

# People's 人民中国 China

January 16, 1951

## Consolidate the People's China under The Banner of Patriotism

— "People's Daily" Editorial

## The Story behind 1950's Bumper Crops

— Ke Chia-lung

## "Peace Does Not Wait on Us--- It Must Be Won"

— Kung Peng

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Supplement: *China and the Second World Peace  
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### SUPPLEMENT

- China and the Second World Peace Congress (Reports and Documents)

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# Winning Peace

The Chinese people's volunteers and the Korean People's Army are changing the course of history. They have turned the tide of war against the American aggressors who only a few weeks ago had brought war to the very borders of China.

Efficient and brutal in killing peaceful civilians, levelling homes, devastating cities and villages, burning, looting and raping, the American troops have proved themselves impotent and even imbecile on the battlefield when pitted against patriots and democrats. All their strategy has been knocked awry and their time-table for aggression smashed.

By their series of mad invasions of Korea, Taiwan and their bombing of Northeast China, the United States was thrusting the whole world into the horrors of a new war. But now with the appearance of the Chinese people's volunteers in Korea fighting alongside the Korean People's Army, these apparently powerful aggressors are already meeting ignominious defeat.

The great victory of the Chinese and Korean peoples is being joyfully acclaimed by all peace-loving peoples. Once again it is proved emphatically that the people can stay the bloody hand of the aggressors and preserve peace only by striking back at the aggressors with hard and determined blows. Once again it demonstrates that as a result of the concerted efforts of the peace-loving peoples, peace will surely vanquish war.

At the same time, this victory has precipitated fear and dissension in the camp of the imperialist warmongers. The sagging morale of the U.S. troops in Korea has been plunged to its lowest point. The panic-stricken American rulers, beginning with Hoover, Dulles, Taft and Truman, are bickering and acrimoniously accusing each other of the fiasco in Korea. Each wants his own particular policy of aggression to be followed, but all are equally infected with defeatism.

Alarm and despondency spreads among the American satellites. They fear America's adventurist policies which threaten them with ultimate ruin. They haggle over the portions of cannon fodder which each should supply for the dangerous gambles of American aggression. Mistrust grows in the thieves' kitchen, and particularly mistrust between the U.S. and Britain and France.

Truman has been trying desperately, but in vain, to cover up his defeats and bring a semblance of stability and resolution to the wavering imperialist ranks. He thunders threats; steps up his war measures; proclaims

a "state of emergency" so as to intensify the exploitation of the American workers; speeds up the armaments drive that is pouring new millions of profits into the laps of the merchants of death and twists the whole U.S. economy onto a war footing. He has driven his unwilling satellites to accept the "Brussels Decision" to rearm western Germany and recruit a revived west German army into the so-called Atlantic Armed Force under Eisenhower's command.

Typical of Truman's ill-fated manoeuvres is the so-called "Cease Fire" proposal illegally adopted by the U.N. General Assembly, with its all-too-obvious aim of gaining a breathing space to prepare for new attacks against the Korean people and to extend the war.

These desperate measures, however, are all signs of the weakness and panic of the U.S. aggressors worsted on the Korean front. They can neither hide their defeat nor intimidate and cheat the people. Wave after wave of powerful actions against the American aggression have surged round the world—in western Germany, Italy, France, Holland, Britain and in America as well. These movements are gaining momentum with each success achieved by the Soviet Union and the People's Democracies in peaceful construction, and with each new victory scored by the Chinese volunteers and Korean People's Army on the Korean front.

Having experienced decades of war, the Chinese people treasure peace in which to heal the wounds of war and carry out the great work of rehabilitation and reconstruction. But they are entirely convinced of the truth that peace does not come by waiting, it must be won. They have welcomed the decisions of the Warsaw Peace Congress with the utmost enthusiasm. Their volunteers in Korea are an earnest of how they will implement those decisions.

Conscious of the significant role they are playing in the camp of peace headed by the Soviet Union, the Chinese people are strengthening their national defences, political unity, economic position and educational and cultural construction. They are building up a powerful country dedicated to peace. This will safeguard not only their own security, it will strengthen the defence of peace in Asia and throughout the world.

Conscious of the support of the peace-loving peoples in all countries, the Chinese people are confident of their final complete victory—the liberation of all their lands. They will spare no effort to accomplish these great tasks.

## ***Punish the Hangmen in Korea!***

After three months of hellish occupation under the American imperialists and their lackeys the Syngman Rhee clique, the people of Seoul, Korea's capital, have again been liberated. Like Pyongyang, Seoul has been freed by the heroic Korean People's Army and the Chinese volunteer formations. The nightmare is now over for Seoul's population. Daylight has returned. Democratic rule has been re-established.

But, in three months of unprecedented terror, Seoul was reduced to a shambles. It was hell on earth when the Wall Street hangmen occupied the city. Thousands of Korean men and women were flung into goal for no other reason than that they were patriots—and many for no reason at all. Neither pregnant women, children, nor mothers with babies at their breasts escaped these sadists. People were brutally shot inside the crowded cells. Many were taken out to be murdered *en masse* before graves dug by themselves. These criminal acts have aroused the towering indignation of the people in all freedom-loving lands. Even America's satellite troops in the field, the British Northumberland Fusiliers, are reported to have regarded these cold-blooded murders as "revolting," and to have "protested."

This killing of innocent people was just one aspect of the atrocities committed by the fascist beasts in Seoul and elsewhere in Korea. Looting, arson and rape were the order of the day. They have few parallels in modern history. The American and Syngman Rhee butchers carried out a policy as utterly blood-curdling as the worst perpetrated by the Hitlerite fascists. The war as exemplified by the MacArthur cave-men in Korea is not a war between nations. It is a war between men and beasts in human form. It is a war between humanity and savagery, in which the former must, and will, win.

As recently as January 7, the Korean Democratic People's Republic presented the United Nations with additional irrefutable evidence of American atrocities in Korea and asked that immediate measures be taken to stop these terrible crimes. But, although the Soviet Union has time and again brought the matter before the U.N., the appeal was ignored. The war policy of the American-British bloc has thwarted all attempts to prevent Korea from being turned into a slaughterhouse.

The people of the world demand that the hangmen of Korea led by the criminal MacArthur be put on trial before the bar of the

people's justice. But with the United States and its satellites controlling the United Nations, it is impossible to see justice done there to the Korean people.

The people today, however, have their own remedies. The Korean People's Army and the Chinese volunteers are already dealing mortal blows to the enemy. In due course they will run the aggressor off the Korean peninsula.

But this is not all.

To put an end to U.S. aggression and all its attendant crimes in Korea as well as in China's Northeast (where the bombing of towns and villages continues to this hour), to put an end to all the horrors in Asia which American aggression has brought about, the only effective answer is to throw the American imperialists altogether out of Asia. This will be done.

### **"THE CRIMES OF A BEAST..."**

*Extracts of the appeal released on January 7 by the Democratic Women's Union of Korea to the women of the whole world. In order that this heart-rending appeal may reach the widest range of people, the full text will be reproduced in the next issue of People's China.—Ed.*

"One cannot study Korea by those maps and books in which it was described six months ago. Not even a vestige has been left of those places which six months ago were charted as towns and villages. Where a house stood now there is none. Where an orchard and forest grew now there are none, only barren rocks and river beds have remained.

"One can hardly imagine that man could stoop to such baseness! We are convinced that these are not the deeds of man but the crimes of a beast in the guise of man. We saw an infant pressing against the breast of a dead mother! How could he know that his mother had been killed, that the source of life had stopped running from her high breast... We hear the groans and curses of our sisters whom the Americans and their hirelings have dishonoured. Many of our sisters unable to endure the disgrace have committed suicide.

"The morals of the American imperialists are not human, they are the morals of beasts: to hate what is honest, to seize what is cherished, to trample underfoot what is beautiful, to suppress what is just, to annihilate what is weak. This is what the American imperialist vultures believe in and this is what they are doing.

# CONSOLIDATE THE PEOPLE'S CHINA UNDER THE BANNER OF PATRIOTISM

Great successes have crowned the efforts of the Chinese people in the year 1950. In this past year, the Chinese people have by their own deeds given the answer to the three main questions which were raised following the victory over Chiang Kai-shek:

Firstly, could China carry on its construction without the "assistance" of capitalist countries? Secondly, would the imperialists in capitalist countries voluntarily give up their aggression against China after the defeat of their lackey Chiang Kai-shek and permit China to concentrate on construction? Thirdly, could China defeat imperialist aggression and defend her security?

Our great successes on the economic front in the past year have answered the first question. Contrary to the argument of the imperialists that China cannot do anything without American "assistance," the Central People's Government has swiftly realised the unification of finance and economy throughout the country, balanced the national budget, guaranteed supplies of materials, thus checking the inflation and the rising prices left behind by long years of war and reactionary rule and which American "assistance" had never been able to solve.

The Central People's Government has solved the complicated problems of the restoration of communications, construction of water conservancy works, relief for the victims of natural calamities, trade development, readjustment of industry and commerce and reduction of tax burdens on the people on a scale and at a speed never formerly envisaged. Thus, industrial and agricultural production swiftly revived in 1950. The output of iron and steel and cotton goods have already surpassed the levels of 1936—the last year before the Anti-Japanese War. The output of grain and cotton has also approached the levels of that period.

The state economy has step by step consolidated its leading position. It is gradually reducing anarchy in production. The restoration of production, domestic and foreign trade, the adjustment of commodity prices, the development of workers' welfare, the carrying out of rent reduction, agrarian reform, reduction of agricultural taxes and relief for the victims of natural calamities and unemployment have enabled part of the Chinese working people to improve their livelihood considerably, some to make initial improvements and others to bring about the conditions necessary to improve their livelihood.

All this does not result from relying on the "assistance" of any of the capitalist countries, but from rejecting and opposing such so-called "assistance." It is the result of the strenuous efforts of the great Chinese people under the leadership of the great Communist Party of China and the generous assistance of the great Socialist state, the U.S.S.R.

This is a condensed translation of an editorial of the *Peking People's Daily*, January 1, 1951, which is entitled "Consolidate Our Great Motherland under the Banner of Patriotism."

Since the Chinese people have reaped so rich a harvest in 1950, no one can doubt that they will reap an even richer harvest in the next few years and bring about an upsurge of economic construction in China.

The deeds of the American imperialists themselves provided us with the answer to the second question. The Americans constantly remind the Chinese people that the war between China's revolutionary people and the counter-revolutionary elements has not yet ended.

American aggression against Taiwan and Korea while the Chinese people's revolutionary war has not ended can only be regarded as the prolongation and extension of intervention in China's revolution. Imperialism will not automatically abandon its intervention and aggression unless it is repulsed by the revolutionary people, and has to admit defeat. This being so, it follows that the Chinese people must regard as their primary task the consolidation of national defence and development of the struggle against imperialism, and must couple this task with the tasks of economic construction so that they mutually help each other.

Can we defeat imperialist aggression? The answer, given by the great Chinese people's volunteers, is that we can fully do so. After two months of heroic battle in Korea, the Chinese people's volunteers have proved that even without aeroplanes and tanks and with very little artillery, they can defeat the most "powerful" imperialist forces.

The Chinese people's volunteers have also proved the truth that the strength of the Chinese people and of the peoples of the world is invincible and that the American and all other imperialists are paper tigers.

For this reason, although the imperialists have not ceased their aggressions against the Chinese people, China enters the year 1951 with every confidence of the bright future that lies ahead.

The prime duty of the Chinese people in 1951 is to exert our greatest efforts in consolidating our motherland militarily, politically, economically and culturally so as to make it impossible for the imperialists and their lackeys to undermine our great revolutionary cause and our gigantic tasks of construction.

This is to say that, in 1951, the Chinese people must continue to support the just struggle being carried out by the Chinese people's volunteers in Korea and by the Korean people, and must vigorously strive to strengthen our national defence, so as to complete the liberation of all China and beat off any possible new foreign aggression.

By conscientious effort, China can become a first class world military power like the Soviet Union. This will not only safeguard the security of our motherland, enabling China's economic construction and social reform to be carried out smoothly, but it will also powerfully strengthen peace in the East and throughout the whole world.



**Consolidate Our Great Motherland**  
*Poster by Sun Hung-hsi*

This is also to say that, in 1951, the Chinese people must energetically carry out the land reform, resolutely clear out subversive elements and the bandit remnants which exist in a few areas, must conscientiously strengthen the organisation of the working class and political education throughout the country, and must continue to strengthen the unity between the various nationalities, democratic classes, parties and groups in China.

From the winter of 1950 to the spring of 1951, land reform will have been carried out in newly-liberated areas which embrace a population of 130 million. From the winter of 1951 to the spring of 1952, land reform will be completed in the main throughout the country, with the exception of the areas of the national minorities. This will greatly strengthen the political and economic foundations of the Chinese people's democratic dictatorship.

This is also to say that, in 1951, the Chinese people must consolidate the economic position which they now hold, must conscientiously restore and develop at the key points industrial and agricultural production throughout the country, and must systematically prepare to advance production. For this reason, those industries and communications enterprises which are most essential and which are connected with national defence must be developed; water conservancy work, which is indispensable to the development of agricultural production, must continue to be built up and developed; the greatest efforts must be put into developing domestic trade and co-operative enterprises which are indispensable to industrial and agricultural production.

These will constitute the central work of the year 1951 in the field of economic construction. The conscientious betterment of the material living conditions of the workers, peasants and other labouring people is one of the important conditions for the smooth carrying out of all economic tasks.

This also means that the Chinese people must in 1951 continue to strengthen ideological education in resisting American aggression and aiding Korea, eliminate the political influence left behind by imperialism, especially American imperialism, in its long-term aggression in China, and lead this work to a new upsurge of patriotism.

For the Chinese people, patriotism means: to oppose imperialist aggression and feudal oppression; to safeguard the fruits of the Chinese people's democratic revolution; to support New Democracy; to stand for progress and oppose backwardness; to support the labouring people; to support the internationalist alliance of the labouring peoples of China, the U.S.S.R., the People's Democracies and the world; to strive for the Socialist future.

The imperialists and their lackeys have attempted to belittle the Chinese people's importance in the world, but these attempts have come to nothing. The age-old history and culture of China is more than the foundation for uniting 475 million people into a single great nation, it is also the centre of the age-old history and culture of the East. It has and will continue to influence the whole world by its vital contributions.

