

PEKING REVIEW

7

February 19, 1961

SINO-SOVIET TREATY ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATED

The nation hails the great unity and friendship of China and the Soviet Union on the 11th anniversary of their Treaty of Friendship, Alliance and Mutual Assistance (p. 5).

CHINA CONDEMNS IMPERIALISM FOR MURDER OF LUMUMBA

Anger sweeps country denouncing crime of U.S.-led imperialism in Congo (p. 10).

Greetings to Congress of Albanian Party of Labour

Message of Central Committee of Communist Party of China; Li Hsien-nien's speech (p. 16).

Support for Laotian People's Struggle Against U.S. Intervention

Premier Chou En-lai's reply to Prince Sihanouk and *Renmin Ribao* editorial (p. 19).

Spring Festival Highlights

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Read the February issue

CHINESE LITERATURE

A Monthly in English

● **THIRD SISTER LIU**

A new opera from the Kwangsi Chuang Autonomous Region about the famed songstress of ancient times whose barbed verses made the feudal landlord squirm. With it is a critique of the opera by Li Hui-chung.

● **SHORT STORIES** by Hsiao Mu and Malchinhu.

● **IN HIS MIND A MILLION BOLD WARRIORS**

Yen Chang-lin, leader of Chairman Mao Tse-tung's guards from 1946 to 1951, writes about the Chairman during the northern Shensi campaign. Concluding part.

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PEKING REVIEW

北京周报

(BEIJING ZHOUBAO)

A WEEKLY MAGAZINE OF CHINESE
NEWS AND VIEWS

February 19, 1961 Vol. IV No. 7

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Round the Week

Spring Festival 1961

As dusk fell on February 14, fire-crackers began to explode and light the skies over cities and villages across the land. Families, young and old together in joyful annual reunion, sat down to the lunar New Year's Eve dinner. Afterwards, they turned to watch the younger generation and some old enthusiasts themselves lit firecrackers to "send the old year packing and welcome in the new spring." Whole families proceeded to the opera houses, theatres, cinemas, assembly halls or, in the countryside, to the great village squares to enjoy top-notch entertainment. Many went to dances in the clubhouses and others stayed at home and chatted away the remaining hours of the old year by the fireside. Such were the "lead-off" celebrations of the Spring Festival or Chinese lunar New Year, the biggest holiday in China, which this year fell on February 15. Officially a three-day holiday most offices and organizations worked on Sunday in exchange for Saturday stretching it to a grand total of four. In the countryside, some people's communes were able to extend the festivities even further.

An exhaustive list of the countless activities of the holidaying people would be impossible. Suffice it to say that joy and merry-making "reigned supreme." There was the traditional family reunion, visiting kinsmen and friends to give personal greetings, going to the theatres and bazaars, and treating oneself and guests to delicacies, which to northerners means above all dumplings. To the glowing, brightly clad children the Festival meant new toys, acrobats, comics, films, shows, a chance to play the gongs and cymbals and to watch with fascination the brightly lit lanterns and the myriad attractions devised both to whet and satisfy their young curiosity.

BRISK SALES

Preparations for the Spring Festival started weeks in advance. Through the efforts of the workers and staff of trade, transport, industrial and other departments, stores in city and countryside alike were well stocked with consumer goods for the Festival,

and factories, communes and families were well provided with what was especially needed for the occasion. In many cities, door to door deliveries of groceries were made by local trade departments. Huge quantities of household articles were sold, and the traditional lanterns, toys, firecrackers, flowers, rosettes for ladies' headware and papercuts for decorating the windows enjoyed a brisk sale. In Peking a million copies of New Year pictures sold out in a matter of days. In Shanghai, pre-holiday sales of more than 140 kinds of consumer goods increased 30 to 50 per cent. Thirty per cent more Festival commodities were sent to the suburban areas than during the same period last year. Some 70,000 people daily, or twice the number on an ordinary day, visited the famous Chenghuangmiao bazaar in the week before the Festival. Holiday shoppers upped January sales there more than 100 per cent compared with those of the same month last year.

GOOD ENTERTAINMENT

The richness and variety of this year's cultural offerings left little to be desired by even the most demanding. Theatre bookings were heavy and in many cities tickets were sold out days in advance. In Peking, holiday-makers swarmed to theatres, open till well past midnight, for a star-studded festival programme of operas, plays, concerts, ballets, acrobatics and puppet shows, presenting nearly two hundred items, both classical and modern (see p. 25). Leading artists of the capital's dramatic and musical organizations appeared on the stages of the factories and rural people's communes, giving special performances for worker, peasant and soldier audiences. Amateurs in factories, people's communes, Government organizations and schools arranged their own programmes. One Shanghai textile mill's theatrical troupe offered its workers and their families a show a day throughout the holidays. The rural communes enjoyed the best in local folk opera and popular programmes of folk songs and instrumental music by their own member-



artists. And, of course, Spring Festival wouldn't be a festival without the traditional and beloved dragon and lion dances and the superbly skilled performances on stilts!

In Canton, the annual flower bazaar which opened on lunar New Year's Eve added lustre to the festive city. Row upon row of peonies, chrysanthemums, roses, lilies, camellias, peach and other blossoms created a glorious pageant of colour. Sales were heavy. The bazaar also had an abundant display of bamboo, ivory and silk handicrafts, lanterns of every description, and a great variety of toys, plus birds and goldfish.

EVERYBODY'S HOLIDAY

The Spring Festival, though a Han tradition, is also widely celebrated by people of other nationalities in China. Reports from Lhasa are especially gay. In a happy coincidence the Tibetan New Year fell on February 16, the second day of the Spring Festival. On that day the Working Committee of the Chinese Communist Party in Tibet, the Preparatory Committee for the Tibet Autonomous Region and other organizations jointly held a *tuantai* gathering (meaning greeting together). Chang Ching-wu, the Central People's Government representative in Tibet, and Panchen Erdeni, Acting Chairman of the Preparatory Committee, enthusiastically reviewed last year's achievements in Tibet.

Public buildings as well as private houses were bedecked with colourful

silks, New Year paintings and streamers. In the evening, electricity generated by the new power station bathed the streets of the ancient city in light. The people sang and danced in the open streets. The Tibetans who were newly freed from slavery and reaped the greatest harvest in their history last year were certain that the new year — the Year of the Iron Ox, according to the Tibetan calendar — would be one in which life will become still better.

In the southwest's Yunnan, in the villages of Juili County on the Sino-Burmese border where the people of Tai nationality

reside their own traditional Spring Festival customs were observed. On lunar New Year's Day all families took the traditional dinner in their bamboo huts. Young women danced to the rhythm of the long drums in the palm-tree-lined courts while their elders presented sticky rice to their neighbours according to local custom. In Huhehot, Inner Mongolian Autonomous Region, the Mongolians, Hans, Huis and Koreans celebrated the Spring Festival together.

A growing tradition of the Spring Festival in New China is the annual get-together between the People's Liberation Army and the people in the vicinity in which they are stationed. Throughout the country responsible cadres of the local government and representatives of the people's organizations paid holiday visits to People's Liberation Army units offering greetings and expressing gratitude for their service in defending the nation and helping in national construction. On the Fukien front, where for two days the P.L.A. ceased its artillery shelling against the Kuomintang reactionaries on the Quemoy and other coastal islands the local people called on the P.L.A. units. They jointly organized parties and enjoyed a variety of entertainments together.

The people also called on the families of servicemen and revolutionary martyrs, disabled and demobilized soldiers. This is the traditional practice of honouring

the people's army developed since the days of the early revolutionary wars. The P.L.A. reciprocated in turn with its annual review of support for the Party and Government policies and love for the people. On the eve of the Spring Festival in many army units every officer and man resolved to do a good deed for the people — and they lost no time in going into action. In Kwangtung Province in the south, they helped the peasants plough the land, and in Changchiakou to the north, they gave the local people's communes a hand with winter irrigation. Engineers and mechanics of the three services helped the commune members repair tractors and other farm machinery. Naval units along the eastern coast sent ships to Chungming Island to assist the local transport department in ferrying passengers home for the holidays.

GET-TOGETHERS

Making Spring Festival calls was not limited to relatives, friends and the people's army. Leading cadres of factories and mines visited the homes of the workers. Students called on their teachers to pay their respects.

An outstanding nationwide feature of this year's Festival activities were the get-togethers of workers and peasants. Many rural commune members were invited to celebrate with the workers. They held joint festivities of every kind but wherever they met their discussion inevitably turned to last year's battle against Nature's havoc, the victories of the three red banners, and the unfolding movement to develop agriculture in a big way. Workers and peasants alike are confident that the effects of the natural calamities can be overcome and are resolved to win a better harvest this year. Spring Festival is also the time when bright red scrolls appear on doors bearing couplets expressing the hopes and aspirations for the New Year. Last week a pair of such scrolls enlivened the doorway of a house in Peking's western suburbs. Written in bold strokes were the words:

*Spring returns and the earth yields
her harvest to a determined people,*

*The sun gives fresh vigour and we
scale new heights in building
socialism.*

This aptly sums up the mood of the nation.

Great Unity, Eternal Friendship

Following is a translation of the "Renmin Ribao" editorial published on February 14. Subheads are ours. — Ed.

TODAY is the 11th anniversary of the signing of the Sino-Soviet Treaty of Friendship, Alliance and Mutual Assistance. It is with boundless joy that the Chinese people, together with the great Soviet people and all progressive mankind, celebrate this yearly festival, which coincides with the Spring Festival, and acclaim the great unity and eternal friendship between the fraternal peoples of China and the Soviet Union.

The Great October Socialist Revolution ushered in a new stage in the friendly relations between the Chinese and Soviet peoples. The emergence and growth of the first socialist state in human history and the sympathy and support of the Soviet people for the Chinese revolution were an extremely great inspiration to the Chinese people in the midst of their protracted and arduous struggle. The slogan "Follow the path of the Russians" reflects, in concentrated form, the admiration which the Chinese people have for the Soviet Union. The Chinese revolution is a continuation of the October Revolution. The victory of the Chinese people's great revolution and the birth of the People's Republic of China in 1949 opened a broad path for the new development of friendly relations between our two countries. The signing of the Sino-Soviet Treaty of Friendship, Alliance and Mutual Assistance sealed in the form of a treaty the unity between the peoples of our two countries. Comrade Mao Tse-tung pointed out at that time: "The unity of the great Chinese and Soviet peoples will be lasting and inviolable and nobody can split it. This unity will inevitably influence not only the prosperity of the two great powers—China and the Soviet Union—but also the future of all humanity and the victory of peace and justice the world over." This has been proved by countless facts in the past 11 years and will continue to be proved by the development of history in the future.

In the past 11 years, China and the Soviet Union have engaged in extensive mutual assistance and co-operation on the basis of this Treaty of Friendship, Alliance and Mutual Assistance for the purpose of achieving a common upsurge in the economies of the two countries. Through the signing and implementation of a series of agreements on the development of co-operation in the fields of economy, trade, science and technology and culture, our two countries have vigorously promoted the speedy growth of their cause of socialist and communist construction, thereby immensely strengthening the might of the entire socialist camp. It should be pointed out particularly that, in the course of China's rehabilitation of its national economy and building of socialism, the Soviet Union—the most powerful and most developed socialist country—has given us tremendous assistance which we

could not have obtained from any other country. In the period of China's First Five-Year Plan, the Soviet Union assisted China in building 166 huge construction projects. In 1958 and 1959, the Chinese and Soviet Governments again signed agreements on Soviet assistance to China in building a group of industrial projects. In accordance with these agreements, the Soviet Government has, in the form of trade and loans, provided China with complete sets of modern equipment and a large quantity of technical data. The Soviet Government has sent at different times more than 10,000 outstanding specialists to assist China in construction and in the training of large numbers of Chinese technicians. Simultaneously with Soviet assistance to China in its construction, China, on its part, has also provided the Soviet Union with large quantities of industrial and mining and agricultural products. The Chinese people will always remember the assistance of the Communist Party, Government and people of the Soviet Union and will always be wholeheartedly grateful to them for this assistance which is an expression of their fulfilment of the noble proletarian internationalist duty.

Mutual Support

In the past 11 years, the two fraternal countries of China and the Soviet Union, together with the other fraternal countries of the big socialist family, have made common efforts for the victory of the cause of world peace and human progress. Our common enemies—imperialism and the reactionaries—have never stopped for a single moment plotting and preparing for a new war directed against China and the Soviet Union and the entire socialist camp, pushing forward their policies of war and aggression, carrying their expansionist activities to all parts of the world, and creating tension and threatening world peace. In the struggle against our common enemies, mutual support and close co-operation between China and the Soviet Union in international affairs are of the greatest significance. The Government and people of China have consistently supported the foreign policy of the Soviet Union to strengthen mutual assistance and co-operation among the fraternal socialist countries, support the liberation struggles of the oppressed nations and peoples in the capitalist world and strive for the realization of peaceful co-existence between countries with different social systems, and the various proposals of the Soviet Union for carrying out this policy. We are grateful to the Soviet Government and people for their support of China's struggle to uphold its territorial integrity and sovereignty, and for their untiring efforts to restore China's lawful rights in the United Nations. The great Sino-Soviet alliance is a strong bulwark of world peace; it has played and will continue to play an increasingly big role in ensuring peaceful construction in China and the Soviet Union, safeguarding the security of the socialist camp, support-

ing the national liberation movement in Asia, Africa and Latin America and the struggle of the peoples of all countries for world peace, democracy and freedom and socialism.

