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Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un guides another weapon test fire

Kim Jong Un, chairman of the Workers' Party of Korea, chairman of the State Affairs Commission of the DPRK and supreme commander of the armed forces of the DPRK, oversaw another test fire of the latest weapon system on the morning of August 16.

He was accompanied by Ri Pyong Chol, Kim Jong Sik, Jang Chang Ha, Jon Il Ho, Jong Sung Il and other leading officials of the Party Central Committee and the defence science sector.

Kim Jong Un saw the Juche shells blast off again with a dazzling flash, their resounding sound rocking heaven and earth.

The defence scientists showed perfect results in this test fire again, strengthening confidence in the weapon system.

The Supreme Leader said that the reliable defence scientists have developed in the shortest time major means of military strike the Party planned recently and maintained the mysterious and amazing success rates. It enables everyone to estimate the development level of the country's defence science

and technology and fully proves that the material and technical foundations of its defence industry are also being consolidated at a high level, he noted with great satisfaction.

Our Party has strictly maintained self-reliance and Juche in defence building and recently set forth a strategic policy on the direction of the development of the Juche-oriented defence building based on our own science, technology and strength to meet the needs of the developing situation, he said. He stressed the need to keep directing nationwide efforts, deep concern

and unsparing support to the sacred defence building so as to firmly guarantee the sovereignty and security of the country and happy future of the people.

In order to impregably defend the Party and revolution, the country and people and brilliantly achieve the Party's great cause of building a powerful socialist country strong defence capabilities should be maintained reliably, he said. It is our Party's goal of defence building, he noted, to build and strengthen invincible military capabilities no one would dare provoke. He said that goals for each stage to this end

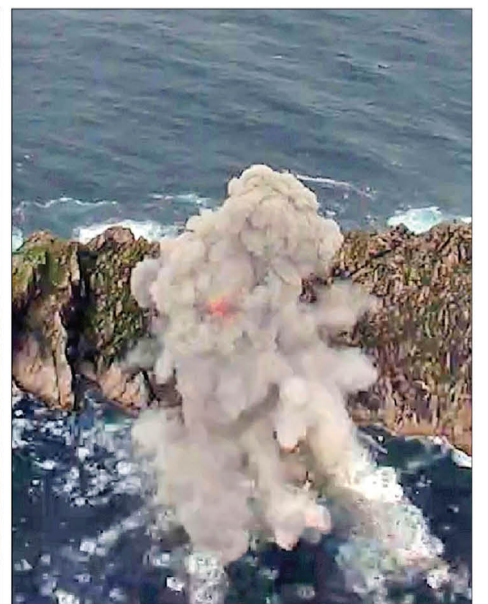
have already been set as tasks of policy, calling on the defence science research and munitions industry sectors to make all-out efforts to uphold the Party's line on defence building as faithfully and perfectly as they do now under the slogan "Leap higher and faster".

Everyone should keep in mind that it is the Party's core plan for defence building and firm will to make any force dare not play with fire against us and to build such a powerful force that anyone, whoever

they are, cannot but hopelessly suffer the strikes of our absolute Juche weapons even if there comes a situation where physical strength crashes, he said.

He called on the defence science research and munitions industry sectors to cherish unswerving loyalty to the Party and the revolution and work hard to build up the defence capabilities in every way in the same spirit as they displayed when they built nuclear war deterrent with painstaking efforts in the past three years.

Compiled from KCNA



LEAD

Defending socialism by dint of Songun politics

August 25 is the Day of Songun in the DPRK.

The day commemorates Chairman Kim Jong Il's visit to Seoul Ryu Kyong Su Guards 105th Tank Division of the Korean People's Army in 1960, 59 years back, leaving the first footprint of his Songun-based revolutionary leadership.

Since then the Chairman had put his heart and soul into building up the country's military strength for over half a century to defend the destiny of the country and people and victoriously lead the building of a powerful socialist country.

The 1990s take an important position in his Songun leadership.

In the decade the DPRK was compelled to undergo trying ordeals by the successive collapse of socialism in the East European countries, the subsequent attempts of hostile forces to isolate and stifle the country and natural disasters that hit it for several consecutive years.

At the critical juncture when the country was at the crossroads of life and death, Kim Jong Il held higher the banner of Songun and firmly defended socialism.

Once, he recalled the time, saying he felt heartrending pain as he had to go to army posts instead of factories and farms while seeing factories which stopped running and the people leading a hard living. But he collected himself, thinking that he had to defend socialism at any cost, that improving the people's standard of living is not a problem if socialism is defended and that the people would understand why he made continuous frontline inspection tour, though he knew how serious the economic difficulties were, when the country emerged victorious, he said.

His heart was filled with warm love for the country and people, and many stories are told about him including those about his plain padded clothes and nap and rice ball.

Thanks to his untiring efforts the country's military capability was further built up and the destiny of the socialist country and its people were firmly defended.

His determination to develop the national economy and improve the people's living standards under the powerful military guarantee was

translated into practice.

To this end he visited units in different economic sectors one after another despite the biting cold of 30 °C below zero in the northern highlands and scorching midsummer heat.

As a result, miraculous achievements were made in succession: Juche iron, fibre and fertilizer were mass-produced, the country's farmland was realigned as befits that of socialist Korea and salt works were built on the east coast where it had been regarded as impossible to build salt fields since ancient times.

The Korean people remember with great emotion the fact that the Chairman unsparingly invested a large sum of money in the CNC application in the hard times that fell on the country, visualizing the rosy future of the prosperous country. His foresight and bold decision fired the country with an enthusiasm for breaking through the cutting edge.

His devotion to and undying exploits for the destiny of the country and the rosy future of the nation will shine forever in the history of the nation.

Ri Myong Rim

VISIT

DPRK military delegation visits China

A military delegation of the DPRK led by Army General Kim Su Gil, director of the General Political Bureau of the Korean People's Army, visited China.

A ceremony took place in the plaza in front of the August 1 Building in Beijing on August 16 to welcome the delegation.

It was attended by the DPRK military delegation, staff members of the DPRK embassy in Beijing, Miao Hua, director of the political affairs department of the Central Military Commission of China, and other military officials concerned.

Talks were held between

Kim Su Gil and Miao Hua in the afternoon at the August 1 Building in Beijing.

