

China Reconstructs

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China Successfully Conducts New Nuclear Explosion

Press Communique

CHINA successfully conducted a new nuclear explosion in the western region of China on December 28, 1966.

Comrade Mao Tse-tung has said: "The history of mankind is one of continuous development from the realm of necessity to the realm of freedom. This process is never-ending. In any society in which classes exist class struggle will never end. In classless society the struggle between the new and the old and between truth and falsehood will never end. In the fields of the struggle for production and scientific experiment, mankind makes constant progress and nature undergoes constant change; they never remain at the same level. Therefore, man has constantly to sum up experience and go on discovering, inventing, creating and advancing."

In accordance with this teaching by Chairman Mao, the Chinese People's Liberation Army, broad sections of workers and functionaries, and scientists and technicians have set themselves lofty goals and, propelled by the great proletarian cultural revolution and giving full play to our style of fighting — courage in battle, no fear of sacrifice, no fear of fatigue, and continuous fighting — have carried out this new nuclear explosion with complete success after the successful guided missile-nuclear weapon test, thus raising China's science and technology in the field of nuclear weapons to a new level. This is a great victory for the invincible thought of Mao Tse-tung and a new, rich fruit of the great proletarian cultural revolution.

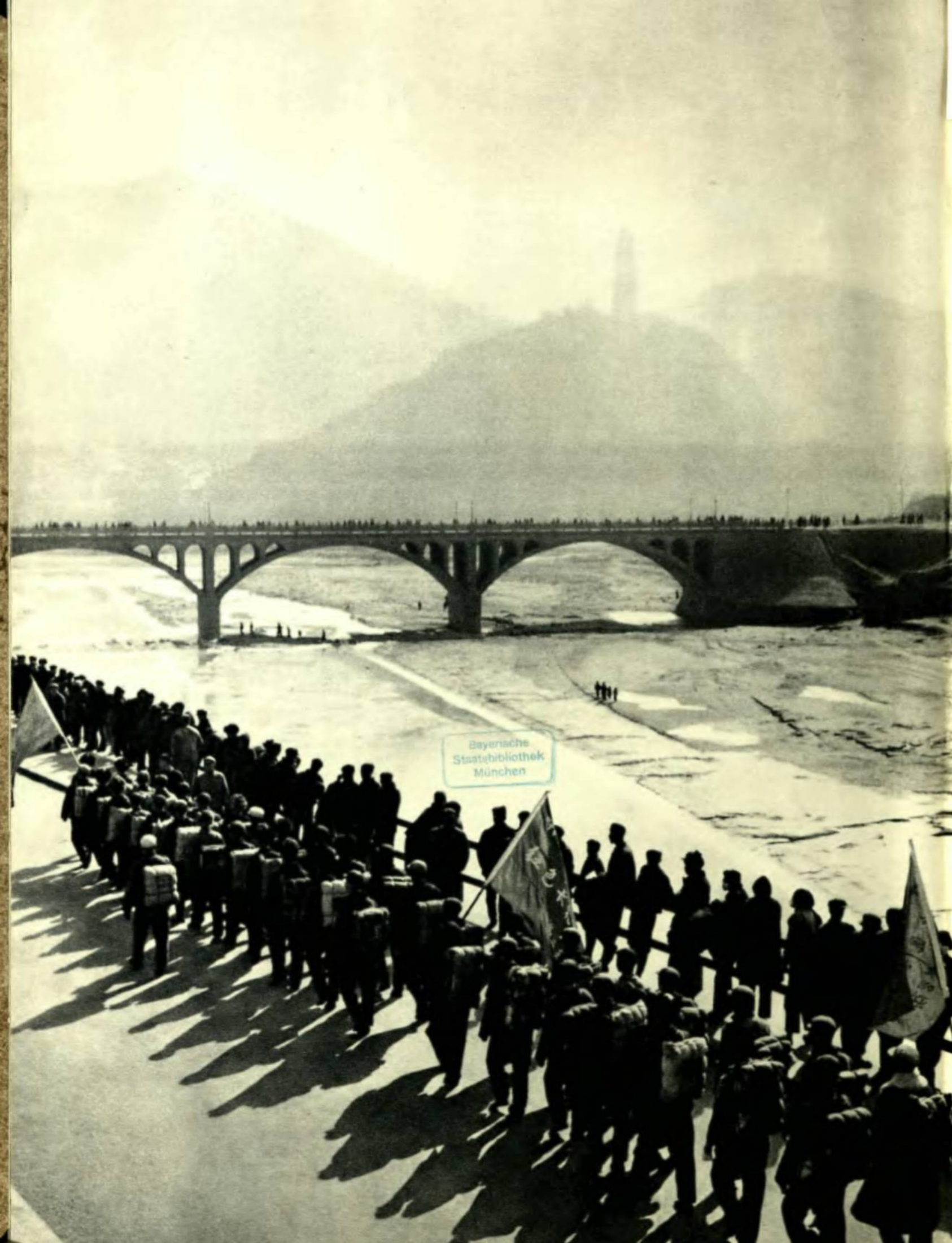
The Central Committee of the Communist Party of China, the State Council and the Military Commission of the Central Committee of the Party extend warm congratulations to all the commanders and fighters of the Chinese People's Liberation Army, workers, engineers, technicians, scientists and the other personnel who have been engaged in the research, manufacturing and testing of nuclear weapons, and

hope that in the upsurge of the great proletarian cultural revolution, they will firmly respond to Comrade Lin Piao's call and continue to make vigorous efforts to keep proletarian politics to the fore, hold high the great red banner of Mao Tse-tung's thought, bring the mass movement for the creative study and application of Chairman Mao's works to a new and higher stage, study the "three good old articles" as a constant reminder, further promote the revolutionization of people's thinking and make new and still greater achievements in strengthening our country's defence capabilities and accelerating the modernization of our national defence.

The success of the three nuclear tests conducted by China in the one year of 1966 is a heavy blow to the plot of U.S. imperialism and Soviet modern revisionism which have been collaborating in a vain attempt to enforce their nuclear monopoly and sabotage the revolutionary struggles of all oppressed people and oppressed nations. It is a great encouragement to the heroic Vietnamese people who are waging the struggle against U.S. aggression and for national salvation and to all the revolutionary peoples of the world who are now engaged in heroic struggles, as well as an important contribution to the defence of world peace.

The conducting of necessary and limited nuclear tests and the development of nuclear weapons by China are entirely for the purpose of defence, with the ultimate aim of abolishing nuclear weapons. We solemnly declare once again that at no time and in no circumstances will China be the first to use nuclear weapons. As in the past, the Chinese people and government will continue to carry on an unswerving struggle, together with all the other peace-loving people and countries of the world, for the noble aim of completely prohibiting and thoroughly destroying nuclear weapons.

*Hsinhua News Agency
Peking, December 28, 1966*



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COVER PICTURES:

Front: These Shanghai dockers, led by the revolutionary rebel workers group, continue working during a period of tense struggle in the great proletarian cultural revolution. Resisting the bribes and sabotage of the class enemy, they are models in taking firm hold of the revolution and stimulating production.

Inside front: This contingent of Red Guards at last realizes its long-cherished hope of arriving at the old revolutionary centre of Yen-an. The hardships of a long march failed to deter them.

Back: A section of the world's first synthetic benzene plant. In building it, Chinese scientists, technicians and workers solved a difficult scientific and technical problem which western countries have been grappling with for nearly a century without success.

Inside back: Revolutionary rebel workers at the Shanghai No. 17 State Cotton Mill quickly responded to Chairman Mao's call to grasp the revolution and promote production. Uniting with the broad revolutionary masses, they have done both extremely well.

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THE GREAT HAPPINESS OF SEEING CHAIRMAN MAO

*What is the reddest thing in the world?
The sun on Tien An Men!
Who is the dearest person in the world?
Chairman Mao Tse-tung!
What is the greatest happiness in the world?
Seeing Chairman Mao!*

LAST November 3 and 10-11, as the proletarian revolutionary line of Chairman Mao was steadily winning new victories, our great teacher, great leader, great supreme commander and great helmsman Chairman Mao received for the sixth and seventh times more than 4,000,000 revolutionary teachers, students and Red Guards from all parts of the country.

On November 3, our great leader Chairman Mao and his close comrade-in-arms Comrade Lin Piao, full of energy and in buoyant spirits, spent the entire seven-hour rally with the masses. Nine times Chairman Mao strode to

the east and west ends of the Tien An Men rostrum and warmly waved and applauded the cheering crowd. As the young revolutionary fighters marched through the square, they leaped with joy and shouted again and again, "Long live Chairman Mao! Long life, long, long life to Chairman Mao!" There were excited cries of, "Look! How healthy Chairman Mao and Comrade Lin Piao are! What great happiness for the people of China and the world!"

The rally began at 10.10 in the morning with Comrade Lin Piao warmly welcoming the revolutionary students, teachers and Red Guards on behalf of our great leader Chairman Mao and the Party Central Committee.

He told them that Chairman Mao is the greatest proletarian revolutionary, always with the masses, always fully confident in them, always breathing together and sharing their lot with them and wholeheartedly supporting

the revolutionary mass movement. Chairman Mao has set the most glorious example for all Party comrades and the younger generation.

Speaking of the two opposing lines in the great proletarian cultural revolution,* Comrade Lin Piao pointed out that the proletarian revolutionary line of Chairman Mao is as incompatible with the bourgeois reactionary line as fire is to water. Only by thoroughly criticizing and repudiating the bourgeois reactionary line and eradicating its influence can the line of Chairman Mao be carried out correctly, completely and thoroughly.

Comrade Lin Piao pointed out that under the guidance of Chair-

* The bourgeois reactionary line is one of opposing the masses, of opposing letting the masses educate and liberate themselves, of suppressing the masses and opposing the revolution. It stands in direct opposition to the proletarian revolutionary line of fully trusting and relying on the masses represented by Chairman Mao.

man Mao's correct line, the broad revolutionary masses of our country have created the new experience of developing deep and extensive democracy under the dictatorship of the proletariat. With this broadest and most extensive democracy, the Party is fearlessly urging the broad masses to use every medium—the free airing of views, big-character posters, great debates and the widest exchange of revolutionary experience—to criticize and supervise the Party, government, leading institutions and leaders at all levels. At the same time, the people's democratic rights are being fully realized in accordance with the principles of the Paris Commune. This extensive democracy, said Comrade Lin Piao, is a new form of integrating Mao Tse-tung's thought with the broad masses, a new form of mass self-education. It is a new contribution by Chairman Mao to Marxist-Leninist theory on proletarian



Chairman Mao applauds the Red Guards during the seventh review at Tien An Men Square.

On November 10, 300,000 young revolutionary fighters in trucks pass through Tien An Men Square before our most respected and beloved leader Chairman Mao.



revolution and proletarian dictatorship.

International historical experience of the dictatorship of the proletariat, he said, has demonstrated that without a great and thoroughgoing proletarian cultural revolution of this kind and without such extensive democracy, the dictatorship of the proletariat will be weakened and will change in essence, while capitalism will use various ways to stage a comeback and the exploiting classes will once again ride on the backs of the people.

He said that this kind of democracy must be thoroughly practised not only between the leadership and the masses, but among the masses themselves and between all sections of the masses. Unless there is such extensive democracy among the masses themselves and unless they are good at mutual consultation, at listening to dissenting views, at presenting facts and reasoning things out, at using their brains to ponder problems, they cannot possibly educate and emancipate themselves, achieve the purpose of developing the ranks of the Left, uniting the great majority and isolating the handful of bourgeois Rightists, and fully carry out the line of the great proletarian cultural revolution put forward by our great teacher Chairman Mao.

In conclusion, Comrade Lin Piao told the cheering, applauding rally that the Central Committee was convinced that, with the experience already gained in the great proletarian cultural revolution, still better progress towards still greater success would be made.

Among the revolutionary teachers, students and Red Guards at the mammoth rally were many from revolutionary centres in other parts of the country. Some came from Shanghai where the First National Congress of the Chinese Communist Party was held in 1921. Some came from Hunan, where Chairman Mao started the earliest peasant movement. Some came from Tsunyi, the mountain city where a meeting of great historic significance was held in 1935, establishing



Chairman Mao and his close comrade-in-arms Comrade Lin Piao on the Tien An Men rostrum.

Chairman Mao's leadership throughout the Party. Some came from Yen-an, centre of the revolution during the War of Resistance Against Japan (1937-1945) and the War of Liberation (1946-1949), where Chairman Mao guided the people of the whole country through to brilliant victories. The Communist Party's 45 years of history has proved that since its founding, Chairman Mao has always represented the correct line and that the carrying out of this line has meant victory. The experience in the great proletarian cultural revolution has also proved that only by implementing Chairman Mao's line can the great cultural revolution be carried through to the end. With the deepest emotion, revolutionary students, teachers and Red Guards from these centres of the Party's history cheered the victory of this line and resolved always to follow it in their advance.

Chairman Mao: 'Long Life to You Comrades!'

On November 10 and 11, our great teacher, great leader, great supreme commander and great helmsman Chairman Mao, his close comrade-in-arms Comrade Lin Piao and other leading comrades of the Party Central Committee, again reviewed more than 2,000,000 fighters in the cultural revolution from all parts of China. On the 10th, half of the 600,000 revolutionary students, teachers and Red Guards reviewed rode past the Tien An Men rostrum in trucks. The next day, Chairman Mao and other Central Committee members themselves rode slowly

in open cars, reviewing more than 1,500,000 along the 13-kilometre boulevard which passes through Tien An Men Square. Chairman Mao was in high spirits from beginning to end.

These were two days of extreme happiness for thousands upon thousands of revolutionary young people. Waving their red copies of *Quotations from Chairman Mao Tse-tung* with great emotion and happiness, they shouted lustily in many different dialects, "Long live Chairman Mao! Long, long life to Chairman Mao!" Chairman Mao waved and applauded them all. In the midst of one tremendous ovation, he walked over to the microphone and shouted, "Long life to you comrades!" The clear and mighty voice rolled like thunder in the spring through Tien An Men Square, on into every corner of our motherland, and out across the world, stirring the hearts of revolutionary peoples everywhere! Speaking to some of the leading comrades on the rostrum, he said, "You should put politics in command, go to the masses and be one with them, and carry on the great proletarian cultural revolution even better."

Joy-filled Tien An Men Square was an ocean of red banners. Among them, one stood out in the bright sunlight, its large golden characters sparkling. It read: "Stand on the side of the working people who constitute the overwhelming majority — Mao Tse-tung." This was the inscription Chairman Mao had written for the people of Chiahsien county in northern Shensi in October 1947 during the hard days of the



Chairman Mao reviews the young revolutionary fighters in an open car on November 11.

War of Liberation. The message, cherished in the hearts of everyone in Chiahsien county, had been embroidered by the Red Guards of the county's Wuchen Middle School and carried all the way to Peking to raise aloft in Tien An Men Square. The banner reminded everyone of Chairman Mao's words: "The people, and the people alone, are the motive force in the making of world history."

Chairman Mao, the greatest proletarian revolutionary of our times, has always had complete confidence in the masses, stood with them and shared the good and the bad with them. In the past, he led the Chinese people to overthrow imperialism, feudalism and bureaucrat-capitalism, the three great mountains on their backs. Today, he leads the Chinese people in socialist revolution and socialist construction, winning one victory after another. As the revolutionary masses continue to come to Peking in this great cultural revolution, Chairman Mao continues to receive them, giving tremendous encouragement to the people throughout the country and pushing the great cultural revolution from one upsurge to another.

The revolutionary students, teachers and Red Guards who came to Peking carried with them the aspirations and wishes of many more millions at home, and they brought with them their unbounded love for Chairman Mao. Just before the Red Guards of Yen-an started out on their trip to Peking, a veteran Red Army soldier rushed over from nearby Wuchi

county, grasped their hands and said, "Chairman Mao has always been concerned for the masses. It was because of his wise leadership that the revolution has succeeded today. Youngsters, when you see Chairman Mao, please shout 'Long live Chairman Mao!' several extra times for me, and bring the red hearts of us veteran fighters to him."

In Peking, when these Red Guards saw our respected and beloved Chairman Mao, they shouted countless times, "Long live Chairman Mao! Long, long life to Chairman Mao!" One of them exclaimed, "Not only the people, but even the hills, rivers, trees and flowers of Yen-an remember Chairman Mao every moment of every day! Chairman Mao, when we stand by the Yen River or on Pagoda Hill facing Peking, our hearts turn to you. Like our revolutionary predecessors, we will follow in your steps forever, raise high the red flag and make revolution to the end."

Students on the Long March

Among the young revolutionary warriors received by Chairman Mao during these rallies were many who had travelled on foot from all parts of the motherland across mountains and rivers to Peking. Today, many young people like them, armed with Mao Tse-tung's thought, are warmly responding to Chairman Mao's support for such "Long Marches" and are travelling on foot to see for themselves and experience other storms of class struggle. From the southern seacoast to the Inner Mongolian grasslands, from the

bank of the Heilungkiang to the Tianshan Mountains, they walk, steeling themselves and learning from each other's experience in the cultural revolution.

Two Red Long March teams from the No. 2 Middle School of Chihfeng, Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region, walked the 480 kilometres to Peking in 12 days. There were 62 members, averaging 14 years old, among whom 16 were girls in the first year. When they came to a high snow-covered mountain, the local peasants advised them to go around it. "No," they said, "if we want to make revolution, we cannot be afraid of difficulties. The more difficult the road, the more we must travel over it." They studied *Quotations from Chairman Mao Tse-tung*, read aloud his poem "The Long March", and then triumphantly went ahead to scale the mountain.

Thousands of young revolutionary fighters, holding red flags before them and carrying their bed rolls on their backs, go on foot among the masses to study and spread Chairman Mao's thinking. They pledge to our great leader: "We dare to cross mountains of swords and seas of fire. Rocks may melt and the seas may dry up, but our hearts will never change!"

This new generation is growing up quickly under the warm care of Chairman Mao. They defy all the imperialists, modern revisionists and reactionaries in the world: "We are the red successors in the revolution, armed with the great thinking of Mao Tse-tung. We will be red from generation to generation. We will be red forever!"

1966—The Year of All-round Leap Forward

HSIANG YANG

AS they move into the year 1967, the 700 million Chinese people, guided in their advance by the thought of Mao Tse-tung, are more resolute and in higher spirits than ever before. Propelled by the great proletarian cultural revolution, the economy has taken an all-round leap forward and the first year of the Third Five-Year Plan has brought rich results. The people are greeting the new tasks of its second year with great confidence.

The great proletarian cultural revolution launched and led personally by Chairman Mao has pushed China's socialist revolution to a new stage. This storm that has swept the country and shaken the world is clearing away all old ideas, culture, customs and habits left over from the rule of the exploiting classes and is promoting the further revolutionization of the Chinese people's ideology. This great spiritual victory is being transformed into striking material achievements.

On the Industrial Front

All quarterly industrial targets for 1966 were overfulfilled, each

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Workers surveying the shell of the turbine for the China-made 100,000-kw. hydro-turbine generating unit.

quarter by a higher margin than the previous one. According to statistics released before October 1, the total value of industrial output for the first eight months of 1966 again achieved a rise of more than 20 per cent over the same period of 1965, which was itself a year of big increases. Considerable progress was also made in the quantity, quality and variety of products. The rate of increase was especially notable in items for agricultural use—chemical fertilizers, farm insecticides and walking tractors, in which it ranged from 40 to over 200 per cent. Fairly substantial increases over 1965 were registered in the basic industries (steel, power, petroleum, coal and machine-building) and in textiles, paper-making and tobacco in the consumer field.

China successfully conducted a test in May 1966 for a nuclear explosion which contained thermo-nuclear material and one for a guided missile nuclear weapon in October. These important achievements for the purpose of further strengthening her national defence and safeguarding world peace mark a new level in China's science, technology and industry.

In steel production, 1966 saw not only considerable increases in output but also the production of many new types of steel and rolled steel products. Some 500 were developed in the first eight months of 1966, as many as the total for the entire year of 1965, and more than for any previous eight-month period. Many of these products are urgently needed in the oil, power, precision machinery, chemical fertilizer and motor vehicle industries. These include super-hard tubes for drilling deep wells, steel capable of resisting over 500 atmospheres for use in the manufacture of ammonia converters for nitrogenous fertilizer production, big-calibre seamless steel tubes for large-size power-generating equipment, wing-shaped steel tubing, spring steel of high elasticity for making precision meters and instruments, a special high alloy steel for the manufacture of new mitral valves for the human heart, and nickel-free low-temperature steel for oxygen-making equipment. Particularly vigorous growth is seen in the production of ordinary low alloy steel, the direction which China's steel industry is taking in order to develop with greater, faster, better and more economical results.

