

Nation set to strengthen independent, planned, people-oriented characters of its economy

By Om Ryong PT

The Enlarged Meeting of the Fifth Plenary Meeting of the Eighth Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea pointed to the need to provide a new veering point in economic guidance and management and specified the tasks and ways for thoroughly implementing the economic policies of the Party and the state in the second half of the year.

Economic sectors and units are directing main efforts to the work to enhance the independence of the national economy while pressing ahead with the plan for this year.

After the presentation of the work orientation and practical measures to be taken in the key industry sectors including metal, chemical, electrical power and coal

industries in the second half of the year, production has been put on a normal track and the projects for putting establishments on a Juche-oriented and modern basis are being stepped up.

When the production in key industries is normalized, it will be possible to satisfy the need for raw materials in different economic sectors with domestic materials and this will result in further enhancement of the independence of the national economy.

Efforts are also stepped up to promote the planned character of the economy.

The Cabinet and state economic guidance organs have reaffirmed the direction and tasks for implementing the economic policies in the second half of the year and are channelling efforts into the economic organization for carrying out the plan for

this year.

The Cabinet is taking measures to realize the state's centralized and unified guidance over the economic work and strengthen its functions and role as economic organizer.

It also works to bring the planning work closer to reality and create closer productive ties among economic sectors and among enterprises, so as to develop all the economic sectors and units in a stable and sustained way.

National efforts are concentrated on the rapid growth of the strength of science, and science and technology is being employed as a powerful weapon in economic planning and guidance.

Proactive efforts are also made for strengthening the people-oriented character of the national economy.

National efforts are all channelled into agricultural production which has been set as one of the most urgent tasks among economic tasks.

Practical ways to powerfully push the implementation of the Party's agricultural policies are being discussed and decided on. They encompass the issues of making full preparations for protecting crops from natural disasters as much as possible, boosting the scientific level of manuring and cultivation of crops, increasing the proportion of the farm work done by machines, ensuring scientific guidance on farming and providing greater state assistance.

The light industry sector is redoubling its efforts to improve the living standard of the people in a substantial way.

DPRK to fulfil commitment as signatory to Treaty of Amity and Cooperation in Southeast Asia, says FM director general

KCNA

Pak Jong Hak, director general of the Department of Southeast Asian Affairs of the DPRK Foreign Ministry, issued the following press statement on July 20:

July 24 this year is the 14th anniversary of our country's signing of the Treaty of Amity and Cooperation in Southeast Asia, and July 27 is the 22nd anniversary of its entry into the ASEAN Regional Forum.

The Democratic People's Republic of Korea's signing of the Treaty and entry into the Forum marked occasions of important significance in developing the friendly and cooperative relations between the DPRK and ASEAN and its member nations onto a new high stage.

With these anniversaries as an occasion, I would like to express consistent

support and solidarity with the governments and peoples of ASEAN member states in the efforts to strengthen cooperation and cohesion with each other and invariably maintain the ASEAN-centered policy while raising their influence and voice in the international arena.

Independence is the first among the DPRK's three foreign policy tenets, and the respect for sovereignty and territorial integrity takes the foremost place in the principles and ideas advocated by ASEAN.

The history of the relations between the DPRK and ASEAN which have lasted for dozens of years proves that the maintenance of independence and the respect for sovereignty are the main factors that have promoted the establishment and constant development of the bilateral relations.

At present, the high-handed and arbitrary practices, interference in other's internal affairs and split into groups by specified forces for gaining unchallenged position are witnessed on a worldwide scale. The moves are posing a serious challenge and obstacle to the efforts of the ASEAN member states for peace and stability in Southeast Asia and national progress and prosperity.

Due to the US and some vassal forces' inveterate policy hostile toward the DPRK and their reckless military provocation moves in Northeast Asia, not only this region but also the Asia-Pacific region are in the growing danger that may embroil them as a whole in a nuclear war.

The stable situation in Northeast Asia and peace and prosperity in Southeast Asia are linked in one

chain.

For ASEAN to maintain impartiality and objectivity in regional and international arenas while adhering to the main principles of respect for sovereignty, non-interference, equality and mutual respect, on the basis of independent and correct judgment over the source of the situation prevailing in the Korean peninsula and the region, will be conducive to keeping peace and stability in the Asia-Pacific region.

As a signatory to the Treaty of Amity and Cooperation in Southeast Asia, the DPRK will as ever steadily promote the development of relations with ASEAN and, as a member state of the ASEAN Regional Forum, will exert its sincere efforts to jointly protect the regional peace and security in conformity with its foreign policy tenet and the main idea of ASEAN.

Honour to the defenders of the country

By Hwang Jong Ryol PT

July 27 is the 69th anniversary of the Korean people's victory in the Fatherland Liberation War.

Although several decades have passed since fireworks lighted up the sky over the victorious DPRK, the spirit of defending the country and heroic exploits of victors in the great years still shine resplendently.

They defended every inch of their country and the dignity of the people with honour in the three-year war started by the US imperialists, as they shouted "For the Party and the leader, For the only fatherland!"

Among them were an 18-year-old man who blocked the enemy's gun muzzle with his chest, a nurse who made headway against the enemy's tank with a bundle of hand grenades, a soldier who pressed the trigger of his heavy machine-gun with his chin to shower a fire on enemies when he lost his arms and those who rolled among enemies with hand grenades in their mouths to kill enemies as their arms and legs were broken.

Many known and unknown soldiers dedicated their prime of youth, lives, promising future and happiness to the country.

The DPRK could emerge victorious in the war thanks to the noble sacrifice of the generation who won the

war, including the coast artillerymen on Wolmi Island who delayed the landing of 50 000 enemy troops on Incheon with only four artillery pieces for three days and the warriors of Height 1211 who dealt annihilating blows to the aggressors.

The respected Comrade Kim Jong Un at the Seventh National Conference of War Veterans in July last year said that the great heroic spirit of the victorious wartime generation would shine forever and be carried forward stoutly generation after generation.

Time is said to efface everything, but the spirit of defending the country and the heroic self-sacrificing spirit displayed by the victorious wartime generation on this land is being carried on, serving as a powerful spiritual instrument for promoting the building of a powerful socialist country.

Younger generations harden their resolve to treasure everything on this land, which the wartime generation defended and created at the cost of their lives, and add lustre to them.

On war victory day every year the people in the DPRK pay homage to the victorious wartime generation who devoted their all to the great victory in the Fatherland Liberation War.

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The Fatherland Liberation War Martyrs Cemetery.

Kim Jong Un sends vehicles to potato farina factory

KCNA

Kim Jong Un, general secretary of the Workers' Party of Korea, sent lorries for potato transport to the Samjiyon Potato Farina Factory, which are needed for its operation. They arrived in the City of Samjiyon on July 19. Receiving the vehicles, the working people in the city felt deep gratitude to the General Secretary. The drivers of the potato transport convoy hardened their will to contribute greatly to the production of potato farina by responsibly managing and operating the vehicles, always bearing in mind the expectations of the Party Central Committee that they would make devoted, selfless efforts for the good of the people. The employees of the factory also expressed their determination to make innovations in the production of potato farina and other products so that the people across the country could really benefit from them as intended by the Party.



Lorries General Secretary Kim Jong Un sent to the Samjiyon Potato Farina Factory for potato transport arrive in the City of Samjiyon on July 19.

