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A CHINESE WEEKLY OF
NEWS AND VIEWS

- Deng on China's Reunification
- Trends in World Situation
- Army Day Marked



LETTERS

The Police and the People

The special feature "The Police and the People" in issue No. 21 interested me. The civil agents of the state, for example, are not content with confining themselves to their offices and registering complaints or doing paper work, simply leading a comfortable bureaucratic life, which they could easily accept. On the contrary, on top of their respective work, they tackle jobs that they could very well say are not their responsibility, such as finding lost children, helping old people do their housework and other things. All these unselfish acts for the benefit of the people cannot but establish unceasing good relations between the people and the police and offset certain prejudices between them.

In the same issue the article "After Visiting a Prisoner" under the title "The Police and the People" really impressed me. Many countries should follow your example.

I am also interested in the series on "Chinese-Type Modernization," which is radically different from capitalist modernization in the sense that it is not used to exploit others. Socialist spiritual civilization is an essential com-

ponent of Chinese-type modernization. Indeed, without it, Chinese modernization would be nothing but an illusion. If a society is only preoccupied with material progress, the pursuit of egotistical interests, money, personal comfort, etc.—which is true of capitalist societies—it is only walking on one leg.

The "five stresses" and "four points of beauty" are an expression of this socialist spiritual civilization. Obviously, all this requires many arduous efforts. It is a colossal undertaking. But I am certain that you will overcome all obstacles one by one. You have the capacity and the will.

I wish that you would publish articles about the concretization of this "socialist spiritual civilization" at all levels of Chinese society.

Bruno Ritterskamp
Caen, France

South-South Co-operation

Beijing Review carried articles on South-South co-operation (in issues 13, 14 and 15) which all show China's willingness for the development of a new economic order among the third world countries.

South-South co-operation is a new economic order similar to that of OPEC, etc. Therefore, the developing countries have to put

all their efforts into the improvement of this historic economic target. The developing nations are the producers and the exporters of the world's top strategic resources, which the developed countries are heavily dependent upon. And we know that most of the developing nations are free. However, they're still affected by the economic colonization by the developed countries. The only way to get rid of the economic yoke of the developed states is with the unity of the developing countries.

Osmanos O. Haji
Merca, Somalia

Reappraisal of Confucius

I was very happy to read the article entitled "Appraisal of Confucius: Why? How?" in issue No. 22, because there is a Temple of Confucius at the Ashikaga School—the oldest school in our city. I often went to the temple to sketch from nature when I studied in another school near it. As a result the temple has left a very deep impression on me and I will remember it for ever.

The friendship between the peoples of China and Japan has lasted for more than two thousand years, and I am sure that the friendship will further develop. Therefore, I am a reader of China's three periodicals published in Japanese.

I visited China as a representative of the Readers' Delegation in 1977 and 78 and I received a warm welcome from the Chinese people. In November 1979 I led a delegation to the Temple of Confucius in Qufu. I came to China again three years in a row beginning in 1981 as the head of friendly delegations to the Qufu Temple of Confucius.

The Temple of Confucius in Ashikaga has some connection with China's Qufu County, so we have visited China time and again to promote friendly relations between the two countries.

Please allow me to express my heartfelt thanks for your article, because the people in Ashikaga, who have offered their sacrifices to Confucius for generations, felt very happy when they read the article. So I will buy another 10 copies of this issue to send friends in Ashikaga.

Masao Nishimura
Ashikaga, Japan

Once upon a time

Favourite Folktales of China

Translated by John Minford
Introduction by Zhong Jingwen

This ably translated collection of stories from China's Han nationality and 12 minority nationalities are delightful reading that provides useful insights into the country's traditions and customs.

The introduction by one of China's leading folklorists makes the book an invaluable addition to any private or academic library.

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HIGHLIGHTS OF THE WEEK

Deng on China's Peaceful Reunification

In a recent meeting with Professor Winston L.Y. Yang of Seton Hall University, USA, Deng Xiaoping emphasized reunification of the motherland. Taiwan, he said, may have a social system different from that on the mainland, but only the People's Republic of China is entitled to represent China in the international arena (p. 5).

New Personality Cult?

Does the Party's call to study the *Selected Works of Deng Xiaoping* signify the emergence of a new personality cult in China? *Beijing Review* political editor answers this question asked by some China watchers (p. 4).

Current Trends in World Situation

An analysis of the changes and developing trend in the international situation: the declining influence of the United States and the Soviet Union, the tendency towards multipolarization, and above all the growing independence of the third and second world countries from the two superpowers (p. 14).

Learn From Zhu Boru

Zhu Boru, deputy chief of the logistics department of the PLA air force units in Wuhan, has become a hero of nationwide fame for his wholehearted devotion to the people. Party, state and army leaders call on the people and army to learn from Zhu and to work hard to build socialist culture and ethics (p. 6).

China's Rubber Miracle

The assumption that rubber trees cannot survive above the latitude of 17 degrees north has been disproved by China's successful rubber plantations at higher latitudes. This experience was discussed at a recent symposium in Beijing (p. 19).



Zhu Boru encourages juvenile delinquents in the Baoshan County Reformatory to lead a productive life.

Photo by Zhang Bingfa

NOTES FROM THE EDITORS

A comeback of personality cult?

One month ago, the Central Committee of the Chinese Communist Party issued a circular calling on the Party membership to study the *Selected Works of Deng Xiaoping*. This has caught the attention of foreign public opinion. Some commentators even speculate that a personality cult is rearing its head once again in China.

Is this true? Although there are no such comments in our country, it nevertheless deserves an answer.

Four years ago, the Chinese Communist Party clearly expressed the following viewpoints: Mao Zedong Thought is the result of the integration of Marxism with the reality of China and the crystallization of the collective wisdom of the Chinese Communists. In creating this thought, Mao Zedong was the most outstanding representative and many other Party leaders also have made significant contributions. Mao Zedong Thought came into being in the long years of Chinese revolution, enriching itself with China's progress in revolution and construction.

As a result, China has not confined itself to Mao Zedong's works alone in editing and publishing important Marxist literature since 1980. Selected works by Zhou Enlai, Liu Shaoqi, Zhu De and Deng Xiaoping and selected essays by Chen Yun also have come off the press in succession.

The Party Central Committee publishes the writings of its veteran leaders and calls on Party members to study them

precisely for the purpose of inheriting and developing Mao Zedong Thought.

The study of the *Selected Works of Deng Xiaoping* is of special significance in China today because the book represents in a concentrated way the opinions of the Party's correct leadership on many major issues during the 1975-82 period. While the Chinese people are working to realize a new situation in socialist construction, Deng's book enables them to better understand the theoretical basis for the Party's line and related principles. It also provides them with guidelines for building socialism the Chinese way. Massive study will undoubtedly help fortify the unity of mind of the whole Party and the people throughout the nation. Such a unity is the fountainhead for the strength of the Chinese Communist Party.

Calling on the people to study the works by Party leaders has nothing to do with advocating a personality cult.

In the early 1940s, there was an upsurge of studying Marxist-Leninist works and works by Mao Zedong in Yanan and other anti-Japanese base areas. This played a key role in securing ideological unity of the Party membership and winning nationwide victory in the revolutionary war. In itself, this study produced nothing like a personality cult for Mao Zedong.

The personality cult that arose many years after the birth of New China was the outcome of certain historical conditions. The Party Central Committee

made a comprehensive analysis of this phenomenon in a resolution it adopted in June 1981 (see pp. 25-26 in our issue No. 27, 1981). The Mao Zedong personality cult was not a product of the study of his works. Conversely, it was the personality cult that engendered a dogmatic attitude towards his works.

A Marxist, rather than dogmatic, attitude is needed in studying the works of any Party leader. For example, Deng Xiaoping's writings oppose the viewpoint of "two whatevers,"* and we read them in order to uproot this dogmatic viewpoint in China.

Many important ideas in the *Selected Works of Deng Xiaoping* were set forth after he absorbed the opinions of other comrades. These include the analysis that the over-concentration of power in the hands of one person was related to the remnant influence of feudalism in the Party and the question of building socialist spiritual civilization. The book offers many examples of ideas that Deng put forward after consulting with other Party leaders.

The *Selected Works of Deng Xiaoping* embodies Deng's creativity in resolving major Party and state issues; it is also a crystallization of the wisdom of the Chinese Communists. It is groundless to equate the study of Deng's works with idolatry of the man himself.

— Political Editor An Zhiguo

* The "two whatevers" were: "We must resolutely support whatever policy decisions Chairman Mao made and consistently follow whatever directives Chairman Mao issued."

Deng Xiaoping on China's reunification

At a meeting with Dr. Winston L.Y. Yang, Professor at Seton Hall University, USA, in Beijing on June 26, Deng Xiaoping, Chairman of the Chinese Communist Party's Central Advisory Commission, put forward some specific proposals for the peaceful reunification of China.

Deng Xiaoping said: "The core of matter is reunification of our motherland, and peaceful reunification has come to be common language for both the Kuomintang and the Communist Party." He said that reunification of China does not mean the mainland swallowing up Taiwan, nor vice versa. We hope that the Kuomintang and the Communist Party will work together for national reunification and contribute to the Chinese nation.

Deng Xiaoping does not agree with the formulation of "complete autonomy" for Taiwan. He said autonomy has its limits and, so, "complete autonomy" is simply out of the question. "Complete autonomy" means "two Chinas," not one China. The social system on Taiwan may be different from that on the mainland, but only the People's Republic of China is entitled to represent China in the international arena, he stressed.

"We recognize the Taiwan local government's right to follow its own internal policy," Deng Xiaoping said. "Although a local government, the government in Taiwan, which will be a special administrative region, will be different from other provincial, municipal and even autonomous regional governments. It may have some ex-

clusive rights that other provinces, municipalities and autonomous regions do not have, on condition that these rights do not impair the interests of the unified state.

Deng Xiaoping said that after the country is reunified the Taiwan special administrative region may retain its independent nature and practise a system different from that of the mainland. It may exercise independent jurisdiction and the right of final judgment need not reside in Beijing, he said.

"Taiwan may also keep its own armed forces, so long as they do not constitute a threat to the mainland. The mainland will station neither troops nor administrative personnel in Taiwan. The political party, government, and armed forces in Taiwan will all be administered by Taiwan itself. Seats in the Central Government will be reserved for Taiwan," he added.

