

# PEKING REVIEW

36

September 8, 1972

北  
京  
周  
報

**Greeting the Vietnamese People's  
National Day**

***Meetings of Unity and Friendship***

— Report on the 1st Asian Table Tennis  
Championships

**The Bankruptcy of Apriorism as Seen  
From the History of Knowledge**

# PEKING REVIEW

北京周报

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THE WEEK

# Chinese Leaders Cable Vietnamese Leaders

— Warmest congratulations on the 27th anniversary of the founding of  
the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam

## Comrade Ton Duc Thang,

President of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam

## Comrade Le Duan,

First Secretary of the Central Committee of the  
Viet Nam Workers' Party

## Comrade Truong Chinh,

Chairman of the Standing Committee of the Na-  
tional Assembly of the Democratic Republic of  
Viet Nam

## Comrade Pham Van Dong,

Premier of the Government of the Democratic  
Republic of Viet Nam

Hanoi

On the occasion of the 27th anniversary of the founding of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam, we, on behalf of the Communist Party of China and the Chinese Government and people, extend the warmest congratulations to the Viet Nam Workers' Party, the Government of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam and the fraternal Vietnamese people.

Under the leadership of the Viet Nam Workers' Party, the heroic Vietnamese people have in the past 27 years fought with dauntless heroism and militant revolutionary stamina against one imperialist war of aggression after another and safeguarded the fruits of socialism in northern Viet Nam, writing brilliant chapters in the annals of the cause of liberation of the Vietnamese nation. The heroic deeds of the Vietnamese people in their anti-imperialist revolutionary struggles have been a tremendous encouragement to the Chinese people and a valuable contribution to the liberation struggles of all the oppressed nations and peoples of the world.

At present, the Vietnamese people's war against U.S. aggression and for national salvation is developing triumphantly and the whole situation in Indochina is excellent. The south Vietnamese armed forces and people have launched fierce offensives on various battlefields, dealt heavy blows to the U.S. imperialist scheme of "Vietnamizing" the war and scored splendid victories. U.S. imperialism has attempted to force the Vietnamese people to cease fighting by stepping up its air and naval

raids and imposing a blockade through the laying of mines, but this is sheer day-dreaming. The bombs of U.S. imperialism have not shaken and will never be able to shake the iron will of the Vietnamese people. Following President Ho Chi Minh's teaching "**We prefer to make any sacrifice rather than lose the fatherland and be slaves,**" the heroic Vietnamese people, united as one and fearing no difficulties, are advancing triumphantly with firm militant strides. We are deeply convinced that the Vietnamese people, tempered in protracted revolutionary wars and fighting in unity with the peoples of Laos and Cambodia, will certainly defeat U.S. imperialist aggression and win complete victory in their war against U.S. aggression and for national salvation.

The Chinese and Vietnamese peoples are close comrades-in-arms and brothers sharing weal and woe and going through thick and thin together. To support and assist the Vietnamese people's struggle against U.S. aggression and for national salvation is a bounden internationalist duty of the Chinese people. No matter what hardships and dangers the Vietnamese people may still face in the war against U.S. aggression and for national salvation, the Chinese people will remain on your side and give all-out support and assistance to your just struggle.

Final victory surely belongs to the heroic Vietnamese and other Indochinese peoples!

**Mao Tsetung**

Chairman of the Central Committee  
of the Communist Party of China

**Tung Pi-wu**

Acting Chairman of the Peo-  
ple's Republic of China

**Chu Teh**

Chairman of the Standing Committee  
of the National People's Congress of  
the People's Republic of China

**Chou En-lai**

Premier of the State Council of the  
People's Republic of China

Peking, September 1, 1972

## Chiao Kuan-hua Visits Pakistan

Chinese Vice-Foreign Minister Chiao Kuan-hua visited Pakistan from August 28 to 31 at the invitation of the Pakistan Government.

On August 29, Pakistan President Bhutto received Vice-Foreign Minister Chiao and, in a cordial and friendly atmosphere, had a long talk with him. On the same day, President Bhutto gave a grand banquet in honour of the Chinese Vice-Foreign Minister.

President Bhutto stressed at the banquet that the friendship between Pakistan and China would continue to develop and never retreat.

He added that Pakistan wanted to have good relations with all its neighbours on the basis of principles and not at the cost of Pakistan's friendship with China.

Pakistan, he said, was being asked to recognize a reality. Realities did not exist on one side of the fence. There were realities on the other side too and these were embodied in the U.N. General Assembly resolution of December 7 and the Security Council resolution of December 21. If Pakistan was being called upon to recognize one, the world should ensure recognition of the other as embodied in the U.N. resolutions.

President Bhutto said that China was stressing recognition of the total reality and not a partial one.

The Pakistan President pointed out that China was not responsible for the provision of veto. Some countries had insisted that they would join the United Nations only if veto power was given to them. One great power had exercised about 107 vetoes. Some of these vetoes had fallen on the right of self-determination of the people of Jammu and Kashmir, while others had neutralized measures to prevent aggression. Another great power did not have to use veto so much because of its brute majority in the United Nations.

The President said that if veto was to be eliminated, both China and Pakistan would be happy to do so.

He said that 104 member states of the United Nations had voted for Pakistan. This showed that neither Pakistan nor China relied on veto but on principles.

In his speech, Vice-Foreign Minister Chiao Kuan-hua pledged that the Chinese Government and people firmly support the struggle of the Pakistan people to safeguard national dignity under the leadership of President Bhutto. This struggle is a just struggle, and just struggles are bound to win final victories.

In the course of a just struggle, Chiao Kuan-hua continued, there is no so-called "isolation." Although it is possible that some temporary phenomena occur now and then, the people of the world always stand by the countries upholding justice. The U.N. resolution on the India-Pakistan question adopted by 104 votes in the General Assembly last December and the resolution adopted later by 13 votes in the Security Council have fully demonstrated this fact. However, there are people who are now trying to deny, disrupt or refuse to implement these two resolutions. This is something which China can by no means agree to. We must veto such unjust actions, not only now, but also in the future when necessary, because this is a veto which is used to uphold justice. What is strange, however, is that some people, who are opposed to the right of veto reasonably exercised by China, are attempting to use a sort of fantastic right of veto, that is, to unwarrantedly interfere in the internal affairs of another sovereign country. The purpose of my visit to your country is to strengthen the friendship between our two countries and this is a normal activity between two friendly sovereign states. However, some people have gone so far as to attempt to veto it. Dear sirs, this would not do. Now I have come, and I will come again in the future. None can ever succeed in attempting to undermine the friendship between China and Pakistan.

On the afternoon of the day he arrived in Rawalpindi, Vice-Foreign Minister Chiao Kuan-hua held talks with Pakistan Foreign Secretary

Iftikhar Ali. They exchanged views on issues of mutual interest and on the current situation in the south Asian subcontinent. In the evening, the Pakistan Foreign Secretary gave a dinner in honour of the Chinese Vice-Foreign Minister. Speaking at the dinner, Iftikhar Ali emphasized the fact that the bonds of friendship and time-honoured ties linking Pakistan and China are not based on expediency but on principles that united us. It is said in Pakistan that friendship with great China is an article of faith. This expression is what we truly mean from our heart. Because the friendship with great China is the very corner-stone of our foreign policy.

In his speech, Chiao Kuan-hua declared: "The Chinese people are friendly towards all people of the whole south Asian subcontinent. We hope that all countries in the subcontinent will live together in peace and friendship and seek among themselves fair and reasonable solutions to their mutual problems on the basis of the Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence. We are glad to see that the Government and people of Pakistan are making efforts to this end. Not long ago, a partial troops withdrawal agreement was reached through consultations between India and Pakistan to which His Excellency President Bhutto made positive contributions. This agreement should be implemented conscientiously. His Excellency President Bhutto has recently reiterated that he is prepared to meet with Mr. Mujibur Rahman without conditions to discuss all important questions between them. We deem that this reasonable proposal should be welcomed and responded."

## Japanese Advance Party In Peking

A 13-member Japanese advance party to make preparations for Prime Minister Kakuei Tanaka's visit to China arrived in Peking by air on August 31.

Its members are: Hiroshi Hashimoto, Chief of the China Section of

*(Continued on p. 23.)*

# Victory Certainly Belongs to the Heroic Vietnamese People

SEPTEMBER 2 was the National Day of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam. Peking marked the occasion with warm celebrations. *Renmin Ribao* published an editorial on September 1, extending greetings to the Vietnamese people. The China-Viet Nam Friendship Association and the Chinese People's Association for Friendship With Foreign Countries gave a cocktail party on the evening of August 31, and D.R.V.N. Ambassador to China Ngo Thuyen gave a reception the next evening to celebrate this red-letter day. Among the Chinese leaders attending the reception at the Vietnamese Embassy were Chou En-lai, Yeh Chien-ying, Chang Chun-chiao, Yao Wen-yuan, Li Hsien-nien, Chi Teng-kuei, Li Teh-sheng, Wang Tung-hsing and Kuo Mo-jo. Ambassador Ngo Thuyen and Comrade Yeh Chien-ying spoke at the reception which proceeded in an atmosphere of warmth and friendship. "Viet Nam in 1972," a pictorial exhibition, was on display at the Peking Art Gallery together with another exhibition of photographs and paintings by Chinese journalists and artists during their visits to Viet Nam.

## "Renmin Ribao" Editorial

In its editorial entitled "Victory Certainly Belongs to the Heroic Vietnamese People," *Renmin Ribao* wrote:

"The Vietnamese people are a heroic people; the Vietnamese nation is a great nation. Under the leadership of the Viet Nam Workers' Party, the Vietnamese people have waged a protracted and unswerving struggle against imperialism and colonialism for the independence and liberation of their fatherland. They finally won victory in the August Revolution and independence for their fatherland. The Vietnamese people then fought for nine years against the French colonialists and drove them away. Particularly over the past ten years and more, the indomitable and courageous Vietnamese people, defying hardships and sacrifices and advancing wave upon wave, have carried out a sublime and heroic struggle against U.S. aggression and for national salvation and won great victories. Their struggle and victories have set a splendid example for the oppressed nations throughout the world that a weak nation can defeat a strong and a small nation can defeat a big, and added an illustrious page in the annals of the world's national-liberation struggles. The Chinese people are proud of having such indomitable comrades-in-arms as the Vietnamese people. The courageous and tenacious fighting spirit of the Vietnamese people and

their valuable experiences accumulated in protracted struggle are worthy to be learnt by the Chinese people.

"Since the beginning of this year, the heroic Vietnamese people in the north, bringing into full play the spirit of determination to fight and win, have severely punished the U.S. aggressors, shot down or damaged many intruding U.S. aircraft and captured a number of U.S. pilots, thus successfully foiling U.S. imperialism's war escalation against north Viet Nam. Fighting the enemy and engaging in production simultaneously, they have given vigorous support to their flesh-and-blood compatriots in the south. The patriotic armed forces and people in south Viet Nam have launched an all-round, sustained and powerful offensive against the enemy, wiped out large numbers of enemy effectives, captured many important cities, towns and strategic positions, liberated vast areas including Quang Tri Province and further enlarged the liberated areas. The South Viet Nam National Front for Liberation and the Provisional Revolutionary Government of the Republic of South Viet Nam have won universal support among the masses in south Viet Nam and their international prestige is ever rising. At the same time, the people of Cambodia and Laos have also won many inspiring fresh victories on various battlefields. The situation in the war against U.S. aggression and for national salvation throughout Indochina is becoming more and more favourable to the Indochinese peoples and unfavourable to U.S. imperialism and its lackeys.

