

# BEIJING REVIEW



A Good Start  
For Industry  
In 1982

●  
Memories of  
Edgar Snow



## HIGHLIGHTS OF THE WEEK

### A Good Start for Industry

Total industrial output value hit an all-time high in the first month of 1982, in spite of a shortened number of workdays caused by the new year and Spring Festival Holidays (p. 5).

### Edgar Snow

To commemorate the 10th anniversary of the death of Edgar Snow, noted US journalist and devoted friend of China, five of those who knew him personally share their memories (pp. 17-26).

### Non-Ferrous Metals

Foreign funds and technology will be introduced to boost

China's non-ferrous metal industry (p. 7).

### Booming Tibet

With the help of state subsidies, Tibet is rapidly developing and two-thirds of its formerly poor families have become self-sufficient (p. 8).

### US Argument on Taiwan Rebutted

The US effort to help Taiwan maintain its "defence capability" is a perpetuation of the "two Chinas" policy (p. 10).

### A Dangerous Policy

The US attitude towards the UN resolution condemning

Israel's annexation of the Golan Heights is encouraging Israel to launch new acts of aggression (p. 11).

### Ancient Books

Some 2,000 ancient Chinese books have been published since 1958 and more than 1,000 titles will be collated and annotated in the 1980s (p. 29).



An advanced tunnelling team in the Yanzhou Coal Mine in east China's Shandong Province.

Photo by Wu Zengxiang

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## Central America and the Caribbean Region

**Does China support the national-liberation movement in Central America and the Caribbean region?**

The situation in this area remains unstable and this has aroused the concern of the people of the world.

Subjected for a long period to oppression and exploitation by the imperialists, colonialists and autocratic regimes, the countries in this area are economically backward and the gap between the rich and the poor is enormous. The land and social wealth are concentrated in the hands of a few, peasants can hardly manage to eke out a living, and the unemployment rate among the workers is high. The contradictions between different social classes are sharpening and the political and economic crises are deepening day by day. These are some of the major causes of the turbulent situation in this region. And this is why the struggle against imperialism, autocracy, monopoly capital and feudal oligarchy is winning increasing support among the people.

It is the strong desire of the people in this region to safeguard their national independence and state sovereignty, develop their national economy, strive for social progress and improve their standard of living. Their national-liberation movement should win the sym-

pathy and support of the international community.

The United States which always regards this region as its sphere of influence is trying by every possible means to maintain its influence there. For instance, it is extending enormous help to the present El Salvadorean Government, increasing both economic and military aid and sending military advisers to deal with the guerrilla forces and the people there. Such aid inevitably aggravates the internal struggle in El Salvador and intensifies the turbulence in this region.

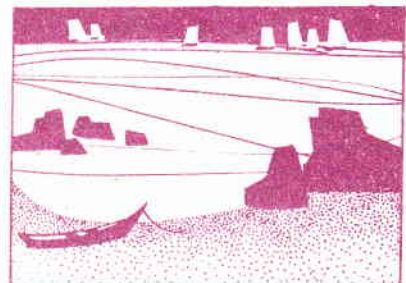
To contend with the United States for world hegemony, the Soviet Union has meddled in the affairs of the countries in Central America and the Caribbean region. Taking advantage of these countries' contradictions with the United States and the people's demand for social change, the Soviet Union, working in collaboration with Cuba, is stepping up its infiltration and expansion in this area under the guise of "supporting the national-liberation movement." Flaunting the banner of "supporting the revolution," the Soviet Union is more deceptive.

Recently, the Soviet Union has sent large quantities of military hardware to Cuba while using Cuban air force bases to carry out reconnaissance activities against the United States. The contention

between the two superpowers has made the situation in this region more complicated than before. But we are happy to see that far-sighted politicians are increasingly aware of the need in their struggle for national independence and liberation to "resist the wolf at the front gate and repulse the tiger at the back door."

Like the countries in this region, China is also a developing country and belongs to the third world. We support the struggle of other third world countries and people against imperialism, colonialism and hegemony. We hold that their struggle in safeguarding national independence and reforming the international economic order, for democracy and progress and against the reactionary autocratic rule is a just cause. We also maintain that the internal struggles and disputes of the Central American and Caribbean countries should be solved by their own people, and that the disputes between one country and another should be settled through peaceful consultation. We are against outside intervention, no matter what form it takes.

— *International Editor*  
Mu Youlin



# LETTERS

May God bless you and all your people in whatever you do.

**Freddie Sekitto Bugembe**  
Kampala, Uganda

## Premier Zhao's Report

I was agreeably surprised at reading the full text of Premier Zhao's report on economic situation (issue No. 51, 1981). It relates in a concise, concrete and systematic way the current economic situation in the People's Republic of China, methods for realizing the four modernizations and for transforming China into a powerful country economically and spiritually.

One positive achievement in my opinion is that you have more skillfully integrated high quality and profound articles with light and pleasant ones. This makes your magazine more attractive.

**Manuel Antonio Alcalá**  
Gijón, Spain

## Two Columns

The better articles and columns I think are: China—Events & Trends and the International—Reports and Comments. Why I like the two best is because the former helps my students to compare their undeveloped country with an advanced country like China and hence start to suggest ways in which they could develop their own, while the latter helps my students understand the world's current affairs and the relationship between various nations.

Write more about African countries so that their endeavours are also known to the world. This will give them a challenge and therefore develop a spirit of working hard.

**Bajeh Johnmurray Tushabe**  
Rukungiri, Uganda

## A Country of Friends

The feeling of solidarity is deeply rooted in the hearts and minds of the citizens of your country. We shall never forget the assistance which the People's Republic of China is granting to the countries of Africa and Arab peoples. In my opinion the People's Republic of China is a country of solidarity, peace, freedom and democracy—a country of friends.

**Luis Jose Fernandez Ordenez**  
Pola de Laviana, Spain

## Policy to Promote Socialist Sciences and Culture

The long article "Letting a Hundred Flowers Blossom and a Hundred Schools of Thought Contend Is the Policy to Promote Socialist Sciences and Culture" (issue No. 49, 1981, of the Japanese edition) deals with questions about which I am concerned. I have read it carefully. What is democracy under the socialist system? We Japanese find it hard to understand and easy to misinterpret. Some of my friends who are ignorant about China have said that there is freedom in Japan but there is no freedom of thought in China, and that the Chinese people are unfortunate. I argue against this view, saying that whether the Chinese people have freedom or not must be considered from the viewpoint of what China is striving for and measured by China's history and its present reality. We should not criticize China with the standard of Japan which has a different social system from China. To think otherwise would be a great blunder.

Perhaps my friends' beliefs stem from the fact that your article is hard to understand and in some places too generalized and stereotyped.

**Toshikane Naruse**  
Okayama, Japan

## The Aged in China

I particularly liked the article "Growing Old in China" (issue No. 43, 1981). It clearly shows the Chinese people are very well taken care of. In this respect, China is irrefutably superior to our European countries.

The articles on disarmament (issue No. 45, 1981) and on the "cultural revolution" (issues Nos. 45 and 47, 1981) are well-written. I think you should continue to publish articles on such topics, particularly articles on the latest ideas and political subjects like those on the "cultural revolution."

## Cancun Meeting

I first read your magazine when in one of our classes we were studying the Cancun meeting in Mexico. I was impressed by the thoroughness of the article with all the current status of the developing world versus the developed world.

These are the types of articles I am interested in.

**Kathleen E. Martens**  
Bellevue, Mi., USA

## More Acute

Try to add more political explosive power: To our mind, your articles are too neutral, your real viewpoints are not made clear. You lack clear-cut and exciting analyses which will help the readers better understand a problem. In this regard, your explanations and notes should be more detailed.

It is regrettable that compared with other themes, the materials carried in the column "Culture and Science" are not representative. Greater number of articles covering a wider range of topics could enhance the mutual understanding between people with different ways of thinking.

We also suggest that you use more charts and statistical figures so as to enable the readers to more quickly grasp the general thrust of economic articles.

**Berlin Central Library**  
West Berlin

## Suggestions

I hope you will publish brief introductions to political and cultural books available abroad. Also more news reports and fewer commentaries in your international section, a ratio of 2 to 1 would be better.

I work with graphics and appreciate the job you do. The headlines on the cover are eye-catching.

**Ratzer Christoph**  
Groedig, Austria

Continue your good work in the new year. My suggestions are more photos and a spruced-up layout. Also I would welcome expanded international coverage. I am interested in Chinese reporters' interpretations of foreign affairs.

**Wolfgang Reisinger**  
Linz, Austria

## POLITICAL

## Veteran Cadres Retire

Recently, 13 aging vice-ministers of the Ministry of Coal Industry and of the Third Ministry of Machine-Building have resigned from their posts either to retire or to become advisers. Their applications for retirement were approved by the State Council.

These old comrades have made important contributions to the liberation of the Chinese nation and to socialist construction over decades of revolutionary struggle. Now advanced in years, they feel physically unequal to their tasks.

They were the latest among an increasing number of veteran cadres from the central authorities down to the grass roots who have voluntarily retired, as part of a national effort to promote younger cadres with profes-

sional knowledge into positions of responsibility.

In the above-mentioned Third Ministry of Machine-Building, 269 cadres at the bureau and factory level have resigned from their posts: 163 of them are now working as advisers while the rest have retired. In the city of Tianjin, 102 veterans who held important posts in the municipal Party committee or in the city government have retired or become advisers.

In the Weifang Prefecture of Shandong Province, which was an old revolutionary base area, more than 20,000 veteran cadres retired last year. Many of them are still active in society. Nearly 900 of them have volunteered to help handle letters from the masses to the leadership and over 1,200 are working as advisers to the rural production brigades or neighbourhood organizations in the towns. In Weifang city, for instance, several retired cadres are helping a neighbourhood committee to run service cen-

tres for repairing electrical machinery and installing equipment in the factories.

Proper arrangements have been made to take good care of these cadres. They receive special medical care and are offered the opportunity to recuperate in sanatoriums.

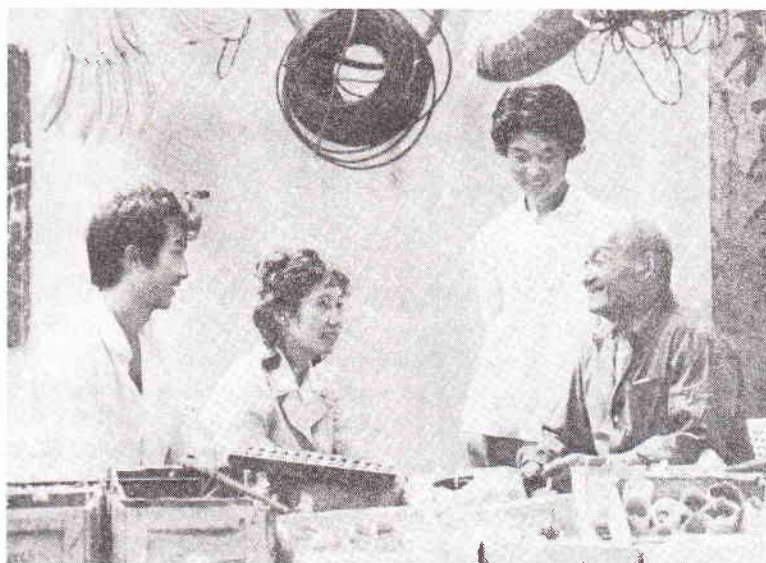
## ECONOMIC

## Industry: A Good Start

The Chinese saying "Spring is the best time of the year" affirms that if work is begun well at the beginning of the year, it lays a sound foundation for the rest of the year. Attention has been paid to this point in this year's economic work.