The Communist Parties of China and the Soviet Union are the two biggest Parties of the international communist movement. China and the Soviet Union are the two biggest countries in the socialist camp. The 860 million people of the two countries make up nearly one-third of mankind. The great unity between the Chinese and Soviet Parties, between the two countries and their peoples, is the foundation stone of the unity of the socialist camp and of the international communist movement. And the unity of the socialist camp and of the international communist movement is the most important guarantee for the victory of the cause of all peoples for world peace, national liberation, democracy and freedom and socialism. It is precisely because of this that the imperialist group headed by the United States and the reactionaries in all countries most fear our firm, strong unity. They have plotted by every possible means to undermine our unity, but they have failed again and again. The result of the recent Moscow Meeting of Representatives of 81 Communist and Workers' Parties and the Statement adopted unanimously at that Meeting have further strengthened the unity of the socialist camp, the unity of the international communist movement and the unity of the Chinese and Soviet Parties and the two countries.

Following the Moscow Meeting, Comrade Liu Shao-chi, Vice-Chairman of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China and Chairman of the People's Republic of China, leading a Chinese Party and Government delegation on a friendly visit to the Soviet Union, was accorded a most enthusiastic welcome by leading comrades of the Party and Government of the Soviet Union and the Soviet people. This vividly demonstrated the new development in the inviolable friendship between the two big fraternal Parties, the two fraternal countries and the two fraternal peoples. Comrade Liu Shao-chi drew the conclusion at the close of this friendly visit that "both the Soviet people and the Chinese people have a fervent desire to reinforce the unity between the peoples of the two countries. Whenever we speak about reinforcing the unity between the two Parties and the two countries and the friendship between the two peoples, people are very happy. Conversely, any words or deeds which are not in the interests of the unity between our two Parties and two countries, or which impair the basis of this unity—the fundamental principles of Marxism-Leninism—will not be countenanced by the people of China. Nor will such words or deeds be countenanced by the people of the Soviet Union. And I believe that they will not be countenanced either by the people of any of the countries of the socialist camp or by the people who constitute over 90 per cent of the total population in the capitalist world."

Comrade Khrushchov, referring to the friendship and unity between China and the Soviet Union in his report on January 6, said that "the friendship between the peoples of our two great countries and the unity between our two Parties (the two biggest Parties in the international communist movement) are of especially great significance in the struggle for the victory of our common cause. Our



Hail Sino-Soviet Solidarity!

Poster by Hou Yi-min

Party has all along made its best efforts and will in future continue to do so to strengthen this great friendship."

Brilliant Achievements

While celebrating the great alliance between China and the Soviet Union, the Chinese people, who have achieved great victories in the past three years, are continuing to hold high the three red banners of the general line for building socialism, the great leap forward and the people's communes under the leadership of the Central Committee of the Chinese Communist Party headed by Comrade Mao Tse-tung, making efforts to overcome the temporary difficulties in the way of their victorious advance and striving for new successes in the building of socialism. The Chinese people are extremely happy to see that the fraternal Soviet people, under the leadership of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union headed by Comrade N.S. Khrushchov, have made outstanding achievements in full-scale communist construction and for the fulfilment of the Seven-Year Plan ahead of schedule. In the first two years (1959-60) of the Seven-Year Plan, the total value of industrial output of the Soviet Union exceeded the original target by 22.1 per cent, and steel output rose by more than 10 million tons. According to this year's plan, steel output will increase by a further 6 million tons to reach the total of 71 million tons. In agriculture, the Soviet Union has also registered tremendous achievements. In the past five years, the average output of commodity grain exceeded the 1953 figure by more than

1,000 million poods and the quantity of dairy products and meat purchased by the state also more than doubled. The achievements of Soviet science and technology, especially in the conquest of outer space, have shaken the world. In the past year, the Soviet Union successfully launched three spaceships in succession. On the heels of the heavy artificial earth-satellite orbited eight days ago, the Soviet Union launched on February 12 another heavy sputnik from which was projected a space rocket in the direction of the planet Venus. All this shows that, in the most important fields of science and technology, the Soviet Union has left the United States farther behind. There is no doubt whatsoever that these Soviet achievements in economic construction and in science and technology are extremely important contributions to the strengthening of the might of the socialist camp and to promoting the struggle for world peace, democracy, national liberation and socialism. The Chinese people wholeheartedly congratulate the great Soviet people on all these achievements and are overjoyed and inspired by them.

Sino-Soviet friendship and unity, based on Marxism-Leninism and proletarian internationalism, have been further strengthened and developed. This is a distinctive feature of the 11th anniversary of the signing of the Sino-Soviet Treaty of Friendship, Alliance and Mutual

Assistance. This has filled the people of the whole world with boundless joy, and only the imperialists, reactionaries of all countries and their agents—the Yugoslav revisionists—are dismayed. The Chinese Communist Party and the Chinese people have always regarded it as their sacred duty to ceaselessly fortify the unity between the Chinese and Soviet Parties and between the two countries. The resolution adopted by the recent Ninth Plenary Session of the Eighth Central Committee of the Communist Party of China points out: "The Communist Party of China has consistently striven to maintain and strengthen the unity between the Chinese and Soviet Parties and between the two countries, holding that this is in the fundamental interests of the peoples of China and the Soviet Union and also of the peoples of the whole world. The imperialists will never see the realization of their vain hopes of splitting the unity between the Chinese and Soviet Parties and between the two countries."

Let the people of our two countries continue their efforts to further strengthen Sino-Soviet unity, the unity of the socialist camp and the grand unity of the peoples of the whole world, and march forward hand in hand in the struggle for world peace and human progress.

Long live the great, unbreakable, eternal unity and friendship between the Chinese and Soviet peoples!

Celebrating a Mighty Alliance

THESE days it is truly a case of "double happiness knocking at our door." On the very eve of the traditional Spring Festival (lunar New Year) came the 11th anniversary of the signing of the Sino-Soviet Treaty of Friendship, Alliance and Mutual Assistance, an anniversary long established as a great red-letter day in our country.

Eleven years ago, on February 14, 1950, the Treaty was signed in Moscow. The Chinese delegation was personally led by Chairman Mao Tse-tung. As a result, the mighty Sino-Soviet alliance for socialism and peace was sealed in treaty form. Every year since, the Chinese people mark the occasion both as a review of Sino-Soviet friendship and solidarity and as a great demonstration against the imperialists who regard it with implacable hostility. This year, as befits the growing friendship and prosperity of the two countries and the socialist camp as a whole, and coming in the wake of the Moscow Meeting of the Representatives of the Communist and Workers' Parties, the celebrations have taken on added warmth and significance.

Gala Events

Public events commemorating the occasion began early last week and continue even as we go to press. They were as warm in spirit as they were multifarious in form. In Peking, in the provincial capitals and other major cities throughout the country, impressive and colourful rallies were held. There were also special showings of Soviet feature films and documentaries as well as photographic exhibits illustrating the achievements of the Soviet people in all fields of construction. Numerous factories, schools and Government offices had their own anniversary

gatherings at which people who have worked closely with Soviet experts and advisers and those who have visited or studied in the Soviet Union recalled the invaluable aid they had received from Soviet friends and the deep attachments formed in the course of these contacts. On the 14th, *Renmin Ribao* ran a feature unique in its history. It carried a special page which it had edited for *Pravda* and another which *Pravda* had edited for it. Written by noted people, workers, farmers and scientists of the two countries, these pages were alive with greetings and accounts of the life of these two giants of socialism and their achievements. Also included were pledges of their best efforts to further strengthen Sino-Soviet friendship.

The celebrations were climaxed on February 13 by a mammoth 10,000-strong rally of representatives from all walks of life in Peking's Great Hall of the People. Chou En-lai, Vice-Chairman of the Central Committee of the Chinese Communist Party and Premier of the State Council, Peng Chen, Chen Yi and Tan Chen-lin, Members of the Central Committee's Political Bureau, Po I-po, Alternate Member of the Central Committee's Political Bureau, and other Party and Government leaders and leading members of people's organizations were present. Soviet Ambassador S.V. Chervonenko, members of the Soviet-Chinese Friendship Association Delegation headed by F.V. Konstantinov and many guests from the Soviet Union and other fraternal countries and Parties also attended. Liao Cheng-chih, Member of the Central Committee of the Chinese Communist Party and Vice-President of the Sino-Soviet Friendship Association, delivered the opening speech. Soviet Ambassador Chervonenko and Comrade F.V. Konstantinov were guest speakers.

That evening Soviet Ambassador Chervonenko gave a gala reception in honour of the anniversary attended by Chou En-lai, Chen Yun and other Party and Government leaders. On the following day, Vice-Premier Chen Yi gave another grand reception observing both the anniversary and the Chinese Spring Festival.

Basis for Sino-Soviet Friendship

In the course of these rallies and celebrations, the full significance of the Sino-Soviet alliance and friendship were spelt out in detail. As Liao Cheng-chih declared at the Peking rally, "it has become ever clearer to the people of the world that the great Sino-Soviet alliance is the biggest barrier preventing the imperialists from starting a world war and enslaving the people of the world, that it is the mighty bulwark for safeguarding world peace and the most reliable friend of all oppressed nations and peoples."

Ambassador Chervonenko, noting that the fraternal friendship between the Soviet and Chinese peoples and those of the entire socialist camp was the guarantee of the forthcoming victory of socialism and communism, remarked: "The Soviet and Chinese peoples have a common destiny and a common goal, that is, to establish and consolidate the new social system of socialism and communism. All political activities conducted by our two Communist Parties and Governments both at home and in foreign relations and every aspect of the everyday life of our peoples are subject to this great goal. . . . The Soviet people have always regarded the Chinese people as their reliable brothers and allies. Whether times are fine or gloomy, our two peoples are always together, their hearts beating in unison, their thoughts and efforts united. The Soviet people say that rivers may dry up and mountains

have landslides, but the friendship between the great peoples of the Soviet Union and China will endure for ever and remain unbreakable."

Or as head of the Soviet delegation Konstantinov declared, "the significance of the Soviet-Chinese Treaty of Friendship, Alliance and Mutual Assistance lies in the fact that it makes it possible to safeguard the peaceful creative labour of the tens of millions of people in the countries of the socialist camp. And this will play a decisive role in the victory of socialism and communism."

And in explaining the nature of this alliance, the speakers also made clear why the imperialists inevitably fail in their attempts to undermine this friendship. The Sino-Soviet alliance and the alliance between the socialist countries, Liao Cheng-chih pointed out, "is built on the common foundation of Marxism-Leninism, on the basis of complete identity of fundamental interests. It embodies the principle of integrating proletarian internationalism with patriotism and represents the long-term interests and noble ideals of mankind. Hence it is unbreakable and full of vitality. Sabotage by the enemy can do no harm to our great Sino-Soviet alliance, but on the contrary, makes us treasure and love it even more." Konstantinov also characterized the imperialists' dream of splits and disputes between socialist countries as vain. "The basis of the relations between the socialist countries," he noted, "is their common economic and social system—the abolition of the exploitation of man by man, their common political system and their common ideology of socialism, of Marxism-Leninism and of national goodwill, equality and fraternal friendship that are predominant in these countries."

A Feature of Our Life

Anniversary activities brought into sharp relief an all-important feature of life in our country—the fact that friendship with the Soviet Union and the Soviet people has become a part of our consciousness with deep roots. Numerous instances of this were evident in the course of the celebrations. Ambassador Chervonenko and members of the Soviet-Chinese Friendship Delegation were invited to take part in the combined anniversary and lunar New Year festivities of the Sino-Soviet Friendship People's Commune on the outskirts of Peking. They were welcomed by commune members with firecrackers and the beating of gongs and cymbals and the popular *Lion Dance*. After a celebration rally, the hosts plied their guests with Peking duck and fish from their own farms and with the main Festival delicacy—the meat dumplings. At the Peking Central Conservatory of Music, the Soviet guests were cheered by more than 1,000 teachers and students. There was a concert of Chinese and Soviet songs and music in which guests and hosts participated. Here as elsewhere were many musicians and singers trained with the help of Soviet experts in China and the Soviet Union.

* * *

February 14 was a festival day for both the Chinese and Soviet peoples. In the Soviet Union, the celebrations were as warm and widespread as in China. There was a giant rally in Moscow at which A.A. Andreyev, Chairman of the Council of the Soviet-Chinese Friendship Association, Chinese Ambassador Liu Hsiao, Chang Su, head of the Sino-Soviet Friendship Association Delegation, and representatives of Moscow citizens spoke. Comrades Khrushchov, Kosygin, Mikoyan, Suslov and

Soviet Rocket Heads Towards Venus

Word of the successful launching of a Soviet space rocket heading towards the planet Venus roused instant, wide and enthusiastic acclaim from the Chinese public. Coming as it did in the midst of the Chinese people's anniversary celebration of the Sino-Soviet Treaty of Friendship, Alliance and Mutual Assistance, it gave added joy and splendour to the festive occasion. Commonly referred to as "another feat of our Soviet comrades," it was the talk of the town.

On the 13th, when Soviet Ambassador S.V. Chervonenko, opening a Peking exhibition on his country's achievements in the conquest of cosmic space, announced the news of the latest Soviet automatic interplanetary station, it was greeted by the Chinese scientists present with a long standing ovation.

On behalf of Chinese scientists, President Kuo Mo-jo of the Chinese Academy of Sciences cabled President Nesmeyanov of the U.S.S.R. Academy of Sciences and extended warmest congratulations to the Soviet colleagues.

