

Military parade staged in celebration of 75th KPA anniversary



KCNA

A grand military parade was held at Kim Il Sung Square in the capital city of Pyongyang on February 8 to celebrate the 75th anniversary of the Korean People's Army, the revolutionary armed forces of the Workers' Party of Korea.

At the parade venue where the birth of the regular armed forces, the soul and symbol of an independent and sovereign state, was declared, the KPA made the first stride towards attaining the goal of becoming an elite army with its sacred mission and grand ambition, amid the enthusiastic cheers and great expectations of all the people.

Our young regular armed forces developed into the most powerful entity stockpiling overwhelming force capable of successfully frustrating the arbitrary practices of the imperialists, by building up their capabilities with the red idea and self-reliance in the arduous and protracted course of the revolution thanks to the WPK's original self-defensive military idea and distinguished leadership. Today they will enter the square of significant parade for celebrating the 75th birthday of the KPA, demonstrating their tremendous strength to the whole world.

At the square and main roads leading

to it, there were units of all services and arms and ultra-modern military hardware of the mighty revolutionary armed forces.

The State Merited Chorus entered the square to play the parade music.

Encouraging the militant zeal for the parade, reliable paratroopers set off beautiful fireworks in the night sky and dropped flying flags of the DPRK and the WPK.

Then followed a ceremony of a combined military band playing the melodies of revolutionary army songs which sounded throughout the square.

Impressing the audience with the dynamic and militant tune like the sound of the footsteps of a mighty division crushing the enemy's position, the bandmen showed a human five-point star symbolic of the history, tradition, supreme mission and invincibility of the People's Army and such figures as "2.8" and "75" and then the emblem of the Party and word "Kanggun" (strong army) at the square. And a KPA guard of honour gave a wonderful performance with arms.

The birth of the KPA inheriting the revolutionary spirit of April 25 was declared on February 8 1948.

The ceremony revved up the festive atmosphere with dynamic rhythms and melodies showing the fact that the DPRK

has dynamically advanced along an ever-victorious road with a firm guarantee for its dignity, sovereignty and right to development thanks to the day when the regular revolutionary armed forces were founded under the leadership of the great Party and that the KPA emerged as an invincible army capable of defeating any formidable enemy.

Displaying the appearance of our revolutionary regular armed forces which have reliably defended the territory, waters and airspace of the country, parade units entered the square with their glorious colours in front of them to the tune of the orchestral music of the parade.

Our revolutionary armed forces have created only the history of loyalty and feats in the sacred struggle for defending the Party, the revolution and the country after building an impregnable fortress around the Party Central Committee.

The paraders and their arms reflected the might of the most powerful army that performed a historic feat in preventing another world war from coming to the planet in the 1950s by fighting against the imperialist allied forces in the early period of its founding and that has upheld our country's invincibility and mightiness and reliably defended global peace and

justice with its matchless military force.

There was a ceremony of displaying the colours of KPA combined units. Those colours associated with the proud history of struggle of the heroic and patriotic army that has won victory after victory and glory after glory for the Korean revolution and for our great state and people century after century entered the square.

The colours of the KPA, the symbol of the strong revolutionary army's dignity and honour and the signpost of its faith, were displayed along the square.

All the paraders who lined up at the square, the officers and men of the whole army, were waiting for the historic time in solemn feeling when they would be reviewed by the respected Comrade Kim Jong Un, the great leader of our Party, state and people, invincible and iron-willed commander and commander-in-chief of the armed forces of the DPRK.

Kim Jong Un, general secretary of the Workers' Party of Korea and president of the State Affairs of the DPRK, arrived at the square together with his beloved daughter and his wife Ri Sol Ju.

There was a solemn welcome ceremony of the KPA guard of honour.

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Kim Jong Un reviewed the KPA guard of honour and the colours of major units of the armed forces of the DPRK.

He was saluted by the commanding officers of the Ministry of National Defence, commanders of large combined units and other KPA generals.

The commanding officers paid the highest tribute to Kim Jong Un, who trained the KPA into a reliable army of the Party, the people, the government and the class and made sure that the 75th anniversary of the founding of the KPA was significantly celebrated as a great auspicious event of the whole country, with the greatest parade, a grand political and military festival, and as

a great glory of the DPRK.

Kim Jong Un warmly encouraged the commanding officers who are demonstrating the militant spirit of the revolutionary army at the outposts of beefing up the military muscle and at every work place for the country's prosperity and the people's happiness.

Amid the playing of welcome music, Kim Jong Un appeared at the tribune of honour of the parade square.

In a moment, all the paraders and other participants in the celebrations raised stormy cheers of "Hurrah!", shouting "Kim Jong Un" and "devoted defence" looking up to the great brilliant commander who opened up a period of great upturn in the development of the revolutionary

armed forces and a new chapter of beefing up the military muscle with his outstanding military strategic ideas and outstanding commanding art and instilled them with confidence in rosy future of a powerful country of Juche, to turn the whole square into a scene of emotion.

Kim Jong Un warmly waved back to the enthusiastically cheering paraders and the audience.

He was presented with bouquets by Korean Children's Union members. Taking the tribune were Kim Tok Hun, member of the Presidium of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the WPK, vice-president of the State Affairs Commission of the DPRK and premier of the Cabinet, Ri Pyong Chol, member

of the Presidium of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the WPK, vice-chairman of the Central Military Commission and secretary of the Central Committee of the WPK, Ri Yong Gil, vice-chairman of the Party Central Military Commission and secretary of the Party Central Committee, Kang Sun Nam, Pak Su Il, Jong Kyong Thae and other leading officials of the armed forces organs and military and political commanding officers of KPA large combined units and combined units.

Together with the daughter of Kim Jong Un, Jo Yong Won, Presidium member of the Political Bureau and

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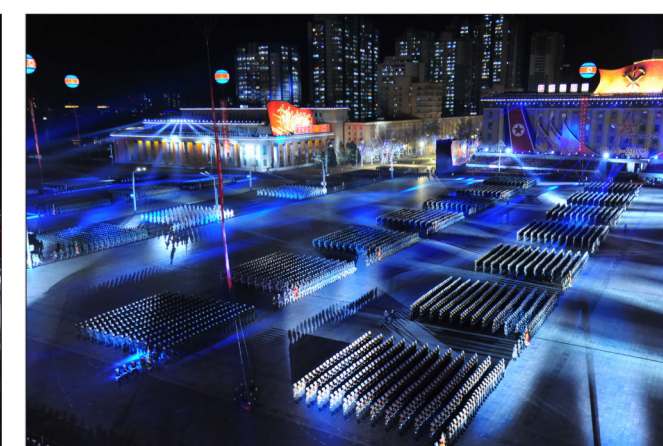
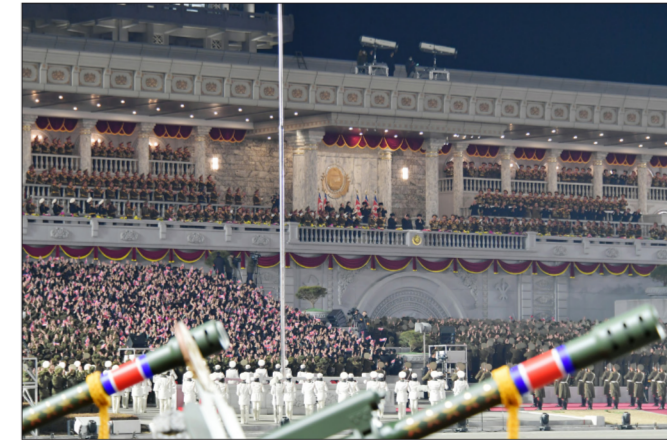
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secretary for Organizational Affairs of

the WPK Central Committee, and Ri Il Hwan, Kim Jac Ryong and Jon Hyon Chol, secretaries of the WPK Central

Committee, took the seats reserved for VIPs. The reserved seats were also taken by the

participants in the celebrations of the 75th SEE PAGE 4





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KPA birthday and activists in displaying noble traits for assistance to the army who were invited as special delegates.