In January, total industrial output value was 40,500 million yuan, an all-time high. The economy remained in excellent health, with gains in industrial production and in transport and communications, which began to pick up in the fourth quarter last year. According to government statistics, the output of coal in January was 49.41 million tons, 3.51 million tons more than planned; electricity, 26,100 million kwh, and crude oil, 8.66 million tons, which are 4.2 and 0.7 per cent more respectively than in the corresponding period of last year.

Railway passenger transport in January totalled 93.56 million people, an increase of 5.3 per cent over that of the same period of last year, while the volume of freight transport increased 7.9 per cent. Waterborne transport directly under the management of the Ministry of Communications increased by



Chen Chanxi (right), a retired cadre in the city of Shangqiu, Henan Province, helps job-waiting young people run a hardware store by lending them 500 yuan and two of his rooms.

6.4 per cent over the same period of 1981.

Energy supply and transport and communications are major weak links in China's national economy. Strengthening these are of decisive importance to promoting industrial production.

The production of goods in short supply also increased by a large margin in January this year. Compared with the same period last year, bicycles turned out by key enterprises increased by 7.2 per cent; watches, 7.5 per cent; cigarettes, 10.8 per cent; sewing machines, 13.2 per cent; and TV sets, 27.3 per cent.

Heavy industrial production continued its steady ascent. The output of 11 important metallurgical and chemical products was greater than that of the corresponding period of last year. Production of some items, such as iron-ore, sulphuric acid, soda ash, caustic soda and chemical fertilizers, grew by a fairly big margin.

In the first quarter of last year, especially in January, some enterprises operated under capacity and industrial production suffered. The sluggishness was attributed mainly to the readjustment of the internal structure of industry and reduction in the scale of capital construction. At the end of June, total industrial output value had only increased 1 per cent over that of the first six months of 1980, while the output value of heavy industry decreased by 8 per cent.

But, after further readjustment, industrial production began to rise again in August, and it made considerable progress in the fourth quarter. The result was that total industrial output value at the end of the year in-

creased by 4 per cent over that of 1980. This was 1 per cent more than planned, despite a 4.5 per cent drop in the output value of heavy industry.

Because of the three-day Spring Festival holiday beginning January 25, workers actually had fewer work-days in January than in other months. Even so, the situation in industrial production and in transport and communications remained as good as in the last quarter of last year. This is mainly due to the attention paid by leading departments at all levels and to the soaring enthusiasm of the workers.

At present, all enterprises are working to upgrade their economic results and creating favourable conditions for overfulfilling their 1982 production plans by improving management, increasing production and practising economy.

## More Grain in the State Granary

The nation's 1981 plan for the collection of agricultural tax in kind and the purchase of grain was overfulfilled. By mid-January, 29.75 million tons of grain had been delivered to the state, outstripping the yearly plan by 3.6 per cent. China's fiscal year for grain delivery is from April 1 to March 31 the following year.

Grain output last year increased despite severe flooding in some of the major grain-producing areas — Sichuan and Guangdong Provinces and northeast China — and despite the reduction of 2.66 million hectares for grain planting. The 7.5 million-ton increase over 1980 is attributed to the introduction of the responsibility system which enhanced the peasants' enthusiasm for pro-



Xu Kaixiang, a peasant of Anhui Province, and his family sold to the state 16,000 jin of grain last year, which is equal to the amount his production team should deliver to the state.

duction. Peasants in areas that reaped good harvests were eager to sell their surplus grain to the state after delivering public grain. That was why the annual plan could be overfulfilled even though the state reduced or exempted the flood-hit areas from delivering grain.

**Farm and Sideline Products.** In 1981, the total value of state purchased farm and sideline products amounted to 23,540 million yuan, 7 per cent above the state annual plan and the amount purchased in 1980.

Compared with 1980, more farm and sideline products were purchased last year. Cotton purchases rose 8.4 per cent to reach 2.62 million tons, flue-cured tobacco was up 88 per cent to reach 1.16 million tons, while jute and bluish dogbane increased 13 per cent, tea 8.2 per cent, wool 3.1 per cent, sheepskin 26.2 per cent, and raw lacquer 12.5 per cent.

## 4,000 Million Yuan in Treasury Bonds

The State Council decided to issue treasury bonds in 1982 for the second year. This year, 4,000 million yuan in bonds will be issued as against 5,000 million yuan issued last year. Unlike last year, individuals are expected to buy half of the bonds, while all of last year's bonds were bought by local governments, state-owned and collectively owned units.

The annual interest rate for bonds bought by collectively owned units is 4 per cent, and the rate for those bought by individuals is 8 per cent. The repayment of the principal and interest will begin in the sixth year after the issuance of bonds and will be paid in five yearly instalments.

One of the serious problems in China's economic construction today is the lack of funds available for national projects. Following the introduction of economic reforms in 1979, the local governments and enterprises have had more money in their hands, while the Central Government has had less. Last year's bond issue, which was aimed at utilizing part of the money in the hands of the local governments and enterprises, helped reduce the state financial deficit and had a positive effect on stabilizing and developing the economy.

For some time, public opinion has favoured the state issuing bonds to individuals in order to pool funds and speed up socialist construction. Many deputies forwarded suggestions to this effect at the National People's Congress and the Chinese People's Political Consultative Con-

ference, both held towards the end of last year. Now, the State Council has accepted this suggestion and decided to issue some treasury bonds to individuals.

With the growth of industrial and agricultural production in the past few years, peasants' income has risen markedly. In the cities and towns, more and more people have been given jobs, and the incomes of the workers and staff have increased. Bank deposits in both the cities and the countryside have substantially increased. This makes it possible for the people to buy the treasury bonds.

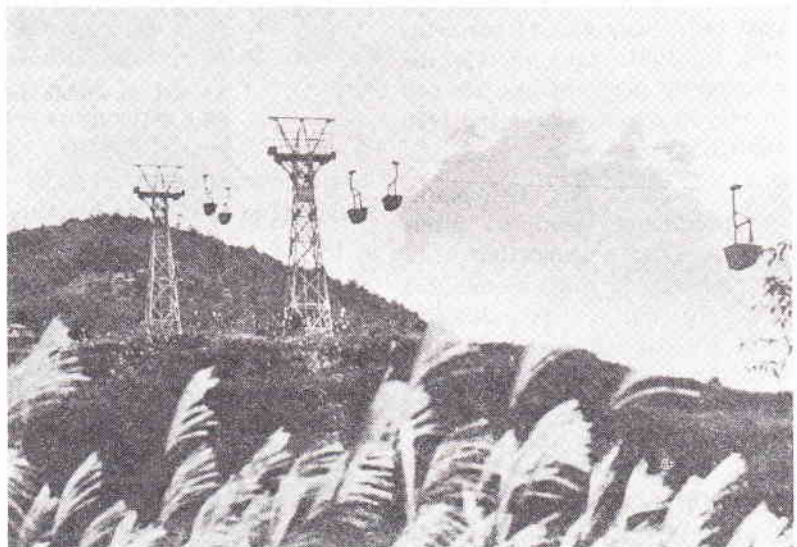
China is a vast country with a population of 1,000 million. It uses a certain amount of foreign capital, but mainly relies on its own efforts. In the final analysis, construction will be achieved by making full use of the country's own funds and by designing methods to pool resources. China issued economic construction bonds to

individuals on several occasions in the 1950s, which played a fairly positive role in socialist construction at that time.

## Progress in Non-Ferrous Metals

Vice-Minister Ye Zhiqiang of the Metallurgical Industry said recently that China will encourage the use of foreign funds and import up-to-date technology to develop the non-ferrous metal industry.

China now has 748 non-ferrous metal enterprises of varying sizes and it has set up a fairly comprehensive production system to include non-ferrous and rare metals, alloys and processing, with advanced techniques in geology, mining, ore dressing, smelting, processing and multi-purpose utilization. There is a growing demand for non-ferrous metals both at home and abroad and, with the development of the energy in-



An aerial cableway built by a PLA engineering unit has helped solve the transportation problem in a uranium mine.

dustry, such demand will increase further. The present production level is far short of the needs of the national economy.

Ye Zhiqiang said further that China will use medium or low interest loans with favourable terms to build key projects. Medium-sized and small enterprises are encouraged to use foreign funds and technology.

The Vice-Minister said that in the future the emphasis will be on the import of advanced technology and key equipment while taking into full consideration the ability to repay. Active efforts will be made to go in for joint ventures, compensation trade and other methods of absorbing foreign funds. Since China has abundant labour power and the ability to do more smelting and processing, co-operation with foreign countries in these fields will be expanded.

The non-ferrous metal industry has developed rapidly over the past few years, as a result of implementing the policy of readjusting the national economy. The industry did not pick up until after 1976. The average growth rate in the past four years was 14 per cent, and in 1981, rare metals increased 30 per cent and shaped metals 10 per cent over the 1980 figures.

The industry has been mainly producing civilian products. The proportion of shaped non-ferrous metals for the light and textile industries and for agriculture and the building industry increased from 20 per cent of the total output in 1977 to 80 per cent in 1981. In the meantime, the list of non-ferrous metals for export, in addition to tungsten, tin, molybdenum, antimony and mercury, expanded to include

25 other rare metals, rare earth compounds and shaped metals.

China's richly endowed reserves of tungsten, tin, antimony, zinc, titanium, tantalum and rare earth metals rank first in the world while those of lead, nickel, mercury, molybdenum and niobium rank second, and copper and aluminium rank fourth and fifth.

## SOCIAL

### More Good News From Tibet

In spite of financial difficul-



An art ensemble in Tibet's Shannan region on a performance tour to remote pastoral areas.

ties, the state's 1982 subsidy to Tibet stands at 600 million yuan, a 10 per cent increase over last year. In the 30 years from 1952 to 1981, government subsidies for Tibet totalled 5,648 million yuan, an average of 3,000 yuan per person. The amount did not include capital investments by departments of posts and telecommunications and geology directly under the Central Government.

The people's government of the Tibet Autonomous Region will use this year's subsidy to develop agriculture, animal husbandry, traditional handicrafts, small hydroelectric power stations and communications, as well as culture, education, public health and scientific research.

**Individual Commercial Establishments.** Individual commercial establishments, almost nonexistent during the 10 years of turmoil (1966-76), have been restored and developed. In Lhasa, the region's capital, more than 1,200 city business licences have been granted to individual vendors who sell a great variety of goods. The markets abound with unique fabrics, furniture

and pottery. Moreover, jewelry and ornaments, which all but disappeared in the "cultural revolution," are now in ample supply.

**Fewer Patients.** People's health has improved remarkably. Compared with 1980, the number of outpatients in the region's hospitals dropped by 23.9 per cent in 1981. Outpatients and inpatients in the Shannan area dropped by 17 and 9 per cent respectively.



On the Tibetan plateau (4,000 metres above sea level) where oxygen is scarce, winter used to bring such a high incidence of respiratory and heart troubles that the number of available hospital beds was often inadequate. But beginning last winter, more than half of the beds in county hospitals were vacant and the number of outpatients also greatly decreased.

**More Savings.** Between 1979 and 1981, savings deposits in Lhasa increased by 40.85 per cent and by 106.53 per cent in the surrounding rural areas.

**Fewer Poor Families.** Three years ago, about 60,000 families engaged in agriculture and animal husbandry had to rely on relief from the state. Now 40,000 of them are self-sufficient.

During the period 1979-81, the state appropriated 36 million yuan for relief work. Last year, the Qamdo local government used part of the money to buy 23,000 head of cattle and distributed them to the poor households free of charge.

**More Returned for Visits or to Take Up Permanent Abode.** Beginning in 1979, an increasing number of Tibetans have returned to visit their friends and relatives or to live permanently in the region. By the end of 1981, 760 had returned, 170 of whom had decided to remain.

Reception organizations for returned nationals have been set up in Lhasa, Xigaze and Zham with government funds for hosting visitors and for helping the new arrivals settle.