Deng Xiaoping pointed out that peaceful reunification does not mean the mainland swallowing up Taiwan, of course, nor vice versa. "Reunifying China with the three people's principles" is unrealistic, he said.

"There should be appropriate measures for achieving reunification," Deng Xiaoping said. "This is why we have proposed talks between the two Parties on an equal basis to bring about a third round of co-operation, rather than negotiations between the central and local authorities."

"When the two sides have reached agreement, it will be

officially announced. But foreign interference absolutely will not be permitted, because it would only mean that China has not won complete independence, and there will be no end of trouble for the future."

Deng Xiaoping expressed the hope that the Taiwan authorities would discard their misgivings by making a careful study of the "nine-point proposals" (see *Beijing Review* issues No. 40, 1981 and No. 41, 1982 — Tr.) and the opening speech made by Deng Yingchao at the First Session of the Sixth National Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference (see our issue No. 24, 1983 — Tr.).

Deng Xiaoping spoke highly of the forum on the prospects of China's reunification that Dr. Yang held in San Francisco last March. "You did a very good thing," he said to Dr. Yang.

Deng Xiaoping said, "We are to accomplish the cause left unaccomplished by our predecessors. If the Chiangs and all those who have devoted themselves to the cause of reunifying China can accomplish this cause, they will find themselves better recorded in history."

"Of course," Deng continued, "it will take time to achieve the peaceful reunification. But it is not true to say that no one is anxious about this. People like us in old age hope that our national reunification will be realized at an earlier date."

Deng suggested that the two sides make more contacts in order to understand each other better. "We are ready to send our people to Taiwan at any time, and it is okay just to have

a look and no talks. They are also welcome to send people here. We will guarantee their safety and keep the secret. We mean what we say. We play no tricks," he said.

Deng Xiaoping said, "We have obtained genuine stability and unity. Our principle for the peaceful reunification of our motherland was formulated after the Third Plenary Session of the 11th Central Committee of the Communist Party. The relevant policies have been gradually completed afterwards and we will stick to them."

Referring to the Sino-US relations, Deng Xiaoping said that they have improved somewhat recently. But, he said, people in power in the US have never given up "two Chinas" or "one China and a half." The United States has lauded its system to the skies. But a president says one thing during the campaign, another when he takes office, another during the mid-term election, and still another near the next general election. The United States has also said that China's policies are unstable, "but our policies are far more stable than those of the US," he concluded.

56th anniversary of PLA celebrated

More than 600 people attended an August 1 reception given by the Ministry of National Defence in the Great Hall of the People in Beijing to celebrate the 56th anniversary of the People's Liberation Army.

Zhang Aiping, Minister of National Defence, presided over and delivered a speech at the reception.

He said that China is a socialist country that will never in-



The honour guards of the PLA army, navy and air force and the military band began wearing new uniforms August 1.

vade any other country and will not allow another country to occupy a single inch of its territory. Because of the unstable international environment, China must be highly vigilant, strengthen preparedness against war and make new contributions to safeguarding the motherland, opposing hegemonism and defending world peace, he said.

Diplomatic envoys and military attaches to China from various countries as well as representatives of international organizations were invited to attend the reception.

The publication of the *Selected Works of Zhu De* throughout the country on the same day added to the joyous atmosphere.

Zhu De (1886-1976), one of the founders of the people's army and the People's Republic, made great contributions to the Chinese people's cause of liberation and socialism. Thus, he was deeply loved by the people.

In Beijing and in Yilong County in Sichuan, Zhu De's hometown, people waited outside bookstores in rain in order to purchase the book.

One 78-year-old woman who bought a copy said that the *Selected Works of Zhu De* is valuable spiritual wealth left by Zhu De and is an indispensable component of Mao Zedong Thought. She said that both old and young people should study it. (In our next issue, we will give a detailed introduction to the *Selected Works of Zhu De*.)

On the eve of the Army Day, 20,000 people in Beijing attended a celebration of the occasion.

Emulate Zhu Boru

The honorary title, "glorious pace-setter in learning from Lei Feng," was conferred on Zhu Boru, deputy chief of the logistics department of the PLA air force units in Wuhan by an order of the Central Military Commission issued July 22.

Lei Feng was a PLA soldier known for his selfless service to others; he died at his post in 1962.

Senior Party, state and army leaders Ye Jianying, Deng Xiaoping, Li Xiannian, Chen Yun, Peng Zhen, Deng Yingchao, Xu Xiangqian, Nie Rongzhen and

Yang Shangkun have also written messages to urge the people and the army to learn from Zhu Boru.

Zhu Boru, 45, has carried forward the "fine Communist Party tradition of sharing weal and woe with the masses" since he joined the army in 1955 and he is "as warm as fire" towards others. He has voluntarily supported a lonely old man, saved five people's lives and provided financial aid to more than 40 soldiers and civilians. He is concerned about young people and has encouraged juvenile offenders to lead a constructive life, the order said.

The order said Zhu "gives no thought to personal gains or losses and has served the people wholeheartedly." He always works to the best of his ability and persists in a principled stand against certain unhealthy tendencies, it said.

Zhu was one of 10 persons cited for meritorious deeds by Premier Zhao Ziyang's report to the First Session of the Sixth National People's Congress in June.

The order called on the army to learn from Zhu Boru and to work hard to build socialist culture and ethics.

Sao Tome and Principe, an island country on the Gulf of Guinea of Western Africa, proclaimed independence from colonialist rule on July 12, 1975.

During their talks the two leaders discussed the world situation and bilateral relations.

Premier Zhao said that the world is still in a state of tension and turbulence, and third world countries suffer much from this. Therefore, they should close their ranks, prevent the superpowers from interference, and resolve their problems by themselves. Issues in Africa should be settled by the African people themselves.

Guidelines for relations with USSR, USA

Premier Zhao Ziyang on July 29 expounded China's three principles for handling Sino-Soviet relations and Sino-US relations.

He defined these principles as: "First, China is consistently opposed to hegemonism pursued by the two superpowers. Second, China will maintain and develop normal state-to-state relations with these two countries on the basis of the Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence. Third, China will continue its dialogue with the Soviet Union and the United States. There are still obstacles in the development of Sino-Soviet and Sino-US relations but the obstacles are not on the side of China."

Premier Zhao also reiterated China's determination to continue working for world peace.

The Premier made these remarks during his three-hour talks with Manuel Pinto da

Costa, Chairman of the Liberation Movement and President of the Democratic Republic of Sao Tome and Principe, and his party and government delegation which arrived in China for an official and friendly visit on July 28. It is President da Costa's second visit to China, the first visit was in 1975.

President da Costa said that people are worried about the present world situation with imperialism creating tension in Asia, Africa and Latin America. The situation in southern Africa is getting more complicated and dangerous as a result of the inroad of non-black forces, he said.

He condemned the South African authorities for disrupting the process of the decoloni-



President Li meets with President da Costa.

zation of Namibia. The relevant resolution of the United Nations has provided the basis for a solution to the Namibia question, he stressed.

When President da Costa arrived in Beijing he was warmly welcomed by President Li Xiannian and the people of all circles. At a banquet in his honour, Li Xiannian said that the friendly co-operation between China and Sao Tome and Principe has vitality because it is based on the Five Principles for Peaceful Coexistence and is in the interests of the two peoples.

Korean liberation war victory marked

More than 2,000 men of the Chinese People's Liberation Army and people of all walks of life attended a rally in Beijing on July 27 to mark the 30th anniversary of the victory of Korea's Fatherland Liberation War. On this day 30 years ago, the Korean people, with the support of the people all over the world, through three years of heroic struggle against the US aggressors, won their great victory, forcing the United States to sign the Korean Cease-fire Agreement.

This great victory of the Korean people not only defended the independence and freedom of their own nation, but also made a great contribution to safeguarding peace in Asia and the rest of the world.

At the rally, Wang Bingnan, President of the Chinese People's Association for Friendship With Foreign Countries, said that though it is 30 years since the Korean war was over, the country is still separated into two parts. The Chinese Government and people firmly support

the three principles and five propositions put forward by President Kim Il Sung for the reunification of Korea and establishing a Democratic Confederal Republic of Koryo. He urged the United States to withdraw its troops from south Korea and let the Korean people settle their own affairs.

Korean Minister of Land and Marine Transport O Song Ryol, leader of a Korean People's Friendship Delegation, said that the peaceful reunification of Korea is the Korean people's greatest desire. Nothing can be more important than the country's reunification for the Korean people, he said.

He said that the Korean people will smash any schemes of the United States and the south Korean authorities to provoke new wars or any activities to create two Koreas, that they will establish a Democratic Confederal Republic of Koryo and bring about the reunification of their fatherland.

In the evening of the same day, Ambassador Jon Myong Su of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea gave a banquet. Xi Zhongxun, Member of the Political Bureau and Secretariat of the Chinese Communist Party Central Committee, and Li Peng, Vice-Premier of the State Council, attended the banquet.

A Chinese People's Friendship Delegation arrived in Pyongyang on July 25 to take part in the celebrations of the 30th anniversary of the victory of Korea's Fatherland Liberation War and for a friendly visit at the invitation of the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

The leader of the delegation is Hong Xuezhi, Director of the General Logistics Department of the Chinese People's Liberation Army, and a former Deputy

Commander of the Chinese People's Volunteers in the Korean war.

Wu Xueqian visits Pakistan, Thailand

State Councillor and Foreign Minister Wu Xueqian visited Pakistan from July 25 to July 29 at the invitation of Pakistan Foreign Minister Sahabzada Yaqub Khan.

During Wu's stay in Pakistan, the two foreign ministers held two rounds of talks and had an extensive and thorough exchange of views on bilateral relations and international issues of common interest, especially on the Afghanistan problem. They said they shared similar views on major international issues and that the talks had deepened their mutual understanding.

At a press conference on July 29, Wu said that a political settlement of the Afghanistan question depends on the Soviet Union withdrawing all its troops from Afghanistan.

Asked about China's position with regard to international guarantees on the Afghanistan problem, Wu said that the Soviet Union should be the first to make such a guarantee and take action to realize it.

On this basis, he said, China is ready to join in an international guarantee at any time.

But he said that he has not seen any sign that the Soviet Union is prepared to withdraw all its troops from Afghanistan.

Pakistan President Zia-ul-Haq met with Foreign Minister Wu Xueqian and they had a cordial and friendly conversation.