"The Chinese Revolution and the Communist Party of China," a book jointly written by Comrade Mao Tse-tung and other comrades, states that the Chinese nation is not only known throughout the world as industrious and hard-working, it is also a nation which devotedly loves freedom and is rich in revolutionary tradition. The Chinese people of all nationalities have always fought to free themselves from foreign oppression. There have been many national heroes and revolutionary leaders in the thousands of years of China's history. The Chinese nation has a glorious revolutionary tradition and a magnificent historical heritage.

For several thousands of years, the Chinese people have been in the front ranks of world culture. In the past 100 years, however, the Chinese people have been ruthlessly oppressed by the capitalist and imperialist countries. But Chinese patriots, persistently fighting against such backwardness and oppression, eventually found the truth of Marxism-Leninism as a weapon to free the Chinese people. The integration of the labouring people of China with Marxism-Leninism has enabled the Chinese people to surpass the Western capitalist nations ideologically, politically and even militarily, thus bringing about the great victory of the Chinese people's revolution.

The alliance of the victorious Chinese people and the Soviet people is not only the alliance of the countries of the largest populations and territories in Asia and Europe, it is also the alliance of the most advanced and most consolidated countries. Therefore, such an alliance is matchless.

On the military, political and economic fronts, we have already gained great successes, and there will certainly be still greater successes in future. We have an advanced, just cause which coincides with the interests of the whole of mankind. If imperialism, puny and reactionary, does not cease its aggression against China and the East, it will only hasten its own doom. Our great motherland will forever march unswervingly onward.

# THE STORY BEHIND 1950'S BUMPER CROPS

Ke Chia-lung

As a result of 1950's bumper crops, the Chinese people now have more than enough to eat and quite enough to wear. It is proverbial that under the Asiatic type of exploitation, the Chinese masses throughout the past centuries were in a state of constant cold and hunger. To-day increased agricultural production and more equitable distribution are bringing them to well-being and prosperity. This is one of the most spectacular victories scored by the emancipated Chinese people and the government of their own choosing.

This achievement is particularly impressive if we take into account the fact that 12 years of war and KMT misrule had reduced the nation's agricultural production to about three-quarters, and in some places even two-thirds, of the pre-war level. Furthermore, in 1949, more than 121,000,000 *mow*\* of farmland were damaged by natural calamities, affecting the livelihood of some 40,000,000 people to varying degrees.

The nation's grain harvest in 1950 exceeded that of the previous year by 10,000,000 tons and represented 85.7 per cent of the pre-war yield. This meant an average of 250 kilograms of grain for every man, woman and child in China, or double the average annual per capita consumption in recent centuries.

This is why today we can say that China's age-old food shortage is definitely ended. China no longer needs to rely on imported grain, always a heavy drain on the country's foreign exchange reserves in the past. From now on, the Chinese people will no longer be faced with the question of how to ward off hunger and starvation, but with the question of how to eat better.

Equally striking results have been achieved in cotton production which registered an increase of 260,000 tons over that of 1949. The 1950 cotton crop surpassed the pre-war annual average by 20 per cent and reached 82.8 per cent of the all-time record harvest of 1936. The crop the farmers have just picked is sufficient to keep all China's textile mills running for a whole year, while also meeting normal consumer demands.

The production targets in other agricultural spheres have also been successfully

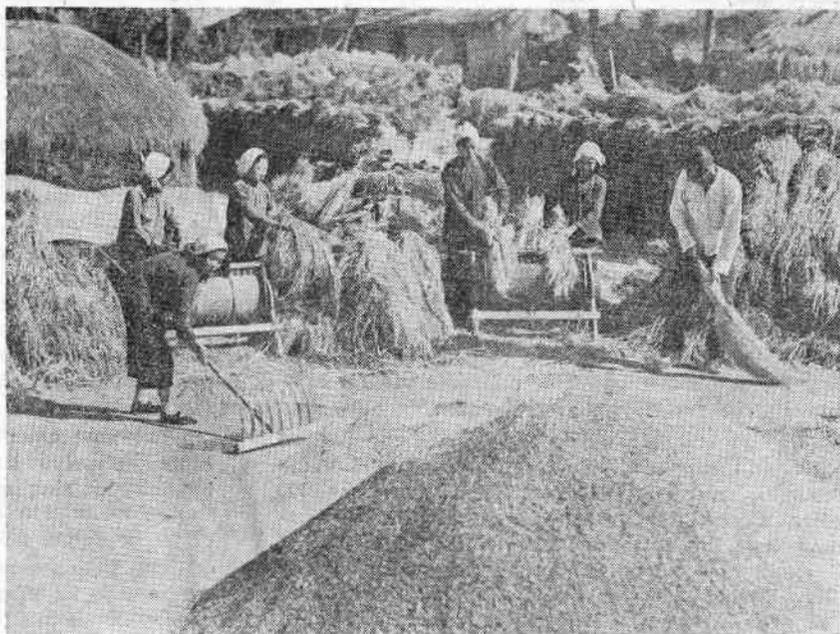
fulfilled. To cite a few instances, hemp and flax output reached 225,000 tons in 1950; silkworm cocoons, 32,500 tons; tea, 60,000 tons.

What were the factors behind this spectacular victory on the agricultural front? Let us list a few of them:

(1) The foremost condition was the complete victory of the revolution led by the Chinese Communist Party throughout China, except for Taiwan and Tibet. This victory has already largely swept away the old feudal restraints on agricultural production. It made it possible for every village and hamlet to establish and consolidate revolutionary order, so that the peasants could produce in peace. With hostilities on the mainland virtually concluded, the peasants' war burden could be greatly reduced. On June 1, 1950, the government was able to announce a 25 per cent cut in agricultural taxes. All these developments combined to provide the peasants with a stable environment in which to centre their attention on improving production.

(2) An inseparably related factor was the agrarian reform made possible only by the victory over the KMT reactionaries and their imperialist backers.

In the old liberated areas where land distribution was carried out, the cultivators took back the lands which the rapacious feudal landlords had stolen from them over the centuries. By restoring the means of production to the full ownership of the producer and giving him full title to the products of his labour,



The 1950 grain harvest exceeds that of 1949 by 10,000,000 tons.

\* 15 *mow* equal to 1 hectare.

an unprecedented wave of latent productive enthusiasm, initiative and creativeness was released.

In more recently liberated areas where conditions were not yet suitable for land distribution, a policy of rent reduction was carried out. This considerably lessened the burden of exploitation on the peasant and meant that he could keep at least two-thirds of his product for his own use, instead of only one-half or less as before. Therefore the peasants in these areas also took an increased interest in production.

As a result of these revolutionary changes, a peasant working the same plot he had cultivated for years usually attained a much higher yield this year. For instance, since he was no longer working mainly for some landlord, he was willing to invest in more fertilizer and to hoe more intensively than in the past. He was also eager to reclaim wasteland, with the result that 12,000,000 *mow* were reclaimed in China during 1950.

(3) Government assistance was also a decisive factor in attaining the huge harvest. The people's government carried out a whole series of measures to encourage farm production. The complete list is too long to detail here. To mention the most important, the government exempted from taxation that portion of the crop which exceeded the given average for the area. Before the planting season, the government also established exchange rates between grain and cotton as well as between grain and hemp which stimulated the production of the industrial crops. At harvest time, the government promptly carried out a buying programme to hold farm prices stable. It also made sure that there were sufficient industrial goods available in rural markets at prices favourable to the peasants. Furthermore, the government loaned out 700,000 tons of grain to the peasants during last year at very low interest rates or none at all in order to help them solve their production problems. In these various ways and many others, the government did everything within its power to facilitate agricultural production.

(4) The government also made every effort to help the peasant ward off or minimise natural calamities. The results were spectacular.

China's archives reveal that during the past 19 centuries, there were 658 major floods and 1,013 severe droughts, averaging 88 catastrophes in every 100 years. Conditions so deteriorated under the reactionary rule of the Northern Warlords and the KMT that 77 disasters occurred in the 26 years from 1912 to 1937. During the war years, the rate of disasters rose even higher. Indeed, in the long centuries under feudal rule, the Chinese peasants generally lived



The 1950 cotton output surpasses the pre-war annual average by 20 per cent.

on the verge of starvation, while a good crop was something most exceptional.

The year 1950 was by no means free from natural calamities either. But preventative measures, particularly water conservancy work, reduced them very considerably. Since the winter of 1949, some 4,700,000 people have been organised by the government to take part in the struggle against floods. The earthwork in the gigantic programme carried out in 1950 totalled 420,000,000 cubic metres—the equivalent of the earthwork involved in excavating six canals the size of the Suez Canal. This same amount of earth, if built into an embankment one metre wide and one metre high, would be sufficient to encircle the globe ten times at the equator.

As a result of such Herculean efforts, flood disasters were held to a minimum in 1950 despite the dangerously high level of China's major rivers last summer. The only major floods occurred in northern Anhwei and Kiangsu provinces where the treacherous Huai River overflowed its banks—though with far less devastating effects than in any recent year.

The government, too, carried out a number of other extensive irrigation projects, including the repairing or sinking of 68,000 wells. This work led to the restoration or opening up of 3,000,000 *mow* of fertile paddy fields.

(5) The government also achieved noteworthy successes in its efforts to introduce scientific agricultural methods in China's backward rural areas. Due to government encouragement and assistance, more

than 4,600,000 *mow* were planted with improved grain seed south of the Great Wall, while another 10,000,000 *mow* were sown with high-yielding, pest-resistant cotton seeds. To help the peasants combat pests, the government distributed 1,250 tons of insecticide, sufficient to protect 19,000,000 *mow* of farmland. It also loaned out 54,000 sprayers for the peasants to use free of charge.

In addition, the government made sure that rural markets received a steady flow of newly-invented or improved farm implements which the peasants could buy with their increased earnings.

During the year, 29 new mechanised state farms were organised to carry out agricultural experiments and to provide models of good farm management for the peasants to study and duplicate.

Particular stress was laid on teaching the peasants to take good care of their draught animals. Furthermore, government teams inoculated some 6,000,000 head of oxen, or more than one-fifth of all the oxen in the country, as well as other farm animals. To promote scientific breeding practices, the government set up 850 breeding stations in Shantung and Pingyuan provinces and in Northwest China.

(6) Still another factor was the role played by tens of thousands of agricultural model workers. They have done much to raise output by their indefatigable efforts or by many ingenious means. They are the vanguards of the peasantry, who set the pace for others to follow. Together with the peasant masses, they fought tirelessly and successfully for the bumper crops.

A new force also emerged on the agricultural front last year. This force was the heroic fighters of the People's Liberation Army. Relieved of active combat duties, millions of PLA men plunged into productive work. They not only helped the peasants fight against floods, droughts and insect pests, they themselves transformed last year more than 3,300,000 *mow* of wasteland into productive soil, and harvested bumper crops.

These few key factors listed here are enough to illustrate that China's 1950 bumper crops cannot be explained by the climatic conditions of last year, which in fact were not unusually favourable, but must be largely attributed to the whole year of hard work put in by the Chinese peasants under the wise guidance of their own government.

Having looked at the factors which brought about this excellent harvest, let us now analyse what the 1950 bumper crop will mean to China's future development.

This harvest means, in the first place, that the Chinese people have gained a great new victory over nature. They are no longer the helpless victims of weather and pests. Having become the masters of the country they live in, they will soon become the complete masters of nature as well. As last year's harvest proves, that time is not far off.

Secondly, the 1950 bumper harvest has meant substantially increased living standards for China's peasantry, who constitute 80 per cent of the nation's population. In the past, bumper crops spelled disaster for the man who reaped them. Market prices

often fell so fast that the farmer was left with hardly enough to meet his over-head expenses. In addition, the landlord would use the pretext of the good harvest to demand payment on all past debts, robbing the tiller of whatever surplus he had managed to accumulate.

But after agrarian reform, the peasant could enjoy the full fruits of his labour. Since the government also held prices stable at harvest time by means of a vast purchasing programme, bumper crops this year meant new clothes for the family, more to eat and even new houses.

The peasants also found themselves with cash to spare which could be re-invested in production. After the autumn harvest, the peasants in Anyang District of Pingyuan Province alone bought more than 200,000 farm implements. In the 16 counties of Hantan Administrative District in Hopei Province, the peasants purchased 10,000 water wheels to improve their irrigation systems. A survey made in two districts near Chungking, in Szechuan Province, showed that one-third of the peasant households bought new farm tools this year, while one-tenth bought cattle and fertilizer.

These preparations for improving production methods plus the incentive of raising rural living standards hold out a guarantee of still better harvests in the years ahead.

And finally, the 1950 bumper harvest, unlike any previous one, has also brought prosperity to the cities and the nation as a whole.

Since agricultural production and handicraft industry account for 90 per cent of the total national income, the recovery of agricultural production virtually means the recovery of China's national economy. Furthermore, the new rural prosperity is bound to be quickly reflected in the accelerated development of urban industry.

The ever-increasing acreage sown to industrial crops is providing China's reviving industry with a reliable source of raw materials. After last fall's cotton crop, for instance, the nation's textile mills were able to resume operations at almost full capacity.

Industry also benefits from the increased purchasing power of the peasants. Never before in history have the Chinese peasants been in a better position to buy industrial goods. In the more advanced areas they are now being able to satisfy not only basic necessities with which they are being amply provided, but also other consumer goods. For instance, at Hantan, a county seat in Hopei Province, 2,400 dozen electric torch lights were sold in one day and 40 bicycles in another after the cotton harvest. The peasants in a village near Hanhsien, Chekiang Province, switched from pipe smoking of crude tobacco to cigarettes last year. Their average annual consumption per capita among the whole population, non-smokers included, was 74 packages of 20 cigarettes each. The peasants everywhere want more and better industrial goods.

The harvest of 1950 will go down in China's history as the turning point in the struggle of the liberated Chinese people for a fundamental turn for the better in their own living standards as well as in their nation's financial and economic situation.

# "Peace Does Not Wait on Us --- It Must Be Won"

Kung Peng

October in China was climaxed by a series of American invasions of China's territorial air, by the bombing and strafing of China's civilians by American planes, and by the threats of Douglas MacArthur to carry the aggressive war in Korea to the borders of China. These new aggressive acts aroused still more the indignation of the Chinese people. The country seethed with the desire for action to defend peace against the American invaders. Premier Chou En-lai voiced the will of the whole Chinese people when on Sept. 30, 1950, he said: "The Chinese people enthusiastically love peace, but in order to defend peace, they never have been and never will be afraid to oppose aggressive war. The Chinese people absolutely will not tolerate foreign aggression, nor will they supinely tolerate seeing their neighbours being savagely invaded by the imperialists."

