

Report of KPA General Staff on military operations against US-south Korea combined air drill

KCNA

A report of the General Staff of the Korean People's Army on its military operations to cope with the US-south Korea combined air drill code-named Vigilant Storm was issued.

The full text is as follows:

The serious situation prevailing on the Korean peninsula due to the reckless military hysteria of the US and south Korea is now moving toward the more unstable confrontation.

Vigilant Storm, the largest-ever US-south Korea combined air drill, was staged in south Korea from October 31 to November 5 with hundreds of fighters of different missions involved,

including nuclear strategic bombers.

The large-scale combined air drill is, in fact, an open provocation aimed at intentionally escalating the tension in the region and a dangerous war game of very high aggressive nature directly targeting the DPRK.

Intolerable and unpardonable are all the recent challenging moves of the US and south Korea staging military drills for aggression on a large scale.

In order to demonstrate the thoroughgoing and resolute will to counter the grave situation and the clear self-confidence in the military capabilities of the armed forces of the DPRK and to inspire the officers and men of

the Korean People's Army, filled with resolute retaliatory will, with the conviction of sure victory, the General Staff of the KPA conducted the following military operations of counteraction from November 2 to 5:

Simulating the strike on the enemy's air force base on the morning of the first day of the operations, missile units in North Phyongan Province fired four tactical ballistic missiles loaded with dispersion warheads and underground infiltration warheads at a desert island off the West Sea Barrage, and on the morning and afternoon the anti-aircraft missile units of the air force on the east and west coastal areas launched 23

ground-to-air missiles while staging an exercise to annihilate air targets at different altitudes and distances.

Claiming that a DPRK's missile dropped near the "territorial waters" of south Korea that afternoon, the enemy fired in return air-to-surface guided missiles and gliding guided bomb at the open sea of the DPRK side. As a retaliatory strike to this rash act, the KPA fired two strategic cruise missiles with the shooting range of 590.5 km at the open sea around 80 km off the coast of Ulsan City of south Korea (35°29'51.6" latitude and 130°19'39.6" longitude) from North Hamgyong Province.

At the request of the Academy of Defence Science on the second day of the operations, the KPA conducted an important test-fire of ballistic missile to verify the movement reliability of a special functional warhead for paralyzing the operations command system of the enemy. And it fired five super-large multiple launch missiles and tactical ballistic missiles of various missions and 46 long-range multiple launch missiles into the East Sea as part of its counteraction to smash the enemies' persistent war hysteria.

On the third day of the operations, a large-scale all-out combat sortie operation of the air force with 500 fighters of various missions involved was conducted for 3 hours and 47 minutes in order to show the will to counter the combined air drill of the enemy.

Simulating a strike on the enemy's air force base, the KPA fired again two tactical ballistic missiles loaded with dispersion warheads and two super-large multiple launch missiles at a desert island off the West Sea Barrage on the fourth day of the operations.

All the military operations successfully achieved the planned purposes and the high operations performance ability of the KPA has been assessed satisfactorily.

Through the operations, the armed forces of the DPRK fully responded to the enemy's combined air drill, increased its self-confidence in neutralizing the "theory of superiority" of the enemy air force, perfectly confirmed the confident military preparedness and capability of the KPA and further hardened its will of absolute counteraction.

The recent military operations of counteraction by the KPA are a clear answer of the DPRK that the more persistently the enemies' provocative military moves continue, the more thoroughly and mercilessly the KPA will counter them. This is the principle and direction of action of the DPRK's armed forces in the future, too.

The KPA General Staff once again clarifies that it will continue to counter all the anti-DPRK war games of the enemy with sustained, resolute and overwhelming practical military measures.



The General Staff of the KPA conducts the military operations of counteraction from November 2 to 5.

Premier Kim inspects different sectors of national economy



Premier Kim Tok Hun (third from left) looks round the Ryongsong Machine Complex.

KCNA Bureau of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and vice-president of the State Affairs Commission of the DPRK, inspected different sectors of the national economy. Looking round the Chack Iron and

Steel Complex, a leading metallurgical base in the northern part of the country, he encouraged its officials and workers in their vigorous efforts for increased iron and steel production to significantly adorn this year, true to the decisions of the plenary meetings of the Party Central Committee. He stressed the need for the complex to build up its own technical force, dynamically conduct the technical innovation movement, steadily increase the production of Juche iron and step up the project for putting production processes on a Juche basis, an important task. After learning in detail about the production at the Ryongsong Machine Complex, the Hungnam Fertilizer Complex and the Hungnam Pharmaceutical Factory, he underlined the need for officials to bring about innovations in the production of custom-built equipment and fertilizer and display high organizing ability and executive power in the work for developing the pharmaceutical industry in the spirit of carrying out the Party decisions absolutely and unconditionally. Inspecting the Ryonpho and Jungphyong greenhouse farms, the Premier said that the vegetable production bases built under the loving care of the Party should make positive contributions to improving the people's livelihood by further raising the scientific level of vegetable production and conducting effective management activities. At the Munphyong Smeltery and the Wonsan Leather Shoes Factory, he underscored the need to prefect the production processes technically, improve the management control and purposefully push ahead with the work to produce more quality shoes of various kinds favoured by the people. The field consultative meetings took appropriate measures after discussing the issue for officials to properly conduct operations and direction to unconditionally fulfil this year's plans, the issue of strengthening the organic relations and cooperation between economic sectors and giving precedence to the supply of raw and other materials and the issue of propelling the work for expanding production capacity at relevant units in a planned way. The Premier also acquainted himself with the research work to put greenhouse farming on a scientific and intensive basis at a higher level at the State Academy of Sciences.

HOME NEWS

Young people of South Phyongan volunteer to major sectors

More than 50 young people in South Phyongan Province volunteered to work at leading sectors of the national economy and socialist rural areas.

Young people from Tokchon City and Unsan and Chongnam counties decided to work at the Suncheon Area Youth Coal-mining Complex and the Tokchon and Anju area coal-mining complexes.

Those of Anju City, Sinyang County and other areas have vowed to work at the Namhung Youth Chemical Complex, Sunchon Cement Complex and Sungni General Motor Enterprise.

Those of Phyongsong, Sunchon and Anju cities volunteered to work at rural areas of the province.

A meeting took place in Phyongsong City on November 8. Attending it were Kim Tu Il, chief secretary of the South Phyongan Provincial Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, officials concerned, volunteers and youth and students.

After the meeting, officials and youth and students of the province gave bouquets to the volunteers, giving them warm send-off.

New research institute built in Chongjin

The North Hamgyong Provincial E-Business Research Institute has been built in Chongjin.

The institute with offices and rooms for research and development, including the one for the development of programs, was constructed to help different sectors in the province put production and business activities on an IT basis.

Vegetable production grows in Jungphyong Greenhouse Farm

Vegetable production has increased at the Jungphyong Greenhouse Farm. The farm fulfilled the vegetable production plan every month to regularly supply vegetables to commercial service networks in North Hamgyong Province.

It promotes vegetable production by applying valuable technical innovation plans such as the production of nutrient solution fertilizer from locally available raw materials, installation of pumps that are convenient for use and creation of nutrient solution application indices to increase crop yield.

Total lunar eclipse observed

A total eclipse of the moon was observed on the evening of November 8 in the DPRK. According to information released by researchers at the Pyongyang Observatory under the State Academy of Sciences, the total lunar eclipse started at around 18:09 hours and ended at about 21:49 hours in the Pyongyang area. The moon was completely at the centre of the shadow of the earth at about 20:01 hours.

People's Open-air Ice Rink bustles with life in all seasons

The People's Open-air Ice Rink, which sprang up on the banks of the picturesque Taedong River boasting its unique architectural structure, is crowded with many visitors all the year round.

Over the past ten years, more than 1.3 million working people, youth, students and foreigners have visited it and spent a good time there since its inauguration.

Not only Pyongyang citizens but also many other people from around the country visit the ice rink as it is a place of building up their physical strength while doing skating in all seasons.

Especially in summer, people flood in to enjoy a mood of midwinter.

