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Peking Pays Last Respects to Comrade Tung Pi-wu

The Central Committee of the Communist Party of China, the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress and the State Council of the People's Republic of China issued on April 3 an obituary notice which reads in full as follows:

The Central Committee of the Communist Party of China, the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress and the State Council of the People's Republic of China announce with deep grief: Comrade Tung Pi-wu, Member of the C.P.C. Central Committee, Member of the Standing Committee of the Political Bureau of the C.P.C. Central Committee and Vice-Chairman of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress, died of illness at 07:58 on April 2, 1975 in Peking at the age of 90.

Comrade Tung Pi-wu was one of the founders of the Communist Party of China, a fine member of the Communist Party of China, a great revolutionary fighter of the Chinese people and one of the outstanding leaders of the Party and the state.

Comrade Tung Pi-wu made immortal contributions to the Party and the people in long revolutionary struggles and won the wholehearted love and respect of the whole Party, the whole army and the people of the whole country.

The whole Party, the whole army and the people of the whole country should learn from Comrade Tung Pi-wu his revolutionary spirit and noble qualities and, under the leadership of the Party Central Committee headed by Chairman Mao, unite as one, adhere to the Party's basic line, persevere in continuing the revolution under the dictatorship of the proletariat and strive to consolidate and strengthen the dictatorship of the proletariat and build our country into a powerful modern socialist country.

Comrade Tung Pi-wu, a great proletarian revolutionary of the Chinese people, is immortal!

A Funeral Committee for Comrade Tung Pi-wu was formed the same day. (For name list see p. 4.)

Memorial Ceremony

A solemn memorial ceremony was held in Peking on the afternoon of April 7 to pay last respects to the late Comrade Tung Pi-wu.

Flags were flown at half-mast in mourning throughout the country that day.

The memorial ceremony took place in the Great Hall of the People, where a portrait of the late Comrade Tung Pi-wu was hung and the urn containing his ashes draped with the flag of the Communist Party of China was placed.

In the hall were wreaths presented by our great leader Chairman Mao and the C.P.C. Central Committee.

Wreaths were also presented by other Chinese Party and state leaders Chu Teh, Soong Ching Ling, Chou En-lai, Wang Hung-wen, Kang Sheng, Yeh Chien-ying, Teng Hsiao-ping, Chang Chun-chiao, Wei Kuo-ching, Liu Po-cheng, Chiang Ching, Hsu Shih-yu, Hua Kuo-feng, Chi Teng-kuei, Wu Teh, Wang Tung-hsing, Chen Yung-kuei, Chen Hsi-lien, Li Hsien-nien, Li Teh-

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sheng, Yao Wen-yuan, Wu Kuei-hsien, Su Chen-hua, 
Ni Chih-fu, Saifudin, Tan Chen-lin, Li Ching-chuan 
and Hu Chueh-wen.

There were also wreaths from the N.P.C. Standing 
Committee, the State Council, the Military Commission 
of the C.P.C. Central Committee, the National Com- 
mittee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative 
Conference, the General Office of the C.P.C. Central 
Committee, the Organization Department of the C.P.C.,

Central Committee, the General Office of the N.P.C. 
Standing Committee, the Supreme People's Court, the 
Ministry of Public Security, the General Office of the 
State Council, the Headquarters of the General Staff 
of the Chinese People's Liberation Army, the P.L.A. 
General Political Department, the P.L.A. General Logis-
tics Department, the General Office of the Military 
Commission of the C.P.C. Central Committee, the C.P.C. 
Peking Municipal Committee and the Peking Municipal 
Revolutionary Committee, as well as the C.P.C. Hupeh 
Provincial Committee and the Hupeh Provincial 
Revolutionary Committee.

Attending the ceremony were Party and state 
leaders Wang Hung-wen, Yeh Chien-ying, Teng Hsiao-
ping, Chu Teh, Chang Chun-chiao, Chiang Ching, Yao 
Wen-yuan, Chen Hsi-lien, Chi Teng-kuei, Hua Kuo-
feng, Wu Teh, Wu Kuei-hsien, Su Chen-hua, Ni Chih-
fu, Kuo Mo-jo, Hsu Hsiang-chien, Nieh Jung-chen, 
Chen Yun, Chang Ting-cheng, Tsai Chang, Ulanfu, 
Ngapo Ngawang-Jigme, Chou Chien-jen, Hsu Teh-heng, 
Li Su-wen, Yao Lien-wei, Wang Chen, Yu Chiu-li, Ku 
Mu and Sun Chien; Shen Yen-ping, Vice-Chairman 
of the National Committee of the C.P.P.C.C., and Chiang 
Hua, President of the Supreme People's Court.

Vice-Chairman Wang Hung-wen presided over the 
ceremony, which started with funeral music and the 
gathering standing in silent tribute. Vice-Chairman 
Yeh Chien-ying delivered the memorial speech. (See p. 7 
for full text.)

The Party and state leaders present expressed their 
sincere sympathy to Comrade Ho Lien-chih, widow of 
the late Comrade Tung Pi-wu, and their children.

Attending the ceremony were also Members and 
Alternate Members of the Central Committee of the 
Chinese Communist Party, Members of the N.P.C.

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**Name List of the Funeral Committee for the Late 
Comrade Tung Pi-wu**

Mao Tsetung, Chou En-lai, Wang Hung-wen, Kang 
Sheng, Yeh Chien-ying, Teng Hsiao-ping, Chu Teh, 
Chang Chun-chiao, Wei Kuo-ching, Liu Po-cheng, 
Chiang Ching (female), Hsu Shih-yu, Hua Kuo-feng, 
Chi Teng-kuei, Wu Teh, Wang Tung-hsing, Chen Yung-
kuei, Chen Hsi-lien, Li Hsien-nien, Li Teh-sheng, Yao 
Wen-yuan, Wu Kuei-hsien (female), Su Chen-hua, Ni 
Chih-fu, Saifudin, Soong Ching Ling (female), Kuo 
Mo-jo, Hsu Hsiang-chien, Nieh Jung-chen, Chen Yun, 
Tan Chen-lin, Li Ching-chuan, Chang Ting-cheng, Tsai 
Chang (female), Ulanfu, Ngapo Ngawang-Jigme, Chou 
Chien-jen, Hsu Teh-heng, Hu Chueh-wen, Li Su-wen 
(female), Yao Lien-wei, Wang Chen, Yu Chiu-li, Ku 
Mu, Sun Chien, Shen Yen-ping, Chiang Hua, Chin Tsu-min, 
Hsieh Ching-yi (female), Yang Po-lan (female).
Standing Committee, Members of the Standing Committee of the C.P.P.C.C. National Committee, leading members of departments under the C.P.C. Central Committee and state organs, the general departments, services and arms of the Chinese People’s Liberation Army, and from Peking Municipality and Hupeh Province, staff members of the Party and government organizations, P.L.A. commanders and fighters and more than 2,000 people in Peking.

After the ceremony, the urn containing the ashes of the late Comrade Tung Pi-wu was escorted to Papaoshan Cemetery of Fallen Revolutionaries by Hua Kuo-feng, Wu Teh and other comrades and placed there.

When Comrade Tung Pi-wu was seriously ill, Party and state leaders went to the hospital to see him. After Comrade Tung Pi-wu passed away, Party and state leaders and leading members of Party, government and army organizations and his friends paid their last respects to his remains.

Samdech Norodom Sihanouk, Head of State and Chairman of the National United Front of Cambodia, and Madame Sihanouk, Samdech Penn Nouth, Prime Minister of the Royal Government of National Union of Cambodia and Chairman of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the National United Front of Cambodia, and Madame Penn Nouth attended the ceremony to pay their last respects to the remains of Comrade Tung Pi-wu and expressed the deepest grief and sincere sympathy to the Chinese leaders present and the deceased’s relatives.

Condolences Offered

On April 6, more than 8,000 workers, peasants, government cadres, students and P.L.A. commanders and fighters in the Chinese capital offered their condolences to Comrade Tung Pi-wu, a great proletarian revolutionary of the Chinese people, at a service in the Working People’s Palace of Culture. With respect and grief, they stood in silence, paying tribute to Comrade Tung Pi-wu before his portrait, and expressed their determination to learn from Comrade Tung Pi-wu the spirit of continued revolution, adhere to Chairman Mao’s proletarian revolutionary line and strive for the great goal of communism.

The auditorium contained wreaths presented by our great leader Chairman Mao, the C.P.C. Central Committee, the N.P.C. Standing Committee, the State Council, and other Party and government leaders.

Wreaths also were presented by the Central Committee of the Albanian Party of Labour and the Presidency of the People’s Assembly and the Council of Ministers of the People’s Republic of Albania, the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Malaya, the Delegation of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Indonesia, the Communist Party of Brazil, the Communist Party of Bolivia (Marxist-Leninist), the Communist Vanguard of Argentina, the Central Committee of the Revolutionary Communist Party of Chile, the Central Committee of the Portuguese Communist Party (Marxist-Leninist), the Communist Party of Italy (Marxist-Leninist), the Delegation of the Organi-

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zation of the Communists of Italy (Marxist-Leninist) and the Communist Party of Switzerland (Marxist-Leninist).

Wreaths were also presented by Cambodian Head of State Samdech Norodom Sihanouk, and Samdech Pennouth, Prime Minister of the Royal Government of National Union of Cambodia, Hedi Nouira, Prime Minister of the Republic of Tunisia, and the Government of the Republic of Argentina.

Hyun Jun Keuk, doyen of the foreign diplomatic corps and Ambassador of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to China, presented a wreath on behalf of diplomatic envoys of various countries to China. There were also wreaths from foreign embassies in Peking as well as visiting foreign delegations and foreign friends.

