

BEIJING REVIEW

A CHINESE WEEKLY OF
NEWS AND VIEWS

**55th Anniversary of the PLA
and
The Concept of People's War**



HIGHLIGHTS OF THE WEEK

Liao Chengzhi's Letter

In his personal letter to Chiang Ching-kuo, the Kuomintang leader in Taiwan, Liao Chengzhi who is the son of one of the founders of the Kuomintang urged Chiang Ching-kuo, his friend and schoolmate in his youth, to open talks and work together for the reunification of the country so as to contribute to the glorious cause of revitalizing the Chinese nation. Liao also expressed his wish to visit Taipei at a time convenient to Chiang Ching-kuo (p. 5).

An Army That Serves the People

The Chinese People's Liberation Army celebrated its 55th anniversary on August 1. A special feature in three parts dealing with (1) the fine traditions of this proletarian revolutionary army of a new type which defends the motherland and serves the people wholeheartedly, (2) a military academy which trains commanders

capable of directing modern warfare, and (3) life in an ordinary company (pp. 19-28).

Bainqen on Inspection Tour Of Tibet

Buddhist leader Bainqen Erdini, on an inspection tour of Tibet, urged the Tibetan people to work hard to develop the region and safeguard the unification of the motherland. He expressed the hope that Dalai will return and work together in building up the motherland (p. 5).

Embellishment of Japanese Militarism

The Japanese Education Ministry's distortion of history by describing Japanese aggression against China as an "advance" into China in the primary and secondary school textbooks has aroused strong resentment among both the Chinese and Japanese peoples. A *Renmin Ribao* commentary declared that the Chinese people have

the right to demand a clarification of the matter (p. 10).

Study of Economy of Developing Countries

The director of the Institute of World Politics and Economics under the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences explains the need and significance to study the economy of the developing countries so as to promote economic co-operation and learn from their experience to facilitate the development of China's socialist economy (p. 15).



Fighters of the People's Liberation Army visiting an old peasant.

Photo by Zhou Yongshou

BEIJING REVIEW

Published every Monday by
BEIJING REVIEW
24 Baiwanzhuang Road, Beijing
The People's Republic of China

Vol. 25, No. 31 August 2, 1982

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BEIJING REVIEW (USPS No. 658-110) is published weekly for US\$ 13.50 per year by Beijing Review, 24 Baiwanzhuang Road, Beijing, China. Second-class postage paid at San Francisco, CA. Postmaster: Send address changes to China Books & Periodicals, Inc., 2929 24th Street, San Francisco, CA 94110.

The Concept of People's War

China is striving to modernize its national defence to cope with a possible modern war in the future. Can we say that the concept of people's war is outdated?

In my opinion, any modern war that could confront China in the future would be the same in some fundamental respects as the anti-aggression wars or revolutionary civil wars China fought in the past. Therefore, it cannot be assumed that the concept of people's war is outdated.

For a long time to come, our weapons may remain inferior to the enemy's in a future war. China is modernizing its national defence in order to defend itself against foreign invaders and safeguard world peace. But no matter how sophisticated our armaments become, the Chinese army will never seize a single square inch of foreign territory. What we will face is a war of aggression by the hegemonists, in which our army will fight a better equipped enemy. But it will be fought under China's actual conditions. The strategies and tactics of using a weaker force to overcome a stronger force, which we have created for a people's war in the last half century, are for the most part still suitable today. It is still fundamentally true that it is men, not materials, that decide the outcome of a war. If a war breaks out, we will mobilize the masses of people to swamp the enemy in the ocean

of a people's war. It goes without saying, though, that the concept of people's war should be enriched under modern conditions and that many new issues different from a people's war in the past should be earnestly studied and new ways and means to tackle them should be probed.

Our army was and still is a people's army. In China, the building of a modernized military force and the implementation of the people's war concept complement each other. Having switched the emphasis of work on to the modernization drive, the Chinese People's Liberation Army still attaches great importance to carrying forward its fine traditions and to serving the people wholeheartedly. The army loves the people and the people trust the army. This factor and the close unity between the army and the government remain the fundamental conditions for defeating the enemy under modern conditions.

The three-in-one military system that combines the field armies, local forces and the militia, which was so effective in past wars, will be adhered to in the future. For example, the weak points of an enemy fighting an unjust war will inevitably manifest themselves no matter how powerful and well-equipped it is. We will carry out various forms of guerrilla warfare and attack the enemy's rear areas, destroying its com-

munications and transportation facilities (including oil pipelines), cut off its supplies, harass its forces, tie them down and wear the enemy out, thereby co-ordinating with the actions of our main forces.

Certain military principles, which proved effective in the past, will not entirely meet the needs of a modern war. These include the principles that "our army's main sources of manpower and materiel are at the front" and that the army is at the same time a fighting force, a work force and a production force.

All in all, Mao Zedong's military thinking, including the concept of people's war, will remain the guideline for the PLA in its future construction and combats. The fundamental theories and most of the principles he set forth will be upheld and will at the same time be enriched and developed in accordance with the needs of a modern war. Mao Zedong's military thinking will thus be developed.

— *Special Editor Guo Fang*



LETTERS

Opposing Bourgeois Liberalization

Hu Qiaomu's article on bourgeois liberalization (issue No. 23) hit the nail on the head. The essence of bourgeois "freedom" is freedom to seek profit. This leads to unemployment and a spiritual crisis in capitalist countries. In addition to drugs and alcohol, films and literature which advocate violence and laud obscenity poison the people. This spawns gangsterism and crime. People are happy to hear that the Chinese Communist Party firmly opposes this so-called "freedom."

Hu Qiaomu emphasizes the necessity of protecting the democratic rights of the people and the Party members, including the right to criticize leaders. He also correctly opposes the commercialization and laissez-faire production of intellectual products.

I read your reports and articles on the economic and social developments of third world countries, such as "Advances in the Zimbabwe's Countryside" and "Impressions of India" (issue No. 24). The article "West Africa: Oil and Agriculture" (issue No. 15) is interesting, because it touches on a question which is very important to many countries (including China). The article cites the examples of Gabon and Nigeria and the negative impact of one-sided industrialization. The experiences of Cameroon and the Ivory Coast in giving priority to agriculture are praised as reasonable and correct.

Heinz-Gunter Foerst
Bielefeld, FRG

Outstanding Postal Workers

The article "Outstanding Postal Workers Commended" (issue No. 25) and postwoman Liu Fuming's picture left a deep impression on me. In China, outstanding people in every field are recognized.

I am impressed with the equal rights Chinese women enjoy in work. In Japan, unequal treatment for working women is condemned by society. However, women are considered inferior in intellect and they are treated accordingly. In your country, women are working hard to overcome their deficiency in skills.

When I visited China, the working vigour of the Chinese youth impressed me very much. I envy them.

Sekiko Kurata
Kumamoto, Japan

China's Views on International Affairs

You publish in the "International" column China's views about various international events, which demonstrates that China sincerely carries out a non-aligned policy. Some other countries are different. They pay lip service to non-alignment, but, in action, they either side with the White House or the Kremlin.

Kitoga Buyemba-Na-Najo
Hwassa
Bukavu, Zaire

I began to read *Beijing Review* in 1974 but this is the first time I have written you.

I have become acquainted with many of the achievements and problems in China's socialist construction through the pages of *Beijing Review*. I am interested in the stands of the third world and non-aligned countries towards international affairs. Such reports are valuable but they are lacking in the newspapers and magazines of West Germany. Reports on the Kampuchean war against the Vietnamese aggression are missing from our newspapers.

I am glad to see that your journal has increased criticism of Western capitalism and openly discussed Marxist-Leninist theories over the past year.

Torsten Lindner
Hannover, FRG

By reading *Beijing Review*, I achieve a clearer understanding of the People's Republic of China and the views of its government in relation to the rest of the world.

In the West, we are constantly bombarded with propaganda which tells us the world's problems can be solved by being inward looking and at the same time that we should be trying to express our individuality by chasing personal success.

What is shining through your magazine is a higher ideal, the searching for truth and international justice.

John Gardiner
Murray Bridge, Australia

Long Articles

It is not my view that the weekly should devote space to what some of your readers seem from their letters to favour such easy "popular" features as are already well covered by other English language publications. For example some criticism has been directed against long articles but for me the importance of the subject justifies adequate length, not easily possible in short or "journal-ese" summaries.

Thomas Murray
Edinburgh, Scotland

Fatty Meats and Dairy Products

I was appalled to read on page 7 of your June 7 issue (No. 23) that the State Statistical Bureau is recommending increased production of fatty meats and dairy products. What, may I ask, do a bunch of statisticians know about nutrition? They apparently equate modernization with an adaptation of the dangerous Western diet which is rich in dietary fat, the prime culprit in virtually all the degenerative diseases.

The best, most healthy and most balanced diet in the world is the Chinese meal. As for myself, I would travel to the end of the world for a good Chinese meal. Heaven forbid a MacDonalds hamburger restaurant in Beijing — that would be the ultimate corruption.

H. Toplitzky
Los Angeles, CA., USA

Suggestions to Publish Supplements

Your magazine often carries laws, decrees and regulations such as the Income Tax Law of the People's Republic of China Concerning Foreign Enterprises and the Regulations of the People's Republic of China on the Exploitation of Offshore Petroleum Resources in Co-operation With Foreign Enterprises. These articles should be collected and published as supplements. Thus, they would be easier to refer to and store. It is a pity to devote space in your journal to such items. You should publish more articles and commentaries worthy of a theoretical journal.

Tomizo Saito
Yokosuga, Japan

POLITICAL

Liao Chengzhi's Letter to Chiang Ching-kuo

Liao Chengzhi wrote a letter on July 24 to Mr. Chiang Ching-kuo, the Kuomintang leader on Taiwan, proposing peace talks between the Kuomintang and the Chinese Communist Party.

He said that the aim of the talks would be to realize the reunification of the country and the long-term coexistence, mutual supervision and co-operation between the two parties for the great cause of joining together to build China.

In this letter, Liao Chengzhi also expressed his hope to visit Chiang Ching-kuo and other old friends in Taipei.

Liao Chengzhi is the son of Liao Zhongkai, one of the founders of the Chinese Kuomintang. He is now a Member of the Central Committee of the Chinese Communist Party and Vice-Chairman of the NPC Standing Committee. His letter reviewed his long relationship with Mr. Chiang. They began their friendship in their boyhood and studied together in the Soviet Union.

Liao's letter said that it is unfortunate that they have had no contact since they bade each other good-bye 36 years ago and that he was concerned when he was told that Chiang is in somewhat ill health.

The peaceful reunification of the motherland, Liao's letter continued, will be a great achievement to be recorded in history. Taiwan will eventually return to the embrace of the motherland. An early settlement would be in the interests of all.

Then the compatriots in Taiwan would be able to live in peace and happiness, the people of all nationalities on both sides of the Taiwan Straits would no longer have to endure the pains of separation from their kith and kin. Reunification would also contribute to the stability of Asia and the Pacific region as well as to world peace, he said.

Liao said that if the great cause of reunification is accomplished through Mr. Chiang's work, Mr. Chiang will certainly win the esteem of the nation and the praise of all. Such meritorious service to the country would assure that his name would be remembered for ever.

Peaceful reunification is entirely an internal affair of China, Liao said in his letter. It is common knowledge that outsiders who talk glibly against it have designs on our Taiwan. When a decision needs to be made, indecision spells trouble. He said he hoped that Chiang Ching-kuo would consider this carefully.

Over the past three years, Liao said, the Chinese Communist Party has repeatedly proposed talks with the Chinese Kuomintang to stop the feuding and work jointly to accomplish the great cause of national reunification.

"But you have time and again announced that there should be 'no contact, no talks and no compromise,' which I think is inadvisable. Considering both the public interests and our close friendship which has last-

ed for generations, I regard it as my duty to offer some advice which I hope you will consider carefully," he wrote.