Steel workers and technicians, using Mao Tse-tung's thought as their weapon in the great cultural revolution, broke free from restrictive rules and conventions set up by reactionary bourgeois "authorities" and boldly scaled, one after another, the heights of science and technology. They have developed many new techniques equivalent to or surpassing the world's most advanced. One of these is the vacuum treatment of molten steel. Another, the new pure-oxygen top-blown converter shop which is both automated and has equipment for fume purification and gas recovery, is one of the most advanced projects developed anywhere in the world in this decade. It was designed by

Shanghai workers and technicians and built by them in just three months without outside help. All the equipment and materials used were made in China.

Victory reports which keep coming in from the oilfields and refineries reveal not only exciting figures on targets overfulfilled but also the continuous mastery of new technological processes and the successful development of new products. As a result, China is today mass-producing high-grade petroleum products that formerly had to be imported. A considerable number of these are of better quality than similar imported ones.

The nationally famous Taching oilfield made another great leap forward in the past year. Output figures for the first nine months show crude oil 26.6 per cent and refined oil 82.8 per cent above the same period of 1965. The total length of oil wells drilled in the first nine months is 1.2 times that for 1965. Two drilling teams, Nos. 1202 and 1205, averaged 7,850 metres a month, setting the world's highest record in drilling. In 7 months and 21 days they totalled more than 60,000 metres each, and every one of the wells measures up to top standard. This far surpasses the Soviet Union's highest listed record of 40,816 metres for the year 1965 set by the Polyankovsky team.

In the machine-building industries, more than 70 per cent of the year's targets in 40 major products were reached by the end of the first eight months. Metallurgical and mining equipment, machine tools, motor vehicles, electrical machinery and bearings for industrial use showed marked increases over 1965, often more than doubling the output figure. Quality of products, too, improved steadily.

More than 1,000 new products were developed in 1966. They include a thread grinding machine of the highest accuracy, a medium



The first China-built platforming plant for the oil industry. Since it went into operation, it has reached advanced world standards on some points of performance, and surpassed them on others.

These workers at the Wuhan Iron and Steel Company are some of the men who caused China's 1966 steel output to show a considerable rise over the 1965 figure.



jig-boring machine with positioning accurate to within three microns, an electron beam furnace for metals with high smelting points, a deep-well driller, continuous vacuum vaporization equipment and a new model of the "Hongqi" (Red Flag) automobile. Workers of the Harbin Electrical Machinery Plant designed and built in record time China's first 100,000-kilowatt hydro-turbine generating unit. This technically complex equipment, consisting of water turbines, generators and many auxiliary installations, stands eight stories high and generates 600 million kilowatt-hours of power a year. Its manufacture marks a new level for Chinese technology in this field.

To better solve the problems involved in clothing 700 million people, the 1.5 million textile workers demonstrated great drive resulting in outstanding achievements. They have maintained a steadily and substantially rising output of textile goods. This has also been based on quick increases in the production of raw materials, continuous technical innovation, and the opening of nine new cotton mills and four new silk textile mills.

Statistics for the first eight months of 1966 showed targets overfulfilled for all the major products—cotton, woollen, silk, hemp, chemical fibres and textile machinery. Fairly big increases were gained over the same period

of 1965. Output of cotton yarn rose by 18 per cent, an unprecedented rate. Hourly production of cotton yarn per 1,000 spindles, which is the basic measure of labour efficiency in the textile industry, has continued at world advanced levels. Quality has risen steadily while costs have fallen. The workers' high revolutionary enthusiasm last year ended the "customary rule" of slack production during the hot months of July and August. In Shanghai, one of the country's leading textile centres, despite extraordinarily hot weather, the unit output of both cotton yarn and cloth set the highest production marks in China's textile history.

There were also advances in capital construction. Many more large and medium-sized projects started full or partial operation than in the previous year. Production capacity in power, coal, cement and sugar has gone up sharply, the first two at least doubling. Speed of construction, especially that for mining projects, has been greatly accelerated. The completion of a vast number of housing projects makes it possible for more working people to live in well-built, convenient, low-cost apartments.

On the Agricultural Front

Excellent harvests made 1966 the fifth good agricultural year in succession. Reports of good crops began rolling in during the summer harvest. By late autumn,

bumper harvests of grain and industrial crops were being reaped in all types of regions, on the plains and in the lake and mountain areas. All this was brought about in spite of a re-occurrence of serious difficulties, such as drought, typhoons and floods in some regions.

Last year's harvests had some special features. Production of rice has been steadily rising, but this year dry land grain crops, whose production had been growing more slowly, showed a substantial increase. Considerable rises were made in the output of industrial crops, including that for jute and peanuts which had not gone up much in recent years, and for cotton, in spite of the fact that it was planted over less land. Particularly notable are increases in farm production in the northern provinces, indicating a great change in their traditional low-yield pattern.

Honan, for instance, China's biggest wheat-growing province with 70 million *mu* under this crop, is constantly visited by drought and flood. But last year, despite serious lack of rain, it had a splendid wheat harvest with an average per-*mu* yield reaching an all-time high and a total output the biggest in recent years. More than 800 production teams got an average per-*mu* yield of more than 600 *jin*; 120 of these teams topped 800 *jin*. A most heartening report came from the Hsingtai area of



Uighur commune members in Sinkiang levelling a mountain to create new farm land.

Hopei province, which was hit by severe earthquakes last March. Its commune members, armed with Mao Tse-tung's thought, conquered difficulty after difficulty to wrest from the soil the biggest harvest in many years.

The excellent situation of an all-round leap forward is found in Shansi province, home of the Tachai production brigade, the national pacesetter in agriculture. Fighting off the effects of severe drought, flood, hail and wind storms, the province's 16 million peasants achieved increases in all fields—crop-farming, forestry, stock-raising and sideline production. Both its grain and cotton output surpassed previous peak years. Ninety per cent of the 1966 target for tree planting had been completed by midyear. The rate of increase of b'g animals, pigs and sheep outstripped past years. Income from sidelines has also gone up.

Reports of bumper harvests also came in from many other parts of the country—from the northeast where the frost-free period is shortest to Hainan Island where three crops are brought in annually, from Shantung on the east

coast to the Tianshan highlands in the northwest. The liberated serfs of Tibet celebrated their eighth successive year of good harvests since the democratic reforms of 1959.

A fine cotton crop was reflected in bustling scenes outside thousands of purchasing stations in all cotton areas. The newly-gathered crop was sold to the state to the sound of drums and gongs as cart after cart arrived piled high with the snow-white bolls. The commune members driving them often held up portraits of Chairman Mao and placards with quotations from his works to express their joy.

By the end of September, the state had purchased 34 per cent more cotton than it did in the same period of the previous year. In all the important cotton areas of Hupeh, Kiangsu and Honan provinces and the Shanghai area, purchases more than doubled. Quality too was better than the year before.

The vigorous growth in industry and agriculture has brought scenes of prosperity to both town and country. The supply of commodities is much more abundant

and prices have remained stable. The people are living better than ever before.

How These Gains Were Made

How did the 1966 all-round leap forward come about? Common and fundamental to all sectors of the economy is the reliance on Mao Tse-tung's thought. During the year, a new high tide in the mass movement to creatively study and apply Chairman Mao's works developed in both town and country. Workers, peasants, scientists, technicians and other workers study Chairman Mao's works every day with deep proletarian feeling, so that their actions can be guided by living Marxism-Leninism at its highest. Countless facts have proved that once the masses grasp Mao Tse-tung's thought, they become most brave, resourceful and creative. Mao Tse-tung's thought has brought the revolutionary initiative and enthusiasm hidden in millions of people bursting forth like an atomic explosion to generate this vigorous growth in all branches of work.

The Taching oilfield, pacesetter in the creative study and applica-

Portrait of Chairman Mao and placards with quotations from his works line the edges of the fields where members of a Szechuan province commune are harvesting a bumper crop of rice.



tion of Mao Tse-tung's thought, has played a powerful exemplary role in propelling the leap forward of the nation's industrial and mining enterprises. Taching's rich store of experience, on which its brilliant achievements are based, shows how to couple hard work with bold creativity and points the way for carrying out more effectively Chairman Mao's teachings on breaking away from foreign rules and conventions and taking our own road of industrialization.

Inspired by the great proletarian cultural revolution, the broad masses of industrial workers are demonstrating an unprecedented spirit of daring to think and charge ahead. They have broken free of the restrictive thinking fostered by bourgeois "authorities" and scaled heights never before scaled in production and scientific experimentation.

Things which formerly had been expected to take several years to complete were finished in several months. Many ordinary workers have become the trailblazers in storming the heights of science. Small plants with inadequate equipment have kept turning out products meeting the best world standards.

In the past year, for instance, Shanghai workers and technicians made many inventions equivalent to the world's best in this decade. These include different types of precision machine tools, new types of instruments and meters, high-grade plastic materials resistant to all temperatures and engineering plastic materials for the manufacture of high-speed machines. Shanghai's scientists and workers built the world's first synthetic benzene plant. In only eight years they solved this difficult scientific and technical problem which scientists in western countries had been working on for nearly a century without success. Their plant opens a completely new road for the production of the important chemical raw material benzene.

Asked how the bumper harvests in agriculture were brought about, the Honan peasants reply, "Because we studied Chairman Mao's works, followed his teachings and worked according to his instructions." The same answer is, in fact, heard everywhere else. The Tachai brigade of Shansi became the national pacesetter in agriculture precisely because its members studied and applied Chairman Mao's works in a living way and have consistently carried out the policies

of self-reliance and hard work. The movement to learn from Tachai took on greater breadth and depth throughout China's countryside in the past year. Exhibitions on Tachai-type farming units were held in many places. Their advanced experience, promoted in a variety of ways, became known to every household and was eagerly absorbed.

Tachai's revolutionary spirit is taking root, blossoming and bearing fruit in all parts of the country and is being transformed into a tremendous material force generating the new leap forward in agriculture. New Tachai-type farming units have kept coming to the fore. The socialist education movement and the great proletarian cultural revolution now being carried out are giving the rural masses greater consciousness that their work is "growing crops for the revolution". Last year more commune leaders than ever before went to the front lines of production to take part in and lead the three great revolutionary movements (class struggle and the struggles for production and scientific experimentation). As a result, projects involving basic improvement of farm land were more numerous and better in quality last year than in any year in the past. Large tracts of low-lying areas, alkaline soil and wasteland have been transformed into good cropland. Places where production was poor are now catching up; advanced units are making still greater progress. The collective economy of the people's commune is better consolidated and more thriving than ever before.

As they greet the new year, the Chinese people, following the instructions of Comrade Lin Piao, Chairman Mao's close comrade-in-arms, are pushing the mass movement to creatively study and apply Chairman Mao's works to a new stage and continuing to carry on the great proletarian cultural revolution. They will thus work with still greater enthusiasm and make even bigger contributions in building up a strong socialist motherland and promoting world revolution.

1 jin = 0.5 kg. or 1.1 lb.
1 mu = 0.06 hectare or 0.16 acre

Three Campaigns to the South of the Sungari River

LI TSO-PENG

A TURNING POINT in the northeast theatre during the War of Liberation (1946-49) was the Chinese People's Liberation Army's southern crossing of the Sungari River on three occasions and the defence of the Linchiang area, the Communist Party's base area in southern Manchuria, on four occasions. As a result of these campaigns the P.L.A. passed over from a position of passivity to one where it had the initiative, from the strategic defensive to the strategic offensive.

In the early days of the war, two of the Kuomintang's so-called five crack main forces and other units with good fighting capacity were concentrated in the northeast. Our troops there, on the other hand, were far inferior in number and equipment, comprising units from the various liberated areas. The enemy controlled many important industrial cities, the railways and highways, while our troops were hemmed in on all sides by the crisscrossing communications lines. Nor had they any base areas to rely on. The difference in strength was vast, as were the circumstances of the two armies. It was therefore an extraordinary feat to effect through these campaigns a change in the entire situation in a little over a year.

At this historic time, the Northeast Bureau of the Central Committee of the Chinese Communist Party, headed by Comrade Lin Piao, and the Communist Party Committee of the Northeast Democratic United Army carried out arduous work.

Comrade Lin Piao, in particular, successfully applied Mao Tse-tung's thought to the concrete conditions in the northeast. He displayed farsighted strategy in

LI TSO-PENG, vice-commander of the navy of the Chinese People's Liberation Army, was a leader of the First Column of the Northeast Democratic United Army during these campaigns in 1947.

assessing the development of the entire situation and, with a dauntless fighting spirit, carefully and wisely worked out the solution of each individual problem, thus bringing about a quick and unexpected change in the situation in the northeast as between the enemy and ourselves. The campaigns in which we thrice crossed the Sungari reflected this change. They showed in a concrete way Comrade Lin Piao's correct leadership and his great talent for military command.

The Sungari, which flows through the northeast, collects streams from the Changpai ranges to form a rushing turbulent river and has always been regarded as a natural barrier. In May 1946 the main force of our army in the northeast withdrew from Szeping to the north banks of the Sungari, where we faced the enemy across the water. In the following months our troops in northern Manchuria fought and wiped out the bandits operating there, aroused the masses, and started the building of strong base areas, creating the necessary conditions for counter-attacking.

The enemy, having seized Antung (now Tantung), Tunghua, Kirin, Changchun and Tungliao, held an over-extended battle line with his forces divided. But as he controlled the lines of communications, he could quickly concentrate his relatively few striking forces wherever the main fighting was taking place. Tu Yuming, commander of Chiang Kai-shek's Peace Preservation Headquarters in the northeast, driven by the circumstances, planned to launch attacks south of the Sungari and stay on the defensive north of the river, in other words, to deal with the south before the north. He hoped to destroy our forces piecemeal. Keeping the main part of his New First Corps to defend the Sungari in coordination with his Peace Preservation

Corps, he ordered the greater part of his forces from October on to launch strong attacks against us in southern Manchuria. Under this powerful enemy pressure, our troops in southern Manchuria tightened up their position by temporarily drawing back to avoid his sharp thrust so that for a time we held only the counties of Linchiang, Mengchiang, Fusung and Changpai along the foothills of the Changpai Mountains. In mid-December the enemy sent eight complete divisions to invade the Linchiang area, arrogantly blustering: "We will drive the Communists into the Yalu to bite at the ice. We will drive them up the Changpai Mountains to chew on the rocks." Indeed, if southern Manchuria could not be defended, the enemy could concentrate all his forces for an offensive against northern Manchuria. And should this happen, the war in the northeast theatre would develop to our grave disadvantage.

Chairman Mao had long before instructed us that we should try in every way to weaken the enemy in the northeast and work to place ourselves in an advantageous position for a counter-offensive, thus bringing about a basic change in the situation as between the enemy and ourselves. Comrade Lin Piao, Commander-in-Chief of the Democratic United Army, had early seen through the enemy's scheme. He pointed out to us that the key to the favourable or unfavourable development of the northeastern situation was whether we could hold on to our base areas in southern Manchuria, and that the defence of the south was the central task of the P.L.A. in the northeast. Our forces in northern Manchuria should seize the opportunity provided by the freezing of the Sungari to exploit the enemy's weakness of a scattered defence in the north, make successive attacks in coordination



A work-break session to study quotations from Chairman Mao at the Fanghsiang production brigade in Hanchiang county, Kiangsu province, which last year recovered from a severe midsummer drought and got 30 per cent more rice than in 1965.

with our forces in southern Manchuria and in this way turn the enemy's plan of "launching attacks in the south and staying on the defensive in the north" into a situation where he was being attacked by us in both south and north. By drawing the enemy in and then kicking him away, pinning him down in one place so that he could not pay attention to the needs of other places, and exhausting him by making him run around, we would wipe out several of his divisions in mobile warfare and effect a radical change in the northeast.

After six months, the preliminary groundwork for building up base areas in northern Manchuria had been completed. When our troops had rested and been con-

solidated, we began this great operation, which was to last several months, with the aim of bringing about this fundamental change in the strategic position as between the enemy and ourselves.

The First Campaign

On the night of January 2, 1947, our forces in northern Manchuria made the first crossing to the south. The Sungari was bound in ice and snow and a biting cold wind penetrated to the very marrow of our bones. Under the moonlight, a wide stream of men moved, kicking up a white dust, their breath turning immediately into thin clouds. It was a stirring, magnificent sight of an army marching on a winter night.

I was with the First Column. Following Comrade Lin Piao's instructions to "fight a small battle as if it is a big one", we sent one complete division to surround the enemy outpost at Chitamu and two others to move unseen to the southeast and southwest of the town to get into position to strike at enemy reinforcements coming from Kirin and Chiutai. Chitamu was a small town of 500 households on the south bank of the Sungari, constituting one point of a triangle with the others at Tehui in the northwest and Chiutai in the southwest. It was guarded by a reinforced battalion of the enemy's New 38th Division of the New First Corps. The town was surrounded by barbed wire and ice slopes and more than a hundred pillboxes guarded its street intersections. The enemy had also built up huge supplies of food and ammunition. The New First Corps, equipped entirely with U.S. arms, was one of Chiang Kai-shek's five main forces. It had been to India and Burma during the War of Resistance Against Japan and was called the "No. 1 army under heaven". Now Chiang Kai-shek had sent it to the northeast to fight us. We had given it a sound beating at Szeping, but its overweening arrogance had yet to be struck down. Chitamu had strong fortifications and the defending troops, who came from the 113th regiment which was itself the main force of the New First Corps, possessed considerable fire power.

It was no easy matter for us, with our equipment and lack of experience in storming strongholds, to pull out this "hard nail". Besides, we did not yet have a good grasp of Comrade Lin Piao's tactic of "one point and two sides" and so did not know how to use it effectively. We were eager to fight and attacked fiercely. But because we were not clear about the key point of attack, the Third Division of our column had made little progress after three hours starting from dusk on January 6, and our casualties were mounting. Only after we redispersed our forces and launched heavy attacks did we finally break through the first line of defence.

Then a telegram arrived from Comrade Lin Piao. It was brief but clear: "... do not take Chitamu for some days. Save it to move the enemy around. This is better than direct attacks against Chiutai and Tehui." We drew a deep breath and immediately ordered the Third Division to keep up its pressure and maintain the encirclement but not to start a battle of annihilation yet!

The enemy troops at Chitamu were under the command of the 113th regiment, which had its headquarters at Chiutai. They and the enemy troops at Kirin were under the same division of the New First Corps. The enemy troops in Tehui were also under this corps. So when our troops broke through the outer defences of Chitamu and the defenders began to find it hard to stand their ground, they begged repeatedly for reinforcements from the other three places. Soon came another telegram from our general headquarters: "The enemy at Chiutai and Tehui have started out to reinforce Chitamu." It was like an announcement of victory. Everybody broke into broad grins. The enemy had been moved out! The victory was half won.

