

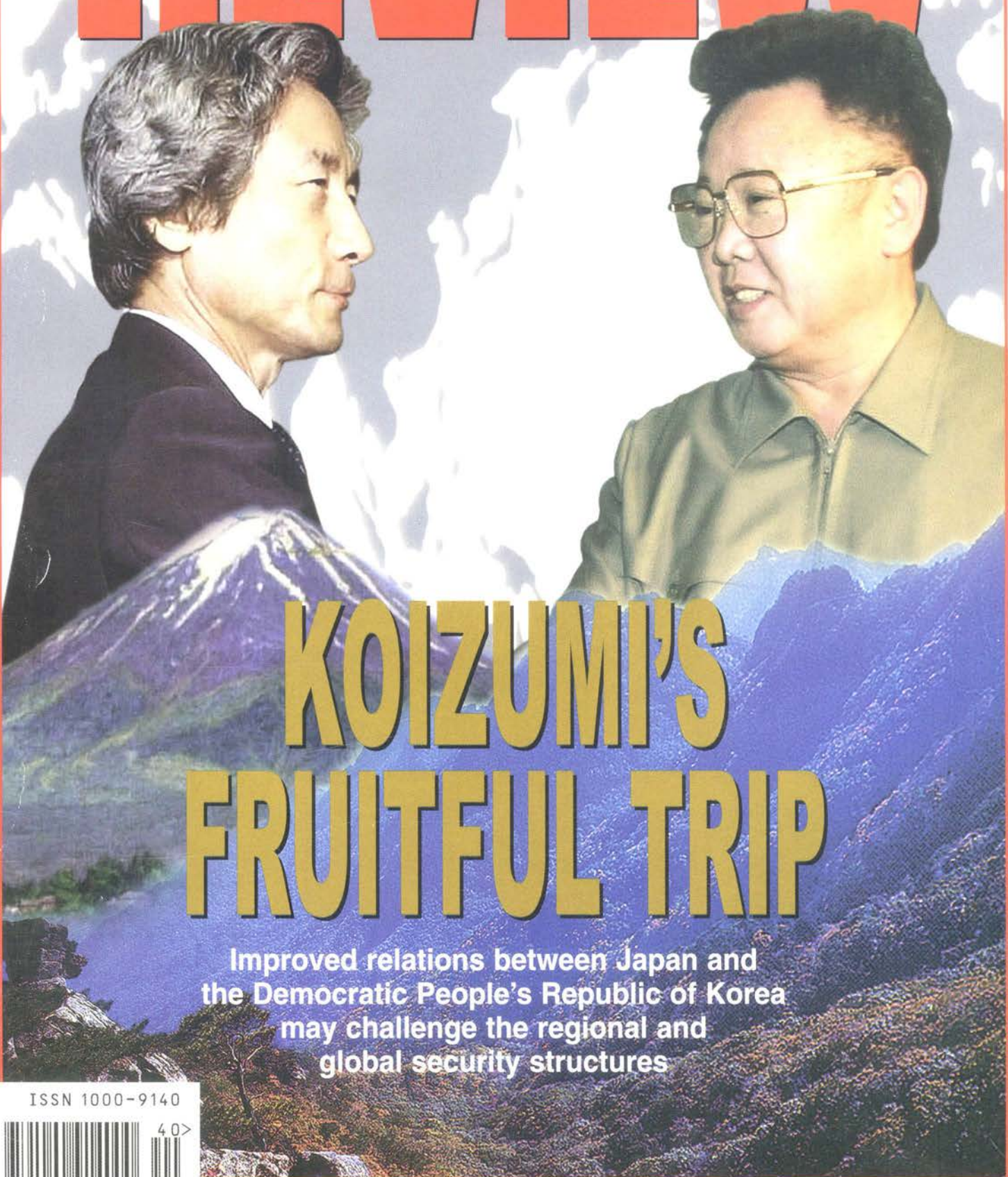
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KOIZUMI'S FRUITFUL TRIP

Improved relations between Japan and the Democratic People's Republic of Korea may challenge the regional and global security structures

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WEEKLY WATCH ■ GLOBAL OBSERVER ■ TOPICAL ISSUES ■ NATIONAL REPORT ■ FORUM ■ AUTHORITATIVE INFORMATION



USHERING IN A NEW ERA:
Two children exchange flowers at a ceremony marking the re-connecting of railways and roads between the south and north parts of the Korean Peninsula



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LETTER

Nobody Hates the U.S. as a Country

I would like to comment on the letter of Laurent Moulin of France (No.36, Sep. 5, 2002). I totally recognize the right of Mr. Moulin to express his opinion. Now, I refuse to believe that somebody living in today's France can be so blind, especially having access to so much information.

First of all, Mr. Moulin should know that nobody hates the United States as a country, because after all no country is perfect. What people throughout the world hate is hegemony, unfair treatment and power politics to control other countries. Maybe Mr. Moulin forgot that the United States has never treated other countries as equal and that no country has committed more invasions of sovereign nations than the United States, violating the UN Charter and international laws. Here are some examples, in case Mr. Moulin is not able to go to the library and check himself: Grenada (1983), the Dominican Republic (1916, 1965), Panama (1989), Cuba (1898, 1960), Mexico (1846), Laos, Viet Nam and Cambodia (1965), Afghanistan (2001), just to mention a few. There have been hundreds of thousands of people in the world killed by American bombs. Let's mention Yugoslavia, the Sudan, Libya and Iraq as an example. The United States attacked those countries just to impose its way and interfere in the internal affairs of others.

Everybody recognizes America's advances, modernization, economical power and its high-level culture, but nobody likes to be treated unequally and unfairly only for being poor or for having different ideas and ways of thinking. China has no reason to hate the United States. What China has done in the last 50 years in improving the welfare of more than a billion people is astonishing and has won the admiration and respect of the whole world. China does not want to dominate the world and China does not have to dominate the world. China is the best example for the world to follow when it showcases how science and technology can advance a society. This is the right way for living in peace.

By the way, I want to ask Mr. Moulin if he knows how many times the United Nations has called the United States to lift the 40-year-old blockade against Cuba. This is one of the most horrific crimes committed against a peaceful nation, which only wants to have freedom, independence, self-determination and its own political system.

Finally, everybody feels proud of how China, from being a poor country, has worked hard and chosen the right direction, and has become powerful and friendly without threatening or robbing any other country.

TAINO QUISQUEYA

New Jersey, U.S.A.

Letters to the Editor, including the writer's name and address, should be e-mailed to hblii@263.net or faxed to 86-10-68326628. Letters may be edited for reasons of space and clarity.



Significant Handshake: Japanese prime minister's recent DPRK trip not only opens a new chapter in bilateral relations but also exerts far-reaching influence on regional security and prosperity. **p.10**

Better Service for Overseas Investors: Improved services have saved lots of legwork of foreign investors getting their projects approved in Beijing. A sounder service system is taking shape in the capital. **p.14**

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Li Peng meets representatives from the Australian business community

Good Business Environment Promised

Chairman Li Peng of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress vowed in Canberra on September 17 to create a sound investment environment and more business opportunities for all overseas enterprises based on equality and mutual benefit.

"China is adopting a series of measures to improve conditions for foreign investment and import," said Li. He noted that China has adjusted a number of laws and regulations in order to meet the demands of its WTO entry.

Statistics show that more than 2,300 laws and regulations have been amended and 830 abolished to comply with WTO rules since China joined the world trade body on December 11, 2001.

Iraq's Decision on Inspectors Welcomed

The Chinese Government welcomes Iraq's decision to allow the unconditional return of United Nations arms inspectors.

"It is a result of the joint efforts of the international community and we hope these inspectors can submit an objective report to the UN Security Council as early as possible," said Foreign Ministry spokesman Kong Quan on September 17.

Responding to the skeptical attitude of the United States, Kong said Iraq's decision was a positive step in cooperation with the UN.

China also urges Iraq to implement the relevant UN resolutions completely and effectively to pave the way for an early, peaceful solution.

Sound Sino-U.S. Relations

The overall relationship between China and the United States has recently seen sound development, said President

Jiang Zemin in Beijing on September 19.

In a meeting with Sandra Day O'Connor, Associate Justice of the U.S. Supreme Court, Jiang said the two countries share extensive and important common interests, though some differences remain.

Jiang said that China will further improve its socialist legal system with Chinese characteristics, promote judiciary reform, ensure a just and independent jurisdiction to provide better legal guarantees for China's modernization drive.

O'Connor said she has witnessed great changes in China and has seen significant achievements in the construction of the legal system since her last visiting in the early 1980s.

Deeper Asian-European Cooperation

Speaking in Copenhagen, Denmark on September 22, Chinese Premier Zhu Rongji said that it is imperative for Asia and Europe to deepen their cooperation because of the increasing uncertainty in the world's political and economic situa-



Premier Zhu Rongji chairs the Asian leaders meeting

tion.

Attending and chairing an Asian leaders meeting on the eve of the fourth Asia-Europe Meeting, Zhu said Asian countries should seek more political consensus, closer relationships and deeper cooperation with European nations, especially in the fields of economy and trade.

He told heads of state from nine other Asian nations that under the spirit of solidarity and coordination, Asian countries would achieve these goals so as to make greater contributions to global stability and prosperity.

This Asian leader's meeting approved an ASEM political declaration on the fight against terrorism, a declaration on peace on the Korean Peninsula

and a president's statement of the fourth ASEM.

Cult Members Tried for Cable TV Hijacking

A group of 15 Falun Gong followers charged with sabotaging cable TV network equipment were put on trial on September 18 at the Intermediary People's Court in Changchun, capital of Jilin Province.

According to local public security authorities, on March 5 of this year, when residents in Changchun and Songyuan cities were viewing regular TV program, Falun Gong cultists hijacked the cable TV transmission through the use of their own small-sized broadcasting equipment and broadcast a propaganda program for the evil cult.

The perpetrators damaged TV broadcasting equipment that was under the protection of state laws and disrupted the public order in a serious way.

The suspects stand accused of sabotaging radio and TV broadcasting equipment and of negatively affecting law enforcement through organizing and utilizing cults.

Vows for Lasting Sino-Japanese Friendship

Lasting peace and friendship between China and Japan conforms to the fundamental interests of both countries and the growth of Sino-Japanese neighborly relations contributes to regional and global peace and development, said President Jiang Zemin in Beijing on September 22.

Jiang made these remarks at a gathering to mark the 30th anniversary of the normalization of Sino-Japanese relations.

Jiang said it is important to adhere to "viewing history as a mirror and looking forward to the future" while summing up



Lasting friendship—keynote of a Sino-Japanese joint performance

the history of Sino-Japanese exchanges and looking at the prospects for friendship between the two countries.

Beijing Tourist Festival

The Fifth Beijing International Tourist Culture Festival opened on September 21.

More than 60 performing groups from 46 countries attended the opening ceremonies. The 5,000 performers sang and danced in a parade along the 4-km-long Ping'an Avenue, and attracted a large audience.

Striking folk art and colorful head-



Hawaiian artists perform the hula dance

dress were a highlight of the parade.

Initiated in 1998, the festival has attracted more than 80 countries and regions. It has become a bridge for the exchange of culture between different countries.

Continued Support for Overseas Input

State Councilor Wu Yi promised a firmer crackdown on counterfeiting and infringement on intellectual property rights on September 19, as an integral part of improving the business environment for domestic and foreign investors.

Wu said the Chinese Government fully recognizes the importance of intellectual property rights protection in boosting the confidence of foreign companies seeking to invest in hi-tech industries and set up research and development centers in China.

She said the State Council has scrapped 830 laws concerning the investment environment and revised another 325 to honor China's commitments to the WTO.

New regulations guiding foreign investment have been promulgated, and

notification and enquiry services concerning market liberalization have been provided, she noted.

Boeing 737s Undergo Inspection

Major Chinese airlines have started checking the flight control modules of their newest Boeing 737s after the manufacturer revealed that some might be defective.

Boeing released a statement on September 16 that it had become aware of problems with its 737s. The company is discussing possible remedies with airlines. It says fewer than 50 of the 737s out of more than 1,300 may be affected. It is still not known how many planes in China are affected.

Industry sources said some airlines that own the new generation of 737s, particularly the 737-700s and 737-800s, have received instructions on checking the modules. In a worst-case scenario, the malfunction may cause planes to crash.

AIDS Awareness Needs Improvement

A recent survey has shown that residents of cities and small towns know shockingly little about the rapid spread of HIV/AIDS in China.

The survey, conducted by the European Future Group and Horizon Research, showed that among 6,835 adults in selected cities and towns across the country, only 30 percent of those sur-



Medical staff and volunteers in Fuzhou hand out promotion material for AIDS prevention

veyed know how to protect themselves from AIDS.

"The reasons for the lack of knowledge concerning AIDS transmission and protection are a lack of media awareness and a fear of AIDS," said Cheng Feng, a project manager of the China-Britain HIV/AIDS Prevention and Care Project.

Latest statistics from the Ministry of Health show that as of June 2002, about 850,000 people in China are HIV positive. The figure is expected to increase by 300,000 by the year 2006.

Importance of Coastal Defense

Coastal defense, a key area of national defense, is of great importance for the opening-up and economic prosperity of coastal areas, State Councilor Luo Gan



A naval exercise in the Yellow Sea

told the Second National Working Conference on the Administration of Coastal Defense, held September 19-21 in Xiamen, Fujian Province.

In his address, Luo urged those responsible for marine defense to follow President Jiang Zemin's instructions, central policies, and relevant laws and regulations, to safeguard China's sovereignty, territorial integrity and maritime rights.

He called for a crackdown on off-shore smuggling, drug trafficking and piracy, so as to ensure the security and stability of coastal areas and territorial waters.

Two Satellites to Be Launched

China will launch two oceanic and meteorological satellites in 2005 in its run-up to building a sophisticated earth observation system, utility officials said on September 18 in Beijing.

The satellites will be more advanced than the *Haiyang 1A* and *Fengyun 1D* satellites launched atop a Long March rocket in mid-May.

Following these two satellites to be launched in 2005, China also plans to put into space a chain of satellites to monitor the dynamic ocean environment and then focus on the comprehensive oceanic environment, said Lin Mingshen of the State Oceanic Administration. ■



Shooting for the Presidency

Taking advantage of his world Cup success, **Chung Mong Joon**, FIFA Vice President and Chairman of the Football Association of the Republic of Korea, is shooting for the ROK presidency in the December elections.

“The new politics I will pursue will be politics seeking national harmony, looking to the future instead of clinging to the past, and not relying on regionalism,” said Chung. “I will stand at the center of a new era that will pursue politics based on common sense. I will create a new party with many politicians supporting this cause.”

Chung, 50, is son of the late business tycoon Chung Ju Yung, founder of the Hyundai Group who ran unsuccessfully in the 1992 presidential election.

“Terrorism continues to pose a threat to mankind’s security and global economic development is beset with multiple uncertainties. While peace remains an unresolved issue, the question of development has stood out.”

ZHU RONGJI

Chinese Premier

“China harshly condemns the recent suicide bombing in Israel and strongly opposes Israel’s large-scale military operations in the Palestine-controlled area, especially its siege of President Yasser Arafat’s presidential compound.”

ZHANG QIYUE

Foreign Ministry Spokeswoman

“China is no longer only a potential market, but a huge market in reality, which opens its door to countries around the world. The more open the Chinese market becomes, the more a sound legal system is needed, and the more urgent it is to realize the modernization of the legal system.”

DUAN ZHENGKUN

Vice Minister of Justice

“I believe that the modernization of the legal system under the WTO regime is a process of establishing and upholding the rule of law as recognized by WTO members to ensure stability, predictability and transparency.”

KIM JUNG KIL

Minister of Justice, Republic of Korea

Seeking Common Development

China and Japan are searching for broader cooperation in East Asia. Financial collaboration, especially the concept of a uniform Asian currency, shows promise

By JIANG YUECHUN

The author is with the China Institute of International Studies

Sino-Japanese relations witnessed a honeymoon period in the 1970s, strengthened economic cooperation in the 1980s and cooperation with occasional frictions in the 1990s. Over the past three decades, the two countries have reached consensus in many fields; most importantly, both have realized that friendly cooperation conforms to their fundamental interests and is the key to the prosperity and stability of the Asia-Pacific region. The historical development of bilateral relations proves that both sides benefit if they are in harmony, and suffer if at odds. Therefore, as they celebrate the 30th anniversary of their establishment of formal diplomatic relations, China and Japan are confronted with the key task of widening cooperation, while searching for solutions to present problems.

Despite political ups and downs, Sino-Japanese economic relations have steadily improved during the past three decades, except for the impact of the Asian financial crisis in 1997. The two countries are complimentary in economic cooperation, grounded in their differences in economic development and natural conditions. More significantly, favorable cooperative relations accord with their basic interests.

Japan has been China's biggest trade partner in past years. In 1979, China's volume of trade with Japan only totaled \$6.91 billion. Since topping \$10 billion in 1981, bilateral trade has kept soaring, with the volume hitting a record \$45.1 billion during the first six months of this year. Between January-June, Japan's global trade dropped by 7 percent, while its exports to China increased by 11 percent, and imports from China roughly equaled that of the

Former Japanese Primer Minister Ryutaro Hashimoto meeting with visiting Chinese NPC Standing Committee Chairman Li Peng



FENG WUYONG

same period last year. Thus, the proportion of Japan's trade volume with China increased to 12.8 percent of its total trade volume, up 1.7 percentage points. China has grown into Japan's second largest trade partner, next to the United States.

Japan is the second largest investor in China after the United States. In the 1980s, Japanese enterprises reduced their direct investment in China. The 1990s saw a surge of Japanese investment due to China's better implementation of its reform and opening-up policy and Japan's better understanding of the Chinese market. Investment grew in the 1990s, except in 1998 and 1999 due to the impact of the Asian financial crisis. By the end of 2000, China had attracted a total of 20,383 Japanese direct investment projects, with actual investments of \$27.80 billion. When major Western countries struggled in an economic slowdown in 2001, Japanese direct investment in China totaled \$5.42 billion in contractual value, up 47.3 percent over the previous year, and actual capital in place was \$4.35 billion, up 49 percent. Japanese direct investment in China has featured rapid growth, high proportion of capital in place and change in orientation toward highly value-added fields.

The past 30 years also witnessed considerable progress in financial cooperation between China and Japan. The

central banks of the two countries have established a high-level communication mechanism. Exchanges and cooperation have been strengthened, which has contributed to Asia's stability and development since the Asian financial crisis.

In March, China and Japan signed a currency swap agreement, which stipulates that Japan shall supply Japanese yen to China in exchange for Chinese yuan, and vice versa, in case of an imbalance of revenue and expenditure. The Japanese central bank may swap yuan with yen when the People's Bank of China intervenes in the market to support the attacked Chinese currency. Japan is the second country that has signed a swap accord with China, after Thailand. Foreign currency security system exchanges between China and Japan, two top countries in terms of foreign exchange reserves in the world, upgrades their cooperation in guarding against financial crisis, and is significant to the stability of Asian financial markets and cooperation among Asia-Pacific countries.

Compared with North America and Europe, regional integration in East Asia is rather backward. With regional economic integration growing worldwide, East Asian countries are faced with the urgent task to strengthen cooperation in the region, so as to maintain their cutting edge in the increasingly

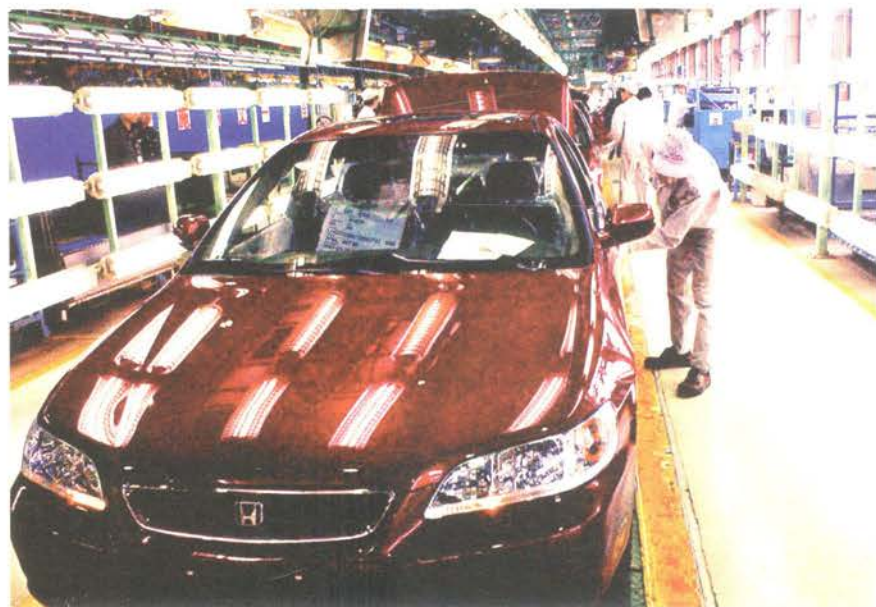
fierce international competition.