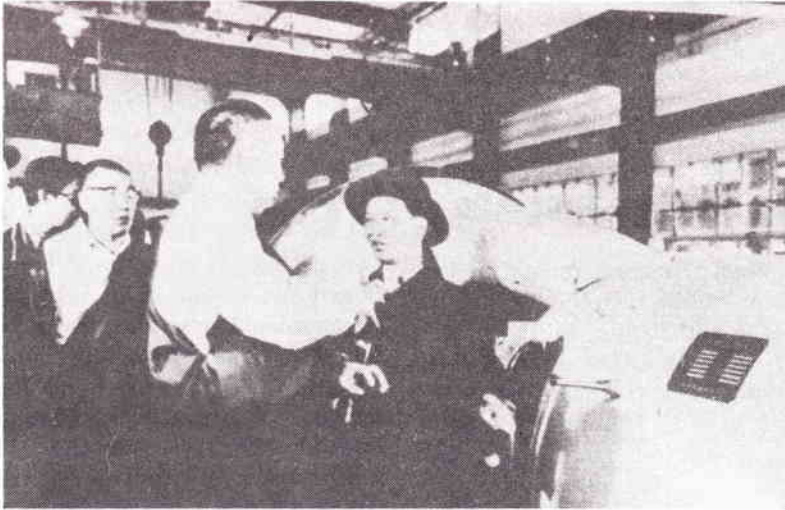
Liao's letter also recalled the two periods of co-operation between the Kuomintang and the Communist Party, which contributed tremendously to the country and the Chinese nation. He hoped that Mr. Chiang Ching-kuo who presides over the administration of Taiwan would co-operate with the Communist Party for the third time. He said that leaders on both sides used to be schoolmates and close friends who know one another well, and this would make it easier to talk the matter over.

"If you take part in peace talks to accomplish national reunification as required by time and historical tide, the two parties will be able to coexist for a long time to come, supervising each other while joining in the glorious cause of revitalizing China."

Liao Chengzhi also said that after reunification is achieved, Mr. Chiang Ching-kuo can move the remains of his father Mr. Chiang Kai-shek to be buried in his native soil. He also said that if it were convenient to Mr. Chiang Ching-kuo, he would at any time go to Taipei to visit Mr. Chiang.

Bainqen on Situation in Tibet

High-ranking Tibetan Buddhist Bainqen Erdini Qoigy Gyaincain began a two-month inspection tour of Tibet on July 3. Bainqen, who is Vice-Chairman of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress and Honorary President of the Buddhist Association of China, is accompanied by his



Vice-Chairman Bainqen inspecting the Yangbajing Geothermal Power Station in Tibet.

father, his mother and his teacher of the Buddhist sutra.

Speaking in Lhasa he said, Tibet is an inseparable part of China, the Tibetan nationality is an important member of multinational China and its future and destiny is closely linked with that of the motherland.

Great Changes. In Lhasa, Bainqen inquired after the conditions in the region, heard reports on the work in various fields, inspected factories, hospitals, schools and people's communes in the pastoral areas, and conducted Buddhist services. He described the fundamental changes that have taken place in Tibet as tremendous and encouraging.

Addressing a meeting attended by 1,000 local cadres, Bainqen said: "In recent years, the relationship among the various nationalities in Tibet has further improved, national unity has been strengthened, a large number of Tibetan cadres have taken up leading posts, and agriculture and animal husbandry have made steady and considerable progress. The local handicraft industry has been restored and has developed rapidly, and the people's livelihood has begun to improve."

Bainqen stressed that as Tibet depends on the state and other provinces, municipalities and autonomous regions for funds, equipment and construction materials, they should be used properly so as to enable the Tibetans to enjoy the warmth of the big family of the motherland. He urged them to do still better in all undertakings.

In his speech, Bainqen also said: "We must safeguard the unification of the motherland as carefully as we protect our eyeballs."

Unity Among Tibetan and Han Cadres. Bainqen said that without the leadership of the Chinese Communist Party and the help of the people and cadres of Han nationality, the Tibetan people would today be still suffering under feudal serfdom. Cadres of Han nationality working in Tibet have established fraternal flesh-and-blood ties with the Tibetan people and the great contributions they have made to the revolution and construction in the region should not be forgotten by the Tibetan people.

In the future, he continued, it will still be necessary for a considerable number of Han na-

tionality cadres to take part in the construction of Tibet and the Tibetan people will always welcome comrades of Han nationality to come to work in Tibet. Numerous facts in the past 30-odd years have proved again and again that neither the Han nationality cadres nor the Tibetan cadres could do without the other. In the future, they must work together still harder, and support, respect and help each other.

Dalai's Return Is Welcome.

Bainqen shows great concern for the Dalai Lama and other Tibetan compatriots living abroad. He said: "They are living in foreign lands far from their homes and country and their fellow countrymen. No one who loves his own nation can bear this. As a brother of the same Tibetan nationality, I am very much concerned with their circumstances, the Dalai's in particular. He and I are both good Buddhist disciples and successors to the venerable Tsong Kha-pa (founder of the yellow sect of Lamaism) as well as good Buddhist brothers. I am most concerned about him."

Bainqen said that the Chinese Communist Party's policy of looking forward is applicable to Dalai and other Tibetans living abroad. Today when the Tibetans and the other fraternal nationalities are working together to build up the motherland, Dalai and the other Tibetans living abroad can also work for our nation and religion if they return to the motherland, he said.

Bainqen added that the Tibetan nationality is a member of the great family of nationalities of the People's Republic of China. The Tibetans should love their nation and contribute to its progress and prosperity. They can do so only in their own country. The doors of the coun-

try are open to all its people who love their motherland, and the freedom to come and go as well as safety are guaranteed. Bainqen expressed his sincere hope that Dalai will make the correct choice and return to China.

ECONOMIC

Anhui Coal Centre Construction Accelerated

China is stepping up the tempo of developing its coal resources to help reduce the shortage of energy supply.

One key project is the construction of the Huainan and Huaibei coal centre which, when completed, will have an annual production capacity of 15 million tons from eight mines. The area is endowed with thick coal seams containing 22,000 million tons of several varieties of quality coal, and is easily accessible to transport lines.

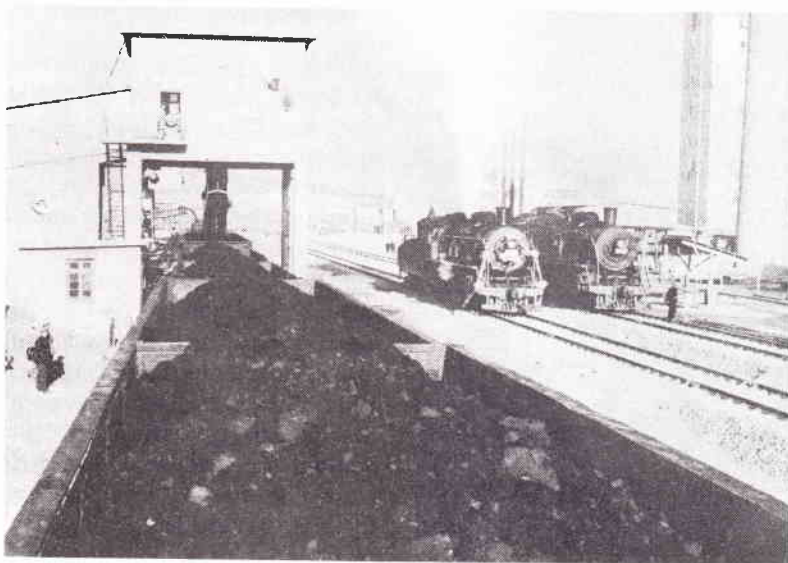
Engineers, technicians and other mining experts are working together to overcome the one major drawback of the area — a rugged topography that makes mine construction extremely difficult. A series of new construction techniques have proved successful. One of the new mines, designed to produce 600,000 tons of coal a year, was put into operation last year. Another with an annual designed capacity of 1.2 million tons will start production this year. A large mine designed to produce 3 million tons annually will be completed next year. The other five will be commissioned before 1988.

Across the nation, other mines under construction include: three mines in Yanzishan, Shanxi Province, with a designed capacity of 4 million tons, 3 million tons and 1.5 million tons a year; two mines in Yanzhou, Shandong Province, designed to produce 4 million and 3 million tons of coal annually; the Huolinhe open-pit coal mine designed to produce 3 million tons of

coal in Inner Mongolia; the Dongpang mine with an annual production capacity of 1.8 million tons in Hebei Province; the Xinan mine designed to produce 1.5 million tons of coal a year in Henan Province and the Tucheng mine with an annual production capacity of 1.2 million tons in Guizhou Province.

China also emphasizes opening small coal-pits. The output of these small pits accounts for 44 per cent of the nation's total. There are insufficient and scattered coal deposits in the Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region and in Zhejiang, Fujian, Hubei, Hunan, Guangdong and Jiangxi Provinces. These coal reserves are not suited to large-scale mining, but small pits can be used effectively. Their product is much cheaper than the coal shipped from the north to the south, and also can help mitigate the traffic congestion caused by nationwide coal transport. The State Council has decided to encourage the opening of these small coal-pits by reducing or waiving taxation, and allowing them some increases in their selling prices.

China is a country rich in energy resources. Its output of coal and petroleum holds an important position in the world. Its water resources, now being exploited, rank first in the world. However, the tapped energy resources cannot supply sufficient energy to meet the demands of a rapidly developing industry and agriculture. Especially in northeast and east China and in areas around Beijing, Tianjin and Tangshan where industry is thriving, production capacity is limited by the year-round shortage of coal and electricity. In response, the



Train-loads of coal from Xinglongzhuang mine.

China's Monetary Statistics In the First Quarter of 1982

China's foreign exchange reserves at the end of the first quarter of this year were 5,205 million US dollars, 432 million US dollars more than at the end of last year. Its gold reserves were 12.67 million troy ounces.

At the end of the first quarter, the country's total deposits were 198,023 million yuan and the total loans were 266,278 million yuan.

The currency in circulation at the end of the first quarter was 37,787 million yuan, 1,847 million yuan less than at the end of last year.

state has strongly encouraged economizing on energy consumption and, in readjusting the proportionate development of various sectors of the national economy, has curtailed investments in capital construction so as to increase investments in developing the coal, petroleum and water resources.

Economic Briefs

• China annually produces 2.5 million tons of alloy steel of over 600 varieties, up from an annual total of 2,000 to 3,000

tons in the early post-liberation period.

Recently China introduced high-speed tool steel and several other alloy steel products to the world market.

• The biggest chromium board production line in China, which produces 225,000 units annually, has gone into operation in Changsha in central China's Hunan Province. Chromium board is the main material for integrated circuits. It was primarily imported in the past.

• The Meishan iron-smelting complex, with an annual capacity of 1.1 million tons of pig iron, was recently commissioned in Nanjing. The new complex was built to supply the needs of Shanghai's steel industry, 300 kilometres to the east.

• A cable-stayed highway bridge with a span of 200 metres was recently opened to traffic at the town of Maogang near Shanghai. The bridge stretches across a tributary of the Huangpu River. This one-arch bridge is 391.8 metres long and 12 metres wide.

• China's first experimental water desalinization plant will

be built on the bank of the Huanghe (Yellow) River in Lanzhou, capital of Gansu Province in northwest China. The pilot plant will process 10,000 tons of alkaline water daily. More than 100 million people in China live in areas with saline or alkaline water.

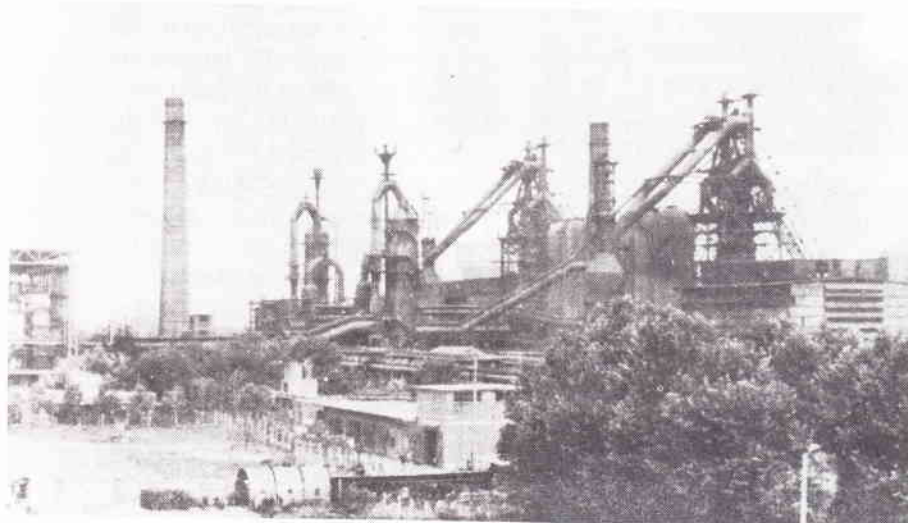
• A potash fertilizer plant and a lead and zinc mine will be constructed in the Qaidam Basin, Qinghai Province. The plant will be built on the Qaidam Basin's 5,800-square-kilometre Qarhan Salt Lake. The lake contains the largest deposits of soluble potassium and magnesium in China. It has 153 million tons of potassium chloride reserves, 97 per cent of the nation's total. The plant will annually produce one million tons of potash fertilizer.