Remains of martyrs buried in war cemetery

KCNA

Remains of DPRK heroes, Kim Ryong Su, U In Sop and Sin Chang Hwal, were buried in the Fatherland Liberation War Martyrs Cemetery on July 19 on the occasion of the 69th anniversary of victory in the great Fatherland Liberation War. Kim Ryong Su fought bravely in a frontline unit during the war. He led his squad to repulse the enemy's dozens of counterattacks and killed and wounded well over a hundred enemy soldiers, thus carrying out a mission of defending Height 1052, a point of military strategic importance. U In Sop, a squadron leader during the war, shot down three US aircraft in a single battle with his high art of aviation and marksmanship. Sin Chang Hwal blew up two pillboxes to open up the route of charge for his unit in an offensive action on Height 351 and killed and injured over 60 enemy soldiers as he defended the height alone, making a tangible contribution to the victory in the battle. Ceremonies were held before their remains were buried. The remains of the already buried martyrs, Ri Song Jik (Ri Ryong Hak) and Kim Ui Gwon, were also interred with their husbands'. The participants laid bouquets at their graves and observed a moment's silence in memory of them.



Remains of DPRK heroes, Kim Ryong Su, U In Sop and Sin Chang Hwal are buried in the Fatherland Liberation War Martyrs Cemetery.

Economic sectors make strenuous efforts to ensure sustainable production

KCNA

Many units of the national economy carry out their daily plans for the second half of the year without fail while breaking through head-on manifold hardships and difficulties. The Namhung Youth Chemical Complex, the Hungnam Fertilizer Complex and other units in the field of the chemical industry have set high increased production targets, provide technical and equipment management scrupulously and accelerate the current production to execute their plans for the production of fertilizer for the present manuring year in time unconditionally. And they persistently push forward with the projects to consolidate the foundations for future production according to the phased plans, which would positively contribute to producing substantial results desired and welcomed by the people. The Pyongyang, East Pyongyang and Sunchon thermal power stations and others across the country give precedence to the equipment and technical management over all other work and make sure that no defects are found in operating the generating equipment. The Hochongang and Jangjingang power stations and other hydropower plants continue to direct efforts to building up the foundations for future production, while increasing power generation by organizing the management of water and maintenance of equipment carefully to meet the conditions of rainy season. The major coal-mining complexes introduce rational tunnelling and hewing methods, raise the proportion of work done by machines in coal pits and simultaneously press on with the present production and readjustment and reinforcement. The Taean Heavy Machine Complex, the Ryongsong Machine Complex and the



The Sangwon Cement Complex manages equipment and technology in a responsible manner to increase production.

RI TONG MYONG / RODONG SINMUN

Nationwide intensive medical checkup organized, epidemic control and management system strengthened

KCNA

In the DPRK, a society-wide, all-people struggle has further been intensified to fully implement the anti-epidemic policy and measures of the Workers' Party of Korea and the state and hasten a great anti-epidemic victory by completely dissolving the epidemic crisis. The state emergency epidemic prevention headquarters organized a nationwide intensive medical checkup to detect cases of various kinds of infectious diseases in their early stages, establish quarantine and treatment measures and stop the spread of the epidemic. While drawing all the residents into the intensive medical checkup, the emergency anti-epidemic units at all levels carry out the checkup on everyone in their respective areas including those from other areas of the country such as long-term travelers. Medical checkups in relevant areas take on a more concrete shape and medical observation is stepped up at relevant areas while specialized treatment measures are being taken as soon as abnormal symptoms are discovered. Experts specializing in viral and respiratory diseases from relevant medical research institutions closely observe the possible spread and outbreak of new variants of COVID-19 with vigilance. And the work to establish a new analyzing process which can regularly and carefully observe the outbreak and spread of various kinds of infectious diseases is pushed ahead with. PCR tests on water and drinking water collected from major rivers and reservoirs in borderline areas, dust collected from

Epidemic prevention capacity enhanced, emergency action plan detailed to provide for climate change

KCNA

Two months have passed since medics of the Korean People's Army were urgently committed to hundreds of pharmacies in Pyongyang. The pharmacies once congested with the people have now calmed down, but their posts of defending the people's lives and security remain unchanged. The KPA servicemen are seen standing in front of pharmacies even at midnight. When asked why they stand guard without rest, they answer in unison that they stay out there because they are afraid that residents who come to pharmacies late at night would hesitate to get in and go back home without buying medicines. "My baby was ill. So I ran to the pharmacy in the early morning, wondering if it would be open that time. But at the sight of KPA medics welcoming me in front of it I gave a sigh of relief," said Choe Kum Hui, a resident of neighbourhood unit No. 43 in Othan-dong, Central District. As soon as they heard about the symptoms of her daughter, they immediately prepared medicines and ran to her home to give medical treatment to her, she added. Late at night on one day in mid-June, a postgraduate student at Pyongyang University of Agriculture ran to a medicines counter of the Kuryongsan shop and asked medics for help, saying that his mother was suddenly suffering from an ill-defined disease. The army medics immediately rushed to his house and gave her first-aid before sending her to the special hospital by their military vehicle. They sat up all night with the patient until she recovered consciousness the following day. Such impressive stories about KPA medics who safeguard health and personal safety of the people are told at every pharmacy in Pyongyang. "We have a 'field treatment experience diary' beside the 'notebook on service of medicines to our families' in our pharmacy. Recorded in the diary are experiences that the army medics have gained with painstaking efforts through medical treatments of patients to this day, including dosages of medicines according to physical constitution, weight and congenital disease of each person and their administrations," said Ri Kum Suk, an employee of the Taesong Ryonghung Pharmacy. "Whoever they are, the people are all our parents and brothers. We won't be hesitant on our way to defend their lives and will find many new works to do for them, give orders to ourselves and carry them out," said KPA medic Kim So Hyok. Now pharmacies have become fairly quiet, but KPA medics and their military cars are on standby for 24 hours, fully ready to work for personal safety and health of the people.

July 22
Top emergency anti-epidemic system in operation
72 days

COVID-19 situation in DPRK

According to the state emergency epidemic prevention headquarters, over 140 persons contracted fever and more than 170 others fully recovered in the DPRK from 18:00 on July 20 to 18:00 on July 21.

A total of more than 4 772 440 persons caught fever nationwide between late April and 18:00 on July 21. Of them, over 4 772 030 (99.991%) fully recovered and at least 330 (0.007%) were undergoing treatment.

Economic sectors work to prevent damage from extreme weather

By Kim Il Jin PT

All sectors and units of the national economy step up production on the alert for extreme weather conditions.

The Cabinet and other economic guidance organs carefully plan and command the work to uninterruptedly push ahead with production and construction, while making full preparations to provide for torrential and heavy rain and strong wind.

Factories and enterprises in the chemical industry sector maintain heightened vigilance.

The Namhung Youth Chemical Complex, the Hungnam Fertilizer Complex, the February 8 Vinalon Complex and other major chemical factories speed up the production of chemical products while taking strict measures to ensure the safety of the objects vulnerable to damage.

Other units in the chemical

industry sector also organize work to find and remedy imperfections as part of the effort to prevent damage from flood, downpour and strong wind.

The electric power industry sector also concentrates effort on the prevention of damage from natural disasters.

Thermal power plants in different parts of the country, including the Pukchang Thermal Power Complex and the Pyongyang Thermal Power Station, take

appropriate steps to identify and remove risk factors in case of emergency and scrupulously organize and command the production for increased output of electric power.

The workers of hydropower stations work to enhance the safety of hydraulic structures like dams and holes for intermediate intake and ensure normal operation of equipment so that they can open and close sluice gates at any time.

The coal industry sector also takes practical steps to prevent damage in the rainy season.

The Pukchang Area Youth Coal-mining Complex, the Kaechon Area Coal-mining Complex and other units focus on readjusting and reinforcing the drainage system of pits and increasing the conveyance capacity as they step up coal production.