Working people, youth and students in shirts do skating on the ice, children laugh boisterously even though they slip down for poor skills, and instructors teach the knack of skating. These are an unusual sight at the ice rink.

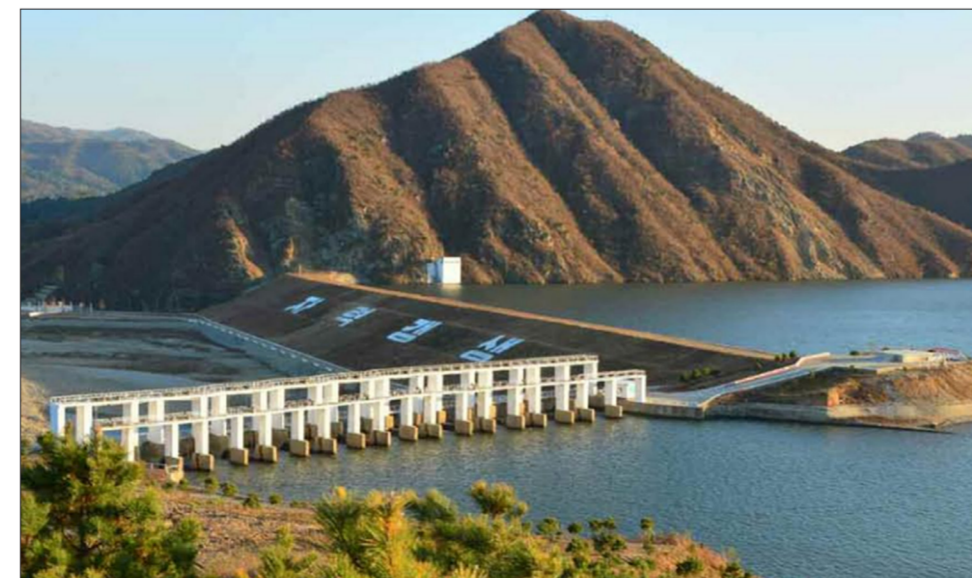
Power plant inaugurated in South Hamgyong

KCNA There was an inaugural ceremony of Hamhung Youth Power Station Unit 1 on the spot on November 6.

It was attended by Ri Jong Nam, chief secretary of the South Hamgyong Provincial Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, Pak Tong Chol, chairman of the South Hamgyong Provincial Rural Economy Committee, shock brigade members who carried out the construction, officials and working people in Jongphyong County and employees of the power station.

Kim Yong Sik, chairman of the South Hamgyong Provincial People's Committee, made an inaugural speech. He called on the employees of the power

station to manage equipment and technology in a responsible way and maximize the efficiency of generating facilities so as to produce good quality electricity, thereby making a substantial contribution to the development of the local economy and the improvement of the people's livelihood. After the ceremony, the participants looked round the plant.



Hamhung Youth Power Station Unit 1 is inaugurated on November 6.



Visitors look round the Women's Clothes Show-2022.

Garment Industry Management Bureau and local tailor's shops and the venue of the exhibition was just the acme of beauty and gorgeousness. The logo of the show, a personified butterfly reminding you of the phrase "Fine feathers make fine birds", decorated the outside front wall of the venue and different parts of its inside and various show areas on the ground and first floors were arranged to depict a large petal respectively, ensuring beautiful and distinctive artistic harmony.

Each of the areas was designed to be three-dimensional in the form of supermarket, providing visitors with convenience in seeing the exhibits. The inside front wall of the venue was hung with a large-sized electronic screen and other walls and the spaces between the show areas were hung with or installed with introduction boards of various forms showing women in beautiful and attractive attire and introducing data on clothes processing.

The most impressive of the show was that all the exhibits had distinctive national flavours. The numerous clothes were all designed to be elegant and neat in colour, shape and ornament to suit the aesthetic tastes and sentiments of Korean women and they had distinctive factors that made them look bright and light to reflect the stirring reality.

All the products on show were of high quality as they had been completed through many stages of examination, the organizers of the exhibition said.

What they say

'I felt proud of being woman'

The women's clothes show which was held in splendour amid the interest of the whole country was really impressive.

In fact, the Korean women are enjoying the greatest benefits of the state.

However, it sponsored such a wonderful show for women so that they can enhance their beauty and experience world-class civilization, even though the country is now going through many difficulties, which makes me even more grateful.

Here I felt once again the pride and happiness of being a woman.

Kim Hyang Mi, worker at the Pyongyang Timber Mill

'I could feel their confidence to compete with world'

All the clothes on show here are on a par with famous brands of the world, I think.

Professionally, I am well aware of world-famous fashion brands.

But it was hard for me to distinguish the clothes made by domestic producers from those of leading brands of foreign countries.

I could feel that the clothes are associated with their confidence to compete with the world and their sincere devotion to dressing up Korean women excellently.

I'd like to extend my grateful thanks to those who made such elegant clothes.

Kang Un Jong, department head of Pyongyang Jang Chol Gu University of Commerce

'We will put efforts into creating unconventional designs'

The women's clothes presented by our unit enjoyed huge popularity during the exhibition.

Customers unanimously spoke highly of our products that their shapes and colours were delicate and visually appealing and the stitches were seamless.

Through the show, we got to realize that the customers prefer clothes in new unconventional styles.

We exchanged technologies and experience with other garment processing units. We're determined to design and produce better women's wear by making effective use of them.

Paek Sol Hui, staffer of the Ponghwa Trading Administration

'Sustaining national character is key'

We presented a lot of seasonal knitwear along with suits and dresses.

As we prepared for this exhibition, we upgraded old pattern designs and introduced many new patterns reflecting national sentiment.

They were much favoured by customers, of course, but some said that they would have been better if some embroidery was added and the colour combination was more delicate.

From the customer feedback, we realized that the women have such exact demand for their clothing and that sustaining the national character is a key to success as always.

Kim Hyok, division manager of the Korea Chonwon Co. Ltd.

New heavy oil-free kindling technology developed

By Chae Hyang Ok PT

Recently, the heavy oil-free kindling technology newly developed by scientists of the thermal engineering institute of the State Academy of Sciences has proved effective in large boilers of the Pukchang Thermal Power Complex.

“It was in 2018 that we, by joining efforts with the workers of the Pukchang

Thermal Power Complex, introduced a heavy oil-free kindling technology in large boilers for the first time in the country’s history of thermal-power generation,” said Dr. Jang Sung Jun, section chief of the thermal engineering institute.

According to him, the installation of additional generating equipment at the complex was completed in December 2018.

The successful firing of

boilers by means of oxygen and pulverized anthracite, an achievement made free from the existing concept that it is absolutely impossible to fire a boiler by means of domestic anthracite with less volatile substances, was as good as a revolution in the sector of thermal power generation.

Scientists of the institute played a pivotal role in the project.

However, several

problems arose in the process of operating large boilers by relying on oxygen and pulverized anthracite at the complex.

Field engineers there were of the opinion that the generators did not fully display their capacities while consuming much coal as combustion efficiency of the boilers was lower than the standard.

The group of researchers found the solution to the

problem in raising the thermal output of the existing ignition devices.

Through several introduction tests, they confirmed a new heavy oil-free kindling method capable of raising boiler combustion efficiency and completed the design of an axial-volute oxygen-pulverized coal ignition device ensuring a remarkably higher thermal output than before.

The ignition device with a

new structure requiring high assembly accuracy was made and its first ignition for test run was successfully done. “The development and introduction of the new heavy oil-free kindling technology has raised the combustion efficiency of boilers markedly and increased power output per generator by thousands of kilowatts,” said an official of the Ministry of Electric Power Industry.



The Pukchang Thermal Power Complex increases power production by introducing heavy oil-free kindling technology.

RI KWANG HYOK / RODONG SINMUN

Domestic production of liquid oxygen vaporizer

By Yun Ki Song PT

The Ragwon oxygen separator factory of the Ragwon General Machine Enterprise has recently unveiled a liquid oxygen vaporizer for supplying high-purity oxygen.