The mine has 2.83 million tons of reserves and will, upon completion, produce 64,000 tons of lead and zinc per year.

FOREIGN RELATIONS

Deng Xiaoping Meets Sihanouk

When Vice-Chairman Deng Xiaoping met with Samdech Norodom Sihanouk, President of Democratic Kampuchea, and Madame Sihanouk on July 22, he said that China hopes the Kampuchean people, after driving the Vietnamese aggressors out of their country, will build Kampuchea into a peaceful, neutral and non-aligned country. He added that China's support for the tripartite coalition among the patriotic forces in Kampuchea is not a short-term tactical move. The Vice-Chairman noted that even after the Kampuchean people's complete



The Meishan iron-smelting complex.



Vice-Chairman Deng Xiaoping with Samdech Sihanouk.

victory in their anti-Vietnamese struggle, the three parties will need to continue to work together to build Kampuchea into a peaceful, neutral and non-aligned country.

President Sihanouk thanked China for supporting the Kampuchean people's just struggle.

Wan Li Holds Talks With Sihanouk. On behalf of Premier Zhao Ziyang, Vice-Premier Wan Li held talks with Samdech Sihanouk in a friendly and sincere atmosphere. Wan Li extended warm congratulations on the formation of the Coalition Government of Democratic Kampuchea. He said that the coalition government, under the leadership of Samdech Sihanouk and with the support of the Kampuchean people, will surely triumph over the Vietnamese aggressors and build Kampuchea into a prosperous state. This, he added, is in accord with the Kampuchean people's interests and is also conducive to peace and stability in Southeast Asia.

During the talks, Sihanouk said that more and more Kam-

puchean have come to understand that the Vietnamese troops have occupied Kampuchea with the sole purpose of colonizing it. Therefore the struggle against the Vietnamese aggressors is winning increasing support from the masses. He added that the coalition government is resolved, together with the people of the whole country, to carry the anti-Vietnamese struggle through to the end to liberate Kampuchea and turn it into an independent, neutral and non-aligned state.

Mass Meeting. At a mass meeting attended by more than 1,000 people on July 21 and sponsored by the National Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference, Samdech Sihanouk outlined the present situation in Kampuchea. He spoke of the rapid growth of the tripartite armed forces and the obvious expansion of the liberated zones in Kampuchea. Although the Vietnamese aggressors have played the bully everywhere and boasted that they will never give up the choice meat of Kampuchea, they will sooner or later

be overcome by the Kampuchean people and driven out of Kampuchea.

Sihanouk noted: "The coalition of the three parties will continue to survive until Kampuchea is liberated. This is because we put the supreme interest of our country above that of parties and individuals. After the liberation of Kampuchea, our people will freely choose their leaders and government system."

Sihanouk also exposed the fraud of Viet Nam's "partial troop withdrawal" and the "policy of peace and friendship" with regard to the ASEAN and other countries.

He condemned the Vietnamese aggressors for slaughtering the Kampuchean people with poisonous gas and chemical weapons.

Sihanouk refuted the Vietnamese authorities' allegation that China poses a "threat" to Indochina and the ASEAN countries. He said: "As a Kampuchean, I testify that the People's Republic of China has never threatened nor invaded any country, and China always supports the just struggle of other peoples. The threat to Southeast Asia comes from Viet Nam and the Soviet Union. It is Viet Nam and the Soviet Union that have illegally occupied Laos and Kampuchea and are colonizing them. They have the same expansionist designs on other Southeast Asian countries."

CORRECTION: On p. 6 in our issue No. 29, the third line in the last paragraph in the left-hand column should read: "but it dropped to 99.33 million hectares...."

History of Japanese Aggression Against China Can Never Be Distorted

THE distortion of the history of Japanese aggression against China and Southeast Asian countries and embellishment of Japanese militarism by the Japanese Education Ministry disturbs the Chinese people and has generated widespread resentment in Japan.

Nonetheless, some Japanese officials defend the Ministry's textbook changes, claiming that foreign criticism of them is tantamount to intervening in Japan's domestic affairs. They also say the changes are based on the results of academic research.

It is indeed strange to hear such arguments 37 years after World War II during a period in which a peace and friendship

treaty exists between China and Japan.

Not an Internal Affair

The censorship of textbooks by the Japanese Education Ministry is indeed Japan's internal affair, but Japan's invasion of China and Southeast Asia certainly was not its internal affair, nor is distortion of the history of Japanese aggression. The Ministry describes Japan's invasion of China as an "advance" into China and claims that the massacre conducted in Nanjing by Japanese troops resulted from resistance by the Chinese army. This assertion constitutes an attempt to mislead the younger generation of Japan. It also represents an

attempt to humiliate the Chinese people. Did Japan have any right to "advance" into China? Wasn't the Chinese army justified in resisting the invaders? In the eyes of some people, China's territory and sovereignty and the independence and dignity of the Chinese people are nothing at all. The Japanese Education Ministry authorities have taken a hostile and insulting stand towards China and the Chinese people at the expense of friendly relations between China and Japan. Can this be dismissed as an internal affair? Can the Chinese people be silenced by the mere mention of the words "internal affairs"? The Chinese people have every reason to suspect that some people in Japan are indulging once again in dreams of aggression. Moreover, the Chinese people have every right to demand clarification of this matter by the Japanese Education Ministry.

History Should Be Respected

THE Japanese Education Ministry's recent revision of their textbook on the history of Japanese militarists' aggression against China 50 years ago has aroused strong resentment among the Chinese people.

Xia Yan, Vice-President of the China-Japan Friendship Association, pointed out that the distortions are very harmful to the establishment of genuine friendly relations between the Chinese and Japanese peoples. He said that since the normalization of diplomatic relations between China and Japan, friendship between the two peoples has been greatly developed. Both sides should treasure this friendship and be friendly for generations to come, he continued.

Dong Chuncai, President of the China Education Society, pointed out that under the leadership of the Chinese Communist Party, New China has, with the sincere wish to promote

good-neighbourly relations between China and Japan, consistently educated its people not to blame the Japanese people for the debts of blood owed by the Japanese fascists. This is the just stand of the People's Republic of China.

Lin Yanzhi, President of the All-China Students Federation, strongly demanded that, for the sake of the development of friendship between China and Japan and between the two peoples, the Japanese Education Ministry respect the historical facts and present them accurately in Japanese textbooks.

Liu Weiming, Acting President of the All-China Youth Federation, on behalf of Chinese youths, strongly demanded the Japanese Education Ministry stop doing things that are harmful to the friendship of the Chinese and Japanese peoples. To develop such a friendship, he said, we should adopt a forward-looking attitude. But, "only by bearing in mind this historical lesson can we treasure today's friendship more deeply," Liu Weiming declared.

Bear in Mind This Lesson

History is an objective reality which brooks no distortion. Japanese militarists can paint the hell on earth they created in China as a "paradise," describe their aggression against China and Southeast Asia as moves to establish a "Greater East Asia Co-Prosperity Sphere" and use their textbooks to describe Japanese aggression as an "advance." But they cannot dispel the painful memories of their aggression, killing, torture and plunder from the minds of the Chinese and Southeast Asian peoples, nor can they ease the strong hatred of the Japanese people who were forced to serve as cannon-fodder in the aggressive war.

The history of friendly exchanges between China and Japan spans thousands of years. The Japanese aggression against

China lasted only a short period. If both countries draw the proper lesson from this unfortunate period to prevent it from recurring, the Chinese and Japanese peoples can continue to be friends for many generations to come. For this reason, neither China nor Japan should forget or distort the facts of the war. The Japanese Education Ministry's distortions are harmful to the consolidation and development of friendly Sino-Japanese relations and to Japan's peaceful coexistence with other Asian countries. This is why the Japanese public has severely criticized the Education Ministry. We believe that joint efforts by the Chinese and Japanese people will foil the efforts of certain militarists in Japan.

— "Renmin Ribao" commentary (July 24)

Iran's Offensive Against Iraq

WITH the onset of Iran's recent offensive against Iraq (code-named Ramadan), the flames of war have burst forth again between the two countries after a two-month lull.

On July 13, Iran committed approximately 140,000 troops to a large-scale offensive against Iraq. After breaching Iraq's positions along Iran's southwestern border, the troops advanced 25 kilometres into Iraq, just seven kilometres away from the strategic Iraqi port of Basra.

Nonetheless, Iraq has managed to repel several massive Iranian attacks and has also launched counterattacks.

Both sides have used numerous troops in the fierce fighting near Basra and, according to their war communiques, each has suffered heavy casualties.

Vast changes have taken place during the 22-month-long war. Iraq is now on the defensive and the fighting has started to shift from Iranian to Iraqi territory.

Foreign analysts believe that however the fighting turns out,

the war is a disaster for both Islamic countries. The international community has repeatedly tried to mediate an end to the war, but to no avail.

Given Israel's barbarous invasion of Lebanon and its siege of Beirut — with US support — the Palestinian struggle for national rights is at a very critical stage. Arab and Islamic countries need to shelve their differences, unite in opposition to Israeli aggression and support the Palestinian struggle.

Iranian Prime Minister Hossein Musavi indicated on July 20, at the end of his four-day official visit to Algeria, that Iran is willing to end its war with Iraq. On the same day, Iraq's Deputy Prime Minister Tarik Aziz announced in Baghdad that his country would like to negotiate a settlement. Nonetheless, the fighting continues and Iran is pressing its new offensive.

The Chinese people hope Iran and Iraq will focus on their own long-term best interests and those of the Middle East as a whole, stop fighting as soon as possible and settle their dispute through peaceful negotiations.

— Ren Yan

Somalia Protests Soviet Intervention

A JULY 16 TASS commentary has angered the Somali Government, which considers it an intervention in Somalia's internal affairs.

Somali newspapers also condemned the Soviet commentary. The Somali Foreign Ministry summoned the Soviet ambassador to Mogadishu on July 19 and handed him a protest note. The note urged the USSR "to refrain from inter-

fering directly or indirectly in the internal affairs of the Somali Democratic Republic."

Background

Early this month large-scale fighting erupted along the border of Galgudud and Mudugh in central Somalia. According to the Somali Government, the fighting was against Ethiopian invasion. Somali President Mohamed Siad Barre sent

a message on July 11 to the Chairman of the Organization of African Unity, Kenya's President Daniel Arap Moi, condemning Ethiopia for attacking Somalia. The message also asked that Ethiopia's "naked aggression" be brought to the attention of African heads of state. A spokesman from the Ethiopian Foreign Ministry denied Somalia's charge and said the fighting was between Somali government forces and anti-government guerrillas.

Daniel Arap Moi subsequently appealed to Ethiopia and Somalia "in the interest of African unity and brotherhood" to "desist from any acts which would aggravate tension in the area." Following this, TASS published the above-mentioned commentary.

Somalia and Ethiopia fought each other over territorial disputes in 1964, 1967 and 1977 to 1978. The Soviet Union and Cuba intervened in the 1977-78 war and supported Ethiopia. This increased the scale of fighting and both Somalia and Ethiopia suffered heavy losses. Since then relations between Somalia and Ethiopia have further deteriorated. The OAU, the Governments of Sudan, Kenya and Djibouti have made extensive efforts since last year to ease tension in the area, which is known as the Horn of Africa. People generally agree that reduced tension here will benefit peace and development in Africa and facilitate the struggle of the African people against the superpowers.

Moscow's Hostile Attitude

However, TASS does not support this point of view. It has encouraged the border fights

between Somalia and Ethiopia, openly supported Somalia's anti-government forces and interfered in Somalia's internal affairs.