In the rail transport sector necessary measures are taken to prevent accidents

of various kinds which may occur in the rainy season and responsibly ensure the transportation of materials of different sectors of the national economy.

Precautionary actions have been taken to protect building materials and construction equipment from damage and the construction is pushed with vigour continuously in major projects like the construction of 10 000 flats in the Hwasong area and the Ryonpho greenhouse farm.



KIM YONG CHAN / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

Tongnim County of North Phyongan Province concentrates all possible efforts on river management.



JON KWANG HUN / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

The State Hydro-Meteorological Administration channels efforts into ensuring promptness, correctness and scientific accuracy of weather forecast.

Efforts for minimizing damage in rainy season

By Jong Chol PT

South Hwanghae

Agricultural workers of South Hwanghae Province, the largest agricultural province and major granary of the country, are striving to protect crops from damage by flood, downpour and strong wind.

The province makes a detailed synthesis and analysis of regional situations in order to find out any slight risk factor and take prompt measures.

It has organized a command team and established a duplex communication system at reservoirs and drainage lock gates and pumping stations, so as to ensure promptness in control and guidance when disasters strike.

the dredging of medium-sized and small rivers and the repair and stone covering of banks.

Since the warning of downpour, heavy rain and strong wind has been issued, farms in Yonan and Ryongyon counties keep up with the conditions of pumping and power equipment and ensure power supply based on the double source system.

Farmers in the counties prioritize the work to prevent inundation including the clear-up of waterways and forming of drainage channels and ditches while taking measures to prevent the fall of rice stems and maize stalks.

Farms in Anak, Paechon and Pyoksong counties dig ditches deeper at the edges of fields, between them and around plots to increase drainage capacity and scientifically manure and tend crops to create conditions favourable for their growth.

Komdok area

The Korean People's Army units involved in the housing construction project in the Komdok area have taken measures to protect buildings, materials and equipment from natural disasters.

The construction headquarters is arranging work to evacuate builders and machinery to safe areas in an emergency situation, while locating relevant personnel at dangerous places to observe the water level round the clock.

It ordered all construction units to equip buildings under

construction and material storehouses with the facilities for preventing damage, while making sure that the digging of ditches and building of embankments, retaining walls and drainage facilities are carried on in the lowland construction areas.

Construction units at all levels have established an alert system and taken measures to prevent any slight damage.

The same is true at iron ore mines in different parts of the country.

the awareness of working people to finish the planned afforestation for erosion control in a short period.

Farms in Janggang County are doing their best for proper manuring and tending of crops as they dig drainage channels and ditches, bind maize by several stalks and stretching straw ropes around cornfields.

The mountainous county of Songwon is taking precautionary steps to protect

dwelling houses, farmland, railways and roads from flood and landslide, while Huichon City and Tongsin County are channelling efforts into the repair of embankments and technical upgrading of roads and bridges.

Kanggye City and Songgan and Jasong counties have made extensive reexaminations of their land management to take thoroughgoing measures to leave nothing to be desired.

Waterway management stations

Officials and workers in the irrigation sector have turned out in the struggle to prevent damage from downpour and heavy rainfall. They strive to ensure the safety of reservoirs and waterways.

The Paengma-Cholsan Waterway Management Station has measured the water level of reservoirs in real time, promptly removing the dangerous factors in waterway dikes and structures. It also takes steps to prevent mountain

streams from flowing into reservoirs and waterways.

The Miru Plain Waterway Management Station has made full preparations for dispatching the force to relevant areas in case of a critical situation while taking necessary measures in consideration of piled earth and sand on the beds of the waterways.

The same is true at other irrigation management stations across the country.

Jagang

Jagang province has mobilized and concentrated all efforts and means on the prevention of damage in the rainy season.

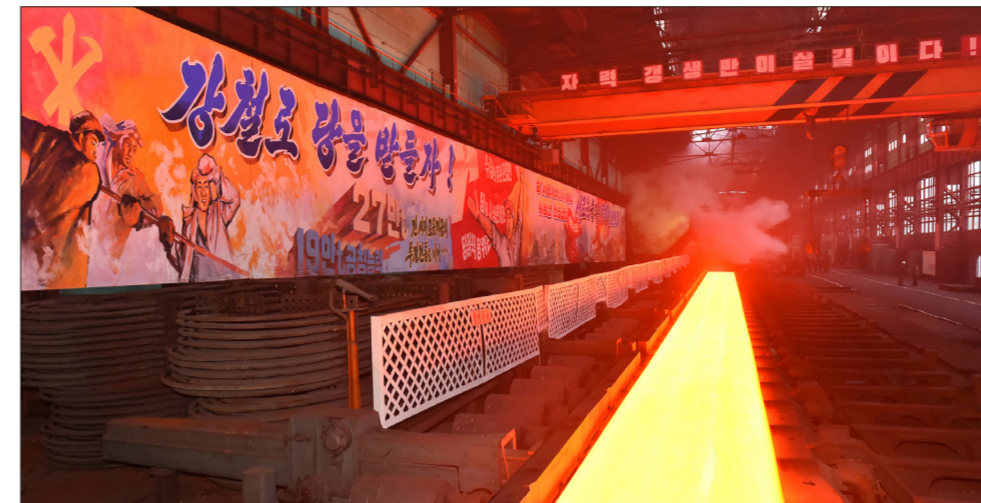
All the cities and counties in the province are taking scrupulous measures to prevent natural disasters as they strengthen the monitoring and information system to cope with the

calamitous abnormal weather.

At present, the province has carried out over a million cubic metres of river dredging and over 90 kilometres of embankment repair, and all farms are concentrating their energies on minimizing the damage to crops by abnormal weather.

Choson County heightened

Complex paves way for sustainable growth



The Kim Chaek Iron and Steel Complex registers good results in the production of iron and steel.



Pig iron, steel production increases

By Jong Hwa Sun PT

The Kim Chaek Iron and Steel Complex is increasing the production of pig iron and rolled steel.

With a rational technical plan to raise the productivity of the large-size oxygen plant, the complex has installed more equipment and further perfected relevant operation methods to increase the production of oxygen.

While scrupulously doing the maintenance of the boilers and body system of the oxygen blast furnace, it makes the operation of the furnace scientific in accordance with the purity and amount of oxygen blown into the furnace.

Efforts are put into improving

the quality of molten iron while reducing the oxygen converter's consumption of oxygen per unit, and intensive repair of major equipment has been done to increase the production of steel.

The hot rolling workshop is conducting a mass technical innovation drive to produce quality rolled steel.

The unit responsible for the transport and supply of concentrated iron ore has built an accessory production base to ensure the full operation of equipment and widely introduces technical innovation plans.

Thus the complex has brought about stable production results even in the difficult situation since the top emergency anti-epidemic system was put into operation in May.

Technical innovation plans introduced

By Chae Hyang Ok PT

The Kim Chaek Iron and Steel Complex has developed valuable technical innovation plans to produce larger quantities of iron and steel.

The steel ingot management workshop refashioned the main devices of cranes and ingot cutting machines to suit the actual conditions to reap benefits.

The workshop explored the ways of introducing advanced technologies on various electrical apparatuses of cranes to suit the specific conditions and refashioned the electrical devices of cranes by pooling the ideas of the collective. As a result, it became able to

increase the operating time of cranes and save a great deal of materials and parts previously consumed for their repairs.

The workshop also refashioned the electrical apparatuses of the ingot cutting machines most recently. A workshop official attributed the success to the fact that all the employees have become avid readers at the sci-tech learning space.

The gas generator workshop searched and introduced a rational generator operating method, thereby ensuring a satisfactory supply of gas for iron and steel production. And the oxygen plant branch factory has successfully solved technical problems arising in the operation of the oxygen plant.