Fifty-four-year-old Zhaxiduoji, formerly a local government official in Tibet, returned

in 1980 and is now working at the Tibet Academy of Social Sciences. Living Buddha Caiwang, 57, returned with his whole family in 1980 and is now a counsellor in Burang County. He said: "From what I've seen and heard in the past year or so, I realize more than ever that I've chosen the right path."

### The Role of Lawyers

China now has over 5,500 full-time and 1,300 part-time lawyers, many of whom are working in the country's 1,500 law advisory offices. Their dual role is to protect the legal rights of their clients and maintain the principles of the socialist legal system.

According to incomplete statistics from 25 provinces and municipalities, lawyers acted as advocates in 32,700 criminal cases in the first three quarters of 1981.

Lawyers throughout the country also acted as legal representatives in civil and economic disputes and as advisers to enterprises and various undertakings.

China began restoring the system of lawyers representing clients in lawsuits and advising them in other legal matters in 1980. The Provisional Regulations Governing the Work of Lawyers, adopted in August that year by the Standing Committee of the Fifth National People's Congress, went into effect on January 1 this year.

However, work in this field is still in its initial stage and lawyers are small in number and lack experience. For a period of time, therefore, China will draw new lawyers from three sources — from college graduates specializing in law, from political and legal workers with practical experience and from a pool of others judged competent for legal training. Strict examinations will determine who is qualified for the title of "lawyer." Those who do not pass the examinations will be put on probation in the lawyers' organizations. Simultaneously, professional training will be strengthened to raise the level of existing lawyers.



Jiang Jingru (facing camera), a lawyer, talking with a client who has sued another party for violating an economic contract.

## Rebuttal of the Call "To Maintain Taiwan's Defence Capability"

THOSE in Washington who advocate US arms sales to Taiwan have put forth numerous opinions to support their proposition, but none of them are tenable.

There are some Americans who admit that the proposed sale infringes upon China's internal affairs.

But those who insist on the proposed sale have assumed a high-handed stance. They recommend that the United States go ahead with the arms sale even if it does constitute an infringement upon China's internal affairs. Such people base their position on the US pledge "to maintain sufficient defence capability for Taiwan."

### A Violation of Principles

This postulate violates legal principles. Moreover, it is illogical. Taiwan is China's territory. Why should the United States, a country on the other side of the globe, have a hand in maintaining Taiwan's "defence" capability? Why should the United States make such a ludicrous gesture?

When Sino-US diplomatic relations were established, the United States recognized the Government of the People's Republic of China as the sole legitimate Government of China and Taiwan as part of China's territory. It also accepted China's three conditions for modifying US-Taiwan relations: Withdrawal of US troops from Taiwan, abrogation of the treaty

on "defence" and severance of diplomatic relations.

The abrogation of the treaty requires that the United States terminate the US-Taiwan "defence" pact and US-Taiwan "defence" relations.

If the United States supplies arms to Taiwan and continues to declare that it wants to ensure sufficient "defence capability" for Taiwan, people can't help but wonder whether there is a military "defence" pact between the United States and Taiwan in disguised form. What else can this be if not a violation of the principles laid down in the communique on the establishment of diplomatic relations between the United States and China?

The United States also committed itself to severing all diplomatic ties with Taiwan and only maintaining unofficial relations. Nevertheless, by supplying Taiwan with military equipment, the United States is in fact treating Taiwan as a political entity. Calling such ties unofficial is contradictory.

### Key Questions

The argument for "maintaining Taiwan's defence capability" is clearly a US attempt to perpetuate a "two Chinas" policy. It is also the outgrowth of an anti-China strategy. One might ask: In the minds of those advocating Taiwan's "defence capability," who is to be defended against? Obviously, it is none other than China. These people generally hide their true

intentions, but sometimes they are quite forthright.

Their effort to help Taiwan maintain its "defence capability" is designed to keep Taiwan apart from the mainland and block China's reunification with a view to perpetuating the US policy of "two Chinas." This constitutes a direct and wanton interference in China's internal affairs.

After China put forward her nine-point proposal concerning peaceful reunification, some US officials openly declared that it was a problem to be settled by the Chinese themselves and that the United States should not have a hand in this matter. The argument for maintaining Taiwan's defence capability runs counter to the US position expressed in these comments.

Another allegation has shown their attempt more clearly. The supply of arms to Taiwan is not for the interest of the Chinese there but for perpetuating their occupation of Taiwan as a bastion against China.

The *Atlanta Journal* said in an article on January 28 that China "was an enemy only a few years ago." Even as a potential friend, it is not reliable, it added. The article also said, "The risk of losing Taiwan, a key bastion of the Pacific, is too great for us to run." Some people in the United States even regard Taiwan as "a never submerging air carrier" of the United States in the Pacific. It is tantamount to saying that they still harbour inveterate hatred for China. Such people have always opposed the establishment of diplomatic relations between the United States and China. They were dissatisfied with the policy of the Car-

ter administration and do not agree with the cautious attitude of the Reagan administration on the arms sales.

The times have greatly changed. Circumstances have forced the United States to establish diplomatic relations with China and improve strategic relations with her. However, there are still some political philistines in

the United States who are doggedly hostile to China and attempt to push back the wheels of history. If their shameful performance is permitted to shape the US Government's policy on this crucial issue, it will produce grave consequences for the United States, the Far East and the world.

— Peng Di and Hua Xiu

## US Shields Israel at UN

**T**HE ninth emergency special session of the United Nations General Assembly adopted a resolution on February 5, condemning Israel for annexing the Syrian Golan Heights.

The resolution calls upon all member states "to refrain from supplying Israel with any weapons and related equipment and to suspend any military assistance which Israel receives from them," "to suspend economic, financial and technological assistance to and co-operation with Israel," and "to sever diplomatic, trade and cultural relations with Israel."

The resolution, sponsored by 54 Arab and other third world countries, is the strongest ever adopted by the United Nations to condemn and isolate Israel.

### Uphold Justice and Impartiality

The United States is indignant over this resolution, which upholds justice and impartiality. After vetoing the Security Council's resolution condemning Israel, the United States also attempted to impede the passage of a General Assembly resolution calling for sanctions against Israel.

The United States, disregarding criticism by many third

world countries, launched an open and vigorous campaign against the draft resolution before it was put to a vote. In violation of accepted diplomatic practice, it issued a threatening warning to the third world countries, trying to prevent them from voting for the resolution. US officials said that they opposed the resolution adopted by the UN General Assembly because it calls for sanctions against Israel and is unfavourable to the negotiation process. This is absurd. Israel, disregarding world opinion, annexed the Golan Heights. Why shouldn't such a diehard aggressor be condemned and sanctioned?

### Dangerous Policy

An Arab observer at the UN said that the United States has not only protected Israel since it

annexed the Golan Heights, but is also encouraging it to launch new acts of aggression. This point of view is not completely baseless. About one month ago, a *Washington Post* editorial entitled "After the Golan Heights" said that people inside and outside Israel suspect that the annexation of the Golan Heights was an initial exercise in a plan to take over the whole West Bank of the Jordan River.

The recent talks between US President Reagan and Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak during his stay in the United States clarified the situation. After their talks on February 4, Reagan and Mubarak emphasized their efforts to solve the Middle East question in accordance with the Camp David accords. The United States expressed satisfaction. However, US newspapers reported that US officials were worried because President Mubarak emphasized Palestinian autonomy and the right to "the national entity." The US attitude may encourage additional Israeli arrogance.

The biased attitude the United States holds towards Israel will be strongly opposed by the Arab countries. This will exacerbate turbulence in the Middle East and thus provide an opportunity for the Soviet Union to penetrate. This is a dangerous policy indeed.

— Ren Yan

## Obstacles to Reunifying Korea

**A** GENERATION has come of age since the war ended in Korea, but the Korean nation is still divided.

This unhappy state is not due

to the Koreans desiring the continued division of their country along the 38th Parallel. The Democratic People's Republic of Korea has repeatedly spoken in

favour of reunification, and in recent years the people in the south have expressed stronger support for the same objective. Popular pressure in 1972 forced the leaders in the south to agree to a series of dialogues with the north to work out political differences.

Given the clear desire of both halves of the nation for reunification, the reason why it has not occurred is obvious—foreign interference. Thousands of US combat troops are still stationed in the south and the authorities in the south want to keep them there. Despite strong international condemnation, the United States is unwilling to pull back its troops. For instance, at a November 1975 plenary session of the United Nations General Assembly, a resolution was adopted demanding “the dissolution of the ‘United Nations Command’ and withdrawal of all foreign troops stationed in south Korea under the flag of the United Nations.” Nonetheless, the United States continues to maintain troops in south Korea.

North Korea’s position is clear. The reunification of Korea must take place independently, without the intervention of outside forces, said President Kim Il Sung in his October 1980 proposal for the founding of a Democratic Confederal Republic of Koryo. The Korean President also said reunification should take place peacefully and in accordance with the principle of national unity. He has called for an approach which transcends the ideas and systems in the north and the south, the scrapping of all military treaties with other countries and the reduction of armies on both sides.

The fundamental things which must occur in order to ensure reunification are the withdrawal of US troops from south Korea, the carrying out of democratization there and the ending of the anti-communist confrontation policy, said Korean Ambassador to China, Jon Myong Su, at a February 1 press conference. These three principal points were pointedly ignored in the “reunification proposal” put forth by south Korea.

The Korean Government’s stand is reasonable and feasible. Many international groups and conferences have voiced support

for its basic outline. At the Helsinki conference of journalists from 70 countries in late January, a resolution was adopted which said, “Any proposal for the reunification of Korea not based on the withdrawal of all foreign troops and weapons from south Korea and democratization of its society is of no significance.”

It is clear that Korean unification would be significantly facilitated if the United States would withdraw its troops and let the Koreans solve their own problems.

— Bai Yang

## Hanoi’s Hypocrisy

**T**HE manner in which Viet Nam’s authorities recently handled the issue regarding armed activities along the Sino-Vietnamese border is a classic example of its attempts to deceive the world.

### Viet Nam’s Note

The Lunar New Year Festival is a major holiday in China and Viet Nam. In an attempt to take advantage of the situation, Hanoi proposed the cessation of armed activities along the border. In a note to China’s Foreign Ministry on December 28, 1981, the Vietnamese authorities proposed that “both sides refrain from hostile armed activities and from opening fire in the border area between the two countries” during the Lunar New Year Festival. On January 14, a spokesman for Viet Nam’s Foreign Ministry announced that “Vietnamese soldiers and guards at the border will unilaterally act upon the proposal

made in the note of December 28.” Hanoi subsequently distributed copies of the note and the statement at the United Nations in an attempt to achieve maximum benefit from this propaganda stunt.

China has always maintained that tension along the Sino-Vietnamese border has been engineered solely by the Vietnamese authorities in order to promote their anti-China policy and regional hegemonist designs. As long as Viet Nam refrains from military provocations or incursions into Chinese territory, the question of China fighting back simply will not arise and peace will prevail along the border. Such being the case, China suspected the proposal was not submitted in good faith.

### Viet Nam’s Actions

China’s suspicions were ultimately justified. During the



A school recently bombarded by Vietnamese troops at the border.

Spring Festival, Vietnamese troops committed 44 military provocations along the border area of China's Yunnan Province and the Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region. They opened fire and crossed the border to plant mines. As a result, one Chinese border inhabitant was killed and two more were wounded in an explosion. This did not surprise China and some neighbouring countries familiar from past experience with the inveterate treachery of the Vietnamese authorities.

What is surprising is that after these incidents, Viet Nam's Foreign Ministry sent a note on January 30 to the Chinese Foreign Ministry proposing again that "both sides end all hostile armed activities along

the border between the two countries."

