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A silver sculpture *Elephant*

A gift presented to Chairman Kim Jong Il by the director of the Asian Regional Institute of the Juche Idea in September 1983.

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Front Cover: In Korea children significantly celebrate the International Children's Day

Photo by Ra Phyoung Ryol



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Photo by Kim Jin Ho

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What Nuclear Threat Results in

THE WORKERS' PARTY OF KOREA ADOPTED a new strategic line at its Central Committee's plenary meeting held in Pyongyang in March this year, a line of carrying on the construction of the economy and the upbuilding of nuclear forces simultaneously. The policy represents the will and determination of the Workers' Party of Korea to augment its self-defensive nuclear forces and use it to settle accounts with the United States once for all and hasten the building of a prosperous and powerful socialist nation as rapidly as possible.

The US-led imperialists have resorted to the policy of isolating and stifling the Democratic People's Republic of Korea by mobilizing all their political, economic and military potentials. The belligerent American military, in particular, shipped nuclear war equipment into south Korea almost every day from their military bases in the American mainland and overseas including the Guam while conducting hectic joint military rehearsals for a nuclear war. As a result the situation in the Korean peninsula was on the brink of a nuclear war.

As an important measure to cope with the grave situation, the Workers' Party of Korea decided a new strategic line of carrying on the economic construction and the upbuilding of nuclear forces simultaneously.

The Korean people have engaged themselves in the strenuous effort to reunify their country and achieve national prosperity since their national liberation. But their effort was faced with obstacles in each stage due to the US's hostile policy aimed at stifling the DPRK.

In November 1950 when the Koreans were fighting the Fatherland Liberation War to repulse the American invasion, the then US President Truman declared to a press conference that [the US] was making a close examination of the use of atomic bombs, while MacArthur blared that they had a plan to drop 30-50 atomic bombs in the borderline area between the DPRK and China. In September and October 1951 B-29 bombers of the American air force carried out an exercise to drop atomic bombs over Pyongyang. A similar scheme was also considered when the US was working out a new offensive in 1953 in an attempt to recover from the consecutive defeats in the Korean war. Flurried at the repeated defeats in the Korean war the US imperialists issued to the Air Force Command a confidential operations plan of massive dropping of atomic bombs in Korea and China, and later in the 1960s placed nuclear bombs-carrying planes of the American air force—stationed in south Korea—on standby for an emergency flight so as to attack the DPRK in 15 minutes.

In the current century the Americans' nuclear threat against the Koreans has been more outrageous. In 2010 the then US Secretary of Defense said that they had all options on the table regarding a preparation of a report on the examination of nuclear posture. This meant an overt expression of the con-

sistent scheme of nuclear attack against the DPRK.

Needless to say, the Americans' hostile policy towards the DPRK has been a tremendous obstacle in the Koreans' effort for regular development and prosperity. Exposed to the constant nuclear threat from the US the Koreans have been looking forward to a peaceful environment settled in the peninsula with a successful denuclearization programme.

The DPRK government has made all possible efforts for denuclearization of the peninsula regarding the removal of the nuclear threats in the area as a critical matter related to the destiny of the nation and an essential task in achieving peace and security in Asia and the rest of the world. In the late 1950s it made a proposal of creating a nuke-free peace zone in Asia, and in the mid-1980s it joined the NPT. Later in the 1990s it adopted a joint declaration on the denuclearization of the Korean peninsula and then made serious efforts for its successful implementation.

On the contrary the White House has been opposed to the idea of nuclear-free Korean peninsula, making absurd arguments about the "usefulness of nuclear weapons." Defying the keynote of the NPT it offered open nuclear threat to the DPRK and designated it as an object of nuclear pre-emptive attack without any heed to its commitment to the DPRK-USA Agreed Framework in which the US gave an official assurance that it shall neither use nuclear weapons against the DPRK nor threaten it with nuclear weapons. Meanwhile, the Pentagon has conducted all kinds of war exercises ceaselessly in and around south Korea by mobilizing nuclear forces, racketing up the danger of nuclear war in the Korean peninsula.

When the DPRK became a legitimate nuclear state, the American moves of nuclear blackmail reached an extreme. Vilifying the DPRK's launch of a satellite for peaceful purposes as a "launch of a ballistic missile," the US cooked up a "resolution" of the UN Security Council, which was an extension, and the climax, of the age-long US hostile policy toward the DPRK.

Exposed to a constant nuclear threat from the US the DPRK has had no other alternative but to build up its nuclear armaments both in quality and quantity. The US has been intent on dismantling the DPRK's nuclear armaments and overthrowing its social system by all means and methods. It has blackmailed Pyongyang, saying that the latter could not achieve economic development unless it gave up its nuclear weapons while appeasing it, saying that if Pyongyang chose another road, Washington would help Pyongyang to be well-off.

But for the Americans' hostile policy and nuclear threat, the DPRK could have concentrated its efforts on socio-economic development rather than on the buildup of its nuclear arms as part of the war deterrent. Inevitably the country had no other choice—with a view to self-defence.

Ri Hyon Do

Our Victory Has Already Been Ensured

WE ARE NOW IMMENSELY ENCOURAGED and enlivened by the adoption of the strategic line of simultaneously carrying on the economic construction and the upbuilding of the nuclear forces at the March 2013 Plenary Meeting of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea.

The United States and its vassal forces, picking a quarrel with our successful launch of a peaceful man-made satellite late last year, railroaded a brigandish "resolution on sanctions" through the UN Security Council. It was a hostile act that illegalizes the legitimate right of a sovereign state to launch a satellite.

To cope with this situation and as a link in the whole chain of substantial countermeasures to defend the country's sovereignty and security, we were compelled to conduct the third underground nuclear test of a self-defensive nature. The hostile forces adopted another "sanctions resolution," which is harsher than the previous one. In the meantime, they have staged joint military exercises more recklessly to ignite a nuclear war against our country. The US is intent on dismantling our nuclear armaments and overthrowing our system by all means and methods. It is most afraid of our nuclear deter-

rents, which are small-sized, light and diversified, and is making last-ditch efforts as they think that if we, possessed of nuclear weapons, achieve economic prosperity, its hostile policy towards the DPRK will come to naught.

With the adoption of the strategic line of developing the economy and the nuclear forces simultaneously at this very moment, our people are now able to defend the nation's dignity and sovereignty securely and hasten the building of a thriving socialist country more forcefully. We have a strong atomic energy industry and also inexhaustible uranium resources. As long as we build up our nuclear forces more solidly in terms of quality and quantity according to the new strategic policy in the future, the aggressors will not dare provoke us, and our country will be more secure and peaceful.

In the non-ferrous metal industry we will boost production drastically to meet the demand of different sectors of the national economy, firmly holding a rifle in one hand and a hammer in the other with confidence in our victory.

*Kim Kil Song, department director
of the Ministry of Mining Industry*

Well-sought Line for Hastening the Building of an Economic Giant

THE UNITED STATES HAS LONG MENACED our country with nukes, and the menace has now reached an extreme. The US and its followers intend to put obstacles in the way of our effort to build an economic power and improve our people's living standards by dragging us into the arms race. They are afraid of our satellite and nukes; what they are more afraid of is our acceleration of the building of an economic power and the improving of our people's living standards on such a level that the people shout "Long live the Workers' Party!" from the bottom of their hearts.

The strategic line of simultaneously building up the economy and nuclear forces adopted at the March 2013 Plenary Meeting of the Workers' Party of Korea Central Committee is a most valid line making it possible to promote the economic construction and improve the people's living standards dramatically. The new line enables our people to hasten the building of the economy without worry by making our possession of self-defensive nukes permanent.

For nearly 70 years after the appearance of nukes there were small and large wars in many parts of the world. Countries possessed of nukes, however, underwent no military invasion. When we become capable of striking a precision blow at any part of the earth by

dint of a nuke, no aggressors will dare attack us and we will be able to build the economy and improve the people's living standards free from anxiety.

The new line also makes it possible to direct great efforts to the economic construction and the improvement of the people's living standards while further strengthening the country's defence capabilities at small expense without increasing the defence expenditure. It is also a line which will make it possible to ease the strain on electric power supply while strengthening nuclear forces on the basis of our own atomic energy industry; it will enable us to ensure the people a happy life free from cares and worries while actively coping with the prevailing situation. Indeed, the line illuminates our way to hasten the building of a thriving socialist nation in whatever adversities.

In accordance with the new line, the workers, technicians and managers of our factory will strive to increase the production of shoes to be popular with the people by combining production with the development of science and technology and making the equipment and production processes based on CNC technology.

*Pak Yong Chan, chief engineer
of the Pyongyang Shoe Factory*

Immortal Exploits for National Reunification

NOT LONG AGO A *KOREA Today* reporter had a talk with councillor An Chang Bok, senior officer Pak Sun Gol and officer Sin Thae Jun of the Secretariat of the Central Committee of the Democratic Front for the Reunification of Korea.

Reporter: The adoption of the June 15 North-South Joint Declaration was a historic event unprecedented in the history of the Korean nation's struggle for reunification. I think "by our nation itself," the main idea of the declaration, is a landmark in the struggle for reunification in the new century, the one which reflects the ideas of national independence and great national unity.

An Chang Bok: The idea of reunifying the country independently on the principle of great national unity was put forward by President Kim Il Sung for the first time in the history of the nation.

On August 15, 1945 Korea was liberated from the Japanese imperialists' military occupation. But the US imperialists, who illegally occupied the southern half of Korea in September 1945, brought the Korean question to the United Nations and organized the United Nations Temporary Commission on Korea with their satellite states in an attempt to establish a separate "government" in south Korea. Thus, in the peninsula, the crisis of territorial partition and national division became aggravated, and a grave obstacle was laid on the way ahead of the Korean people aspiring for the establishment of a unified democ-



Sin Thae Jun , Pak Sun Gol and An Chang Bok (from the right).

atic state. At this juncture, Kim Il Sung suggested that the question of the national reunification should be solved by the efforts of the Korean nation itself as masters to suit their will and requirement without any foreign interference, and that all Koreans who really loved the country must unite without fail, regardless of party affiliation, religious belief and political view. To this end, he called the historic Joint Conference of Representatives of Political Parties and Public Organizations in North and South Korea in April 1948. The conference was participated in by 695 representatives from 56 political parties and public organizations from both the north and south of Korea including Kim Ku, former President of the Shanghai Provisional Government and the leader of the Independence Party of Korea. The conference condemned the UN Temporary Commission on Korea as a tool of the US imperialists' colonial enslavement policy towards Korea, and solemnly declared that the Korean people would not recognize the "government" set up through

"separate elections," but establish a genuine unified democratic government by their own efforts without foreign interference.

Sin Thae Jun: Taken aback by the fact that the great national unity of our people was being cemented and their movement for national reunification was growing stronger, the US instigated the south Korean puppets to ignite the Korean war all along the 38th parallel on June 25, 1950. After the war Washington aggravated the inter-Korean relations to the extreme to keep its colonial rule over south Korea by bringing about hostile relations between the north and the south and encouraging the south to set anti-communism as a policy. But no actions of the US and its followers could dampen the entire Korean nation's desire for independent reunification and great national unity.

Kim Il Sung manifested the three principles of national reunification—independence, peaceful reunification and great national unity—in his conversation with the south Korean delegate to the high-level political talks between

► north and south Korea in May 1972. He said that the question of the country's reunification is not the one of who prevails over whom, but the one of attaining the unity of the nation divided by foreign forces and achieving national sovereignty and that in order to reunify the country, it is necessary to solve the problem of achieving unity between the north and the south and promoting the great national unity first. And he detailed the ways and means of reunifying the country.

On July 4 that year the north-south joint statement with the three principles of national reunification as its basic content was published in Pyongyang and Seoul at the same time. The historic July 4 Joint Statement stirred the whole nation, and all the land of Korea was afire with an ardent desire for national reunification.

Pak Sun Gol: President Kim Il Sung set forth the question of national reunification as a key question related to restoring the national sovereignty, and comprehensively and consecutively elucidated the ways and means for our nation to solve the question of its reunification as its masters. To cope with the internal and external separatists' "two Koreas" plot the President put forward the five-point policy for national reunification, and, at the Sixth Congress of the Workers' Party of Korea held in 1980, he made a proposal for the founding of the Democratic Federal Republic of Koryo (DFRK) whereby it is possible to reunify the country on condition that the north and the south recognize and tolerate each other's ideas, social systems and governments. The proposal further intensified the nationwide enthusiasm for reunification, thus providing a ripe condition for the formation of the great national

united front.

In that situation many personages aspiring for the country's reunification came to meet the President. Among them was Choe Tok Sin, who renounced his lifelong anti-communist idea and turned his life towards the patriotic road of reunification in alliance with communism; Kim Song Rak, advisor to the Korean Churches' Association; Choe Hong Hui, former president of the International Taekwon-Do Federation; Rev. Moon Ik Hwan of south Korea; and Moon Sun Myung, former president of the Federation for World Peace. Their visits to Pyongyang were typical examples proving the validity of the President's idea of great national unity.

In December 1991 the Agreement on Reconciliation, Nonaggression and Cooperation and Exchange between the North and the South was adopted, and this was followed by the publication of the Joint Declaration on the Denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula. But with the beginning of 1993 the situation in the Korean peninsula that had taken a turn for relaxation of tension through contacts and dialogue was driven to the brink of war again because of the pernicious manoeuvres against the DPRK by the divisive forces at home and abroad. Under the prevailing situation Kim Il Sung announced the *Ten-Point Programme of the Great Unity of the Whole Nation for the Reunification of the Country* at the Fifth Session of the Ninth Supreme People's Assembly on April 6, 1993. In the programme he said that the only way to reunify the country is to achieve the great unity of all Koreans in the north and the south and abroad. On July 7, 1994, the last day of his great career, he went over a document page by page which

would make a turning point in great national unity and national reunification and finished it by signing it, "Kim Il Sung July 7, 1994." The historic document became his last instructions for national reunification.

Reporter: Chairman Kim Jong Il, who had regarded it as his lifetime task to implement the President's last instructions for national reunification, did his utmost to that end. And the adoption of the June 15 North-South Joint Declaration is one of the Chairman's great exploits recorded in the history of the nation's reunification movement.

An: The Chairman did all he could to reunify the country without fail true to the President's instructions. He made public his classic work *Let Us Carry out the Great Leader Comrade Kim Il Sung's Instructions for National Reunification* in August 1997. In the work he defined the three principles of national reunification, the ten-point programme of the great unity of the whole nation and the plan of establishing the DFRK as the three charters for national reunification, thus enabling the entire nation to vigorously struggle for the country's reunification with clear targets and methods.

On April 18, 1998 the Chairman sent the letter *Let Us Reunify the Country Independently and Peacefully through the Great Unity of the Entire Nation* to the national symposium to mark the 50th anniversary of the Joint Conference of Representatives of Political Parties and Public Organizations in North and South Korea. In the letter he elucidated five policies for the great national unity. The letter clearly indicates ways and means to achieve national reunification by the concerted efforts of our nation.