Kim expressed the will to develop the friendly and cooperative relationship between the armies of the two countries onto a higher level in conformity with the noble intentions of the top leaders of the two countries.

Referring to the fact that President Xi Jinping and the Central Military Commission of China attach great importance to the DPRK military delegation's visit to China, Miao Hua said that Sino-DPRK friendship, which has further been cemented in the face of trials and ordeals over the past

70 years since the establishment of diplomatic ties, is developing on a new level thanks to a series of meetings between the top leaders of the two countries.

China will work hard to put into reality the common understanding shared by the leaders of the two countries and bolster up bilateral relations, together with the Korean comrades, he said.

That evening, a reception was given in honour of the visiting DPRK military officials at the Diaoyutai State Guesthouse.

The delegation met and had a talk with Chang Youxia, vice-chairman of the Central Military Commission of China, in a friendly atmosphere at the August 1 Building in Beijing on August 17.

Chang Youxia warmly welcomed the delegation on behalf of the Central Military Commission and said that the delegation's current visit is of



The DPRK military delegation meets with Chang Youxia, vice-chairman of the Central Military Commission of China.

ANNIVERSARY

Spectacular scenes unfolded across country

In the period when severe difficulties and trials stood in the way of Koreans due to the imperialists' persistent moves to isolate and stifle the DPRK, Songun politics helped reliably safeguard the country's security and peace and create miracles to be etched in history in economic construction and the improvement of the peoples' livelihood.

At that time, when everything was in short supply, single-minded unity that the leader believes in the people and the people follow the leader was further enhanced and the people's zeal and strength were radically uplifted to make a leap forward surmounting difficulties by dint of self-reliance.

Thanks to their painstaking efforts, the Samsu Power Station, Thaechon Youth Power Station Unit 4 and many other power plants were built and factories and enterprises, which had stopped their operation, put production on a normal track. Production increased with the technical upgrading of production processes being pushed dynamically. A large-scale land rezoning gave the appearance of the country a facelift and modern and large-capacity stockbreeding bases and fish farms sprang up in all parts of the country one after another.

In the course of this, such scenes as the Sea of potato flowers at Taehongdan, Boundless Handure Plain,

Poman-ri fairyland and Resounding Ullim Falls came into being.

Kosan, Wonhung and Kwail saw a rich fruit harvest, fish farms sprang up in mountain villages, the Migok Cooperative Farm had a bumper crop harvest and fishery stations made big hauls in the east and west seas, unfolding touching scenes in succession.

As seen in a passage from schoolchildren's favourite song *General and Children* which sings that the General goes to the frontline but the children head for the camp, the children's reading for learning and their laughter of happiness at children's camps reverberated more loudly under the blue sky of the country Chairman Kim Jong Il defended on the strength of Songun and soya milk vans everyone calls "king's vans" carried soya milk incessantly for children.

Such monumental structures and people's cultural recreation centres as Ryomyong Street and Mirae Scientists Street, Munsu Water Park, Masikryong Ski Resort and Sci-Tech Complex were recently built more splendidly and in great numbers to add delight to the people.

As the people enjoy happiness, their minds are filled with profound thanks to Chairman Kim Jong Il who devoted his all to the people as he traversed a long and arduous journey of Songun.

Myong Mi Ran

Teachers to meet for 14th national conference

The 14th National Conference of Teachers will be held in Pyongyang early in September.

The event will analyse and review the achievements and experience gained in education in recent years and discuss practical issues to bring about a revolutionary turn in education

as required by the times and the developing reality.

It will be an important occasion for improving the country's education as a whole and stepping up the efforts to bring about a revolution in education in Korean way.

Compiled from KCNA

great significance in promoting bilateral exchange.

It is the consistent and steadfast policy of China to further consolidate and develop relations with the DPRK, he stressed.

After the meeting, the delegation was invited to a reception hosted by the CMC vice-chairman.

That day, the delegation also met with Song Tao, head of the International Liaison Department of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China.

During their stay in China the delegation laid a wreath at

the Monument to the People's Heroes at Tiananmen Square.

They paid tribute to the people's heroes of China and looked round the Mao Zedong Memorial Hall.

The delegation also visited the memorial hall of the First Congress of the Communist Party of China, the Military Museum of the Chinese People's Revolution, the newspaper report centre of the Chinese People's Liberation Army, political school under National Defence University and other places in Beijing and Shanghai.

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COAL

Production picks up for thermal power generation

The coal mining industry now concentrates on the preparations for production in winter while increasing the production of coal for thermal power generation.

Coal mines across the country have set it as the primary task to secure more coal beds by giving precedence to tunnelling and dynamically push ahead with it.

Projects are under way to develop new coalfields in the Puktanggol area of the February 8 Jiktong Youth Coal Mine and the Jolgot area of the Chonsong Youth Coal Mine. The coal mines have set an ambitious goal to tunnel over 1 000 metres a day in order to secure coal beds with rich coal deposits and carry out their assignments

every day.

Coal mines also direct a great deal of energies to the mechanization and diversification of coal transport.

The Sochang Youth Coal Mine, Tokchon Coal Mine and Inpho Youth Coal Mine concentrate manpower and equipment to finish the construction of pits for conveyor belt in the shortest possible time. And many coal mines try to learn from the experience of the Chonsong Youth Coal Mine, which has diversified coal transport by using conveyor belt, cableway and coal wagon, to suit their specific conditions.

Meanwhile, all other coal

mines are making preparations for the production in winter such as the maintenance and securing of equipment, materials and spare parts and the provision of favourable conditions for production.

The production of machinery and other equipment, large quantities of materials and parts has been organized and vigorously pushed ahead, including coal car, scraper conveyor of various kinds, loader and flexible shaft equipment.

Measures have been taken to secure enough props at mines while increasing their recycling rate.

A Chonsong-Songsan River gravity water drainage construction project is in full swing, whose completion will help several coal mines properly drain underground water flowing into pits without using equipment including pumps.

Coal mines also pay increasing attention to improving the technical skills of coal miners. They run intensive courses for the training of new employees.

By Ri Sang Il PT



RI MYONG GUK / PICTORIAL KOREA

A conveyor belt is running at full capacity at the Tokchon Area Coal-mining Complex.

CHESTNUT

High-yielding variety widespread

The saplings of a high-yielding variety of large chestnut are produced in a large quantity on the Unsan Chestnut Seedling Farm in South Phyongan Province and widely spread across the country.