"While paying lip-service to putting an end to the war in Viet Nam, the U.S. Government has persisted in its policy of aggression and pursued the so-called programme of 'Vietnamizing' the war. It has not only mined and blockaded the ports of north Viet Nam, but also dispatched massive air and naval forces to bomb barbarously the populated areas and dykes and dams in north Viet Nam in a vain attempt to compel the Vietnamese people to submit. If the U.S. Government really wants to end the war in Viet Nam, it must withdraw all U.S. aggressor troops and U.S. valet troops from south Viet Nam, stop all aggressive actions against Viet Nam, and seriously negotiate with the Vietnamese side for a peaceful solution of the Viet Nam issue on the basis of the seven-point proposal and the elaboration of its two key points put forward by the Provisional Revolutionary Government of the Republic of South Viet Nam. There is no other way out. It is entirely miscalculation on the part of the U.S. Government to attempt to intimidate the heroic Vietnamese people with war escalation or any other threats."

We are firmly convinced, the editorial noted in conclusion, that victory certainly belongs to the heroic people of Viet Nam and other Indochinese countries.

### Ambassador Ngo Thuyen's Speech

In his speech at the reception, Ambassador Ngo Thuyen reviewed the Vietnamese people's resistance to French colonialism and their present war against U.S. aggression and for national salvation. The Ambassador said: The Vietnamese people in their just struggle have enjoyed the broad and strong approval and support of the people of the fraternal socialist countries, of friendly countries and of progressive peoples all over the world, including progressive people in the United States. They are, he added, always enjoying the big and precious support and aid of the brotherly Chinese people. "This year," he said, "facing the U.S. imperialists' quite serious new war escalation in Viet Nam, the Chinese Government has more than once confirmed its people's determination to support the Vietnamese people's resistance against U.S. aggression for national salvation till total victory. The Chinese Government has twice signed supplementary agreements for economic and military aid to Viet Nam. On this occasion, on behalf of the Central Committee of the Viet Nam Workers' Party and the Government of the D.R.V.N., I would like to express our sincere thanks to the Communist Party of China, the Government of the People's Republic of China and the brotherly Chinese people."

"Confronting the danger of total bankruptcy of the 'war Vietnamization' policy," Ambassador Ngo Thuyen pointed out, "Nixon is frantically using air and naval forces to strike violently at north and south Viet Nam, showering every day tens of thousands of tons of bombs on the newly liberated areas of south Viet Nam, on populated regions, towns, townships, dyke and dam systems and irrigation works of north Viet Nam; he has thus piled up and is continuing to commit monstrous crimes against the Vietnamese people. At the Paris Conference on the Viet Nam issue, the U.S. representative is still stubbornly refusing to respond to the 7-point solution and the elaboration of its two key problems put forward by the Provisional Revolutionary Government of the Republic of South Viet Nam.

"The Nixon administration is continuing to stick to the Nguyen Van Thieu puppet regime as a tool to carry out the 'war Vietnamization' policy, to suppress and trample underfoot the eager desires for true peace, national independence, freedom and democracy advocated by the south Vietnamese people, with a view to realizing the U.S. imperialists' neo-colonialism in south Viet Nam. However, Nixon's cruel moves and perfidious actions cannot for sure avoid ignominious setbacks on the Viet Nam and Indochina battlefields and deceive anybody.

"The Vietnamese people cherish peace dearly, but it should be peace guaranteed by independence and freedom. No ruthless force whatever, no impudent in-

timidation whatever of the U.S. imperialists could shake the Vietnamese people's determination to struggle for independence and freedom. So long as the U.S. imperialists continue their aggression against Viet Nam, the Vietnamese people will continue to fight till total victory. That constitutes the sacred right to self-defence of the Vietnamese people as well as of the other peoples, victims of imperialist aggression in the world. The U.S. administration must stop its war of aggression against Viet Nam, stop bombing and shelling north Viet Nam, mining and blockading the ports of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam, put an end to the 'war Vietnamization' policy in south Viet Nam. It must withdraw quickly the whole of U.S. troops and troops of foreign countries belonging to the U.S. camp from south Viet Nam, cease supporting the Saigon puppet administration headed by Nguyen Van Thieu to let the south Vietnamese people settle by themselves their own affairs."

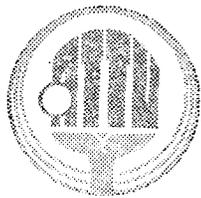
"Faithful to the Joint Declaration of the Indochinese Peoples' Summit Conference, the Vietnamese people pledge to strengthen solidarity and fight side by side with the brotherly Lao and Khmer peoples to expel completely the U.S. aggressors from the Indochinese Peninsula, so that it may become a peninsula of peace, independence, prosperity of the peoples of the three Indochinese countries bound together and for ever in close unity, co-operation and mutual aid in the building of their respective countries each according to its own line," Ambassador Ngo Thuyen concluded.

### Comrade Yeh Chien-ying's Speech

Yeh Chien-ying, in his speech, warmly greeted the Vietnamese comrades-in-arms on this festive occasion. Noting that the situation in the Vietnamese people's war against U.S. aggression and for national salvation was excellent, he said: The Chinese people heartily rejoice at every new victory won by the fraternal Vietnamese people in this war.

"U.S. imperialism invariably misjudges the situation, places a blind faith in its so-called 'strength,' underestimates the strength of a people's war and is unwilling to give up its aggressive ambitions," Yeh Chien-ying added. "Although it has withdrawn large numbers of ground forces from south Viet Nam, it has at the same time dispatched there larger air and naval forces than ever. Although it has abandoned some U.S. military bases in south Viet Nam, it has established bigger bases for aggression in Thailand. In appearance it is quitting ground battles, in fact the barbarous acts of aggression of the U.S. air and naval forces are intensifying and escalating the war. U.S. aircraft have not only imposed a blockade by mining the ports of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam, but wantonly bombed inhabitation centres and industrial and agricultural enterprises in northern Viet Nam, and even damaged dykes and irrigation systems in an attempt to cause floods in the high water season and menace the Vietnamese people. This

*(Continued on p. 18.)*



# Meetings of Unity and Friendship

by Our Correspondent

**T**HE First Asian Table Tennis Championships, an event which people have been looking forward to with great eagerness, opened in Peking on September 2. This is the first major international tournament organized by the Asian Table Tennis Union (A.T.T.U.) since its inauguration in May this year. Taking part in the current championships and in the First A.T.T.U. Congress which opened in Peking on September 4 were players and representatives of table tennis associations from 31 countries or regions in Asia — Afghanistan, the Arab Republic of Yemen, Bhutan, Burma, Cambodia, Cyprus, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam, Hongkong, India, Iran, Iraq, Japan, Jordan, Kuwait, Laos (Lao Patriotic Front), Lebanon, Macao, Malaysia, Nepal, Pakistan, Palestine, the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen, the Philippines, the Republic of South Viet Nam, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Syria, Thailand, Turkey and China.

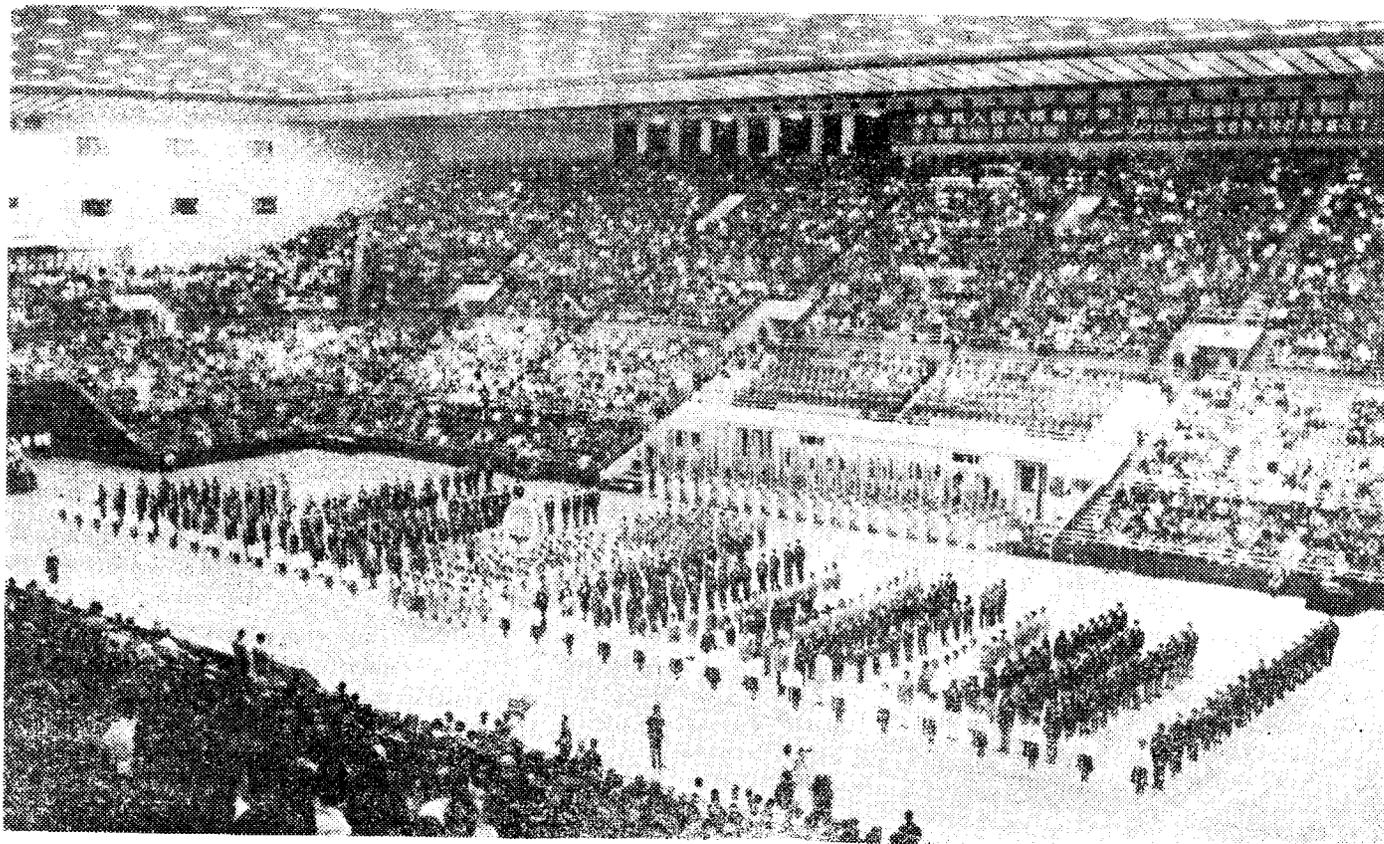
Asia is the world's biggest continent and has the greatest population. Its peoples have created splendid

ancient civilizations. But centuries of colonialist and imperialist oppression have brought untold suffering and poverty to the Asian peoples, caused them to be divided and hampered the development of sports in Asia. Today, a new situation has emerged. The Asian peoples are closely bound together by common experiences, common struggles and common victories. Growing friendly exchanges between the peoples and sportsmen of Asia have resulted in an advancement of sports in the various Asian countries and regions.