Sin: The Chairman saw to it ►

▶ that a north-south agreement was adopted on April 8, 2000, opening up a vista for inter-Korean summit talks. On June 13 that year there was a summit talks in Pyongyang, followed by the adoption of the historic June 15 North-South Joint Declaration with the idea of “by our nation itself” as its core. The adoption of the declaration made it possible to open up a new era of history, the era of independent reunification, in which the fellow compatriots in the north and the south could advance together hand in hand for the country’s reunification and the common prosperity of the nation while dispelling the antagonism and distrust that had lasted between both sides for over half a century. The declaration is a banner of national reunification in the 21st century which compre-

hensively reflected and developed the ideas and principles of the July 4 Joint Statement and other inter-Korean agreements made in the past as required by the developing reality.

Pak: For over ten years after the publication of the joint declaration inter-Korean assistance based on the idea of “by our nation itself” went on, the zeal of the Koreans of all strata at home and abroad for national reconciliation and unity grew stronger day by day, and many-sided dialogues and cooperation and exchanges between the two sides were conducted on a full scale. Railways and roads which had been severed were re-linked to ensure travel between the two sides. In the course of this the movement for the country’s reunification developed into an all-nation one.

But there still remain many bottlenecks and obstacles to national reunification due to the challenge and obstructive manoeuvres of the anti-reunification forces within and without.

National leader Kim Jong Un, in his New Year Address of this year, said that the reunification issue should be solved by the concerted efforts of our nation in an independent manner, that the driving force of the reunification movement is the entire nation, and that nothing is impossible if it achieves firm unity.

Whatever trials and difficulties lie on the road of national reunification, we will build a reunified thriving country without fail on this three-thousand-ri land by the concerted efforts of the whole nation under the banner of “by our nation itself.” □

The Grand National Reunification Festival was participated in by Koreans in the north and the south and abroad to celebrate the 7th anniversary of the publication of the June 15 Joint Declaration.



Monuments Tell the Nation's Desire

NEARLY 70 YEARS HAVE passed since Korea was divided into the north and the south by the US imperialists. President Kim Il Sung and Chairman Kim Jong Il strove all their life to achieve national reunification, the Korean nation's long-cherished desire. The Korean people erected monuments to convey forever the President and the Chairman's relevant achievements.

The Monument to the United Front

In August 1945 Korea was liberated from the Japanese imperialists' military occupation. But the US imperialists, in the guise of a "liberator," set foot in the southern part of Korea, which resulted in the division of Korea.

General Kim Il Sung paid deep attention to the effort to establish a unified central government of Korea as a whole according to democratic principles. He decided to convene a north-south joint conference with a view to achieving the unity of the whole nation and in early October 1947 put forward a proposal for holding north-south negotiations in the form of a consultative meeting or a joint conference of representatives of political parties and public organizations of both sides. The proposal got support and approval from all the Korean people.

As a result, the Joint Conference of Representatives of Political Parties and Public Organizations in North and South Korea was held in Pyongyang from 19 to 23 of April, 1948. In May the same year Kim Il Sung called on Ssuk Islet on the Taedong River a consultative meeting of the leaders of the political parties and public organizations who had participated in the joint conference, and discussed practical methods of

carrying out the resolution of the joint conference and the prospects for national reunification. And he put forward the measures to check and frustrate separate elections in south Korea, proposed to hold north-south general elections to establish the Democratic People's Republic of Korea as the unified central government, and stressed the need to reunify the country with the Korean people's own efforts.

The meeting on Ssuk Islet was virtually an all-Korea political consultative meeting which made an agreement on establishing the DPRK, the unified central government.

In August 1990 the Korean people made the islet into a revolutionary site and erected the Monument to the United Front to convey the President's exploits to posterity. The monument consists of a tower and a monumental stone supporting the tower. The tower was built with 56 blocks of granite in the meaning that 56 political parties and public organizations whose representatives had taken part in the April North-South Joint Conference were firmly united under the banner of reunification. It is 13.5 metres tall and weighs 550 tons. On the façade of the tower is carved in relief the inscription "Monument to the United Front," the President's autograph. Forty-two blossoms of magnolia, the national flower of the DPRK, are carved on the upper part of the tower in the meaning that the tower was erected in the year that marked the 42nd anniversary of the Ssuk Islet meeting. On the back side of the tower are inscribed the names of the 56 political parties and public organizations. On the facade of the monumental stone is carved what the President said about the significance of the April North-South Joint Conference, and on the back

side the names of the representatives who participated in the Ssuk Islet meeting.

Monument to the Three Charters for National Reunification

In the 1990s the Korean peninsula was in a dangerous situation in which a war might break out at any moment owing to the US-led imperialist reactionary forces' anti-DPRK hostile policy and war rackets. At this juncture, Chairman Kim Jong Il of the DPRK National Defence Commission defined the three principles of national reunification, the 10-point program of the great unity of the whole nation for the reunification of the country and the plan for the founding of the Democratic Federal Republic of Koryo as the three charters for national reunification after comprehensively systematizing the exploits the President had accomplished for the cause of national reunification, and put them forward as the guideline to be followed by all the Koreans who were desiring reunification.

In August 2001 when the reunification era epitomized by the motto of "by our nation itself" was being opened up by the historic meeting of the leaders of the north and the south and the adoption of the June 15 North-South Joint Declaration in 2000, the Korean people erected the Monument to the Three Charters for National Reunification on Thongil Street, Pyongyang, to reflect their unanimous desire and will to reunify the country with the three charters for national reunification as the guideline.

Covering an area of over 100 000 square metres, the monument consists of the arch tower and its associated facilities—embossed subsidiary group sculptures. The tower of natural

▶ granite takes the form of two women in traditional costumes holding aloft the emblem of the three charters for national reunification. It is 30 metres high and 61.5 metres wide, symbolizing the *three charters* and the *June 15 North-South Joint Declaration* respectively. On the emblem are engraved the words *three charters*, the Korean map and magnolia. On both sides of the base are subsidiary group sculptures depicting the three principles of national reunification, the plan for the founding of the Democratic Federal Republic of Koryo and the 10-point programme of the great unity of the whole nation according to the contents of the three

charters for national reunification, and a reunified Korea.

The basement of the tower consists of four rooms where on display there are rare commemoration stones donated by heads of party and state, progressive figures and Korean compatriots of many regions of the world. Near the monument stands an inscription stone bearing the President's instruction: If the country is to be reunified, all fellow Koreans, whether they live in the north, south or abroad, should turn out to support the reunification movement, and all compatriots of all strata, transcending differences in thinking, ideal, political view and religious belief, should

firmly unite as one on the principle of great national unity.

Monument to President Kim Il Sung's Signature

A monument inscribed with President Kim Il Sung's signature stands in Panmunjom, Kaesong City in central Korea, where the Korean Armistice Agreement was concluded.

Kim Il Sung put forward lots of proposals for reunification of Korea in his lifetime, and thus performed great exploits for the Korean people's cause of national reunification. In particular, on July 7, 1994, the day before his demise, he examined a document on the reunification of the country, and signed it, "Kim Il Sung July 7, 1994."

The Korean people erected the aforesaid monument—a block of natural granite—inscribed with the very signature of the President to convey his desire for national reunification.

During a visit to Panmunjom in November 1996 Chairman Kim Jong Il, before the monument, said to the accompanying officials that they should hand a reunified country down to their posterity without fail, true to the President's patriotic intention.

Supreme Commander Kim Jong Un of the Korean People's Army, while inspecting Panmunjom in March 2012, saw the monument and said that Chairman Kim Jong Il had visited the place four times in his lifetime and seen to it that the monument was erected there to convey to all generations to come the noble patriotic intention of the President who had left his last autograph on the historic document for putting an end to the tragic national division and achieving the sacred cause of national reunification.

The Monument to the United Front.





The monument bearing a model of the autograph President Kim Il Sung left on a document at the close of his life.

The Monument to the Three Charters for National Reunification.

Article by Kim Son Hyok



Indispensable Standpoint

NATIONAL REUNIFICATION IS THE supreme desire of the Korean people. To reunify the Korean nation means putting an end to foreign domination of and intervention in south Korea, establishing sovereignty on a nationwide scale, connecting the broken vein of the nation and achieving national unity as a homogeneous nation.

The supreme national leader, Kim Jong Un, suggested in his New Year Address of this year that all the members of the Korean nation in the north, south and abroad should subordinate and orientate everything to the great national cause of reunifying the country from the standpoint of giving priority and attaching importance to the nation and achieving its unity.

The standpoint of giving priority and attaching importance to the nation and achieving its unity is a fundamental one for independent reunification and an expression of the idea of “by our nation itself.” The idea mirrors the will to reunify the country independently while rejecting aggressive foreign forces, and the aspiration and desire of the Koreans to unite as people of the same blood regardless of the differences in ideology and system.

The June 15 era of reunification when the Koreans advanced under the idea of “by our nation itself” showed that when all Koreans in the north, south and abroad positively aspire towards national cooperation and pool their strength, wisdom and energy, they will be able to solve any problems in their effort whatever the vicious obstructive manoeuvres of foreign forces and whatever the complicated situation might be.

To have the aforesaid standpoint means solving national problems by the concerted efforts of the nation while giving priority and attaching importance to the dignity and interests of the nation, not foreign forces’. If they are affected by flunkeyism they will begin to worship and depend on foreign forces and turn traitor to their nation. But when they have a firm standpoint of attaching importance to their nation, they will place the demand and interests of the nation above foreign forces’ desire and interests and unyieldingly struggle to that end.

Foreign forces intend to deal with the question of the Korean nation’s destiny in their own interests. Historically, the US has sought to realize its strategy of dominationism at the cost of the Korean nation’s interests. The interests of aggressive foreign forces are incompatible at all with those of the Korean nation. The Korean nation must subordinate everything to priority and pursuance of its own interests, not foreign forces’. Division of Korea was forced by foreign forces, and the Korean nation’s struggle for reunification is the one to put an end to foreign forces’ domination and achieve national independence. Accordingly, it is natural that in the struggle for national reunification the Koreans give priority to their nation and approach everything from the viewpoint of its interests, not those of foreign forces, and solve problems of inter-Korean relations by the concerted efforts of the nation.

To give priority and attach importance to the nation and aspire towards national unity is a noble attitude only those who hold their nation dearest can acquire. Only when they have the standpoint of giving priority and attaching importance to their nation and achieving national unity will they turn out in the struggle for national reunification while resenting division of the nation and infinitely hating the foreign forces who forced the division.

To all the Korean people who have been undergoing the tragedy of national division for more than half a century it is a decisive guarantee for making a new turning-point in national reunification to adopt the standpoint of giving priority and attaching importance to the nation and achieving national unity.

All those who sincerely desire national reunification, whether they are in the north, south or abroad, should give priority and attach importance to their nation, not foreign forces, and strive to achieve national unity transcending differences in ideology, ideal, political view and religion. Only then will it be possible to remove the inter-Korean confrontation, reunify the nation independently and achieve peace and prosperity.

Jang Yun Nam

Under Warm Care

IN THE DEMOCRATIC PEOPLE'S Republic of Korea June 6 is a holiday of the members of the Korean Children's Union. The organization was formed at the initiative of President Kim Il Sung on June 6, 1946 as a revolutionary and mass-based organization of the Korean children. The history of the KCU spanning 67 years is the one of warm care shown by President Kim Il Sung and Chairman Kim Jong Il who looked after the KCU members in every step of their development so that they grew up as future masters of

the country.

On June 6, 1961 a national meeting of the KCU organizations took place in celebration of the 15th anniversary of the union. President Kim Il Sung went to the venue of the meeting to congratulate the children. "It's a great holiday of the members of the Children's Union today and it's also a very happy day to us grown-ups," the President said approaching the platform. He asked the KCU delegates to go ahead of him as it was their holiday. He spent the whole day sharing the pleasure and happiness with the schoolchildren: proposing that officials enjoy the day together with the KCU members however busy they were, he saw a children's mass gymnastic performance at a stadium in the afternoon and an artistic perform-

ance at a theatre in the evening.

As he was so fond of the children, he made sure that the Pyongyang Students and Children's Palace went up on Jangdae Hill in the heart of Pyongyang devastated during the war. And he initiated the enforcement of the universal 11-year compulsory education and the building of schoolchildren's palaces and camps in different parts of the country.

Chairman Kim Jong Il, carrying forward the President's loving care for the rising generations, saw that whatever best things in the world were procured for the children. On a visit to the then Pyongyang Senior Middle School No. 1 in February 1985, he famously stated that the education of the rising generations is an essential problem related to the



A view of the Songdowon International Children's Camp.



► nation's prosperity and development, and took measures to supply modern experimental facilities and educational appliances to the school. The school buildings on the picturesque Pothong River, blackboards, desks, chairs, all kinds of experimental instruments, the crystal-clear water in the swimming pool and all other things of the school are associated with Chairman Kim Jong Il's care for and devotion to the children. Later he took steps to erect schools of different levels and after-school educational centres in all parts of the country and provide them with educational facilities and equipment unsparingly.

Thanks to his care even in the late last century when the country had a time of Arduous March and forced march the sound of children's reading rang from sunny classrooms as loudly as ever, and a song, which sings of the fact that the children go camping while the national leader goes to the front, was created. The schoolchildren in the country are well aware of the message of the song. When they were having a good time at schools, camps, zoos and pleasure parks, Chairman Kim Jong Il climbed all mountains and hills in the forefront, like Chol Pass and Mt. Osong, alleviating his hunger with a small rice ball and relieving his fatigue by having a spell of fitful sleep.

Now Korea is blessed with another peerlessly great leader, and the schoolchildren are happy under his care. One May day last



A celebration stage *The Sun and Flowers* held by members of the Korean Children's Union on the occasion of the 66th anniversary of the union.

year the supreme national leader, Kim Jong Un, went to see the newly-built Changjon Primary School in Changjon Street. Looking into classrooms he asked where the desks and chairs had been made and praised they were all well made. Passing a corridor, he suggested to put there benches with hangers so that the pupils could hang their wet overcoats in winter or raincoats in summer. When he came out to the playground to leave the school, he stopped his way to kindly ask officials to arrange it better.

Last year the country celebrated the 66th anniversary of the Korean Children's Union with a large attendance. On June 6 the national leader attended the national meeting of the KCU organizations held in celebration of the founding anniversary. He delivered a speech, extending congratulations to the delegates and other KCU members all across the country and sent warm greetings to all the teachers and

schoolchildren's parents on the occasion. In his address he remarked that June 6 is a special holiday not only for the KCU but also for the Workers' Party of Korea and the entire nation and that to the Party and the country the KCU members represent all their hope and future. He noted that the KCU, nurtured in the benevolent embrace of President Kim Il Sung and Chairman Kim Jong Il, has developed into a powerful organization of successors to the revolution that is demonstrating its dignity to the world. During the days of celebrations the delegates received warm care which would be told and retold from generation to generation.