That night the commander of the First Division hurried over to column headquarters. His men had tapped the enemy's long-distance telephone and got full information on the movement of his reinforcements—times of departure, routes, and sizes of forces. Our First Division had also surveyed the terrain and picked places for ambushes. We spread out a military map we had captured from the Japanese but found that it did not correspond with the actual topography in many respects. Once again we realized the great significance of Comrade Lin Piao's repeated emphasis that "commanders at all levels must develop particularly the habit of reconnoitering the terrain in person". What a big difference a seemingly small detail could make to the success or failure of a battle! If we had planned our movements according to the map, the outcome would have been unimaginable! We corrected the errors, studied the location of the am-



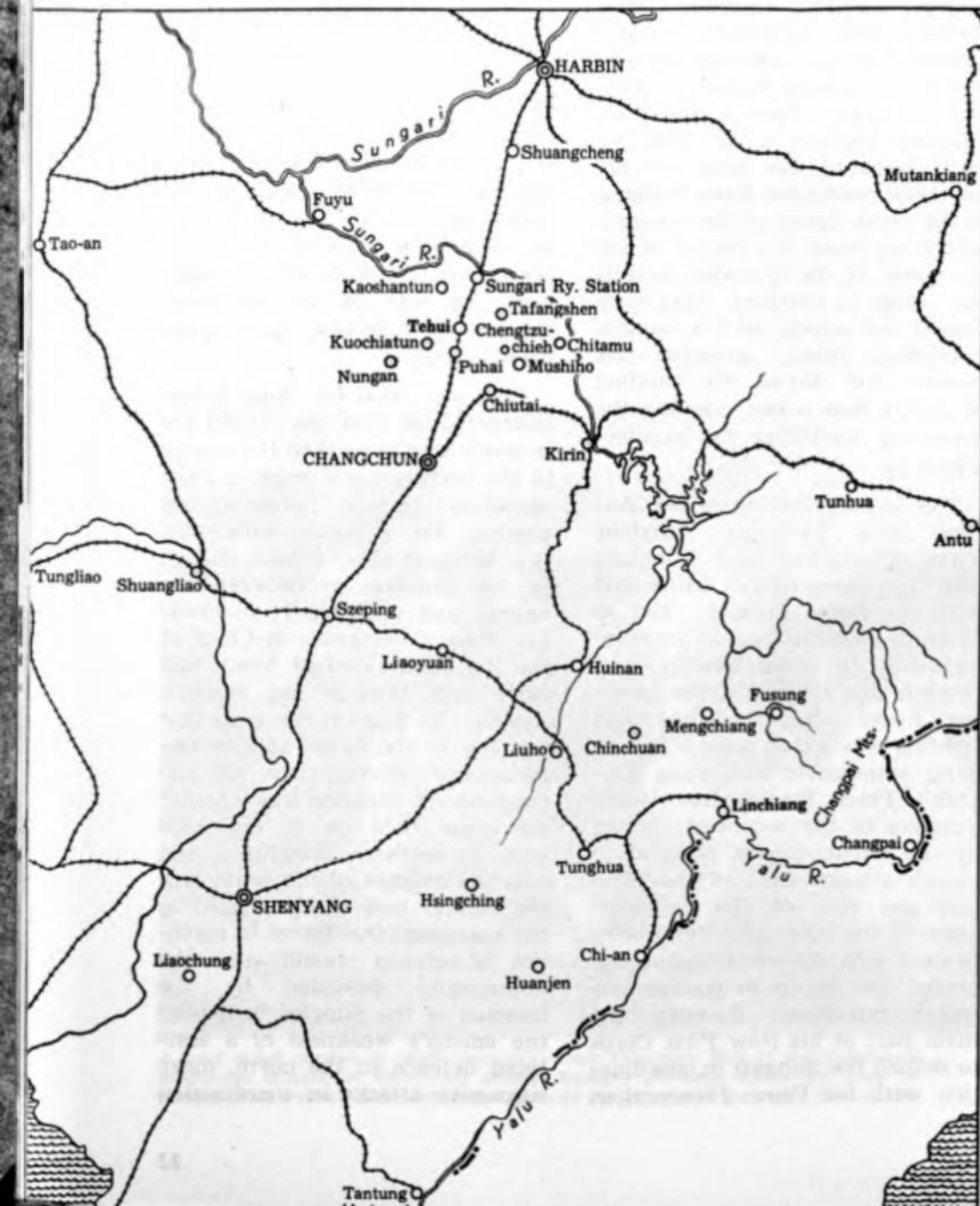
Commander-in-Chief Lin Piao (second from right) planning the campaigns south of the Sungari River which brought about a fundamental change in the strategic situation in the northeast in the War of Liberation (1946-49).

bushes and decided to place our men on the two flanks of the enemy's line of advance while sending a detachment circling to his rear, and in this way to wipe out his forces completely.

The First Division's first battle, however, was against the bitter cold, ice and snow. The frozen ground was harder than stone. A stroke of the pick sent up sparks and left only a white mark. The January wind penetrated right through our fur caps and padded coats. We felt as if we had fallen into an ice hole and were numb all over. But Comrade Lin Piao's words burned brightly in our hearts: Endurance—this is the best way to conquer bitter cold. Endure with our infinite loyalty to the revolution! On this night when the frost split even rocks into pieces, the fighters built walls of snow and then poured water over them to make strong fortifications. They held bolts and ammunition against their own bodies to keep them from being frozen and thus made final preparations for the battle.

On the morning of January 7, the enemy contingents came, their armoured cars leading the way. Our men in the snow trenches on the hills flanking the road wore their white-lined padded coats inside out and tied white towels

around their heads. From a distance they were just part of the snow-covered hills. The enemy's armoured cars loosed bursts of machine gun fire at the slopes and, when there was no response, entered our ambush area. The enemy's regimental commander, in high feather, reported to Chiutai by radio: "No movement on the way. Scores of bandits have been routed. . . ." Then our guns roared, the signal for attack. From the white-cloaked hilltops sprayed a fierce hail of fire. Like snow cliffs collapsing, our men jumped out and charged at the enemy below. Caught off guard and attacked simultaneously from all sides, the enemy faltered. But almost immediately he regrouped and seized a nearby village and high ground to start a furious counterattack. Five armoured cars rushed around, strafing wildly with their machine guns. But our men charged forward with matchless courage. One fighter leaped on to an armoured car, pulling at the gun barrel and at the same time shoving a hand grenade into the vehicle. Only by fighting in this way did we subdue the enemy. By now one of our detachments, moving at amazing speed, had got around to the enemy's rear and cut off his retreat. Our troops from the front, using the tactical move-



ment of dispersed groups in attack, broke into the village. At last shaken, the enemy soldiers fled in the direction of Chiutai. Our men set off in pursuit, cutting into their ranks wherever possible, splitting them up and finally wiping them out.

The enemy troops had proved to be real diehards in battle and lived up to their name as Chiang Kai-shek's crack units. Their powerful automatic arms made such a dense network of fire that we found it hard to drive home our point of attack and our casualties were high. But we had gone into battle politically prepared, had fully reconnoitred the enemy's movements, and had carefully selected the places where we fought. In the actual fighting we used flexible tactics and boldly outflanked or cut into the enemy ranks and fought resolutely to win. The enemy, on the other hand, had to counter in a hurry and his soldiers were too cocksure to take full account of their opponents. Thus we were able to annihilate 1,000 of them in three hours and score the first big victory of our first campaign.

The battle destroyed the core of the enemy's main force, deflated the arrogance of these picked troops and greatly raised our own morale, setting a precedent for future fighting against the enemy's main forces. Comrade Lin Piao commended the First Division and came personally to preside over the meeting to sum up experience for passing on to the rest of the army.

No sooner had the fighting ended than general headquarters informed us of more victories—enemy reinforcements from Kirin had been pushed back and those from Tehui had been surrounded and were about to be wiped out. By now our operation had been fully carried out. The enemy troops at Chitamu had completed the "mission" we had given them of attracting reinforcements, and it was now time for them to become captives.

That night our Third Division bore down on the centre of the enemy position. At the first sound of the guns, our men charged into

the defenders' headquarters. Now without a command, the enemy troops tried to flee eastward. We annihilated them. The next afternoon our Sixth Column wiped out a regiment (minus one battalion) of the New First Corps at Chiao-chialing.

This campaign proved that Comrade Lin Piao's guiding thought of "fighting a small battle as if it is a big one" was entirely correct. Since the enemy was strong and could move reinforcements quickly by rail, we could not make sure of completely annihilating him if we did not concentrate an overwhelmingly superior force. Also, a small battle could develop into a big one at any time. If we had not been mentally prepared to fight a big battle, we would have been unable to counter the enemy's great strength and quick reinforcement from many directions and could not have won even a small battle.

Exploiting the victory, our troops went on to wipe out all the enemy troops north of Nungan and Chiutai and east of Tehui. Now the enemy troops pulled their heads back into their big strongholds and no longer dared come out. Victory reports rolled in over the radio from eastern, western and southern Manchuria. Our troops in northern Manchuria, too, launched heavy attacks along the Kirin-Changchun Railway. Having lost 5,000 men, Tu Yu-ming, weakened and at his wit's end, was forced to give up his attacks in southern Manchuria for the time being and shift three divisions by rail to reinforce the north. His first plan to attack Linchiang had gone up in smoke.

Our campaign had been fully successful. Comrade Lin Piao ordered us to withdraw to the north banks of the Sungari on January 19 to rest and consolidate for the next operation. A big cold wave had engulfed the northeast and temperatures dropped to 40° below zero C. By the time the enemy stumbled and staggered to the riverside in this blizzard, we were already back in our base areas in northern Manchuria getting ready to celebrate the Spring Festival.

The Second Campaign

On February 13 a meeting of cadres of divisional level and above was held in Shuangcheng south of Harbin. There we heard and studied Chairman Mao's directive on "Greet the New High Tide of the Chinese Revolution". This meeting unified our thinking and strategy on how to speed up the annihilation of enemy effectives now that the situation in the northeast had turned in our favour. It heightened our courage and determination to fight hard battles, to wage mobile warfare in ice and snow, and to completely wipe out the Kuomintang crack troops—the New First and New Sixth Corps.

The enemy had suffered heavily from our simultaneous attacks in northern and southern Manchuria. To escape from this unfavourable situation, he tried even harder to solve the problem of southern Manchuria. He adopted the tactic of "cutting off a piece of flesh in one place to heal the wound in another". Towards the end of January, he gathered four divisions together in southern Manchuria to launch a second attack on Linchiang from three directions. Before he had time to complete his dispositions, our armies took the initiative and attacked. We wiped out over 5,000 troops in one battle and stopped the enemy assaults dead in their tracks. To offset the drain on his manpower, Tu Yu-ming had to recall a division from northern Manchuria. On February 23, with a total strength of five divisions, he ordered a third attack on Linchiang. Again fierce and cocky, he dreamed of smashing our troops at one stroke.

Our armies in northern Manchuria were in excellent shape after more than a month of rest and consolidation. Our fighters had held meetings at which they recalled the bitterness of the class oppression they had suffered, staged a campaign of preparation to perform meritorious deeds in battle, studied tactics and improved their fighting skills. Eager to annihilate the foe, everyone asked to be allowed to go to the front. The northern Manchuria base area had also been further

consolidated by a more thoroughgoing land reform and suppression of banditry. Many peasants volunteered to join the army. To wipe out part of the enemy forces north of Changchun so as to improve our situation in the northeast and to coordinate with the actions of our troops in southern Manchuria in their third defence of Linchiang, Comrade Lin Piao ordered us to cross the Sungari and march southward again. His directive explained that before this we could not fight the enemy with a free hand because our base areas had not been consolidated, we had had neither a reliable rear nor a steady supply of new recruits. Now we could do so. This campaign would mark the beginning of a change in the relationship between us and the enemy. He asked all comrades to fight courageously and resolutely, to give full play to the style of heroic, stubborn and hard struggle, and to annihilate large numbers of the enemy. In a telegram he particularly instructed us to promote among all officers and men the spirit of withstanding hunger and fatigue and of performing glorious deeds in the ice and snow—as glorious as the Red Army's crossing of the snow mountains and marshlands on its Long March in the past. With this spirit we would overpower and conquer the enemy!

On February 21, three columns of our main forces in northern Manchuria, together with thousands upon thousands of peasants supporting the front, crossed the Sungari and again dashed southward over the silvery plains. Ice and snow swept up by the howling north wind stung our faces like sharp needles. The bitter cold pierced us to the bone. But our fighters ignored the hardships completely. In high spirits, they raced against one another. Their shouting with gusto, "When we eat cabbage we prefer its heart, and when we fight we prefer the New First Corps" drowned out the noise of the gale.

Eager for battle, our men were in excellent fettle. The enemy, on the other hand, had had his arrogance struck down by us. The New First Corps actually assigned

more than a regiment to defend the small post of Chengtzuchieh. Comrade Lin Piao ordered the Sixth Column to encircle and attack the town and the First Column to get ready to wipe out Kuomintang relief forces from Chiutai and Tehui.

When the Second Division of our column was more than 100 li from Chengtzuchieh, it suddenly had to take independent action. The enemy, having discovered our main forces at Chitamu, hastily ordered the troops defending Chengtzuchieh to withdraw to Changchun with the support of reinforcements from Tehui. Bypassing both First and Sixth Column headquarters, Comrade Lin Piao issued orders directly to the commanders of the Second Division and the Sixteenth Division of Sixth Column, asking them to rush with light equipment to the west and south of Chengtzuchieh to stop the enemy withdrawal and cut off his retreat.

To cover such a distance in a short time, the commander of the Second Division assigned the "Steel Eighth Company" to lead this dash, with himself and the divisional political commissar at its head. Formed during the days of the old Red Army, this company of the Fourth Regiment had wiped out a much larger detachment of Japanese invaders in Shantung province during the anti-Japanese war. Tried and tempered in hundreds of battles, it had been proudly called "Our Steel Eighth Company" by the people of Shantung. Now, "using the best steel as the cutting edge", the divisional headquarters made this crack company the vanguard in the urgent task to pursue and strike at the enemy. The men had been marching continuously for two days and they now had to go even faster over the vast snow-covered expanse. They were so tired that they could hardly lift their feet, but when they heard that the enemy was trying to get away, everyone shouted:

"Hurry! We cannot let him escape!"

"The old Red Army scaled even the Snow Mountains. Our job is much easier!"

"Let's step on it. It's our chance to perform meritorious deeds!"

The cadres ran up and down the marching ranks to give encouragement. The men urged one another forward as if their hearts were on fire, running instead of marching. With their flapping white camouflage capes they looked like flying white eagles. In nine hours they covered more than 100 li and reached their destination before dawn. They immediately threw aside their padded overcoats and began swinging picks and shovels to build defence works of ice and snow.

As expected, the enemy troops started out after daybreak and almost immediately found themselves face to face with the Second Division, their retreat cut off. Alarmed and fearing that they could not escape, they launched repeated frantic attacks but simply could not crack the steel-like defence of our highly-tempered Second Division. By 10 o'clock in the morning, the two other divisions of the Sixth Column also arrived. The enemy had to pull back into Chengtzuchieh, becoming a "turtle trapped in a jar". We now understood more clearly the importance of Comrade Lin Piao's reiterated instructions to move like a thunderbolt, race against time with urgency and speed, give orders over the heads of the regular commanders if necessary. Otherwise, even if we made correct judgements of enemy movement, we could not deploy our forces in time and would thus lose the opportunity to deal him a mortal blow.

After the Sixth Column had completed the encirclement of Chengtzuchieh, the main units of our First Column rushed to the north of Chiutai, two divisions of the Second Column by-passed the Sungari railway station and marched to the east and southeast of Tehui, the First and Second Independent Divisions moved to the east of Tehui, and the Third Independent Division occupied the Mushiho area to the northeast of Chiutai. Our dispositions were completed. At 10 a.m. on the 23rd, in coordination with our artillery,

the Sixth Column started the attack on Chengtzuchieh. With deep thrusts and outflanking movements we cut the enemy up into small pockets. At the same time, we set off successive dynamite explosions against the fortifications and by 7 p.m. had completely wiped out the enemy. The New First Corps was in a worse situation than ever. It had taken us only nine hours to smash a stronghold defended by one of its reinforced regiments!

Hidden in the ice and snow, we waited for the enemy's relieving forces from Chiutai. But the enemy had taken such a thrashing through our tactics of encircling a city and ambushing the reinforcements that he no longer dared come and save the surrounded troops with just one or two regiments. The battle of Chengtzuchieh shook the enemy all along the line. His troops from Chiutai and Nungan turned on their heels. Reinforcements from Changchun pulled back. Those in southern Manchuria hurriedly abandoned Chi-an and withdrew westward in order to guard against the development of our offensive. Thus the enemy's third attack on Linchiang was also defeated. Our armies in northern Manchuria then started the second phase of the campaign to exploit the victories. The Sixth Column and the Second Independent Division rushed to attack Tehui, while the First and Second Columns got ready to strike at enemy reinforcements from Changchun. They blew up railways and bridges on a large scale, striking fear and awe into the enemy occupying that big city.

Badly battered in southern Manchuria and having lost men and territory in northern Manchuria, Tu Yu-ming was harassed and enraged, yet unable to extricate himself from his predicament. To break the siege of Tehui, he pulled six divisions from southern Manchuria to march northward along three routes and plotted to open the sluice gates of the Hsiao-feng-man Reservoir to flood the frozen Sungari so that our main force would be stranded on the south bank, thus compelling us to fight with our backs to the water.

The heavy concentration of enemy troops made it hard for us to destroy them one by one. After we had inflicted over 1,000 casualties to the south of Puhai, Comrade Lin Piao ordered us to move in another direction in order to mislead the enemy, to lure him deep into our territory and then wait for a chance to counter-attack. Therefore we stopped attacking Tehui on March 2. Disregarding our warnings, the enemy broke the ice and opened the sluice gates. But by a forced night march our troops covered more than 100 li and crossed the Sungari before the flood waters arrived. Only a small detachment of the rear guard had to wade across. The enemy failed in his scheme.

Our troops in southern Manchuria, seizing advantage of the enemy's weak defence in the rear, launched a new attack along the Liuho-Chinchuan line, taking Chinchuan, Liuho, and Huinan in succession and wiping out four full-strength battalions. Our troops in western Manchuria occupied Kailu and those in eastern Manchuria came out to harass the area east of Kirin. Hit from all sides, the enemy could defend neither his head nor his rear. He placed all hope on northern Manchuria, where he dreamed of entangling our troops in a decisive battle. When Tu Yu-ming learned that our main forces had suddenly withdrawn northward, he hastily ordered the New First Corps to follow closely behind to the south bank of the Sungari. Cocky again, Tu flew from Changchun to Tehui, held a press conference and boasted: "The Nationalist army carried out a counter-encirclement and routed the Communist troops with one blow. We'll be in Harbin in ten days!"

The Third Campaign

Our armies in northern Manchuria were ready and waiting for him. When the advance troops of the enemy's left and right wings had crossed the Sungari and occupied Wuchiachan and other places, our Sixth Column's Sixteenth Division and the First Independent Division suddenly turned back. The enemy troops,

who had been coming up with fangs bared, were scared out of their wits at the appearance of our army and ran for their lives back to the south bank. We followed close on their heels and on March 7 recrossed the river. It was our intention first to encircle and annihilate the 88th Division between Kaoshantun and Chingshantsui, and then concentrate our main force to wipe out two regiments of the New 30th Division in the Tafangshen area northeast of Tehui. But the enemy, panic-stricken by the swiftness and fierceness of our advance, withdrew all along the line. By early morning on the 9th when our First Column surrounded the crossroads, all the enemy troops had gone and we only annihilated some of those covering the retreat. We immediately marched rapidly towards Tafangshen to cut off the enemy's retreat to Tehui.

At 6 a.m. on the 10th when the vanguard regiment of our First Division entered the area between Tafangshen and Tehui, the sound of firing broke out. Our troops rushed forward, thinking they would certainly come to grips with the enemy. But they ran for seven or eight li without catching sight of any. All they found were several of our own comrades with dozens of prisoners, another bunch of New First Corps troops who had been covering the retreat. Since our third crossing of the Sungari our army had been pursuing the enemy for three days and nights, travelling two to three hundred li in the ice and snow, and had several times found the fleeing foe just gone. But no one complained.

Comrade Lin Piao had always placed stress on training our troops to develop a tenacious fighting style — to be unafraid of fatigue, not to be discouraged to find the enemy gone, to fight hard battles, to go to fight wherever ordered to do so, to actively coordinate with each other, and to fight with spirit. The fostering of this combat style played an extremely important role in enabling us to maintain a vigorous will and tenacious fighting capacity from beginning to end throughout such

QUOTATIONS FROM CHAIRMAN MAO TSE-TUNG

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tense, difficult, ever-changing and large-scale mobile warfare as this.

Late on the night of the 10th, Comrade Lin Piao ordered us to start westward at once. For Tu Yu-ming, fearing that we would eat up all his resources, had ordered his New First Corps and 71st Corps to withdraw to Tehui, Nungan and Changchun in a hurry. The New First Corps ran so fast that we did not catch it. But the Second Column's Fifth Division on our west wing, travelling at lightning speed, annihilated the battalion covering the retreat of the 71st Corps, then turned around and surrounded five companies at Kaoshantun. Seizing this opportunity, Comrade Lin Piao ordered our Fifth Division to attack Kaoshantun so as to get the 71st Corps to come back to give help. Just as we expected, the 71st Corps, unwilling to lose the battalion, ordered the 87th Division which had withdrawn to Nungan, and the 88th Division which had withdrawn to Tehui, to return and break the encirclement. But while still on the way the enemy learned that Kaoshantun had been taken by us and that our main forces had reached there. Scared of the imminent danger, the enemy immediately ran back towards Nungan along two routes. Not to let them go so easily, Comrade Lin Piao ordered our column to advance westward at once to stop and wipe out the escaping enemy around Kuochiatun.