The conflict between Somalia and Ethiopia is generating uneasiness in neighbouring countries. A recent editorial in a Kenyan newspaper, *The Standard*, urged Somalia and Ethiopia to exercise restraint and pledge not to escalate the conflict. It also

said that their armed conflict will intensify instability in the strategically important Horn of Africa and that the Soviet Union has already worked out a plan for further expansion in the region. *The Standard's* editorial reflects the African people's vigilance against the Soviet hegemonists' attempt to fish in troubled waters.

— Mu Mu

Soviet Attack on ASEAN

IN the haughty manner of a superpower, Moscow has recently heaped abuse on the ASEAN countries.

A lengthy article in the Soviet weekly *New Times* published on the eve of Vietnamese Foreign Minister Nguyen Co Thach's tour of some ASEAN countries is representative. The article accuses the ASEAN countries of "sharp hostility towards the three countries of Indochina and interference in Kampuchea's internal affairs and in relations between Viet Nam, Laos and Kampuchea." The article also castigates the ASEAN countries for "intrigues over the 'Kampuchean problem,'" defying common sense, and for welcoming the founding of the Coalition Government of Democratic Kampuchea.

"In this way they are assuming grave responsibility for the possible consequences of such a development," threatens the article.

Calling black white is a common Moscow tactic, but what is noteworthy is the accusation that ASEAN countries are acting "in defiance of common sense," a charge which is particularly applicable to Moscow.

ASEAN Is Justified

Viet Nam has brought Laos under its control with the backing of the Soviet Union and has sent its troops to occupy Kampuchea, a non-aligned country. The occupation has continued for over three years in defiance of UN General Assembly resolutions and strong condemnation by global public opinion. It also poses a threat to the ASEAN countries.

Given these circumstances, the ASEAN countries have spoken out from a sense of justice. They have condemned Viet Nam for its acts of aggression, sympathized with Kampuchea in its struggle against aggression, welcomed the formation of a coalition government by the three patriotic forces in Kampuchea and called for a complete Vietnamese troop withdrawal from Kampuchea — a most reasonable demand.

However, according to the distorted logic of Moscow's *New Times*, it was not Hitler who invaded the Soviet Union in World War II that was guilty but the nations and people who sympathized with the Soviet war against aggression. According to the same logic, Israel is right in its recent aggression

against Lebanon and the actions taken by the Arab world and countries in other parts of the world to accuse Israel of aggression would turn out to be showing "sharp hostility" and "engaging in intrigues." Obviously, it is not the ASEAN countries but Moscow that is acting in defiance of common sense.

Moscow's criticism of the ASEAN countries is not a coincidence. It brandished a big stick at the ASEAN countries while Hanoi put on a smiling face towards ASEAN and made

a gesture of effecting a "partial troop withdrawal" from Kampuchea. Hanoi allegedly sent its Foreign Minister Nguyen Co Thach to the ASEAN countries to show its "realistic and modest" attitude towards "resolving their differences," thus creating the false impression that Hanoi is "softening" its attitude. Moscow's haughty criticism is an annotation of Hanoi's hypocritical performance.

— *Xin Ping*

Grain Accord Controversy

THE US Government is divided over whether to extend the US-Soviet agreement on grain sales or to let it lapse when it expires on September 30, after a one year extension. President Reagan called a National Security Council meeting on July 15 to discuss the matter but the meeting did not produce a decision.

A Difficult Matter

US grain sales to the Soviet Union have always been a highly sensitive issue in the international arena. According to the five-year agreement (1976-81), the Soviet Union may annually purchase 8 million to 25 million tons of US grain. However, when Soviet troops occupied Afghanistan, the Carter Administration in January 1980 announced a grain embargo on the Soviet Union and — apart from the 8 million tons of grain covered by the agreement — the United States refused to sell the Soviet Union an extra 17 million tons of grain. Widely supported by Congress and public opinion, the decision was a

major blow to the Soviet Union.

In order to win the support of farming interests, Reagan promised during his presidential campaign to lift the embargo. However, after becoming president, Reagan dragged his heels. Only after some time had passed and with political considerations in mind did the Reagan Administration decide to lift the 15-month embargo and extend the expired grain accord for one year. This decision caused quite a stir because the Soviet Union had showed no sign of relaxing its aggression against Afghanistan while the Reagan Administration had consistently advocated a hard line towards the Soviets. Reagan's ambivalent attitude was strongly criticized by the American public and in political circles.

Two Pressures

The Reagan Administration is presently being pressured from two sources in regard to the grain accord.

The first comes from Americans who say it is wrong to continue to maintain a long-term

grain agreement with the Soviets while Poland is still under military control. Moreover, West European countries often embarrass the United States by citing Reagan's lifting of the grain embargo against the Soviet Union even though he is attempting to prevent them from selling natural gas pipeline equipment to the Soviets.

Grain-embargo advocates say America should take advantage of the Soviets' severe economic difficulties resulting from their fourth consecutive year of crop failures. This year's Soviet harvest will probably be worse than last year's. As a result, those who favour reimposing the embargo say the US can force the Soviet Union to turn its attention to domestic problems by increasing its economic difficulties.

However, American farmers, represented by Secretary of Agriculture John Block, strongly oppose a grain embargo. Groups of Republican members of the House of Representatives from some farming states have recently been visiting the White House to pressure Reagan to extend the grain agreement. They claim that if Reagan ignores their request, the November mid-term elections will go badly for Republicans. They also point out that the economic recession and high interest rates have hit the farmers particularly hard. With prospects of good harvests this year, there will be a huge surplus of grain whose price has already dropped so low that if America loses its biggest grain buyer, the Soviet Union, the hard-pressed American farmer will suffer another blow. They even claim that selling grain to the Soviet Union will make it rely on the

West. It also will benefit the United States because Moscow will have to divert its financial resources from military spending.

The Reagan Administration is confronted with a dilemma which will not be easy to resolve.

— Chang Dejin

Superpowers Accelerate Arms Sales Race

THE United States and the Soviet Union are quietly accelerating their arms sales race while keeping up a continual din about their disarmament talks.

Two Biggest Munitions Merchants

Soviet arms export reportedly accounted for 36.5 per cent of the world's total in 1981 while the United States took up 33.6 per cent.

This marked a turning point in the US-Soviet arms sales race. Between 1970 and 1980 the Soviet Union lagged behind the United States in spite of a notable increase in its arms sales.

US arms export increased from 1.1 billion dollars in 1970 to more than 16 billion 10 years later.

The escalation of the superpowers' arms sales race is also

reflected in the quality of weapons being sold and the diversity of recipient countries.

The two superpowers used to export outdated or overproduced arms, whereas now they have begun to export more sophisticated weapons such as Washington's F-15 and F-16 supersonic fighters, the airborne warning and control system (AWACS), Moscow's surface-to-air missiles (SAMs), Mig-23 and Mig-25 fighters.

Means for Hegemony

While most of their arms exports used to go to nations of the Warsaw Pact organization and NATO, they are now going to third world countries which purchase 80 per cent of the world's arms.

More than half of the Soviet and US arms exports go to the Middle East, now the second

largest arms dumping ground in the world, next only to Europe. The two superpowers have taken advantage of the conflict in the Middle East to reap huge profits and exercise political control over the region through arms sales.

Their arms sales policies are obviously geared to their political goals of seeking global hegemony.

The Soviet Union has supplied Viet Nam with huge quantities of arms and ammunition to support the latter's aggression in Kampuchea and at the same time to serve its own attempts to expand into the Southeast Asian and Pacific regions.

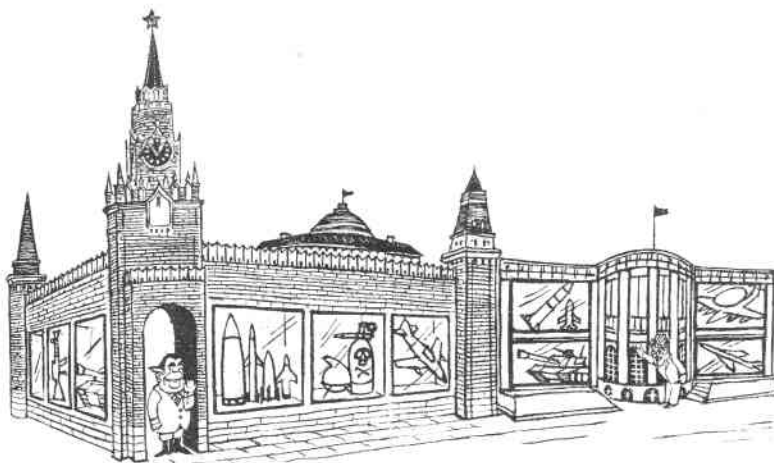
On the other hand, the United States has maintained a steady arms flow to Israel to support its policy of aggression and expansion, which forms part of the US efforts to rival the Soviet Union for domination in the region.

Along with arms dumping by the Soviet Union, large numbers of Soviet "military advisers" and "military experts" have made inroads into the recipient countries, followed by the Soviet demand for the establishment of military bases.

Moreover, the Soviet Union often demands the conclusion of treaties of "friendship and cooperation" to further infiltrate and control these countries. Soviet armed aggression in Afghanistan is a case in point.

The two superpowers' dumping of conventional arms and attempts to provoke conventional wars constitutes a serious menace to the peace and security of the world and subjects the third world countries to deep suffering.

— Yuan Jin



On the Study of Developing Countries' Economy

by Qian Junrui

- Conscientiously studying and learning from other developing countries' experience in economic development will contribute to China's socialist economic development and to promoting its economic co-operation with these countries.

- Key points for study should include economic control, theories and measures exercised and adopted by the superpowers and transnational corporations regarding developing countries; developing countries' economic development strategy, their diverse development methods and guiding thought; their population growth, economic development and poverty; economic mutual-aid and co-operation among developing countries; South-North dialogue and the establishment of a new international economic order.

- The need is to apply the basic Marxist stand, viewpoint and method to the study of such issues. There is also a need to conduct analyses of foreign economic development theories and methodology so as to absorb their useful components.

GIVEN current international circumstances, conscientious study of the economies of developing countries is of great significance to promoting China's modernization drive, to developing our friendly relations of co-operation with third world countries, particularly relations of economic co-operation, and to the common struggle for the establishment of a new international economic order.

Significance

Developing countries hold an extremely important position in the world economy. Their population makes up approximately three-fourths and their land about three-fifths of the world's total. Their natural resources are rich, their people industrious and intelligent. The people of the developing countries created through their labour prosperous economies and splendid ancient cultures. Beginning from the 15th century, they were subjected one after another to aggression, oppression and plunder by Western colonialists and imperial-

ists. As a result, they gradually became suppliers of raw materials and markets for imperialists' commodities and investment. Therefore, they were reduced to poor and backward colonies, semi-colonies and dependent states. However, after winning independence they have built up an ever stronger ability to independently develop their economies. On the other hand, the economies of the developed capitalist countries in the West depend heavily on the developing countries. Developed capitalist countries rely on the third world for 75 per cent of their oil. The United States imports 40 per cent of its oil while Japan, West Germany and France import 90 per cent. They also rely on developing countries for 60 per cent of major agricultural and mineral raw materials. They depend on developing countries for almost all the major strategic materials, such as beryllium, lithium, cobalt and other rare metals needed for their atomic energy, space navigation and electronic industries. In addition, Western developed countries depend on the third world as an outlet for their capital and products. In today's interdependent world economy, the majority of the developed capitalist countries can hardly exist without the develop-

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ing countries. The developing countries have a tremendous potential to develop their economies. Some people assert that third world countries lack the internal power to develop their own economies, that they can develop only by relying on "alms" from the developed countries. This viewpoint is completely wrong.

After independence, developing countries formulated and enforced a series of strategies, principles, policies and measures for developing their national economies. These concern state involvement in economics, giving full play to the initiative of various economic sectors; formulating development strategy and reforming irrational economic structures; emphasizing self-reliance to utilize, restrict and supervise foreign capital, import appropriate technology and develop foreign trade; developing science and education, developing human power resources and promoting economic development; preventing environmental pollution and preserving ecological equilibrium. They have experienced success and failure. Although the social systems of nationalist developing countries differ from China's, and other developing socialist countries also have their own special conditions, their history and present situations are similar to China's in many aspects. Therefore, we must study and learn from their experience in order to facilitate the development of our socialist economy.