According to manager Jon Myong Il, the factory accepted the home production of the liquid oxygen vaporizer as a vital issue since the demand for oxygen is on the increase day after day and set a development goal on the principle of giving priority to ensuring profit and quality at the same time by relying on its existing foundations, not copying others.

On the basis of research and analysis of type characteristics

of advanced liquid oxygen vaporizers and the weak point of former oxygen compressors, the factory found out that the purity of oxygen depends on sealing when liquid oxygen vaporizes in normal temperature through vaporizing pipes and radiator plates and the connection and arrangement mode of the pipes.

And it confirmed a structural design and manufacture plan to bring about optimum effects.

It designed afresh the structure of vaporizing pipes in line with the coefficient of thermal expansion and contrived and introduced welding methods to meet the material characteristics of connecting curved pipes by relying on the existing production foundations, thus

properly ensuring the optimal structure.

It invented a new way of arranging vaporizing pipes and introduced processing methods of spare parts to suit the features of materials, thereby ensuring the tightness of liquid oxygen vaporizer and minimizing its volume.

The factory technically completed production processes by introducing advanced processing technology and laid foundations for sustainably producing liquid oxygen vaporizer.

The domestic production of liquid oxygen vaporizer has opened up a good prospect of satisfying the need of the units using oxygen across the country.

Scientific guarantee for tapping power reserves

By Kim Il Jin PT

The electric power information institute under the Ministry of Electric Power Industry provided a scientific and technological guarantee for tapping electric power reserves by reducing the loss of power in transmission.

They developed a power transmission and supply network optimized arrangement and management information system for simulating a systemic realignment plan that might reduce power loss in transmission to the minimum and that at a low cost by applying

a power-geography information system in the power transmission and supply sector.

The system simulates a plan of efficiently reorganizing the network by rearranging its power lines or reinstalling its substations in other places and establishing new ones in order to minimize power loss in transmission at a low cost.

The institute took the system on trial in South Phyongan Province last year.

As a result, they saved thousands of kilowatts which used to be lost on power transmission and supply lines and delivered substantial benefits to

the state, according to an official of the South Phyongan Provincial People’s Committee.

Section chief Kim Yu Song, PhD, and other scientists of the institute went to power distribution stations in Pyongyang, North Phyongan Province, North Hamgyong Province and other provinces and cities and provided a scientific and technological guarantee for greatly reducing power loss by building a database of the power transmission and supply network and simulating a realignment plan in collaboration with professionals on site in the first half of this year.

Factory sets up cultivator production line, lays foundation for producing motors for farm machines

By Sin Pyol PT

The Chongjin Tractor Parts Factory in North Hamgyong Province established a cultivator production line and the material and technical foundations for producing and supplying motors for

various farm machines.

The establishment of the production line including processing, pipe-making, assembly and painting has made it possible to supply cultivators for different farms in the province and a breakthrough has been made in the production of motors

needed for the operation of different farm machines. This means a guarantee has been provided for increasing the proportion of the farm work done by machines.

The modernization level of the cultivator production line is high as it is equipped with CNC and other facilities.

“We set up the cultivator production line at our factory in accordance with the idea and decision of the Workers’ Party of Korea to cover the rural areas of the country with modern farm machines and create new scenes of socialist farms that do farming with the help of machines,” said

the manager of the factory.

A relevant unit completed a more practicable cultivator design which saves materials and funds in consideration of the conditions of the factory’s production facilities and technical preparations and materials of workpieces to be used by it

and presented different farm machine designs combined with cultivators.

The factory is now producing diverse kinds of motors for farm machines on the basis of successes and experience it obtained as it established the cultivator production line.

Successes, experiences gained in livestock farming base in Sepho area



KIM YONG CHAN / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

Flocks of cattle, sheep and goats of good breeds graze the wide grass field of the Sepho area.

By Yun Kyong Il PT

The livestock farming base in the Sepho area achieved notable successes and experiences in breeding grass-eating domestic animals.

“In order to increase the production of livestock products, we have to constantly adhere to the four main links for the development of livestock farming and science-based livestock farming,” said an official of the Sepho area livestock farming

management committee.

The base gives priority to raising good breeds of grass-eating domestic animals in the area by solving the problem of breeds.

It pays particular attention to the production of deep frozen semen of grass-eating animals of good breeds.

The Sepho animal husbandry institute of the Academy of Agricultural Science plays an important role in the project.

According to the institute director, if the cows of native strain are improved

into good breeds by using deep frozen semen, mother cows become bigger in build and produce more milk and therefore can rear calves that much faster.

The institute has attained considerable successes by introducing the methods of producing twin calves of good-breed milch cow, increasing the fattening rate of domestic animals with wafered mineral feed and others.

Marked progress was made in improving sheep and goats as well as cows

into good breeds by applying various methods.

The base also works hard to resolve the feed problem.

This year it produced over 100 000 tons of organic fertilizer by using animal excrement and collecting a large amount of peat, produced thousands of tons of calcium hydroxide to improve the soil fertility of grass fields and increased the per-hectare feed crop yield by arranging, manuring and cultivating feed crops in a scientific way.

As a result, a sea of various

kinds of feed crops has been unfolded in the vast stretches of grass fields in the Sepho area.

An important facility was made in the course of its endeavour to raise the utilization rate of feed.

It pulverizes ensiled grass and grain straw into fine powder of mixed feed. The livestock farming base made a milking machine with the help of the physics institute of the State Academy of Sciences.

Milking time and milk output of each cow are

automatically measured and all processes automatically controlled from pouring the produced milk to storage tank to maintaining proper temperature in the building in which this machine is installed.

The milk produced here is used to make milk powder.

Now the Sepho area livestock farming management committee is undertaking a research project to produce various kinds of veterinary medicines from medicinal herbs available in the area.

Hills are grazed by flocks of goats

By Jong Hwa Sun PT

The Unsan Farm in Thaethan County, South Hwanghae Province, is breeding goats well.

If you arrive near the farm, you can see flocks of goats on a hill.

Jong Yon Jun, manager of the farm, said that the farm had previously been well known in the county for being good at stockbreeding but the

farming began to stagnate gradually.

Stockbreeding had to be boosted without fail in order to increase the fertility of soil to boost grain production and improve the livelihood of farmers.

So the farm drew up a plan to breed grass-eating domestic animals, particularly goats, on a large scale by taking advantage of its being surrounded by the hill.

To this end it created natural fields of feed grasses on the hill thick with trees through stages.

It also secured breeding goats that suit the specific characters of its area by establishing a system of producing first generation hybrids to increase the number of the animals.

Experienced farmers were assigned to animal husbandry sub-workteams to help them breed goats in a scientific way.

As a result, the number of goats increased in a few years.

The farmers say that they are very glad as the grasses turn into meat and milk to enrich their life day by day.

Families of the farm members rear large numbers of goats.

A member of workteam No. 7 who now breeds 30 goats said proudly she had ever reared 70 goats while doing farming together with her husband.



KIM SONG CHOL / RODONG SINMUN

Goats eat grass in natural grass field in the Unsan Farm of Thaethan County, South Hwanghae Province.

Food administration station benefits from livestock farming

By Ri Sang Il PT

The food administration station in Mangyongdae District effectively runs a livestock farming base.

It has a two-storey building housing such animals as pig, chicken and duck designed for intensive livestock farming, feed processing room and others standing in line.

“We started breeding domestic animals in earnest last year. At the beginning we faced lots of difficulties including breed and feed problems. But as we worked hard, the number of animals has increased considerably now,” said Jo Kum Chol, chief of the livestock farming base.

What is noticeable

here is that all production processes are based on strict prevention of diseases to fully ensure the safety of production.

It organizes preventive vaccinations of the livestock regularly and sterilization and cleaning of animal houses several times a day.

And it develops and introduces functional additives by subdividing them according to the stage of growth to increase disease prevention rate, digestibility and absorptivity.

Their main ingredients are over 40 kinds of Koryo medicinal materials, and they are added to the assorted feed to a certain amount to feed the animals every day.

According to a keeper, Ri Nam Hyok, the incidence of various

diseases has fallen and the breeding and fattening rate increased since the additives made of natural raw materials were introduced.