Our troops flew westwards like an arrow shot from the bow.

Every now and then we came across small bands of the escaping foe whom we attacked at once. On the night of the 11th, the First Company of our First Division fought four battles and covered more than 100 li. When crossing the Chinese Changchun railway, they almost caught Tu Yu-ming, who was running away from Tehui back to Changchun.

That night our column headquarters parted from the fighting force to advance on our own. At dawn on the 12th, just as we were halting to rest in a village not far from Ssutaokou, we suddenly heard people shouting and horses neighing. Looking to the west we saw a mass of men, horses and carts swarming southwards. We were all a bit tense, as we had with us only the Guards Battalion. But we noted that the enemy troops were disorderly, as if they had just run away from some disaster. They could not give us much trouble. We ordered the Guards Battalion to attack. Sure enough, the enemy panicked at the sound of shooting and ran for their lives, leaving their horses and cartloads of provisions behind. We made a clean sweep without much effort. From the captives we learned that they were under the command of the 71st Corps and 88th Division.

By now our First Division had reached the area around Kuochiatun and Chiangchiatun to find the roads jammed with enemy soldiers, trucks and carts. We immediately blocked the way. At

the sound of shooting in Kuochiatun, our armies sped towards the area from all directions. When our men saw that we had blocked off the enemy, they shouted happily: "Hey, this is not bad, not bad at all!" "Commander Lin's strategy works like magic!"

The First Division at once got ready to attack. The enemy fought desperately for a way of escape, but were repeatedly driven back. After a whole morning of fierce fighting, most of them were wiped out, only a small number still stubbornly resisting in the village. A little after 1 p.m. our army renewed the attack, at the same time starting a powerful political offensive. Our fighters shouted to the enemy soldiers: "Your gun is Chiang's, your life is your own! Come over quick!" Several did so. Learning that they had not had a good meal for days, our fighters bought potatoes with their own money for them to eat. These captured troops were so glad that they volunteered to shout: "Come on over! They really treat us well. They even give us potatoes to eat!" Their shouting worked. Soon Lan Sung-yen, commander of their 263rd Regiment, crept out from behind a haystack, followed by a line of soldiers, each with his left hand raised above his head, the right touching his cap visor in salute. Immediately after this, an enemy battalion at Mengchia-chengtzu also hung out the white flag.

Lan Sung-yen was a Kuomintang regimental commander dur-

ing the anti-Japanese war and an old rogue. But when we talked to him, he had lost all his arrogance and was quite crestfallen. "I can't understand it," he lamented. "According to our intelligence, there were none of your troops within 50 li before the fighting started. I thought that even if you marched twice as fast as we did, by the time you reached Kuochiatun we would have entered Nung-an." I could not help laughing and said, "That's just the wonder of it! We couldn't let you enter Nungan but had to make you hand over your guns at Kuochiatun. You are no longer in the same position as you were this time last year!" He nodded in agreement.

All that day guns roared and bullets whined on both sides of the 100-li highway from Kaoshantun to Nungan as our army encircled and destroyed the enemy's 71st Corps. The fighting did not stop until 10 o'clock at night. By then we had completely wiped out the 88th Division and one-third of the 87th. The highway was strewn with carts, trucks, guns, rifles, ammunition, clothing and field telephones. Our peasant transport teams loaded these on cart after cart and, happily cracking their whips, drove them to the rear.

Following up this victory, the Second Column surrounded Nungan on the night of March 12. Our column, marching over the ice and snow which were now about to thaw, thrust straight to the south of Nungan and drew close to Changchun. Tu Yu-ming was panic-stricken. To stave off the impending crisis, he fell back on his old remedy of "cutting off a piece of flesh in one place to heal the wound in another" and tried to lift the siege of Nungan by shifting two divisions from southern Manchuria and Jehol province in the west to fight in coordination with the remnant forces of the New First Corps. Once again the enemy was pulled in, leaving scanty forces in his rear. Grasping this opportunity, our troops in southern and western Manchuria gave the enemy another series of hard blows. Our forces from northern Manchuria, loaded with captured goods, returned to our base areas before the Sungari began to thaw.

GUIDED BY Chairman Mao's strategic policy of not contending over the loss or gain of individual cities or places but concentrating a superior force to destroy the enemy's effective strength on a large scale, Comrade

Lin Piao had three times directed our army in northern Manchuria to advance south over the Sungari and three times to withdraw to the north of the river. Our forces in southern Manchuria in the meantime fought four stern and bitter battles to defend the Linchiang base area. Hit hard on one battlefield and led a dance on another, attacked in both the north and the south, the enemy was exhausted from running around, losing a total of six divisions with 60,000 men. From that time on, he was forced to turn from the strategic offensive to the so-called "flexible defensive". But our army, as if having climbed a towering mountain and standing at the summit, was now about to rush down the valley with the force of a torrent and to sweep forward for 1,000 li.

Note: The eastern Manchuria base area included Kirin, Hsi-an, Antu, Yenching, Tunhua and other places east of the Shenyang-Changchun section of the Chinese Changchun Railway. The northern Manchuria base area included Harbin, Mutankiang, Pei-an and Kiamusze among others. The western Manchuria base area included Tsihsihar, Tao-an, Kailu, Fuhsin, Chengchiatun, Fuyu and other places west of the Shenyang-Changchun section of the Chinese Changchun Railway. The southern Manchuria base area included Antung (now Tantung), Chuangho, Tunghua, Linchiang and Chingyuan and other places east of the Shenyang-Talien section of the Chinese Changchun Railway and Liaochung, southwest of Shenyang.

From the Revolutionary Past

Long Live the Victory of the Revolution!

IN September 1927, Comrade Mao Tse-tung led the peasants, workers and soldiers of eastern Hunan province and western Kiangsi province in the Autumn Harvest Uprising and established the Workers' and Peasants' Revolutionary Army. In October this army reached the Chingkang Mountains and set up the first rural base. This was the beginning of a great strategic task: to surround the cities with the rural areas, gather and develop revolutionary strength, and finally capture the cities and overthrow the fascist rule of the Chiang Kai-shek Kuomintang reactionaries.

Shown at right is a spearhead made by the Peasants' Association of the fif-

teenth district, Ninghsiang county, Hunan province, before the Autumn Harvest Uprising in 1927. On one side of it are the words "Long live the victory of the revolution!" and on the other, "Long live the Peasants' Association!" They express the organized peasants' resolve to make revolution and their confidence in its success. Under the leadership of Chairman Mao, the peasants made a shining contribution to the Chinese revolution in which they were the main force.

This spearhead is now in the Military Museum of the Chinese People's Revolution in Peking.



"In Praise of the Great Leader Mao Tse-tung." Song and dance performed by workers, peasants, soldiers, Red Guards and Young Pioneers.

PROLETARIAN ART BLOSSOMS ON SOCIALIST STAGE

HSIN WU

CHAIRMAN MAO says: "Revolutionary culture is a powerful revolutionary weapon for the broad masses of the people. It prepares the ground ideologically before the revolution comes and is an important, indeed essential, fighting front in the general revolutionary front during the revolution."

Revolutionary literature and art for the workers, peasants and soldiers has been pushed forward to a completely new stage by the unprecedented great proletarian cultural revolution now taking place in our country. Never before imbued with such brilliance, this literature and art, while being closely coordinated with the general revolutionary front, is fighting an outstanding battle in its own field.

HSIN WU is a staff writer for China Reconstructs.

Bearing the abundant fruits of the cultural revolution, hundreds of amateur worker, peasant and soldier artists, together with professionals, appeared on the stage in Peking last autumn in tribute to Chairman Mao and the revolutionary masses of the capital. Among them were amateur troupes from the Taching oilfield, Hopei and Heilungkiang provinces, and from People's Liberation Army units stationed in Peking. Also taking part were an *ulan muchir* team (red cultural troupe) from the grasslands of Inner Mongolia and the Seagoing Cultural Work Troupe of the armed forces in Kwangchow (Canton), both of which have lived for a long time among the labouring people and shared in their struggle.

The performances were given when the cultural revolution was developing in depth and the peo-

ple of the whole country were in a new high tide of the creative study and application of Chairman Mao's thought. They were the concentrated expression of this very favourable situation and of the completely new spiritual outlook of the revolutionary masses. With the strongest proletarian thoughts and feelings, in militant style, and with great genuineness and beauty of expression, the performers sang in praise of their most respected and beloved leader, Chairman Mao, and of the invincible thought of Mao Tse-tung; they sang of the heroes armed with his thought and of the great victories of the proletarian cultural revolution and the ideal of communism. Mao Tse-tung's thought was their eternal theme, and the praise and spread of it their basic task and most glorious mission. Through every performance and every



Peasants from Hopei province present "Battle Drum of the Cultural Revolution".



"In Praise of 'Man of Iron' Wang Chin-hsi", a song and dance number performed by workers from the Taching oilfield and their family members.



"Turn the People's Liberation Army into a Great School of Mao Tse-tung's Thought." Song with action by People's Liberation Army units under the Peking Command.

number, the thought of Mao Tse-tung ran like a gleaming red thread.

Ode to the 'Red Sun in Our Hearts'

Every word, every phrase of the poems and every note of the songs produced by the worker, peasant and soldier performers reflected infinite love and loyalty of the masses for Chairman Mao, their boundless faith in his thought and their determination to carry through the socialist revolution to the end. "When we think of Chairman Mao, a thousand songs stir in our hearts; ten thousand songs rise to our lips" was the common sentiment expressed by the amateur artists. As a poem composed and sung by Ho Teh-chih, a 42-year-old rural commune member of Dahur nationality from the Heilungkiang troupe went:

*As I look at an embroidered portrait of Chairman Mao, my heart takes wing,
I fly to our capital, Peking, and into the Great Hall of the People.
His face mild and gentle like a spring breeze, Chairman Mao takes my hand and talks to me.
Oh, like long-awaited rain, drop by drop, his words fill my heart,
Chairman Mao, you are the saviour of all our nationalities,
You are the red sun of the world revolution.*

*We Dahur people will listen most closely to your words,
We will advance in the direction you have pointed out.*

Asked what inspired him to sing this song, Ho Teh-chih answered, "I tended herds for the landlord from the time I was twelve. My life was worse than that of an ox. In winter I walked barefoot, driving the animals up to the hills. The cold pierced my feet like needles and the only way I could warm them was to stand in the newly made cow pats. Those were dark days and I longed for the sun to rise. Chairman Mao has saved me, how can I not sing of him. . . . Yes, whenever I think of Chairman Mao, I feel strong. I will continue to sing of him so long as I live and will teach my sons and grandsons to do the same—to sing of the red sun in our hearts."

Among the hundreds of amateur performers were model workers from factories and mines, members of workers' families who had become models, famous sharpshooters from the militia, commune members from advanced farming units, heroes of the armed forces and activists in the study of Chairman Mao's works. Armed with Mao Tse-tung's thought, they have the reddest hearts and the clearest vision. Through their experience in life and struggle, they have come to

understand that Mao Tse-tung's thought is the source of vitality in the fight for liberation and revolution. Once they have grasped it, they have everything. This experience and understanding is forcefully revealed in their songs and dances.

"The Taching Workers Report Victory" produced by workers from the Taching oilfield and their family members is in itself a report of the victory of Mao Tse-tung's thought. Wearing safety helmets and ordinary blue work clothes, they gave a stirring performance with recitation, dialogue, songs and dances. The 30-minute performance led the audience through the unforgettable days in which men and women in Taching overcame all kinds of difficulties by holding high the great red banner of Mao Tse-tung's thought, to the jubilant moment when they celebrated victory. It showed a large contingent of pioneer builders streaming into Taching in the spring of 1960 where "our feet trod the barren earth and there was nothing but the empty sky overhead". They lived in freezing temperatures, had few machines and little equipment. "We turned to Chairman Mao's works, reading page after page," the recitation tells. "Once, twice, ten times, a hundred times we read. Mao Tse-tung's thought illumined our minds." From Chairman Mao's works they found the

direction—be self-reliant and determined to be strong. Braving wind, sand, rain and bitter cold, their hearts glowed with determination to create a miracle in the wilderness.

Hardships loomed like mountains, one behind the other. Ideologically armed with Chairman Mao's two great philosophical works *On Contradiction* and *On Practice*, the Taching workers were dauntless in face of difficulties, and with an indomitable spirit they consciously deepened their understanding of the objective conditions through struggle, and learned to grasp the laws of development of contradiction. It was in this way, they said, "We made war on nature and nature bowed to us; we made war on the earth and the earth yielded oil." After several years of battle, they finally succeeded in building an up-to-date oil centre. Its addition to the ranks of oil enterprises makes China virtually self-sufficient in oil and oil products.

When the oil workers came on the stage, holding up samples of their latest products, equal to those of the most advanced world standards, and reported their good news to Chairman Mao and the Central Committee of the Chinese Communist Party, tears of joy filled the eyes of both performers and audience. Together they cheered, "Long live Chair-

man Mao! Long, long life to Chairman Mao!"

Mao Tse-tung's Thought Produces Heroes

Under the wise leadership of Chairman Mao and armed with his thought, workers, peasants and soldiers have been carrying out the task of thoroughly criticizing and repudiating the old world and creating a completely new one. In this struggle to transform heaven and earth, millions of ordinary workers like the men and women of Taching have written the most magnificent epic of labour. With lofty revolutionary spirit they have composed the newest and most beautiful songs permeated with the communist ideal. All revolutionary workers in literature and art regard it as their bounden duty to praise and portray these heroes.

At every performance, heroes and heroines filled the stage and songs of triumph rang throughout the theatre. Peasant heroes from the Stony Sand Hollow production brigade of Hopei province, in a number with poetic recitation and acting, passionately sang of the feats accomplished by their people in transforming barren hills into fertile land. The voices of the Inner Mongolian *ulan muchir* rang out to tell how the Tangputi brigade had converted their sandy waste into good

pastures and cropland. In militant songs and dances, the Seagoing Cultural Work Troupe from Kwangchow (Canton) re-created the heroic feat of the No. 32111 Drilling Team in extinguishing the raging fire that broke out at a huge newly-drilled gas well.

Eight soldiers from the army amateur troupe called forth through poetic recitation and spirited dance figures, lofty images of five nationally famous "good soldiers of Chairman Mao". The audience saw Lei Feng, a "fighter for communism" who had done numerous deeds of extraordinary selflessness while regarding himself as "a cog in the wheel of revolution". They saw Ouyang Hai who gave his life to push a horse off the railway line in front of an oncoming train. There was Wang Chieh who pledged himself "heart and soul for the revolution" and sacrificed his life in an accident which occurred while he was teaching the militia in a rural commune to lay mines. And Mai Hsien-teh, the "Man of Steel" who stuck to his post all through a naval battle despite a severe head wound. And there was also Liu Ying-chun who gave his life pulling up a runaway horse hitched to a gun-carriage that threatened to run down six children.

Each performance expressed with great power, passion and



"The Sea Islands Are Good", a song and dance by the Seagoing Cultural Troupe under the army's Canton Command.



"Harvest Celebration" performed by the Wuhan Acrobatic Troupe.

poetic language, the heartfelt admiration of the revolutionary masses for all these heroes and their outstanding feats. Through iron-clad facts, the programmes showed that the heroes' indomitable spirit in transforming heaven and earth, their lofty, communist spirit of utter devotion to the people without any thought of themselves, came from the creative study and application of Mao Tse-tung's thought. Their every action, every creation and every victory glowed with its

glory. To learn from the heroes is to learn how they creatively study and apply Mao Tse-tung's thought. The odes to the heroes were themselves the triumphant songs of the thought of Mao Tse-tung.

In Praise of the Great Proletarian Cultural Revolution

A common feature of literature and art for the workers, peasants and soldiers is that it holds high the great red banner of Mao Tse-

tung's thought, energetically publicizes the policies of the Chinese Communist Party, is closely coordinated with the revolutionary tasks of the time set by the Party, and serves the politics of the proletariat. At present the great proletarian cultural revolution has become a common theme of many performances, including praise for the "Sixteen Points" formulated under the personal direction of Chairman Mao as a guide to the cultural revolution, praise for the Red Guards and their daring and exposure of the crimes and schemes of evil anti-Party, anti-socialist elements, and praise for the great significance and victories of the cultural revolution.

The "Battle Drum of the Cultural Revolution" was a stirring presentation, combining percussion music with songs and recitation. The sturdy girl drummer's beats exploded like hand grenades, each one aimed at smashing anti-Party, anti-socialist monsters. She said, "I practised by striking my thighs with my two fists. The thought of the enemy aroused such intense hatred in me that I beat myself black and blue."

In "Strike up the Battle Drum" workers from Heilungkiang province used an interesting new artistic form for a magnificent show. Three scarlet drums, each as tall as a man, stood across the centre of the backdrop. A group of daring fighters of the cultural revolution danced in front of the drums. Every beat, like the blow of a ten-thousand-ton hammer, was followed by a clash of cymbals. One felt mountains shake and oceans roar, terrifying the enemies of the working people while strengthening the fighting will of revolutionaries. Hsu Chang-tien, a worker from the Peking Automobile Plant, commented, "As I watched the performance I was stirred to the depths of my heart. I clenched my fists so hard as the drums rolled that the joints of my fingers

* The "Sixteen Points" is the Decision of the Central Committee of the Chinese Communist Party Concerning the Great Proletarian Cultural Revolution, adopted August 8, 1966.

cracked. I wished I could smash the anti-Party, anti-socialist elements to pieces, to smash the entire old world to pieces!"

Fired by their urge to praise Mao Tse-tung's thought and the great cultural revolution, a group from the army, navy and air force worked continuously for three days and nights to put on a powerful pageant, "The People's Army Marches On". Using figures standing in tableaux against the backdrop, poetic recitation, and song and dance to the music of eight popular marches, they recreated the history of the People's Liberation Army from its founding as the Red Army in the Ching-kang Mountains by Chairman Mao up to the present when the great leader has lighted the fire of the cultural revolution and is guiding it in its advance. The show vividly depicted how Mao Tse-tung's thought has nurtured the army in its growth. It ended with the chorus, "The Liberation Army Is a Great School of the Revolution", in which fighters from the three armed forces each held a hammer or sickle in one hand and a copy of Chairman Mao's works in the other. With lively yangko dance steps and singing they expressed their enthusiastic response to Chairman Mao's call in the cultural revolution to make the armed forces a great school of revolution. They also showed the new way in which P.L.A. men con-

currently study, engage in agriculture, run factories and do mass work.

Songs and dances by workers and peasants also reflected their response to Chairman Mao's call and their resolution to learn from the P.L.A. in building their own work units into a great revolutionary school. In the song and dance, "The Taching People Always Follow Chairman Mao", and the song with action, "The Family Members of the Taching Workers Report Victory", the Taching troupe showed how under the guidance of Mao Tse-tung's thought they have built their oil centre into a revolutionary school. This new socialist industrial centre combines industry and agriculture, town and country, and everyone, in addition to his own work, also engages in the study of military affairs, politics and culture. In this way they are contributing to the gradual reduction of the differences between workers and peasants, between town and country and between physical and mental labour, thus paving the way for the building of communism.

Song of the Red Guards

In appreciation and support of the revolutionary rebel spirit of the Red Guards, the Seagoing Cultural Work Troupe gave a refreshing song-dance-recitation, "In



"The Hearts of the Poor and Lower Middle Peasants Turn Towards the Party" performed by members of a touring ulan muchir troupe from Inner Mongolia.

Praise of the Red Guards". When they saw it, many Red Guards in Peking congratulated the performers, saying, "You have truly expressed the heroic spirit of the Red Guards and heightened our fighting will."

Many Red Guards from worker and peasant troupes took part in performances depicting the cultural revolution in which they are vanguard fighters. Participating in a mighty chorus were 2,000 Red Guards from Peking universities, colleges and middle schools. In militant spirit they sang of their infinite love for Chairman Mao and the thought of Mao Tse-tung, and of their determination to carry the cultural revolution through to the end.