Third world countries are all young states. Except for a few newly emerging industrial and oil-producing countries, most are economically underdeveloped. Their people are poor and confronted with numerous economic difficulties. They need to strengthen economic mutual aid and co-operation on the basis of collective self-reliance and follow the road to common prosperity. China is willing to join other developing countries in the struggle against imperialist, colonialist and hegemonist exploitation, oppression, domination and infiltration and against imperialist monopoly of the world economy. An intensive study of developing countries' economies and a true understanding of each other's needs and potential make it possible to expand economic exchanges, develop economic co-operation and obtain common prosperity in accordance with actual conditions and characteristics — on a basis of equality and mutual benefit.

Focus

The emergence of the third world and the rising status of developing countries in the

world economy began after World War II. This has given rise to many new problems in theory and in practice. The following major questions require special study.

1. The economic control over, infiltration into and exploitation of developing countries by the superpowers and transnational corporations and their theories, policies and measures. After World War II, with the collapse of the imperialist colonial system, the superpowers and international monopoly capital changed their tactics and tried to pursue neocolonialism. Moreover, with the internationalization of capital, the transnational corporations quickly expanded their spheres of influence in developing countries. The imperialists and hegemonists plundered, exploited and controlled developing countries economically by various means, built up their forces in these countries and even subverted their legal governments and carried out armed aggression against them. Flaunting the banner of "assisting" national-liberation movements and practising "internationalism" and an "international division of labour," the Soviet hegemonists (who call themselves the "natural ally" of the third world) has carried out political, economic and military infiltration of some developing countries. The Soviet Union also has plundered their raw materials, occupied their strategic areas and even dispatched troops to invade third world countries. All these acts are conducted under the cover of extremely deceitful theory and they are achieved by sinister and ruthless means.

2. Developing countries' economic development strategy, their diverse development methods and theoretical bases. After World War II, developing countries formulated and enforced different development strategies and methods. Some followed the strategy of primary product export; some adopted the strategy of import substitution; others practised the strategy of export substitution; still others gave priority to the development of heavy industry while some valued the development of light industry and agriculture. In recent years, after summing up their experiences in development strategy, many developing countries have begun to emphasize meeting the basic needs of the people. These development strategies and methods have strong and weak points. In implementing these strategies, some countries have experienced successes, some have gained

minor progress and some have suffered serious setbacks. The key factor determining success or failure is the suitability of the tactics embraced and specific conditions in a given country. At present, we are studying China's specific conditions and formulating our strategy for developing a socialist economy. Given these circumstances, it is highly necessary to make an intensive study of the conditions, contents, results and theoretical basis for the implementation of other developing countries' development strategies and methods and use them as our reference.

3. Developing countries' population growth, economic development and poverty.

The developing countries had weak economic foundations and high rates of population growth. Nevertheless, after World War II, they scored certain achievements in developing their national economies. Their average annual GNP growth rate was 4.7 per cent in the 1950s, 5.6 per cent in the 1960s and 5.3 per cent in the 1970s, higher than those of Western developed countries' 4.1 per cent, 5.0 per cent and 3.1 per cent in the corresponding periods. However, the per-capita GNP of the overwhelming majority of the developing countries is far lower than that of Western developed countries and the gap between the two is widening. Calculated according to the 1950 prices, per-capita GNP in the developed countries was 3,840 US dollars while that of the low-income developing countries was 164 US dollars; the former's was 23 times that of the latter. In 1980, per-capita GNP of the developed countries rose to 9,684 US dollars and that of the low-income developing countries was 245 US dollars; the former's was nearly 40 times as much as the latter's. The difference between the two increased from 3,676 US dollars to 9,439 US dollars. It should be pointed out that owing to the fact that the developing countries' population growth is faster than their grain increase, many grain-exporting countries have changed into grain-importing countries. As a result, their self-sufficient rate is decreasing and hundreds of millions of people in sub Sahara Africa and South Asia are suffering starvation or semi-starvation. Grain is a major problem in many developing countries. This problem seriously affects economic development and political stability. Therefore, studying and solving the developing countries' problems of population, grain and poverty must not be ignored.

4. Economic mutual aid and co-operation among the developing countries. In order

to oppose control and exploitation by the superpowers and international monopoly capital and jointly overcome difficulties encountered in the economic development, developing countries, displaying the spirit of collective self-reliance and strengthening economic co-operation, have organized many regional co-operation organizations and organizations composed of raw-material producers and exporters, such as the Association of Southeast Asian Nations, the Andean Group, the Economic Community of West African States and the Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries. They co-ordinate their policies regarding the international economic struggle against imperialist, colonialist and hegemonist exploitation and plunder. In the course of developing their national economies, they have co-ordinated their developmental programmes and, in the spirit of unity and mutual assistance, strengthened economic co-operation in various fields. At present, various economic co-operation organizations of the developing countries have been gaining ground and have regularly improved their status in the international economic sphere. They have shown the spirit of collective self-reliance and demonstrated the might of economic co-operation. However, due to economic, border, nationality and religious problems left behind by colonial and imperialist regimes, the uneven economic development among developing countries and the dissension sown by imperialism and hegemonism, the developing countries have encountered many difficulties and obstructions in their economic co-operation. Therefore, it has become an extremely important question as to whether or not the developing countries will have the interests of the whole situation in mind, overcome all external interference and divisive plots, seek common ground on major issues while reserving differences on minor ones, show the spirit of mutual understanding and accommodation, eliminate internal disputes, give consideration to the economic interests of different countries on the basis of equality and mutual benefit and further promote the development of economic co-operation among developing countries.

5. South-North dialogue and the establishment of a new international economic order. Although the imperialist colonial system essentially collapsed after World War II, the old unjust and unequal international economic order which works exclusively to defend the interests of imperialism and international monopoly capital still obstructs smooth develop-

ment of the national economies of the developing countries. To change this situation, the developing countries, with the Group of 77 leading the way, are waging a struggle to do away with the old international economic order in the postwar years, particularly since the 1970s. After an intense struggle and repeated negotiations, the developing countries have improved their position in the United Nations, in international economic organizations and in international meetings. They have also gained more power of decision in restricting activities of foreign monopoly capital and transnational corporations. In negotiations and conferences, they have reached with developed countries some agreements in their favour. These facts suggest that in the international economic field, the developing countries have become the main force in the struggle against imperialism, colonialism and hegemonism and in establishing a fair and reasonable international economic order. But, because most Western developed countries have played for time and the Soviet Union has refused to undertake commitments, the South-North dialogue progresses slowly. It has thus become an extremely important task for the developing countries to gain a deep understanding of the attitudes, tactics and principles of the superpowers and developed capitalist countries towards the South-North dialogue, and especially to study how to strengthen unity among themselves, formulate correct strategy and tactics on the basis of a realistic and scientific guideline, wage a struggle with good reason, with good advantage and with restraint and make unremitting efforts for the establishment of a new international economic order.

Principles

What are the basic principles for our studying the above-mentioned major questions?

Firstly, we should apply the basic Marxist stand, viewpoint and method to making an intensive study and analysis of the numerous materials we have gathered and raise them to the plane of theory and strategy, correctly understand the historical status of the developing countries and their basic conditions, sum up their experiences in developing their national economies and reveal the laws governing the development of their national economies.

In light of their historical conditions, the classic Marxist writers had many expositions

on the economy of the colonial and semi-colonial countries. For instance, Marx wrote about the plunder and exploitation of the colonial and semi-colonial countries. Lenin discussed the national-liberation movements of the colonial and semi-colonial countries and ways to develop their national economies after winning independence. Comrade Mao Zedong presented the theses on the differentiation of three worlds. Citing China as an example, he pointed out that the bourgeoisie in the colonial and semi-colonial countries was divided into comprador bourgeoisie and national bourgeoisie, that the national bourgeoisie had a dual character and that the question of peasants was of extreme importance. All these are of importance to our study of the national-democratic revolution and national economic development of the developing countries. Many of these theses are still the major theoretical basis for our analysing the economy of the developing countries. Of course, great changes have taken place since World War II. We should not rigidly adhere to some ready conclusions. We should study new problems in light of new conditions in order to arrive at new conclusions, creatively develop scientific theories and use them to guide our actions. Therefore, we should oppose dogmatism when drawing conclusions. At the same time, we should oppose the erroneous attitude of deviating from the basic Marxist principle while accepting bourgeoisie's theory in toto without making analysis and criticism.

Secondly, we should conscientiously learn from foreign theory and methodology on the economic development of the developing countries. After the colonies and dependent countries won political independence, capitalist economists in the West strengthened their study of developing countries' economy with a view to maintaining the colonial interests of the imperialists in these countries and regions. Adhering to Keynesianism, they stressed the key role of state interference and the expansion of demands and peddled the "model" of economic development they "designed." It should be pointed out that some of their analytic methods are of value. But on the whole, these theories do not fit the actual conditions of the developing countries. Some even serve the purpose of imperialist exploitation and plunder of the developing countries. For instance, Western scholars put forward the theory of "exchange of equal value in international trade," which suggests

(Continued on p. 28.)

An Army Serving the People

August 1, 1982, marked the 55th anniversary of the founding of the Chinese People's Liberation Army (PLA).

The first part of this special feature which deals with the present state of the army explains the shift in focus of the army's work to building a modern regular armed force. It is accomplishing this task without negating the PLA's historically evolved proletarian nature and its purpose of serving the people. In the event that a large-scale war against aggression breaks out, the PLA will continue to operate according to the concept of people's war. Ideological and political work intended to foster socialist and communist ideals is being conducted among the commanders and fighters, so that the people's army will pass its fine traditions from generation to generation.

The remainder of this special feature consists of two reports: One examines how a military academy trains commanders capable of directing modern warfare; the other looks at the life of an ordinary company.

The Great Wall of Steel

— Commemorating the 55th anniversary of the founding of the Chinese People's Liberation Army

by Our Guest Writer Xie Xuan

THE Chinese People's Liberation Army includes all branches of the armed forces of the People's Republic of China.

Since its founding on August 1, 1927, the PLA has grown in size and strength, traversing a tortuous and glorious path. It has gradually developed from a single army to several large armed forces composed of the navy, the air force and other technical troops and armed services.

Through 10 years of Agrarian Revolutionary War (1927-37), eight years of War of Resistance Against Japan (1937-45) and three years of Liberation War (1946-49), it made indelible contributions to overthrowing the "three big mountains" — feudalism, imperialism and

bureaucrat-capitalism which weighed down on the Chinese people. It also played a crucial role in establishing the people's democratic dictatorship based on the alliance of workers and peasants.

Since the founding of New China in 1949, the PLA has made new contributions to defending and building the socialist motherland, fighting imperialism and hegemonism and safeguarding world peace.

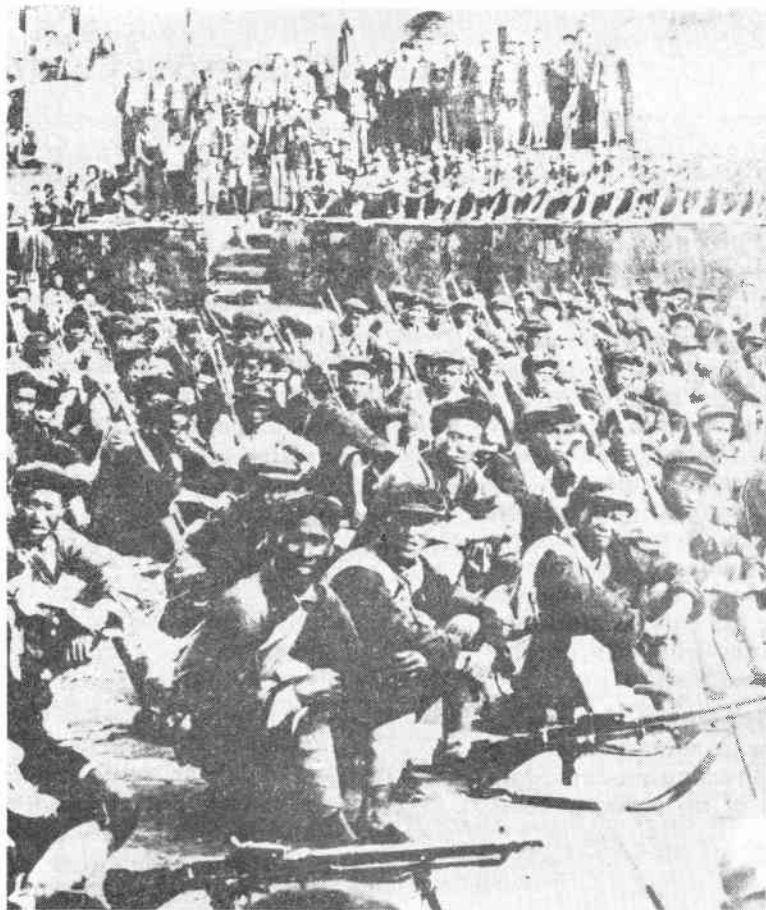
This proletarian revolutionary army of a new type, which was founded by Mao Zedong, Zhou Enlai, Liu Shaoqi, Zhu De and many other veteran revolutionaries, has taken Marxism-Leninism and Mao Zedong Thought as its guidelines. This armed force has persistently

adhered to the principle of "the Party commanding the gun," consciously placed itself under the leadership of the Chinese Communist Party. The Party's leadership is crucial to the PLA's maintenance of its proletarian nature and is the basic guarantee for its consistent victories.