On October 26, the China Peace Committee was re-organised under the new name of "the Chinese People's Committee in Defense of World Peace and Against American Aggression," and in this month, too, signatures to the Stockholm Appeal sharply rose to the figure of 200 millions, almost equal to the entire adult population in China. It was against this background that the Chinese delegation of 65 was elected to attend the Second World Peace Congress scheduled to open in November at Sheffield, England.

The delegation, composed of representatives from various walks of life in China, was headed by Kuo Mo-jo, President of the Academia Sinica, and included the famous writer, Pa Chin; labour hero of the Taiyuan Electric Plant, Heh Erh-hsiao; the well-known economist, Ma Yin-chu; Chairman of the East China Board of Industries and Commerce, Shen Pei-hua; the French returned atomic scientist Chien San-chiang; the American and European educated professors Chien Tuan-sheng and Chou Pei-yuen; meteorologist Tu Chang-wang; trade-union leader Liu Ning-yi; youth leader Liao Cheng-chih; the Minister of Health of the Central People's Gov-

ernment of the People's Republic of China, Mme. Feng Yu-hsiang; the women's leader Mme. Chu Teh; the anti-Japanese War hero, General Tsai Ting-kai and other leaders and representatives of national minorities, religious and cultural circles.

The delegation was entrusted by the Chinese people with a five-point mandate to the Peace Congress, the first point of which reads: "To defend peace, American aggression must be opposed." The essence of China's effort for world peace was thus sharply emphasised. On October 30, with this mandate our delegation left Peking for England.

In Moscow, however, the delegates were finally informed that the British authorities had refused to grant entry to most of the delegates, including the most important leaders of the peace movement. The iron curtain was drawn across the British Channel. It was yet another lesson showing the true colours of Britain's "Labour" government crassly afraid of a Congress which bore the name "Peace".

It was just as the Chinese delegates were leaving Moscow for Warsaw, the new site of the Congress, that they received news from home that thousands of Chinese people were fighting in Korea in volunteer units against the American invasion troops. It was inspiring news. The delegation could now present the Congress with a new concrete, heroic example of the Chinese people's will to fight for universal peace.

Warsaw is a historic monument of suffering and anguish and humanity's indomitable will to peace. The Chinese delegation saw the ruins and debris—realising that every inch of soil is impregnated with the blood of Warsaw's people slaughtered by the

fascists. At the same time, they also saw the vast reconstruction work in progress and already completed. The ruins of war-torn Warsaw and buildings pockmarked by bullets, stand side by side with newly-built modern apartments, department stores full of goods, and steel bridges across the tranquil Vistula.

Poland's capital was festively decorat-



On the presidium. Front row, from left to right: Joliot Curie, Kuo Mo-jo, Emi Siao and Liu Ning-yi.

ed to greet the peace delegations. Our hearts were warmed by the sight of the white doves painted or pasted on every window and wall of the houses and by the white doves on the multitude of flying blue flags. Everywhere on placards and posters the word peace was written in eight different languages including Chinese. Bright electric lights on top of a towering building illuminated the streets and spelled out "Peace Will Vanquish War."

The Congress had rightly chosen Warsaw as its site. It was symbolic. Here indeed peace had conquered war.

On the evening of November 16, the Congress opened in the unfinished building of the greatest printing house in Europe, Dom Slova Polskiego, which had been transformed within three days into a beautiful Congress house with accommodation for three thousand delegates. The flags of the 80 nations represented at the Congress flew over the entrance supported by the blue flags of peace. Eleven torches—the "eternal fires" of the eleven nations whose representatives sat on the Permanent Committee—burned day and night in front of the building. Neon lights in big letters proclaimed the Second World Peace Congress in French, English, Russian and Polish.

On that opening day, on the steps leading to the entrance stood hundreds of men and women, young and old—some still with their brief cases or tools in their hands as they came from work, some with unfinished knitting, some with their children, school boys and girls. They came to greet the peace delegates. They cheered each delegation with great enthusiasm and many of them button-holed the delegates to ask for autographs.

Inside the hall, there were ten long rows of desks for delegates. The presidium was backed by rising rows of 200 seats, artistically upholstered in pale blue cloth; the walls were decorated with flags of the different nations. The ceiling was spotted with white doves. The word "peace" in different languages formed beautiful patterns on the walls of the hall. Four statues of modern women with doves in their hands stood at the entrance, highlighting the aspirations of the Congress.

"The Second World Peace Congress meets at a moment when, after the horrors of the Second World War, all civilisation, all mankind are being menaced by the plotters of another war," Jerzy Albrecht, Chairman of the Presidium of the Warsaw Rada Narodowa, rightly declared. The Congress sessions were profoundly impressive. The presence here of over 2,000 men and women from 80 different countries, speaking different languages, from different races, coming from the most remote corners of the world, in one room for one purpose, was a moving scene. The Chinese delegates were talking face to face, eye to eye with delegates from America who spoke of the hatred of the American people for a

new war. Men and women from Asian countries thronged around the Chinese group asking for more information on their experiences in the struggle for national emancipation.

A 14-year-old Polish Pioneer girl came to one of the Chinese women delegates, and told her with deepest feeling: "We, the people of Warsaw, have suffered so much. We understand what war



Kung Peng, writer of this article and member of the Chinese Peace Delegation, is greeted by the children of Germany.

means. We are now building a new country of the people. We know that you have suffered too. And, now you too are happy!" Tears flooded her eyes as she finished. The Chinese delegates listened to the reports of the representatives from the Soviet Union and the People's Democracies on the progress they have made in peaceful constructive work. They heard the voices of freedom from remote Africa, from Egypt, from Lebanon, from Paris, from London...

There were men from among the masses of the people; there were men from the privileged social strata, there were members of parliament, bishops, patriarchs, priests, writers, actors, engineers, teachers, and housewives. Some attended the Congress at the risk of arrest and imprisonment by their home police. Others left home with big send-offs by popular demonstrations. Still others failed to appear because their home governments refused them exit visas. Each had a different experience, but all who came to Warsaw were for the one and the same cause: universal peace. The Chinese delegates were fully convinced that war is not inevitable because the masses of the people throughout the world want peace.

On the presidium, the Chinese delegates found men and women of great popular prestige and of world renowned accomplishments in many fields of work. They met those whose names had long been familiar to them, like Joliot Curie, Fadeyev, Ehrenbourg, Toledano, Neruda, the Dean of Canterbury, Anna Seghers and others. The Congress was the

place where the best sons and daughters of mankind were duly honoured.

The Chinese delegates found themselves a centre of attention both because of the great nation they represented and for the heroic Chinese volunteers who were fighting shoulder to shoulder with the Korean people against the American troops. Everywhere they were received with friendship and admiration. Their leader Mao Tse-tung was looked upon as a symbol of the victory of freedom over oppression, the triumph of peace over war.

President of the Permanent Committee of the World Peace Congress Joliot Curie gave the delegates a clear review of the peace movement since the First World Peace Congress in 1949. He pointed out that the Second World Peace Congress delegates represented a far greater number of men and women of the most diverse creeds, opinions and occupations than were represented in the first Congress. He appealed to the Congress to adopt measures for a general reduction of armaments, condemnation of aggression, prohibition of war propaganda, and a return to the real United Nations Charter, "to the Charter which was adopted by the will of the peoples and was a good reflection of their aspirations."

The Chinese delegates found that ideas long nurtured in their minds were being expounded with calmness, clarity and forcefulness by Ilya Ehrenbourg, the great Soviet writer, well-known to the Chinese people. It was the American imperialists who did not want peace and who were working for war, Ehrenbourg, whose greyish blue eyes reflected impenetrable depths of wisdom, solemnly declared. "If certain Americans do not like Soviet ideas or Soviet books, let them try to kill ideas with ideas, to discredit books with books. As to bombs, they are impotent in this matter. I stand for peace not only with the America of Howard Fast and Robeson, but also with the America of Mr. Truman and Mr. Acheson."

The question of Korea was the centre of attention in the Congress. There, war had already started. The Congress demanded an immediate stop to the war in Korea by withdrawal of all foreign troops from that country. Nevertheless, the peace delegates knew only too well that the imperialists would never stop their invasion except under popular pressure. The overwhelming support of the Congress for the heroic Koreans was demonstrated by the thunderous ovation accorded to Mme. Pak Den Ai, representative of the heroic Korean people. Her words gave new confidence to all partisans of peace: "The Korean people are confident of victory because the finest sons of their close neighbour, the great Chinese people, have formed volunteer units and come to their aid to seal the friendship and brotherhood of our two peoples in the fight against an aggressor who, after conquering Korea, is eager to proceed to the conquest of China, and who is already shedding the blood of Chinese civilians."

The Chinese delegation took part in every one of the 7 special committees examining concrete proposals for peace. The discussions were both broad and frank. The slightest doubts or opposition were brought to discussion. No conclusion was reached without the unanimous agreement of those attending.

The Chinese delegates unhesitatingly cast a unanimous vote approving the Congress' Manifesto and the Address to the United Nations. They regarded these two documents as invaluable achievements of the Congress giving a concrete programme of action for the peace movement. They hailed the formation of the World Council of Peace, the most important new step in the movement, inasmuch as it is an authoritative organ to implement the peace programme, and is truly representative of the peoples of the world. It has a broader basis than the United Nations, being "composed of the peoples of all countries of the world, those affiliated to the United Nations and those not yet represented therein and including those that are still colonial countries."

Like every other delegation, the Chinese delegation left Warsaw after the close of the Congress on Nov. 22, imbued with increased confidence in the future prospects of peace. Aware of the responsibility entrusted to them by the Congress, the delegation was determined to bring the message of the Congress to the widest range of people and, therefore, formed four groups, one headed by Kuo Mo-jo to go to Budapest to attend the 125th anniversary of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences; a second to go to Vienna to participate in the World Council of Youth; a third to go to Rumania to take part in the World Council of Trade Unions, and a fourth to return for a short stay in Moscow. In different fields, the Chinese delegates were taking part in the discussion and planning of concrete implementation of the peace programme adopted by the Second World Peace Congress.

On December 10, the Chinese delegation reunited in Moscow and started for home.

The work of the delegation has continued unremitting. On their way to the capital, at each of the big cities in Northeast China, mass meetings were held in which the delegates reported on the achievement and mission of the Peace Congress. At Peking's Chungshan Park, a great mass meeting was held on the first Sunday after their arrival. Mme. Sun Yat-sen and Li Chi-shen, both Vice-chairmen of the Central People's Government of China, sat in the presidium. It was General Chu Teh, Commander-in-Chief of the victorious People's Liberation Army, who, welcoming back the delegation, praised the great success of the Second World Peace Congress. Speaker after speaker urged that a wide campaign be launched immediately to spread the message of the Congress throughout the length and breadth of People's China. They proudly proclaimed that the most concrete and best contribution China could offer to universal peace at this time was in fighting against American aggression in Korea. Only after having suffered decisive reverses in Korea would the American aggressors halt their advance into other areas of the world.

Backed by the forthright Dec. 26 declaration of the Central People's Government supporting the proposals of the Second World Peace Congress, the delegates will bring the message of the Congress to the widest masses of the people, to tell them that "Peace does not wait on us—It must be won!"

# When Austin's America Talks about Friendship

## II. From Versailles to V-J Day

C. K. Cheng

Notwithstanding all protestations to the contrary, the Paris Peace Conference of 1919 was a meeting of the chief victors to divide the spoils of victory. Among the three major Powers that met at Versailles to dictate peace to Germany, the United States had the dominant voice. She had emerged from the war rich and powerful. President Wilson took full advantage of America's strong position. To a certain extent, he succeeded in leading many a nation to believe that the "Wilsonian principles" would contribute to righting many wrongs committed during the war.

China was one of the nations that took the United States at its word. She went to the Conference hoping to have her justifiable grievances redressed by the world council. Japan had claimed that, by virtue of the so-called "treaties" concluded between herself and a clique of Chinese warlords, she was now the rightful successor to all the special privileges and concessions that vanquished Germany had previously enjoyed in the Chinese province of Shantung. The Chinese people, however, had never recognised these so-called "treaties," for the admission of such a claim was tantamount to condoning the violation of China's sovereignty. China, besides, considered that all of Germany's ill-gotten special privileges and concessions were automatically cancelled when China entered the war against Germany. Therefore, at the peace settlement, the Chinese Delegation demanded that Shantung be restored to China's full sovereignty.

China's case was unchallengeable. There was every reason to expect that the "question of Shantung" would be decided in her favour, particularly as the United States, the dominant power at the Conference, had time and again loudly championed "China's territorial integrity," a fact which Warren Austin grandiloquently described as a fine gesture of America's "friendship for the Chinese people." But it did not take long for events at the Paris Peace Conference to show that the imperialists planned to use China as a pawn in the game of power politics.

Japan came to the Conference armed not only with the secret treaties with Great Britain and France, in which she was promised the annexation of German islands north of the equator and succession to all German rights and interests in China's Shantung Province, but also with the Lansing-Ishii Agreement of 1917 by which the United States "recognises that

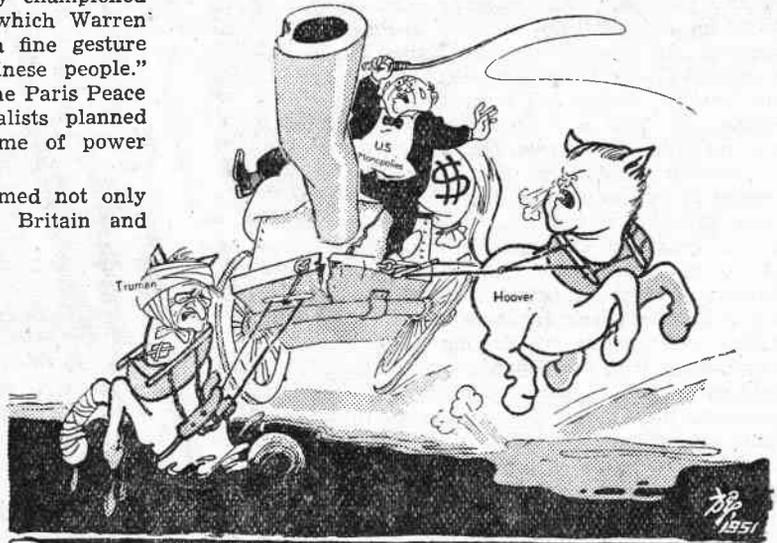
Japan has special interests in China." The result was that notwithstanding the promises of the "preservation of China's territorial and administrative entity," China was marked for sacrifice. The United States played a big role trying to compel China to submit to the unjust and illegal claim of the Japanese to inherit German rights and interests in China.