Particularly, the diseases which were common to new-born piglets have been prevented.

The food administration station makes various kinds of Koryo medicines needed for raising domestic animals by itself.

And it activates the inhibition of *Hermetia illucens* with chicken excrement to reduce the consumption unit of grain feed while raising the utilization rate of protein feed.

Sideline livestock farming brings substantial benefits to the management of the station and their life as well, its employees say.

State wholly responsible for people's health

By Kim Hak Chol PT

In the DPRK the state not only guarantees the improvement of the people's health institutionally, but also enforces superior popular policies and ensures they substantially prove their vitality.

The popular public health system in the country was established long ago.

Immediately after Korea's liberation from Japanese military rule, the country was faced with difficult economic situation,

suffering severe shortages of hospitals, doctors and medicines. But it applied a free medical care system to workers, office workers and their dependants through the state social insurance law.

Even under the harsh conditions of the fierce Fatherland Liberation War between 1950 and 1953, it introduced a universal free medical care system for providing all the people with all kinds of medical services free of charge, which is going on until now.

The advantages of the

country's public health system find expression in the popular public health policies based on the complete and universal free medical care system.

The section doctor system, the medical service system for emergency cases, telemedicine and other medical care systems provide an institutional guarantee for looking after the health of the people regularly and taking timely treatment measures for patients.

In the country all people enjoy the rights to free

medical treatment since they are born and prophylactic treatment institutions are set up everywhere the people live, including cities and rural villages, to give medical treatment to them.

The locals do not know what doctor's fee is.

Medical workers, called "red health workers of the Party", regard it as their honourable task to take responsible care of and protect the health of the people and their bounden duty to unhesitatingly devote themselves to patients.

Today the DPRK

government has set public health as an important affair to give full play to the advantages of its socialist system and directs greater efforts to it.

Over the past 10 years alone, numerous health institutions and medicine and medical supplies production bases sprang up including the Breast Tumour Institute of the Pyongyang Maternity Hospital, Ryugyong General Ophthalmic Hospital, Ryugyong Dental Hospital and the Medical Oxygen Factory.

The nationwide anti-

epidemic system has further been strengthened.

The advantages of the all-nation and all-people anti-epidemic system peculiar to the DPRK have fully been exhibited in the struggle in recent years to prevent the spread of and exterminate the world pandemic.

The Workers' Party of Korea and the state design grander and more innovative plans to ensure the people enjoy all blessings in good health and devote sustained efforts to putting them into practice.

Kumsong Middle School No. 1 boasts 50-odd-year history

School built behind palace

By Hwang Jong Ryol PT

Schoolchildren give full play to their talents at the Mangyongdae Schoolchildren's Palace.

There is a school behind the palace.

The school is called Kumsong Middle School No. 1. Its teaching staff, students and others say

that the school trains rudiments of technical aptitude in the morning.

Founded on November 1 1966, the school has recorded a 50-odd-year long history as a model in the training of art, sports and reserve sci-tech personnel.

Students of the school have lectures on secondary general knowledge and

furnished with modern educational facilities, experiment and practical training rooms, a hall where students give artistic performances, a gym where a variety of sports games are played and comprehensive welfare service amenities.

The Workers' Party of Korea and the DPRK government have sent numerous musical instruments, educational facilities and materials to the school as it takes an important share in the training of talents.

A winner of the Order of Kim Il Sung, the top honour of the country, the school produced veteran teachers and world-famous talents including Labour Heroes and People's and Merited Teachers.

Many teachers of the school are excellent persons of ability with academic degrees and titles and the students' entrance percentage of schools of higher grade take a large proportion.

The artistic performance of the students, which is a focus of public attention in annual New Year performance, has elicited the admiration of many.

The school steadily upgrades its teaching contents and methods in line with the trend of educational development in the world.



Yun Won Nam, head of Kumsong Middle School No.1.

'We will train more excellent talents'

Our school is aimed at training innovation-oriented talents and provided with all conditions and environment to this end.

All academic degree and title holders, our teachers are excellent and competent educators who have trained many talents and education at our school has been put on an IT, modern and scientific basis at a high level.

Everyone can fulfil their dream and hope free of charge at our school if they have any talent and ability.

These are all provided and guaranteed by the close attention and care of the Workers' Party of Korea and the state that spare nothing for the education of rising generations.

We will continue to strive to add glory to the successes our school has so far achieved.

We will steadily update the educational contents and methods to meet the developing trend of modern education so as to make students active learners and seekers and train them to become creative talents required by the reality.

And we will find out more students with artistic skills and positively develop and apply teaching and training methods to suit their level, thus bringing up more promising artistic talents.

To train talents who are able to proudly compete with world-class talents--this is our goal.

We will work harder to attain this goal.

Free medical care started in wartime



File photo shows the universal free medical care system coming into force in the northern half of Korea on January 1 1953.

By Kwon Hyo Song PT

It has been 70 years since the Cabinet adopted the decision on introducing a universal free medical care system in the DPRK.

As time passes, some people in the country receive medical treatment without knowing what doctor's fee is and when and how the free medical care started in the country.

It happened one day in January 1952, when the Fatherland Liberation War, or the Korean war, was at its height.

Premier Kim Il Sung called an official of the Ministry of Public Health to the Supreme Headquarters of the Korean People's Army and told him that our people were now working hard to win the war in all places of the front and the rear without hesitating to sacrifice even their lives and we should spare nothing for such patriotic and devoted people, stressing the need to introduce a free medical care system for all people.

Seeing him very surprised to hear that, the Premier said that though the current situation was difficult,

nothing was more precious than the lives of people.

As a result, Cabinet Decision No. 203 "On implementing free medical care system for the people" was adopted on November 13 1952 and a universal free medical care system came into force over all parts of the northern half of Korea on January 1 1953.

As the country's economy grew after the war, the Premier put forward a new policy on implementing a complete and universal free medical care system in February 1960.

The upgraded system was mainly aimed at the state taking full care of and protecting the lives and health of the people by further improving the conditions and quality of medical service.

Accordingly, lots of problems were resolved including the introduction of a section doctor system during the period of implementing the first seven-year plan, making it possible to introduce the complete and universal medical care system.

In the 1970s a hospital was built in every ri, the lowest

administrative unit of the DPRK, and city and county hospitals modernized across the country and newly-built provincial general hospitals furnished with full sets of equipment and medical appliances to provide quality medical service.

With solid foundations having been laid for producing and supplying medical appliances and various kinds of synthetic medicines,

President Kim Il Sung saw that the law on public health was adopted in April 1980 to legally guarantee the citizens' rights to receive medical treatment for free and the state's responsibility for providing them with benefits from the complete free medical care system and set the goals for a new stage of improving the specialization level of medical service in succession.

As a result, well-knit medical service networks of specialized departments were completed from the central level to provinces, cities, counties and ris in the country in the mid-1980s including those for children, women and emergency cases.

Modern preventive and curative medical institutions increased in number throughout the country even during the period of the Arduous March, the hard time of the country in the 1990s.

In the new century of the Juche era, modern hospitals have been built like the Breast Tumour Institute of the Pyongyang Maternity Hospital, Ryugyong Dental Hospital, Okryu Children's Hospital and Ryugyong General Ophthalmic Hospital conducive to improving the health of the people.

State benefits continue even at hard times

By Kil Chung Il PT

In the DPRK, the Party and the state are wholly responsible for the people's health and the state takes upon itself all the issues related to the promotion of the people's health.

People receive all the medical services free of charge.

Hospitals and clinics are found at places where the people live and residents receive health benefits on a daily basis thanks to the devotion of household doctors.

And sanatoriums have been built in the areas equipped with treatment conditions and environment to contribute to the promotion of the people's health and treatment.

Prophylaxis is the basis of socialist medicine.

Accordingly, people receive disease screening and medical check-ups every year on a regular basis before they are ill and a well-knit disease screening system has been established in collective living units.

The popular health system, which started during the Fatherland Liberation War and was further strengthened and developed, remained unchanged even in the periods of the Arduous March and forced march when the country experienced harsh trials in the 1990s.