In the spirit of daring to think and daring to do, Red Guards from several Peking Opera troupes and institutes of drama, music and dance, in spite of the short time allowed for rehearsal, gave two full-length Peking Operas on revolutionary struggle — *Shachiapang* and *The Red Lantern*.

The Red Lantern is a story of heroic struggle by three generations of the family of Li Yu-ho, a railway worker and underground contact for the Chinese Communist Party before the liberation. The red lantern was used as a signal and symbol of light and revolution. The opera ended in the original script when Li Tieh-mei, member of the third generation, raised the red lantern to pledge that she would carry on the revolutionary work after her father and grandmother were killed by the enemy. The Red Guards added another scene. With militant dance movements and spirited singing, these young fighters took the red lantern from Li Tieh-mei, in a forceful expression of the determination of China's younger generation to carry on the revolutionary cause of their predecessors to the end.

Moving in the Workers', Peasants' and Soldiers' Direction

Chairman Mao says, "All our literature and art are for the masses of the people, and in the first place for the workers, peasants and soldiers; they are created

for the workers, peasants and soldiers and are for their use."

The worker, peasant and soldier artists are most loyal to Chairman Mao's teachings. They have the firmest political stand and the strongest proletarian feelings. They are at the centre of the socialist revolution and construction. It is they who know most clearly the requirements of the revolution and the aspirations of the broad

masses of workers, peasants and soldiers. Thus the literature and art that they create is in accordance with the instructions of Chairman Mao.

Their artistic creations are the products of class struggle, the struggle for production and scientific experimentation, the crystallization of the labour of workers, peasants and soldiers, and are in turn the weapons for pushing

ahead these struggles. They are most vivid, lively, close to life and have a strong smell of gunpowder. No one who saw the strength and fire of the Kuochuang peasant militia from Hopei province performing "Keep a Tight Grip on Your Gun" could have remained unmoved. With the theme "make everyone a soldier" taken from the thought of Chairman Mao, the performance was given with such vigour that mountains seemed to be crumbling each time the militiamen shouted, "Charge!" Hatred for the U.S. imperialists and all reactionaries was there in every movement. Reflected in every word was the broad outlook and revolutionary will of the Chinese militia who, armed with Mao Tse-tung's thought, say, "We have our feet on Chinese earth but our eyes on the whole world." They are ever ready to defend their country and the political power of the proletariat, and to aid Vietnam in thoroughly and completely wiping out the U.S. bandits.

As the performance ended, Yin Wei-chen, Party secretary of the Huangtukang production brigade, exclaimed, "All the performances praise our great saviour, Chairman Mao, praise Mao Tse-tung's thought, from which we draw sustenance for life. What we saw was our own struggles, what was said was what we want to say. Every word struck deep into the hearts of former poor and lower middle peasants like us. The longer I watched the performances, the more I loved them. I would like to see them a thousand times, ten thousand times!"

The performances given by the *ulan muchir* and the Seagoing Cultural Work Troupe were also radiant with Mao Tse-tung's thought and filled with proletarian thoughts and feelings. This is because the professional artists have followed Chairman Mao's teachings and have for a long period unreservedly and

In a scene from *Taking the Bandits' Stronghold* performed by the Shanghai Revolutionary Peking Opera Cultural Troupe, a P.L.A. unit comes to join one of its men, disguised as a bandit, to capture the gang in its headquarters.



Holding aloft their bright red books, Quotations from Chairman Mao Tse-tung, the chorus of over 2,000 Peking Red Guards sing with unrestrained feeling in praise of our great leader Chairman Mao.

wholeheartedly lived among the revolutionary masses to remould themselves and shift their stand, their thoughts and feelings to the side of the workers, peasants and soldiers. For nine years, the *ulan muchir* members toured the grasslands of Inner Mongolia, living and working together with the herdsmen in all seasons. The members of the Seagoing Cultural Work Troupe took the coastal islands as their home, laboured and drilled with coastal defence units, and even took part in armed engagements. Everyone made it his primary task to learn from the workers, peasants and soldiers. They have become one with them in thought, feelings, everyday life and work. Thus their art is truly for the workers, peasants and soldiers and created for their use.

The performances by both amateurs and professionals showed that literature and art for the

workers, peasants and soldiers created during the great cultural revolution is moving firmly in the direction pointed out by Chairman Mao, "... raising the level of literature and art in the direction in which the workers, peasants and soldiers are themselves advancing, in the direction in which the proletariat is advancing."

Cheering the Victory

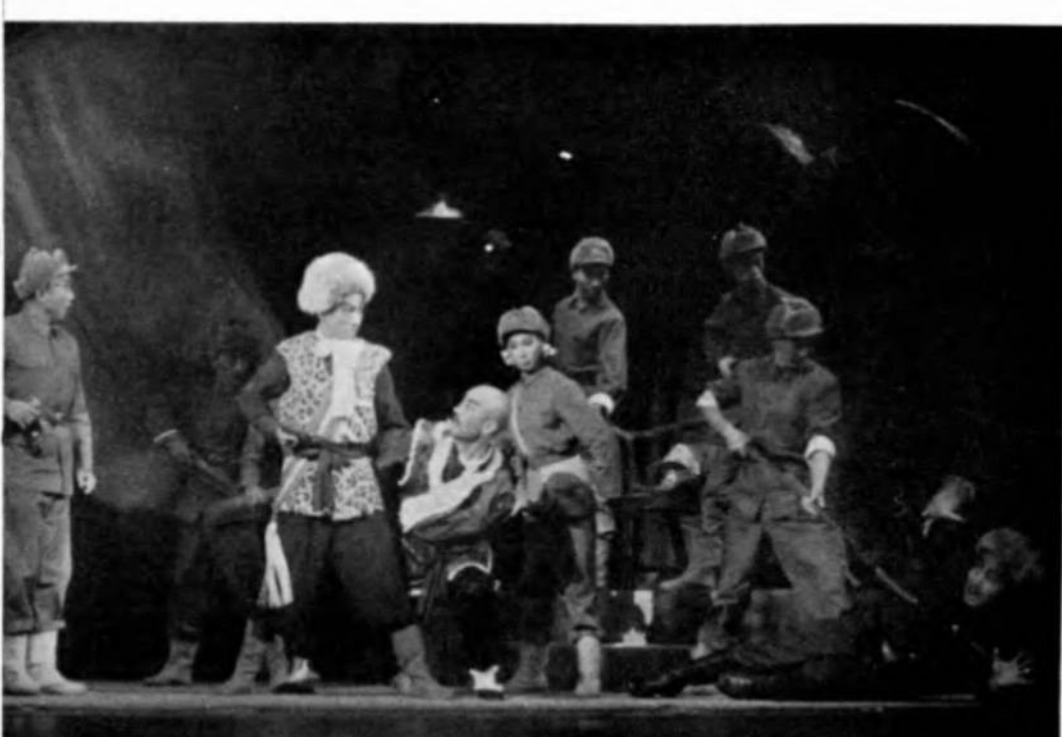
The success of the performances, and the fact that workers, peasants and soldiers have now become masters of the stage have been a source of pride for the revolutionary masses in Peking. On many occasions after the curtain fell, audience and performers met to congratulate one another on this victory scored in the great proletarian cultural revolution.

Many people took their most precious possession, the portrait-badge of Chairman Mao, and pinned them on the performers. To-

gether they cheered, "Long live Chairman Mao!" and broke into the popular revolutionary song, "Rely on the Helmsman When Sailing the Seas" which expresses love and loyalty for Chairman Mao and the Party. Hundreds of congratulatory letters and press comments from workers, peasants and soldiers were infused with heartfelt joy. Two soldiers stationed in Peking, Wang Tzu-chieh and Yang Yu-hsi, poured out their feelings when they wrote, "If the people armed with Mao Tse-tung's thought can smash the old world, they can also build a new one. Let the emperors, kings, ministers, generals, scholars, ladies and all monsters who once monopolized the stage go to the devil! Workers, peasants and soldiers have risen in rebellion. We will make the great red banner of Mao Tse-tung's thought fly over the front of literature and art from generation to generation."



A scene from *The Red Lantern*, a revolutionary Peking Opera performed by Red Guards. The younger generation take over the red lantern to hold it high forever, carry on the past tradition and open up the way for those who follow.



Heroic Drilling

Team Battles a Sea of Fire

LIU SHOU-JUNG

EARLY in the morning of June 22 our drilling team, performing deeds of titanic heroism in a life-and-death struggle, prevented a big new natural gas well from being destroyed in a sudden raging fire just as the drilling had been finished. This is a great victory for Mao Tse-tung's thinking, a victory that took place during the high tide of the creative study and application of Mao Tse-tung's works by workers throughout the area, which came during the upsurge of the great proletarian cultural revolution. It was a telling blow for the handful of bourgeois Rightists who are against the Communist Party, socialism and Mao Tse-tung's thought, and for all reactionary monsters and demons.

Our team has, for the past few years, persisted in the study of Chairman Mao's works. Last winter when we summed up our work for training and consolidation, stress was laid on class education and learning from proletarian revolutionary heroes. We then launched a new campaign for the creative study and application of Chairman Mao's works. This study helped to revolutionize the ideology of our leading group and members of the team. Everyone formed the habit of studying Chairman Mao's works, of guiding their every action with his thinking, and of using his writings as the compass for everything they did.

When we heard Chairman Mao's call to oil workers to find more

LIU SHOU-JUNG is the deputy leader of the heroic No. 32111 Drilling Team. This is an abridged version of his report entitled "Men Armed with Mao Tse-tung's Thinking Are an Invincible Fighting Force" made at a mass meeting in Peking on October 4, 1966.

natural gas and oil, our enthusiasm as revolutionaries rose to fresh heights. Team members said, "This shows Chairman Mao's great concern and encouragement." Eager to get to work, they remarked, "We must find oil and gas quickly to show our appreciation of Chairman Mao's concern. We must succeed in this task; be ready to lose pounds of flesh and work our hands raw, to die on the derrick floor or be buried in the oilfield."

When we were sent to a new area to prospect we took the People's Liberation Army as our model and the Taching oil workers, with their revolutionary spirit of hard work in the face of seemingly insuperable difficulties, as our example. We completed the drilling of the first test well in just over a month, a third of the time taken in the past. When we discovered a large, high-pressure, high-output, natural gas field (which we called a "gas tiger"), bourgeois "authorities" who had predicted that no oil or gas would be found in the geological structure on which we were working were completely discredited.

To capture the "gas tiger" we applied Chairman Mao's teaching, "Fight no battle unprepared, fight no battle you are not sure of winning", and carried out a series of preparatory measures for putting the well into operation.

On the afternoon of June 21, we got ready for a shut-in well pressure test before changing the well-head the following day. We lacked complete information about the geological formations. The new well had an exceptionally high output and the pressure was nearly double that of an old gas well nearby.

During the test, the pressure rose so quickly that a seamless pipe at the well-head suddenly burst. The roaring jet of gas was so tremendous that it smashed the explosion-proof bulb under the derrick floor and immediately caused a raging fire. Flames swept through the well-head and the diesel engine shack, and rose 30 metres high. An area 50 metres in diameter became a sea of fire. The blaze could be seen 20 kilometres away and its roar could be heard for 10 kilometres. The fire turned nearby hill slopes flaming red and the trees into standing charcoal. The 40-metre steel derrick collapsed in just three minutes. The diesel engine melted and became a shapeless mass of iron.

Armed with Mao Tse-tung's Thinking

The raging fire threatened the well-head and the lives of more than a hundred of our class

brothers. If it exploded, the high-pressure, high-output natural gas well would be destroyed and the whole gas field damaged, causing incalculable loss to the state.

At that crucial moment, the only thought the workers had was the supreme instruction of Chairman Mao; the interests of the revolution came first in their lives. Comrades of the No. 4 squad, who had come off shift but had not yet left the well site, immediately threw themselves into the battle. Comrades of the No. 1 squad, who had just started work, held their positions. Workers who had gone to bed jumped up at the sound of the explosion and rushed to the well site. There was only one thought in everyone's mind: However great the fire, it could not be as great as the will of us oil workers armed with Mao Tse-tung's thinking; however fierce the flames, they could not be as fierce as our fighting will. To defend the thought of Mao Tse-tung and to bring

victory to the great proletarian cultural revolution, we would scale a mountain of swords and plunge into an ocean of fire.

Some ran to the fire with wet cotton quilts over their heads, but these were burned through in seconds. Water directed at the flames evaporated instantly. But we are oil workers armed with the thinking of Mao Tse-tung. We only thought of the Party's cause and not for a moment of our own lives. At whatever point there was immediate danger, it was there that the comrades rushed. When those in the front fell, those behind dashed forward to take their place, fearless and undaunted.

Flames can melt iron and steel but cannot conquer the red heart of a revolutionary loyal to Chairman Mao and the Party. The roar of the escaping gas was deafening. We could neither hear nor see each other. It was no time to hesitate, no time to discuss what



The No. 32111 drilling team. The words on the banner read: "Drilling Team of Proletarian Revolutionary Heroism."

With the well successfully capped, a new test is made off site. Flames rise 45 metres high.



Army helicopters arrive to move injured workers to hospital.

to do. All the comrades thought of was the Party's cause and how to pool their efforts to save state property. We felt as if Chairman Mao were by our side, the battle orders were coming from his thinking.

The No. 3 valve was right at the centre of the fire. If it was shut, the source of gas would be cut off and the fire could be extinguished.

Deputy commander and chief engineer Chang Chung-min, a member of the mining area's Communist Party committee working on the site, led those dashing into the sea of flames. Comrades rushed to carry him out after he was severely burned but still he shouted, "Quick! Quick! Shut off No. 3 valve." He ignored the pain and staggered back once more into the blaze.

When the explosion occurred, three comrades were at the well site changing valves. Hsu Yung-mao and Huang Cheng-hou, who were carrying a valve, were swept by the blast into a ditch. Hsu Yung-mao jumped to his feet and made a dash for the well-head. Huang Cheng-hou had landed near the water-pipe valve, but before he could get his hand on it, flames swept across his face, back and arms. In agonizing pain he managed to get the valve open.

Deputy political instructor Lei Hung-ping led the No. 3 squad to close No. 3 valve. Knocked unconscious by the gas and fire, he was pulled out by his comrades. When he came to, he realized that

to shut the No. 3 valve was impossible. Figuring that if the No. 8 and No. 5 safety valves were opened, the pressure of gas would be reduced and the fire would become less intense, he rushed for the second time into the blaze, thrust a lever into the valve-wheel and managed to make two turns with it before being overcome by the fumes.

Again he was pulled away by his comrades, but again when he came to, his first thought was that the No. 8 valve was still not open. He was so dizzy and his limbs so weak that he fell three times as he tried to get on his feet. Then the golden words of Chairman Mao flashed through his mind: "This army has an indomitable spirit and is determined to vanquish all enemies and never to yield. No matter what the difficulties and hardships, so long as a single man remains, he will fight on." He stood up and staggered towards the valve. Several comrades tried to pull him back. But Lei Hung-ping shouted, "Time waits for no man. If we go, let's go together. If we die, let's die together. If we die, we will die on the battlefield. We must save the gas field." Under cover of water from the hoses, he and his comrades rushed into the flames and succeeded in opening the valve.

Bravery, Intelligence, Unity

Mao Tse-tung's thinking arms a man with bravery and intelligence.

It also unites us oil workers. Facing the raging fire, the comrades fought fearlessly and heroically, cooperated closely, and protected and supported each other.

While Lei Hung-ping and others were trying to open the No. 8 valve, Peng Chia-chih led a group that dashed into the flames to open the No. 5 safety valve. Although Peng's group put wet cotton quilts over their heads and other comrades trained water hoses on them, they were pushed back five times by the force of the gas and flames. Finally team leader Chou Wenhua led the way forward under water cover, carrying a large board to shield off the flames. The valve was opened. With No. 8 and No. 5 valves now open, the fire became less intense. But until No. 3 valve was closed, a major explosion still threatened.

A general offensive was now launched to close No. 3 valve. It had been badly warped by the intense fire, but the comrades, putting all their strength behind them, grabbed hold of the red-hot wheel and, with others using a huge pipe wrench, finally succeeded in closing it.

With the source of gas cut off, the fire over the site slackened. However, gas was still escaping from leaks, pressure continued to rise very quickly, and there was again danger of an explosion.

The whole team and others who had come to the site to help gathered around the well-head for the final battle. Deputy chief driller Wang Yu-fa grabbed a wet cotton-padded quilt and threw it over the well-head. In less than a minute it was burned through. He grabbed another wet quilt, wrapped it around his body and threw himself on the burning well-head, shouting, "Go ahead and burn! Go ahead and burn!" He held on until he became unconscious from the fumes.

Comrades pulled him to safety. When he came to and saw the fire still raging, he struggled to get up. Several comrades held him down while he shouted, "Quick, let me go! I belong to the working class,

the masters of the country. As long as I have breath left I shall fight the fire! I can't sit and watch state property being destroyed!" Throwing off the hands that held him down, he scrambled to his feet and rushed to the well-head. Thirty soaked quilts piled one on the other finally sealed the well-head and quenched the fire.

In the battle, Mou Mao-hsiu, a worker's wife, showed a high degree of communist selflessness. While helping to put out the fire she was twice told, "Your husband has been badly injured. Go and take care of him!" She felt very badly but immediately thought of Chairman Mao's teaching, "Wherever there is struggle there is sacrifice, and death is a common occurrence." She herself thought, "Now the urgent thing is to save state property, to put out the fire. While the fire still rages, even though my husband has fallen, I will persist in the battle." Suppressing the ache in her heart, she continued to rescue those who were injured, carrying loads of barite powder, bringing up soaked quilts, until the fight was ended.

To Die for the People

Chang Yung-ching, Communist Party member and deputy chief driller responsible for inspecting the pipe lines, is dead. Just two hours before he sacrificed his life, he had been studying Chairman Mao's works in his dormitory. As he was going on shift he said, "Comrades, we've been thinking about the capture of the 'gas tiger' every day. Now that we are about to catch it, we must dare to struggle and dare to win. Tonight we shall carry out a shut-in well pressure test. Pressure is rising rapidly. We must make a thorough inspection and be one hundred per cent responsible to the Party and the people. Let's concentrate our hearts and minds on the well-head."

When the explosion came he charged towards the No. 4 safety valve, planning to open it and release some of the gas. He dashed into the sea of fire without the slightest hesitation and struggled against the scorching flames. But the fire was already blazing full force, and he gave his life

heroically before he had had time to carry out his aim. When his charred body was found, both arms were stretched towards the vital valve.

Chang Yung-ching had set a good example in the creative study and application of Chairman Mao's works. He studied earnestly, carried out Chairman Mao's directives firmly and remoulded himself thoroughly. He said, "A knife can't remain sharp if you don't sharpen it; water won't boil if you don't boil it; if a man doesn't study Chairman Mao's works, he can't be a revolutionary." He had always been fearless in the face of hardship or risk to his life. He lived simply and was always concerned about his comrades. He used to say, "Chairman Mao has taught us to serve the people of China and the whole world. We drill wells and make every place our home. Our work is for the Chinese revolution and for the world revolution." Comrade Chang was in poor health with a severe stomach ailment, but he worked tirelessly no matter how ill he felt. When the pain became unbearable, he would press his hand to his stomach and sit on his heels until he was able to go on with his work. Moved by his strong will power and tenacious revolutionary spirit, his co-workers called him a model worker of the type of county Party secretary Chiao Yu-lu.*

Wang Ping was transferred to the No. 32111 Drilling Team not long before the accident occurred. He was born of a poor peasant family which had been broken up under the old society. He became separated from his parents and it was not until 1964 that the Party and government were able to locate them again. When he saw Chang Yung-ching fall he rushed towards the No. 4 valve, filled with infinite love for the Party and infinite hatred for the class enemy. He too was struck down by a wave of fire. But he struggled up and, unable to open the No. 4 valve, shut the No. 3 valve, heroically sacrificing his life to cut off the flow of gas.

As soon as he could hold a pen in his badly burned hand, Chang Chung-min began to write down what he had learned from reading Chairman Mao's works.

Wang Ping loved to read Chairman Mao's works. He often told people, "Even if a man lives a hundred years, he must die some day. The important thing is how he dies. We should do as Chairman Mao teaches us. If we die for the people our death will be meaningful, our death will be heavier than Mount Tai."

*See "County Party Secretary — Chiao Yu-lu" in the May 1966 issue of China Reconstructs.