Present to offer their condolences were: Jusuf Adjitorop, Member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Indonesia and Leader of the Delegation of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Indonesia; the Delegation of the Portuguese Communist Party (Marxist-Leninist) led by General Secretary Vilar; the Delegation of the Communist Party of Bolivia (Marxist-Leninist); the Delegation of the Communist Vanguard of Argentina; the Delegation of the Revolutionary Communist Party of Chile led by Jorge Palacios, Member of the Secretariat of the Party's Central Committee; the Delegation of the Organization of the Communists of Italy (Marxist-Leninist) led by National Secretary Osvaldo Pesce; and Attilio Baschini, Member of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Italy (Marxist-Leninist).

Also present to offer their condolences were diplomatic envos to China and diplomatic officials of embassies in Peking from the following countries (region): Afghanistan, Burma, Cambodia, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam, the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen, India, Iran, Iraq, Japan, Kuwait, Laos, Lebanon, Libya, Monopolia, Nepal, Pakistan, the Republic of South Viet Nam, Sri Lanka, Syria, Turkey, the Yemen Arab Republic, Algeria, Burundi, Cameroon, Chad, the Congo, Dahomey, Egypt, Ethiopia, Gabon, Ghana, Guinea, Mali, Mauritania, Morocco, Nige-
ria, Rwanda, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Somalia, the Sudan, Tanzania, Togo, Tunisia, Uganda, Zaire, Zambia, Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Cuba, Guyana, Mexico, Peru, Albania, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, Finland, France, the German Democratic Republic, the Federal Republic of Germany, Greece, Hungary, Italy, the Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Romania, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the Soviet Union, Britain, Yugoslavia, Canada, Australia and New Zealand. The Assistant to the Head of the Mission of the Palestine Liberation Organization in Peking was present to offer his condolences. The Chief of the Liaison Office of the United States of America in China was present to offer his condolences.

Also present to offer their condolences were Thiounn Mummm and Duong Sam Ol, Members of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the National United Front of Cambodia, and Madame Duong Sam Ol; Thiounn Prasith, Alternate Member of the Political Bureau of the N.U.F.C. Central Committee; Van Piny, Vice-Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Royal Government of National Union of Cambodia, and Madame Van Piny; foreign friends in Peking Frank Coe, Ruth Coe, Sol Adler, Pat Adler, Djawoto, John Service and Mrs. Service, Roderick Julian Stewart and Mrs. Stewart; visitors Kojiro Yoshikawa, leader of the Japanese Academic and Cultural Delegation, Fujio Suganuma, Chairman of the Japan-China Travel Service, political commentator Yoshiro Royama and his wife Sachiko Royama, Ekiyo Akatsui, Vice-Chairman of the Headquarters of the Japan-China Friendship Association (Orthodox), and Furuno Takenori, Secretary-General of the Yamaguchi Prefectural Headquarters of the Japan-China Friendship Association (Orthodox); German Amado Blanco, head of the visiting Cuban Trade Delegation; Dr. Hossen K. Afshar, leader of the visiting Iranian Geophysics Delegation of the University of Teheran; and the visiting Nigerian women's basketball team's chief of mission B.O.L. Akiri and team leader R. R. Wushichi. Also present to offer their condolences were foreign experts helping with China's socialist construction and Peking-based foreign correspondents.
Vice-Chairman Yeh Chien-ying’s Speech at Memorial Ceremony

WITH the deepest grief, today we mourn the death of Comrade Tung Pi-wu, a great revolutionary fighter of the Chinese people, one of the founders of the Chinese Communist Party and a Party and state leader whom the people of the whole country cherished.

The life of Comrade Tung Pi-wu was a life of perseverance in continuing the revolution. He remained unwaveringly loyal to the Party, the people and Chairman Mao’s proletarian revolutionary line. For more than the last 60 years, he dedicated his all to the cause of the Chinese people’s liberation and the great cause of communism. Under the leadership of our great leader Chairman Mao, Comrade Tung Pi-wu made indelible contributions to the founding and development of the Marxist-Leninist Communist Party of China, the overthrow of the reactionary rule of imperialism, feudalism, and bureaucrat capitalism, the victory of the people’s democratic revolution, the consolidation of the dictatorship of the proletariat and the development of the cause of socialist revolution and construction. His departure is a great loss to our Party and the people of the country. It fills the entire Party, the entire army and the whole people with profound grief.

Comrade Tung Pi-wu joined the Tung Meng Hui led by Dr. Sun Yat-sen as early as the turn of the century, took part in the Revolution of 1911 and the revolutionary struggle against imperialism and feudalism.

In the course of the struggle, he accepted Marxism-Leninism and founded a communist group in Huphe in 1920. This was one of the first Marxist-Leninist revolutionary organizations in China. Together with Comrade Mao Tse-tung, he attended the First National Congress of the Communist Party of China and founded the Communist Party of China in 1921. He then returned to Huphe and was responsible for setting up and developing the Party organizations in Huphe Province. He served as Secretary of the Committee of the Wuhan Locality of the C.P.C. and Member of the Huphe Provincial Party Committee. During the Agrarian Revolutionary War, he served as President of the Party School Under the C.P.C. Central Committee and Acting Chairman of the Shensi-Kansu-Ningsia Border Regional Government. As one of the representatives of our Party in the negotiations with the Kuomintang during the War of Resistance Against Japan and after the surrender of Japanese imperialism, he waged a tit-for-tat struggle against the Kuomintang’s counter-revolutionary policy of sabotaging the war of resistance, wrecking unity and opposing the Communist Party and the people.

Before nationwide liberation, he served as Member of the Secretariat of the North China Bureau of the C.P.C. Central Committee and Director of the North China Commission of Finance and Economy and Chairman of the North China People’s Government. After nationwide liberation, he served as Director of the Central Commission of Finance and Economy, Vice-Premier of the Administration Council of the Central People’s Government, Director of the Committee of Political and Legal Affairs Under the Government Administration Council, President of the Supreme People’s Court, Vice-Chairman of the Second National Committee of the Chinese People’s Political Consultative Conference, Secretary of the Control Commission Under the C.P.C. Central Committee, Vice-Chairman and Acting Chairman of the People’s Republic of China and Vice-Chairman of the Standing Committee of the National People’s Congress. He was elected Member of the Central Committee at the Party’s Sixth, Seventh, Eighth, Ninth and Tenth National Congresses. He had been Member of the Political Bureau since the Sixth Plenary Session of the Sixth C.P.C. Central Committee and was elected Member of the Standing Committee of the Political Bureau of the C.P.C. Central Committee at the First Plenary Session of the Tenth C.P.C. Central Committee. Over the past decades, Comrade Tung Pi-wu resolutely carried out and defended Chairman Mao’s revolutionary line, and fought heroically and unwaveringly in the people’s democratic revolution and socialist revolution, in the Great Proletarian Cultural Revolution and the movement to criticize Lin Piao and Confucius. He has set an example for all comrades in our Party to follow.

Mourning the death of Comrade Tung Pi-wu, we must learn from his spirit of continuously making revolution, perseverance in tirelessly and assiduously studying works by Marx, Engels, Lenin and Stalin and works by Chairman Mao, adherence to Chairman Mao’s proletarian revolutionary line, continuing the revolution under the dictatorship of the proletariat through to the end and life-long dedication to the struggle to achieve the great goal of communism.

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We must learn from his lofty revolutionary qualities and firm proletarian Party spirit, adherence to the Party's principles, observance of Party discipline, safeguarding the Party's unity and unremitting struggles against all actions contrary to the interests of the Party.

We must learn from his life-long perseverance in the fine style of the proletariat, working hard and maintaining close ties with the masses, remaining modest and prudent, being affable and close to the people, setting strict demands on himself, setting examples by his actions and resolutely opposing the bourgeois style of life.

We must learn from his spirit of serving the people wholeheartedly, dedicating his all to the revolutionary cause in disregard of personal gains or losses, working conscientiously, earnestly and diligently up to his death.

Chairman Mao says: "It is not hard for one to do a bit of good. What is hard is to do good all one's life." Comrade Tung Pi-wu did good all his life as a worthy proletarian revolutionary boundlessly loyal to the Party and the people.

Comrade Tung Pi-wu is gone for ever. We must translate our grief into strength and, under the leadership of the Party Central Committee headed by Chairman Mao, make conscientious efforts to study well the theory of the dictatorship of the proletariat, keep to the Party's basic line, persevere in the continued revolution under the dictatorship of the proletariat and fight for consolidating and strengthening the dictatorship of the proletariat and building China into a strong and modern socialist country. Let us unite to win still greater victories!

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Prime Minister Nouira Ends Visit to China

Hedi Nouira, Prime Minister of the Republic of Tunisia, and Madame Nouira left Kwangchow on April 8 at the end of their visit to China.

Chu Teh, Chairman of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress, and Premier Chou En-lai separately met Prime Minister Nouira during his stay in Peking.

Vice-Premier Chang Chun-chiao on April 1 hosted a grand banquet in the name of Premier Chou En-lai at the Great Hall of the People in Peking to warmly welcome Prime Minister Nouira. The Vice-Premier and the Prime Minister spoke on the occasion (for excerpts of their speeches, see pp. 11-13).

The Prime Minister gave a farewell banquet in the capital on April 3.

He said at the banquet that the talks with the Government of the People's Republic of China had convinced him that the bilateral relations and economic exchanges that have just begun will develop in accordance with the aspirations of both peoples. He pointed out that the talks characterized profound understanding, mutual respect and great friendship.