Since World War II, East Asia's economies have been booming. The Japanese economy soared during the 1960s, and the country became a global economic power in the 1980s. The Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), China's mainland and the Asian "four tigers," namely China's Hong Kong and Taiwan, the Republic of Korea (ROK) and Singapore, have all developed by leap and bounds since the 1980s. With approximately 2 billion people, or around one-third of the world population, rich human resources, huge market potential and complimentary economies, East Asia has all the conditions necessary for regional integration.

Japan is the second strongest economic power and a leading manufacturing country. China has the most rapid economic development and greatest market potential. The two countries' GDP in 2001 totaled around \$6 trillion and their combined foreign exchange reserves exceeded \$700 billion. As international competition becomes increasingly fierce, and technological innovation and market demand grow more important, the two regional powers will play a major role in East Asian cooperation due to their unique status in the region. Japan or China alone will be defeated in the competition with either European or American economic community. Only through effective cooperation can East Asia survive the future economic competition.

The Asian financial crisis has been over for several years. However, pressure on the economic development in the region brought by financial globalization and IT revolution has never ceased. The reform progress of various East Asian countries is uneven, and their primary goals are to keep financial risk at the bay, maintain financial order and protect the economic environment.

Financial cooperation in East Asia has had a favorable beginning, but it is only at the primary stage compared with other regions in the world. The East Asian financial crisis indicated that both China and Japan are faced with the common need for financial reform, and their currency swap agreement displays the conditions and possibility of a deeper financial cooperation. Since the euro



A Toyota production line in Guangzhou

国交正常化30周年記念
中友好文化観光交流式典

纪念中日邦交正常化30周年
中日友好旅游交流庆典



Chinese and Japanese artists perform together at a concert marking the 30th anniversary of the establishment of Sino-Japanese diplomatic ties

was launched on January 1, 2002, scholars and currency authorities in East Asia have raised various proposals on the future of currency development in the Asia-Pacific region. A Japanese Government's think tank proposed a package currency system consisting of different Asian currencies and the idea of a uniform Asian currency made up of the yen and yuan. Given the current cooperation in the Asia-Pacific region, these proposals may sound premature. However, they are worth considering in terms of the development trends in economic globalization and regional integration progress. China and Japan should systematically study the issue and regularly provide research finds, so as to promote currency cooperation in East Asia.

The establishment of a free trade zone in the region should be listed among the long- and medium-term goals of East Asian cooperation. Asia-

Pacific countries have reached a consensus to promote free trade and investment, and the APEC has set an overall timetable for trade and investment liberalization in the region. East Asia possesses more of a necessity, and more possibilities, than the Asia-Pacific region to establish a free trade zone. Countries in the region should regard establishing a free trade zone under the framework of 10 ASEAN members plus China, Japan and ROK as a long- and medium-term goal in promoting cooperation in the region.

In recent years, the process of regional economic integration has been accelerating, accompanying the development of economic globalization. Europe currently leads the world in this field. With tariff treaties and a uniform currency, its free trade area has expanded from original 12 countries to 18, and is expected to take in more. The North American Free Trade Agreement is

expanding to Central and South America, and is planning to establish the Free Trade Area of the Americas in 2005. Regional economic and trade organizations in various forms have also been founded in South Asia, the Middle East and Africa. These regional organizations have posed obstacles to external products and checked the normal development of foreign trade with East Asian countries. Bilateral trade volumes between Japan and ASEAN members and between Japan and China have held the balance of the foreign trade of these countries. Besides ASEAN countries' efforts in accelerating free trade, Japan, Singapore and the ROK have started to discuss bilateral free trade agreements. Progress has been made in terms of free trade between China and ASEAN and between Japan and ASEAN. The policies of China and Japan will determine the progress of the free trade zone in the region. ■

Behind Koizumi's Icebreaking Trip to The DPRK

DPRK-Japan ties are greatly affected by the security structure of Northeast Asia, and even the whole world, and in turn have an impact on it

By ZHANG YAOHUA

The author is with the China Institute of International Studies

Junichiro Koizumi's blitz tour to the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) on September 17 made him the first post-war Japanese prime minister to visit the country. Koizumi's decision was unexpected and thought to be a bit risky when the prospect of possible bilateral talks is still ambiguous. Many wonder why the Japanese leader chose this time to personally visit Pyongyang. Will his trip work out a resolution to restart talks on establishing formal diplomatic relations? What impact will the first summit meeting between the two East Asian countries bring to the region?

DPRK-Japan ties are greatly affected by the

security structure of Northeast Asia, and even the whole world, and in turn have an impact on it. With the end of the Cold War, steps toward North-South reconciliation began on the Korean Peninsula and the normalization of relations between the peninsula and its neighbors have been raised on the agenda.

Under such circumstances, a Japanese delegation composed of Liberal Democratic Party and Social Party members visited the DPRK in 1990. The two countries began talks on the normalization of bilateral relations early the following year. In November 1992, talks were suspended after eight meetings. The talks were resumed in April 2000, but were broken off again seven months later.

Superficially, the failure of talks was caused by the uncompromising attitudes of both sides toward issues such as Japan's colonial rule over the Korean Peninsula from 1910 to 1945 and the abduction of Japanese citizens by the DPRK in the 1970s and 1980s. In fact, it was a result of strategic considerations by the two countries, as they have not completed strategic adjustment to adapt to the changed post-Cold War world pattern. For this reason, the relations between Japan and the DPRK were limited by various factors and were not placed at the top of their foreign strategies.

Japan's major tasks in the last decade were the reorientation of the Japan-U.S. military alliance relations and the advance to a political power. To confirm and consolidate its coalition with the United States, Japan adopted a Korea policy committed to U.S. strategic interests. In this situation, it was unlikely for Japan to develop relations with DPRK when U.S.-DPRK relations were tense. Instead, Japan successfully wiped away internal political and legal limitations on dispatching troops overseas and completed the legislative procedures of relevant legal documents, taking advantage of the strained U.S.-DPRK relations. In other words, Japan completed its overall post-Cold War security arrangement with the DPRK as a chess piece.

Koizumi expresses "deep remorse" for Japan's 1910-45 colonial rule over the Korean Peninsula



GONG BING



A historic handshake between Tokyo and Pyongyang

However, at the same time, many years of economic depression due to the crash of bubble economy after the Cold War caused Japan to worry about its influence in Asia. Raising its status in Asia became an urgent strand in Japanese politics. Most Japanese are keen to see a change in their country, which is manifested by Junichiro Koizumi's success in the election based on only oral promises to reform. However, the Koizumi government disappointed its supporters. In diplomacy, he had tried to appease the domestic right wing while catering to other East Asian countries to bolster his approval rate through obscuring historical problems. All his attempts failed. This showed Japan needed a real diplomatic breakthrough.

Just as Koizumi was wandering at the crossroads, the world changed first. The September 11 attacks made the United States turn its anti-terrorist efforts into a worldwide war against terror. Iraq, the DPRK and Iran were labeled by the United States as the "axis of evil," and U.S. military actions to overthrow Iraqi leader Saddam Hussein seemed imminent. East Asian countries are concerned that the DPRK may become the next target of U.S. preemptive

actions. If Japan still insists on following the United States, the DPRK is very likely to become the next Iraq. In that case, Japan will lose its stable surroundings and will totally give away its say in Northeast Asia and the Korean Peninsula. Given this, Japan has attached more importance to the normalization of relations with the DPRK.

The DPRK's diplomatic achievements in recent years also forced Japan to reconsider their relations. Over the past few years, the DPRK realized the normalization of relations with many European countries. The North-South relationship on the Korean Peninsula is growing better. Even the United States did not turn its back on the DPRK's olive branch. If Japan falls behind, it will only become more passive. Furthermore, Japan believes that the DPRK's economic difficulties and international pressure are actually a favorable background to negotiations with it. In this sense, Koizumi's "sudden decision" is reasonable.

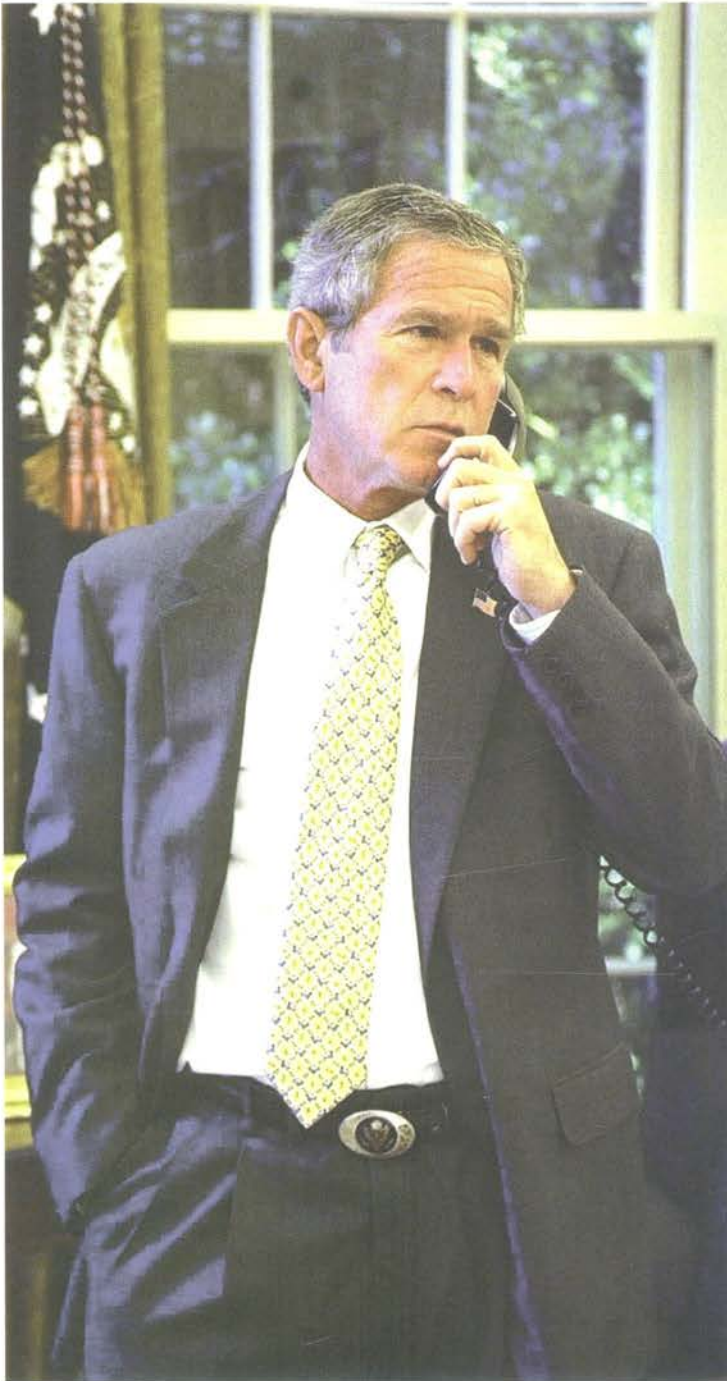
Certainly the Japanese prime minister's visit is welcomed by the DPRK. Before taking any reforms and opening up measures, the DPRK leader Kim Jong Il needs an improved international and neighboring environment.

Nevertheless, due to accumulated rancor and a lack of mutual trust, it is hard to reach an agreement on historical issues. To the DPRK, properly handling the issue of Japan's occupation of the Korean Peninsula will come as a precondition to the establishment of diplomatic relations. Guided by this principle, the DPRK requests that Japan apologize for its invasion and demands reparations for damage and sufferings inflicted upon Korean people during Japan's colonization. Rejecting compensating to the DPRK, Japan insists that handling the issue of Japanese hostages should be a precondition.

The Japanese media reported that the two countries had been in contact for one year prior to this visit. On August 26, foreign affairs officials from both countries held talks in Pyongyang on issues of hostages and Japan's colonial rule in the Korean Peninsula. The two sides agreed to further discuss these issues in hopes of a September political solution. If the talks go well, they will resume long-stalled negotiations on establishing diplomatic relations. The Koizumi-Kim summit, in this sense, seems to be the final "yes" to these talks and a matter of great significance for security and stability in Northeast Asia. ■

The U.S. Belt Strategy

Washington wants to complete its global strategic deployment by using a belt strategy in the Middle East and Central Asia



On the telephone to get support for his position on Iraq

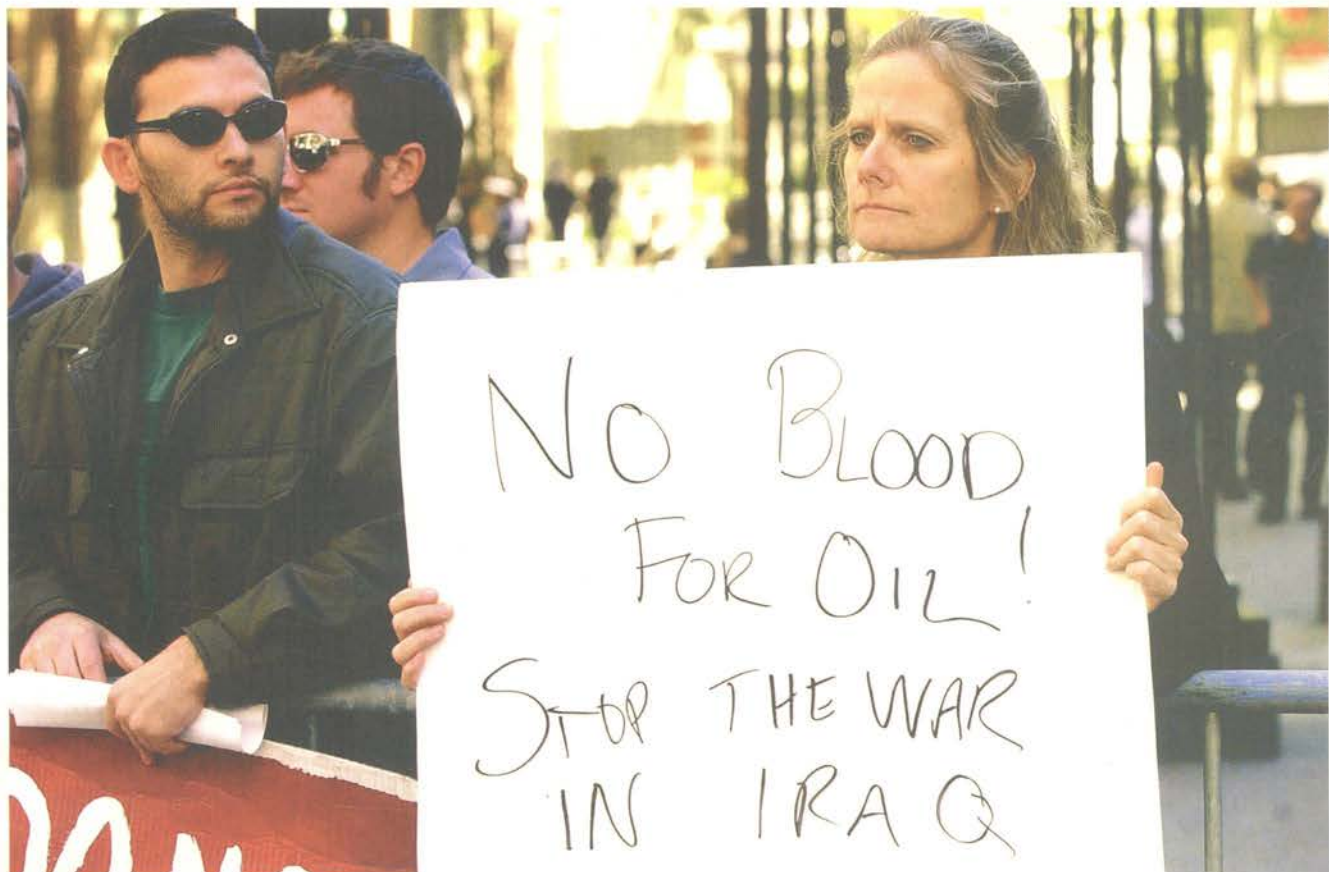
XINHUA/AF

By ZHOU YIHUANG

After the September 11 terrorist attacks, the United States adopted a series of actions in the Middle East and Central Asia, such as deploying troops in Central Asia, proposing to change the Palestinian leadership, and preparing for a war with Iraq. These actions aroused the attention of the international community. A Russian expert on the Middle East said that if the United States successfully carries out its "surgical operations" on Iraq and established a pro-U.S. regime, a defense line would be set up from Israel to Iraq and from Iraq to Turkey, so as to block the so-called "green Islamic terrorist belt." It is true that the U.S. troops deployed in Central Asia and those stationed in Saudi Arabia, Bahrain and Kuwait have constituted a belt-like defense line, allowing the U.S. presence to reach from Asia to the Mediterranean. If the Palestinian Authority is thoroughly reshuffled and a pro-U.S. regime is installed in Iraq, the United States would establish a pro-U.S. network from Afghanistan to the Mediterranean coast. Such a strategic arrangement would help the United States reach three goals.

One is to eradicate the terrorist threat. As the Middle East and Central Asia are full of national contradictions, religious conflicts, and territorial disputes, they have become breeding grounds for terrorism, separatism and extremism. The September 11 terrorist attacks frightened Americans, and U.S. President George W. Bush vowed that the United States would go all out to defeat those enemies. The U.S. Government claimed that it has obtained evidence proving that Iraq possesses a large number of biological and chemical weapons, and that it has produced nuclear weapons. U.S. Vice President Dick Cheney said that the Bush administration should not leave the issue to the next government as America is now faced with a life-or-death threat. He pointed out that it would be very difficult to overthrow Saddam Hussein once he possesses nuclear weapons. At present, the American people feel that preventing another disaster like the September 11 attacks

The author is secretary general of the Club for Foreign Affairs Study



DIFFERENT VOICE: She speaks out for American peace movement

should be the main focus of their government. The Bush administration has won much domestic support by launching the Afghan War, and it now seems to strive for more by making use of the Iraqi issue.

The second goal is to control the oil resources and oil transportation pipelines in the Middle East and Caspian Sea so as to defend its oil life-line. As one of Middle East's major oil-producing countries, Iraq has verified oil reserves that account for 10.7 percent of the world's total. If not restrained, its annual oil production would reach 300 to 500 million tons and remain stable for 25 to 30 years. Iraq's oil reserves will directly influence the world economy over the next 30 years. Even if the ban on Iraqi oil export is strict, its oil accounts for 10 percent of the imported oil of the United States. Therefore, control of Iraq's oil is vital to U.S. dominance over the world's economic life-line.

The Caspian area is also rich in oil, with reserves next to that of the Persian Gulf. Oil companies in the United States and Europe have rushed into Azerbaijan

and Kazakhstan, but oil transportation is a bottleneck in the Caspian area. At present, only Russian pipelines, which can only reach Caspian ports, are available to Azerbaijan and Kazakhstan. In order to control the resources in the upper reaches of the sea, and then dominate oil transportation in the whole Caspian area, the United States designed a second pipeline that cuts Russia out of the equation. However, experts said that such a line was too costly to bring any profit. Now that the Afghan War has enabled the U.S. belt-like defense line to extend northward, the resources of the Caspian area can be transported along the Uzbekistan-Afghanistan-Pakistan line. As the situation in the Persian Gulf continues to be turbulent, the Caspian Sea area, as a substitute oil provider for the next 20 to 30 years, has become more attractive to the West. U.S. efforts to strengthen its political and military presence in Central Asia are also aimed at it.

The third goal is to enter Russia's backyard and insert a wedge into the Shanghai Cooperation Organization so as to contain China and Russia. After

September 11, under pretext of the war against terror, the United States signed military cooperation agreements with Tajikistan, Kyrgyzstan, Uzbekistan and Georgia, and deployed troops and established military bases in these countries. The U.S. entry into Central Asia endowed it with a practical means of maintaining its political and economic interests. Like a chess piece being put at a vital place on the chessboard, the move intensified U.S. influence in Central Asia and increased its means of containing Russia's traditional influence.