The holding of the First Asian Table Tennis Championships at this historic moment fully reflects the characteristic of the new era in Asia. Unity and friendship was the theme throughout, whether at the championships' opening ceremony, during competitions in the team events or at the First A.T.T.U. Congress.

## Opening Ceremony

On the evening of September 2, the huge Capital Gymnasium in the western suburbs of Peking looked



The opening ceremony.

September 8, 1972

more magnificent than ever, with red flags fluttering and the whole building brightly lit. An untimely autumn rain did not dampen the ardour of spectators. Eighteen thousand people in the capital, including the diplomatic corps and friends from various countries in Peking, gathered at the gymnasium that evening for the opening ceremony.

A huge painting welcoming Asian friends stood by the front gate of the gymnasium. Inside the building was a huge A.T.T.U. emblem, and there were also streamers with such slogans in Chinese, English, French, Arabic and Japanese as "Long live the great unity of the people of the world!" and "Learn from the people and sportsmen of the various Asian countries!" In the competition hall itself, joyous expressions of friendship blossomed everywhere. In Peking, and indeed the whole of China and other parts of Asia, millions of people waited by their TV or radio sets to watch or listen

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### Among Those Who Attended the Opening Ceremony

Tung Pi-wu, Acting Chairman of the People's Republic of China; Chu Teh, Chairman of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress; Li Teh-sheng, Director of the General Political Department of the Chinese People's Liberation Army; Kuo Mo-jo, Vice-Chairman of the N.P.C. Standing Committee; Chi Peng-fei, Minister of Foreign Affairs; Wu Teh, Chairman of the Peking Municipal Revolutionary Committee; Wang Meng, Minister of the State Physical Culture and Sports Commission; Chang Hsi-jo, President of the Chinese People's Institute of Foreign Affairs; Ting Hsi-lin, Vice-President of the Chinese People's Association for Friendship With Foreign Countries;

Samdech Penn Nouth, Prime Minister of the Royal Government of National Union of Cambodia;

Hisao Kido, representative of the President of the Asian Table Tennis Union and leader of the Japanese Table Tennis Association Delegation; Bae Myong Gyu, Deputy President of the A.T.T.U. and leader of the Table Tennis Association Delegation of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea; Michael Chen Wing Sum, Vice-President of the A.T.T.U. and President of the Table Tennis Association of Malaysia; Sayid Mohammad Sibtain, representative of A.T.T.U. Vice-President and leader of the Pakistan Table Tennis Delegation; Rabie Hafez El Turk, Vice-President of the A.T.T.U. and Secretary of the Palestine Table Tennis Association; Tan Sock Kern, representative of the A.T.T.U. Honorary Treasurer and leader of the Singapore Table Tennis Delegation; and Sung Chung, Honorary Secretary-General of the A.T.T.U.; and

Leaders of table tennis delegations, table tennis associations and sports organizations of various countries and regions in Asia; and representatives from various countries who are in Peking to attend the meeting of the Preparatory Committee of the Asian-African-Latin American Table Tennis Friendship Invitation Tournament.

to the proceedings of this momentous gathering unprecedented in the history of Asia.

At 8 p.m. sharp, the band struck up and, to the accompaniment of thunderous applause, a contingent of girls carrying bouquets and flanking a huge model of the A.T.T.U. emblem and a colour party holding aloft red flags marched into the hall followed by referees and umpires for the championships. Next, the 31 teams and representatives of table tennis associations of the various countries and regions in Asia marched spiritedly past the rostrum. Some of them waved miniature flags of their countries, others waved table tennis bats decorated with coloured bunting or silk kerchiefs, still others waved their arms to greet the spectators.

When the representatives of Viet Nam, Laos (Lao Patriotic Front) and Cambodia marched into the hall, they were greeted by the spectators with deafening applause. They brought to the meeting deep friendship and glad tidings of victories at the front of the struggle against U.S. aggression. They had overcome many difficulties, some having braved enemy gunfire and U.S. bombing to come to Peking.

The delegation of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea marched past in neat formation. At the Afro-Asian Table Tennis Friendship Invitational Tournament in Peking last year, they gave a good account of themselves and they are ready to make new contributions to make the current championships a success.

The Japanese delegation marching at the centre of the parade is a strong team in world table tennis. To facilitate the exchange of experience with players of other countries, a delegation of veteran players has also come.

Some countries and regions have sent for the first time their table tennis teams to Peking. This reflects the common desire for friendship and unity among the peoples of Asia.

Quite a number of teams have promising young players who have come to gain experience and improve their game. This shows that a new-emerging force has mounted the stage of Asian table tennis.

The Chinese men and women players in red track suits brought up the rear. In the past few years, they have visited many Asian countries and regions and have been hosts to numerous Asian table tennis teams. They are resolved to continue to give full play to the spirit of "friendship first, competition second" in the current championships and modestly learn from the good sportsmanship, experience and skill of their Asian friends.

The opening ceremony was a grand gathering of unity and friendship. As Hsiao Kido, representative of the A.T.T.U. President, said in his speech that evening: "Friendship is more important than success or defeat. Success or defeat is temporary while friendship is everlasting."

Speaking on behalf of all players participating in the championships, Kuwait player Jawad Boushahri

said: "Let us make greater contributions to promote friendship between the peoples and players of Asia and raise the level of table tennis in our continent to a higher level."

After the ceremony, there were rich and colourful performances. Over a hundred young men and women, dressed in the costumes of China's various nationalities, performed a dance of welcome. Singing enthusiastically as they danced with floral hoops and fans, they formed a multitude of designs to express the deep friendship of the Chinese people for the other peoples of Asia. This was followed by Chinese acrobatics, a *wushu* exhibition and a traditional *Lion Dance*. To round off the show, hundreds of boys and girls performed group callisthenics. As the music rose to a crescendo, all taking part in the performances moved to form the letters A.T.T.U. and the Chinese characters for "unity" and "friendship" before the rostrum, and they cheered and applauded all the Asian friends, thus bringing the whole opening ceremony to a grand finale.

### Press Welcome

*Renmin Ribao* on September 2 published an editorial which expressed the feelings of the Chinese people and sportsmen for the current championships. The editorial said: "The holding of the First Asian Table Tennis Championships in Peking, the capital of our country, overwhelms us with joy. The arrival of friends from various Asian countries and regions is a support and inspiration to the Chinese people."

"The First Asian Table Tennis Championships," the editorial said, "are being held in a new situation in which the peoples of Asia are advancing in unity. It is the first time in Asian history that so many countries and regions on this continent are represented in an international sports tournament. This eloquently proves that it is the common desire and pressing demand of the Asian peoples to promote friendship and strengthen unity. That is an irresistible historical trend."

"The founding of the Asian Table Tennis Union is a pioneering event. This truly representative international sports organization of a new type upholds the principles of equality among all member associations, big or small, mutual respect and democratic consultation. It has won the general approval and support of the people and table tennis circles of Asian countries. Thanks to the energetic efforts of friends from various Asian countries, the A.T.T.U. has done much work and achieved remarkable success in the four months since its founding to promote friendship among the people and sportsmen of Asian countries and regions, strengthen the friendly ties between the table tennis circles and sportsmen of Asia and those of other continents, and stimulate the development of table tennis in Asia and the world. The successful holding of this grand First Asian Table Tennis Championships demonstrates the tremendous vitality of the A.T.T.U."

"Asia is one of the cradles of resplendent ancient civilizations. The industrious and brave Asian peoples

## Results for Team Events

The nine events in the First Asian Table Tennis Championships are: men's team, women's team, men's singles, women's singles, men's doubles, women's doubles, mixed doubles, boys' singles and girls' singles.

Competitions in the men's and women's team events were held from September 2 to 6, while contests in the individual events will take place from September 9 to 13.

Teams from 25 countries and regions took part in the men's team event and teams from 21 countries and regions took part in the women's team event. Competitions in the two events were in two stages. In the first stage, the teams for both events were divided into eight groups, each to play off for group placing on a round-robin basis. In the second stage, teams of the same placings from different groups played each other again on a round-robin basis for final placings in the two events.

### Men's Team Event

- |  |             |
|--|-------------|
| 1. Japan                                 | 5. Malaysia |
| 2. China                                 | 6. Hongkong |
| 3. Democratic People's Republic of Korea | 7. Iran     |
| 4. Democratic Republic of Viet Nam       | 8. Syria    |

### Women's Team Event

- |  |               |
|--|---------------|
| 1. China                                 | 5. Malaysia   |
| 2. Japan                                 | 6. Singapore  |
| 3. Democratic People's Republic of Korea | 7. Iran       |
| 4. Democratic Republic of Viet Nam       | 8. Philippine |

have among them a deep-rooted traditional friendship. They have always sympathized with and supported one another in the protracted struggle against imperialism and colonialism. And they are now confronted with the common task of opposing aggression and intervention, defending state sovereignty, safeguarding national independence and developing the national economy and culture. Through common struggle, they have gained an ever better understanding of the great value of their friendship and the importance of their unity. Over the past few years, friendly contacts have become increasingly frequent among Asian peoples and sportsmen, and table tennis has made great progress in Asian countries. The table tennis ball is small, yet the friendship it brings is invaluable. Many friends from various Asian countries have said that they are taking part in the current championships not for titles but for friendship. We are convinced that the championships will not only help popularize and further develop table tennis in Asia but consolidate and strengthen the friendship and unity of the Asian peoples and sportsmen."



# The Bankruptcy of Apriorism as Seen From The History of Knowledge

by Tang Hsiao-wen

**W**HERE does man's knowledge come from? It is in-born, or is it acquired after birth? For thousands of years, this has been the fundamental issue in the struggle between the materialist theory of reflection and idealist apriorism. By asserting that man's knowledge was inborn and "inherited from heaven," Liu Shao-chi and other political swindlers ran completely counter to the Marxist-Leninist theory of knowledge and to the history of human knowledge.

The Marxist-Leninist theory of knowledge holds that **"the standpoint of life, of practice, should be first and fundamental in the theory of knowledge."** (Lenin: *Materialism and Empirio-Criticism*.) Human knowledge originates from and develops on the basis of social practice, i.e., the struggle for production, class struggle and scientific experiment. Only in the course of practice can man get into contact with countless phenomena of the objective external world through his sense organs, form perceptual knowledge and, after thinking it over in the brain, achieve an active leap from perceptual to rational knowledge. Only through practice can truth be tested and developed and the fundamental aim of knowing the world — which is to change the world — be reached. Practice and only practice is the source of knowledge. No hero on earth can know and change the world when he departs from practice.

Chairman Mao teaches us: **"Marxists hold that in human society activity in production develops step by step from a lower to a higher level and that consequently man's knowledge, whether of nature or of society, also develops step by step from a lower to a higher level, that is, from the shallower to the deeper, from the one-sided to the many-sided."** (*On Practice*.) This is an incisive summing-up of the history of the development of human knowledge, a sharp weapon for us in criticizing the idealist apriorism of Liu Shao-chi and other political swindlers.

The history of man's knowledge of nature is basically the history of his struggle to transform nature, the history of the development of social production. Natural science, which is the crystallization of knowledge about the struggle for production, has been gradually accumulated and developed from a lower to a higher level as man's productive activities ceaselessly advance in breadth and depth and in the course of class struggle and the development of scientific experiment.