Chen Yi's Speech at Celebration Banquet

ON February 14, Vice-Premier and Foreign Minister Chen Yi and his wife gave a banquet in Peking's Great Hall of the People to celebrate the 11th anniversary of the signing of the Sino-Soviet Treaty of Friendship, Alliance and Mutual Assistance. It was also a happy get-together of distinguished guests from many countries in celebration of the Chinese Spring Festival.

Premier Chou En-lai and other leaders of the Chinese Government were among those present.

Addressing the gathering amidst warm applause, Vice-Premier Chen Yi said: "Today marks the 11th anniversary of the signing of the great Sino-Soviet Treaty of Friendship, Alliance and Mutual Assistance; it is also the eve of the Spring Festival—the traditional festival of the Chinese people. We feel especially happy, on this doubly joyous occasion, to be able to gather together with our friends from many countries. This gathering today symbolizes not only the great unity of China and the Soviet Union and the great unity of the socialist countries, but also the great unity of the peoples of the whole world. On behalf of the Chinese people and Government, I heartily thank and express my high esteem for all our distinguished guests and friends.

"Attending today's banquet are the delegation of the Soviet-Chinese Friendship Association headed by Konstantinov; the Soviet delegation headed by Kумыкин and Arkhipov, which has come to China for talks on economic and trade relations between the two countries; the joint delegation of Soviet trail blazers and technical innovators and the Geological Prospecting Workers' Union headed by Shelakhin; and other Soviet comrades. Please allow me, first of all, to extend my warm welcome to our distinguished Soviet guests and other Soviet comrades present, and I warmly greet the steady consolidation and growth of the great Sino-Soviet alliance. The Chinese people will spare no effort to strengthen this great alliance; they will for ever stand together with the fraternal Soviet people and, jointly with them, make still greater contributions to the struggle for the cause of a lasting peace and human progress.

"Attending the banquet today are also many distinguished guests from socialist countries, specialists and their wives from socialist countries and fraternal Parties. Let us warmly greet the great achievements in our common cause and the constant enhancement of our fraternal unity and friendship. I would like to take this opportunity to express once again our sincere gratitude to the Soviet Union,

to the other socialist countries and to the fraternal Parties for the support and assistance they have given to our people.

"Attending today's banquet are also the Nepalese Delegation to the Chinese-Nepalese Joint Boundary Committee, headed by Major-General Padma Bahadur Khatri; and distinguished guests from many Asian countries. As a result of the common efforts made by the Governments and peoples of China and Nepal, the second meeting of the Chinese-Nepalese Joint Boundary Committee held in Peking has basically reached all-round agreement on the Chinese-Nepalese boundary question. We applaud the success of the talks on the question of the Chinese-Nepalese boundary and tender congratulations in advance that the Chinese-Nepalese boundary treaty will soon be signed and that the Chinese-Nepalese boundary will be a permanently peaceful boundary. We ardently look forward to solving outstanding questions between China and other countries cherishing the same desire on the basis of the Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence, and to consolidating and developing friendly and good-neighbourly relations with them. We warmly wish new successes to the peoples of Asia in the cause of upholding their national independence and developing their national economies.

"Many distinguished guests from African and Latin American countries are also attending today's banquet. We are happy to see that the friendly ties between the Chinese people and the African and Latin American peoples are developing rapidly and extensively; an important indication of this was the recent exchange of diplomatic envoys between China and Cuba and between China and Ghana and the mutual establishment of embassies. We wish new and greater victories to the national and democratic movements in Africa and Latin America. We hope for further development of the friendly relations between the Chinese people and the African and Latin American peoples.

"The diplomatic envoys of various countries to China, the diplomatic officials as well as their wives are also attending today's banquet. We thank them for their fine co-operation with our Government, and we look forward to still better co-operation in the future. Let us express our warm wish for the steady enhancement and growth of the friendship between the peoples of China and other countries, and still greater successes to the peoples of all countries in their cause of safeguarding world peace."

other Soviet Party and Government leaders attended the anniversary reception given by the Chinese Ambassador Liu Hsiao. And in all parts of Asia, Africa, Latin America and Europe, the Chinese and Soviet embassies and legations gave joint or separate receptions to commemorate the occasion.

The Chinese and Soviet national colours flown side by side, framed by giant numerals 1950-1961—this was the emblem prominent in Treaty anniversary celebrations throughout China and the Soviet Union last week. It symbolizes the prowess of a mighty alliance of 860 million people in the common cause of socialism and peace.

China Strongly Protests Against the Murder Of Premier Lumumba

Following is the text of the statement issued by the Chinese Government on February 14 in protest against the murder of Patrice Lumumba, Premier of the Republic of the Congo, by the imperialist bloc and its agents. — Ed.

PATRICE LUMUMBA, Premier of the Republic of the Congo, Joseph Okito, President of the Senate, and Maurice Mopolo, Minister of Youth and Sports, were murdered by imperialism and its agents. The whole world is shocked by this tragic news. This is a vile and cruel attack by the new and old colonialism represented by the United States of America and Belgium against the cause of national independence of the Congolese people and all the African peoples; it is also a serious provocation to the peace-loving peoples of Asia, Africa and the whole world. The Government of the People's Republic of China and the Chinese people express their extreme indignation and strongest protest against this sanguinary, towering crime committed by the imperialist bloc headed by the United States of America and its agents.

The murder of Premier Lumumba and others has thoroughly revealed the ferocious face of the imperialist bloc headed by the United States of America in its aggression against the Congo and Africa. The United Nations bears an unshirkable responsibility for this crime of the imperialist bloc. Ever since U.S. imperialism supported the Belgian colonialists in launching armed aggression against the Congo, it has been stepping up its scheming activities to swallow the Congo under the United Nations flag. It first utilized the "United Nations Forces" controlled by it to forbid the lawful Congolese Government to use the Congolese state radio station and airfields; then it directed the Mobutu clique to subvert the lawful Congolese Government headed by Premier Lumumba and house-arrested, kidnapped and persecuted Premier Lumumba. In the face of the strong pressure of the peoples of Africa and the whole world who firmly demand the release of Premier Lumumba and the restoration of the lawful Congolese Government, U.S. imperialism and the "United Nations Forces" controlled by it went the length of inciting the Belgian colonialists and their agents to take Premier Lumumba forcibly to Katanga and had him murdered by the hands of the Tshombe clique. In the meantime, the imperialist bloc headed by the United States of America hastily knocked together in Leopoldville an illegal "provisional government" of the Ileo clique and directed the Mobutu and the Tshombe cliques to launch military attacks from different directions on the vast areas controlled by the lawful Congolese Government presided over by Vice-Premier Gizenga in a vain attempt to put down the sacred patriotic struggle of the Congolese people in defence of their national independence and to set up a combined rule of the imperialist bloc headed by the United States of America in the Congo.

The plan of aggression against the Congo undertaken by the imperialist bloc headed by the United States of America will never succeed. The murder of Premier Lumumba by imperialism and its agents does not indicate the strength of imperialism and its agents, but reveals their weakness and fear in the face of the great Congolese people. Premier Lumumba and other patriot-martyrs have laid down their precious lives for the cause of the independence of their motherland, yet the great patriotic struggle of the Congolese people is developing vigorously. Rallying around the lawful Congolese Government presided over by Vice-Premier Gizenga, the Congolese people are uniting more closely and dealing increasingly heavy blows at imperialism and its agents. Imperialism and its agents must eventually pay for their bloody aggressive crimes in the Congo; they absolutely cannot escape punishment by the Congolese people, the African peoples and the peace-loving people of the whole world. The Government of the People's Republic of China and the Chinese people stand firmly by the Congolese people, support the Congolese people's just struggle to safeguard the independence and unity of their motherland and oppose the aggression and intervention against the Congo by imperialism headed by the United States of America, and are deeply convinced that the Congolese people will even more firmly unite together and persist in their struggle until final victory is won.

Message to Gizenga

China Ready to Establish Diplomatic Relations With Congo

Vice-Premier and Foreign Minister Chen Yi on February 19 sent a cable to Antoine Gizenga, Acting Premier of the Government of the Republic of the Congo, which declared:

"On behalf of the Government of the People's Republic of China, I have the honour to inform Your Excellency that the Chinese Government has decided to reaffirm its position of recognizing the Government led by Your Excellency as the sole legal Government of the Republic of the Congo and is ready to establish diplomatic relations with your country and exchange diplomatic representatives of the rank of ambassador. I believe the profound friendship between our two peoples built up in our common struggle against imperialism will certainly develop with each passing day."

New and Old Colonialists, Get Out of the Congo!

Following is a translation of a "Renmin Ribao" editorial on February 18. Subheads are ours. — Ed.

THE news of the murder of the Congolese national hero, Premier Lumumba, has stirred waves of angry protest among the people of the world against the frenzied attacks on the Congolese people by the United States and Belgian imperialist bloc and the U.S.-controlled "U.N. forces." All Africa is in an uproar. In Cairo, about 10,000 people demonstrated in front of the Belgian Embassy, wrecked an American bookshop and forced two U.N. offices in Cairo to lower the U.N. flags. In Accra, 3,000 people broke into the U.S. Embassy and the U.N. office and tore the U.N. flag to shreds. Demonstrations have taken place everywhere — in Conakry, Khartoum, Bamako, Lagos, Rabat, Zanzibar and Johannesburg, to the resounding slogan "Imperialism Get Out of Africa!" In Asia and Latin America, in the Soviet Union and all other socialist countries, mass protests condemning the murder of Lumumba have been launched on an extensive scale. Demands for severe punishment of the murderers and principal plotters of the murder, for the halting of imperialist aggression and intervention in the Congo, and for the recognition and support of the legal Congolese Government headed by Gizenga have risen to a crescendo. Even at the U.N. Security Council session, roars of "Long Live Lumumba!" and "Down with the Murderers!" broke out and interrupted the speech of U.S. delegate Stevenson. This was unprecedented at U.N. headquarters.

U.S. President Kennedy at a press conference on February 15 boasted about the U.N. role in the Congo, alleging that "the United Nations offers the best possibility for the restoration of conditions of stability and order in the Congo." He quoted Nehru's statement to the effect that "if the United Nations goes out of the Congo, it will be a disaster" and added, "I strongly agree with this view." Are these actually the facts? If so, why have the U.S. Government, the Belgian Government and the United Nations been subjected to such angry condemnation and protests by peoples of all countries of the world? It is not difficult to find the answer if one reviews the actual role played in the Congo in the past few months by the authorities of the "U.N. forces" under control of the imperialist bloc headed by the United States.

The following are the main facts about the so-called "U.N. operation" in the Congo:

First, the U.N. authorities in the Congo have done nothing at all to halt Belgian aggression and disarm the Belgian colonialist troops. On the contrary, immediately upon entering the Congo, the "U.N. forces" held talks with the Belgian colonialist army authorities and reached agreement on "spheres of influence" for the joint occupa-

tion of the Congo by the "U.N. forces" and the Belgian army. Since then, they have worked in collusion in the joint suppression of the Congolese people. The "U.N. forces" have even ordered the surrender of arms by the Congolese soldiers; they have occupied positions of the Congolese Government troops, controlled the airports and seaports of the Congo and banned Congolese soldiers from entering them. The U.N. authorities have not only given protection to the Belgian colonialist army and permitted it to continue to hang on in the Congo, but have even distributed large numbers of U.N. armbands to Belgian paratroopers and spies facilitating their criminal activities in the Congo.

Dirty Work

Secondly, the U.N. authorities, instead of disbanding the Congolese rebel cliques, have done their utmost to foster them and instigate new rebel activities, and subvert the legitimate Congolese Government. Bunche, the American who was formerly the U.N. representative in the Congo, said that the U.N. could not support the Congolese Government in exercising its sovereignty over Katanga Province. Hammarskjöld also declared that the U.N. would under no circumstances give protection to the military and administrative personnel of the Congolese Government in Katanga. U.S. Ambassador to the Congo Timberlake even went personally to Katanga to confer with Tshombe on the so-called "relations between Katanga and the U.S." The U.N. authorities, in an open statement, authorized the use of airports in Katanga by the Tshombe brigands to bring in weapons; they ordered the "U.N. forces" to "protect" the railways in Katanga on behalf of the Tshombe brigands and form joint patrols with Tshombe's armed rebels in the joint suppression of the struggle of the patriotic people of Katanga. At the same time, under the direction of Timberlake, the U.N. authorities and Belgian colonialists, in September of last year, engineered the rebellion by the Mobutu brigands in Leopoldville. When the Congolese soldiers held demonstrations against Mobutu, the U.N. authorities even protected him with U.N. troops. That Mobutu was able to muster a few score of gangsters to launch a so-called "coup d'etat" and even openly dared to kidnap Premier Lumumba of the legitimate Congolese Government was entirely due to the protection and support given him by the U.N. authorities.

Thirdly, the U.N. authorities, instead of ensuring Congolese sovereignty, have wantonly interfered in the internal affairs of the Congo and assumed the role of ruler there. The American, Bunche, arrogantly denied the right of the legitimate Congolese Government to defend the security of the Congo and declared that only the "U.N.

forces" were empowered "to be responsible for the security of this state." The Indian, Dayal, who succeeded Bunche as U.N. representative in the Congo, openly declared: "I cannot allow a disorderly rabble like the Congolese army to control the country." Dayal ordered the closure of the airports and the state-owned radio station of the Congo and even forbade the use of the radio station to Premier Lumumba of the legitimate Congolese Government. Dayal recently openly prevented the legitimate Congolese Central Government from collecting taxes from the Belgian colonialists in Eastern Province.