The Prime Minister said Tunisia will do all it can to develop relations and consolidate co-operation between the two countries.

Vice-Premier Chang Chun-chiao said at the banquet: Both sides had held sincere talks on international questions of common concern and on the question of further development of friendly relations and co-operation between the two countries. These talks have furthered our mutual understanding and friendship and yielded good results. Prime Minister Nouira's successful visit to China has made an important contribution to the promotion of friendly relations and co-operation between the two countries.

Vice-Premier Chang reiterated: We consistently maintain that countries, big or small, should all be equal. The Five Principles of Peaceful Co-existence should be the established norms governing relations between nations. We firmly oppose big countries bullying small ones, strong countries oppressing weak ones and rich countries plundering poor ones, we firmly oppose any foreign power carrying out aggression, subversion, and interference against and exercising control over other countries.

The distinguished Tunisian guests visited Shanghai, Nanking, Kwangchow and other places while in China.

Vice-Premier Li Hsien-nien Visits Iran

Vice-Premier Li Hsien-nien arrived in Iran on April 5 for an official visit at the invitation of Iranian Prime Minister Hoveyda.
His Imperial Majesty the Shahanshah of Iran Mohammad Reza Pahlavi and Prime Minister Hoveyda gave banquets on separate occasions in honour of Vice-Premier Li and his party after their arrival.

Speaking at the banquet, Prime Minister Hoveyda said: The numerous exchange visits by Chinese and Iranian personalities since the establishment of diplomatic relations between Teheran and Peking were aimed at the consolidation of the two nations' ties. Our trade and air transport agreements and cultural exchange programme provide instances of our two governments' desire to strengthen and deepen friendly relations between Iran and China.

"Iran's independent national policy, as enunciated by our August Sovereign, and China's policy based on the Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence, provide our two countries with extensive horizons for cooperation and mutual assistance. They enable us also to contribute to the preservation of peace in Asia and throughout the world," he added.

"Let me in conclusion express my sincere hope for the consolidation of friendship and co-operation between Iran and China," the Prime Minister stressed.

In his speech, Vice-Premier Li Hsien-nien said: "The Chinese people have always admired the industrious and valiant Iranian people. This is not only because you created the splendid Persian culture in ancient times, but because over the past century the Iranian people waged a staunch and unyielding struggle against aggression and plunder by imperialist powers. At present, under the leadership of his Imperial Majesty the Shahanshah, the Iranian people have persevered in defending state sovereignty and national independence and made effective efforts to build Iran into a prosperous country, and they have achieved gratifying successes. In international affairs, Iran has actively strengthened its unity and co-operation with other third world countries and firmly opposed the power politics and expansionism of the big powers, thus making a useful contribution to the struggle of all peoples against imperialism, colonialism and hegemonism."

"Both our countries suffered colonialist and imperialist aggression and oppression. Having experienced untold national sufferings, we cherish all the more dearly the independence and sovereignty we won through long struggles, and will not tolerate any foreign encroachment. Both of us would like to have a secure and peaceful international environment in which to build our respective countries. However, 'the trees may prefer calm but the wind will not subside.' Events develop independently of man's good wish. We have to note that certain big powers have not given up, and will never give up, their hegemonic and expansionist policy.

"They talk volubly about 'peace' and 'security,' but are actually making active preparations for war; they talk about 'friendship' and 'co-operation,' but in reality are carrying out aggression and subversion everywhere. Here lies the source of intranquillity in the world. Of course, we should also point out that the factors for both war and revolution are increasing.

"The Persian Gulf and the Indian Ocean are an important area contended for by the superpowers. Their ever more intense rivalry, sometimes at swords' points, gravely threatens peace and security in this area. Their perverse evil-doing has aroused and will continue to arouse strong opposition and condemnation by the people of this area and the whole world. His Imperial Majesty the Shahanshah has stated that the security of the Persian Gulf is a matter of the Persian Gulf countries, and your country has demanded the withdrawal of big-power presence from this area and called for the establishment of a 'nuclear-weapon-free zone in the Middle East' and an 'Indian Ocean zone of peace.' We appreciate and support these propositions and demands which we believe are in conformity with the desires of the people of this area and the whole world."

"Recently, the leaders of Iran and Iraq have, through consultations on the basis of equality, reached agreement and satisfactorily settled the dispute between them—a dispute left over from history. This is a very good thing, and we wish to extend our heartfelt congratulations to both parties. Facts have proved once again that there is no conflict of fundamental interests between third world countries. They can very well resolve differences between them through consultations so long as they keep out foreign interference and act in a spirit of mutual understanding and mutual accommodation. Your approach is not only in the interests of your two peoples but is also conducive to peace and security in this region."

He added: "China is a developing socialist country belonging to the third world. "In order to do a better job of our socialist construction," he said, "we will make sustained and arduous efforts on the basis of independence and self-reliance. The Chinese people are resolutely carrying out the general policy of 'dig tunnels deep, store grain everywhere, and never seek hegemony,' a policy personally formulated by Chairman Mao Tsetung. We dig tunnels for the purpose of defence; we store grain to get prepared against war and natural calamities; and we will never seek hegemony, that is to say, we will never be a superpower but will always stand on the side of the third world and the oppressed peoples and oppressed nations.'"

He said: "Since the establishment of diplomatic relations in 1971, the friendly relations between our two countries have developed rapidly. Especially since the visit to China in 1972 by Her Imperial Majesty the Shaibanou and His Excellency the Prime Minister, there have been increasingly frequent contacts between our two countries, and our mutual understanding has been continuously enhanced. Concluding his speech, the Vice-Premier ex-

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pressed the conviction that “with our concerted efforts, the friendly relations and co-operation between China and Iran will have broader and finer prospects.”

Vice-Premier Chen Yung-kuei Returns Home

After a week-long Mexican visit, Vice-Premier of the State Council Chen Yung-kuei returned to Peking on April 8.

On the eve of leaving that country, Vice-Premier Chen Yung-kuei gave a return banquet. Mexican President and Mrs. Luis Echeverria and high-ranking Mexican officials attended.

The Vice-Premier made a speech at the banquet. He said: “We have learnt many valuable experiences from the diligent and valiant Mexican people. Your militancy in staunchly defending state sovereignty and independence and in protecting national resources, your many-sided achievements in developing national economy, especially the important achievements in cultivating better seed strains, developing irrigation systems and promoting food production, have made a deep impression on us. Through the visit we also have seen that the United States of Mexico has an immense potentiality in developing its national economy independently. We are fully convinced that Mexico’s industry and agriculture, as well as its national economy, will surely attain a higher level of development so long as it relies on the force and wisdom of the people, fully uses the nation’s resources and makes unremitting efforts according to its own characteristics and conditions.”

He said: “Through the visit, we have further realized that China and Mexico have many points in common, although their social systems are different. We have a lot of things to do in developing friendly co-operation between the two countries, especially in the exchange of agricultural sciences and technologies. We are deeply convinced that in our future common struggle to defend national independence and sovereignty, develop the national economy and culture and oppose imperialism, colonialism and hegemonism, the traditional friendship between our two peoples and the relations of friendly co-operation between our two countries will surely be further consolidated and will develop.”

President Echeverría said in his speech that relations between Mexico and China have become closer daily and the two peoples have rapidly and profoundly known each other in recent years. “As Mexico is determined to maintain friendly relations with all the peoples of the world, we have discovered essential aspects of identity with China.”

He stressed that the relations between the two countries are “affectionate people to people relations.” The Vice-Premier’s visit has further strengthened these relations, he said.

He asked the Chinese Vice-Premier to convey the greetings of the Mexican people and his personal regards to Chairman Mao Tse-tung.

During their stay in Mexico, Vice-Premier Chen Yung-kuei and his party visited some agricultural and pasturage areas, water conservancy and irrigation projects and famous Mexican ancient historical sites. Wherever they went, they were given a warm welcome by the local authorities and people.

Delegation of the Organization Of the Communists of Italy (M-L)

Ni Chih-fu, Alternate Member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China, met and had a cordial and friendly conversation on April 2 with the Delegation of the Organization of the Communists of Italy (Marxist-Leninist). The delegation was led by the Organization’s National Secretary Osvaldo Pesce.

After the meeting, Comrade Ni Chih-fu gave a dinner in honour of the comrades on the delegation, Kang Piao and Feng Hsuan, Members of the C.P.C. Central Committee and Head and Deputy Head of the International Liaison Department of the C.P.C. Central Committee, and leading members of the departments concerned were present at the meeting and banquet.

The delegation arrived in Peking on March 18.

U.S. Unreasonably Cancels Chinese Performing Arts Troupe’s Tour

The National Committee on United States-China Relations announced on March 27 the indefinite postponement of the tour of the Chinese Performing Arts Troupe in the United States. A spokesman of the U.S. State Department also made a statement to the press on this matter.

A Hsinhua reporter interviewed the Chinese People’s Association for Friendship With Foreign Countries and the spokesman of the Information Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs on this matter. This is what they said:

According to the plan agreed upon by the Chinese and American sides, the Chinese People’s Association for Friendship With Foreign Countries was to send a performing arts troupe on a tour of the United States, which was to be hosted by the National Committee on United States-China Relations. In the spirit of promoting understanding and friendship between the Chinese and American peoples, the Chinese troupe made active preparations for this friendship tour. It supplied the U.S. host organization with its programme, supplementary list and stage photos successively and scheduled its departure for the United States for March 29. The American people, too, were looking forward to this performance tour. But, shortly before the scheduled departure, the U.S. State Department unreasonably demanded that the Chinese side remove from the troupe’s supplementary list a song entitled People of Taiwan, Our Own Brothers. It asserted that inclusion

(Continued on p. 21.)
Vice-Premier Chang Chun-chiao's Speech
(Excerpts)

Today, it is a great pleasure and honour for us to receive Prime Minister Nouira and the other distinguished Tunisian guests in Peking. I am entrusted by Premier Chou En-lai to host this evening's banquet. First of all, allow me, on behalf of the Chinese Government and people, to express our warm welcome to His Excellency Prime Minister Nouira and Madame Nouira and the other distinguished Tunisian guests.