Sincerity and good intentions have to stand the test of action. The Vietnamese authorities never tire of talking about their desire for peace, yet, they have failed to show it in their actions. If the Vietnamese authorities really desire to reduce tension, stabilize the situation along the border and "create conditions for a peaceful settlement of Sino-Vietnamese relations," they have only to prove it by their actions. It would be a mistake for the Vietnamese authorities to attempt to deceive the Chinese and Vietnamese people and public opinion as well with their hypocritical proposals and tricks.

— Xinhua Correspondent  
Ji Ying

## Iran-Iraq

### A Positive Step

**I**RAN and Iraq recently signed an agreement on reciprocal visits to prisoners of war by their families. This is the first agreement signed by the two countries since the war started in September, 1980 and it has

attracted global attention.

UN Secretary-General Mr. Perez de Cuellar called the agreement "a positive development which is conducive to the search for peace" between the two countries.

### Why No Ceasefire?

The war between the two countries has entered its 17th month. In spite of persistent mediatory efforts by heads of various countries and international organizations, no sign of a ceasefire is in sight. At the beginning of 1982, Syria, Kuwait and some other Arab countries attempted to mediate the dispute, but Iran and Iraq rejected their efforts.

The war has already produced major damage to both countries. It has been estimated that Iran and Iraq have lost tens of billions of US dollars. Since the outbreak of the war, more than 30,000 people in each country have been killed and millions of others have been made homeless. Many people wonder why they have refused to declare a ceasefire.

Both countries have rejected this option. Iran insists that a ceasefire must be accompanied

A Bagdad power station was hit by airplane fire.



by an Iraqi troop withdrawal from its occupied territory completely and unconditionally. Iran also says that mediation should be conducted by a group of international judges accepted by both sides to determine which country is the aggressor. And the aggressor pays compensation for the damages inflicted.

Though Iraq has repeatedly expressed its willingness to immediately end the war, its president says that a ceasefire can only be realized after Iran's highest leader agrees to one and agrees to recognize Iraq's border. Iran has recently increased its battlefield activity and appears capable of getting an upper hand. This may be the reason why Iran is willing to continue the war.

### Contrasting Military Strength

Both countries have suffered heavy damage to their oil installations, but production and exports have recently escalated. In addition to its \$30 billion hard currency reserve, Iraq has received another \$14 billion in loans from Gulf countries. Iran also has foreign exchange and a substantial gold reserve. Iranian Prime Minister Hussein Musavi says his country has enough petro-dollars and doesn't need any credit from foreign countries.

Militarily, Iran and Iraq are about equal. Iran has approximately 350,000 troops. Iraq only has 200,000 regular troops, but it has greatly strengthened its militia forces. The total number of its troops reached 380,000 in January 1982, an increase of 160,000 over the prewar figure. Neither country expends large amounts on air and naval forces.



Iranian oil pipes were damaged.

Given this, their economic and military resources are essentially equal. Although neither side is presently capable of defeating the other, they have enough military resources to prolong the war.

### Ceasefire: The Sooner the Better

The two superpowers have intensified their rivalry in the area since the war began and made the already troubled Gulf region even more turbulent and unstable. The world desires an early ceasefire and hopes the two countries will peacefully settle their differences.

The agreement on reciprocal visits by the families of pris-

oners of war is a good sign.

The complicated boundary questions and other contradictions between the two countries are deep-seated, some are left over from the colonial era. These problems can be solved through consultations held in the spirit of mutual accommodation. Even when they cannot be settled immediately, they can be settled later. There is no justification for continued fighting. People of the world would like to see the agreement signed by the two countries become a turning point. Let peace return to both banks of the Shatt-al-Arab River.

—Tan Shuhong

### India-Pakistan

## No-War Pact Talks

PAKISTAN'S Foreign Minister Agha Shahi's recent visit to India succeeded in increasing mutual understanding between the two countries.

According to the joint state

ment issued after his talks with Indian Foreign Minister Narasimha Rao, the two sides agreed that the conclusion of a no-war pact will contribute to peace and stability in the region.

India and Pakistan should be congratulated for attempting to improve their relations. The situation in South Asia has recently deteriorated because of the contention between the two superpowers in West Asia and the Middle East, and especially because of the Soviet occupation of Afghanistan. It is against this background that India and Pakistan have decided to take steps to improve their relations. Indian Foreign Minister Rao visited Pakistan last June, and in October, Pakistan proposed a treaty of mutual non-aggression with India. Since then, they have made some progress towards resolving differences. During Agha Shahi's visit, the two countries agreed to take con-

crete measures to improve relations and their understanding of each other. This is in the fundamental interest of the two peoples and is a most gratifying development for the maintenance of world peace. The Indian-Pakistani talks represented a heartening step towards better relations between the two countries.

True, certain differences still exist between India and Pakistan. We are, however, convinced that these can be gradually eliminated and bilateral relations improved provided the two sides enter into negotiations on an equal footing and in a constructive manner.

— "Renmin Ribao" Commentary (February 2)

## Yugoslavia

# To Stabilize Economy

YUGOSLAVIA has made great headway in building its economy and consolidating its economic system of socialist self-management. However, problems have emerged recently. To overcome these difficulties, new measures have been adopted.

### Sources of Instability

The sources of Yugoslavia's economic instability are as follows:

**Uneven Development of Basic and Processing Industries.** During the decade between 1970 and 1980, car production increased from 110,000 to 250,000 and tractors from 12,000 to 50,000. In addition, output of other consumer and capital goods multiplied. But in the meantime, the basic industries which have direct bearing on this manufacturing industry developed slowly. For instance, steel output only increased from 2.2 to 3.6 million tons, coal from 28 to 47

million tons and petroleum from 2.8 to 4.2 million tons. This clearly illustrates that the development of light and heavy industries is seriously uneven. Given this, domestically produced raw materials and fuels failed to meet the needs of the processing industry, which had to rely on imports. In 1970, 30.9 per cent of Yugoslavia's energy consumption was imported. In 1979, it rose to 45.8 per cent. Meanwhile, Yugoslavia imported an increasing amount of raw materials and fuel which accounted for 63.8 per cent of the nation's total imports in 1976 and 75.8 per cent in the first half of 1981. This produced a serious imbalance in the nation's foreign trade.

**Too Much Capital Construction.** In the recent years, 35 to 40 per cent of Yugoslavia's social output value, i.e., the national income and the depreciation, has been used as fixed capital investment. The num-

ber of projects under construction rose from 16,000 in 1975 to 28,000 in 1980. This caused a shortage of materials, price hikes, a supply pinch and increases in imported equipment.

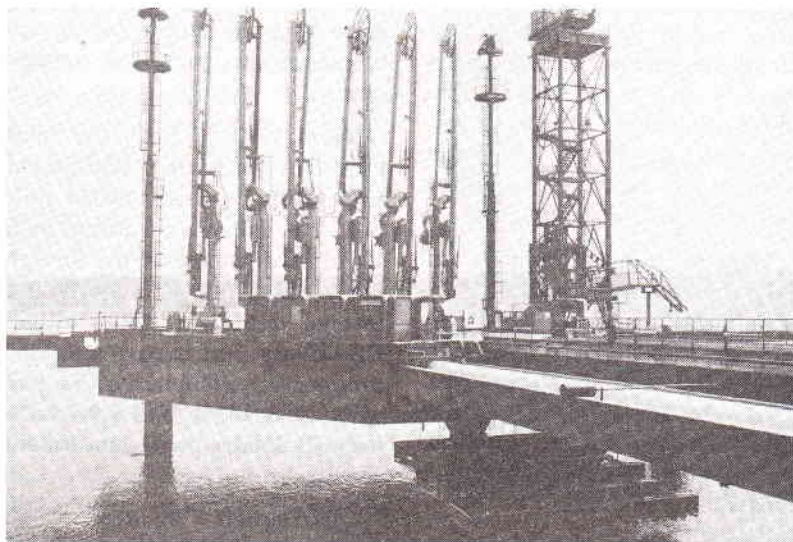
From 1970 to 1980, the total value of imported equipment reportedly reached 28,000 million US dollars, resulting in a significant increase in foreign debt. In 1970, Yugoslavia's foreign debt was 2,500 million US dollars; but it rose to 21,200 million US dollars by the end of August 1981, with 9,900 million US dollars being investment credit.

**Distribution Trouble.** Because per-capita income increased much faster than labour productivity and individual consumption surpassed the amount of commodities available on the market, relation between supply and need became problematic.

Given these circumstances, the savings of productive organizations declined. In 1971, 15.8 dinar out of the average per-capita income, 100 dinar, were saved. But this dropped to 10.8 dinar in 1978. To earn more productive organizations resorted to increased production and the renovation of technical equipment. Their cash shortages were supplemented by state bank credits and money borrowed from abroad. Paradoxically, the former caused credit inflation and the latter the sharp increase in foreign debt. This further aggravated the economy's instability.

### Measures to Overcome Economic Difficulties

The Yugoslavs are devoting a great deal of attention to their economic problems. The League of Communists of Yugoslavia, government departments, socio-



Deep water harbour for newly built oil pipe-lines.

political organizations and people from every walk of life are discussing and formulating measures to overcome the nation's economic difficulties. Their measures are as follows:

**Slowing Down Economic Development.** Plans call for annual average growth rates of social output value and industrial production for the 1981-85 five-year plan to be 4.5 and 5 per cent respectively. Both targets are lower than those of the previous period.

In 1982, the growth rate of social output value will decrease to 2.5 per cent and industrial production to 3.5 per cent.

**Reduced Investment.** Investment in fixed capital will be reduced every year until its percentage in social output value declines from last year's 34 per cent to 29 per cent in 1985. Projects which cannot produce good economic results or cannot be put into operation within a short period will be stopped or postponed. The annual average growth rate of productive investment will decline from the

8.5 per cent of the previous five-year plan period to 2.3 per cent. Excepting housing construction, non-productive investment will be frozen.

**Strengthening Basic Industries.** By 1985, coal output will increase to 82 million tons and oil to 5 million tons. The percentage of major chemical products in social output value will be increased from 45 per cent in 1980 to 60 per cent in 1985. The steel industry will become 80 per cent self-sufficient.

**Reducing Loans and the Foreign Trade Deficit.** The planned annual average growth rate for exports during the 1981-85 period is to be 8 per cent. Imports will be significantly decreased with the hope that total foreign trade deficits during the five years will not surpass 6,000 million US dollars. Emphasis is being placed on borrowing foreign funds in a manner consistent with actual needs and the nation's ability to repay them. Plans also call for reductions in loans for equipment. In 1982, Yugoslavia will reduce its equip-

ment imports by 50 per cent and increase its exports by 8.5 per cent. This should ensure that its deficit doesn't exceed 500 million US dollars.

**Curbing Inflation and Curtailing Government Expenditures.** Although the Federal Government implemented price-freezes to harness inflation during the first half of last year, the annual inflation rate was still almost 40 per cent.

As a result, the Federal Assembly has decided that greater efforts must be made in 1982 to reduce the inflation rate to no more than 15 per cent. Financial deficits are to be wiped out by 1983. In order to reach this goal, the Federal Government is now taking measures to cut its expenditures and reduce the 1982 federal budget.

In addition, the Federal Government is also taking measures to prevent real increases in individual incomes. It is also attempting to stimulate the development of agriculture and the economically less developed areas.

The League of Communists of Yugoslavia recently called on its organizations to earnestly carry out the self-management agreements and social contracts formulated in the new five-year plan, to implement the system of representation and the Act of Associated Labour so as to give full scope to socialist self-management and democracy. It has also called on its organizations to further improve the system of socialist self-management. Through implementing these adjustments, the Yugoslavs are confident that the economy will be put on a sound basis and prosper.