Fourthly, the U.N. authorities, instead of guaranteeing the safety of the Congolese people, have continuously initiated provocations against the Congolese Government troops and people. In January of this year alone, the "U.N. forces" twice launched armed attacks on Congolese Government troops and the people at Bukavu, Kivu Province, and Manono in Katanga Province. On February 3, a spokesman of the "U.N. forces" admitted that they had again opened fire on Congolese soldiers, killing six at Kindu City in Kivu Province.

Fifthly, the U.N. authorities, the Belgian colonialists and the Congolese rebel cliques jointly placed Premier Lumumba under house arrest and kidnapped and murdered him. In September of last year, Lumumba was first placed under house arrest by the "U.N. forces" and deprived of freedom of movement. Even his request to go to Eastern Province to attend his daughter's funeral was turned down by the U.N. authorities. Once when Lumumba escaped from Leopoldville and his car entered an area garrisoned by the "U.N. forces," he was handed over to the Mobutu brigands by the "U.N. forces." After Lumumba was abducted to Katanga, Hammarskjold openly clamoured for his "trial." After he was murdered and the Tshombe rebel clique falsely proclaimed his "escape" and when the people of the world demanded that the United Nations clear up the facts concerning the fate of Lumumba, Hammarskjold and Dayal kept their mouths shut.

This is the so-called "law and order" about which the imperialist bloc headed by the United States likes to prate! Such in its entirety is the "civilized" mission of the so-called "U.N. operation" in the Congo!

The imperialist bloc headed by the United States has turned the U.N. authorities into its tool of intervention in the Congo, a sheepskin to cloak the wolflike U.S. new colonialists and the Belgian old colonialists, the root cause of the chaos and deterioration of the Congolese situation and into murderers whose hands are stained with the blood of Congolese patriots!

The "U.N. forces" in the Congo differ somewhat in form from the "U.N. forces" of aggression in Korea. The United States has not sent troops directly to the Congo and the so-called "U.N. forces" are made up of other member nations of the U.N., including many Asian and African countries. Moreover, under the U.N. flag, it is U.N. Secretary-General Hammarskjold and his representative in the Congo who have been executing the U.S. plan of aggression — the post of representative being first occupied by the American, Bunche, and later by the Indian, Dayal. But no matter how crafty and cunning the U.S. authorities may be, they cannot cover up the essential fact that they are using the United Nations to carry out aggression against the Congo. It is all too clear

that when certain Asian and African countries first sent troops to the Congo, they wanted to assist the new-born Congolese Republic in preserving its independence and sovereignty. They did not then realize that the imperialist bloc headed by the United States would be so vile and base as to use the U.N. flag to perpetrate a new colonial conquest of the Congo. However, when they saw through the venomous plan of the imperialist-colonialist bloc headed by the United States to carry out its criminal activities in the Congo under cover of the U.N. flag, they decided to withdraw their troops from the Congo. In September and October 1960, Guinea, the United Arab Republic, Ghana and Mali successively indicated that they were prepared to withdraw their troops from the "U.N. forces." In December, the U.A.R., Guinea, Morocco, Ceylon, Indonesia and Burma successively formally declared the withdrawal of their military personnel from the Congo. At the beginning of January 1961, a resolution adopted at the conference of heads of African states in Casablanca calls for the withdrawal of their troops from the so-called "U.N. forces." This is a powerful rebuff to the machinations by which the imperialists are attempting, by using some African countries, to cover up their aggression against other African countries and making Africans fight Africans. Guinean State Minister Diallo Abdourahmane put it aptly when he said that the reason the Guinean Government had withdrawn its battalion from the Congo was "to prevent it from taking part in the colonial reconquest which the U.N., manipulated by the imperialists, was seeking to carry out in the Congo."

Servant of Imperialism

Hammarskjold has been faithfully carrying out in the Congo the imperialist and colonialist plan to enslave the Congolese people. The Soviet Government has more than once exposed the despicable activities of the U.N. Secretary-General. With the development of the situation, the true features of Hammarskjold, no less than the U.N.'s sham "upholding of peace" and establishment of "order and security" in the Congo, are exposed and can no longer deceive anyone. Let us see how the governments of the African states and their leaders appraise the role of the U.N. authorities in the Congo.

In a statement issued on February 13, the Government of the United Arab Republic said that the U.N. authorities in the Congo should also bear the responsibility for the murder of Lumumba; and that the United Nations has become a mere stooge in the deadly battle which imperialism waged against the Congolese people, so that imperialism would be able to deal a blow at the newly independent Congo and murder the leader who had fought for its independence.

Premier Keita of the Mali Republic pointed out: "The Afro-Asian people and all who genuinely oppose imperialism should draw conclusions from this. The U.N. has become a tool of the big colonialist and imperialist powers for domination. It has become, in their hands, an organization for the liquidation of staunch anti-colonialist and anti-imperialist leaders."

At a mass rally in Conakry on February 14, President Toure of Guinea pointed out clearly that the first lesson to be drawn from the Congo incident and the murder of Lumumba is one of no confidence in the United Nations. He

said that the United Nations has violated its Charter and mission and that it is only a screen for vicious forces working against the interests of mankind, and Hammarskjold is a tool of imperialism and colonialism.

In a statement issued on the 14th in Cairo, Mulele, Minister of National Education and Fine Arts of the legitimate Congolese Government, declared that U.N. Secretary-General Hammarskjold should be held responsible for this crime because he had been the U.S. Government's tool for executing imperialism's policy in the Congo.

President Nkrumah of Ghana, in a broadcast on the 14th, said that Lumumba and his colleagues were killed because the United Nations had obstructed the Congolese Government's efforts to obtain the means of self-defence.

The murder of Lumumba can be regarded as the summation of the so-called "U.N. operation" in the Congo. The peoples of Asia, Africa and other parts of the world see more clearly, through this incident, that the authorities of the "U.N. forces," manipulated by imperialism headed by the United States, can never bring independence and freedom to the Congo. On the contrary, they bring only new aggression and disaster.

Therefore, in the present circumstances, the key to the solution of the crisis in the Congo lies precisely in calling off the so-called "U.N. operation" in the Congo, the record of which is replete with crimes, and in halting all intervention and aggression in the Congo by the imperialist bloc headed by the United States. As demanded in the February 14 statement of the Soviet Government, it is necessary not only to completely withdraw Belgian troops from the Congo and disband the troops of Tshombe and Moubtu, but also to withdraw the so-called "U.N. forces" from the Congo and remove Hammarskjold, executor of the imperialist and colonialist policies, from the office of the U.N. Secretary-General. The Chinese people fully support the statement of the Soviet Government because only by so doing can aggression against the Congo by the imperialist bloc headed by the United States using the signboard of the "United Nations" be ended, thereby creat-

ing conditions for the Congolese people led by the legitimate Congolese Government to solve their own problems.

Calling U.S. Bluff

However, during the U.N. Security Council discussion of the demands put forward in the Soviet Government statement, Stevenson, representative of the Kennedy administration, took the lead in a frenzied attack on the Soviet resolution and declared that the United States Government would persist in its aggression and intervention in the Congo. Stevenson said that "to abandon the Congo would mean chaos, civil war and cold war," and that Hammarskjold's "loyalty is to international justice and international peace." Stevenson also threatened peace-loving countries against supporting the legitimate Government of the Congo headed by Gizenga, saying that "the United States, for its part, does not intend to sit by if others consciously and deliberately seek to exacerbate the present situation." The new and old colonialists and their flunkies are unanimous on the suppression of the Congolese national independence movement, the obstruction of the liberation of the African continent and the maintaining of colonial interests. In the Security Council, the British and French representatives supported Stevenson's attack on the Soviet Union. The Yugoslav paper *Borba*, at this juncture, also spreads energetically the lie that "the murder of Lumumba is, after all, also against the new trend in U.S. policy." All monsters and freaks have revealed their true colours on the Congo question.

The death of Lumumba is a signal for frenzied attacks by the imperialist bloc headed by the United States, under cover of the U.N. flag, on the national independence movement of the Asian and African peoples and is especially a provocation against the peoples the world over who cherish freedom. The resounding reply of the world's people is: close ranks, resolutely oppose imperialist aggression in the Congo, actively support the just struggle of the legitimate Gizenga government in the Congo and the Congolese people for upholding national independence and the unification of their country. All imperialists, all new and old colonialists, get out of the Congo!

The Murder of Lumumba

Anti-Imperialist Storm Sweeps China

ALL China is stirred with feelings of shock, sorrow and seething anger over the murder of Congolese Premier Patrice Lumumba and his colleagues by the U.S. and Belgian imperialists and their agents. Mass protest rallies are being held from end to end of the country. With one voice the Chinese people condemn this monstrous imperialist crime; they pledge all-out support to the Congolese people and their legal Government headed by Antoine Gizenga and demand that all colonialists, new and old, clear out of the Congo and Africa.

China reacted instantaneously to the news of the murder. On February 14, the Chinese Government issued a statement condemning this crime in the strongest terms and expressing the bitter indignation of the nation (see text on p. 10). Premier Chou En-lai sent a message of condolence to Congolese Vice-Premier Gizenga. He paid high tribute to Premier Lumumba and other Congolese martyrs. "Their heroic feats," he wrote, "have set a brilliant example for the Congolese people, the other African peoples and all the peoples of the world who



Peking mass rally denouncing the murder of Premier Lumumba by U.S.-led imperialism

While this central rally was taking place, factories, colleges, schools and people's communes on the outskirts of the city were the scene of other meetings.

Grief and indignation charged the air at the Workers' Stadium. Huge banners of protest were hung around its tiers. At the opening of the rally, the whole vast audience stood in silence as the band played in mourning for Premier Lumumba and the other murdered Congolese patriots.

Stand By the Congolese People

Liao Cheng-chih, Member of the Central Committee of the Chinese Communist Party and Chairman of the Chinese Committee for Afro-Asian Solidarity, was the main speaker at the rally. He declared: "The 650 million Chinese people, together with the people of the whole world, strongly protest against the murder of Premier Lumumba by the imperialists headed by the U.S.A. and their agents, and resolutely support the Congolese people and the legal Congolese Government headed by Gizenga in their sacred struggle to defend their national independence and the unity of their country."

This murder, Liao Cheng-chih pointed out, was a frenzied attack on the Congolese and African national independence movements and a grave provocation against all peace- and freedom-loving people of the world. "The Congolese people, the African peoples and all peace- and freedom-loving people of the world will absolutely not forgive this towering crime committed by imperialism," he said.

Liao Cheng-chih declared that the murder of Premier Lumumba once again proved that colonialism and imperialism will never of their own accord step down from the stage of history. Listing the aggressive crimes perpetrated by the U.S.A. in the Congo under cover of the U.N. flag, Liao Cheng-chih said that irrespective of the details in the murder of Premier Lumumba, U.S. imperialism is chiefly responsible for the killing and can in no way argue itself out of this responsibility. U.S. imperialism is the most important pillar of the shameful colonial system and the most vicious enemy of the people of the whole world, he stressed.

The murder of Premier Lumumba, Liao Cheng-chih went on, has taught the Congolese people, the African peoples and all the oppressed peoples of the world to see the imperialist bloc headed by the United States more clearly as a group of man-eating monsters who will never bestow independence on the colonial and semi-colonial peoples. Genuine independence, he said, must be secured through struggle by the people themselves; there is no easy way.

Liao Cheng-chih pointed out that the murder of Premier Lumumba by the imperialists does not bespeak their strength; on the contrary, it shows that they are on their last legs. As one Lumumba falls, tens of thousands of Lumumbas arise. Where one Congolese fighter falls, tens of thousands of Congolese and Africans step forward. The Congolese people have been further awakened. They not only bitterly hate the Belgian colonialists, but have

fight against imperialism and colonialism." "The Chinese Government and people," Premier Chou declared, "will for ever stand together with the Congolese people and resolutely support them in every way in their great and just struggle."

On the following day, a joint protest was issued by seven mass organizations—the Chinese Committee for Afro-Asian Solidarity, the Chinese-African People's Friendship Association, the China Peace Committee, the All-China Federation of Trade Unions, the National Women's Federation of the People's Republic of China, the All-China Youth Federation and the All-China Students' Federation. The statement stressed that U.S. imperialism and the U.N. under its manipulation bear inescapable responsibility for the murder of Lumumba and the other Congolese patriots.

Mirroring popular sentiment in this country, the press carried editorials on this latest imperialist crime and gave the fullest coverage to news of protests and reactions from all over the world under such headlines as "Eternal Glory to Congolese National Heroes Lumumba, Okito and Mopolo!" "Grief Turns into Strength," "Tide of Protest Sweeps Across the World."

500,000 Meet in Peking

In China's capital, at scores of mass rallies the people expressed their detestation of the murderers and those who directed their hands. Over half a million people from all walks of life cut short their Spring Festival holidays to attend these gatherings on February 18. On that day, national flags flew at half-mast throughout the city in mourning for the Congolese martyrs. Hours before the rallies began, men and women, young and old, were seen converging at rallying places from all directions, carrying white and blue protest placards and banners.

The biggest rally took place at the Workers' Stadium. It was packed with over 100,000 people. Premier Chou En-lai, Vice-Premier Chen Yi and many other leaders were present. Guests from Africa and other parts of the world and diplomatic envoys in Peking also attended.

also seen through U.S. imperialism and the United Nations which it manipulates. The Congolese people's struggle for national liberation, Liao Cheng-chih said, has entered a higher stage.