Natural science had not yet been formed in primitive society, when the level of production was very low and mankind had only begun to gain some initial knowledge of nature through practice in pro-

duction. In slave society, due to the development of animal husbandry and agriculture and especially the rise of the towns, the progress made by handicrafts and architecture and the needs of navigation and war, there appeared in ancient China, Egypt, Greece and Rome astronomy and, closely related to it, mathematics and mechanics, which were the earliest branches of natural science. With the development of production in feudal society, science and technology made further advances in their struggle against religion and theology. In China, for instance, many inventors and scientists appeared who had contributed to human civilization with such great inventions as the compass, paper-making, printing and gunpowder, and who had brought ancient science and technology such as astronomy, mathematics, agronomy and medicine a step forward.

From the second half of the 15th century, the capitalist mode of production gradually took shape within the feudal system in western Europe. The tremendous growth of industry, new geographical discoveries and expansion of navigation and trade necessitated specific and deeper study of different branches of nature and at the same time provided the objective possibility for doing so — there were enormous material for observation and new means for experimenting and new instruments. Only at this time did a really systematic experimental natural science come into being: physics, chemistry, biology, physiology, medicine and so forth were founded and developed as independent departments. This shows, just as Engels pointed out, that **"from the very beginning the origin and development of the sciences has been determined by production."** (*Dialectics of Nature*.)

Thereafter, the epochal advances in natural science, such as the three great 19th century discoveries of the law of the conservation and transformation of energy, cytology and the theory of evolution, as well as achievements in modern natural science, have all been determined by the needs of social practice and the development of production and technology of the time.

Let us cite for example man's knowledge of energy. This has gone through a process of development from a lower to a higher level, from the shallower to the deeper and from being one-sided to many-sided. At the beginning, mankind led a primitive life for a long time without any knowledge of fire. About half a million years ago, they started to learn the use of fire. Later, through accumulated experience in practice over tens of thousands of years, they learnt to make fire by friction, which was the conversion of

mechanical motion into heat in practice. Still later, after repeated practice through long years, man came to the conclusion that "friction is a source of heat." In the 18th century, the steam engine was invented, which for the first time in practice converted heat into really usable mechanical motion.

The steam engine is a product of the development of production, "**the first really international invention.**" (*Dialectics of Nature.*) In western Europe, especially England, the expansion of the international market and the swift growth of industry urgently demanded the solution of the power problem. This impelled man to study and try to make steam engines. The development of the iron industry made possible the manufacture and improvement of the steam engine, and this was the result of the productive labour of countless workers.

The technical knowledge required in making steam engines was accumulated by the masses in long-time production struggles. Before the Englishman Watt, the idea of using cylinder and piston had already been mooted in Germany, and in France and England itself more than one person had produced comparatively primitive steam engines and applied them to production. It was in repairing an old steam engine that Watt discovered certain drawbacks of the machine, such as the enormous waste of steam and its limited function of pumping water, and this prompted him to improve it. At first he and his collaborators introduced a separate condenser which greatly raised the engine's efficiency. Later, after experiments for over a dozen years, Watt and his colleagues succeeded in making combined use of the fly-wheel, steam valve and centrifugal governor to improve the properties of the engine and enable it to become a motor for much wider use. This fact shows once again that every important development in the knowledge of man has to go through the repeated process of practice, knowledge, again practice, and again knowledge, and that it never comes out of the void.

The appearance of the steam engine gave man the opportunity to learn the mutual relation between heat and mechanical energy. By the 1840s, when the big machinery industry had begun to develop, people began to sum up experience gained in production and analyse and study the steam engine. Scientific experimentation led to the theoretical conclusion that mechanical energy and heat energy can transform themselves into each other. Proceeding from this, they discovered the universal natural law of the conservation and transformation of energy, marking the beginning of a new epoch in the history of man's knowledge of energy. As the scope of productive practice widened and giant strides were made in natural science, man began to tap ever fresher sources of energy, including electric, chemical and atomic energy. Man's knowledge of energy has thus become deeper and deeper. All this shows the gigantic amount of common efforts made by workers and labouring intellectuals and the long years spent before mankind attains the present level of knowledge and utilization of energy.

Liu Shao-chi and other political swindlers, however, alleged that a person need not have taken part in any social practice or relied on the masses of the people but had only to depend on "the brains he was born with" in order to know everything. This is most preposterous!

The history of human knowledge of the biological world gives another rebuff to such nonsense disseminated by Liu Shao-chi and other political swindlers. For a long time, religion, idealism and the metaphysical world outlook dominated in biology and asserted that all species of animals and plants on earth were created by God with his own purpose, and they could never change.

In 1859, Darwin published his *Origin of Species*, which systematically proved with a wealth of facts that biological species had never remained the same since the beginning of time and were not immutable and that the modern biological world was the result of prolonged historical evolution. Thus God was driven out of the biological world and biology became a science.

However, the theory of evolution was no accidental discovery, it was the inevitable product of the continued development of capitalist industrial and agricultural production and science. In the mid-19th century, the British Government had widely organized "expeditions" to prospect for natural resources in the colonies in order to carry out colonialist plunder. Objectively, this enabled them to collect much biological data. At the same time, to meet the needs of the development of large capitalist farms, the selection of fine strains was practised which also provided rich materials for the study of the evolution of species. The various branches related to biology, such as taxonomy, anatomy, embryology and paleontology had also by that time collected much material. All this prepared the way for the birth of the theory of evolution.

That Darwin was able to formulate the theory of evolution was certainly not because he had an "inspiration" but because he had for scores of years carried out a great deal of study and field observations and personally taken part in scientific experiment. Between 1831-36, he travelled around the world and carried out field studies and research on zoology, botany and geology in many parts of South America, Australia and Asia, and the theory of evolution gradually took shape in his mind. Then he devoted another 20 years to studying, collecting and analysing data on the evolution of living organisms. He also personally engaged in experiments for the selection of new strains before he was finally able to complete his scientific work *The Origin of Species*. Wallace, another British biologist, arrived at basically the same theory at almost the same time. This testifies to the fact that the necessary material foundation was already in existence for the founding of the theory of evolution.

It must also be pointed out here that many ventures into this realm had already been made before Darwin. Lamarck of France and others had put forward ideas

similar to the theory of evolution and waged struggles against such fallacies as reactionary teleology. The fruits of research of Darwin's predecessors had provided him with the necessary ideological material for founding the theory of evolution.

All sciences are relatively independent and have their inherent contradictions, their own logic of development and their series of abstractions. But the emergence and development of any science, no matter how abstract it is or how great its relative independence, depend in the last analysis on the development of social practice, and whether the conclusions arrived at are correct or not can be tested only through practice. Take mathematics for an example. The most abstract of sciences, it studies space forms and quantity relations in the real world. To facilitate such study, mathematics must temporarily exclude their concrete contents and make inference and algorism by using such highly abstract concepts as points without dimensions, lines without thickness and breadth, planes without thickness, constants  $a$  and  $b$ , variables  $x$  and  $y$ , and so on and so forth. In doing so, it superficially conceals the fact that these abstract concepts originate from the real world and social practice. Idealists often single out the abstract nature and relative independence of mathematics, distort and exaggerate them, and rave that the concepts and principles of mathematics are bestowed by nature and are a priori sensuous intuitions. Duhring and his ilk said: In pure mathematics, the mind deals with "its own free creations and imaginations"; mathematics has a "validity which is independent of particular experience and of the real content of the world." In his work *Anti-Duhring*, Engels trenchantly criticized such fallacies.

True, pure mathematics does have a validity which is independent of the particular experience of each individual. However, this only serves to show that what mathematics reflects are objective facts independent of man's experience, and does not show that mathematics are conceived entirely in the mind without making use of the experience offered us by the external world. The history of the emergence and development of mathematics testifies to the fact that **"like all other sciences, mathematics arose out of the needs of men; from the measurement of land and the content of vessels, from the computation of time and from mechanics."** (*Anti-Duhring*.) Mankind obtained the concepts of number and figure from the real world through social practice. At the very beginning, people did not have the idea of number. Later, they made simple calculations by counting with fingers, tying knots and making notches, but they still could not completely depart from the concrete objects. It was only after counting in these ways for generations and repeating and making comparisons between them for millions of times that the idea of number divorced from the concrete objects was formed through practice. This is also true of the concept of figure. In the course of making various kinds of objects, people gradually formed abstract concepts of figures in their minds after countless observations and comparisons with regard to the shapes of different

objects. Moreover, while studying the objects, man's ability to consider only their number and shape to the exclusion of all other properties was also the result of a long historical development based on experience. It was by no means "endowed by nature" or inherent in people's minds. Are mathematical axioms a priori? No. The whole is greater than the part; if two quantities are equal to a third, they are equal to each other — these and other mathematical axioms are basic premises on which inference is made. Mathematics itself cannot prove these axioms, but practice is able to prove that they reflect the most fundamental relations between space forms and quantity in the world of reality; and it is precisely because people have discovered these most fundamental relations on hundreds of millions of occasions in their productive activities that they become axiomatic. In addition, mathematics as a whole is not inferred solely from axioms. As Engels pointed out: **"In order to get any further, we are obliged to bring in real relations, relations and space forms which are taken from real bodies."** (*Anti-Duhring*.) It is social practice and the development of industry and techniques from a lower to a higher level that propel the development of mathematics — from mathematics dealing with constants to mathematics dealing with variables and from elementary to higher mathematics. Closing their eyes to historical facts, idealists treat the abstract nature and relative independence of mathematics as absolutes and describe them as a priori things divorced from the objective world of reality and social practice and developing in isolation. This is pure nonsense.

The development of man's knowledge relies on the progress of his social practice and is, therefore, inevitably restricted by historical social conditions. This is all the more true of people's knowledge of the history of society. During the long historical period before Marxism came into being, people had only a one-sided understanding of the history of society and did not realize the objective laws of social development and the role of the masses in making history. The reason for this is twofold: on the one hand, the exploiting classes, out of the needs of their class interests, distorted the true history of society and, on the other hand, the labouring people could not know the essence of the history of society due to deception by the exploiting classes and to the small scale of production at the time. It was only in capitalist society in which big industries and their product — the proletariat of modern times — came into being that the knowledge of the history of society could be turned into science in its true sense. The proletariat, however, did not at the very outset recognize the essence of capitalist society. Seeing only the separate phenomena in capitalist society and their external relations, workers engaged in spontaneous struggles by smashing machines and burning down factories. During this period, only such trends of thought as utopian socialism could emerge. After accumulating rich experiences through prolonged economic and political struggles and after these experiences had been scientifically summed up by Marx and Engels to create the scientific theory of socialism, the proletariat,

guided by revolutionary theory, began to gain a profound understanding of the essence of capitalist society and its own great historic mission. A scientific analysis of capitalist society helps us understand the past history of society, foresee the future and reveal the general laws governing social development. The reason why Marxism came into being only in the capitalist era, and not at an earlier time, was that the practical conditions for the birth of Marxism were available only in the capitalist era and not before it. Chairman Mao has taught us: **“In our acceptance of his theory [i.e., Marxism] no such formalistic or mystical notion as that of ‘prophecy’ ever enters our minds.”** (*Oppose Book Worship*.)