Proud of their blessed life the KCU members are developing themselves as knowledgeable, physically strong and morally sound persons. A rosy and bright future is in store for the KCU members.

Sim Yong Jin

Stories of Lofty View to Rising Generations

Special Fish Specimens

ONE DAY IN NOVEMBER 1974 President Kim Il Sung saw seven extra-large flatfish presented to him by fishermen. Weighing a hundred and scores of kilograms each, the fish were rare to be seen. The President, with a beaming face, said they were really large and marvellous. An official exclaimed they were as large as a pig. Looking round the officials, the President explained that one of the fish weighing 130 kg would be a feast to 260 people when each had 500 g. "A flatfish for 260 people is really a great story," he said happily.

The officials each said about how to cook the fish. Hearing them the President was absorbed in thought for a while. Then he said the fishes of such a rare size must be a feast to everybody's eyes and instructed that the fish be made into fine specimens to be sent to schools.

Accordingly, all the seven flatfish were sent to universities and schools.

Title of DPRK Hero Awarded to a 14-year-old

ONE DAY IN MID-MAY 1971 PRESIDENT Kim Il Sung examined a document on giving commendations to schoolchildren on the occasion of the 25th founding anniversary of the Korean Children's Union (KCU). The document contained a story about 11 KCU members of a school who had put out a forest fire at the risk of their lives and about Ri Chang Do, a KCU sub-branch chairman of the school, who had sacrificed himself to save two little schoolgirls from the fire.

For a good while the President walked up and down in the room in deep thought. He then suggested that commendations should not be confined

to items mentioned in the document and that the title of DPRK Hero should be conferred on Ri Chang Do. His words struck the officials with surprise. Looking at them he said that it was a heroic deed to put out the fire by covering it with their bodies and plunge into the fire to rescue friends. "We hold their spirit dearer than the fact that they saved several hectares of forest," he added and suggested that the pupils and the parents of the deceased be brought to Pyongyang for consolation and that a ceremony of commendation for them be well organized.

This is how the title of DPRK Hero, the highest honour for a DPRK citizen, was conferred on the little boy who was too young to acquire citizenship.

Thanks to Benevolent Affection

ONE DAY IN MARCH 1962 PRESIDENT Kim Il Sung had a talk to some neighbourhood unit heads to acquaint himself with living conditions of Pyongyangites. He asked if there was a primary school in the vicinity of the Taedong Gate.

An official replied no.

"I have often seen little children crossing the road on their way to school," the President said, and added with a clouded face that it was dangerous as there was heavy traffic along the road.

Only then could the neighbourhood unit heads understand his question. They felt a lump in their throats at the President's concern for a trifling matter even the parents of the children had not thought of.

Now he instructed that a school for the children should be built on a best place so that they did not have to cross the road to go to school.

Later there appeared Taedongmun Primary School (Kim Song Ju Primary School at present) on the Taedong riverside. □

Kim Il Sung Is the Eternal Sun of Mankind (3)

*By Secretary General Ogami Kenichi of the
International Institute of the Juche Idea*

(Continued from the last issue)

The great leader who steers the world

“THE GREAT LEADER who steers the world” is the title of an article which I wrote with deep emotion and excitement after meeting President Kim Il Sung. The President was a great leader who steered the world in the 20th century along the road of independence. Kim Il Sung, author of the Juche idea, set forth original theory, strategy and tactics on national liberation in colonial countries on the basis of the requirement of the Juche idea that the revolution in one’s country should be carried out by the efforts of one’s own people to suit its specific conditions, and successfully accomplished the national liberation in Korea.

Someone said to the effect that the victory of the revolution for national liberation in Korea won under the leadership of President Kim Il Sung was a great victory which made a rupture in the imperialist colonial system and changed the world map. I consider the comment right. By founding the Juche idea and leading the great anti-Japanese revolutionary war to victory the President opened up a new era of national liberation, the era of independence in which the popular masses carve out their destiny independently and creatively. By building an original people-centred socialism in the liberated Korea he translated an age-old desire of mankind into reality and proved the truthfulness of socialism as a science.

Socialism in Korea, which was built by the popular masses as its master in keeping with their aspiration and demand, is invari-

bly exalting its dignity and might in any upheavals worldwide because of its scientific accuracy, truthfulness and invincible vitality. So people are loud in praises of the DPRK, calling it bulwark of socialism, model socialist country or genuine socialist country.

When the people aspiring for socialism were at a loss what to do due to the collapse of socialism in several countries, socialism in Korea became a spiritual mainstay which made them feel secure and optimistic regarding the future of socialism. Therefore, the President, father of socialist Korea, is an outstanding great leader who made socialism keep advancing forward along its track, and steered the world.

President Kim Il Sung also brought about the beginning of the downfall of imperialism. The Korean people’s victory in the Fatherland Liberation War shattered to smithereens the myth of US’s “mightiness.” This brought people to the realization of the truth that even a small country can beat any formidable enemy if they are under the wise leadership of their leader and have the great might of army-people unity and great spiritual strength.

The President put forward the principle of independence as a fundamental one for establishing equal relations of states and a fair world order, and led the world along the road of independence. The DPRK holds fast to the ideals of independence, peace and friendship in its foreign policy and strives to develop and expand good neighbourly and friendly relations with all countries in the world that respect its sovereignty.

Socialist Korea today strikes the world with wonder by distinguishing itself as a country strong in independence, which says and does what it wishes to withstand-



ing any threats, that is, a country Juche-oriented in ideology, independent in politics, self-sufficient in the economy and self-reliant in defence. Though it has undergone ceaseless external pressure, sanctions and threats of aggression since its liberation the country has always held fast to its independent stand in relations with other countries without taking a low posture at all.

The country is not isolated from the world, though. At the time when the counter wind of socialist collapse was sweeping across many countries it firmly maintained socialism while resisting a so-called superpower’s pressures of all descriptions, and at the same time established diplomatic relations at ambassadorial level with several European countries with which it had had no diplomatic relations before. This proves that the ideals of independence, peace and friendship put forward by President Kim Il Sung are the ones which enable each country to not only safeguard its sovereignty but also strengthen international solidarity. By thoroughly applying the

Socialism Progresses on the Strength of Ideology

NEARLY FIFTY YEARS have passed since Kim Jong Il began to work at the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea. In the period, he developed and enriched the great Juche idea and Songun idea comprehensively in keeping with the demands of the times and the developing revolution, and on the basis of this, vigorously inspired the Korean people to the socialist construction.

Kim Jong Il, who reviewed the 100-year history of the working-class ideologies at his early age with a high aim to carry forward and hold fast to President Kim Il Sung's revolutionary idea comprehensively, formulated a complete system of the President's revolutionary idea and wisely led the socialist construction with his revolutionary idea, the Juche idea, as its guideline.

On Some Immediate Tasks Facing the Party's Ideological Work for Modelling the Whole Society on Kimilsungism and On Having a Correct Understanding of the Originality of Kimilsungism made public in the 1970s and other works of Kim Jong Il illuminated the clear way to build a society where the independence of the popular masses is realized completely by transforming man, society and nature as required by the Juche idea.

After the Sixth Congress of the WPK held in 1980, Kim Jong Il made public in succession such works as *On Further Improving the Party's Ideological Work, On the Juche Idea* and *On Some*

Problems of Education in the Juche Idea. Through his energetic ideological and theoretical activities, the system and content of the Party's ideological work improved in every way and a vigorous struggle was under way to open up a new era of change and prosperity in all fields of the socialist construction.

The struggle to defend socialism done at the end of the 20th century was the fiercest one ever known in history. As socialism collapsed in some countries, the imperialists talked boisterously about the end of socialism.

At this juncture, Kim Jong Il made public such classic works as *Socialism Is a Science, On Some Problems of the Ideological Foundation of Socialism* and *The Historical Lesson in Building Socialism and the General Line of Our Party* to clarify the scientific accuracy and truthfulness of socialism and the inevitability of the triumph of socialism, thus delivering drastic counterblows to the anti-socialist manoeuvres of the imperialists.

During and after the period of the Arduous March and the forced march when the imperialists further intensified the anti-DPRK stifling manoeuvres, Kim Jong Il made public lots of other works such as *On Emulating the Revolutionary Soldier Spirit, On Preserving the Juche Character and National Character of the Revolution and Construction* and *The Songun-based Revolutionary Line Is a Great Revolutionary Line of Our Era and an Ever-Victorious Banner of Our Revolution*, im-

planting the invariable will to defend socialism and confidence in its final victory in the army and people.

By dint of the might of ideology and spiritual strength that no one else could imagine, the Korean army and people further consolidated their people-centric socialist system and wrought a historic miracle of winning consecutive victories in the nuclear confrontation with the US.

In the new century, too, the Korean people have steadily accelerated the building of a great, prosperous and powerful socialist nation by dint of the might of ideology as well as arms. It is a firm faith of the Korean army and people that if they retain the might of ideology alone, they can build a political, military and economic power. The struggle to translate the faith into reality led to the eruption of an industrial revolution in the new century, and the appearance of monumental structures such as the reclaimed Taegyedo tideland and the Nyongwon Power Station and modern factories, enterprises, stockbreeding and fruit farms and fish farms for the improvement of the people's living standards. And the country achieved cutting-edge science and technology, and surely rose to the status of a nation that can make and launch artificial earth satellites and a nuclear state.

The Korean people will keep advancing on the strength of ideology and finally succeed in the building of a prosperous socialist nation.

Ri Chol Ung

► ideals in its relations with other countries, the DPRK has prevented several wars from breaking out and preserved peace, thus proving the truth that only when countries respect and trust each other on the principles of equality

and mutual benefit can they settle disputes between them and find solutions to the problems and help accomplish the cause of global independence.

Indeed, President Kim Il Sung was a great leader who laid down

the guideline for turning the unequal world order into a fair one and verified it in practice, and elucidated the road of independence to be followed by mankind.

(To be continued)

By Introducing a New Cutting Method

ONE OF THE EXHIBITS highly appraised at a national scientific and technological festival last year was the method of using bundled props instead of individual props to make a pit, which was presented by the February 8 Jiktong Youth Coal Mine of the Suncheon Area Youth Coal Mining Complex. It is a product of the efforts made by the managers, technicians and miners together with scientists of a related institute.

Groping for a novel method to satisfy the increasing demand for coal, the managers and technicians of the mine got a new idea which was to increase the supporting power by binding several props into a bundle and removing individual props in the coal-cutting space. Assisted by scientists of the Coal Mining Engineering Research Institute of the Branch Academy of Coal Mining Science under the State Academy of Sciences, the technical staff of the mine conducted studies of a new coal mining method based on bound props. Failures repeated and the research was in a fix, when the managers went out to consult the miners. Based on a dozen consultations on the coal cutting faces and opinions of the miners the first bundled-props-making jig was manufactured. But the jig turned out to cost a lot in making and was too heavy to handle; it was difficult to recycle it and it could hardly deal with different sizes of timber. So it was difficult to introduce the kind of jigs widely.

The technicians and scientists redoubled their efforts. Through

tireless inquiry and investigation and a number of consultations on the floor, they finally developed a new material for the making of a jig which cost far less and was easy to deal with.

Now a campaign took place to introduce the new method in coal cutting based on the use of bundled props. While giving miners a scientific lesson on the use of bundled props through models of bundled props, the managers introduced—for a trial—the method into the pit whose condition of coal cutting was the worst in the mine. In a few years the new method's effectiveness proved superior to conservative ones. It was confirmed that the method makes it possible to maintain the pit in a safer condition and cut the amount of manpower needed in maintenance of the pit. It also ensures that the norm of timber consumption is much lower while the utility of props is much higher. Pak Yong Su, a collier of the mine, says, "In the past we resorted to old methods and experience in coal cutting

in our pit. As a result of the introduction of the new method we have produced coal in a safer and favourable condition and thus carried out our yearly plans successfully for years."

On the strength of the achievement the managers completed a number of other methods for coal production like the one of maintaining the pit in the coal bed without any repair on the basis of decreasing the burden of the tunnel.

The mine has almost finished the campaign to introduce the new method of using bundled props in all the coal-cutting faces. Meanwhile, a great effort is directed to the solution of scientific and technological problems, especially the one to improve the efficiency of explosion.

Thanks to the consciousness that the resorting to science and technology brings about increased production the amount of coal cutting is mounting up steadily at the mine.

Kim Chol Jun



Textile Machine Production Is Increasing

THE PYONGYANG TEXTILE Machine Factory with a 60-odd-year-long history has met the domestic demands for textile machines and facilities and their accessories by producing them with its own efforts and techniques.

Workers of the factory take pride in the fact that 52 years ago, Kim Jong Il, while attending Kim Il Sung University, involved himself in the field practice at this factory, aroused the workers of the factory to launch a movement for model machines in maintenance and operation, personally handling lathe No. 26, and kindled the flames of mass technical innovation campaign. The movement for model machines in maintenance and operation and the mass technical innovation campaign have become laudable traditions of the workers of the factory.

The workers have developed many techniques as required by the developing reality. A typical example came when the workers and technicians of the factory developed and produced flexible shaft looms to be sent to textile mills across the country.

However, they could not rest on their laurels. As the cycle of innovation of technique was shortening day by day, they had to develop higher performance flexible shaft looms. Through repeated technical consultative meetings, the officials and technicians selected a plan for technical innovation which could renovate the shape of looms and raise the level of their modernization, and started to make the relevant technical preparation. In close contact with scientists and tech-

nicians of the relevant field, they solved difficult technical problems and thus succeeded in developing a new, higher performance model than the previous one.

The new flexible shaft loom is higher in rotational frequency than the previous, and capable of automatically selecting the woof. The loom is new in structure and higher in precision and produces little noise.

The weavers of the Pyongyang Kim Jong Suk Textile Mill, who are using the new looms, say, "The previous flexible shaft looms were not so high in productivity and sometimes had to be repaired. Such a thing has not happened since we began to use the new looms. We are really elated with work."

Meanwhile, the workers of the machine factory are accelerating the work to put equipment on the basis of CNC technology. They newly introduced a feed device and an automatic tool-

replacing device to heighten the machine's kinematic precision, thus ensuring the processing precision by several μm . They designed the quantitative lubricating devices of various kinds of lathes, the device to fix tools of a milling machine and other machine parts, in such a way as to suit the machines' features and make processing convenient. This made it possible to follow up the processing of parts by the assembly of equipment, and thus lessen the period of putting the equipment on the basis of CNC technology, which led to high-speed and high-precision processing of parts, making it possible to increase the production of tools, moulds and jigs two times and improve their precision several times.

With a high-capacity loom assembly shop built, the factory now produces modern looms in large quantities.