Such are the naked facts of American diplomacy at the Paris Peace Conference concerning the settlement of the "Shantung question," facts which Warren Austin brazenly tried to present to the Security Council last November as American "assistance" to China at that Conference.

Under the pressure of the Chinese people protesting against the injustice done them, the Chinese Delegation refused to sign the Treaty of Versailles. This popular protest movement gave rise to the famous May Fourth Movement and set the New Democratic Revolution in motion. It kindled the latent patriotism of all Chinese. The U.S.-dominated Paris Peace Conference, and the way it disposed of China's demand for the restoration of her full sovereignty over Shantung, taught the Chinese people the need to fight imperialism as well as domestic feudalism if they were to achieve their liberation.

### The Washington Conference

In his speech before the Security Council last November, Warren Austin also glibly cited the Washington Conference of 1921-22 as an international conference at which the United States "had helped China to solve the question of Shantung" and sponsored the Nine-Power Treaty to uphold China's territorial and administrative integrity. Let us see, then, just exactly how Austin's America "helped" China at this juncture.



Readers are referred to Vol. III, No. 1 and Vol. II, No. 11 of this journal for the previous articles in this general exposure of American imperialism in China since 1844 to the present day.—Editor.

"Bi-partisan" War Chariot Cartoon by Fang Cheng and Chung Lin

As a result of World War I and the Great October Revolution, the world was divided into two camps—the camp of Socialism and the camp of Capitalism, a fact which transformed the whole aspect of international relations. In the camp of capitalism, the United States emerged from the war a very much richer country, while the older Powers, like Great Britain and France, were impoverished and weakened. This change in the relative strength of the capitalist countries provided the American imperialists with their long-sought-for opportunity to establish American supremacy in the Pacific and to push their expansionist schemes in China. In these circumstances, President Harding of the United States saw fit to call a conference in Washington in 1921, to devise means of giving formal recognition to this change and to discuss once again the problem of “preserving China’s territorial and administrative integrity,” with particular reference to the issues arising from China’s refusal to surrender Shantung Province to Japan.

American supremacy in the Pacific was secured by breaking up the Anglo-Japanese Alliance of 1902 and by stabilising the naval power of the United States, Great Britain and Japan on the ratio of 5:5:3. On the general question of China, the deliberations were an international conspiracy, with the United States masquerading as an “honest broker,” supposedly trying, in Warren Austin’s words, “to help China.” Yet even the most moderate proposals put forward by the Chinese Delegation were rejected out of hand, such as the demand for tariff autonomy, the abolition of consular jurisdiction and of foreign control of the postal administration. The United States, in league with Japan, blocked China’s just demands to rid herself of these fetters which were the result of imperialist aggression against China in the 19th century. Furthermore, the American-Japanese coalition and other imperialist Powers at the Conference took advantage of China’s position to make further inroads in China’s sovereignty by obtaining the abolition of *Likin*, a kind of internal transit duty, before agreeing (!) to China’s raising her customs duties to a maximum of 12.5 per cent. At the same time, they decided to set up a “Special Commission” to supervise China’s customs. In other words, the United States and its associates attempted nothing less than to place China’s customs jurisdiction yet more fully in the hands of foreigners. This is indeed a curious way of “preserving China’s territorial and administrative entity”!

At this Washington Conference, Japan was, of course, at last induced to give up her claim to Shantung, but it was not the United States who compelled Japan to disgorge Shantung. What decided Japan to drop its original claim was the fierce opposition of the Chinese people. Far from “helping China” to check Japanese expansion, the United States was guilty of driving China into direct negotiations with the Japanese and lending the latter support in one course of the negotiations. On one occasion, the United States government even used threats to compel the Chinese Delegation to accept the Japanese terms. “It would be a colossal blunder in statecraft,” President Harding warned the Chinese representative, “if China were not to take advantage of the opportunity now afforded her for the settlement of Shantung question as the alternative might involve a risk of losing the Province.”

As to the Nine-Power Treaty, it was never anything more than a rehash of John Hay’s Open Door Policy and, in the light of subsequent events, a mere “scrap of paper.” No real benefit accrued to China except, perhaps, that it contained a high-sounding clause calling upon all signatories to “preserve the territorial and administrative integrity of China.” In so far, however, as its substance was concerned, the Nine-Power Treaty served only to regularise the prevailing state of imperialist aggression in China, in which the position of the United States was now further strengthened. The Washington Conference, to quote Griswold’s *Far Eastern Policy of the United States*, was “primarily a recognition of existing, if brutal, facts, a consolidation of the *status quo*.” Such, in brief, was what Warren Austin called the “assistance” rendered China by the United States at the Washington Conference.

#### Washington Appeases Japan

Any fair-minded American who is familiar with the true history of U.S. policy during the so-called Mukden Incident of 1931 when imperialist Japan launched the brutal invasion of China, must bury his head in shame for his country’s betrayal of China to appease Japan. Yet Warren Austin, John Foster Dulles, and other spokesmen of American imperialism have the effrontery to describe this policy of appeasing Japan at the expense of the Chinese people as “America’s friendship for the people of China.” They cite Secretary of State Stimson’s Note on Non-recognition to the Japanese government as proof of American “assistance” in China’s hour of trial. But the true facts of the case give the lie to their flimsy protestations.

What was the U.S. government’s attitude at the time of Japan’s rape of Northeast China and immediately afterwards? At this testing time, America’s attitude was exactly like that of Britain and France in 1938 when they threw Austria, and later Czechoslovakia, as a sop to the Nazis in the hope that Adolf Hitler would turn his aggressive attentions towards the Soviet Union. In Asia, the sop to fascism was China. The U.S. government turned a blind eye to the Japanese seizure of Northeast China, in the vain hope that Japanese expansion would turn northwards in the direction of the Land of Socialism. The Open Door Policy was forgotten. The Nine-Power Treaty was discarded as an embarrassing piece of paper. The question now was not the “preservation of China’s territorial and administrative integrity” but the protection of Wall Street’s investments in China. The traitorous Chiang Kai-shek regime was advised to adopt an attitude of non-resistance towards the invaders. On November 27, 1931, the State Department instructed the American Ambassador in Tokyo, Cameron Forbes, to inform Baron Shidehara that the United States had advised the Chinese government to pursue a course of compromise. When asked about his views on the Japanese invasion of Northeast China, Secretary of State Stimson was reported to have answered at the time that “we should not bind Japan by treaty obligations, in order to avoid inciting the Japanese people.” Japan’s brutal attack on China aroused world-wide public opinion to demand the imposition of economic sanctions against the aggressor, but the United States, which

(Continued on Page 30)

# INVADERS FLING UP THEIR ARMS



Some of the 1,000-cdd American P.O.W.'s taken by the Korean People's Army and the Chinese people's volunteers on the eastern front in Korea.



Americans who hid in the forest finally surrender.



Chinese volunteer gives first aid to captured American.



American P.O.W.'s march to a camp safe in the rear.



A group of Turkish troops captured on the eastern front.



A high yield and a good market make this Hopei cotton grower happy.



A cloth hawker does a brisk trade in a

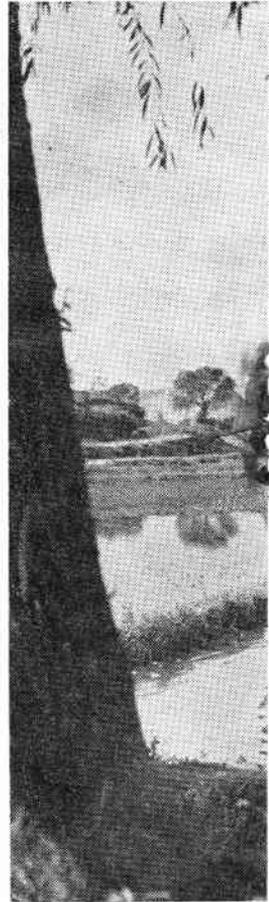
## China Reaps Bump



Emancipated peasant women take a bigger share in field work.



People's Liberation Army men give free help to the peasants.

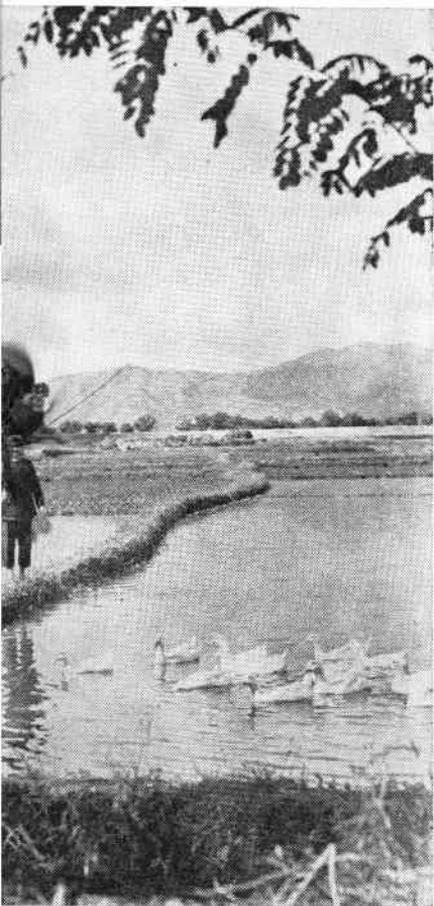


Former surplus



village after the harvest.

## per Crops



ly poor peasants have  
s grain to feed poultry.



"Best crop in years," says this Shantung peasant,  
"and besides, not a single grain for the landlord."



A village cadre explains new methods of seed selection.

# P.O.W.'S IN KOREA ARE WELL-TREATED

We, the undersigned, wish to express our appreciation for the humane, courteous, and kind treatment extended us by the Chinese Volunteers of the North Korean Peoples Army. We are housed warmly and are fed plentifully. We are treated considerably better than you would be.

We hope for an early and peaceful settlement of the Korean situation and feel that proper representation by the Chinese people on the Security Council of the United Nations will do much toward resolving the present Korean conflict.

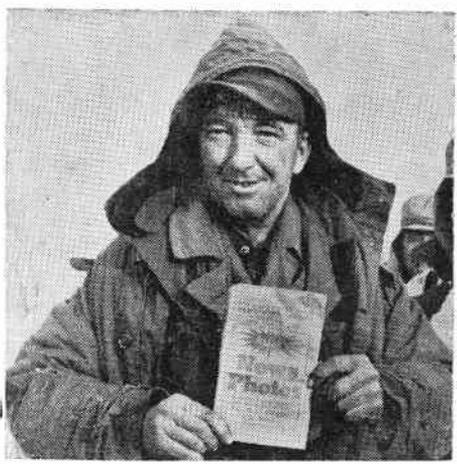
Frank E. Cold  
Robert C. Messman  
J. M. McLaughlin  
G. Snipan  
H. B. Turner  
E. R. Reid Jr.  
F. J. McCool  
C. L. Peckham  
A. L. Loyd  
G. P. Shedd  
S. Shimomura  
R. Hikida  
R. Buck  
E. L. Smith  
T. R. Darby  
J. E. Shorman  
T. A. Williford  
W. R. Pickett  
R. L. Batdorff  
J. A. Harine

Saburo Sano, Shimomura Col.  
4th 1st Marine Division  
Page 23  
Raymond H. Buck SFC, US Army  
Edward J. Smith HMC, US Navy  
James R. Daily Marine, Payd Marine  
James B. Johnson M/ser US Army  
George A. Williford Pfc, USMC  
Walter A. Pickett Pfc, U.S.M.C.  
Robert K. Batdorf Pfc, U.S.M.C.  
James A. Harine Pfc, U.S.M.C.  
George H. Vann PFC USMC  
James L. Hadden M/ser US Army  
Philip Johnson Pfc US Army  
Yun Yong-he Pfc, U.S.M.C.  
Daniel B. Pickett Pfc, U.S.M.C.  
James A. Harine Pfc, U.S.M.C.  
Edward J. Smith PFC, USMC  
Yun Yong-he Interpreter U.S.M.C.

A group of American and British prisoners in a camp in northern Korea recently signed the above statement expressing their appreciation of the "humane, courteous and kind treatment" accorded them. They gave their identifications as:

- F. E. Cold, 31, 1416 E. Mohawk Ave., Tampa, Florida;
- R. C. Messman, 31, 1243 Masonic Ave., San Francisco, California;
- J. M. McLaughlin, 32, 11 W. 31 St., Savannah, Georgia;
- G. Snipan, 29, 5617 Cabbane Ave., St. Louis, Missouri;
- H. B. Turner, 29, 3830 Peakland Place, Lynchburg, Virginia;
- E. R. Reid Jr., 25, PP Box 864, Irving, Texas;
- F. J. McCool, 129 Carr Drive, Elendale, California;
- F. Noel, 52, 152 Western Ave., Albany, New York;
- C. L. Peckham, 31 1229 1st Ave., Accacia Park, Alisal, Monterey County, California;
- A. L. Loyd, 26, 227 Fourth Ave., Quantico, Virginia;
- G. P. Shedd, 24, 3951 Old Shell Rd., Springhill, Alabama;
- S. Shimomura, 23, 2915 Pingree Ave., Ogden, Utah;
- R. Hikida, 25, 1531 N. La Salle, Chicago, Illinois;
- R. Buck, 28, 1647 North St., Rochester, New York;
- E. L. Smith, 29, 1085, Alexander Drive, San Diego, California;
- T. R. Darby, 21, 32 Beechwood Ave., Kew Gardens, Richmond Surrey, England;
- J. E. Goodman, 19, 27 Hilmarton Calne, Wiltshire, England;
- J. E. Shorman, 36, 13 Ogden St., New Jersey;
- T. A. Williford, 20, Post Box 256 B., Middlesford;
- W. R. Pickett, 22, 4509 McCulloch St., Duluth, Minnesota;
- R. L. Batdorff, 19, 735 Gould St., Toledo, Ohio;
- J. A. Harine (or Haring), 18, 532 W. Chumeng St.,

Painted Post, New York; G. H. Vann, 21, 607 17th St., Ensley, Alabama; G. L. Hadden, 29, 208 E. Wabash Ave., Phoenix, Arizona; J. J. Johnson Jr., (age not given) in care F. Botavia Ohio Post Box 62; C. E. Quirring, 21, 10832 Greville Ave., Ingle Wood, California; D. D. Yesko, 20, 2456 A. N. Humbolt Ave., Milwaukee, Wisconsin; J. A. Marquez, 321 Buena Vista, Raton, New Mexico; E. G. Wilkins, 22, 1817 Woodland Ave., Des Moines, Iowa; Yun Yong-he (Korean interpreter), Inchon.