The surging national liberation movement in Africa will develop with even greater vigour; this cannot be blocked by any force, Liao Cheng-chih declared.

Liao Cheng-chih was followed to the rostrum of the rally by representatives of China's democratic parties, of workers, youth and women, and of the Chinese-African People's Friendship Association. They too in the sharpest terms denounced the monstrous crime of the U.S. and Belgian imperialists and reaffirmed the Chinese people's firm solidarity with their brothers, the Congolese people.

African Speakers

Y.O. Samantar, General Secretary of the Great Somali League, who is visiting China, addressed the rally. He declared: "It is clear to everybody that the murderers of Lumumba and his companions are the aggressive U.S.A. and the executor of her policy, Dag Hammarskjöld — the so-called Secretary-General of the UNO."

Samantar expressed firm confidence that with the support of the Soviet Union and other socialist countries, the national liberation movement of the African peoples will surely win ultimate victory. "To us," he said, "People's China is an ally and a friend in arms. It stands at the forefront with all the peoples fighting against world imperialism to achieve national independence, democracy and social progress." The Somali people, the guest speaker concluded, look upon the struggle of the Congolese people as their very own and will continue to help them in every way possible.

Ahmed Mohammed Kheir, Sudanese peace champion, then spoke. "Sooner or later, Lumumba will be avenged; and it may be sooner than many of the imperialists calculate," he declared. "Therefore, let those whose hands are stained with his blood and the blood of his friends enjoy no peace from now until the day of their utter destruction."

Kheir pointed out that "the full responsibility for the murder of Lumumba and his friends lies squarely with the U.S.A. that has backed the Belgian aggressors right from the start and used the United Nations to foster the armed gangs of Kasavubu, Mobutu and Tshombe who were bought over by the American and Belgian monopolists." Kheir said that the aggression against the Congo, carried to the extent of the murder of Premier Lumumba, has taught the Congolese people many great, important lessons; through this aggression they see in the U.S.A. their main enemy. From the experience of the Congo, he continued, other Africans are also learning fast that new and old colonialism, led by the chief gangsters of the U.S.A., stop at no limit to carry out their schemes and plans to rob other peoples of their independence, tear apart their countries, butcher the best of their daughters and sons, breed treachery and disrupt relations between the people.

Voicing the conviction that the battle against imperialism and colonialism will be victorious, Kheir said: "But let it be clear to everybody that in this battle we ask no mercy from the enemy; let no one whatever his status request us to be moderate or merciful or humane

towards those who sold our grandfathers, butchered our fathers, killed our sons and daughters and poisoned the lives of our people. They are indebted to us until the account is settled."

Storm of Popular Wrath

All the speeches were again and again punctuated by the shouting of anti-imperialist and anti-colonialist slogans from among the audience. At the rally's end, a message was read out. It declared: "The unaccomplished task of Premier Lumumba and his comrades-in-arms will certainly be carried forward by the Congolese people. No force on earth can prevent the Congolese people from reaching their great goal. . . . The Chinese people will for ever remain the most reliable comrades-in-arms of the Congolese people in the struggle against imperialism and colonialism. We firmly believe that so long as the Congolese people further unite and carry on their unflinching struggle, they will surely win through to the complete victory of national liberation."

The whole great concourse of people rose to their feet with a mighty shout of slogans. A forest of clenched fists rose from the tiers and the crowded bowl of the huge stadium. Shouted slogans rolled in waves over its area and echoed and re-echoed from side to side.

As we go to press, news came that in Shanghai, over 400,000 people took part in protest rallies held on February 19. Elsewhere in the country, similar rallies are being called in Tientsin, Canton, Wuhan, Shenyang, Sian, Chengtu, Urumchi and Huhehot.

The new crimes of the colonialists in the Congo have raised a fresh storm of popular wrath in China. It is joining with the wave of anger now sweeping across the whole world, dealing further blows at imperialism and pushing it to its final doom.

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The Chinese Communist Party Greet the Congress of the Albanian Party of Labour

Following are the text of the congratulatory address delivered on February 14 to the Fourth Congress of the Albanian Party of Labour by Li Hsien-nien, Head of the Chinese Communist Party Delegation, and the text of the message of greetings sent by the Central Committee of the Chinese Communist Party.—Ed.

Dear Comrades:

We, the Chinese Communist Party Delegation, are very happy to celebrate, together with the heroic people of your country, the opening of the Fourth Congress of your glorious Party. Entrusted by the Central Committee of the Chinese Communist Party and Comrade Mao Tse-tung, we, on behalf of all the members of the Chinese Communist Party and of the entire Chinese people, extend our warm, fraternal greetings to the Fourth Congress of the Albanian Party of Labour and, through the Congress, convey our heartfelt and sincere respects to the Albanian Party of Labour and the Albanian people.

In the big family of our socialist camp, fraternal Albania stands as an outpost in the struggle against the enemy. Under extremely difficult conditions, the Albanian people have always rallied closely around the Central Committee of the Albanian Party of Labour headed by Comrade Enver Hoxha and, holding high the great banner of peace and socialism and in the fighting spirit of "holding a pick in one hand and a rifle in the other," have waged stubborn struggles to oppose imperialism and to safeguard world peace and build socialism. The Chinese Communists and the Chinese people wholeheartedly admire the revolutionary heroism of your Party and your people.

In the past 16 years, the Albanian people, under the correct leadership of the Party of Labour, have been steadily changing the features of their fatherland with their creative labour. We are very happy to see that your Second Five-Year Plan has been fulfilled ahead of schedule. In the past five years, the average annual increase of your industrial production was 16.9 per cent and the gross value of agricultural production increased by 28.7 per cent. You have fulfilled one year ahead of schedule the industrial production targets originally set for 1960 and it now takes only 15 days to produce the same amount of industrial goods as was produced in the entire prewar year of 1938. You have, in the main, achieved the tasks of agricultural co-operation one year ahead of schedule, thereby paving the way for the further development of agriculture. Alongside tremendous progress made in economic and cultural construction, the standards of the material and cultural life of your people have also been markedly raised. Your national income has greatly increased. One out of every five Albanians is attending school. You have been able to train large numbers of cadres

with a higher education. All these achievements vividly testify to the superiority of the socialist system and demonstrate the great spirit of heroism and industry of the Albanian people.

This Congress of your Party, held at a time when the Second Five-Year Plan has been successfully completed and the Third Five-Year Plan will soon begin, will undoubtedly be of great significance for Albania in its course of socialist development. In Albania today, the foundation of a socialist economy has been built in both city and countryside. The Albanian people are imbued with a surging revolutionary enthusiasm and patriotic spirit; the Party and the masses of the people have maintained a flesh-and-blood relationship; and every ordinary worker, peasant and working intellectual has displayed courage and confidence in the cause that is inspired and fostered by the Marxist-Leninist line of your Party. All this has profoundly convinced us that the new tasks put forth by this Congress for further strengthening the material and technical base of socialist construction will certainly become a fighting programme uniting all the Albanian people to march forward continuously, thereby enabling Albania to forge ahead along the path of becoming a modern industrial-agricultural country.

UNDER the correct leadership of the Albanian Party of Labour, the Albanian Government and people have also made outstanding contributions in international struggles. Albania has consistently pursued a peaceful foreign policy and has been waging a stubborn struggle in defence of world peace, for the realization of peaceful coexistence among countries with different social systems and for preventing imperialism from launching a new world war. Albania resolutely opposes the U.S. imperialist policies of war and aggression, gives active support to the just struggles waged by the peoples in Asian, African and Latin American countries against imperialism and colonialism and for attaining and safeguarding national independence, and supports the struggles of all oppressed peoples for democracy, freedom and socialism. At the same time, though encircled by enemies, Albania is safeguarding the security of the socialist camp on the eastern coast of the Adriatic Sea by its heroic struggle against imperialism and its lackeys. Together with other fraternal countries, Albania has been consistently faithful to the internationalist principle of mutual support and assistance among the socialist countries and firmly upholds the unity of the socialist camp. The thoroughly uncompromising struggle waged by the Albanian Party of Labour against Yugoslav modern revisionism has played an important role in safeguarding the purity of Marxism-Leninism.

The achievements made by the Albanian people in building socialism in their country and the contributions they have made in international struggles have fully

testified to the fact that the Albanian Party of Labour headed by Comrade Enver Hoxha, a long-tested leader of the Albanian people, is a Marxist-Leninist party, tempered in the revolutionary struggle, a party consistently loyal to Marxism-Leninism and to the principles of proletarian internationalism. Your Party is creatively applying and developing Marxism-Leninism in accordance with the principle of integrating the universal truths of Marxism-Leninism with the actuality of your country.

The Chinese Communist Party and the Chinese people consider all the achievements of the Albanian Party of Labour and the Albanian people as their own and regard the heroic struggle waged by the Albanian people at the outpost of the socialist camp as a tremendous support to our people. The peoples of our two countries have built an eternal, fraternal militant friendship and unbreakable unity in the common struggle against imperialism, in defence of world peace and in building socialism.

IN the past three years, the Chinese people, under the leadership of the Chinese Communist Party and holding high the three red banners of the general line for building socialism, the big leap forward and the people's communes, have brought about important developments in the national economy. In 1959, we fulfilled the major targets of industrial production of the Second Five-Year Plan three years ahead of schedule. In 1960, heavy industrial production in our country continued to maintain a leap-forward rate of growth. The estimated output of the main heavy industrial products such as steel, iron, coal, petroleum, machine tools and tractors all reached or exceeded the planned targets. Steel output in 1960 reached 18.45 million tons, almost three and a half times that of 1957. In agriculture, after having surmounted the natural calamities in 1959, we waged a heroic struggle in 1960 against the most serious natural calamities in a century. The natural calamities of two successive years have brought us difficulties in some fields of the national economy. But no difficulty can prevent us from achieving new victories on our path of advance.

Comrades: not long ago, the Meeting of Representatives of the Communist and Workers' Parties in Moscow unanimously adopted a Statement and an Appeal to the Peoples of All the World. This was another important event in the history of the international communist movement, after the 1957 Moscow conference. The tremendous achievements of the Meeting have greatly inspired the peace- and freedom-loving peoples of the world and dealt a heavy blow to the imperialists headed by the United States, to the reactionaries of the various countries and the Yugoslav revisionist clique. The Statement adopted by the Meeting is a document permeated with the revolutionary spirit of Marxism-Leninism; it will inevitably and greatly promote the struggle throughout the world against imperialism and for world peace, national liberation, democracy and socialism.

The present international situation is most favourable to the cause of peace and socialism. Ever more markedly in the world arena, the forces of peace have surpassed the forces of war, the progressive forces have surpassed the reactionary forces and the forces of socialism have surpassed the forces of imperialism. We Marxist-Leninists soberly see that the aggressive nature of imperialism has not changed. As long as imperialism exists there will

be soil for wars of aggression. The danger of imperialism, headed by the United States, unleashing a new world war of unprecedented destruction is not over. The peoples must now be more vigilant than ever before. But, thanks to the fundamental change in the balance of international forces, a new world war can be prevented by relying on the joint efforts of the great forces safeguarding peace—the socialist camp, the international working class, the national liberation movement, all peace-loving countries and peoples. Peace can be effectively safeguarded by relying on the people's struggle and by establishing and expanding a broad united front against the policies of aggression and war of imperialism headed by the United States. The socialist countries have consistently persisted in their peaceful foreign policy, advocating peaceful coexistence and peaceful competition among countries with different social systems, settlement of international disputes through negotiations, reduction of armaments and prohibition of nuclear weapons. The peaceful proposals of the socialist countries, and first and foremost of the Soviet Union, have won the warm backing and support of the people of the world. Our socialist camp will, together with all peace-loving countries and peoples, make persistent and unremitting efforts to defend world peace and prevent a world war.

THE Moscow Meeting of 1960 has once again shown that the great unity of the countries of the socialist camp and the Communist and Workers' Parties is indestructible. The Statement of the Meeting correctly confirmed the Marxist-Leninist principle of mutual relations among the socialist countries and among the fraternal parties. In conformity with the principle of complete equality, mutual benefit and comradely mutual assistance, the socialist countries are daily perfecting overall economic, political and cultural co-operation. All Communist Parties are independent and have equal rights, and at the same time, are responsible for the international interests of the proletariat. Faithful to the spirit of proletarian internationalism and abiding by the common stand in regard to their common struggle jointly worked out by the fraternal Parties through negotiations at meetings, they are united as one in their common cause. The fraternal Parties unanimously hold that the Communist Party of the Soviet Union is the oldest and most experienced vanguard of the international communist movement, and that the great Soviet Union is the most advanced and powerful country in the socialist camp. The unity of the socialist camp and of the international communist movement is the most important guarantee of the victory of the people of all countries in their struggle for world peace, national liberation, democracy and socialism. This great unity is cemented by their common ideals and the common cause, it has grown and become consolidated in the struggle against the common enemy, and it is based on Marxism-Leninism and proletarian internationalism. Therefore, this unity is indestructible and no force in the world can break it.

In order to uphold the unity of the socialist camp and the international communist movement on the basis of Marxist-Leninist ideology and to apply and develop Marxism-Leninism creatively, it is necessary to oppose firmly revisionism which reflects bourgeois ideology and betrays Marxism-Leninism and particularly Yugoslav

revisionism which is in the service of U.S. imperialism. Modern revisionism remains the main danger in the international communist movement. At the same time, it is also necessary to oppose the tendency of dogmatism and sectarianism that leads to alienation from the masses and to divorce from reality.