Choe Chun Mi

The Pyongyang Kim Jong Suk Textile Mill is increasing cloth production using modern looms made by the Pyongyang Textile Machine Factory.



New Methanol Production Process Built

THE WORKERS, SCIENTISTS and technicians of the Hungnam Fertilizer Complex completed a fertilizer production process based on gasification of anthracite in only a few years, and then built a methanol production process in a short period of 18 months.

They started the last project in a very difficult condition. In early winter last year they had to transport the methanol converter to the sheet metal processing shop of a branch maintenance company. It was not an easy job for them to transport the heavy and large-sized equipment by their own efforts. Moreover, it was unusually cold. And the relevant railway station was several kilometres away from the place where the equipment was, and there were some obstacles on the way to the railway station. They, however, pooled their efforts and wisdom, and finally managed to

transport the equipment safely.

Members of the managing offices and technicians of the technological research institute and the catalyzer research institute at the complex, renovated the production buildings as required by the new era and built a new control office, and at the same time buckled down to the work to manufacture and install equipment and devices. The Ministry of Chemical Industry and other ministries and national organs helped them with the projects.

As a result there were provided in time equipment and materials necessary for the methanol production process and the enormous task of designing was carried out ahead of schedule.

The builders and technicians engaged in the project brought about innovations in manufacturing and installing a circulator, a synthesizing tower and the like, and solved the scientific and tech-

nical problems arising in assembling, installing and trying out varieties of equipment and devices.

As a result, after its successful test run, the process began to produce methanol. Standard methanol is now under continuous production at the complex.

The completion of the methanol production process based on advanced science and technology makes it possible to lower sharply the pressure of the synthesizing process and decrease the consumption of energy, greatly profiting the complex.

The establishment of the high-capacity methanol production process at the complex means the laying of a solid foundation for other factories and enterprises to increase production of goods necessary for the improvement of the people's living standards.

*Article by Song Ryo Myong
Photo by Ri Song Ik*



On a Visit to a Pleasant Place of Work

THE PRODUCTS OF THE Kumkhop General Sports-persons' Foodstuff Factory are highly popular with the sports-persons and other people.

One of these days I visited the factory. The first sight I had at the entrance of the factory was a stream of vans that were going into and out of the factory. Stepping into the yard past the en-

trance I found a lot of vehicles waiting in lines for their loads. Some people were having a talk in the yard out of their cars—they seemed to be waiting for their turn. One of them said, "The cake and bread from this factory are great favourites with sports-people. I feel pleased whenever I am carrying the foods thinking of the athletes who will be pleased

with the foods."

Another person said, "So am I. And the drinks and meat products are very good as well. My children ask for the foods from this factory alone. I like them, too."

Hearing them I entered a production building. First I looked into the technical preparation room where they were making an analysis of a kind of drink pro ▶



► duced. Having finished the analysis, the section chief, O Hyang Rim, said that the new product is compliant with the international standard and that the point of analysis of a product is to make it scientifically, precisely and promptly. Now I asked a worker of the section, named Kim Hye Gyong, to guide me around the shop floor.

She first led me to the drinks workshop. I found it divided into the drinks process and the Eskimo pie process. I was marveling at the bottles of lemonade coming out on a flow line, when the chief of the team in charge of the workshop approached me. She explained that the most important thing in making drinks is to refine water well and that they pass water through a multi-matter filter, an ion filter and a charcoal filter, and sterilize it before mixing it with materials. They were producing different kinds of drinks, such as apple soda, peach soda, cocoa soda and particularly special drinks for athletes like a carbonated drink which additionally provides a rational amount of water and electrolytes to athletes in exercise, a vitamin-nutrient drink which is effective in making up the loss of water, sugar and electrolytes in drill and match and relieving fatigues, *Tuchung* soda which is quite helpful in improving the activity of athletes, relieving fatigues and treating motor hypertension and poor immunity, *Tannosam* nutrient drink which is an additional material for improvement of physical ability of

athletes, and *Majotsan* nutrient drink which relieves mental and physical stress from excessive burden of exercise, improves immunity, stimulates physical exertion, builds up endurance and hastens the relieving of fatigues.

“We feel exhilarated whenever we hear our athletes obtain good results in competitions,” said the chief of the team, satisfied with the pile of products. “We are happy to think they must have had the drinks we produced before they won games. Such happy news makes us feel pleased all day long.”

Leaving the drinks processes, we went upstairs. A unique and tantalizing smell stimulated my senses. The first floor was occupied by the cake and bread workshop. The workers were so busy with their work that they could hardly notice our entry. I saw dozens of kinds of nice bread baked there, which Kim Hye Gyong said were in so great demand that vehicles had to stand by outside for their turn to receive the food. The most popular of them was the bread with tomato sauce in it, Kim said. They could hardly satisfy the demand for it, Kim added. Varieties of cake and bread were continuously flowing out of the ovens to be packaged in a moment. Kim said they had received letters of thanks from the sportspeople for the palatable foods.

The next leg of my visit was the rice cake workshop. One of the inherent Korean national foods, rice cake is to everybody’s liking and a must on holidays in Korea.

It has been usually prepared at home.

The workshop was making different kinds of rice cake in an industrial way. Of all the products, the glutinous rice cake filled with peanut tastes unique and can be stored for a good time without getting hard. (Home-made rice cake usually gets hard soon after it is made.) This is a scientific solution of the problem in rice cake making, said the head of the team in charge of the workshop.

I also looked round the workshops that produce sweets, biscuits, meat dishes and other foods, where I felt the workers were pleased with their jobs of making nourishing foods for sportspeople who are working hard to add glory to the nation, and popular foods for the general public.

Coming out of the production building I came across the general manageress of the factory, Jon Ok Sun. When I spoke highly of the variety and quality of the products, she said, “It’s no more than the beginning. As the enthusiasm for sports is rising the demand for our products is also rising. The honour of a sportsman is just that of his nation. In this sense we could hardly feel satisfied with our achievement at present. I’m just from a trip to an organ concerned for a discussion about development of a new product.”

We left the factory with a belief that they would surely produce better foods in greater quantity.

*Article by Rim Sang Jun
Photos by Ri Song Bom*

Economically Profitable “Metal Vitamin Compound”

RECENTLY, TEACHERS and researchers of Kim Chaek University of Technology have developed a technology of making an alloy from a compound of tiny amounts of local materials.

Chrome, nickel, manganese and molybdenum—raw materials for alloy steel—are regarded as indispensable in metal and machine-building industries, especially in production of materials for machine parts. It is because addition of such raw materials to castings makes it possible to markedly improve the mechanical intensity and other properties of the castings.

The materials had been mostly imported before the US, displeased with the economic development of the DPRK, began to further intensify the long-standing sanctions and blockade against the country, finding fault with its satellite launches for peaceful purposes and its nuclear tests. This made it impossible for the DPRK to import the materials, and the metal and machine industries thus had to undergo not a few difficulties. The US imperialists' ruthless and obstinate sanctions and blockades roused the indignation of the Korean scientists, who got further spirited. *The more sanctions you apply, the more cutting-edge technologies we will develop for the building of an economic and military power.* With this thought teachers and researchers of the metal engineering faculty of the aforesaid university began to think how to produce better alloy steel with raw materials available

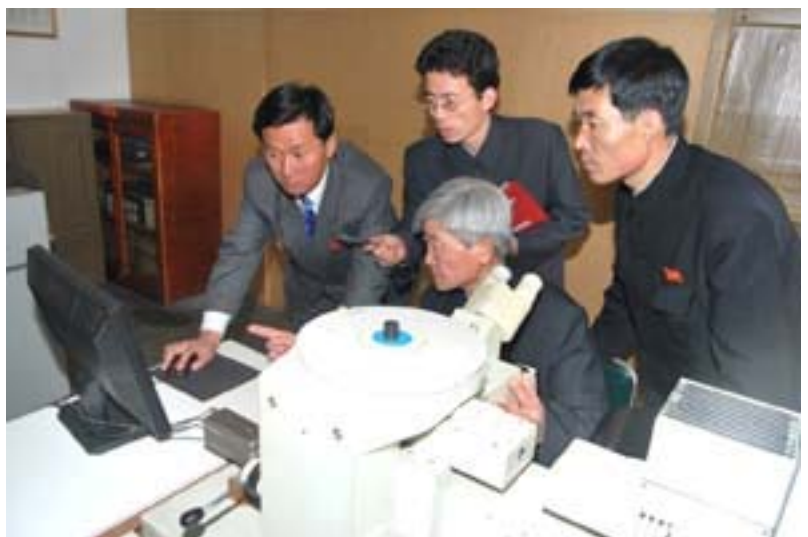
at home instead of the imports. Now they decided to develop a technology of making an alloy from domestic materials, an alloy whose mechanical properties are greater than those made from imports. Their successful basic researches related to individual elements contained in certain raw materials the country is rich in, convinced them that they could make a metal-improving agent with domestic materials to substitute conventional materials. After many experiments and researches they succeeded in producing a rare-earth-mixed ferroalloy with the use of rare-earth complex carbonate made through separation of tourmaline, titanium and monazite concentrates available in rural areas of the country. The development of the technique was a great innovation in the sectors of metal and machine industries.

The machine-building field was enthusiastic about the rare-

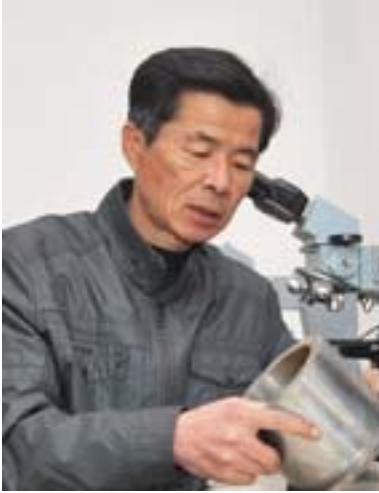
earth metal-improving agent, calling it “metal vitamin compound.” It has been proved that a certain amount of the agent added to the casting of a machine part can increase such mechanical properties as tensile strength, elongation and impact value 1.3 or 1.5 times more than those of the conventional alloys. What is noteworthy is that the technique makes it possible to raise the quality of castings while cutting the production costs by a third.

The introduction of the agent has brought great economic profits to the Ragwon Machine Complex and other machine factories. Pak Jong Gun, general manager of the Ragwon Machine Complex, says, “We’ve profited greatly from the introduction of the ‘metal vitamin compound.’ We are now able to produce large-sized machines as we want whatever sanctions or blockade the US applies.”

O Sol Hyang



Scientist's Conscience



“TO PIONEER AN untrodden path requires redoubled efforts, and pride in success is greater as much.” This is what O Sung Bong, a section chief of the Metallic Material Research Institute of the Branch Academy of Railway Engineering, said. He invented a new technique of producing a bearing material as a challenge to the previously world-recognized. In September last year his research success was registered as an international patent by WIPO.

It was over 20 years ago that O started the relevant research. While attending the graduate school of the Pyongyang University of Mechanical Engineering after finishing the university with the highest distinction, he got to know that in order to meet the demand for bearings it was nec-

essary to develop bearing material that could be made without making use of nonferrous metal at all. Until then it was like a formula worldwide to use bronze, brass and other copper alloy or babbitt metal whose main component is lead or tin as bearing material indispensable to electric motors, generators and other rotary machines. Still, O buckled down to the research without hesitation. Some people advised him to choose an easier research project as the first step in his career as a scientist. He, however, could not ignore the strained demand for bearing material against his conscience. His ambition to go ahead of others made him tirelessly engrossed in his research work. At last he completed and presented a paper newly explaining the composition of bearing material.

After finishing the course of the graduate school O was posted to the aforesaid research institute. Then he set about the undertaking to develop a new bearing material. Few members supported his assertion contrary to the conventional method. Still, his scientific faith did not shake, and he pushed ahead with the research step by step. The thorniest problem was to take a measure to prevent air pollution. At that time

most developed countries failed to prevent air pollution and furnace pollution caused by sulfurous acid gas and hydrogen sulfide gas emitted from the process of making the material. The method of producing the material O developed also resulted in the emission of contaminants. So he could not present his paper.

He made more strenuous efforts and finally succeeded in developing a new technique of producing bearing material without emitting contaminants. The new material was incomparably superior to copper alloy in tensile strength, elongation, friction coefficient and other mechanical properties, and had a 1.5 times longer life than the alloy. Its cost of production was one tenth of the copper alloy's.

For the following ten-odd years O went down to the Sunchon Cement Complex and other enterprises to verify the efficacy of the new bearing material by experimenting the material on different kinds of crushers, cranes, conveyers, pumps and other equipment.

His conscience as a scientist is that even a single thing should be invented to be on a cutting-edge level. He is now striving to attain a new goal.

Song Yong Sok

Developers of Anticancer Agent

ON OCTOBER 2, 2008 A research paper from the anticancer medicine laboratory of the Tumour Research Institute of the Academy of Medical Science of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea won the top prize at the international scientific symposium of the International Molecular Oncology Conference held in Novosibirsk, Russia.

It was 11 years ago that researchers of the laboratory started the relevant research.

One morning in April 2002 one room of the laboratory was in a tense atmosphere. Not long before researchers there had developed a new medicine aimed at preventing side effects possible in the course of using an anticancer medicine to treat cancers, but analysis of the new medicine revealed some elements that might produce side effects. Now they were depressed in spirits. Ra Yong Ho, head of the laboratory, then said, "We are medical scientists responsible for the people's health. Let's develop a new, better medicine."

In response to his appeal they started the research for the removal of the elements. They pooled their wisdom in the research work. Shortly afterwards, they realized that they were making a mistake in their work. It was their unanimous will to develop a medicine capable of containing the growth of cancers or removing them instead of the one solely for prevention of side effects. Of course they were reluctant to give up the already started research in which there was made some progress. They, however, boldly changed their subject. While studying the relevant literature, they came to know the existence of not a few agents

causing development, growth, infiltration and transfer of cancers, and that it is a global trend to develop anticancer medicines targeted at those individual agents. So they decided to develop an MMP (Matrix Metallic Proteinase) inhibitor, a new anticancer medicine, on the basis of the molecule targeting technique.

Concluding that if the activity of MMP was contained it would be possible to prevent infiltration, growth and transfer of cancer cells, the researchers set a goal of developing an MMP inhibitor of Korean style and conducted the relevant research painstakingly. They had long paid their attention to the effects of certain natural plants in fighting cancers. So they carried out repeated experiments on the plants and analysed the results before separating physiological stimulants good at inhibiting MMP from *Astragalus membranaceus* and others of its ilk and refining them.

Then they succeeded in establishing a technical process for producing an anti-cancer injection as the first-generation MMP inhibitor. The injection, as the first molecule targeting medicine for treatment of cancers developed in the country, is made from Koryo medicinal materials available there. It has little side effects, and can be used for a long time.