The Party organizations in the army are: Party branches in companies, grass-roots Party committees in battalions and various Party committees at the regiment level and above. The PLA has adopted the system of division of labour, with senior officers serving directly under the leadership of the Party committees. Party committees at various levels are the leadership core, Party branches are fighting bastions and Party members strive to play an exemplary vanguard role. They lead the cadres and fighters in all tasks entrusted to the PLA by the Party and state.

For many decades, due to the strong and effective leadership of the Party, our army has consistently adhered to a firm and correct political orientation, maintained flesh-and-blood ties with the masses of people, observed strict discipline and displayed staunch combat effectiveness, thereby becoming a well-trained people's army that is brave and skilful in battle.

The sole purpose of the PLA is to closely stand by the Chinese people and serve them wholeheartedly. The PLA soldiers come from the people, serve the people and have established close relations with local governments and people with whom they are as dear as members of one family and are as inseparable as fish and water.



Red Army men in northern Shaanxi in September 1935 during the Long March.

Throughout the protracted revolutionary wars, PLA soldiers in their millions fought for the cause of the Chinese people's liberation; many shed their blood and laid down their lives, performing countless moving heroic deeds. Large numbers of heroes and models who dedicated themselves to the people's cause have come to the fore. All these have won the people's army the love and support of the entire Chinese people.

During the period of socialist construction, the PLA has maintained and further carried forward its fine traditions and has actively taken part in and supported the motherland's socialist construction. Besides increasing its industrial and agricultural production so as to lighten the economic burden on the state, the army also has contributed manpower, techniques and materials to support national construction.

The railway corps, engineering units, capital construction engineering troops and other technical arms have built large factories, mines, railways, bridges, oilfields, hydroelectric stations and other projects. The PLA railway engineering corps built 13,000 kilometres of railway lines in 28 years, equivalent to one-third of the total length of railway lines built after liberation.

The army units have given immeasurable help to the villages, factories, schools, shops and neighbourhoods near places where they are stationed.

In 1981, the whole army spent 21 million workdays helping local people in their industrial and agricultural production, and sent out 46,700 medical teams to treat diseases for 149 million people. When the people were hit by earthquakes, floods, typhoons and other natural disasters, local army units,

railway corps and engineering units went all out to deal with the emergencies and send relief to the disaster areas. Disregarding their personal safety, they protected the state's materials and the security of the people's lives and property, helping them overcome dangers and difficulties. Last year, the whole army sent out 926,300 people and dispatched aircraft, ships and vehicles to help the masses in disaster areas, and rescued 117,290 people.

Comrade Mao Zedong once made the famous statements: "The army and the people are the foundation of victory." "The richest source of power to wage war lies in the masses of the people." Weapons are an important factor in war, but not the decisive factor; it is people, not things, that are decisive. This has been repeatedly borne out by the historical facts of war in China and other countries. The thinking of people's army and people's war summed up by Comrade Mao Zedong during the protracted revolutionary wars is the PLA's valuable spiritual wealth and the effective weapon for vanquishing the enemy.

In the past, relying on the masses of people and employing flexible and mobile strategy and tactics, the PLA waged people's war and defeated an enemy that had superior equipment. If the aggressors provoke war in the future, we will still persist in people's war even though we have better weapons and equipment and the forms of war have undergone many changes. We will further enrich and develop people's war in light of the new situations and modes of operation.

We will adopt the strategic policy of an active defence, give full play to the role of the com-



Women pilots.

bined armed forces of the field army, the local army and the militia. We will mobilize the broadest section of the people into the revolutionary war so that the army and the people support each other, fight in a co-ordinated fashion, utilize our strong points to attack the enemy at its weak points, employ flexible combat tactics and seize victory against aggression.

Military exercises held last September in north China involving army units, air force and airborne troops showed that the combined arms units had increased their fighting capability and co-ordination and are employing modern means of fighting. Through the exercises, cadres at all levels have greatly improved their organizing and commanding ability.

The PLA has always followed the principle "We will not attack unless we are attacked; if we are attacked, we will certainly counterattack." Dedicated to a just cause, the PLA has effectively performed the duties of liberating the people and defending the motherland.

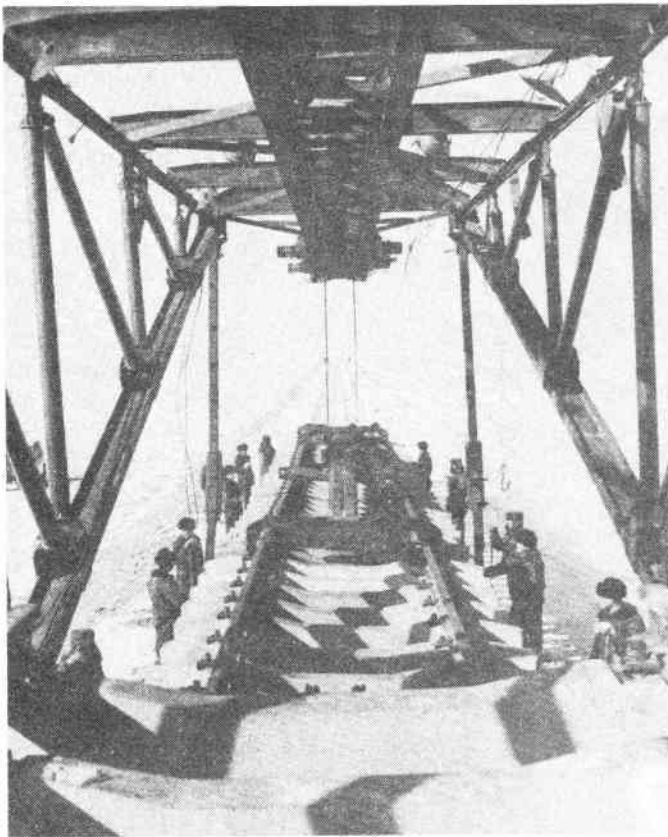
The focus of our army's work has shifted to building a modern

and regular revolutionary armed force. With the gradual development of our national economy, the progress in scientific research for national defence and the improvement in our defence industries, the PLA's weaponry and equipment have shown steady improvement. We now consider education and training to be strategically important and are increasingly stepping up military training so as to raise the combat effectiveness of the armed forces.

Nevertheless, no matter how advanced the army's weapons



Army and air force units take part in military exercises.



Railway engineering corps lay tracks on the Qinghai plateau.

and equipment are and how its military quality improves, we will never pursue a hegemonist policy. This is determined by China's socialist system and the proletarian nature of our Party and army. In the new historical period, the objective of the Chinese people is to turn China gradually into a powerful socialist country with modern agriculture, industry, national defence and science and technology and with a highly developed democracy and culture. We need a peaceful environment. China has no ambition to invade other countries or to expand overseas. It has no troops or military bases abroad. The PLA will never occupy a single inch of others' territory, nor will it tolerate any enemy's act of encroaching upon our sacred territory. It will, as always, contribute to opposing hegemonism and defending world peace.

Political work is the lifeline of the Chinese People's Libera-

tion Army. Political work is the Party's mass work as well as the Party's ideological and organizational work in the army. In previous historical periods, the army has relied on the Party's leadership and effective political work to constantly improve the political consciousness of every commander and fighter as well as the troops' combat effectiveness. It thus fulfils the tasks entrusted to the people's army by the Party. During the new historical period when the Chinese people are striving to accomplish modernization, the PLA will continue to uphold the basic principles guiding political work. Under the new conditions, it will create new experiences that can give greater play to the power of political work.

At present, following the Party Central Committee's instruction that the army should become a great wall of steel defending the motherland and a pace-setter in developing

socialist ethics and civilization, the PLA is conducting ideological education activities centring on fostering socialist and communist ideals. The commanders and fighters are required to have ideals, morality, knowledge and physical strength; pay attention to army discipline and politeness and maintain required standards for appearance and bearing; fear no difficulties and hardships, bloodshed and sacrifice.

Our fundamental aim is to train and bring up a new generation of people who are communist conscious, who firmly carry out the Party's line, principles and policies and who have the ability to defend and build the motherland, so that our army's glorious traditions and fine style of work will be passed from generation to generation. Remarkable results have been achieved in these activities and tremendous changes have taken place in the mental outlook of the commanders and fighters. Proceeding from their actual conditions and starting from doing concrete work, many army units have commended the advanced. As a result, numerous pace-setters in developing socialist civilization have come to the fore.

In commemorating the 55th anniversary of the founding of the Chinese People's Liberation Army, commanders and fighters are clearly aware that under the international conditions where the danger of war still exists, we must strengthen our modern national defence. Of course, national defence construction should fit in with the state's economic construction. We are convinced that the Chinese People's Liberation Army will step up the building of army units, carry forward its fine traditions and further raise its

combat effectiveness so as to more fully consolidate this great wall of steel defending the security of the state.

Training Competent Commanders For China

— Visiting a PLA military academy

by Our Correspondent Li Li

THE PLA military academy in the western suburbs of Beijing is a senior commanders' college under the direct leadership of the Military Commission of the Central Committee of the Chinese Communist Party.

Nestled at the foot of a mountain and beside a stream, this quiet, secluded academy carpeted with pine trees and flowers trains large numbers of modern military commanders.

Founding of the Academy

"The key to building the army well rests with the cadres; the key to the growth of outstanding cadres lies in training." This was the point underscored at recent forums by the academy's grey-haired leaders who had experienced countless battles during the war years. The PLA led by the Chinese Communist Party has historically operated a number of academies. During the Agrarian Revolutionary War (1927-37), the War of Resistance Against Japan (1937-45) and the Liberation War (1946-49), it set up the Red Army College, the Anti-Japanese Military and Political College and other military academies.

The founding of New China in 1949 heralded the period for the Chinese People's Liberation Army to build a modern and regular armed force. In January 1951, on the basis of the original

military and political colleges in north and east China, the PLA military academy was formally established, with Marshal Liu Bocheng, a revolutionary and strategist with both combat and army-building experience, as its first president. Comrade Mao Zedong stated: "The founding of the Chinese People's Liberation Army's military academy marks a great turning point in Chinese army-building history."

"The military academy has achieved notable successes. Most of the commanders at and above divisional level received training in the military academy during the 1950s and 1960s. They have become the backbone force of the Chinese army," said Lu Quan, current Deputy Dean of Studies.

General Situation

Two Deputy Deans of Studies and a Deputy Director of Political Department described the tasks, the guidelines for running the academy, those to be enrolled, the school system and courses as follows:

Tasks. To train middle- and high-ranking commanders capable of organizing and directing a combined armed force in modern war operations, as well as staff officers for commanding organs above army level and researchers on military theories.

Guidelines. These are the principles laid down by the late Chairman Mao Zedong: "A firm and correct political orientation, and industrious and simple style of work and flexible strategy and tactics."

Enrolment and the Educational System. A one-year accelerated course is given to army cadres and divisional commanders of the combined armed force, whose average age is about 45. A two-year complete training course is offered to outstanding divisional cadres and a small number of exceptionally competent regimental cadres. These men, who average approximately 35 years old will

The academy's commanders-in-training study plans for a simulated operation.



be appointed to army or divisional military command posts after graduation. Another two-year class is offered to staff officers for commanding organs above army level. With an average age of about 29, these men will be assigned to work in commanding organs above army level after graduation.