The outcome of the Meeting of the Communist and Workers' Parties fully conforms to the common aspirations of the international proletariat and the peoples of the world. The Chinese Communist Party has consistently and unswervingly adhered to the principles of Marxism-Leninism and proletarian internationalism and will carry out the 1960 Moscow Statement as resolutely as it has carried out the 1957 Moscow Declaration. Together with the Communist Party of the Soviet Union, the Albanian Party of Labour and all the Communist and Workers'

Parties of the world, we will work resolutely for the realization of the aims of struggle laid down in our common documents and for the common cause of the people of the world against imperialism and for world peace, national liberation, democracy and socialism.

Comrades, let me repeat once more: Although the Chinese people and the Albanian people are far away from each other geographically, their hearts beat as one. Under the banner of proletarian internationalism, the peoples of our two countries are always as near to each other as brothers, and support each other and co-operate closely. This great friendship and unity between the peoples of our two countries, like an inextinguishable torch, guides our common cause from one victory to another.

Now, allow me to read the message of greetings of the Central Committee of the Chinese Communist Party.

Message of Greetings

To the Fourth Congress of the Albanian Party of Labour

Dear Comrade Delegates:

The Central Committee of the Chinese Communist Party, on behalf of the entire Chinese people and all the members of the Chinese Communist Party, extends warm greetings to the Fourth Congress of the Albanian Party of Labour and, through the Congress of your Party, conveys deep-felt esteem to the heroic Albanian people and the glorious Albanian Party of Labour.

Under extremely difficult conditions, the Albanian Party of Labour headed by Comrade Enver Hoxha, holding aloft the revolutionary banner of Marxism-Leninism, firmly leads all the people of the country in their advance along the road of socialism. Loyal always to Marxism-Leninism and the principles of proletarian internationalism, the Albanian Party of Labour wages a thoroughly uncompromising struggle against modern revisionism represented by the Tito clique in Yugoslavia, thereby making outstanding contributions to the defence of the purity of Marxism-Leninism and to the safeguarding of the great unity of the socialist camp and the international communist movement.

Under the correct leadership of the Albanian Party of Labour, the heroic Albanian people, in a short span of 16 years, have surmounted one difficulty after another to change the face of their fatherland. They have fulfilled ahead of schedule the targets for industrial production and the tasks in agricultural co-operation laid down in the Second Five-Year Plan. This Congress of your Party will adopt the directives on the Third Five-Year Plan the realization of which will further strengthen the material and technical foundation of socialist construction in Albania. We are profoundly confident that, inspired by this new goal of struggle, the Albanian people will, with still greater enthusiasm and confidence and a still more vigorous revolutionary spirit and heroic labour, assuredly score even more brilliant victories in the building of socialism.

Albania stands together with the great Soviet Union and the other socialist countries in our big socialist family; they support each other and are united as one in the struggle to defend world peace and build socialism. The Albanian Government and people have consistently pursued a peaceful foreign policy aimed at the realization of peaceful coexistence among countries with different social systems, resolutely opposed the policies of aggression and war pursued by U.S. imperialism and firmly supported the just struggles of the peoples the world over for world peace, national liberation, democracy and socialism.

The Chinese and Albanian peoples have cemented a profound and fraternal militant friendship in the struggles for their common cause in opposing imperialism, defending world peace and building socialism. We are linked together for ever by Marxism-Leninism and proletarian internationalism. We will always be united as one with the great Soviet Union and the other fraternal countries, with all Communist and Workers' Parties, with the working class of all countries and with the people the world over who cherish peace and freedom, and march forward to the lofty goal of victory in the cause of world peace and human progress.

May the Fourth Congress of the Albanian Party of Labour be crowned with success!

May the Albanian people score new victories in the building of socialism!

May the fraternal friendship between the Chinese and Albanian peoples be evergreen!

Long live the glorious Albanian Party of Labour!

Long live the great unity of the socialist camp!

Long live the great unity of the ranks of the international communist movement!

Long live the great, ever-victorious banner—Marxism-Leninism!

The Central Committee of the Chinese Communist Party

February 14, 1961

Premier Chou En-lai's Reply to Prince Sihanouk

Premier Chou En-lai sent a message on February 11 in reply to two messages addressed to him by Prince Sihanouk, Head of State and Chairman of the Council of Ministers of Cambodia. The two messages from Prince Sihanouk dated January 20 and February 1 dealt with the convocation of an international conference of the countries concerned to discuss the peaceful settlement of the Laotian question. Premier Chou En-lai's message reads as follows. — Ed.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge receipt of Your Royal Highness' messages dated January 20 and February 1 and pay sincere tribute to the earnest efforts Your Royal Highness has made to uphold the Geneva agreements and restore peace in Laos.

I am glad to learn that the proposal Your Royal Highness put forward on January 1 for the convocation of an enlarged meeting of the Geneva Conference with the participation of 14 countries concerned has won the support of still more countries. I fully agree to what Your Royal Highness pointed out in your message of January 20, namely, that only the convocation of an international conference of the countries concerned can put an end to foreign interference in the internal affairs of Laos and restore peace in Laos. The Chinese Government is, in general, not against reactivating the International Commission for Supervision and Control in Laos, but it is against reactivating it in the present conditions in Laos. As Your Royal Highness has repeatedly stated, the competence of the International Commission in Laos set up under the 1954 Geneva agreements is strictly limited, and because the situation in Laos now is greatly different from that during the Geneva Conference, even for the purpose of reactivating the International Commission for Supervision and Control in Laos, it is necessary first to convene an international conference of the countries concerned, which will make new provisions on the tasks and functions of the Commission in the light of the new situation.

I have noted from Your Royal Highness' message of February 1 that the Thailand Government indicated its willingness to accept Your Royal Highness' proposal for the convocation of an international conference on condition that the conference has certain objectives. As everybody knows, the Thailand Government has played a dishonourable role in abetting the rebellion of the Phoumi-Boun Oum clique and expanding the civil war in Laos. Judging from their wording, the objectives advanced by

the Thailand Government are basically in conformity with the provisions of the Geneva agreements. Paragraph 12 of the Final Declaration of the Geneva Conference explicitly stipulates that all the participants in the Conference undertake to respect the sovereignty, the independence, the unity and the territorial integrity of Laos and to refrain from any interference in its internal affairs. Undoubtedly, the three member states of the International Commission in Laos, which is responsible for the supervision and control of the implementation of the Geneva agreements, also agree to these provisions. The present unfortunate situation in Laos has occurred precisely because the U.S. Government and its followers, the Thailand Government and the south Viet Nam authorities, have violated these provisions of the Geneva agreements. Therefore, so far as those countries are concerned which are willing to participate in an enlarged meeting of the Geneva Conference as proposed by Your Royal Highness to seek a peaceful settlement of the Laotian question, it goes without saying that the above-mentioned provisions of the Geneva agreements should be made objectives of this meeting. If the Thailand Government had genuinely advanced these objectives in accordance with the provisions of the Geneva agreements, it should have immediately ceased helping the U.S. Government in carrying out intervention and aggression against Laos and withdrawn from Laos all its armed personnel and military equipment. The Chinese Government believes that, if the principles of non-interference in the internal affairs of Laos, respect for the unity and territorial integrity of Laos, etc. are conscientiously observed by the countries concerned, it will undoubtedly facilitate the convocation of an international conference of the countries concerned and the peaceful settlement of the Laotian question.

Both China and Cambodia are close neighbours of Laos and are following with close concern the development of the situation in Laos. The Chinese Government will continue to co-operate with the Government of the Kingdom of Cambodia and support all proposals and actions conducive to the restoration of peace in Laos.

NOTE

This issue of *Peking Review* is late due to the Spring Festival holidays.

Firm Backing for Laotian People's Just, Patriotic Struggle Against U.S. Intervention

Following is an abridged translation of "Renmin Ribao's" editorial of February 10. — Ed.

THE situation in Laos is getting more serious than ever. The Laotian rebel group, supported by the United States, is stepping up its war against the troops of the legitimate Laotian Government and the patriotic Laotian people. The United States is continuously supplying the rebel troops with arms and ammunition, including combat aircraft equipped with rockets. U.S. military personnel are taking a direct part in the Laotian civil war and Thailand, south Viet Nam and Philippine troops under the command of U.S. officers are assisting the rebel troops in combat operations. Particularly serious is the fact that the Kuomintang bandit troops which have fled from northern Burma are now being regrouped in northwestern Laos and northern Thailand, preparing to co-ordinate their operations with the attacks of the Laotian rebel troops on the Government forces and menacing the security of the southwestern borders of China. U.S. intervention and aggression in Laos has become all the more blatant.

Laos is a close neighbour of China. The boundary line between China and Laos extends for more than 500 kilometres. The present development of the Laotian situation cannot but arouse the serious concern of the Chinese people.

The serious situation in Laos is caused entirely by the U.S. Government's intervention and aggression against that country in violation of the Geneva agreements. The U.S. Government openly instigated the Phoumi-Boun Oum group to rebellion; it supported the rebel group with large amounts of military equipment so that it could launch the civil war, seize the Laotian capital Vientiane, and get control over the Laotian Royal House in an attempt to subvert the Souvanna Phouma government and eliminate the patriotic forces of the Laotian people, thereby turning Laos into a colony and military base of U.S. imperialism and posing a direct threat to the security of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam, China, Cambodia and other countries in Southeast Asia.

What is the way out of the Laotian crisis?

Since the Laotian situation became serious as a result of the policy of intervention and aggression pursued by the U.S. Government, it is necessary, in order to restore peace in Laos, to stop the U.S. Government's intervention and aggression against Laos immediately, to get all the military personnel and equipment of the United States and its lackeys, Thailand, south Viet Nam, the Philippines and the Chiang Kai-shek clique, out of Laos at once and to let the Laotian people solve their problems

by themselves. At the same time, it is necessary to recognize the Phouma government as the sole legitimate Government of Laos, to disband immediately the Phoumi-Boun Oum rebel group—a group created by the United States for intervention in the internal affairs of Laos—and to ensure that the Phouma government can exercise its legal powers throughout Laos.

The Chinese Government is all for realizing these aims by peaceful means. As early as December 17, 1960, the Government of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam proposed the reconvening of a conference of the countries participating in the 1954 Geneva Conference. This proposal obtained the support of the Governments of China and the Soviet Union which were participants in the 1954 Geneva Conference.

ON January 1, 1961, Norodom Sihanouk, Head of State of Cambodia, proposed the calling of an enlarged Geneva Conference with the participation of 14 nations. This proposal has received a prompt and favourable response from the Governments of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam, China, the Soviet Union and Poland. But it appears from the reactions of the Western countries that they are not enthusiastic about it.

U.S. President Kennedy in his State of the Union Message even openly declared that the United States sought in Laos what it sought in Asia and, indeed, in all the world. This means that the United States is preparing to extend its acts of intervention and aggression in Laos to other parts of the world. The Kennedy administration has refused to give a definite answer to the proposal to call an international conference and has regarded the Phoumi-Boun Oum rebel group as the Laotian government. This means that the U.S. Government is determined to continue to intervene in Laos and split that country, thus making it impossible to restore peace there. This is because the sole legitimate Government of Laos is the Phouma government, while the Phoumi-Boun Oum group is a rebel group fostered single-handedly by the United States. Only by stopping U.S. aggression and quelling the rebellion of the Phoumi-Boun Oum group can peace in Laos be restored. Recognition of this group is tantamount to recognizing the legality of U.S. aggression and allowing the civil war in Laos to continue to spread.

The attitude of the British and French Governments towards the Laotian situation differs to a certain extent from that of the U.S. Government. They have not followed the United States in taking a direct part in creating the Laotian civil war. But they have also failed to take any effective action to stop U.S. intervention and aggression against Laos. The British and French Governments have expressed their willingness to consider Prince

Sihanouk's proposal for calling an enlarged Geneva Conference; but they are in favour of first reactivating the International Commission for Supervision and Control.

IT is true that the International Commission bears a certain responsibility for upholding the Geneva agreements and peace in Indo-China. But, as is generally known, the terms of reference of that International Commission in Laos are to supervise and control the implementation by the parties concerned of the "Agreement on Cessation of Hostilities in Laos" signed in 1954. There is now no conflict at all between the Royal Laotian Government and the Pathet Lao fighting units. On the contrary, they are co-operating very well. The Pathet Lao fighting units fully support the Phouma government's policy of opposing U.S. intervention, opposing the traitorous rebel group and preserving national independence, and its policy of peace and neutrality in foreign relations and national amity and unification at home. The question now is not one between the Royal Laotian Government and the Pathet Lao fighting units but a question of the United States instigating the Phoumi-Boun Oum group to rebellion in an attempt to subvert the Royal Laotian Government, and of the United States directly participating in the Laotian civil war. Therefore, the present situation in Laos is vastly different from the time of the 1954 Geneva Conference; the overwhelming majority of the provisions of the terms of reference of the International Commission for Laos have become obsolete. If the International Commission is to contribute to stopping intervention and aggression against Laos by the United States and its followers and to restoring peace in Laos, it is obviously necessary first of all to call an international conference of countries concerned to make new provisions for the terms of reference of the International Commission for Laos.