The United States has used NATO to dominate Europe and allied with Japan to control Asia. Now, with a belt-like defense line in the Middle East and Central Asia, it has realized a breakthrough in Central Asia and thus completed its global strategic layout. However, the belt-like defense line is faced with several challenges, such as the approaching war with Iraq, the results of which are unforeseeable. Whether or not the belt strategy can fulfill its anticipated goals remains to be proved. ■

Better Service for Overseas Investors

Beijing is building a comprehensive system to provide efficient service for overseas investors and business people



Approval procedures for foreign investors and business people have been streamlined

By TANG YUANKAI

Before he came to Beijing, Erin Swinnerton, an American businessman, was told that he should be well prepared to do lots of legwork in order to get enough official seals for his planned investment project in Beijing. But he was not "lucky" enough to have this experience. He went to the Beijing Foreign Investment Service Center (BFISC) only once, and all required approval procedures were OK'd.

Laurent Taillade, chairman of a

French company, shared the same experience with Swinnerton. He still cannot believe that he spent less than two hours on the whole process of applying for approval of his purchasing company in Beijing.

They were both impressed by the service of Chinese functionaries. "They never say 'no,' but always 'yes' to us."

Complicated examination/approval procedures and poor service efficiency used to be the biggest headache for foreign business people in Beijing. To address this problem, the Beijing

Municipal Government established the BFISC. While providing free and paid intermediary services for foreign investors, BFISC also functions as a government department for the examination and approval of foreign investment projects.

According to BFISC Director Sun Changtai, the free services include: consulting on policies, laws and regulations concerning foreign investment; introducing investment opportunities and potential business partners; acting as an agent to go through all examination and approval procedures for the establish-



An American woman enjoys Chinese tea at a street stall in downtown Beijing

ment of a foreign-funded enterprise, from working out project proposal, feasibility study report, cooperation contract and articles of association to undertaking business registration; and handling complaints.

Chen Gang, Deputy Director of the Beijing Foreign Economic and Trade Commission, said Beijing is making greater efforts to improve its environment for investment. For this purpose BFISC has opened a "green pass," aiming to further simplify examination/approval procedures and increase efficiency. As a result, an

increasing number of foreign business people have come to the center for consulting on investment affairs, with the number totaling 9,978 in the first seven months of this year.

Some foreign business people also marvel at the fact that Beijing is introducing e-government operations. An American commercial representative, George Martin, has lived and worked in Beijing for 10 years. He noted that efficiency is the best measure for a government's managerial competence, and Beijing is almost synchronous with developed countries in practicing online

government office operations.

At present, 15 municipal government departments in charge of examination/approval affairs, including the Beijing Foreign Economic and Trade Commission, the Beijing Development Planning Committee and the Beijing Bureau for Industry and Commerce, are providing online approval service, as a pilot test for Beijing's e-government program. The Beijing Foreign Economic and Trade Commission alone has carried out online processing of 25 administration items. Also, Beijing is providing an instant service for examination and approval of foreign-funded processing trade projects.

Changes have also taken place in the office building of the Beijing Foreign Economic and Trade Commission for the convenience of foreign business people. The reception desk is no longer heavily guarded; touchscreen monitors are available in the lobby of the building; and all offices in charge of examination and approval of investment projects have been moved to the first and second floor. There are 80 posters outlining the responsibilities of each office, working procedures and time limit for each procedure. Information about the eight functions of the commission is available online, reducing the legwork of business people to the minimum.

The coverage of Beijing's comprehensive investment service system is far beyond project examination and approval, according to BFISC sources. For instance, the center also helps handle procedures for the invitation of foreign business people to Beijing, and solve problems involving their children's schooling, household management, insurance and medical care, among others. "In short, we will do our best to enable foreign business people to live and work in Beijing more easily and more conveniently," said an official from the center.

It is reported that Beijing will accelerate the construction of apartments, international schools, home services, medical facilities, entertainment and shopping facilities catering to foreigners.

According to Huang Yan, Deputy Director of the Beijing Municipal



WANG CHENGJUAN

Chinese and American business people talk about their cooperative project

Commission of Urban Planning, in five years the Beijing Central Business District (CBD) will be fully established in the east of the city. By then, the CBD will encompass 60 percent of the foreign institutions in Beijing, more than 50 percent of the luxury hotels and numerous sites for international exchange activities, in addition to three areas for foreign embassies. Office buildings will cover 50 percent of the CBD's total area; apartments 25 percent; and business, service, cultural and entertainment facilities the remaining 25 percent. The district will become one of the most dynamic, modern and suitable areas for foreign business people to live and work.

The Beijing Economic-Technological Development Area and the Zhongguancun Science Park, where foreign-funded enterprises congregate, are striving to build themselves into ecological parks featuring a harmonious

development of economy and environment. The stress on environmental management has been shifted from end treatment to control over the entire process, with an aim of achieving simultaneous advancement of economic development, urban construction and environmental protection. In 2001, the Beijing Economic-Technological Development Area and the Shangdi Information Industry Base of Zhongguancun passed the certification for ISO14000 environmental control system, ranking among the first green hi-tech parks with environmental control certificates.

Beijing is also endeavoring to provide national treatment for foreign investors. For instance, it has formulated preferential terms and measures for the purchase of housing properties by foreigner in Beijing. Beginning from September 1 this year, commercial housing properties, formerly accessible

to Beijing citizens alone, were opened to overseas purchasers, putting an end to the different terms for local and overseas property purchasers, which had been in force for more than eight years.

In the mid-1990s, Beijing promulgated regulations dividing commercial housing properties into two categories—for domestic purchasers and for overseas consumers. The former was exclusively subject to domestic developers and was restricted for sale to enterprises, organizations or individuals in Beijing, while the latter was generally developed by foreign investors and purchasers were usually overseas enterprises, organizations, individuals, or Chinese enterprises or organizations based in other parts of the country.

Targeting different groups of consumers, the housing properties for sale vary in many aspects. Generally speaking, properties for overseas purchasers are higher in quality and more luxurious

than those for local consumers. Their prices are 30 percent higher on average, though land use charges and related taxes for both categories of housing properties have been set at the same level for many years.

Spanish businessman Diego Florestan said he is encouraged by Beijing's new policies, which he thinks embody the principles of equality, transparency and openness, conditions vital to foreign business people.

The rules on handling complaints of foreign business people, promulgated by the Beijing Municipal Government, are considered a guarantee for legitimate rights and interests of foreign business people. Beijing has also set up a complaint center, which has dealt with hundreds of cases involving complaints from foreign businesses.

Twenty-six foreign enterprises, including Nestle (China), complained to the Beijing Foreign Investment Enterprises Association that Beijing's newly promulgated regulations on basic medical insurance have added financial burdens to foreign-funded enterprises and their staff. Relevant municipal departments have investigated the matter and made adjustments to the regulations, which has won wide acclaim.

Many foreign business people

working in Beijing said they find little inconvenience in living and working here, though cultural differences sometimes embarrass them. They place more stress on investment environment. Beijing has become one of the international cities with the most attractive investment environment, said a senior manager with Siemens (China).

Last year, Beijing Municipal Government did two things to improve its investment environment—inviting the locally famous poll company, Horizon Research, to make a survey of the city's environment for foreign investment, and letting foreign-funded enterprises assess the performance of government departments at both municipal and county/district levels in a questionnaire survey.

The poll company's survey indicated that the satisfaction rate of foreign-funded enterprises concerning Beijing's investment environment increased nearly 12 percentage points compared with the previous year. In the 4,998 questionnaires sent back, foreign investors also gave higher evaluations of the services and efficiency of the 22 government departments.

However, the Beijing Municipal Government was not content with its achievements. Fifty-four related depart-

ments at municipal and county/district levels conducted self-checks according to problems exposed by the surveys, and educated their staff to further improve service quality.

It is reported that municipal government functional departments in charge of foreign investment affairs and various counties and districts have formulated more than 100 measures for further improving the environment for foreign investment. They include: enhancing service consciousness, simplifying examination and approval procedures, increasing efficiency, strengthening administration by law, providing more conveniences and increasing communication.

The Beijing Foreign Economic and Trade Commission has reduced the time for administrative examination and approval to 15 days or less. The Beijing Economic-Technological Development Area has withdrawn all administrative charges. The Beijing Bureau for Industry and Commerce has introduced issuing licenses within five working days.

These actions have impressed foreign investors, noted British businessman Johnson Matthey. But some particulars should be given more attention, he said. Pointing to the thick pile of business invitation materials placed before him, Matthey said these failed to contain such content as predicted returns on investment and risks, which are much needed by any investors.

A representative in the Beijing Office of the U.S.-China Business Council shared a similar view. He said both the Beijing Office and the headquarters in Washington each week receive several delegations of Chinese enterprises seeking foreign investment. Besides a brief introduction to the local investment environment, projects for foreign investment and preferential policies, the materials they provide lack specific information about their financial conditions, labor and land costs, utilization of resources, predicted returns on investment, and the requirements of project construction and environmental protection. Things will be much different if these enterprises provide such information while seeking foreign investment, he noted. ■



Zhongguancun Science Park attracts visitors at the Sixth China Investment and Trade Fair

Xinjiang Gives Priority to Ecological Protection

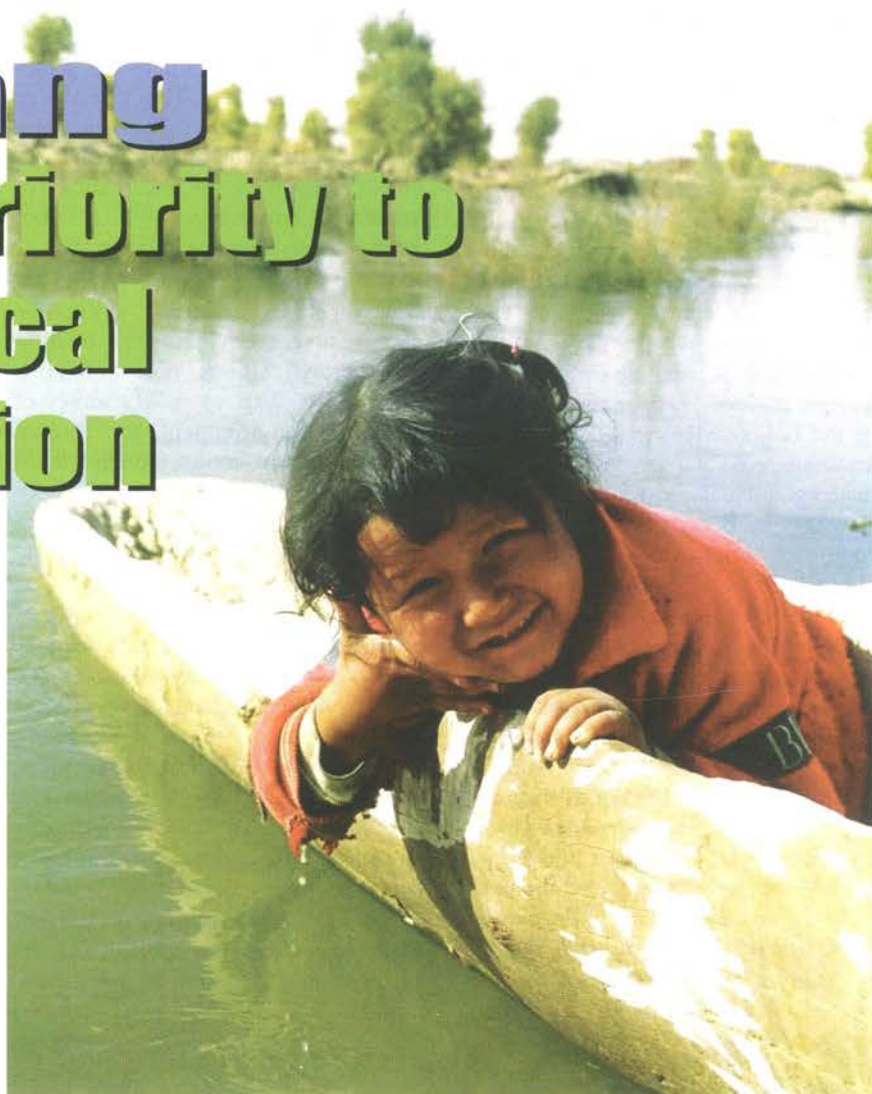
Successful experiences in building an oasis city in the Gobi convince local people that economic development is predicated on the protection of the environment

By FENG JIANHUA

In the first half of this year, Shihezi City, Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region, was awarded for "best practices to improve the living environment" by the United Nations and "best human living environment" by the Chinese Government. It was also honored the title of "State Garden City." However, 52 years ago, this place was scoured by wind and covered with desert and an overgrowth of reeds.

Shihezi receives great economic benefits from its ecological improvement. Although it was struck by a serious natural disaster in 2001, the city's GDP still increased by 8.6 percent, and local residents' per-capita annual income reached 7,600 yuan.

Located in northwest China, Xinjiang borders Russia, Kazakhstan, Pakistan and other five countries. Covering over 1.66 million square km, about one-sixth of the country's total area, it is China's largest administrative region at provincial level. Owing to serious water shortage, 40 percent of its land is barren, facing a severe threat of desertification. As a result, the environment is poor, and should be improved prior to economic development.



LUO XIAOQUANG

A 5-year-old Uygur girl plays in a canoe on the Tarim He, the mother river of the Uygur people

A Garden City Built on the Desert

One of the three municipalities directly under the regional government, Shihezi lies 150 km east of Urumqi, capital of Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region. It covers an area of 460 square km and has a population of 290,000.

Before modern times, Shihezi was a pastureland. More than 200 years ago, the Qing Dynasty built a posthouse there for officials and their camels and horses to have a stop while traveling. Before the founding of the People's Republic of China in 1949, there were about 20 households living there, surrounded by the vast desert, enduring wind, sand and mosquitoes. The name Shihezi, literally meaning "stone river," comes from the nearby dry riverbed filled with pebbles.

In the spring of 1950, General Wang Zhen led the 22nd Army Group of the People's Liberation Army (now the Xinjiang Production and Construction Corps) to Shihezi. After settling down, they began reclaiming wasteland and garrisoning the frontier.

"It was really hard to successfully grow a tree. At that time, Shihezi was still desert. It was so dusty that you could hardly see a person just in front of you. The ground, covered with cobblestones, made it very difficult to save water," said Wang Xiaoying, former chief horticulturist of the Shihezi Construction Committee, who worked on the reclamation from the very beginning. While recalling these experiences, Wang seemed to see the planting of trees.

Jin Maofang, who came to Xinjiang at the age of 18, said, "At that time, soldiers wore hats

without brims and jackets without collars while cultivating the wasteland. They had to drink water from natural ponds and live in cellars. In order to water newly planted trees, they had to walk dozens of miles, crossing over mountain after mountain, and carry back water on their shoulders."

Now, the vegetation coverage of Shihezi is over 40 percent, about 7.6 square meters of green areas per person. Walking along streets and lanes in Shihezi, one can see trees everywhere. Although it was very hot with burning sun of August, pedestrians find parasols unnecessary.

"Now, I am getting old and am happy to perform swordplay and do some physical training in the green garden of the square. It was hard to imagine when we were busy building it," said 70-year-old Jin, satisfied with the current living environment.

Current Ecological Situation and Problems

Along the 769 km road from Urumqi to Altai City, one can only see desert, and a vast veil of mist among mountains and accumulated snow on top of the Tianshan Mountains in the distance. Occasionally, near some running brooks, whose source is from melting mountain snow, some tenacious grasses grow, the only signs of life. In Xinjiang, vegetation, the symbol of vigor and life, only appears near water.

According to meteorological data, for years Xinjiang's annual average precipitation has totaled only 145-147 mm, less than one-quarter of the country's average, and evaporation is very high. The evaporation rate in the Turpan Pendi is more than 3,000 mm, dozens of times the amount of precipitation. Xinjiang suffers greatly from wind and dust, and 80 of

its counties and cities are threatened to some extents by desertification. Its ecological environment is frail. Vegetation at the edge of oases covers less than 10 percent.

"The oases available for human habitation are expanding year by year and are stable. The ecological environment in some parts has been improved to some extents, but we failed to control the deteriorating trend of the overall ecosystem. The function of ecological zones continues to decrease, gradually threatening the ecology of the oases. Sandstorms and floating dust in some areas increase year by year," said Wei Shanfeng, Director of the Environmental Protection Bureau of Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region, while making comments on the current ecological situation in Xinjiang.

"The major challenge before us is the ecological problem, which mainly results from the natural conditions here as well as devastating human activities," said Wei.

Wei raised four major problems in environmental protection in Xinjiang. First, funding is insufficient. The regional government attaches great importance to environmental protection, allocating a great sum of money to the work every year, with last year's figure reaching 149 million yuan. However, due to its weak economic strength, the money invested cannot meet the needs of environmental protection.

Second, enterprises are not skillful in sewage disposal. There are more than 5,000 enterprises in Xinjiang, over 80 percent of which drain sewage, totaling 200 million tons each year. About 60 percent of sewage is discharged after initial treatment.

Third, there is a shortfall in city construction funds. The lack of money for municipal works,

such as central heating and gas piping, causes many households to burn coal or other materials, leading to air pollution.

Finally, water is badly needed in some places. Wei pointed out, "It is hard to control the desertification due to water shortage. So, solving the water problem is the key to solve the environmental protection problem."

Ecological Protection

In the region's economic development, leaders at all levels attach great importance to ecological protection, seeing it their unshirkable responsibility.

The west-east gas diversion project is key for implementing the Chinese Government's strategy to develop the western region. It aims at transferring gas from Xinjiang and other central and western provinces to eastern coastal cities such as Shanghai through underground pipelines.

According to the construction plan, the 995-km-long pipelines will cross several nature reserves. As a result, this project will not only spoil the earth's surface and geological structures for some rare trees, but also affect fauna and flora in the area.

Facing the difficulty of reducing costs while protecting the environment, the regional government resolutely chose to bypass the Altun Shan-Lop Nur Natural Reserve to protect rare animals there. Wei added that this made the pipelines for the project 9 km longer than expected, increasing costs by 90 million yuan.

Located in north Xinjiang, Altai City has abundant mineral resources, known as the "home to Golden Mountain (Altai Shan) and Silver River (Ertix River)." Over-mining in recent years greatly spoiled the environment near some rivers such as the Ertix River. Therefore, the Altai Municipal Government decided to ban gold mining in those rivers. This reduced mineral output that year by one-third, greatly affecting local government's revenue.

In order to increase its vegetation coverage, Altai City has returned 9,130 hectares of farmland to forest, and afforested more than 1,330 hectares of barren hills and braes. It stipulates, for every 0.07-hectare farmland returned to forest, the local government will subsidize the household that contracts its operation 210 yuan in the first year, and 160 yuan and 100 kg of wheat (1.4 yuan for each kg) in the following seven years. Encouraged by these preferential policies, five exemplary households have emerged, which each returned more than 200 hectares of farmland to forest this year. ■



A bird's-eye view of Shihezi City



oped after the discovery of the Karamay Oil Field in 1955. In the Uygur language, "karamay" literally means "black oil."

Today, Karamay has become a modern city with wide, clean and shady roads lined with advertising billboards and luxurious apartment buildings. However, in 1955, when 10,000 pioneers first came here, it was just a desert.

Over the last 40 years, oil exploitation and refining have become the two main industries in Karamay. The oil industry generates more than 90 percent of the total municipal revenue. Crude oil output was 8.7 million tons in 2000 and reached 9.68 million tons in 2001. Oil output has grown for 21 years running. By the end of this July, the Karamay Oil Field had produced 6.19 million tons of crude oil. It is estimated to produce 10 million tons of crude oil this year and become west China's first oil field to attain this mark. Crude oil output is estimated to reach 12 million tons in 2005 and up to 15 million tons in 2010.

Last year, Karamay's GDP was 16.75 billion yuan; per-capita GNP, 43,300 yuan; municipal fiscal revenue,

The Agriculture Strategy of an Oil City

By FENG JIANHUA

With abundant oil resources, Karamay, an oil city in south Xinjiang, has achieved rapid economic growth over the past decades. In order to ensure a sustainable development and make full use of its limited resources, the city has recently focused on eco-agriculture.

"Karamay's estimated oil reserves total 8.6 billion tons, of which 1.7 billion tons have been verified," said Sun Youli, Director of the Publicity Department of the CPC Karamay Municipal Committee. "Only 900 million tons have been exploited. This means that local oil fields will not be exhausted for 100 years. However, taking into consideration our limited

resources and future generations, Karamay should restructure its economy primarily based on the oil industry and strive for sustainable development."

For this purpose, the Karamay Municipal Government put forward two programs respectively focusing on eco-agriculture and comprehensive utilization of water resources in September 2001.