In the past it took more than 2-3 years and needed much area and labour to produce chestnut seedlings and their rate of rooting was low.

"We have introduced a new method of producing chestnut saplings with the help of scientists at the economic forest institute of the Academy of Forestry to put an end to the established thinking and produce high-yielding and highly productive varieties of large chestnut trees," said Ri Tok Hui, manager of the farm.

The new method is that of producing chestnut saplings by radicle grafting which uses the nature of young tissues of plants that grow and heal fast.

More specifically, chestnut burrs are collected between early September and October and scions in November and December, and they are stored till next spring. Conditions are provided for the burrs to produce

saplings in spring and grow about 4-5cm to be grafted. And then split the rootlets, put grafts in between, wind cotton threads round them and transplant them to seedling beds closely.

According to the manager, they can produce a lot of grafted saplings in this way every year. And it reduces the grafting period by seven days, raises the rate of rooting of grafts by 20% and saves 83% of various materials including plastic sheets and awnings as against before.



JONG HWA SUN / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

High-yielding chestnut saplings grow at the Unsan Chestnut Seedling Farm.

Now nine-year-old chestnut trees are growing on the farm.

According to Kim Sang Man, chief engineer, as the new variety of chestnut is not tall, it is easy to manure and cultivate like trimming and application of agrochemicals and gather chestnut and as it can be closely planted, they can plant three times more trees than before. And it can be planted anywhere as it is resistant to blights and cold. The farm harvests chestnuts from the three- to five-year-old chestnut trees and it produced over two tons of chestnuts per hectare last year, he said.

The chestnut seedlings of this farm are in great demand across the country and its growing acreage is increasing.

By Jong Hwa Sun PT

INAUGURATION

Projects completed



A pond teems with fish at the newly built Unsan Catfish Farm in North Phyongan Province.

The Unsan Catfish Farm has newly been built in North Phyongan Province.

The farm is furnished with a general control room, outdoor fattening ponds, a natural feed breeding ground and other processes and its production and business activities have been put on a scientific and IT basis.

An inaugural ceremony took place on August 18.

Earlier, the remodelled Pyongyang Ostrich Farm was inaugurated.

Several production buildings for raising ostriches on a scientific and technical basis, at least 110 pens, sci-tech learning space, gymnasium and other buildings were added to the farm which was reconstructed in a unique and fashionable style.

And over a dozen buildings including ostrich meat processing factory and incubation room were given a facelift, providing proper conditions for the employees to conduct production and business activities in a more cultured and hygienic environment.

Chonggye Primary School has newly been built in Rajin District of Rason City.

The model primary school has a four-storey school building, gym, study site, playground and others.

The relevant units in the city sent teaching aids and fixtures by tapping internal reserves and solved problems arising in informatizing and modernizing education.

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HEMP

Plant used to make building materials, furniture

Ornamental wainscots and flooring panels, planks, bookcases and other green building materials, furniture and essential goods made from hemp are now on sale at the Changgwang Shop on Mirae Scientists Street in Phyongchon District, Pyongyang.

Over 70 percent of hemp is made up of cork cambium, and it is very light and good for thermal insulation, water absorption, prevention of electromagnetic wave and ultraviolet rays and sterilization. Especially, its infrared emissivity is over 88 percent, water absorbability is 42 times higher than that of cotton and sterility is over 90 percent.

For this reason, finishing the interior of buildings with wainscots and flooring panels made from hemp reduces energy consumption for heating and cooling, adjusts indoor humidity appropriately and improves acoustic properties of rooms.

It restrains the breeding of pathogenic insects and germs and the effects of

electromagnetic waves and UV rays from household appliances, promoting human health. As such kind of wasted products are biodegraded under the ground, they do not pollute the environment.

"It has become a trend in many countries to use hemp building materials for high-class and green structures," said lead developer Ro Hak Chol.

According to Ro, hemp products are economical both in production and introduction.

Hemp can be grown on any non-cultivating land. And it can be cultivated twice a year as it grows fast, promising a high yield.

As only pulverizing and mixing machines and a press are just enough to make the products, it does not require huge investment.

Over 120 kinds of building materials, furniture pieces and essential goods made from hemp have been developed so far and they are very popular with users.

By Yun Kyong Il PT

METALLURGY

Coke-free lead smelting process upgraded

The Munphyong Smeltery has completed the Korean-style lead smelting process.

According to Song Ki Nam, a technician of the smeltery, the conversion of direct inaugural kindling of revolving furnace into an indirect heating method based on a mobile reverberating furnace helps save a great deal of fuel, shorten the time of kindling and scientifically ensure temperature at the preheating zone.

In order to prevent agglomerated cakes from melting on the furnace wall and ensure the continuous operation of furnace, the smeltery set rational operation indexes by way of changing the temperature of revolving furnace, position of reaction zone, angle of inclination and number of revolutions.

The lead smelting workshop found out that the mixing of anthracite with charge can ensure the temperature of

calcinating furnace and raise the rate of desulphurization. On that basis, it scientifically fixed the mixing ratio and introduced it into production, thereby reducing the sulphur content in calcined concentrate 1.6-0.8 percent as compared to before.

In particular, it extended the area of furnace and arranged electrodes in parallel, instead of in a compact way, before raising the operating voltage of furnace to lower power consumption 30 percent and increase productivity more than 1.4 times.

It also upgraded the gas processing process of electric furnace and the dust collection system of lead concentrate revolving and calcinating process.

It made dozens of kinds of parts and introduced several technical innovation plans.

By Kim Kum Myong PT

PAINT

Green paint antibacterial and mould-resistant

The Hangryon Technology Exchange Company has unveiled an antibacterial and mould-resistant distemper.

"There has been no mould-resistant paint so far in the country. As most of construction projects are carried on using the wet method at home, it is important to develop antibacterial paint that is also resistant to mould. It conforms to the requirement of green housing construction to which the world attaches importance," said key developer Ho Jong Won.

Analyses show that the water paint is 99.9 percent antibiotic and mould-resistant respectively. And more than 1 000 anions are generated per square centimetres.

According to its introduction into scores of units in the sectors of historical relic preservation, public health, food industry and

commercial service, air in the room remains fresh and germ-free and no mould is gathered without using sterilizing facilities or disinfectants. It has also remarkable effects on the prevention and treatment of headache, stresses and various other conditions.