— Xiong Jiawen



# Memories of Edgar Snow

*Edgar Snow, the noted American journalist, passed away on February 15, 1972, but time has not diminished the Chinese people's respect for this friend of China. Published here are reminiscences of people who knew him personally.*

*Through these brief accounts, we hope readers will gain an appreciation of Snow's upright and energetic character, insightful intellect and will to seek truth. These qualities drove him to write numerous outstanding reports about China.*

*The commemoration of the 10th anniversary of his death will be covered in our next issue. — Ed.*

## Snow Speaks Through Letters

by Israel Epstein

I KNEW Edgar Snow from the 1930s, and we corresponded fairly often. While earlier letters have been lost, I have fortunately kept some from the years between the end of World War II and the mid-1960s. They contain sidelights on the course of events in those two decades and reflect Snow's unwavering sympathy for the new forces in China and his battle for American-Chinese friendship on a sound and equal basis.

In 1948, he sent me from New Delhi, where he was on a reporting assignment, a letter of considerable historical interest. Alluding to a passage in a book I had written, he said:

"I noticed that you referred to my conversation with [US President] Roosevelt in 1945, and his statement to me that he intended to 'deal with both sides in China till they got together.' Your first presumption in analysing this statement was undoubtedly correct, he did plan [towards the end of World War II] to have direct military aid sent to the Eighth Route Army,

The author, a noted journalist and writer, is now the chief editor of the monthly *China Reconstructs*.

not just an observers' base set up. This was clear because he spoke of the difficulties of 'making physical contact' and wondered whether the Reds would be able to hold a coastal base somewhere, so that supplies could be delivered. Secondly he discussed Carlson [US General Evans F. Carlson, who early in the anti-Japanese War had visited the liberated areas, and reported their military and social achievements] as the man who ought to make the contact and arrange to get the materials to the Eighth Route Army people, but he told me that he had suggested it and his plan for Evans was vetoed by the generals who considered Carlson a 'Red.'" This passage provides firsthand evidence about how wartime co-operation was first projected, then sabotaged.

A second passage from the same letter testified to Snow's continued warm advocacy of American-Chinese co-operation on a truly new and equal basis. It breathed encouragement and solidarity with those of us [in the Committee for a Democratic Far Eastern Policy in New York] who were arguing against the US intervention on the Kuomintang side which had negated and reversed the good wartime beginnings in ties between the US and the new forces in China.

"Keep up the good work, Eppy, and I'll join you before long. I'm convinced now that only a speedy awakening by the American people to correct our failure to realize democracy in the best sense at home and in policies abroad can avert another disaster. . . ."

In 1951 I returned to China and for some years we did not correspond. Snow, in the meantime, had moved to Europe under McCarthyite harrying which made it more and more difficult for him to write and publish in the US. In 1958, I wrote to him in his new home in Switzerland. His reply on July 29 of that year showed unchanged feeling for China, and no diminution in his constant search for a decent US-China relationship.

"I am impressed at the reports of unexampled material progress as well as cultural growth in China and when I have a chance to lecture I make the most of what facts I find," he wrote.

And concerning the US: "Now in the past two years there is a growing awareness among people who think about foreign affairs at all that our policy re Chiang [Kai-shek] is unrealistic and based on fantasies concerning the mainland situation but there is no powerful organized opinion demanding any change in that policy."

Also, he repudiated any suggestion that, in the years he had been under pressure, he had ever regretted writing his famous book *Red Star*. "I not only feel that the views and facts I collected in that volume were sound and prescient," he wrote, "but that the Eighth Route Army won because it had popular support and was the logical product of internal historical forces as against reaction."

Another letter from Snow was dated May 22, 1962, after his first post-liberation visit to China. He was just finishing his resulting book, *The Other Side of the River*. Within China, the three hard years were ending, and he remarked: "I was very glad to receive your letter and especially to learn the welcome news of good prospects for a bountiful spring crop on the North China plain." His own thoughts were about how to refute and counteract the destructive image of China then being projected by much of the Western press, "All the news that appears here continues to emphasize famine, starvation and despair."

Besides his writing, Snow engaged in many other public activities to clear the air. "In my tour [of the USA] I made 38 lectures, mostly to colleges and universities, but also to forums, men's clubs, women's clubs, etc. Very great interest [in China] everywhere." Analytical as ever, he described the current audience trends. By now there was "general acceptance that the public isn't getting the facts about China. I was picketed by Birchites (neo-McCarthyites) several times and had a few lectures cancelled, but this is a minority and not a very strong one. There is little real support for US-China policy but there is not any organized support to change it. The voter has no control or voice in policy."

A letter of June 17, 1963, showed that he still kept a constant finger on the pulse of US-

China relations. "I see no early prospect of any basic re-examination of the Dulles' policy aims in the Far East, but there is a definite shift in the implementation. . . . This aims primarily at placating the growing criticism of US policy and placing on China the burden of maintaining non-communication."

In a letter of August 2, 1963, he welcomed China's initiatives in the nuclear sphere: "Peking's invitation to a world conference on nuclear weapons is an affirmative move which ought to advance peace prospects in the Far East if taken up." Then he added, skeptical of the response of the superpowers, "a big IF."

By September he was full of plans for returning again. But mutual visits by journalists between China and the USA were still impeded by the latter's non-recognition policies, so there were difficulties as regards the capacity in which he would come. Looking for ways, he wrote about how these problems could be met.

He did come to China in 1964, and had a very important interview with Chairman Mao Zedong. This interview, he wrote me afterwards, was prominently featured in the press — "from Britain to Australia, in France, Italy, Netherlands, Scandinavia, Africa, Canada, Mexico, etc., everywhere, I believe, except the USSR and USA."

But in his own country, too, Snow's long-muffled voice was echoing in other ways. "*Red Star Over China*," he remarked with pleasure, "after sleeping all these years in the US, has

Zhou Enlai (second from right) with his wife Deng Yingchao and Edgar Snow (foreground) in 1960.



suddenly become a best-seller . . . apparently due to political archaeological research among youths beginning to ask for whom the bombs toll. A long letter I wrote to the national secretary of the College Students' Association for the United Nations was used in the student press throughout the nation, which wouldn't have happened in the past."

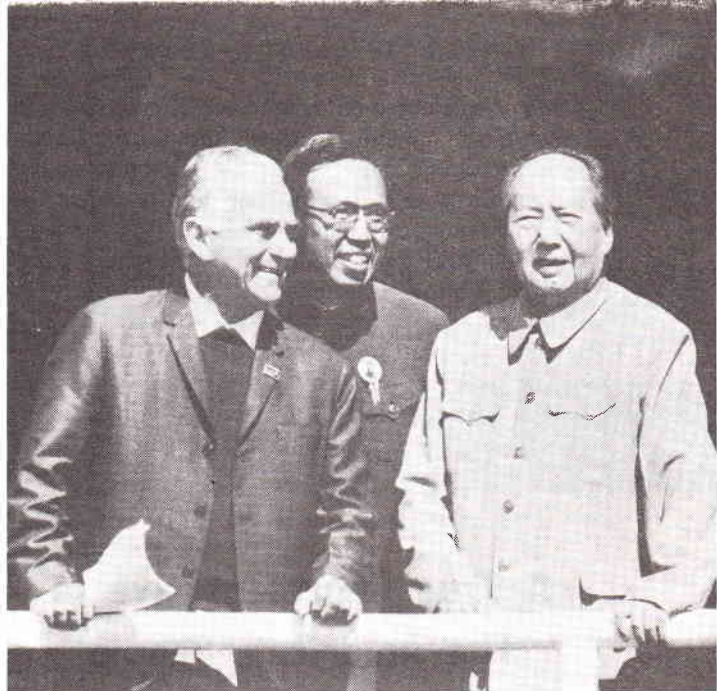
In July 1966, when the years of turmoil in China began, he wrote from Switzerland expressing worry about the situation in China, "From information available here it is difficult to interpret recent events. . . . One has to work on extra-sensory perception, mine is not too good. . . ."

Nonetheless, he continued his work of presenting the new China to the world through various media. "My documentary film is complete, 80 minutes, about 3/4 colour, sound music and voice . . . called *One Fourth of Humanity*."

The last letter in my file was dated March 1, 1968. In it Snow wrote that the defeat of the US adventure in south Viet Nam had been plain to him since 1965, but that, "Recognition of the . . . finality of that defeat has yet to be made in Washington, openly at any rate. . . ."

As regards revisiting China, with Lin Biao and the gang of four at the height of their influence he had 'been refused permission to come. "Evidently I have made some powerful non-friends," he wrote, pained. "Several people I am bound to believe tell me that I am 'no longer considered a friend of China' by those who judge such matters. . . . In any event my record on China is clear for all to see; though my writing is full of faults in detail, and though it is not the work of a sycophant, it is honest and independent journalism seeking the truth: Whether the few who decide such matters there consider me a 'friend of China' or not, there is no doubt that the outside world so considers me — except for reactionaries — and there is no doubt that it will continue to do so until my behaviour merits otherwise, I am not a writer who changes his political views to suit a weathervane. . . ."

As usual, Snow was forthright and open. His deep hurt can be understood. But equally heartfelt and sincere was his avowal of dignity and kept faith. In fact, despite the slanders that poisoned the air when Lin Biao and the gang of four exerted their evil influence, China did not abandon Snow. In 1970, he was back. In a talk with him then, Chairman Mao Zedong explained that those officials who had opposed his



Chairman Mao and Edgar Snow on the Tian An Men rostrum on the National Day (October 1) 1970.

return to China in 1967 and 1968 "had belonged to an ultra-Leftist group that had seized power in the Foreign Ministry for a time, but they were all cleared out long ago," Snow reported. On National Day of that year Snow stood on the rostrum of Tian An Men with Chairman Mao. And on this visit he was able to contribute, very substantially, to the advancement of his long-cherished hope, equal relations between his native USA and China, that could facilitate ties and friendship between their two peoples.

To his writings advocating this goal, Snow was to add one more book, *The Long Revolution*, on which he worked with dogged bravery when already in agony with cancer of the pancreas. It was finished by his devoted wife, Lois Wheeler Snow, after his death. Near his life's end, he was warmed, encouraged and helped by the presence of a Chinese medical team sent specially by Chairman Mao Zedong and Premier Zhou Enlai.

Such was the Long March of Edgar Snow. It was made in step with the struggle of China's people for mastery of their own fate and equality among the nations. It included his incessant fight for friendship between the American and Chinese peoples. Many were the setbacks he met in his struggle for wide understanding of the justice and inevitability of the victory of China's revolution, and for international relations based on these realities. After over 20

years of estrangement due to contrary policies in Washington, history forced the turn, finally proving Snow right and his opponents and detractors wrong. Let no one lightly reject, or try to reverse, the path of respect for the new China and equal relations with her blazed by Snow. Whoever tries to do so will damage the progress made in international relations favourable to global peace, not be well remembered in American, Chinese or world history, and — moreover — will fail in the face of history's long-term trend.

## A True Representative of The American People

by Ma Hai-teh (Dr. George Hatem)

**E**DGAR Snow and I went into what was then the unknown land of Communist China in 1936. What we saw and heard Ed has written and ably interpreted time and again, committedly and with great sympathy. Both of us were very young when we sat together with Chairman Mao Zedong and heard the story of the immense struggle and problems facing the Chinese people, of how they were seeking to free themselves from the burdens of semi-feudal, semi-colonial oppression internally and growing aggression from abroad.

Ed, with his sense of historical appreciation, asked numerous questions night after night in the candlelight, painstakingly writing out in longhand Chairman Mao's brilliant delineation of the goals and aspirations of the Chinese people. I learnt about China and communism from these and many subsequent interviews, and from travel with Ed throughout the communist regions in the northwest of China. Ed himself thought over, examined and re-examined these new and stimulating ideas, sometimes far into the night, discussing them with me, then coming back with more questions for Chairman Mao or comrades like Zhou Enlai. He put queries to everyone from commanders at the front to the buglers and young orderlies affectionately known as "Little Red Devils," from peasants in the fields to workers in the small guerrilla in-

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Born in Buffalo, USA, the author, a celebrated American doctor, arrived in China in 1933, and is now an adviser of the Ministry of Public Health in Beijing.