A Well-Off Life

Karamay, 400 km from Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region's capital city Urumqi, covers 95,000 square km in total. With a population of approximately 500,000, it is home to 38 ethnic minorities that account for 22 percent of the total population.

Karamay was established and devel-

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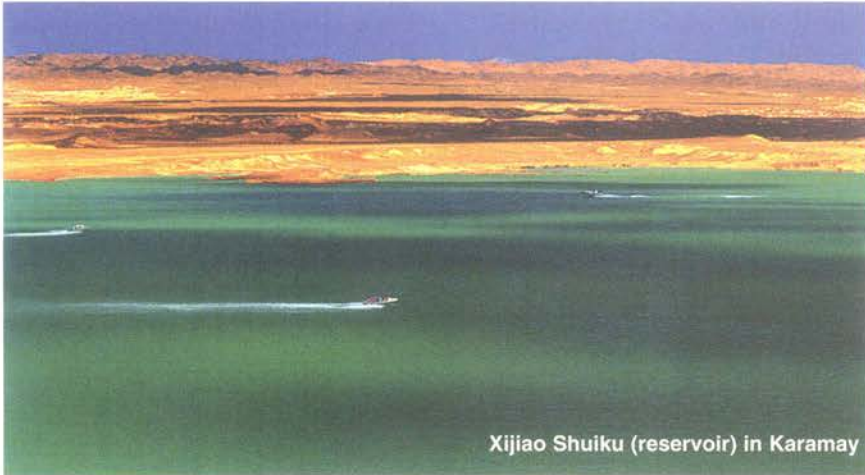
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Industrial Restructuring

Karamay is a typical example of developing on natural resources. Remaining on this course and not seeking a diversified development path may seriously hamper the city's future prosperity. Having already realized the potential crisis, leaders of Karamay have begun to take measures to turn the table around.

Tang Jian, Mayor of Karamay City,



Xijiao Shuiku (reservoir) in Karamay

said, "Karamay has developed due to the development of the oil industry. Under the market economy, however, focusing on one monotonous economic element and a single industrial structure cannot meet the requirements of development." When talking about the city's future development, the mayor said, "Karamay shouldn't rely solely on oil. Following the implementation of western development strategy, it should be made an economically strong city with a step-by-step approach to developing more industries."

Wang Yilin, Secretary of the CPC Karamay Municipal Committee and General Manager of Xinjiang Oil Field Corp., believes the eco-agriculture and comprehensive water usage programs are of strategic importance to promote industrial readjustment and sustainable economic development of the locality. He stated that after seriously observing and studying many factors including local resource advantages, Karamay will give priority to the industries of papermaking, sheep and cattle raising, and fisheries. These industries will substitute the oil industry, he explained.

Eco-Agriculture Development Zone

The Eco-Agriculture Development Zone in Karamay is a strategic base to carry out the eco-agriculture program. Covering a total area of 333 square km, the development zone was established in 1999, which is located 10 km south-east of Karamay city.

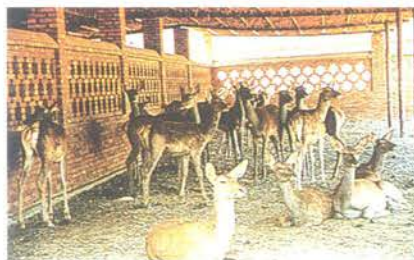
In the development zone, there are still large desert areas along the edges,



Eco-Agriculture in Karamay



PHOTOS BY WU HEN



Breeding, one of the two main industries in Karamay's eco-agriculture development

but further inside, vast untapped barren lands neighbor endless green watermelon fields. The eye-catching green forests stretch 18 km from north to south and are 200 meters wide.

"Where can they find water to irrigate crops in this barren desert?" Many people have wondered on seeing this arid land. "Taking advantage of the fall of different regions, we have already channeled water by underground pipes from nearby Xijiao and Sanpin Shuiku (reservoirs). At present, the channeled water is enough to irrigate farmlands of an area up to 53,000 hectares," explained Jin Chaoqing, Deputy

Director of the Agriculture Development Office of Karamay. "Pipes of various diameters total 267 km in length," Jin said.

"From the very beginning, we have attached great importance to the 'four highs'—high standards, high starting point, hi-tech and high efficiency," noted Qiu Changlin, Director of the development zone. "We will endeavor to make papermaking and sheep and cattle raising two core industries in Karamay's agricultural development. We don't only sell raw material, but also offer finished products of high added value."

"In the next 10 years, the development zone will reclaim 66,667 hectares of land, plant 66,667 hectares of forest for papermaking, and establish a pulp mill with an annual production capacity of 1 million tons. Around 2020, we will have 500,000 cattle in stock and an annual sale of 200 million cattle." Qiu continued.

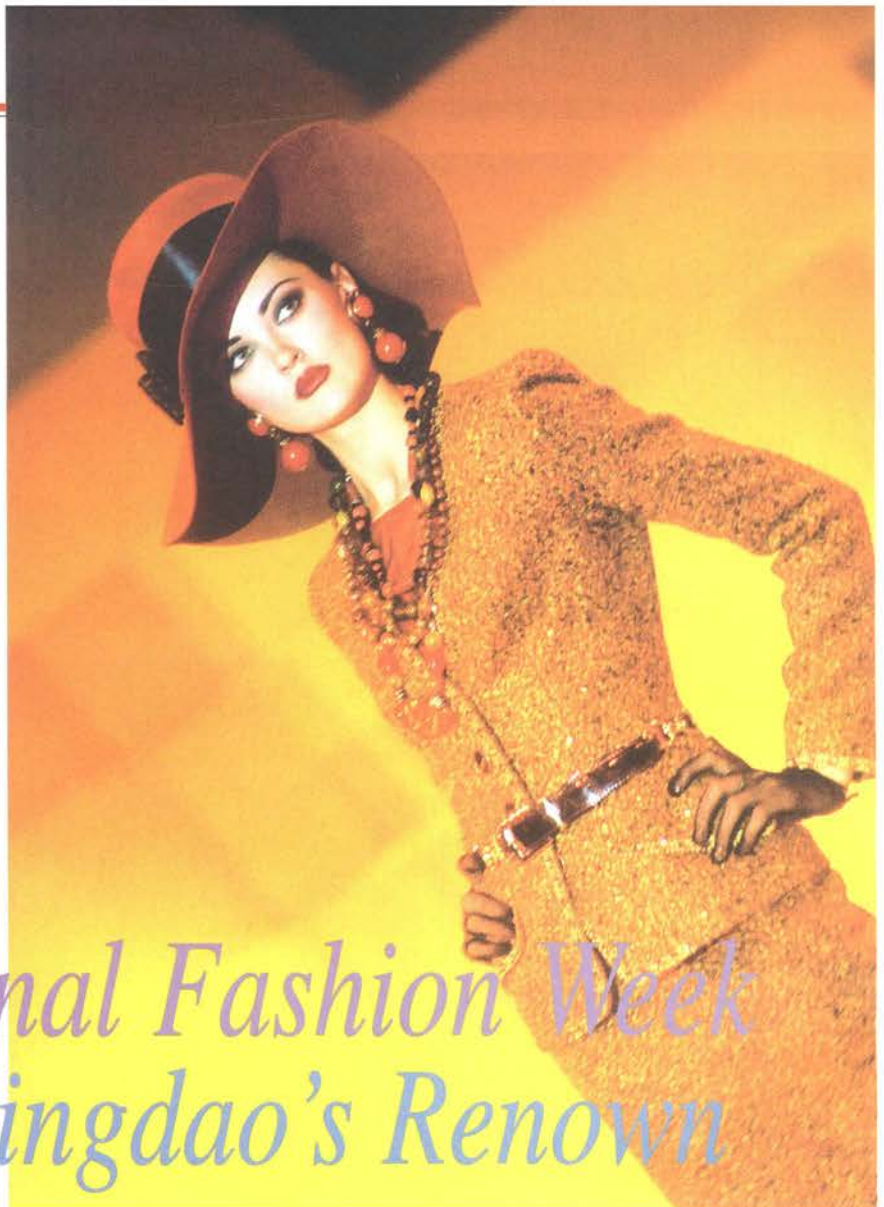
According to Qiu, 460 million yuan has been invested in infrastructure construction of the development zone and that in five years its output value will total 10 billion yuan. ■

NATIONAL REPORT

Qingdao held an international fashion week on September 6-10, with the theme of "New Age, New Fashion and New Apparel Culture." It was a brilliant success.

Over 400 enterprises, foreign and domestic, participated in the fashion week, which boasted 1,106 exhibition booths, including 260 for overseas participants, according to the organizing committee. Attendees ranged from garment enterprises from France, Italy, Denmark, Russia, Japan, the Republic of Korea, China's mainland and Taiwan, to design and trading companies. The total business volume during the fashion week hit 2.81 billion yuan, while investment of intent reaching 950 million yuan and actual investment being 1.2 billion yuan.

Aiming at enlarging the city's opening to the outside world and meeting the challenges and opportunities brought by China's WTO accession, the fashion week demonstrated distinct international



International Fashion Week Adds to Qingdao's Renown

features.

The opening ceremony displayed the most outstanding works of several well-known fashion designers, making it a high-level international fashion show.

The participation of a large number of foreign enterprises and designers, including famous brands such as Pierre Cardin and Valentino and delegates of Japanese designer Unsetu Furukwa, gave the fashion week an international flavor. At the fashion forum held simultaneously, prestigious designers from France, Denmark, Japan and Russia, including Zaytsev and Unsetu Furukwa, elaborated their respective insights on apparel and culture, European clothing marketing strategies, world fashion trends and clothing and environmental protection.

Impression of Foreign Enterprises

A Japanese businessman who had done business with the Qingdao Shirt Factory (predecessor to the Qingdao Hisun Garment Co. Ltd.) lingered for a whole afternoon around the exhibition booth of the company. He said, "I am really impressed by its strong edges, large variety of products and significant technological improvement." He intended to negotiate for Hisun's agency in the Japanese market.

The brisk transactions during the fashion week are unexpected by Zheng Yuxun, General Manager of Malaysia's Jiahua Co. Ltd. Over 200 domestic enterprises signed letters of intent with 10 foreign enterprises. He held that this was rare in similar events held before in Thailand, Malaysia, Hong Kong and

Macao.

Speeding up Development

During the exhibition of brand products of the fashion week, Qingdao's brand products rivaled foreign brands. Over 200 garments were exhibited, including those from Hisun, Xuechi and R-Collar.

As one of China's textile industry bases, Qingdao exports over 100 million articles of clothing to more than 70 countries and regions annually, for a total of 3.5 billion yuan. Exported products include suits, shirts, underwear, casual clothes and silk garments. Textile exports earned \$1.2 billion in net foreign exchange profit in 2000, making up 20 percent of the city's total and 3 percent of the national total.



Chinese models at the fashion show



PHOTOS BY ZHAN ZHILI

Municipal leaders attend the fashion week

Qingdao has accelerated its industrial restructuring and upgrading in order to boost the development of the garment industry. A total of 800 million yuan and 2 billion yuan have been invested in the construction of the Textile Industrial Park and the Garment Industrial Park, respectively. Nearly 100 investors from Japan, the ROK, Europe, as well as Hong Kong and Macao, have thronged to establish factories in the industrial parks, laying a solid foundation for the development of Qingdao's garment industry.

Sun Jiashun, Assistant Mayor and Director of the city's economic commission, announced that there would be 10,000 garment enterprises in Qingdao by 2005, including 2,000 large-scale ones. ■

Could You Accept Brain Death?

Not long ago, the Ministry of Health completed a draft of a brain death diagnosis criterion based on Chinese national conditions. Work to solicit opinions from all walks of life for revision is being undertaken, indicating China has entered a preparatory stage for legislation on brain death. The criterion are as follows: unconsciousness, with dilated and fixed pupil, no brain stem reaction, flat EEG and absence of spontaneous breathing. All these symptoms must last six successive hours.

Since the mid-1980s, there have been three heated discussions on the legislation of brain death in China's medical circles. Due to traditional concepts, the legislation was suspended every time. The draft criterion once again triggered a wide spread controversy. From the medical point of view, most people take the end of breath and heartbeat as a sign of death. But around 5 percent of patients suffer from brain trauma, brain tumor or blood vessel complications in the brain, and have signs of being brain dead. Once brain death occurs, function cannot be recovered. The patients have no spontaneous breathing, no reaction in the brain stem and their EEG are flat. According to brain death criterion, although the patients have heartbeats or can breathe with the support of medical equipment, they are considered clinically dead.

The brain death criterion is different from the traditional definition of death, which is based on the cessation of breath and heartbeat. Owing to this deep-rooted concept of death, the implementation of the brain death criterion encountered difficulties both in clinical diagnosis and legislation.

Many medical experts noted that enforcement of the brain death criterion would make it possible to stop useless treatments, which will reduce the waste of medical resources, promoting the advancement of organ transplantation and giving death dignity.

However, experts on law stressed that because the issue of life and death will exert a strong influence on social ethics and legal system, we should hold a cautious attitude on it.

Legislation Is Necessary

Huang Jiefu (Vice Minister of Health): The concept of brain death represents a progress in medical science. China must accelerate the legislation on brain death.

The legislation will be a breakthrough of the age-old traditional concept on death and offer a new task for the judicial branch. It may take time for the Chinese people to accept this new idea on death. Therefore both the traditional view and the new one should coexist for a time.

As a doctor, I should stress the difference between being vegetative and brain dead. The former refers to a patient whose brain stem, although in an unworkable state due to serious trauma, continues to function. Such patients have

spontaneous breathing, heartbeat and brain stem reaction. Quite a few such patients can regain consciousness. But a person who is brain dead has had his entire brain destroyed, with no activity in the brain stem, and a flat EEG. Also, a Doppler B test can prove that their brains have died.

Of course, establishment of the brain death concept and implementation of related laws do not mean to merely cease useless medical treatments, reduce meaningless consumption of medical resources, but also let patient die a dignity death.

Some people may hold a misunderstanding that the legislation of brain death is just for organ transplantation. It should make clear that harvesting organs is not the purpose of the legislation on brain death; instead, the legislation will provide a bright perspective for organ transplantation. A law on brain death will facilitate organ transplantation in terms of technology, principles, ethics and morality.

Shen Zhongyang (expert on organ transplants): I urgently appeal for legislation on brain death. The international medical circle takes the irreversible and permanent loss of the functions of cerebrum, cerebellum and brain stem as a criterion of death. It is scientific criteria. In China's clinical diagnosis, however, the cessation of breathing and heartbeat is still regarded the only sign of death. The organ quality is often reduced by long hours of scanty of blood supply after the patient's brain was dead and many of them cannot be donated. In addition, supporting the life of dead brain people, who have no possibility of living, brings a heavy burden in medical expenses.

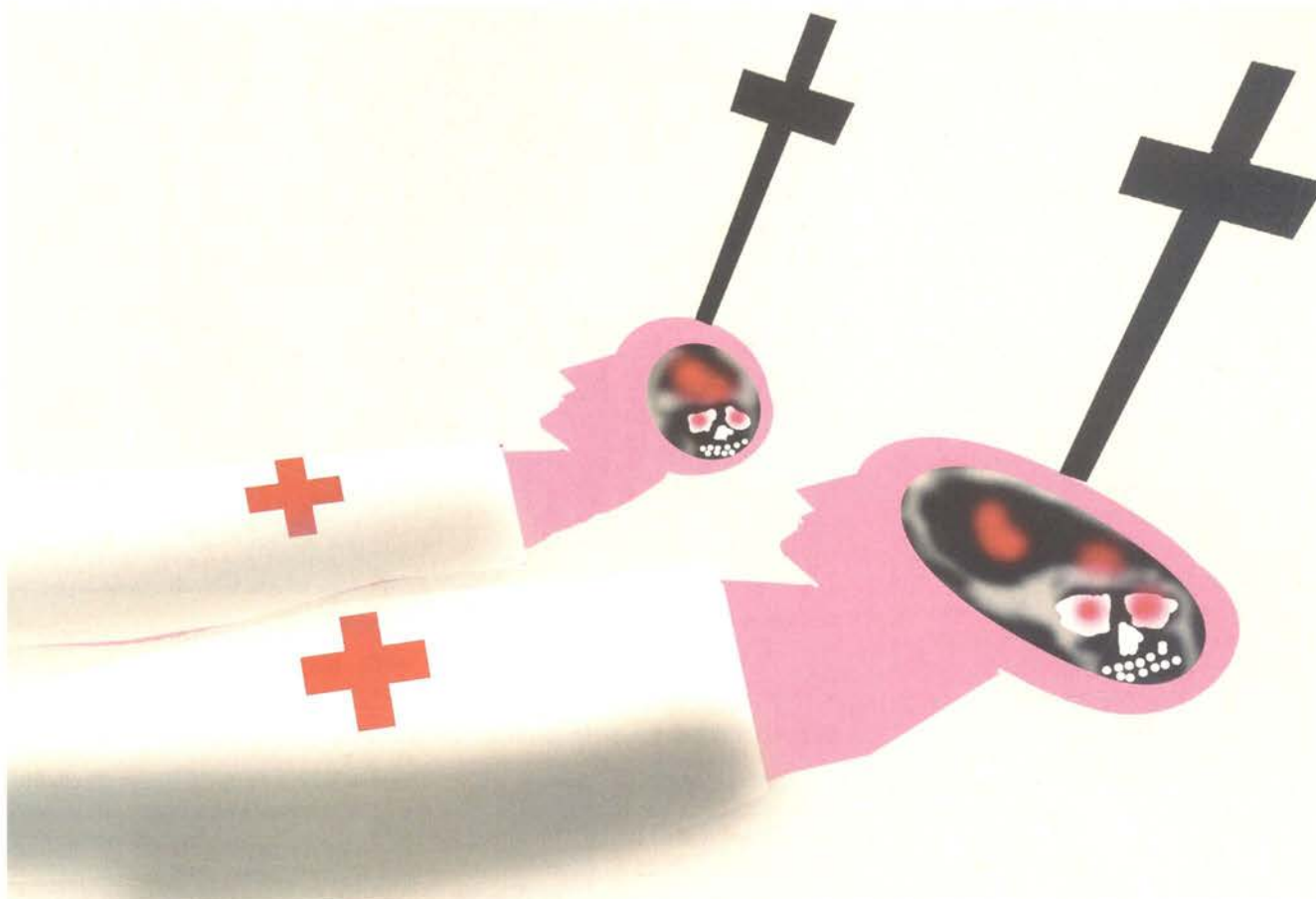
A survey showed that China has 1.5 million patients who need organ transplants, but only 13,000 of them can receive such operations due to a shortage of needed organs. Many patients have died because of a lack of viable organs.

Those who die of accident and disease should be the main donors of organs. With the formulation of the law, the organs of the brain dead can be used to save hundreds of thousands of patients.

Take A Cautious Attitude

Shu Guoying (Professor at China University of Political Science and Law): Enforcement of the brain death criterion will have a huge effect on traditional culture and social concepts. Specifically, this will cause a controversy over death between those who hold the traditional concept and those who propagate the new criterion. In addition, it will bring about changes in the social system and law.

In the legal aspect, this will change some cases of assault into murder, thus spurring the judicial department to renew the definition of injury and death. In some cases, aggravated assault and attempted murder will become murder when the victims are brain dead. Changes will also take place in peo-



ple's daily lives. For instance, after a doctor announces that a patient's brain has died, although he or she still has heartbeat and is breathing, the family can take property and the spouse can remarry without any divorce procedures.

Murder cases will likely be based on the criterion of brain death. When a patient's brain is dead, all treatment will be ceased. If the family and the doctor collude, a murder is a possibility.

The benefits of the brain death criterion are as follows: First, reducing the waste of medical resources and alleviating the burden of family and society in supporting the treatment; second, reducing patients' suffering and giving their death dignity; and third, promoting organ donations to save others' lives.

But these reasons are far-fetched. What kind of life should be protected? Can we save one life at the cost of another? We should not save or give up a life based on the life's value. The change of death criterion will trigger a change in values and in the legal system. Therefore, under the present situation, we should be cautious about legislating brain death.

Dignity of Life Should Not Be Harmed

Feng Shaohua (commentator of *China Youth Daily*): Only in medical circle are we faced such a cold fact that there

are different criterions of death. No one has a choice when facing death, but when others determine a person's death, it is miserable and ironic. In other words, we are discussing the life or death of a person who is not present. It is an issue closely related with morality and professional knowledge. Judging from the experts who have aired their opinions, we can see that medical circle favors the legislation on brain death, but lawyers persist in taking a cautious attitude. This indicates the controversy between the two groups.