A ceremony of hoisting the DPRK's national flag was solemnly held.

The DPRK's flag proceeded to the flagstaff, held by the guards of honour, surrounded by the colours of all the units participating in the parade and KPA combined units at all levels.

The national flag of glory associated with the militant spirit of the strongest revolutionary armed forces with the sacred mission of elevating the national prestige and defending the sovereignty of the country and national interests was

hoisted gradually amid the playing of the DPRK national anthem.

The participants in the military parade, service personnel of the entire army and all the people of the DPRK paid the highest tribute to the national flag of Juche Korea associated with the noble life of President Kim Il Sung and Chairman Kim Jong Il, founder and builders of our Party, state and army, and being flown high in the sky by the respected Comrade Kim Jong Un.

Fireworks were displayed and many balloons flew up displaying the unshakable will of all the people to ardently love and glorify the socialist country of Juche forever, to fill the square of military parade with emotion and joy.

Amid the playing of the song *Glorious Motherland*, a 21-gun salute was fired.

Then followed a review of the preparations for the parade.

Kang Sun Nam, minister of National Defence of the DPRK, reported to Marshal Ri Pyong Chol, vice-chairman of the WPK Central Military Commission, that the military parade units lined up for the preparations for the parade.

Ri Pyong Chol inspected the parade units.

He courteously reported to Kim Jong Un that the military parade for celebrating the 75th anniversary of the KPA was ready.

At last, the grandiose military parade of the powerful revolutionary army which has added brilliance to the DPRK's ever-

victorious history started. Showing the true nature of our People's Army which has invariably and dynamically advanced along the road pioneered by the leader of the revolution and the history of uninterrupted succession of the guerrilla spirit, the honorary cavalry column appeared at the square in the van of the parade.

The column, symbolic of the 7th Regiment during the anti-Japanese war which established the sacred tradition for steady continuation of the lifeline of the Juche revolution by creating the spirit of devotedly defending the leader, the soul and lifeblood of the Korean revolution,

Photos showing the solemn images of the anti-Japanese revolutionary forerunners including Kim Chaek, An Kil, Choe Yong Gon, O Jung Hup, Kim Il, Kim Ju Hyon, O Paek Ryong and Kang Kon, who provided the victorious tradition to be recorded in the history of revolutionary armed forces' struggle, were displayed in the van of the columns along with the colours.

A column, symbolic of the Bodyguard Company which devotedly safeguarded the Supreme Headquarters during the Fatherland Liberation War, entered the square with portraits of such veteran revolutionaries from the company as Hyon Chol Hae, Yon Hyong Muk, Pak Song Bong, Sim Chang Wan and Jon Pyong Ho in its van.

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advanced with the first colours of our revolutionary armed forces bearing the letters "Anti-Japanese People's Guerrilla Army".

The audience saw those images of loyalists recorded in the history of army building, being convinced once again of the truth that the life of soldiers devoted to the most sacred revolutionary cause under the guidance of the great leader is everlasting in the memory of the Party, the country and the people despite the passage of time and replacement of generations.

The columns, symbolic of the 1st national defence division, the 2nd light infantry division, the 3rd independent infantry brigade and the 4th infantry division recorded in the history of the great Fatherland Liberation War, also entered the square, displaying the spirit of the guards who defeated the nuclear-armed enemies with rifles and showing the portraits of Choe Kwang, Choe Hyon, Ryu Kyong Su, O Jin U, Nam Il and other commanding officers who left a distinct trace in the history of the units and the history of the development of our revolutionary armed forces.

Following the symbolic columns which

clearly showed the sacred tradition and succession of the Juche revolution, the columns of soldiers under the Guard Office of the Party Central Committee, the Guard Department of the State Affairs Commission, the Bodyguard Department and the Bodyguard Command proudly marched along the square, proving the ever-victorious philosophy of service that devotedly defending the Party Central Committee precisely means the defence of the country and the advance and victory of the revolution.

Felt on each face of the military paraders was the immutable truth that to devotedly safeguard the leader is the greatest mission our revolutionary armed forces have put forward as a signpost of faith since its founding, the most brilliant feats they performed in the army-building history and the highest honour of our officers and men.

The columns of army groups keeping the highest alert on the front line for defending the country took vigorous steps at the

square, flying the flags of elite units, whose names strike terror into the enemy, with commanders in the van with their swords. Felt on each column of field armed forces at the foremost frontline, which have taken the lead in carrying out the operational plan of the Party Central Committee, demonstrating the might of the KPA's eldest son corps and pivot corps, was the high spirit of forefront service personnel in full readiness to annihilate the enemy.

Marching past the square were also the columns of the naval and air forces demonstrating their might as death-defying corps of the sea and shield of the sky, the columns of the strategic forces and special operation forces, symbolic of the irresistible might of the DPRK armed forces. They were filled with the fighting spirit to annihilate the enemies and bring victory when the Party Central Committee gives an order.

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Kim Jong Un extended warm militant greetings to the guards who have devotedly defended the lineage of the Korean revolution and the ideology and cause of our Party, always and reliably standing at the forefront of the revolution and class under any circumstances.

The paraders shouted "Hurrah!" at the top of their voices, looking up to the iron-willed brilliant commander who set forth the general duty of building a powerful army in the new era of the Juche revolution and the four-point line of strengthening the army and indicated a shortcut to bolstering up the military capabilities to remarkably strengthen our revolutionary armed forces into the WPK-style powerful army strong in politico-ideological, moral and ultra-modern technical aspects.

The columns of army corps defending the capital city of Pyongyang and the coasts, border line and depth of the rear in the country dynamically passed the square, which was filled with the dignity of parade columns marching with their colours of glory and the high pride and the militant spirit of the powerful army.

Marching past the square were columns of tank armour division and mechanized infantry division, which

are the iron striking groups to conquer the operational theatres at a go on the order of the Supreme Headquarters, and the column of the general bureau of reconnaissance, and columns of specialist service personnel including the Command Intelligence Brigade 191.

When the column of the 1st mobile hospital entered the square, the audience extended warm congratulations to and applauded the combatants in the field of military medicine who performed distinguished military feats, fully demonstrating the noble spiritual world of the reliable detachment of our Party and the revolutionary army in the great era of Kim Jong Un during the emergency anti-epidemic campaign for settling the public health crisis created in the capital city last year.