In the Laotian situation, the attitude of the Thai authorities is noteworthy. On the one hand, in his reply to Sihanouk's letter, the Thai Prime Minister, Nai Sarit Thanarat, conditionally endorsed the proposal for conven-

ing an international conference; this is worth welcoming. But on the other hand, he launched unbridled attacks on the so-called intervention of the "communist countries" against Laos. From this reply, one can hardly find any sign that the Thai authorities are ready to stop following the United States in intervention against Laos. As is generally known, the U.S. Government has interfered in Laotian internal affairs with the assistance of the Thai Government for a long time past. The Phoumi-Boun Oum group launched the rebellion by using Thailand as a base. The Thai troops under the command of U.S. officers have now taken a direct part in the Laotian civil war. It should be particularly pointed out that Thailand for a long time has become a supply base for the remnant Kuomintang bandits in northern Burma. Recently, part of these remnant bandits fled into Laos from northern Burma and the greater part of them are being regrouped in northern Thailand to menace the security of China's border. The Thai authorities should understand that to follow the United States in playing with fire is dangerous for Thailand itself.

IN order to bring about a peaceful settlement of the Laotian problem, Chinese Vice-Premier Chen Yi on February 2 reiterated the just stand of the Chinese Government by declaring that "whether in convening an enlarged Geneva Conference or reconvening the Geneva Conference or reactivating the International Commission for Supervision and Control, only the lawful Government under Prince Phouma should be contacted and co-operated with, and not the Phoumi-Boun Oum rebel clique. Otherwise convenient conditions would be provided for U.S. imperialist intervention. The Chinese people and Government cannot agree to this."

The Chinese Government recognizes only the lawful Phouma government. The Chinese people resolutely support the Laotian people's just struggle. Intervention and aggression by the United States against Laos must and can certainly be defeated. The internal problems of Laos can only be solved by the Laotian people themselves.

Welcome to Laotian Guests

Victory Will Go to the Laotian People

EVIDENCING the Chinese people's growing concern over the situation in neighbouring Laos, two rallies took place in Peking in one week. The first (see *Peking Review*, No. 6) was called on February 2 to demonstrate solidarity with the Laotian people in their just, patriotic struggle against U.S. imperialist intervention. The second, a representative gathering of over 1,500 Peking people, was held on February 9 to welcome the Laotian delegates returning from the recent Extraordinary Session of the Afro-Asian People's Solidarity Council in Cairo.

As the Laotian guests—Sisana Sisane, head of the delegation, director of the newspaper *Laohaksat* and former member of the Laotian National Assembly, and Noupbank Sitphasay, member of the Laotian Com-

mittee for Peace, Neutrality, National Harmony and Unification—mounted the rostrum, the whole assembly rose to give them a standing ovation.

Liao Cheng-chih, Chairman of the Chinese Committee for Afro-Asian Solidarity, presiding over the meeting, put into words the meeting's warm welcome for the representatives of the Laotian people. He declared in his speech that the Laotian people do not stand alone in their struggle; hundreds of millions of people in Asia and Africa as well as all peace-loving countries and peoples sympathize with and back their just fight against imperialism and to win and safeguard their national independence. No matter how fiendish and monstrous the acts of U.S. imperialism and its lackeys, Liao Cheng-chih



The Fire-bug and His Torch Cartoon by Chiang Fan

declared, they will not shake the Laotian people's will to free themselves from U.S. imperialist control and realize their national independence.

The Chinese people, Liao Cheng-chih stressed, resolutely support all the statements of the Chinese Government on the Laotian question and the resolution on Laos passed by the Extraordinary Session of the Afro-Asian People's Solidarity Council; they are determined to strive for the implementation of this resolution. He concluded with an expression of complete confidence that the Laotian people will shatter intervention and aggression by U.S. imperialism and its henchmen and realize Laotian aspirations for peace and neutrality, national amity and state unity.

Sisana Sisane, addressing the meeting, thanked the people of China for their support to the righteous struggle of his fellow countrymen. It is to achieve peace, neutrality, independence, unity, democracy and prosperity in their motherland, he declared, that the Laotian people are now resisting intervention and aggression by U.S. imperialism and the Thai reactionaries, as well as the destructive activities of the Phoumi-Boun Oum clique. The Laotian people are keenly aware, he declared, that the only way forward for them is to unite and carry on the struggle.

Sisana Sisane recalled developments in the Laotian situation since the 1954 Geneva Conference. He cited massive facts to show, and sternly condemned, the crude and uninterrupted intervention practised by U.S. imperialism in Laotian internal affairs over the past six years — its suppression of the Laotian people's patriotic movement, especially its recent fostering of the Phoumi-Boun Oum rebel clique, and its undermining of the independence, democracy, peace and neutrality of Laos in the attempt to turn the country into its new colony and a military base for aggression.

These acts of U.S. imperialism and its minions, the Laotian speaker said, constitute direct aggression against his country. They have not only brought about a crisis in Laos, but also posed a threat to the peace of Indo-China, Southeast Asia and the world.

Sisana Sisane demanded that U.S. imperialism, Thailand and south Viet Nam withdraw their troops from Laos at once. He added that the convening of a meeting of the countries that participated in the 1954 Geneva Conference, or an enlarged meeting, is necessary for a solution to the Laotian question.

Referring to the support for the Laotian people evinced by the Afro-Asian People's Solidarity Council and by the Soviet Union and China during his tour of these two countries, Sisana Sisane confidently declared that U.S. imperialism and its stooges are bound to fail and that the struggle of the Laotian people will win through to victory.

Report from Shansi

Health and Sanitation in a Rural County

by LIN YANG

CHISHAN County in southern Shansi Province on the middle reaches of the Yellow River was an ordinary rural county little known to outsiders in the past. Now it has won national fame for outstanding health and sanitation work and become a pace-setter that rural counties throughout the country are trying to emulate. A health and sanitation campaign, with the object of eliminating disease and its sources and serving production, was initiated in Chishan soon after liberation and is still in

full swing. It has imparted to this once dirt-ridden and obscure county an entirely new look.

The New Look

Instead of the heaps of debris, garbage and night-soil that assailed the visitor in Chishan, as in any other pre-liberation rural county, clean and well-paved streets flanked by newly planted saplings greet him today. The lawns and flowers show green and bright to the eye

against the whitewashed walls of the courtyards and houses of the commune members. The narrow windows of the past, now enlarged, let in an abundance of sunshine and fresh air. Virtually all lavatories have been rebuilt and are kept clean.

With the advent of the people's communes having bigger financial resources and more manpower, medical facilities multiplied. A medical and health-protection network has taken shape. In addition to two well-equipped county hospitals, each of the 13 people's communes has its own; each production brigade has its clinic, each production team its health-protection office; and for every ten households, there is a medical attendant. Medical services are also available at all factories, stock-breeding farms, forest areas and water conservancy sites as well as public dining-rooms, nurseries and other collective welfare establishments the majority of which came into being in the wake of the communes.

So prevalent is health care and sanitation that a fundamental change has taken place from pre-liberation times when epidemics and death stalked the countryside. Many still recall with horror the year 1943 when typhoid and cholera ravaged this area. More than one quarter of the peasant households of Hsiwei Village were ruined then by the burden of medical expenses. In one of the lanes in that village, 19 of the 72 residents perished and five of its 26 families were completely wiped out. Today, with the "four evils"—flies, mosquitoes, rats and bedbugs—virtually eliminated and medical services much improved and universal, the most dangerous "killer" diseases of the area—smallpox, malaria, typhoid and cholera—have been brought under control. Of 11,400 people treated for chronic diseases, no less than 9,000 have been cured and have returned to work. Virtually all able-bodied men and women now take part regularly in production, increasing their incomes and contributing to socialist construction.

People's mental outlook has radically changed as a result of the county's physical transformation. Cleanliness is now regarded as a matter of honour and they look askance upon such once commonplace habits as spitting or the random scattering of scrap paper, cigarette butts and the like. In the health education campaign of winter 1959 alone, 60 per cent of the county's 350,000 people learnt ways and means of coping with 15 common diseases. Many in the old society with neither knowledge nor means to obtain proper treatment for their ailments and who in desperation pinned their hopes on the gods or witchcraft, have today become activists in popularizing medical knowledge. Many incense burners once used to offer up prayers to unheeding gods have since become flower vases beautifying life in Chishan.

Well-Planned Drive

There is, of course, nothing fortuitous about these profound changes that have taken place in Chishan. They have been brought about by the untiring efforts of the masses of people under the leadership of the Communist Party.

In Chishan, health and sanitation work occupies an important place on the agenda of Party organizations at all levels—the county, people's communes and their production brigades and teams. It is rightly regarded as a great struggle not only against disease and its sources, but for changing man's outlook and transforming his world as well. Party secretaries personally take part in drawing up plans and arousing the masses for health and sanitation drives. In the shock campaigns, they work alongside the people, inspiring them as well as giving them concrete guidance.

Carefully worked out plans took into account both laws governing the spread of disease and the state of production activities. At the end of winter and beginning of spring—a slack season in farm work—a large-scale shock campaign would be gotten under way that sometimes lasted a full month. Campaign on a smaller scale and of shorter duration would be started during the lull before summer planting and harvesting or before autumn harvesting and tilling hit full stride. In preparation for such holidays as May Day, National Day, spring or mid-autumn festival a thoroughgoing one-day clean-up would be organized. Routine sanitation and health work was maintained all year round.

From the start, efforts were directed at clearing out garbage heaps and cesspools, repaving streets, rebuilding and improving sewers, wells, kitchens, lavatories, pigsties and the like. Whenever the people devised a particularly effective method of dealing with a problem it was immediately studied and popularized. Thus, when the people of Sun Village successfully turned their locality, notorious in the past for poverty, squalor and disease, a place outsiders were loath to set foot in, into a paragon of cleanliness, the county Party committee immediately called an on-the-spot conference to popularize their experience. How fruitful this effort was may be seen from the following episode: a visitor inquiring the way to Sun Village, the model clean village, was gaily and wittily answered by children to whom he addressed the question: Sun Village is everywhere, for all the other villages are now as pleasant and clean.

Professionals and Masses Join Forces

Another characteristic of health and sanitation work in Chishan is that the efforts of professional medical workers and those of the masses are combined in powerful drives and that great attention has been given to training technical personnel and activists. Thousands of people have been trained to be experts in the elimination of the "four evils"; the 42,000 public dining-room cooks, nurses, midwives, pig breeders, barbers, shop attendants and food-processing workers all received training in repeated short courses. A number of graduates of local primary and middle schools were sent for special training to classes run by the county hospitals. In 1959 alone, 120 physicians and nurses were trained in the county.

These professional medical workers and activists played a significant role in popularizing medical knowl-



Spring Cleaning in a Village Woodcut by Yin Chiang-jen

edge and hygiene among the people, conducting research into the laws governing the spread of disease in their area, giving technical guidance in the drive to exterminate these diseases and their carriers as well as summing up the people's experience in health and sanitation work. Their efforts have made it possible for the county to set ever higher goals and constantly improve its health and sanitation work.

Serving Production

The consistent guiding principle in Chishan's health and sanitation work has been to integrate it with, and make it serve, production. The setting up of the people's communes has greatly facilitated the implementation of this principle. The medical establishments are a component part of the rural communes. Their personnel and funds are all effectively provided for by the communes according to a unified plan. Collective labour and the collective way of life in the communes make it possible to introduce effective measures for labour protection and public hygiene. For example, treatment for and prevention of diseases, education in medical knowledge, and sanitary facilities have all been brought directly to the fields, so that commune members obtain medical consultation and

treatment right where they work. When assigning field work, leaders of the production teams give due consideration to their team members' state of health and assign work suitable to their physical condition.

In commune factories, construction sites and other places of work, well-established labour-protection systems with concrete provisions for the prevention of accidents, poisoning and contamination and protection from extreme heat and cold, etc. are in force. As a result, accidents are very rare.

The people of Chishan have worked out overall procedures in combining health and sanitation work with production. As production tasks during spring ploughing, summer and autumn harvesting differ, so is there attention paid to the prevention and cure of varied types of diseases at different times and diverse labour protection measures and types of health work.

Environmental sanitation and the control of nightsoil are combined with the work of collecting manure for fertilization. The elimination of rodents serves a double purpose: the protection of seed and food grain and the prevention of disease.

Health and sanitation work receives particular attention in the public dining-rooms, nurseries, kindergartens and other collective welfare establishments. An ingenious "dustless cooking range" has been devised for the public dining-rooms that separates firing and cooking. Not only is dust from the fuel prevented from coming into contact with the food but the temperature in the kitchen is considerably reduced in summer time. All utensils, dishes, bowls, chopsticks, etc. are carefully sterilized.

Studies of food nutrition are made by special groups composed of both professional and spare-time health workers in every production brigade of the communes. On the basis of these studies, diet recommendations are made in the light of local conditions, habits and preferences of the commune members, the season and the intensity of work. The production teams undertake to supply the vegetables, meats, etc., that the diet calls for.

Maternity and child care are the joint responsibility of the commune's maternity homes, nurseries and kindergartens. All expectant mothers receive pre-natal check-ups, and are taught the fundamentals of pre-natal care. Besides sufficient rest both before and after childbirth, they are given special consideration in the form of nutritious foods, etc. Puerperal fever and *tetanus neonatorum*, common in the past, have been eliminated throughout the county. New-born babies are in the charge of special nurses. They receive regular check-ups. Infant mortality rates have been drastically reduced.

* * *

Health and sanitation work in Chishan has had its own rewards. The well-being of the people, their energy and spirits have been greatly lifted. And this has had a definitely salutary effect on farm work and the harvest.



Festival Attractions

Peking has a full programme of entertainments and attractions for the 4-day Spring Festival and many of these will be carrying on even after the holidays.