It is a multi-purpose molecule targeting medicine which can inhibit MMP that plays an important role

in making cancers grow, infiltrate and spread and at the same time check tumour vascularization, kill cancer cells and improve immunity. It is used for the treatment of cancers such as liver cancer, gastric cancer, breast cancer and lung cancer before and after operation on them, for that of atrophic gastritis, gastric ulcer, chronic hepatitis, liver cirrhosis, diabetes and hypotension and for the prevention of cancers and their relapses. It was because the anti-cancer injection produces no side effects in terms of all sorts of cancers and is good at inhibiting MMP that the paper on it was awarded the top prize at the aforesaid symposium.

Recently the laboratory has developed the second-generation MMP inhibitor in the form of pill on the basis of their already achieved successes. It is verified that the medicine is not only more efficacious than the previous one but also good for the treatment of nephritis and arthritis.

The researchers are now striving to develop another anti-cancer medicine.

Sim Chol Yong



Instructor Behind Winner

THE WEIGHTLIFTERS trained by Ri Song U, second master of the juvenile sports school affiliated to the Weightlifting Gymnasium in Chongchun Street, Pyongyang, are now distinguishing themselves in international and domestic competitions.

One of them is Kim Kwang Song who won the 77 kg men's youth category of the 2012 Asian youth and juvenile weightlifting championships. His win is attributable to the efforts of Ri Song U who had selected and taught him basic techniques of weightlifting.

It was when Song U went to a secondary school in Pyongyang to select pupils to be his trainees. One day, searching for such pupils in the school, he found a boy able to become a promising weightlifter. The very boy was Kim Kwang Song. With pleasure, he went to see the boy's teacher and parents. They, however, stubbornly rejected Ri's proposal. All of them thought otherwise about the boy's future.

Still, Ri did not give up and explained to them, "Of course, I understand you. Kwang Song, however, has a special make-up of a weightlifter and extraordinary sensibility. So I believe that he will be a famous weightlifter to

exalt the honour of the country in international competitions."

Ri's earnest appeal made the boy's parents and teacher take a new view of him.

This is how the boy was enrolled in the juvenile sports school. He began to learn basic techniques of weightlifting under the strict guidance of Song U. Sometimes Song U sweated away at helping him master even a single movement, and sometimes thought deeply until late at night to find out ways to guide his trainees in training to suit their individual physical conditions. Seeing Kwang Song improving fast in techniques, he was convinced once again that his expectation had been right. And he kept making exact demands on the boy.

After graduation from the sports school, Kwang Song was selected to become a member of the April 25 Sports Team. His good basic techniques enabled him to soon develop into a seeded weightlifter of the team.

Other weightlifters Song U selected and trained with great efforts are now active as seeds in different sports teams, showing



successes in many international competitions.

All of them say unanimously that he not only taught them techniques but also implanted patriotism in their minds.

Whenever seeing them feel tired during their repeated physical training, he would tell them that the barbell meant the dignity and honour of the country and that they should train hard with a strong will to lift up the earth as a whole.

Rim Jong Sim who won the 69 kg category of women's weightlifting in the 30th Olympic Games says that patriotism Ri had implanted in her mind enabled her to endure the most difficult of her training and achieve a good result in the Olympic Games.

Song U, 43, is expected to train further more excellent reserve weightlifters.

Song Ryo Myong

I Was Born Again

IN FEBRUARY LAST DOCTORS OF KIM MAN Yu Hospital in Pyongyang were pleasantly seeing off a man to the gate of the hospital. The man was Kim Chung Byol, 26, a resident of Hwalsok Workers' District in Riwon County, South Hamgyong Province.

It was in mid-November last year that Chung Byol was rushed to the hospital. At the time, with the congenitally deformed heart, the man would repeatedly lose consciousness, and his paralysis caused by heart failure was growing worse.

After diagnosing his condition, the hospital's cardiac surgeons looked anxious. His condition had already gone beyond possibility of operation because his heart had long remained abnormal and swollen enough to almost fill the inside of the thorax as a whole.

The relevant department held a consultation. Though having seen lots of cardiac patients, they were strange to such a case. Even medical therapy was impossible because the swelling and malfunction of the heart had caused complications related to the lungs, the liver, the kidney and so on. Members of the department were anxiously thinking what to do, when its head Jo Kwang Ho said in a firm voice, "Let's operate on him." As they had decided to do, they proposed many bold ideas for success in the operation.

And there was formed an intensive care team with several doctors and nurses. Jo became the head of the team, and Mun Yong Nam, a doctor of the department, took charge of the patient. Above all, on the basis of simulation of emergencies that might happen when restoring the patient's heart after stopping it, they strove to invent most rational ways. In the course of this there were over 30 consultations of the department to analyse comprehensively and deal with symptoms of the patient observed every moment.

The doctors and nurses, at odd moments, sat at the patient's bedside and inspired him with confidence in successful operation while talking with him.

At last the day came for the operation on the patient. Before taking him into an operating room, the head of the department who has a son at the age of the patient's held firm his hand and said, "You haven't told me what your hope is. I want you to tell it to me without fail after the end of the operation."

Strained time passed second by second. After cutting open the patient's chest the doctors found his condition worse than they had anticipated while



Kim Chung Byol (centre).

diagnosing him. There was a great gap between the left ventricle and the right ventricle, and the valve failed to function properly, so the heart seemed to sway instead of beating.

Cutting such a heart might cause grave consequences, the doctors thought. They, however, went on without hesitation. *We promised him*—with this thought they spent two hours striving to make the heart beat again after correcting all its disorders. The patient finally came round to the great delight of the doctors.

Not content with the success, the doctors began to strive to restore the patient's health to normal. They explored the scientific way of resurrecting all his other internal organs, and a pharmacist was fixed exclusively for his treatment. Other members of the hospital also paid deep attention to the management of his health. Its cooks prepared each meal for the patient to suit his palate, members of the medicinal nourishment and recuperation departments took care of his nutrition, and members of other departments showed their sincerity for his recuperation.

Thanks to their sincere efforts he recovered well enough to leave the hospital over 80 days after being hospitalized.

Before leaving amidst the doctors' warm send-off, he quietly said to Jo, "As people say, I was born again. Lots of people say they will plan their life otherwise if they were born again. But I am now determined to work hard for the good of the generous people and for the sake of my country."

Ri Kum Chol

For Fine Environment

NOT LONG AGO A KOREA TODAY reporter had a talk with Kim Sun Il, chief secretary of the Central Committee of the Nature Conservation Union of Korea on the occasion of the World Environment Day. Excerpts:

With the beginning of the 21st century mankind has become able to lead a more civilized life by dint of advanced science and technology. But with the developing reality the ecological environment has been polluted and destroyed rapidly and natural resources have been depleted. So efforts are being made to protect environment on a worldwide scale. In your country, too, primary efforts are being put in preventing environmental pollution, I think.

Traditional energy resources are running out, and natural environments are deteriorating, so many countries in the world set the problem of environment as a serious one and are unstintingly investing in solving the problem. This is because the problem is an important one related to the future of the earth.

Our country is pushing ahead with the relevant work in a far-sighted and planned way. In order to lessen pollution through the separation and treatment of wastes it adopted laws on installing up-to-date purifiers at all factories and enterprises and building chemical factories and enterprises in places far away from residential areas. Advanced techniques are introduced in the building of even a single factory or enterprise for the purpose of reducing the amount of pollutants from the process of production; proper raw materials are chosen and imperfect industrial equipment are renovated or mended. Meanwhile, with a view to protecting people and environment from damage possible in the course of consuming goods, the use of unwelcome materials is limited, packaging and designing of packing materials are done rationally and waste-recycling systems are established.

Exemplary is the Pothonggang Organic Compound Fertilizer Factory built in the Phyongchon area, Pyongyang. The factory is making use of sludge from the Pothong River as major raw material. Previously the mud badly affected the environment of the river basin in no small measure. The factory is now producing quality organic compound fertilizer by using a mixture of the sewage deposit from the sewage treatment plant in the area, the mud, coal ash and poultry excrements.

I think river and land improvement and securement of forest resources also are important undertakings for protection of environment.

A campaign to improve the Pothong River started in May 1946, the year after liberation of Korea, and finished in a short period of 55 days, turning the riverside, which had been exposed to flooding with even a little rainfall, into a public recreation ground. On the basis of the experience magnificent projects to harness nature were launched across the country. Bare mountains were planted with trees, rivers improved and large-scale land realignment projects done.

Our country draws up a prospective plan for forestation as required by the developing reality, and sees to it that Changsong larch, *Pinus strobus L.* and other quickly-growing trees of high economic value are planted on the occasion of the Tree Planting Day (March 2) and in the period of forest and underground resources preservation (from November to March).

Annual production of saplings is on the increase at the Central Nursery affiliated to the Ministry of Land and Environment Protection and other newly built provincial, city and county nurseries where jobs are done on the principle of industrialization, intensification and scientification.

Last year when we significantly celebrated the centenary of the birth of President Kim Il Sung and the 70th birthday of Chairman Kim Jong Il, our people turned out in the endeavour to better the capital city of Pyongyang and other cities, towns and villages across the country. District horticultural and floricultural stations in Pyongyang consolidated sapling and flower production bases, produced and supplied lots of saplings and seedlings of flowering plants, and at the same time landscaped streets of the city in a formative and artistic way. And a turf production base of one hectare was laid down at a nursery in each district or county in the city, and select species of grass from the bases were planted in appropriate places in Kwangbok, Mansudae, Cholima and other streets of the city.

The developers of the Mansudae Area planted select species of trees including pine-nut trees, maples, *Picea Koraiensis* and firs towards Mansu Hill, and tall trees, shrubs and flowering plants towards Changjon Street in a harmonious way to add beauty to the scenery of the street.

The country is actively developing environment-friendly renewable energy resources such as hydraulic energy, solar energy and bioenergy, thus helping create and save the national energy resources, I think.

In recent years alone our country has built large-scale hydropower stations such as Huichon and Wonsan Youth power stations and quite a few minor power plants. Many similar projects are now under way. The Solar Products Development Centre is producing high performance solar water heaters, making the people's life more convenient and helping economize on energy in the city. The rural areas have widely introduced the production system of cyclic processes of agriculture and stockbreeding, thus producing a large quantity of organic fertilizer and putting gasification of methane into practice.

National efforts are being made to tap wind energy and establish a heating system based on terrestrial heat, and the state is encouraging the use of means of public transportation—such as tram cars, tube trains and trolley buses—that need no fuel with a view to lessening gas emissions from vehicles. Our country will keep making efforts to protect environment. □

The Red Tie

YOU CAN SEE CHILDREN wearing red ties everywhere in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea. They are members of the Korean Children's Union (KCU). The red tie is associated with the hope that they will grow up to be future successors to the Korean revolution who will carry forward the tradition of the Children's Corps during the anti-Japanese struggle. One day in March last I met and talked to some of the KCU members at the Pyongyang Ri Kwang Su Secondary School (today's Pyongyang Ri Kwang Su Senior Secondary School).

The Record of Attainments

A big-letter notice appeared on the bulletin board of the school at the beginning of the new school year. It was about Ri Kuk Hwa who got full marks in all the subject tests for the last term.

According to her teachers she is quite inquisitive and able to apply what she learns into reality. Her class teacher Pak I Sun has a memorable story to tell which happened in a biology lesson.

It was a time of making an anatomy of a frog. After the lesson Kuk Hwa came to see her class teacher, taking with her the frog she had worked on. She said she had made a close study of how the amphibian can see in water. She had discovered that it has a film on the eyelid which helps it see in water. Also, she said that it has an ear drum just behind the eye on the side of the head so that it could perceive the vibration of

both air and water.

Last year when she participated in the celebrations of the 66th anniversary of the KCU as a delegate of her school along with other model KCU members of the school, she had the unusual honour of presenting a bouquet to the supreme national leader, Kim Jong Un, on behalf of all the KCU members around the country.

"I'll keep the happy memory of my meeting with our respected leader Kim Jong Un forever," she says. "The leader said in his congratulatory speech that the future of a thriving Korea will be represented first in the academic performance of the members of the Children's Union. Bearing his words in mind I'll work harder to be a pillar of the country."

She is called a girl of many questions by her teachers. Deputy chairperson of the school's organization of the Children's Union, she was awarded Kim Jong Il Children Honour Prize last February.

A Letter

Some time ago the school received a letter which reads in part, "On holidays he comes to sing songs for me; he calls on me whenever he has good foods and books in hand. He has now become a member of my family, and we have got a 'grandson'. I would like to have this good boy highly appreciated for his kind-heartedness for war veterans."

The letter was read out to all

the teachers and students of the school. A hearty applause burst out for Ri Kum Hyok, a second-year student.

Kum Hyok has almost a monopoly of praises from teachers for his good manners. He wears neatly, makes greetings to senior people gracefully and is careful about his friends and junior children. Once he saw an old woman carrying a baggage in a street and carried it to her home for her.

"I think public morals are far from something we are forced to abide by but something we have to keep with a pure heart. Our teachers usually say that a student who keeps sound and lofty public morals will be able to grow up as an admirable person."

Kum Hyok was awarded a certificate of KCU commendation.

A Lightning

A forward stood out at the 2012 national football tournament of the secondary school football classes, attracting the attention of football experts and fans. He was seen as a promising footballer for his excellent dribbling, quick passing of the ball and strong shooting. He was Ra Jong Gi, a second-year student of the school who was usually called a "lightning."

Originally he was short and weak. But as he participated in after-school sports activities arranged by the KCU organization, he was attached to football and was stuck to the playground until the sun set. In the days he grew tall and sturdy, which was a



► pleasure to his parents.

His class teacher Kim Chol Man says that football is accelerating not only the boy's body but also his spiritual development.

Enjoying football strong-willed and developed good teamwork, which has a

good effect on his study and life.

He says, "Our respected leader Kim Il Sung said that powerful physique is a wealth of the country. So I usually play football and basketball together with my classmates after school is over. That may be why I am strong and good at academic studies."

Article by Rim Ok

Photos by Ri Song Ik



Cradle of Little Talents



SOME TIME AGO WE visited Pyongyang Kinmaul Kindergarten No. 1 on the occasion of the International Children's Day.

When we arrived at the kindergarten, which reminded us of a fairy-tale land, my eyes were caught first by a board bearing the letters *We Are the Happiest in the World*. As we were looking at the slogan, Kwon Chae Ok, head of the kindergarten, said, "There are no other children happier in the world than ours. Under a benevolent system whereby the children are provided with everything even though it may cost a great sum of money, they are growing in happiness while learning to their heart's content."

She then led us to her room first. In the room we were struck with wonder at what we saw. Three walls of the room were hung with many certificates of commendation and the national leader Kim Jong Un's framed autograph which reads, "You write quite well, Su Yon. That's perfect! June 13, 2012 Kim Jong Un." As we were looking at the autograph Kwon said that the kindergarten had lots of pride, especially, children good at writing and composition. Then she took us to the classroom of higher class No. 4, where they were learning the mother tongue.