The columns of Kim Il Sung Military University, the highest institute of Juche-oriented military education, Kim Jong Il Military and Political University, the centre for training top-level military commanding officers of the country, Kim Il Sung University of Politics, the pedigree establishment for training political officers of the People's Army, and other military schools at all levels marched past the square, showing the pledge to contribute to the Party's cause

of strengthening the army by bringing about a revolution in military education initiated by the Party Central Committee. Amid the playing of the eternal paean to the socialist country *We Are the Happiest in the World*, the students of revolutionary schools, who are fully prepared as competent talents to give steady continuity to the revolutionary mainstream at the pedigree establishments for training the backbone guaranteeing the eternal future of the Juche cause, marched through the square in high spirits, decorating the end of the foot columns.

Kim Jong Un held high his hand to encourage the successors to the revolution marching with dignity, full of pledge to shoulder the rosy future of our revolutionary armed forces and the country by carrying forward the tradition of loyalty and patriotism handed down by the forerunners.

The venue was overflowing with conviction about the rosy future of the Juche power where the great sun shines and with boundless emotion.

The flight parade of the Juche-based air force began over the nocturnal sky of the square for celebrating Army Day.

The death-defying airmen with the indomitable combat spirit instilled by the

Party Central Committee flew in the air.

Air squadrons, in formations depicting the five-pointed star and the number "75", flew past the sky above the square while letting off fireworks to brighten the sky in February, representing the feats of the people's air force which has defended the blue sky of the country as the star of loyalty defending the sun in the nearest distance and the history of the powerful army.

The audience repeatedly exclaimed as a squadron in a fan-shape formation flew in the air to reflect the iron pledge of the pilots to create a matchless legend in the air while flying only the route of devotedly defending the Party Central Committee.

The parade of columns of mechanized units started to show the history of self-reliant defence building of the WPK which led the untrodden path of army building to the broad avenue of building a world-level military power for the dignity and security of the country and the people and genuine peace.

Entering the square were columns of carriages carrying the heavy machine-guns, which annihilated the enemy in the battles on Height 351 and Height 1211, and motorcycles, antitank artillery, direct-firing guns and tanks, symbolic

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of mechanized units in the period of the Fatherland Liberation War.

They were trifling weapons to stand in total confrontation with the imperialist allied forces led by the US imperialists boasting of the myth of "mightiness". But those artillery pieces, which went through the hail of shells, are associated with the feats performed in the great years when the revolutionary armed forces guided by the great leader defeated the imperialist armed aggressors' numerical and technical superiority by dint of the politico-ideological and strategic and tactical superiority.

The columns of mechanized units were followed by the main military hardware of the KPA, which displayed advanced, modern and strong nature of the DPRK's defence capabilities.

The demonstration of strength of justice started with cutting-edge military hardware of Juche Korea which rapidly emerged as a matchless superpower under the extraordinary military strategic idea and wise guidance of the great

Comrade Kim Jong Un, the invincible and iron-willed commander.

The column of main battle tanks, symbolic of the combat efficiency of the KPA and iron fist, rolled past the square followed by the column of artillery force.

When the KPA's core offensive weapons with great mobility and striking ability appeared in the square, the audience enthusiastically clapped them.

The columns of tactical missiles and long-range cruise missiles entered the square.

The tactical nuclear weapons operation units entered the square, demonstrating their dignity, matchless spirit, powerful war deterrent and counterstrike ability.

The columns of ICBMs appeared in the square which resounded with the enthusiastic cheers of the people full of pride and self-confidence, demonstrating the signal development of the military capability and tremendous nuclear strike capability of the DPRK.

Nuke for nuke and an all-out confrontation for an all-out confrontation!

The square was full of the high spirit of the fighters of the strategic missile units prepared for fulfilling their strategic



mission anytime, true to the order of the leader only. The giant entities of the DPRK strategic forces passed the square, demonstrating their dignity.

All the participants broke into stormy cheers of "Hurrah!", looking up to Kim Jong Un, the peerless patriot and outstanding leader of our Party, state and people, who pioneered a shortcut to the development of the Korean-style defence with his extraordinary foresight, firm determination and outstanding leadership and demonstrated before the world the prestige and dignity of our state with the specially great event of perfecting the strongest strategic weapon in the world.

When the military parade of the KPA, heroic army with the invincible arms which no formidable enemy dares to provoke, was over, spectacular fireworks were displayed again over the nocturnal sky on Army Day, with the highest tribute paid by all the service personnel and people to the great brilliant commander and their cheers of glory reverberating through the sky and land.

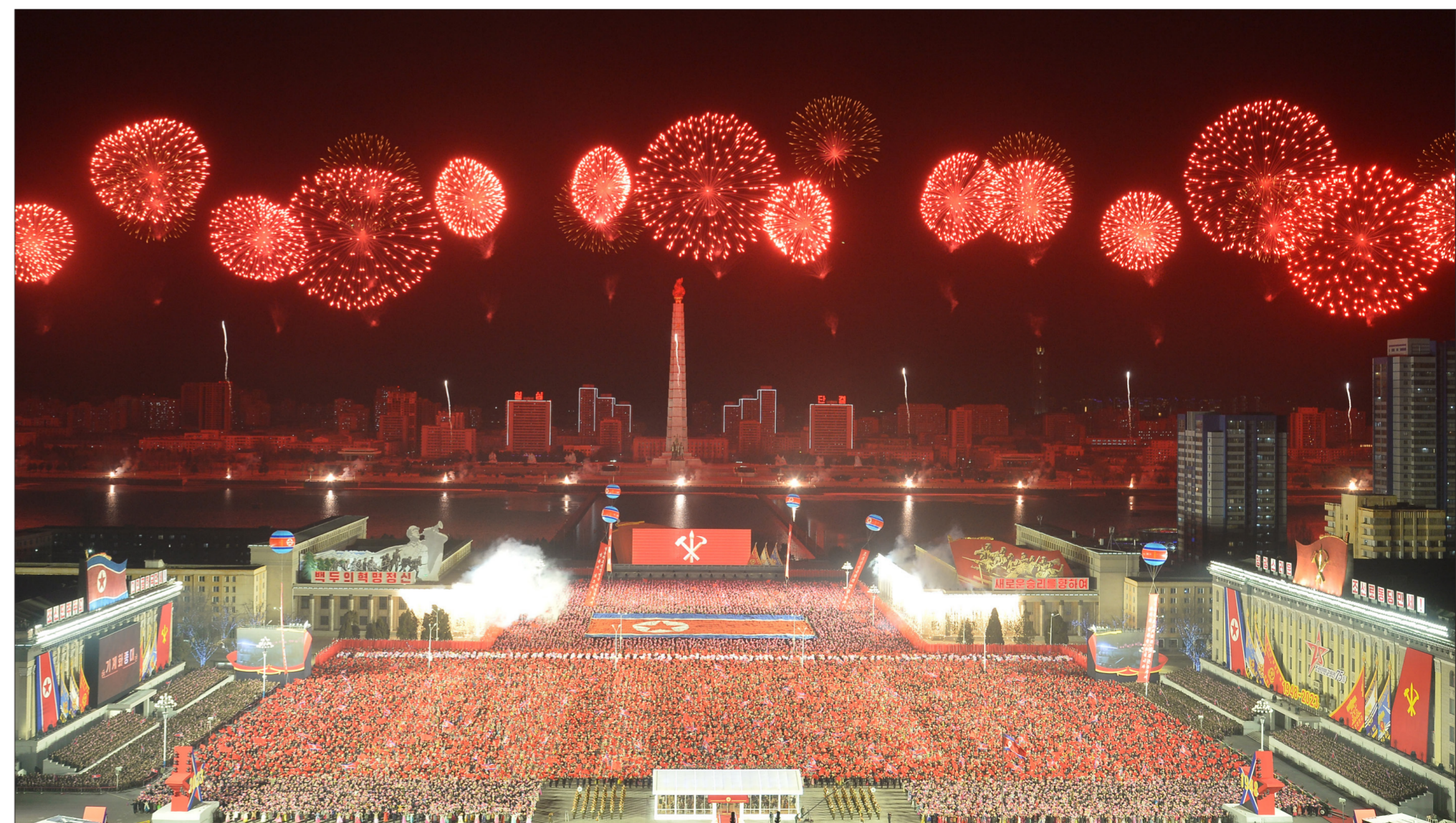
Kim Jong Un warmly acknowledged the enthusiastic cheers of the audience.