One of those who signed, Frank Noel of Associated Press.

# Liberation Comes to the Pearl River Dwellers

Shih Cheng-ni

Looking along the busy water front at Canton, as far as the eye can see, small river boats are moored ten or so abreast beside the shore, the homes of some twelve thousand families. Until liberation, for as long as the Cantonese can remember, these river dwellers have existed as an exploited and despised section of the community, descendants of early inhabitants of Southeast China, who in 1279 were deprived of their land and driven to the river by the invading Mongolian tribes.

In face of ruthless persecution from the reactionary governments, these river dwellers have over the centuries created their own community life on the water. In spite of their past sufferings and poverty, these river people are both tough and vivacious. On this sunny November morning, cheerful voices rang across the water as the women deftly manoeuvred their boats from their moorings and propelled them along the river with a single scull over the stern. Lithe and strong are these women with their spotless white or blue jackets and black trousers, and their sleek hair, sometimes adorned with a gold ornament.

Their boats, or sampans, reflect the same careful attention as their appearance. The wood scrubbed to a bleached whiteness, the brass fittings polished to the last degree, and the woodwork decorated with floral paintings in gay colours. As a final touch, each boat vies with the other in the freshness of its cushion covers and curtains. No land-

bred housewife could be more proud of the appearance of her home than these river-bred women. Cramped in space, often no longer than twelve feet in length, it is a source of wonder how whole families manage to live, cook, eat, and sleep in them, and yet preserve such a spick and span appearance.

But they have not always been so gay as they are now or so able to keep their homes neat and clean.

Throughout the nearly 700 years the river dwellers have existed, each succeeding dynasty and reactionary government passed further repressive laws against them, prohibiting them from holding any property ashore, from sitting for public examinations, taking part in any public gathering, and depriving them of all rights of self-government. At the same time, they were subjected to an increasingly vicious system of taxation under more than ten different headings, including such petty ex-

penses as the upkeep of lamps along the river front.

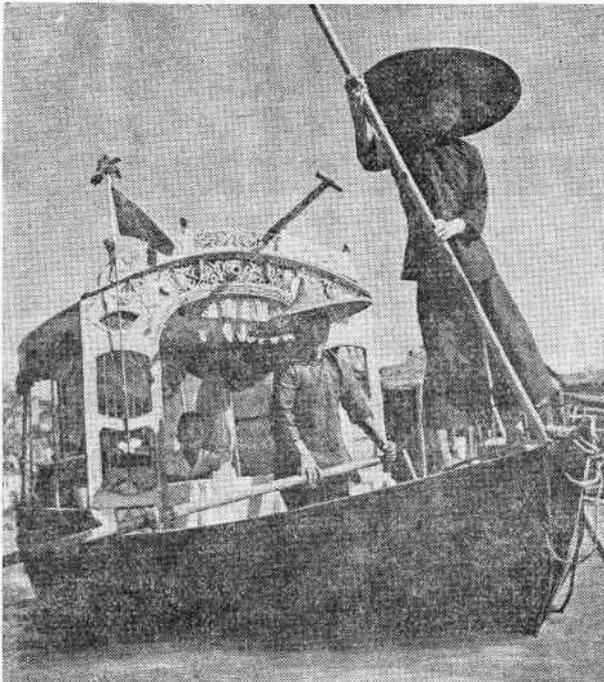
Under the Kuomintang regime, their sufferings increased. They were continually harried and chivied by river police, who did not hesitate to use blackmail or threats of prosecution for technical offences under one of the multitude of mooring regulations. Most of the mooring places were privately owned, and these were the basis for further exploitation. It was the custom for the owners to rent them out to middlemen, who in their turn collected separate rents from the river families. The rampant profiteering of this system is shown by the example of one middleman, who paid a rent equivalent to 10 catties of rice a day to the owner, and received 250 catties a day in rents from the twenty-one families in return for the privilege of mooring their sampans on his property.

To add insult to injury, every Chinese festival, and New Year's Day, the unfortunate tenants were compelled to present gifts to the middleman or the owner.

At that time, the river front was used as the city's general rubbish tip, so it is no surprise to learn that for the ten years prior to liberation, outbreaks of plague were a yearly occurrence, causing an average of 200 deaths every year. The river dwellers had no access to any clean water supply for cooking or drinking purposes, nor were there any medical facilities available other than the medley of superstitious cures advocated by the old-time quack healers.

Among other innovations introduced by the Kuomintang was the "yellow" trade union, whose officials were appointed by the government. Trade union dues were fixed at 12 per cent of income, and membership was compulsory. Needless to say, nothing stands to the credit of this union in the way of improvements, or services to the dwellers, and no accounts were ever published.

This was just one of many other



The river people are gay and vivacious, their boats neat and clean.

societies, some secret, some superstitious, organised from time to time by the rascally Kuomintang lackeys, which the river people were compelled to join. Smuggling, looting, robbery, prostitution and drug running were a few of the activities undertaken by these organisations.

At the time of liberation, the majority of the men were engaged as wharf porters and stevedores, unloading the small shallow draft cargo boats from Hongkong. Others, including women, were engaged in transporting goods in their own sampans, or ferrying passengers across the river or to one of the many steamships at anchor in the port. Some 800 families had no means of livelihood whatever, and 90 per cent of the adult population were illiterate.

Life was indeed cheap along the Canton river front in the old days.

Speaking to Kuo An-liang, a thickset, quiet, middle-aged man, who has lived all his life on the river, we asked what changes had taken place since liberation. He told us that before liberation, the daily wage he earned as a stevedore could at best buy him 15 catties of rice. But inflation had been so serious that the real value of the money was very little. "I worked in a gang of 30," he said. "Our gang-leader did no work but we each had to pay him a sum equivalent to half a catty of rice a day out of our wages, and on top of that, another three catties to the police. Neither the government nor the union did anything for us except take our money. But now we have our own trade union to take care of us, and our families are able to eat two good meals a day. Besides, prices are steady so we can save a little money."

"You see, we have our own schools," he continued, pointing along the river to a large paddle steamer tied alongside a jetty. "That is the second one, started up two months ago, where my children go. They run special classes in the afternoon for the women, and night schools in the evenings. Some of my mates go there, others go to some classes on shore run by the trade union. By next year, most of us should be able to read the newspapers." "But why not go along and see Yang Ming?" he suggested. "He is our representative to the city's All-Circles People's Representative

Conference, I am going that way, I'll take you along."

We found Yang Ming by one of the jetties, talking with some of the river dwellers—a thin-faced, restless man of some 50 years of age, whose eyes gave expression to everything he said. The owner of a small dining boat, he had recently been elected to the Presidium of the City All-Circles People's Representative Conference, and was eager to tell us of the new developments which had taken place since liberation.

"There have been many improvements," he said, "and things are getting better every day. Take taxation, for instance. In the old days we had no less than ten taxes to pay, and among every 20 or so boats, one person was appointed by the Kuomintang to collect them all. This led to all sorts of bribery and corruption. Our boats used to be covered with tax certificates, but now, you see, we have only one card, for one all-inclusive tax. And our team leaders, who collect the tax, are now elected by us, and are responsible to us.

"Today, our People's Government asks our opinion on everything. Already, since liberation, two representative conferences have been held. We elected 85 of our people to attend the last, and 20 of them were women. They made 360 suggestions, and the government has already carried out 349 of them." His eyes lit up with enthusiasm as he described these achievements. "But why not go along and see for yourself," he said. "The schools, for instance, or the new health clinic. They are only a start, of

course, but the beginning of big things."

He accompanied us along the front, talking as we went. Many of the women in the boats were busy with their chores, washing clothes, cooking the mid-day meal, or scrubbing down their boats.

We turned onto a jetty towards the school boat, a freshly painted double decker, with the gay red flag of the Republic fluttering from the mast. As we stepped from the gangway onto the freshly scrubbed deck, the headmaster came out to greet us. Along both walls of the deck-house were colourful wall newspapers displaying the results of painting and writing competitions, as well as a section devoted to the international and domestic news of the day.

"At first," he said, "we thought the children could attend the school on shore. But tradition and habit die hard. After so many centuries of oppression, the parents were shy of letting their children mix among the shore dwellers, for fear of insults and unkindness. So we decided to take the school to the children. We had to spend some time, of course, finding a suitable boat, and reconditioning it. But you will see, we have plenty of room, and a fine playground on the top deck."

"Aren't you afraid of the children falling overboard?" we asked. He laughed. "You forget these children have been born and bred in boats," he said. "Even the toddlers have an uncanny sense of keeping away from danger. No, our first problem was to find any pupils to come to the school. The parents



Children play on the top deck of the school boat.

were afraid that if the children had education, they would become dissatisfied with their homes, and would go away and forget their parents when they grew older. But now they know we teach the children to love their parents, their country and labour. They find the children who attend the school are the first to give their parents a hand with their work, as well as keeping them in touch with the news of the day. Now we have more than 200 children, with more coming in every day."

He showed us over the eight large airy classrooms, with children from four years upwards engrossed in their study. As we appeared at each doorway, they stood and clapped a welcome, then continued with their class. Singing, reading, writing, and painting were four of the subjects in progress. The rooms were fitted up with large blackboards, maps and comfortable desks, and no class held more than 25 children. We were struck by the harmonious relations between the young women teachers and the children, which reflected itself in a generally calm and happy atmosphere.

"A third school has just been opened down the river," he told us, "and several more are already being planned. At present, only 700 out of the 8,000 school-age children can be accommodated. So this might be called just a beginning."

Later, on the top deck, we spent a pleasant 15 minutes watching the children playing games, and singing songs with a charming lack of self-consciousness.

We left the boat somewhat reluctantly, with the sound of the children's singing still ringing in our ears, and made our way towards the clinic. This proved to be a small newly constructed building on pylons, a little way from the shore, surrounded by sampans busy delivering and collecting patients. We were taken across by one of the boats, and introduced ourselves to the head nurse. Several patients were seated along the verandah awaiting their turn to see the doctor, and a few more were standing by the dispensary collecting their medicines, together with supplies of disinfectant and insecticide, which are issued free.

We spoke to an old lady with a baby in her lap. This was her

grandchild, who had just recovered from pneumonia. "In the old days," she said, "he would have died. We only had old herb doctors then. But these people are better. In no time at all he was well again, when you would have thought each breath was his last."

When the doctor had finished with his last patient, he came and talked with us. "We only opened this month," he said, "but we have already had over 100 patients. Before opening here, our work was limited to organising vaccinations against smallpox and injections against various things. You see our slogan," he said proudly, pointing to the wall. "For the service of the people." This year, for the first time in memory, there have been no plagues or other epidemics among the river people. Our next plan is to open a maternity clinic, which is badly needed."

It is also significant that this year has seen no suicides among the river people, although under the Kuomintang the figures reached 30 to 40 a month.

A new spirit of hope and confidence is moving among the people. No longer an oppressed and despised section of the community, but a people with their own rights, standing proudly on their feet, playing an equal part in the building of the new China, now for the first time *their* China.

Small wonder that in the celebration of National Day last year, no less than 10,000 of the river dwellers took part, and gave their own performance. In the words of their song of celebration:

"We are going from hell to Paradise,

For Mao Tse-tung has brought us liberation."

## CHRISTMAS AT A P. O. W. CAMP

From a Special Correspondent

*Somewhere in Korea, Dec. 1950*

The American and British war prisoners at this camp somewhere in North Korea celebrated Christmas in their traditional manner with decorated Christmas trees, gifts and a gay evening party.

The Christmas party, arranged by one of the Chinese volunteer units, was held in a large wooden hall, safely located miles in the rear of the battle front. The party was attended by over 160 war prisoners who formerly belonged to the American 1st Marine Division, the 7th and the 3rd Infantry Divisions and a British naval commando unit.

Earlier in the day, each prisoner had received a shave and a haircut for the occasion. The prisoners all wore new suits of warm cotton-quilted clothes that had been issued to them by the Chinese volunteers. They could hardly be recognised as the same shabby-looking men with panic-stricken expressions who had been captured some 20 days earlier.

The Chinese volunteers arranged and decorated the hall in conformity with Christian customs. When the prisoners entered the hall, they were confronted by two large Christmas trees dotted with small red candles. Between the

two trees hung a large silver bell, symbolising freedom. Large banners with English slogans completed the decorations.

This unexpected sight so astonished the prisoners that many of them let out shrill whistles, yells and loud Indian whoops. A tall American quickly lit the red candles while several others took out notebooks and copied down the slogans. They explained that they wanted to describe the scene accurately to their sick buddies who were unable to attend the party and also to write home full descriptions to their families. Still others clasped the hands of the Chinese volunteers present and expressed their deep gratefulness for the kind treatment they were receiving.

Later, presents were distributed to all the prisoners, including gifts of food, cigarettes, candies, etc. When the prisoners learned that these Christmas presents had been transported all the way from China across the icy-mountain trails of North Korea, they again let out a storm of cheers and whistles.

As the party got under way, almost every prisoner in the room wanted to say something to commemorate the occasion, and all clamoured to speak first. In the end, 19 prisoners got a chance to

speak and the rest were asked to wait for another occasion to express themselves in order to keep the evening from turning into one long evening of speeches.

An American named Glasgow, who became so excited that he insisted upon speaking twice, set the general tenor of the statements when he declared:

"We are Christians! Yet today our hands are smeared with Korean blood. We have slaughtered peaceful civilians and bombed old people and children. We have committed crimes. And who made us do it? It was Truman, MacArthur, Du Pont and the rest. They care about nothing but money. They manufacture bombs to kill people and make a profit out of this business. But why should we come here and fight?"