Complex steps up production of ordered equipment

By Kil Chung Il PT

The Ranam Coal-mining Machine Complex widely encourages innovation in the production of custom-built equipment and their parts.

It focuses on streamlining the process of materials production, the first process of

production.

To this end, the complex established a combustion model casting process and digitized the drying and other furnaces to operate them in a more scientific way and remove the lopsidedness of materials production.

It also refashioned the annealing furnace, which

plays an important role in processing various kinds of parts, to make it more effective.

It installed devices which can help markedly reduce loss of heat to provide the furnace with enough temperature. As a result, the coal consumption for heating one ton of materials declined, the

heat treatment ability improved and the parts processing speed got faster than before.

The complex also presses on with the work to technically perfect all the production processes. In the course of it, it restored rolled steel and scraper chain conveyor production processes to their original state.

Especially, they did not simply restore the rolled steel production process but remodelled it into a labour- and energy-saving one.

They additionally fixed an inertial device to double the capacity of the equipment, reduce the power consumption and reuse the industrial water.



Kumuyagang Power Station Unit 2 boosts power generation.

SO NAM IL / RODONG SINMUN



Miner only cares for increasing coal production

By Ri Myong Jun PT

The youth mining workteam of Pit No. 2 of the Namdok Coal Mine of the Pukchang Area Youth Coal-mining Complex overfulfils its production plan every year and maintains a leading position in the mine in all aspects.

The miners attribute their success to the selfless devotion of workteam leader Pak Yong Bok (pictured) who always racks his brain and works hard to boost production.

"As Pak started working in the pit over 30 years ago, he made up his mind to devote his efforts and conscience to the prosperity of the country like coal which gives light and heat by burning itself," recalled An Un Gyun, manager of the mine.

He added that such burning passion of Pak has never changed since his youth until today when he is a grey-haired man.

Since he embarked on a coal miner's career after finishing his middle school course, he did the work of two or three and was always the first to take charge of difficult and labour-consuming works.

He always made strenuous efforts to mine more coal and thus came up with many technical innovation plans conducive to production growth.

Recently, he invented a highly efficient mining machine part.

Though he is now a workteam leader, he loves to work with miners in the pit and sometimes repairs faults as if he were a maintenance man or repairer.

That is why the coal miners call him a man who cares only about coal.

"He always says that miners who work in deep pits should know how to devote their sincerity to the underground work and the amount of coal a miner produces depends on his sincerity," said coal miner Kim Yong Chol.

Kim added that Pak who devotes all his conscience and sincerity to expanding coal output is a role model for his workteam members showing them how a coal miner should contribute to the country's prosperity with coal.

On the occasion of the Day of the Sun (April 15) this year, Pak Yong Bok was awarded the title of Merited Coal Miner.

Farm benefits from food production cycle in animal husbandry



KIM KANG CHOL / RODONG SINMUN

Livestock farming gains momentum in the Ryongjung Farm of Mundok County, South Phyongan Province.

By Chae Hyang Ok PT

The Ryongjung Farm in Mundok County of South Phyongan Province obtains substantial benefit from livestock farming.

Generally, farms on the lowlands use almost all farmland for the growing of grain crops. So they have unfavourable conditions for animal husbandry.

For this reason, the farm paid little attention to livestock farming, recalled an official of its management board.

Therefore, the production of manure fell, making it impossible to increase cereal production.

To solve the problem the farm set a goal to create a food production cycle by activating livestock farming.

It built a hothouse pigsty covering over a thousand square metres to cultivate vegetables there and expanded the poultry house.

And it secured good breeds of chicken, duck and goose that grow quickly and are highly productive and applied various kinds of additives, which help decrease the feed units of domestic animals while raising their fattening rate, to improve the quality of non-grain feed.

At the same time it treated poultry excrement with bacteria to use it as feed for pigs.

The farm also invested great efforts in anti-epizootic work.

It encourages keepers to learn modern science and technology on animal husbandry so that they can solve the problems arising in stockbreeding in a scientific and technological way.

Scientific livestock farming has enabled the farm to boost livestock production every year.

The large-scale animal husbandry has helped the farm increase the production of manure, which in turn improved soil fertility of its farmland.

And finally it has made its name as a farm good at farming in the county.

Weeding in full swing across country

By To Kyong Chol PT

The weeding of cornfields and rice paddies is in full swing in the country's largest agricultural province of South Hwanghae Province.

Farms in Anak, Jaeryong and Sinchon counties carry out daily plans without fail while intensifying technical guidance on weeding.

The agricultural workers there work hard to weed the fields qualitatively.

Those in Paechon, Yonan and Chongdan counties tend paddies and non-paddies in a responsible manner.

Amid a socialist emulation

drive, progress is being made in South Phyongan Province.

The drive fires farmers' zeal as it is aimed at raising the wave of scientific farming in cities, counties, farms and workteams of the province, ensuring the quality of weeding and getting each unit to introduce appropriate weeding methods to suit their specific conditions.

North Hwanghae Province generalizes good experience of advanced units to increase success in weeding.

The efficient ploughing method introduced by Sohng County is being generalized.

The provincial rural economy committee

arranged demonstrations in an efficient way to widely apply the new ploughing method which proved advantageous last year. And it took steps to manufacture new-type ploughshares and supply them to farms.

Kangwon Province makes sure that rice paddies are manured and tilled effectively while putting big efforts into ensuring the quality of cornfield weeding.

Farms in Hocyang and other counties of the province inspire farmers to redouble efforts as they assess daily work-points in an efficient way by giving priority to the quality of work done.

Pride of a high-yield workteam

Workteam No. 3 of Chongsan Farm has dozens of college graduates

By Yun Ki Song PT

Workteam No. 3 of the Chongsan Farm in Kangso District, Nampho, is well-known as a high-yield workteam. It has dozens of college graduates, most of whom finished the college course by enrolling at the study-while-you-work system.

"In fact, I never thought of studying at the agricultural college originally," said a farmer of sub-workteam No. 2 who is studying at Chongsan College of Agriculture.

Seeing the sub-workteam leader, a graduate from the

college, do good farming every year with extensive knowledge, he keenly realized that without learning he could not farm well, he added.

So he made up his mind to become a college student.

"Sometimes I feel tired after working in the field all day long. But we cannot keep producing high-yield unless we do scientific farming. So I often harden my resolve to study harder," said a farmer in sub-workteam No. 1 who started the college last year.

Most of the workteam members are students or graduates of the college. They often discuss practical matters arising in farming

practice and share useful knowledge during breaks or after their day's work in the evening.

Especially now when the calamitous abnormal weather occurs frequently, they pool wisdom to find ways to provide for them beforehand and minimize damage.

"Knowledge is power. As we have dozens of college graduates, our workteam produces high yield by overcoming the challenges of nature by dint of science," said the workteam leader.

Today, many workteam members are high-yield farmers and the number is constantly increasing.

Technical innovation improves quality of hosiery

By Kim Kang Ju PT

The Pyongyang Hosiery Factory has introduced a variety of technical innovations to increase production and improve the quality of products.

It puts in primary effort to improve the dyeing process.

It puts fluorescent material in the pre-treatment process of dyed thread to produce bright and vivid colours and uses homemade caustic soda to give lustre to the dyed thread with no adverse effect on its intensity. It also ensures the density of thread with the high-temperature pressure dyeing.

The factory also remodelled the elements of weaving machine one by one to ensure normal production with locally available raw materials.

It introduced a production method of polyurethane-tetron compound thread to domestically produce neck fold of sheep, thereby drastically reducing the time and cost of production.