The square was filled with the high revolutionary spirit and enthusiasm of the strongest army for reliably guaranteeing the victorious advance of the revolutionary cause of Juche, eternal security of the country and the overall prosperity and development of socialist construction and for surely realizing the people's dream and ideals with the inexhaustible might which worked world-startling, eye-opening military miracles and the absolute will of heroic Korea which knows no impossibility, holding fast to the arms of justice and ever-victorious treasured sword sharpened by the Party Central Committee.

The military parade in celebration of the 75th anniversary of the KPA, which put the long and sacred history of our revolutionary armed forces on the highest level of glory, will shine long in the history as a great political event that demonstrated to the whole world the militant spirit of the a-match-for-a-hundred powerful revolutionary army advancing under the unfurled red flag of the WPK as the first colours under the leadership of the great Comrade Kim Jong Un and the rosy future of the revolutionary cause of Juche.







Kim Jong Un visits lodging quarters of KPA generals, attends banquet in celebration of Army Day



KCNA

The DPRK greets the significant Army Day in the grandiose course of vigorously marking a new turning point for national rejuvenation while demonstrating the might of independence in politics and self-sustenance in the economy along with the heroic spirit of great self-reliance in national defence. The whole country is now overflowing with the incomparably high pride in our revolutionary armed forces which have paved the road of advance of history in the van as the incarnation of the ideas and will of the Workers' Party of Korea and the absolute

strength of our state and people.

Kim Jong Un, general secretary of the Workers' Party of Korea and president of the State Affairs of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, paid a congratulatory visit to the lodging quarters of generals of the Korean People's Army on February 7 on the occasion of the 75th birthday of the KPA to be inscribed in gold letters in the history of powerful Juche Korea.

Commanding officers of the Ministry of National Defence and military and political commanding officers of the KPA large combined units and combined units greeted with the warmest reverence

the respected Comrade Kim Jong Un, whom they wanted to see even in their dreams, when he arrived at the lodging quarters together with his daughter.

They were bubbling with excitement, being convinced of the eternal security and future of the country as they are led by the ever-victorious and iron-willed brilliant commander who is ushering in a new era of building the powerful army, demonstrating the dignity and mightiness of Juche Korea to the whole world.

A banquet in celebration of the 75th KPA birthday was given in the presence of Kim Jong Un.

Invited to it were commanding officers

of the Ministry of National Defence, military and political commanding officers of the KPA large combined units and combined units and other generals.

Present there were senior Party and government officials, including Kim Tok Hun, Jo Yong Won and Ri Pyong Chol, members of the Presidium of the Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee.

The banquet hall was seething with great pride and joy over the great history and tradition of the KPA which has performed ever-victorious feats in the protracted militant course since its birth,

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guaranteeing the dignity and prosperity of the country and the happiness of the people with arms of the revolution.

When Kim Jong Un entered the banquet hall amid the playing of welcome music, all the participants enthusiastically cheered, paying the highest glory and respects to the outstanding leader of our great Party, state and people and the banner of all victories and glory.

Kim Jong Un made a meaningful speech for all the service personnel of the KPA greeting the Army Day.

He reviewed the proud history of the KPA which has recorded the glorious

tradition, brilliant victory and shining epic of honour since the day when it was founded, and extended noble tribute and warm congratulations to all the officers and men of the DPRK armed forces who have defended the strong breathing of the ever-victorious Korean revolution with matchless military muscle and costly sacrifice and upheld the invincibility and mightiness of our state.

He expressed belief that the KPA, the armed forces of the WPK and the vanguard of the class, would brilliantly defend the dignity and greatness of the powerful country and people with the irresistible strength peculiar to it by invariably inheriting the red soul, the noble mission, the staunch

revolutionary spirit and the fighting spirit of death-defying resistance cherished by the first generation of the revolution with arms.

Upon hearing his passionate speech that gives them the boundless pride of having bravely advanced under the leadership of the WPK and further hardens their revolutionary will to remain loyal to the WPK forever, the KPA generals raised stormy cheers of "Hurrah!" in reflection of their pledge of faith to firmly carry forward the sacred traditions peculiar to the KPA.

Displayed at the banquet hall were impressive scenes showing the ties of kindred between the great brilliant commander and the backbones of the

invincible powerful army who share the intention, feelings and fate on the road of bolstering up the military capabilities for the dignity and future of the country and the people.

The KPA commanding officers renewed their rock-firm will to exert themselves to devotedly defend the Party Central Committee led by Kim Jong Un and the revolutionary idea and cause of the Party in the face of any turns and twists and reliably guarantee the all-people advance for victory of the socialist cause with matchless arms in the theatres for defence of national sovereignty and the people and gigantic creation, cherishing his parental warm affection and great trust for life.



General Secretary Kim Jong Un makes speech at banquet in celebration of KPA birthday

KCNA

Kim Jong Un, general secretary of the Workers' Party of Korea and president of the State Affairs of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, made a speech at a banquet for celebrating the 75th anniversary of the founding of the Korean People's Army (KPA) on February 7.

The respected Comrade Kim Jong Un said:

Comrade generals, commanding officers of the heroic Korean People's Army present in this significant place,

Today is the 75th birthday of our army.

At this moment when I recollect the proud history of the KPA, which has written an epic of glorious tradition, brilliant victory and honour in the long course of struggle spanning 27 395 days since the day when its birth was welcomed with cheers, I remember the unforgettable names and images of the service personnel of the preceding generations who devoted themselves to defending the vigorous advance of the ever-victorious Korean revolution and boosting the invincibility and mightiness of our state.

I also remember the images of all the service personnel of the KPA firmly standing on the front-line, border and other posts and socialist construction sites to defend the eternal prosperity of the motherland and the well-being and happiness of the people even at this moment of glory this evening.

Upon authorization by our Party and government, I pay high tribute to the anti-Japanese revolutionary forerunners who provided the origin of the tradition of victory immortal in the history of the hard-fought struggle of the revolutionary armed forces, and to the fallen soldiers of the People's Army, the respected veterans and the army commanding officers of the preceding generations who passed away.

I also extend warm congratulations to all the officers and men of the KPA and the armed forces of the DPRK through you, commanding officers and generals at all levels present here.

My best wishes and heartfelt thanks also go to all the people including officers' wives who have absolutely supported and encouraged our Party's line of building a powerful army and its defence policy, sent their beloved husbands and children to the posts of national defence and devoted themselves to strengthening the defence capabilities of the country.