Tunisia is a Mediterranean country with a long history. Colonialism and imperialism once brutally ravaged and plundered this rich and beautiful land, but they all met with defeat. The Tunisian people have a glorious tradition of combating imperialism and colonialism. They waged a protracted and dauntless struggle and finally won independence. Under the leadership of His Excellency President Habib Bourguiba, the Tunisian Government and people have since made unremitting efforts and achieved gratifying successes in safeguarding national independence and state sovereignty, developing the national economy and building their country. In international affairs, the Tunisian Government has pursued a policy of non-alignment, opposed superpower contention for world hegemony, firmly supported the Palestinian and other Arab peoples in their just struggle against Israeli Zionist aggression and supported the African national-liberation movements, thus making a useful contribution to the Arab and third world countries' cause of unity against imperialism and hegemonism. We heartily rejoice at the successes achieved by the Tunisian people in all fields and wish them continuous new victories on their road of advance.

At present, the world situation is developing in a direction more and more favourable to the dynamic and militant third world countries and the people of the whole world, and unfavourable to the superpowers which are contending with each other for world hegemony. A revolutionary struggle against colonialism, imperialism and hegemonism, like a storm, is sweeping across Africa, Asia, and Latin America and the rest of the world. Countries want independence, nations want liberation, and the people want revolution — this historical torrent is surging ahead irresistibly.

Our distinguished guests come from north Africa, the southern coast of the Mediterranean and from the great Arab world. There, on the one hand, the people's anti-imperialist and anti-hegemonic struggle is developing in depth, and on the other hand, the superpowers are engaged in endless and intense rivalry. Every day the superpowers talk about “detente” and clamour for a settlement of the Middle East question, but actually each is doing its utmost to overpower the other, intensifying the contention and preparing for war. Each, for its own purpose of seizing oil and strategically important positions, is trying hard to restore the former state of “no war, no peace” in the Middle East. The superpower that claims to be the “natural ally” of the Arab countries and the third world, with honeyed words on its lips but murder in its heart, is especially insidious. It goes even farther than the other superpower in bullying and plotting against others.

However, the heroic people of the Arab countries and Palestine are not to be bullied. Superpower aggression and contention will only stimulate the people to closer unity and arouse them to stronger resistance and struggle. We are convinced that nothing can stop the triumphant advance of the people of the Arab countries and Palestine with their long tradition of anti-imperialist struggle — no matter what tricks the superpowers may play and no matter what may happen. While the way ahead in their struggle is tortuous, they have a bright future. Victory will surely belong to the Arab and Palestinian peoples who persevere in their just struggle. The Chinese Government and people firmly support them in their struggle to recover lost territories and regain national rights, and firmly support the third world and the people of the whole world in all their just struggles against superpower aggression, subversion, control, interference and bullying of other countries.

China and Tunisia, though separated by numerous mountains and waters, are both developing countries belonging to the third world. Our two countries had a similar historical lot in the past and are today linked by the common struggle against imperialism, colonialism and hegemonism. Premier Chou En-lai's visit to the Republic of Tunisia in 1964 opened a new page in the annals of the friendly relations between China and Tunisia. In recent years the friendly relations and co-operation between our two countries have developed steadily and satisfactorily. We believe that His Excellency Prime Minister Nouira's current visit will surely make a new contribution to deepening our mutual understanding and trust, enhancing the friendship between our two peoples and developing the friendly relations and co-operation between our two countries. I wish complete success to the visit of our distinguished guests.
Prime Minister Nouira's Speech
(Excerpts)

WITH my gratitude, I would like to express to you the pleasure and honour I feel in visiting today this great friendly country, the People's Republic of China, meeting with her distinguished leaders and being thus able to have a close observation of the noble qualities of her valiant people.

This visit will permit our delegation to see the tangible results of the efforts made by the great Chinese people during a quarter of a century to build a modern state and appreciate the considerable successes they have achieved under the dynamic inspiration and wise guidance of Chairman Mao Tsetung whose name is identified with China.

The emergence of the People's Republic of China on the international scene was a historic event of considerable significance after World War II. By her revolutionary action China today commands the admiration of the world to whom she presents an experience which is highly educative.

Despite the evident differences from a geo-political viewpoint, Tunisia and China have many common points. Each of our two peoples have a very long history. They strike their roots in the old and famed civilizations whose contribution to all mankind is undeniable. They have fought ceaselessly to defend or recover their independence. Today again, we share preoccupations that essentially stem from the same approach.

In fact, we both consider that a true revolution is one that attacks retrogressive mentalities so as to transform them, one that succeeds in forging and preserving national unity, and finally one that strives to achieve an economic and social development adapted to the specific character of each people.

In a word, a true revolution is one that is devoted to human progress in all domains and that makes human progress the supreme and final object of its action.

Under the wise leadership of her President, Tunisia has been engaged for 40 years in an uninterrupted struggle to restore dignity to the Tunisian people while accomplishing their political, economic, social and cultural progress.

Our concept of development proceeds from our faith in man who remains for us the privileged instrument and the ultimate aim of our action.

The task which we have undertaken and in which the entire Tunisian people are resolutely engaged has been defined by President Bourguiba in these terms:

“Our task is to bring people closer, to make the greatest possible justice reign among them and thus to encourage the increase of production and the elevation of the level of intellectual and moral life of everybody.”

Starting twenty-odd years ago with modest means, Tunisia is on her way to make up for a lag accumulated over the centuries. Having succeeded in founding a state adapted to her epoch, she is marching with determination towards a better society.

Appreciating the proper value of the fundamental teaching of Chairman Mao Tsetung who says that every people should "rely on their own efforts," Tunisia is progressively realizing her objectives of economic and social development thanks to her own effort and to the fruitful co-operation she has carried on with friendly countries.

The contribution of the People's Republic of China to our development effort merits to be mentioned here. In this regard, I express satisfaction at the progress made by our two countries in organizing our exchanges and co-operation while expressing the wish to see them develop ceaselessly for the benefit of our two peoples.

The unremitting attention we pay to our development does not leave us indifferent to the problems that agitate our world.

Alas, an examination of the international situation does not warrant optimism.

In spite of the consolidation of a certain detente and the efforts aimed at eliminating the sources of tension, the conditions for a true and global peace remain precarious.

It is indeed to be noted that the benefits of this detente are limited to the developed regions while the other regions remain exposed to insecurity and to the law of might.

Genuine detente cannot put up with the transfer of sources of tension from one region to another.

Conflicts of a colonial character continue to defy international conscience and menace the foundations of our civilization.

In the Middle East, an entire people deprived of their homeland are reduced to distress by the fault of Israel which still persists in ignoring the national rights of the Palestinian people and refuses to recognize their legitimate representatives.

Israel is thus intentionally opposed to the implementation of U.N. resolutions and obstinately refuses to conform to international legality which alone, however, will permit the reaching in time of a just and durable settlement in the Middle East.

Such an attitude can only perpetuate tensions and inevitably provoke confrontations apt to threaten peace in that region and in the world. For the determination of the Palestinians to regain their rights and of the Arab countries to recover their occupied territories is unshakable.

In this just and legitimate struggle, Tunisia, on her part, spares no effort to support the Palestinian people, who are victims of the greatest injustice of our century, and the Arab countries, who are victims of aggression by the Zionist state.
In Africa, there still persist colonialist and racist ventures of another age.

In the economic field, the international situation is characterized by a re-examination of traditional concepts and ideas concerning the relations between nations, the redivision of wealth and the exercise of economic power. The profound causes of this crisis lie in the foundation of the economic and monetary system established after World War II. For 20 years we were passive witnesses to the deterioration of the prices of our raw materials and an excessive increase of the prices of manufactured goods. The third world has become aware of this and today calls for a just price for its natural resources.

It is our wish that in this difficult juncture the notion of solidarity will replace egoistic attitudes and that, in the framework of a harmonious development of the international society, domination and confrontation will give place to relations of co-operation in equality.

The conditions for the advent of an era of prosperity for all can only be met by the establishment of a climate of genuine peace based on equity and mutual respect.

I am pleased to stress here the eminent role the People’s Republic of China plays in maintaining and consolidating peace and also in promoting a sincere and fruitful co-operation between nations.

Socialism Is the Class Dictatorship of The Proletariat

by Po Ching

REVOLUTIONARY storms swept the continent of Europe in the late forties of the last century. The proletariat militantly began taking the stage of history. In June 1848, the Paris proletariat staged an uprising, a great fight between the two major opposing classes—the proletariat and the bourgeoisie. In The Class Struggles in France, 1848-1850, Marx summed up the revolutionary experience of that period and elaborated the theory of the dictatorship of the proletariat. He pointed out explicitly: “This Socialism is the declaration of the permanence of the revolution, the class dictatorship of the proletariat as the necessary transit point to the abolition of class distinctions generally, to the abolition of all the relations of production on which they rest, to the abolition of all the social relations that correspond to these relations of production, to the revolutionizing of all the ideas that result from these social relations.” This wise conclusion of Marx is a scientific, profound exposition of the indispensability and the great historical tasks of the dictatorship of the proletariat.