Foreign Minister Wu, accompanied by Pakistan Foreign Min-

ister Yaqub Khan, visited an Afghan refugee camp in Pashawar, Pakistan. At a gathering of Afghan refugee representatives, Wu strongly condemned the Soviet aggressor troops for their crimes in Afghanistan and expressed China's deep sympathy for the Afghan people.

In Thailand

At the invitation of Thai Foreign Minister Siddhi Savetsila, Foreign Minister Wu Xueqian arrived in Bangkok on July 30 for an official and friendly four-day visit to Thailand.

In two rounds of talks that day, the two foreign ministers agreed that the root cause of the Kampuchean problem is the Vietnamese invasion and occupation of that country and that in spite of the many new tricks Viet Nam has played recently, Viet Nam's position on the Kampuchean problem has remained unchanged. Hence, persevering and patient efforts are needed before a just and reasonable political solution to the Kampuchean problem can be achieved.

They also agreed that time is favourable for the Kampuchean and other peace- and justice-loving peoples but unfavourable for Viet Nam.

At a dinner given in his honour by Foreign Minister Siddhi, Wu Xueqian said the pressing task of the moment is to further support the Coalition Government of Democratic Kampuchea headed by Norodom Sihanouk and exert international pressure on Viet Nam for a political settlement of the Kampuchean question, and for implementation of the resolu-

tions of the UN General Assembly and the Declaration of the International Conference on Kampuchea.

Wu said China is ready to develop good-neighbourly relations with all Southeast Asian countries including Viet Nam. Sino-Vietnamese relations can be normalized, he said, "provided that the Vietnamese authorities undertake to withdraw all their troops from Kampuchea unconditionally and follow it up with action."

Foreign Minister Siddhi said that Thailand is satisfied with China's support for ASEAN's position of insisting on a peaceful settlement of the Kampuchean question. "Thailand believes that China's support for ASEAN's effort to this effect will favour the eventual peaceful solution of the Kampuchean problem, notwithstanding existing obstacles."

At a press conference on August 1, Wu said that China has always supported a political solution to the Kampuchean problem, but this must be based on the precondition that Viet Nam withdraws all its troops from Kampuchea.

Wu pointed out that the Khmer Rouge and the forces led by Samdech Norodom Sihanouk and Son Sann are all patriotic forces. The patriotic forces, he said, have the same political objective, to drive out the Viet Nam aggressors and to restore independence to Kampuchea. The Khmer Rouge is the mainstay in the Kampuchean people's resistance to Vietnamese invasion. People had criticized them in different ways. This is comprehensible, but the situation has changed already.

Wu said China will do its best to continue providing assistance to the three forces of Kampuchea.

The King of Thailand Bhumibol Adulyadej and Thai Prime Minister Prem Tinsulanonda separately received Foreign Minister Wu Xueqian and had cordial and friendly talks with him.

Premier Zhao reiterates opposition to racism

In a congratulatory message to the President of the Second World Conference to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination, which opened in Geneva on August 1, Premier Zhao Ziyang said that the Chinese Government and people "are resolutely opposed to theories, policies and acts of racism and racial discrimination of any form and strongly condemn the savage system of apartheid imposed by the South African authorities, their illegal occupation of Namibia and armed intrusions into neighbouring African countries."

"The Chinese Government and people firmly support the people of southern Africa and other peoples in their just struggle to combat racism and racial discrimination," the message said.

The message also expressed the hope that the conference will make new contributions to combating the apartheid system of South Africa and rooting out the evils of racism the world over.

Viet Nam

State operates narcotics racket

CONCLUSIVE evidence shows that since 1981 the Hanoi authorities have made opium production a state-run "enterprise" for earning badly needed foreign exchange and are encouraging their border inhabitants to smuggle the drug to neighbouring countries.

This Vietnamese policy has resulted in a growing number of cases of drug smuggling in the northern border areas of Viet Nam. Chinese frontier guards have captured many Vietnamese drug smugglers and seized large quantities of the drug. In the latter half of last year alone, they seized more than 15 kilogrammes of contraband opium in the border area of the Hani-Yi autonomous prefecture of Honghe and the Zhuang-Miao autonomous prefecture of Wenshan, Yunnan Province.

Vietnamese refugees and border inhabitants report that Ha Tuyen and other northern provinces in Viet Nam began trial planting opium poppies in late 1981 with the approval of the Vietnamese Communist Party Central Committee, and that the area under poppy cultivation was expanded in a planned way.

Irrefutable Evidence

An official Vietnamese document handed over by a Vietnamese refugee who recently fled to China provides further evidence that the production of narcotics in Viet Nam is organized and managed by the Vietnamese authorities.

The document, entitled "Notice Urging Preparations for Poppy Production in 1982-1983," (see photo) was issued last October by the Dong Van District of Ha Tuyen Province in northern Viet Nam. It says: "In order to fulfil the (poppy planting) task assigned by the provincial government, those villages without or with few poppy seeds are required to send people to two warehouses of the District Material Station to buy the seed."

A Vietnamese refugee reported that the Party secretary of Dong Van District had passed on the instructions of the Viet-

namese Party Central Committee calling on the people to "grow poppy, produce opium and sell to the state to get foreign exchange and help solve economic difficulties."

Material Incentives

With such official mobilization, some districts in Hoang Lien Son Province have stipulated that every peasant in the poppy-growing area must sell half a kilogramme of opium to the state each year. A regulation in some districts in Ha Tuyen Province requires those who receive one kilogramme of poppy seed from the government to repay the state one kilogramme of opium, while the extra opium will belong to the grower. In some districts, the government purchased



Vietnamese document urging the cultivation of opium poppy.

opium at very high prices. Those who sell more than the stipulated quota of opium are rewarded with priorities in buying food and commodities in short supply.

Many districts in the Vietnamese provinces of Ha Tuyen, Lai Chau, Hoang Lien Son, Cao Bang and Lang Son are now engaged in growing opium poppy. The planted area in Dong Van District alone reached 430 hectares last year. Even army units stationed there are engaged in the business.

A commentary in the latest issue of the Chinese monthly *Liao Wang* (Observation Post) condemned Hanoi's narcotics industry. It said that "it is shocking news indeed that poppy planting and opium selling have been guided by state planning in northern Viet Nam since 1981."

The commentary pointed out that this Vietnamese action, which "violates the principles of international law and moral code and harms people's health," will "add a new factor to the illegal drug market in Southeast Asia and even larger areas."

— Duan Ping

US and EC

Steel war flares up once again

THE sharp dispute over steel between the United States and its West European allies has again surfaced, raising some knotty problems.

Origin and Development

On July 5 President Ronald Reagan announced a decision to impose tariffs and quotas on speciality steel imports over a

four-year period, targeting Western Europe.

The next day the European Community commission issued a statement, describing Reagan's import relief programme as contrary to the spirit of the Williamsburg Summit which called for an end to protectionism and accusing it of violating the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT).

The July 18 special meeting of the EEC foreign ministers on the financial budget, the biggest unsettled issue within the EEC, also voiced "profound dissatisfaction" with the US decision. It said that "the measure taken by the United States will have a damaging impact on the Community's speciality steel exports to the United States." The meeting called for prompt consultations with the United States in the framework of GATT and requested compensation for the hard-hit EEC steel industry as a result of US measures, and warned of possible retaliatory measures against the United States.

The dispute between the EC and the United States over the steel trade has been of long standing. For many years after World War II US steel commanded a favourable position in world trade. Before 1965, US steel imports were not over 10 per cent of the domestic market. However, during this period the West European countries adopted new steel-making methods while the United States continued to use open-hearth processing. Consequently, beginning in the mid-60s, cheap West European steel entered the US markets. By the early 1970s, US steel imports rose to 15 per cent of the domestic market. Throughout the 70s the rate of steel imports continued to rise.

To protect home steel production, the United States restricted steel imports in 1976 and 1980. Thus began the steel war between the United States and its West European allies. When Washington cancelled the restraints in 1981, West European steel exports to the United States increased 60 per cent in one year, with speciality steel exports doubled. Facing this threat, the United States again imposed restraints on imported steel, triggering off a steel war in 1982 between the two sides that lasted for 10 months. Through tough negotiations the two sides finally reached an agreement, but within less than two weeks the United States proposed restrictions on imported speciality steels. Considering that the move might lead to retaliatory measures by the European Community and that their disputes over agricultural produce and trade with the Soviet Union had not yet been settled, the United States temporarily dropped this idea.

Causes of Dispute

The recurrent steel war between the United States and Western Europe is due to the fact that the steel situation on both sides is gloomy, the market is shrinking, businesses are in debt, many steel workers are unemployed and many plants have been closed down. To assist their steel sales abroad, the EC countries have provided varying subsidies to reduce the prices of steel sold to the United States, and the result was that EC steel sales to the United States have increased each year. On the other hand, US steel production is in an unfavourable position. Its equipment is old, its costs are high, and it is not competitive. Also, it cannot provide the types of steel products needed on the

home market, especially speciality steels. The total consumption of speciality steel in the United States in 1982 was 900,000 tons, 200,000 tons of which were imported from abroad, half from the EC countries.

The United States

Middle East policy impasse

THE July 22 appointment of Robert C. McFarlane, Deputy Assistant for National Security Affairs, as President Ronald Reagan's special envoy to the Middle East to succeed Philip Habib is seen in Washington as evidence that the US Middle East policy has run into difficulties.

It is noted that the appointment came at a time when the negotiations on the withdrawal of foreign troops from Lebanon have come to a standstill.

Why the Change of Envoy

Habib began his shuttle mission in the Middle East in May 1981, trying to find a solution to the Lebanese problem and his mediation led to the conclusion of a troop withdrawal agreement between Lebanon and Israel in May, this year. But Syria rejected the agreement, saying that it is harmful to Lebanon's sovereignty and dangerous to the security of Syria and other Arab nations.

Habib's mission to promote Reagan's Middle East peace initiative ran into trouble when Syria refused to receive him in Damascus for talks on the issue

of troop withdrawal from Lebanon. It appears that the dispute will continue. But because of their common strategic interests and economic interdependence, the two sides will not allow their contradictions to get out of hand.

— *Xin Shufan*

of troop withdrawal from Lebanon.

McFarlane's appointment is apparently designed to break the deadlock which resulted from the US policy of partiality to Israel and the Israeli policy of aggression and expansion. White House officials described McFarlane as one of the most influential advisers to President Reagan on foreign affairs. He has taken part in policy-making on the US-Soviet arms talks, Central America and other major problems.