Choe Myong Suk, teacher in charge of the class Su Yon—the child mentioned in the national leader's autograph—belongs to, said that the day when she was to give her first lesson the then head of the kindergarten told her, "Kindergarten days are those in which children get into habits, so it is very important to inculcate good habits in them. In view of this it is of great significance to make children accustom themselves to writing a good hand from the beginning of their learning of the mother tongue."

So Choe started to teach her charges to write with pen during extracurricular education of them. In the course of this, the teacher realized the children remarkably improved in concentration, powers of observation and cogitation. Filled with confidence she was further engrossed in the education. As a result, the children became able to not only write a good hand but also compose children's songs and poems. Some of them, including Su Yon, won the special prize and the first place at national talented kindergarten children's contests. Beside the certificates were also hung compositions such as *A House Waiting Us*, *We Buds of Flowers Sing*, *A Longing*, *Red Star* and *We Wish to See Dear Kim Jong Un* which were presented to Chairman Kim Jong Il and

Kim Jong Un. While reading the compositions we fully understood how devotedly the teachers strove to educate and edify the children properly.

As we left the room a familiar sound of music came from the outdoor playground. We went out and saw children of higher classes performing children's rhythmic gymnastics to the tune of *We Are Also Generals*, one of the theme songs of the animation *Boy General*. Their lively and energetic movements refreshed our minds. At the very time a soya milk van arrived at the kindergarten. Even when the country had been undergoing hardships such vans had invariably carried the soya milk to children rain or shine. Now the children of the kindergarten shouted for joy. It was a very impressive scene, which made us more keenly realize that all children of the country are growing up happily as its kings and queens thanks to Kim Jong Un's warm care of them. We now heard vigorous singing of children coming from the windows of the kindergarten.

We left the kindergarten envisioning the future of the country in the bright looks of the children who were cultivating their talents to their heart's content.

Article by Sim Yong Jin
Photos by Kim Jong Su

Our Mum

“THERE COMES OUR MUM,” A VOICE called out, and children who had been engrossed in playing rushed vyingly to a woman entering the nursery past the gate. The woman in her mid-50s hugged the children in her arms with a full smile on her face.

“Have you had snacks, everybody?” she asked. “You’ve soiled your clothes, Kyong Il.”

The children competed to get closer to her arms.

“Yong A has pushed me away,” a girl reported.

“Kum Hyok is selfish. He wouldn’t share the toys with us.”

Children babbled on and on, and the woman looked immensely happy. She is Kim Kyong Suk, chief of the Juil Nursery School in Sariwon City, North Hwanghae Province. She has worked at the nursery as chief nurse for 20 years. Having spent her life looking after children, she keeps an unusual memory.

As a girl she worked for general education. Once she was honoured to attend a national conference of educational workers which was presided over by President Kim Il Sung. At the time she keenly felt how ardently the President loved children and how much importance he was paying to the rearing of children. She decided to spend her life supporting the

President’s idea of taking care of the future.

After marrying a military officer she followed her husband to Sariwon and took a job at the Juil Nursery School. The day she became a nurse, the chief of the nursery asked her, “Are you fond of children?”

“Sure,” Kyong Suk replied readily.

The chief said, “I hope you’ll be true mother of the children.”

The word settled incisively in her mind.

Later Kyong Suk put her heart and soul into the effort to be true mother of the children who needed much care.

Her endeavour got stronger when she became the head nurse. First she got down to the task of refashioning the nursery. There were newly arranged rooms of children by age group, a clean doctor’s room, an indoor playground with different kinds of amusement facilities, an outdoor wading pool, a rich fish-growing pond, a vineyard and a strawberry field. An animals’ house was also built with deer, roe deer, pheasants and other animals for ornament.

In the mid-1990s the country had a hard time economically. Everything was in short supply, but the state care for the children continued. Yet Kyong Suk decided they should not depend on the state supply alone. So she mobilized her people to build facilities to grow loaches and mushroom, which are helpful to the growth of the children. Also they erected a stock-breeding house and a solar greenhouse.

Their efforts paid profusely. The children’s nourishment improved day by day.

The head nurse made sure that the nurses took loving care of the children. She always spoke to them, “You can’t look after the children like their true mother without affection for and devotion to them.” She never lets it pass when a nurse rebukes a child even if it is naughty. When a nurse takes good care of children she makes it public and encourages other nurses to learn from her. The nursery’s experience was distributed around the country and national demonstration lessons took place at the nursery several times.

Kyong Suk was honoured to attend the fourth national meeting of mothers in November last year. The day she returned from the meeting she received heart-felt congratulations from her colleagues, when she said, “I’ll work harder to be a nurse worthy of the Party’s expectation.”

Kim Kyong Suk (*centre*).



An Nam Hui

Lifeline

By Jo Ryong Chol

THE ROOM WAS SILENT again. Nobody would believe there had been heated discussions a while before.

Cha Hyong Sok, general manager, was fingering a document in his hand. He was now so familiar with every word in it that he could recite the whole content without missing a word. It contained data about the prices of import additives used at the Myongsong Paper Mill for paper production which had gone up three times on the international markets. A threefold increase in the cost of the additives meant something like the plough going before the oxen.

The general manager thought this was a serious problem. So, he had called a consultation meeting of the management staff a week before. The meeting was attended by the chief engineer, vice general managers, and all department chiefs of the factory. They argued hotly far into the night, but no one produced any good idea.

"We'll resume this meeting a week later," Cha declared, concluding the consultation. "I tell you, those who are not ready to advance an adequate idea may

stay away from the meeting."

The meeting was resumed today. "Now let us continue with our discussion," Cha said, opening the meeting. He raised his eyes from the document and looked out over the participants. A man rose to his feet. It was the vice general manager for operational affairs. "The total stock of the additives in our factory will last no more than a quarter of a year," he said. "I'm afraid we have to suspend operations at any moment. So I think it is necessary to import additives for the time being even if we suffer a loss." As soon as he finished, he put off his thick glasses and mopped the corners of his eyes with his handkerchief.

Hyong Sok lowered his eyes to the document again without any comment, for the vice general manager had expressed the same opinion a week before. He raised his head and asked, "Now, Vice General Manager, what do you mean by 'for the time being'?"

All the eyes in the room turned to the vice general manager with an expectation for an ingenious idea.

"Well, I mean it is until we can produce additives for our-

selves," was the answer.

"When do you think is that?" Cha pursued.

The vice general manager sank down on his seat without a word in reply. Cha was disappointed at his deputy's argument which he thought was too hazy.

"Well," somebody said rising up from a back seat. Cha knew it was the chief of the technical affairs section without looking, for it was the habit of the section chief to mumble "Well" before speaking.

"I think," the section chief said, "we had better consider the additive research project pursued by Engineer Jin Chol and take measures to help him to complete it in an..." Abruptly, he was cut short by the vice general manager in the front row who burst out, "Look here. What do you mean by suggesting a discussion on Jin Chol's research project when the fate of the factory is at stake? When do you think it will be completed? Don't you know how many years have passed since he started on his researches into additives? Your suggestion is just like looking for a match for an unborn child."

▶ A ripple of light laughing spread. "My, My!" the female chief accountant squeaked, causing a burst of roaring laughter in the room. The technical section chief sank down on his seat silently, clicking his tongue.

"Vice General Manager," Cha called, casting a glance at him, who stopped fumbling his pocket for cigarettes in irritation.

"How many times have you been to the laboratory where Jin Chol is conducting his researches?" asked Cha.

"Eh?" the vice general manager mumbled with his eyes wide open in embarrassment. "Well, I've been too busy to..." he dropped his head.

Cha raised his eyes to look around. His searching eyes rested on a man sitting in a corner next to the door. It was Jong Jin Chol, the additive researcher mentioned by the technical section chief. He was not eligible for attending the meeting of the managing officers, but he was there as the general manager had told him to come.

In fact, the question Cha had asked the vice general manager had been one addressed to himself as well. *I have thought I have been working hard for the sake of the factory, but how many times have I made a spurt to help its employees including Jin Chol?*

Jin Chol lowered his head in bewilderment as people's eyes were turned to him. By nature he was taciturn, remaining dumb all day long unless he was talked to. That might be quite natural for him as he always stays cooped up in the laboratory

with no time to spare for a chat with people. Cha looked fixedly at him who kept his mouth closed like an oyster. *If only he rose and asked us for support to his research project, how grand it would be! But, after all, he isn't to blame. It's all my fault as general manager. I wonder when was it that Engineer Jin Chol came to discuss with me about his research work on additives? Surely, it was when newspapers and broadcasting were spreading the news of our factory's fulfillment of the yearly plan ahead of schedule. So, it was the autumn two years ago.*

"Comrade General Manager," a voice called him just when he was getting into the car. He turned round and saw Jin Chol who made a bow and stood look-



ing at him nervously.

"What's the matter?" asked Cha, glancing at his watch. He was in a hurry to be in time for a meeting called at the Management Bureau, so Jin Chol was an unwelcome caller at the moment. Cha took what Jin Chol held out silently. It was an experiment diary. The results of experiments on additives needed for making paper from domestic materials were elaborately recorded in it in the order of days and months. Cha had already received reports about them from the technical section chief. They were still in the stage of buds, he thought. He closed the diary and glanced at the man. *Is this why he has detained me when I'm so pressed for time?*

(To be continued)

Korean Central History Museum (1)

THE KOREAN CENTRAL History Museum in Pyongyang was opened on December 1, 1945. It has on display historical relics of primitive society to the modern ages. Some time ago we visited the museum.

Creators of Taedonggang Culture

Our guide Kim Yong Hui showed us into a room dedicated to the introduction of primitive customs first. In the room we stopped before a chart of human evolution, which indicated that the evolution of man as apeman which started about 1.5 million years ago went through the stages of primitive man, Paleolithic man and Neolithic man while they lived a protracted working life.

Pointing at a panoramic photograph on a wall, the guide said, "That is a view of the Komunmoru site discovered at the then Hurguri, Sangwon County, Pyongy-

ang, in 1966. It is a cave in which primitive people lived."

In the cave were found fossil animal bones its occupiers had left after gnawing the meat of them, and rude stone implements they had made and used.

As we were looking round fossil animal bones such as the skull of a monkey and the lower jawbone of *Didermocerus sumatrensis Fischer*, and rude stone implements put on display, the guide said, "The Komunmoru remains date back to one million years ago. They are very valuable remains proving that people began to live in our land in the early stage of human evolution."

Looking round the fossils of "Ryokpho man" and "Tokchon man" which date from the stage of Paleolithic man and those of "Sungnisan man" and "Mandal



Soenoe of Ancient Korea.

man" which date from the stage of Neolithic man on display in another room, we came to be confident that people began to live in many areas of Korea with Pyongyang as their centre in the early stage of human evolution on the earth.

Now the guide showed us round remains from the Neolithic era. What caught our eyes first was a distribution chart of remains from the era. And observing earthenware and such implements as stone hoe, antler hoe and stone plough ancient Koreans had made and used in the seventh millennium B.C., we could know that their work turned from previous gathering of plants to farming such as ploughing, sowing and gathering. Also on display there were large fir leaf patterned earthenware jars and a model of cone-shaped dugout which show that at the time their farm products had increased enough to fill such large jars and the people had led a settled family life, not a wandering group life. Needles, needle cases, and fish hooks and spears made of animal bone, remains from between the early 6th millennium B.C. and the first half of the 4th millennium B.C. enabled us to guess how ancient Koreans had developed in consciousness and culture. Seeing five kinds of

A dolmen.





A carriage of Ancient Korea.

a vast territory as a slave-owning state of strong centralistic power.

On the way to another room our eyes were caught by an amazing relic. It was a carriage from the period of Ancient Korea, the one not inferior to those from the middle ages or modern ages, and gorgeous and imposing for its decoration with exquisite metalwork. The guide said that it had been restored to the original state on the basis of carriage parts from dugout tombs from the 3rd century B.C. discovered in the Pyongyang area. She went on to say that *soenoe* (the first mechanical bow), lute-shaped daggers, narrow brass spears, mirrors with a pattern of fine lines, bronze axes and other relics peculiar to Ancient Korea had been unearthed in the areas that had been occupied by Puyo, Kuryo and Jinglyk, successors to Ancient Korea. A horseshoe, a narrow iron dagger and a gilt bronze buckle discovered in Jongbaek-dong, Rangnang District, Pyongyang, testified to the high metalwork of Korean ancestors.

We made for another room with the thought that the Korean nation is a talented one that had developed its own brilliant culture in a powerful ancient state established around the Taedong River basin 5 000 years before.

Rim Ok
(To be continued)

- ▶ charred cereals from the Namgyong site discovered in Honam-ri, Samsok District, we agreed that Korean ancestors had developed a society and created original culture by dint of their creative wisdom and hard work.

The next leg of our visit was a room in which there was arranged a model of the chamber of the Mausoleum of King Tangun, father of the Korean nation, who put an end to the primitive era and founded Ancient Korea 5 000 years ago, opening up an era of state. In the chamber a portrait of Tangun was hung on the opposite wall, and models of his and his wife's remains were enshrined side by side beneath the wall.

Then the guide led us to an exhibition room, where we saw a panoramic photograph of the king's mausoleum and other photos showing parts of the reconstructed mausoleum.

The mausoleum was unearthed at the initiative of President Kim Il Sung and under the leadership of Chairman Kim Jong Il. It was not simply unearthing of historic relics, but a historical event that ascertained the father of the Korean nation.

Now we looked round relics mirroring the history of Ancient Korea's development. Among the relics were a model of Odok-type Dolmen No. 10 in Yonhan County, North Hwanghae Province, moon-shaped or star-shaped axes that are said to have been used by the then rulers as baton, lute-shaped daggers which enable you to guess the military strength of Ancient Korea, and the sites of a dolmen containing slaves buried alive with the dead slave-owner in Ryongsan-ri, Songchon County and the Kangsang tomb. These show that Ancient Korea covered

Lute-shaped daggers.



Story Associated with Chilsong Gate

ONCE UPON A TIME there were Tolbom, a boy, and Sinae, a girl, living in different villages in Pyongyang in the period of the Koguryo dynasty.

In their childhood Tolbom and Sinae used to climb up Moran Hill to cut firewood and pick wild vegetables together. In the course of this they became attached to each other.

When they arrived at the age of marriage, the boy confessed his love to the girl. At a loss to know what to do, Sinae told him in a quiet tone to have a matchmaker sent to her home if he really meant it.

After hearing her son's words, Tolbom's mother was very pleased at the thought that Sinae who was well known as a beautiful and well-mannered girl would be her daughter-in-law, and soon sent a matchmaker to Sinae's house. But the matchmaker, back to the boy's home, said in despair, "The girl's father flatly rejected, saying that he did not want to marry his daughter to a guy who has never gone through the Chilsong Gate."