The issue of brain death is of concern to experts, but values of life are also the concern of the public. It is hard to accept the idea to view people's value as laborers, and the job of hospitals as "mending laborers." The view that the organs of the brain dead are a resource to be developed is even more callous. Humans exist for more than just working. Taking people as simple laborers is to materialize human beings.

The value of human life, which includes its ethical value, emotional value and even enjoyment value, should not be determined by medical establishment, nor by labor department; it should not be affected by economic considerations. The discussion on brain death should not involve the value of human life. The dignity of life should not be harmed.

I agree with the view letting people end their life with a dignity, but I object calling non-productive life valueless and viewing living people as already dead. ■

SHENZHEN

Municipal Projects Open to Public

Shenzhen plans to introduce franchise operations to attract social and overseas capital to the construction and management of municipal works, such as sewage and domestic garbage disposal, environmental hygiene service, and medical waste disposal facilities. The move is aimed at speeding up introduction of market operations in the public service sector, as well as improving the urban construction of Shenzhen as an international metropolis.

There are two options for sewage disposal works. With government permit, enterprises may build plants at their own cost and recover investment by charging sewage disposal fees. Investors may also compete for the franchise right through public bidding. The winner will own, run and maintain the sewage disposal facilities in the contract period, and return them free of charge to the government upon expiration of the contract.

Regarding environmental hygiene, competent government departments can grant enterprises franchise rights for domestic garbage disposal through entrustment or public bidding. During the five years of franchise operation, the enterprises must meet relevant requirements set by the competent departments.

In medical waste disposal, enterprises will compete through bidding. Qualified enterprises will be authorized a 20-year term of franchise operation. The government will grant favorable policies to franchised enterprises, such as exemption of land-use charges.

Shenzhen now leads other cities in opening the public service sector. The state-owned shares of four energy, water, gas and public transportation companies are being sold to overseas investors through international bidding. More than 60 enterprises from Hong Kong, France and Britain are competing. ■



Posters supporting Shanghai' bidding are everywhere

SHANGHAI

World Expo to Bring Rich Business Opportunities

Foreign direct investment (FDI) in Shanghai World Expo 2010 is expected to exceed \$3 billion if Shanghai wins the bid. The relevant investment will be five to 10 times that of the FDI. This will provide tremendous business opportunities for companies from all countries, said Xu Shaoshi, Deputy Secretary General of the State Council and Deputy Director of the 2010 Shanghai World Expo Bidding Committee.

For nine consecutive years, China has been the developing country absorbing the greatest amount of FDI. China is gradually becoming one of the world's most attractive trade and investment markets. If Shanghai wins the bid, the expo will be a great event for all countries and regions throughout the world to realize common prosperity and benefit, said Wei Jianguo, Vice Minister of Foreign Trade and Economic Cooperation and also Deputy Director of the 2010 Shanghai World Expo Bidding Committee.

At the September 12 briefing on Shanghai's bid for Expo 2010, Xu said that to make the expo universal, China is willing to provide numerous developing countries with a total of \$100 million in subsidies for the transportation and shipment of participating personnel, goods, pavilion construction and layout.

Yu Xiaosong, Chairman of the China Council for the Promotion of International Trade, said a support group formed by 50 domestic and overseas enterprises in China has been established, and they will take an active part in the bid work and provide all necessary support.

Shanghai Mayor Chen Liangyu introduced that Shanghai will theme the World Expo "Better City, Better Life," which will be the first expo featuring "city." He estimated that Shanghai Expo 2010 will attract more than 70 million visitors.

Since first held in London in 1851, the World Expo has developed quickly and has become an international gala for economic, scientific and technological, and cultural communities. Shanghai (China), Moscow (Russia), Yeosu (the Republic of Korea), Queretaro (Mexico) and Wroclaw (Poland) are bidding city candidates. The final winner of Expo 2010 will be decided by voting at the 132nd General Assembly of the Bureau of International Expositions, scheduled for December 3 this year in Monaco. ■

A 'Green Channel' for Foreign Investors

Haidian District of Beijing opened a "green channel" on September 8, promising to reduce the time for examination and approval procedures for foreign-invested companies from 30 workdays to within 15 days.

The green channel service also provides foreign business people with free consulting and agency services, including introducing the district's policies on investment and investment environment, and helping seek cooperative partners, investment projects and project locations.

Chinese Drinking More Wine

Statistics provided by the China Alcohol Industry Association show that in recent years, wine consumption has been growing enormously, and last year alone, people consumed a total of 390 million liters, or 0.27 liters per person.

Various kinds of wine produced in France, America, Australia, Africa and other regions can be seen in Chinese stores. Chinese made wines are also very popular due to their low prices and good quality.

With wine consumption growing, more wine producers have appeared. At present, China has some 450 such producers, 10 of which have a yearly production capacity of over 10,000 tons. With a history of almost 110 years, the Changyu Group Co. Ltd. (Yantai) is not only the first industrialized winery in China, but also the largest winemaking enterprise in Asia.

Geng Zhaolin, Chairman of the China Alcohol Industry Association, estimates that China's wine production will reach 500,000 tons by 2005, and imported wine will be around 50,000 tons.

International Capital Eyes Beijing's Real Estate

An international real estate development fund, the first of its kind aimed at the Chinese market, announced its entry into Beijing on September 12.

A Dutch company, the ING Group, initiated the fund overseas. Its first investment project in Beijing is Pacific City, a large residential complex to be built at Jiuxianqiao in Chaoyang District. The total investment will be 2 to 3 billion yuan.

Foreign-funded real estate projects generally focus on top grade buildings, and their buyers are usually white-collar workers with a high income. Investors of the Pacific City

state that they selected Jiuxianqiao, which is close to the Central Business District (CBD), because of the CBD's bright future and its projected business boom over the next five to eight years.

The group has raised \$20 million, most large shareholders being real estate companies or financial groups in Europe, America, Southeast Asia, Hong Kong and Taiwan. The Capital Group (Beijing) is a strategic partner. ■

CANGZHOU

Land of Jujube

Jujube is also known as the Chinese date, or tsao. Recently, the First Jujube Business Promotion Week was held in Cangzhou, Hebei Province. It is reported that the jujube yield produced here last year reached 190 million kg, about 15 percent of total world production.

Occupying an area of 14,000 square km, Cangzhou is located in the southeast of Hebei Province. The city is known for its jujubes and juicy pears. There are about 670,000 hectares of jujube trees all over the world, 99 percent of them cultivated in China. In the first half of this year, Cangzhou had nearly 105,000 hectares of the trees, 16 percent of the world total.

As the largest jujube base in China, Cangzhou has established the Chinese Date Fair, the largest wholesale market. Its trade volume ranks first nationwide. Besides, it has developed a whole industrial system of producing, processing and marketing. Its products are sold to more than 20 countries and regions, with a yearly export volume of 60 million tons. ■



A woman is fascinated by a building model on display

Beijing to Build International Art Road

According to the Chongwen District Government, an international art road is to be built in south Beijing. The 1,400-meter-long road will start from the northern gate of the Temple of Heaven, reaching the Chongwenmen Xidajie. It is estimated to cover an area of 470,000 square meters, with structures built along it having a floor space of 714,000 square meters.

The road will display the development process of Chinese culture through three sections of different themes.

The first section, located in the Temple of Heaven, will include a simulated sacrificial ceremony, performance of ancient Chime bells and an exhibition of costumes from the Ming and Qing Dynasties.

The 90,000-square-meter second section will feature restaurants with distinct local characteristics, special area for folk art performance and exhibition hall for traditional handcraft.

The third section, the international area, will include the Pacific Time Art Center and will host various domestic and foreign art events, parties, concerts and fashion shows. The Crystal Square, a symbolic structure of the international art road, will also be located here.

Ancient Houses Found

A group of ancient houses have been uncovered in Xunyang County, Shaanxi Province. Cultural relics experts said it is rare to find such well-preserved houses in north China that display features from the Yangtze River valley.

The 26 houses are scattered in towns along the Hanjiang (river), which gives its lush vegetation and fertile land, along with convenient means of transportation, making it a natural location for habitation. Usually symmetrical with a courtyard and patio, these houses were decorated with colored paintings of birds, human figures and flowers. The doors and windows were carved with auspicious characters.

Historical records indicate that refugees thronged to Xunyang County during the reign of Qing Emperor Qianlong (1736-96), due to the frequent natural disasters in neighboring provinces. Later, the rich competed with each other in building new residences, resulting in the structures of varied styles.

The local department of cultural relics has already taken measures to protect these houses, and has conducted surveys and taken pictures and recording. The Shaanxi Provincial Administration of Cultural Relics has allocated a special fund for the protection project.

Ethnic Culture Village

The Xinjiang Juhui Ethnic Culture Art Co. Ltd. announced recently to invest nearly 1.06 billion yuan in the construction of Xinjiang Ethnic Culture Village in east Urumqi, the largest one in Xinjiang to display the music and dancing art of Uygur ethnic group.

Approved by the Xinjiang Development Planning Commission, the project will begin this September and be finished in four years time. It will have a total floor space of 500,000 square meters. The village will be 5 km long and 3 km wide, consisting of buildings typical to various ethnic groups in Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region.

Seven projects will be completed in the first phase, including ethnic art villages, a man-made lake and a park; in the second phase, a skiing run, a hunting area and a villa area will be added. The Ethnic Art Palace, covering 6,000 square meters, will be the largest concert hall in Xinjiang. It will be able to hold 2,000 people and install advanced stage equipments. Art villages of 13 of Xinjiang's major eth-

nic groups, a horseracing track and other buildings will be built around it.

Located in the well-known scenic site of Shuimogou, 10 km away from Urumqi's downtown area, the ethnic culture village will be one of the area's main tourist attractions.

Ancient Ruins Discovered In Inner Mongolia

Archeologists discovered a house dating back 8,000 years in the ancient ruins of Xinglonggou in Inner Mongolia.

In the 40 square meter house are seven porcelain jars, three large millstones, four pestles and stone axes. The two-handed porcelain vessel and stone utensils standing in the southwest of the house were the first of their kinds found in the ruins. In addition, there is an impaired human skeleton, with burns on the shank and skull. And the lower half of the right shank and the right arm are missing. Experts have not reached conclusion on the person's death.

The discovery displays the inhabitants' life 8,000 years ago. Archeologists said that the discovery of a production place of stone utensils reflects the preliminary labor division of handicraft industry at that time. During the nearly one-month excavation, archeologists unearthed large amounts of porcelain and stone artifacts, jade articles and animal bones. The unearthed huge animal omoplate provided data for the research on animal residing around Xiliaohe (river) valley.

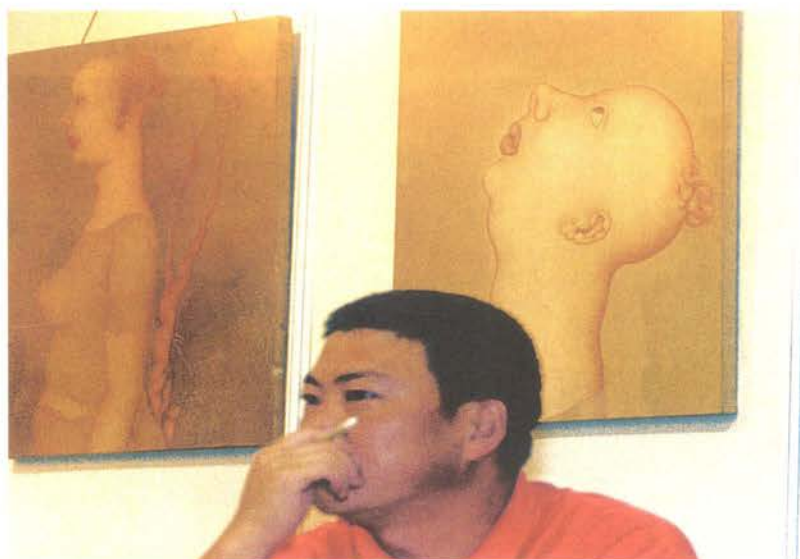
The Xinglonggou Ruins is one of the best-preserved ancient villages in China.

Ethnic Concert a Hit

Dadase, a concert that demonstrates the life and customs of Li minority ethnic group and conveys their unique views of nature, life and love, was staged in Beijing on September 7.

Dadase means "very beautiful" in the local language, expressing the Li people's love of life and yearning for a bright future. The concert features scenes of hunting and working, and a courting scene of girls and boys. The varied music and entrancing choreography vividly depicts their lifestyle. The hunting dance presents the image of the agile and brave male of the Li ethnic group, and the duet *Yunshan Love* shows the Li people's feelings on love. The concert *Dadase* has won several awards thanks to its high level of performance.

As part of the cultural event "Dadase: Greetings From Hainan", the concert will continue its tour in Tianjin, Shanghai and Guangzhou. ■



A Chinese artist and his painting



2002 China Art Expo

The 10th China Art Expo was held at the China International Hi-Tech Convention and Exhibition Center in Beijing on September 5-8, 2002. Art organizations and galleries from many countries and regions participated in the expo. Over 10,000 works were exhibited at the expo, including oil paintings, calligraphy and sculptures. This grand international art exchange and trade event provided a precious opportunity for the appreciation, purchase and collection of exquisite works of modern art. ■



The French artists' gallery



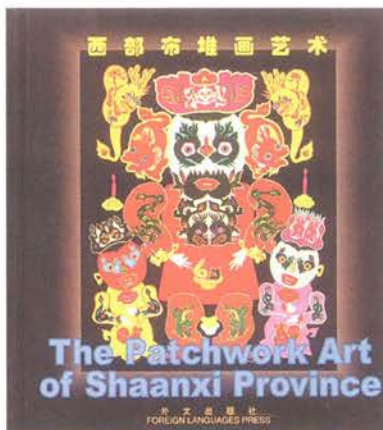
Clay sculptures by artists from Qingdao

PHOTOS BY XIAO YING

The Patchwork Art of Shaanxi Province

This colorful folk art is unique to the Huangtu Gaoyuan (Loess Plateau) area of north-west China's Shaanxi Province. Although it has a history of hundreds of years, patchwork art has only recently been recognized as an authentic part of the panoply of Chinese folk art.

The rugged plateau is hard on the working clothes of local farmers, and it has been a daily task since time immemorial for local women to patch their menfolk's clothes. Over time, designs and patterns emerged, drawing on China's vast reservoir of tradition, history and fable, until patchwork became a folk art in its own right. Images of heroes and gods abound in this art, as do stylized representations of animals. Above all, the Yellow River, the mother river of the Chinese nation that flows through the plateau, is ever present.



As time went by, patchwork was used to decorate not only clothes but door curtains, cloth shoes, bags, aprons, etc. Nowadays, it has moved away from merely being a means of adorning items of everyday use, and evolved into a distinct art style for collection and home decoration. Moreover, it is an art practiced not only by women, but by men as well. In fact, a male exponent of patchwork, Feng Shanyun, wrote the introduction to the book and many of the pictures in it are of his masterworks.

Patchwork art is reminiscent of folk embroideries, but they differ in the fact that they are mostly made up of layers of cloth. These layers—up to 10 in some cases—yield relief and plastic effects that are incomparably greater than the plane visual sense of folk embroideries or paper-cuts.

The illustrations on every one of the 94 pages of the book are in vivid color, true to the often startlingly strong hues of the original works. Many are accompanied by miniature photographs of everyday life on the Huangtu Gaoyuan, helping to orient the reader in this world of harsh yet beautiful landscapes, and the rugged people of the land.

Each copy of the book comes with a genuine example of patchwork art, so that the reader can get a feel of this very tactile and concrete mode of folk expression.

Culture of China Series

This group of books, eight volumes in all, aims at giving a comprehensive introduction to colorful and less well-known aspects of Chinese culture. China is particularly proud of its achievements in protecting rare wild species, and one of the volumes is devoted to this subject. Another covers China's only native religion, Taoism.

Each volume is pocket-sized, making it ideal to carry while traveling in China. They are lavishly illustrated, with detailed captions and a full introduction written by an expert in the field.

In the front and back of each book is a tear-out postcard bearing one of the most eye-catching photographs.



MINISTRY OF FINANCE

Preferential Import Duties

The Chinese government will adjust the policy concerning preferential import duties starting from this October 1, the Ministry of Finance announced.

According to the newly promulgated regulations, tariffs will be levied on some products imported for technical renovation projects, infrastructure projects and foreign-funded projects



authorized before April 1, 1996, if they are listed in non-exempt categories. Exemption will continue for other imports.

The regulations also provide that tariffs will be initially levied on equipment imported for newly approved foreign-funded projects whose products are all to be exported directly. Reimbursement will be made over a five-year period conditional upon all products being exported. Otherwise, the duty will not be reimbursed and penalties will follow.

Those projects approved earlier will continue to enjoy exemption if the import of equipment is still needed. The government will investigate the relevant export situation to validate the exemption.

All the above-mentioned imported equipment is exempt from tariffs before the policy adjustment.

The regulations say that no individual applications for import tariff exemption will be approved. Together with the 20 kinds of non-exempt imports defined by the State Council, all productive raw materials as well as automobiles imported for large-scale activities will not be exempt from tariffs.

PEOPLE'S BANK OF CHINA

New Policies on Open-End Investment Funds

The Ministry of Finance, together with the State Administration of Taxation, recently issued four preferential taxation policies for open-end investment funds approved by the China Securities Regulatory Commission.

—Fund managers' income from the difference of purchasing and selling prices of stocks and bonds will be exempt from operation and enterprise income taxes prior to the end of 2003.

—Individual fund participants' income from the difference of bidding, selling and repurchasing prices of units of participation will be exempt from individual income tax, provided no other policies are promulgated.

—A 20 percent individual income tax shall be levied on the funds' yield from dividends and interests on shares, bonds and savings deposits, which should be withheld by concerned listed companies, bond issuers and banks; and individual and institutional fund participants' income from dividends will be exempt from individual and enterprise income taxes.

—The fund participants' bidding and repurchasing of units of participation are free from stamp tax for the time being.

Fight Against Money Laundering

The People's Bank of China will make concentrated efforts to fight money laundering in China, declared bank Governor Dai Xianglong.

The Methods on Payment Deals and the Interim Rules on Large Sums and Suspicious Overseas Funds Reporting, along with the Regulations on Fighting Money Laundering, will soon be worked out by the People's Bank of China, Dai revealed at a recent anti-money laundering meeting, which is the first of its kind in China.

The meeting announced that a highly efficient network for monitoring banking transactions and sharing information is to be built to crack down on money laundering. Bank accounts, large-sum money flow involving overseas funds and cash, and illegal financial institutions are to be closely watched following the Rules on Deposits and Withdrawals Using Real Name and other related rules and regulations of the People's Bank of China. Supplementary education and training will be carried out to that end. International cooperation to fight monetary laundering and the financing of terrorism is also to be strengthened.

A series of anti-money-laundering rules and regulations have been available in China, including the Bank Accounts Management Methods, the

Overseas Fund Accounts Management Methods and the Regulations on Large Sums of Cash Payment Registration. In addition, the system of deposits and withdrawals using real names has been practiced. All commercial banks have also formulated anti-money laundering regulations and rules, to leave no loopholes and make the fight a complete success.

So far, the People's Bank of China has found and investigated a handful of criminal cases involving money laundering. On the basis of seriously honoring its international obligations, its international cooperation in this regard has made notable headway.

Under the People's Bank of China, a leading group has been formed and put to the work coordinating the fight against money laundering in China and abroad since September 2001. This July, the People's Bank of China established two special organs for combating money laundering and monitoring payment transactions, further perfecting its related organizational framework. Various commercial banks have also set up their own anti-money laundering departments.



MINISTRY OF INFORMATION INDUSTRY

New Pricing System

The Ministry of Information Industry and the State Development Planning Commission announced a reform of the current telecommunications service pricing system on September 12.

As per a joint circular from the two departments, telecommunications service providers are allowed to independently decide on the charges for 34 service items as of this October 1, including charges for domestic and international long-distance IP phone calls, SIM card for mobile phones, ownership transfers and short message service. They are required to put their price standards on file at the telecommunications and pricing authorities.

After the reform, charges that are still subject to government pricing include monthly fees for fixed-line phones, charges on local calls and ISDN service, and charges on local calls at public telephones.

The reform is expected to give full play to the regulatory role of the market, rationally optimize telecommunications resources and promote the industry's healthy development, the circular said.

SHENYANG MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT

Outdated Rules Revoked

Against the backdrop of China's WTO entry, Shenyang, capital of northeast China's Liaoning Province, recently completed an overhaul of local statutes in light of the stipulations of the Administrative Review Law. Among the abolished outdated rules are three local laws, 272 government regulations, 266 government documents and 1,102 other policy measures.