The question is why Reagan chose McFarlane, who appears to be much needed in Washington, for a Middle East mission which stands little chance of success. The basic consideration, it seems, was the credibility of the US Middle East policy which has failed to produce any notable results.

While visiting Washington, Lebanese President Amin Gemayel said that US credibility will stand a decisive test over its commitment to the future of Lebanon.

The US-Lebanese agreement on the "next steps" to be taken in the Middle East and McFar-

lane's appointment should be viewed against the background of the approaching 1984 US presidential campaign. But doubt is widespread in the press as to how much difference the change of special envoy could make in the overall process.

A US senior administration official explained that the "next steps" basically mean "trying harder" and using "new faces," instead of any major change in either US views or its Middle East strategy.

No matter what the "next steps" are and no matter who takes over the mission, the going will still be tough for the United States so long as it refuses to abandon its pro-Israel position. The negotiations on foreign troop withdrawals from Lebanon are expected to be a drawn-out process.

— *Xin Ping*

Latin America

Carrying forward Bolivar's spirit

JULY 24, the 200th anniversary of the birth of Simon Bolivar, revered as the liberator of South America, was celebrated by many Latin American countries.

A mammoth joint parade of 11,000 troops from the six countries of Venezuela, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru, Bolivia and Panama, to whose independence Simon Bolivar had made direct contributions, took place in Caracas, capital of Venezuela.

Lives in the Hearts of the People

Born in Venezuela, Simon Bolivar became the leader of the national-liberation movement there and was a commander in many battles. From 1812 to 1829, he led his troops against the colonial army and eventually won the liberation of Central and South America, ending more than 300 years of Spanish colonial rule.

"My country is South America and my sole banner is that of freedom and liberty!" said Bolivar. Besides being an outstanding military commander, he was also a political thinker. Even today his dream of Latin American unity exerts its influence in the struggle against imperialism, hegemonism and colonialism.

Bolivar dedicated his life to the cause of the liberation movement in Venezuela and Latin America. His great contributions to freedom will never be forgotten. Though he died at the age of 47 with his dream of a united Latin America unfulfilled, he still lives in the hearts of the Latin American people.

Caracas Declaration

Meeting in Caracas as part of the activities to commemorate Bolivar, the Presidents and Vice-President of the six "Bolivar countries" signed the "Caracas Declaration" in which they pledged to adhere to the principles advanced by Bolivar — unity, freedom and democracy — and oppose all forms of foreign interference. They maintained that problems of the continent should be left to its own people to resolve without external intervention. If this declaration promoting unity among the Latin American

countries is implemented, many believe, it will be the best way to honour the memory of Simon Bolivar.

At present, one of the urgent tasks facing the continent is that of resolving the tensions in Central America. For a long time, the superpowers have sowed discord in the region either by supplying military aid or by exerting pressure in order to profit from the conflict, thus making the situation all the more complicated and turbulent. Therefore, strengthening unity among the countries of Latin America, and Central America in particular, is most important for removing foreign interference and letting the people of Central America settle their own problems.

Another urgent task confronting the Latin American countries is their economic problems, which are directly related to the recent economic crisis brought on by the Western developed countries and the irrational old international economic order.

Together with other third world countries, the Latin American nations have made efforts to transform this irrational economic order, with the aim of ending the control and exploitation by the industrialized powers. In recent years, the Latin American countries have also achieved good results in expanding regional co-operation and developing economic and trade relations, bilaterally and multilaterally.

Unity is strength. Guided by Bolivar's spirit of unity, the Latin American countries are sure to forge ahead in their struggle to safeguard national independence, oppose foreign interference and attain social development.

— Ren Wenhui

Africa

Uganda-Kenya improve relations

UGANDA and Kenya have recently taken joint steps to improve their relations, which became strained at the end of last year when each accused the other of giving sanctuary to political dissidents.

Kenyan President Daniel T. Arap Moi at the celebrations marking the 19th anniversary of the Republic of Kenya pledged that Kenya would not provoke Uganda. On June 3 President Moi made a friendly gesture by speaking at a rally celebrating Uganda's National Youth Day in the border town of Tororo, east Uganda. He said that Kenya would not allow Ugandan political dissidents to use Kenya's territory for creating instability in Uganda. He also pledged that Kenya would co-operate with Uganda in all fields. Ugandan President Apollo Milton Obote said Uganda would expel any political dissidents who attempt to use Uganda for destabilizing Kenya.

When an Ugandan delegation visited Kenya in May, both nations resolved to eliminate trade barriers between them. In June the two countries held a border meeting to strengthen co-operation in maintaining border security and controlling smuggling and the illegal exchange of foreign notes. A Kenyan trade delegation will soon visit Uganda to discuss ways to expand trade between the two countries.

Uganda and Kenya are both developing countries. Their efforts to settle disputes through consultations and to strengthen mutual co-operation are widely applauded.

— Xin Yan

Changes and Developing Trend in The International Situation

by Zong He

- As the third and second world countries become more independent of the two superpowers, US and Soviet abilities to control and influence world affairs are weakening and the tendency towards multipolarization is further developing.

- The development of international affairs does not depend solely on the will and wishes of the two hegemonic powers, the United States and the Soviet Union, but is increasingly determined by the internal contradictions and needs of the various regions and nations of the world.

A SUCCESSION of major events have occurred in recent years — the Islamic revolution in Iran, the Soviet armed invasion of Afghanistan, Poland's crisis, the Iran-Iraq war, the Malvinas war, the Israeli invasion of Lebanon, US-European disputes over the natural gas pipeline and the election of the UN Secretary-General. These events and their development demonstrate that the current international situation is undergoing important changes: the third and second world countries are becoming more independent of the two superpowers, the abilities of the United States and the Soviet Union to control and influence world affairs are greatly weakening, the tendency towards world multipolarization is further developing, and international events and their development do not depend solely on the will and wishes of the two hegemonic powers, the United States and the Soviet Union, but are being increasingly determined by the internal contradictions and needs of the various regions and nations of the world. These changes did not take place all of a sudden but are the inevitable results of prolonged historical developments.

Decline of the Superpowers

The international influence of the United States began to wane in the 1960s, and the pace of its decline accelerated beginning in the 70s. The main manifestations of the US decline are:

1. US control over its allies has clearly weakened, reducing it from the position of "leader" to that of "partner." This change began in the latter half of the 1950s. In 1958,

France, West Germany and four other West European countries founded the European Community which reflected their desires to extricate themselves from US control economically and become independent of the United States politically and in foreign affairs. In 1966 the de Gaulle government in France withdrew from the integrated command of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO), forcing the NATO headquarters to move from Paris and widening the gap between the United States and Western Europe. In 1973 the European Community expanded and adopted measures on economic integration, strengthened political co-operation and began to challenge the supremacy of the United States.

In the 1980s, tendency of Western Europe to act independently from the United States has further developed. This has been reflected more in conflicts over political, diplomatic and strategic interests than economic frictions. West European countries have opposed US attempts to bring their economic and military strength and their policies towards the Soviet Union into the orbit of US contention with the Soviet Union. Thus differences between the US and Western Europe on many major international issues have become sharper. On the Soviet natural gas pipeline issue last year, the West European countries united to fight the United States directly, compelling it to make concessions. This was a rare event in the history of relations between the United States and Western Europe. The relationship between the United States and Japan has been similar.

At present, the United States faces stiff competition from its allies economically and

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serious challenges politically. It can no longer dominate their policies at will.

2. US influence over the third world has clearly lessened. In Asia, following the US defeats in the Korean and Viet Nam wars, some nations which had been closely tied to the United States began to pursue relatively independent foreign policies. In the Middle East and Persian Gulf, US control which replaced that of Britain and France after World War II has been weakened as a result of Soviet infiltration. The 1979 Iranian revolution, in particular, removed an important pillar of US power in this region.

In Africa, the United States expanded its influence after World War II through military assistance and the "peace corps." But the Soviet Union has now gained footholds in many countries, while France, Britain, Portugal and some other West European countries have returned to Africa to some extent.

Latin America, which the United States always regards as its "backyard," has now become a front against US colonialism and hegemonism. The Central American people's armed revolutionary struggle is surging forward, the struggle against US exploitation and control is steadily rising in South America. Within the Organization of American States, repeated confrontations with the United States have unified the Latin American countries in their opposition to US plunder and control. US partial stance on Britain in the Malvinas war further weakened US influence over Latin America.

3. In the United Nations, the United States is often isolated. The admission to the United Nations of more and more new-emerging third world countries and the independent policies followed by many countries have broken US manipulation over the United Nations for ever. The election of the UN Secretary-General last year was a striking example.

4. US military strength abroad has been greatly reduced and military strategy steadily revamped. Since the 1970s, the number of countries or regions in which the United States stations troops and military advisers has been reduced from some 80 to a little over 40. Its overseas military bases and installations have been reduced from 2,600 to 1,700, of which the major bases have been cut from 490 to 270. Several military blocs set up by the United States, such as the Southeast Asia Treaty Organization and the Central Treaty Organization, have disintegrated.

With its declining position of strength, the United States has repeatedly changed the course and retreated in its military strategy. Its strategy of "containment" and "massive retaliation" of the 50s became that of "flexible response" and "two and a half wars" in the 60s. Then the strategy was replaced by "realistic deterrent" and "one and a half wars" in the 70s.

Entering the 1980s, the United States and the Soviet Union have been beset with difficulties both at home and abroad. Since the Reagan administration believes the Soviet difficulties are more severe than those of the United States, it decides to "re-establish US military strength" and advocates a military policy of "flexible counterattack" towards the Soviet Union. However, the prolonged US economic depression, the growing strategic differences between the United States and Western Europe and the complex contradictions between the United States and many third world countries make implementation of this policy difficult.

Soviet influence on world affairs hit its peak in the middle and late 1970s, but began to decline in the late 70s. The main manifestations of this have been:

1. Owing to the growing independence of the East European countries, the Soviet domination over Eastern Europe is unstable. In recent years, the Soviet Union has been increasingly unable to satisfy the economic and social needs of these countries. Aware of the shortcomings in the Soviet economic and social systems and the need to defend their own interests, these nations have decided to take their own roads, undertaken reforms breaking away from the Soviet model and developed economic contacts with Western countries and the third world. Thus the Soviet Union is unable to intervene at will in the affairs of the East European countries.