The number of hospitals, medical appliances factories and pharmaceutical factories increased for the people, and lots of medical workers displayed beautiful traits as they saved patients by

dedicating their blood and skins.

The well-knit health systems including the section doctor system have fully displayed their validity and advantages in the past top emergency anti-epidemic period, when a break occurred in the anti-epidemic walls that had been maintained for two years and three months.

On the basis of such popular and advanced medical service systems as the section doctor system, emergency medical service system and telemedicine, a detailed survey of fever cases and all-people disease screening and medical check-ups were conducted every day and quarantine and treatment

work was carried out correctly. The respected Comrade Kim Jong Un said at the National Meeting of Reviewing the Emergency Anti-epidemic Work in August that even though the material and technological foundations of our public health sector were weak, the existing medical service system of our own style was put into effective operation, and so the formidable anti-epidemic and treatment tasks could be carried out with success.

The state public health benefits for the people are on the increase as it is the policy of the Workers' Party of Korea and the state to make people enjoy longevity in good health.



PAK KWANG HUN / THE PYONGYANG TIMES A household doctor visits a family for checkup in the period of the top emergency anti-epidemic campaign.



AN CHOL RYONG / PICTORIAL KOREA Doctors give telemedicine service to local hospitals at the Pyongyang Maternity Hospital.



RYU KWANG HYOK / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

Schoolchildren practice artistic skills at Kumsong Middle School No.1.

Art talents produced by the school

By Ko Kwang Yon PT

Kumsong Middle School No.1 is widely known for producing many art talents.

Jon Hye Yong is one of the art talents produced by the school. She is still loved by the people since she left fond memories remembered by them.

When she toured Japan as a member of the Pyongyang Schoolchildren's Art Troupe in the 1980s, she sang the song Warm Is the Love of the Motherland which caused a sensation, touching the heartstrings of audience since it reflects the gratitude to the country for sending a colossal sum of educational aid fund to the children of Korean residents in Japan.

Whistles and other

songs she sang to the light rhythm later as a singer of the Pochonbo Electronic Ensemble are still beloved songs of many families and people.

"I want to sing forever about the embrace of the benevolent motherly Party which trained and put forward me, a child of an ordinary worker," said Jon Hye Yong, People's Artist who now works as chief of the vocal music department of the Mangyongdae Schoolchildren's Palace.

"I'm now dedicating all my energies to training reserve singers. It is because I want them to sing continuously which I failed to sing."

The school also produced other renowned artists whose singing was

acclaimed by the audience, including Ryom Chong, Om Jong Nyo, Kim Sun Hui and Ro Hyang Suk, singers of the then Wangjaesan Light Music Band.

Most of celebrated singers who have distinguished themselves at national art troupes in recent years and veteran artistes of the women's brass band which distinctively decorates national events are graduates of the school.

Students of the school fully displayed their talents on international stages.

Kim Yong Song and Im Myong Jin received special prizes at the 14th international accordion performance contest "Young Musician" which was held at Bulgaria from late April to early May in 1993. Choe Hyang Hwa,

Kim Chon Ryong, Kim Ju Yong, Ri Se Ok and Han Jin Song displayed their artistic talents at the Barents international cultural festival of Norway in 2012, thereby evoking great response of the audience.

The school selects superb students through the New Year's schoolchildren's performance which is held every year, national schoolchildren's art festival and schoolchildren's artistic individual contest. And its teachers regularly tour the country to pick out talented children on the spot.

"There is a Korean proverb that 50 000 days' labour is required to bring up a child. However, the country has found out and cultivated the bud

of talents of children throughout the country, as well as students of our school, to put forward them. We only make efforts to develop our

students as true talents who know the benevolence of the country and return the favour bestowed by them. We only make efforts to develop our



Jon Hye Yong, chief of the vocal music department of the Mangyongdae Schoolchildren's Palace, talks with her students.



Happy Mother's Day

After designating November 16 as Mother's Day, the DPRK celebrates the day every year.

Honour to mothers

By Kim Hak Chol PT

Everyone has their own mother. The mother is the first image the baby sees in the world.

As the saying goes, "Women are fragile, but mothers are strong." This means mothers get strong for their children and maternal love is selfless and all-consuming.

If the child is compared to a big tree, the mother can be likened to its roots. Because the roots devote everything to make the tree sprout, become luxuriant and bear fruits, while firmly supporting it so that

it can withstand any storm.

That is why people associate love and affection with the mother, call their mothers in joy and sorrow and as children and grownups and regard the word "mother" as the highest expression of love, devotion and beauty.

Out of such common love and respect for mothers, many countries of the world might have designated mothers' holiday.

In the DPRK November 16 is Mothers' Day which is marked every year significantly.

On the day, a warm atmosphere pervades the

whole country as people congratulate mothers.

Flower shops and stalls are crowded with those who carefully choose and buy flowers and greeting cards for their caring and loving mothers, and congratulatory performances staged in different places enhance the cheery mood of the day.

Mothers of this country take a special position in the mind of their children and their high status is not confined to their families.

They are patriots who devote their all to society and collective.

Among them are senior government officials, labour innovators at industrial

establishments, scientists, artists and sportspersons.

There are also those who got married to honoured disabled soldiers and adopted orphans to relieve the anxiety of the state even a bit.

They all take it a matter of course to support the socialist system, the benevolent country which formulates and implements state policies by incorporating in them even the simple opinions of mothers.

Such mind inspires greater respect and love of all children and therefore they wholeheartedly pay deep respect to mothers.

Woman held in high respect



Paek Ok Bo, postwoman of the Tongchang County post office in North Phyongan Province, is always welcome.

By Kil Chung Il PT

There is a woman affectionately called "mother" by everyone in Tongchang County, North Phyongan Province.

She is Paek Ok Bo, Merited Postwoman at the county post office.

People in the county call her "our post mum" because she takes fraternal care of war veterans and working people as she reads them newspaper articles.

More than 50 years have passed since she became postwoman by following in her father's footsteps and in those decades she delivered publications and mail almost every day.

Her career began in the 1970s.

She has felt proud of her job although there are no special holidays or rest days for mail carriers. Even when the post coach broke down by accident, she walked long ways early in the morning or at night without hesitation.

When the vehicle failed to cross swollen streams in the rainy season, she swam across them with publications.

And she also did good things voluntarily. On her way back after delivery, she would collect scrap iron and paper and waste vinyl lying here and there to bring them to local-industry factories, which proved greatly helpful to their production, and helped farmers in weeding their fields.

She also adopted several orphans. As she brought them up, she had ever given her son by blood a beating not to show favouritism to any of her children.

Once her own son asked her: "Mom, are the adopted children dearer than me? Why do you work even late at night when others sleep

and do gruelling work that others do not?" Therefore, Paek Ok Bo told him the following story.

Her mother gave birth to five children during the Japanese military occupation of Korea. As the family was too poor to buy medicines, all the children died from illness. So, her parents did not register the birth of their sixth child as they had no money for the registration and with the intention of registering her birth after she managed to remain alive by luck. But under Japanese military rule, they might suffer an awful calamity if the truth was found out by police officers or officials. Thus, Ok Bo was compelled to lead a miserable life in seclusion, unable to go out of doors.

Owing to the "crime", she resigned herself to hidden misfortunes and suffering. The liberation of Korea, however, brought her jubilation and enabled her family to lead a genuine life worthy of human beings.

"I want to do something helpful to such benevolent social system, our excellent country," Ok Bo told her son.

Many years have passed since then. She is now known throughout the country beyond her county.

The country awarded her the title of Merited Postwoman in recognition of her faithfulness to her duty and her dedication to society, the community, the country and the people.

Her son and other people presented her with bouquets out of their pride in and respect for her, a mother not confined to a family.

She said she would receive them believing the flower bunches reflected their expectation that she would work harder in the future.

Mother lives with love for country



Ri Hye Gyong (middle), mother of Ri Rim, recollects the period of writing Encyclopedia of natural cure resources in Korea.

the value of the thick books, her unknown efforts and her great love.