The 272 revoked government regulations fall into four categories: 21 are inconsistent with WTO rules; 93 are not adaptable to the development of the market economy and current needs; 46 contradict related state laws; and 36 have been replaced by newly promulgated ones.

A list of all the abolished rules has been made public, together with a timetable for amending those in need. ■



Father of Us All?

In life, the creature probably resembled a chimpanzee more than anything else. It moved through a lakeside landscape of grasslands and forest searching for food, accompanied by small bands of its fellows, most likely, and keeping a sharp eye out for pythons, crocodiles and saber-toothed cats. This animal probably shared the forest with apes and monkeys and, like them, spent some time up in the trees. It may have walked upright, which apes rarely do for very long at a stretch. But at a casual glance, it would have seemed to our eyes like just another chimp.

In death, however, this creature has just sent shock waves through the world of science. After eight grueling years of hunting in the hot, wind-scoured desert of central Africa, an international team of researchers has uncovered one of the most sensational fossil finds in living memory: the well-preserved skull of a chimp-size animal, probably a male, that doesn't fit any known species.

According to paleontologist Michel Brunet of the University of Poitiers in France, whose team reported the find in *Nature* last week, there is no way it could have been an ape of any kind. It was almost certainly a hominid—a member of a subdivision of the primate family whose only living representative is modern man. And it has left scientists gasping with astonishment for several seasons.

To start with, it is nearly 7 million years old—a million years more ancient than the previous record holder. Indeed, this new species is as much older than the famous Lucy as Lucy is older than we are. It almost certainly dates from very near that crucial moment in prehistory when hominids began to tread an evolutionary path that diverged from that of chimps, our closest living relatives. Even more surprising, this ancient hominid was not discovered anywhere near the Great Rift Valley of East Africa, where all the record setters of the past three decades have been found. Instead, it turned up in the sub-Saharan Sahel region of Chad, more than 2,400 km to the west, forcing a rethinking of the conventional wisdom about where humans arose.

Beyond that, the animal's habitat may cast further doubt on the already beleaguered notion that our ancestors first emerged on a treeless savanna. It now looks as though this pivotal event happened in setting that was at least partly wooded. Most remarkable of all, though, is the skull itself. The creature, known formally as *Sahelanthropus tchadensis* (roughly translated "Sahel hominid from Chad") and informally as Toumai ("hope of life," in the local Goran language), has a mix of apelike and hominid features. And to some paleontologists, the

我们所有人的祖先?

(参考译文)

活着时, 这只动物很可能与黑猩猩更为相似。它与伙伴三五成群的沿着湖边的草地和森林前行, 一边寻找食物, 一边还得密切留意着巨蟒、鳄鱼和剑齿虎。它可能与猿猴一起生活在森林中, 并且跟后者一样, 大部分时候都待在树上。它可能已经开始直立行走, 而猿很难一次走完很长一段路。不过, 乍一看, 它在我们眼里可能就是另一种猿。

然而, 死后, 这只动物掀起的冲击波震动了整个科学界。一个国际研究小组在非洲中部炎热、狂风肆虐的沙漠经过8年艰苦卓绝的探索, 发现了迄今为止最具轰动性的化石: 一颗保存完好的头骨, 它源自一只与黑猩猩体积类似的动物——它可能是雄性, 而且不属于已发现的任何物种。

法国普瓦捷大学的古生物学家米歇尔·布律内是该研究小组的负责人, 他们上周在《自然》杂志上报告了这一发现。据布律内说, 这只动物不可能是任何一种类人猿。几乎可以肯定, 它是一种人科动物——是灵长类家庭一个分支中的一员, 其唯一现存的代表就是人类。出于诸多原因, 这只动物让科学家们惊叹不已。

首先, 它生活在大约700万年前——比以前发现的最古老的古人类化石的历史还早100万年。当然, 这个新发现的物种与著名的“露西”(属南方古猿阿法种, 存活于约320万年前——译者注)之间的历史跨度比露西与我们之间的历史跨度还要大得多, 几乎可以肯定, 它生活的时间非常接近史前那个关键的时刻: 那时, 人科动物开始与如今我们最近的亲戚黑猩猩分道扬镳, 踏出一条独立的进化之路。

更让人惊讶的是, 这种古代人科动物并不是在东非大裂谷附近找到的。过去30年间, 曾经创下最久远历史记录的古人类化石全部在此出土。相反, 这颗头骨是在撒哈拉沙漠以南的乍得荒漠地区找到的, 其位置在大裂谷以西2400多公里, 这不得不让科学家重新审视对人类源自何处的传统认识。

另外, 这只动物的栖息地可能会进一步对已经得到公认的说法——我们的祖先最早出现在没有树木的大草原上——形成挑战。如今看来, 这个关键的事件似乎发生在至少部分被树木覆盖的环境中。

不过, 最不寻常的是这颗头骨本身。这种动物

hominid features, especially the face, are a lot more modern-looking than anyone would have expected at so early an evolutionary stage.

Paleontologists are scrambling to digest the implications of this remarkable find. It may simply be that the discovery fills in the evolutionary sequence—the so-called family tree—that leads to modern humans. But some argue that the new fossil might represent something far more revolutionary. It could entirely demolish the idea of a tree, replacing it with something more akin to a thick, bristly bush. Many scientists now believe that the emergence of humans may not have been the neat succession of increasingly modern-looking ancestors suggested by conventional hominid family trees but rather an evolutionary brawl, with multiple species fighting for survival—and the survival of their gene pool—at just about every point in prehistory. No matter what the answer, says Daniel Lieberman, a biological anthropologist from Harvard, “this is one of the most impor-

的学名是撒海尔人乍得种，俗称“托迈”（乍得当地土语“生命之希望”的意思），它具有类人猿和人的综合特征。在一些古生物学家看来，这颗头骨的特征——特别是面部——与现代人的相似性超过了一切对人类进化初期古人类的想象。

古生物学家正争相探索这项重大发现的的意义。结果可能很简单，它完善了促成现代人产生的进化序列——也就是所谓的进化树。但一些人指出，这一新发现的化石可能有更为重大的意义。它也许会彻底推翻进化树的理论，而以灌木形状的进化过程将其代替。现在，许多科学家认为，人类的出现可能不像传统人类进化树所描述的那样——是同现代人越来越像的祖先进化的延续；而是进化争夺的结果，多个物种在史前的每一时刻都在为生存——基因库的延续——而战。哈佛大学的生物人类学家丹尼尔·利伯曼说，无论答案是什么，“这是过去100年间发现的最重要的化石之一”。

鉴于挖掘地朱拉卜沙漠目前的恶劣环境，在这里找到化石本身就是个奇迹。

tant fossil discoveries in the past 100 years.”

Given the harsh conditions that exist today at the excavation site, a place called Toros-Menalla, it's a wonder that the fossil was found at all.

Dozens of spectacular fossils of human ancestors had previously been discovered in the Great Rift Valley, part of which slices from the Red Sea through Ethiopia, Kenya, Uganda and Tanzania, but Brunet had reasons to suspect that Chad could also be fruitful. For one thing, the area around Lake Chad had already yielded a rich trove of primitive vertebrate fossils. For another, he knew that the Rift Valley's paleontological track record did not actually prove that humanity had arisen only there.

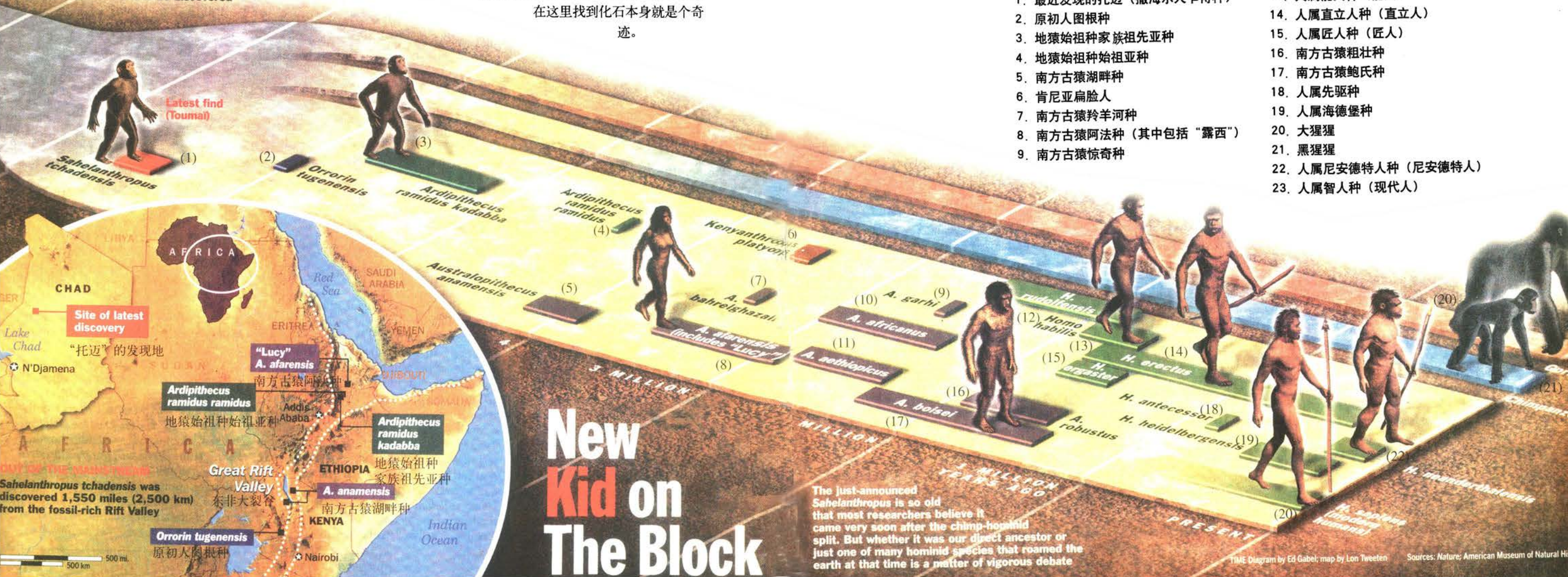
In the Rift Valley, to the east, torrential downpours erode the jagged hillsides and bring ancient fossils to the surface. In the Djurab, Brunet and his colleagues realized,

此前，诸多重要的人类祖先化石都是在东非大裂谷找到的，这些化石分布在大裂谷从红海延伸到埃塞俄比亚、肯尼亚、乌干达和坦桑尼亚的一段。但是，布律内提出了一些理由，并据此猜测乍得也蕴藏着丰富的古人类化石。首先，乍得湖周围的地区已经出土了大量原始脊椎动物化石。另外，他认为大裂谷的古生物活动记录并不能确切证明它就是人类的唯一发源地。

在大裂谷东部，暴雨冲刷着起伏不平的山坡，使古化石露出了地面。布律内和他的同伴认为，在朱拉卜沙漠，肆虐的狂风也起到类似的作用。因此，在来自10个国家、大约40位科学家的协助下，布律内率领的乍得古生物研究小组于1994年开始了挖掘

LAST COMMON ANCESTOR

Both chimps and humans are believed to have descended from a single apelike primate that remains to be discovered



最近的共同祖先

科学家认为，黑猩猩和人都是由一种尚未发现的与猿类似的灵长动物进化而来的。

1. 最近发现的托迈（撒海尔人乍得种）
2. 原初人图根种
3. 地猿始祖种家族祖先亚种
4. 地猿始祖种始祖亚种
5. 南方古猿湖畔种
6. 肯尼亚扁脸人
7. 南方古猿羚羊河种
8. 南方古猿阿法种（其中包括“露西”）
9. 南方古猿惊奇种

10. 南方古猿非洲种
11. 南方古猿埃塞俄比亚种
12. 人属鲁道夫种（鲁道夫人）
13. 人属能人种（能人）
14. 人属直立人种（直立人）
15. 人属匠人种（匠人）
16. 南方古猿粗壮种
17. 南方古猿鲍氏种
18. 人属先驱种
19. 人属海德堡种
20. 大猩猩
21. 黑猩猩
22. 人属尼安德特人种（尼安德特人）
23. 人属智人种（现代人）

New Kid on The Block

The just-announced Sahelanthropus is so old that most researchers believe it came very soon after the chimp-hominid split. But whether it was our direct ancestor or just one of many hominid species that roamed the earth at that time is a matter of vigorous debate

六点相似性——科学家如何判断新发现的化石在猿、人大家族中的位置

托迈

- 1. 头骨:** 头骨大小说明撒海尔人乍得种不会比黑猩猩大
- 2. 大脑:** 该动物的大脑容量在320到380立方厘米之间, 与现代黑猩猩相当。
- 3. 眉脊:** 向后延伸, 而且比任何一种现代雄性类人猿的都厚许多。现代人没有突出的眉脊。这具头骨化石充分说明托迈是男性。
- 4. 面颊:** 面颊短且相对平。黑猩猩的面部下方突出, 以适应大犬齿和门牙。现代人面部下方要小得多, 平得多。与现代人——也就是双腿行走的人科动物——的相似性是托迈可能用双腿行走的线索之一。
- 5. 牙齿:** 犬齿比雄性黑猩猩的要小且短。顶端都已磨损, 这是所有现代人特有的, 其中包括智人。臼齿比黑猩猩的大, 却比早期一些古人类的小。牙齿的釉质比黑猩猩的稍厚一点, 说明其食物中水果的比例要比黑猩猩的小。
- 6. 枕骨大孔:** 枕骨(脊髓与大脑连接的地方)开口呈椭圆形, 而不像黑猩猩那样是圆形。枕骨大孔的形状说明托迈可能是直立行走的。

现代黑猩猩: 从后面看, 新发现的“托迈”头骨与黑猩猩非常想像。

现代智人: 但是, 许多科学家对它的面部与古人类如此想像极为惊讶。

已发现的古人类

南方古猿阿法种: 出现时间: 360万至290万年前

说明: 后来在同一个地方找到了这具与著名的露西(以甲壳虫乐队的名曲《空中的露西》命名)属于同一人种的头骨。

南方古猿惊奇种: 出现时间: 250万年前

说明: 这具头骨是由1997年发现的碎片拼接而成的, 它可能来自制造石头工具的第一批古人类。其它证据显示, 长有这具头骨的人用工具宰杀猎物。

能人: 出现时间: 190万年至160万年前

说明: 直到发现南方古猿惊奇种的化石前, 该物种一度被许多人视为最早的人类, 也被视作人类进化史中首先制造工具的人。

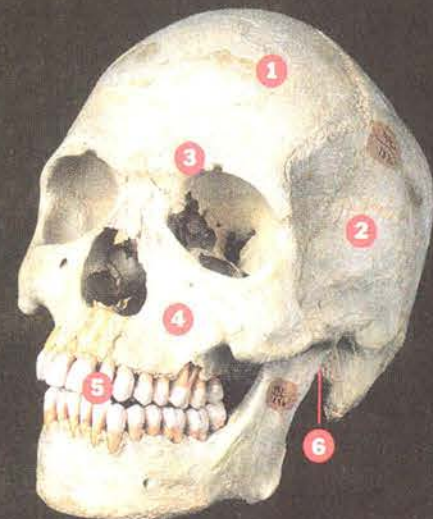
SIX POINTS OF SIMILARITY

How scientists determined where the new fossil belongs in the extended family of apes and man



Modern Chimp

From the back, the newfound skull looks a lot like a chimpanzee's



Modern Homo sapiens

But many scientists are surprised how much its face looks like a hominid's

Sahelanthropus tchadensis

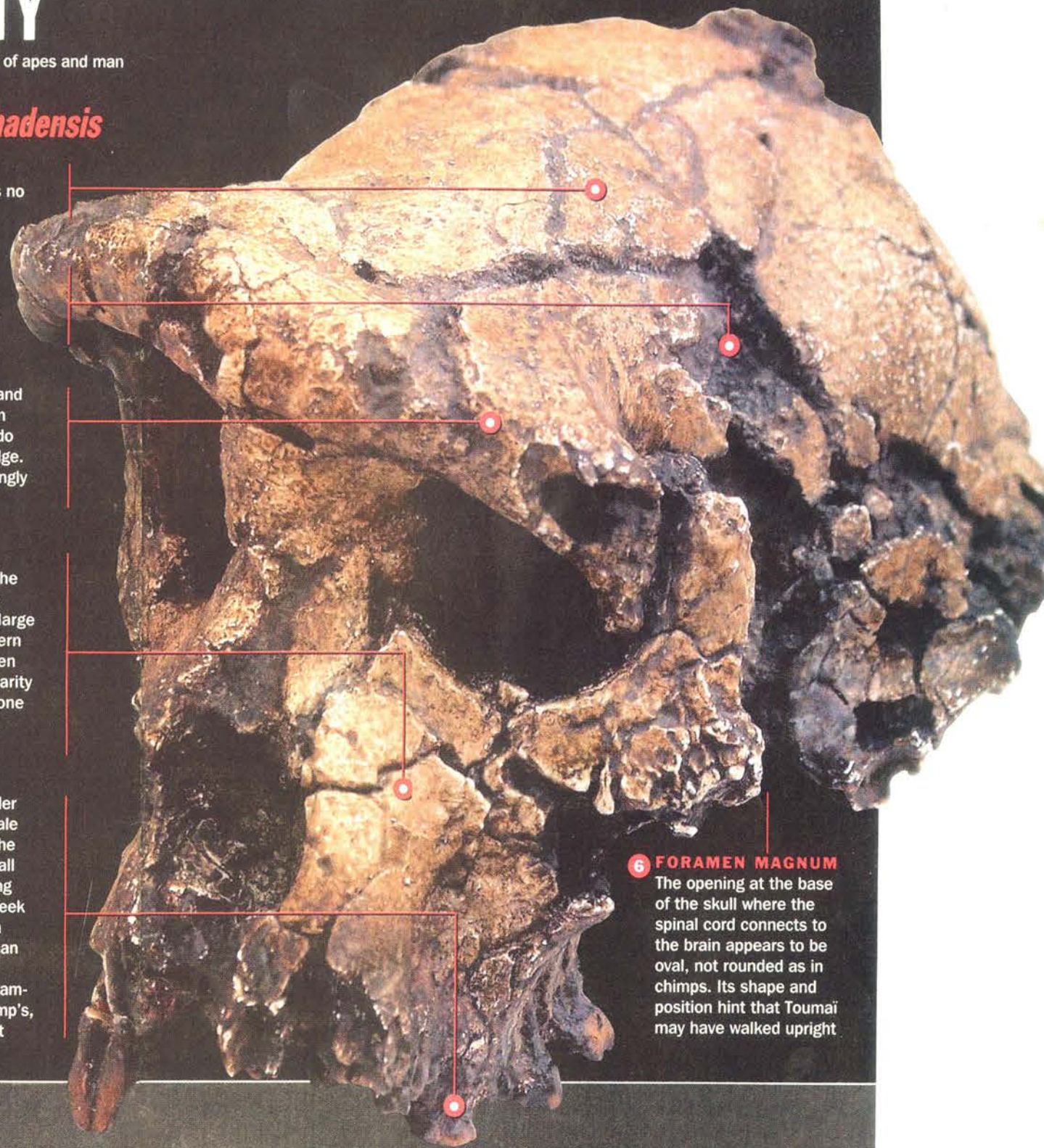
1 SKULL The size of the skull suggests *Sahelanthropus* was no larger than a chimpanzee

2 BRAIN The creature's brain was between 320 cc and 380 cc, comparable to that of a modern chimp

3 BROW RIDGE Continuous and much thicker than any modern male ape's. Modern humans do not have a prominent brow ridge. The thickness of this one strongly suggests Toumai was a male

4 FACE The face is short and relatively flat. In the chimp, the lower portion of the face juts forward to accommodate its large canines and incisors. In modern humans, the lower face is even smaller and flatter. This similarity to later, bipedal hominids is one clue that Toumai may have walked on two legs

5 TEETH The canines are smaller and shorter than those of a male chimp. They are also worn at the tips, which is typical of all later hominids, including *Homo sapiens*. The cheek teeth are larger than a chimp's and smaller than those of some early hominids. The tooth enamel is slightly thicker than a chimp's, suggesting a diet with less fruit



6 FORAMEN MAGNUM The opening at the base of the skull where the spinal cord connects to the brain appears to be oval, not rounded as in chimps. Its shape and position hint that Toumai may have walked upright

LUCY AND HER PALS



3.6 million to 2.9 million years

HADAR, ETHIOPIA
A. afarensis

This skull, from the same species as the famous Lucy (nicknamed after the Beatles song *Lucy in the Sky with Diamonds*), was discovered later at the same site



2.5 million years

BOURI, ETHIOPIA
A. garhi

Pieced together from fragments found in 1997, this skull comes from what might have been the first hominid to make stone tools. Other evidence suggests it used tools for butchering



1.9 million to 1.6 million years

OLDUVAI GORGE, TANZANIA
H. habilis

Until *A. garhi* was found, this species, considered by many to be the first human, was also thought to be the first toolmaker in the hominid line

the relentless winds would have a similar erosive effect. So, accompanied by some 40 scientists from 10 countries, Brunet's Franco-Chadian Paleontological Mission began to dig the Djurab in 1994.