2. Soviet expansion in the third world has been increasingly frustrated, its attractive power has declined and more and more countries are discontent with the Soviet Union. During the 1950s and 60s, the Soviet Union had considerable political influence in a number of third world countries. In the middle and late 70s, the Soviet Union relied on political infiltration, subversion and wars waged by its agent Cuba to regain footholds in some countries. As the Soviet hegemonist policy speeded up, its political and economic shortcomings were increasingly exposed and its economic assistance could not meet their economic and social development

needs, the Soviet Union gradually lost its previous influence in many third world countries. A striking example was the Soviet Union's expulsion from Egypt, Somalia and the Sudan. Some countries have even attempted to keep a certain distance from the Soviet Union.

Following its invasion of Afghanistan, Soviet aggressive and expansionist features were clearly unmasked. The draft resolution demanding Soviet immediate and unconditional withdrawal from Afghanistan was adopted by an overwhelming vote in the United Nations. Many third world countries voted for this resolution. The Soviet Union's unprecedented isolation makes it unlikely that the Soviet Union can restore its influence in the third world after the Afghanistan incident as it did in the middle and late 70s.

3. There is no longer a centre of the international communist movement. After the relations between China and the Soviet Union deteriorated and China began criticizing Soviet hegemonist policy, Soviet influence on the international communist movement decreased sharply. As there are no longer the socialist camp headed by the Soviet Union and the centre of the international communist movement, the Communist Parties in the world stress that independent policies and lines should be formulated according to their own conditions. A host of Communist Parties have openly opposed and condemned the Soviet Union for its invasion of Afghanistan and its support for Viet Nam's invasion of Kampuchea. This further developed independent tendency from the Soviet Union.

Background and Causes

There are profound historical background and various reasons for the weakening of the US and Soviet control and influence over world affairs:

1. Over the past decade and more, great changes have taken place in the balance of economic strength between the two superpowers on the one hand and the second and third worlds on the other, which have brought about transformation in the world political situation.

Since the 1970s, US economic growth has clearly slowed. The annual average growth rate of the US GNP of 3.9 per cent in the 50s and 4.3 per cent in the 60s dropped to less than 3 per cent in the 70s and fell below zero in the 80s. The US share in the world GNP (not including China) dropped from 36.3 per cent

in 1950 to 21.5 per cent in 1980. In 1971 a deficit in the US balance of trade emerged for the first time in half a century, causing the disconnection between US dollars and gold and repeated devaluations. This signalled the beginning of the decline of the US "dollar empire."

The Soviet economic growth has also slowed since the 70s. Its annual average growth rate of national income dropped from 7.1 per cent during the Eighth Five-Year Plan to 3.9 per cent in the 10th Five-Year Plan. In 1982 it further dropped to 2.6 per cent. At the same time, Soviet economic burdens have been increasing. First of all, Soviet military spending since the 1970s has increased about 5 per cent annually, approaching or surpassing the growth of national income; secondly, agriculture has lagged behind; and thirdly, foreign actions such as the invasion of Afghanistan and support for Viet Nam have added greatly to the Soviet burden. The Soviet Union manages its finance with tremendous difficulties. It has had to repeatedly ask for delays for paying back its foreign debt and sell gold in large quantities to maintain its balance of payments.

Compared with the declining US and Soviet economic development, the economic position of the second and third worlds has become relatively strong. In 1979 the GNP of the European Economic Community exceeded that of the United States, while Japan's GNP reached 40 per cent of that of the United States in 1980. Since the 1970s, the economic growth rate and the per-capita rate of the third world were 5.3 and 2.9 per cent respectively which exceeded the corresponding 3.1 and 2.4 per cent rates of the Western developed countries. Affected by the global economic recession and the attempt of Western capitalism to shift its crisis to others, economic development of the third world has run into great difficulties over the past two years. But on the whole, its economic position will continue to improve.

2. The strengthened military power of the second and third worlds makes it no longer possible for the two superpowers freely to run roughshod over other countries.

The military power and defence capabilities of the second and third worlds have enormously strengthened in the past two decades. They have shattered the nuclear monopoly of the United States and the Soviet Union (Britain, France and China have already established their own independent nuclear arsenals) and strikingly strengthened their conventional forces. The

superpowers' competition to transfer and sell arms as a means to gain spheres of influence has, to a certain extent, expanded the military power of the third world to resist the two hegemonic powers.

Political independence and unity, relative domestic security and solidarity, and relative economic and social stability have further raised the capabilities of third world countries to resist outside interference and aggression. Korean, Viet Nam, Afghanistan and the Malvinas wars are brilliant examples of small countries challenging the big military powers. This demonstrates the potentials of small countries to deal powerful blows to the big powers even in modernized warfare. This has to a certain extent affected the self-confidence of the United States and the Soviet Union in the use of military strength for aggression in the future. It has also greatly encouraged the nations and peoples of the rest of the world to withstand military pressure and resist armed invasion by the two superpowers.

In addition, the US-Soviet equilibrium of military strength has objectively increased the manoeuvring chances of the second and third worlds, enabling them to resist one superpower with the aid of the other, and enabled the third world countries with the aid of the second world, to resist pressure and intervention by the superpowers.

3. The US-Soviet contention for spheres of influence and pursuit of hegemonist policies in the world have not only brought about the awakening and resistance of the third world, but have also increased separatist tendencies among their allies. The two superpowers have infringed upon the independence and sovereignty of the third world countries, which educated by negative example and awakened the third world nations and people and enabled them to become the present principal force against US and Soviet hegemonism. At the same time, the US and Soviet hegemonist policies have also hurt the interests of their own allies among second world countries, who have responded with boycotts and opposition.

Future Development

Although the superpower positions of the United States and the Soviet Union cannot be basically changed politically, economically and militarily, their abilities to control and influence world affairs will continue to weaken and the

tendency towards world multipolarization will grow. This will be the basic change in the world political structure in the last two decades of this century.

The contention for spheres of influence between the United States and the Soviet Union will be fiercer, but the contradiction between their abilities and their wishes will become more prominent. And the general strategic posture of Soviet-offensive and US-defensive will sustain for a period of time. But owing to the difficulties the Soviet Union faces both at home and abroad in recent years, the situation of taking the defensive while on the offensive by the Soviet Union and of taking the offensive while on the defensive by the United States will possibly emerge frequently.

At the same time, struggle of control and counter-control between the two superpowers and the second and third world countries will become more acute and opposition to hegemonism will become more and more the main tide of world politics. It has been a reality that in certain regions or problems, the main task is to oppose Soviet hegemonism, while in some other regions or problems, opposition to US hegemonism is regarded as primary. And the situation of opposing mainly one hegemonic power in a period while opposing another in other period is likely to appear. Whenever there is hegemonism, there will be a struggle against hegemonism.

The development of multipolarization will create more and more centres of strength in the world. Besides the United States, the Soviet Union, Western Europe, Japan and China, regional powers will also gain greater influence. The outbreak of a new world war can possibly be delayed or prevented as a result of mutual containment of various strengths and equilibrium of US-Soviet strength which will remain unchanged for some time.

However, regional problems and contradictions will be more difficult to tackle and control as the tension between the United States and the Soviet Union will become more and more acute, their infiltration, control and subversion attempts will increase, and the greater economic and military strength of other countries will make them tend to act freely according to their own interests and goals. This may lead to increases in local and regional military conflicts and to small- and medium-scale wars.

(Translation of an article in "Shijie Zhishi" [World Affairs] No. 11, 1983.)

China PEN Centre

Seeking Friendship and Understanding

by Jin Jianfan

THE China PEN Centre, founded in April 1980, held its second annual meeting in mid-July in Beijing.

A member of the International PEN headquartered in London, the China PEN Centre is a literary mass organization of writers. Its purpose is to develop international literary exchanges and promote understanding and friendship between writers and peoples of China and other countries.

PEN are initials for "poets," "playwrights," "essayists," "editors," and "novelists." Recently, translators from many countries have been included in the organization.

The China PEN Centre has a membership of 170, of whom 20 are women and 13 are minority nationalities writers. Among them are distinguished veteran writers and a number of accomplished younger authors.

The President of the China PEN Centre is Ba Jin, who also is president of the 2,200-member Chinese Writers' Association. The PEN Centre vice-presidents include other prominent writers, such as playwright and essayist Xia Yan, poet Ai Qing, woman writer Ding Ling, playwright Cao Yu and poet and scholar on foreign literature, Feng Zhi.

Ten new members were recently admitted, including Rewi Alley*, a New Zealand writer and poet who lives in Beijing, and Han Suyin**, a Beijing-born British writer of Chinese extraction. The admissions were made in accord-

ance with International PEN rules. They also were selected because of their long-time deep feelings for and friendly relations with the Chinese people and their outstanding contributions to introducing China to the world.

The China PEN Centre became a member of the International PEN a month after its founding and several months later, the Shanghai and Guangzhou Chinese PEN Centres also were accepted as members of this renowned world writers' association.

Since many writers of the China PEN Centre had repeated contacts with their colleagues in Taiwan Province through the International PEN and other international literary activities, the China PEN Centre put forward a proposal on October 16, 1981 to members of the Taipei Chinese PEN Centre and other writers there, inviting them to visit the mainland for discussing about developing the country's literature. The China PEN Centre also suggested to Taipei writers to exchange correspondence, publications and hold joint meetings about literature.

Representatives of the China PEN Centre attended conferences held by the International PEN and UNESCO. At the Asian Writers' Forum in April last year in Tokyo, China PEN Centre Vice-President Ai Qing spoke on characteristics of culture and national culture. He stressed that each country must be selective about what it takes from foreign cultures. He said: "Of course tea and coffee can coexist, but opium and marijuana must be prohibited. We have to distinguish science from superstition."

Speaking at a seminar on "Oral Tradition as a Source of Inspiration for Contemporary African Literature" held in Dakar, Senegal, China PEN Centre council member Du Xuan discussed how China had collected, compiled and researched into folk literature.

The author is a member and administrative secretary of the China PEN Centre in Beijing.

*Works by Rewi Alley: *Youbanfa* ("There Is a Way"), *People Have Strength, Travels in China, The Freshening Breeze, Snow Over the Pines, Li Bai: 200 Selected Poems* (translation), *Du Fu* and recently Published *Folk Poems from China's Minorities*.