Snow with Red Army soldiers after arriving at the revolutionary base area in 1936.

dustries. The thread that ran through all his queries was always why were these people so dedicated, why did this dedication encompass the people of the whole world.

Both of us had come to China at the ripe age of 23 and both moved on to an identification with the struggle of the Chinese people and to love China and the Chinese people. As is well known Ed wrote many books about China and its people. The books speak for themselves. But I would like to mention two qualities that impressed and influenced me: one was the love for the Chinese people and their health, well-being and welfare, and his warmth and concern for "people on our side."

As far as medical care was concerned, Ed was not only interested in learning what was going on but he was active in bringing new health ideas. Early in the 60s he brought material and literature on family planning and population control. He discussed this with Chairman Mao and with the medical authorities. Even in those days of writing *Red Star Over China* he visited hospitals, checked the diet and nourishment of the "Little Red Devils" and looked at the surgical wards and the wounded. He took great interest in the story of the eradication of diseases such as smallpox, cholera, plague, and venereal diseases. He was intrigued with the way China eliminated drug abuse and VD. He always wanted me to tell him in great detail about the health work among the different national minorities' areas I had worked in and about disease eradication. On Zhou Enlai's in-

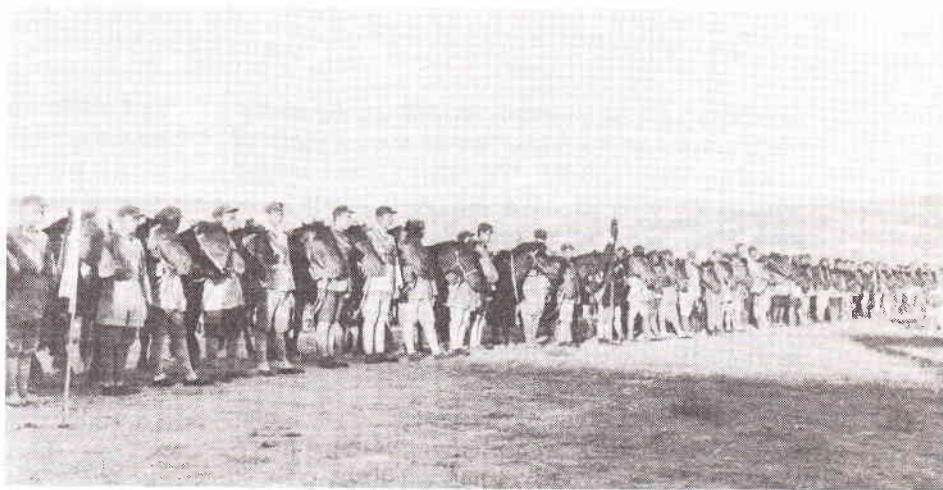
visitation Ed was instrumental in bringing to New China the first American group of US physicians in 1971. All the people who met and knew Ed were drawn to him by his open and warm personality and real love for people, and he knew how to listen—he had a phenomenally retentive memory.

The second quality was his dedication and his unremitting fight for the friendship and understanding between the peoples of China and America at all times, even under the most trying circumstances.

The past 46 years since Ed's travel to Yanan have witnessed immense upheavals starting with the Japanese invasion of China—World War II, the Cold War, the "American Century" with its Korean war followed by further aggression in Viet Nam and Indochina. Much of this was sandwiched in between the hysteria and reaction of the McCarthy crusade against the American people with anti-communism as a figleaf and the "containment" of China.

Ed was treated very shabbily by the US press and officialdom during this period, victimized for his views. But he adhered tenaciously to his principles, at considerable personal and material cost. His interpretation of the events in China, of their significance to Sino-American relations and to world affairs was ignored. The US policy of Cold War Containment nearly exhausted the reservoir of goodwill existing between the Chinese and American peoples.

A true representative of what is best in the people of America, Ed was greatly distressed and fought to stem this tide. He began to pick up and nurture bit by bit the flickering embers of this friendship, painstakingly and unremittingly, as much as any man could. He lived to see the beginnings of a rekindling of the friendship and mutual understanding between the Chinese and American peoples which he had fought for all his life. But he did not live to see the New Spring of Friendship coming to fruition between the peoples of China and the USA, nor did he live to see the normalization of relations between the two countries. It is disturbing to see the dark clouds on the horizon revolving around the Taiwan issue of arms sales and other actions trying to turn the clock back.



A cavalry unit of the Red Army, one of the photos taken by Snow in 1936.

I was with Edgar Snow until the end. A Chinese medical team of which I was a part was sent by Chairman Mao and Zhou Enlai during Ed's terminal illness. In those last days he was often visited by many Chinese friends including the Chinese Ambassador Chen Zhifang who brought messages of concern from China's leaders. Ambassador Huang Hua at the United Nations at that time and now Vice-Premier and Foreign Minister came to see Ed in Geneva. With Huang Hua and myself who had been with Ed in the *Red Star Over China* days, standing by his bedside he referred to us jokingly as "three old Red bandits," harking back to the days when "Red bandits" was what his Chinese Communist friends were called.

A man of immense courage, willpower and dedication, Ed fought strongly. Until the end he followed closely the news of China and the world, especially US-China relations. Only a man of immense stature like Ed could rise above his own tragedy and view broader horizons.

## Following in His Footsteps To Yanan

by Zhao Rongsheng

ON one fine afternoon in March 1937, 20 progressive Chinese students gathered in the living room of an American professor. They came to hear about Edgar Snow's trip to the Red Army base area, Yanan. I was among them, and for the first time was presented with a candid picture of New China.

The author is vice-director of the Beijing Workers' Publishing House.

Edgar Snow showed us 200 postcard-size photographs and several typed manuscripts of *Red Star Over China*. We passed them around with great interest. We felt very lucky to be among the first readers of this book, which today is internationally renowned. With the help of his wife Nym Wales, Edgar Snow projected the film he shot in Yanan. We were impressed by the dynamic spirit in the base area, the well-trained and powerful Red Army and the vigorous images of Mao Zedong, Zhou Enlai, Zhu De and other revolutionary leaders in reviewing the army, and spontaneously clapped our hands.

Snow cranked the projector by hand and explained each picture as the image rushed by. The end contained some footage of Zhou Enlai shaking hands with a heavily bearded man. Edgar Snow asked in Chinese: "Do you know who this bearded man is? An 'imperialist.'" We looked closely and realized that the man was Snow himself. We bursted into laughter. The last several frames, which were shot by somebody else, revealed Snow's tired and unshaven image and we realized how hard he had worked during this trip.

After the film, Snow briefed us about the main points of his talk with Chairman Mao and told us what he had observed during the three months with the Red Army and the stories he had heard about the Long March. He also talked about the little Red Army soldiers. They were still children, but they had walked on the 25,000-li Long March and had fought many battles, which seemed quite unbelievable to us. In response to his stories and photos, we proclaimed: "Miraculous!"

As the afternoon drew to a close, Edgar Snow showed us a copy of Chairman Mao's poem *The Long March*. I immediately felt that it was different from my favourite classical poems. The Chairman's lyrics contained the revolutionary spirit of the times. I hurried to take out my notebook and copy it. This verse was my treasure.

Before we left, Snow added: "I only know a little about them. If you want to know more, you'd better go there and have a look for yourselves." These words had a big impact on me. I thought, if a foreign journalist could risk his life to go to the communist area, why couldn't I set foot on this land? I resolved to go too. Subsequently I talked privately with Snow

and asked him how to get there, the obstacles I might come across and the precautions I should take. He meticulously answered my enquiries.

Later, 10 students including myself used the pretense of going on a spring holiday trip to leave Beijing for Yanan. We followed the map drawn by Snow and arrived at the revolutionary centre, Yanan.

The next evening we were taken to Chairman Mao's cave room. He talked with us late into the night and answered our questions, including whether a war of resistance against Japan would break out, if China could win the war, how the war would be fought and why the Communist Party should co-operate with the corrupt Kuomintang. We found his talk inexhaustible. Several days later, we attended a meeting and heard his report on the united front.

We were also received by Zhu De and Dong Biwu, both took considerable time to talk with us. In addition, a member of the Secretariat of the Party Central Committee assembled all the Party members in our group for a meeting.

We learnt a great deal in a few days. Nine students returned to Beijing to organize the student movement; one remained to study in Yanan. When we bade farewell to Chairman Mao, he told us that the analysis of the latest situation revealed Japan would soon attack China and Beijing would be part of the national defence front. He encouraged us to be models for the people.

Progressive young people who were inspired by Snow's reports to go see Yanan for themselves.



After returning, we presented our experiences to the progressive student organizations and other students. Another group of students was organized to visit Yanan. It too followed the route charted by Snow.

Edgar Snow was more than a teacher of us, a few students; his writings enlightened and encouraged countless progressive youth to embark on the revolutionary road.

## Amidst Student Movement...

by Chen Hanbo

THE time was a late-autumn day in October 1935; the place was somewhere beside Beijing's eastern city wall. An unrestrained atmosphere prevailed in the small sitting room as we, a group of Yenching University students, chatted with our host and hostess — Edgar Snow and his wife. The discussion centred on the situation of north China, which was then in danger of being taken over by the Japanese. Nonetheless, the reactionary government sought to appease Japan by conceding Chinese territory with the hope that it would not make further inroads southward across the Huanghe (Yellow) River.

Snow had recently resigned his Yenching University teaching post and was working as a freelance reporter for the *New York Sun*. He had ready access to information and progressive students frequented his residence for news. At that time, we had just sponsored a current affairs study society among our schoolmates and were secretly editing a wall newspaper. In the first issue we called for opposing autocracy and national betrayal. We advocated fighting for democracy and unified resistance to the Japanese. We openly declared that the Red Army was our hope. In the second issue, we pasted up clippings of eight portraits — Lu Xun, Henri Barbusse, Maxim Gorky, etc. — under a banner headline that read: "International anti-fascist cultural fighters." The portrait of Soong Ching Ling was the most eye-catching of all.

"Can we write a letter to Madame Soong Ching Ling?" we asked Snow.

"Sure," he answered. "I know her and I can hand deliver your letter."

We set pen to paper at once. Mrs. Snow\* served as the typist. In the letter, which was

written in English, we presented our feelings and worries and asked Mme. Soong to tell us what to do.

When we gathered in that sunny sitting room about a fortnight later, Mr. Snow handed us a reply signed by Mme. Soong. She began by addressing us "Dear Students." After praising our patriotic enthusiasm and censuring Chiang Kai-shek's acts of national betrayal, she told us that Chinese youths living on the north frontline should not be weighed down by worries and books. "You should show your mettle and swing into action!" she suggested.

But how?

Mrs. Snow, who was easily excited, made some suggestions.

"You should take to the street!" she said. "Why not make a man of straw, write the two big characters 'North China' on it, place it on a coffin and carry it through the streets as if to bury it? This is the way to tell the masses: North China will be doomed!"

We rejected her suggestion for being too American and inappropriate for so serious a situation.

Flushing, she vehemently defended her recommendation.

Our heated debate went on for quite some time. We still hadn't decided what to do by the time we returned to our dormitory.

We made two new friends in their house. One of them was simply introduced to us as "David." He was surnamed Yu, but we had no way of knowing what his Chinese given name was.

David was a Beijing University mathematics student and he was full of ideas. He said that if we wanted to demonstrate in the streets, the first thing to do was to fight for the freedom of the press, speech, assembly and association. After becoming familiar with our political inclinations, he often dropped in to chat with us. He was, indeed, a spell-binder. We adored him and whenever he came to our dormitory we were reluctant to let him go.