My mother loved even a small nameless stream of water coming up from underground and she contributed to realizing the intention of the respected Comrade Kim Jong Un to make everything on this land conducive to the promotion of the people's health and their happiness. This delighted me and the delight made me reproach myself.

Now I live with my mother in a modern dwelling house in Kyongru-dong.

It is one of the houses only for persons of merit who have done great work for the country and the state allotted it to my mother in recognition of her feats.

We are to celebrate Mother's Day in this house.

After thinking repeatedly what I should prepare as a present for my mother, I made myself up to give her a present she would like most. The present is me. I will live with love for the country and people like her. She will receive this present as the greatest and it will delight her most.

Ri Rim, staffer of the Population Centre of the Ministry of Public Health

I have my mother who gave me life like everyone else.

She was the most beautiful mother and she loved me most.

So I felt my heart warm whenever I only said the word mother.

Then, my mother began to love something else. She often travelled on official business as she was researching natural cure resources.

She would return home tired from a business trip of several months and only say to me, "You've become more beautiful. How are you?"

And then she wrote something in her study for several days and went out to visit someone before leaving the home again to be on a business trip for several months.

Such a thing happened repeatedly and it was difficult for me to see her face. And I had to do many of the household chores.

Later, I knew she had volunteered to find out and investigate mineral water resources of the country and was literally troubling herself to search throughout pathless mountains and plains.

One day, when she came back home from a business trip, I complained to her, saying, "Is your work so important that you almost forget me and all others of our family?"

I thought she would give an explanation or reproach me for being impolite, but after a while, she went out again without saying anything.

Ten years passed like that. What she did for our family

during the period were the writing of the five-volume book "Comprehensive bibliography of natural cure resources in Korea" and the thick three-volume book "Encyclopedia of natural cure resources in Korea".

One day, some strangers visited my house and said that as a large-scale world-class hot spring resort was to be built in our country, they needed my mother because no one could match her in the knowledge of natural cure resources and that she was engaging in great work for the country.

Within a year after that, the Yangdok Hot Spring Resort was built and many people sent letters of warm congratulations to my mother as she made an extraordinary contribution to it.

Only then could I realize



Department store satisfies need of customers

By Pang Un Ju PT

Our department store sells thousands of kinds of goods every day, said Jon Yong Ran, a staffer of the department store. "Especially, the foodstuff counters on the ground floor are always full of buyers."

According to her, counters are packed with confectionery, drinks, meat, processed fish and seafoods and others produced at home.

"I've become a regular customer of this department store as I can buy tasty and safe foodstuffs and its service environment is friendly and pleasant," said Hong Son Mi, a woman living in Okryu-dong No. 1, Taedonggang District, Pyongyang.

It also sells world-famous luxury goods as well as cosmetics, bags, school things and other home-made products and buyers comment that they are of excellent quality and meet the tastes of the customers.

Restaurants and a soft drink hall on the third and fourth floors are also alive with lots of visitors.

Most of them are visitors to the department store to buy goods. But there are many regular customers to the restaurants as well.

The restaurant on the third floor, also known as fast food restaurant, can accommodate over 400 at a time and all the tables are always taken by the customers at lunchtime and supertime.

The soft drink hall and several dining rooms on the

fourth floor lure many for their friendly environment and atmosphere.

They are named "Tanphung (maple)", "Jangmi(rose)" and "Unhasu(the Milky Way), leaving visitors with unusual feelings.

"I often visit here with my family on holidays or important occasions and I always feel satisfied with the distinctive styles of these dining rooms, tasty dishes and good environment," said Han Kwang Myong, a regular customer.

Visitors can savour world-renowned coffees, teas and various kinds of instantly made fruit drinks.

In the evening fashionable illuminations add to the beauty of its building, said waitress Ri Sol Gyong.



Customers choose a rich selection of goods at the Daesong Department Store.



'I prefer domestic products'

I frequent the foodstuff counters of the Daesong Department Store on my way back home.

As my daughter is fond of snacks in particular, I go to the confectionery counter first and each time, I can see new products.

They are too numerous in kind, including bread, cakes and drinks, for me to know what to choose.

As they are quite good in taste and quality, containing appropriate sugar and spices, all my family members like them. I'm glad to see the counters packed with

domestic products and I feel great pride in ours.

Kim Hye Sim, doctor at the Kim Man Yu Hospital

I have bought and used many cosmetics, bags and sanitary goods at the Daesong Department Store since it was renovated three years ago.

Among the cosmetics, Pomhyanggi-brand ones produced by the Sinuiju Cosmetics Factory are faultlessly good in quality.

Since I used the cosmetics, blotches on my face have disappeared, my

skin getting glossy, and everybody seeing me says that I'm growing younger.

Today I bought a Pomhyanggi-brand perfume and a new style of bag and many live fishes and processed marine products for my husband as he likes marine products very much.

I really like the domestic products for their high quality and reasonable prices.

Ri Sol Gyong, resident of Rungna-dong No. 1 in Taedonggang District, Pyongyang

Kwangju student incident, reminder of Japanese imperialists' atrocities

By Choe Yong Nam PT

The Japanese imperialists are the sworn enemy of the Korean nation. They inflicted unspeakable pain and misfortune on the Korean people by committing all sorts of crimes during their military rule of Korea. Among the crimes is the Kwangju student incident in November 1929 when the Japanese imperialists mercilessly suppressed Korean students. On the morning of October 30 1929, a Japanese hooligan student insulted and molested

a Korean girl student on a Kwangju-Raju train. Enraged by it, Korean students meted out due punishment to him. But the Japanese police only beat Korean students, not inquiring into the actual story and reptile newspapers serving the Japanese imperialists distorted the truth. On November 1, the Japanese imperialists armed over 300 Japanese students and teachers and let them assault Korean students gathered at Kwangju railway station for demonstration. Infuriated by this, the

Korean students in Kwangju city declared school strike on November 3 all at once and turned out in a massive anti-Japanese demonstration. The Korean students' anti-Japanese struggle, triggered off by the Kwangju student incident, rapidly spread across the country from December that year. The Japanese imperialists tightened cordons across the country and brutally cracked down on the Korean students even with the involvement of army along with police. In January 1930, the Japanese imperialists suppressed a demonstration

of Korean students in Kyongsong with the mobilization of thousands-strong force of police and mounted patrol party and all sorts of vehicles. As the students continued their struggle in defiance of the suppression, the Japanese imperialists even involved two regiments of their aggression army in the end. The whole country was drenched with blood shed by Korean students. The Kwangju student incident over 90 years ago still incites towering hatred of the Korean people against the Japanese imperialists.

Efforts should be concentrated on improving health conditions, environment in local areas



Yun Kyong Il
Deputy director for technical affairs of Pyongyang Municipal General Hospital No. 2

Projects have now been undertaken in many parts of the country to improve their public health conditions and environment. It is an urgent task to better the local public health conditions and environment as well as the central ones, especially at present when the world health crisis lingers. The Fifth Plenary Meeting of the Eighth Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea stressed as an important issue again the need to continue to push ahead with the modernization of provincial general hospitals and city and county hospitals. General Secretary Kim Jong Un said that for

our Party, which embodies the people-first principle as its nature and sacred political ideal, to protect and improve the people's health is the most urgent priority it should shoulder and implement for sure irrespective of whether the conditions are favourable or unfavourable and the most honourable revolutionary affair. It is the firm decision and will of our Party to ensure all our people and rising generations are in good health, always enjoying the most advanced medical service under the care of the socialist health system. The matter of utmost importance in focusing on improving the local public

health conditions and environment is to direct steady efforts to strengthening the material and technical foundations of the public health sector, I think. In upgrading the medical service institutions primary attention should be paid to sprucing up the lowest units, including the hospitals and ri clinics in places where the people are concentrated or far from big hospitals, especially industrial cities and mountainous counties, and providing them with good medical appliances so that timely treatment can be given to emergency cases and more people receive proper medical assistance.