The factory also applied advanced techniques to

produce functional hosiery good for activity and health of the people.

It lowered the height of front-part seaming in the seaming process to serve the convenience of women and applied a heat treatment

technique to enhance the appearance of products.

In the course of this, hosiery of various kinds and shapes, patterns, colours and forms has been developed.

Among them, sports socks made to meet the

characteristics of each sports event are very popular with both professional players and amateurs.

Especially, football socks are much favoured as the factory improved their air permeability and buffer

action to lighten the burden of players.

The factory holds a new products show every week and it is a good occasion for encouraging the technical innovation drive among the employees.



PAK KWANG HUN / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

The quality of products is improved by introducing innovations at the Pyongyang Hosiery Factory.

Footwear produced by using recycling technology

By Ko Kwang Yon PT

The Pyongyang Footwear Factory produces different kinds of footwear using such waste materials as rubber and plastic.

It collects idle materials in a planned way in close contact with several purchasing shops in the city.

It has a waste vinyl exchange stand to secure a sufficient amount of materials for recycling.

Accordingly, technical problems are solved to improve the quality of shoes.

"Through the assiduous research for improving the utility rate of waste rubber, we found out a rational mixing ratio of reclaimed materials for shoe soles," said section chief Ri Chun Hui.

In order to produce shoe soles with recycled rubber, the factory manufactured several pieces of equipment like crusher and sorting and scouring machines and built a production line. It also makes an accelerating agent of rubber ensuring

its elasticity with domestic materials.

It also produces injection-moulded shoes with plastic waste and insoles highly resistant to water with waste paper.

It invented a technology of recirculating cooling water to introduce it in the production of shoe soles.

Much heat is given off by injectors for making shoe soles and the water is circulated to cool off the machines.

The factory applied the technology to recirculate the used water that was thrown away previously, thus increasing the actual yield of products while remarkably lowering the consumption of electricity and water.

In addition, it made a new reclaimed rubber desulphurizer which consumes 70 percent less electricity and has a twice higher capacity than the previous one, thus increasing the recycling capacity of waste rubber and reducing the consumption of crude rubber in the production of shoe soles.

Various kinds of functional cosmetics turned out

By Ri Myong Jun PT

The Pyongyang Cosmetics Factory in Phyongchon District of Pyongyang has developed and produced various kinds of functional cosmetics.

"Our factory has recently developed a variety of natural functional cosmetics including dyeing shampoo, liquid cream, lotion, conditioner and mousse. As they are made with natural substances without using organic chemical materials, they do not irritate the skin and have remarkably high moisturizing effect and antioxidation function, thereby winning growing popularity," said section chief Won Son Ju.

The growth promoting protein which is made in the pituitary gland of man is an essential physiological activator for preventing ageing by boosting the growth and metabolic function of the human body.

The main ingredient of these cosmetics is the cell growth agent which is made by applying bioengineering and nanotechnology,

products were unveiled recently, they have already become the favourite of many middle-aged and old people.

The factory also developed natural functional cosmetics which help improve the skin of the face in a short time as they contain the natural extracts of animals and plants including Kaesong Koryo insam and natural honey.



RYU KWANG HYOK / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

Gel-type toilet soaps roll off the production line at the Pyongyang Cosmetics Factory

advanced technologies. Unlike ordinary beauty products, these cosmetics constantly help preserve skin gloss and elasticity and effectively remove blotches and freckles. They also eliminate senile spots and pigmentation and make the horny layer smooth to reduce wrinkles.

According to key developers, though the

Textile mill boosts production by dint of innovation

By Kim Kum Myong PT

The Sinuju Textile Mill which overfulfilled its plan for the first half of this year by 3% is energizing production by dint of mass technical innovation.

Over 40 technical innovation plans and inventions including the domestic production of belts for carding machines were introduced to increase textile production.

By adhering to reliance on homemade equipment and recycling as the main link in the effort for production growth, weaving workshop No. 2 recycled the head of supply staffs and thus saved materials and improved the quality of products.

The dyeing workshop remodelled some parts of pumps by relying on its own technical forces to ensure their normal operation.



The sky over the Taedong River tinged with evening glow.

KIM HYOK CHOL / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

'Honour to the great years'

Koreans make history in war

By Ri Sung Ik PT

The Fatherland Liberation War was indeed a challenging struggle and a do-or-die battle for the young DPRK which was only two years old.

At that time, no one could possibly imagine that the Korean people would emerge victorious in the war which could be called a confrontation between a rifle and an atomic bomb.

However, they defended the freedom and independence of the country with honour and performed a miracle unprecedented in the world history of war.

To the Koreans who keenly felt the sorrow of a ruined nation under Japan's military rule, the five years they spent as masters of land, factories and the country after General Kim Il Sung liberated Korea were more precious than their lives.

Therefore, many young people of the country volunteered to fight on the frontline in response to Supreme Commander Kim Il Sung's call for committing everything for victory in the war.

Already on June 26 1950, the second day of the war, a soldier of the Korean People's Army laid down his life to open up the route of charge and became a DPRK hero.

The military feats of the coast artillerymen on Wolmi Island are a clear manifestation of how the Korean people fought to defend their home and fatherland.

They defended the island with

only four guns against 50 000-strong US forces to smash the aggressors' large-scale landing at Inchon.

The defenders of Height 1211 dealt a deadly blow to the enemies by dragging direct-firing guns onto the hill and safeguarded the height to the end.

For their precious fatherland and beloved parents and brothers and sisters, the soldiers became human bombs charging at enemy planes, tanks and warships and blocked the embrasures of enemy pillboxes with their chests to ensure the advance of their units.

The people's and children's guerrilla units behind the enemy lines destroyed the aggressors in various places, while the people in the rear produced and transported war supplies at the risk of their lives upholding the slogan "The rear is, as it were, the front!" set forth by the Supreme Commander and peasants showed patriotic devotion in the struggle for increasing food production in the wartime years.

On July 27 1953, the Korean people won a great victory in the Fatherland Liberation War.

The victory of the Korean people who defeated the US imperialist aggressors, who boasted of being the "strongest in the world", by displaying an indomitable fighting spirit and unparalleled bravery for the fatherland, the new people's world, which can never be lost again was etched as a miracle in the world history of war.



Bouquets and flowers reflect the intention to firmly succeed the spirit of defending the country displayed by victorious wartime generation.

War veterans and children pay floral tribute at the Fatherland Liberation War Martyrs Cemetery.



HONG KWANG NAM / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

Spirit of victorious wartime generation carried on

By Kim Kang Ju PT

The spirit of the victorious wartime generation has been carried forward generation after generation.

On the occasion of war victory day and other national anniversaries many people visit the statues and cemeteries of Fatherland Liberation War martyrs, the memorial tower for and graves of the fallen soldiers of the Korean People's Army.

A total of over 1 906 000 persons visited the Fatherland Liberation War Martyrs Cemetery in the past nine years since it was built in Pyongyang.

The bouquets and flowers laid

in honour of martyrs reflect their intention to firmly succeed the spirit of defending the country displayed by the victorious wartime generation.

And a total of more than 3 069 000 Koreans have visited the Victorious Fatherland Liberation War Museum since its renovation in July 2013.

A variety of events are held in celebration of war victory day every year.

Lots of young people join the army every year as they regard devoting their youth to national defence as their most sacred duty and honour, and citizens regard national defence as the highest

expression of patriotism and make it a family tradition to join the army for national defence.