The respected Comrade Kim Jong Un said that such a heroic and patriotic army remaining faithful to its cause as the KPA can be found nowhere else in the world and everybody knows its devotion to defending the Korean revolution without any vacillation despite the harsh challenges, and hoped that the officers and men of the KPA, who have always gone to the trouble of overcoming hardships, would celebrate their holiday deservedly, proudly, honourably and significantly amid the blessings of all the people today, the day of army founding, even though it is one day.

He continued:

Comrade generals and officers and men of the People's Army,

What force drives the unprecedentedly arduous Korean revolution, what makes our state invincible and how will our ideal and future be shaped?

The most veritable answer to this and the fairest appreciation by history are found in the 75-year history of our army.

The more we look back on how our revolutionary cause has been defended, how our Party's ideas and lines have been safeguarded and how our national flag has fluttered at the peak of honour in the turbulent history, the more we value the precious blood shed by our army officers and men for victory and their countless feats.

In the initial period after its founding, our army made clear its inherent mission of sharing the destiny with



the Party and started a long bloody journey to remain faithful to it. This constituted a key factor that made our history of army building be the one that can never be separated from the history of struggle of the Party, the revolution, the country and the people, and enabled its 75-year history to be recorded in the grandest way.

A history of righteous strength was made on this land, proving through a hard-won victory the truth that the dignity and honour are only given to the strong and the validity of the revolutionary cause is verified only by victory, and independence and self-sufficiency are only guaranteed by self-reliance in defence.

The army of the Party, the army of the people, the army of the government and the army of the class which defends and realizes everything the dearest and most urgent to our destiny and future, and the army that shoulders hardships before anyone else and is ready to make sacrifices—these are the precious names that our People's Army has won at the cost of blood and lives and that should be maintained from one century to the next and from one generation to the next.

What we value more than anything else and are fully proud of today is the fact that the baton of the revolutionary army of the Party, the history and tradition of loyalty, has been steadily carried forward.

Even under the present harsh circumstances, our army is demonstrating its inexhaustible strength as the armed forces of the Workers' Party of Korea and the vanguard of the class. This is from A to Z attributable to the fact that the red soul, the noble mission, the staunch revolutionary spirit and the fighting spirit of death-defying resistance the first generation of the revolutionary armed forces charged their weapons with have remained unchanged even today when their fifth and sixth generations have appeared.

The highest honour of the 75-year history of our People's Army lies in the great succession, which continues staunchly and vigorously despite the passage of time and the storms of history.

I am quite sure that though commanding officers and soldiers of the new generation, forming the mainstay of our revolutionary armed forces, have experienced neither a grim revolutionary war nor a difficult period of the revolution, they have inherited the absolute loyalty peculiar to our People's Army and the characteristic features of the preceding generations, who shed blood and sweat and sacrifice themselves without hesitation, if the revolution calls for it.

Our servicepersons have fought vigorously not only in the frontline combat positions where they confront the enemy directly but also in all parts of the country where legendary victories and miracles are made and the red military colours associated with their loyalty and patriotic traditions are fluttering.

Whenever I see our service personnel fighting unyieldingly with the might of the will surpassing their mental and physical limitations in the theatres of defending the national sovereignty and the people and

epoch-making creation, I cannot but make a bow to them.

As our army cherishes a noble view of life that there is only honour on the road of sharing the destiny with the Party and carrying out its orders, I have thought of our army when the situation of the country is difficult and entrusted it with greater tasks of struggle, and our army has never hesitated to respond to the Party's call.

When I am determined to share the destiny with our army, feeling the greatest honour of being the Supreme Commander who leads such a laudable army, I feel the greatest delight.

Lots of changes have been made and the appearance of our army has changed beyond recognition for a long period since its early days, but the looks of our faithful army, which always stands firmly in the van of the revolution, come rain or shine, and shoulders the heavy burden

that no one can dare to do, have remained unchanged.

Its succeeding as well as its pioneering were so great that our army was able to win the fulfilling call of the times and history as the strongest army in the world.

Kim Jong Un said that our army's gallant, dignified, strong and resolute looks are a trait peculiar to it based on the extraordinary pride and strong self-respect that its life is devoted to the greatest sacred cause and its arms serve the most righteous cause in the world, and the display of an irresistible might unique to our army that comes from the unusual sense of responsibility and superhuman will that it can neither be broken nor fall until it has fulfilled the duty entrusted by the Party Central Committee.

Noting that the appearance of our state growing more powerful and stronger in the face of hardships and ordeals is a mirror of the fighting army and the names of the heroic service personnel shine along with the peak of the dignity of our people, he said with pride. He continued: There are hundreds of countries and not a few armies boasting of their long history and traditions in the world, but it is only the KPA that shares life and death with the Party, the country and the people, adds to their prestige and greatness and defends their high honour and rosy future in the whole course of its development.

He declared that the DPRK has finally cultivated a great and absolute strength, overcoming indescribable pains and sufferings for the sake of the eternal peace, genuine prosperity and development on this land and for the good of the coming generations.

He said that the KPA should brave trials as always, holding higher the slogans "Let the People's Army take charge of both national defence and socialist construction!" and "When the Party is determined, we can do anything!"

I never doubt that you will be as brave as always, dedicating your lives to the eternal prosperity of the country and the wellbeing of the people, true to the letters written on the glorious military colours.

He went on to say:

Affirming that I will always share life and death, weal and woe with you, I entrust you and our People's Army with the forefront of the revolution.

I wish all of you good health and hope that you will become commanding officers making selfless and devoted efforts for the good of our soldiers.

I entrust you with our officers and men.

Let us all redouble efforts and work harder to strengthen and develop our army and to achieve the prosperity and development of our socialist country.

I hope, with my hand on my heart, that the wellbeing of the people and the peace of the country will be promoted in proportion to the efforts made by the KPA.

I would like to propose a toast to the health of army generals present here and to the health of the officers and men of the entire army, to the glory of the KPA and to the eternity of its great honour.

Long live the Korean People's Army, an ever-victorious heroic army!

Kim Jong Un guides enlarged meeting of WPK Central Military Commission



KCNA

The Fourth Enlarged Meeting of the Eighth Central Military Commission of the Workers' Party of Korea took place at the office building of the Central Committee of the WPK on February 6 amid the soaring militant spirit and fighting enthusiasm of the Korean People's Army to firmly guarantee the dynamic advance of the Korean-style socialist cause with matchless military muscle.

Kim Jong Un, general secretary of the Workers' Party of Korea and president of the State Affairs of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, guided the enlarged meeting.

Present there were vice-chairmen Ri Pyong Chol and Ri Yong Gil and members of the Central Military Commission of the WPK.

Attending it as observers were commanders of the KPA services, commanding officers of its corps and major units, commanding officers of the Ministry of National Defence and other armed forces organs, leading officials in the defence science research field and cadres of the Department of the Munitions Industry and other relevant departments of the WPK Central Committee.

The enlarged meeting discussed in depth the major military and political tasks for 2023 and the long-term issues concerning the orientation for army building.

It studied and discussed a series of practical tasks for bringing about a great change in

the military and political work, including the issue of taking a step concerning the machinery to fundamentally improve and strengthen military affairs, the issue of constantly expanding and intensifying the operation and combat drills of the KPA to cope with the prevailing situation and more strictly perfecting the preparedness for war, and the issue of modifying some articles of the internal regulations of the army as required by the developing reality, and then adopted relevant decisions.