At the time, almost all men, who were going to train martial arts in a deep mountain or to defend the frontier of the country for several years, left by the Chilsong Gate. In Koguryo they belittled those who failed to do so, calling them guy who never went through the Chilsong Gate.

Tolbom had failed to do it because he could not leave his widowed mother alone though he had wanted to train martial arts in his childhood. Now the mother felt sorrow at the thought that her son failed to be grouped together with other men, so she made up her mind to send him to learn martial arts.

The day when he was leaving by the Chilsong Gate Tolbom

promised Sinae that he would become a good warrior by learning martial arts for three years, and the woman firmly promised to wait for him.

When he was preparing for going back home as a warrior excellent at martial arts after training hard for three years, he heard that foreign enemies had invaded the frontier.

Tolbom went to the frontier, leading other soldiers and fought bravely against the invaders. The nearly-one-year-long war ended in the defenders' victory, and the country appointed Tolbom as general in charge of a frontier defence force in acknowledgement of his military exploits, and assigned him the task of building a defensive position along the frontier line while staying there for a year.

Eager as he was to go to see Sinae, he buckled down to his task. One day he was told by a soldier from Pyongyang that Sinae had been married not long before after waiting for a man who had gone to learn martial arts.

To him it was heart-breaking news. He, however, kept being engrossed in building the wall, without being preoccupied with any other thoughts. After the completion of the defensive position in a year, the country promoted him to a higher grade and called him back to Pyongyang.

Five years after he had left by the Chilsong Gate, Tolbom, in a dignified military uniform of a high-ranking general, entered Pyongyang by the very gate under the escort of many soldiers. The roads were lined by lots of people who were out to see the newly-appointed general.

In front of Sinae's home on the way to the government office, he asked a woman, "I was told that

there lived a young woman called Sinae around here. Where is she now?" The woman answered that the young woman had been married two years before.

The general did not ask any more and went straight to the government office to take over the charge of the office. Then he went to his house where he thought his widowed mother was living alone. The mother was weeding the kitchen garden without knowing that her son came back.

Seeing his grey-haired mother, the general felt guilty of failing to take care of her for as many as five years, who had troubled to look after him. He got off his horse and knelt down calling his mother.

The old woman, who unexpectedly saw her son appearing as a general, embraced him with tears in her eyes. Then, drying her tears with her coat string, she shouted towards the inside of the house, "Hey, come out. Tolbom's come back. Please!"

In perplexity the man turned his head to the house. To his surprise he saw his love he had yearned for running out of the house.

Now Tolbom was told that learning that after mastering martial arts he went to fight with the foreign invaders without coming to call at his house, Sinae's father admired him, declined other men's proposal of marriage to his daughter and sent her to Tolbom's house to take care of the widowed woman for her son who was fighting in the battlefield.

Tolbom and Sinae finally married amid congratulations of all their neighbours and lived a happy life together with the widowed woman for a long time. □

Note of Visit to the Central Zoo (1)

ONE OF THESE DAYS we went round the Central Zoo at the foot of the beautiful Mt. Taesong. Occupying a hundred and scores of hectares in area, the zoo consists of dozens of houses of animals for ornament including an aquarium, an elephant house, a wild beast house and a songbird house, and animals' playgrounds, breeding ponds of waterfowls and fishes. As they are fantastically laid out, the visitors can enjoy the emotional sentiment of nature to the full. Stepping into the zoo covered with thick groves of trees, we first caught sight of the aquarium that stands opposite the gate to the zoo.

"I feel as if I looked round all the famous rivers and seas"

The outer walls of the building treated with silver white tiles gave us a strong hint that it is a water-related building. Crowds of people were walking into the house, while a lot of people were posing against the admirably decorated front wall for a photo. The faces of those having photos taken seemed excited to have an opportunity to see the world of animals. There we met with Kim Ho Gil, head keeper of the aquarium, who was smiling at the sight of happy people. He explained, "Our aquarium is one of the most favourite places in the zoo. Quite a few people come here again before they leave after their trip around the zoo."

Hearing him we walked inside. In an instant we found ourselves in soft and strange under-sea environment. As if deep under the water dim and bright illuminations were harmoniously fixed. There were different shapes of show tanks and pots in which bubbles of air were rising without interruption and many kinds of fishes were playing leisurely. The most interesting in the central hall were fresh-water sturgeons in a semi-circular tank in front. A boy stretched out his arms to measure the length of a swimming sturgeon. The keeper, Kwon Sun Ok, explained that that kind of sturgeon is distributed in the Amur River and Lake Baikal, that it is the largest of the fresh-water sturgeons, and that its eggs and flesh and cartilage are high-grade dishes. Secondary school children were putting down her words in their notebook.

Even grown-ups were so attracted to the sturgeons swimming freely and wagging the tail in a dignified manner in the big tank that they stood there a good while.

"It's grandpa turtle!" a young boy's cry rang, making us hasten to the left of the hall. There we saw a number of loggerheads—whose kind is said to inhabit tropical and temperate seas—displaying their dignity swimming dynamically in a large-sized tank. A student of Pyongyang University of Fine Arts was making a sketch of the magnificent

seaside landscape, a turtle under a rock and turtles which are attempting desperately to climb a rock. He happily said that he could make a vivid picture there which was almost impossible even on the far-off seaside.

Next we went over to the place where there were sea cats and seals which are popular animals in the aquarium. Connected to the outdoor playing pool, a tank was designed to provide scenes of underwater activities of marine animals. There were seen some baby seals in the tank. Kim Ryon Hui, a marine animal trainer and a keeper of sea cats and seals, said, "A baby seal was born last February. The number of animals is growing in the aquarium whose environment is similar to the natural one. When people are happy to see the animals, we feel proud of our jobs."

Involved in a stream of visitors, we looked round the tanks containing marvellous fishes from the Amazon and Mekong, *Synodontis batensoda* from the Nile, eels from the Pacific and its coastal waters, *Figu obscurus* from the West Sea of Korea, and *Oplegnathus fasciatus* from the East Sea of Korea and the Pacific.

Now we came back to the central hall and found an old man—he seemed to have just gone round the aquarium—saying to visitors, "I feel as if I've looked round all the famous rivers and seas in my old age. I've been like a child looking round the tanks and pools



Fresh-water sturgeons.

▶ together with my grandchildren. I haven't got any idea of the passage of time. Perhaps my high blood pressure has fallen to a

Oplegnathus fasciatus.



normal value, for I have no headache now. I feel I've got ten years younger."

Leaving behind the people who were enjoying themselves as much as the old man, we headed for another animal house on our tour.

*Article by Chae Kwang Myong
Photos by Kim Jong Su*

Trionyx sinensis.



Mt. Paektu



Lake Chon on Mt. Paektu.

Lake Samji against an autumn-tinted background.



MT. PAEKTU—2 750 metres above sea level—is the highest mountain in Korea. It rises in Samjiyon County, Ryang-gang Province, in the northern inland area of Korea, bordering China.

The Koreans have long regarded the mountain as symbol of the nation's dignity and spirit, calling it ancestral mountain.

It was confirmed by scientists that the Great Paektu Mountains constituting the main mountain range of Korea rise from Mt. Paektu and spread to Kujae Peak located on the southern coast of Korea and that all other major mountains of Korea proceed from the Great Paektu Mountains.

General Kim Il Sung liber- ▶

▶ ated Korea from the Japanese imperialists' military occupation by organizing and waging a protracted armed struggle against the Japanese aggressors with the Mt. Paektu area as its strategic base. Chairman Kim Jong Il was born and spent his infancy in the Paektusan Secret Camp. The mountain area is associated with the anti-Japanese war heroine Kim Jong Suk's revolutionary activities as well.

In the mountain area there are still preserved sites of the Mt. Paektu Area Secret Base that was the central leadership base and strategic stronghold for the overall Korean revolution with the anti-Japanese armed struggle as its core between the latter half of the 1930s and the first half of the 1940s. The sites include those of the Paektusan Secret Camp, the Sajabong Secret Camp and the Komsan Secret Camp. And there are the Barrage No. 5 revolutionary battle site and the site of Chongbong Bivouac south of the mountain and the site of Mupho Bivouac and the Taehongdan revolutionary battle site in the east.

The mountain came into being through many eruptions of volcanoes and their evolution, so its natural environment is very unique. The ridge of the mountain consists of more than 2 000 m-high peaks which stand precipitous at an angle of over 60 degrees around Lake Chon, a crater lake, like a wall. Over twenty of the sommas are more than 2 500 metres above sea level. In the middle of the northeast ridgeline of the sommas there rises Janggun (general) Peak—2 750 metres in height—the highest of the peaks. The difference in height among the major peaks is 150 metres or so.

Piru Peak standing east of the crater as if to protect Janggun Peak is typical of the natural beauty of the crater, and relatively clear-cut in range. The

rocky ridgeline with Piru Peak as the main peak is one kilometre long, and the about 600 m-long section from Janggun Peak to Piru Peak is straight shaped like the blade of a sword. So it is difficult to climb up the section, and it is impossible to walk up and down along it.

Piru Peak features Kom (bear) Rock resembling a bear sitting upright on its forefeet as if to guard the lake, Choktae (candlestick) Rock, Saja (lion) Rock, Mujigae (rainbow) Rock and others of different forms, all long weathered into the forms. The peak is thus called peak of ten thousand forms in Mt. Paektu.

Jong Il Peak is a famous peak in the mountain area. Rising 1 798 metres above sea level on the ridge of the mountain it features a log cabin just at its foot, where Chairman Kim Jong Il was born. The peak area is covered with evergreen trees such as *Abies nephrolepis*, silver firs and *Picea koraiensis*. The vicinity of the three granite blocks incised with the red letters *Jong Il Peak* at the summit is covered with azaleas, moose maples, rhododendrons, rowans, *Betula ermanii* *Cham* and the like, which are in bloom in spring and tinged with red in autumn.

Sunrise on Mt. Paektu is a traditional scenic beauty of Korea. At the crack of dawn the sun begins to rise casting a dark red glow over the mountain ranges endlessly spreading over a sea of forests and the peaks and precipices of Mt. Paektu that hung with a thin mist, and soon the sky and the earth become bright with red. The light of the rising sun reaches Janggun Peak and Hyangdo Peak before other peaks around them bathe in the sun. Then the crystal-clear water of Lake Chon begins to ripple and sparkle.

The Mt. Paektu area is the coldest in Korea, and subject to

extreme climatic changes. Sometimes a storm suddenly arises over the lake that was quiet without a single puff of wind, bringing a rain cloud along to the spot, and at other times dark clouds covering the earth disappear in a moment giving way to a clear, blue sky. And occasionally rain turns into heavy hail in a flash. A waterspout often rises over the lake. When a large-scale waterspout occurs a column of water rises from the centre of the lake to the height of scores or hundreds of metres, and moves a distance of 200 or 300 metres. And a large whirlpool arises on the surface round the bottom of the column, and thick fog hangs around the column.

The water of the lake is 5 times clearer than that of an ordinary river, and its taste is unique as it contains various kinds of mineral solution similar to those of mineral water. The Mt. Paektu area also has Paektu, Paegam, Jangbaek and other spas, Paektusan Sasum, Paektumilyong, Yonji and other falls, and springs.

The area is inhabited by tigers, brown bears, elks, sables and other animals; swifts, great tits, crossbeaks and other birds, and insects. In Lake Chon there are Lake Chon chars, rainbow trouts, *Rana temporaria* and freshwater turtles. The area also is a habitat of 30 kinds of timber-used plants, including Korea larches, *Abies nephrolepis* and silver firs peculiar to an alpine region, 110 kinds of medicinal plants, over 40 kinds of wild vegetables and more than ten kinds of aromatic plants.

Preserved as a nature reserve and a special protected area of revolutionary battle sites, Mt. Paektu is an important tourist resort.

It was registered as an international biosphere reserve in 1989.

O Sol Hyang

The Gun Is Fully Charged



NOW SIXTY-THREE YEARS have passed since the US imperialists unleashed the Korean war on June 25, 1950. Still, I clearly remember what happened before and after the war.

Korea was liberated in August 1945, but soon it was divided into north and south along the 38th parallel by the US imperialists. My home village in Pyoksong County, South Hwanghae Province, also was divided into two.

With a wild dream of occupying the whole Korea, the US imperialists, who had occupied the southern half of Korea, incited the vicious reactionary organizations such as “Association of Young Men from the Northwest” and the “Horim unit” in south Korea and the puppet army there to perpetrate consecutive armed provocations against the north all along the 38th parallel.

The enemy attacked villages by surprise, killed the villagers, set fire to their houses and robbed them of their properties. Our village was no exception. The villagers suffered great damage by the

enemies’ barbarous atrocities. One night in 1948 the rascals raided it, plundered the villagers of their properties and cruelly murdered young and married women. On my way to school the next day, I was indescribably shocked at a gruesome scene of disemboweled women whose guts were hung on a tree. And at the thought that my mother and elder sister might be killed like them some day, I burnt with the hatred against the enemies.

That day, I unexpectedly lost my best friend. It was when we were learning a new song to the teacher’s organ in the classroom just after finishing a sporting lesson. Suddenly, a light flashed and an explosion was heard. And the classroom shook. We ran out and rushed to the foot of a mountain. Again and again we underwent shelling by the enemies who had mounted the guns on the southern backside of Mt. Kkachi and fired at our village frequently.

After the end of the bombing, I

braced myself and looked around for my classmates. The village where there had appeared shell holes for an instant was flooded with blood. A woman was running abstractedly with her maimed baby in her arms, and some children and women were searching the village clouded with powder smoke for their mothers and children. After a while, I could find my best friend dead wide-eyed. Holding his red tie stained with blood, I shouted at the top of my voice, “I will revenge your death.” At the time, I wished I had had a gun.

Two years later, the Korean war broke out—on June 25, 1950, the US imperialists and the south Korean puppets started an all-out attack against the DPRK all along the 38th parallel without declaring war.

At that time, as a Children’s Union chairman of the Pyoksong Secondary School, I became the leader of the children’s guards of the Jinamsan guerrilla unit and, together with my schoolmates,

The GIs are pleased with their brutal massacre of Koreans.





Koreans suffer from germ infection caused by the US.



Children killed by American poison gas.

► fought against the enemy. Though without guns, we fought with rifles in our hands to defend our native village.

After the war, I did not give up my rifle. I joined the army to become an artilleryman although I could choose other branches of the service. I wanted to beat into a jelly all the enemies who had indiscriminately fired on my beloved village, my friends and other villagers. But I have not realized my desire yet. The gun I was allotted is still aimed at the sworn enemies.

As long as eternal peace is not ensured on this land and imperialism keeps remaining on the earth, I will live with an



The central part of Pyongyang devastated in the US imperialists' bombing.

artilleryman's sense all my life, and the aforesaid gun will always be fully charged with powder to fire at the enemies.