The entire history of human knowledge tells us that all knowledge and scientific inventions are summaries and generalizations of the experience gained by the masses in their long years of practice and are products of historical development. Scientific discoveries and creations are bound to result if possibilities for them arise as history develops to a certain stage when the growth of production and the progress of class struggle call for them and when certain objective conditions exist. These, after being summed up and generalized by exponents of advanced ideas, are bound to result in a new leap in knowledge. Citing the example of the discovery of the materialist conception of history, Engels incisively elucidated this truth when he said: **“While Marx discovered the materialist conception of history, Thierry, Mignet, Guizot and all the English historians up to 1850 are evidence that it was being striven for, and the discovery of the same conception by Morgan proves that the time was ripe for it and that it simply had to be discovered.”** (*Engels to W. Borgius*, January 25, 1894.)

There are different characteristics in different eras when the reactionary ruling classes use idealist apriorism to fool the people. And following the continuous advance of social history, their tactics become more and more cunning and despicable. In ancient times, owing to the low level of the social productive forces and natural science, the slave-owners and feudal landlords used to spread idealist apriorism in the form of mysticism and fideism. While in modern times, with the growth of the social productive forces and the advancement of natural science, and especially with the emergence and development of Marxism—the scientific world outlook of the proletariat—the reactionary ruling classes realize that they cannot palm off idealist apriorism by solely relying on undisguised mysticism and fideism. So they make use of some new discoveries and achievements in natural science, unscrupulously distort them and hawk the reactionary theory of idealist apriorism under the cloak of “science.” Hiring a batch of “vassals with academic degrees” to carry out so-called “I.Q. tests” and investigate the family history of so-called “outstanding” figures, the bourgeoisie has worked overtime to “prove” that man’s wisdom and talent are innate and hereditary. Following the victory of Marxism-Leninism both in theory and in practice, the

bourgeoisie tries to undermine the revolutionary struggle of the proletariat against the bourgeoisie by making use of revisionists who have sneaked into the revolutionary ranks of the proletariat and secretly peddle idealist apriorism. All this, of course, is of no avail.

Why are the reactionary classes at all times and in all countries so zealous in advertising idealist apriorism? The emergence of exploitation and oppression of man by man in history is, in the first place, the outcome of a certain historical stage, i.e., of class society. In order to make people believe the lies that “exploitation is justified” and “oppression is justified,” the exploiting classes describe the exploiters as “men who are born wise” and the labouring people as “born fools.” They also allege that class differentiation is decided by God’s will, and they go so far as to describe reactionary preachings such as “those who work with their minds govern while those who toil with their hands are governed” as universally accepted eternal laws. Just as Marx and Engels pointed out when they criticized Thomas Carlyle, an English idealist, that he, to all intents and purposes, aimed to prove that **“historically created class differences are made natural differences which people must recognize and revere as a part of the eternal law of nature by bowing before the wise and noble ones in nature: the cult of genius.”** **“And the final answer is that the noble, wise, and learned ones should rule.”** (Book review published in *New Rhine Gazette. Political Economic Review*, No. 4.) In advertising idealist apriorism, Liu Shao-chi and other swindlers are, in essence, of the same mould as the reactionary classes in history. The difference between the two, if any, is that while one aims at preserving and strengthening the rule of reactionary classes, the other aims at rehabilitating the overthrown landlord and capitalist classes and turning the dictatorship of the proletariat into the dictatorship of the bourgeoisie and socialism into capitalism.

The Marxist-Leninist theory of knowledge synthesizes the positive results gained in the history of human knowledge, and is a scientific generalization and summing-up of it. The proletarian revolutionary teachers have profoundly studied and criticized all the attainments in the history of human knowledge, tested them one by one in the revolutionary practice of the proletariat and drawn scientific conclusions therefrom. Therefore, to have a good grasp of Marxism, we should not confine ourselves to bearing in mind the conclusions drawn by the revolutionary teachers from historical and revolutionary reality, but should study in a deep-going way how these conclusions have been obtained. Lenin taught us that continuation of the work of Marx, **“must consist in the dialectical elaboration of the history of human thought, science and technique.”** (*Conspectus of Hegel’s “Science of Logic.”*) Studying some history of knowledge will help us gain a deeper understanding of the Marxist theory of knowledge, draw a clearer line of demarcation between the materialist theory of reflection and idealist apriorism and raise our ability to distinguish between genuine and sham Marxism.

## Geological Prospecting

# Search for Underground Treasures

**C**HINESE geological workers have located a large number of mineral deposits and collected a tremendous amount of hydro-geological and engineering geological data for developing the country's socialist industry.

In old China, many large iron-ore and coal mines were controlled and plundered by the imperialists—the inevitable result of the Kuomintang reactionaries' dependence on imperialism and their selling out of the nation's sovereignty. On the eve of liberation, there were only a few geological surveying units staffed by a handful of personnel and equipped with 14 imported drilling machines, and work was confined to recording a few isolated geological phenomena and making theoretical studies without any relation to the actual conditions in China.

After liberation, the Party Central Committee and Chairman Mao set down the tasks for geological work and issued timely directives concerning the principle to be followed at each period, thereby pointing out the orientation of developing China's geological work. National and local organs for leading this work were set up as far back as 1950. Meanwhile, energetic efforts were made to train geological workers, and prospecting and investigations were undertaken on an extensive scale.

Painstaking efforts over the past 20 years have yielded good results. Prospecting over a vast area of several million square kilometres has been completed. Whereas only 170,000 metres were drilled in the 50 years before liberation, drilling in the 22 post-liberation years totalled tens of millions of metres. More than a hundred kinds of economically useful minerals have been found, hundreds of thousands of mineral-showing points have been located and the quantity of many mineral deposits of industrial value determined. Known reserves of tungsten, molybdenum, tin, antimony, zinc, manganese,

aluminium and lead are estimated to be among the largest in the world, and the size of iron, coal, copper, sulphur and phosphorus deposits also rank high by world standards. In addition, certain rare minerals have been discovered. Geological workers have also found huge iron-ore deposits for the big iron and steel centres of Anshan, Paotow and Wuhan as well as numerous deposits for the small and medium-sized iron and steel enterprises. By giving full play to the spirit of "maintaining independence and keeping the initiative in our own hands and relying on our own efforts," they have discovered large oilfields in various parts of the country, thus rapidly building up China's petroleum industry which was virtually non-existent before liberation. China now no longer depends on imported oil and the imperialists' absurd contention that China is a country "poor in oil" has been thrown overboard. Many important minerals have been found in the vast interior, too, and this provides the needed material foundation for setting up an independent and integrated industrial system and speeding up socialist construction.

The amount of exploratory drilling carried out in one year today is scores of times that of the total for the half century before liberation. Establishing the size of a mineral bed used to take three to five years, but now this takes only a year or two.

Armed with Mao Tsetung Thought, a large contingent of personnel working in every field of geological work has been trained since liberation. There are more than ten colleges and schools of geology and nearly 20 universities have faculties teaching geology. Before liberation, there were only several hundred people engaged in geological work; the number today runs to six figures.

Below are three reports from different parts of the country on achievements scored by geologists in their search for minerals for the motherland.

## On the "Roof of the World"

At work on the Chinghai-Tibet Plateau, also called the "Roof of the World," is the No. 15 Geological Team of Chinghai Province. Transferred to Chinghai in 1969 from subtropical Hainan Island, the team has completed the assessment of the size of a rare and important ore deposit in the region of the Kunlun Mountains.

Rich in mineral deposits, the Kunlun Mountains were uninhabited be-

cause of their terribly difficult terrain. The area the team had to work in was about 6,000 metres above sea-level, or 1,000 metres above the snow line. This meant low air pressure, ice and snow the year round and frequent avalanches.

The first problem confronting the team was how to settle down in such circumstances. When it arrived at a place some 4,000 metres above sea-

level, most of its members were not acclimatized: they had headaches, felt dizzy and a fullness of the chest, and could neither eat nor sleep. But no one was daunted. They followed the example set by workers of the Taching Oilfield, a national pace-setter in industry, who relied on their own efforts and fought against terrific odds to open up a huge oilfield for the country. Everyone brought into play the revolutionary spirit of "fearing neither hardship nor death," stepped up training and took various

preventive measures, medically and otherwise, to gradually accustom themselves to working at high altitudes. They hacked at the frozen ground with picks and carried rocks up from the glacier one by one for building a road so that their geological equipment and other gear could be brought up.

At one stage, they had to move materials from the foot of the mountains a kilometre up to their camp in the prospecting area so that preparations could be made for receiving others coming up behind. Generally yaks are used for that sort of work, but the animals had not yet arrived. At the altitude of 6,000 metres where the air is rarefied, any movement at all was an effort. But in order to complete their task of assessing the deposits as early as possible for the cause of the motherland's socialist construction, they carried the whole ten tons of materials up to the site in three days.

After prospecting had begun, for a period they were sealed off from supplies by heavy snowfall. When coal supply ran out, they used yak dung and the bones of ox and sheep for fuel. When they had no more vegetables, they ate salted garlic. In this way, they tided over the difficulties until communications were restored.

Some units of the team gave evening entertainments once a month. For a stage they cleared one square metre of ground at the centre of their ice-bound encampment. Their audience sat on rocks or stood amidst the ice and snow. Their singing and laughter echoed through the ice-bound mountains on the "Roof of the World." Why were these team members so full of verve in such trying circumstances? The answer is not hard to seek: in our socialist country they were not hired hands working to keep body and soul together but were revolutionaries armed with Mao Tsetung Thought serving the people. Full of pride, they called themselves "vanguards of socialist industrial construction."

This was why the team members could so cheerfully negotiate glaciers, scale precipices, climb each peak and examine every exposed rock in the prospecting area. After two years of

work, they ascertained that the area had rich deposits of precious ores, large quantities of which are being mined and shipped out today.

## No Coal South of the Yangtze?

Fukien, Kwangtung, Kwangsi, Anhwei, Chekiang, Kiangsu, Kiangsi, Hunan, Hupeh and other areas south of the Yangtze River were said to be poor in coal. This was something left over from history. In the past nearly all the coal they needed came from mines north of the Yangtze. Foreign mining specialists said that in ancient times the region south of the Yangtze was a place where the earth's crust was in constant movement and a place of violent volcanic activity that did not favour coal formation. Hence the scarcity of coal.

Facts, however, have proved to the contrary. Since the Great Cultural Revolution began, large numbers of small and medium-sized coal-mines have gone into production here. The saying that "the south lacks coal deposits" is rapidly being consigned to oblivion.

An illustration is provided by the Kiangsu Coal Prospecting Group which was set up in 1969.

While studying relevant geological data, this prospecting group found that there were coal-mines in southern Kiangsu as early as a century ago and that substantial quanti-

ties were mined there in 1958 when there was a great leap forward in the national economy. Why then did people say there weren't coal deposits in most places? An area in Nanking, for example, was said to be devoid of coal deposits, as was stated in some records. But careful examination revealed that this conclusion was based on information from a few shallow drillings and as such could not be representative of conditions deeper down. To assert that the whole area had no coal deposits on the basis of limited data was idealistic and metaphysical.

The group carried out another survey, and at the same time studied and analysed the data obtained in the past. Step by step they established the geological structure of that area, and drillings at the intermediate and deeper levels showed that there was coal of fairly good quality. Further drillings in and around the area exploded the fallacy that there was no coal.

Some people in the past held that even if coal deposits were found in southern Kiangsu, they would prove to be of little value as the seams were too broken up and unstable.



Members of Chinghai Province's No. 15 Geological Team asking Tibetan herdsmen for clues and help in the search for minerals.



Rejoicing at the discovery of a new mineral deposit.