To date, the team has found 10,000 fossils in the area, including those of all sorts of animals and, seven years ago, at least one ancient hominid—a 3.5 million-year-old jaw that some researchers believe may come from the same species as Lucy (though Brunet has other ideas). Then, on July 19 of last year, a student name Ahounta Djimdoumbaye unearthed the astonishing skull.

Scientists have long believed that apes and humans share a common ancestor. But recently, comparisons of fossil and modern primates and analyses of modern ape and modern human DNA have independently indicated that single ancestral ape gave rise to both chimps and hominids between 5 million and 7 million years ago. That presumed great-great-great-grandape almost certainly swung from trees in the African forest. If so, then *Sahelanthropus*, or Toumai, could well have been the very first hominid, or at least one of the first, to begin the evolutionary march that ultimately led to *Homo sapiens*.

But in the contentious field of human paleontology, "could well have been" leaves plenty of room for heated argument. There seems little doubt, at least, that Toumai was truly a hominid. Though the skull and brain are no bigger than a chimp's, that is no surprise. Our characteristically large brains did not evolve until about 2 million years ago, well after Lucy's time. But features like a short face with a massive brow ridge, a mouth and jaw that protrude less than in most apes, and relatively small canine teeth make it clear that this creature was not a chimpanzee.

Over the years since Lucy was found, several even older hominids, including *Ardipithecus ramidus ramidus* (4.4 million years old) and *Ardipithecus ramidus kadabba* (5.8 million), have been put forward as the most ancient of our direct ancestors. But Toumai is older still. If it is as modern looking as Bernard Wood of the George Washington University believes, Lucy and the others may not be our direct ancestors at all but instead dead-end side branches of the family tree, like the Neanderthals. That would make them not our great-great-great-grandparents but rather ancient uncles and aunts whose lineages have long since gone extinct. One possibility is that *Sahelanthropus* gave rise to intermediate descendant species that have not yet been discovered. The descendants would have led to *Homo habilis* or *Homo redolfensis*, both of which are contenders for the first member of our genus, which arose about 2 million years ago.

If so, this lends support to an evolutionary scheme that has been gaining scientific support. Instead of a tree, with a main trunk and a few side branches, hominid evolution

工作。

迄今为止, 该研究小组已经在该地区发现了1万多块化石, 其中包括各种动物的化石。7年前, 他们发现了至少是一种古人科动物的化石——一块350万年前的颌骨化石。一些研究人员认为这块颌骨可能来自与露西同类的物种(尽管布律内有不同的看法)。然后, 在去年7月19日, 一位名叫阿洪塔的学生发现了这块震惊世界的头骨化石。

长久以来, 科学家认为, 类人猿与人有着共同的祖先。但是, 最近对化石与现代灵长类动物的对比, 以及对现代类人猿和现代人脱氧核糖核酸(DNA)的分析分别说明: 在500万至700万年前一种古猿分化成了黑猩猩和人科动物, 几乎可以肯定, 科学家推测的这种古猿当时也在非洲森林里的树上摇来荡去。如果是这样, 那么撒海尔人乍得种, 也就是托迈, 很可能就是开启从古猿到智人的进化之门的最早人科动物, 或者, 起码是最早的人科动物之一。

不过, 在争议频出的人类古生物学领域, “很可能”的措辞就会引起许多激烈的辩论。但至少托迈确实是人科动物是毋庸置疑的。虽然它的头骨和大脑不比黑猩猩的大, 但这并不奇怪——人类特有的大脑袋也是直到200万年前才进化成功, 比露西生活的时间也要晚得多。但是, 脸短、眉脊大, 嘴和下颚没有大部分类人猿突出, 以及相对较小的犬齿等特点清楚地说明, 这种动物不是黑猩猩。

从发现露西起, 几种年代更久远的人科动物都曾被列为我们直系祖先中最古老的动物, 其中包括地猿始祖种始祖亚种(生活在440万年前)和地猿始祖种家族祖先亚种(生活在580万年前)。

但托迈生活的年代要久远得多。如果它的长相同现代人的相似性与乔治·华盛顿大学的伯纳德·伍德认为的一样, 那么, 露西和其他的古代动物可能根本就不是我们的直系祖先, 而是进化树上已经灭绝的几个旁支, 就和尼安德特人一样。如此说来, 它们就不是我们的曾曾曾祖父母, 而是人类在古代的叔叔阿姨, 而它们的后代在很久前就灭绝了。一种可能是, 撒海尔人乍得种是一些中间物种的祖先。这些中间物种进化成了能人或鲁道夫人, 他们都有可能大约200万年前出现的人类祖先。

倘若如此, 这为一种逐渐得到科学证明的进化理论提供了支持。这种新理论认为人类的进化过程并不是一个树状结构: 即一个主干上有几个分叉。

is now viewed more as an overgrown bush, lush at every point with multiple competing species. The evidence certainly seems to point that way. Over the past couple of decades, anthropologists have been finding more and more hominid species dating all the way from hundreds of thousands to millions of years ago, many of them overlapping in time. During most of our ancestors' history, it appears, multiple species of humanlike creatures walked the earth at once.

That really should not be surprising. Most types of animals—monkeys, whales, cats, apes—come in multiple varieties. As recently as 30,000 or 40,000 years ago, when *Homo sapiens* was sufficiently evolved to make jewelry and paint hauntingly evocative drawings on cave walls, we shared the planet with a second hominid species, the Neanderthals. And although it seems natural to us that only one species of hominid lives today, it is in fact an exception to nature's way of doing things.

Evolution provides plenty of examples in which new types of animals emerge not just as single species but as collections of similar species that share many but not all physical attributes. The rich diversity of finches that Charles Darwin discovered in the Galapagos Islands is perhaps the most famous example.

According to many anthropologists, Brunet's discovery supports the idea that evolutionary diversity was true for hominids as well. In this bushy model of evolution, even a remarkably modern face might not guarantee that Brunet's new hominid was a direct ancestor of modern humans. Maybe it was just one of several modern-looking hominids that arose at about the same time.

Or maybe all these learned experts are barking up the wrong evolutionary tree after all. At least one equally eminent paleontologist, Tim White of the University of California, Berkeley, disputes the assertion that Toumai derails the standard evolutionary family tree, let alone plants of a bush in its place. The discovery is a tremendous accomplishment, he says. "This fossil is the closest we've got to the common ancestor. But dentally, it's just like *Ardipithecus*, except for a few minor characteristics."

If the new hominid does eventually upend the conventional wisdom, however, it will raise all sorts of questions. For example, if *Sahelanthropus* had descendant species that gave rise to *H. habilis*, asks Harvard's Lieberman, where are they? Nobody knows, moreover, what triggered the emergence of the earliest hominids in the first place. Virtually everyone now agrees that walking upright was the key physical adaptation that set the hominid line in motion. But that adaptation had to have some evolutionary advantage for it to persist. What, exactly, was so great about walking on two legs?

A decade ago, the leading theory suggested that climate

科学家现在相信, 该过程更像是一棵枝繁叶茂的灌木, 每个节点都有许多物种在互相竞争。证据似乎肯定地说明, 这种理论是对的。在过去几十年中, 人类学家发现了越来越多几十万至几百万年前的人科物种化石, 其中许多物种生活的时间都彼此重叠。看来在人类祖先发展的历史中, 每一次都有许多种与人类似的动物在地球上生活着。

这很合理。大多数动物——猴、鲸、猫、猿——都有许多变体。在三四万年前, 当智人进化到能够制作首饰并在洞壁上描绘让人联想到打猎的图画时, 我们同另一个人科物种一起生活在地球上, 那就是尼安德特人。尽管在我们看来, 现在只生活着一种人是自然而然的事情, 但事实上, 这是自然造物的一个例外。

在进化过程中, 有许多例子说明新的动物类型不完全是作为单一物种出现的, 而是融合了一些生理特征基本近似的类似物种的集合体。查尔斯·达尔文在加拉帕戈斯群岛发现的各种各样的云雀也许就是最著名的例子。

许多人类学家说, 布律内的发现支持了这样的观点: 进化多样性对人科动物也同样适用。在这种灌木式的进化模式中, 即便是酷似现代人的面颊也不能保证布律内新发现的人科动物是现代人的直系祖先。也许它只是同一时间出现的多种具有现代容貌的古人类中的一种。

也许所有这些知识渊博的专家所争论的只是一个根本错误的进化树, 至少一位同样著名的古生物学家, 伯克利加利福尼亚大学的蒂姆·怀特就不同意托迈超越标准进化树的说法, 更不用说什么灌木状进化模式。他说, 此项发现是一项伟大的成就。“这是我们得到的与人类共同祖先最接近的一具化石。但是, 除了一些小特征, 从牙齿特征上看, 它与地猿非常相似。”

然而, 如果这种新发现的人科动物最终确实推翻了传统观念, 那就会出现许许多多的问题。例如, 哈佛大学的利伯曼就提出, 如果撒海尔人乍得种的后代进化成了能人, 那么, 它们生活在何处? 另外, 没有人知道是什么促成了最早的人科动物的出现。当然, 所有人现在都同意, 直立行走是利于古人类行动的一种生理适应性。但是, 这种适应性必须要有继续存在的进化优势。确切地说就是, 下肢行走为何如此重要。

change had dried Africa out, replacing the forests, where apes thrived, with grasslands. A walking ape would be better suited to this environment, since tree climbing would be useless. Standing would give a better view over the top of the grasses of potential enemies. Also, a vertical position would offer less exposure to the harsh rays of the sun.

That all made sense until field scientists began finding early hominids who lived in partly wooded places, not pure savanna. As deduced from the sorts of animals Brunet found at Toros-Menalla, that seems to be the kind of environment *Sahelanthropus* inhabited as well. With the simple climate theory already on the way out, paleontologists have come up with other ideas. They now believe that woods survived in the changed climate but were probably interspersed with patches of savanna—precisely the setting in which Brunet found Toumai.

As for the popular perception that human evolution began in East Africa—well, on reflection, that was never as convincing as it was made out to be. Even those who leaned toward that view knew intellectually that a few dozen individuals from a few sites spaced over millions of years constituted a pretty slim line of evidence. After all, even a shambling, apelike hominid could range a few thousand kilometers—from Chad, say—in a mere generation or two. The fact that so very few hominid fossils have been found, even in East Africa, makes it clear how rarely these ancient bones survived. “If you think of Africa as a giant place where human ancestors existed for the past 7 million years,” says Berkeley’s White, “you have to get lucky to find places where environmental conditions allowed them to live and where the geological conditions allowed them to be preserved.”

But that also means that paleontologists could get lucky in many more places than they have looked so far.

Brunet, meanwhile, has every reason to keep mining the windswept desert of Chad. “There’s still plenty of work to do,” he says. He and his team will be looking not only for additional *Sahelanthropus* bones but also for even older sediments that are between 7.5 million and 10 million years old—rocks that could yield the ancestral species that gave rise to both humans and chimps. Paleontologists often take months or years to announce the existence of discoveries they have in hand, so it is quite possible that he and his team have already found something more.

Indeed, the last sentence of their paper in *Nature* declares that while *Sahelanthropus* will be central to illuminating the earliest chapter in evolutionary history, “more surprises can be expected.” Given the splash Toumai has made, that could prove to be an understatement.

Time

十年前，占主导地位的理论认为，气候变化使非洲出现干旱，草地代替了类人猿聚集的森林。能够行走的猿可能会更好地适应这种环境，因为爬树不再有意义，而站立也许能让猿更好地观察草地，防备潜在的敌人。而且，垂直姿势还能使身体接受烈日照射的面积减少。

在科学家发现早期的人科动物生活在长有一些树木，而不是纯荒漠的环境之前，以上所有说法都有道理。从布律内在乍得发现的动物类型看，撒海尔人乍得种似乎也栖息在类似的环境。由于简单的气候理论已经过时，古生物学家提出了其他一些理论。他们现在认为，树木在气候变化中存活了下来，但其中可能夹杂着一片片荒漠——这恰恰与布律内发现托迈的环境相符。

说到人类进化始于东非这种普遍的看法，仔细想想，这种理论从来都不太令人信服。即便那些倾向于这种观点的人也清楚地认识到，从几个考古挖掘点得到的几十个年代相距几百万年的单个化石只能提供很少的证据。毕竟，即便是步履蹒跚地行走，与猿类似的人科动物也能在一两代的时间里迁徙几千英里。即使是在东非，所发现的古人类化石这么少，这说明这些古代动物的骨头很难保存下来。怀特说：“如果你认为非洲是人类祖先过去700万年生活的伟大地方，你必须幸运地找到周围环境允许他们生存，以及地质环境允许把他们保存下来的地点。”

但是，这也意味着，古生物学家可以在他们已经研究过的地方之外去碰碰运气。

与此同时，布律内有足够的理由继续在乍得狂风肆虐的沙漠中挖掘。他说：“那里还有很多工作可做。”他同他的研究小组不仅要寻找“托迈”的其他骨头，还要寻找源自750万至1000万年前更古老的遗迹——能产生人类与黑猩猩共同祖先的古老物种的化石。古生物学家在掌握了一些发现成果后，往往都要过几个月或几年才宣布，因此，布律内和他的研究小组可能已经有了其他的证据。

他们发表于《自然》杂志的研究报告结尾处是这样说的：尽管托迈对人类进化史最早的一些篇章至关重要，“但是，估计还将出现更多令人惊奇的东西”。鉴于托迈引起的轰动，这句话很可能是一种保守的说法。

《时代》

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Visit to Unusual Places

Surprises on the Seas

Now cruises appeal to a younger, hipper audience, and it's easy to see why. Modern cruise ships are "floating resorts," offering everything from state-of-the-art spas and gyms to in-line skating and rock-climbing walls. Cruising is the fastest-growing segment of the travel industry, with 7.5 million people worldwide having set sail last year. Fifteen new ships will join the North American fleets in 2002. The cruise industry hopes the boost in capacity, plus the modern amenities of the newer ships, will attract the 87 percent of the population that has never taken a cruise.

What's allure? Many people cruise simply to "check out" a destination for a future visit. For example, Hawaiian inter-island cruises allow passengers to sample each island so they can scope out favorite sites. Other cruises, such as those bound for Alaska, are famous for their onboard educational features. Sail the popular Inside Passage and Gulf of Alaska routes, and you'll encounter naturalists, historians and park rangers onboard, teaching passengers about the region's stunning glaciers, fjords and wildlife.

The industry has also gone overboard on themed cruises, where passengers can sail away on a murder-mystery tour or enjoy a film festival at sea. There are classical-music cruises, wine-testing cruises and culinary festivals featuring world-renowned chefs. The venerable Queen Elizabeth 2 is offering a "Spotlight Series" on each of its 21 transatlantic crossings this year, with themes ranging from "British Comedy" to "Great Authors." There is even a "Family Entertainment" cruise in July, in which junior cruisers will be invited to perform scenes from the "The Jungle Book" with the London Festival Players.

Indeed, cruise lines are eager to please younger passengers. Carnival's "Camp Carnival" offers programs for three age groups. The Princess features activities like stargazing, ocean-habitat studies and toy-sailboat making. The QE2 has a full-time "junior activities coordinator," as well as British nannies in the nursery. But if you're looking for a ship geared for younger sailors, it's hard to beat the Disney Cruise Line, which sails to the Caribbean out of Port Canaveral, Florida, and has replaced the standard casino with an entire deck of kid's activities, including animation workshops and electronic games played on giant video walls. It's got the only full-service permanent nursery in the industry; parents drop kids off and keep in touch by pager.

Reaching the Final Frontier

These days an astronaut is often little more than a glorified mechanic, hurtling into the cosmos to fix the wiring in the Hubble telescope. But don't tell that to the world's first "space tourists"—Dennis Tito and Mark Shuttleworth. The two eccentric millionaires ponied up \$20 million each for the monotony of a couple of weeks in the world's most expensive sardine cans. Scores of would-be adventurers are beginning to be next.

新式旅游敢尝天下鲜

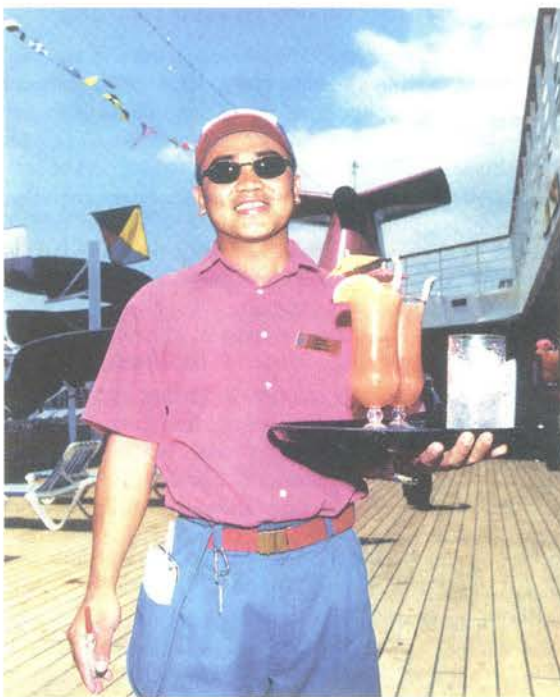
(参考译文)

海上的惊喜

海上游现在吸引了更多年轻时髦的游客。原因很简单，现代的游船是“游动的胜地”，从最新的矿泉疗养池、健身房到滚轴溜冰、攀岩等项目应有尽有。海上游是旅游业发展最快的分支，去年全球出海游的人数达到750万。2002年北美将增加15艘新游船。航游业希望借负载能力的提高，以及新船上的现代化设施来吸引世界人口中占87%的还没有出过海的人。

魅力究竟在哪里呢？许多人出海只是为了“考察”一下今后的旅游目的地。比如，夏威夷岛际航游就可以让游客体验每个小岛，从而找到自己最喜欢的景点。其它如阿拉斯加等航游线路则以船上教育特色而闻名。在阿拉斯加内部和海湾游船上，你会碰到自然学家、历史学家、护林员等，他们会向你讲述这一地区奇妙的冰山、峡湾和野生动物。

这一行业现在还兴起了主题游，旅客可以经历神秘谋杀案之旅，或是海上电影节之旅。其它还有古典音乐游、品酒游以及有世界名厨参与的美食游。





太空轨道。但该公司的下一名顾客——“超级男孩”歌唱组合的歌手兰斯·巴斯无疑将提高它的名望。这位22岁的歌手正在为今年10月的“出租车计划”寻找赞助商。如果成功的话，他将登上俄罗斯为国际空间站进行人员替换的太空舱，在宇航员们进行维修和轮岗交接的时间里在太空停留数日。

俄罗斯的例子产生了一个重要影响：刺激美国国家航空航天局（NASA）加入到另一场太空竞赛。从今年年初起，NASA已经停止了对太空旅游的尖锐批评，甚至宣布打算恢复它的“太空教学计划”。一些业界团体认为，NASA拨出50亿美元预算用于开发便宜的第二代多次使用火箭，这也将有助于把太空旅游的价格降到人们可以接受的水平。

对疗养休假的需求

与侧重“治疗”的传统疗养所不同，现在的度假疗养所同时注重对身体和精神的抚慰。国际疗养所协会负责人林恩·麦克尼斯说：“疗养所不再是为富人和名人准备的减肥中心了。人们以前所未有的疯狂速度工作，确实需要花些时间放松自己。疗养所让我们如愿以偿。”麦克尼斯说，这两年世界各地都掀起了名副其实的“疗养院旋风”。旅馆在修建疗养院，新的疗养场所纷纷出现。有些度假胜地重点推出瑜伽和水疗，或者其它最热门的新型疗法。因此，疗养所正在迅速成为流行的家庭度假场所。

都市中心的日间疗养所变得越来越火。在莫斯科，俄罗斯人和外国人热衷于一种在木屋里的高温蒸汽浴。莫斯科最热门的蒸汽浴室是桑杜诺夫斯卡亚。这里也提供按摩、美甲、修脚、面部按摩和泥浴等服务。据说蒸汽浴具有促进循环、清洁皮肤和消除精神紧张和疲劳的作用。

在韩国，传统的韩国式桑拿浴室也成了热点。这种桑拿浴室包括几个用特殊石料建成的圆顶屋，松枝燃烧把屋子加热到几乎无法忍受的程度。韩国人认为在桑拿浴室出汗可以帮助身体排毒。韩式桑拿浴的基本项目包括传统的桑拿、搓澡、用牛奶和油按摩等。

日本人一直对温泉很热衷，这是一种由日本众多火山提供的天然热水浴。目前生意最好的是在伊豆半岛的月兔温泉旅馆。来这里的游客可以享受室外温泉浴，同时欣赏伊豆半岛外的美丽海景。月兔温泉旅馆非常受欢迎，周末预定已经排到了2003年5月。

stones, and heated by pine, creating an almost unbearable heat. Koreans believe that sweating in a *hanjeungmak* helps detoxify the body. The Myongdong basic package includes the traditional sauna, scrubbing, a cucumber pack and a massage with milk and oil.

