 2,000 computer operators, 6,000 hospital workers and employees as well as dockers, professors at Jerusalem's Hebrew University and other people went on strike, keeping the Israeli authorities on the run to cope with the situation.

INDIA

Police Mutiny

The most serious mutiny in the 25 years since independence — this was how the Indian official quarters described the recent mutiny by the Provincial Armed Constabulary in Uttar Pradesh.

According to reports from New Delhi, the police in Uttar Pradesh had asked for higher wages but their demand was rejected. When they were dispatched to suppress the student movement in Lucknow University, they refused to carry out orders. Some of them sided with the students and clashed with their officers.

On May 22, when the Indian Government sent troops to disarm them, several thousand police put up armed resistance. Some of them entrenched themselves in armouries and a police headquarters. A fierce battle between the two sides took place.

Reuter reported that at least 40 people were killed and more than 100 wounded during the mutiny. Over 600 police were arrested and the whereabouts of another 300 who fled with their arms is still unknown.

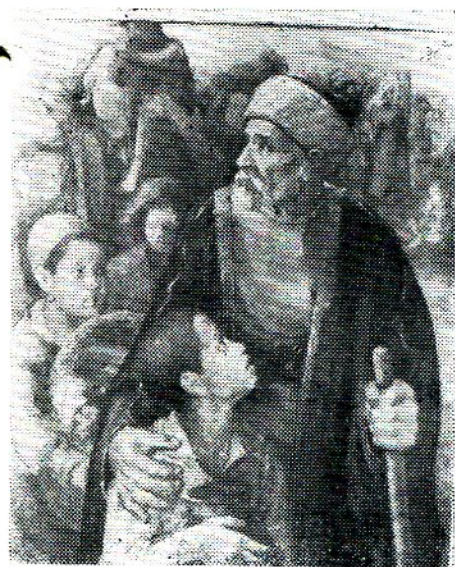
With army and police exchanging fire, the situation was serious indeed. No wonder that the *Hindustan Times* said: "This is nothing less than a national crisis."

Visual Record of Palestinian People's Struggle. May 30 saw the opening ceremony for an exhibition of Palestinian revolutionary photographs and works of art at Peking's Cultural Palace of the Nationalities. The exhibition was jointly sponsored by diplomatic envoys of Arab countries to China and the Mission of the Palestine Liberation Organization in Peking.

The 200 photographs on show conclusively expose and condemn the brutal crimes of the Israeli Zionists and vividly reflect the revolutionary heroism of the Palestinian and other Arab people. Also on display are Palestinian handicrafts as well as works of art by children.

These revolutionary works reveal that far from being cowed by bombs and butchers' knives, the Palestinian people have been courageously fighting the enemy. The battle scenes, especially those after the war of June 5, 1967, record how the Arab people are united in their common struggle against the enemy.

The oil paintings by the well-known Palestinian painters Ismail



We will go back.

by Ismail Shammout

Shammout, Secretary-General of the Arab Artists' Association, and his wife Tamam Shammout are as impressive as the other exhibits. They are at once splendid works of art and bombs raining on the enemy. One of their paintings, *We Will Go Back*, depicts a grandfather being forced to leave his homeland with his grandson. With a look of firm determination, he turns his eyes in the direction of his motherland. Looking at this painting, we feel as though we hear the boy asking his grandfather: "Where are we bound for?" Firm and confident, the old man replies: "We shall fight and win. We must return to our motherland and rebuild our homes!"

Painter Ismail has said: "A painter is a fighter. Art is his weapon." From the paintings on show, we can see that the Palestinian artists' viewpoint of art is consistent with their artistic pursuits.

Many of the traditional handicrafts such as wood carvings and costumes on display are fine works by sons and daughters of the Palestinian martyrs. Made of coarse cloth, olive wood, shells and other materials, these exquisite works are imbued with the creators' ardent love for life and show the Palestinian people's talent for artistic creations.

The photographs, paintings and handicrafts envision for us the bright prospects of the Palestinian people and the dawn of their victory.

Lusaka-Kaoma Highway and Radio Transmitting Station. A grand ceremony was held at Kafue Bridge in Zambia's Western Province on May 26 to mark the opening to traffic of the Lusaka-Kaoma Highway and the bridge. The road was constructed with China's assistance as set forth in the economic and technical co-operation agreement signed in Peking on June 23, 1967. Actual construction of this 388.5-kilometre-long road began in 1970 and was completed in September 1972.

President Kaunda cut the ribbon for the official opening of the road and

bridge. Speaking at the ceremony, he expressed admiration for the co-operation between the Zambian and Chinese workers. He said: The Chinese people are always our friends. We value such friendship because it is not based on expediency but on principles and mutual respect.

Kuo Lu, Head of the Chinese Government Delegation and Vice-Minister of Communications who attended the ceremony on invitation, extended warm congratulations to the Zambian Government and people on behalf of the Chinese Government and people. The construction of the Lusaka-Kaoma Highway, he said, is a vivid demonstration of fruitful co-operation.

On May 28, the signing ceremony of a certificate of the transfer of a broadcasting transmitting station to Zambia took place in Lusaka.

Sports. The Albanian cycling and weightlifting teams led by Muharrem Sinoimeri arrived in Peking on May 26 on a friendly visit to China.

On the evening of June 2, the Chinese Physical Culture and Sports Commission held a ceremony at the Capital Gymnasium to warmly welcome the sportsmen from fraternal Albania. Following the ceremony, the Chinese and Albanian weightlifters had a friendly contest in seven events.

- With Marilyn Jill Hunnings as its leader, the Canadian national women's volleyball team toured and played matches in China from May 15 to June 4.

During their stay in China, the Canadian players visited Peking, Nanking, Shanghai and Kwangchow.

- May 25 saw the arrival of the 32-member Mexican men's and women's volleyball teams in Peking for a friendly visit to China, the first ever by Mexican teams. Two days later, they played their first matches with Chinese teams before 18,000 spectators who warmly greeted the visitors with rounds of applause.

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Published by **SCIENCE PUBLISHING HOUSE**, Peking, China

Distributed by **GUOZI SHUDIAN** (China Publications Centre), Peking, China

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