**Han Suyin's autobiographical novels set in China include *The Crippled Tree, A Mortal Flower, Birdless Summer, and My House Has Two Doors*.

Last year, the China PEN Centre invited, among others, the Vice-President of the International PEN, British writer Peter Elstob, and the President of the Bulgaria PEN Centre poet Liliana Stefanova to visit China. Ms. Stefanova said that China's green tea had given them better sight. They had seen many beautiful things in China.

The China PEN Centre also has taken every opportunity to exchange opinions with members of the pen centres who have come to China as guests of other organizations. Among them were American playwright and Vice-President of the International PEN Authur Miller, President of Japanese PEN Club Yashushi Inoue, President of the Philippine PEN Centre S.P. Lopez and member of the Australia PEN Centre Hugh Anderson.

The China PEN Centre also has formed a translation committee to supervise the translation into Chinese of literature from other countries. The Beijing magazine, *Foreign Literature*, already has published two special issues, one



French President Francois Mitterrand conferred the title commander of Legion of Honour on Ba Jin (left front) on May 7 in Shanghai.

on Latin American literature and one on writings from Cyprus. Another special issue on Latin American literature jointly sponsored by the China PEN Centre and *Yi Lin* will appear in *Yi Lin* (a quarterly on foreign literature published in Nanjing). Furthermore, the group is currently organizing translations of works from Senegal, Sweden, the Philippines, and other countries.

China's Rubber Miracle

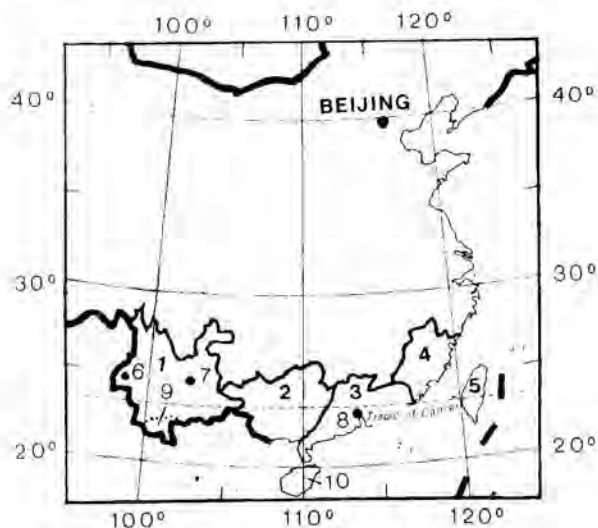
by Our Correspondent Li Yongzeng

For generations, agricultural specialists all over the world agreed that it was impossible for rubber trees to survive above the latitude of 17 degrees north. However, China's successful rubber plantations at higher latitudes have made rubber growers reconsider this assumption.

An international rubber research and development board recently held an academic symposium in Beijing to discuss China's experiences.

THE tropical *Hevea brasiliensis*, native to the Amazon valley, was first recognized for its rubber producing capability about a century ago. Human cultivation led to vast plantations allowing production of goods such as tyres that became essential to modern life.

However, in the course of domestication it became tender and delicate. It needs large quantities of moisture, is susceptible to wind and cold and requires fertile soil. So the land suitable for growing rubber trees was limited to



- | | | |
|---------------|--------------|------------------|
| 1. Yunnan | 2. Guangxi | 3. Guangdong |
| 4. Fujian | 5. Taiwan | 6. Yingjiang |
| 7. Kunming | 8. Guangzhou | 9. Xishuangbanna |
| 10. Hainan I. | | |

a very narrow strip around the equator no further north than 17 degrees north latitude.

But necessity is the mother of invention. Except for a few islands, all of China's territory is above 17 degrees north latitude. Relying on its own scientific and technological personnel, China successfully transplanted natural rubber trees to areas at north latitudes of 18 degrees to 24 degrees. As a result, China which formerly depended entirely on imported rubber is now a rubber producer.

Today, China has the world's fourth largest area planted to natural rubber and its output of dry rubber (150,000 tons in 1982) is tied with India for fifth (see Table below).

A Pioneering Undertaking

In the early 1950s during the Korean war, US imperialism imposed an embargo on the fledgling New China. But, because rubber was an urgently needed strategic material, China began to experiment with rubber cultivation on Hainan Island at 18 degrees north latitude and over a large area in Xishuangbanna at 21 degrees north latitude. Today, these two places have

become China's major rubber-producing centres.

The builders of Xishuangbanna, then university graduates just a little over 20, have now become grey-haired. They recalled that in 1952 there was only one section of highway opened to traffic between Yunnan's provincial capital Kunming and Xishuangbanna.

"After we got out of the bus, we had to walk for seven days across a remote mountain. Simple experimental equipment and basic daily necessities had to be carried by caravans from Kunming over 700 kilometres away" (see map of Yunnan Province).

Laden only with travelling bags, the young experimenters carefully explored the primitive forests for wild plants capable of producing rubber.

In Yunnan's Yingjiang County, at 24 degrees 50 minutes north latitude and 920 metres above sea level, they found two trees that had been transplanted from Singapore in 1904. According to 1952 statistics each rubber tree produced 9.224 kilogrammes of dry rubber. Thus it was really an encouraging discovery.

At the same time, they found in Xishuangbanna's Ganlanba another 89 young rubber plants that had been introduced from Thailand in 1948. These proved that rubber trees could grow on China's soil.

However, they had no other data concerning the cultivation and growth of rubber in those areas. Between 1951 and 1955, they began to transplant and trial cultivate rubber trees. Working under extremely harsh conditions, they set up six experimental farms and grew the first generation of rubber saplings.

Measures Against Cold

The government was convinced by the results of the experimental planting in Xishuangbanna and began to provide additional support for rubber production in this area. More agricultural workers, demobilized servicemen and school-leavers joined the rubber plantation work force. By 1959 the area planted to rubber trees had expanded to 3,667 hectares.

Area (3 hectares)	Malaysia 200	Indonesia 233	Thailand 140	China 45.2	India 23.6	Sri Lanka 22.7
output (1,000 tons)	1,590	937.0	510	150	150	133.0

(The area and output figures of other countries are all pre-1982 figures.)

In the beginning, the rubber production of each tree varied tremendously, depending on the variety and its comparative adaptability to the conditions.

In the 1960s China began large-scale import of a high-yield variety from abroad. At the same time they grafted high yield branches on to the original saplings. A few years later, the output per plant had tripled throughout Xishuangbanna.

Just as people were rejoicing over their increased production, two unprecedented cold currents occurred during mid-1970s, causing serious losses. Most of Xishuangbanna's rubber saplings grew at an altitude between 500m and 900m above sea level areas that are more susceptible to cold than sea level areas.

Between December 26, 1973 and January 7, 1974, the ground was covered with frost and the still water at 730m above sea level froze.

Almost all the tropical plants were damaged to varying degrees; the roots of the frost-bitten rubber trees mostly rotted away, branches and stems withered, about 70 per cent of the rubber trees were damaged.

After the two disastrous cold waves, the leadership of the reclamation area organized 40,000 people to investigate the afflicted area. They quickly collected a large amount of data and began to develop a preliminary understanding of how to grow cold-resistant rubber trees.

The research personnel identified the different climates in the region and planted rubber tree varieties capable of adapting to the special features of mountains, sea level and the sunny and shady sides of the slopes.

In addition, they re-examined their cultivation measures and tapping techniques. For instance they found that the trees that suffered most from root rot were located in the dense inner rings of the plantation. They concluded that sufficient light increases ground temperature and offsets the cold induced rot.

In response, they widened the row spacings and narrowed the space between stalks to allow more light to penetrate to the roots.

Measures Against Wind

The rubber-producing period of the trees transplanted into this area is two to four months shorter than those grown closer to the equator in other Southeast Asian plantations. The researchers developed several new methods of

tapping including one that reduced bark consumption and reduced damage to the trees, thus more than doubling the output.

Besides cold damage, Hainan Island is also hit by typhoons in summer and autumn. A 1952 typhoon and a 1955 spring cold killed or damaged a large number of trees.

As a result, the rubber growers there bred several high-yield and adaptable new varieties. The "Haiken 1" strain they cultivated can withstand a typhoon below force 12 (on the Beaufort scale). The "93-114" strain can withstand a temporary low temperature of minus 1 degree celsius.

They set up a shelter-belt around the rubber plantation, planting trees as wind breakers on the outer ring, rubber trees in the intervening spaces and tropical cash crops and leguminous cover crops under the rubber trees, setting up three-dimensional wind shelter and heat preservation. At the same time they also pruned the rubber trees to increase the plants' wind-resistance.

Thus in 1980 when Hainan Island's rubber plantations were hit by the worse typhoon ever, under the protection of the shelter-forest, only 7 per cent of the rubber trees were lost. The researchers then sought to increase the trees'

A rubber plantation in Jinghong County, Yunnan Province.



yields without losing their resistance. In a 6.7-hectare-rubber tree experimental field, they harvested 3,000 kg of dry rubber per hectare.

Success

The unique cultivation technology created by research personnel and rubber tree planters, and their research results were awarded by the government.

The current project of the Xishuangbanna plantation is now seeking to replace the rubber trees of the 1950s. A deputy director of the Yunnan provincial tropical crops research institute explained the difficulties of such a project.

"A seed must be nursed for two years before it can be transplanted in the field; rubber tapping can be started nine years later; observation and the recording of statistics take at least 4 to 5 years; the seedlings can be sent to different localities for comparative experiments. This will take 7 or 8 years. So the period from seed-breeding to the adoption of a new strain takes about 20 years," he said.

"The rubber trees which we are now rejuvenating will be left to the care of our younger generation," he said. His proud survey of the busy plantation before him made it clear that he is confident of continuing success. □

From Our Readers

A Rainy Afternoon in Beijing

by Jeff Hagen

Following is a contribution from an American reader about his impression on China. We welcome more contributions that describe friendship between the peoples of China and other countries. — Ed.

Peking (Beijing), China.

This is a story about the rain, an umbrella, a pair of sandals, and a yellow raincoat. But, most of all it is a story about friendship.

One gray afternoon in Beijing I chose to leave our official tour and venture out on my own to sketch Tian An Men Square and to observe the Chinese people up close. My wildest expectation wouldn't have prepared me for what was about to happen.