In addition, to meet special needs, a two-year course on military theories has been set up for training core members in theoretical study. At present, the academy has an enrolment of about 1,000. A two-year campaign class will be opened next year. Its aim and tasks are as follows: Train outstanding young cadres at divisional level and above, who will become strategically minded commanders capable of directing campaign and high tactical corps and have a good knowledge of modern army, navy and air force.

The Selection of Students.

Students who meet the qualifications and requirements designated by the academy's enrolment policy are recommended for academy training by various arms and services and by the greater military areas. Their qualifications will be examined and approved by the headquarters and the academy before they are enrolled. Although the academy has no entrance examination, graduation examinations are rigorous. On the eve of the final examinations, the beautiful campus seemed to be very quiet because the cadets stayed indoors, intent on their studies.

Teaching Contents. Seventy per cent of the academy's courses are military training, 20 per cent are political and 10 per cent are scientific and technological courses.

In military courses the students study Marxist-Leninist and Mao Zedong's military thinking; strategic principles of active defence, the science of strategy, campaign and tactics; the strategic ideas and operational characteristics of other armies; the question of how to use inferior equipment to defeat enemies with superior equipment; and the organizations and commanding of campaigns and battles of a combined armed force. At the same time, they also learn from and study famous Chinese and foreign military theories, war histories and battle examples. Although the time devoted to political teaching is limited, teaching materials are highly selective; ideological education is stressed and so the students have a high political consciousness. Even less time is allotted to scientific and technological course, but attention is given to absorbing new achievements in this field so that military teaching can be based on modern science and technology.

Teachers. Teachers are drawn from three main sources: experienced commanders from army units; outstanding graduates from military academies and graduates from ordinary institutions of higher learning.

The academy has set up nine teaching and research sections — strategy, campaign, tactics, combined armed force, foreign armies, arms and services, science and technology, basic Marxist theory, history of the Party and government.

"In the future, the number of experienced comrades will decrease and that of comrades who have no combat experience will increase. Therefore, it has become an urgent matter to train a new generation of young commanders who have a sense of actual combat. Strict stand-

ards should be set for admission into the academy. Students must have a record of training in army schools and senior army schools," said Deputy Dean of Studies Lu Quan with a sense of responsibility and confidence in military and administrative education.

Speeding Up Training

How should commanders be trained, who adapt themselves to the characteristics of people's war under modern conditions and military technical development? This is the central problem facing the academy's leaders and teachers.

"Ours is a socialist country. We will never invade another country. Therefore, the war China will face in the future remain a war against aggression. Ours is a developing country. Viewed from the state of military equipment internationally, China would still be inferior in a war," a teacher analysed.

Therefore, in compiling teaching materials and giving lectures on military affairs, the teachers emphasized the strategy and tactics to be adopted in the war against aggression and the operational methods for using inferior equipment to defeat enemies with superior equipment. They encouraged students to apply the theory they have learnt to concrete simulated situations, deploy their troops flexibly, organize and direct the fighting.

"Science and technology develop continuously. The basic characteristics of modern warfare are the various arms and services fighting in unison," a teacher explained.

To enable commanders of the Chinese army to adapt themselves to these distinct features of modern war, the students are

required to learn and master an all-round knowledge of various arms and services. In addition to lectures, the teaching and research sections of various armed services also set up special training course rooms. In these rooms, the charts, objects and models briefly show the principal tasks of the army, the navy and the air forces as well as artillery, armoured troops, the anti-chemical corps and signal corps. Using audio-visual aids, they present basic and operational knowledge on the properties and uses of existing equipment, so that the officers can develop the ability to direct a combined force of different arms and services in the battlefield.

Both the leaders and teachers of the academy emphasized that in order to train commanders for a modern war, it is necessary to sum up China's own experience in its revolutionary wars and absorb useful foreign experiences.

For example, at a special course room observed recently, students examined the Liaoxi-Shenyang Campaign, the Beiping-Tianjin Campaign and the Huai-Hai Campaign which were decisive strategic battles in the Liberation War. Another special course room showed part of the campaign on the Korean battlefield. Utilizing sand tables, electric display boards and recordings, the course gave practical presentations of these major campaigns for the students' study. Teaching was effective with the aids of TV, films, computers and other modern equipment.

The academy offers a wide range of subjects for study of foreign armies. Besides studying historical wars, the officers also study very recent conflicts. For instance, when the British-Argentine war over Malvinas

broke out, the section for teaching and research on foreign armies immediately organized an academic research report on the war, aided by segments compiled from international newsreels.

The basic teaching procedures of the academy can be summed up as follows: theoretical study, research on war examples, simulated operations (including operations on the map and on the spot) and actual military exercises. In short, this means integrating theory with practice. Experience shows that this method is really effective.

Huang Shuying, deputy army commander of the Beijing units, was a famous combat hero during the war years, but he was not familiar with directing a combined armed force. Several years ago, he was sent to a military academy for advanced studies; he distinguished himself in every subject. Now he not only understands the use of weapons of infantry, artillery, tanks, and anti-chemical corps, but has also acquired an operational knowledge of naval vessels and aircraft. In recent mammoth military exercises, he organized and directed a fight between two "adversary" forces, including infantry, artillery, armoured troops, rocket, missile units and the air force. He handled the situation and directed the fight with ease. The commanders and fighters praised him as a senior commander with rich experience in actual combat and accomplishments in modern military science.

In recent years, the military academy has trained a thousand outstanding commanders like Huang Shuying.

Carrying Forward Fine Traditions

"Our teaching is aimed at meeting the needs of modern

national defence, but we have not forgotten our traditions," agreed many of the academy's leaders, teachers and cadets.

In this PLA institution of higher learning, the school's style and atmosphere of "being united, alert, earnest and lively" characteristic of the Red Army College and the Anti-Japanese Military and Political College of the war years still can be felt.

There is a strong atmosphere of study inside the academy. The teachers and students are encouraged to learn from each other so that instruction benefits teachers and students alike. The academy's leaders who are senior generals set an example for the students. Xiao Ke, president of the academy, attended scientific and technological classes together with the students; he was present at most of the classes for seven weeks on end. When political commissar Duan was in the hospital, he persisted in listening to recorded lessons in the ward.

Some of the students come from strategic border areas; some have decades of military life behind them and have performed repeated meritorious services; others are young combat heroes who experienced the war of counterattack in self-defence and still have shrapnels inside their bodies left over from wounds. After they were admitted into the academy, they set high demands on themselves to observe the same strict discipline as on an ordinary soldier, irrespective of their ages and military posts in the army. In keeping with their army-life regulations, they turn out for morning exercises and military drill; when the bugle sounds, they take their meals, they rest on schedule, and go to bed after the lights are off. During intervals between classes, they also engaged in rich and colourful



Tibetan cadet Ciren Wangdui.

cultural and recreational activities.

The life in the academy is bustling with activity while the relations between teachers and students are harmonious and fraternal. Ciren Wangdui (another name Liu Yongkang, a Tibetan), deputy commander of the Lhasa Military Sub-Area, joined the army in his native place Garze in Sichuan and entered Tibet with the army during the 1950s. He is an old comrade with decades of army ex-

perience, but due to his low educational level, he had difficulties keeping up with his class work at the beginning. Some teachers devoted their spare time to helping him study. They respected his nationality's habits and showed meticulous concern for his well-being. Thanks to teachers' selfless guidance and his own efforts, he passed all examinations with credits when he completed the courses.

Qiu Jinkai, 36, a divisional chief staff in the Beijing Military Area, is a student in the complete training course. During his two years' training, he seldom took leave on weekends and holidays; when he went home on leave to visit his family, he took his study materials with him. He made the best use of every minute in his study and did exceedingly well in all of his examinations.

In order to become outstanding military commanders, almost all students show a spirit of diligence and tenacity in their study.

An Ordinary Company

by Our Correspondent Tian Yun

HOW is life at grass-roots army units? What are the distinguishing features of the soldiers recruited in recent years? Are the PLA's fine traditions being carried forward?

These questions guided a recent investigation of a signal company stationed near Tongxian County in the eastern outskirts of Beijing.

The company includes soldiers of varied backgrounds. Drawn from Hebei, Henan, Shandong and Shaanxi Provinces, 85 per cent are from the countryside and the remainder from the cities. Because the

company's work requires technical training, its members' educational level is higher than that of most infantrymen. All of the company's soldiers have received some amount of secondary school education, and 80 per cent have graduated from senior middle school.

Company political instructor Zhao Yanfen said that a dozen years ago when he was a new recruit, the company had only four senior middle school graduates.

One reason for the rise of the educational level is the stiff

competition for army conscription. Joining the PLA is considered an honour. Although military service is compulsory for those who are called, the number of volunteers always outstrips the number actually recruited.

Many are inspired to join the army by positive encounters they have had with the PLA. Guan Dechao, who was recruited at the end of last year, has determined to join since he was nine years old.

At that time, some soldiers moved into his family's spare rooms in rural Henan Province. While in residence, the soldiers hauled water and kept the courtyard clean, helped the production team transport fertilizer to the fields and generally served the local people in any way they could. They also told Guan and his brothers stories about their lives.

Today Guan's eldest brother is a political instructor of a PLA company, the second eldest brother is a PLA man transferred to work as a commune cadre and his younger brother has applied for recruitment.

Guan's company centres its activities on education and military training, with the ratio of time for military training to political and cultural education being 6 to 3 to 1 respectively. Military training covers radio transmitting and receiving, telephone switchboard operation, signal men's general practice and vehicle driving, as well as topographical studies and electrical engineering.

Political education includes instruction in state policies, a basic knowledge of Marxism-Leninism and Mao Zedong Thought (the basic knowledge of political economy, philosophy and scientific socialism) and

other studies arranged by the company.

Cultural education is conducted according to the soldiers' different educational levels. On evenings and weekends, the soldiers go to the cinema, watch TV, receive scientific or foreign languages training and read literary works according to each one's own interest.

Many company members are exemplary in military training and other tasks assigned to them, and are also good at seizing time to study in spare time. Compared with their predecessors, these soldiers have broader perspectives and think more independently, leaders agree. Some soldiers have published articles on telegraph operating techniques in magazines and some wrote poems and short stories. Today almost all new recruits bring books with them when they arrive at the company, and when they are demobilized, their boxes are full of books and magazines.

Relations Between Officers And Men

The company's commander, deputy commander, political instructor and deputy political instructor were ordinary soldiers in this company who were promoted for their advanced political thinking and outstanding services. They treat their men as their own brothers, and the company is permeated with an atmosphere of equality and friendliness.

A new recruit who came to the company half a year ago said that because he had never before left his home village, he could not help feeling homesick when he first arrived. One night, another soldier in his squad had a high fever. He saw their deputy political instructor Xu Huanyou take the sick man

to the clinic and bring him breakfast the next morning. This concern made the new soldier feel much more at home.

Such examples of officers caring for soldiers are numerous in this company. On the eve of last May Day, on the suggestion of company commander Xie Youtao, the company and platoon leaders volunteered to take over the job of the mess squad so the cooks could have one more day off.

One time last year, political instructor Zhao Yanfen found soldier Wu Yujiang depressed because Wu's family had written that a neighbour had seized part of the land Wu's family was entitled to as a base for their house. The letter added that relations between the two families had become rather tense. Zhao tried his best to reassure Wu that things would improve. Later, when Zhao had time off to visit his own family, he instead visited Wu's home village and got in touch with the local government which helped solve the dispute.

The company has a fairly lively democratic atmosphere. The cadres always take the lead in making criticisms and self-criticisms. This practice makes the rank-and-file feel free to make suggestions and offer criticisms to their commanders and political instructors. For instance, some veterans suggested that after a period of concentrated military training, new recruits be distributed to each squad and trained together with the old soldiers. In sideline production, some soldiers with experience in growing vegetables proposed that summer squash be pruned and eggplants be planted in time. . . . These suggestions have been accepted by the company leaders.

The leaders' responsive style of work has helped improve the company's work overall.

At one meeting, deputy squad leader Cui Minli criticized the company commander for not announcing the daily training plan in advance, thus consistently leaving the soldiers short of preparation time. He suggested the leadership announce each week's plan in advance. This suggestion was quickly accepted. Soldier Xia Xianghe suggested that the company cadres learn some psychology to help them develop a better understanding of their men who now have a considerable educational level, a developed analytic ability and a strong sense of self-respect.