The respected Comrade Kim Jong Un expressed expectation and belief that

the whole armed forces of the DPRK would perform ever-victorious feats in strenuously upholding and vigorously carrying out with the matchless military strength the Party's enormous tasks for further consolidating the historic victories won by the Korean people in the grand course of accomplishing the socialist cause and for opening up a new chapter of development in the history of socialist construction of Juche, bearing in mind the sacred mission and important duty they assume before the Party and the revolution, the country and the people.

The KPA commanding officers and all the participants hardened their resolve to fulfil their important obligations in implementing the Party's military policy, looking up to Kim Jong Un who convened the enlarged meeting on the historic 60th anniversary of the slogan "A-match-for-a-hundred" set forth by President Kim Il Sung, in order to provide an important milestone for building a powerful army and clarified the orientation for the revolutionary military and political activities of the DPRK armed forces.



Political Bureau of WPK Central Committee meets



KCNA

The 13th Meeting of the Political Bureau of the Eighth Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea took place at the office building of the WPK Central Committee on February 5.

Attending it were members of the Presidium of the Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee and members and alternate members of the Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee.

Jo Yong Won, member of the Presidium of the Political Bureau and secretary for Organizational Affairs of the WPK Central Committee, presided over the meeting.

The meeting discussed as the agenda the issue of convening the enlarged meeting of the Seventh Plenary Meeting of the Eighth WPK Central Committee.

The Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee examined and approved the agenda, the schedule and the selection of observers of the enlarged plenary meeting.

The meeting of the Political Bureau unanimously approved the resolution on convening the enlarged meeting of the Seventh Plenary Meeting of the Eighth WPK Central Committee in late February and made assignments for the preparations for the plenum.



Resolution of Political Bureau of WPK Central Committee On convening enlarged meeting of Seventh Plenary Meeting of Eighth WPK Central Committee

It is a very important and urgent task to establish a correct strategy for the development of agriculture and take relevant measures for immediate farming in the present stage of the struggle to promote the overall development of socialist construction.

In order to put the country's agriculture on a stable and sustainable track of growth, it is necessary to promote the preferential development of the agricultural science and technology and direct main efforts to further strengthening the material and technical foundations of the agricultural sector including the perfection of the overall irrigation system.

The Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee recognized that a turning point is needed to dynamically promote the radical change in agricultural development, a main link in the whole chain of consolidating and expanding the historic victory and successes achieved by our Party and people through arduous struggle.

The Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee decides to convene the enlarged meeting of the Seventh Plenary Meeting of the Eighth WPK Central Committee in late February to review last year's struggle for implementing the programme for rural revolution in the new era and discuss the immediate farming issue and long-term goals for the agricultural development.

Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea

KPA commanding officers pay homage to great leaders



Generals of the Korean People's Army pay high tribute to President Kim Il Sung and Chairman Kim Jong Il at their statues in the Kumsusan Palace of the Sun.

KCNA

Kang Sun Nam, Pak Su Il, Jong Kyong Thack and other commanding officers of the Ministry of National Defence and commanders of large combined units of the Korean People's Army and other generals of the KPA visited the Kumsusan Palace of the Sun, the supreme temple of Juche, on February 9 on the occasion of Army Day.

The KPA generals solemnly entered the palace with the boundless pride and honour of having held the Army Day parade as a grand political and military festival to be specially recorded in the history of building the revolutionary armed forces.

A basket of flowers in the name of the KPA was placed at the statues of President Kim Il Sung and Chairman Kim Jong Il.

Participants paid high tribute to the President and the Chairman at the statues by reflecting the unanimous mind of all the service

personnel of the armed forces of the DPRK.

At the halls of immortality where the great leaders are preserved in their lifetime appearance, they made deep bows to them.

They expressed to the great leaders their will to loyally support the mightiness and invincibility of the state always in the van of the revolution by hardening the will to devotedly safeguard the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea.

The KPA commanding officers made a firm pledge to fully display the inexhaustible strength and heroic stamina of the armed forces of the WPK, in the sacred struggle for the eternal prosperity of the country and the security of the people, upholding the ideas and leadership of the respected Comrade Kim Jong Un, the symbol of the dignity and mightiness of the Party and state, the ever-victorious banner and the destiny of socialist Korea.

Nation pays floral tribute to great leaders

KCNA

Service personnel and working people visited statues of President Kim Il Sung and Chairman Kim Jong Il across the country to pay floral tribute to them on the occasion of the 75th anniversary of the founding of the Korean People's Army.

Baskets of flowers were laid at the statues of the great leaders in the name of Party, government and armed forces organs, public

organizations, ministries, national agencies, units of the KPA and the Public Security Forces and institutions at all levels, industrial establishments and others in Pyongyang.

They made a bow at the statues as they recollected the immortal exploits of the peerlessly great men who had exalted the dignity and honour of socialist Korea by making its military capability invincible.

Institutions, enterprises and KPA and PSF units

also placed flower baskets at the statues of the great leaders and portraits of their beaming images in different places in Pyongyang, including Kim Il Sung University, the Ministry of National Defence, the Ministry of Public Security and the Mansudae Art Studio.

Service personnel and working people in other parts of the country visited such statues and portraits in their localities to pay homage to the great leaders.



Service personnel lay flower baskets and bouquets at the statues of President Kim Il Sung and Chairman Kim Jong Il on Mansu Hill in Pyongyang.

KPA generals visit revolutionary martyrs cemetery

KCNA

On the occasion of the 75th anniversary of the founding of the heroic Korean People's Army, generals of the KPA who are the backbones of the armed forces of the DPRK visited the Revolutionary Martyrs Cemetery on Mt Taesong in Pyongyang to pay tribute to the anti-Japanese revolutionary martyrs.

Kang Sun Nam, Pak Su Il, Jong Kyong Thack and other commanding officers of the Ministry of National Defence and military and political

commanding officers of the KPA large combined units and combined units climbed up Jujak Peak bearing in mind the great honour and pride of having demonstrated once again to the whole world the unrivaled spirit of the KPA and the mightiness and invincibility of the state at the grand military parade marking the significant Army Day in the presence of the peerlessly brilliant commander.

The guards of honour of the KPA lined up at the cemetery.

A wreath was laid amid the playing of the wreath-laying music.

Written on the ribbon of the wreath were letters reading, "The revolutionary martyrs will be immortal."

The KPA generals paid a silent tribute to the memory of the anti-Japanese revolutionary martyrs who readily dedicated their youth and lives to accomplishing the sacred cause of national independence and the people's happiness.

There was a march-past of the KPA honour guard.



Generals of the Korean People's Army pay homage to anti-Japanese revolutionary martyrs at the Revolutionary Martyrs Cemetery on Mt Taesong in Pyongyang.

Working people's organizations celebrate Army Day

KCNA

The workers' artistic motivational team of the Central Committee of the General Federation of Trade Unions of Korea staged a performance "Tradition of great victory carried on generation after generation" on February 6 at the Central Hall of Workers in celebration of the 75th anniversary of the Korean People's Army.

War veterans in Pyongyang were invited to it.

The performers sang highly of the revolutionary exploits of the peerless great men which will shine forever along with the sacred history of the heroic KPA that has recorded only victory and glory on its history of 75 years since it was founded as the Juche-type revolutionary regular armed forces by inheriting the anti-Japanese tradition.