It is important to keep closer ties between the central- and provincial-level hospitals to ensure the already-established medical service systems like emergency medical service and telemedicine systems work more effectively. Another issue to be focused on in improving the local health conditions and environment is to build up the ranks of health workers. Education should be intensified to encourage them all to put their heart and soul into medical treatment with warm love for and great devotion to the people. At the same time, constant effort should be directed to improving the medical qualifications of medical workers to train many excellent doctors. It is also needed to promote the development of traditional Koryo medicine by relying on locally available medicinal materials.

OPINION

New programme to reduce suicide rate?

By Song Jong Ho PT

Japan is one of the frontrunners of the world in the number of suicides. As suicide has become a social trend, "suicide sites" have been set up on the internet in this country and texts are posted on them in search of those who would commit suicide together, while the number of visitors to the sites increases day by day. With an eye to decreasing the serious suicide rate of the country, the Japanese government decided on a programme of comprehensive countermeasures against suicide at a recent Cabinet meeting.

What draws attention in this programme is the first-ever addition of assistance for women to the priority policy. Recent years have witnessed a rise in number of women self-murderers in the country, which is mainly attributed to the worsening economic life situation and escalating family violence. The new programme reportedly includes consultation support for the women who fear unwanted pregnancy and that for those who are out of work due to economic stagnation. It also encompasses the readjustment of the structure of joint responsibility of schools and regions for preventing adolescent suicide.

According to the 2022 white paper on countermeasures against suicide which was released on the same day as the programme's, the number of women suicides has been increasing for two consecutive years. The point is whether the new programme could reduce Japan's serious suicide rate.

The Japanese authorities have so far made a great fuss as they hatched a "100-day plan against suicide" and issued the white paper on countermeasures against suicide, but no progress has been made. Rather, the suicide rate is soaring and social criticism against the government is getting stronger.

Describing the countermeasures of the authorities as a trick to appease the public who are dissatisfied with them and raise voices against them, the Japanese people blame the government, which is engrossed in irregularities and corruption in disregard of public welfare, for the growing suicide rate.

The voice of the people is the voice of God. However hard the Japanese authorities put a patronizing air while touting "countermeasures", it is an inevitable consequence of social ills that people, who have been denied the elementary right to live in Japanese society which is ruled by extreme egoism, mammonism and misanthropy and where anti-popular policies are pursued, opt for suicide and this issue can never be resolved unless the maladies are eradicated.

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Bangladesh demands US lift unjustifiable human rights sanctions

PROVIDED TO THE PYONGYANG TIMES

Now, the prime minister, foreign minister and other high-ranking figures of Bangladesh strongly demand again that the US immediately lift sanctions upon the Rapid Action Battalion (RAB) of the Bangladeshi armed police, denouncing the application of sanctions as a wrong act that helps terrorists.

They also criticized the US, which is boisterously clamouring for human rights, for patronizing a criminal who fled to America after having murdered the first president of Bangladesh and his family members on August 15 1975 and for not turning the criminal over to Bangladesh.

As is already known, the US, since the end of last year, has been imposing sanctions upon high-

ranking officials of the Bangladeshi armed police, saying that they are involved in the incidents where more than 600 anti-government figures were killed illegally and tens of them disappeared.

But most of the countries in the world do not share the view with the US which is taking issue with the human rights reality in Bangladesh. This has been proved by the result of the recent election for membership of the UN Human Rights Council where Bangladesh was elected as the member of the UNHRC, winning the support of 160 countries.

The sole purpose of the US imposing sanctions upon the Bangladeshi armed police, which was originally organized and trained by the US, is to tame this country by wielding the stick of sanctions.

The US is bearing malice against Bangladesh and heaping pressure

on it in every way because this country is not aligning itself with the Indo-Pacific strategy, a link of the whole chain of the US strategy of world supremacy, and is maintaining independence in its external policy.

Recently, the US ambassador to Bangladesh made an impudent remark to the effect that democracy should be ensured in the general parliamentary election to be held soon in this country. This is indicative of the US attempt to interfere deeper into the internal affairs of Bangladesh.

The US has long been disqualified to talk about human rights and democracy of other countries because it is a decadent country where racial discrimination and expulsion are a common trend of society.

In the US, acts of racial discrimination are committed

almost every day against Asian and African immigrants, much to the consternation of people. Even white policemen who are supposed to prevent such misdeeds, insult the passing Afro-Americans by calling them "human wastes", shoot them down and dare to spit out such words like "the livestock population decreased". But at issue here is that they are not taken to task for their crime.

Such is the true appearance of the US which poses itself as the "country safeguarding human rights" and as an "example of international human rights".

The US is the most inhumane criminal society and the barren land of human rights where hatred and racism have reached the extreme. It had better remedy its own problems first rather than deceptively trumpeting "human rights protection".

Why is the Pacific not pacific?

By Kang Un Song

There are two countries in the Pacific, which struggle to muddy its waters even though they live on its water and air.

On October 22, Japan and Australia made a joint declaration on cooperation in security.

The main contents of this joint declaration are on cooperation in various fields including military, information, cyber security and outer space. Even at a cursory look, this implicates the forming of a new

military alliance. And it is clear to all that it would bring harm to the already perilous regional security.

Moreover, Japan and Australia are all members of the "Quad", and Australia is also a member of the "Five Eyes" and "AUKUS".

It is too obvious that this joint declaration, the core of which is cooperation in military, information, cyber security and outer space, will bring a qualitative change to "Quad", and signifies the creation of the "Five Eyes +1", and will increase the risk of nuclear proliferation in the region.

What kind of disaster would be brought to the regional security when such exclusive and confrontational military alliances are expanded and strengthened is well evidenced by the prevailing Ukrainian crisis.

A principal enemy is not clearly specified in the joint declaration which was made after discussing the issue of coping with so-called China's advance to the sea by the authorities of the two countries related with the US-led alliances against China.

However, it is universally

acknowledged that it was all pursuant to the strategy of the US seeking to contain the growing clout of China and secure world hegemony under the specious name of "free and open Indo-Pacific".

Regional peace and security can only be created by exchange and cooperation, mutual understanding and trust-building, not by "cooperation in security" which is done by dancing to the tune of somebody.

The author is commentator on international affairs

Schools turn into crime scenes

By Ri Jin

Alma mater turns into crime scene—human rights tragedy of America

Even the sacred alma mater, an object for expressing a feeling of thanks, is now turning into a bloodstained killing ground. This is the tragedy of the US human rights situation.

The US once again recorded a horrific shooting incident on October 21, whereby an armed hooligan broke into a classroom of art high school in Missouri and fired at random, killing a 61-year-old teacher and a 16-year-old female student and injuring seven students.

The police investigation said the criminal is a graduate from this school.

This incident is the 40th of shooting crimes on campus this year. They resulted in the death of 34 people with 88 people injured.

Gun-related crime on campus which occurs as daily happenings in the US is only part of gun-related crimes rampant in its society.

Between 2019 and 2020, the death rate of child and adolescent

from gun-related crimes in the US has increased by 30%. In 2021 alone, the death toll of children and adolescents reached 5 692.

Even the US survey agency "Gallup" acknowledged that more than half of the Americans feel reluctant to send their children to schools for fear of gun-related crimes on campus. This is a telltale evidence showing the seriousness of the situation.

Nevertheless, the US habitually finds faults with other countries over their human rights situation at will and misuses the human rights issue as a tool for interfering in the internal affairs of others.

It is quite natural that many countries of the world are mocking and deriding the US, a kingdom of crime, which, to the surprise of everybody, remains indifferent to the dismal state at home.

The US, the world's biggest obliterator of human rights, has long lost its right to argue on the matters of human rights of other countries.

The author is researcher at the Korean Association for Human Rights Studies

Gun violence shocks Europe

By Kim Jin Hyang PT

Recently, crimes perpetrated with guns made by 3D printers have emerged as a serious problem in Europe.

According to "EURACTIV", a special website on the European affairs, an increasing number of people assemble by themselves parts of guns printed by 3D technology and keep them at their houses in Europe and they even brazenly post on SNS various 3D-printed guns they made to boast them.

A typical example is Cody Willson, who, styling himself as a crypto-anarchist, made a pistol copying the name from the single-shot rifle "Liberator" used by French resistance fighters during the Second World War with the help of 3D printing technology and opened it to the public on the internet with its design in the US in 2013.