When I reached the square a light drizzle began preventing me from drawing. The shower grew in intensity, and I was forced to seek shelter. As I looked around the giant square I noticed a glass enclosed subway exit. I ran to it. Once inside I found myself in the company of 50 to 75 citizens who viewed me with great curiosity. It was no wonder since I wore a bright yellow raincoat while everyone else in the shelter wore gray, blue and olive drab rain gear. Also my height and facial features indicated that I was a foreigner.

The author is a travel writer and graphic artist from Wisconsin, USA.

Within a short time it was obvious to me that I was the main topic of conversation. A few people approached me and attempted to converse, but our mutual lack of fluency in each other's language was an insurmountable barrier.

Outside, the "light shower" was developing into monsoon proportions; traffic stopped, water lapped over the curb, thunder rolled across the square.

After 25 minutes I became uncomfortable in my role as the centre of attention and considered walking back to the hotel regardless of the storm.

I have a freeze-frame image of what happened next. A young Chinese man squatting next to me slowly rose up and thrust out his arm towards me — at the end was an umbrella.

The crowd watched. There was a moment of animated activity as the man and I gestured madly trying to understand his intentions. Did he want me to go with him? Was he giving me his umbrella? Did he want to go with me to my destination? What? He pointed to me, the umbrella, himself, and again to me.

After some pantomining it appeared that he wanted to guide me to wherever I was going with the aid of his umbrella. With that revelation — he placed his arm around my shoul-

ders — I put mine around his — the umbrella popped open and we stepped out into the torrential downpour.

As I turned to let the glass door close behind us — I was amazed at the gathering of people in the shelter. I saw a great mass of smiling faces and nodding heads and to my utter amazement I had the distinct impression of applause!

Out we went; silver curtains of rain swirled around us as we ran across the street. I showed my companion a tag with "Beijing Hotel" written on it. He nodded and motioned for me to stop underneath an overhang. We stopped, he pointed at my soaked track shoes and at a little rucksack that he was carrying. He reached in and proudly produced a pair of sandals.

I took off my shoes and socks. He handed me the dry sandals. He put my shoes in his bag and we were off running in the rain again.

As we were running down the street he pointed at a trickle of rain that was dripping over the brim of the umbrella and on to my shoulders. I insisted it was not bothering me. But, he stopped and shouted to a Chinese man approaching us on the sidewalk. The man had on a full-length olive drab raincoat. He stopped, conversed briefly with my Chinese friend and approached me. With a great smile he took off his raincoat and placed it on my shoulders! My initial response was to shake my head, no, and give it back to him. He insisted; I wore the raincoat.

Now all three of us were running down the street arm in arm like three drunken sailors, laughing, impervious to the storm around us.

As we approached the entrance to Beijing Hotel, a stern plainclothed security man challenged us. My new friends showed apprehension and retreated down the steps somewhat. The security man set upon them with suspicious authority. The two men gestured towards the umbrella, the sandals, the raincoat and me.

Turning to me, he spoke, "What room are you in?" "Who are you with?" I answered and added that I would like to express my gratitude to these men for their kindness and would like to take a photograph of them and present it to them. "That won't be necessary," replied the security man and began to shoo away the two Chinese. At this moment he was distracted by some arriving hotel guests. He left us temporarily to check the identification of the other people.

I gestured to my Chinese companions to come up the hotel steps. They hesitated. I didn't want this experience to end this way! After a brief moment of uncertainty they came up the steps.

I reached into my shoulder pack and pulled out a Polaroid SX-70 (The "Magic Box"). I photographed the first man and presented it to him. The reaction was a puzzled expression as he looked at the blank piece of cardboard that he was holding. I did the same with the second man and he displayed a similar reaction. But, when they both discovered that something was indeed happening to their "blank" pieces of cardboard, their eyes opened wide in astonishment as the image and colour developed. Rapid, excited dialogue followed accompanied by giant smiles and "thumbs-up" gesturing.

At this moment the security man returned. I handed him the camera and asked him if he would take a photograph of us. He agreed. I demonstrated how to focus and trigger the shutter. He appeared somewhat reluctant, but willing to try. He stepped back, pressed the trigger, handed the camera and emerging print back to me.

With the two Chinese men looking over my shoulders, we anxiously watched the photo appear. There was a great deal of gesturing and laughter. The stern security man faded into the background.

As we huddled over the developing photograph, I heard a faint soft voice: "Please me?" ... It was repeated "Please me?" I looked up and twenty feet away standing against a hotel pillar, looking very meek, was the security man. "Please me?" he said. "Of course, you too," I replied. After taking his picture and presenting it to him I asked him to translate to my friends. "Please tell them that these photographs are for them to keep as a token of my appreciation for their unselfish act of kindness and friendship. This is one of the warmest gestures I have ever experienced. Tell them that I will repeat this story of friendship to people in America. If people-to-people encounters such as this continue, US-China friendship will prevail for eternity.

After he finished translating, we shook hands and waved goodbye. They ran down the steps holding their photographs. My last view of them was as they rounded the hotel gate and entered the crowd of commuters on the wet pavement of Beijing. □

First Photo Exhibition by Peasants



Dragon boat race.

by Liang Jinbiao

PEASANT life is the theme of a recent photo exhibition in Beijing. All of the contributors are peasants and rural cadres in Xinjiao commune on the outskirts of Guangzhou. It is the first exhibition of photos taken by peasants ever held in China's capital.

Xinjiao commune members only began to own cameras in 1981. Each of the commune's 19 production brigades owns one and another 100 are privately owned.

At first, the commune members did not know how to use the cameras. The commune cultural station sponsored a short-term photography class attended by more than 300 people. As a result, a large number of people became amateur photographers and 32 of them formed a spare-time photographic group. Last November, their works were shown in Guangzhou and were much praised. The following are selected from the 230 photos included in the Beijing exhibition.



A banana harvest.

by Gao Jinghui

"Water polo."

by Liang Jinbiao



Setting sun in Zhuhai.

by Yang Duirong



On a campus path.

by Wang Jianhui



Really want to have a bite!

by Lin Qingchi



Loving care of a 100-year-old.

by Song Quanguang

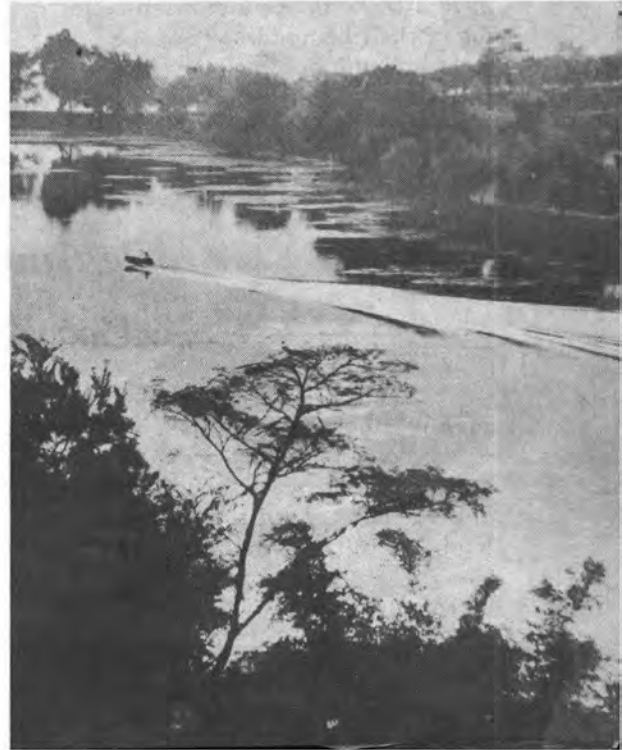
Racing a boat on calm water.

by Tan Wanxiang



A rural kindergarten.

by Feng Zhiquan



OPINION

Should socialist enterprises Issue stocks?

SHOULD socialist enterprises issue stocks? There are generally three views among the theoretical circles:

One view is that since stock companies are capitalist forms of management, if individuals own shares in public-owned enterprises, ownership will then become jointly state and private, and the socialist nature of the enterprise will therefore be changed. This contravenes socialist principles.

Another position is that if stock is issued by state-owned or collectively owned enterprises, workers and staff will be able to buy shares so their interests will be closely integrated with the interests of the state and the enterprises. Economically, the workers and staff will have a more direct understanding of their being masters of the state and the enterprises. This

is a good way to mobilize their initiative.

A third analysis is that in capitalist countries where stocks are widely issued, the capitalist nature of the enterprises (i.e., monopoly and private ownership) remains unchanged, because the decision-making power of the enterprises is in the hands of the monopoly capitalists. In socialist enterprises, the leadership is in the hands of the state or the administrative committees elected by the collective. To collect a portion of scattered funds through issuing stocks will not change the socialist nature of the enterprises, but on the contrary will make the workers and staff more concerned about the enterprise management.

— “*Xueshu Dongtai*”
(*Academic Trends*)

COMMENT

Peasants' investment in land encouraged

NOW that individuals, not production teams, are management units, each household must be encouraged to invest in land fertility. Stable policies are key. The peasants must be convinced that their right to manage and utilize contracted

land and private plots will remain unchanged for a considerable period of time.

However, in quite a few areas, peasants are hesitant to make large commitments to the current situation.

A common rural saying these days is, “If [the policy] remains unchanged for one year, I will use inorganic fertilizer; if it remains unchanged for two years, I will use organic fertilizer; if it remains unchanged for three years, I will grow green manure.” [Inorganic fertilizer is available to peasants at low prices, organic fertilizer requires more time and labour; “green manure,” plants that make excellent fertilizer, get the best results in the long run but immediately require the use of field space that could otherwise be sown to crops. — Ed.]

Land improvements are long-term investments that do not usually have immediate pay offs. If we want the land to be improved, we must assure the peasants that it is worth their while to make the investments.

Dayi County, Sichuan Province, has developed an incentive plan called the “the three-unchanged policy” to encourage the peasants to invest their own money in improving their low-yielding land.

The policy is that the contractor's right to use land will remain unchanged after the soil has been improved; if the output has been increased, the quota for output will remain unchanged [so the peasant benefits from the surplus] and the amount of crops purchased by the state will remain unchanged [so the peasant can sell the remainder on the rural market].

In some areas, the production brigade regularly tests the fertility of land contracted by the peasants. After several years, those whose soil has improved will be rewarded and those whose has not will be fined.

Many individual households cannot afford to build necessary irrigation projects, so the production brigades encourage sev-

eral families to build one together with joint funds.