A nurse reads quotations from Chairman Mao's works to Jan Shu-jung. On the board at the head of his bed is a quotation reading, "Be resolute, fear no sacrifice and surmount every difficulty to win victory."





The injured workers sing revolutionary songs to express their infinite love and gratitude to the Party and Chairman Mao.



Letters and telegrams to the injured workers came from all parts of the country. To express their concern and admiration, many sent their own most loved works of Chairman Mao and medals of honour awarded them by the Party.

Lo Hua-tai and Wang Tsu-ming, brave, tenacious and fearless drillers, stuck to their posts to the last, placing the defence of state property above that of their lives. The position of their bodies showed that they were still trying to shut the valve and protect the pressure meter when death came. It was a demonstration of their loyalty to the great thought of Mao Tse-tung and to the Party, and of their deep sense of responsibility to the revolution.

Wu Chung-chi, Communist Youth League member and an assistant in charge of the engine room, threw himself courageously into the sea of fire in an attempt to open the eastern water pump. A wave of flame swept up behind

him and he gave his life heroically before he had succeeded.

In the battle to save the well, five comrades gave their lives and 22 were severely injured. The loss of our comrades-in-arms came as a great sorrow. To rescue state property they gave their lives to the Party and the people. In death they are great, glorious and worthy. Their loss is "heavier than Mount Tai".

The minds of the injured remained fixed on saving the well and rescuing their class brothers. They had no thought for themselves. Severely burned and with both eyes blinded, Wang Tsun-yu kept repeating all the way to the hospital, "We must act according to Chairman Mao's instructions. . . . There is no difficulty that

Chairman Mao's oil workers cannot overcome. . . . Persistence brings victory!"

Concern from Chairman Mao

Our great Party and great leader Chairman Mao showed intense concern when they received word of the accident. Immediately, the most highly-skilled doctors and all necessary drugs and medical equipment were dispatched to the local hospital. Central and local government departments gave top priority to this all-out life-saving effort. Within 24 hours, 20 medical units with 133 members had arrived and, under the leadership of the local county Party committee, organized a central group which immediately set to work to treat the injured.

After hearing of the courage of these heroes during the battle against the fire, workers in the mining area, their families and local people came forward one after the other to give their support: "We will give the injured whatever they need. If they need skin for grafting, let them take ours. We will give all the blood they need." A local commune member, a former poor peasant, walked 40 kilometres to the hospital and gave 300 c.c. of blood. Altogether 900 people became blood donors.

The concern shown by the Party and people was a source of great encouragement and strength to the injured, who from the outset persisted in the creative study and application of Chairman Mao's works, taking his thinking as their guide in their struggle for recovery. They fully demonstrated their proletarian revolutionary heroism.

Teng Mu-chuan sustained burns over 85 per cent of his body, but he never uttered a single groan. When deputy political director Lei Hung-ping brought him a copy of *Quotations from Chairman Mao Tse-tung*, he was so happy that tears ran down his face. He had only strength to half whisper, "Thank the Party and Chairman Mao for their concern. How I long for Chairman Mao! What I need most is to listen to his words." When the nurse took the book for

him, he told her, "Please read to me often. I will do as Chairman Mao says and I shall be able to withstand any difficulty no matter how great." When pain became unbearable, he asked the nurse to read to him from *Serve the People* or *The Foolish Old Man Who Removed the Mountains*.

Because many complications followed Teng Mu-chuan's burns, the doctors failed to save him. Just before he died, with Chairman Mao's teachings filling his mind, he exerted all his strength to murmur in broken gasps, "Do as Chairman Mao says, . . ."

Jan Shu-jung, a pacesetter from the Ministry of Petroleum Industry, sustained burns over 52.7 per cent of his body, and they were mostly deep burns. But the excruciating pain and the complications that followed failed to shake his firm revolutionary will. As soon as he regained consciousness he asked the nurse to put portraits of Chairman Mao at the head of his bed and to read him *Serve the People* and other writings. Students who came to visit him wept when they saw the suffering he had to bear as dressings were changed. "Who's crying?" he asked the doctor. "They are students who have come to visit you," came the reply. "Come, come," said Jan Shu-jung, "don't cry! Let's sing together 'Rely on the Helmsman When Sailing the Seas'."

For over 40 days he had to lie on his stomach, unable to move. Even when delirious he did not forget Chairman Mao and the Party's Central Committee. "Chairman Mao," he cried out, "how I wish I could see you!" Then, "Long live Chairman Mao! Long live the Communist Party!" When conscious but in great pain, he repeated to himself **Chairman Mao's teaching: "Be resolute, fear no sacrifice and surmount every difficulty to win victory."** He said, "I, Jan Shu-jung, will do my utmost to win victory." Even when suffering severe pain, Comrade Jan Shu-jung still constantly thought of our great leader. He demonstrated infinite love, infinite faith and infinite veneration for Chairman Mao.

All the injured had dared "to scale a mountain of swords and descend into a sea of fire" to save state property. Like Jan Shu-jung they were all able to overcome their severe burns, demonstrating to the full the unbending spirit of oil workers armed with Mao Tse-tung's thinking.

Aided by the powerful efforts of the Party and the people, the 21 injured workers are recovering rapidly. From the Party and Chairman Mao they have received a second life. Ten thousand words cannot express what we feel; feelings ten thousand degrees deep cannot express our infinite love for the Party and Chairman Mao. The comrades have said, "Even if we smash all our bones for the cause of the revolution, we cannot repay the Party and Chairman Mao!" Whenever we think of these things, we all feel moved to tears and cheer, "Long live Chairman Mao! Long live the Communist Party!"

Fundamental Reason

Why were the comrades fearless and calm and united as one man in the face of death in the fire? What made them dash forward, time after time, into the fire and extinguish it within 30 minutes?

The fundamental reason is that they are armed with Mao Tse-tung's thought. We hold the study of Chairman Mao's works as the first need of our life. We make his thought our very soul. We make it our conscious action to carry out Chairman Mao's instructions and hold the interests of the revolution above all else.

The vast majority of the comrades in our team come from worker or former poor and lower middle peasant families, and many of them are demobilized People's Liberation Army men. We infinitely love and are infinitely loyal to Chairman Mao and the Party. In recent years all members of the team, holding high the great red banner of Mao Tse-tung's thinking, have persisted in the creative study and application of his works. We have made great efforts to apply every sentence that we study. We study Chairman Mao's works whenever we start some new activity or work, whenever

we face a difficulty in production and whenever we want to help someone who has ideological problems. We have acquired the habit of studying Chairman Mao's quotations before going on shift, of hanging a quotation at the head of our bed, learning quotations before meetings, reading them as part of discussions, and using them as a yardstick in our work. The comrades say, "From our dormitory to the well site, Chairman Mao's quotations shine with a golden light. When we pass by them, the road is clear and bright. When we look at them as we work, we feel ourselves filled with strength. When we see they are everywhere, a red sun rises in our hearts. We engrave Chairman Mao's words in our minds, infuse them into our blood and put them into action." If faced with difficulties we think of Chairman Mao's words, then we become filled with confidence and the difficulties dwindle to nothing. That is why we say that the victory over the fire is a great victory for Mao Tse-tung's thinking.

In future we will hold still higher the great red banner of Mao Tse-tung's thinking, earnestly carry out the recent directive of Comrade Lin Piao to launch a new high tide in the creative study and application of Chairman Mao's works, do our best to make Mao Tse-tung's thinking our own and build our team into a great school for the study of Chairman Mao's thinking. We will follow his instructions to use the Sixteen Points* as our weapon in the great stirring proletarian cultural revolution, to take firm hold of revolution, to promote production, to drill more and better wells quickly, to produce more oil and natural gas with which to wipe out the American imperialists when they come and to make the revisionists burst with rage, and with our action we will repay the concern shown us by Chairman Mao, the Central Committee of the Party and the people of the whole country.

* The "Sixteen Points" is the Decision of the Central Committee of the Chinese Communist Party Concerning the Great Proletarian Cultural Revolution, adopted August 8, 1966.



Dr. Chen Chung-wei (left) and Dr. Chien Yun-ching (right), vice-heads of the surgical department of the Shanghai No. 6 People's Hospital, check the progress of the rejoined finger of worker Chang Po-jen. Picture at right shows worker Chang Po-jen's right hand and the severed index finger.

REJOINING SEVERED FINGERS

CHEN CHUNG-WEI



SINCE a worker's hand cut off in an accident was first successfully rejoined in our hospital in 1963, Chinese surgery has made steady progress. Severed fingers were successfully rejoined last year at a number of hospitals — the Shanghai No. 6 People's Hospital where I work, Chungshan Hospital of the Shanghai No. 1 Medical College, the Shanghai Trauma Research Institute, and the "East Is Red" Hospital attached to the Shanghai No. 2 Medical College. By the end of last October, 14 fingers had been rejoined. Some of these cases are still under physiotherapy, others are already able to do manual work. The fundamental reason for these successes lies with our creative study and persistent application of the invincible thinking of Mao Tse-tung.

A Failure Spurs Progress for the People

In 1964, the Party sent me by plane to Paotow in the Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region to try to save a worker's severed arm. I managed to rejoin it, but because the arm had been too long separated from the body, septicaemia developed and I had to amputate

DR. CHEN CHUNG-WEI is a vice-head of the surgical department of the Shanghai No. 6 People's Hospital, one of the surgeons who first successfully rejoined a severed hand in 1963.

the rejoined arm in order to save the patient's life. Though his fellow workers did not blame me, I was heartbroken — a class brother had lost an arm and hand which could have done so much for socialist revolution and construction. I felt that I had failed in my duty as a revolutionary medical worker.

Was it really impossible to rejoin a limb separated from the body for a long time? Would we never be able to solve this problem? We restudied Chairman Mao's words: **"In the fields of the struggle for production and scientific experiment, mankind makes constant progress and nature undergoes constant change; they never remain at the same level."** His words are very clear. We must always go forward. The revolution never ends, nor can the development of medical science.

About this time we went on to a new problem — the rejoining of severed fingers. We failed in several cases and medical workers began to express different views. Some said that it was not such a serious matter if a man lost a finger. The hospital Party committee asked us to study again Chairman Mao's articles: *In Memory of Norman Bethune, Serve the People* and *The Foolish Old Man Who Removed the Mountains*. Measuring our thinking against Chairman Mao's teachings, we be-

gan to discover that the fundamental reason for our failure in the operations was not lack of technical skill but a lack of a deep class feeling for the worker and peasant masses, a lack of the spirit of serving the people completely and wholeheartedly. In short, we had not truly grasped the fundamental principles in the thinking of Mao Tse-tung. In our discussions, we criticized the arrogant bourgeois attitude that considered it not a serious matter for a worker to lose a finger. Many other kinds of bourgeois ideas came under our fire. We made up our minds that nothing could stop us from successfully rejoining the severed fingers of the working people.

Once Mao Tse-tung's thought is put in command, courage, strength and resourcefulness arise to overcome difficulties. With the leadership of the Party and the cooperation of comrades from other departments, we began experiments on animals, lengthening the time between the severing of a limb and the operation to rejoin it. After much practice and some progress in this sphere, we began to study ways to rejoin severed fingers.

Breaking Down Stereotyped Thinking

We found that if one is to wholeheartedly serve the people, he

must first adopt the attitude of devoting all his life and energies to the revolution. This is fundamental. But this revolutionary attitude must be supplemented by ability and skill. That is, while devoting himself completely to the revolution, one must know how to make the revolution. This means that one must learn how to apply Chairman Mao's view of the materialist dialectical method, overcome all forms of metaphysics and scholasticism, and break down all sorts of stereotypes and conventions.

There are many stereotypes in our minds — ideas and conventions from "experts", "authorities" and foreign medical literature. Even our own successful experiences of the past can become a kind of stereotype keeping us from going ahead. To go on creating and progressing, we must break down all of them.

Foreign medical literature states that under normal conditions, a severed limb cannot be rejoined after six hours of separation from the body. **But Chairman Mao teaches us: "In studying a problem, we must shun subjectivity, one-sidedness and superficiality."** We decided to ignore this "limit" and find our own path.

In our experiments on dogs, we had found that six hours was not the top limit. With proper methods of preservation, the severed leg of a dog could be rejoined after much

more than 12 hours. We even had a case in our clinical practice in which a worker's arm was successfully rejoined after it had been separated from the body for 18 hours.

Our progress made us realize that under all circumstances we must use the invincible thinking of Mao Tse-tung as the tool with which to blaze new trails to truth — seeking the truth through using the dialectical materialist method in practice. Only when we have mastered the use of this tool as a weapon can we dare to rebel against old ideas, habits, rules and conventions. Revolution must be made not only in the objective world but also in our subjective world.

One easily develops a sense of satisfaction from some victory, and this success itself can turn into a one-sided "stereotype" which halts further progress. Our first rejoining of a severed hand was successful, but we had some shortcomings, among them faults in our thinking. For instance, when the hand began to swell with progressive oedema, we believed that this was inevitable in cases of this kind. Again Chairman Mao's words proved our approach wrong: **"Often, correct knowledge can be arrived at only after many repetitions of the process leading from matter to consciousness and then back to matter, that is, leading from practice to knowledge and**

then back to practice." Following this teaching we made repeated experiments, studies and summaries of our experience. Practice forced us to discard our old belief and develop methods with which we were able to virtually eliminate oedema. Our experience has shown us that no matter how correct the experiment or great the achievement, we must always use the method of "dividing one into two", be good at finding shortcomings after a victorious battle, and not let success stop us at that point. This is the way to make constant progress towards greater successes.

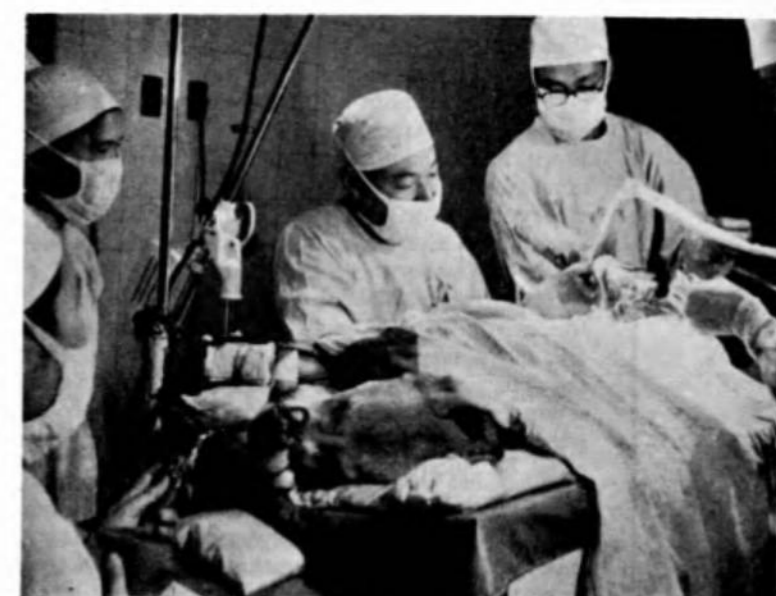
Overcoming the Difficulties

In learning to rejoin limbs and fingers after a fairly long time of separation, we encountered many difficulties in both the animal experiments and the clinical application. **But Chairman Mao's "Be resolute, fear no sacrifice and surmount every difficulty to win victory"** gave us unlimited strength. The thought that we were serving the people and making revolution gave us the courage to dare to struggle and surmount the difficulties to win victory.

Rejoining a severed finger is of course much harder than rejoining a severed hand. According to foreign medical journals, even the larger blood vessels of the fingers — usually less than 1 mm. in diameter and thus finer than a pin



A group of the surgical staff of the Shanghai No. 6 People's Hospital study Chairman Mao's works.



The author rejoins a dog's leg which has been kept at low temperature.

— cannot be rejoined, to say nothing of the tiny veins. Even today, foreign surgeons hold that a finger cannot be directly rejoined by suturing the blood vessels. How should we regard this difficult problem? We studied once again Chairman Mao's teaching: "If a man wants to succeed in his work, that is, to achieve the anticipated results, he must bring his ideas into correspondence with the laws of the objective external world; if they do not correspond, he will fail in his practice." Chairman Mao's words pointed the way, we had to find the objective laws of this kind of finger surgery through practice. We could overcome our difficulties only when we had mastered these objective laws. We carefully studied the changes the blood vessels underwent in fingers which had been severed in different ways, and finally discovered the laws

governing contraction and expansion of these vessels.

Technically the suturing of small blood vessels is very difficult and delicate work. How could we master its objective laws? Chairman Mao says that correct ideas "come from social practice, and from it alone". We chose to practise on the blood vessels of the ears of the rabbit, vessels of which are smaller than those in the human finger. When we first tried to sew the disconnected blood vessels together, contraction closed them and it took us an entire afternoon to complete the operation. Chairman Mao's words: "Give full play to our style of fighting—courage in battle, no fear of sacrifice, no fear of fatigue, and continuous fighting (that is, fighting successive battles in a short time without rest)" spurred us on. Prolonged concentration on

the delicate work at the operating table caused dizziness, but we persisted until we found satisfactory methods of suturing the tiny blood vessels. This kind of painstaking and persistent practice paved the way for our subsequent success in rejoining the severed fingers of workers. The creative study and application of Chairman Mao's works in our practice has been the fundamental reason for the constant discoveries, inventions, creations and advances in the medical field. The thinking of Mao Tse-tung has taught us to devote our all to the revolution, solve problems in our work with the materialist dialectical method, and dare to break through old stereotypes and conventions in practice. This has been the fundamental guarantee for success in all our work.

Surgical Operation

Severed fingers are of two types, complete and partial severance. In the latter case, even if the remaining flesh is only half a centimetre wide, it is not necessary to suture the blood vessels. In most cases, the blood supplied through the vessels of the remaining tissue is enough to revive the severed part. Better results can be achieved, however, if an artery is rejoined.

In a completely severed finger, if the severance occurs near the tip, the full capillaries make it unnecessary to suture the vessels and the part can be revived by rejoining the finger (matching the fingerprint). But if the severance occurs in the mid-section or near the palm, the finger as a rule cannot be revived without suturing the major arteries, because the greater amount of tissue cells die unless there is an adequate supply of blood. The veins must also be joined. Ordinarily, the higher the point of severance on a leg or arm, the bigger the blood vessels and the easier the operation; conversely, the lower the severance, the smaller the blood vessels and the more difficult the operation. For instance, the artery in the upper arm is as big as a pencil and quite easy to rejoin. But this is not so easy with an artery in a finger, which is as fine as a small sewing needle. Rejoining the veins in fingers is even harder. In addition, the bone, nerves and muscles must be rejoined.

Extremely delicate surgical instruments are needed to rejoin the fine vessels of the finger. For this purpose, Chinese workers have made needles finer than a human hair, the thread they lead being

less than 0.02 mm. in diameter. To enable the surgeon to see the suture field more clearly, Chinese workers have made magnifying glasses and operating microscopes. Suturing of blood vessels is already being done under these microscopes in some hospitals in China. Internationally, this technique has only been developed in the last few years.

After the arteries and veins of a severed finger are sewn together, the next difficult problem is to maintain blood circulation. The blood vessels are usually 0.3 to 0.5 mm. in diameter. If the suture is uneven or there is any outside pressure, this will tend to stop the flow of blood. Contraction of the muscles of the blood vessel walls is another important factor threatening free circulation. If serious, it can stop circulation completely. Pain and cold are among factors which can induce contraction. By summing up their successes and failures in practice, Chinese medical workers have found some effective measures to ensure circulation, such as employing an anti-coagulant after surgery so that even if circulation is slow the blood will not clot, or applying heat to stimulate blood vessel expansion.

Ordinarily, nerves and muscles are also rejoined. If early conditions do not permit, nerves and muscles are rejoined in a later operation. If the rejoined part remains in good condition two or three weeks after initial surgery, the blood vessels will have healed and revival of the rejoined part is certain. But the bone, and particularly the nerves, require a longer time, and normal functioning can be restored only after a period of therapy.