Japanese have long retreated to *onsen*, the natural thermal baths formed by one of the country's many volcanoes. The most popular at the moment is Tsukino Usagi (literally, Rabbit of the Moon) in Ito, on the Izu Peninsula. Each comes with a *roten buro*, or outside bath, affording a magnificent view of the ocean off the Izu Peninsula. Tsukino Usagi is so popular that weekends are booked through May 2003.

Few spa experiences are more exotic than ayurvedic treatments. Developed in India more than 4,000 years ago, ayurveda is a holistic approach that deploys herbs, diet and hydrotherapy to promote general wellness. It's especially popular in the southern Indian state of Kerala, where the steamy climate is considered ideal. Over the past three years, a host of ayurvedic health spas have opened there. Despite poor air links, tourists come for a longer stay and spend more money in Kerala than elsewhere in India, with 90 percent of them taking ayurvedic treatments.

Gear on the Go

Nowadays, well-equipped business travelers have so many metallic objects hanging from their bodies that a flight can take less time than passing through air security. For all the duds, though, there are a few gadgets that can truly make travel easier for the techno-savvy executive. Here are seven of the most promising devices:

SONY ERICSSON P800

Not only does this soon-to-be-available tri-band "multimedia smart-phone" let the *Über*-connected business traveler keep in touch from just about anywhere in the world, but its built-in digital camera can even snap some photos along the way—and then transmit them home. The large color touch screen (up to 208*320 pixels, 40*61 mm) displays everything from e-mail and Web sites to calendars, address books and document files. Included is a 16 MB Memory Stick Duo that more than doubles the phone's already large storage capacity and clears room for fun things like video clips, MP3s and games.

HANDSPRING TREO 90

For those who love their PDA but hate scribbling and rescribbling on a tiny screen, the Treo 90 may be just their "type." With the Graffiti writing area replaced by a built-in QWERTY thumb board that offers a more familiar and quicker way to input data. It also comes with a full-color display, 16 MB of storage and Secure Digital (SD) expansion slots. This

印度草药疗法几乎是最具异国情调的疗法之一。它是在4000多年以前在印度发展起来的，是一种通过草药、调整饮食和水疗来提高整体健康状况的综合疗法。它在印度南部的喀拉拉邦尤其流行，人们认为那里雾气缭绕的气候十分理想。过去3年间，一些印度草药疗养所在那里开业。尽管航空交通不便利，游客们在这里的停留时间和花销还是比印度其它地区都多，其中90%的游客都会体验印度草药疗法。

旅途装备

如今，装备先进的商务旅行者身上要挂许多金属物品，以至于他们通过机场安检的时间超过了路上飞行的时间。尽管有缺陷，还是有一些小物品能够使知晓技术的企业管理者的旅途变得更加轻松。以下就是7种最被看好的产品”

(1) 索尼—爱立信P800手机

这款即将推出的三频“多媒体智能手机”不仅能使与外界频繁接触的商务旅行者随时同世界各地保持联系，而且它内设的摄像头还能在途中抓拍一些照片——然后把照片传输回家。它的大彩色触摸屏可以显示电子邮件、网页、电话簿和文档等任何内容。它的16兆存储棒使手机原本超大的存储容量又翻了两倍多，为播放图像、MP3和玩游戏等娱乐项目腾出了空间。

(2) Treo 90掌上电脑

对那些喜爱掌上电脑但痛恨在小屏幕上涂写的人来说，这款Treo90可能正是他们想要的类型。手写区换成了内置的标准打字机键盘，使数据输入更方便快捷。它还有一个全色彩屏、16兆内存和安全数据扩展槽。Handspring公司推出的此款最新产品与更昂贵的同系列Tero270相比，没有无线上网功能，但它是市场上达到70毫米彩色触摸屏的最小掌上电脑，重115克。仅就设计而言，还是很值得称赞的。

(3) iSun便携太阳能充电器

你是否已经厌烦了每次到新旅馆给手机或掌上



latest offering from handspring lacks the wireless-communication capabilities of its more expensive sibling the Treo 270. But it's the smallest Palm OS organizer on the market to have a 70 mm color touch screen, and at 115 grams it's also one of the lightest. For design alone, the device gets a thumb up.

ISUN PORTABLE SOLAR CHARGER

Tired of fumbling around with a half-dozen adapters each time you need to charge your cell phone or PDA in a new hotel room? Now you can make do with a little sunshine and the iSun Portable Solar Charger. About the size of a video-cassette, the iSun draws enough power from the sun to juice phones and most other small electronic devices that require up to two watts, and has adapters to fit the most common models. If you need to charge something larger, like a laptop, two or more iSuns can be daisy-chained together to produce more power.

SAMSONITE HARDLITE BLUETOOTH

Losing a briefcase may soon be a thing of the past, now that Samsonite has developed the first "intelligent" bag. The newest model of the Hardlite, which will be available next year, will use Bluetooth technology to communicate wirelessly with mobile phones, PDAs and the like. When the briefcase is out of range from the connected device, an alarm will go off, ensuring that this carry-on won't be carried off by a would-be thief.

TARGUS DEFCON AUTHENTICATOR

The digital age brought with it many wondrous things, but the wildly proliferating need for passwords surely isn't one of them. The Targus DEFCON Authenticator, a small fingerprint scanner that attaches to a computer's USB port, lets people protect important digital content from prying eyes while freeing up some gray matter. Place one finger on top of the reader, and it matches the previously stored print, the file opens. Best of all, at 143 grams and 76*51mm in size, it's small enough to take on the road.

OLYMPUS DIGITAL VOICE RECORDER DS-330

With more than five hours of recording time squeezed into the pocket-size DS-330 digital recorder from Olympus, this model is suitable for even the most long-winded meetings—or executives. It is the first dictation device in the industry to come with a USB docking station, making the transfer of audio files to and from a PC or Mac as fast and simple as the touch of a button. When connected to the computer, the recorder also functions as a microphone and speaker.

SIPIX POCKET PRINTER A6

This paperback-size printer uses thermal technology—no need to "refuel" with new ink cartridges midflight—to produce anything from e-mails to spreadsheets and 400 dpi images. The mobile machine weighs only 250 grams on its own, or 400 grams with batteries and A6-size paper, and uses infrared technology or serial cables to print from virtually all computing devices travelers may have on hand—Palm, Pocket PCs, laptops or desktops.

电脑充电时的忙碌?现在,你只要有一点阳光和iSun便携太阳能充电器就可以了。iSun有一个盒式录像带大小,能从阳光中吸收足够的能量,为手机和其它大部分功率为2瓦的小型电子仪器供电。它还提供能够适用于最常用插头的适配器。如果你要给一些如便携式电脑等较大的电器充电,可以把两块或更多几块iSun连在一起,提供更多的能量。

(4) Hardite蓝牙公文包

丢失公文包可能很快将成为历史。现在Samsonite公司开发出了第一个“智能包”。这款最新样式的Hardlite公文包将在明年上市,它运用蓝牙技术同手机、掌上电脑及类似设备进行无线通信。当公文包离开了与这些设备的联系范围,报警装置就会启动,保证这件随身物品不会被偷走。

(5) Targus指纹识别器

数字时代为我们带来了许多奇妙的东西,但要大量使用的密码绝对不是其中之一。Targus指纹识别器是与计算机USB接口相连的一个小型指纹扫描仪,它可以帮助人们保护重要的数字信息不会被窥探。把手指放在识别器上,如果与之前存储的指纹相符,文件就会被打开。最方便的是,此款识别器只有143克重,大小为76×51毫米,足可以带在路上使用。

(6) 奥林巴斯DS-330数字录音笔

这支口袋大小的录音笔可以录5个多小时,能够应付即使是最冗长的会议或行政人员的发言。它是同类产品第一个具有USB接口的录音设备,使声音文件同个人电脑之间的传输变得快速简便,只需轻触按钮即可。如果与电脑相连,这支录音笔还可以用作话筒或扬声器。

(7) Sipix袖珍A6打印机

这款与书封皮大小的打印机采用热敏技术——不必在中途重换墨盒,能够打印从电子邮件到空白表格程序,直至400点/英寸的图像。机器本身只有250克重,加上电池和A6纸也仅重400克。它运用红外技术和串行电缆,能够为旅行者手边几乎所有的电脑设备——掌上电脑、袖珍电脑、便携电脑或台式机——进行打印。

Newsweek

《新闻周刊》

The Big Secret

In ancient Troy stood the Palladium, a statue of the goddess Athena. Legend has it that the safety of the city depended on that icon's preservation. Later the term came to mean a more generic safeguard.

Computer security is enough of a worry that the software colossus Microsoft views it as a threat to its continued success: thus the apocalyptic Bill Gates memo in January calling for a "Trustworthy Computing" jihad. What Gates did not specifically mention was Microsoft's hyperambitious long-range plan to literally change the architecture of PCs in order to address the concerns of security, privacy and intellectual property. The plan is... Palladium, and it's one of the riskiest ventures the company has ever attempted. Though Microsoft does not claim a panacea, the system is designed to dramatically improve our ability to control and protect personal and corporate information. Even more important, Palladium is intended to become a new platform for a host of yet-unimagined services to enable privacy, commerce and entertainment in the coming decades. "This isn't just about solving problems, but expanding new realms of possibilities in the way people live and work with computers," says product manager Mario Juarez.

Because its ultimate success depends on ubiquity, Palladium is either going to be a home run or a mortifying whiff. "We have to ship 100 million of these before it really makes a difference," says Microsoft vice president Will Poole. That's why the company can't do it without heavyweight partners. Chipmakers Intel and Advanced Micro Devices have signed on to produce special security chips that are integral to the system. "It's a groundswell change," says AMD's Geoffrey Strongin. "A whole new class of processors not differentiated by speed, but security." The next step is getting the likes of Dell, HP and IBM to remake their PCs to accommodate the system.

"It's one of the most technically complex things ever attempted on the PC," says analyst Martin Reynolds. And the new additions will make your next computer a little more expensive. Will the added cost—or a potential earlier-than-otherwise upgrade—be worth it? Spend a day or two with the geeks implementing Palladium—thrilled to be talking to a reporter about the project—and you'll hear an enticing litany of potential uses.

- Tells you who you're dealing withTM and what they're doing. Palladium is all about deciding what's trustworthy. It not only lets your computer know that you're you, but also can limit what arrives (and runs on) your computer, verifying where it comes from and who created it.

- Protects information. The system uses high-level encryption to "seal" data so that snoops and thieves are thwarted. It also can protect the integrity of documents so that they can't be altered without your knowledge.

- Stops viruses and worms. Palladium won't run unauthorized programs, so viruses can't trash protected parts of your system.

- Cans spam. Eventually, commercial pitches for recycled printer cartridges and barnyard porn can be stopped before they hit your inbox—while unsolicited mail that you might

大秘密

(参考译文)

在古特洛伊城，矗立着帕拉狄昂（又称帕拉斯）神像，即女战神和智慧女神雅典娜的雕像。传说认为，特洛伊城的安危就取决于神像是否能够得到保护。后来，它就变成了安全保护的代名词。

计算机安全是个大忧患，也是软件业巨头微软公司眼中能威胁微软未来成功的重要因素。比尔·盖茨在今年1月的一份备忘录中呼吁发起一场“值得信赖的计算”圣战。他没有具体提到的是微软公司雄心勃勃的长期计划：为解决安全、隐私和知识产权问题而从根本上改变个人计算机的结构设计。这项计划就是“帕拉狄昂”计划。它是微软迄今为止最危险的一次冒险。虽然微软并未宣称这个系统是一剂包治百病的万能药，可它的目标将是设计大大提高我们控制、保护个人和公司信息的能力。更重要的是，“帕拉狄昂”计划的宗旨就是要为诸多目前想都不敢想的服务提供新平台，在未来数十年里保护隐私、商业和娱乐。微软的一位产品经理马里奥说：“这不仅是为了解决问题，而且要扩展计算机在人们生活和工作中的能力范围。”

由于“帕拉狄昂”计划的最终成功取决于它的普及性，因此它要么是成功的本垒打，要么就是大丢面子的挥空棒。微软副总裁威尔·普尔说：“真正的变化要等到我们卖出1亿台装有此软件的电脑之后才能发生。”这正是微软不得不与重量级伙伴合作的原因。芯片制造商英特尔公司和超微公司（AMD）都已经与微软签署了协议，为“帕拉狄昂”系统生产必不可少的特殊安全芯片。AMD公司的杰弗里·斯特朗金说：“这是一个巨大的变革。一套全新的处理器，区别不在速度，而在安全性。”下一步就是让戴尔、惠普和IBM这样的公司重新制造它们的个人计算机，兼容“帕拉狄昂”系统。

分析家马丁·雷诺兹说：“这是个人计算机有史以来尝试过的技术上最复杂的系统。”这种新系统将略微提高下一代计算机的价格。但成本增加确实物有所值吗？

“帕拉狄昂”安全软件的潜在用途包括：

- 告诉你在与谁打交道，并让你知道他们在干什么：“帕拉狄昂”计划本身就是决定什么才是值得信任的事情。它不仅能让你的计算机准确地辨认出你，而且能够限制到达你的计算机或在你的计算机上运行的内容，表明它的来源和创建者是谁。

- 保护信息：该系统使用高级密码对数据进行“加密”，窥探者和窃贼不敢轻举妄动。它还能保护文件的完整性，因此，没有你的允许或知情，文件就不会被修改。

- 防病毒：“帕拉狄昂”系统将不运行未经授权的程

want to see can arrive if it has credentials that meet your standards.

● Safeguards privacy. With Palladium, it's possible not only to seal data on your own computer, but also to send it out to "agents" who can distribute just the discreet pieces you want released to the proper people. Microsofties have nicknamed these services "My Man." If you apply for a loan, you'd say to the lender, "Get my details from My Man," which, upon your authorization, would then provide your bank information, etc. Best part: Da Man can't read the information himself, and neither can a hacker who breaks into his system.

● Controls your information after you send it. Palladium is being offered to the studios and record labels as a way to distribute music and film with "digital rights management" (DRM). This could allow users to exercise "fair use" (like making personal copies of a CD) and publishers could at least start releasing works that cut a compromise between free and locked-down. But a more interesting possibility is that Palladium could help introduce DRM to business and just plain people. "It's a funny thing," says Bill Gates. "We came at this thinking about music, but then we realized that e-mail and documents were far more interesting domains." For instance, Palladium might allow you to send out e-mail so that no one (or only certain people) can copy it or forward it to others. Or you could create Word documents that could be read only in the next week. In all cases, it would be the user, not Microsoft, who sets these policies.

As now envisioned, Palladium will ship "in a future version of Windows." (Perhaps in the next big revision, due around 2004.) By then the special security chips will be rolling out of the fabs, and the computer makers—salivating at an opportunity to sell more boxes—will have motherboards to accommodate them. There will also be components that encrypt information.

The first adopters will probably be in financial services, health care and government—places where security and privacy are mandated. Then will come big corporations, where information-technology managers will find it easier to control and protect their networks.

Finally, when tens of millions of the units are in circulation, Microsoft expects a flood of Palladium-savvy applications and services to spring up—that's when consumers will join the game.

Boosting privacy, increasing control of one's own information and making computers more secure are obviously a plus. But there could be unintended consequences. What might be lost if billions of pieces of personal information were forever hidden? Would our ability to communicate or engage in free commerce be restrained if we have to prove our identity first?

Other potential snags: Will Microsoft make it easy enough for people to use? Will someone make a well-publicized crack and destroy confidence off the bat? Don't expect wonders until version 2.0. Or 3.0. When Microsoft manages to get Palladium in our computers, the effects could indeed be profound. Let's hope that in setting the policies for its use, we keep in mind the key attribute of the woman embodied in the first Palladium. Athena was the goddess of wisdom.

Newsweek

序, 因此病毒将无法破坏你的系统中受保护部分。

● 杜绝电子垃圾: 终有一天, 回收打印机墨盒之类的商业宣传和下流的黄色内容将能够被挡在你的邮箱之外。而你如果想看的话, 那些主动发来的没有地址的邮件就能够到达你的邮箱, 前提是邮件符合你的选择标准。

● 保护隐私: 有了“帕拉狄昂”系统, 不仅能够密封你自己计算机里的数据, 而且能够将它发送给有能力替你传递保密内容到目的地的代理服务器。微软人称这些服务器为“我的人(My Man)”。如果你申请一笔贷款, 你就告诉放款者“从‘我的人’那里查看我的详细情况”。“我的人”在你的授权之下将提供你的银行信息。而进入你的系统的黑客却无法解读私人信息。

● 能够在信息发出后加以控制: 有了“帕拉狄昂”系统, 电影厂和录音室就能够以“数字权利管理”的方式营销音乐和电影。用户可以行使“公平使用权”(就像自己翻录CD)。但是, 比较令人感兴趣的一种可能性是: “帕拉狄昂”系统可能有助于将“数字权利管理”引入公司和普通人群中。比尔·盖茨说: “这是一件有趣的事。我们一开始考虑的是音乐, 但后来我们意识到电子邮件和文件更有意义。”比如, “帕拉狄昂”系统也许能够帮助你发出电子邮件, 而且没人(或只有特定的人)能够拷贝它或是再把它转发给别人。在任何情况下, 制定传输策略的是用户, 而不是微软公司。

按照现在的设想, “帕拉狄昂”系统将装入“Windows系统的未来版”(也许是在2004年左右的下一次重大修改版本)。那时, 特殊安全芯片将面市, 急于抓住机会增加销售量的计算机制造商将大有作为。为信息加密的新应用程序也将面市。

“帕拉狄昂”系统很可能首先用于金融服务、医疗保健和政府部门。这些地方必须保证安全和隐私。其后将应用于大公司, 信息技术管理者将能够更加方便地控制和保护他们的网络。

最后, 等到无数这样的系统开始流行之后, 微软会收到无数用户申请, 服务将迅速增长。

保护隐私, 加强个人信息控制, 提高计算机的安全性, 显然这是有利因素。但也有可能出现意想不到的后果。如果大量个人信息被永久地隐藏起来, 那会造成什么样的损失? 如果我们首先必须证明自己的身份, 那么我们在自由商业中的通信和行动是否会受到限制?

除此之外, 其它可能出现的问题是: 微软会尽量保证系统便于人们使用吗? 是否会有人公开行窃, 一下子击垮人们的信心? 按惯例, 不要指望微软的软件在2.0版本——甚至是3.0版本出来之前会发生奇迹。等到微软设法将“帕拉狄昂”系统装入我们的计算机时, 其影响可能具有深远意义。让我们祝愿, 在制定使用策略时, 我们首先牢记的是——雅典娜是智慧女神。

《新闻周刊》

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FLOATING FORBIDDEN CITY:

The costumes of designer Hu Xiaodan, based on the magnificent vigor of the Imperial Palace and laid out according to the order of the palace buildings, are shown in the Great Hall of the People, Beijing

PASSAT 帕萨特



小至每个细节，处处洋溢尊贵气质。帕萨特2.8V6的每个细节，皆出自巧心设计，精工细造。方向盘以珍贵桃木镶制，座椅及内饰选用上等牛皮包裹，驾驶员座椅可精确记忆不同习惯坐姿。宽敞驾乘空间，尽可自由伸展四肢。尖端隔音科技，飞速行驶时车内依然宁静如常。定速巡航系统，车载手机免提系统……先进科技创造更多不凡体验。帕萨特2.8V6，尊贵配备，令行程更舒适惬意，享受无所不在。亦备有1.8T等多款车型供阁下选择。

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