Kim Hyong Bong, guide of the Victorious Fatherland Liberation War Museum

Korean People's Army soldiers fight valiantly against the US imperialist aggressors.



Who Wanted the Korean War?

EVERY WAR IS AN organized armed struggle of a certain social group or force to meet its fundamental requirement, so it clearly reflects the requirement and interests of a social group or a state. In view of this, for whom was the Korean war in the 1950s needed? The answer to the question can be found through the US's foreign policy.

To dominate the world is an ambition the American ancestors began to harbour when founding their country, the United States of America, and to realize the ambition became the general line and ultimate goal of the aggressive foreign policy of the US imperialists after World War II. The US imperialists, who had fattened militarily and economically through the war, emerged as leader of imperialism after the war, and overtly began to try to realize their ambition of world



Dulles studies a relief map to acquaint himself with war preparations.

supremacy. In his "union message" to the Congress in December 1945 President Truman declared: "We must realize that the victory we gained has imposed on the American people a heavy responsibility of leading the world in future, whether they want it or not," and in his speech on their

external economic policy delivered at a university in March 1947 he said to the effect that the whole world should accept the American-style system.

The US imperialists attached greatest importance to Asia, especially the Far East, in their attempt to realize their strategy of world hegemony, and Korea became their first target because of the military strategic position of the Korean peninsula and the then political situations there. Report No. 4849 of the Information & Investigation Bureau of the US State Department dated January 28, 1949 said that "in view of the strategic position held by Korea in Northeast Asia, establishment of control over Korea and her people ... will considerably strengthen the position of our country [the United States]." Indian newspaper *Crossroads* dated December 22, 1950 reported that "The US plan" for Korean unifica-

Dulles instigates war provocation in the puppet south Korean "National Assembly."



► tion “was to occupy the territory of Korea north of the 38th parallel with Syngman Rhee troops’ direct participation and the assistance of the US ground, naval and air forces.”

The US considered Korea’s geographical position a point of strategic importance favourable to dealing blows on any area of Northeast Asia, and regarded it as a bridgehead to invade China and the Far Eastern region of the former Soviet Union and an advance base of the Far East. MacArthur raved that “Korea suits a plan for a bridge leading to the continent,” and “By occupying all of Korea we could cut into pieces the one and only supply line connecting Siberia and the south ..., control the whole area between Vladivostok and Singapore.”

Flurried at the Korean people’s success in their struggle to build a new society under the wise leadership of President Kim Il Sung in the northern half of the country, the US defined Korea as “an ideological battleground upon which our entire success in Asia may depend,” and a place “where a test will be made of whether democracy (American-style democracy) can be adapted to meet the challenge of a defeated feudalism or whether communism will become stronger.” This shows that the US imperialists regarded the establishment of control over entire Korea as a key problem decisive to realizing their ambition of world domination. The US’s illegal occupation of the southern half of Korea in September 1945 was mainly aimed at turning it into a base for war supplies to dominate the entire Korea as well as its surplus goods mar-

ket and a supply base of resources of strategic importance.

Towards August 1945 the situation in Northeast Asia with Korea as its centre turned unfavourable to the US which had intended to occupy Korea but favourable to the Korean people who were struggling to achieve national liberation and sovereign independence. On August 9, 1945 the Korean People’s Revolutionary Army launched a general offensive against the Japanese imperialists for liberating Korea. Meanwhile, the Soviet troops, which declared war against Japan on August 9, 1945 after the Yalta Conference and the Potsdam Conference, landed on the northern part of the east coast of Korea and advanced southward in cooperation with KPRA units. Finding themselves standing on the brink of ruin, the Japanese militarists informed the Allies that they would accept the Potsdam Declaration and surrender.

At the time the US was not in a position to cope with the unexpected situation. The Soviet army that had advanced down to the 37th parallel might advance straight toward the southern tip of Korea faster than the US troops staying in Okinawa 600 miles away from the peninsula could go to land on it. So, Truman was bent on finding a “practical solution” to check the communist army’s advance at a definite point and to occupy one half of the peninsula, and concocted a plot to draw a line of demarcation between the Soviet Union and the US. According to Truman’s instructions the State-War-Navy Coordinating Committee drew up

a plan for division of Korea whereby the Japanese troops stationed south of the 38th parallel would be disarmed by the US troops and those north of the parallel by the Soviet troops. Referring to this, Truman said to the effect that fixing the 38th parallel as the dividing line in Korea ... was proposed by the US.

The US imperialists, who had occupied the southern half of Korea like this, then began to prepare for a war to occupy the whole Korea with south Korea as their stepping stone. Hershel D. Meyer, the author of *The Modern History of the United States*, wrote, “Virtually, the war made by Wall Street against the Korean people began in September 1945, almost at the time when its generals set foot in south Korea.” Meanwhile, the US aggressors and the Syngman Rhee puppet clique of south Korea tried to find a solution to their financial panic and serious political and economic crises in unleashing a new war.

Historically, the imperialists used to find a way out of their economic crises in conducting wars. The 1900–1903 and 1907 economic crises led to the First World War and the Great Depression to the Second World War. In the latter half of the 1940s America was plunged into an economic crisis: The US military monopolies that had fattened on sale of munitions of all kinds in World War II began to shrink due to the lack of demand for military equipment in a peaceful atmosphere. The US could enjoy only transient boom after depression by dint of its excessive profits from the war and the “Marshall Plan.” At the end of 1948 America ►

► began to undergo the throes of economic crisis. The capitalist markets of the world further decreased owing to the emergence of socialist markets, the loss of the vast market in colonies and the COCOM (Coordinating Committee for Export to Communist Area) fabricated by the US. As a result, the capital and merchandise export of the US reduced sharply. The crisis that had started in light industry at the end of 1948 gradually spread to heavy industry. About 4 600 companies went bankrupt in the first half of 1949 alone. This resulted in the appearance of surplus labour population and the rapid decrease in the monopolies' profits. The depression aggravated the political crisis. Washington then began to try to find a way out of their worsening political and economic crises in starting an-

other world war.

The US put forward the notorious "Truman Doctrine" in March 1947, and overtly put in force the Cold War policy in an attempt to realize its ambition of world supremacy. The US intended to use the Cold War to always strain the international situation and revitalize its war industry. This, however, didn't help the United States to tide over the catastrophic political and economic crises. Washington calculated that nothing else than a

war could be an injection of "camphor" to keep themselves alive. The US monopolies expected the Truman administration to stand ready with another big needle to inject new life in the economy, and openly urged the American ruling circles to begin a new war. The urge compelled the Truman administration which represented the interests of the US billionaires to carry on arms expansion and militarization of the economy. This led to their start of the Korean war in 1950 ►

US imperialist aggression forces rush to the Korean front.



► when their economic crisis reached an extreme. Some foreign publications said that the Korean war became a solution to the United States's economic crisis and that the United States needed a contributor to overcoming the crisis and found it unavoidable to start a war.

When America was going to find a way out of the crisis in starting the Korean war and stepping up the relevant preparations in the final stage, the economic catastrophe in south Korea reached an extreme and the political crisis of the Syngman Rhee puppet regime became uncontrollably aggravated. First of all, the economy of south Korea was totally ruined due to the US imperialists' colonial enslavement policy. A large number of factories there were closed or in poor operation owing to the shortage of raw and other materials and funds. Overissue of banknotes induced hyper-inflation, and prices skyrocketed. In the political aspect the people of south Korea and even right-wing leaders refused to support the regime, and the anti-Syngman Rhee forces were rapidly increasing in the south Korean "National Assembly." Opposing to Syngman Rhee's fascist dictatorship, they put forth an "amendment of the Constitution" in March 1950, demanding the curtailment of Presidential authority and the institution of a responsible Cabinet.

And as the "group for south-north negotiation" played a key role in the anti-Syngman Rhee forces, and even the Hanguk Democratic Party-influenced right-wing forces began to oppose

Syngman Rhee, the pro-US Syngman Rhee regime started to topple. The puppet clique's political crisis reached an extreme with their defeat in the May 30 "election." On the eve of the "election" the traitor Syngman Rhee, by exercising the "National Security Law," harshly oppressed his rivals and the opposed while arresting and imprisoning them, but the election ended in the traitor's defeat.

An American book wrote as follows: All the candidates supported by Syngman Rhee were defeated in the election of assemblymen held on May 30, 1950, and those who stood for reunifying Korea through south-north dialogue held a majority of the seats in the new assembly. This was a good reason for Pyongyang not to want to start a war against the south hastily but a serious warning to Syngman Rhee that he was going to his doom.

Driven to the wall, Syngman Rhee hung his last hope of survival on war and absurdly schemed to ignite a war immediately so as to quench the south Korean people's mounting enthusiasm for national reunification, put down the opponents' resistance and thus realize his wild dream of "northward march for unification." On the fact the US book *An Untold History of Modern Korea* drew the following conclusion: ... It would be most reasonable to figure that war was the last resort of crazy Syngman Rhee. As the last game the Syngman Rhee "government" drove the country into a civil war, unable to keep itself steady in face of economic destruction, domestic unrest, harassment by the hostile

National Assembly since his defeat in May, and then the people's leanings towards the peace statement of the north.

Thus Syngman Rhee hurriedly sent M. Chang as a "special envoy" to Washington who reported the ruinous state of the government to the US master and asked for "urgent US aid" to overcome that crisis. Having received the urgent message from Syngman Rhee, the US decided to keep supporting Syngman Rhee. Because if the US failed to prevent the collapse of the puppet Syngman Rhee "government" by all means, there would appear a "middle-of-the-way party" or "middle-of-the-road president" independent of the US's policy. The prevailing situation forced the Washington masters to take urgent measures.

Truman sent Dulles, a notorious warmonger who was an advisor to the US Secretary of State, as his Presidential envoy to south Korea, and Secretary of Defense Johnson and Chairman of the US Joint Chiefs of Staff Bradley to Tokyo to make final examination of all preparations for starting a war and fix the date for the start of the war together with MacArthur. Based on this the US imperialists and the traitor Syngman Rhee unleashed an aggressive war against the DPRK on June 25, 1950.

All the aforesaid facts prove that the US imperialists started the Korean war with a view to realizing its ambition of world supremacy, finding a way out of their economic crisis and "saving" the Syngman Rhee puppet clique from collapse.

Jang Kyong Il

Dangerous Acts of Space Militarization

AT THE END OF LAST YEAR THE US Air Force launched its third small unmanned spacecraft. The USAF asserted that the spacecraft was aimed at research and investigation. But a foreign dispatch said that it carries the equipment necessary for fulfilling a secret mission. CNN reported that there were opinions that the spacecraft discharges such missions as destruction of other countries' satellites and urgent collection of reconnaissance data. The US, which overtly launches reconnaissance satellites, keeps the mission of the spacecraft in absolute secrecy. So the mission of the spacecraft can be regarded as an aggressive military task such as destruction of other countries' satellites, like CNN reported. This indicates that the US warmongers are trying to put into effect their scheme to use outer space for aggressive war. The US has long intended to start a space war by militarizing outer space. In the 1980s when the Cold War was at its height, Star Wars was mapped out by US hawks. It was an aggressive war scenario to gain supremacy over the former Soviet Union by establishing a three-dimensional striking system with laser beam and other directional energy weapons installed on spacecrafts, ground force and missiles carried by high-flying fighters. However, the plan, which brought the Cold War to the worst, came to naught bringing about the waste of US\$ 9 billion or so.

The US is now attempting to repeat the absurd plan. On the first year of the new century the US Department of Defense made public its new program for militarization of outer space aimed at strengthening the USAF's activity there. The then high-ranking officer of the USAF declared to the effect that the Air Force was ready to create the possibility of deploying weapons in outer space if the government decided to do so. At a seminar on the development of outer space weapons held in America in 2006 the vice commander of the Space Command of the

USAF said that if a certain country launched a reconnaissance satellite into orbit the US would neutralize it, because it didn't want the whereabouts of its ground force to be known to others. All these facts prove that Washington has been putting further spurs to the manoeuvres for militarization of outer space. It is obvious that the USAF launches such small unmanned spacecrafts as part of the same manoeuvres. The US's acceleration of the space militarization process is an act completely contrary to the requirement of the international law related to the use of outer space for peaceful purposes.

The Declaration of Legal Principles Governing the Activities of States in the Exploration and Use of Outer Space and the Treaty on the Principles of the Activity of States in the Exploration and Use of Outer Space, Including Moon and Other Celestial Bodies (Outer Space Treaty) adopted in the 1960s stipulate that the development and use of outer space should be done in such a way as to promote the interests of humanity and study and use outer space for peaceful purposes alone. The US's launch of small unmanned spacecrafts for military purposes is an illegal act against the international laws on outer space on using it for the promotion of mankind's well-being, and a harsh defiance to aspiration of the world people.

Almost all other countries in the world today are strongly urging space nations to thoroughly observe international outer space laws and to take measures to demilitarize outer space. It is very brazenfaced and outrageous of the US to find fault with the DPRK's satellite launch for peaceful purposes while launching space weapons as they please in disregard of the international laws.

The US is asked to abandon its criminal space war program and stop finding fault with others.

Ri Kyong Su

Monuments to Loyalty

THE MONUMENTS situated in Sonjuk-dong, Kaesong City, Korea, date back to the period of the feudal Joseon dynasty (1392–1910). Kings of the feudal dynasty had them erected in honour of Jong Mong Ju (1337–1392), who had been murdered on Sonjuk Bridge for his loyalty to the Koryo dynasty (918–1392).

The two monuments stand in a pavilion facing east. The one on the left was built in 1740 during King Yongjo's rule (1725–1776), and the one on the right in 1872 during King Kojong's rule (1864–1907).

Made of the same design they each consist of a stone base, a turtle-shaped pedestal, a main body and a crown. The main body alone is of darkish marble, and all the other parts are of grey granite. The stone base is a slab. The pedestal as a whole is a carved turtle weighing more than ten tons.

It gives a vivid description of a turtle standing squarely on its feet and craning forward. The long neck, protruding eyes, open mouth, four big sharp fore-teeth bending inward, well-balanced back teeth, lines engraved on the sides of the belly, four feet and claws, thick and big balanced back and thick lines engraved on the neck—all these represent well the turtle's strong disposition and characteristic posture. In particular, patterns engraved on the turtle shell and the lotus-shaped cushion stone on which the main body stands testify to the high art

of sculpture.

The smooth surface of the main body bears intagliated characters.

The crown of the monument is in the shape of gable roof, and four dragons are engraved on the underside of the eaves, adding to the monumentality of the structure.

The epitaph of each monument includes words praising Jong Mong Ju's loyalty, including

a poem written by the relevant king and the motive for building the monument.

The pavilion housing the monuments is an 11.41 m-long and 5.25 m-wide gabled house with colourful designs painted on brackets and pillars.

The monuments are heritage structures demonstrating the Korean people's artistic talent and cultural level.

Kim Un Jong





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