王杰日记片断 Wáng Jié Rìjì Piànduàn Wang Jie Diary Excerpts

我是一个革命者,我要做一个革命的
Wǒ shì yige gémingzhě, wǒ yào zuò yige gémingde
I am a revolutionary, I want (to) be a revolutionary

良种。党和国家把我撒到哪里,我就
liángzhǒng. Dǎng hé guójiā bǎ wǒ sā dào nǎlǐ, wǒ jiù
good seed. (The) Party and country me sow to where, I then

在哪里生根,开花,结果。撒在沙漠
zài nǎlǐ shēng gēn, kāihuā, jiéguǒ. Sā zài shāmò
at where grow root, blossom, (and) bear fruit. Sown at (the) desert

上,我就要长成绿色的长城;撒在荒
shàng, wǒ jiù yào zhǎngchéng lǜsède Chángchéng; sā zài huāng
on, I then will grow into green Great Wall; sown at (the) barren

山上,我就要使荒山变成
shān shàng, wǒ jiù yào shǐ huāng shān biàncéng
mountains on, I then will make (the) barren mountain become

花果山;撒在田里,我就要长成
huāguǒshān; sā zài tián lǐ, wǒ jiù yào zhǎngchéng
flower-fruit mountain; sown at (the) fields in, I then will grow into

丰产的庄稼。
fēngchǎnde zhuāngjia.
high-yielding crops.

什么是理想? 革命到底
Shénme shì lǐxiǎng? Géming dào dǐ
What is (the) ideal? (To carry on the) revolution to (the) end

就是理想。什么是前途? 革命
jiù shì lǐxiǎng. Shénme shì qiántú? Géming
then is (the) ideal. What is (the) future? (The) revolutionary

事业就是前途。什么是幸福? 为人民
shìyè jiù shì qiántú. Shénme shì xìngfú? Wèi rénmin
cause then is (the) future. What is happiness? For people

服务就是幸福。
fúwù jiù shì xìngfú.
serving then is happiness.

虚荣的人注视着 自己的名字;
Xūróng de rén zhùshìzhe zìjǐde míngzì;
Vain people gaze (at their) own name;

光荣的人注视着 祖国的事业。
guāngróng de rén zhùshìzhe zǔguóde shìyè.
glorious people gaze (at their) motherland's cause.

Reworded Translation

I am a revolutionary. I want to be a good seed of the revolution. Wherever the Party and country sow me, I will take root, blossom and bear fruit. If I am sown on the desert, I will grow into a green Great Wall. If I am sown on the barren mountains, I will transform them into mountains covered with flowers and fruit. If I am sown in the fields, I will become a high-yielding crop.

What is the ideal? To carry on the revolution to the end. What is the future? The revolutionary cause. What is happiness? To serve the people.

Vain people focus their eyes on their own name; honoured people focus their eyes on the cause of their motherland.

Explanatory Notes

1. Wang Jie was a young People's Liberation Army soldier. He was killed in July 1965 in an accident which occurred when he was teaching militiamen in a people's commune to lay mines. Nationally known for his devotion to the cause of revolution and his communist behaviour and spirit, he is emulated by all people, especially youth, in China. An article about him appeared in May 1966 in *China Reconstructs*.

2. Zhě 者 is used as a suffix to denote a certain kind of person, e.g., géming 革命 (revolution)—gémingzhě 革命者 (revolutionary); dú 读 (to read)—dúzhě 读者 (reader); zuò 作 (to write articles)—zuòzhě 作者 (author); bǎowèi 保卫 (to defend)—bǎowèizhě 保卫者 (defender).

3. Nǎlǐ 哪里 means "where". It is sometimes repeated in a sentence construction, "... nǎlǐ ... nǎlǐ", to create emphasis. E.g., Dǎng hé guójiā bǎ wǒ sā dào nǎlǐ, wǒ jiù zài nǎlǐ shēng gēn 党和国家把我撒到哪里,我就在哪里生根, meaning "Wherever the Party and the country sow me, I will take root there".

4. In describing colours, the word sè 色 (meaning "colour") often follows the word indicating the particular colour. E.g., lǜ 绿 means "green" but "green" is often expressed as lǜsède 绿色的.

5. Chángchéng 长城 means the well-known Great Wall of China. In lǜsède Chángchéng 绿色的长城, it is used figuratively to denote very large shelter belts.

A Simple Key to Pronunciation

Consonants: b, c (ts), d, f, g, h, j, k (as in kill), l, m, n, ng, p (as in peak), q (as in cheer), r (as in run), s, t, w, x (as in ship), y, z (dz), zh (as in rich), ch (as in chew), sh (as in shrub). The last three are pronounced with the tip of the tongue curved back.

Vowels: a (as in father), o (ò), e (ù), i (ì), u (ü), ü (as in German), after j, q and x, u pronounced as ü. The sounds of combination vowels such as ai and iao are as in English.

To save space, letters in which the sound is the same as, or similar to, that used in English are not further described.

A fuller key to pronunciation of the phonetic alphabet used in this column may be obtained on application to *China Reconstructs*.

WE BEND NATURE TO OUR WILL

LI JIH-NAI



Splitting a mountain for a main irrigation canal across its face.

IN 1957, our respected and beloved leader Chairman Mao told us: "Lichiachai is a good example of transforming China in the spirit of the Foolish Old Man Who Removed the Mountains."* Ten years have passed since he spoke of our success in changing the poor mountains and taming the evil waters of our area.

We began to transform our mountains and harness our rivers in 1954, just after our village or-

LI JIH-NAI is secretary of the Communist Party branch of the Lichiachai production brigade of the Tashan People's Commune in Shantung province.

ganized an agricultural producers' co-op. Looking back on the way we have taken during the past 13 years, we clearly realize that the reason our poor mountain village has undergone such a big change is our persistent battle against nature, our continuous development of the spirit of the Foolish Old Man and our reliance on the good tradition of "hard work and self-reliance" which Chairman Mao teaches us. Now the mountains of the Lichiachai brigade are covered with green trees and grass, the steep slopes have been turned into level terraces, and the

water flows at man's command from the rivers into reservoirs and ponds for irrigation. Thanks to these achievements, our agricultural production has gone up steadily. In 1965 our per-mu yield of grain reached 600 jin, five times as much as before the liberation. Last year it rose to 807 jin.

Jagged Mountains

Lichiachai is a brigade of the Tashan People's Commune in southern Shantung province. It has 456 households and 2,200 people. Situated between eight mountains, many hills and two rivers, our area is split up into 136 deep ravines and valleys. As a result, our cultivated land in the old days was divided into scattered pieces—so small that in some places, for example, a single mu of land was often divided into more than ten plots. Since most of the mountains are of granite, the soil was extremely poor and only two or three inches deep. Lying on the slopes, most of our farm land was seriously affected by erosion. During the rainy season torrents rushed out of the mountains like wild beasts down the ravines and caused bad floods. Every year several hundred mu of such land were washed out and destroyed. Bad natural conditions and feudal exploitation ground the peasants down in dire poverty. A pre-liberation folk song in our village went like this:

*Year after year we harvest
nothing from the land we
cultivate.*

*Amidst hunger and cold we
live away our life.*

* *The Foolish Old Man Who Removed the Mountains* is the title of one of the three most widely read articles written by Chairman Mao. It is based on an ancient Chinese fable: There was once a man, ninety years old. He was called the Foolish Old Man. In front of the door of his house lay two mountains, blocking communication with the outside world. The Foolish Old Man and his family set out to remove the mountains. When his friend, the Wise Old Man, heard what he was doing, he came to see him and said, "You are already ninety. The mountains are high, how can you possibly remove them?" The Foolish Old Man replied, "I am old, but I have children. My children will also have children, and so on from generation to generation. The mountains cannot grow higher. We will certainly be able to remove these mountains."

*The poor mountains and evil
waters give us no way out;*

It is better to die than to live.

In the old days 70 households in our village had to go begging all year, 180 households worked as hired labourers for the landlords, and over 60 households moved to the northeast because of famine.

In 1953, under the leadership of the Communist Party, we formed an agricultural producers' co-op. The next year we started the battle to transform the mountains and harness the rivers through our new collective strength. Some members lacked confidence at first. They thought it impossible to build socialism in such a poor village as ours, that we could do this only by moving to the plains. But many former poor and lower middle peasants said, "We should not hold the illusion that we have to move to a better place in order to build socialism. The kind of thinking that believes in fate and luck won't help us. To build socialism, we have to rely on the spirit of self-reliance. We should conquer the poor mountains and evil floodwaters with our own hands and shoulders, with the shovels and hoes we've been using." Such ideas won the approval of most of the members.

The first battle we fought was to improve the soil. We deep-ploughed the land so as to remove the stones underneath and increase the depth of the soil. Then we made a great effort to build terraces to check erosion. Inspired by the spirit of the Foolish Old Man, the members showed great enthusiasm. Our slogan was: "Make the mountains move away, make the stones break into pieces, the rivers change their courses and the ravines close up!"

To speed up the work, we combined three processes into one: deep-ploughing and levelling the land, building terrace walls, and digging drainage ditches. Between 1954 and 1957 we levelled 11 big hills, filled in 21 depressions and more than 300 small ravines, changed the courses of two rivers, combined over 1,000 small plots of land into 110 big tracts, and built 1,900 mu of level terraces. As a

result, water and soil conservation on our farm land was greatly strengthened. The increase in the per-mu yield of grain was between 70 and 100 jin. During the same period we also planted trees on 6,000 mu of barren mountains, built 12 small reservoirs and dams, and sank 79 wells.

Following Chairman Mao's Teachings

After our initial success, we submitted our report of transforming the mountains and controlling the waters to the government. Then in October 1957, on an evening which we Lichiachai people will never forget, we learned the exciting news that Chairman Mao had personally written a comment on our work! The whole village seethed with activity and excitement and the news passed quickly from one person to another. The State Council sent us an award banner on which was written: "The heroic cooperative conquers the poor mountains and evil waters."

That very evening our co-op head, Li Yue-chu, who was a national model agricultural worker, called a meeting of the Party and Youth League members. Li Yung-chien, the leader of the "Steel No.

6" production team, got up and said, "Chairman Mao has given us high praise, but who is worthy of it? We have only taken the first step in our battle against the poor mountains and evil waters. We are going to lead the members to fight an even more vigorous battle against nature. If we can't make the mountains bend their heads, the rivers step out of our way, the land yield high, we shall not be worthy of Chairman Mao's concern for us!" At the end of the meeting we all swore before Chairman Mao's picture: "We will follow Chairman Mao's teachings, carry the revolution to the end, be new Foolish Old Men of socialism!"

Under the encouragement of Chairman Mao's comments, we waged our next hard-fought battle, harnessing the Tashan River. Running along the foot of a big mountain west of the village, it was a strange river. It flooded seriously when mountain torrents came. But in ordinary times water could not be seen in the river, for it ran beneath the sandy, stony bed. Could this sub-surface water be used for irrigation? It could. In 1958 the Party branch decided to build a dam to check the underground water.



On the site of a water conservation project, young people study *The Foolish Old Man Who Removed the Mountains*.

At the request of the Party branch, our Youth League organized 280 members and other young people in the village to do the hardest work of digging out the sand and clearing the foundation for the dam. Work started in March 1958. The project was supposed to be built before the rainy season that year. In a race with time, the young people formed a work shock team and lived and ate on the construction site.

When they had dug three metres deep, the underground water gushed out about half a metre high. But they still had not reached the bottom of the river bed. Some began to be dubious and said, "Even if we dig ten metres deep, we won't reach the bottom!" Then the young people held a meeting on the work site and reviewed Chairman Mao's comments once again. Finally they all agreed that so long as they followed the spirit of the Foolish Old Man, they would certainly be able to reach the bottom.

They broke up their team into three groups in order to do the shock work in shifts. Where the shovel could not be used on the broken stones and pieces, they moved them away with their hands. When they were stiff with cold, they drank some wine and went right on working. After ten days of shock work like this, they reached the hard bottom of the river bed and completed their task.

In three months of hard work, the young people and other members built a dam 148 metres long and 5.5 metres high on time. That year the project irrigated over 300 *mu* of farm land.

Overall Planning

In 1958 a people's commune was set up in our area, and this created conditions favourable for unified planning and bolder projects. Based on this and the success won in the early years, we worked out an overall plan for further efforts. We first started to improve the terraces we had already built. We levelled them more accurately, rearranged the tracts according to the natural contour, and built permanent walls and drainage systems

for them. We planted such shrubs as False Indigo on the walls to hold the earth and slow down the flow of water. All this conserved water and soil on the terraces more efficiently. Several more years of continuous effort converted 2,700 *mu*, or 90 per cent, of our farm land on the mountain slopes into such terraces. The problem of erosion is basically solved.

According to the principle of overall planning, each year since 1958 we have systematically planted trees and grass over the mountains from top to bottom. We planted Masson Pine and Black Pine on the tops, Black Locust lower down, fruit trees on the slopes, Kudzuvine at the foot and in the ravines. Along the banks of the rivers we planted willows, poplars and Shrubby False Indigo. Large-scale afforestation has brought us many advantages: the rapid flow of water down the slopes has been checked and reduced, and the roots of the trees, nourished by the water, have consolidated and held back the loose soil. As a result, erosion is prevented. Between 1958 and 1965 we planted 1,000 *mu* of trees and replanted another 1,000 *mu* where some of the trees set out in earlier years had not survived. Now, practically all of our barren mountains have been planted with trees and grass.

The Never-ending Revolution

In the battle to transform nature, we never forgot Chairman Mao's teaching that we must constantly carry on the revolution. We did not rest on our laurels but kept setting higher aims for ourselves after each success. In 1964, during the mass campaign of creative study and application of Chairman Mao's works, all the cadres and members of our brigade studied *On Contradiction* and other philosophical writings of Chairman Mao. On summing up our experience in transforming nature during the past ten years, we used *On Contradiction* as a weapon to analyse and discover the main contradiction in further plans to transform nature and raise our agricultural production. In this article Chairman Mao wrote: "If in any process there are a number of contradic-

tions, one of them must be the principal contradiction playing the leading and decisive role. . . . Once this principal contradiction is grasped, all problems can be readily solved."

Through study and discussions, we realized that we had definitely won remarkable success in improving the soil, building the terraces and tree-planting. But, although our per-unit yield had increased fivefold compared to that before liberation, we had not given enough attention to water conservation—the lifeline of agriculture. Our increases in yield, therefore, had not been as striking as those of some agricultural advanced units. The yield on most of our farm land was still not high or stable enough. So we all agreed that our next aim would be to convert our dry land into irrigated land so as to ensure a stable, high yield.

Building a Big Reservoir

Just then Comrade Li Yue-chu, now the director of our commune, participated in a visiting group organized by our county government to go to the Hsiatingchia brigade in Huanghsien county to learn from their experience. Back in the winter of 1957, Hsiatingchia had sent people to our village to learn from our experience in transforming the mountain slopes. In recent years they had improved their work continuously and created many new methods in transforming nature.

The most valuable experience Li Yue-chu brought back was on water conservation. It lay in the words of the secretary of the Party branch of Hsiatingchia: "In the beginning we only dug wells and built dams. But these did not provide a basic solution to the problem of irrigation. Finally we found the solution in a valley in the distant mountains—building a reservoir."

Our people began to discuss the question. Many were of the opinion that the valley called Lungtan in the upper reaches of the Tashan River was an ideal site for a reservoir. Some of us had thought of this in the past, but the reason we had never carried it out was



The once-barren slopes of the Lichiachai production brigade, now in fine level terraces under intensive farming.

that our revolutionary spirit of daring to think and act was not strong enough. Now that Hsiatingchia had set an example for us, we determined to follow it.

Work on the Lungtan Reservoir (now called the "East Wind Reservoir") started in November 1964. In the Lungtan valley, 800 men of our brigade carried on an arduous struggle in piercing cold. Chairman Mao's article *The Foolish Old Man Who Removed the Mountains* was again the source of their courage and strength. In 125 days of hard work they dug over 70,000 cubic metres of earth and 6,000 cu. m. of stone. The reservoir was finished just before the 1965 flood season. Its dam is 170 m. long and 22 m. high. It holds 1,250,000 cu. m. of water and ensures gravity irrigation for 2,700 *mu* of dry land.

When the reservoir was completed, the next job was to build a complete system of canals. The canals had to go around mountains and over valleys to reach our land, a task more difficult than constructing the dam. But nothing could stop us. We organized a special team of 200 people for the job. In three months we built the

main canal five kilometres long, three branch canals and 101 subsidiary stone structures.

Through our efforts during these last two years, 90 per cent of our dry land has been put under irrigation.

Good Harvest in Bad Drought

In 1966 our area was hit by a serious drought. The annual rainfall was only 300 mm. instead of the usual 900 mm. Despite the drought, however, we won a record harvest of 807 *jin* of grain per *mu*, the highest ever reached in our brigade. Such a miracle was possible because the water conservation projects we had built played their role, but more particularly because the cadres and members of our brigade have drawn inexhaustible strength from Chairman Mao's works. As we fought the drought, we acted according to what Chairman Mao has taught: "Be resolute, fear no sacrifice and surmount every difficulty to win victory."

Though we had our big main reservoir, it had not yet had time to fill up from the rains. Our wells went dry, then our ponds, and

when the water so far accumulated in the reservoir gave out, we carried water from the two distant rivers by carrying-pole. But we defeated nature with our record harvest and our members said happily that we owed our success to Chairman Mao's thinking.

In our fight over the last 13 years to transform our poor mountains and harness the evil waters, we relied on our own hands and backs, using only such simple implements as our hoes and shovels. In the numerous hard-fought battles against nature, the metre-long iron bars used for drilling became worn down to small ones only a foot long. Hoes weighing six kilograms at the start were worn away into things like eagles' claws a few inches long. We calculated roughly that we wore out over 10 tons of iron and steel. Each of the 700 workers of our brigade put in an average of 150 work days per year on this job. All of our cadres and members are determined to live up to the praise Chairman Mao gave us. To build up our socialist mountain village, to build our motherland into a strong, prosperous country, we will continue to work hard and try our best to become the new socialist Foolish Old Men!



Cambodian sportsmen eagerly accept Chairman Mao's works and publications on China's proletarian cultural revolution.

New Era in Asian Sports History

HSINHUA NEWS AGENCY REPORTERS

THE First Asian GANEFO (Games of the New Emerging Forces), held in Phnom Penh, Cambodia, November 25 to December 6 last year, were the first international sports meet in Asia to break away from the imperialists' control and monopoly of international sports. With a strong anti-imperialist spirit, 2,000 enthusiastic and friendly athletes from 17 Asian countries and regions racked up outstanding records in an unprecedented demonstration of good sportsmanship and tenacious fight-to-win style. A new era has arrived in the history of Asian sports, for the Games clearly mapped the road ahead in the development of sports among the Asian peoples and helped strengthen the unity of the peoples of Asia and the world against imperialism.

The September 1965 decision of GANEFO's Asian Continent Committee to hold the Games was welcomed with enthusiasm in Asia. Host country Cambodia, under the leadership of Samdech Sihanouk, went all out to complete preparations for the Games, contributing greatly to its success. Though the U.S. imperialists and their lackeys tried in every way to prevent the Games from being held, their shameful attempts at sabotage failed.

Chairman Mao has said: "The affairs of the various countries of the world should be run by the people in these countries themselves; Asian affairs should be run

by the Asian people themselves, not by the United States." The striking thing about the success of the First Asian GANEFO is that it proves that the people of this part of the world have the resources and ability to develop their own sports as well as other undertakings independently.

A Review of Asian Sports

The Games were a grand review of sports levels already reached by the athletes of Cambodia, China, Vietnam, Laos, Korea, Mongolia, Pakistan, Nepal, Ceylon, Palestine, Syria, Iraq, Yemen, Indonesia, Lebanon and Japan. Competition was in basketball, volleyball, track and field, swimming, diving, gymnastics, fencing, marksmanship, archery, tennis, table-tennis, badminton, cycling, football, water polo, boxing, wrestling, judo, weight-lifting, rowing and yachting. Athletes gave splendid accounts of themselves and exciting new records were set. In weight-lifting, swimming, track and field, marksmanship and archery, they smashed two world records in weight-lifting, chalked up the world's best high jump result for the past three years, only 0.01 m. short of the world record, broke 59 GANEFO (1963) records and a large number of national records. Table-tennis, badminton, football, basketball and volleyball matches all reached world levels of play.

Most of the delegations won places in the competitions. Ten countries and regions won cham-

pionships. New records and higher technical levels revealed the great progress made in the last few years by the New Emerging Forces in Asia in the independent development of their sports. Athletes already known to the world broke through to new heights at the Games, while younger newcomers showed striking courage, tenacity and daring. Their remarkable records proved the truth of **Chairman Mao's words: "The masses have boundless creative power" and "The people, and the people alone, are the motive force in the making of world history"**.