Historical Inevitability of the Dictatorship Of the Proletariat

The theory of the dictatorship of the proletariat is the core of scientific socialism and the quintessence of Marxism. Marx’s exposition that socialism is the class dictatorship of the proletariat not only thoroughly exposed the reactionary essence of bourgeois and petty-bourgeois socialism of various types at that time and distinguished scientific socialism from all pseudo-socialism, but also provided the touchstone for us to differentiate Marxism from revisionism. The history of the struggle between the two lines in the international communist movement over the past century and in our Party over the last 50 years testifies to the absolute correctness of this conclusion by Marx. From Bernstein and Kautsky of the Second International to the Soviet revisionist renegade clique of the present era and from Chen Tu-hsiu, Wang Ming and Liu Shao-chi to Lin Piao, all were traitors to the dictatorship of the proletariat. For all their efforts in waving the banner of socialism, their “socialism” which opposes the dictatorship of the proletariat actually is revisionism or capitalism. Chairman Mao recently taught us: “Why did Lenin speak of exercising dictatorship over the bourgeoisie? It is essential to get this question clear. Lack of clarity on this question will lead to revisionism. This should be made known to the whole nation.” Without the dictatorship of the proletariat, there will be no socialism, and treason to the dictatorship of the proletariat is treason to socialism. To consciously adhere to the socialist orientation, we must uphold the proletarian dictatorship throughout the historical period of socialism.

In his wise conclusion, Marx expounded in a scientific way the historical inevitability of the dictatorship of the proletariat and pointed out that this dictatorship is “the necessary transit point” to the abolition of class distinctions generally, thereby revealing in a profound way the universal law governing the transition of human society from capitalism to communism.

The dictatorship of the proletariat is “the necessary transit point,” that is to say, it is the only road leading to communism, a historical progression that is independent of man’s will. Socialist society is born out of capitalist society and is thus in every respect,
economically, morally and intellectually, still stamped with the birth marks of capitalism. Throughout the historical period of socialism, there are still classes, class contradictions and class struggle. Not only do the overthrown exploiting classes always dream of a restoration, but there is the soil in socialist society which gives rise to capitalism and the bourgeoisie. Apart from being engendered among the small producers, capitalism and the bourgeoisie "are also engendered among a part of the working class and of the Party membership. Both within the ranks of the proletariat and among the personnel of state and other organs there are people who take to the bourgeois style of life." The objective reality and the long-term nature of class struggle in the historical period of socialism determine that the dictatorship of the proletariat is inevitable and indispensable.

**Historical Tasks of the Proletarian Dictatorship**

This conclusion by Marx not only pointed out explicitly that the proletarian dictatorship was "the necessary transit point" from capitalism to communism, but defined its great historical tasks in the political, economic and ideological fields.

The proletarian revolution's ultimate aim is "the abolition of class distinctions generally" and the building of communism. Abolition of classes is realized through fierce class struggles. Therefore, the proletariat must stick to socialist revolution on the political front, i.e., it must wield its political power to suppress the reactionary classes within the country, suppress those who resist socialist revolution and those who are hostile to and try to undermine socialist construction, suppress all traitorous and counter-revolutionary activities, and protect the country from subversion and possible aggression by external enemies.

To abolish class distinctions generally, it is necessary to abolish "all the relations of production on which they [class distinctions] rest" and carry out socialist revolution on the economic front. After seizing political power, the proletariat not only should eliminate capitalist ownership, but should carry out the more strenuous task of socialist transformation of the individual small producers. After the founding of the People's Republic of China, we completed in the main the socialist transformation of agriculture, handicrafts, capitalist industry and commerce in 1956. However, the struggle between socialism and capitalism in the economic field did not end with the basic victory of socialist transformation of the ownership of means of production. Chairman Mao has pointed out: "In a word, China is a socialist country. Before liberation she was much the same as a capitalist country. Even now she practises an eight-grade wage system, distribution according to work and exchange through money, and in all this differs very little from the old society. What is different is that the system of ownership has been changed." We must pay full attention to solving problems arising in every aspect of the relations of production, ceaselessly solve the contradictions between the relations of production and the productive forces, criticize capitalist tendencies, uphold the socialist orientation and carry the socialist revolution on the economic front through to the end.

This conclusion by Marx also stressed "the abolition of all the social relations that correspond to these relations of production." All the social relations refer to the relations in the economic, political, ideological and cultural fields. The private ownership of the bourgeoisie is the basic content of the capitalist relations of production. In capitalist society, all social relations correspond to these relations of production. To abolish classes in a real sense, the proletariat not only should overthrow the exploiters—landlords and capitalists—expropriate their ownership and abolish all private ownership of the means of production, but should abolish bourgeois right, eliminate the three major differences (namely, differences between workers and peasants, between city and countryside and between manual and mental labour) and abolish all the social relations corresponding to the capitalist relations of production. Of course, this will take a considerably long period. In this period, the attitude towards bourgeois right—whether to restrict, diminish and finally eliminate it or to foster, enlarge and develop it—reflects two diametrically opposed lines. The fact that the first socialist country, the Soviet Union, has degenerated into a social-imperialist country gives us an important lesson by negative example. Liu Shao-chi and Lin Piao also tried their utmost to enlarge the three major differences and bourgeois right as a means of subverting the proletarian dictatorship and restoring capitalism. As to bourgeois rights, Chairman Mao pointed out that under the dictatorship of the proletariat such things can only be restricted. Otherwise, if people like Lin Piao come to power, it will be quite easy for them to rig up the capitalist system. Chairman Mao's thinking on restricting bourgeois right is of vital importance in guiding the struggle of combating and preventing revisionism.

Marx paid great attention to the revolution in the superstructure, including the ideological sphere. He set forth the revolutionizing of all the ideas that result from the old relations of production as one of the important historical tasks of the dictatorship of the proletariat.

Revolution in the economic base and revolution in the superstructure are interrelated and they interact on each other. Following the setting up of the socialist economic base, the old superstructure should be changed accordingly. In the absence of socialist revolution in the superstructure including the ideological sphere, the socialist economic base cannot be consolidated and developed. Lenin pointed out: "We must overcome resistance from the capitalists in all its forms, not only in the military and the political spheres, but also ideological resistance, which is the most deep-seated and the strongest." Therefore, during the period of socialism, the proletariat must occupy ideological and cultural fields such as philosophy, history, education,
literature, art and law with Marxism, and exercise all-round dictatorship over the bourgeoisie in the superstructure, including all spheres of culture. Chairman Mao has always attached great importance to grasping class struggle in the ideological sphere. He has led the entire Party and the people of the whole country to wage one revolution after another on the ideological front, which has consolidated the proletarian dictatorship and greatly accelerated socialist revolution and construction.

What Marx said about “the revolutionizing of all the ideas that result from these social relations” also refers to the ideological remoulding of the revolutionary people. Class struggle in society inevitably is reflected in people’s minds. Though the exploiting classes have been overthrown, they are not yet thoroughly eliminated, and their reactionary ideology still decays and poisons the people’s minds. While transforming the objective world, the proletariat and revolutionary people must pay serious attention to transforming their own subjective world, conscientiously study Marxism-Leninism-Mao Tsetung Thought, thoroughly understand the theory of the dictatorship of the proletariat, guard against the influence and corrosion of bourgeois ideology and the bourgeois style of life and make the most radical rupture with traditional ideas.

Socialism Is the Declaration of the Permanence of the Revolution

Marx said: “Socialism is the declaration of the permanence of the revolution.” This very important and brilliant thinking concentrates the proletarian spirit of making thoroughgoing revolution. Chairman Mao’s theory of continued revolution under the dictatorship of the proletariat is an important development of the Marxist-Leninist theory of the dictatorship of the proletariat. The proletarian dictatorship is, in fact, a process in which the proletariat carries on its attack on the bourgeoisie and all other exploiting classes in every sphere, a process in which socialist revolution continues in breadth and depth. In the entire historical period of socialism, there are still struggles between progress and retrogression, innovation and conservatism, restoration and counter-restoration. The dictatorship of the proletariat can only be consolidated by continuing the revolution. Contradictions in socialist society can be resolved only by depending on the theory of continued revolution under the dictatorship of the proletariat and on practice under its guidance. Just as Lenin pointed out: “Our ‘guarantee against restoration’ was the complete fulfilment of the revolution.” The deeper the socialist revolution goes and the deeper the old base is dug up, the more difficult it is for the old system to be restored. The Great Proletarian Cultural Revolution and the movement to criticize Lin Piao and Confucius initiated and led by Chairman Mao provide new experience in continuing the revolution under the dictatorship of the proletariat. Chairman Mao’s latest important instruction on the question of is that of great practical and far-reaching historical significance for consolidating the dictatorship of the proletariat, preventing capitalist restoration, upholding the Party’s basic line and keeping to continued revolution under the dictatorship of the proletariat. By studying this important instruction, the Chinese people are sure to enhance their consciousness in continuing the revolution under the dictatorship of the proletariat and carry the socialist revolution through to the end.

Cadres Taking Part in Collective Productive Labour

by the Huihsien County Committee of the Communist Party of China

HUIHSIEN County in Honan Province was a poor place with barren mountains, scarce water and thin top soil. There have been big changes in the county since liberation, especially since the start of the Great Cultural Revolution. Per-hectare yield of grain in 1973 went up 2.5-fold compared with 1965, the year before the Cultural Revolution began. Last year witnessed the conquest of a big drought unseen in decades and collective grain reserves were 21 times that prior to the Great Cultural Revolution. Commune members’ living standards have been steadily improving year after year.