Acts of illegally making guns with 3D printers at a low cost and using them for crimes are

growing in Europe.

In recent years alone, a criminal with a 3D-printed gun jumped into a synagogue to shoot two persons to death in Germany. Illegal gun manufacturers were detected one after another in Spain.

Gun reminds people of a war. However, the sound of gunfire is heard even in Western countries, which are not the battlefield.

Shortly ago, a teenager blindly fired to kill five persons in North Carolina, the US, while 12 persons were shot dead or injured due to several shooting cases in a day of August.

In October, the spokesman for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of China revealed that an average of over 40 000 persons were killed by gun-related crimes in the US, saying that the people in this country feel growing uneasiness and fear in the darkness of gun violence epidemic.

This is the reality of Western countries which always brag about "freedom" and "civilization".

Briefly

Russia

President underscores need to constantly improve military hardware

Russian President Vladimir Putin on November 2 stressed the need to constantly improve military hardware at a meeting of the coordinating council directly under the government for satisfying the demand of the armed forces.

It is necessary to continuously improve military equipment in order to make them prove effective. For this, it is important to encourage a positive competition among producers and developers, he said.

And they should consider the opinions of those who use impedimenta and know their functions, he added.

China

West's interference decried

A spokesman for the Chinese Foreign Ministry censured the West for its interference in China's internal affairs at a news conference on November 7.

Foreign ministers of G7 recently issued a joint statement dealing with matters related to the internal affairs of China including Taiwan, Hong Kong, Xinjiang and Tibet. As to this, the spokesman said that China expresses strong dissatisfaction with it and resolutely opposes it.

He stressed that G7 should no longer stick to Cold War thinking, but stop interfering in internal affairs of other countries, spreading lies and sophism and causing regional contradiction and antagonism between camps.

UNGA

Resolution demanding an end to US blockade against Cuba adopted

The UN General Assembly on November 3 adopted for the 30th time a resolution demanding an end to the US' anti-Cuban blockade measure that has been lasting for decades.

The resolution expressed concern over the fact that such acts and regulations as the Helms-Burton Act of the US that has an extraterritorial impact on the legitimate interests of entities or individual persons that are within the sphere of other countries' sovereignty and judicial power and their freedom of trade and navigation are continuously applied.

The absolute majority of UN member nations supported the resolution while the US and Israel opposed it.

COVID-19

Global casualties

According to a foreign news report, 638 696 215 persons contracted the novel coronavirus, 6 609 026 died of it and 13 608 264 were undergoing treatment as of 24:00 on November 9.

BYWORD

Transforming village clinics into hospitals

Village clinics are being transformed into hospitals in earnest in the DPRK whose national policy is that the state takes full responsible care of people's health.

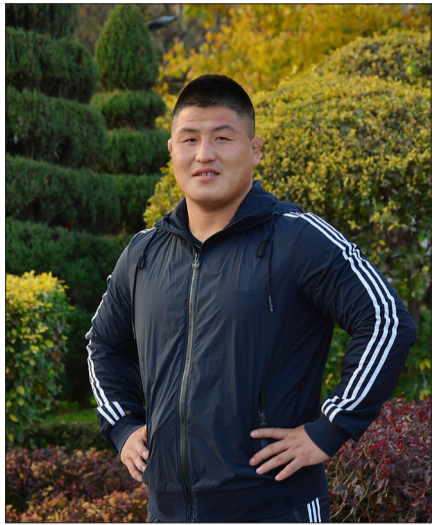
It is the intention of the Workers' Party of Korea to improve the medical service

for residents in rural areas onto the level of urban dwellers by transforming village clinics into hospitals in the near future.

The public health sector is pressing on with project for upgrading ri clinics into hospitals, regarding it as not merely a technical matter,

but an undertaking directly linked with the lives of people and the responsible work that should be carried out without fail.

SSIRUM ACE WINS BACK TROPHY



was held to mark Chusok, a folk holiday of the Korean people, on Rungna Islet's picturesque *ssirum* ground.

Song Chol Min (pictured), student of Pyongyang College of Economics, lifted the trophy in the contest of *ssirum* aces selected from every province (city under the direct control of the government).

By Han Kwi Hun PT

Last September the 18th Grand Bull Prize national *ssirum* (Korean wrestling) contest

In the competition, Song demonstrated that a man who does not fall down is a strong man, but a man who gets up again after falling is a stronger man.

At the final match of the 17th Grand Bull Prize national *ssirum* contest last year, he finished runner-up as he lost the final game with a player from Kangwon Province weighing about 30 kg less than him.

"I keenly realized at that time that *ssirum* is not played by relying on body weight or sudden strength alone. So I even thought of giving up the sport," recalled Song.

But many well-wishers encouraged him to become a true *ssirum* player, saying that if he quit, he would remain a loser forever and that he should not leave before clinching a win.

He rose up again with great endeavour. He trained so hard that he lost a dozen kilograms of his body

weight.

His perseverance, strength and skills saw a remarkable improvement and they were fully displayed in the group matches in the 18th Grand Bull Prize national *ssirum* contest.

He was placed first in Group D and automatically earned qualification for the quarterfinal. He overpowered all the rivals to go on to the semifinal. He beat a player from North Hwanghae Province 2-0.

At the final he encountered a player from Kangwon Province, last year's champion.

"He was a formidable player I had competed with since the 16th Grand Bull Prize contest. I won the 16th contest and he the 17th. So,

spectators held extraordinary expectations about our bout in the 18th contest," said Song.

Song won the first round with body-twist throw, whereas the Kangwon Provincial player beat him in the second round by means of lifting-and-throwing, succeeding in equalizing the game.

With the blow of the whistle, the third round began, which would decide the winner of the 18th contest. Spectators who had broken into enthusiastic cheers gazed at them holding their breath.

Amid the see-saw battle, Song missed his hold of waist thigh band of the rival and at that moment the Kangwon player mounted a

sudden attack.

Spectators thought that Song would lose his chance, but he, with composure, controlled the opponent by drawing his left leg toward him and toppled him by tripping his right leg.

"A moment's mistake or absence of mind can never be allowed in the *ssirum* match where the final consequence is decided in a moment. I have realized through today's match that we can emerge victorious when we remain alert and do not lose powers of concentration even at the falling moment," Song said, adding he would make redoubled efforts to encourage and develop *ssirum*, an excellent sport of the Korean nation.

Pyonggyang in autumn

Autumn landscape brings pleasure to people in Pyonggyang

By Kim Hak Chol PT

The streets of Pyonggyang covered with green foliage are turning golden brown, and there is a suggestion of autumn in the wind penetrating through the collar.

Notable are people briskly walking along the streets, relishing the autumnal scenery of the city.

People look quite pleased to see golden ginkgo trees adorning Chollima Street.

Only red-tinged foliage does not decorate the city in autumn.

Metasequoia lining Ryomyong Street still remain green, making people walking along it feel fresher in their mind.

Spectacular are the autumn landscapes of scenic spots in the city.

Moran Hill, which Koreans have long loved as it is wonderful and distinctive like a peony in appearance, looks like as a beautiful picture in the season.

The Taedong riverside scenery in autumn is also notable.

The blue water of the river flowing through the city and the surrounding autumn-tinted trees add features to the scenery.

That is not all. Roast chestnut and sweet potato kiosks across the city emit the tantalizing aromas of roast chestnuts and sweet potatoes, attracting passers-by and those who have bought packets of them eat them with relish, blowing on them to cool them. It also adds to the mood of the season.

Widely known among the Korean people is the old story that a famous poet in the period of Koryo (918-1392) held his brush to write a poem about the beauty of Pyonggyang only to break its handle, lamenting that his talent was so poor.

At present many artists try to make up for what the poet of the story failed to do, but the autumnal scenery of the city continues to become more and more beautiful along with ever-increasing wonderful new streets and modern buildings and people's happy laughter from the places.



The autumn colours are at their best on a Pyonggyang street and Moran Hill.

JON KWANG HUN / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