Analysis showed that though the geological structure of the coal-bearing area was complicated, that did not mean it was incomprehensible. The terms complex and simple were a unity of opposites. The entity could be complicated but the parts might be simple. The geological structure in Chiangning and Chenchiang, for instance, was rather complicated, but in certain parts of that area it was relatively simple. Although the broad seam structures were unstable, there could be stable

workable seams for a single shaft or multiple-shaft mines.

Starting from this dialectical materialist theory of knowledge, the group made a concrete analysis of each specific site. Further investigations revealed the presence of relatively stable coal seams in an area of uncomplicated geological structure near Chenchiang. This site had formerly been abandoned because mining in this area proved to be difficult and its deposits were estimated to be quite limited. Data from continued exploratory drilling, however, showed that the coal deposits were a dozen times greater than had been estimated previously.

Over the past three years, coal deposits discovered by the Kiangsu Prospecting Group in southern Kiangsu amounted to twice the total deposits ascertained before 1969. With the rapid development of coal-mining in southern Kiangsu, numerous small and medium-sized mines have gone into operation. These will help terminate, in the near future, southern China's dependence on regions north of the Yangtze for coal supply.

Later they studied Marxist philosophy and realized that large and small were a unity of opposites. If they sought only for large deposits and shut their eyes to the small and medium-sized ones, which were easily accessible and could produce quicker results, it would not be favourable to the development of the metallurgical industry. Earlier, they had discovered an ore deposit of considerable size in a certain area, but it lay some 500-600 metres below the surface and the hydrological conditions were complicated. To sink a vertical shaft was difficult and to develop this large mine would take much time, so it could not meet the pressing needs of the metallurgical industry. When the team recognized this fact, while continuing with this work, it began paying due attention to seeking small and medium-sized deposits, making necessary arrangements in both manpower and resources for this purpose. Of the total ore reserves reported by the team to the state over the past few years, some 60 per cent were from small and medium-sized deposits.

Another important aspect in carrying out the policy of "walking on two legs" is that geological teams mobilize the masses to take part in searching for mineral deposits. This is the mass line followed in all work in China. Facts have proved that the creativeness of the people is unlimited, even in a fairly specialized field such as geological prospecting. Whenever a geological team comes to a town, its members lose no time in explaining to the peasants the importance of finding minerals for the state. They put on display specimens of different ores and minerals and teach the local people the rudiments of prospecting. In every county a station has been set up for people to report their findings. As the masses are well acquainted with local topography, once they are mobilized, they never fail to give a vast number of useful clues. Subsequent prospecting by geological teams have proved that such clues have often led to the finding of many valuable ore-bearing points. Several mines now in operation, for instance, were located with the help of an old shepherd and a village doctor.

## "Walking on Two Legs"

In 1957 the North China Metallurgical Company sent its No. 518 Geological Team to the foothills of the Taihang Mountains, which divides the two north China provinces of Shansi and Hopei, to search for minerals. Over the past 15 years it has discovered and determined for the state rich iron-ore reserves running into several hundred million tons.

Effectively carrying out the policy of "walking on two legs," the team

has seen to it that both specialists and the masses are mobilized to search for minerals and that prospecting should put equal stress on both large, small and medium-sized deposits.

Prior to the Great Cultural Revolution, some comrades were influenced by the revisionist policy of "putting the stress on things large and foreign" peddled by Liu Shao-chi and his ilk. They wanted only to look for large deposits, alleging that small deposits would not be of much use.

## **New Landscape by the Red Sea**

**T**HE People's Democratic Republic of Yemen, a littoral state along the shores of the Gulf of Aden and the Red Sea, has a glorious anti-imperialist tradition. It has won independence and freedom after a prolonged armed struggle against colonial rule; its people today are working with might and main to build up their country through their own efforts.

At the construction sites, villages and an island we visited recently, we were impressed by the revolutionary spirit and zeal displayed by the people in the nation's reconstruction.

### **At a Construction Site**

We visited in mid-April the construction site of the Ain-Mahfid Highway, a major project in the country's Three-Year Plan for Economic Development (1971-74). Work started last September, and at the time of our visit, the 30-kilometre section from Ain to Mudia was already paved. As we drove along it, we found ourselves joining an endless stream of lorries rushing towards the construction sites with loads of sand, road-metal, cement, reinforced bars, pitch and other building materials. Work-sites along the road were scenes of bustling activity, accentuated by the roar of bulldozers, rollers, excavators and concrete mixers—all operated by Yemeni workers themselves.

The building of this 140-kilometre-long highway is no child's play. Running across numerous high mountains and rapids, it involves more than 800,000 cubic metres of earth-work and the construction of 32 bridges.

We arrived in the mountainous Nusah area, a forward base of the construction sites, in an April shower. The high, steep and rugged cliffs were shrouded in the hazy drizzle. When we looked up, we saw scores of Yemeni workers, wearing safety

helmets and with strong ropes tied around their waists, working in mid-air. Some, in groups of four or five, were boring holes for dynamite with pneumatic drills. Others were clearing the road-bed of stones, which crashed down to the valley with a deafening din.

Chinese engineers and technicians working together with them told us that these Yemenis—now skilled workers—were keen on acquiring the latest techniques to build up their country. Defying hardship and fatigue, many of them had spent long hours under the broiling sun learning to handle pneumatic drills weighing 28 kilogrammes each. By now there were over 100 skilled Yemeni drillers working on the project.

The Yemeni workers, we were told, showed deep concern for state property. One afternoon last March, there was a heavy downpour in the Nusah area. The mountain flood swept down with it mud, sand and stones, threatening the workers' living quarters and the storage where pitch and diesel oil were kept. At this critical juncture, the first thing that struck the Yemeni workers was to save public property. Scores of them fearlessly pitted themselves against the waist-deep torrents. Some were swept metres away, but they fought their way back and continued the struggle. Those who had their feet injured by rolling stones carried on the battle without receiving any first aid. With a high sense of responsibility, they finally succeeded in recovering all the pitch and diesel oil in drums each weighing several hundred kilogrammes. In the course of all this, no one ever paid any attention to their personal effects and clothing which were carried away by the floodwaters.

When we met Abdulla Rahmen, a responsible official of the Ministry of Public Works of the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen, we ex-

pressed our respects for the workers' labour enthusiasm and revolutionary spirit. Rahmen replied with emotion: "The colonialists dominated our country for nearly 130 years but they did not build a single highway in our countryside. Today, we have won independence and become masters of our country. Our people are determined to redouble their efforts to build a new society."

### **The New Countryside**

During our tour of the rural areas, we were deeply impressed by the revolutionary spirit of the people of Democratic Yemen in building a new countryside through hard work and self-reliance.

One hot April Sunday, Governor of the Second Province Awadh Al Hamed who was very hospitable took us to a well-sinking project near Lahje, the provincial capital. Handicapped by the shortage of modern sinking equipment, the peasants there made a supporting frame with date-palm trunks, and the earth they dug up from the bottom of the pit with small picks was hauled up by means of ropes and baskets. Often soaked through with muddy water and sweat, they worked for more than a month to dig a well 41 metres deep and 2 metres in diameter. The Governor told us that 150 wells would be sunk by such simple methods in the province this year to irrigate fields planted with cotton and cereals and to provide water for the community. In the Three-Year Plan period, wells sunk by the peasants themselves will help expand irrigated land in the province by 15 per cent.

The Second Province is a major cotton producer in this country. Its cotton this year showed promise. The Governor told us that a dry spell and insect pests hit this province last year, but the peasants under the leadership of the National Front

launched a vigorous campaign against them. As a result of improved field management, they reaped a good cotton harvest with a total output of 11.6 million pounds, nearly twice as much as in 1970. Though insect pests plagued the area again this year, the estimate was that cotton output would surpass that of 1971, thanks to the great efforts made by the peasants in combating the pests.

We also visited a regulating dam project in the Abyan area in the Third Province. Some 100 builders were working enthusiastically on the muddy embankment under the burning sun. Sixty metres long and eight metres high, the dam was designed by Democratic Yemeni engineers and technicians themselves with an eye to making the most of local materials. The dam, planned to be built in 12 months, would be completed two months ahead of schedule. A government official who accompanied us said that the colonialists used to say that the Yemeni people could never build dams without their help, but this dam, which was nearing its completion, had exploded their fallacy.

It was May when we visited a primary school with 100 pupils in the mountainous Khares area of the Second Province. Built by the villagers themselves, it had walls built with stones quarried from the rocky

mountains, and the desks and blackboards were all made of old boards. An official of the Ministry of Education said that before independence there were only 283 schools with 70,000 students located mainly in the towns and cities. Today, four years after independence, the number of schools has risen to 915 and students number 200,000. Most of the new schools are in the rural areas.

### Changes on Perim Island

In early June we went to Perim Island at the southern entrance to the Red Sea, which is an outpost of Democratic Yemen's coastal defence.

The fishermen on the island under British colonial rule led a very miserable life before independence. There was no hospital or school on the island, not to mention cultural life. It boasted only two modern buildings, one being the residence of the British commander on the island and the other a sanatorium for the colonial officers. Since independence the Perim fishermen under the leadership of the Democratic Yemeni Government have reconstructed the island with their own efforts. It now has a clinic and a primary school, and the former British commander's villa has been turned into the "People's Palace," a place of recreation for

local fishermen. Together with the armed forces, the island's fishermen are playing an important part in building the island and consolidating the coastal defence.

A local official took us to a lighthouse to have a bird's-eye view of the island. The sea off the island was dotted with the white sails of fishing boats. A Democratic Yemeni fighter who accompanied us on the visit said: "We are determined to defend the island with one hand and build it with the other and rid Perim of poverty and backwardness."

\* \* \*

Salem Robaya Ali, Chairman of the Presidential Council of Democratic Yemen, said with pride and confidence at the 5th Congress of the National Front in March: Over one hundred years of colonial domination brought about appalling poverty and backwardness in the country, but such a state of affairs is like a white canvas on which the people of Democratic Yemen will paint a beautiful and glorious picture with their industrious hands.

The hard-working and courageous people of Democratic Yemen, now independent and free, are working energetically to create an entirely new landscape in their once poverty-stricken and backward country.

(Hsinhua Correspondents)

(Continued from p. 6.)

series of facts have exploded the U.S. Government's lie about a desire for a quick end to the Viet Nam war. The Chinese Government and people strongly condemn U.S. imperialism for its acts of aggression in escalating the war. The U.S. Government must immediately stop attacking the dykes and irrigation systems of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam; it must immediately stop all its acts of aggression against the Vietnamese people."

In conclusion, Yeh Chien-ying declared: "The Chinese and Vietnamese peoples are brothers and comrades-in-arms going through thick and thin together. Both in the revolutionary years of the past and in today's struggle against U.S. aggression and for national salvation, we have been uniting together, fighting together and winning victories together. The Chinese people's great leader Chairman Mao has pointed out: **'The 700 million Chinese people provide a powerful**

**backing for the Vietnamese people; the vast expanse of China's territory is their reliable rear area.'** We will for ever follow Chairman Mao's teachings, regard the Vietnamese and other Indochinese peoples' struggle as our own struggle, and, by practical deeds of grasping revolution, promoting production and other work and preparedness against war, do our best to support and help you in every way in fighting the aggressors. We resolutely support the seven-point peace proposal and the elaboration of its two points of the Provisional Revolutionary Government of the Republic of South Viet Nam and the Vietnamese people's efforts for a peaceful settlement of the Viet Nam question. So long as the United States does not stop its aggression and the basic national rights of the Vietnamese and the other Indochinese peoples are not realized, the Chinese people will continue to support and assist the Vietnamese and the other Indochinese peoples in their war against U.S. aggression and for national salvation. This stand of ours is firm and unshakable."