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Why is it possible that our county has achieved such great changes in the last few years? According to our understanding, the fundamental reason is that the Great Proletarian Cultural Revolution and the movement to criticize Lin Piao and Confucius have done away with the interference of the counter-revolutionary revisionist line of Liu Shao-chi and Lin Piao, and Chairman Mao’s proletarian revolutionary line has been better implemented. This is the fundamental reason for the growth of production and other changes. Guided by Chairman Mao’s revolutionary line, cadres in our county have persistently carried out the system
of taking part in collective productive labour and engaged in investigation and study. This has helped forge still closer ties between cadres and the masses and enabled the leadership to grasp the actual conditions in the county. All this has played an important part in fully mobilizing the masses' enthusiasm for socialism.

A Major Measure of Fundamental Importance

Chairman Mao has taught us: "It is necessary to maintain the system of cadre participation in collective productive labour. The cadres of our Party and state are ordinary workers and not overlords sitting on the backs of the people. By taking part in collective productive labour, the cadres maintain extensive, constant and close ties with the working people. This is a major measure of fundamental importance for a socialist system; it helps to overcome bureaucracy and to prevent revisionism and dogmatism." (Quoted in On Khrushchev's Phoney Communism and Its Historical Lessons for the World.) Through practice in the last few years, we have obtained a better understanding of this point. The Party's line is implemented through cadres and whether they regularly take part in collective productive labour or not has a close bearing on their correctly carrying out the Party's basic line or not.

Before the start of the Great Proletarian Cultural Revolution, the county Party committee had drawn up plans to change the county's appearance. But they could not be put into effect, primarily due to interference by Liu Shao-chi's revisionist line. Liu Shao-chi and his gang did their utmost to preach "those who work with their minds govern, those who work with their hands are governed," a doctrine of Confucius and Mencius. The result was some cadres sat on high without going deep among the masses, feared hardship and did not take part in labour. So how could the face of the county be changed?

With the help of the masses after the Great Cultural Revolution began, the cadres criticized the revisionist line and the traditional exploiting-class idea of looking down on labour, raised their consciousness of the two-line struggle and went to the forefront of the three great revolutionary movements — class struggle, the struggle for production and scientific experiment. This has made relations between cadres and masses still closer, brought into play the masses' socialist enthusiasm and turned the county's situation in revolution and production all to the better.

Educated by both positive and negative experience, we have come to realize that whether cadres persevere in doing collective productive labour or not is really an important aspect in the struggle between Chairman Mao's revolutionary line and the revisionist line. It is also a major question concerning whether cadres persevere in continuing the revolution under the dictatorship of the proletariat. In sabotaging the system of cadre participation in collective productive labour and slandering cadres taking part in labour as "reform through forced labour in a disguised form," Liu Shao-chi, Lin Piao and their like wanted to corrupt our cadres with revisionist ideas and tried to subvert the dictatorship of the proletariat and restore capitalism.

Cadres persevering in taking part in collective productive labour is a profound revolution. It cannot be plain sailing because sharp struggles between the proletarian and bourgeois ideas exist. We have come to know through practice that if cadres are divorced from labour for a long time, they will have no common practice or common feeling and language with the working people, lose the qualities of the working people, deteriorate step by step and slide on to the wayward road of revisionism.

Therefore, our county Party committee has over the last few years consistently criticized the revisionist line of Liu Shao-chi and Lin Piao and the doctrines of Confucius and Mencius and set up a system for cadre participation in collective productive labour. Secretaries of the county Party committee and other leading cadres have often gone to the grass-roots level and taken part in physical labour wherever they stay. Annually in the last six years, the first secretary of the committee averaged 110 days of work in collective production, members of the standing committee of the county Party committee 96, commune cadres 175 and brigade cadres 265 days.

Better Implementation of Party's Basic Line

Participation in collective productive labour helps the cadres better grasp the key link of class struggle and the two-line struggle, implement the Party's basic line and promote the vigorous and fast growth of agriculture. Though we knew that there is class struggle in the period of socialism and expressed the desire to grasp it, we were not very clear about the concrete manifestations of class struggle in the rural areas. Some brigades in the county lagged behind and for a long time production had failed to go up.

Later we made up our minds to go to one such brigade. The first thing we did was to take part in collective productive labour, make extensive contacts with the poor and lower-middle peasants in the fields, barns and other places and get better acquainted with the situation there. Our investigations and study revealed that the basic reason for the backwardness there was the corruption of its principal cadre by the class enemy. Capitalist tendencies on behalf of private interests were rampant in the brigade and collective production and construction had been seriously affected.

In view of this situation, we made a big effort to educate the masses in the Party's basic line, mobilize
China's System of Cadre Participation in Collective Productive Labour

The movement to criticize Lin Piao and Confucius is continuously deepening and the movement to study the theory of the dictatorship of the proletariat is surging ahead. This has aroused the revolutionary enthusiasm of the masses of cadres. Inspired by the examples set by a great many leading cadres in the central organs as well as in provincial, municipal and autonomous regional organs, the cadres in cities and rural areas are paying more attention to participating in collective productive labour. Recently they are going to industrial enterprises, transport units, construction sites, state farms and people's communes to take part in physical labour together with the workers and peasants. They are doing this to narrow the differences between manual and mental labour, overcome bureaucracy, prevent revisionism and better implement the principle of grasping revolutionary production and promoting production.

In socialist China, the Chinese Communist Party has long maintained a system of regular participation in collective productive labour by leading cadres. This applies to all levels of the Party, government organizations, army units, enterprises, cultural and educational institutions and rural people's communes.

Cadres of the Communist Party of China have always upheld the fine tradition of keeping close ties with the labouring people. As early as in the late 1920s, when Chairman Mao led the Chinese Workers' and Peasants' Red Army in setting up the first revolutionary base area in the Chingkang Mountains in east China, cadres of the Party and Red Army already joined the people in productive labour as a matter of principle.

Chairman Mao issued the great call for "Ample food and clothing by working with our own hands" during the period of the War of Resistance Against Japan (1937-45) in order to smash the blockade of the Liberated Areas imposed by the Japanese aggressors and the Kuomintang reactionaries. Armymen and civilians were mobilized to launch a great production campaign. Chairman Mao and other Party leaders then in Yanan often took part in productive labour, setting a brilliant example for all the cadres.

After the founding of the People's Republic of China, the system of cadre participation in physical labour was defined more specifically. In 1958 during the building of the Ming Tombs Reservoir on the outskirts of Peking, Chairman Mao, Premier Chou and other leading comrades of the Central Committee of the Party went to the construction site and joined the masses in their work. This greatly encouraged on-the-site cadres and reservoir-builders.

During the Great Proletarian Cultural Revolution, Chairman Mao issued the important directive: "Going down to do manual labour gives vast numbers of cadres an excellent opportunity to study once again: this should be done by all cadres except those who are old, weak, ill or disabled. Cadres at their posts should also go down in turn to do manual labour." This great call met with enthusiastic response from all departments and organizations and led to the setting up of large numbers of "May 7" cadre schools in the rural areas. Cadres, veteran and young, go to these schools in turn to take part in productive labour while studying works by Marx, Engels, Lenin and Stalin and by Chairman Mao. These schools are very good institutions for training proletarian cadres. Participation in farm work and the many different contacts with poor and lower-middle peasants strengthen the proletarian thinking and feelings of the cadres and keep alive their revolutionary vigour.

In addition to "May 7" cadre schools, government organizations, factories, mines and other departments have avenues of their own for cadre participation in productive labour. Leading cadres at factory level generally spend one day a week in production together with workers, while workshop directors often engage in production alongside the rank and file. Cadres in government organizations and schools go to do a certain amount of physical labour every year.

Rural cadres work most of their time in the fields with the peasants. For example, in Haiyang County, Shansi Province, where the country's agricultural pace-setter, the Tachai Brigade, is located, cadres there at the county level average 100 days a year of farm work; at the commune level, 200; at the brigade level, 300 days. Production team leaders throughout the rural areas work with commune members the year round.

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them to deal blows to a handful of class enemies who had sparked the capitalist tendencies, and save the cadre who had made mistakes. This quickly put a stop to the evil winds of capitalism and further enhanced the enthusiasm of cadres and commune members. In three years the brigade built three water-storing ponds and 8,000 metres of stone-lined channels, bringing practically all its land under irrigation. Grain output rose nearly eightfold in that period.

The county Party committee popularized the experience gained from this brigade and the county's more than 60 relatively backward brigades also succes-
struggle, educate the masses in socialist thinking with clear aims and break down old traditional ideas. This is also quite important for promoting farm production.

Discovering the Masses' Socialist Enthusiasm

Cadre participation in collective productive labour helps us discover, in essence, the masses' enthusiasm for socialism, concentrate their wisdom and rely on their strength to transform nature. In the past, whenever we wanted to transform hills and build up land, some cadres always cited the unfavourable conditions and difficulties. Years passed without anything done and we continued to worry about the barren mountains and untamed rivers. Then we took part in labour in a commune and made wide contacts with the poor and lower-middle peasants there. We learnt that they not only urgently wanted to build up the land but believed they could do it by relying on the collective strength of the people's commune. This helped clear our minds and we knew that we had to bring into play our revolutionary spirit and lead the masses in vigorously building various projects.

County and commune cadres led the masses to plunge into construction work for two winter-spring periods and build 200 hectares of fertile farmland in a rock-strewn gully. We then led a contingent of 10,000 peasants to a stone-packed river bank and built nearly 700 hectares of flat fertile land, with one-metre-deep loose top soil.

Facts taught us that the "difficulties" we had emphasized before came from our lack of correct appraisal of the masses who have inexhaustible wisdom and strength, and once their initiative and creativeness are developed they can do things which were inconceivable in the past and perform every kind of miracle.