Users say there is no need to change air in the room after getting up in the morning as there is no impure smell.

The paint comes in white, light green and cream colours that are distinct and of good quality.

It costs one sixth of imported products.

A multifunctional green paint, the distemper won the top prize at the national exhibition of sci-tech hits in finishing building materials sector-2019 last May.

By Kim Il Jin PT



JONG HWA SUN / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

Researchers discuss how to improve the quality of products in the Hangryon Technology Exchange Company.

PROFILE

Coal miner sets an example to increase production

Han Sung Chan (pictured) is one of the models of the Mallima era.

The manager of Pit No. 9 of the February 8 Jiktong Youth Coal Mine seems to be ordinary, but his 28-year-long career in the coal mine is something extraordinary.

His pit now leads others in the coal industry as it turns out more than 200 000 tons of coal every year.

Soon after he came to the coalfield as tunnelling worker after his demob, a hero of the time and model of genuine coal miner was produced at the February 8 Jiktong Youth Coal Mine to rise to nationwide fame.

He was Kim Yu Bong, a collier at Pit No. 5 of the mine. Working at the pit for over a decade after demob, he made a tangible contribution to his workteam's fulfilment of coal production plan for 27 years' time.

Han Sung Chan felt an urge to work like him. He wanted to model after the heroic life of Kim.

At a meeting with Han, Kim told him about the big share their coal mine takes in the production of coal in the country, including the supply of coal for power generation at the Pyongyang Thermal Power Complex, the conscience and self-consciousness a coal miner should keep and many other things.

Though the hero carried out his daily assignment at 200 percent, Han was content with only 100 percent. So he awakened to his mission for the time and worked hard in



the spirit of competing with the same discharged soldiers. In the course of this he was promoted to the chief engineer and manager of the pit with the most unfavourable working conditions.

One of Han's good qualities is the habit of finding out work and carrying it through without fail.

Some years ago, new coal mining workteams were set up in his pit.

The workteams were only concerned about upward digging, indifferent to horizontal mining which requires much labour. This weighed on his mind.

So he buckled down to solving problems arising in level mining one after another, including the lack of equipment, materials and technical knowledge and skills of pitmen.

As a result, all the workteams of the pit increased the proportion of level mining and coal output per metre of mining as well.

And his pit was the first to introduce such efficient facilities as coal seam perforator with flexible shaft and horse drill.

He not only kept the appellation of "coal miner" as his pride. He carried heavier burdens upon his shoulders and advanced faster than others to be called an honourable miner with a clear conscience and found himself in the place of the most difficult work ahead of others to uphold his honour.

It is no exaggeration to say that Han Sung Chan has spent his career as collier for the sake of his collective and fellow miners.

A pile of coal may contain some muck, but the conscience of coal miners supporting the country should be completely pure—this is the motto of Han.

He attended parents' meetings for a schoolgirl in place of her father who died at work in the pit and trained a man who found it hard to settle in mining work into a skilled hand.

When a new tunnelling sub-workteam was set up in the pit with mischief-makers some years ago, he worked with them drilling rocks in order to make them attached to mining work and led them to be a sub-workteam that overfulfils its annual tunnelling assignment.

It is the feat of Han Sung Chan that the pit has carried out its annual national economic plan ahead of schedule every year for decades. The greater feat is that he turned the group of colliers into a harmonious and united group overflowing with revolutionary friendship and sincerity.

By Kim Ryong Jin PT

DISINFECTANT

New water disinfectant proves less negative

To thoroughly ensure hygienic safety of water, especially drinking water, is an important factor in promoting health and longevity.

In general, a large number of pathogenic bacteria live in water and one litre of river water contains 500 000-600 000 thousand bacteria and 2 000-3 000 colon bacilli.

Liquid chlorine and bleaching powder are mostly used to disinfect water.

However, they produce substances that are harmful to the human body.

The complex oxidant generator developed by the nano-engineering branch of the State Academy of Sciences has brought about great changes in

the previous ways of sterilization which mainly relied on bleaches and liquid chlorine.

The complex oxidant generators of EC series treat salt electrochemically to produce complex oxidant, or complex disinfecting water, with high sterilizing power and a long lifespan. The disinfecting water kills germs and viruses and removes poisonous substances like nitrite in water.

It takes less than 15 minutes to disinfect water with it.

"Our products are used to sterilize swimming and wading pools and other water-related facilities, different kinds of containers, water and animal houses in the

fields of livestock farming and fisheries, and water, instruments and equipment at foodstuff factories," said Kong Ryong Hyon, deputy chief of the nano-engineering branch.

There are various models to be installed at reservoirs of different sizes, institutions, enterprises and wading and swimming pools. They can be completely automated through PLC and their ORP and pH values adjusted automatically according to the demand of the users. The household model is easy to handle and portable as it is designed to work with the power supply of 12V DC.

At present, the complex oxidant generators of EC model have been introduced into reservoirs, water-related facilities, factories, enterprises and many other units.

They were also exported to Uganda, Syria, Mongolia, Peru, Cambodia and other countries.

By Ko Kwang Yon PT

DESIGN

College releases distinctive industrial designs

A series of distinctive industrial designs have been produced at Industrial Design College of Pyongyang University of Publishing and Printing Engineering.

"The new industrial designs include industrial, commercial and environmental ones and those for building decoration and signboards, amounting to several thousand," said Kim Chon Gum, PhD and rector of the college.

Characteristic of the new designs is that they are highly practical and suit the aesthetic tastes of the times in form and style.

For example, those of farm machines and mining and forestry equipment are so designed to save labour and materials. Free from the previous monotonous form of straight lines, the colour decoration design of a new-type trolley bus is painted in the shape of the wing of a flying bird to create an impression of speed of the trolley bus.

The designs of marks and labels and original pictures of calligraphic styles of all kinds not only meet the thought and feelings of locals, but also represent the modern sense of beauty.

Those of the mark of Yangdok Hot Spring Resort, the shape of board of guide map of Wonsan

Kalma Coastal Tourist Special Zone and marks of mobile phones are all distinctive and unique.

Hundreds of exterior and interior designs of various service amenities to be built in the Samjiyon area, which is developed into a model city of culture in the mountainous area, were produced by students.