The respected Comrade Kim Jong Un, who visited the Fatherland Liberation War Martyrs Cemetery in July last year to pay tribute to martyrs, said that no matter how much time may elapse and how many times a generation is replaced by another, the noble revolutionary spirit and heroic feats of the victorious wartime generation would dynamically propel the victorious advance of the Korean people towards a fresh victory of the revolution, steadily inspiring and sublimating patriotism and fighting zeal of the rising generations.

Juche-oriented war tactics work miracles

By Pang Un Ju PT

The unique Juche-based art of war created by Supreme Commander

Kim Il Sung during the Fatherland Liberation War brought about miracles to be specially etched in the world history of war.

Typical example of modern siege warfare

After the defense line along the Kum River, which the enemy called a "line of no retreat" and "last defense line", was crumbled like a sand castle by the fierce offensive of the Korean People's Army units in the beginning of the war, the US imperialists attempted to defend the Taejon line by moving new troops towards it, while building strong defense around the area.

Taejon was the "temporary capital" of south Korea puppets at that

southeast of Taejon to attack the enemy from their flanks and block the roads in the south and southeast of the city to prevent them from retreating.

The units that advanced into Ronsan went over steep mountains to march to the west of Taejon and cut off the enemy's retreat in the south and southeast of it. Meanwhile, other KPA units in the direction of the main attack fell upon the enemy to advance into the northwest and north of the city. Thus, the encirclement of the city was completed.

After that, at dawn of July 20, the KPA combined units mounted a fierce attack on the streets of the city.

A small unit that dashed into the city before others confused and disintegrated the enemy from within through strong and adroit combat actions, while a storming party attacking the city from the west destroyed an artillery position deep in the enemy troop disposition all of a sudden.

The enemy troops made frantic attempts to get out of the siege and retreat, but met a wholesale death brought by the KPA unit who were blocking

their withdrawal route. The US 1st Cavalry Division attempted to rescue their forces from encirclement, but was driven back and wiped out at the southeast of the city.

Under the seasoned command of Kim Il Sung, the KPA units mounted a fierce attack on the enemy troops as they made close combined efforts with one another and applied unique and adroit tactics, thus killing large numbers of enemies, including the US 24th Infantry Division which they boasted of as an "invincible division", and liberating Taejon.

They killed, wounded or captured large numbers of enemies including Dean, commander of the 24th Infantry Division, and destroyed a great deal of weapons and combat and technical equipment.

The operation to liberate Taejon was a typical example of modern siege warfare, which was carried out successfully thanks to the original Juche-oriented war tactics and outstanding art of command of

Kim Il Sung.

Miracle in world history of naval warfare

A task force of the US 7th Fleet that intruded into the East Sea of Korea tried to obstruct a KPA combined unit advancing along the east coastline by means of bombardment.

On the second day after the liberation of Seoul, Kim Il Sung summoned the admiral of the navy in order to ensure a successful counterattack by the main units and gave him an order to move out the 2nd Torpedo Boat Fleet to destroy the group of warships.

He told the admiral astonished at the order: The enemies think our naval fleet is no match for them and they must be off guard. This is just the weak point of the boastful enemy.

He then set H-hour to 3 a.m. on July 2 and explained the details of an attack plan.

True to his order, the KPA sailors sank the heavy cruiser, which had been called a "moving island in the sea", and damaged a light cruiser with four torpedo boats, creating a legend in the world history of naval warfare.

Respect for war veterans a social trait

By Hwang Jong Ryol PT

Respecting war veterans and giving them preferential treatment is a social and national trait in the DPRK.

Many people visit the house of Ri Chang Ryong, a war veteran living in neighbourhood unit No. 101, Ryukkyo-dong No. 2 in Phyongchon District, Pyongyang.

Among them are officials of the district Party and people's committees.

"Not only on holidays and rest days, but on ordinary days they come to our house to look after my husband and me with sincerity. They really made a good impression on us," said the war veteran's wife.

Whenever they visit her family, they ask about inconveniences and health and solve any problems in the family life preferentially, she said. "They are more careful than our own children."

"Whenever I meet them, they earnestly ask me to pay special attention to my health as I am in an advanced age. From them I feel the love of my own flesh and blood living and sharing affection in one family and in one house," said war veteran Ri.

Similar stories are told about officials and working people who take responsible care of war veterans and their life in any units and areas across the country.

The family of war veteran Pak Tong Chon, living in neighbourhood unit No. 9 of Sinhung-dong No. 2, Tongdaewon District, Pyongyang, has a diary his family members regard as its heirloom.

Written in it are kind deeds of many people who maintain as intimate relations as his family members. According to him, an increasing number of people look after his family and he could no longer keep mum about their laudable deeds. So he began to record them in a diary and it has grown that thick.

They include stories about officials of the Tongdaewon District Party committee who take care of his family like his children, a mother and daughter teachers in the district who have developed so close relations with the veteran's family that they have become his "true daughters", the dong officials and friendly neighbours who visit him with fresh early fruits in each season and young university students who often come with song

and dance to help the old couple lead a cheerful life. These impressive stories mirror the true features of the DPRK society in which everyone respects war veterans and gives preferential treatment to them.

However, the heroes of these touching stories regard it as the thing they ought to do.

"This book, an heirloom of my family, tells about the younger generations whose spirit and traits are as much excellent and beautiful as those of my generation. They convince me of the rosy future of the country in which our life will become more fulfilling and wonderful," said Pak.



File photo shows soldiers of the Korean People's Army shouting hurrah on a height after winning a battle.



AN YONG CHOL / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

Students of Pyongyang University of Publishing and Printing Industry visit the house of war veteran Ri Chang Ryong living in neighbourhood unit No. 101, Ryukkyo-dong No. 2 of Phyongchon District, Pyongyang.

US MUST NOT FORGET DISGRACEFUL DEFEAT OF THE PAST

PROVIDED TO THE PYONGYANG TIMES

More than 70 years have passed since the 1950s when the US brought ravages of war to this land.

The bygone days and today's reality show that US imperialism is fated to be a loser in the DPRK-US showdown from the historical point of view and that humankind is the same as before in its ardent aspiration for safeguarding justice and truth.

Today, the international community bitterly denounces the reckless behaviour of the US which clings to its indiscreet policy hostile to the DPRK in an attempt to put the situation on the Korean peninsula again into a vicious cycle of tension. They are also raising their voices in support of the righteous stand

and measures of the Party and the government of our Republic to safeguard national sovereignty and dignity and to ensure peace and security of the Korean peninsula and the region.

Prestigious Russian experts on international affairs, including researchers of the Institute of Oriental Studies and the Institute of Far East of the Russian Academy of Sciences branded the US as the mastermind of disturbing stability on the Korean peninsula, which has posed a nuclear threat to the DPRK since the 1950s.

Saying that the US wild ambition for world hegemony has not changed even a bit after many years, they underlined the fact that the US is increasing military tension on the Korean peninsula by continuously bringing in many troops and ultra-modern weapons to south Korea, and

that it is making a desperate bid to create an "Asian version of NATO".

They also asserted that this shows that lasting peace on Earth cannot be ensured as long as US imperialism exists and that only military buildup is the best way to defend peace and security.

The Korean War Veterans' Council of Russia, the Russia-Korea Friendship Association and other social organizations, through their interviews and statements, took the US, the provoker of the past Korean war and the main aggravator of tension on the Korean peninsula at present, to task for its dangerous moves of posing military threats.

The Korean War Veterans' Council of Russia issued the following statement:

The US and south Korean trigger-happy elements are building up tension on the Korean peninsula, oblivious

of the historic lesson learnt 72 years ago. Lasting peace and stability can never be ensured as long as imperialism remains on Earth. We condemn the US for its attempt to bring dark clouds of a new war while being engrossed in arms buildup in defiance of peaceful proposals from the DPRK.