Deep-Going Investigations and Study

By participating in collective productive labour, the cadres can carry out deep-going investigations and study, gradually master the laws of nature and get hold of the initiative in leading the masses to conquer nature. Although the majority of our comrades on the county Party committee were born and bred in Huishien, we did not really know it. Some said: "Huishien has too many mountains and poor conditions to start with. It is impossible to try to make big and rapid changes." How, after all, can the county make big, rapid and thorough changes?

Chairman Mao has said: "You can’t solve a problem? Well, get down and investigate the present facts and its past history! When you have investigated the problem thoroughly, you will know how to solve it." (Oppose Book Worship.) Since the start of the Great Cultural Revolution, we have carried out four extensive investigations. With bed-rolls and work tools we climbed mountains, went across dangerous paths, called on people during our spare time in farm
work, examined the topography and traced water sources. We went to all the county’s mountains and rivers, visited more than 90 per cent of the brigades and solicited the opinions of the poor and lower-middle peasants on a wide scale. The large amount of first-hand material we collected helped us gradually get a fairly overall picture of the county’s physical features.

We saw only the difficulties posed by the barren mountains and untamed river in the past, but failed to see the possibility of transforming these conditions. Now we know the advantages of mountainous areas. There are ravines for building reservoirs, rocks for building irrigation channels, raw material for making cement and ample space for creating land by removing mountain-tops. Based on investigations and study, we worked out a plan to transform the mountains and rivers and are confident of fulfilling it.

We profoundly understand that, in leading socialist agricultural production, we should not limit our activities to minor remedies as in the case of the small-peasant economy, but should set high goals and draw up a positive and reliable plan for permanently transforming the natural features. To do this and lead the masses to fulfill it step by step, leading cadres at all levels must persevere in the system of taking part in collective productive labour, consistently go deep among the masses, earnestly conduct investigations and study, acquire a correct knowledge of society and nature, and be adept at concentrating the masses’ opinions so as to give correct guidance.

Huihsien County in Honan Province

HUIHSIEN County is at the foot of the Taihang Mountains in the northern part of Honan Province in central-south China. To its north lies Linhsien, a county known for its Red Flag Canal which was built on cliffs. The central plain region in which Huihsien is situated was the cradle of Chinese civilization. Not far from the county to the northeast is Anyang which was the capital of the Yin Dynasty (16th century-11th century B.C.) and the site of the famous Yin ruins.

Since most of its land is mountainous, Huihsien was plagued by drought in varying degrees almost every year in its recorded history of farming for more than 3,500 years; sometimes floods rushing down the mountains brought catastrophe to the local inhabitants. In the years of natural calamities large numbers of peasants fled to other places and many died of hunger. Even in a normal year before liberation grain yields never surpassed 750 kilogrammes per hectare.

Led by Chairman Mao and the Communist Party of China, the people of Huihsien have since liberation, and especially since the start of the Great Cultural Revolution, relied on the superior socialist system and the strength of the collective economy of the people’s communes to conquer nature and develop farm production by their own labour and wisdom. Compared with 1949, the year of liberation, total grain output in the county increased sixfold in 1973 while its population growth was less than double. The 550,000 people in the county not only have sufficient food grain but ample collective and household grain reserves. Many communes have built up enough reserves to feed all their members for a whole year.

These successes were achieved through hard work by the masses led by the cadres of the county under the guidance of Chairman Mao’s revolutionary line. To solve water shortages, the people of Huihsien used rocks, of which the county has an abundant supply, to build dams across the ravines to hold the water from mountain springs and streams as well as rain water and divert it to reservoirs or water-storage ponds. The water then flows into the fields through aqueducts or stone-lined channels which wind around the mountain sides or lie underground. To accomplish all this, the county moved a total of 175 million cubic metres of earth or stone in the eight years since the beginning of the Great Cultural Revolution in 1956.

When the first medium-sized reservoir was being built, there were not enough stonemasons. Secretary of the county Party committee Cheng Yung-li personally led county and commune cadres to learn the required skill. Together with the commune members at the work-site, they quarried over 500,000 cubic metres of stone in the mountains and built the reservoir on time. In those eight years the county built 33 medium-sized and small reservoirs, 850 water-storage ponds and 140 pumping stations, sank more than 20,000 wells and paved 2,800 kilometres of channels. This has brought 70 per cent of the county’s farmland under irrigation.

The people of Huihsien also launched a mass campaign to improve soil and build up land. In the last few years 80 per cent of the county’s farmland have been deep-ploughed and levelled. They also terraced 18,000 hectares of fields according to the prototype of the Tachai Brigade in Shansi Province, China’s advanced farming unit, and built 2,200 hectares of new farmland. There are some rivers in the county which are flooded in summer and autumn but are dry and littered with rocks at other times of the year. The commune members living along these rivers have built channels to divert the floodwaters to designated places and built fertile land on the banks by removing rocks, erecting necessary dykes or dams and bringing in rich soil.

The people’s communes in Huihsien have increased their income by extending their activities to forestry, livestock breeding, sideline production and fish breeding. The collective economy provided about three-fourths of the investment in building farmland

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water conservancy works in the last eight years. Making use of local resources, the people have set up a small coal mine and more than 60 factories making dynamite, cement, chemical fertilizer, farm machines and other products. These supply inexpensive material and equipment for farmland capital construction and the development of farm production. The people’s standards of living have improved noticeably with the growth of production. Total sales of consumer goods in the county last year were 138 times those of 1949. Products never seen by most of the peasants before liberation such as wrist-watches, sewing machines and radios now are quickly snapped up in stores. Peasants’ savings deposits show a tenfold increase over the last 15 years. Housing conditions have improved steadily. In the Shuli Miaofu Brigade alone, the 200 households have built a total of 1,157 new rooms since liberation.

The Political Gambler Who Lost His Shirt

ACCORDING to Western news agency reports, the Soviet Foreign Ministry recently told all personnel of the Lon Nol clique’s “embassy” in Moscow to leave the Soviet Union within a specified time.

On March 28, the day this was reported from Moscow, the Soviet revisionist authorities, through a diplomatic channel, “officially notified” Samdech Norodom Sihanouk, Head of State and Chairman of the National United Front of Cambodia, of their decision that “henceforth, the Government of the U.S.S.R. will recognize no government other than the Royal Government of Khmer National Union as the legal government of all Cambodia.”

Seventeen months ago, the Kremlin addressed through the same channel an almost identical “note” to Samdech Norodom Sihanouk. The March 28 “note” is therefore neither new nor worth mentioning. If anything is worth mentioning at all, it is that the “note” provides the world at large with an opportunity for a good look at a desperate political gambler who has time and again put his money on the wrong horse.

First Slap in the Face

This latest “note” is worth mentioning because it is, in the first place, a slap in the face for TASS. Pravda and Izvestia. Over the last month, the Kremlin’s propaganda machine has been churning out messages that the Soviet Union “has always stood and will continue to stand on the side of the Khmer people’s just struggle,” and that it “has consistently supported” the Cambodian people’s struggle for liberation. But since the latest “note” stated that the Soviet Government “henceforth” “will recognize no government other than the Royal Government of Khmer National Union as the legal government of all Cambodia,” it has brought to light the Soviet revisionists’ past criminal betrayal of the Cambodian people.

The Lon Nol clique staged the Washington-inspired counter-revolutionary coup d’état on March 18, 1970. In that difficult hour of the Cambodian people, the Soviet revisionist leading clique, instead of supporting the Cambodian people’s just struggle, chose to side with the traitorous Lon Nol clique backed by U.S. imperialism. Moscow refused to recognize the Royal Government of National Union led by the National United Front of Cambodia and put its shirt on the traitorous clique by all along recognizing the puppet Lon Nol regime. The Soviet revisionists provided the bogus regime with economic aid, voted for its participation in UNESCO meetings and even undertook insurance for convoy transporting arms to the Lon Nol clique. While the flames of the struggle waged by the patriotic Cambodian people and their armed forces against U.S. aggression and the Lon Nol clique’s reactionary rule raged ever more fiercely, the Soviet revisionists engaged in covert and overt efforts to peddle a so-called “peaceful settlement” of the Cambodian issue and establishment of a so-called “coalition government” in order to prop up the Lon Nol clique in its death throes and undermine the Cambodian people’s war for national liberation.

In 1973, when the patriotic Cambodian people and their armed forces emerged victorious in the dry season offensives, the Lon Nol clique, entrenched in Phnom Penh, found itself extremely isolated diplomatically. In these circumstances, the Kremlin had no alternative but to send on October 9, 1973 a verbal “note” to Samdech
Second Slap in the Face

The March 28 “note” is worth mentioning because, in the second place, it contradicts the Soviet Government’s October 9, 1973 “note” in which the Soviet Government already had announced that it regarded the Royal Government of National Union of Cambodia as the “sole lawful representative of Cambodia.” The March 28 “note,” however, specified that “henceforth” it would “recognize” the Royal Government of National Union. In other words, the “recognition” extended in the October 9 note did not count. What is more, both Moscow and Phnom Penh had retained their respective “embassies” after October 9, 1973.

At present, the situation on the Cambodian battlefield has taken a swift turn. The patriotic Cambodian people and their armed forces have had Phnom Penh lightly encircled; Lon Nol and a number of other traitors have fled and diplomatic missions in the city have been evacuated. The fence-sitting Soviet revisionists’ “diplomatic mission” in Phnom Penh will soon go down with Lon Nol’s sinking ship. The Kremlin was cornered once again. Sensing that they would shortly lose all they have staked on the bogus regime in Phnom Penh, the Soviet revisionists now find it necessary to offer another “note” with a gesture of “recognizing no government other than the Royal Government of Khmer National Union as the legal government of all Cambodia.”