The other prisoners interrupted him, shouting such words as: "We should never have come!" "Let the warmongers do their own fighting!"

When the room calmed down, Glasgow continued: "We can be cheated only once. Our eyes have been opened now. Never can I forget the kind treatment I have received from the Chinese!"

A 42-year-old veteran named Olsen, who has served 17 years in the U.S. army, told about being a prisoner of the Nazis during World War II.

"The Germans were Christians," he said. "But they did not allow us to spend our Christmas happily. The Chinese do not observe Christmas, but they have arranged this fine party for us. The Nazis beat their prisoners. They spat on us and forced us to stand for intolerably long hours at a time. Some

of us who could not stand this long torture would urinate in their trousers. But the Chinese have given us warm clothes, bedding and even hand towels. They have shared their food with us and given us the best they had.

"This has taught me a lot of things, I can tell you. When I get home this time, they won't get me in the army again. If the millionaires want war, let them take up guns and do the fighting themselves."

Lewis had fought in the Pacific and had been taken prisoner by the Japanese. He said: "The Japanese fascist troops treated their prisoners of war as brutally as Hitler's troops. When my unit was captured, we were left for almost two days without food or water. I saw Japs kill many of the other prisoners for no reason at all. But the Chinese volunteers have treated us just like their own men. At first I wondered why the Chinese treated us so well and even felt rather suspicious. But now I have found it because the Chinese are fighting to defend their country from aggression. They are fighting the system that sent us here, and the big business men who ordered us to fight—but they do not regard us individual soldiers as their enemies and they do not fight us if we just stop fighting."

Murphy, who spoke next, had been a signalman in a commando unit of the British Royal Navy. He told the group: "The Americans have never really suffered from a war and they do not understand what war is. But Britain was heavily damaged in the last world war—we have had our fill of the

bitter experience of war. And this time, when I saw the stretch of ruins between Changchin and Hamhyng, I knew I had taken part in a dirty war. I feel very ashamed of it."

Wilson had once been one of General MacArthur's personal guards. He stood up and spoke with great authority: "When they call on us to 'fight for America,' what they really mean is 'fight for the interests of MacArthur and the Wall Street big wigs.' As I can personally tell you, MacArthur keeps five cooks, and has dieticians work out his menu for him. He even hired Japanese dog experts to look after his mutts. On top of all that, he has almost a regiment of servants to wait on him. He gets plenty out of this war, let me tell you—but what can we G.I.'s get out of it?"

Another prisoner interrupted, shouting: "Every word is true. No one lives better than MacArthur. He sent us to Korea to fight and freeze, but he stays safely in Tokyo with his wife. And you can bet your last dollar he is having a very merry Christmas today."

One of the Chinese volunteers who spoke English made the closing remarks. He explained to the prisoners that the Korean war could only be ended by the withdrawal of all foreign troops, leaving the Koreans to settle their internal problems themselves. The prisoners stamped their feet and voiced loud approval of this solution, expressing such opinions as: "Put an end to this damned war!" "We will not fight for the bosses!" "The sooner this dirty war ends, the better for everyone but the war profiteers!"



**VICTIMS OF THE U.S. INVADERS: A Korean child (left) died of hunger and cold beside an abandoned American jeep after his mother (right) was raped and killed by the Americans.**

Report from Korean Front

## A Truck Driver's Heroism

Special Correspondent

Along the eastern Korean front, the enemy forces, disintegrating under the force of the combined attack of the Korean People's Army and the Chinese people's volunteers, were in retreat. Machine-guns, rifles, pistols, knapsacks and even pictures of pin-up girls were scattered along the border of the Chonchin Reservoir. There were heaps of enemy corpses too.

The Koreans and the Chinese volunteers had no intention of letting the enemy slip away. They, too, were on the move. A company of army truck drivers led by Wang Peng-hsun, their trucks filled with ammunition, provisions and winter clothing for the soldiers, were on the way to Headquarters.

As evening came on, the rain-drops which had been falling all day were frozen into tiny ice balls. The wind was blowing snow hither and thither. Seeking temporary shelter from the snowstorm, some of the drivers nestled under their trucks. Others snuggled together in a nearby cave. It was bitterly cold. Hands and feet were stiff. Eyelashes and moustaches were white with hoarfrost. But morale was very high.

Towards morning the wind subsided and the cold snap broke. Everyone felt relaxed as though released from a stupor. But all of a sudden, a rustling sound from the woods broke their peace. The sentry gave the warning signal. Everyone picked up his gun, took up positions and all eyes were fixed on the woods.

The noise was heard again. Two shots were fired in the direction of the noise. Silence for a while. Then the crackling sound of confused footsteps treading on the ground. Then silence. The drivers scoured the woods in search of the strangers responsible for the noise. But too late. They were not to be found.

Foul play by enemy agents was suspected at once. Everyone felt deeply concerned for the truck in his charge. Was it skilfully enough camouflaged? Was the truck in a safe spot?

Half an hour later, the morning quiet was broken by the jarring rattle of motors in the sky. "Enemy planes!" At once everyone was on the alert. Two planes were sighted directly overhead. Without doubt they had come after receiving signals from enemy agents who had hidden in the woods. Instead of hovering overhead for reconnaissance, they dived down to machine-gun the drivers. A volley of bullets whizzed by, missing the drivers by a hair's breadth. Scarcely had cover been taken for the second time when the planes wheeled back, flattened out, and swooped down for another round of strafing. The drivers were plagued in this way no less than six times. Fortunately, all passed through the danger without a scratch. On the last trip the enemy dropped bombs. One of them scored a direct hit on truck No. 1, which immediately started burning.

"Comrades! Rescue the trucks," shouted Wang Peng-hsun, rushing towards the burning truck. The bullets stored inside began exploding. Heavy smoke whirled above the tree-tops. "Damn it, the trucks are so close to each other," Wang muttered. Only four feet away from the burning truck was truck No. 2. Seven feet away on another side was truck No. 3, and truck No. 4 was only 13 feet away. Truck No. 5 was away some distance about 40 feet, but blocking the road.

As Wang drew close to the burning scene, he felt as though the fire was almost searing his flesh, and it seemed to him that the bullets must be exploding inside of him. Choked with smoke, he covered his head with his hands, made a dash for truck No. 5, climbed into the seat and drove it a safe distance away from the burning scene. Meanwhile, fellow drivers Chao and Yang, realising what he was trying to do, moved trucks No. 3 and No. 4 out of the danger zone.

Trucks No. 1 and No. 2 remained on the spot. Truck No. 1 was still blazing fiercely. Bullets were

bursting in different directions, almost like a hailstorm. The fire played dangerously near truck No. 2. Unlike truck No. 1, truck No. 2 was loaded with shells, bombs and grenades, to say nothing of bullets. Really, truck No. 2 was like a powder keg. Should fitting sparks ignite on it, there would be a terrific explosion. Everyone would be blown into pieces.

In this tense moment, Wang rose to the situation. Once he had parked truck No. 5 safely away from the path, he rushed back to the scene. Still some distance away from the actual fire, he was overcome with the flares from the flames, and the stifling air now filled with soot and dust. He couldn't stand any longer, so he made his way on all fours fighting for each inch which would bring him closer to the burning truck. At last, he was beside the truck and, with super-human effort, managed to open the door and climb into the cabin. The heat was intense and the very effort of opening the truck door had burned his hands. But the hissing of the oil tank and the bubbling sound of the petroleum inside the truck spurred him on. He knew that whatever was to be done had to be done quickly. Any delay would cost the lives of all there.

In a flash, he suddenly realised how much he loved life. Quickly high-spots in his life flicked past. His poverty during his boyhood in the Northeast, the Japanese period when he was forcibly conscripted into the puppet army, then his truck driving service for them, the day-in and day-out drugery from which he could not escape, then V-J day and his return to the Northeast, and more misery under the Kuomintang. It was only after liberation that things had been taking a turn for the better. Then he began earning a fair salary as a driver for a Mukden factory. His family, too, was better off, for in the land reform they secured six *mow* of land which provided them with a moderately comfortable living. But the American imperialists

who invaded Korea and carried their hostilities right into China by repeated bombings of Antung and other places had interrupted his new life. And Wang, very conscious of his stake in the new China, had volunteered to help the Koreans drive back the Americans. His offer was accepted and he became a company leader of truck drivers in the people's volunteers' units.

A letter from home only two days ago from his wife told how the peasants in their village had helped her with the threshing of grain, with fertilizer preparations for the next planting and even with household chores. "The family managed to buy a set of new farming tools," his wife had written, "and a new suit for each member after the first batch of grain was sold to the government trading company." At the end of her letter she had added, "Drive the American imperialists out, so that the old dark days will never return."

All these thoughts flashed by in a few seconds while he was facing very grave danger and trying to decide what he could do to avert the explosion. Quickly Wang rushed to the cave where he and some of his companions had spent the previous night, grabbed a cotton blanket, rushed to a nearby mountain brook, where the water had not yet completely frozen, and soaked the blanket. Wrapping his body with the wet blanket, he rushed towards the burning track. By now the fires were seriously close to truck No. 2. He pushed open the door to truck No. 2, climbed into the driver's seat and raced the truck out of the danger zone. Exhausted by the effort, when he stepped out of the truck and began wiping the sweat away from his brow, he fainted.

A first-aid attendant rushed to help him. Soon he was back on his feet and to the crowd, who had by then gathered around him, he cried, "Let's get going, comrades. Quickly!"

Soon the convoy was rolling south along the snowy North Korean mountain paths, with Wang in the first truck skilfully turning the wheel in spite of his bandaged hands.

## The Visiting Soviet Athletic Delegation

After a short visit in Peking, the Soviet Athletic Delegation, sent to China by the Committee on Physical Culture and Sports of the U.S.S.R. Council of Ministers, are touring the major Chinese cities. In every metropolis the basket-ball team of the Delegation competes with Chinese basket-ballers in friendly matches before enthusiastic crowds. Discussions have been held between the Soviet athletes and Chinese physical culture workers. The Chinese youth, students and sportsmen have been watching with keen interest these representatives of the advanced sports from the land of Socialism.

Playing to a fully-packed stadium for four consecutive days from Dec. 28 to New Year's Eve, the basket-ball team of the Soviet Athletic Delegation won all seven matches with the three best Peking teams.

The Soviet basket-ballers played a fast game. A few clean passes and they were under their opponents' basket. Their shots were very accurate. When the ball was not in their hands, they rushed to guard their goal, relying most of the time on man-to-man defence. Their high-speed offensive and close-knit defence greatly impressed the spectators and physical culture workers of the capital city.

The visiting Soviet players enjoyed another distinct advantage over the Chinese players. The Soviet players are taller, heavier and much better built. They were in almost complete control of all the balls bouncing back from the boards of both baskets. They played without showing any signs of fatigue.

The Chinese players were veterans. Despite their physical disadvantages and their fatal weakness in speed, the Chinese players were dexterous and their teamwork was very good. In one of the games with the Soviet team, the combined Peking team lost with a narrow margin of only 13 points. And once during the course of the match, they tied with the guest players—13-all.

The Soviet team played well and distinguished itself for its excellent sportsmanship. The 23-member Soviet Athletic Delegation, headed by Mr. Romanov, arrived in Peking on Dec. 24, 1950. In the Delegation were 17 members of the Soviet basket-ball team which had won the European championship in Prague in 1947.

Liao Cheng-chih, Chairman of the All-China Federation of Democratic Youth, in his welcome to the Delegation, said that as a result of the favourable conditions of the Socialist system, there had been brilliant achievements in the field of physical culture and sports in the Soviet Union. He called on the Chinese physical culture workers and athletes to learn from the advanced experiences of the land of Socialism, where athletics and sports have been developed to serve public health, economic construction and national defence.

Mr. Romanov, Director of the Department of Physical Culture Schools, said in a press statement: "Our athletic delegation is the first of its kind ever sent by the Soviet Government to China. We hope that we shall be able to exchange experiences with the Chinese physical culture workers and to hold friendly basket-ball matches. We believe that our work will further cement the traditional ties of friendship between our peoples in general, and in particular between the physical culture workers of our two countries."

## The People's Clubs in Peking

In times of danger, showers of arrows poured onto the enemy from the bastion of the Arrow Building at the Chien Men Gate of Peking. From the Drum Tower of the Hou Men Gate the tolling of a bronze bell announced that the Emperor had risen. The rolling of the drum informed the Middle Kingdom that the celestial monarch was asleep. For 500 years, these great buildings served the feudal lords of China. Today a great light shines from them. They are the People's Clubs, centres of education, culture and people's entertainments.

Around the Chien Men and Hou Men—the "front" and "back" gates of the old Tatar city—spread two of the oldest handicraft and commercial areas of Peking. Many of the firms here trace their history for hundreds of years. Scores of thousands of clerks and labourers, jade and wood carvers, cloisonne and iron workers, pedicab drivers, engineers and bean-curd makers earn their living within sight of their soaring roofs. From dawn to dusk; ten thousand of them daily pass through these doors.

If you have a difficulty; if you want to know what a certain ideograph really means; if you want a letter written or read, or the policies of the People's Government explained; if you want a problem in wages solved or help in finding a house . . . go to the Clubs.

**Any Questions?** They have an Information Department there that can attend to all of these things for you. Since the promulgation of the new Marriage Law, the Department has even taken a hand in settling not a few marital disputes. With more than a year's experience of its efficiency, club members and the ever widening circle of Peking citizens that are attracted by the various club activities have implicit faith in its ability to deal with an astonishing variety of affairs.

The clubs started out with a general directive from the Bureau of Culture and Education of the Peking Municipal Government to be of service to the people in the cultural and educational fields. Breaking entirely new ground in urban welfare work, they have

made their blue prints as they went along, seeking out the people's needs and then devising ways of meeting them. Now they are in use from early morning till midnight. During the past year, over a million people attended their seven large exhibitions which, with several smaller shows of models and photographs, covered themes in science, hygiene, literature, politics, economics, industry and foreign relations. Thousands of parents-to-be and newly-weds came to the exhibition on Mother and



Child Welfare. Thousands of Peking workers famous for their delicate handicrafts crowded to see the models of the great Anshan Steel Mill and other industrial giants. Record numbers studied the photographic exhibition of life in the Soviet Union. Experts in display see to it that all these exhibitions are made alive and understandable to their audience.