Voices ringing out from different circles of Russia are due condemnation of the US, which is aggravating the situation on the Korean peninsula while remaining unchanged in its policy of isolating and putting pressure on the DPRK, without drawing lessons from its bitter defeat in the last century.

If the US forgets even for a single moment about its disgraceful defeat it had suffered in the past history of DPRK-US showdown, it will only speed up its miserable downfall.

OPINION

Who is the expansion of military blocs aimed at?

By Kim Yong Ho

Recently, a consultative meeting on national security was held in Khabarovsk, Russia.

At the meeting, the secretary general of the Security Council of the Russian Federation blamed NATO for making continuous provocation in the areas near the western border of Russia. At the same time, he criticized "AUKUS" for aggravating the regional situation in the eastern region.

Given that the US and its following forces are tightening the encirclement ring around Russia from all sides, the Far Eastern region should not slacken vigilance, but make itself prepared for the US military moves, he emphasized.

This should be said as a correct judgment and a right decision on the ever-worsening military moves of the US against Russia.

The US is now trying to spread a global military encirclement net by expanding and linking together the US-led military blocs such as "AUKUS", "Quad" and "Five Eyes".

This has been substantiated by the fact that the US recently summoned the Japanese and south Korean rulers to the NATO summit for the first time in history and urged them to form "security partnership" with NATO.

Whom the US military move is aimed at is not a subject for question or debate.

The military scheme of the US is to expand the operational range of NATO, the tool for realizing its hegemonic strategy and the headquarters of local invasion, into the Asia-Pacific region as well as North Atlantic to contain the anti-imperialist countries and big powers in the region, thus maintaining the hegemonic position at all costs.

The US is posing a constant threat to security environment of Russia with its dangerous military confrontation. In response to this, Russia is taking a series of practical measures to firmly safeguard the country's security.

To name a few examples, Russia conducted in early June this year a large-scale maritime military exercise in the waters of the Pacific with the participation of 40-odd warships including the frigate "Marshal Shaposhnikov", 20 fighter planes and helicopters. It also plans to newly commission three submarines to the Pacific Fleet by the end of this year.

The US act of threatening sovereign states by forming an "Asian version of NATO" will only be met with a strong rebuff and countermeasures from the countries in the region that are trying to safeguard the security and peace of the region.

The author is secretary general of the Korea-Russia Association for Promotion of Exchange and Cooperation

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China's 'three concerns' over situation in Ukraine

PROVIDED TO THE PYONGYANG TIMES

Recently, the G20 foreign ministerial meeting was held in Bali, Indonesia. During the meeting, talks were also held between Wang Yi, state councillor and minister of Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of China, and his Indian counterpart. At the talks, the Chinese foreign minister expressed the following "three concerns" of his country vis-à-vis the current situation in Ukraine:

First, China opposes the acts of taking opportunity to stir up the cold-war mentality and instigate a "new cold war" under the pretext of confrontation between camps.

Second, China opposes the acts that infringe upon the sovereignty and territorial integrity of China by applying double standard.

Some countries are underscoring the principle of sovereignty in relation to the Ukrainian issue.

But when it comes to the Taiwan issue, they continue to challenge the Chinese sovereignty and the principle of "One China". Worse still, they are deliberately straining the situation in the Taiwan Straits. Needless to say, this is an open double standard. China vetoes any attempt to regard the Taiwan issue in the same light with the Ukrainian situation and will firmly safeguard the core interests of the country.

Third, China opposes the infringement upon the legitimate right to development and interests of other country.

Some countries use the Ukrainian situation as an excuse to recklessly impose unilateral sanctions upon other countries including China. This is an unjust and illegal act. Such an act also disrupts the ordinary exchanges between countries and runs counter to the general rule of international trade. It has already complicated and amplified the Ukrainian situation.

Then let us look at who has

caused such concerns of China expressed by Wang Yi, minister of Foreign Affairs.

During the G20 foreign ministerial meeting, the US state secretary said that China's support to Russia in the Ukrainian issue is making US-China relations much more complicated. Meanwhile, the minister of Foreign Affairs of China strongly criticized the US for framing up a "new cold war", interfering in the Taiwan issue and imposing unilateral sanctions against China.

Taking advantage of the Ukrainian situation, the US is arousing public opinion about "China's invasion of Taiwan" and increasing its politico-military aid for Taiwan more than ever before. At the same time, it is making an all-out attempt to intercept the regular exchange and cooperation between China and Russia by imposing unilateral sanctions upon individual businesses of China.

In particular, the US, which

formed a series of anti-China blocs such as "Quad", "AUKUS", "PBP" (Partners in Blue Pacific) and "IPEF" (Indo-Pacific Economic Framework), has recently designated China as a "systematic challenge" in the document containing "strategic concept" of NATO. Like this, the US is trying to tighten the siege of China by forming a military alliance like "NATO" in the Asia-Pacific region.

It is the same old trick of the US that it seeks its hegemonic interests by triggering war, division and conflict between countries and nations everywhere while wantonly infringing upon the sovereignty of other countries.

If the US continues to go against the trend of the times by persistently clinging to the "new cold war" policy, it will only suffer a bitter defeat in the face of strong opposition and rejection from the international society that aspires after justice and peace.

Briefly

China

FM censures US, its allies for war crimes

A spokesman for the Chinese Foreign Ministry denounced the war crimes and human rights violations committed by the US and its allies in a press conference on July 18.

Answering a question related to the members of the UK special forces stationed in Afghanistan, who killed prisoners of war and bare-handed civilians on several occasions and even held a "killing competition", he said the facts are creating consternation and indignation of people.

He stressed the need for the international community to thoroughly investigate their war crimes and human rights abuses.

Russia

Countermeasures against Japan

On July 15, the Russian Foreign Ministry announced a countermeasure against the sanctions Japan has imposed on it.

It said that Russia would prohibit 384 Japanese dietmen from entering the country in reaction to the sanctions Japan applied in April to individual personages and objects of Russia for unreasonable reasons.

Japanese politicians are waging an unfounded smear campaign with hostile attitude to Russia, it noted.

US

China, Russia censure Americans for overthrow schemes

John Bolton, former national security advisor of the White House, confessed that he had cooperated on a plan for a coup in other country.

A spokesman for the Chinese Foreign Ministry said on July 13 that it was not surprising at all that a former US official acknowledged he was involved in a conspiracy against the government of a country.

On the same day, the chairman of the international affairs committee of the State Duma of Russia noted that Bolton's admission should not be rated as a "shocking confession".

WHO

Children with acute hepatitis on increase

According to the World Health Organization, more than 1 000 children contracted acute hepatitis from unidentified cause in 35 countries and regions as of July 13.

Of them 22 were reportedly dead.

COVID-19

Global casualties

According to a foreign news report, 570 456 526 persons were infected with the novel coronavirus worldwide as of 24:00 on July 20, of whom 6 393 738 were dead and 22 548 287 were undergoing treatment.

Homicides between family members unchecked in Japan



Yun Kyong Il, PT staff reporter

Cold-blooded killing between family members continues to take place in Japan, fuelling widespread public unrest and fear.

A man recently beat his 73-year-old father to death in Kanagawa Prefecture.

The old man with a serious bruise was driven to hospital, but failed to come round.

A few days later, the other man hit his 85-year-old wife to death in Chiba City of Chiba Prefecture. The head of the victim reportedly bore marks of a reckless assault.

A criminal who was arrested in June on suspicion of homicide had killed his mother by repeatedly hitting her on the head with a one-metre-long wooden sword. She was

thus killed by her eldest son living together due to bleeding caused by blows and serious damage to the skull.