Here, it is necessary to stress the point that, as was the case with the previous “note,” the latest “note” is also a verbal one. To date, the Soviet Union has not published the second one. Nor have the Soviet revisionists officially announced severance of diplomatic relations with the bogus regime in Phnom Penh. According to a UPI dispatch datelined Moscow March 28, a “diplomat” in the Lon Nol clique’s “embassy” in Moscow said on the same day that “there has been nothing official at all about breaking diplomatic relations” when the Soviet Foreign Ministry told him and other “embassy” staff to leave. Asked if the Soviet Union had severed diplomatic relations with the Lon Nol clique, a Soviet Foreign Ministry spokesman declined to comment. As in its previous “note,” the Soviet Union took an ambivalent stand in the latest “note” which will prove as valueless as the first except for the fact that in offering a “note” like this at the eleventh hour this superpower which claims to have supported people’s revolution in all lands has clearly revealed itself for what it is.

The Soviet March 28 “note” has detailed the image of a desperate political gambler who, unreconciled to his losses, still cherishes wishful thinking about winning back something. But it is certain that this superpower, which yearns for hegemony in Asia and the Indian Ocean and casts covetous eyes on the Gulf of Siam, will come to a bad end.

(A commentary by Hsinhua Correspondent)

(Continued from p. 10.)

In the programme of a song referring to the liberation of Taiwan was unacceptable to the U.S. side and set a deadline for the Chinese side to make a reply. Otherwise, it said, it would tell the National Committee on United States-China Relations to postpone indefinitely the tour of the Chinese troupe. This action of the U.S. side was entirely groundless.

The song People of Taiwan, Our Own Brothers expresses the deep sentiments of the Chinese people about the liberation of Taiwan and unification of their motherland. No fault can be found with the Chinese troupe singing such a song. The liberation of Taiwan and unification of the motherland is the Chinese people’s internal affair, in which no other country has the right to interfere. For us this is a matter of principle. The demand of the U.S. side is incompatible with this principle and naturally unacceptable to the Chinese side. In the Shanghai communiqué the U.S. Government has agreed that there is but one China and that Taiwan is a part of China. If the U.S. side was not retreating from the Shanghai communiqué, there would be no reason for it to object to the inclusion of this song in the supplementary list of the Chinese troupe. As the U.S. side clung to its unwarranted position which contravened the spirit of the Shanghai communiqué, the Chinese side could not but agree to an indefinite postponement of the Chinese troupe’s visit to the United States.

The Chinese side abides by the principles of the Shanghai communiqué. Promotion of contacts between the Chinese and American peoples and enhancement of their mutual understanding and friendship on the basis of this communiqué are in conformity with the common desire of the two peoples. In this regard the attitude of the Chinese side has always been one of active support. However, the Chinese side will never barter away principles.

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CAMBODIA

Neak Luong Liberated

Neak Luong, an important military base and a southeastern gateway to Phnom Penh, was liberated by the People's Armed Forces of National Liberation of Cambodia on April 1.

Over the last few years, the Lon Nol clique built a naval base, airports and other military installations in Neak Luong and had a strong force stationed there.

Liberation of Neak Luong has removed an important defence structure of the Lon Nol puppet troops on Phnom Penh’s perimeter and smashed their plan to reopen the Mekong River. Meanwhile, the people’s armed forces have destroyed more enemy strongholds around Phnom Penh and completely controlled the more than 100-kilometre-long Mekong waterway from that city to the Cambodia-Viet Nam border, thus creating favourable conditions for wiping out the enemy forces in Phnom Penh.

The Lon Nol clique flew large quantities of arms and ammunition from Phnom Penh and dropped them in Neak Luong in the vain hope that it could put up stubborn resistance by relying on arms superiority and solid defence fortifications. Liberation of Neak Luong has demonstrated once again that the Cambodian people’s armed forces who represent the people’s interests and have their support are invincible. No amount of U.S. weapons and ammunition can save the U.S. running dog, the Lon Nol clique, from its inevitable defeat.

The liberation of Neak Luong represents the powerful reply of the patriotic Cambodian armed forces and people to the “negotiation” plot of the traitorous clique. Its only way out is to surrender to the people; otherwise, it will meet the same disastrous defeat as in Neak Luong.

SOUTH VIET NAM

The People Hail Liberation

Launching strong counter-attacks against the Nguyen Van Thieu clique that had violated the Paris agreement, the south Vietnamese people and their armed forces have liberated large areas from the Saigon puppet regime’s dark rule. While hailing these victories, the people in the newly liberated areas are now hard at work to build a new life.

Da Nang. On the eastern coast, it is the largest city in south Viet Nam after Saigon, the home of some 600,000 people. Since the city was liberated on March 29, over 100,000 Da Nang workers, who have a glorious revolutionary tradition, have been playing a backbone role in getting back to normal and stabilizing the people’s life. They went to the office of the newly established Da Nang Liberation Trade Union Federation, enthusiastically asking to join their own organization, one belonging to the working class. Workers in all trades have returned to their posts. Power and water system workers quickly resumed production, thus ensuring water and electricity in the city. Harbour workers protected dozens of vessels left behind by the fleeing enemy. Working together with the citizenry, transport workers cleaned up streets and removed barricades. Hundreds of vehicles were mobilized to take fellow citizens forced to evacuate by the Thieu clique back to their home villages. Many medical workers in Duy Tan General Hospital, the second largest in south Viet Nam, have returned to the hospital to treat patients.

People’s revolutionary committees were established in various wards and streets. Home guards stand sentry with liberation fighters, guarding every military and administrative unit, market, factory, airport and harbour.

Big markets in the city have all resumed business and prices are stable. Traffic is busy as usual. When night falls, the whole city is illuminated by electric lights.

South Vietnamese liberation fighters march into the city of Hue.
The newly liberated people of Hue chat with liberation fighters.

The Municipal People's Revolutionary Committee issued an appeal on March 31 urging all citizens and soldiers to strengthen unity and make contributions in the safeguarding and construction of their beloved city.

The City of Hue. The official flag of the Republic of South Viet Nam was majestically hoisted over the city on the early morning of March 28.

Group after group of cheering people whom the enemy had forced to evacuate returned by steamboats to their homes. City dwellers poured into the streets to welcome the liberation fighters. They offered them tea and biscuits as an expression of their affection. Firmly grasping the hands of a liberation fighter, an old aunt with tears of joy in her eyes said: "My child! For years I have been looking forward to the liberation day and night! My dream has finally come true!" A hairdresser accused the Thieu clique of forcing the people to evacuate. He told the liberation fighters: "We labourers and other people in Hue would rather die than evacuate with the enemy. We wanted to remain here to greet the liberation fighters and the revolution." A young student said: "We are determined to exert every ounce of our energy to build the city of Hue and defend the revolutionary regime."

Hue returned rapidly to normal immediately after liberation, and a new life is being built. Youths enthusiastically joined the home guards to maintain social order. The electricity and water supply was restored. Markets are brisk with many shops doing business again. Large quantities of vegetables were brought into the city from the suburbs. The prices of rice, meat, eggs, vegetables and fruit are cheaper than before. A joyous atmosphere prevails everywhere in the city.

LAOS

A Year of Progress

April 5 marked the first anniversary of the establishment of the Provisional National Union Government (P.N.U.G.) and the National Coalition Political Council (N.C.P.C.) of Laos. In the past year, the Lao patriotic forces have fought an unrelenting struggle to defend the two central organs and carry out the Vientiane agreement.

At the first P.N.U.G. cabinet meeting last April, Vice-Premier Phoumi Vongvichit set forth the ten-point working principle of the government, laying down the foundation of the principles guiding administrative work and foreign and domestic policies. In his important political report at the first N.C.P.C. session in May, President Souphanouvong put forward the general tasks facing Laos and an 18-point political programme, thus charting the orientation of struggle for the Lao people. Under the chairmanship of Prime Minister Phouma, the P.N.U.G. special cabinet meeting in July unanimously decided to accept the 18-point political programme which was promulgated on January 28 this year.

At its July cabinet meeting, the P.N.U.G. also decided to dissolve the "national assembly" of the Vientiane side. Other decisions were made by the cabinet to benefit the development of national culture and economy. These include use of the Lao language in primary school and in the first year of middle school throughout the country, suspension of timber exports and a ban on the outflow of scrap iron. The P.N.U.G. has developed friendly contacts with other third world countries. On March 26 this year it decided to close the "embassies" of the Saigon regime and the Lon Nol clique in Vientiane. These measures have played a positive role in safeguarding national independence and state sovereignty.

Not reconciled to their failure, a handful of ultra-Rightist reactionaries in Vientiane, however, continued to obstruct the normal work of the two central organs. They have attempted to assassinate N.C.P.C. members, and opposed promulgation and implementation of the political programme by the P.N.U.G. and the decision to dissolve the "national assembly." They have never stopped sending troops to nibble at, harass and sabotage the liberated areas. They have tried to stamp out the struggle for democracy and national concord waged by the people in Vientiane-controlled areas. To safeguard the Vientiane agreement and the fruits of victory, the Lao patriotic forces have waged a fierce struggle against the ultra-Rightist reactionaries. Under the leadership of the Lao Patriotic Front Central Committee, the armed forces and people have foiled repeated nibbling attacks by the Vientiane ultra-Rightists against the liberated areas. They have made energetic efforts to heal the wounds of war and rehabilitate and develop the national economy.
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