Those of advertisements for industrial goods, infants goods and electronics shops and teahouse show the characters of goods in each service facility intensively while giving an artistic portrayal of them.

The designs of drinks for sportspeople and label designs of various fruit-flavour drinks were made with artistic handwriting

and combination of colours and unique forms of composition to make viewers feel fragrance of fruits and sweet and refreshing tastes of drinks.

Designs of letters of congratulation were also made by using dried flowers which maintain their colours and softness mostly.

The label designs of schoolchildren's socks and those of multipurpose furniture for children involve scenes of animations and paintings of animals. They were highly appreciated at the recent National Industrial Design Exhibition in celebration of the Day of the Sun.

By Pang Un Ju PT



PAK KWANG HUN / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

Students at Industrial Design College of Pyongyang University of Publishing and Printing Engineering work hard to create distinctive industrial designs.

HEALTHCARE

Medical workers devoted to disabled soldiers

"It is said that when you sit in a flower garden for a long time you forget the scent of flowers, and I didn't know all about the blessings granted by the state," said Ri Hak Song, special class disabled soldier who is undergoing medical treatment at the Taedonggang District People's Hospital in Pyongyang.

According to him, more than 20 disabled soldiers left the hospital last month after spending over a month for recuperation.

The hospital is well known for taking good care of disabled soldiers.

"It is our duty to care for the health of disabled soldiers who are treasured by the state," said O

Myong Hui, a department chief of the hospital. "The medical staff of our hospital show sincere devotion to them."

The hospital launched the recuperation and treatment programme for disabled soldiers in the district over a decade ago.

To this end, the medical workers furnished wards cosily for their convenience and built an herb garden and supply base.

The 40-odd-day care is provided each in spring and autumn when patients require special healthcare.

In the period, disabled soldiers undergo general and special check-ups according to their conditions and take effective physiotherapy and Koryo medical treatment for the recovery of functions according to the schedules made by doctors in charge.

The hospital pays special attention to offering palatable nutritional diets.

A diet plan is drawn up for each disabled soldier and, sometimes, doctors and nurses bring health foods they have made to the disabled soldiers under their charge and give them tonics as well.

When disabled soldier Ri Jong



RYU KWANG HYOK / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

Medical workers take good care of disabled soldiers at the Taedonggang District People's Hospital.

COSTUME

Dresses popular among women of all ages

Most women put on dresses these days when sultry weather lingers on.

One-piece dress, which is simple, smart and clean, is the favourite one of women this season.

This year witnessed diversified forms of dresses.

"Dressmakers sensitively satisfy the taste and demands of women for dresses. Almost all ready-made clothes production units presented one-piece dresses to the recent Pyongyang Department Store No. 1 commodity exhibition and each unit showed well their individual characters," said Kim Ok Gyong, a saleswoman at Pyongyang Department Store No. 1.

The O-il Trading Corporation put on display distinctive one-piece dresses to receive wide acclaim from consumers.

"In fact, our company specializes in the production of soft drinks. But the explosive demand of women made our company bend its eyes on the production of one-piece dresses. We presented new types of dresses that suit the taste of women by making painstaking efforts and research," said Pak Song Hui, a staff member of the corporation.

A few employees at the development office of the corporation engage in the tailoring of one-piece dresses.

Though small in number, they are competent designers and skilled workers.

They deepened research to make designs in keeping with cloth materials, maximize decorative effects and select cloth to meet the ages,

psychological feelings and professional characteristics of individual persons.

Each developer came up with dozens of new designs, and they completed the designs one by one through collective discussions.

Typical examples are a dress made of dark blue cloth representing activeness to promote women's figure, one with no sleeves but with a flared skirt to give an undulate effect on it so as to improve refreshing feelings, and one with no special decorations, but designed to give additional charm by keeping women's figure to meet the specific feature of cloth with sparse flower patterns on a black ground.

"Dresses reflect well the taste of our Korean women who like noble, neat and clean things", "They are unique in colours and cloth materials" and "They are very stylish when the people put them on"—these are what women visitors said about the dresses of the company.

During the exhibition, almost all the dresses exhibited by the company were sold and orders are on the increase with each passing day.

"Though it has been only half a year since we started to make one-piece dresses, we made a great success at one go. But we set a higher goal to satisfy growing demands. We will make the name of our corporation in dressmaking, too, as we did in the production of soft drinks," said Hwang Chol Ok, section chief of the corporation.

By Kim Rye Yong PT



PAK CHANG BOK / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

A woman tries on a dress at a sales outlet of the O-il Trading Corporation.

Hyok lost his appetite and found hard to take meals, doctor Kim Son Hui served him snakehead soup, which proved to be a great encouragement to him in the rehabilitation treatment. Doctor Han Ryon Hui brought to the hospital her kindergartener daughter who entertained the disabled soldiers with song and

violin solo.

"The doctors and nurses of the hospital who look after us with devotion are like our own flesh and blood," said the disabled soldiers after spending a recuperation period at the hospital.

By Ri Sung Ik PT

COMPETITION

Students steal the show at Intl Math Olympiad



Students from Pyongyang Middle School No. 1 pose for a photograph after proving themselves at the 60th International Mathematics Olympiad.

Students of the DPRK won three gold and three silver medals at the 60th International Mathematics Olympiad which was held in the UK from July 15 to 21.

The annual event is a theatre of intellectual contest of schoolchildren from across the world.

It brought together more than 600 students from 112 countries.

Six students from Pyongyang Middle School No. 1 took part in the competition on behalf of the DPRK.

The participants had to solve three respective problems in the fields of geometry, algebra, combination and theory of numbers in the way of written examination.

The Korean students solved three problems flawlessly by ensuring high accuracy and displaying abstract thinking faculties, gaining full seven marks in the first-day contest.

In the second-day contest requiring great mental and physical abilities they gave satisfactory answers to all the

problems. As a result, all the Korean competitors entered the rankings. Especially Kim Sin Song, Hyon Kuk Song and Sim Ju Hyok won gold medals, while Hwang Kwang Son, Pak Ung Chon and Ri Tae Song bagged runner-up medals.

"Despite mental and physical exhaustion due to unfamiliar environment, sultry weather and a sense of psychological oppression before the contest, they exerted their intelligence and effort with a resolve to bring glory to the country," said Kim Jin Hyok, teacher at Pyongyang Middle School No. 1.