"Education is knocking at your door!" is one of the Club slogans. The Clubs' Workers' Spare-Time Schools hold 13 classes through the day. Workers in denims straight from the bench, mothers with their grocery baskets and toddlers, pedicab riders who park their cabs outside, sit side by side beneath the ancient rafters. Peking sleeps early and wakes early. The last class is from 11 to 12 p.m., when most of the capital is wrapt in slumber. This is for the workers of the night shifts, the restaurant boys, the bath-house attendants, street-peddlers. In these classes the Three R's take precedence. Club cadres, however, don't wait for pupils. They have organised hundreds of Home Study Units, with groups of three, four or more members. To a circle of housewives sewing at home, a Club cadre comes with a set of large characters written on cards with illustrations to make the meaning plain. What could be easier than to take a glance at these between gossips

and so learn gradually to read? Grannies come by turn to the classes and take the lessons back to their home groups. Young wives come to embroider their pillow cases with new designs—characters traced by their own hands.

There are study groups in tea-houses near the theatres. Theatre-goers drop in for a cup of "something hot" and find a lesson in progress. The patrons like these informal talks. The hosts find them good for business.

From their libraries of more than 10,000 volumes, the Clubs have organised some 25 mobile libraries with the help of trade union branches in neighbouring factories, workshops and institutions. After three months' experience of this service, the readers now publish a bulletin in which they exchange their reading experience. One apprentice writes: "In the old days, I saved for months to buy a book. Then my master burned the book and beat me to boot!"

**Tales Old and New.** Round the warm stoves of an afternoon, the children gather to hear the story-tellers tell tales of the old days of kings and rebels, modern tales of guerrilla fighters, labour heroes and volunteers for Korea. The reading groups compete for the title of the best teller of stories. They act their tales. They visit the storied sites of their great and ancient city.

In the days before the liberation, there were two so-called Social Centres for the people of Peking, but their funds were hardly enough for subscriptions to the leading papers. On fine days, perhaps a score or so people would gather there for a gossip. In winter, their unheated rooms were deserted. Now Chien Men and Hou Men are only the two biggest of 13 People's Clubs in Peking. Some 20 full-time cadres shoulder the brunt of the work in each large club with the help of activists from local trade unions and schools. Last year in Chien Men and Hou Men alone, 1,500,000 people (and Peking has a population of 2,000,000) came to club events and classes. The People's Clubs have truly earned their title.

# Letters from Our Readers

## Never-failing Friendship

...Well, Dear Comrades, I like to think of you travelling along the open road to peace and socialism. You deserve a glorious future, and although I suppose I shall never visit your beautiful country, except in my mind, yet I did want to write and tell you how much love and respect I have for you and yours and comrades Mao Tse-tung and Chü Teh.

I would like to send you a present in honour of your glorious struggle and liberation. It is only a little present—some English flower-seeds. Will you plant them in your garden? Then each year their smiling faces will remind you of our never-failing friendship.

Mrs. Ruth Bradley

London  
Nov. 25, 1950

**This spring these English flowers will be blooming in the Peking Botanical Garden for all Peking to see—Ed.**

## Many U.S. Friends

Friends,

...I wish you every success in your efforts to build a People's Republic in China. The business interests in the U.S.A. will do all they can to hamper, cripple and destroy you. Do not be deceived or discouraged. Persevere, you have many friends here.

Scott Nearing

Vermont, U.S.A.  
Nov. 28, 1950

## 'People Are Bigger Than A-bomb'

...For all the bluster and war deviling threats of A-bombs, American policy makers know what a shudder went through the people of America on that fateful Thursday when Mr. Truman so lightly held out death. His further request for \$18 billion more for war was met by a Washington senator compelled by events to say dollars were not enough, we must worry about American manpower; can we stand more blood and dead?

Hundreds of thousands of Americans, and now millions, appalled by the crisis in Korea, by the A-bomb threat, served notice on Washington that they want no war. Over the past weekend the White House was overwhelmed with mail, telegrams, demanding "peace, not war," and we need no Gallup poll to analyse humanity's urging.

"Why are we in Korea?" is heard loudly and insistently on the streets of New York, and the answer comes:

"Save our youngsters, get the hell out of Korea and Asia!"

The full circle of isolation for Washington war-makers nears completion. Without allies abroad, they are about to lose their own people. Americans at home, with loved ones in Korea, faced with countless casualties, are slowly but surely making their will evident—that they are bigger than the A-bomb.

G.S.W.

New York, U.S.A.  
Dec. 16, 1950

## To the Volunteers in Korea

Dear friends:

*Through your esteemed journal, I wish to add my voice to the present world-wide demand for peace, and the general acclaim of our valiant Chinese volunteers in Korea.*

Glory to you  
Most valiant arbiters of justice,  
Defenders of peace, torch-bearers of China.  
Beneath your feet  
The poisonous weeds are trampled!  
Can half-hearted Dollar hirelings  
Face the staunch hearts  
Of your teeming ranks  
Steeled in battle, seasoned in sacrifices,  
Reared in the unsullied traditions  
Of the Communist Party of China?  
Reared alike in the thought of Mao Tse-tung:  
What half-hearted Dollar bandits  
Can face you now—and not fall!

How glorious it is to fight for the fatherland,  
To slay the monster clawing deep into our shores,  
To stand firm and invincible  
Against the waves of the imperialists' hordes;  
How glorious it is to defend the Korean people,  
To make China safe for her 475 millions,  
To assure Asia her liberation, and free the world.

How glorious it is to fight, with the knowledge  
That the homefront of millions gives its full support—  
From peasants and historians, students and professors;  
From factory workers, engineers and doctors;  
From women nurses, from boy stretcher-bearers—  
Gifts come for you from all of China's hinterlands  
From steppes and villages, cities and towns,  
Carefully wrapped with what nameless millions of loving,  
labouring hands.

How glorious it is to be a Chinese  
Since you who have volunteered are Chinese too!

Lin Ching-shan

Peking  
Dec. 26, 1950

# Businessmen Oppose U.S. Aggression

On Nov. 30, 1950, in Tientsin, despite the bitter winter cold, more than 42,000 local industrialists and businessmen, employees, managers, accountants, business apprentices, chief engineers and technicians thronged the spacious Sports Stadium to demonstrate their opposition to American aggression and plan concrete measures of support for the Chinese people's volunteers now fighting with the Korean People's Army.

This was one of the first rallies demonstratively aligning these business groups alongside the workers, peasants and intellectuals of China in a reaffirmation of the national united front against imperialist aggression.

In a telegram to Chairman Mao Tse-tung, the participants of the mass rally expressed their determination to resist American imperialism and aid Korea.

The 4-point programme adopted at the rally pledged: (1) full support for all joint acts of resistance to American imperialism and aid to Korea; (2) that each would stand firmly at his post and work hard to increase and improve production; (3) resolute support for the People's Government policy and directives to ensure stable market prices, to oppose hoarding, speculation and manipulation of the market and (4) to intensify the study of current events so as to get a clearer understanding of the present situation, carry on day-to-day propaganda work, strengthen the home front, clearly recognise friends as well as foes and boycott and expose reactionary rumours.

The stadium rally was followed by a demonstration through the city streets. Crowds cheered the marchers representing 143 branches of trade and industry and headed by the veteran industrialist, Li Chu-chen, Director of the Tientsin Industrialists' and Businessmen's Association. Each group bore colourful banners and posters with the slogans of their 4-point programme. Red and blue balloons flying above the group of the rubber industry carried the call: "Down with American imperialism! Aid Korea!" The delegates of the pharmaceutical trades display-

ed a large paper tiger—symbol of U.S. imperialism—with its covering torn apart by a steel dagger wielded by the people. Behind this "tiger" came a detachment of "tiger-fighters"—wax traders with clubs of white wax in their hands.

Chief managers, vice-managers and assistant-managers of Tientsin banks carried their special slogan: "Strict observance of the government's financial policy and decisions." Over 3,000 street traders formed a column of their own in the parade.

## Nationwide Response

Industrialists and businessmen in all other major centres followed the lead of their Tientsin colleagues. On Dec. 9, in Peking, representatives of 136 trades held a mass demonstration to celebrate the liberation of Pyongyang. On Dec. 12, more than 150,000 people, conspicuously members of various business circles, including capitalists and industrialists, demonstrated in Shanghai. Similar rallies and meetings were held in Mukden, Chungking, Lanchow, Tsingtao, Harbin, Hankow, Canton, Sian, Nanking and many other cities.

China's patriotic industrialists and businessmen, long oppressed by foreign capital, have shared with the people a hatred for imperialism. But this is the first time in history that they have held such great public demonstrations to show their unity against American aggression which, after many bitter years of experience, they have come to know as the deadly enemy of China's national industry and commerce.

At the Tientsin meeting, the 70-year-old Li Chu-chen, a leader in the chemical industry of North China, recalled how American economic aggression and the reactionary KMT's "Four Big Families" of Chiang, Kung, Soong and the Chen brothers, had virtually strangled the business of his friend Fan Shao-tung, initiator of many chemical enterprises in Tientsin. "The Kuomintang," he had said, "did nothing but wreck and destroy during the past two decades. But the People's Government and the Chinese Communist Party have restored within a year all that was destroyed."

Leading businessmen of Shanghai expressed themselves forcefully on this question. Yung Yi-jen, general manager of the Shanghai Sun Sin Textile Company, declared: "To ensure the continued existence and prosperity of Shanghai's industries and business, we must fight American imperialism to the end."

Four hundred representatives of the businessmen of Hankow heard it recalled how the majority of the 300 hosiery factories there were forced to close down because of the ruthless dumping of American products. Other representatives recalled how the markets throughout China were literally flooded out with American cigarettes, matches, milk powder, oranges, peanuts, chewing gum, toilet paper and what not. The net result was that Chinese products were forced out of their own home market.

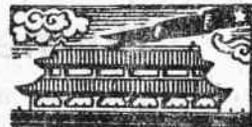
All these meetings reported the substantial contributions of business circles in gifts of goods and money to support the Chinese people's volunteers in Korea.

On Jan. 5, the businessmen of Peking led the way in pledging the support of the business circles of China for the government measures freezing American assets in China in reply to the aggressive anti-Chinese measures taken by the U.S. government. Such control of U.S. property in China will, they declared, bring about the "total elimination of American economic aggression in China." In their letter to Chairman Mao Tse-tung, they listed the brilliant economic successes achieved by the People's Government in its first year as "creating favourable economic conditions for the development of New China's industry and commerce."

The patriotic businessmen of China have played no small role by their co-operation in maintaining the confidence and stability of the home markets in China since the outbreak of the U.S. invasion of Korea. In his letter of reply to the Tientsin businessmen, Chairman Mao Tse-tung called for the further strengthening of the united front which "foretells the certain, final victory of the Chinese people in their sacred struggle against imperialist aggression."—C. S. Chu

## CURRENT CHINA

Dec. 26, 1950 — Jan. 10, 1951

**Volunteers Enter Seoul**

Seoul, capital of the Korean Democratic People's Republic, was freed on Jan. 4 by the Korean People's Army and the Chinese people's volunteers. The news of its liberation after being occupied by the American invading troops since Sept. 30 was celebrated with parades, meetings, and joyous demonstrations throughout China.

The liberation of Seoul, comments the Peking *People's Daily*, is a thorough defeat for the Americans in Korea. It again demonstrates that the Korean People's Army and Chinese people's volunteers are a formidable force for peace. They can definitely wipe out U.S. land, air and naval forces, despite their bristling arms. If the Americans refuse to go, push them, into the ocean, concludes the paper.

**Enemy Losses**

The Korean People's Army and Chinese people's volunteers have wiped out over 11,000 American troops in Northeast Korea; of these more than 1,000 were captured, states a Hsinhua dispatch of Dec. 31.

The annihilated American units are: a tank unit, an infantry unit and most of the 5th and 7th Regiments of the 1st Marine Division; the entire 32nd Regiment, the 3rd Battalion and the 2nd Company of the 1st Battalion of the 31st Regiment of the 7th Infantry Division; the Howitzer Battalion of the Divisional Headquarters; the 2nd Company of the 7th Regiment of the 3rd Division.

**"Matsukawa" Protests**

Workers' organisations throughout China have protested against the savage sentences passed on the 20 Japanese railway workers framed by the reactionaries on sabotage charges arising out of the "Matsukawa Incident."

**U.S. Planes Invade N.E.**

U.S. aircraft raided Antung, Northeast China, on New Year's Eve, killing five and wounding 51 Chinese people. During the month of December, 169 American planes

**Government Supports Peace Resolutions**

The 10th session of the Central People's Government Council of China resolved on Dec. 26 to fully support and sustain the Manifesto to the Peoples of the World and the proposals to the U.N. drawn up by the Second World Peace Congress. It calls upon the Chinese people to struggle for the complete realisation of the 10 Congress proposals.

intruded into Northeast China on 62 occasions, on 10 of which they bombed and strafed objectives. According to incomplete data, more than 1,406 planes of the American invading forces in Korea invaded Northeast China on more than 323 occasions between Aug. 27 and Dec. 31, 1950.

**U.S. Assets Frozen**

On Dec. 28, 1950, the Government Administration Council of the Central People's Government issued an order that all assets of the U.S. Government and American enterprises within China must immediately be brought under the control of the People's Government, and all government and private deposits of the U.S. in the banks within China must be immediately frozen. This measure was in answer to the U.S. government orders to freeze Chinese assets in the U.S. on Dec. 16, 1950.

**U.S.-Subsidised Bodies**

Decisions for dealing with the cultural, educational, relief and religious organisations in China subsidised by the U.S. were adopted by the Government Administration Council on Dec. 29, 1950. According to these decisions, such organisations will either be taken over by the government or be operated by private bodies completely controlled by the Chinese people. The government will give appropriate financial assistance to those which experience financial difficulties.

**British Persecute Chinese**

The persecution of overseas Chinese by the British Government in Malaya has aroused nation-wide indignation.

The spokesman of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs issued a statement on Dec. 29, saying that the British Government and the British colonial authorities in Malaya must bear full responsibility for all the consequences resulting from the persecution and deportation of Chinese nationals.

The spokesman stated that according to very incomplete statistics, over 35,000 overseas Chinese residents were deported from Malaya between June of 1948 and August of 1950 and that the concentration camps, detention centres and secret prisons in Singapore, Johore, Negri Sembilan, Selangor, Penang, etc., are filled with innocent overseas Chinese. Numerous Chinese were killed and tortured to death in these concentration camps and about 400,000 overseas Chinese made homeless.