## ROUND THE WORLD

### KOREA

#### Full-Dress North-South Red Cross Talks

The first meeting of the full-dress talks between the Red Cross Societies of north and south Korea was held in Fyongyang on August 30.

The meeting adopted a joint agreement signed by Kim Tae Hui, head of the Delegation of the Red Cross Society of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, and Li Bom Sok, chief delegate of the Delegation of the south Korean Red Cross Society.

The two sides confirmed the five items on the agenda of the full-dress talks which were adopted at the 20th meeting of the preliminary talks between the two Red Cross organizations on June 16, 1972. The five items are:

1. The question of finding out the addresses of the family members and relatives dispersed in the north and the south and ascertaining whether they are alive or dead and notifying the results.

2. The question of realizing free visits and free meetings between the family members and relatives dispersed in the north and the south.

3. The question of effecting free correspondence between the family members and relatives dispersed in the north and the south.

4. The question of reuniting the family members dispersed in the north and the south according to their free will.

5. Other matters to be settled in a humanitarian way.

Thousands of family members, relatives and friends in north and south Korea, who have been separated for long years, have not yet reunited. To alleviate and banish at an early date the misfortunes and sufferings caused by this division of a nation and to realize the peaceful reunification of the fatherland as quickly as possible, the Workers' Party of Korea and the Government of the D.P.R.K. have made unremitting efforts and

brought about 25 preliminary meetings between the Red Cross Societies of north and south Korea in Panmunjom from September 20 last year to August 11 this year. At the 20th preliminary talks, the two sides agreed on the agenda for full-dress talks between the two delegations and exchanged texts of the agreement.

This agreement embodies the correct stand consistently maintained by the Delegation of the Red Cross Society of the D.P.R.K. On July 4, a joint statement was issued by north and south Korea which confirmed the three principles for the independent and peaceful national reunification of Korea laid down by Comrade Kim Il Sung, the great leader of the Korean people. These principles are: (1) The question of reunification should be solved independently on the principle of national self-determination, rejecting the interference of outside forces. (2) Great national unity should be promoted, transcending the differences of ideology, ideal and system. (3) Reunification should be attained by peaceful means, each side refraining from the use of arms against the other side. The joint statement also clearly said that the two sides agreed upon rendering active co-operation in bringing to an early success the north-south Red Cross talks now in progress amid the great expectation of the whole nation.

After the first meeting of their full-dress talks, the Red Cross organizations of north and south Korea will hold the second meeting of the full-dress talks in Seoul on September 13.

### VIET NAM

#### Releasing Three Captured U.S. Pilots

According to a Viet Nam News Agency dispatch, the General Political Department of the Viet Nam People's Army issued an order on September 1 which, in pursuance of the

humane and lenient policy of the Government of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam and in compliance with the applications for amnesty sent in by U.S. pilots captured in north Viet Nam, decides to release three captured U.S. pilots.

The spokesman of the Foreign Ministry of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam issued a statement on September 2 to the same effect.

The statement says, "As early as 1963, when there was as yet no overall solution to the Viet Nam problem including the question of release of the captured military men, the Government of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam, pursuing a lenient policy, released a number of U.S. pilots captured in north Viet Nam. On their way home, and even after their arrival in the United States, those pilots expressed their gratitude for the policy of humane treatment of the Government of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam. But in 1969, the U.S. Government compelled the U.S. pilots released in July that year to put forward distortions about the humane policy of the Government of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam, at complete variance with their previous statements. The U.S. Government has also used those released pilots in war activities against the Vietnamese people and the other peoples of Indochina. It is for this reason that such releases have been temporarily suspended."

The statement goes on, "In pursuance of the humane and lenient policy of the Government of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam, the General Political Department of the Viet Nam People's Army has decided to release, on the occasion of the National Day, September 2, 1972, three U.S. pilots captured in north Viet Nam."

The statement continues, "The Government of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam holds that the U.S. Government must end all involvement in Viet Nam, stop supporting the stooge administration in Saigon, and respect the national rights of the Vietnamese people in order to bring about an early end to the war, restoration of peace in Viet Nam, and an early return of all captured U.S.

servicemen to their families. The Government of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam draws the particular attention of the U.S. Government to this: in the interests of the families of the U.S. pilots captured in north Viet Nam, stop using the released pilots to slander the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam and to further the U.S. policy of aggression in Viet Nam."

"To express solidarity with the American people who are struggling against the U.S. 'dirty war' in Viet Nam, the Government of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam will hand over the released pilots to a U.S. social organization which has the goodwill and desire to bring about an early end to the U.S. war in Viet Nam, and to help those released not to be used in activities against the Vietnamese people and the Government of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam," the statement says.

#### JAPAN

### Strong Demand for Return of Northern Islands

A rally of 1,500 Japanese people from all walks of life in Hokkaido was held in Sapporo City on August 31, strongly demanding that the Soviet Government return as soon as possible the four islands Kunashiri, Etorofu, Habomai and Shikotan, Japanese territories now occupied by the Soviet Union.

Jointly sponsored by the Union for the Reversion of the Northern Territories, the League of Residents of Chishima and Habomai Islands, the Northern Territory Problem Counter-Measure Association and the Hokkaido Council for the Promotion of Northern Problem Counter-Measure, the rally has the support of the Prime Minister's Office, the Foreign Ministry, the Hokkaido Prefectural Government and the Hokkaido Prefectural Assembly.

Shunichi Matsumoto, President of the Union for the Reversion of the Northern Territories, Naohiro Dogakinai, Governor of Hokkaido, Takeshi Honna, Director-General of the Prime Minister's Office, and Masahisa Aoki, Parliamentary Vice-Foreign Minister, spoke at the rally. They unanimously

stressed that the four islands were Japanese territories and their return was the long cherished desire of the Japanese nation. They called for the unfolding of a national movement demanding the return of these islands.

Shunichi Matsumoto said: "The Soviet Union wants to conclude a Japan-Soviet peace treaty and insists that the territorial issue has already been settled. But we hold that the territorial issue remains to be settled and a peace treaty will be concluded only when this issue is solved. This standpoint of ours will surely win the support of the people of the world, let alone the Japanese people."

Representatives of former residents on the islands appealed to the rally saying that Habomai and the other three islands which the residents had built up with their sweat were forcibly occupied by the Soviet Union and they had lost their means of living. The representatives expressed the strong desire of the residents to return to their native places once again.

Liberal-Democratic Party Diet Members, Diet Member from Okinawa Prefecture Tsumichiyo Asato, and Liberal-Democratic Party and Komei Party members of the Hokkaido Prefectural Assembly attended this rally on invitation.

The rally adopted a resolution asking the Japanese Government to conclude a Japan-Soviet peace treaty as soon as possible on the premise of the settlement of the issue of northern territories.

It also adopted a declaration which says that "it is our greatest regret that the territories of our country, Habomai, Shikotan, Kunashiri and Etorofu, have been under the illegal occupation of the Soviet Union for the 27 postwar years. In order to materialize a Japan-Soviet peace treaty based on the settlement of the northern territories issue, it is our urgent task to bring about a consensus of opinion among the 100 million people of the nation and to unfold a powerful nationwide movement. We, 5 million people of Hokkaido, declare that we will make every effort to rouse and rally the opinion of the people of the nation."

Prior to the rally, its participants riding in motor cars demonstrated in Sapporo City to call on the citizens to strive for the return of the northern islands.

#### TANAKA-NIXON TALKS

### Joint Statement Issued

Japanese Prime Minister Kakuei Tanaka and U.S. President Richard Nixon held talks in Honolulu, Hawaii, on August 31 and September 1.

A joint statement issued after their talks said that during their talks they studied the current international situation, with particular reference to Asia. Both parties stressed "the maintenance and strengthening of the close ties of friendship and co-operation between the two countries (Japan and the United States)." In the statement, they "reaffirmed the intention of the two governments to maintain the treaty of mutual co-operation and security between the two countries and agreed that the two governments would continue to co-operate through close consultations with a view to ensuring smooth and effective implementation of the treaty."

After referring to U.S. President Nixon's recent visits to the People's Republic of China and the U.S.S.R., the joint statement pointed out that both parties "shared the hope that the forthcoming visit of the Prime Minister to the People's Republic of China would also serve to further the trend for the relaxation of tension in Asia."

In the joint statement, both parties "welcomed the recent opening of dialogue in the Korean Peninsula."

The joint statement noted that views were also exchanged on trade, finance, development assistance, space exploration and other matters of bilateral relations between the two countries.

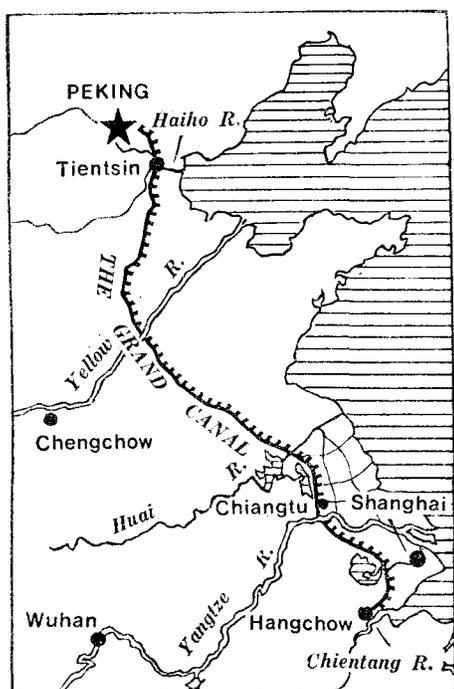
Released together with the joint statement was an announcement on "details of U.S.-Japan trade agreement," with the main contents that Japan will make additional purchase of U.S. goods and services to the tune of about 1,100 million dollars to help the United States reduce its trade deficit.

# ON THE HOME FRONT

## **Grand Canal Rebuilt**

ONE of ancient China's gigantic projects, the Grand Canal which begins in Peking and ends in Hangchow has a history of over 2,400 years. Nearly 1,800 kilometres long, it winds its way through Hopei, Shantung, Kiangsu and Chekiang Provinces, linking up Peking, Tientsin and Shanghai. Once a major artery of north-south navigation in China, it played a significant role in the development of the nation's politics, economy and culture.

The Grand Canal was built in three stages. In 485 B.C., the State of Wu recruited large numbers of soldiers and civilians to cut and build a waterway linking the Yangtze to the Huai River. More than 1,000 years later, rulers of the Sui Dynasty continued the project on a large scale in 605 A.D. Tens of millions of labourers worked for six years to build waterways joining the Haiho, the Yellow River, the Huai, the Yangtze and the Chientang. In 1283, rulers of the Yuan Dynasty mobilized thousands of labourers who, after ten years of work, finally completed the canal and made its entire course navigable for wooden boats. Out of repair for long



years, the canal-bed had narrowed considerably by the time of liberation, the average width being 20-50 metres and the narrowest part less than 10. The role of the canal as a waterway for transporting goods had therefore greatly diminished. What is more, some sections had silted up and become roads or farmland.