Children of office and factory workers, the students study at Pyongyang Middle School No. 1, which is provided with all conditions for education, free of charge thanks to the benefits of socialist educational system.

"I'll contribute to the prosperity of the country with knowledge by becoming a talent who breaks through the cutting edge," said gold medallist Kim Sin Song.

By Kwon Hyo Song PT

EDUCATION

Audio picture book wows children



JON KWANG HUN / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

Children read audio picture books at Chukjon Kindergarten No. 1 in Mangyongdae District, Pyongyang.

TOURISM

Following the routes of scenic spots in DPRK

It is the summer tourist season and tourism service providers across the country are very busy these days.

Among them are the tourist guides of the Korea International Travel Company, which is well known to foreign tourists.

The company provides tourism service in various places including Pyongyang, celebrated mountains in the country and Kaesong, an old historical city.

Tourism periods are three nights and four days, five nights and six days, six nights and seven days, 10 days and fortnight according to the demands of the tourists.

Most of tourists want six nights and seven days tour, says Kim Jong Chol, an official of the travel company.

The tourism itinerary includes two-day trip in Pyongyang, during which tourists can visit the birthplace of President Kim Il Sung at Mangyongdae, the Tower of the Juche Idea, a monument in the era of the Workers' Party of Korea, the Grand People's Study House boasting magnificent Korean-style architecture, Moran Hill, a scenic beauty in Pyongyang, and historical heritage sites on the banks of the picturesque Taedong River.

Many tourists say most alluring in Pyongyang tour is the grand mass gymnastics and artistic performance *The Land of the People*, a masterpiece that can be seen only in the DPRK.

On the third day they head for Mt Kumgang.

The mountain standing on the shore of the East Sea of Korea in a wide area stretching 40km from the east to west and 60km from the north to south is dotted with

scenic attractions, with 12 000 peaks forming a myriad of natural wonders in variety and splendour, resounding sounds of waterfalls in them, Lagoon Samil noted as one of the eight scenic attractions in the Kwandong area, and pine groves along the far-stretching seaside beach.

Tourists do mountain-climbing in the area of Kuryong Pool renowned for wonderful sight-seeing.

Climbing up the route along the steep cliff, they will enjoy a succession of scenic wonders like Rabbit Rock, Kungang Gate, Okryu Pool and Okryu Falls, Ryonju Pool and Ryonju Falls, Upper Eight Pools where eight fairies from heaven played in an old legend and Kuryong Falls in which nine dragons are said to have lived in ancient times.

One of the three celebrated waterfalls in Korea, Kuryong Falls are 74m high, 84m long and 4m wide with 150m high wall of waterfall. The water has fallen incessantly for many years on the rock to form a 13m deep pool like a large mortar, which is called Kuryong Pool.

Visitors can see the magnificent waterfall cascading with a fine spray of water like a white silk roll draping over and hear the resounding echoes from the Kuryong Pavilion on

the opposite side of the falls.

"There are many falls and dense forests in the mountain. Its landscape is beyond imagination. It is the most beautiful country I've ever toured," say tourists after climbing the mountain.

The next-day destination is Kaesong, the capital of Koryo Kingdom, the first unified state in the history of Korea that existed for nearly 500 years.

In Kaesong tourists visit the Mausoleum of King Wang Kon, Koryo Museum and Panmunjom, the focus of worldwide attention as the venue of historic events which have made a breakthrough in improving inter-Korean and DPRK-US relations since last year.

The last leg of the travel itinerary is the trip to Mt Myohyang.

As the name says, Mt Myohyang is attractive with its mysterious and graceful mountainscape. But more impressive are the tour of International Friendship Exhibition House, the treasure trove in praise of the great leaders of the country, and the Myohyangsan History Museum.

During the tour visitors will relish renowned Korean cuisines.

By Jong Tang Song PT



HONG KWANG NAM / PICTORIAL KOREA

Mist swirls around peaks of world-famous Mt Kumgang.

Audio picture book for developing children's intelligence, a product of Korea Intelligent Education Products Development Company, is winning growing popularity with customers.

"We concentrated on providing more information needed for developing children's intellectual faculties more vividly, more correctly and effectively in a more friendly way. For example, the composition is interesting, the touch of reading pen on pictures as well as letters gives explanations about them and the sound is so input as to remind children of their mothers or teachers and in standard pronunciations," said Chae Sang Hae, president of the company.

The 11-volume book helps

children learn various pictures and words so as to understand the things and phenomena in families and the surroundings with sound as if they are taught by their mothers and acquire Korean alphabets, words and simple sentences with interest as if playing computer games.

It contains lots of interesting stories to help them develop their hearing ability and the feelings of love for the beautiful and kind things and hatred of the ugly and bad ones.

It is also helpful to their study of music and counting.

As it has dozens of songs for children of nurseries and kindergartens and the numbers from 1 to 100 in connection with fairy tales and reality, the children can learn correct tone

and time, demand according to the theme of music and arrangement and calculation of numbers and others.

Volumes 10 and 11 are for English learning.

"My two-year-old daughter can read 10 words less than a week after she began to see the audio picture book. She is very pleased as she sees the fairy tales by herself," said Kim Yon Hui living in Chilgol-dong No. 2, Mangyongdae District, Pyongyang.

The audiobook won the top prize at the national science and technology exhibition in the public health sector-2018 and is widely spread to nurseries and kindergartens.

By Pang Un Ju PT

IRAN-WEST

Old foes cross swords in the Gulf

The confrontational landscape in the Gulf region is polarizing into Iran versus US and other Western camps.

As was reported in May and June, oil tankers came under attack while on voyage in the sea off the UAE and the Oman Sea, and it is yet to find out who attacked them with what.

However, the US recklessly put the blame for it on Iran, instigating an atmosphere for pressurizing Iran.

Under the circumstances, the Iranian Islamic Revolution Guards Corps shot down a US unmanned reconnaissance plane RQ-4A Global Hawk on an espionage mission in the sky above the Strait of Hormuz on June 19.

The US claimed that its aircraft was brought down while flying over the open sea by an Iranian anti-aircraft system and clamoured for retaliation. Iran made public a map with the specific coordinates showing the US drone intruded into its territorial air, saying there is no doubt about the position of the aircraft when it was shot down.