The athletes from Vietnam and Laos brought their burning hatred for the U.S. imperialist invaders with them, regarding the Phnom Penh stadium as a further training ground. Their unflinching and dauntless fighting style scored brilliant records. Tran Anh, Vietnamese sharpshooter already famous for his part in downing many U.S. pirate planes, captured the championship in the men's 50-metre pistol match with 551 points in 60 shots. His comrades won the team championship in this event. Vietnamese athletes also won two championships in track and field and swimming, and 25 second and third places.

The sportsmen from the host country Cambodia demonstrated the great strides they had made in sports and athletics by contributing remarkable records. In track and field, swimming, cycling and archery, they smashed 36 and

equalled 3 national records, broke 8 First GANEFO records, won 13 championships, 90 second and third places.

Tenacious athletes from five Arab countries, including Palestine which is waging a sharp struggle against U.S. imperialism and its tool Israel, showed great determination and were eager to learn from others. They won 8 championships and 35 second and third places.

The Chinese sportsmen, marching under the great red banner of Mao Tse-tung's thought, brought the deep friendship of the Chinese people to their Asian friends in Phnom Penh. Throughout the competitions they followed Chairman Mao's teaching to be modest and prudent, to guard against the bourgeois habit of arrogance and rashness. To the Games they brought the new revolutionary dash and spirit of the great proletarian cultural revolution sweeping their own country.

In the competitions, China broke two world records. In weight-lifting (bantamweight class) a press of 118.5 kg. bettered a previous world mark, also held by China, by 0.5 kg. In the featherweight class, a jerk of 158 kg. made the 30th time a Chinese weight-lifter has set a world record. A Chinese high jumper cleared the bar at 2.27 m., breaking the Chinese na-

tional record of 2.26 m. Chinese athletes also smashed 18 other national records and 51 First GANEFO records. Apart from all the above, they won 113 championships at the Games.

New Spirit and Style

During the Games, Phnom Penh was a scene of laughter, song and enthusiastic friendship. The sportsmen brought with them the deep friendship of their own peoples, enlarging and expanding it through their personal contacts in competitions and other activities.

The sportsmen trained together before the competitions started. Every day the women swimmers from China, Vietnam and Cambodia practised together in the pool, advising and helping each other. Sportsmen passed on their techniques to teammates and opponents alike. In table-tennis, for example, nine doubles teams made up of players from seven different countries worked together as closely as brothers and sisters. When athletes broke a record or performed exceptionally well, those from other countries rushed to congratulate them.

In a football match between China and Palestine, a Chinese player fell. The Palestinian back gave up his opportunity to score and helped the Chinese player up. Later in the game, a Chinese for-

ward had the ball in front of the goal. The Palestinian goalkeeper dashed forward to stop the shot, but fell. The Chinese player chose to lose the goal, nimbly jumping over his Palestinian friend to avoid hurting him. Such sportsmanship was universal among the contestants, always winning the applause of the spectators.

Unity against Imperialism

The First Asian GANEFO was a clear mark of the power and determination of the Asian people in their opposition to U.S. imperialism. Even as the Games were announced, the International Olympic Committee and other reactionary international sports organizations under the control of U.S. imperialism began frantically trying to prevent the sportsmen of some Asian countries from taking part. They used "warnings", threats of "disciplinary measures" and "suspension of membership" from sports organizations. When these tricks failed, the U.S. imperialists tried others. On the eve of the Games, they got Israel to demand that Cambodia not send an invitation to the Palestinian athletes. They attempted to confuse public opinion and sow discord among the Asian peoples by spreading the lie that Israel had been invited to take part in the Games. Cambodia exposed the U.S. imperialists' plot and



Cambodian young people staged mass calisthenics displays called "Prosperous Cambodia Forges Ahead", including this scene showing the Vietnamese people's determination to defeat the U.S. aggressors.

solemnly declared that it would not be cowed by the threat. Both before and during the Games, the U.S. aggressor army and its South Vietnam and Thailand puppets attacked and invaded Cambodian territory. Instead of being intimidated, the Cambodian people, under the leadership of Samdech Sihanouk, grew stronger in spirit and were more determined than ever to make the Games a success. When the two new world records in weight-lifting were announced, the U.S. imperialists hurried to get their rubber-stamp, International Weight-lifters' Federation, to play the old trick of "non-recognition". This stupid action, however, only won the severe condemnation of everyone at the First Asian GANEFO.

The U.S. imperialists' foolish attempts to sabotage the First Asian GANEFO only emphasized more fully the correctness of Chairman Mao's statement: "Historically, all reactionary forces on the verge of extinction invariably conduct a last desperate struggle against the revolutionary forces." In spite of all the U.S. imperialists could do, the success of the First Asian GANEFO strengthened the unity of the Asian sportsmen and the people of their respective countries in their struggle against imperialism.

The Sportsmen's Respect for Chairman Mao

The GANEFO sportsmen at Phnom Penh demonstrated a great respect for Chairman Mao as the greatest Marxist-Leninist of our age. At a get-together of athletes from China, Palestine, Syria, Iraq, Yemen and Lebanon, a Palestinian friend said, "Chairman Mao Tse-tung is a great revolutionary teacher. His writings have given inestimable strength to the fighting Palestinian people who respect Mao Tse-tung and love the Chinese people!" A Syrian friend warmly praised the greatness of Mao Tse-tung's thought and studied passages from *Quotations from Chairman Mao Tse-tung* with the Chinese sportsmen.

A similar scene took place at another gathering. Sportsmen from Cambodia, Vietnam, Laos and Japan told their friends from

China of their enthusiastic praise for Chairman Mao, joining them in a lusty singing of "The East Is Red" and "Rely on the Helmsman When Sailing the Seas".*

The sportsmen at the First Asian GANEFO eagerly asked their Chinese friends for copies of the *Selected Works of Mao Tse-tung*, *Quotations from Chairman Mao Tse-tung*, Mao Tse-tung buttons and portraits. The Palestinians took several sets of the *Selected Works of Mao Tse-tung* and many portraits as precious gifts for their comrades-in-arms back home. Receiving a shining red Chairman Mao button, an Iraqi athlete said, "Mao Tse-tung is a great and out-

* Words and music in *China Reconstructs*, October 1966.

standing leader. His thesis that imperialism and all reactionaries are paper tigers has given great encouragement to the oppressed people of the world. We people of Iraq respect Chairman Mao and love the Chinese people under his leadership."

The respect and admiration the Asian sportsmen have for Chairman Mao lies in the fact that in the struggles in their homelands they have found that Chairman Mao always stands on the side of the oppressed, resolutely supporting their struggles against imperialism, old and new colonialism, and always supporting the Asian peoples' deep desire to develop their own countries independently.

STAMPS OF NEW CHINA

Commemorating First Asian GANEFO

A commemorative set of four 8-fen stamps was issued on December 31, 1966 in honour of the First Asian Games of the New Emerging Forces held last November-December in Phnom Penh, Cambodia.

Stamp 1. Chinese athletes carrying a portrait of their beloved leader Chairman Mao and holding up copies of the little red book, *Quotations from Chairman Mao Tse-tung*. Red-orange and gold.

Stamp 2. Sportsmen from various countries standing arm in arm and holding Chairman Mao's works, showing their great unity in the fight against imperialism. Printed over a sea of red flags is a quotation from Chairman Mao: "The struggle of the people of the world against U.S. imperialism and its lackeys will assuredly win still greater victories." Chairman Mao Tse-tung's signature appears below the text. Vermilion, yellow and cobalt.

Stamp 3. Chinese athletes make friendly contacts with sportsmen from other countries. Vermilion, green and cobalt.

Stamp 4. Mutual encouragement and progress—Chinese athletes studying Chairman Mao's works with contestants from other countries. Vermilion, yellow and blue.

The characters at the base of stamps 1 and 2, and at the top of stamps 3 and 4, read: "The First Asian Games of the New Emerging Forces." Stamps 1 and 2 measure 40x54 mm.; stamps 3 and 4 40x30 mm. Perf. 11. Multi-colour photogravured. Index No. Commemorative 121. Serial Nos. 391-394.



Children's Page

Red Guards on a Trolley Bus



AS a No. 11 trolley bus left the Hsi Chih Men terminal in west Peking one morning, the conductress suddenly heard a high-pitched, youthful voice saying, "Comrade, is anyone coming to read the *Quotations from Chairman Mao Tse-tung* to the passengers?"

"Not that I know of," the conductress replied. At once two exuberant teen-age Red Guards climbed on board.

As soon as the trolley filled up, the two youngsters began to recite to the beat of bamboo clappers:

*If water doesn't flow, it will stink,
If a boat is not mended, it will leak,
If a gun is not cleaned, it will rust,
If a man does not study Chairman Mao's works,
His thinking will become backward.*

Everyone listened, enthused by their vigour. The clappers stopped and the two young revolutionary fighters took out their shining red-covered *Quotations from Chairman Mao Tse-tung*. "Comrades, let's study Chairman Mao's words," they called out. Then, starting with question and answer, they shouted in ringing tones, "Who is a revolutionary in the full sense?" Then came the answer, "Chairman Mao says, 'Whoever sides with the revolutionary people is a revolutionary...'"

The passengers had already taken out their own copies of the

little red book and together with the youngsters continued to read from its pages.

BORN in the storm of the great proletarian cultural revolution which has swept China, the Red Guards are steeling themselves in the fire of struggle. They are determined to wash away all the dirt left over from the old society and to spread with fervour the invincible thinking of Mao Tse-tung. It was at the suggestion of the Red Guards that three small red flags were fastened in front of every bus and trolley in the city. These three red flags stand for the General Line for Socialist Construction, the great leap forward, and the people's communes. It was also at their suggestion that a portrait of Chairman Mao was hung above the driver's seat in every bus and trolley along with quotations from his works.

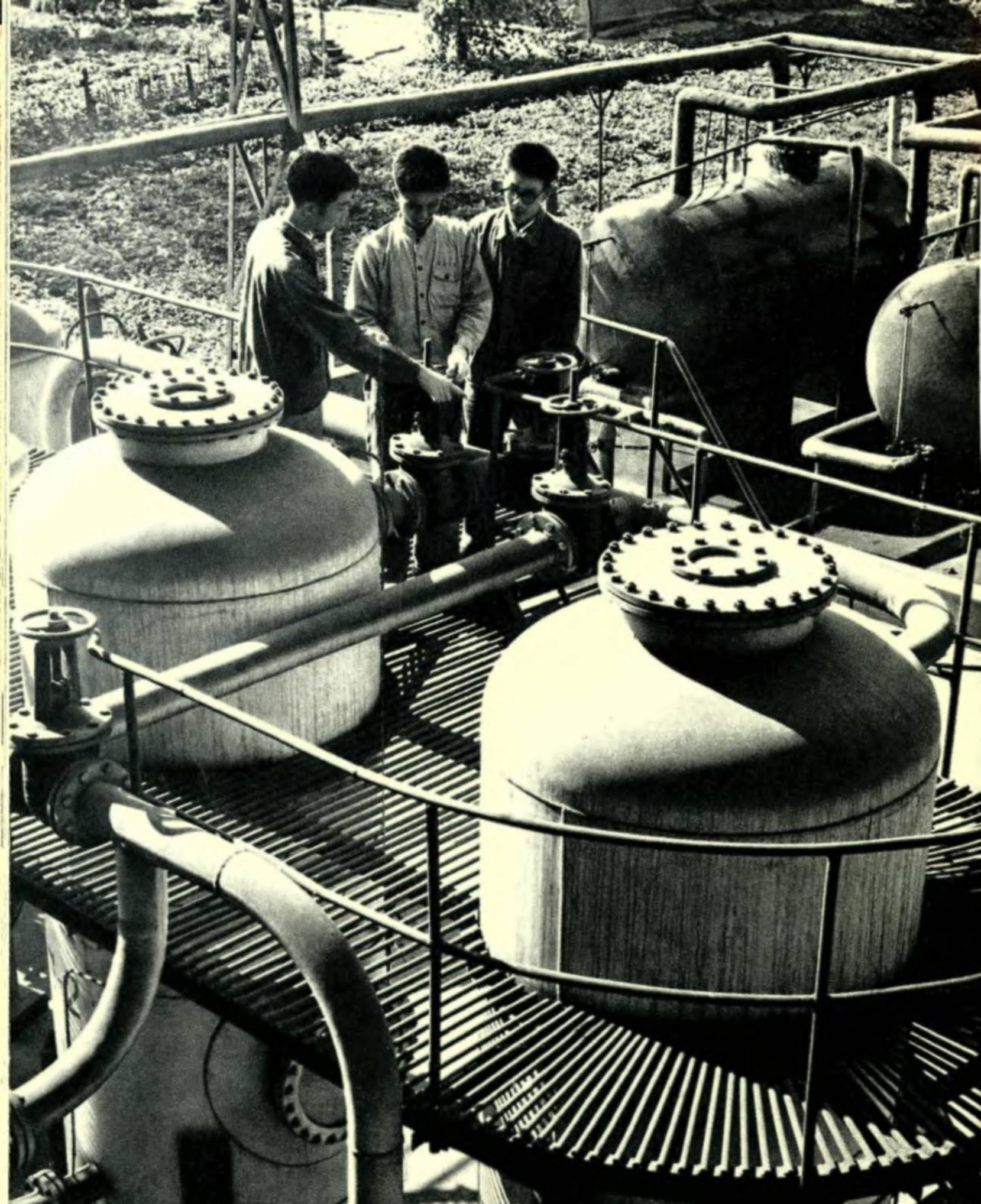
Inspired by their complete devotion to the Communist Party and Chairman Mao, the Red Guards started the practice of reading quotations from Chairman Mao aloud in all public transport vehicles, making them centres for the spreading of Chairman Mao's thought. Sometimes they do it for eight or nine hours at a stretch. When the conductor suggests they go home for dinner, they take a steamed bun from their pocket and answer smilingly, "We are prepared for a continuous battle." Schoolchildren barely 10 years old

vie with the older ones in this work. They, too, are extremely conscientious and enthusiastic.

THIS morning as the No. 11 trolley continued its run, the sun reached noonday heat. The throats of the two young fighters had become parched. They looked up at the portrait of Chairman Mao with his warm, kindly expression, then at their red armbands. "You are the red soldiers of Chairman Mao," they seemed to be telling themselves. They felt new strength and their spirits soared. After talking together briefly, they pushed to the centre of the trolley and shouted, "Comrade Lin Piao said that to teach a good song is to teach an important lesson. Let's sing, 'When Sailing the Seas, Rely on the Helmsman'. How about it?"

"Good," came the passengers' response.

Moving their arms like experienced conductors to give the beat, the Red Guards led the passengers in the song which expresses the deep love that the masses of the Chinese people hold in their hearts for Chairman Mao. The passengers asked for one revolutionary song after another. The happy singing that came from the bus was taken up by passers-by in the street. A young mother turning to her small son told him, "Look, the Red Guards are really good pupils of Chairman Mao. When you are bigger, you too must become a Red Guard."





Mao Tse-tung's Thought — A New Stage in Marxism-Leninism

Your magazine has presented the cultural revolution in China, a revolution which clearly indicates that Chairman Mao has developed Marxism to a higher level. The gazette has also shown how the guilt of revisionism can be noted. It has shown me that in everything there is contradiction. It has shown me the way to fight the American imperialists and that peace will be brought to the world through socialism but not through imperialism.

The illustrations show me that what the Chinese people are doing is at a higher level than that of the imperialist world. They clearly indicate that society is in constant change. We here in Africa should move together with the world.

I strongly support the Chinese people's support for the Vietnamese people for their just struggle against American warmongers. They should carry it to the end. The Chinese people should advance nuclear weapons for the protection of world peace.

I. A. A.

Aria, Uganda

Words are inadequate to express my profound admiration for the immense and historic achievements of the militant Chinese people. No lie or lies are great enough to disguise the fact that China today is carrying, high and bright, the torch of international proletarianism. China's role in Vietnam serves admirably to remind the working people of all countries of their obligation in terms of their support for our oppressed brothers.

Only the continuation of Marxism-Leninism under the revolutionary guidance of the 20th century hero Mao Tse-tung and the driving force of the Communist Party of China can liberate the oppressed people of Asia and will consequently guarantee future victories and peace for the whole of mankind.

K. MILLER

London, England

"On 'Three-Family Village'" and "Never Forget the Class Struggle" were both articles of the utmost interest to me and, I am sure, to many Swedes, because it shows the only way, the true way of Marxism-Leninism from capitalism to communism in a modern state. It also shows the importance of Chairman Mao Tse-tung's work and progressive thought already in a very early period of the Chinese communist movement.

AKE PERSSON

Harnosand, Sweden

Such articles like "Self-Reliance Has Proved Itself", "We Don't Turn Down a Difficult Order!" and "Oil to Dominate

Old China" give us some precious lessons which we can use to build our country. I am proud of New China with Chairman Mao and the glorious Communist Party.

HOANG MINH THU

Hanoi, Vietnam

Praise for the Cultural Revolution

The *Jiefangjun Bao* April 18th and May 4th 1966 editorials brought us a rich harvest of percussive ideas. Such ideas are found among all formerly oppressed people in town or countryside. They are struggling to liberate labour from all parasitism and to liberate their spirit from the bourgeois falsehoods which degrade and corrupt by cupidity. What a lot of assets are thus being smothered by these monsters! I admire very much the revolutionary impulse of the Chinese people, the rising of its consciousness and its great dignity. We are proud also to be Chinese in our hearts.

LAFONTAN

Cauderan, France

On Reading 'China Reconstructs'

*Tears well up for communist courage,
our hearts beat with Ouyang Hai's;
Freedom unfetters love for labour
and we long to labour, to tire, to stand
breathless and breathe the air breathed
by masses with whom this consciousness
is shared: what wouldn't we give to call
a stranger in our land, "Comrade"?*

*Indeed, what will we give?
We are not made of "special stuff"
or poured from "special moulds";
our courage is unfettered by what we
know;
thoughts of freedom stir not in our
hearts
alone but grow like waves of wild
flowers
in the breasts of all our future allies.*

*When we pause, then, projecting our
spirits
into Chinese cloth and covet harvests
cultivated in Chinese blood and sown in
high consciousness, let us defeat the
selfish aspect of these dreams and apply
inspired resolution to the struggle of
our allies nearby who are, in their
hearts as longingly, our comrades-to-be.*

A READER

Berkeley, U.S.A.

Change the World's Old Systems

Two years ago I subscribed to your excellent magazine and also to *China Pictorial*. In both I admire the articles

that deal with your efforts, will and intelligence, comrades and brothers, to fight nature so that your sons will enjoy a better future. This example should serve as the beacon that illuminates the obscurity in which people live in a great part of the world. However, a greater force than nature opposes it: capitalism and the damned Yankees.

I trust your country and your people will continue to illuminate the world with the hope to change its old and anachronistic systems.

J. I. S. GOMEZ

Montevideo, Uruguay

Wisdom of the Masses

"An Experience to Remember" is a short article but indeed great in its content. It is real and has great significance. China, the heroic nation that has fought so much to overcome the old prejudices to build a new society, does not need to only copy from foreign inventions. She has to trust, as Comrade Liu Wen-chiang has said, in the wisdom of her own people. This cannot be applied solely to technology, but must also be applied to politics: we Marxist-Leninists have to derive our politics from the "wisdom of the masses".

A. E. DESPRADEL

Brussels, Belgium

Genuinely Socialist Opera

What especially caught my attention were the articles about the new Chinese theatre.

I have been able to see that Chinese contemporary art, rich from a cultural past many thousands years old, has embarked with determination on the new road opened by the socialist revolution. The contemporary Chinese opera is genuinely socialist, springing from the people, intended for the people and not for the bourgeois elite as is the case in capitalist countries.

JACQUES REPOND

Ct. Fribourg, Switzerland

Great Power of the People

The article "The People Are a Bastion of Iron" indicates the great power of your people in smashing the reactionary forces in your country.

The Chinese people, in their struggle to liberate their country from the yoke of Japanese imperialism, which wanted to enslave the Chinese people with power and violence, stood heroically against aggression. They finally defeated it and banished it from all parts of your country after a long, bitter struggle in dark caves and tunnels. This shows that your revolutionary people are very strong and very courageous.

SALAH IZZ-EDDINE

Arbil, Iraq

CHINA RECONSTRUCTS