Another new friend was a history student from Qinghua University. His name was Yao Keguang, but we chose to call him Yorker. We were on very good terms with him in no time.

\* Her full name is Helen Foster Snow and her pen name since 1936 has been Nym Wales.

The author is now acting head of the State Publishing Administration.

Both new friends held the same opinions and their analyses of the situation rang true to us. Talking and working with them, we were not only receiving their ideological influence; we also learnt a lot about how to work. We frequently discussed the possibility of conducting a legal struggle against the reactionary government.

We decided to fight for the freedom of speech first. Soon afterwards we showed the Snows a declaration we drafted against civil war. It also demanded resistance to Japan. They immediately translated it into English.

The student movement surged ahead despite the bitter winter. Finally, the day we had been anxiously anticipating arrived. On December 8, Wang Rumei, Chairman of the Yenching students self-governing executive committee (now he is Vice-Premier and Foreign Minister Huang Hua), brought us the word for action: A parade was to be held the next day.

The next three hours were devoted to preparations. We conducted an intense student meeting that night and passed a resolution to take to the street the next morning.

We then informed the Snows of our plans, including the slogans we intended to use, the route of the procession and the site for gathering. On December 9, students from Yenching and other universities took to the streets to protest the government's capitulation to the Japanese invaders' strategy of taking Chinese territory. Snow and his wife joined the marching students.

The parade met with armed suppression. Shouting slogans and using their bare fists, the students fought soldiers who were armed with butcher knives. That night, Snow cabled a long telegram to the *New York Sun* in which he called the demonstration another "May 4th Movement"\* launched by Beijing students. He was the only foreign correspondent in Beijing to report on the incident. None of Beijing papers dared carry any news on the demonstration.

Responding to Snow's suggestion, we held a press conference on December 12 for foreign correspondents. Mr. Snow, a UP reporter and five other foreign newsmen attended.

\* Launched first by students in Beijing, this was a large-scale anti-imperialism, anti-feudal revolutionary movement in modern China. It marked the awakening of the Chinese people.



Afterwards, our contacts with the Snows became more frequent. Before the December 16 march, we again appraised them of our plans. This time the place for assembly was Tianqiao in the southern section of the city. Snow climbed on to the Qianmen rostrum beforehand. He used that vantage point to shoot a picture of historic significance as the students poured from their Tianqiao mass meeting into the inner city (see above).

The Snows treasured their memory of the December 9 movement. In 1960, when Snow returned to China, he recalled this incident with enchanting vigour.

This American couple actively supported our anti-Japanese activities and deeply believed that the Chinese Communist Party was the hope for the emancipation of the nation. They provided us with every convenience for our activities. We got to know the Beijing leaders of the underground Party organization in their small sitting room. David, as it turned out later, was Huang Jing. After liberation he served as the mayor and city Party committee secretary of Tianjin and later as Minister of the First Ministry of Machine-Building Industry. Unfortunately, he died of illness in 1958. Yorker was Yao Yilin, now a Vice-Premier of the State Council. I shall never forget that small sitting



room where we university students carried out revolutionary activities with the Party's underground organization.

We were admitted into the Party around February 1936. In the spring of that year, Snow established relations with the underground organization of our Party. With the help of the Party, he visited the north Shaanxi revolutionary base area and began work on his classic book *Red Star Over China*.

## Snow and "Living China"

by Xiao Qian

**E**ARLY in the 1930s, Edgar Snow did a significant thing for China: he, together with his wife Helen Foster Snow, introduced readers abroad to the progress of China's new literature and some representative works. *Living China*, the collection of short stories they compiled and edited, served as a prelude to Snow's master work, *Red Star Over China*.

In the autumn of 1944, Snow was one of six American correspondents who were permitted to cover the eastern front. When he arrived in Paris, gunpowder smoke still hung in the sky. I was there, too, ready to follow the Seventh Army to the Rhine. As we both were war correspondents, we lived in the same hotel. I chanced to meet him in the corridor. Although many years have elapsed since then, I still clearly remember two things he said: "China is truly my second home," and "It was Lu Xun who gave me the key to the understanding of China." We reminisced about how *Living China* came to be.

In the early 1930s, Snow read Lu Xun's writings and many works by other Chinese authors of the decade. Through the images and spirit of the new literature, he saw not only the wounds and bloodstains on a nation under the hoofs of imperialist powers, but also the nation's staunch and lofty nature. He gradually came to understand the greatness of the Chinese people and to sympathize with China's revolutionary cause.

Several paragraphs of the Introduction to *Living China* might be considered praises sung by a foreigner for China's struggle against

The author is one of Snow's students and a correspondent and a prolific writer of stories and essays.

feudalism since the 1920s. He described the acts of opposition to the old order as "healthy chaos . . . in which are being fermented the germs of mighty and meaningful economic, political and cultural transitions."

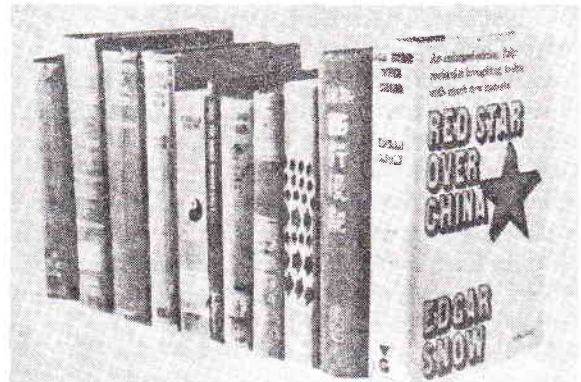
He confidently proclaimed to the world: "And they are the conditions of mutation which have hitherto made the earth fecund and stirred with new life the womb of great art," even though he did not have a high opinion of the artistic merits of China's contemporary literature in the 1930s.

Because he was not Chinese, his understanding, his feelings and his internationalist spirit deserved particular attention.

In the book's introduction, written in July 1936, Snow wrote that he decided to compile the collection one year after he first heard of Lu Xun in 1930. At that time, Lu Xun was a leader of the League of Chinese Left-Wing Writers, one of the organizations under fire from the reactionary government. To compile this book, Snow visited Lu Xun in Shanghai on several occasions and the latter showed warm support for his plan. Snow's first impressions of the literary master were of his "broad-minded humanitarianist spirit, great enthusiasm towards the people and insight of things around him."

In an article entitled "Lu Xun," included in this collection, Snow wrote emphatically, "He remains distinctly a product of his environment and everything he writes is informed and shaped by his subjective impressions in transitional China."

The book took five years to complete. In helping to edit *Living China*, I came to understand the criterion by which he chose the stories.



Some of Snow's numerous writings about China.

They were not required to have beautiful style—in fact it did not matter much if the language was somewhat crude. Snow wanted articles that detailed, exposed and condemned Chinese social reality.

The first part of the collection consists of seven of Lu Xun's short stories. The second part includes two stories by each of Mao Dun, Tian Jun and Ding Ling. Representative individual pieces by Guo Moruo, Ba Jin and others also appear in this part.

The book also includes an autobiographical account by Yang Gang, one of my schoolmates. Written under the pseudonym Shih Ming, "Fragment From a Lost Diary" describes how a revolutionary young couple were arrested and imprisoned. Yang, perhaps fearing for her own personal safety, did not reveal her part in the collection for many years. When the book was printed, Snow's introductory paragraph for her piece read: "Shih Ming is the pseudonym of a Chinese woman writer. . . . She was born in Hubei, in a 'lofty-doored' family of the upper class. Her father was an important landlord and high official of the provincial government. . . . Her courage and daring in utilizing social material . . . show an emancipation which will astound those who have persisted in believing that Chinese art is incapable of a sharp revolutionary break with the past."

When Snow was told that I was writing

some short stories, he was extremely interested in those which exposed imperialist cultural aggression. However, this was seen as a "treason and heresy" in Yenching University at that time. He asked me to translate into English my story "Conversion," about the Salvation Army buying "souls" in Beijing's slums. I was shy, but Snow saw immediately what was in my mind. He told me that he was not seeking works by famous writers, but what he wanted was the social contents of the works. He said that he felt this story would fill a gap in his collection. He had already compiled stories about bankruptcy in the countryside and about women's oppression, but had no descriptions of Western "civilization" deceiving the thinking of the people. I was thus persuaded to translate the story into English.

When *Living China* came off the press, unlike other Westerners in China, Snow had not taken undue credit. The cover did not say "Translated by Edgar Snow" but "Compiled and Edited by Edgar Snow." In the Introduction, he frankly told the readers: "I knew little Chinese then (and make no claims to sinology now)." He mentioned the translators and thanked them for their contributions to the book. His honesty was rare under the conditions of those days. At a time when most foreigners treated Chinese as cows that could produce milk for them, Snow took us as equal partners who co-operated with him for the same cause. □

## Forum

# Strategy for Developing Agriculture

*Chinese experts have engaged in a lively debate during the past two years about national agricultural strategy.*

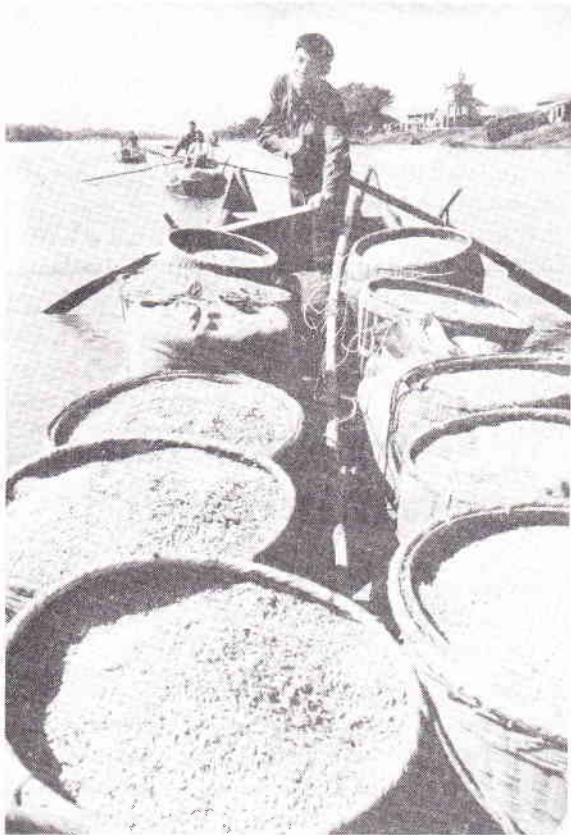
*Some suggest that China follow the example of the West European countries and switch emphasis from grain production to animal husbandry. This would make it possible for the Chinese people, whose present diet consists primarily of grain and vegetables, to increase their meat consumption. Advocates of this change also say that the output value of animal husbandry will increase from the present 15 to 40-50 per cent of total agricultural output value by the end of this century. Some people disagree. The following articles explain three of the most commonly presented positions in this important debate. — Ed.*

## Modern Agriculture Should Be Based on Animal Husbandry

*by Liu Zhenban, a researcher of the World Economy Institute of the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences.*

CHINA cannot expect any significant increases in agricultural development unless it devotes far more resources to animal husbandry.

The nation presently seeks to increase grain output by boosting per-unit yields because



Peasants of Honghu County, Hubei Province, on their way to selling grain to the state. Located in central China, Hubei is known as a land of fish and rice.

the amount of land suited for grain production is limited. But per-unit yield increase is limited because of organic fertilizer shortages. This will ultimately result in decreases in organic substances in the soil and the deterioration of soil structure.

Livestock, fruit and oil-bearing crops are more profitable and have more potential productivity than grain production.

The experiences of the developed countries support the validity of this observation. Some have switched their agricultural emphasis from grain to animal husbandry and others are following suit. This, as I see it, is the only way out for modern agriculture. When grain production was in the dominant position in these countries, agriculture grew at a snail's pace, making it difficult to improve the quality of the people's diet and to institute an effective division of labour between various agricultural departments or to raise the level of these departments' professional skills. Furthermore, relying on grain production alone does not generate the large sums of money needed for purchasing the machinery and chemical fertilizers required by modern agriculture. Therefore, without large increases in animal husbandry, China cannot expect to achieve the modernization of agriculture.