The incident came under the limelight of the international community as it came hard on the heels of the attack on an oil tanker in the Oman Sea for which no one has yet claimed responsibility.

On July 4 an Iranian oil tanker was captured by the British Royal Marines on the pretext that it violated the EU's sanctions measure in the Straits of Gibraltar.

Shortly afterwards a British oil tanker was arrested by the Iranian Islamic Revolution Guards Corps in the Strait of Hormuz.

As a retaliatory measure, the UK announced that its warships will escort vessels with the British flag through the strait and suggested to all European nations that Europe-led naval forces be deployed in the waters of the Persian Gulf.

The US readily accepted the UK's suggestion as it is intensifying sanctions and pressure against Iran.

Recently, the US hosted the 2nd meeting for escorting oil tankers in the Strait of Hormuz.

Referring to it, the Iranian minister of defence and armed forces logistics on August 9 said that the US' plan for founding maritime coalition forces on the pretext of security of vessels in the Gulf region will aggravate instability in the region.

The US has already announced an additional dispatch of about 1 000 troops to the Middle East and sent F-22 stealth fighters to Qatar for the first time.

Iran has also responded to them in kind.

The commander of the Iranian navy recently said that it would stage joint military exercises with Russia in the Indian Ocean in the near future.

The range of these exercises is expected to be extended to the Gulf of Oman, Strait of Hormuz and Persian Gulf.

The US and other Western countries began military intervention in the strait under the veil of safe navigation and the situation in the Gulf is spiralling up towards a dangerous phase.

By Song Jong Ho PT

STATEMENT

FM spokesman slams s. Korean authorities for military buildup

"Dangerous military moves have been observed that are likely to spark a new cold war on the Korean peninsula and in the region," the DPRK Foreign Ministry spokesman said on August 22.

He referred to south Korea's repeated introduction of F-35A stealth fighters from the US hard on the heels of the joint military exercises.

A grave act of provocation that totally denies the inter-Korean joint declarations and military agreement, he said, south Korea's continuous introduction of sophisticated lethal weapons clearly reveals once again the hypocrisy and double-dealing of its authorities

that call for "doing more for dialogue and less to obstruct it".

The escalating military hostilities of the US and south Korean authorities are weakening the dynamics of dialogue for establishing lasting and durable peace on the Korean peninsula, he said, and they compel the DPRK to wonder if it would be a realistic way to pay greater attention to building up physical deterrence.

The US test-fired an intermediate-range cruise missile and plans to deploy a large amount of offensive military hardware such as F-35 stealth fighters and F-16V fighters in the areas around the

Korean peninsula including Japan, instigating regional arms race and atmosphere of confrontation, he noted. "The reality prompts us to maintain heightened vigilance."

"We have warned time and again that joint military exercises and arms buildup in south Korea are dangerous acts that break peace and stability on the peninsula," he said.

The DPRK remains unchanged in its stand to settle all issues peacefully through dialogue and negotiations, but is not interested in dialogue accompanied by military threats, he added.

Compiled from KCNA

REACTION

US' missile test fire prompts criticism

The Russian presidential press secretary said in a press conference on August 20 that the US prepared the cancellation of the Intermediate-Range Nuclear Forces Treaty previously.

The US test fired a ground-based cruise missile on August 18.

Russian Deputy Foreign

Minister Sergey Ryavkov told TASS on August 20 that the fact that the US conducted the test fire of ground-based cruise missile 16 days after the suspension of the effect of the treaty is clear evidence proving that its development has been conducted since long ago.

A spokesperson for the

Chinese Ministry of Foreign Affairs also stated that the US' missile test fire clearly showed that the real purpose of its quitting the treaty was to gain the unilateral military upper hand by developing missile technology on a wide scale, free from the restriction of the treaty, adding such an action of the US would trigger a new arms race, aggravate military confrontation and, furthermore, have a negative effect on international and regional situations.

Compiled from KCNA

JAPAN

History distortion means repetition of past sins

Most recently, Japanese Alliance of NGOs against Racial Discrimination, an ultra-right organization in Japan, argued that the historical facts entered in the textbook for primary schools late last year are all "distortions" and went so far as to let out such a sophistry that "Japan and the Korean feudal government, in fact, concluded the 'Korea-Japan Annexation Treaty' according to their own free will in conformity with international and local laws, and it was just the same as England's annexation of Scotland".

The real tragedy is that such remarks are not just a radical slip of the tongue of an organization, but the attitude of Japanese politicians.

To review the "Korea-Japan Annexation Treaty" raised by the above-said organization, it is already 109 years since the fabrication of the treaty.

At the time Japan concentrated more than 2 000 troops and some 300 horses in Hansong (Seoul) and placed it in a state of martial law. And it intimidated and blackmailed ministers of the Korean feudal government into signing the 8-article treaty. As a result, the so-called "annexation treaty" was fabricated on August 22 1910, which said the

sovereignty of Korea would be transferred to the Japanese king completely and permanently and Korea be "annexed" to Japan.

And Japan announced the treaty a week later on August 29 in fear of anti-Japanese resistance of the Korean nation.

The Japanese imperialists occupied Korea and imposed the most barbarous fascist oppressive rule without parallel in the history of mankind.

They also forcibly drafted millions of young and middle-aged Koreans as cannon fodder for their aggressive wars and reduced 200 000 Korean women to sexual slaves for their army.

They even made desperate attempts to deprive the Korean people of their language, letters and names and obliterate their 5 000-year-long culture, history and tradition.

The past history of Japanese military occupation of Korea can rightly be claimed to have been stained with the blood of unprecedented massacre, plunder and other crimes.

Japan should be well aware that if it tries desperately to justify the history of aggression and realize the old dream, it will only hasten its self-ruin.

By Choe Yong Nam PT

S. KOREA

LKP deeply fractured by factional strife

The south Korean Liberal Korea Party is now riven with factional fighting.

The continuous fall in the party's support rate has resulted in growing discontent among the party members with Representative Hwang Kyo An.

The non-Parks shower him with criticism, saying they have no hope for the future under the greenhorn politician's system and the one-man dictatorial system should be brought to an end. Even pro-Parks chime in with them, saying Hwang's party management is amateur-level.

The factional strife grows fiercer due to the divergences in the interests of its factions over the nomination of candidates for the parliamentary election slated for next year.