On June 12, a 77-year-old woman was found dead in a flat in Kochi Prefecture. An investigation showed that her 80-year-old husband had strangled her with a string.

It was also revealed that a woman threw out her newborn

baby girl in Osaka City, to the consternation of all. The 28-year-old put the baby in a vinyl mesh bag and left it in a parking lot. At the time of discovery, the dead body carried the umbilical cord.

On July 3, a man beat his 82-year-old mother on several occasions, thus putting her in a coma. She was driven to hospital, but died soon.

Killing between parents and children and between husbands and wives has become commonplace in Japanese society where extreme individualism, misanthropy and immorality and depravity are rampant.

BYWORD

New standard of Juche-oriented architecture

In the midst of completing large construction projects, each of which is equivalent to building a modern street, one after another every year, new standards and models of Juche-oriented architecture have been created in the construction sector in the DPRK.

Such creations reflecting the wisdom and talents of the Korean people as the centre

and rural villages of the City of Samjiyon, Ryomyong Street, Mirae Scientists Street, the Jungphoyong Vegetable Greenhouse Farm, the Sci-Tech Complex and the Yangdok Hot Spring Resort are great masterpieces of Juche-oriented architecture with which the country can boast about the new development of civilization in the era of the Workers' Party.

The City of Samjiyon, which has been turned into a modern mountainous city of culture, 10 000 modern flats in the Songsin and Songhwa area of Pyongyang and the terraced houses district, which changed the Pothong riverside into a terrace like a beautiful bead of string, help viewers estimate the level of civilization of Korean-style socialism conceived and

planned by the Workers' Party of Korea.

It is the decision of the WPK to turn the country into an ideal socialist country, a socialist paradise where people enjoy the highest level of civilization and live a comfortable and harmonious life, by radically improving the living environment of the people across the country in the coming 20-30 years.

COACH'S IMAGE ENGRAVED IN THE MINDS OF PLAYERS



“I think coach’s image engraved in the minds of players should be that of their motherland before that of any person. So I was more anxious about her and made more exacting demands on her.”

Choe Song Hui, diving coach of the Pyongyang Sports Club

By **Ri Sung Ik** PT

Kim Mi Rae, diver at the Pyongyang Sports Club, has entered the rankings in different international competitions including FINA Grand Prix diving competition in 2015.

She is renowned among people for the correct performance of movements of high degrees of difficulty and stunning entry into water.

But most of them don't know about her coach, Choe Song Hui (pictured).

It is Choe who chose Kim from among young gymnasts and trained her to be a diving ace.

Choe had been working as a diving coach at a sports club since 2011 after graduating from Korea University of Physical Education. She happened to see the girl who was learning gymnastics at Sosong District Juvenile Sports School in Pyongyang.

She closely observed Mi Rae who had a good sense of space and exactly reproduced any movements she had once seen. After repeated speculations and discussions, Choe picked her out as a diver and paid special attention to her.

“Since I left home to join the sports club, coach Choe took care of me as my mother would do,” Kim recalled.

The coach introduced new means and methods of training in order to address her shortcomings. Mi Rae had good physical ability, but was less flexible. Choe found the effectiveness and defects of the methods as she trained together with Kim.

“I think coach’s image engraved in the minds of players should be that of their motherland before that of any person. So I was more anxious about her and made more exacting demands on her,” Choe Song Hui said.

The coach’s efforts finally bore fruit: Mi Rae began to distinguish herself in international competitions.

Choe Song Hui shed tears of joy as she saw Mi Rae receiving congratulations from people after exalting the honour of the country by winning medals at different international games.

“I remembered the memories of the past when I made the crucial

selection and decision and when we were crossing the extreme limits in training. I felt pride in being a coach, indeed,” Choe said with deep emotion.

The coach who transferred to the Pyongyang Sports Club with the diver some years ago directs steady efforts into the functional physical training to enhance Mi Rae’s stability and flexibility in the performance of movements along with psychological practice to enable her to cope with any circumstances in competitions.

Merited Athlete Choe Song Hui was chosen as one of the top ten coaches of the DPRK twice until last year.

Koreans’ habit of eating boiled rice wrapped in leaves of vegetables

By **Han Kwi Hun** PT

Since ancient times Koreans have liked to eat boiled rice wrapped in the leaves of various vegetables including lettuce, leopard plant, bok choy and perilla and eating such foods evolved into their national dietary habit.

Among others, lettuce-wrapped rice can be seen in the records from the period of Koguryo Kingdom (277 BC-AD 668).

A tempting lettuce leaf is spread to put a spoonful of boiled rice on it and apply spicy sauce before folding it up to eat.

The tasty food has been known as the best in relieving summer heat and stimulating appetite.

Therefore, the Koreans planted lettuce on their kitchen gardens to eat lettuce-wrapped rice in summer.

This custom has been handed down for ages, so lettuce is seen growing on family gardens at farm villages and large quantities

of the plant are produced in greenhouses across the country for urbanites.

Its leaves are washed by changing water several times and a few drops of cooking oil is put into the last rinsing water. Then the leaves become savoury and soft. After applying hot pepper paste to a leaf, a small green onion is added before wrapping to take the original taste of the food.

The Korean ancestors paid special attention to the spicy sauce for lettuce-wrapped rice.

A historical record says that such a sauce was made by frying in oil minced beef or fish and a small amount of Welsh onion.

Such foods were also eaten in other seasons.

Edible greens like aster were used in spring and laver in winter. On *Jongwoldaeborum* (fifteenth day of the first month by the lunar calendar or the first Full-Moon Day of the year), in particular, ancestors wrapped rice in laver calling it *pokssam* or *myongssam*.



National flower, magnolia

Magnolia is the excellent flower reflecting the wisdom and spirit of the Korean nation.

By **Ri Myong Jun** PT

Magnolia is the national flower of the DPRK.

A plant native to Korea, it has been called hambakkot tree and mongnyonhwa (a tree with lotus flowers) and beloved of the people from ancient times.

In May 1964 when he visited Mt Jongbang, Premier Kim Il Sung proposed calling it mokran in the meaning of a beautiful flower blossoming on a tree, saying that the Korean ancestors had added a letter “ran(orchid)” to the names of fragrant and beautiful flowers since olden times.

Magnolia reflects the

wisdom and spirit of the Korean nation as it is strong and beautiful and looks noble.

A deciduous tree or bush, it grows up to six to eight metres for a bush and 14 metres for a tree.

Its leaf is inverted egg-shaped or nearly oval. The flower is big, fragrant, beautiful and white, 8 to 10 centimetres in diameter and over 11 at the maximum.

One flower grows at the end of a fresh stem and it is very beautiful as the fragrant, big and white petals match the colours of stamens and pistils well.

In autumn, it bears oval pod fruits and when they ripen, they split apart and

two red seeds spring out from each of them, hang on to the pods by a white string like cotton thread and fall.

It is propagated from seed and by grafting, layering, separating of roots and planting of cuttings.

The white colour and pretty big and clear shape of magnolia blossoms symbolize the nobility and purity of the Korean nation that has been called the white-clad race from time immemorial.

Its greyish white trunk, thick and imposing shape of the leaf and ecological character marked by strong resistance to cold

seem to resemble the spirit and vigour of the Korean people who never yield to hardships.

As a single species plant, Magnolia blossoms of each plant are the same in shape, size and colour and it does not change in any areas. This is the same as the disposition of the Korean nation who have lived in one country with one bloodline, one language and one culture, creating the time-honoured history of 5 000 years and brilliant culture.

Magnolia gives delight to people with beauty and fragrance when it flowers and with lovely and abundant fruits in autumn.