Some people argue that Western nations have succeeded with animal husbandry because they have fodder industries and because they are self-sufficient in grain production. Facts, however, show that this is not true. Western Europe established a foundation for animal husbandry after the mid-19th century, after its inefficient farming system impeded increased grain production. This forced the people to transform land formerly sown with grain into pastures. In this way, they increased fodder production, improved soil fertility and developed livestock breeding.

Given its present level of grain production, China has already laid the groundwork for shifting emphasis to animal husbandry. It is wrong to think that only grain can be used to feed animals. Take pig raising for example. In south China, pigs are mainly fed grass. Potatoes and grain are only used to fatten them. The amount of manure a pig produces can help produce 100-200 kilogrammes of grain, which are more than it consumes.

China has great potential for further developing livestock breeding. This is not my subjective opinion, but an objective demand of the development of modern agriculture.

## The Strategic Emphasis Should Be on Grain Production

*by Ku Guisheng, a teacher in the economics department of the PLA Political Institute, and Zhao Tiecheng, assistant research fellow of the Agro-economy Institute of the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences.*

**A**NIMAL husbandry requires large quantities of grain. This is true for almost every developed country. In the United States, for example, for the annual amount of meat, milk and eggs each person consumes, 995 kilogrammes of grain are needed for animal feed. In West Germany, the figure is 745 kilogrammes. In the developed countries, 7 kilogrammes of grain are needed for producing one kilogramme of beef, 4 kilogrammes for one kilogramme of pork and 2 kilogrammes for one kilogramme of chicken. The United States and Canada have enough grain for these purposes, but other countries, such as Japan and West

Germany, have to depend on imports. Generally speaking, without sufficient animal feed it is difficult for animal husbandry to develop at a quick rate.

In China, annual per-capita grain consumption has long been at the 300-kilogramme level, lower than the average world level of 350 kilogrammes. Given this, it is totally impractical for China to turn several kilogrammes of grain into one kilogramme of meat and to give priority to developing livestock breeding. It would be even more absurd if we have to depend on grain imports to maintain such a system.

China has only 220 million hectares of grassland (80 million hectares of them are located in sandy areas); this and the 46 million hectares of hillside pastures in the agricultural areas amount to 260 million-plus hectares. If a good job is done, China's grasslands can provide 1,000-1,500 million kilogrammes of meat, averaging 1-1.5 kilogrammes for each person. Therefore, it is impossible for China to greatly increase the proportion of animal husbandry in its total agricultural output value.

The composition of a nation's basic diet evolves during the course of the society's historical development. The percentage of meat consumed is not an adequate criterion for judging whether a country or nation is advanced or backward. Many Western countries have already begun to recognize the serious harm which excessive meat consumption can produce in regard to people's health. As a result, they have begun to urge their citizens to consume less meat.

In order to get maximum benefit from its agricultural resources, China should place primary emphasis on grain production. It should also make full use of all available land and simultaneously strive to develop farming, forestry, animal husbandry, sideline occupations and fishery. China should not even consider placing emphasis on animal husbandry alone.

It is not realistic to assume that long-established national patterns of food consumption can be quickly changed. This does not mean we cannot increase the present supply of meat and milk. If China's annual per-capita grain consumption can be raised to 400 kilogrammes, the people will be well fed and healthy. If we attempt to emulate Western livestock breeding tactics, grain consumption will multiply too quickly. The eventual result, even

if the composition of the national diet is changed, would be disastrous. So it is unnecessary to follow the beaten track of the developed countries. Rather, we should proceed from the actual conditions of China and gradually increase the proportion of animal husbandry hand in hand with the growth of total agricultural output value.

## Develop Agriculture in a Comprehensive Way

*by Shi Shan, Deputy Secretary-General of the Chinese Academy of Sciences.*

CHINA'S agriculture has two salient features. First, per-capita acreage of cultivated land is fairly limited, while mountainous areas, water surfaces and grassland, which abound in natural resources, account for about 90 per cent of the total territory. Second, it is backward in both technology and equipment, but has a huge labour force. One more important feature is that both the state and the peasants are rather poor. All this necessitates the principle of developing agriculture in a comprehensive way.

The main idea of the principle is this: While making full use of existing farmland, major effort should be devoted to tapping the potential of the other land and sea areas so as to simultaneously develop farming, forestry, animal husbandry, fishery, industry and sideline occupations. We should gradually equip agriculture with industrial goods in the light of the financial ability of the state and the collective and the production capacity of the various industrial sectors.

As to farmland capital construction, the stress should be put on growing grass, building forests, conserving water and improving the soil. At the same time, animal husbandry should be developed. The development of fruit, grain, oil-bearing crops and economic forests in the mountainous areas will help provide large quantities of food to make up for the grain shortage.

With the growth of production, we should, step by step, develop rural energy sources, transport and communications, commerce, building industry, service trades, foreign trade and the tourist industry. □

## DANCE

### Chinese Ballet

The Central Ballet Troupe's new productions *Death of Lin Daiyu* and *The General Bids His Lady Farewell* have been enthusiastically received by Beijing audiences since they opened last December. These ballets successfully transform episodes from a classic novel and a Beijing opera into dance movements.

*Death of Lin Daiyu* is an episode from the 18th century novel *A Dream of Red Mansions*; the ballet depicts the tragic love story of Lin Daiyu and her cousin Jia Baoyu.

In the book, Lin Daiyu is the tragic heroine, beautiful, talented, full of love, but too proud. After the death of her mother, she is raised in her uncle's home. She and Baoyu, her cousin, have contempt for those who study hard to gain high positions in the feudal court. They fall in love, but the Jia family opposes this partnership

and force Jia Baoyu to marry Xue Baochai.

The ballet focuses on the climax of the story. It depicts how Lin Daiyu, at the last moment of her life, remembers the romance, its happiness and sadness.

"I sought to create both ballet and poetry," said choreographer Li Chengxiang. In Daiyu's solo dance and the *pas de deux* of Daiyu and Baoyu, Daiyu's sorrow and loneliness and the love between Daiyu and Baoyu are portrayed with defined and graceful dance movements and modelling. The trio performance of Baoyu, Daiyu and Baochai masterfully intertwines the tragedies of the three.

If *Death of Lin Daiyu* is a tragic poem, then *The General Bids His Lady Farewell* is a solemn song.

In the Beijing opera version of the story, the armies of Xiang Yu, a brave yet less resourceful general of 200 B.C., are being defeated. When the general is leaving for the last-ditch battle, his lady performs

a sword dance for him and then kills herself to bolster his determination.

Based on his study of historical material, the choreographer Niu Deli eliminated the sword dance. However, he does utilize some aspects of operatic style.

The dance "Drinking With Sorrow" unfolds the general's rough manner and heroism and the lady's grace and tenderness. The hero's strength, ambition and deep love for his lady are manifested in lifts and bold movements.

The creation of ballets based on centuries-old stories is a promising development of Chinese choreography. Chinese ballet only has a relatively short history; these new productions are among the growing number of pieces it can call its own.

## ANCIENT BOOKS

### *Their Publication To Be Stepped Up*

The Chinese Government recently decided to reinstate the planning group for the compilation and publication of ancient books.

This important decision will ultimately result in a significant increase in the number of books available on ancient Chinese culture and facilitate attempts to pass its traditions on to future generations.

During the long years from the emergence of Chinese characters to the 1911 Revolution, China published more than 80,000 ancient titles on literature, history, philosophy,



A scene from "The General Bids His Lady Farewell."

medicine, engineering, astronomy, meteorology and mathematics. Some were inscribed on oracle bones or tortoise shells. Others were written on bamboo slips or silk. They were written in different styles of calligraphy including *zhuan shu* (seal script), *kai shu* (regular script) and *li shu* (clerical script). A small number were written in minority nationality languages including Tartar, Manchu, Tibetan and Uyгур.

The planning group was first set up in 1958. In the following years, some 2,000 ancient books were sorted out and published, including the punctuated edition of *The Twenty-Four Histories* and *A Draft of Qing History* as well as some other collected or selected works by important historical men of letters, poets and thinkers, annotated versions and modern translations of significant classics and photostat copies of some voluminous reference books. But the number falls far short of the wealth of ancient classics which need to be edited and published.

Today, the group's work is being emphasized. Li Yimang, 79, has been appointed head of the new planning group. He has conducted considerable research on ancient Chinese books, especially classical Chinese literature. In the 1950s, he collated and annotated several collections of poems written during the Five Dynasties (907-960). He thinks that besides adding punctuation, annotation and collation, systematic research, and appropriate academic evaluations must be made by the planning group.

The group is composed of 53 members and assisted by 34 advisers. Its members include scholars who are known for research on ancient books and

some young researchers. They plan to translate or annotate several famous or representative literary, historical, philosophical as well as Buddhist and Daoist books. They also plan to provide professional researchers with some photolithographed materials on academic books, rare and valuable ancient editions, and compile special and comprehensive indices and other reference books.

During the 80s, 1,000 to 2,000 kinds of books will be collated and annotated.

### **63 Additional Volumes Of Yongle Encyclopaedia**

The China Press will soon release another 63 volumes of the *Yong Le Da Dian* (Great Encyclopaedia of the Yongle Period), the first encyclopaedia of Chinese cultural history.

Compiled in the Yongle years during the reign of Cheng Zu (Emperor Zhu Di) of the Ming Dynasty (1368-1644), the encyclopaedia contained nearly 8,000 important pre-Ming titles, including literature, arts, history, philosophy, religion, geography and applied sciences. Unfortunately, numerous volumes of the priceless book were stolen before the founding of the People's Republic. As a result, many have disappeared. It is estimated that about 800 volumes still exist in the world.

In 1960, the China Press published photolithographed copies of the 730 volumes then available. The 63 volumes to be released were only acquired after years of painstaking effort: 3 from Shanghai Library, 5 from Taiwan, 7 from West Berlin, 3 from West Germany, 22 from Britain, 18 from Japan, 3 from the United States and 2 from south Korea.

## **ENERGY**

### **Tianjin Underground Thermal Water Opened**

Three unusual thermal layers covering an area of 700 square kilometres have been successfully explored in Tianjin, a north China industrial base.

The water is between 30-53 degrees Centigrade in the shallower layers and 60-96 degrees Centigrade in the deep ones. According to available data, the thermal water reserve in the shallower layers is 12,000 million cubic metres. This could provide 100 million cubic metres of water per year for 120 years if the method of returning water is adopted. There are 7,200 million cubic metres of thermal water in the deep layers, enough for 72 years.

A total of 391 hot water wells have been opened up, of which 259 are in use, most of them located in the 200 square kilometre urban area. A total of 48.94 million tons of thermal water was used in 1979 for industrial, agricultural and domestic purposes.

With the 50-degree water supplying part of its needs, the Tianjin Woollen Fabrics Mill is annually saving 2,780 tons of coal and 18,000 kwh of electricity. And the water has helped improve the quality of its products too. The thermal water is also being used in the city's paper-making, timber, chemical and food industries. The Tianjin Guesthouse uses 42-degree hot water for bathing and central heating when reheated in approximately 1,000 rooms. As a result, some 300 tons of coal are saved each year. The Tianjin No. 4 Foodstuff Factory and the Tianjin Club use it for heating in winter.

# ART PAGE

## Traditional Chinese Paintings by Li Keran

A celebrated landscape painter in the traditional Chinese style, Prof. Li Keran was born in 1907 in Xuzhou, Jiangsu Province. He teaches in the Central Academy of Fine Arts and is also vice-chairman of the Chinese Artists' Association.





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