The party leadership put forward a new method of nominating candidates, arguing for the "involvement of young and fresh talents" and "innovation" on the pretext that they cannot win the election unless they carry out a wholesale reshuffle, only to face a strong wave of opposition within the party.

Fully obsessed with a fear that

the scale will be tipped against them if they are sidelined in the nomination of candidates, the "returnee's faction" asserts that the party will lose the general elections if pro-Parks are at the forefront of the campaign. Hwang Kyo An was so angry that he threatened them saying any faction would be to blame for their words and deeds detrimental to the party.

Amid the growing feud between Hwang's, pro-Park, Kim Mu Song's, Hong Jun Phyo's and other factions over the issue of "great merger of conservatives" to seek their own interests, there is a rumour going around at the moment about the founding of a new centrist conservative party after the LKP split.

As a result, the LKP is being sucked deeper into the whirlpool of contradiction and discord.

The LKP's factional fighting for power has widely been known as ingrained, chronic and violent.

Analysts say that as the general elections come nearer, the LKP's internal feud will heat up and Hwang Kyo An and the LKP will surely go to ruin.

By Om Ryong PT

SOCCER

Hwaepul Cup group league draws near to end

With group league matches for the Hwaepul Cup men's football tournament coming near to a close, clubs to advance to the semi-finals have almost been decided.

Ryomyong takes the lead in Group A.

It beat Kalmaegi and Amnokgang 1-0 respectively and overpowered Wolmido and Ministry of Light Industry 2-0 and 4-0 respectively to book a berth at the semi-finals. The last match with Sonbong ended in a draw.

Other hopefuls in the group are Amnokgang and Sonbong.

The former earned ten points, while the latter retained 8 points with the last match with Kalmaegi just ahead.

Meanwhile, unexpected results were produced in Group B.

"It is hard to say that all matches will end as expected. But it is the first time to bring such an opposite result as this one," said Kim Yong Hun, a football fan.

Such odds-on favourite clubs as Kigwanha and Sobaeksu suffered straight defeats to lose their chance to go on with their matches. On the contrary,

Pyongyang and Hwaepul were qualified to advance to the next stage as they won all the matches.

Especially, Jebi saw off Kigwanha 2-1 on August 16 to bring great excitement to enthusiasts.

"Perhaps no one expected that Jebi would win Kigwanha, two-time winner of the Mangyongdae Prize Games in celebration of the Day of the Sun. Of course, it may be attributable to chance, but Jebi fully showed off its high mentality, tactical executing capacity and potential. The match showed that even a powerful club will not escape a defeat if it underestimates its opponent," said enthusiast Jon Chol Ho.

With the interests of spectators growing more in the unexpected results, there was a match between Sonbong and Kalmaegi on August 20 at Sosan Football Stadium on Chongchun Street, Pyongyang.

The match was the last one for both clubs.

Sonbong attempted a fierce attack from the beginning as it

could advance to the next stage only when it won the game.

But it was Kalmaegi which opened the scoring in the 9th minute with a powerful long-distance shot.

Sonbong scored two goals in the 31st minute and the first half stoppage time by launching offensive, but it allowed another goal to Kalmaegi in the 56th minute.

Despite the seesaw battle, there was no more scoring. So, the game ended with a 2-2 draw.

By Jong Tang Song PT



CHOE MI GYONG / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

A scene from the football match between Sonbong and Kalmaegi as part of the Hwaepul Cup men's football tournament.

HERITAGE

Folk dance dates back to ancient kingdom

"Tondollari" is a traditional folk dance performed in a circle. It has widely been practised in and around Pukchong County in South Hamgyong Province.

It traces back to such long-standing folk songs and dances as "Tongdong" done in the period of Koguryo, a Korean kingdom that existed between 277 BC and AD 668.

Ancestors danced as they sang by imitating the sound of drum as accompaniments and the practice was handed down for a long period, thus generating "Tondollari" in the Hamgyong provincial area.

During Japanese military

rule, the meaning of the dance changed into the "day when dawn breaks" in reflection of the Koreans' desire for a new life free from exploitation and oppression.

The dance is in twelve-eight time and it is performed to the tune made by beating a gourd, which is peculiar to the locality.

The deep and soft sound of the gourd is produced by turning it over in a wooden or brass basin filled with water and tapping it with a stick or hands.

The dance is characterized by vigorous swinging of arms and rhythmic steps.

The wrists and arms are swung or turned in time to music and there are characteristic fingertip movements. All movements are energetic and swift and the good combination of dynamic body and leg motions heightens the rhythmicity and traditional beat. The dance mirrors the character and disposition of the Hamgyong provincial people who are enterprising, diligent, persevering and competitive.

"Tondollari" belongs to the nation's precious folk dance heritage.

Kim Kwang Hyok

LEISURE

Water park still a full house

Autumn has come, but high temperature goes on. For this reason there is no sign of decrease in the number of visitors to the Munsu Water Park.

Pyongyang has over a dozen wading and swimming pools including the Rungna Water Park, Mangyongdae Wading Pool, Unha Sea Water Swimming Pool, and the Munsu Water Park is the most popular among them.

"My children are so attracted by the water slides and waterway cave with lifelike portrayal of animals that they ask me eagerly to go to the water park. So I've come here for the fourth time. It is a favourite summer haunt for children and grown-ups alike. I have a pleasant time cooling my body here," said So Tae Ung living in Taesong District, Pyongyang.

Everyone looks happy as they enjoy time in a variety of pools designed to meet the needs of age groups and characters of the people in depth and temperature.

The water park is always full of laughter, with young people

gliding down the water slides of all shapes into water, students swimming against high waves, children absorbed in wading at pools of various shapes and colours and the middle-aged

and old people roaring with laughter.

"A large clock has been fixed in the water park to provide convenience for the visitors, but all enjoy themselves

without noticing the passage of time," said Kim Kum Yong, an official of the water park.

According to Kim Kwang Chol, chief engineer of the

water park, it has more than 20 pools, uses thousands of cubic metres of water every day and operates dozens of water tanks and hundreds of water pumps.

Water is examined every hour according to over a dozen standards of water quality.

By Ri Sung Ik PT



RYANG KUM CHOL / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

Munsu Water Park, the largest of the water amusement facilities in the DPRK, still overflows with visitors.