The artistic motivational team of the Central Committee of the Socialist Patriotic Youth League gave a performance "Leader, Just Give Us Your Order" at the Central Youth Hall in Pyongyang on Monday to celebrate the Army Day.

Officials and members of the women's union on February 7 held a storytelling meeting at the People's Palace of Culture in Pyongyang to mark the anniversary.

It was attended by Kim Jong Sun, chairwoman of the Central Committee of the Socialist Women's Union of Korea, women's union officials and its members in Pyongyang.

Cha Yong Hae, chairwoman of the Mangyongdae District women's union committee, Ryom Hyang Ran, chairwoman of the primary women's union committee of Jongback-dong No. 2 in Rangnang District, and Kim Sol Hyang, a women's union member of Ryonghung-dong No. 1 in Taesong District, took the floor at the meeting.

Speakers highly lauded the immortal revolutionary exploits of President Kim Il Sung and Chairman Kim Jong Il who accomplished the great cause of building an army by dint of self-reliance with the Juche-oriented idea on army building and outstanding leadership and provided a powerful treasured sword for the eternal prosperity of Korean-style socialism.

Agricultural workers held a meeting with a war veteran on the same occasion in Pyongyang on February 7.

A speech was made by war veteran Ryu Song Jun.

He referred to the fact that the first grand military parade of the KPA was held on February 8 75 years ago to announce the birth of the regular army of new Korea and that the stamping of the paraders resounding through the square led to that on the square of great victory in the 1950s.

UAWK members' speeches followed.

Speakers expressed their resolve to support the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea with high crop yields and make a genuine contribution to accomplishing the cause of comprehensive development and rejuvenation of socialist construction by following the fighting spirit displayed by the defenders of the country in the 1950s who had readily devoted their youth and lives to defending every inch of national territory.

Art performances, dance parties celebrate 75th anniversary of KPA

KCNA

The people throughout the country significantly celebrated the 75th anniversary of the founding of the Korean People's Army.

A variety of celebratory performances were given at different places in Pyongyang.

The artistic motivational team of the youth league central committee staged a performance at the plaza in front of Pyongyang Indoor Stadium.

The holiday atmosphere was elevated by the inspiring performances of the workers' artistic motivational team of the Central Committee of the General Federation of Trade Unions of Korea, the artistic motivational group of the Central Committee of the Union of Agricultural Workers of Korea and women's union artistic motivational teams in Central, Tongdaewon and other districts in Pyongyang.

And women's union officials and its members held a dance party at the plaza of the Arch of Triumph.

Similar performances were given at the Art Theatre of North Phyongnam Province and the Chongjin Theatre, and youth and students held dance parties in provincial capitals, cities and counties.

Officials and members of the women's union hold a dance party at the plaza of the Arch of Triumph on February 8.



Banquet given for active supporters of army

KCNA

A banquet was held on February 9 at the People's Palace of Culture, Okryu Restaurant, Pyongyang Noodle House and other places in Pyongyang for activists in displaying noble traits for assistance to the army who were invited as special delegates to the celebrations of the 75th anniversary of the Korean People's Army.

It was attended by Premier Kim Tok Hun, member of the Presidium of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and vice-president of the DPRK State Affairs Commission, and other cadres of the Party, government and the military.

Speakers at the banquet heartily congratulated the activists who devote their noble civic conscience and patriotic sincerity to defending the country invariably, rain or shine.

They said with deep emotion that the respected Comrade Kim Jong Un highly appreciated the untiring efforts and feats of the activists who make a sacrifice of themselves for the great cause of building a rich country with a strong army, specially invited them to the military parade and bestowed particular love and care for them.

They noted that the laudable deeds of finding pride and happiness in devoting themselves for soldiers and to national defence, being well aware of the value of arms and preciousness of the country are fine examples of noble patriotism to be followed by all people.

Saying that the KPA has grown strong as it is today and the great army-people unit has been consolidated as an impregnable revolutionary fortress thanks to the devoted efforts of such genuine revolutionaries who share the idea and emotion, joy and sorrow with the Party, they added that the KPA will build up the spirit and might of a powerful army in future, too, encouraged by their enthusiastic support full of sincerity.

Participants in Army Day celebrations have good time in Pyongyang

KCNA

Service personnel who participated in the events to celebrate the Army Day had a good time visiting various places in Pyongyang from the day they arrived in the capital city.

They visited the Kumsusan Palace of the Sun, the supreme temple of Juche where President Kim Il Sung and Chairman Kim Jong Il are preserved in their lifetime appearance, and paid homage to them.

At the military parade held in celebration of the anniversary with splendour in the presence of the respected Comrade Kim Jong Un, they felt great pride in the militant spirit of a-match-for-a-hundred revolutionary army and firm confidence in the bright future of a thriving country with a strong army.

During their stay, they visited the birthplace of the President at Mangyongdae and the Korean Revolution Museum.

They paid floral tribute to

martyrs at the Revolutionary Martyrs Cemetery on Mt Taesong, the Patriotic Martyrs Cemetery in Sinmi-ri and the Fatherland Liberation War Martyrs Cemetery.

They also looked round the KPA Military Hardware Museum, the Revolutionary Museum of the Ministry of National Defence and elsewhere.

Participants in the Army Day celebrations visit the Korean Revolution Museum.



Participants in the celebrations look round the Fatherland Liberation War Martyrs Cemetery.



Lifelong people-bound journey

O Chol Yong

The Day of the Shining Star (February 16) is drawing nearer.

With immense yearning for Chairman Kim Jong Il pervading the whole country, the Korean people look back with deep emotion on the long journey of devotion the peerlessly great man made for his country and people.

The history of his revolutionary leadership spanning half a century was a journey which began with going among the people and which was consistent with love for and dedication to them, and they were always cherished deep in his mind.

Kim Jong Il encapsulated the will and demands of the masses of the people to formulate the line and policies, always shared joys and sorrows with them and found himself among them in hard times to arouse them.

His energetic field guidance tours made for the people brought about world-startling miracles and changes in the 1960s when a milestone was set for a radical turn in the building and activities of the Workers' Party of Korea and the 1970s and 1980s replete with creations and changes.

The Korean people

still remember the unprecedentedly gruelling forced march of field guidance he made in the period of severe trials for the country.

During the Arduous March when everything was in short supply and difficult he unveiled a grand plan for building a thriving nation which no one could imagine and continued his high-intensity forced march for economic construction and improvement of the people's livelihood.

He inspected every nook and cranny of the country, such as construction sites of power stations, factories, mines, smelteries, light industry factories and fruit and fish farms, and he went on the forced march in the face of biting cold, heavy snowfall, scorching heat and downpour.

As he provided energetic guidance with untiring selfless efforts on his inspection tours, he initiated such ambitious nature-harnessing projects as large-scale land rezoning, kept setting higher goals and discovered good methods and methodologies for creating miracles. In that course, the torch of new revolutionary upsurges and the flames of the industrial revolution in the new century were kindled and national dignity and

strength were boosted as never before.

He spent December 2011, the last month of his life, and his last day making field inspection tours.

On the first Sunday that December he visited the Amusement Park of the Kaeson Youth Park to look round the amusement facilities to be used by the people and give precious teachings. And he inspected the Hana Music Information Centre and the Kwangbok Area Supermarket on December 15, two days before he passed away, and was on the train for on-the-spot guidance at the last moment of his life.