The spokesman demanded that "the British Government and British authorities in Malaya immediately put an end to the policy of persecuting and deporting the overseas Chinese, and promptly release all overseas Chinese in concentration camps and guarantee their freedom of domicile, the safety of their lives and property and all other legitimate rights and interests and pay compensation for all the losses suffered by them through illegal persecution."

A joint protest has been sent by the All-China Federation of Labour, the All-China Democratic Women's Federation, the All-China Democratic Youth Federation and the All-China Students' Federation to the British Government.

**More French Provocations**

The French imperialist troops invading Viet-Nam continue to carry out armed provocations against China on the Sino-Viet-Nam border. They bombarded and shelled Chinese villages on five occasions between Nov. 4 and 9, 1950.

## Prices Stable

Prices of major commodities in China have kept practically stable throughout the period from March to December, 1950. This was unprecedented in recent Chinese history. In 1949 there was a 19-fold increase. Average prices in the six biggest cities on Dec. 26 showed an increase of only 7.8 per cent compared with Aug. 31.

## All-Circles Conferences

Following the sessions of All-Circles Representative Conference in cities and counties, the first sessions of All-Circles Representative Conferences of provincial level have been held in 20 provinces and seven Administrative Regions with a status equal to that of a province. These provinces and regions are: Hopei, Shansi, Chahar, Liaotung, Kirin, Sungkiang, Heilungkiang, Jehol, Shantung, Hupeh, Honan, Kiangsi, Shensi, Kansu, Ninghsia, Chinghai, Hunan, Kwangtung, Kwangsi, Chekiang Provinces and the South Kiangsu, North Kiangsu, South Anhwei, North Anhwei, West Szechuan, South Szechuan and North Szechuan Administrative Regions.

Provincial People's Government Councils for the first 16 provinces have been elected at these conferences.

On Dec. 30, the Government Administration Council promulgated the regulations governing the organisation of the basic organs of the People's Government and All-Circles People's Representative Conferences in *Chu* (a sub-district below county level) and *Hsiang* (an administrative unit embracing several villages).

## INTERNATIONAL

The Trade Mission of the Czechoslovak Republic headed by I. Kohout arrived in Peking, Jan. 4.

Chairman Mao Tse-tung cabled President Sao Shwe Thaik on Jan. 2, greeting the National Day of the Union of Burma.

Clemente Rezzonico, Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of the Swiss Confederation to the People's Republic of China, presented his credentials to Vice-Chairman Chu Teh on Dec. 28.

## 1950 Targets Achieved

Over 180 state-owned factories and mines in all parts of China have reported fulfilment of their 1950 production targets ahead of schedule. Among them, 91 are in the Northeast, 36 in North China, 42 in East China and 17 in the rest of China. The workers have sent New Year greetings to Chairman Mao Tse-tung reporting their achievements in the past year.

### Northeast China

The total value of production of publicly-owned industries in the Northeast increased by 100.15 per cent, compared with 1949, exceeding their plan by 1.8 per cent.

Workers of the Peipiao coal mine fulfilled their production plan for 1950. This means a 70 per cent increase of output over 1949. Productivity in this mine increased by one-third over last year and the accident rate has also been greatly reduced. In the No. 3 Machine Building Factory in Mukden productivity in 1950 was 61 per cent greater than in 1949. The quality of its products has also improved and production costs were reduced. One electric bulb factory in Dairen has reduced production costs by 25 per cent more than originally planned.

### North China

Workers of the Liuliho Cement Works completed their plan for 1950 ahead of time. In less than a year they turned out as much cement as in four years and three months under the Japanese and KMT administration.

The iron smelting targets of the Shihchingshan Steel Plant for last year were surpassed by Dec. 6. The Shihchingshan Power Plant registered on Nov. 30 the highest record in power supply since the plant was established. Electric power generated in the Tanshan Power Station surpassed the 1950 target by 3.27 per cent.

In Peking, more than 330,000 square metres of new roads planned for this year were built and surfaced by October. In addition to completing the road building programme, a further 250,000 square metres of tarred and concrete roads were repaired or re-surfaced.

### East China

Factories and mines in Shanghai and Nanking under the Industrial Department of the East China Military and Administrative Committee reported that they have completed ahead of time their 1950 production plans for ingot steel, cranes, generators, farming machines, electric bulbs and fireproof bricks. The original plan for transformers, magnetic wire and batteries was surpassed by 30 per cent.

The Asia Steel Works has reported over-fulfilment of 1950's production plan for steel ingots. New production records have been set up by the Tahsing Machine Factory.

By the end of November, Shanghai textile workers had already outstripped their plans for the production of cotton yarn for the year by 16.14 per cent and of cloth by 7.62 per cent.

### Central-South China

In the plants under the Central-South China Industrial Department, the plans for all non-ferrous metals, cement, electric appliances and other main products had been overfulfilled by the middle of December. The output of tin for the whole area for the year had been overfulfilled by 39 per cent a month ahead of schedule.

## *Clear Away Aggressive U.S. Influences in China*

*The following is an abridged version of the comment on the freezing of U.S. assets and measures for dealing with U.S.-subsidised bodies in China, which appeared in the Peking People's Daily on Dec. 30, 1950:*

The entirely reasonable and necessary measures taken by the Government Administration Council of the Central People's Government effectively strike back at the brutal aggression and hostile acts of U.S. imperialism against our country.

On Dec. 16, 1950, the U.S. government bluntly announced that it was taking over control of all public and private assets of the People's Republic of China in the areas under its jurisdiction. . . . Economically, this is a further step of U.S. imperialism to seize the assets of the Chinese people following its armed invasion of Taiwan, the bombing of Northeast China and Shantung Province and shelling of our merchant shipping. The Chinese people certainly will not submit to the predatory acts of the U.S. They must adopt all necessary counter-measures.

Through their economic exploitation the U.S. sucked the blood and sweat of the Chinese people and then hoped to buy off the Chinese people with a small portion of what they had squeezed from their toil.

The U.S. imperialists specially intensified their cultural aggression against China with a view to spiritually numbing the Chinese people. They made big investments to subsidise religious, cultural and relief bodies in China. By these, they attempted to hypnotise the Chinese people into regarding their enemy as a friend and becoming willing slaves.

There is a type of robber who seizes your property, gives you back a few trifles, and then wants you to regard him as a "benefactor." U.S. imperialism is precisely such a robber. But the U.S. imperialists are completely mistaken in thinking that they can really buy the hearts of the Chinese people with a few of their dirty, blood-stained dollars.

The American imperialists now attempt to threaten the livelihood of the personnel in all religious, cultural and relief organisations, subsidised by the U.S., by freezing all Chinese assets in the U.S. and cutting off remittances. But the Chinese people will not be intimidated by these methods of U.S. imperialism. Under the leadership of the Central People's Government, the Chinese people can manage these institutions and will certainly improve their management by relying on themselves.

### WHEN AUSTIN'S AMERICA TALKS

#### ABOUT FRIENDSHIP

*(Continued from Page 14)*

by its participation could have made such a measure exert great pressure on Japan, was firmly opposed to such a course.

Not until it was crystal clear that the direction of Japanese expansion was essentially southwards instead of northwards and not until the Japanese had occupied Chinchow in Liaoning Province in January the following year, an unmistakable sign of a drive southwards into North China, did Stimson declare his so-called Doctrine of Non-Recognition. Even then, as a piece of propaganda, it was a poor effort, for the American Note was too patently aimed at protecting American interests in China rather than at frustrating the aggressor. On the day following the despatch of the Note to the Japanese government, the State Department found it necessary to reassure the aggressor that it would not interfere with its invasion of China by issuing a supplementary statement in which the following points were set forth: (1) that the United States has no intention of concerning itself with intervening in Japanese treaty rights in Manchuria (i.e., Northeast China); (2) that the United States is not prepared to concern itself with the methods by which Japan deals with her problems there, provided that American interests are not thus affected. The sum and substance of the

Stimson Doctrine of Non-Recognition was, therefore, American acquiescence in the Japanese occupation of Northeast China on the condition that Wall Street interests were left alone. This was a horse trade at the expense of the Chinese people. Yet, in the words of the American delegate to the Security Council, it was "American friendship for the Chinese people."

In spite of the treasonable attitude of the puppet Chiang Kai-shek regime, the Chinese people made known their determination to resist Japan through the 19th Route Army's famous and heroic stand at Shanghai where the invaders were held at bay for more than a month to their great cost. The lone struggle of the 19th Route Army was destined to be short-lived due to the betrayal of the government at Nanking. The servitors of American imperialism, who were carrying on clandestine negotiations with the Japanese, not only denied support to the 19th Route Army but even sent their 5th Army to Shanghai to prevent further resistance to the Japanese aggressor. The 19th Route Army was finally forced, under protest, to abandon the struggle, and Chiang Kai-shek signed an ignominious truce with the Japanese.

On July 7, 1937, the Japanese imperialists launched their full-scale attack on China and this must, too, be considered as an indirect result of American policy towards China. If the United States had not encouraged the ambitions of imperialist Japan in

China, as, for example, by recognising her as having a special position in China, first in the Root-Takahira Agreement of 1908 and later in the Lansing-Ishii Agreement of 1917, and if the United States had honoured the Nine-Power Treaty as something more than a mere scrap of paper, there is reason to believe that Japan would have paused to calculate a bit more of the risk before finally taking the plunge into war in 1937.

As it was, as Japan prepared to unleash its war of aggression against China in 1937, the United States was its chief supplier of war materials providing more than half of all her resources for carrying on the war against the Chinese people. Even after hostilities started, U.S. war exports to Japan in 1937-38 reached the figure of \$326,489,000. Large shipments of these war goods left American shores under the "Cash and Carry" provisions of the so-called Neutrality Act. In 1937, U.S. exports of war materials to Japan made up 58 per cent of the total exports of such goods abroad; in 1938, it increased to 67 per cent. This represented a huge part of Japan's total war resources in that year. These figures speak eloquently of American "assistance"—not to China, as Warren Austin would have people believe, but to the enemy of the Chinese people!

But this was only one phase of the treacherous policy of the United States in the Sino-Japanese War. What exposes the American imperialists as a mortal enemy of the Chinese people was their attempt to sell out China during the Nomura-Hull talks held in Washington in 1941. In April that year, the American Secretary of State put forward a scheme as a basis "for readjusting Japanese-American differences in the Far East." The third section of this notorious scheme was drafted with a view to buying off Japan at the expense of China. The U.S. government promised the Japanese that it would endeavour to put pressure on the Chiang Kai-shek regime to sue for peace and to recognise the puppet state of "Manchukuo" in return for two conditions, namely, withdrawal of Japanese troops from territories south of the Great Wall and a Japanese promise not to annex the whole of China. This was how the American ruling clique planned to counter Japan's southern drive in Asia. China was to be thrown as a sop to the Japanese imperialists to induce them to switch their war against the Soviet Union!

#### **Pearl Harbour: Fruits of Appeasement**

Much as the United States wanted to satisfy Japan by sacrificing China, the unbridled ambitions of the Japanese military clique could not however, be curbed by the American offer. They were determined to realise in full their plan for the "Co-Prosperty Sphere of East Asia," in other words, exclusive Japanese domination of Asia and the Pacific, and particularly of the rich natural resources of Southeast Asia. With the Rome-Berlin-Tokyo Axis as their backing, the bellicose military clique in Japan were fully confident of defeating the American-British bloc. The war in China was extended to Indo-China as a prelude to the final assault. At the end of 1941 came Japan's surprise attack on Pearl Harbour, and the war that had begun in China eventually spread to all parts of the Pacific, Asia, and the United States. The Pearl Harbour "Incident" thus proved to be the result of an appeasement

policy of "picking up stones to throw at one's own feet," as the saying goes. The U.S. government only reaped the fruits it had sown.

The Pacific war opened a new chapter in Sino-American relations. Japan now became the common enemy of both America and China. The U.S. Government sent Gen. Joseph Stilwell and a number of American officers to China to concert joint efforts in prosecuting the war against Japan. Stilwell recognised the fighting record of the Communist-led 8th Route Army and New Fourth Army that were bearing the brunt of the fighting against the Japanese invaders. He recommended that the arms sent by the U.S. to China should be so distributed as to include equipping these two armies. But, Washington turned down any such idea.

#### **U.S. Arms for Chiang's War**

As the war went on, and especially after Pearl Harbour, the KMT effort against the Japanese became more and more lukewarm. Chiang Kai-shek "kept thousands and thousands of his best men up in the Northwest, up on the borders of Red China" (Elliot Roosevelt in his book, *As He Saw It*). Washington knew well at this time that the people of the Liberated Areas and the heroic army under the leadership of the Chinese Communist Party and Mao Tse-tung were pinning down the bulk of the Japanese land forces in the Pacific theatre of war, and that they were frequently having to fend off KMT attacks as well as dealing with the Japanese. Washington also knew that Chiang was holding up supplies that should have gone to the Liberated Areas and the people's army and, instead of using them against the Japanese, was storing up vast amount of lend-lease munitions for the civil war he was preparing against the Chinese people.

In fact, the American ruling circles were confidently expecting that final act of Chiang Kai-shek's treachery. On V-J Day, they gave him every assistance to put himself and his troops in the most favourable position for launching his attack on the Liberated Areas (See *People's China*, Vol. II, No 11). When Austin talks about "American friendship for the Chinese people," he should count the rounds of ammunition that the Pentagon sent to Chiang Kai-shek to slaughter the Chinese people.

In reviewing this period, we have not the space to mention innumerable other instances of the rapacious and cunning workings of American imperialism in China—of how it subsidised one group of warloads (Tsao Kun and Wu Pei-fu) against another (Tuan Chi-ju) to get favours at China's expenses from each; of how, during China's mortal struggle against Japan's invasion, the United States wrang new privileges out of the KMT government in return for loans. The recounting of such acts of treachery could well fill a book.

The Chinese people have a long memory, particularly when today they see these bloody deeds being continued in even more revolting and open forms. The U.S. armed occupation of Taiwan, the bombings of Northeast China, the network of U.S. espionage and sabotage thrown around China's borders are more eloquent than the cooing of Austin and his like at the United Nations. No words can explain away the criminal record of American imperialism in China