Toy Show. The old saying has it that the New Year "is a festival for children." It is more than ever so this year. A folk toy exhibition, opened February 16-March 5 at the Gallery of the Artists' Union, (off Wangfuching St.), shows more than 400 toys collected by artists from more than 20 provinces and municipalities. Here you can see Peking clay figurines, cloth tigers from peanut to jumbo size, dolls and opera figures from Huishan, the famous clay figurine centre near Wusih in Kiangsu, porcelain figurines in wide variety from Kwangtung and Kweichow, and bamboo dragons, birds and animals from Kiangsi. There are also 20 kites designed and painted by Ma Chin, a master in the traditional Chinese style of painting.

Puppet Theatre. The China Puppet Art Theatre has readapted for festival showings *Mistress Clever* and *Red Signal*, two popular plays on its repertoire. The former is based on the old folk tale of the young peasant who marries a fairy with whose help he destroys an oppressive ruler; the latter describes how two schoolboys on holiday give a helping hand to public security men in rounding up a saboteur. Both plays will be shown at the theatre and also on television.

A Colourful Display of Operas and Plays. Long before the festival, theatre correspondents were reporting on the busy rehearsals of Peking's scores of theatres, art troupes and companies. Now they have uncovered their colourful festival fare of Peking, *pingqu*, *kunqu* and other styles of operas and *quyi* (balladry) shows.

Modern plays are also being presented by the People's Art Theatre, the China Youth Art Theatre and other theatres; concerts and recitals are be-

ing given by the Central Philharmonic Symphony Orchestra and the Central National Music Ensemble; and song and dance performances by the Central Song and Dance Troupe and the Central Nationalities Song and Dance Troupe.

Peking opera, not surprisingly, holds a dominant place among current entertainments. Particular mention should be made of two new historical plays: *Man Jiang Hong* and *Hai Jui Dismissed from His Official Post*. The former is a new adaptation of a traditional opera about the 12th century patriot-general Yueh Fei, starring Li Shao-chun, Tu Chin-fang and Yuan Shih-hai, known in many lands which they have visited. The latter, a new opera written by the historian and writer Wu Han and starring the veteran actor Ma Lien-liang, tells the story of a good official of the Ming Dynasty and his fight against his corrupt and despotic colleagues who are ruining the country.

New Films. More than 20 new films are being screened during the holidays. These include *Red Guards of Lake Hunghu*, a colour production based on a modern opera of the same title about anti-Kuomintang guerrilla fighters in a lakeland area; *Tracks in the Snowy Forest*, adapted from the

best-selling novel by Chu Po about running down a gang of Kuomintang bandits in the northeast; *Our World Has Changed*, a colour feature about life of miners before and after liberation, and *The Story of the Whangpoo River* describing the life and struggles of three generations of Yangtse valley ship-builders from 1908 to 1949.

A wide variety of opera is well represented on the screen. This includes the lyrical *Garden Excursion* and a *Strange Dream*, an episode from the famous play *The Peony Pavilion*, with Mei Lan-fang and Yu Chen-fei in the leading roles and *The Scholar and the Fairy Carp* based on a fairy tale play by the Shanghai Shaohsing Opera Company, a romantic fantasy that is full of homely wisdom. These two are in colour.

Altogether, the Spring Festival film programme offers more than 70 films.

On Your Doorstep. People's commune members throughout China's vast countryside now have their own cultural clubs, drama societies, ballad clubs and various theatre arts groups to provide them with entertainment. Still the cities don't forget to send of their best right to the doorsteps of their peasant brothers. In this respect, Peking's efforts are outstanding. Numerous mobile cinema groups are touring the communes, showing new films as well as old favourites. Many theatrical companies are also sending teams to the countryside. This year city libraries too are arranging to share their books with commune readers. Weeks before the festival holidays, mobile libraries have been carrying popular novels, stories, bal-



Opera Goes to the Countryside

New Year Painting by Jen Shuai-ying

lads and picture books to the countryside.

These services naturally extend too to the industrial workers and miners at enterprises around the capital. The famous Shang Hsiao-yun Peking Opera Troupe, for one, is now staging its best plays for miners working in the area west of Peking.

Painting. For art lovers there is the Welcome Spring Art Exhibition (open till February 28) at Peihai Park. This is sponsored by the Peking Academy of Traditional Chinese Painting. An exhibition of the works of Edvard Munch, noted Norwegian graphic artist, is in the Water Pavilion at Chungshan Park till February 24. The Hoping Studio on Wangfuching Street is holding a small show of traditional Chinese paintings by Chen Pan-ting, Li Ke-jan, Yeh Chien-yu and others.

THEATRE

Shaohsing Opera in Hongkong

Hongkong was still talking about the film based on the Peking opera *Women Generals of the Yang Family* described by one Hongkong paper (the *Commercial Daily*, October 9, 1960) as "a miracle unheard of in Hongkong's cinema history," when the Shanghai Shaohsing Opera Company arrived and proceeded to cap even that previous success.

Hongkong can rest assured that the Shaohsing players are immensely pleased and heartened by their reception, as the following English translation of an account first published in *Nanfang Ribao* (*Southern Daily*) and re-published by the national daily paper *Guangming Ribao* (February 7) shows. It was written by Yuan Hsueh-fen, the Shaohsing opera actress known to many abroad who saw her in the role of Chu Ying-tai, the steadfast young girl in the film based on the opera *Liang Shan-po and Chu Ying-tai* (*Butterfly Lovers*). This was what she wrote:

IN the early morning of February 1, we of the company, carrying with us the cordial feelings and encouragement of our compatriots there, bid farewell to Hongkong. We had successfully completed a delightful tour.

We gave 36 performances during our 43 days in Hongkong. Then we gave an additional special benefit performance for the relief of the victims of the recent fire in Kowloon's Shung-hom District. The money collected came to HK\$110,000. Altogether, our performances were seen by some 60,000 people.

All of us were deeply moved by the love of our Hongkong compatriots for Shaohsing opera and for the culture and arts of our motherland. Before our arrival, there was a rush to book seats. While we were there the theatre was crowded from early morning every day with people eager to get tickets. The telephones were kept ever busy all day long. . . . The day before the *West Chamber* was staged, people began to queue up as soon as the theatre announced the performance. Fans took turns sleeping on the curb throughout the night to keep their place in the queue. There was a drizzle that night, and the next morning as soon as I got up, I drew back the curtain and looked out. The eager queue was still there. I felt deeply touched by this sight.

Every one of our performances, whether the *West Chamber*, *Dream of the Red Chamber*, *Jade Hairpin*, *Battle Drums at Chinshan*, or the short selections—all got a warm reception. Our audiences exhausted words of praise in paying us compliments. The press and magazines gave many columns to reviews of our productions. They spoke highly of the artistry not only of the veterans but also of the young actors, and were very generous in their encouragement. They had a very high opinion of our librettos, directors, decor and music.

Shaohsing opera originated in the area of Chekiang and Kiangsu. In Hongkong, there were more than 100,000 people who come originally from these provinces. As the old saying has it, "You meet an old acquaintance far away from your home town." They were thoroughly delighted to see us. More than one veteran Shaohsing opera fan whose interest goes back several decades ago told me: "Your productions left me with the impression that there is indeed no comparison between it and the Shaohsing opera of the past. I'm at a loss for words to describe the progress you people have made since liberation." Still more said: "It's a long time now that I haven't seen an opera from home.

Seeing your performance is as sweet as going home." Some were converted into Shaohsing opera fans the first time they saw us perform. They said things like: "Now after seeing your performance I can really visualize the flourishing, 'one-hundred-flowers-blossoming' achievements in the dramatic arts of our motherland." To them, Shaohsing opera was not just an opera from Shaohsing in Chekiang. They thought of it as a flower in full bloom in our motherland's flourishing cultural garden.

Our audiences included overseas Chinese who had made a special trip to Hongkong to see our performances. These came from more than a dozen countries including Malaya, Indonesia, Thailand, Canada and some Latin American countries. Some flew back the next day after seeing our performances on the day of their arrival. Some came to see us at our hotel to give us their good wishes. They said that it was not just an opera that they had seen; through our performances, they have seen the great leap forward in culture and arts in the motherland and how they are blossoming out into a hundred flowers. A group of overseas Chinese from Indonesia took great delight in describing to us the reception given to *Liang Shan-po and Chu Ying-tai* when this film was shown in Indonesia. One enthusiast, they said, saw 24 out of 25 screenings.

The affection and warmth with which overseas Chinese used the word "motherland" often moved us to tears.

The warm praise accorded us by our Hongkong compatriots made us feel even more deeply about the greatness of our motherland and the Communist Party of China. It is their meticulous care and guidance alone that has made the present progress in Shaohsing opera possible. Our Hongkong audiences' praise for Shaohsing opera is precisely an expression of their love for the motherland.

We know in our hearts, of course, that Shaohsing opera is, after all, still a young operatic form. We are still immature in many respects and there's a lot to do to catch up with other leading operatic styles. It is our resolve to make still greater efforts to raise our art to a level worthy of our country and as an expression of our gratitude for the solicitude and expectations of our Hongkong compatriots and all overseas Chinese.

Progress on the Chinese-Nepalese Joint Boundary Committee

The Chinese-Nepalese Joint Boundary Committee held its second session in Peking from January 18 to February 15, 1961. A joint communique was issued.

During the session, the communique discloses, both sides fully displayed a spirit of friendly co-operation, mutual understanding, mutual accommodation, equality and mutual benefit and, through sincere and frank consultations, smoothly reached agreement on many important questions. They are as follows: "1. They affirmed a series of common points on the boundary line and arrived at a common understanding of the general alignment of the boundary on the map. 2. Through friendly consultations, they achieved solutions satisfactory to both sides concerning certain sections where delineation of the boundary line between the two countries on the maps of the two sides is not identical and the two sides differ in their understanding of the state of actual jurisdiction. 3. They studied the report of the joint team which was sent in November 1960 to the Chinese-Nepalese border for investigation and survey, expressed satisfaction with the achievements in the work of the joint team and reached agreement on the recommendations submitted by the joint team. 4. They decided to send joint teams and joint survey teams in April 1961 for the investigation and survey of key points along the entire Chinese-Nepalese boundary line and agreed through consultations upon the duties, the composition and the methods of work of the joint teams and joint survey teams and other related matters."

"Moreover," the communique continues, "the two sides had a preliminary exchange of views on the drafting of a boundary treaty and agreed to speed up various preparations with a view to signing a boundary treaty in the near future."

The two sides decided to hold the third session of the Joint Committee

in Kathmandu in July 1961, notes the communique.

While the Joint Committee was holding its session, Chairman Liu Shao-chi, Premier Chou En-lai and Vice-Premier and Foreign Minister Chen Yi at different times received all the members of the Nepalese delegation to the Joint Committee headed by Major-General Padma Bahadur Khatri.

On February 8, members of the Nepalese delegation were guests of honour at a banquet given by Premier Chou En-lai. Speaking on this occasion, Premier Chou En-lai said that last year, China and Burma concluded a boundary treaty; this year China and Nepal may conclude a boundary treaty. We hope, Premier Chou said, that in the next few years we can, on the basis of the Five Principles of Peaceful Co-existence, conclude similar treaties with other countries having the same desire. Thus the Five Principles of Peaceful Co-existence can be universally propagated between China and its friendly neighbours.

Premier Chou proposed a toast to lasting friendship and to the establishment of a peaceful boundary between China and Nepal.

Major-General Khatri, in his speech, said that both sides have done their very best to fulfil the common task. They have been working not as two separate teams but as one single team. In a way the boundary problem has been very easy to solve, because the understanding between the two Governments and the two peoples is based on Panch Shila, he said.

Nepal's National Day

Nepal's National Day (February 18) was warmly greeted by Chinese Government leaders.

Chairman Liu Shao-chi in a message to King Mahendra Bir Bikram Shah

Deva extending hearty congratulations expressed the hope that close friendship and co-operation between China and Nepal will continue to develop and grow stronger on the basis of the Five Principles of Peaceful Co-existence. He wished prosperity to the Kingdom of Nepal, happiness to its people and good health to His Majesty.

Premier Chou En-lai in his message to the King of Nepal recalled that in the past year, with the signing of the Sino-Nepalese treaty of peace and friendship, the agreement on the boundary question between the two countries and the Sino-Nepalese agreement on economic aid, friendly co-operation between the two countries has entered a new stage. "We are deeply convinced that a satisfactory settlement of the boundary question between our two countries will be achieved in the near future through the joint efforts of China and Nepal in accordance with the Five Principles of Peaceful Co-existence and in the spirit of mutual accommodation and mutual understanding, thereby making the boundary between our countries a boundary of everlasting peace and friendship."

Chinese-Japanese Trade Unions' Joint Communique

A Chinese trade union delegation headed by Li Chieh-po, Vice-President of the All-China Federation of Trade Unions (A.C.F.T.U.), concluded a three-week visit to Japan on February 14. On the day of its departure from Tokyo, a joint communique was issued by the Chinese delegation and the General Council of Trade Unions of Japan (SOHYO). The communique declared that the struggle against the U.S.-Japan military alliance treaty, against U.S. imperialism's policies of aggression and war, for the safeguarding of peace in Asia, in support of the national liberation movements in Asia, Africa and Latin America, as outlined in the joint declaration issued by the trade unions of China, Japan and Korea on May 2, 1960, remains the lofty responsibility and duty of the workers of the two countries. The A.C.F.T.U. and SOHYO will continue to strive for the realization of this joint declaration.

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