For field inspection, he covered some 669 844 kilometres, the equivalent of a travel round the earth nearly 17 times.

The great life of the Chairman shining with the word "people" goes on as there is the respected Comrade Kim Jong Un.

Thanks to the all-consuming love for the people of General Secretary Kim Jong Un, who holds the people President Kim Il Sung and Chairman Kim Jong Il entrusted to him in high esteem as much as he does the great leaders, the wealth of the people increases and their dreams and ideals come true. Witnessing the reality, the Korean people fondly recollect the noble revolutionary life of the Chairman who devoted his whole life for the good of the people.



The file photo shows the train Chairman Kim Jong Il used in his lifetime. He continued his field guidance journey by people-bound train all his life.

'I can't forget the favour shown by Chairman Kim Jong Il'



The family of Om Pok Sun recollect the day when they met Chairman Kim Jong Il.

Om Pok Sun

Now, with the Day of the Shining Star drawing nearer, my family and I spend every day with significant memories of Chairman Kim Jong Il as

we were bestowed unusual favour by him.

Many people still call our soldiers' family.

It was one day in November 1997 that our family became known to the whole country. At that time the Korean people were at the crossroads: whether they would remain independent guards by defending their country against the imperialists' anti-socialist attempts or become the slaves of imperialism.

During his continuous journey of Songun revolutionary leadership, the Chairman visited a women's coast artillery company situated on a front-line coast and unexpectedly met my daughter Kyong

Sil who was serving the company.

As he came to know that she was defending the post like her mother, who had presented a bouquet to President Kim Il Sung on his visit to the company and shown him their firing practice and live firing in March 1972, the Chairman satisfactorily had a photo taken with her.

That day I wept very much. I could hardly calm myself as I remembered the moment of honour when I presented a bouquet of fragrant flowers to the President, the time when I was sorry to receive a discharge order and those days when I strove to raise my daughters well with the determination to have them serve the coastal battery without fail.

Afterwards, during a tour of on-the-spot guidance, the Chairman met our couple and called us fighters for national defence highly appreciating our will to defend the post through generations before describing ours as a revolutionary soldiers' family to be emulated by the whole country.

We only fulfilled our duty as citizens of the country as our life, happiness and future depend on it. The Chairman, however, appreciated us so much. This is why we do not still forget his benevolence though decades have passed since then.

Now our couple and children keep striving to live like in those days when we expressed our pledge of loyalty to him and like in the days of our military service.

And I will make sure that my grandchildren grow up to firmly defend posts for national defence following the tradition of our soldiers' family.



Rhododendron of Mt Paektu

JON KWANG HUN / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

By **Sim Chol Yong** PT

Rhododendron of Mt Paektu is an evergreen bush belonging to Ericaceae.

It is also called yellow rhododendron and yellow *Patrina villosa*.

It is called manbyongcho in Korean, meaning a herb

curing all kinds of diseases.

The plant with beautiful flowers is very viable and grows in cold areas. And it produces flowers even in snow to add beauty to alpine landscape.

It grows 20 or 50 centimeters tall and the prostrate stems spread out in large numbers.

The sap of rhododendron begins to rise in the plant in mid-February and it comes into bud and flowers from March. Light yellow flowers bloom at the edges of stems. The calyx is very small, the corolla is in the shape of a bell with its end part split into five directions. The floral buds that appear in a year bloom

at a temperature higher than 0°C consuming their stored substances in the following year. The leaves are oval and their edges bend backward to form the shape of a cylinder so as to prevent the evaporation of their absorbed humidity and preserve nutritive substances. The leaves are thick and leathery. The fruit is

also oval with brown hairs on it. The plant can be multiplied by separating the roots or from seed. The leaves contain andromedotoxin, flavonoid, ursolic acid and so on. It is raised as an ornamental plant and its leaves are used as antihypertensive and antiphlogistic. People eat the decoction of the leaves for

arthritis, articular edema and neuralgia. The plant adds beauty to the natural scenery of Mt Paektu and is of great academic significance in studying the characteristics of rhododendron group.

The rhododendron of Mt Paektu was designated as a natural monument and is under special protection.

Top ten players, coaches of DPRK in 2022 announced

By **Song Jong Ho** PT

A meeting took place to announce top ten players and top ten coaches of the DPRK in 2022 at the Weightlifting Gymnasium on Chongchun Street in Pyongyang on February 2.

It was attended by Premier Kim Tok Hun, member of the Presidium of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, vice-president of the State Affairs Commission of the DPRK and chairman of the National Sports Guidance Committee, Kim Il Guk, minister of Physical Culture and Sports, Kim Myong Gun, chairman

of the Korean Taekwon-Do Committee, relevant officials and sports persons.

At the meeting the DPRK's top ten players and top ten coaches of last year were made public.

Top ten players are Ri Song Gum, weightlifter of the April 25 Sports Club, Kim Jin A, judoist of the Pyongyang Sports Club, Pang Chol Mi, boxer of the Kumsongsan Sports Club, Jong In Sun, wrestler of the Amnokgang Sports Club, Kwon Kwang Il, shooter of the Amnokgang Defence Sports Club, Ro Kwang Ryol, weightlifter of the Chongchongang Sports Club, Song Kuk Hyang and Kim Il Gyong, weightlifters

of the April 25, Kim Ryu Gyong, Taekwon-Do player of the national Taekwon-Do training centre of the Korean Taekwon-Do Committee, and Wi Jong Sim, footballer of the April 25.

Top ten coaches are Kye Song Il, weightlifting coach of the April 25, Kim Ryon Mi, judo coach of the Pyongyang, Pak Chol Jun, boxing coach of the Kumsongsan, Choe Tong Il, wrestling coach of the Amnokgang Sports Club, Kim Chun Sam, shooting coach of the Amnokgang Defence Sports Club, Ri Chol Nam and So Un Hak, weightlifting coaches of the April 25, Han Jong Ae, Taekwon-Do coach of the national Taekwon-Do

training centre of the Korean Taekwon-Do Committee, Ri Yu Il, football coach of the Naegohyang Women's Football Team, and Choe Hyong Chol, track and field coach of the Amnokgang Sports Club.

The Premier awarded the certificates of top ten players and coaches of the DPRK and sports suits imprinted with the words "DPRK's Top Ten Players of 2022" and "DPRK's Top Ten Coaches of 2022".

After the meeting, the mobile artistic motivational team of the Ministry of Physical Culture and Sports gave a performance in congratulation of them.

Historical relic Ulmil Pavilion

By **Kim Jin Hyang** PT

Ulmil Pavilion is a historical relic on Moran Hill in Pyongyang.

Built as a northern command post of the inner wall of the Walled City of Pyongyang during Koguryo's building of the wall in the mid-sixth century, the pavilion is a valuable architectural relic showing the creative wisdom and talents of the Korean ancestors.

It commands the beautiful scenery of Pyongyang and enjoying

spring on the pavilion has long been regarded as one of the eight famous views in Pyongyang.

And it is better known as it is associated with the story of the ancestors' struggle against foreign aggressors.

It was destroyed severely by the US imperialists' air raids during the Fatherland Liberation War. Later it was restored to its original state and is preserved well thanks to the policy of the Workers' Party of Korea on protecting national heritage.