— "Renmin Ribao" (*People's Daily*)

PEOPLE

Woman Living Buddha

SANDING Doje Tagno, the only woman Living Buddha in Tibet, is more than an unusual religious figure. Her adventures and political contributions make her extraordinary on many counts.

She was only four when Buddhist lamas selected her to be the "Twelfth Doje Tagno." Although she has no memory of the grand seven-day initiation ceremony at the 300-year-old Sanding Monastery to the southwest of Yamzhog Yum Lake, south of Lhasa or at the 36 monasteries under its jurisdiction. However, these events determined the direction of her life.

When she was 14 in 1955, she was named a member of a "Ti-

betan Visiting Group" that toured the rest of China. She and her father later attended a national Buddhist conference in Beijing. Eventually, she was elected a standing committee member of the Tibet Committee for Religious Affairs, and the head of its Gyangze Committee. Today she is the *Kanpo* (abbot) of the majestic Sanding Monastery.

However she did not always live the peaceful monastic life. In March 1959, when a handful of upper-strata Tibetans launched an armed rebellion against the government, her monastery was right in the line of fire.

She was only 18 and unsure of the correct course of action. She repeatedly tried to send secret messages to the PLA asking for

help, but was unsuccessful.

She, her sister and brother-in-law and several close lamas took refuge on a small island in a nearby lake. But the rebel army discovered them and one evening after sundown they were "escorted" out of the area by armed men. They were marched along a narrow path to the Bhutan border, but Bhutan would not grant them entry.

Hemmed in by enemies on all sides, they lived for several weeks in the wilderness on wild herbs and fruits. Then the rebels ordered them to India, and they began the long journey to a small border town in that country.

But even there, away from the fighting, they found no peace. The Tibetan "exile government" officials who met them offered to "support" them, but added "if you live on us, you must do whatever we say."

Sanding Doje Tagno was determined not to be used by them, and to return to her homeland and her family. She declined their "help" and she and her party fended for themselves. After many more hardships they finally got in touch with the Chinese diplomatic staff in India and asked to be repatriated.

In September 1959, she and her sister and brother-in-law returned to a warm Beijing welcome.

She was elected a deputy to both the Fifth (1978) and Sixth (1983) National People's Congresses.

"The Party and the people have confidence in patriots. I hope that Tibetan compatriots who are still living abroad will soon return to participate in the construction of their homeland," she said.

— Adapted from "Renmin Ribao" (*People's Daily*)



Sanding Doje Tagno (second from right) with her parents and other family members.

MEDICINE

New surgery replaces lost finger

Shanghai surgeons have successfully reconstructed the hand of a 26-year-old female worker who lost her right thumb in an accident last November. In a rare operation, surgeons at the No. 1 People's Hospital transplanted the frozen thumb of a man who died more than six months ago and then added tissue from the recipient's toe.

The patient, Li Yanxian, went to the hospital in April when she heard that its orthopaedics department had successfully re-attached a number of severed fingers.

A proven method for replacing a lost thumb is to use one of the patient's own toes. This

"autotransplantation" has the advantage that the digit will not be rejected but, of course, it means the patient loses a toe.

Dr. Huang Shuolin, deputy director of the hospital's orthopaedics department began to experiment with another surgical procedure — "allograft transplantation," the grafting of a finger from a dead donor — in 1959. At that time he attached the donor finger by using "tubes" made of a flap from the patient's abdomen. Later, he found that the bone of the donated finger tended to become withered and its joints deformed. The new finger was easily burnt or frostbitten owing to poor circulation and inadequate sensitivity.

Beginning in May 1982, Dr. Huang and his assistant Hou Mingzhong experimented with a skin graft from the re-

recipient's toe on to the transplanted bone and subcutaneous tissue. In Li Yanxian's case, they attached a donor finger but removed its skin and used a skin flap from the recipient's toe with nail, nerves and vessels intact.

This method was used in the seven-hour microsurgery for Li Yanxian. The donor belonged to the blood group O, while Li belongs to blood group A.

Dr. Huang has found that long periods of freezing seem to lessen the tendency of the recipient to reject the donor finger, particularly in the case of subcutaneous tissue.

Dr. Huang and his assistant have had 22 successes in the 25 heterotransplants they have performed in the past year.

Li's new thumb is gaining colour and sensitivity. Her thumb nail is beginning to grow. She can now knit and perform other tasks.

New treatments for skin disease

A nationally co-ordinated group for psoriasis research, prevention and treatment was



Li knits with her new hand 51 days after the operation.



Left: The hand before operation.
Right: After the transplant.



recently set up, an illustration that China's research on this skin condition has made a leap forward from its formerly scattered clinical experiments and observations.

Psoriasis, called "ox skin tinea" in China, is a recurrent and stubborn chronic disorder of the skin that may appear anywhere on the body. The cause giving rise to it is still unknown.

At a recent symposium in China, more than 40 papers were presented on studies of psoriasis in epidemiology, genetics, biochemistry, immunology and other fields.

Chinese medical workers have obtained good results in treating the disease with light therapy and chemotherapy, as well as with the application of both Western and traditional Chinese medicines. The effectiveness of a combined treatment of applying light and *baizhi* (root of Dahurian angelica) is 89.4 per cent. This new therapy was reported at the 1981 third international symposium on psoriasis in the United States. Another medicine newly evolved in China, baimolane, is effective for 83.3 per cent of the receivers.

At present Chinese researchers are concentrating on the study and production of various medicinal herbs which have high efficiency and less side-effect.

AQUATIC PLANT

Seaweed production

China now is the world's largest producer of seaweed, harvesting more than one million tons of fresh seaweed through artificial plantation and thousands of tons of seaweed extracts annually, according to Prof. Zeng Chengkui, seaweed



Another bumper harvest of laver.

scientist and director of the Institute of Oceanology of the Chinese Academy of Sciences.

At the 11th International Seaweed Symposium in Qingdao, Shandong Province, last June, Zeng Chengkui said that China boasts some 20,000 hectares sown to kelp, the world's largest acreage. Kelp is a commercial source of iodine and potassium salts and can be used to remedy dietary iodine deficiencies in humans and in livestock and for the manufacture of fertilizer and medicine. Other seaweed products include algin, mannitol and agar.

China's mainland has an 18,000-kilometre-long coastline, and more than 1,000 kinds of seaweed, including 100 valuable varieties. Yet the seaweed industry is quite new in China. China's 400 seaweed scientists had to start from scratch after the founding of New China in 1949 and to catch up with the international industry. Today China's seaweed production not only satisfies its home needs, but also provides kelp to international markets.

Chinese scientists also have met the international standards

in the artificial plantation of kelp and laver. They first used floats as kelp attachments in place of underwater stones. They advanced the kelp seedling planting time from autumn to summer, which allows them to sort out strong seedlings in late autumn instead of in winter, and thus has boosted the kelp yield by 50 per cent.

Kelp is being transplanted 2,000 kilometres southwards from 40 degrees north latitude down to 20 degrees north latitude, the lowest latitude for artificially grown kelp in the world. Chinese seaweed scientists are now able to treat some kelp diseases as a result of their research into the causal factors.

Meanwhile, a thorough knowledge about laver — its life cycle from spore to frond — has guaranteed a successful artificial plantation in China.

Participating in the Qingdao symposium were 500 scientists from 31 countries and regions, including the United States, Japan, Canada and the Philippines. They read 300 papers and held many discussions about recent seaweed research and achievements.



'Guide to Investment In China'

Guide to Investment in China

《中国投资指南》

Edited by: China International Economic Consultants Inc. and Economic Information & Consultancy Co.

Published by: Economic Information & Agency

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Price: RMB 90 yuan a set for an English and a Chinese edition

Investors around the world welcomed China's policy of opening to the outside world and the promulgation of the Law on Joint Ventures Using Chinese and Foreign Investment in July 1979. Quite a few foreign entrepreneurs have inquired about the policies regarding foreign capital and the investment environment in China.

In response, China International Economic Consultants Inc., under the auspices of the Ministry of Foreign Economic Relations and Trade and China International Trust and Invest-

ment Corporation, had edited *Guide to Investment in China* which was published by Economic Information & Agency in Xianggang (Hongkong) in May 1982.

Guide to Investment in China is the first publication since the founding of the People's Republic to deal with China's utilization of foreign capital. In 17 chapters, the *Guide* examines China's general situation, investment environment, provincial investment conditions and relevant policies, principles, organizations, laws and regulations with regard to foreign investment. Tipped by this reference book, overseas investors will be in a favourable position to invest effectively in China by choosing suitable products and forms.

The *Guide* is backed by authentic materials and data which appear in a clear and eye-catching layout. All the chapters on specialized subjects were contributed by professional personnel and institutes. Therefore, the facts and figures cited are accurate. Twenty-two impressive illustrations help clarify the materials, such as the charts on Political Structure in Chap-

ter One, Forms of Business for Absorbing Foreign Investment in Chapter Four and Taxation in Chapter Seven. A colour illustration in Chapter 12, A Proper Approach to Investment in China, charts the approaches and procedures for investing in China.

Most helpful of all is that the *Guide* introduces the various Chinese forms for using foreign capital and China's specialized organizations in international co-operation.

Also encompassed in the book are the geography, area, population, economic resources and basic facilities of each individual province, municipality and autonomous region, coupled with their potentials for co-operation with foreign firms, forms of business and foreign investment control organizations.

Take Shaanxi Province for instance. Besides its investment conditions and basic facilities, the book describes all its fields open to foreign investment: coal mining, molybdenum mining, fruit canning, woollen textiles, cotton textiles, blended fabrics, light industrial products, leather goods, replicas of antiques, tourism, etc. Its forms of business: processing of provided materials, assembly with provided components, compensatory trade, joint ventures and others, winding up with a list of its foreign investment organizations and their addresses, telephone numbers and cable addresses.

Guide to Investment in China is not only a must for overseas entrepreneurs, bankers, manufacturers and members of financial circles, but is an equally ready reference for foreign governments, institutions and libraries that are interested in China.

*Woodcuts by Jiang
Zhenhua*

Born in 1941 in Fengxian County in Jiangsu Province, Jiang Zhenhua works at the Xinjiang branch of the Chinese Artists' Association. All his works are simple and lively portrayals of the life of the minority peoples in Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region. They are both realistic and decorative.



Picking up a Sheep From a Racing Horse. (One of the favourite sports of the minority peoples in Xinjiang.)



An Ancient Business Centre in Xinjiang. (A long scroll.)

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