Between Armymen and Civilians

The signal company's neighbour, Liyuan production brigade, is always short of man power during annual wheat harvesting season. It has become normal practice for the company to spend three days every summer helping the brigade gather wheat. In their spare time they also help the brigade's five-guarantees recipient (guaranteed that food, clothing, fuel, medical treatment and burial expenses will be provided by the production brigade). Soldiers of the radio operators squad help the more than 70-year-old widow He Xiulan carry water, sweep the floor and buy grain and coal. They bring her vegetables they grow themselves and invite her to the company's Spring Festival dinner party. Whenever the company shows film versions of stage dramas, the soldiers escort her to watch the films with them. They even saved more than 30 yuan so they could buy a transistor radio for her.

The squad has been taking care of "Aunt He" for about



Soldiers of the signal company present melons to He Xiulan.

seven years. New recruits are always introduced to her and are encouraged to help.

This year, the company established relations with another adjacent production brigade. There, they help clean streets, dredge the sewage and take care of two five-guarantees old people.

Around the time of Spring Festival, the biggest traditional Chinese festival each year, most people are usually busy visiting family members and friends and

shopping. The non-staple food shops and long-distance bus stations are extremely crowded. Every year during this period, the commanders and fighters of the signal company volunteer to transport and sell goods for a non-staple food shop in Tongxian County, to clean the buses for the bus station and help old people and children get on and off the bus.

The company also works jointly with two nearby primary schools to educate the children

there. A total of eight soldiers have been sent to the schools to work as counsellors for Young Pioneers' after-school activities. They encourage the children to study hard and do good things for the people. The company has presented the school some 1,000 volumes of children's books.

One spring, the schools' Young Pioneer organizations responded to the government's call encouraging the children to grow castor plants. Learning that they were short of castor beans, many of the company's soldiers wrote to their families asking for the beans. Soon they gathered 10 kilogrammes of castor beans for the schools.

Such enthusiastic help to the people from the People's Liberation Army has exerted a good influence in society. Many people, inspired by the PLA's exemplary deeds, have applied for the service or encourage their children to join the army. Seeing their children grow more healthy and mature in the army the parents feel very gratified. □

(Continued from p. 18.)

that trade between the developed and developing countries is conducted on an equal footing. This theory is criticized by progressive scholars in developing countries. The criticism contains many reasonable factors which we should seriously assimilate.

A good many developing countries have formulated strategies and policies for their own growth under the guidance of various development theories. Some have achieved success in promoting economic development. Some have suffered setbacks and failures. Some countries whose economies developed rather fast have experienced other problems: deteriorating polarization and sharpening social contradictions.

Therefore, we must carefully analyse foreign economic development theory and methodology, absorbing only the reasonable elements. With regard to the wrong ones, we should convince people by pointing out their mistakes and root cause. We should also seriously deal with every school of the foreign development theory and with the development theory of every aspect and methodology of the developing countries, genuinely understand their origin and development, their contents and essentials. Only in this way can we correctly study the strategy and mode of economic development of developing countries, absorb their useful, scientific elements and expedite China's economic construction.

(An abridged translation of an article in "Hongqi" [Red Flag], issue No. 11.)

DRAMA

Beijing People's Art Theatre

The Beijing People's Art Theatre, China's leading drama troupe, celebrated its 30th anniversary in June. President Cao Yu, the noted playwright, assessed the group's accomplishments with pride and said that in the future the troupe expects to perform more plays on contemporary themes and to have more interaction with theatres abroad. The presentation of *Teahouse* by Lao She (1899-1966) two years ago in Western Europe was the successful debut of modern Chinese drama in that part of the world.

The theatre was established in 1952 to carry on the Chinese theatrical tradition of realism. Since then the theatre has staged many good plays—*Dragon Beard Ditch* by Lao She about the vicissitudes of Beijing residents in the old and new societies, *Camel Xiangzi* by the same author about the experiences of a rickshaw boy, Cao Yu's *Storm*, a family tragedy unmasking the decadence of the bourgeois way of life, *Cai Wenji* by Guo Moruo (1892-1978) about a poetess in the second century

A.D. and *Wu Zetian* about an empress in the seventh century A.D. These uniquely Chinese plays were a tribute to the high artistic level of this troupe.

The theatre also introduced foreign dramas to China, such as Moliere's *The Miser*, Chekhov's *The Three Sisters* and Shakespeare's *Measure for Measure*. In the past 30 years, the theatre has performed 156 plays. Eighty per cent were on contemporary Chinese life, and 20 per cent were on historical themes or were foreign pieces, including comedies, tragedies and mythological plays.

The success of a play first of all relies on the quality of its script. In this regard, the Beijing People's Art Theatre has accumulated rich experience by maintaining close contacts with leading playwrights—Guo Moruo, Tian Han (1898-1968), Xia Yan and Lao She. It also pays attention to discovering and training promising scriptwriters and helps revise their works.

Good direction is another factor in the creation of a unique style. The Beijing People's Art Theatre boasts a number of outstanding directors. Among the most prominent was the late general director Jiao Juyin, who

studied drama in Paris and received a PH. D. from the Université de Paris. Well-versed in Western drama and Chinese traditional operas, he absorbed the essence of both and his work was known for its integration of the two.

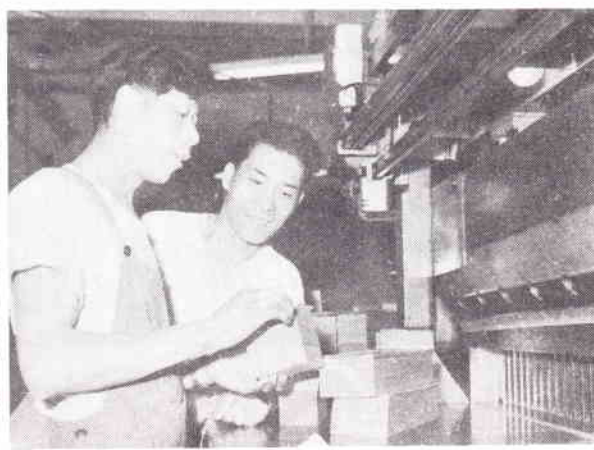
"The actors should go deep into life and create prominent images on the stage by gaining a deep inner feeling for the characters," he said. Under his direction, actors gained a thorough understanding of the plays they performed and brought to the stage a richness of feeling and movement greater than that described in the scripts.

Under his careful guidance and that of other experienced directors, the Beijing People's Art Theatre gradually developed an integrated artistic style of its own: realistic and thought-provoking yet plain and simple.

The theatre has trained a number of skilful actors and actresses. The players are not type cast but instead play an assortment of leading and character roles, giving them the opportunity to develop their talents. Certainly these players' skill has been accumulated through their

Left: Director Jiao Juyin (centre) with Guo Moruo (left) discussing the latter's play "Wu Zetian" in June 1962.

Right: An actor of the Beijing People's Art Theatre (right) working in a factory.





Inside the Shoudu Theatre.

painstaking efforts and dedication to the cause of drama.

Actress Zhao Yunru showed her devotion to realism when she was assigned to play a court lady who was well-versed in *guqin*, a seven-stringed plucked instrument. Although Zhao was over 50 and had never touched *guqin*, she practised day and night and within a fairly short time, learnt to pluck the instrument rather well.

Such dedication to their career is quite common among the players of the theatre. For a deeper understanding of the characters, the players often go to factories, the countryside or the army, to live among the local people and make friends with them. Often after night performances, the players are still found "living" the life of their characters. They try to improve their acting by the spirit of daring to probe into new things and by constant practice.

"No stardom here," a member on the art committee said, "we want artists, real artists." For this purpose, the players are required to study both Chinese and foreign classical and modern literature, history, theory of drama, painting, music and dancing.

The theatre has a total staff of 300. Four generations of drama-

tists are now working together. There are veteran members of the "resistance drama troupe" founded by the late Premier Zhou Enlai (1898-1976) and Guo Moruo during the War of Resistance Against Japan in late 30s, progressives of the 40s led by the underground Party in the Kuomintang-controlled areas, graduates of New China's drama institutes and young people trained by the theatre.

An art committee of around 30 prominent dramatists decides the repertoire and evaluates performances.

The Beijing People's Art Theatre has its own performing centre with four rehearsal halls, the Shoudu Theatre on the north end of busy Wangfujing Street. It has the first revolving stage in the city, built during the 50s, and has excellent acoustics. It seats 1,200 people.

Although it is a first-class theatre, the tickets are sold at only 40, 60 and 80 fen, a common practice among the majority of theatres, so that ordinary people can afford to attend.

"Wedding on a Rich Harvest Year"

To celebrate its 30th anniversary, the Beijing People's Art Theatre performed *Wedding on*

a Rich Harvest Year, a three-act comedy, in Beijing.

The comedy depicts the life of the peasants in Jiqing Village in Beijing's outskirts. At the opening curtain, the audience finds that the implementation of new economic policies have fired the peasants' initiative. The Jiqing Village which had a history of poor harvests for several years running has become a "millionaire" with a one-million-yuan savings deposit after two years of efforts. All the villagers are happy that their life is getting better.

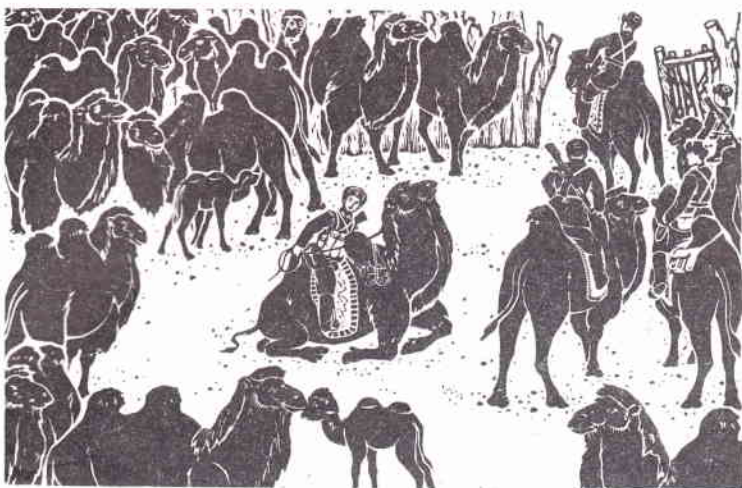
It is a rich harvest autumn and the brigade Party branch secretary Cui is preparing a wedding ceremony for his only son. The bumper harvest and the wedding ceremony make the whole village bustle with activity. The Cui family has been too poor to hold a decent wedding ceremony for several generations and wants to take this opportunity to entertain all relatives and villagers as well as to celebrate their village's new prosperity.

But when they are preparing for the wedding all kinds of feudalist ideas and habits come out.

Cui comes to realize that he himself is dazzled with happiness and decides to prepare the ceremony in a simple way. But his decision is opposed by other family members. He finds it most difficult to persuade the villagers who have shown him great kindness. Cui decides to hold a small private ceremony.

When the news leaks out that a secret wedding ceremony is being conducted, relatives and villagers come at once. Cui adapts himself to changing conditions. After comedic dealings with them, Cui finally holds the ceremony for his son in a new simple way.

Woodcuts by Army Artists

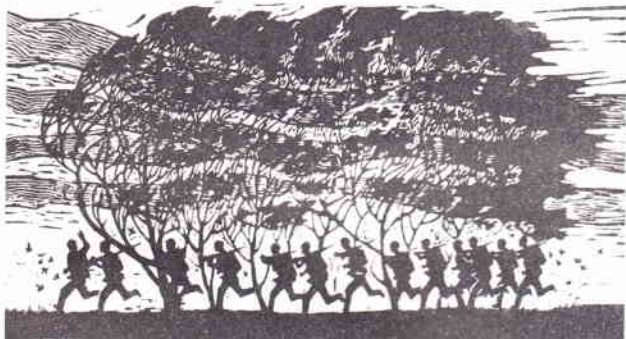


Go On Patrol.
by Shen' Beiyao

Both professional and amateur artists in the Chinese People's Liberation Army carry forward the tradition of army literary and art work by closely combining their creations with the tasks of the army.

The woodcuts presented here show several aspects of colourful army life.

Close Army-People Relations.
by Song Yansheng



March.
by Lu Xianmin



A Military Airfield.
by Song Yansheng





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