In 1958, the People's Government worked out a plan to rebuild the Grand Canal. Now that the 690-kilometre-long section of the canal passing through 22 counties and cities in Kiangsu has been dredged and widened, 500-ton ships can ply up and down easily. Some sections are navigable all the year round for 2,000-ton vessels sailing side by side.

Rebuilding the Grand Canal went hand in hand with the harnessing of the Yellow River, the Huai and the Haiho. Before liberation, the embankments of the canal were badly damaged. So when the high-water season set in, the canal swollen with floodwaters from the Yellow River and the Huai used to overflow its banks and inundate the farmland. Responding to Chairman Mao's call "The Huai River must be harnessed," the people on both banks of the canal have over the past 20 years dug the Supei Irrigation Trunk Channel in northern Kiangsu and built a waterway to divert and increase the flow of water from the Huai to the Yangtze and the sea. In addition, two sluice-gates have been built to regulate the flow of the Huai in its upper reaches, and the Chiangtu Pumping Station has been completed to channel water from the Yangtze into the Huai in times of drought. With dykes along the canal in central Kiangsu reinforced and heightened, the danger of floods has been greatly reduced. The once poorly irrigated areas in northern Kiangsu are now criss-crossed by channels on both banks of the canal. With gravity irrigation in some areas and irrigation by electric pumps in others, grain output has gone up year after year.

While rebuilding the Grand Canal, the people have also built a number

of hydroelectric stations. A people's commune in Kaoyu County in northern Kiangsu has built four such stations along the canal, which provide power for processing over 5 million *jin* of grain and fodder every year.

## **Prevention and Cure of Occupational Disease**

WITH due attention to environmental sanitation and the workers' health, the Peking Special Steel Plant has achieved good results in preventing lead poisoning, a major occupational disease. Not a single new worker has contracted this disease in the past three years. Half of the small number of workers who contracted it before have completely recovered, while the rest are steadily being cured.

The accent is on prevention. In one of the plant's workshops, lead quenching was the chief cause of poisoning. A group comprising workers, cadres and doctors was organized to tackle the problem, and workers were mobilized to discuss how to prevent it. More than 20 proposals were submitted, which showed good results when put into effect. Learning from this experience, other workshops also took appropriate measures and achieved equal success.

Periodic laboratory tests are made of urine samples from workers who previously contracted the disease, and treatment which combines traditional Chinese and Western medicine is given them. As a result of active co-operation between the plant's medical workers and those from other units concerned in Peking, an effective herbal medicine for curing lead poisoning has been found.

During the Great Proletarian Cultural Revolution, leading comrades of the plant's Party committee and revolutionary committee studied Chairman Mao's teaching "Attention must be paid to the safety, health and essential welfare of the workers in the course of increasing production and practising economy." They mobilized the workers to criticize Liu Shao-chi's revisionist line of "putting production first," which greatly hampered efforts to combat lead poisoning before the Great Cultural Revolution.

Like other factories and mines all over the country, the Peking Special Steel Plant has a clinic and each workshop has a health station, providing free medical service. For workers in high-temperature shops and working under other trying conditions, they get high-protein diet for each shift as provided for by the state regulations. In summer time, effective measures are taken to keep workshop temperatures down and the workers get cold soft drinks and medicines against heat prostration free of charge. Arrangements are also made for them to go swimming after knocking off.

The plant has a club room, basketball and volleyball courts and table tennis rooms for recreation and physical training. All the workshops are bright and airy and are linked by willow-lined paved roads.

### ***Good Harvest of Spring Cocoons***

**M**ULBERRY and silkworm rearing areas in China reported a good harvest of spring cocoons this year. The cocoon harvest in the major producing areas in southern China was the biggest since liberation; the mulberry trees grew well, silkworm diseases were few and the quality of cocoons was good. Silkworm rearing areas in north China were equally successful.

State purchases of cocoons in Chekiang, Kiangsu, Kwangtung, Hupch, Shantung and Shensi Provinces showed a more than 10 per cent increase in the first half of this year over the same 1971 period. The increase in state purchase in Szechuan and Anhwei was over 20 per cent.

While strengthening management of existing mulberry gardens, peasants in the silkworm cultivation areas expanded the acreage planted to mulberry trees. Chekiang Province, which produces one-third of China's silkworm cocoons, is a good example. The peasants applied fertilizer several times to the more than a million *mu* of mulberry trees whose leaves grew luxuriantly. In addition, they planted 80 million mulberry trees. Some areas in Kiangsu Province made use of wasteland by the



**New brocade quilt covers produced by the Nanchung Silk Mill.**

lakes, ditches and the sea to plant mulberry trees. As a result, more than 71,000 *mu* of new mulberry gardens were added during the last winter-spring period. The Chengteh administrative region in Hopei Province planted 5 million mulberry trees last year.

The silkworm rearing areas also paid great attention to the work of preventing silkworm disease, which included the careful disinfection of rearing rooms and equipment. Szechuan Province popularized fine disease-resistant strains of silkworms with a high-output potential.

Commune members are now taking active measures to ensure the healthy growth of the autumn silkworms in an effort to get a good harvest for the whole year.

### ***Szechuan Silks***

**L**OVELY Szechuan brocades, satins and other silk fabrics are being produced at a faster rate than ever before. A major producer of raw silk and silk fabrics, this southwestern province has swiftly expanded its silk industry in the last few years. It has doubled the number of silk mills to 48 since the start of the Great Cultural Revolution in 1966. Output of both raw silk and silk fabrics for 1971 was 61 times that of 1949, the year of liberation, and in the first six months of this year they showed a 25 and 21 per cent rise respectively over the first half of 1971.

Silkworm rearing and the silk industry in Szechuan were fast declining before liberation under Kuomintang misrule plus landlord and capitalist exploitation. Production techniques were out-dated in the handicraft mills which accounted for the bulk of the produce. They used cauldrons and ovens for reeling, and looms were antiquated hand- or foot-operated wooden affairs. At the time of liberation, annual raw silk output for the whole province was barely equivalent to two months' output at the Nanchung Filature today.

With mulberry cultivation and silkworm rearing rapidly developing in the province, adequate sources of raw materials have been ensured after liberation. Output of cocoons last year hit an all-time high. The state has newly built or expanded a number of silk filatures and mills in major cocoon-producing centres. Since the Cultural Revolution started, the province's silk reeling capacity has more than doubled, and silk looms have increased by 60 per cent. Many silk mills have in the main mechanized and automated major production processes thanks to technical innovations and self-made equipment.

The workers are now making big efforts to raise quality and increase variety. Since the beginning of the year, they have already put some dozen new types of silk fabrics on the market.

(Continued from p. 4.)

the Asia Department of the Japanese Foreign Ministry, and Teruji Akiyama, Ryozo Okuda, Hiroshi Ichihara, Toru Nakamura, Kiyoshi Nishimura, Kunihiro Narumi, Sakae Yamaguchi, Fujimatsu Yamamoto, Motofumi Asai, Atsushi Hatakenaka, Tomohiko Yanase and Koichi Obata.

Foreign Minister Chi Peng-fei met all members of the advance party on the afternoon of September 2. The advance party also had talks with Han Hsu, Director of the Protocol Department of the Foreign Ministry, and responsible members of the departments concerned.

Hiroshi Hasimoto and his party left Peking for home via Kwangchow on September 5.

### Good Early Rice Harvest

After overcoming the spring cold and drought, commune members and cadres in southern China reaped a rich early rice harvest.

Now that harvesting had been completed, total output showed an increase over that of last year. The major rice-producing provinces of Szechuan, Anhwei, Yunnan and Kweichow reported a 10 per cent increase, and the output in Kwangtung, Kwangsi, Hunan, Chekiang, Kiangsu, Shanghai and Fukien also exceeded that of 1971. In many counties, communes and production brigades, the per-mu yield was over 300 jin.

Conscientiously implementing the policy of "taking agriculture as the foundation," Party organizations at various levels in the early rice growing areas strengthened their leadership in the mass movement to learn from Shansi Province's Tachai Brigade, a pace-setter in China's agriculture. The policies of "from each according to his ability, to each according to his work" and "equal pay for equal work without distinction of sex" were carried out in all places. This further stimulated the socialist enthusiasm of the commune members.

Thanks to the implementation of the "Eight-Point Charter" for agri-

culture — namely, soil (deep ploughing, soil improvement, general survey of soil and land planning), fertilizer (rational application of fertilizer), water (building water conservancy works and rational use of water), seeds (popularization of good strains), close planting (rational close planting), plant protection (plant protection, the prevention and elimination of plant diseases and pests), management (field management), and tools (innovation of farm implements) — and scientific farming, the acreage sown to good seed strains was expanded and the work of rational close planting was done in a better way than last year.

Commune members are now actively delivering their public grain and selling their surplus rice to the state. At the same time they are busy tending the late rice and other crops in an effort to get another good harvest.

### Pai Hsiang-kuo Visits the Americas

The Chinese Government Trade Delegation led by Minister of Foreign Trade Pai Hsiang-kuo returned to Peking on August 29 after visiting Peru, Chile and Canada.

Leaving Peking on August 1 to visit these countries on invitation, the 7-member delegation was warmly received by the peoples of Peru, Chile and Canada. Peruvian President General Juan Velasco Alvarado, Chilean President Salvador Allende and Canadian Prime Minister Pierre Elliott Trudeau respectively received and had friendly talks with Pai Hsiang-kuo.

While it was in Peru, a trade agreement was signed between China and Peru.

The delegation visited factories and farms when it was in Chile.

In Canada, the delegation attended the opening ceremony of the Chinese Pavilion at the Canadian National Exhibition in Toronto and saw the Canadian Pavilion at the exhibition. It also paid a special visit to Gravenhurst, birthplace of the great inter-

nationalist fighter Dr. Norman Bethune.

### American Visitors

Among the American guests recently in China were: Writer and associate professor of history Roxane H. Witke; Professor Owen Lattimore; cardiologist Grey Dimond; the Friendship Delegation of Radical Political Economists headed by Carl Riskin; the New York Lower Manhattan Working People's Delegation with Esther Gollobin as its head and Genoveva Clemente its deputy head; the Delegation of Teachers and Students of University of California at Santa Cruz with Bernard A. Pathe as its leader and Freya A. Horne and Curtis J. Eberhard its deputy leaders; President and General Manager of the Associated Press Wes Gallagher and Chairman of the Board of the Associated Press Paul Miller; and President of the United Press International Roderick Beaton and his wife.

### NEWS BRIEFS

▲ Premier Chou En-lai on August 30 sent a message to Prime Minister Eric Williams greeting the 10th anniversary of the independence of Trinidad and Tobago.

▲ Acting Chairman Tung Pi-wu and Premier Chou En-lai on August 31 sent a message to Moamer Kazafi, Chairman of the Revolutionary Command Council of the Arab Republic of Libya, and Abdel Salam Jalloud, Premier of the Libyan Government, greeting the 3rd anniversary of the revolution of the Arab Republic of Libya.

▲ Premier Chou En-lai on August 31 sent a message to Khalifa Ben Hamad Al Thani, Emir of the State of Qatar, greeting Qatar's National Day.

▲ The Romanian National Men's Basketball Team, Swedish National Table Tennis Team (A), the Burmese Tennis and Badminton Friendship Delegation and Japanese Junior Table Tennis Delegation visited China recently. And the Shanghai Junior Football Team paid a visit to Japan.

Autumn 1972

# CHINESE EXPORT COMMODITIES FAIR

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